



Marshalltown Milestones

Sound and Light Show

**Marshall County Courthouse Historical Pageant
Marshalltown Sesquicentennial
1853-2003**

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TO: Marshall County Courthouse Personnel
RE: Preparations for the Sesquicentennial Program

Our names are Mick Jurgensen and Liz Jurgensen. No doubt many of you have seen us bringing our extension cords and unique testing devices into various locations of the courthouse. We hope we have not disturbed the normal operations of the courthouse so far, as we test the electrical system inside the building for compatibility with equipment.

We are preparing for a unique presentation using our Marshall County Courthouse as a stage. The show is entitled "Marshalltown Milestones" and is a sound and light show like those you would find in European productions that are presented annually at the Louvre in Paris and at the Coliseum in Rome. Similar shows were presented at the United States Capitol and at Independence Hall in Philadelphia during the Bicentennial year. The story will begin with the founding of Marshalltown as the county seat and bring us all the way to the present day.

The program will be presented during Oktoberfest 2003 and is the culmination of our year-long Marshalltown Sesquicentennial celebration. Production nights will be **Friday, September 26, 2003 - 8:30 p.m.**, and **Saturday, September 27, 2003 - 7:30 p.m.** If either Friday or Saturday is rained out, the production will take place on Sunday, September 28, 2003 - 7:30 p.m. The audience will bring lawn chairs and sit before the courthouse. We expect a very large crowd stretching all the way into Main Street and to the store fronts to the North. You will see massive preparations outside the building beginning on Monday, September 22. Preparations inside the building will begin on Monday as well.

What will happen inside the building? On Monday, September 22, you will see a crew of volunteers begin to cover over the North windows so that silhouettes of historical characters can be illuminated from them. On Tuesday, September 23, we will begin work to install lighting for each of the North windows. The equipment will allow us to light the windows by remote control from outside the building so that security will be maintained inside the building at all times during the show. We will work with you as best we can so that we do not interfere with your responsibilities; however, we need to have this system in place for Wednesday night, September 24th, rehearsal and equipment checks.

What can you do to help? Obviously, we will need your flexibility. After touring the building with courthouse staff, we identified a few locations where furniture will need to be slid to the side of the window so that the lights can properly illuminate the window. Also, there will be some cords and lights that will be in your work areas. We will do our best to keep out of your way, but that does not mean the situation will be perfect. Please be patient and communicate your needs to us. Finally, we hope you and your families will attend the program to see a unique event for our city. Due to the scope of this presentation, we will not likely see this type of program repeated any time soon.

If you have any questions, please check out the web page and use the e-mail address on the header above. We have included our photos so that you can recognize us for security purposes.

Mick and Liz Jurgensen



Liz



Mick