

Boone County Historical Society



November-December 2025

2026 Meetings & Events

All BCBS meetings at the Boone County Public Library will start at 6:30 pm.

No meetings in **January** or **February**.

March 19: Jim Claypool & Bob Webster will talk about their new book entitled *A Tradition Reborn*.

April 16: Show and Tell (Page 2)

May 21: Jessica Whitehead will talk about her book, *Driftwood*, about the life of **Harlan Hubbard**.

July 16: Out & About Meeting at the **Jonathan Carlton House** in **Petersburg**.

September 17: Joleen Miranda will present **The History of Ohio River Showboats**.

November 19: Judge Anthony Frohlich will talk about his latest book.

CATHY COLLOPY WILL TALK ABOUT A FASCINATING STORY FROM THE DINSMORE HOMESTEAD ON THURSDAY , NOVEMBER 20 AT 6:30 PM.



Cathy Collopy



**Patty Flandrau Selmes
About 1918**

The life of Patty Flandrau Selmes was centered around Boone County and her Aunt Julia Dinsmore, but Patty, unlike Julia, spent a good portion of her life elsewhere, befriending prominent Americans and raising a daughter who became the first Congresswoman from Arizona. Her Kentucky upbringing and the influence of her aunt, gave shape to the life she led, which was unlike the lives of most other women raised in Boone County.

About Cathy Collopy...

She grew up in Cincinnati, and spent time over the years in Michigan and Montana, before returning to the tri-state to teach 8th grade US history in Kenton County. When she decided to go back to school for more education, a teacher she worked with suggested Dinsmore Homestead Museum, where she has now been for 24 years, transcribing letters, researching, and organizing education programs. She has taught history courses at NKU, Xavier, and UC, part-time while working at Dinsmore and now enjoys a side-gig at Music Hall

SHOW AND TELL

At our April 2026 meeting, members are asked to bring something to the meeting that they would like to show to the other members and tell about it. We will set up tables and chairs for you to display your item.

If you don't have anything to bring to the meeting, come anyway to see what interesting things other members have to show.

PETERSBURG

OUT AND ABOUT

We found out recently that Petersburg has its own Historical Society. They own the Jonathan Carlton house and have been doing extensive renovations. They hope to have the work finished by the end of the year. According to Jackie Wallace, vice president, they have recently acquired the Mason's building and are in the process of making plans for its use.

We have been invited to have our July 2026 "Out & About" meeting at the Jonathan Carlton house where we will learn more about the beautiful town of Petersburg.

A Special Thank you....

In 2011, Jim Duvall created our website, boonecountykyhistory.org. He has maintained the site since then and has posted many items of our own Boone County history on it. Jim also maintains a website on Baptist history. This summer he has turned over the responsibility of our website to our treasurer, Brent Johansen. Brent now keeps our website up to date with current events.

Recently, Brent has established a new email address for our society. The address is: boonechsky@gmail.com

DR. PAUL TENKOTTE, PH.D. 'S TALK ABOUT THE ORVILLE PROJECT

At our last meeting in September, Dr. Tenkotte gave a wonderful presentation about the importance of the Ohio River valley as it relates to the ORVILLE project. He gave us a valuable history lesson on the importance of the Ohio River which was fought for by three nations in the 18th and early 19th centuries.

This presentation was videoed and is on the library's website. Put in the following URL to see:

<https://www.youtube.com/@BooneCountyPublicLibrary/videos>



John Schlipp, Jim Duvall, and Dr. Paul Tenkotte

CIVIL WAR LETTERS

David and Susan (Pelley) Maxwell, who live in Florida and were originally from Boone County, sent us a package that contains letters from Civil War soldiers. We are amazed at the beautiful handwriting of the letters and the way the soldiers expressed themselves. These documents are very delicate so we had them digitized at the Boone County Public Library. We will make copies of these letters and have them on display in our museum. To preserve the original letters, we will turn them over to Archive and History Center.

CHRISTMAS TREE ORNAMENTS

We still have quality cast metal ornaments featuring the historic Boone County Courthouse. They will be available at our meeting for \$10.00, cash or check.

UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

The Dinsmore Homestead



**CHRISTMAS
IN THE COUNTRY**

SATURDAY DEC. 6TH
FORGET-ME-NOT
HISTORICAL DANCERS
FREE COOKIES & HOT COCOA
KIDS CRAFT

SUNDAY DEC. 7TH
LIVE MUSIC
FREE COOKIES & HOT COCOA
KIDS CRAFT

ADMISSION 
ADULTS \$10
KIDS \$3

DEC. 6 & 7 
1PM-5PM 
FREE CIDER & HOT COCOA 

5656 BURLINGTON PIKE
BURLINGTON KY 41005

For more info visit
www.dinsmorehomestead.org/events



The City of Florence will honor the Veterans of all wars in a ceremony on Saturday, November 8 at 2:00 pm in the Florence Government Center.

The City of Walton will celebrate Veterans Day on Tuesday, November 11 at 11:00 am. It takes place at the memorial located behind City Hall with a lunch that follows in the Senior Center.

The City of Florence will celebrate its Holiday Tree Lighting Event on Tuesday, December 2 from 5:00 pm—7:00 pm at the Florence Government Center. Celebrate the holiday season and welcome Santa Claus with the annual Tree Lighting Program.

The County of Boone will celebrate “Christmas in Boone County” on Saturday, December 6, from 4:00 pm—7:00 pm. at the Burlington Commons (across from the Administration Building in Burlington.) Enjoy music, refreshments, crafts, a visit with Santa and Christmas Tree lighting.

The Gaines Tavern History Center will celebrate the holiday season with an elegant Christmas Tea on Sunday, December 7 from 2:00 pm—4:00 pm. Tickets are available in advance at Walton City Hall.

The Gaines Tavern History Center will host a Christmas Open House on Sunday, December 14, from 1:00 pm—5:00 pm. Experience the magic of the holidays as the tavern is transformed into a festive wonderland. Entrance is free with a paper product donation for the Walton Food Pantry.

THE BCHS MUSEUM

Boone County Historical Society expresses appreciation to the Boone County Judge/Executive and Fiscal Court Commissioners for permission to use the Old County Clerk’s Office as a repository for items of historical significance to Boone County’s heritage.

Directions: I-71/75 Exit 181 (KY 18 Burlington Pk). Proceed westbound 4.6 miles, turn right at the first traffic signal (Bullittsville-

Burlington Road aka Garrard St.) and then turn left into the Boone County Administration Building parking lot. The Museum is the small white brick building marked “County Court Clerk’s Office...1853” The street address is 2965 Gallatin Street, Burlington, KY 41005.

The museum will be open on the third Thursday each month 10—



Artwork by Pattie Purnell

BOONE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

P.O. BOX 23
FLORENCE, KY 41022-0023



Website: boonecountykyhistory.org
E-Mail: boonechsky@gmail.com
Newsletter Editor: Stephen D. Conrad
sdconrad@fuse.net

ABOUT THE BOONE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The **mission** of the Boone County Historical Society is to develop awareness and promote appreciation of the history of Boone County, Kentucky. We are fortunate to partner with the Boone County Public Library.

The Boone County Historical Society provides program meetings at 6:30pm on the third Thursday evenings of March, April, May, July, September and November. Meetings (except for July) are held at the Boone County Public Library, Main Library, 1786 Burlington Pike, Burlington, Kentucky. July "out-and-about" meetings are held at various locations around the County.

The Society will be hosting a number of exhibits at the BCHS Museum (*see page 3*) each year. Most items for these exhibits are borrowed on a temporary basis from our members and friends, and do not belong to the Society. We greatly appreciate being entrusted with these loaned items that relate to our exhibits.

Items in our permanent collection have been donated by individuals and families, who desire to share with others items of historical significance to Boone County. Their generosity is gratefully appreciated.

Annual membership fee is \$15 per household, due every March. This covers the cost of printing and mailing our newsletters. Checks, payable to the Boone County Historical Society, can be mailed to the Boone County Historical Society, P.O. Box 23, Florence, KY 41022-0023.

The Boone County Historical Society has received a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status — all gifts to the Society are tax deductible.

All programs and exhibits are free and open to the public.

Boone County Historical Society expresses appreciation to the Boone County Judge/Executive and Fiscal Court Commissioners for permission to use the Old County Clerk's Office as a re-

pository for items of historical significance to Boone County's heritage.

Directions: I-71/75 Exit 181 (KY 18 Burlington Pk). Proceed westbound 4.6 miles, turn right at the first traffic signal (Bullittsville-Burlington Road aka Garrard St.); turn left into the Boone County Administration Building parking lot. The Museum is the small white brick building marked "County Court Clerk's Office...1853." The street address is 2965 Gallatin Street, Burlington, KY 41005.

Officers and Board members:

President:	Stephen Conrad
Vice President:	Maryalice Markesbery
Secretary:	Pat Yannarella
Treasurer:	Brent Johansen
Web Master:	Brent Johansen
Board Members:	Ron Buckley
	Thomas & Carol Schiffer
	Ginny Kohl
	Patricia Gilliland