

Littleton & Chatham

Historical Society Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 1, Spring/Summer 2009

LITTLETON & CHATHAM HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Bike Ride Fundraiser



"RIDING TO SAVE HISTORY"

2nd Bike Ride Fundraiser

Saturday August 15th

← **"Riding To Save History" is the slogan for this years t-shirt.**

The Littleton and Chatham Historical Society has organized their second bike ride fundraiser. Riders of all ages are welcome and the ride will be at your own pace. Riders can pick up

their t-shirts and register for door prizes outside the Littleton Lounge at 8:30 am. The route runs east and south on D16 through Littleton and Otterville, south on Wapsie Access Blvd, north on 5th Ave. NE, east on 14th Ave. NE through Independence, then east on 205th St. north on W33, west on C57 through Hazleton, south on V62, and east on D16 back to Littleton. The distance is approximately 45 miles. A short route of 23 miles is

also provided up Fairbank-Amish Blvd. to Hwy. 281, west to Fairbank, down V62 and back to Littleton. The routes will be marked. Parking is available in Littleton. Available stops along the way include the Littleton Lounge, Casey's on 12th Ave. NE in Independence, a bike refreshment station on W33, and Prontos in Hazleton and Fairbank.

The registration fee will be \$20 with a T-shirt, or \$15 without a T-shirt. Mail your completed registration and payment to Littleton and Chatham Historical Society, 1006 150th St., Fairbank IA 50629. The registration form and map can be found online at www.bikeiowa.com or at <http://freepages.history.rootsweb.com/~littletonia>. You can call with questions (319) 415-1175 or email: tonybengston@yahoo.com.

Curiosity is the very basis of education and if you tell me that curiosity killed the cat, I say only the cat died nobly.
~Arnold Edinborough

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Next Regular

Meeting-

Monday July 13,
2009 7:00pm at the
Pleasant Grove
Presbyterian Church
in Littleton.

BUSY AT LITTLETON-August 6, 1910-Waterloo Evening Reporter

The different industries usual in our village are thriving this spring and farm work is well advanced for the season. Carpenters report plenty of contracts for building, and painters ditto in their line of work. Mill and creamery are in good hands, both running smoothly and well patronized. The blacksmith shop is surrounded by farm machinery, vehicles, etc., awaiting their turn for needed repairs. The many egg cases brought in and hauled away full to be shipped or put in cold storage, prove that an important item throughout this section. The hotel is in readiness for the outing parties that come in increasing numbers each season to this pretty village, or rather pretty scenery all around it. The boat livery has a good line of boats ready for orders as soon as the ice goes out in the spring. Now with a comfortable conveyance and a reliable driver to take passengers to and from trains or elsewhere, one need would be supplied that often at present causes inconveniences.

Don't miss out on the next issue of the LCHS newsletter, purchase a 1 year membership for \$10. Mail membership to: Littleton and Chatham Historical Society, 1006 150th St. Fairbank, IA 50629.

"The Littleton and Chatham Historical Society strives to accurately document, promote and preserve the history of the Littleton and Chatham area to cultivate interest and educational understanding for future generations."

Littleton and Chatham Historical Society

1006 150th St.

Fairbank, IA 50629

Where is Chatham?

I am often asked, "Where is Chatham?" Perry Street divides the villages of Littleton and Chatham. Chatham was platted by Robert W. Wright circa (about) 1855. The name Chatham came from the local postoffice, opened by Charles Melrose in 1851 out of his home north of town. The name Chatham means, "settlement by a wood". The local postoffice operated under the name Chatham up until 1882 when a name change was filed. Even prior to this the majority of businesses were located in Littleton and postmaster was a part-time occupation alongside another industry, usually merchandise. The postoffice operated as Littleton until closing in 1911. All deeds for property in Chatham still bears the Chatham name. ~TB

