



November 2023

news & notes



Left to Right The family of Charles Morgenthaler shared inspiring words about their uncle at the gala. The Food Bank's iconic orange spoon was incorporated into their centerpiece. Col. John Clark thanked his wife, Anne, for helping him survive what would now be classified as post-traumatic stress disorder and find new meaning in life after his years as a prisoner of war.

Hall of Fame: Three New Enshrinees Honored at Gala, Added to Boone County Hall of Fame

Chris Campbell
Executive Director

The Boone County Historical Society's Endowment Trustees hosted their 12th annual Boone County Hall of Fame *History Makers Gala* on Oc-

tober 27, in the Kimball Ballroom on the Stephens College campus.

The evening added three new members to the Boone County Hall of Fame: Charles Morgenthaler (posthumous recipient), the Food Bank for Central & Northeast Mis-

souri (organization recipient) and retired Colonel John Clark, USAF (living recipient).

Each enshrinee was introduced by an originally produced mini-documentary centered on showcasing their lasting contributions within the county and beyond.

These outstanding videos created in partnership with Karl Bussen of Bussen Productions are available for all to enjoy online at [YouTube.com/@BooneHistory](https://www.youtube.com/@BooneHistory).

Each honoree or a designated recipient shared remarks after their enshrinement and the humble words about their own extraordinary achievements were incredible.—
Continued on page 4



1000+ Attendees

We are excited to share that our free family events crossed the milestone of 1,000 attendees at the Oktoberfest event! Since they started in May 2022, the events designed for all ages have been steadily growing and welcome a new audience into the History & Culture Center with hands-on activities.
More on page 5.

What's Happening at the History & Culture Center?

Chris Campbell
Executive Director

What a fun and memorable event! I am deeply grateful to every member and friend of this organization who bought a History Makers Boone County Hall of Fame ticket, sent a contribution, purchased a silent auction item, donated an auction item or underwrote or sponsored a facet of our biggest annual event. Thank you all.

I'm so proud to be part of a community and an organization who embraces the importance of this Hall of Fame and comes out to celebrate those who are enshrined.

Our audience of 300 on Friday, October 27 was enthusiastically appreciative of the decades of service provided to our county, our state and even our country when they gave big ovations to retired U.S. Air Force Colonel John W. Clark, the Food Bank of Central & Northeast Missouri and the late artist Charles A. Morgenthaler.

My most heartfelt thanks to the evenings two Gold Sponsors—Commerce Bank and the City of Columbia and our two Silver Sponsors—Bruce & Betsy Odle and Boone Electric Cooperative as well as the other sponsors listed on page 4.

I'm also grateful to our entire gala planning committee, the staff and our volunteers who made the evening possible. Our event coordinator, Monica Guerrant, was superb in her leadership of our team. The event and special thanks go to our emcees Vicki Russell and Sarah Dubbert and auctioneer Meg Judy.

Our friends at Stephens College did a wonderful job of providing a beautiful venue and a delicious dinner, and our three photographers, Wally Pfeffer, Stephen Bybee and L.G. Patterson were invaluable in helping to archive the evening for posterity.

Thanks largely to Karl Bussen of Bussen Productions our three tribute videos turned out wonderfully. They are all available to screen on our

YouTube Channel. You will enjoy the narration provided by the Mizzou Tigers broadcaster Mike Kelly on the Food Bank video and KOMU's Emily Spain on the Morgenthaler video.

Coming up! Please join us for the December iteration of the *Things That Matter* speaker series when we will welcome State Historical Society of Missouri executive director Dr. Gary Kremer on December 12 to speak on "Persistent Problems in Missouri History." Learn more in the below article.

Lastly, I wish to remind all of our readers that the annual CoMoGives fundraising campaign begins online on November 28 and we would humbly ask for your contributions there.

But—we also hope others of you will contribute to our annual holiday campaign which you will receive in your mailboxes in the next few weeks.

Whichever method you choose to make a year-end donation, we thank you!

December *Things That Matter* Discussion Showcases Persistent Problems in Show-Me State History

A new speakers series exploring
REAL PEOPLE and REAL STORIES



THINGS THAT MATTER

Monthly on Thursdays
1-2 p.m.
at the History & Culture Center

Dec 14 Gary R. Kremer
Executive Director, State Historical Society
Persistent Problems in MO History

Join us for the December *Things That Matter* event featuring Gary R. Kremer.

Join us at 1 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 14 for the next *Things That Matter* event featuring Gary R. Kremer, the executive director of the State Historical Society of Missouri (SHSMO). He'll enlighten us with a discussion of "Persistent Problems in Missouri History."

As a fifth-generation Missourian and SHSMO's executive director since 2004, Kremer is highly qualified to help broaden our understanding of reoccurring trends in the Show-Me State.

Kremer earned his Ph.D. from American University in Washington, DC. He has written, coauthored, and coedited 12 books. Previously, Kremer taught history at Lincoln University in Jefferson City (1972-1987) and William Woods University in Fulton (1991-2004). He also served as the state archivist of Missouri from 1987 to 1991 before his tenure started at SHSMO.

Things That Matter aims to produce a series that is inclusive of all voices and creates a safe space for all to feel heard. It is a free, conversational-style speaker series hosted from 1:00-2:00 p.m. once monthly on Thursdays in the History & Culture Center's Montminy Gallery. No RSVP is required.

Don't Forget to Make a Difference, Plan Your Gift Now

Mary Ellen Lohmann, Director,
Administration & Communications

As we enter the season of thankfulness, many are reflecting on the things that matter most: the people we love, the things that inspire us and experiences that make us feel truly alive. If you count exploring a new art exhibition or learning new stories among those things, we humbly ask you to plan for your end of the year donation for the Boone County History & Culture Center.

The only cultural center of its kind focused solely on Boone County, the History & Culture Center is an irreplaceable community treasure that offers educational resources and a place to experience our vibrant heritage. We are a volunteer-driven, community-based cultural and heritage arts institution about to celebrate its centennial!

Like so many others, every aspect of our budget has been challenged in recent years. A willingness to try new things and a team of *very* dedicated volunteers have kept this organization going. We work so hard because our shared culture plays a vital role in our everyday lives.

Perhaps BCHS member Jim Marberry said it best. "We think it is important to figure out what would matter most if we lost it. History and the arts are among the things that matter."

How Do My Dollars Help?

Your \$50 gift provides supplies for hands-on activities for children. They can create their own "Civil War tintype" while learning about our 500,000+ piece photography collection, which the Smithsonian's American History Museum identified as "undoubtedly one of the largest, if not the largest aggregate community collection in the country." See what's online at BooneHistory.org/Digital-Collections.

A \$325 donation supports the cost of one family event to ensure they remain freely available to attendees. (Currently, averaging 64 people per event!) Help local children thrive with hands-on experiences. During our free events, families engage with history in new ways. They deliver mail via the Pony Express, experiment with origami, make maps for Lewis and Clark and learn about the different mid-Missouri trails.

A \$550 contribution covers the purchase of a tabletop display case. This will be essential for our special centennial exhibition showcasing our favorite 100 artifacts in the BCHS collections. Next year marks 100 years of the Boone County Historical Society preserving local history (1924-2024). There are many plans in place to celebrate this important milestone, a *100 Years. 100 Objects.* exhibit. This grand display will require additional lighting, display cases, pedestals and other accessories to be purchased.



Because of you we continue to provide the only consistently offered, free educational program in mid-Missouri designed to engage families in meaningful arts-integrated experiences for all ages. Our action-packed family events are designed to break down barriers preventing families from entering our door and introduce them to the History & Culture Center.

So, please consider what you would miss most if their doors could not remain open. You will receive reminders from us, because we know it is a busy time of year. We also know there are many worthy organizations that depend on your generosity. So plan ahead and decide now what you are comfortable giving to support this one-of-a-kind place.

If you are comfortable with online donations, we ask you to consider donating to BCHS through CoMoGives, the community-wide online fundraiser. It launches on Tuesday, November 28 and is a great way to save time if you are making multiple gifts to high-impact nonprofits in mid-Missouri. Learn more at CoMoGives.com.

Thank you for your past support and for planning ahead to ensure your end of 2023 gift makes the difference that you want it to.

Secure online donations can be made at BooneHistory.org/Donate-Now. After November 28, please make them through CoMoGives.com.

If you would rather send a check, make it payable to the Boone County Historical Society, 3801 Ponderosa Street, Columbia, MO 65201. Call the Center at 573-443-8936 with any questions.

Your donation really does make a difference. Thank you for your generosity.



Top to Bottom The Missouri Symphony Quartet plays beautifully during the cocktail hour. Executive director Chris Campbell welcomes attendees. Robert Bennett and Lindsay Young Lopez pose on their way into the gala. BCHS board member Jo Stealey enjoys the evening.

2023 Hall of Fame—continued from page 1

The Boone County Hall of Fame is central Missouri's only civic hall of fame, and its current roster lists 73 Hall of Famers that have been inducted since the first class in 1995.

The living recipient, Clark, is a 1957 graduate of Hickman High and a 1961 alum of the MU engineering school.

Clark flew more than 60 missions over North Vietnam when he was downed by anti-aircraft fire on March 12, 1967. He was captured almost immediately by swarms of militia and imprisoned. At home, Clark was listed as missing in action and presumed dead. It wasn't until his first letter arrived three and a half years later that his family learned he had survived and was a prisoner of war in North Vietnam. Clark was held for nearly six years until he was finally released on February 18, 1973.

Clark retired as a colonel in the Air Force. He earned the Silver Star, two Legions of Merit, two Purple Hearts, the Distinguished Flying Cross, six Air Medals as well as other medals and honors.

The Food Bank for Central & Northeast Missouri, 2023 organization recipient, provides food to 100,000 people a month across 32 counties. The Food Bank distributes millions of pounds of food annually. They work with nearly 200 schools and more than 145 food pantries, soup kitchens, shelters and other agencies to get food to those who need it most. The Food Bank shares 23 million meals with Missouri citizens each year.

Renowned artist Morgenthaler (1893 - 1980) is the posthumous honoree. He was born in Hallsville, Missouri, graduated from Columbia High School and graduated from the Art Institute of Chicago in 1928.

Morgenthaler's varied skills led to opportunities creating illustrations for hundreds of newspapers, books and advertising companies. Morgenthaler restored murals at the Missouri State Capitol dome (1951), the St. Louis' Old Courthouse (1955) and the Cyclorama

at Gettysburg National Battlefield (1960).

Morgenthaler volunteered to sketch service members at military hospitals for the United Service Organizations (USO) in 1946-47. He was one of only six artists asked to travel to Germany for this project. He continued in this role during the Korean War drawing over 1,400 military personnel in all.

We are thankful to the many sponsors and individuals that make this evening a success: Gold—City of Columbia; Commerce Bank; Silver—Boone Electric Cooperative; Betsy & Bruce Odle;

Underwriters—Bartender: Robin & Alex LaBrunerie; Dessert: Marie Nau Hunter; Party Favors: Selective Scores Consulting-ACT Prep; Parking & Logistics: Reinhardt Construction, LLC; Jewelry Raffle: Buchroeders Jewelers; Program Printing: Shelter Insurance; Music: Missouri Symphony Quartet; Technology Support: Virtua Computers; Florals: Columbia Area Career Center;

Table Sponsors—Bank of Missouri; Boone County Historical Society Board of Directors; Michelle & Frank Baumstark; Bella Verde Farm, LLC; Central Bank; Earl Coleman; Columbia College; The Food Bank for Central & Northeast Missouri; Hallsville Historical Society; Drs. George and Victoria Hubbell; Robin & Alex LaBrunerie and David Wilson & Arin Liberman; Bob & Nancy Ginn Martin; Jim & Marjorie Marberry; Joan Menser; Military Officers Association of America; Phil & Bonnie Prather and Vicki Russell; Melanie & Mike Staloch and Gwen & Brian Struchtemeyer; Simmons Bank;

BCHS Advocate Donors—Wilson & Jan Beckett, Karen M. Miller & David Brown, Shelter Insurance Foundation

BCHS Friend Sponsors—Earl Coleman, Kathy Digges, Joan & Stephen Mudrick, Peters Heating & Air Conditioning

Additional support from generous members and donors like you, including Nancy & Mike Russell; Gary L. & Carol E. Smith.

Book Event: *Ruby: Magic Comes from the Heart*

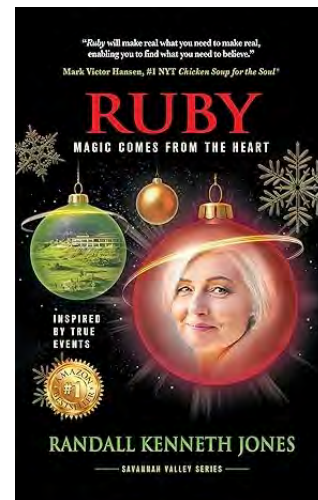
At 3 p.m. on Wednesday, December 13 join us for a book reading with a musical performances featuring vocalists singing as characters from the *Ruby: Magic Comes from the Heart* written by Columbia native Randall Kenneth Jones.

In this imaginative novel Cynthia Grant arrives in posh Savannah Valley, searching for purpose and a new life. When she accidentally encounters her new neighbor Ruby, the winds of change go into overdrive.

A woman of untold mystery, Ruby's impact on the magic of Christmas is a spectacle to behold. Ruby's influence on wondering, wandering Cynthia leads to a whirlwind of activity that transforms not only Cynthia but everyone she touches.

With spirits, angels, messengers, and boundless imagination alongside mystery, whimsy, speculation and a search for truth, Ruby tempts even the most hard-hearted naysayer to believe in believing again.

Be sure to join us for a little Christmas magic in the Montminy Gallery. This is a free event and no reservation is required.



Enjoy a Christmas story and songs on December 13.



Clockwise from top left Carolyn Doyle, right, teaches Sarah Poff how to polka. Volunteers celebrate reaching 1,000+ attendees. A father helps his daughter make a rag doll. A young patron tries the accordion. Alec Poff plays the accordion for attendees. A visitor enjoys the leaves station. Guests show off their rag dolls with German-style clothing.

Family Events Cross Milestone of 1,000 Attendees

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

We are excited to share that our free family events crossed the milestone of 1,000 attendees at the Oktoberfest event on October 14! Since they started in May 2022, the events designed for all ages have been steadily growing and welcome a new audience into the History & Culture Center with hands-on activities.

To date, 1034 people have

joined us many who said it was their first time inside the Center. Many thanks to our volunteers—like those pictured—and our donors that ensure our family programs can continue to introduce children to everything from the McBaine Bur Oak to Oktoberfest traditions in unique ways!

Upcoming topics include holiday traditions and photomicrography. The “Christmas Cards” event from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. on December 9 in-

vites attendees to learn how families have made the holidays special over the years and compare old and new Christmas cards to see the changes.

On January 13 an event from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. titled “Snowflakes” offers a chance to learn about “Snowflake” Wilson Bentley’s pioneering work in photomicrography, read the award-winning book and make snowflakes. Since no two are alike, you can make a ton to take home and share this story with others!

Thankful for Volunteers

Your Generosity with Your Time, Talents Powers Our Mission

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

The Boone County History & Culture Center has many reasons to be thankful, especially when it comes to our dedicated volunteers who make it possible for the Center to operate. The generosity of many individuals sharing their time and talents ensures we can open our doors and share the incredible artifacts and the stories they help illustrate with the community.

Many thanks to the individuals listed here who have volunteered in the 2023 calendar year.

You can join them and help extend the History & Culture Center's mission. There are a variety of ways to help—many that may provide you the opportunity to learn new skills and meet new people. Plus, you decide how often you want to work!

Volunteers are needed in several key areas including staffing the front desk, digitizing images and assisting with events.

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.

2023 Volunteers

Sharon Adams	Hannah Dubman	Niamh Johnston	Larry Joe Pauley	Melanie Staloch
Renee Allee	Linda Dunbar	Julie Kalaitzandonakes	Julie Plax	Greg Stiles
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Deby Arant	Carol Ellebracht	Kyle Kelley	Alec Poff	Nancy W. Thomas
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Jerry Benedict	Tom Froidl	Lydia Lohmann	Connie Richards	Elizabeth Watkins
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Ariel Credeur	Lynn Hill	Mike Offineer	Gary Smith	
Mendy Diel	Barbra Horrell	Christine Orey	Marilyn Smith	
Carolyn Doyle	Brendan Hoskins	Richard Otto	Donald Spiers	



See You at the History & Culture Center

Saturday, November 18

1-3 p.m. Holiday Show Opening Reception

Wednesday, December 13

3:00 p.m. Book Event: *Ruby: Magic Comes From the Heart*

Wednesday, November 29

4 p.m. Board of Directors Meeting

Thursday, December 14

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

Thursday, December 7

5-6:30 p.m. Annual Membership Meeting

Wednesday, December 27

4 p.m. Board of Directors Meeting

Saturday, December 9

10 a.m.-12 p.m. Family Event:
Christmas Cards

Saturday, January 13

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

Current Exhibitions

Holiday Show

Montminy Gallery thru January 6

The Great Flood

West Walters Gallery thru February 2024

Heroes Among Us & On My Honor

East Walters Gallery thru February 2024

From the Montminy Gallery Principle Art Venue Serving the Community

Betsy Knabe Roe, Director & Curator, Montminy Gallery

I want to take time as gallery director to share my goals for Montminy Gallery in the coming years. What I hope to accomplish is based on Tracy Montminy's legacy and our wishes to exhibit both her and Pierre's artwork as well as contemporary local, national and international artists. I rely on my professional skills and ongoing research in building community through art experiences across cultures and social groups.

My strategic plan aligns with the National Endowment for the Arts which states, "The NEA will model diversity, equity, inclusion and accessibility in the arts through all its activities and operations." I will outline how Montminy Gallery will address each of these areas to benefit artists and enrich our community beginning with the Exhibition Plan.

Diversity is very much a part of Columbia, Missouri. How much we increase our awareness and learn about other cultures through their artwork! With exhibitions that highlight individually the many various cultures that make up our demographics, we share their story while also creating a sense of belonging. People are more inclined to visit a museum in which they see themselves as part of the story.

I plan to have juried exhibits that follow a call for art to equitably serve our community. These exhibits allow for widespread and varied participation. Depending on the theme of these exhibitions, we can reach a broad range of artists with a wide variety of styles, techniques, and materials.

Building relationships with underserved communities promotes inclusivity. We foster acceptance and understanding by providing access and opportunities for marginalized artists to exhibit their works in our premier gallery.

Providing accessibility will be an ongoing process and is already an integral part of Boone County History & Culture Center. Contemporary museum practices have developed new ways to give access and encourage patrons with disabilities to appreciate art.

These values—diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility—are closely linked and often overlap. By intentionally planning and building on these basic concepts, Montminy Gallery continues into the future as a principle art venue in this community.



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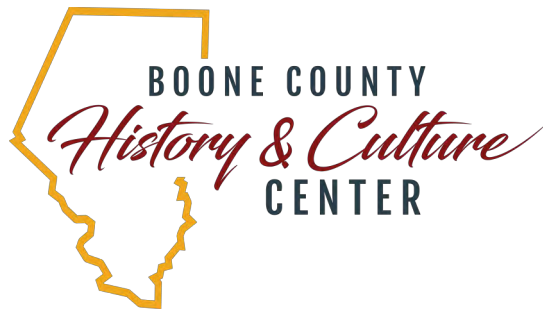
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Info@BooneHistory.org

Center Hours

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday
10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Check BooneHistory.org
for the latest announcements

Find us on social media @BooneHistory



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Dec Events: Annual Membership Meeting, Holiday Show

Be sure to save the date of Thursday, December 7 for our 2023 Annual Membership Meeting and Holiday Reception. Join us from 5-6:30 p.m. for a fun and informative event that will include a business meeting and catered dinner.

Help us celebrate the accomplishments of 2023 with supporters of the Boone County Historical Society. To ensure you can vote at the meeting, make sure your membership is up-to-date by renewing at BooneHistory.org/Membership. The meeting portion of the evening will consist of board and staff reports and highlight what your support made possible in 2023.

There will also be an election of new board directors. Candidates will serve 3-year terms beginning in January 2024. Candidates up for a new, 3-year term as a board director are Jerry Benedict and Jolene Schulz. Also, up for re-election to a 3-year term as a board director are Nancy W. Thomas and Elizabeth Watkins.

While you are here it will be the



2023 HOLIDAY SHOW

NOV 16, 2023 - JAN 6, 2024

PURCHASE AND TAKE WITH YOU!

THE MONTMINY GALLERY

The art in the Holiday Show is available to take home at the time of purchase, so it is the perfect place to get a unique gift and support Center at the same time.

perfect time to see the new *Holiday Show*, which runs through January 6. All the art is available to take home at the time of purchase, so it is perfect place for your holiday shopping. You

can get a one-of-a-kind gift and support the Center at the same time. There is a wide variety of art in the show, so there truly is something for everyone on your list.

Help Make History. Volunteer. Donate.