

July 11, 2022



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Bouchercon 2022, World Mystery Convention — Minneapolis, Sept. 8-11

your choosing). **Place your
order now!**

I am pleased to have been
selected to participate on a
panel discussion
“**Researching Historical
Mysteries**,” Friday, Septem-
ber 9, 9:45 am, at the Bou-



**THE BLACK BAG
OF DR. WILTSE**
**Murder on the
Prairie (2021)**

Available:

- [Amazon.com](#)
- [Indie Book](#)

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Highlights — June NE Iowa Spring Book Tour

Thank you to all those who attended my **June North-east Iowa book tour** — made up largely of new venues: Decorah, Fort Atkinson, Manchester, and Hopkinton (with repeat visits to

Sumner and New Hampton). All were ideal sites, in that the early chapters of *The Black Bag of Dr. Wiltse, Murder on the Prairie* (2021) take place in Delaware County.

About a dozen people came to the **Fort Atkinson Community Center** (sponsored by the library) on January 10th, who were very engaging in our discussion. I've been invited back in the fall to conduct a "Writing a Memoir" workshop. Watch for more details.

Covid-19 prevented me from previously visiting the Delaware **County Historical Museum Complex in Hopkinton** — the former site of Lenox College (1859-1944). As I stopped my SUV outside a long narrow brick structure on June 11th, I felt hope tugging at me. Might those in attendance have new information about Dr. Alexander Wiltse, who first resided in the Colesburg area after immigrating from Ontario, Canada in the 1840s. Additionally, I still had not located Dr. Wiltse's portrait, listed among the assets in his probate. Might someone in the area have donated it to the museum? Ultimately, my hopes were dashed. Still, I am grateful for the nice tour of the 4 old Lenox College buildings, all of which are listed on the National Register of Historic Places in America.

I met another fun group at the **New Hampton Public Library** on June 14th. While I talked about Dr. Wiltse's lost history in county records and newspaper archives, attendees enjoyed mile-high meringue banana cream pie from Klunder's Kafe (need I say more)?

The last leg of the tour came on June 15th at the **Manchester Public Library**, built in 1902. Today, this library is the third oldest Carnegie public library being used as a library in Iowa. I felt privileged to speak in such a stately place of learning — and again, the interaction with attendees was excellent, as I went through my PowerPoint slides (during a tornado watch). Another surprise: **Rev. Mary Green**, former pastor of the Fairbank United Methodist Church, identified herself among those in the audience.

The **Decorah Driftless Journal** gave me this nice review: "Both gangster books are set in Iowa, and while they are historical fiction, they are based on fact and actual crimes based in Iowa."

A special thank you to **The Landing Market** in Decorah and **J & C Grocery** in Sumner for consigning to sell my 2 novels.



Author Events

2022 Book Tour #3 (July)

"The Legacy of an Iowa Pioneer Physician"

— **Wed., July 27, time TBD**, Author talk, Fredericksburg Memorial Library, 138 W. Main St., Fredericksburg, IA
(more tour dates to be added)

Fall Dates

— **Sat., 13, 9-1**, Booksigning, Lake Elmo Farmers Market, Lake

Elma, MN

— **Fri., Sept. 30, 1 pm**, "The Legacy of an Iowa Pioneer Physician," Author talk, Delhi Public Library, 311 Franklin St., Delhi, IA

— **Mon., Oct. 17, 6:30 pm**, "The Legacy of an Iowa Pioneer Physician," Aplington Legion Memorial Library, 929 Parriott St., Aplington, IA

Festivals

— **Sat., Jul 30, 10:30-4:30**, Booksigning, Delhi Daze, Delhi, IA

— **Aug. 10-12**, Iowa Arts Summit (virtual)

— (Pending) **Sat., Aug. 20, 2 pm**, River Runner Regatta and Cardboard Boat Race, White-water Park, Manchester, IA

— (Pending) **October**, Iowa City Book Festival, Iowa City, IA

Conferences

— **Th/Sun, Sept. 8-11**, Panelist: "Researching Historical Mysteries" (Fri., Sept. 9, 9:45) am, Bouchercon, the World Mystery Convention, Hilton Minneapolis, Mpls, MN

— **Sat., Oct. 1, 9-3**, DVBF 2022, 7th Edition Live, 2030 Adams Street, Mankato, MN

— (Pending) **Sat./Sun, Nov. 26-27, 10-6/10-4**, GSR Fine Arts Festival 2022, 1 Civic Center Plaza, Mankato, MN