

CHANGES IN THE MUSEUM BOARD

BOARD WELCOMES NEW BOARD MEMBER LINDA LYONS

Linda Wieck Lyons is a life-long Tama County resident. She grew up in Dysart and graduated from Dysart-Geneseo High School. She and her husband, Brian, moved to Traer in 1984. Their two children grew up in Traer and graduated from North Tama.



Linda semi-retired from the health care industry in 2024 after 45 years working as a nurse, nurse educator, and administrator. She is active in the Traer United Methodist Church and the local Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star. Linda loves Iowa history, North Tama County history and antiques, and is delighted to be part of the Traer Historical Museum Board!

The board regretfully accepted appointed treasurer Liz Bauch's resignation and was glad to hear Don Stansbery would be willing to come back as treasurer (only) to replace Liz. Joyce Richardson has resigned from the board as well. She has manned the museum many times so that we could keep regular museum hours, and has helped with group tours on occasion. We thank Liz and Joyce for the time they've given to serve the museum.

THANK YOU TRAER COMMUNITY FOUNDATION!!!

Again, the Traer Community Foundation has shown their support to the Traer Historical Museum.

The museum submitted a request for funds to purchase a steel step library ladder to safely work in the higher areas of the museum, and they supported us with monies. Our one regret was that

we didn't take photos all the times we've already used this wonderful resource. Putting up and taking down Christmas décor is so much easier we don't know why we didn't already acquire one! Another request we submitted was to upgrade our main computer which we use with a data heavy software for storing information and photos for the many items in our museum collection. It is DEFINITELY faster, and easier to use! We thank local tech person Keith Kennedy for installing and updating our older computers so we may use them as satellite locations. A possible dream in the future is to have our collection available to view online!



Thanks again to the Traer Community Foundation Board for your support in keeping our museum updated and safe!





December Holiday Happenings

The response to our stocking contest was tremendous! Our winner was Jocelyn Dostal, daughter of Cory & Sarah Dostal. Congrats to all on helping create such a beautiful display for Holiday Happenings!

We had a great crowd that enjoyed Mallory Hill and Molly Sell sharing their artistic talents. The after prom committee sold out on walking tacos early in the evening. We appreciate everyone supporting our museum and our school. We hope we can repeat again next year— and be better prepared with more food!



Contest winner
Jocelyn Dostal



2025 MEMBERS/DONORS

Carolyn Adolphs * Bruce Altenhein * Viola Barge * Jared/Marilyn Bauch * Bill Bonewitz * Carol Borden * Carol Boyce * Dan Brandt * Jean Ruzicka Brezina * Cyndy Butts * Jo Capoccioni * Marvelene Davis * Don Dinsdale * Shelby Dinsdale * Carol Earles * Craig/ Sharon Earley * Arlene Fleming * John Ford * Pat Greiner * Dr. Steve Hanus * Bob/Pat Hill * Phyllis Hummel * Mark Jansen * Members 1st Community Credit Union/April Johnson * Mark/Dotti Keefer * AWE Service & Alignment/Dahn Kennedy * Dennis/ Donna Kersten * Doug Kostlan * Larry, Ron, Tom Kubik * Sue Latting * Rod/Dawn Lorenz * Phyllis Magnussen * Dennis/Kathy Manfull * Ron/Marsha Mason * James McCutcheon * Tom/Linda McDermott * David/Lora McMillan * Marlys Mitchell * Scott Monat * Charlotte Murphy * Kathy Nealy * Mary/Kevin O'Malley * Nick/Michelle Podhajsky * Stan Podhajsky * Dave/Carol Rueber * Teresa Schlorholtz * Lu Ann Schneiders * Champion Enterprises/Josh Seda * Larry/Sandy Sheda * Mary Shultz * Marvin/Verona Staker * Don/Carol Stansbery * Dennis/Sharon Stoakes * John/Rozella Stull * Jamie Thomas * Ned/Rosemary Vaughn * David Voigts * Jacqueline Winchip * Donna Wolfgram * Neal/Kathy Wood * Sam Young

A special thank you to Donna Wolfgram for her VERY generous donation.

We are very humbled.

2025 VOLUNTEERS

Carolyn Adolphs * Wendy Barnes * Jared/Marilyn Bauch * Liz Bauch * Cindy Buresh * Cyndy Butts * Brenda/Jesse Cook * Sharon Bolt * Carol Boyce * Marvelene Davis * Greg Drajna * Sharon Earley * Anita Herker * Bob Hill * Kim Howard * Marguerite Hulme * George Kadrmas * Donna Kersten * Jane Knoop * Jean Kruse * Donna Larsen * Linda Lyons * Dennis/Kathy Manfull * Chris Marcussen * Ron/ Marsha Mason * Mary McKinley * Kristin McMillan * Moe McWhirter * Judy Morrison * NT iJag * Vicki Pecenka * Joan Reuman * Joyce Richardson * Dave/ Carol Rueber * Arlene Schmidt * Lu Ann Schneiders * Kennan Seda * Jane Seeley * Don/Carol Stansbery * Sharon Stoakes * Patty Suess * David Voigts * Lyla Whannel * Zoe Ann Wignall * Judy Williams * Donna Wolfgram * Mark Wolfgram

A GREAT MEMBERSHIP / DONOR GROUP!

What a great start to our 2025 membership/donor list! We send out 2 newsletters each year to let you know what is going on at the museum— one in the Spring and another in the Fall. We ask for interested volunteers and donors each time. Your donation and volunteerism shows your interest in the museum, helps with the upkeep of the building, helps create displays at the museum, and provides care and storage for items donated. 2025 Membership runs from January 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025. Those listed on the opposite page are from the membership drive in our Fall 2024 newsletter. The response from this newsletter will complete our 2025 membership/donor list! Your continued and constant support is appreciated. A form is located below for interested persons to fill out and send to the museum. Use the included envelope or address an envelope to: Traer Historical Museum, 514 2nd Street, Traer, Iowa 50675. If you feel your name should be on this list and it's not, please contact us. We do make mistakes and want to make it right!!

TRAER HISTORICAL MUSEUM HOURS



We are excited to have regular hours again this year thanks to our dedicated group of museum hosts! Every Wednesday afternoon from 2:00—5:00 we will schedule volunteers to welcome visitors. Let us know if you would like to spend an afternoon being available to share your love for the museum and the history of Traer and northern Tama County! Self guided tours are available as well. We will be continuing these hours until the end of the year.



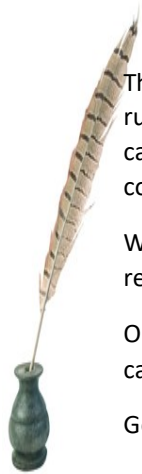
BECOME A DONOR OR VOLUNTEER FOR THE THM TEAM!

If you would like to help us, consider being a donor or volunteer. We want to develop a larger volunteer group and add donors to continue to keep the museum open and share the fun!! We want to expand our hours, which takes volunteers and donations to promote programs and keep and store the items we have acquired. Our list of volunteers and donors is growing, but so are our needs. Can you help us?

You can be a donor, volunteer, or both! Below is a donor/volunteer application to be filled out by both current and new contacts. The front and back is a form. A page is included to communicate interest in volunteerism. Use one or both to indicate how you would like to participate and return in the pre-addressed envelope. Donors are members who give an amount greater than \$5.00. Volunteers are those who fill out the contact information so we can call you, or log in to our volunteer registry book when volun-

I would like to be a donor for the Traer Historical Museum. I've enclosed \$ _____

I would like to volunteer for the Traer Historical Museum. I'm interested in helping in the following ways:
(see attached volunteer form)



From the president's desk...

The activities and events highlighted in this newsletter are possible because of volunteers. The Traer Historical Museum runs on the generous donations of time, talents, and money from people in the northern Tama County community. We cannot overstate each importance. We welcome volunteers to help for a single event or multiple occasions. Please consider sharing what you can as far as any talents or monetary resources you may have.

We have an R & R session the first Friday of each month; tours for clubs, organizations, class reunions and family reunions. We are even submitting history articles in the North Tama Telegraph you may enjoy.

On behalf of the Traer Historical Museum Board, I want to thank each of you for your continued support and hope we can furnish opportunities where you can enjoy northern Tama County history!

George Kadrmas, Traer Historical Museum Board President



We love to hear from and include our members in the activities of the museum. Please contact us if you have any questions, or would like to become involved in our upcoming projects in any way.

T R A E R H I S T O R I C A L
M U S E U M

Museum phone (leave a message)
Phone: 319.478.2346
Email: traermuseum@gmail.com

MISSION: to collect, preserve, and display items of historical & cultural interest which will tell the story of Traer and northern Tama County from settlement to present.

Board Members:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------|
| George Kadrmas, Pres. | Brenda Cook |
| Jean Kruse, V. Pres. | Bob Hill |
| Don Stansbery, Treas. | Kim Howard |
| Patty Suess, Sec. | Ron Mason |
| Sharon Stoakes, Collections Mgr. | Linda Lyons |
| Carol Boyce | |



PLEASE ADD THIS INFORMATION ABOUT ME TO YOUR 2025 CONTACT LIST

Name _____

Address _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Please fill out and return to Traer Historical Museum, 514 2nd Street, Traer, Iowa 50675

Traer Historical Museum Volunteer Application

Yes, I would like to volunteer!

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

There are many volunteer opportunities available at the Traer Historical Museum. Take a few minutes to look over this questionnaire and let us know what kind of activities/projects would be of interest to you.

Do you enjoy working with the public or teaching?

_____ **Guiding:** leading groups who visit the museum

_____ **Hosting:** greet visitors at events

_____ **Hosting:** Wednesday afternoon Host/Hostess

_____ **Teaching Assistance:** assist with school groups

Do you prefer clerical tasks?

_____ **Clerical:** Typing _____ Proofreading _____ Hand addressing _____

Did you know that research and record keeping opportunities are available to volunteers?

_____ **Research:** assist with various topics

_____ **Library/archives:** assist with cataloging and other projects

Do you have particular hands-on skills you could bring to projects?

_____ **Cleaning:** dusting, cleaning kitchen cupboards, appliances, windows, etc.

_____ **Sewing:** simple hand and machine work

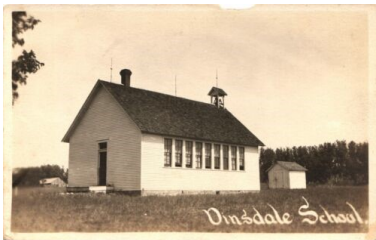
_____ **Carpentry** _____ **Painting** _____ **Exhibit Preparation** _____

_____ **Cooking/Baking:** make treats for special events and receptions

Please list any other skills that you would be willing to share with us:

Additional comments:

Each year volunteers offer hundreds of hours toward the THM mission. Thank you for generously sharing your time and talent. IT IS MUCH APPRECIATED!!



CAN YOU HELP US? COUNTRY SCHOOL PROJECT



The museum is grateful for the responses we've received to our request in the last newsletter for stories about attending country schools in northern Tama County! We are repeating that request again, as we know there are more of you who have good stories! We can interview you in person or we have a series of questions we'll send you to help trigger your memory. Please consider adding to our country school collection, which includes memories about attending Clark #3, Crystal #7, Baker's Grove (Perry Township #2). Here's one excerpt shared by Steve Podhajsky, who attended Crystal #7. "I would leave home and normally ride a bicycle a quarter mile of gravel 'til I came to the blind road where my neighbors the Boerm boys lived... I would get there as they were finishing up milking. Since I was so small sometimes they would carry me if I was having trouble keeping up. If the snow was too deep, Leonard, the oldest and biggest, would make a deal with me. He would put me on his shoulders if I would put my hands over his ears, since it was so cold. Once or twice a year the teacher, Mrs. Henry, would take a few of us to her house about four miles away to make cookies or some other craft while the rest stayed at the school with the older ones in charge". What a change from the way schools work today! For more information email Carol Boyce at carolwoodboyce@gmail.com or contact the museum at 319-478-2346.