



September 2023

news & notes



Left BCHS board member Melissa Hecht watches a young visitor test out the scale in the Easley Store. *Middle* BCHS volunteer Tara Griffin shares stories in the Easley Store. *Right* A young patron “grinds” coffee in the historic local landmark. Photos by Stephen Bybee.

Volunteers Needed: You Make Our Mission Possible!

**Mary Ellen Lohmann, Director,
Administration & Communications**

When people find out the small size of our staff—three full time and three part-time employees—they are always astonished. The next statement is usually “But you do so much!”

It is only possible because a talented team of volunteers that work alongside our professional staff mem-

bers. It’s truly our volunteers and their dedication who make all our services and outreach programs not only feasible but also freely available to the public.

Everything from developing history exhibitions and digitizing collections to creating family events is at least partially staffed by volunteers who are generous with their time and talents.

Honestly, we are currently having growing pains. We are increasing our events to pre-pandemic levels and adding services like the new Research Library hours as well as hosting a new field trip program with Columbia Public Schools and new artist talks.

Yet our volunteer lists are shrinking. Some individuals have not returned to the History & Culture Center after 2020.

There are a variety of reasons as people have moved or have health concerns. Plus, people are busy and we totally understand!

That is why we are asking for your help. Please consider donating a few hours of your time once a month to support a mission you care about—preserving and sharing local history.—Continued on page 7



History Makers Hall of Fame Gala

We still have tickets available for the History Makers Hall of Fame Gala. If you want a seat in the room at this once-a-year celebration of Boone County’s finest act fast! **More on page 3.**

What's Happening at the History & Culture Center?

Chris Campbell, Executive Director

Thank you for your support on August 24! Our Giving Day was so crucial to our operations for the remainder of the year as the Summer Give campaign was down 25 percent.

We plan to run a final total and a full list of donors in the October to make sure we don't miss anyone. So there is still time to send in a donation if it has been on your to-do list! In the meantime, I want to thank those who came in to make that telethon possible, including event chair Melissa Hecht; members of the BCHS Board of Directors: David Wilson, Elizabeth Watkins, Karen M. Miller, Nancy W. Thomas; and volunteers Ben Carter, Laurel Wilson; and Madeline Bloss, BCHS senior coordinator, outreach and operations.

Part of the fun that day was the Barbie-themed party at the end of Giving Day. It was a great trip down memory lane for so many members, and I am thankful to all of you who joined us that evening. Attendees enjoyed the display so much that we have made it a mini-exhibition featured at our front desk. Be sure to visit soon and see the Barbie and Ken dolls, whose vintage spans from the 1960s to the 2000s.

Our speakers series, *Things That Matter* attracted 35 guests for its



The Barbie-themed fun continues with a mini-exhibit on display in our Center store. Visit soon to see the Barbie and Ken dolls that span 60 years.

third event on August 10 featuring BCHS historian Matt Fetterly. (See more on page 5.) On October 14, the series will host Columbia mayor, Barbara Buffaloe, who has already assumed some important national appointments during her tenure representing Columbia. She will speak on "Global Goals. Local Action."

We are very appreciative that support from the Boone County Community Trust allowed us to purchase two much needed items: a new lawn-mowing tractor to replace our 30-year-old John Deere mower

and a dehumidifier to offer enhanced protection for art exhibitions in the Montminy Gallery. Investments like this are so important and yet only possible with the help of a grant or a large generous donation.

I hope you saw the press coverage from the *Missourian*, *The Columbia Tribune* and social media about the city's recent purchase of the McKinney Building downtown on Broadway. The city council used a report on the history of the building that we produced on its role in the Black community to aid in that decision. Many thanks to Nancy W. Thomas for her assistance as the primary researcher. We were honored to be a part of helping ensure this building and its unique history is preserved and shared for generations to come.

On Labor Day the Center once again hosted the start and finish for the Heart of America Marathon. The village venues and the museum were open for the roughly 250 runners and 200 visitors to enjoy.

There is so much more I could tell you as we are heading into the busy fall event season. But for now, I'll stop and just encourage you to watch your inboxes for emails highlighting all the events and experiences your donations make possible at *your* History & Culture Center.

Remember the Center Store for All Your Fall Gift, Mizzou Needs

Please keep the Center Store in mind when you need a gift for any occasion from fall weddings to birthdays. There are more than 1,000 items to peruse, including polos, t-shirts, hats, drinkware, magnets, stickers, new book titles and more. Be sure to visit when you need a gift!

Among the new apparel are fun ways to show your love of the Show Me State and gear to display your spirit at University of Missouri football games. Thanks in advance for your support of this new venture for the History & Culture Center. *See a small sample of great items below.*



BOONE COUNTY HALL OF FAME -2023 ENSHRINEES-



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Celebrate with us on October 27 as our 2023 enshrinees join the more than 70 exceptional members of the Boone County Hall of Fame.

Hall of Fame: Many Ways to Show Your Support

At the time of this writing, we still have tickets available for the History Makers Hall of Fame Gala. If you want a seat in the room at this once-a-year celebration of Boone County's finest, act fast! The gala will be held October 27 in the Kimball Ballroom, Lela Raney Wood Hall on the Stephens College campus. It will run 5:30–9:00 p.m. and includes a reception, dinner, silent and live auction. Tickets are \$150 each and just \$125 for BCHS members. Purchase tickets and learn more at BooneHistory.org/Hall-Of-Fame-2023.

This grand night is the only chance to see the enshrinement of our esteemed 2023 enshrinees: Colonel John Clark, The Food Bank for Central & Northeast Missouri and the late Charles Morgenthau. They join the more than 70 exceptional members of the Boone County Hall of Fame. Our emcees for the event will be Sarah Dubbert of Commerce Bank and BCHS member Vicki Russell.

If you cannot attend but would like to honor our enshrinees you have a few options, which are listed to the right. Also, we are committed to making this a wonderful evening for all. If you have a special request due to mobility, dietary needs or other considerations, please contact the Center. We will gladly work with you to the best of our abilities. Please inquire about significant requests as early as possible and no later than two weeks prior to the event.

Thank you to our sponsors: Gold—City of Columbia, Commerce Bank; Silver—Betsy and Bruce Odle; Bartender Sponsor—Robin and Alex LaBrunerie; Dessert Sponsor—Marie Nau Hunter; Parking and Logistics—Reinhardt Construction; Party Favors—Selective Scores—ACT Prep; BCHS Friend Level—Stephen and Joan Mudrick. Table Sponsors—Michelle & Frank Baumstark; the BCHS Board of Directors; Central Bank; Columbia College; Earl Coleman; The Food Bank for Central & Northeast Missouri; Hallsville Historical Society; Drs. George & Victoria Hubbell; Robin & Alex LaBrunerie and David Wilson & Arin Liberman; Jim & Marjorie Marberry; Bob & Nancy Ginn Martin; Joan Menser; the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA); Phil & Bonnie Prather and Vicki Russell; Melanie & Mike Staloch and Gwen & Brian Struchtemeyer; Simmons Bank. We also appreciate generous donations from the Shelter Insurance Foundation; Earl Coleman; Nancy and Mike Russell; Gary L. and Carol E. Smith.

All Donations Make a Difference

If you cannot attend the History Makers Boone County Hall of Fame Gala on October 27 but would still like to honor our enshrinees, you have a number of options:

Gala Sponsorships There are sponsorships still available, which vary widely in both price and benefits. You can support the event as a BCHS Friend (\$500), which includes two gala tickets, or have long-lasting reach as the sponsor of video tribute sharing the stories of our enshrinees (\$5,000).

Auction Items If you are interested in providing an item for the silent or live auction, we would be happy work with you or your company. Everything from gift cards to items like art are greatly appreciated and donors receive a number of benefits. Contact the History & Culture Center at Info@BooneHistory.org for details.

Donate in Honor You can make a donation in honor of an enshrinee at BooneHistory.org/Donate or send a check payable to the Boone County Historical Society to 3801 Ponderosa, Columbia, MO 65201. We'll let them or a loved one know of your generous support.

Bid Online The silent auction will be available online and bids are welcome from anyone who registers, not just those in attendance that evening. Keep an eye on BooneHistory.org/Hall-Of-Fame-2023 for details as we get closer to the event.

Thank you for your support of this important event! Gala proceeds support the BCHS and its Endowment Trust.

Native Columbian Delights Concert Crowd



Ruth Acuff enchants the crowd in August.

At the August Storytellers Concert Ruth Acuff enchanted the crowd with her ethereal, unique sound. She is truly at home on her 46-string concert pedal harp and even gave attendees a quick introduction to the instrument's mechanics during intermission.

Acuff's music was truly steeped in both ancient traditions and modernist indie-folk. She blended Americana and chamber music to create exquisite breezy ballads.

Since her lyrics rest on the mind with the careful balance of a questioning poet, she was a great choice for the Storytellers Concerts. It was wonderful to learn even more about this intriguing local artist.

Many thanks to Colin LaVaute, host of The Big Muddy Music Hour on KBIA for organizing concerts that feature artists who create more than just music. We also appreciate our supporters: the Missouri Arts Council, the City of Columbia Office of Cultural Affairs, Socket and Dive Bar.

Stay tuned for more news about concerts later this fall to be announced soon on BooneHistory.org.

Where We Are Exhibition Features Artist Talks

**Mary Ellen Lohmann, Director,
Administration & Communications**

Many thanks to artists Stacia Schaefer and Marilyn Cummins as well as gallery director Betsy Knabe Roe for hosting artist talks for the *Where We Are* exhibition, which runs through September 17.

These intimate, engaging sessions were a chance to hear directly from featured artists about their unique creative process. They were so well received we hope to make them a tradition in the future.

On August 2, Stacia Schaefer captivated attendees with the story of how she got started in art, the business

side of art, her inspirations as well as how her process can get quite messy at times. (Just picture an array of fiber, textures and a rainbow of colors all over the studio!)

Marilyn Cummins shared details about her journey as an artist and gave a live demonstration of wet on wet watercolor painting on August 23. Cummins encouraged others to try art as an outlet for processing experiences – illness, loss, isolation and even new opportunities. The transformative power of art is one of the themes that local artists explored in the vivid exhibition, *Where We Are*, featuring Marilyn Cummins, Jenny McGee and Stacia Schaefer. Visit soon to see it before it closes.



Top Artist Stacia Schaefer's ceramics add rich texture to her macrame pieces. **Right** Schaefer shares her multi-step process. **Far Right** Artist Marilyn Cummins demonstrated watercolor on August 23.



Family Event Highlights BCHS Photo Collection

Mary Ellen Lohmann, Director,
Administration & Communications

On August 12, visitors filled the Montminy Gallery to learn more about how photography has changed over time, the BCHS photography collections and how volunteers are preserving photos of early Boone Countians.

Children tested their skills at rolling film into canisters and created their own versions Civil War tintypes. Families enjoyed displays with real glass-plate negatives, learned how to distinguish between an ambrotype and a tintype. BCHS volunteer Jerry Benedict also shared about the important preservation work being done in the Waters Digital Imaging Lab.

Many thanks to all the volunteers that made this event possible, including Benedict, Carolyn Doyle, Nancy W. Thomas and Sarah Poff, our family events coordinator.

Join us at the September family events! They coincide with Heritage Festival and will offer hands-on activities on the Center's veranda from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. on both September 16 and 17. A special guest organization will join us on Saturday with river inspired activities. Hope to see you there!



Clockwise (from top left) A mother shows her child a film strip in the Montminy Gallery. A family views film strips on a light box. A young visitor displays his portraits inspired by Civil War tin types. BCHS volunteer Jerry Benedict shares about the Waters Digital Imaging Lab.

Things That Matter Speaker Series Inspires Audiences



BCHS historian Matt Fetterly highlights mostly unknown LGBTQIA+ history in the art gallery.

Thanks to all who joined us for the insightful *Things That Matter* event on August 10 with BCHS historian Matt Fetterly. Emphasizing that much LGBTQIA+ history is hard to uncover because it was something so many individuals kept hidden, Fetterly shared what facts and figures can be gleaned from historic records and headlines.

Then thanks to the personal stories of three prominent Columbians from the 1900s—professor E.K. Johnston, writer Ward Dorrance and author Francis V. Rummell—Fetterly was able to illustrate some of the hardships the LGBTQIA+ community has faced.

Fetterly shared resources available, both past and present, to help LGBTQIA+ individuals feel safe and heard in Boone County. He also encouraged all attendees to share their stories not only so it won't be lost but also so we can help create a more inclusive community for all.

There was so much relevant, local history to cover that an hour didn't feel like long enough and many have asked for an encore event to learn more. We hope to plan this soon, so stay tuned for dates to be announced.

In the meantime plan to join us at these future events. Columbia's mayor Barbara Buffaloe will discuss how local changes can have global impact on October 12. John Wilke highlights the history of the Boone County Volunteer Fire Department on November 9.

Historic Village Welcomes International Students

The History & Culture Center's historic Village at Boone Junction is an incredible place where you can visit 200 years of local history all in one place. That is one reason Beth Greimann, an instructor in the MU Asian Affairs Center, returns year after year with groups of international students.

Greimann leads cultural excursions to help provide context for her students. She enjoys visiting the History & Culture Center's village and Maplewood Home as she believes the best learning is often outside the classroom. In our historic structures she highlights influential local leaders, like Dr. Frank Nifong, and illustrates how life has changed in Boone County since it was settled.

Visitors can see these wonderful buildings and interpretive panels from the outside anytime they visit Nifong Park. If you would like to schedule a tour inside the structures, please contact the History & Culture Center in advance. A small tour fee helps support the preservation of the historic homes.



Beth Greimann, right center with hat, an instructor in the MU Asian Affairs Center, leads a tour of international students through the village.



Oscar Mayer's Wienermobile stopped by the Center in early September.

Oscar Mayer Wienermobile Visits Center

Your Boone County History & Culture Center welcomes visitors year round, but one surprised us in early September. Sam, an ambassador for Oscar Mayer, visited to see *The Great Flood* history exhibition and showed volunteers and staff around inside the Wienermobile, which they now officially call a Frankmobile.

A native of Austin, Texas, Sam thoroughly enjoyed learning more about mid-Missouri. He said he was especially impressed with the flood exhibit and how it showed people helping people, which reminded him there are still good people in this world.

Follow what Sam is up to on Instagram: OM_HammySammy.



See You at the History & Culture Center

Saturday, September 16

10 a.m.-5 p.m. Heritage Festival

10 a.m.-12 p.m. Family Event

Sunday, September 17

10 a.m.-5 p.m. Heritage Festival

Last Day for *Where We Are* exhibit

10 a.m.-12 p.m. Family Event

Saturday, September 23

Contemporary Modernism opens

5-7p.m. Art Reception

in the Montminy Gallery

Wednesday, September 27

4 p.m. Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, October 11

1 p.m. Historic Sites Committee Meeting

Thursday, October 12

1-2 p.m. *Things That Matter:*

Barbara Buffaloe

5 p.m. Endowment Trust Board Meeting

Saturday, October 14

10 a.m.-12 p.m. Family Event: Oktoberfest

Wednesday, October 25

4 p.m. Board of Directors Meeting

Friday, October 27

History Makers Hall of Fame Gala
Kimball Ballroom, Stephens College campus



During the 2022 Heritage Festival a family checks out the Model T, the showpiece of the I Do exhibit on display in the West Walters History Gallery. Photo by Stephen Bybee.

Volunteers—continued from page 1

There are so many different ways you can help and this month is the perfect time with Heritage Festival planned for September 16-17.

We are seeking up to 100 volunteers during the annual festival, which brings 3,100 visitors to the Village at Boone Junction and 1,300 patrons in the main History & Culture Center building. No special expertise is needed, and you can serve in a variety of roles. Responsibilities range from greeting visitors in the exhibitions to guiding patrons through historic structures.

Volunteers are needed throughout the year to serve as tour guides, welcome visitors at the front desk and to digitize historic records and photos in the Waters Digital Imaging Lab. There are also great opportunities to help at public programs like our *Things That Matter* speaker series, monthly family events,

Storytellers concerts, and more.

To get started, fill out the volunteer

form online at BooneHistory.org/Volunteer or contact the History & Culture Center today at 573-443-8936 or Info@BooneHistory.org.

“Time and money are both scarce resources, and organizations that depend on the generosity of volunteers and contributors are chronically starved for both...Truly, it all makes a difference. Every bit matters.

—Jim Marberry, past BCCHS treasurer

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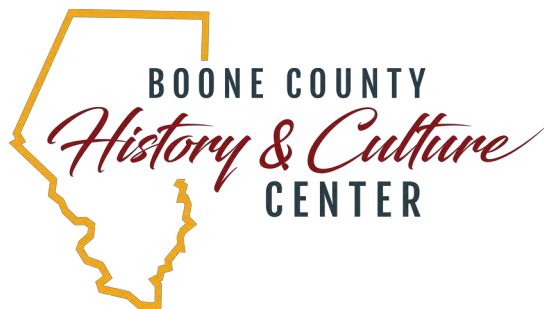
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Center Hours

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday
10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Check BooneHistory.org
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Find us on social media @BooneHistory



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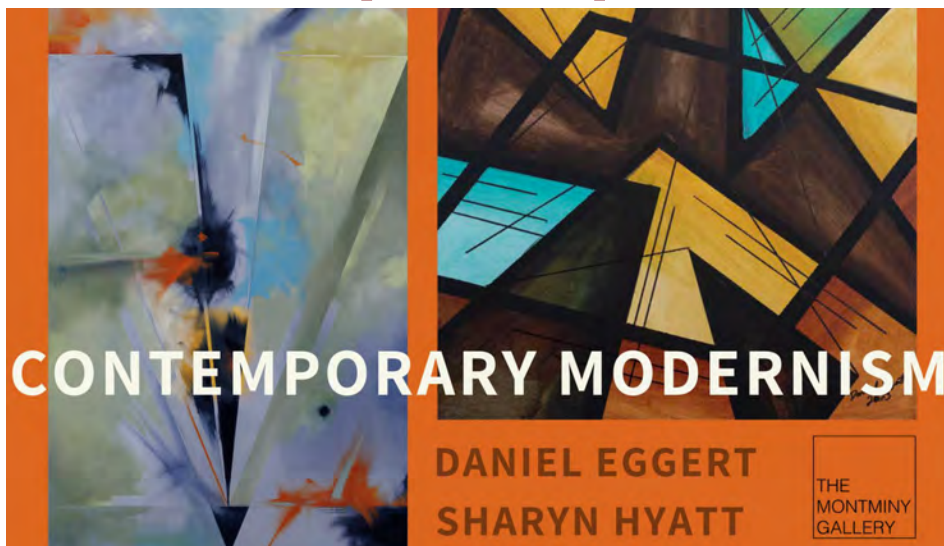
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Contemporary Modernism Opens September 23

Join us in the Montminy Gallery from 5-7 p.m. on September 23 to celebrate the opening of the *Contemporary Modernism* exhibition, which will be on display through November 11. The vivid works of Daniel Eggert and Sharyn Hyatt invite patrons to pause and explore the vast kaleidoscope of color and techniques in art.

Hyatt specializes in painting, drawing, and printmaking and said that challenges in life are often her inspiration.

"The prevailing theme in my work the past 40 years has been 'Obstacle as Catalyst.' The War-Woman series of the 80s evolved from obstacles of gender to become a catalyst in becoming a resilient, spirited woman...And as I embrace the beauty in 'imperfection' and aging, I indulge in the imperfection of the wooden slab, the rough cuts, the uneven ink. Imperfection as inspiration.....long last 'Obstacle as Catalyst' persists as my beloved muse."



Visit the art galley and enjoy the vivid works of Daniel Eggert and Sharyn Hyatt.

Chicago-based artist Eggert pursues his creativity in multitude of ways, including painting, photography, design and more. He said:

"I quickly found that branching out and trying new media sparked powerful inspiration, introduced new techniques into familiar media, and enriched my entire artistic experience. The metaphoric bridges between the media I use extend beyond con-

cepts over to profound collaborations, challenging me to re-think designs and to reject complacency."

Visit now and draw your own inspiration from *Contemporary Modernism*.

Upcoming Art Exhibition

Contemporary Modernism

September 23-November 11

Reception: September 23, 5-7 p.m.

Help Make History. Volunteer. Donate.