

THE CALLAWEGIAN

Volume 26, Issue 2

Newsletter of the Kingdom of Callaway Historical Society

May 2023

Our Mission: To collect, preserve and share the history of Callaway County with all generations

50 Years of KCHS Museums!



Ribbon cutting at new location on Court Street in 1998

Thanks to some dedicated volunteers and their desire to have a museum for the Kingdom of Callaway Historical Society, we began our first one in the Tuttle House in 1973. It remained there until 1997 when we excitedly moved to our current Court Street location and opened in 1998. This means that we have now had an official museum for 50 years! We think our early volunteers would be very proud of our current museum and of the research center that grew out of it in June of 2019. Below is a brief overview of our early history in establishing the historical society and the first museum.

From History of the Kingdom of Callaway Historical Society 1960-2020 as compiled in the 60th Anniversary Special Edition Newsletter published September 2020

“For some time I have thought that Callaway County—The Kingdom of Callaway—should have a Historical Society. I feel that no county in Missouri is richer in history and tradition nor has made a greater contribution to our state,” noted J. H. Stidham in an April 1960 letter to some fifty families in the county inviting them to attend an upcoming meeting.

On June 2, 1960, forty-three people attended that initial meeting at the Fulton Public Library. From that meeting, a constitution, bylaws and articles of incorporation were soon drawn up and approved at a following meeting on July 14, 1960. On July 15, 1960, the new Kingdom of Callaway Historical Society was officially chartered by the State Historical Society of Missouri and incorporated in the State of Missouri. And thus began our journey of collecting, preserving and sharing the history of Callaway. Dues were \$1 per member and all those who joined the Society during the first twelve months were to be considered Charter Members. By the end of that period, there were 589 Charter Members. The organization was totally run by volunteers then, as it continued to be for many years. *(continued on page 4)*

KCHS Annual Meeting Highlights - - See page 3

Greetings from the President

Susan Krumm



At their May meeting, the Historical Society board approved a new schedule for their newsletter. You can now expect it every two months, beginning with this issue. We hope that will allow us to feature our activities in a more timely manner and provide even more news and historical features. There is no additional cost to members for the extra edition of the newsletter. We are grateful to our editor, Diane Burre Ludwig, for taking on the additional responsibility of bringing the news to you.

I'm going to take my own advice this month. In the last newsletter, I encouraged you to take one of our walking tours. A group of my friends are going to gather downtown and choose a tour to take together. Some will walk, and some may drive the route. You can pick up copies of the tour at the museum or find it on our website. Go to the "Visit" menu and look over the printable Historic Walking Tours. It's a great way to learn more about the historic buildings we drive past every day.

Bruce Hackmann is making good progress toward the fall 2023 release of the book about country schools. Having attended Grant School down the road from my house west of Williamsburg, I'm excited to read it!

Kingdom of Callaway Historical Society

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Susan Krumm
Vice-Pres: Bruce Hackmann
Secretary: Nancy Hinnah
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DIRECTORS

Joe D. Holt
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Research Center Director
 Barbara Huddleston

Staff: Museum Director
 Nancy Lewis



2022 Membership Statistics from Annual Meeting

Membership Levels & Totals		Location Breakdown of Members	
389 Total (Life Members included in totals)			
190	Individual (\$25)	274	In Callaway County
81	Family (\$40)		
10	Heritage (\$75)	56	In Missouri Outside of Callaway County
8	Courtesy		
28	Corporate (\$100-500)	59	Outside of MO (26 states represented)
72	Callawegian Society (\$100 to \$500)		

Membership Committee Goal for 2023

Help us reach our goal of

400 MEMBERS
before 2024!

Consider gift memberships to family and friends. Help them stay connected to their history.



**New topics for Fall will be available in the
September issue of *The Callawegian***

2023 KCHS ANNUAL MEETING

Business Meeting, Awards, and Callaway Characters!



Left: Joe Holt, as Judge Hugh P. Williamson, Jr., visits with the crowd.



The lovely Brick District Playhouse provided a perfect locale for the 2023 KCHS Annual Meeting on Sunday, April 16, 2023, from 12:30-3:00 p.m. The meal was catered by O'Hana's for the Playhouse Café and enjoyed by all.



Susan Krumm, KCHS Board President, welcomed more than 78 people to the annual event and conducted the official business meeting for 2023.



Bruce Hackman (right) led the Awards portion of the meeting, presenting awards to the following: David McDaniel, Individual Callaway County Preservation; The Callaway Bank, Corporate Callaway County Preservation; Barbara Dunavant Huddleston Volunteer Service Award to Donal Knipp and Frances Vaughn. Congratulations to all!

Attendees were royally entertained by four Callaway Characters.

A) Miss Willie Edwards, (Carmen Brandt and granddaughter, Taji Braxton.)

B) Judge Hugh P. Williamson Jr. (Joe Holt)

C) Jesse James (Bryce Gordon)

D) Eliza Haycraft (Debby Thompson)

Everyone was pleased to meet them all and hear their stories!



Joe Holt, Bryce Gordon, Carmen Brandt and Debby Thompson in 'character.'



50 years of Museums - - continued from page 1

During the next few decades, the Society would undertake a variety of projects. . . . As the collections grew, a museum to showcase many of the historic items became a priority. In 1972, Mrs. Warren Tuttle Williams conveyed her historical home at the corner of 7th Street and Westminster Ave., in trust to the Society for 21 years. Museum and Society operations would continue from this location until 1997 when more space was needed. The new location selected was in the heart of downtown at 513 Court Street. The three-story building provided great space for the museum's many projects and activities over the next few decades. *[end text from 60th Anniversary newsletter]*

Today the Museum and Research Center, added in 2019, are staffed by approximately 16-18 volunteers who help each week and two part-time staff people. Hours are 10-4 Tuesday through Friday, and the first Saturday of each month from 10-2:00.



The Tuttle House at 7th Street and Westminster Avenue



Exhibits currently in the Museum at 513 Court Street in downtown Fulton. Do come see them!



Volunteers with an exhibit at the Tuttle House Museum (circa 1970's).



Museum Hours

Tuesday—Friday

10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

First Saturday of Month

10:00 am—2:00 pm

The same cabinet as above currently in use for a display in the Court Street Museum



Martha Watkins Dyer

Meet Martha

The Dyer family originally owned much of the land in Fulton's downtown. When visiting the Museum, you are actually standing in Martha Dyer's garden! She loves visitors, so do drop by and hear the story of how this original painting of her came home to Fulton from California.



Current Museum window on Court Street highlighting our 50 years. It will be there until May 31.



Sheila Guthrie, right, chair of the Cemetery Tour, works with Ashlyn Fisher on locating gravesites and individuals to be highlighted.

Pioneer-Smith Cemetery in Mokane to be featured in Fall KCHS Cemetery Tour

Our popular cemetery tours are returning! Join us in late September in Mokane to hear about early pioneers and others buried in the Pioneer-Smith Cemetery (behind Christian Church). There will be two tour times, great stories, homemade ice cream and more. Watch for details coming this summer.

SAVE THE DATE

Sunday afternoon, September 24, 2023

2nd Annual CALLAWAY HERITAGE DAY - Don't Miss It!!

Callaway Electric Cooperative Grounds—Fulton, MO

Saturday, August 26, 2023

10:00am—2:00pm Free General Admission

Honoring The HOUF Bicentennial Farm

(near Kingdom City)

On Display

Tractors, cars, trucks, and NEW—hit & miss Engines

Registration for entrants opens at 9am (\$15)

Pre-registration (\$10) at www.callawaymohistory.org or call 573-642-0570



*Food Trucks - BBQ - Ice Cream - Kettle Corn
Historical Displays - Kids' Activities*

Meet Our New Volunteers



Mary Yates Hagan is busy with researching our KCHS newsletters archives and assisting in the Museum.



Ashlyn Fisher, a William Woods Univ. student, now graduated, helped with a variety of research projects.



Mary Bell has started compiling information on Callaway Memories, doing other research, and helping in the Museum.

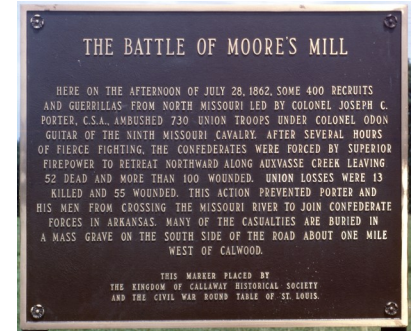
The Battle of Moore's Mill

by Bryce Gordon, Research Center Staff

(Recently Westminster College hosted Dr. Doug Scott, who gave new insights into the battle of Moore's Mill and other battle sites. We present a historical recap from KCHS archival information on the famous battle.)

Of the more than 40 significant battles and skirmishes that took place in Callaway County over the course of the Civil War, the Battle of Moore's Mill was the largest, in terms of number of combatants, and the bloodiest.

In late July of 1862, Confederate sympathizers under the command of Colonel Joseph Porter were headed south to join in the fighting in Arkansas. The group began moving from southern Audrain County, along the border of Boone and Callaway, camping overnight, then heading east to Brown's Spring, about two miles northwest of modern-day Kingdom City, on the Auxvasse Creek. Along the way their numbers were increased by 65 "Blackfoot Rangers," led by Lieutenant Bowles, and 75 men led by the notorious "bushwhacker" Captain Alvin Cobb. The total numbers reported are anywhere from 260 to 400.

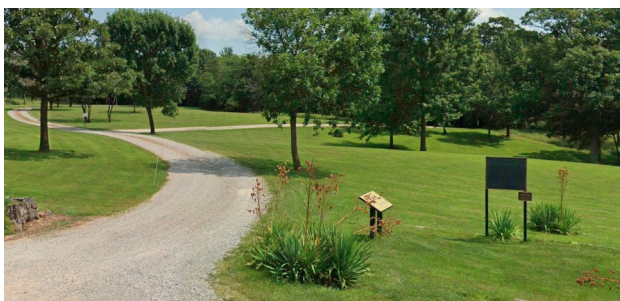


Union Colonel Odon Guitar had been alerted to the movement of Porter's recruits and moved his troops, some 730 strong, from the south through Fulton on an intercept course with Porter. The forces finally clashed in a heavily wooded area three fourths of a mile south of Calwood at noon on July 28 when Porter's rebels, who had hidden in the brush along the road, ambushed the approaching Union soldiers and a fierce battle ensued.

Porter's men had some early success, charging forward several times, bellowing the intimidating rebel yell, and they were able to neutralize the Union cannons early in the fighting. Though the cannons could certainly do damage, most of the deaths and injuries resulted from gunfire. The nature of combat that day largely consisted of the soldiers on both sides crawling, and hugging the ground as they fired shotguns and rifles at the enemy, often close enough to see the whites of their eyes. It was a miserably hot day, over 100 degrees. Many of the soldiers suffered from heat exhaustion and dehydration, not to mention they hadn't had much rest, nor much to eat, prior to the battle.

Guitar's larger force finally wore down the rebels after 3-4 hours of intense fighting, forcing them to retreat northward and split up. There were 52 Confederates killed and more than 100 wounded. Of the Union troops, 13 were killed and 55 wounded.

The battlefield straddled what is now State Road JJ and is on private property. A marker was placed at the site by the Kingdom of Callaway Historical Society in 1962. Much of the land had been cleared and landscaped



over the decades following the battle. An archeological survey of the site was conducted in 2013 with the assistance of Westminster students and faculty, funded by a grant from the American Battlefield Protection Program of the National Park Service. Bullets and canister balls recovered helped to confirm the extent of ground covered during the battle and the types of ammunition used.

Dr. Doug Scott, who compiled the official report of the survey, lectured at Westminster College in March of

2023. He emphasized that Missouri was especially torn apart during the war, literally brother against brother, and that it has never fully healed.

A grave site memorial for both Confederate and Union combatants is maintained just west of Calwood on Highway Z, a testament to the respect still being shown for the fallen on both sides.

Thank You Members—We Value and Appreciate Your Support

CALLAWEGIAN SOCIETY

Platinum Level \$500

Mike and Bev Auer David & Sarah Backer
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Gold Level \$250

Fred & Susan Atkinson	Lisa Martin
Dick Davis	Zachary Martin
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Joe Holt & Virginia Young	Kevin & Jayne Wills
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Diane Burre Ludwig	

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	Larry & Vicki Languell	

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Welcome New KCHS Members

Nora Campbell-Hume	Zachary Martin
Connie Gresham	Barbara Smith
Carolyn Crews Hodill	Jennifer Wise
Christine Kleindienst	

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The Kingdom of Callaway Historical Society would like to thank the members, friends, and businesses for their continued support of our mission to collect, preserve and share the history of Callaway County.



**Kingdom of Callaway
Historical Society/Museum**
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Visit our Museum windows on Court Street to see displays of
 KCHS Museum History and 125th Anniversary of the Spanish American War

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Kingdom of Callaway Historical Society Museum and Research Center

Mailing Address: P O Box 6073, Fulton, MO 65251

Museum & Gift Shop, 513 Court St., Fulton, MO 65251

573-642-0570 museum@callawaymohistory.org

Research Center, 106 E. 4th Street, Fulton, MO 65251

573-826-2460 research@callawaymohistory.org

Facebook: Kingdom of Callaway Historical Society

Hours: Tuesday-Friday 10am to 4 pm

First Saturday of month 10am to 2 pm

UPCOMING EVENTS

2023

- July 1 First Saturday—open
- July 4 Tuesday—closed for holiday
- August 26 Saturday—Callaway Heritage Day Event
10am to 2pm
- September 24 Saturday—Cemetery Tour, 2 tours in afternoon
- Fall 2023 Book Release: Our Slate Chalkboards:
Remembering Callaway Country's Rural School Houses