



**MARBLE ROCK
HISTORICAL SOCIETY
322 BRADFORD
MARBLE ROCK, IA 50653
THIRTY-FIRST ANNUAL
NEWSLETTER
January 2010**

Dear Members and Friends:

The year 2009 was very busy with meetings, special events and the acquisition of special historical items. No doubt the Beelar Log House has created the most work and expense.

June 2, was the BIG DAY the 1853 two-story Beelar log structure was moved to the Museum grounds. The enclosed photographs tell the story. What the photos don't tell are the hundreds of man-hours of preparation by Clay, Diane & Miles Black; Lynn Wedeking; Dixon Marsh and J. R. Ackley. More long and hard work is now required to replace age-deteriorated logs, reassemble the 16 x 16-foot log back room and restoration of the interior. We are grateful to be able to preserve this part of Marble Rock History.

June 27 was another BIG DAY. It's a wonderful story of generosity! The Bopp Drug Store soda fountain back bar came home after 29 years. It had been sold at auction and had spent a good deal of time in Rocky's Pizza in Iowa Falls and then made other stops in Iowa, Missouri, Texas, Connecticut, Kentucky and back to Connecticut. Tom Lavallo of Trumbull, Connecticut, donated this historic piece to the Historical Society. It is 9-feet high and 10-feet long with a marble top, mirror and stained glass side cabinets, and in "mint" condition. See the enclosed photo. It is now a featured item displayed in Museum Hall along with other Bopp's Drug Store memorabilia. Now if we could only find the front soda fountain! Another major featured item is the Sult Barber Shop Exhibit after it was stripped of paint and then refinished. See photograph.

In May we hosted 57 fourth graders and teachers at the Museum. Then on August 1 at our Fun Days "Open House", we hosted 55 visitors. Total with Sunday visitors, 189 people were hosted by the members of the Board of Directors.

We awarded \$250 scholarships to graduating seniors: Tucker Brinkman, Heather Dolan, Megan Neal, Lydia Parcher and Jessie Stewart. Over the past five years, we have provided 23 scholarships totaling \$5100.00 to invest in the future of our young people.

Through a grant from the Floyd County Community Foundation, we purchased a high-speed two-side scanner. Our first big project was scanning over 6100 pages of 1974-2009 Marble Rock Journals. The pages will be available to the public on a searchable DVD. The scanner will also be used to preserve historic documents, letters and obituaries for the public as well.

During the year, we acquired 117 new items from 12 new donors making a total of 3690 catalogued items from 412 donors.

Our web page (www.marblerock.org) continues to be popular and is updated each month to include the latest issue of the Marble Rock Journal, and other Historical Society and community activities. We continue to offer our CDs; however, watch our web page for the release of the Journal DVD and a new expanded "Marble Rock and the People" DVD.

We would like to expand our Board of Directors. If you are interested, please let us know. THANK YOU for supporting us and we ask for you continued interest.

Board of Directors: Clayton Black, Gerry Bruggeman,
Robert Carney, Lorri Chambers, Max Handley,
Steve Koenigsfeld, David Krull, Ron Schriever

Arlene Carney – President
Diane Black – Vice President
Lynn Wedeking – Secretary
Carma Hillman – Treasurer

Moving Jacob Beelar's Log House

To move the Beelar log house 2-1/2 blocks, much preparation was done. One significant item was the 16 x 16-foot room at the rear. This is thought to be Beelar's first home in 1851. The logs were numbered and placed in storage, and will be re-assembled at the new location.



Following photo shows the house beginning the journey. Workers from Alliant Energy and Iowa Telecom worked ahead of the house to ensure all power and telephone lines would be cleared or taken down.



The movers "snaked" the house around two corners. Note the power line being lifted.



The house was rolled on two rails to the correct foundation location.



Sult Barber Shop Display

We have a photo showing the back bar and sink being used by Roy and Cliff Stroud prior to World War I. The shop and equipment were sold by the Strouds to "Doc" Sult in December 1941. Weldon Sult acquired the shop in April of 1949. He operated the shop until he retired in 1995 after barbering 47 years. Shown is Weldon with the display.



Bopp Drug Store Display

Shown is soda fountain back bar from the Bopp Drug Store.

