



DO YOU WANT TO LEARN
ABOUT THE AMERICAN
REVOLUTION?
YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS OUR
SEPTEMBER MEETING AND
PROGRAM! ROBBIE PURDOM,
CHARTER SCHS MEMBER AND
LIFELONG RESIDENT, WILL
PRESENT OUR PROGRAM.

LOOKING
FORWARD!

DECEMBER GATHER &
GAB WAS SUCH A
SUCCESS LAST YEAR
THAT WE ARE DOING IT
AGAIN! STAY TUNED!



STONE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

EXTRA! EXTRA! READ ALL ABOUT IT!

PRESIDENT'S LETTER TO SCHS MEMBERSHIP

What a year we are having in the Society and museum!!! We will try to recap the entire year in the next newsletter, but for now, I want to sing the praises of some special volunteers.

There is a group of dedicated women who have come to be known as "the museum crew." My wish is that each one of you could have seen the two back storage rooms a year ago. They were loaded with shelves of materials, artifacts, supplies, extra publications, and many other things far too numerous to mention. Then Linda Jackson, Bette Anders and Cathy Ward began working every Friday and sometimes extra days. They had help along the way from Kay and John Thomas, Juanita Terry, and Kathy Dobbins. And ANYTIME heavy work was required, Wendy "Wonder Woman" Stevens pitched in. They pulled up old dirty carpet, sorted through plastic tubs and filing cabinets of documents and repacked much of it for future use. Once the back room was relatively empty, they started painting. While all this was taking place in the back, Robbie Purdom was keeping the research room files updated, Gloria Chitwood was making sure we had museum hosts in place every weekend, and Stephanie Davis was seeing that our flyers, newsletters, and news articles were all written and printed!

Where are we now?? Both storage rooms have been painted, new floor joists have been installed, and one of those rooms will have new flooring installed by the time you receive this newsletter. The museum workers have laid out a long-range plan for the museum, which will require more work throughout the coming year, but after watching the above crew at work, I have no doubt that the plan will be completed.

So...I really could go on and on. The lesson to be learned is that a group of volunteers who are passionate about their project and who enjoy working together can move mountains! (Well maybe not mountains, but shelving and furniture!)

When I agreed to be president this year, little did I know that this much could be accomplished. All I can say is, Thank you, Thank you, AND Thank you!!!!

Sincerely,

Janice Sutton

SCHS Board President

Robbie Cruse Purdom to present program on the American Revolution

Robbie is a charter member of both the Stone County Historical Society, established in 1972, and the Stone County Museum, established in 1990. Over the years, she has held every office in the organizations and continues to serve on their boards.

From the beginning, she has been involved with the *Heritage of Stone* publication committee, assuming the role of editor in 2013. She has written two local history books, *Camp Hedges #743 and the Civilian Conservation Corps* and *Stone County in the Civil War*, and has helped revise two others. In 2020, she and Mary Tedsen revised *World War II in Stone County* in recognition of the 75th anniversary of the end of World War II. She also helped revise the local World War I anniversary book in 2018.

The books are available at the Stone County Museum, with all proceeds benefiting the Historical Society and the Museum.

In addition to writing and researching, Robbie has helped present numerous programs on local history to the community, including Stone County's America 250 commemorative celebration held this past July 4.

She credits her love of history to her mother, Ima Fulks Cruse. From an early age, she traveled with her mother throughout the county, visiting communities and friends through EHC and attending local events, including the 1961 dedication of the Guion Ferry and, years later, the dedication of its bridge in 1990. Even trips to funerals became opportunities to learn about the people and places of Stone County.

Her interest in the past, present, and future has never strayed far from Stone County. Robbie was born at home on Guion Road in 1950 while the road to the Batesville hospital was under construction and too muddy to travel. Her Fulks ancestors had settled in the area in the 1850s, while her father's Chitwood family settled just two miles farther down the road around the same time.

Robbie has spent nearly her entire life in Stone County, with the exception of her college years at Arkansas State University in Jonesboro, where she earned her teaching degree. After teaching for 34 years at Mountain View School, she became even more involved in community activities, researching and compiling the history of the area and working with the Stone County Museum to preserve both its artifacts and the historic building in which they are housed.

She is married to Jim Purdom. They have two children, Andrew and Sara Stumpenhous, and two grandsons, Canon and Stone.

With many ancestors who served during the Revolutionary War, Purdom will focus her September program on both Patriots and Loyalists.

Following her presentation, the floor will be opened to audience members who would like to share stories of their own ancestors who served during the Revolutionary War.

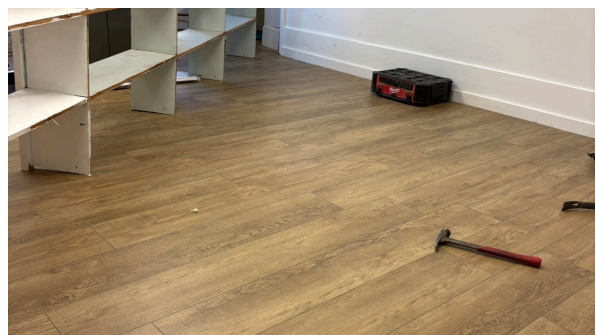
Patriotic music will be presented by **JJ and the Redheads** during the program.

NEWS/REMINDERS

1. Quarterly Meeting
Sunday, September
13th at 2 p.m.
2. We accept
memorial and
honorary
contributions.
3. Next Stone County
Heritage
publication in
progress.
4. Art Guild is
relocating
(amicably) at the
end of September.
5. Old-Fashioned
Bargain Days—
SCHS Rummage
Sale slated for
October 9 & 10!
All proceeds will
go to the Museum.

MORE Storage Room Transformations

Pictures really don't do it justice. Please feel free to come by the museum and see it for yourself! And, again, special thanks to all who made these changes a reality.



OLD-FASHIONED BARGAIN DAYS

A rummage sale benefiting the Stone County Museum to be held on Friday, October 9th and Saturday, October 10th from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. inside the Museum auditorium.

Gently used winter clothing, household items, books, old school yearbooks, and discounted issues of *Heritage of Stone* will be for sale.

STARTING SEPTEMBER 1ST DONATIONS ARE ACCEPTED!

Please bring your donation(s) to the museum any Thursday-Saturday during Museum hours from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. The last day for to accept donations will be Monday, October 5th from 2 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.



P O Box 210

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Stone County Historical Society

“Keeping History Alive”

Show your support by volunteering!