

# THE CALLAWEGIAN

Volume 26, Issue 3

Newsletter of the Kingdom of Callaway Historical Society

July 2023

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

## CALLAWAY HERITAGE DAY

TRACTOR, CAR, TRUCK & ENGINE SHOW

2023 CENTURY FARM HONOREE – THE HOUF BICENTENNIAL FARM

SATURDAY, AUGUST 26, 2023 10 A.M.-2 P.M.

Callaway Electric Cooperative Grounds – South of Fulton just off Hwy 54

FREE GENERAL ADMISSION – AMPLE PARKING & SHUTTLE SERVICE

The annual **Callaway Heritage Day** is right around the corner and **YOU ARE INVITED!**

Do you enjoy perusing delightful old tractors, cars, trucks, or engines? Do you have a classic tractor, car, truck, or old engine you would like to showcase? Would you enjoy learning more about the days of old on the family farm? If the answer is **YES**, then plan to attend this fun-filled event with something to offer for all ages.



Cast your vote and participate in a little friendly competition as tractors, cars, and trucks compete for the People's Choice and Exhibitors' Choice trophies. Enjoy Callaway County's rich agriculture history as we celebrate the *200<sup>th</sup> anniversary and six-generation* legacy of the **HOUF BICENTENNIAL FARM**, one of Callaway's oldest farms.

Through photos, maps, and narratives, historical displays will depict both the Houf's family and property history. View old farming tools used throughout the years and learn about the evolution of the family's farming process. Enjoy the legend of the "bear," as members of the family will be on hand to share their experiences growing up and living on the farm.

Following the day's events, the Houf family graciously **invites you to visit their farm property**, located just south of Kingdom City. Tour details will be available on the day of the event. You do not want to miss this unique opportunity!

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**KCHS—Volunteer and Visitor Statistics - See page 5**

## Greetings from the President

### Susan Krumm

The mission of KCHS is a living one: *to collect, preserve and share the history of Callaway County with all generations*. By living, I mean that it is not filed away in a planning document to bring out occasionally for review. When the Board sets priorities and approves funding for projects and events, someone often asks the group to determine whether we are meeting the mission of the Society with a decision.



As you read this month's newsletter, I invite you to keep the mission in mind. The second annual Callaway Heritage Day on August 26 will feature classic cars, trucks, and tractors. The event will also include displays about one of Callaway's oldest farms. Six generations of the Houf family have owned their farm south of Kingdom City for 200 years! We look forward to sharing all of these aspects of Callaway's history with you that day.

Our book about Callaway's rural schools is another project that supports our mission. The Research Center has housed the research on country schools that was collected and recorded years ago by Bill Hamilton. The book's editor, Bruce Hackmann, has compiled Bill's research along with contributions of stories and photographs from former students and teachers in those schools. It will all be shared with you this fall when the book is available for sale at the Museum and the Research Center.

After reading this edition of the newsletter, I have vowed to look up next time I pass the Court House. You'll see what I mean when you learn about the medallions. Maybe I'll run across some of you on the Court House square!

## Kingdom of Callaway Historical Society

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**President:** Susan Krumm  
**Vice-Pres:** Bruce Hackmann  
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### Ex-Officio

**Research Center Director**  
Barbara Huddleston

**Staff: Museum Director**  
Nancy Lewis



## KCHS Rural School Houses Book Update

**Rural Schools Scavenger Hunt**—Kelly Borman is again working on an exciting tour of several of Callaway County's rural school houses — all featured in the upcoming book, *Callaway Chalkboards: Remembering Callaway County's Rural Schoolhouses*. Details will be in our **September newsletter**.

**Pie Supper Scheduled**—**SAVE THE DATE of Sunday, November 5, 2023**. Make plans to join us for homemade pie and ice cream as we celebrate a release of the newest KCHS book, "*Callaway Chalkboards*." You may pick up your pre-reserved copy or purchase books onsite. Bruce Hackmann, editor will be on hand to sign books and discuss our rural schoolhouses. The pie auction will feature homemade pies by some 'famous' local bakers with proceeds supporting the new KCHS Educational Grant program. Watch for more details in our next newsletter.

### **Update on *Callaway Chalkboards: Remembering Callaway County's Rural Schoolhouses***

KCHS has once again turned to Bruce Hackmann, board member and historian, to compile and edit another book. He has been collecting stories of Callaway's country school houses for almost a year. Along the way, Bruce has done tremendous research on the various schools. This book takes a different approach than our previous soft-cover books of personal stories of Callaway County. The new hardcover book is part anthology, part personal stories, and part archival reference work, much from the files of Bill Hamilton, local historian. It contains more than 400 pages. We are pleased to be working with Walsworth, our new local printing company (formerly Ovid Bell Printing). Cost is projected to be \$40-45 per copy, with completion this Fall. Advance copies may be ordered by calling the Museum at 573-642-0570.

## Callaway Heritage Day—continued

Plan to bring your *smile* and stop by a new event feature, the old Cushman truck **PHOTO BOOTH!** A volunteer will be on hand to help capture a memory of the day with your camera or phone for **free!** Also new is a **KID’S SCAVENGER HUNT.** Kids 12 years and under can participate in a fun, educational, and interactive activity, complete with cash prizes!

Be sure to come hungry! This year’s food vendors include the **New Bloomfield Lions Club,** grilling up their famous BBQ pork steaks and brats. Always a favorite, the **VFW 83<sup>rd</sup> Helpers** will serve fried fish.



The **Smokin’ Pickle** food truck will offer up specialty sandwiches and fried pickles. Then, be sure to top off your day with a dish of delicious ice cream made right on the grounds by **Fly Wheel Homemade Ice Cream** and don’t forget to grab a bag of fresh popped kettle corn from **Chele’s Kettle Corn** to munch on as you take in the sites! Admission to the grounds is FREE to all.

Pre-registration is available for \$10 per tractor, car, or truck. Onsite registration is \$15 per entry. Entry for the hit-and-miss engine class is a flat \$10. For complete registration information, please visit our website or contact us at 573-642-0570.

Make plans now to attend and enjoy a day rich in Callaway County history! Looking forward to seeing you **Saturday, August 26<sup>th</sup>.** You do not want to miss this event!

## 2023 SPONSORS

A special THANK YOU to our Callaway Heritage Day sponsors!

### PEOPLE’S CHOICE TROPHY SPONSOR

Graham Insurance Agency

### EXHIBITORS’ CHOICE TROPHY SPONSOR

O’Reilly Auto Parts

### CENTURY FARM SPONSOR

Joe D. Holt and Virginia A. Young  
and Holt family

### HIT & MISS ENGINE SPONSOR

Heartland Environmental

### SCAVENGER HUNT SPONSOR

The Callaway Bank

### VINTAGE LEVEL SPONSORS

Diamond Pet Foods  
Heritage Tractor  
Paul’s Auto Body  
Rooster Creek Quilting Company  
Sunbelt Rentals  
Syndenstricker Nobbe Partnership



<u>TRACTOR CLASSES</u>	<u>CAR CLASSES</u>	<u>TRUCK CLASSES</u>
1940 and older	1932 and older	1932 and older
1941 - 1960	1933-1954	1933-1954
1961 - 1979	1955-1967	1955-1978
	1968-1975	1979-1989
	1976-1989	



## TROPHIES

The classic tractors, cars and trucks will be competing for trophies via People’s Choice vote in each of the three categories and via Exhibitors Choice vote in each of the 12 classes.



# HOUF FAMILY'S SIX-GENERATION LEGACY

## TO BE HONORED AT CALLAWAY HERITAGE DAY

Born in Pennsylvania the son of a German immigrant, Peter Houf was a soldier in the war of 1812. Having settled in Augusta county, Virginia, Mr. Houf married Mary E. Summers, and to this union thirteen children were born.

In 1823, Peter and Mary E. Houf arrived in Callaway County, where he settled on eighty acres of patented government land that his son, Jacob M. would later expand to 320 acres. The property, a mere wilderness, was located approximately two miles south of the



present community of McCredie. While working to clear the land, build a homestead, and manage the farm, Mr. Houf also worked as a wheelwright. As a skilled tradesman, he quickly found a great demand for his services in Callaway County.

As early settlers of Callaway County, history tells us that Peter and Mary were known as well respected and faithful members of the Methodist church who often welcomed traveling pioneer clergymen who came to the area to preach. Their hospitality and welcoming spirit encouraged other families to establish homesteads within the area.

Twelve of Peter and Mary's 13 children married and resided in Missouri with five of the children living in Callaway County. This

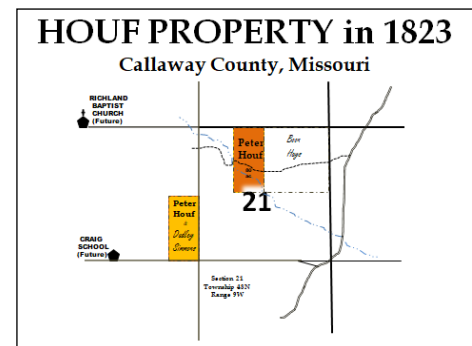
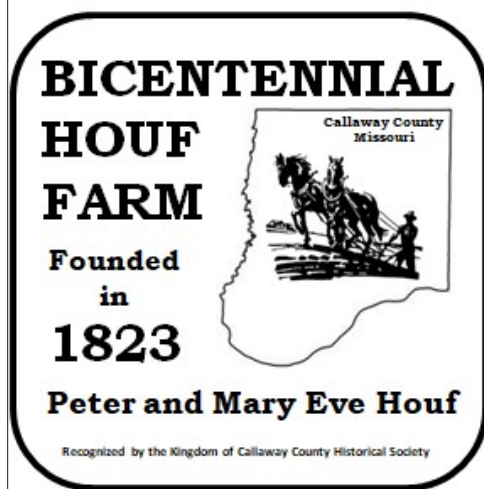
began the lineage of the six generations of ownership of the now bicentennial family farm, passing from father to son in each generation, a rare occurring legacy.

- 1<sup>st</sup> Generation Peter and Mary E. Houf
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Generation Jacob M. & Elizabeth Houf
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Generation Jacob O. & Ella F. Houf
- 4<sup>th</sup> Generation Paul K. & Dorothy M. Houf
- 5<sup>th</sup> Generation Garry F. & Connie K. Houf
- 6<sup>th</sup> Generation Paul Todd & Beth Houf

Mr. Houf died in 1851 and his widow in 1869.

(see front-page story for more information about the event honoring the Houf Bicentennial Farm)

Following the Callaway Heritage Day's events (10:00 am—2:00 pm), the Houf family graciously invites you to visit their farm property that afternoon, located just south of Kingdom City. Details will be available on the day of the event.



# Join us at Pioneer-Smith Cemetery in Mokane in September

We'll meet in Mokane on Sunday, September 24, for a tour of the Pioneer-Smith Cemetery (behind the Christian Church), one of the oldest cemeteries in south Callaway. Meet several early pioneers and others buried there and hear their stories.

There will be two tour times of 45 minutes each. You'll meet interesting characters, hear great stories, enjoy homemade ice cream and more. Cost is \$10 per person. Reservations will be taken starting September 1st.



**SAVE THE DATE**  
**Sunday Afternoon**  
**September 24, 2023**  
**Tours at 1:30 and 3:00 p.m.**

Sheila Guthrie, right, chair of the Cemetery Tour, Nancy Hinnah, committee member, left, and Brian Rogers, life-long Mokane resident, discuss which early pioneers will be portrayed during the cemetery tours.



## 2022 Statistics from Annual Meeting



<b>2022 VOLUNTEER HOURS</b>	<b>Museum</b>	<b>Research Center</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
January thru December			
Hours Open	1,227	1,148	<b>2,375</b>
Volunteer Hours Worked at Site	1,283	3,101	<b>4,384</b>
Volunteer Hours Worked Away from Site *including special events	194	2,017 hrs* 47 volun-	<b>2,211</b>
Number of Individual Volunteers	11	15	<b>23</b> unduplicated

## 2022 VISITORS & SERVICES

### KCHS Museum

**2,395** total visitors

**728** visitors during Brick District events

**18** historic window displays

### KCHS Research Center

New data collections system implemented March 2022; March-December data shown here

- **175** Patrons utilized research services
- **58%** were first-time patrons
- **45%** of all requests required more than 30 minutes to complete by

### Research Categories Requested

Genealogy	37%
Business/ Residence/ Organization	25%
Cemetery/School/ Church	19%
Other/Misc	19%

## Triple L Classes for Fall 2023

Our Fall classes consist of some very diverse topics, ranging from a presentation by Vanessa Garry, Associate Professor with the College of Education at the University of Missouri-St. Louis on Dr. Ruth M. Harris, President of Stowe Teacher’s College to a humorous class on Outhouses presented by Tom Jones.



We’ll have a class on Mules, their history and current practices on raising them presented by Dr. Robert Barnett and Tony Michelle. Tanna Schmidli and Linda Crump with present a class on Jesse Howard and Dr. David Schmidt will once more present a class, this time in the evening, on Dinosaurs. We’re also hoping to have another class on Gravestone Cleaning.

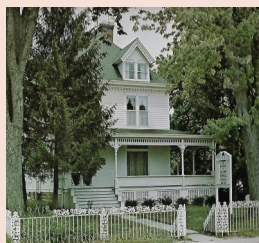
Dates and times of the classes are currently being set, so please watch for more information via our website and emails. As before, costs will be \$10 per class for KCHS members and \$15 for non-members. Registration begins Tuesday, September 12. These classes promise to be entertaining as well as educational!

## Walking Tours— A Sample

Some of you have asked about the information provided about homes on our Historic Walking Tour brochures. Here is a sample from the SEVENTH STREET / WESTMINSTER tour:

### 331 WEST 7th STREET

This two-and-a-half-story Queen Ann Revival-style home was built in the mid-1890’s. The original owners were Ernest and Mary Tuttle. The wrap-around porch continues across the front to a two-story bay on the east side of the house. The stained-glass transom above the large porch window and the scrollwork on the triangular porch pediment are worthy of notice as is the double entry door with the letter E and T etched into the glass, for Ernest Tuttle.



*The home now belongs to Westminster College and houses the Churchill Institute and office of the Director of the National Churchill museum.*

TRIVIA—What popular local organization used the Tuttle House for its operations for over 25 years?

## Membership Booth at Callaway Heritage Day

As we continue to focus on reaching **400 KCHS members before 2024**, our membership team will have a booth at the upcoming Callaway Heritage Day— and a SPECIAL opportunity! Please drop by to see us and help continue our mission of collecting, preserving and sharing the history of Callaway County.



We will have a One-Time-Only offer for you! If you sign up to be a new KCHS member AT the event, your membership form will go into a drawing. At the end of the event, ONE FORM will be pulled out for a FREE membership! The basic membership is only \$25. Other levels are listed here. We appreciate your support.

# 400 before 2024!

Corporations	
Silver Level	\$100
Gold Level	\$250
Platinum Level	\$500

Levels	
Individual/Family	\$25
Pioneer	\$40
Heritage	\$75
Callawegian Society	
Silver Level	\$100
Gold Level	\$250
Platinum Level	\$500

Individuals, families, businesses, corporations and organizations are welcome to join! Together we all share in collecting, preserving and sharing Callaway’s rich history.



# The Courthouse Medallions



1804  
Lewis & Clark  
Expedition



1808  
French Establish-  
ment at Cote  
Sans Dessein



1808  
Daniel Boone  
Through Calla-  
way County



1818  
Religious Services  
Conducted in  
Callaway County



1821  
First Circuit  
Court Held  
in Callaway  
County



1839  
The Earliest  
Newspapers



1855  
First Railroad  
in the County



1861  
Civil War  
reaches Calla-  
way County

Those who attended our 2023 Trivia Night remember questions on the Court House Medallions - - most of us not even realizing they were there! Here are their stories as told by Ovid Bell in 1913.

The eight large medallions which appear two each on each side of the upper story of the Callaway County Court House were selected to best represent the early history of Callaway County. The medallions begin with the Lewis and Clark Expedition which set out in 1804 to explore the Louisiana Purchase by traversing the newly acquired area by way of the Missouri River to reach the Pacific Ocean and conclude with events of the Civil War beginning in 1861 which so badly separated Callaway County and strongly defined its nature.

These eight significant events in the history of Callaway County were defined by Ovid Bell in his chapter on Callaway County in the History of Northeast Missouri, edited by Walter Williams, published by Lewis Publishing Company of Chicago and New York in 1913. The list and brief history of those events follow:

**1804** "The "History of the Lewis and Clark Expedition" (McClurg's reprint, vol. I, p. 10) tells of the explorers camping at the mouth of the Osage river on the night of June 1, 1804, and spending the next day in the vicinity "for the purpose of making celestial observations."

**1808** Brackenridge says: " The Cote Sans Dessein is a beautiful place, situated on the northeast side of the river, and in sight of the Osage. It will in time become a considerable village. The beauty and fertility of the surrounding country cannot be surpassed. It is here we met with the first appearance of prairie in Missouri, but it is handsomely mixed with woodland. This wooded country on the northeast extends at least thirty miles, as far up as this place, and not less than fifteen on the other side. The name is given to the place from the circumstance of a single detached hill filled with limestone, standing on the bank of the river, about 600 yards long, and very narrow. The village has been established about three years; there are thirteen French families and two or three Indians.

**1808** Daniel Boone is credited with having crossed Callaway county in 1808 in company with Captain Clemson, who was on his way to establish Fort Osage. An oak tree still stands on Nine Mile Prairie on which is inscribed, "D. B., 1808," and local tradition says that the letters and figures were carved by Boone.

**1818** The first minister to settle in the county was the Rev. John Ham, who came in 1815. He was a Methodist, though two of his brothers were ministers of the Baptist church. Next to come, probably, was the Rev. William Coats,\* a Primitive Baptist, for whom Coats' Prairie was named, and who settled here in 1817. Campbell (p. 98a) says that the Rev. James E. Welch and the Rev. John M. Peck, both Baptists, preached in the county during the years 1817-18-19.

# Continuation of MEDALLIONS

(information from 1913 by Ovid Bell)

**1821** The site of Fulton was selected by James Moss and James McClelland, of Boone county, and James Talbot, of Montgomery county, who were appointed commissioners for that purpose by the general assembly. They located the town July 29, 1825, and named it Volney, after the French infidel. The county court on the first day of August, following, changed the name to Fulton, in honor of Robert Fulton, inventor of the steamboat. Robert Dunlap, who lived northeast of the town and was the founder of the Dunlap family in Callaway county, is credited with having proposed the name Fulton.

**1839** **The Banner of Liberty**, (newspaper) established in Fulton in 1839 by Warren Woodson, Jr., was the first newspaper to be published in the county. The next year Isaac Curd and William Henry Russell became editors of the paper and changed its name to **Fulton Reformer**. Then the name was changed to **Western Star** by W. A. Stewart, who remained in charge until 1843. Duncan & Goggin in 1845 named the paper **Fulton Telegraph**, and as the Telegraph it is still published.\*

*\*Though the county has a number of newspapers at this time, and has had many which had brief careers, only two of her newspapers have attained considerable age. The **Telegraph** is one and the **Fulton Gazette** is the other.*

**1855** Callaway county's first railroad, which was one of the first completed in the state, was built between the years 1855 and 1857,\* and extended from Cote Sans Dessein back into the county a distance of about seven miles to several large cannel coal mines. The road was built by the Callaway Mining and Manufacturing Company, which was chartered by the general assembly in 1847, and was composed of Pennsylvania men. The company planned to mine cannel coal extensively and also to extract oil from the coal and sell it for commercial uses.

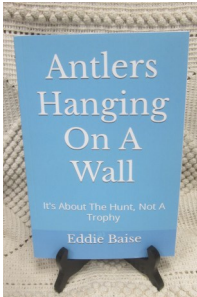
**1861** A large number of men from Callaway county were engaged in the Civil war, the estimate being from 800 to 1,100\* on the Confederate side, and 350 on the Union side. Accurate records were not kept, and probably the names of many persons from the county who enlisted in the conflict have been lost forever.

We hope you will take time to view these interesting medallions next time you are driving around the Court House square in Fulton.



Nancy Lewis (in black) takes a photo of Steve Stinson (left), author of children's book in our Gift Shop, and friend in front of The Spot Café sign in the Museum. It was a favorite spot for Steve and many Fultonians. Come in and take a selfie!





**NEW BOOK in GIFT SHOP**  
**'Antlers Hanging on a Wall'**  
By Eddie Baise  
Join Eddie as he takes you on various hunting adventures in his life. A true hunter, he knows its about the hunt, not the trophy A true storyteller, he'll help you enjoy these memorable journeys.  
\$12.50 for members; \$14 nonmembers.

**Brick District**  
**SUMMER SALES TIME**  
(replaces sidewalk sales)  
**Friday and Saturday**  
**August 4 - 5, 2023**  
**Beat the heat and come**  
**inside Brick District shops**  
**for summer bargains**



# Thank You Members—We Value and Appreciate Your Support

## CALLAWEGIAN SOCIETY

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Joe Holt & Virginia Young	Kevin & Jayne Wills
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Diane Burre Ludwig	

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	Dale & Gwynne LaRue	

*Legacy Donors*     *Marthada & Richard Reed*

## Welcome New KCHS Members

**Brooke Heagerty**

## CORPORATE MEMBERS

### Platinum Level \$500

Coldwell Banker Niedergerke & Co.  
Young's Welding & Machine Shop  
Wise Bros., Inc.

### Gold Level \$250

Basnett Dental  
Callaway Chamber of Commerce  
Hornbuckle Heating, Cooling,  
& Plumbing, Inc.

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Baumgartner Furniture  
B-Line Engraving  
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Callaway Electric Cooperative  
Callaway Tourism Office  
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Graham Insurance Agency  
HLW Builders, Inc.  
Master Key Place  
Mid-Mo Carpet Cleaning  
Moser's  
Rock Garden Antique Barn  
SMITH MOORE & CO.  
Socket  
The Callaway Bank  
Thompson Financial Partners



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**  
**P. O. Box 6073**  
**Fulton, MO 65251-6073**  
www.callawaymohistory.org  
E-Mail: museum@callawaymohistory.org

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**Return Service Requested**

Visit our Museum windows on Court Street to see displays of  
Callaway Heritage Day and 100th Anniversary of Kiwanis Club

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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

August 4-5

Friday & Saturday; Brick District Summer Sales

August 26

Saturday—Callaway Heritage Day Event  
10am to 2pm

September 24

Saturday—Cemetery Tour, 1:30 & 3:00, Mokane

Fall 2023

Rural School Scavenger Hunt

Fall 2023

Life-Long Learning Sessions (Triple L)

Fall 2023

Book Release: *Callaway Chalkboards:  
Remembering Callaway Country's Rural School Houses*