

Oct. 2007

Vol. 2007 Issue 5

Museum

Museum Store

Genealogy Library

Educational Facility

202 East Sixth Street
Bloomington, IN 47408
812-332-2517
www.monroehistory.org

Hours

Museum & Store
Tues-Sat 10am-4pm

Genealogy Library
Tue & Sat 10am-4 pm
Wed-Fri 1-4 pm

Museum Admission

\$2/adult
\$1/child (6-18 yrs)
5 yrs. & under free

Members are always free.

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Monroe County Historian
Editor: Jill Lesh
Design/Layout: Lisa Simmons

Monroe County Historical Society, Inc. presents

Monroe County Historian

See Stories... Touch Time... Make Memories...

Fantasia: Fans from the Sage Collection

By Jill Lesh

More than seventy fans from the Sage Collection's extensive archive of fans will be on exhibit at the Monroe County History Center from October 12 to January 5.

Fantasia explores the use of the hand-held fan as a personal accessory and form of adornment across history, from its beginnings in the Middle and Far East, to its height in the 18th and 19th centuries as a Western fashion statement, and its eventual decline in the early 20th century.

The exquisite examples of different fans from around the world will illustrate the many forms and ways in which fans have been ceremonial and practical, symbols of high status, and fragile, feminine playthings. Outstanding artifacts from the Sage Collection's more than 300 fans were chosen for this exhibit.

The Sage Collection is part of Indiana University's Department of Apparel Merchandising and Interior Design in the College of Arts and Sciences. One of the nation's premier collections of historical and contemporary clothing, accessories and educational fashion resources, the Sage Collection brings social history to life. Celebrating its 70th anniversary in 2007, the Sage Collection was founded by Miss Elizabeth Sage, the first professor of



Clothing and Textiles at Indiana University. It is our pleasure to partner with IU to bring this exhibit to the community.

Opening Reception

Friday, Oct. 19, 5-6:30pm

Meet the co-curators Kelly Richardson and Kate Rowold. Enjoy wine and hors d'oeuvres, and be one of the first to view the exhibit.

The History and Language of Fans

Wednesday, Nov. 28, 7pm

Join Kate Rowold and Kelly Richardson for a lively discussion of fans throughout history and see their demonstration of the little-known language of fans.

For more information about the Sage Collection, see www.indiana.edu/~sagecoll.



Monroe County History Center

MCHS Purpose Statement

The purpose of MCHS shall be to collect, preserve, research, interpret and exhibit the genealogy, history and artifacts of Monroe County, Indiana, as well as research and interpret the relation of that county's genealogy, history, and artifacts to the State of Indiana and the United States, and thereby to foster a deeper understanding and appreciation of Monroe County's history, culture, and natural environment by all.



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Events Schedule

All meetings and programs will be held at the History Center unless otherwise stated.

General Board Meeting

2nd Thursday of the month, 4 pm

Civil War Roundtable Meetings

2nd Tuesday of each month from Sep.-Jun. from 7-8:30pm. For more information, please contact John Crosby at 339-2572.

3rd Thursday Series

Every 3rd Thursday of the month a free program is held, usually at 7pm.

October

- TUE 9 Civil War Roundtable, "Battle of Franklin" w/ Bob Willey, 7pm
- SAT 13 Civil War tour and program w/ Steve Rolfe & Bob Willey, free, 1pm
- MON 15 "The Civil War in Indiana," I.U. Continuing Studies Course, 3 Mondays, October 15-29, 7-8:30pm, call 855-5108; class meets at the History Center
- THU 18 3rd Thursday: "History of the Old Northeast Neighborhood," w/ Nancy Hiestand, 7pm
- FRI 19 "Fantasia: Fans in Fashion" Opening Reception, 5-6:30pm

November

- WED 7 Genealogy Group, "Aviation in Monroe County," 10am
- FRI-SAT, 9-10, Holiday Decorations & Baked Goods Sale, 10am-4pm
- TUE 13 Civil War Roundtable, "Henry B. Carrington in the Civil War" w/ Bill Overlease, 7pm
- THU 15 3rd Thursday: "Researching Family History with Maps," 7pm w/ Lou Malcomb
- FRI 23 Canopy of Lights Open House, 5-9pm
- WED 28 "Language of Fans" w/ Kate Rowold & Kelly Richardson, 7pm

December

- MON 3 Volunteer Appreciation Dinner, 5:30pm; RSVP by Fri. Nov. 30
- TUE 11 Civil War Roundtable Holiday Celebration, 7pm

Exhibit Schedule

"The Civil War and Monroe County"

Opens: June 2 **Closes: October 26**
This remarkable exhibition highlights the effects of the Civil War on Monroe County. A large portion of the artifacts are on loan from Bob Willey, a mid-western Civil War enthusiast who has been collecting artifacts for over 50 years. Artifacts include Union and Confederate uniforms and accouterments, photographs, muskets, swords, knives, letters, and an interesting array of things that have been hit by bullets during war.

"Fantasia: Fans from the Sage Collection"

Opens: October 12 **Closes: January 5**
Fantasia explores the use of hand-held fans as a personal accessory and form of adornment across history. More than 70 examples from the Sage Collection's fans illustrate the different forms of fans from around the world and demonstrate the manner in which a fan is: ceremonial and practical; a symbol of high status; and a fragile, feminine plaything. Co-curators are Kate Rowold and Kelly Richardson.



*Don't miss the Fans Opening Reception
Friday Oct. 19 at 5:00 p.m.*

"Memories of WWII"

Opens: October 5 **Closes: February 29**
Photos, uniforms, and wartime memorabilia spotlight the faces and experiences of Monroe County residents during WWII. More items are needed: letters, medals, souvenirs, arms, etc. Especially wanted are photos of young soldiers (in uniform if possible) as they looked when they left Monroe County. Photos are needed immediately, and will be added to the exhibit as they come in.



"Knock on Wood: Interesting Items Made of Wood"

Opens: November 6 **Closes: January 19**
Needed: interesting and unusual items made primarily of wood. Items can be toys, furniture, décor items, tools, etc. and need not be antique or valuable. Bring loaned items to the History Center by Friday, Oct. 19.

Update from the Managing Director

Family Heritage Book

The long awaited 2007 Monroe County Family Heritage Book will be available in November. The price of the soft cover book is \$35 plus shipping. In addition to over 200 family histories, the book will include special articles: "The Lure of the Courthouse Fish," by Allison Lendman and "A Brief History of Monroe County" by Glenda Murray. The previous Family Heritage book was published by the Historical Society in 1987.

New Staff Member

The new Library Associate position is filled. We welcome Jenny Gowen who joined the staff on September 11. Jenny has a master's degree in history from the University of North Carolina and is currently working on her doctoral thesis. She will assist Liz Knapp for 12 hours each week.

Old Tree Comes Down

On Labor Day weekend, one of the old sugar maple trees along Washington Street lost a large section of its trunk. Upon the recommendation of Bloomington City forester Lee Huss, the aged tree was removed, and four remaining large trees were pruned. This has opened up a lovely view of the History Center entrance and should improve our ability to grow grass in this area.

Association of Indiana Museums

Board president Glenda Murray and staff members Lisa Simmons, Erica Kendall and I went to Evansville for the two-day conference of the Association of Indiana Muse-

ums. We took advantage of the excellent workshops and were inspired by visits to the historic Reitz Home Museum and the new Evansville African American Museum.

IU Freshmen Volunteer

On Saturday, August 25, 10 freshman students from Indiana University spent three hours at the History Center for their first local volunteer experience. They sorted school yearbooks, transcribed WWII letters, scanned accession forms, and wrapped county deed books in protective paper.



Indiana University students wrap deed books in the Genealogy/Local History Library.

Marriage Record Books

The Monroe County Clerk, Jim Fielder, recently entrusted marriage record books to the History Center. These large and valuable books document Monroe County marriages from 1852 to 1954. The books are available to the public for research in our genealogy/local history library.

- Jill Lesh

Corporate Members

Monroe County History Maker (\$1,000)

CFC, Inc. Cook Group, Inc.

History Patron (\$500)

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Monroe County Farm Bureau, Inc. X-Printwear & Promotions, Inc.

Gallery Benefactor (\$250)

Beth Anne Baxter, MSN, NP Smithville Telephone Company, Inc.
Stephen L. Ferguson, Attorney at Law United Commerce Bank

Exhibit Supporter (\$100)

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John Byers Associates Finelight, Inc. David Ferguson, Attorney at Law
Malibu Grill Gilbert Mordoh & Co., Inc. Morrow Realtors
Hylant Group Oliver Winery Co., Inc. ISU/The May Agency, Inc.
Olson & Company, P.C. Jeanne Walters Real Estate Sullivans Inc-Fashions for Men

Programs Not To Miss

The Civil War in Indiana

I.U. Continuing Studies Course

with Dawn Bakken

3 Mondays, Oct. 15-29, 7-8:30pm

Classes meet at the History Center

Fee: registered by Oct. 8—\$50, after Oct. 8—\$55

What was it like to be a Hoosier during the Civil War? Were most loyal to Lincoln and the Union? Course participants will examine the letters, diaries, and memoirs of Hoosiers who lived during this great conflict, and will learn about their most cherished beliefs and everyday lives.

Dawn Bakken holds a Ph.D. in American studies/religious studies from IU and is associate editor of the Indiana Magazine of History.



To register: 812-855-5108, www.continue.indiana.edu

The Indianapolis Soldiers and Sailors Monument is the best known feature of the Eli Lilly Civil War Museum. It is constructed out of Owen County limestone and stands just 15 feet shorter than the Statue of Liberty.

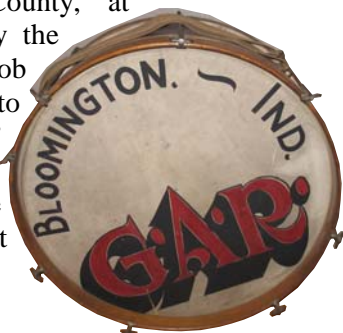
What It Means to Be a Civil War Collector

with Bob Willey and Steve Rolfe

Saturday, Oct. 13

1pm Tour; 2pm Program

Steve Rolfe, president of the Monroe County Civil War Roundtable, will lead a free tour of the exhibit, "The Civil War and Monroe County," at 1pm followed at 2pm by the special program by Bob Willey, "What It Means to Be a Civil War Collector." Bob generously loaned many of the items for the Civil War exhibit that closes October 26.



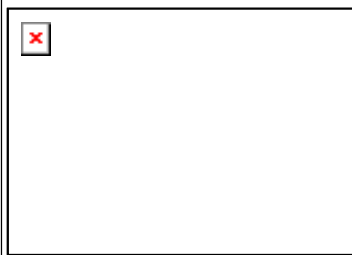
History of the Old Northeast Neighborhood

with Nancy Hiestand

Thursday, Oct. 18, 7pm

Bloomington's Old Northeast Neighborhood abounds with a rich and diverse history. Nancy Hiestand, historic preservation program manager for the City of Bloomington, will share many unrecognized aspects of this neighborhood that includes seven historic districts.

The area is bounded by Kirkwood, Walnut Street, 12th Street and Woodlawn and includes the early location of the Showers Furniture Factory, homes of the Showers family, the segregated "Colored School," and Moses Dunn's farm. It encompasses modest shotgun residences on Ninth Street and mansions of early industrialists on North Washington. The



Old Northeast Neighborhood is a story of the City of Bloomington, its growth and its decisions.

The Showers-Graham House, 430 N. Washington St., c1905.

Researching Family History with Maps and Cartographic Tools

with Lou Malcomb

Thursday, Nov. 15, 7pm

Learn how to use maps to trace your family's history. This program will explore the use of historic and contemporary maps and atlases, both print and electronic versions. Indiana, and specifically Monroe County and its communities, will be the primary focus.

Rare maps of southern Indiana, including original Sanborn Fire Insurance maps, and how to access various digital map



sites will be highlights of the presentation.

Lou Malcomb is Head of Government Information, Microforms and Statistical Services in the Herman B Wells Library, and she is Librarian for the Geography and Map Library at Indiana University.

Tea Party Success

By Jill Lesh

Sixty-two guests attended the afternoon Tea Party on September 6. The benefit raised \$1,029 to restore the Austin and Jennett Seward portraits on display in the Seward exhibit in the Gayle Cook Main Gallery.

Carol Darling orchestrated every detail and introduced each splendid course of the tea party. Suzanne Julian entertained everyone with rapid changes of women's Civil War era clothing. Thanks to the events committee and volunteers who prepared and served the tea with such grace: Sue Shelden, Janice Partenheimer, Jamee Wissink, Sue Bowman, Allison Lendman, Wenona Freeman, and Mary Lee Deckard.

A special thank you goes to our generous sponsor, United Commerce Bank, for matching \$250 in ticket sales.



Top: Guests enjoy scones and oat cakes. Standing are Penny Mathiesen, Maureen Ryan, Pat Ryan, and Nancy Martin. Seated are Kay Beth Harrell, Dee Bassett, and Patty Pizzo.



Left: Nancy Seward Taylor, great, great granddaughter; and Nancy Warden Wroblewski, great, great, great granddaughter of Austin and Jennett Seward.

Bottom: Carol Darling (at podium) delighted guests with tea lore and customs as she compared the Chinese Keenum, Indian Darjeeling, and Earl Grey teas that were served.



News from the Library

genealogy@monroehistory.org

New Publications

The following items are now available in the Genealogy Library:

- MCPL/Indiana Room Vertical File Index, 2007.
- Index to the Local History Microfilm in the Indiana Room, Monroe County Public Library.
- List of titles of all "Looking Back" articles written by Rose McIlveen. These articles appeared in the *Herald-Telephone* and *Herald-Times* newspapers, 1978–2001.
- *Monroe County, Indiana, 1930 Census Index by Township. Sorted by Township, Page Number, Household, and Surname. Bean Blossom through Washington Townships.* Compiled by staff and volunteers of the Indiana Room, Monroe County Public Library, 2004. Published by the Monroe County Historical Society.

Seminary Park Memorial Plaques

Five color photographs of the Seminary Park Memorial Plaques, taken in 1996, have been donated to the library by

Victoria Neff. The plaques give the history of the site and the various school buildings that occupied it from 1824 to 1967, representing 150 years dedicated to the education of young people in Indiana. The structures included the original Seminary Building (1824), and several buildings used over the years by Indiana University and Bloomington High School.

Order of Red Men Handbook

The Genealogy Library has received a copy of *Ceremonies for Funerals, Memorial Services, Dedication of Wigwam, Laying of Cornerstone*, as revised by the Great Council of the United States of the Improved Order of Red Men (n.d.). The handbook was kindly donated by Loretta Condra. In Bloomington, the Order of Red Men met for many years in the lodge building on the east side of the courthouse square that it co-owned with the Knights of Pythias. The local entity, Arizona Tribe #52, once had a thousand members. It disbanded in 1996.

News from Other Places

Levi Coffin State Historic Site

The Levi Coffin home in Fountain City, Indiana, was a stop on the Underground Railroad. More than 2,000 slaves passed through the town between 1826 and 1847, when Coffin moved to Cincinnati. Today, the house is operated as a state historic site. Visitors not only find a well-preserved historic home but also learn about the abolitionist movement and the roles played by people such as Levi and Catharine Coffin. Fountain City is north of Interstate 70 near Richmond, Indiana. For more information, call (765) 847-2432, or go to: <http://www.waynet.org/levicoffin>

(From "Make a Stop on the Underground Railroad," by Abe Aamidor, *Indianapolis Star*, 1 July 2007.)

"Probing" Those Probate Records

Meredith Thompson has written a concise and informative guide to probate records in "Mysteries Explained in Probate Records" (*Indiana Genealogist*, June 2007), available in the Genealogy Library. She discusses different types of probate records, the kinds of information they contain, and the administration and settlement of an estate, including the disposal of property and the guardianship of minor children. The process of settling an estate often took years and involved many people, leaving a valuable record of names and family relationships.

Area Historic Structures Featured

Financial support from Historic Landmarks Foundation of Indiana has helped save and restore historic structures throughout the state, as is demonstrated in "Money Well Spent," the feature topic in a recent issue of *Indiana Preservationist* (June/July 2007). Several buildings of local interest are featured. Shown in "before" and "after" photographs with commentary are the Stinesville Christian Church (Stinesville) and the Morgan House (Bloomington), both in Monroe County. The Tivoli Theater and other projects in Spencer (Owen County) are also mentioned.



Levi Coffin State Historic Site.

The Wigwam: A Mid-Twentieth-Century Symbol

By Bob Dodd

Second and Rogers Streets: On one corner a parking lot for Bloomington Hospital. On another corner an abandoned lot covered with crushed stone and encroaching shrubbery. On another corner a doctor's office occupying a much-modified two-story building. On the final corner a large building under construction on a long-empty lot. Little evidence remains of the neighborhood shopping area serving a once vibrant, bustling community long before the days of supermarkets, fast food restaurants, and huge chain discount stores. Near this intersection were two grocery stores, two gasoline filling stations, as many as four coal yards, a feed store, a shoe repair store, a barber shop, and a short-order restaurant and variety store. The shopping complex at the intersection was at its peak in the late 1930s into the 1950s, after which it faded as the way of life in Bloom-

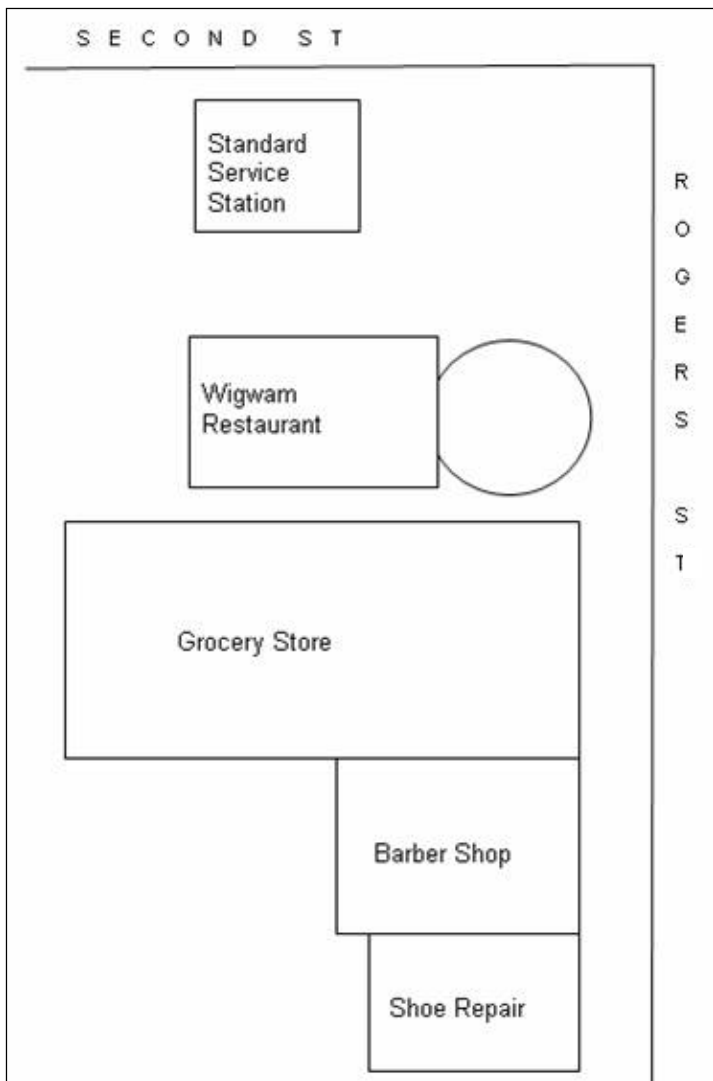


Photograph of Edgar Dodd behind the soda fountain in the Wigwam. Courtesy of his son, Bob Dodd.

ington gradually changed from small stores and shopping areas to supermarkets, larger chain stores, and fast food restaurants. Also, the hospital was continually expanding and incorporating an ever-larger area for buildings and parking.

The “social hub” of the area was the Wigwam restaurant. It was hardly a restaurant in the modern sense. Seating was confined to a dozen or so stools at a linoleum-covered counter. The menu consisted of sandwiches, soups, soft drinks, and ice-cream specialties from the traditional soda fountain. In addition to food the Wigwam sold tobacco products, magazines and paperback books, and a limited supply of over-the-counter drugstore items. In one corner was a pinball machine.

The Wigwam got its name from the inverted conical shape of the front part of the building, which resembled an American Indian wigwam. Originally, in the 1930s, the cone was built to resemble an upside-down ice cream cone. At that time, apparently, it served only ice cream and was called the Brown Cone. Edgar Dodd purchased the cone in the mid 1930s, naming it the Wigwam, and expanded the menu. It was mostly a family operation. Ed and his wife Elizabeth were the main operators of the establishment, but when their two sons and daughter were barely old enough



Sketch map of the southwest corner of Second and Rogers streets showing the Wigwam and adjoining buildings. Courtesy of Bob Dodd.

Continued on page 8

Wigwam Article (Continued)

By Bob Dodd

to operate the cash register and fry hamburger on the grill, they joined the team.

It became a favored lunch location and “loafing” spot for a generation of teenaged boys. A few of those teenaged boys still live in Bloomington. One of them, Don Shiflet, has many fond memories of the days when he and his friends used to hang out around the Wigwam. Among the stories Don remembers is late one night when they drained some gasoline out of the hoses of the nearby bulk storage plant, poured it into the storm sewer, and dropped a lighted match. The resultant explosion blew manhole covers for blocks around and revealed (too late) the poor judgment of their actions to the young men. Another time the boys were playing knock rum, a game of chance involving gambling small amounts of money, strictly illegal in 1940s Bloomington. The police made an unexpected visit and rounded up a portion of the offenders for a good talking-to at the downtown police station (today, the Waldron Arts Center). The boys were released with a reprimand, probably to play

knock rum another day. A favorite pastime was to try to “cheat” the pinball machine at the Wigwam and win free games. This was accomplished by carefully raising the front of the machine so the balls would roll more slowly and could be better controlled by appropriate taps and thumps on the sides of the machine. The secret was to manage this without getting the machine to register “tilt,” terminating the game. Another challenge was to prepare metal disks (slugs) that would substitute for the nickels and make the machine play.

Unfortunately, we have been unable to find a single photograph of the Wigwam or the surrounding shops from this era. If any of our readers has a photo or other special memories of the Second and Rogers shopping area, please contact the Monroe County History Center (332-2517) or Bob Dodd (dodd@indiana.edu).

Bob Dodd is a volunteer in the Monroe County History Center's Genealogy Library.

New & Renewed Members

July 10th—September 10th

**Monroe County
History Maker**
Cook Group Inc.

History Patron/Patron
X Printwear & Promotions*
Ivy Tech Community
College -Blmngtn
Bob Ralston

Gallery Benefactor
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Edward Joseph Parham
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Pat & Peggy Page
Bill & Liz Knapp
Jim & Jeanne Madison
Patricia & Anthony Pizzo
John & Joyce Poling

Family
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& Diana Lambdin
John & Helen Hollingsworth
Laura Newton
Bud & Cathie Lynch
Patsy Fell-Barker
Judy Holy*
Judy McClary
Paul & Jane Jensen*
Douglas & Vivien Bridges
Susan Bucove
Cullen & Rachel Peden
McCarty
Stephen & Ann Schechter

Basic
Doris B. Philbrick
Ann Moore
Amy L. Cornell*
Delores J. Coleman
Donna Shields
Naomi Lawlis
Margaret Klein
Nancy E. Jonas
R. Kent & Anne Honeycutt*
Jane Hitchcock
Randi Richardson
Allen & Susan Dunn
Marjorie B. McCormick
Vicky Crowe
Marjorie Counsilman
Peter & Nancy Boerner
Myra Baker
Jean L. Anderson
Dale & Carolyn Anderson
Dan Deckard
& Maria Bucur-Deckard*
Stella Jane Franklin
Michael & Sheila Maben

Clarence & Frances Gilliam
Joyce L. MacMillan*
Walter & Nancy Seward
Taylor*
Mary Eloise Sipes
Edris Mathiesen
Tim Stockton
& Sarah Nagy*
Benton Stidd
Frances Walden
Phil & Linda Stafford*
Mark & Debbie Sipes
Jerry & Dot Spore
Betty Thurston*

Student/Teacher
Frona Powell*

*** Denotes
New
Members**

Polk Township History: Burgoon Church

By Penelope Mathiesen

Polk Township, in southeastern Monroe County, holds a reminder of rural life in nineteenth-century Indiana: the Burgoon Church, still in use today. Originally called the Friendship Baptist Church, it was organized on 19 February 1880, prompting the nickname “leap year church.” There were 21 charter members. The first pastor, Rev. Daniel Sexton, presented the church with a bible. The meetings, held initially in the Saddle Creek schoolhouse and later in the Burgoon schoolhouse, were lengthy affairs that took place once a month.¹

Early church records describe a meeting that began on the first Saturday in April, 1888. It resumed the following morning at 10:30 a.m.: “After singing some good songs, opened by prayer by brother Goodman. After this had a prayer and social meeting. A goodly number of the brothers took up their cross and we was revived spiritually had a warm meeting.”²

The congregation soon sought its own building. On 8 January 1889, Francis Burgoon and his wife, Anna, deeded a tract of land to church trustees for the sum of ten dollars, with the stipulation that the property be used “solely for church purposes.”³ Rev. William Goodman was the pastor. Some 46 men and women contributed money, labor, or material towards the new building.⁴

Who were the Burgoons? Francis’s ancestor, Jacob Burgoon, emigrated from Alsace-Lorraine to Maryland about 1740; “Burgoon” may be an Anglicization of “Bourgogne.”⁵ Francis was born in Ohio in 1827. He married Anna Keene in Mississippi in 1862. They moved to Monroe County, Indiana, in 1865 and settled on a farm in



Burgoon Church, Polk Twp., Monroe County, Indiana.
Courtesy of Penelope Mathiesen.

Polk Twp.⁶ The *1856 Atlas of Monroe County* lists a “Francis Buergeon” who owned land in Polk Twp., but there is no Francis Burgoon (or a variant spelling) in Monroe County census records until 1870, where he appears with his wife and four children. By the 1880 census, the household included seven children and two hired men. Francis Burgoon died in 1897 at his home on E. Fourth St. in Bloomington. Some years earlier, he had given up farming and moved to the city. He is buried in Rose Hill Cemetery.⁷

Anna Keene was born in Ireland in 1839.⁸ In the 1860 U.S. Census, there is an “Anna Keene” of approximately the right age, living in New Jersey.⁹ Anna and Francis Burgoons’ oldest child was born in Mississippi in 1863,¹⁰ before they moved to Indiana. The family may have left the Polk Twp. farm for Bloomington by 1886, when a newspaper reported that “Mrs. Burgoon, now occupying the Cherry property in the north part of town,” had recently inherited \$3,000 from an aunt in Ireland.¹¹ At the time of Francis Burgoon’s death in 1897, the family resided at 221 E. Fourth St., where Anna remained for many years. According to Bloomington city directories, she was living at 120 S. Lincoln by 1916 and 513 E. Second by 1920; after that, she is not listed. Anna died in 1932, aged 92, at the home of a daughter in Pasadena, California. She is buried with her husband in Rose Hill Cemetery.¹²



Burgoon School, built in the 1870s, burned in 1968.
From the collections of the Monroe County History Center.

Continued on page 10

In the late 1930s—shortly after Anna’s death—Burgoon

Polk Township Article (Continued)

By Penelope Mathiesen

Church records indicate that services hadn't changed much in the 57 years since the congregation was organized: "Oct. 9, 1937. Meeting called to order by Rev. George Godsey. Songs: 'Standing on the Promises' and 'What A Friend We Have in Jesus.' Prayer was led by Rev. Leonard Eads, after which the group sang, 'Heavenly Home.' Verses from Psalms 37 read by Rev. Godsey. Subject of sermon, 'Duties of pastor to church and duties of Church to Pastor.'... Preaching services are on the fourth Saturday evening, Sunday morning and Sunday evening in each month."¹³

The Burgoon School, where church members held meetings before erecting their own building, was established in 1873. The frame schoolhouse was in use until it burned almost 100 years later. It officially closed on 15 May 1968.¹⁴

The Burgoon Church and cemetery can still be found on Burgoon Church Road, off SR 446, a mile south of the causeway that crosses Lake Monroe. On a beautiful autumn day, enjoy the drive and recapture a bit of history!

Notes

1. Virginia Barnard, "Burgoon Friendship Baptist Church Has Played Important Part in Life of That Neighborhood," *Bloomington Daily Telephone* (3 December 1938).
2. Ibid.
3. Deed Record Book 22, p. 1; Barnard, "Burgoon Friendship Baptist Church."
4. Barnard, "Burgoon Friendship Baptist Church."
5. Patricia Burgoon Wiggins, *The Burgoon Family in America*. Palm Bay, Florida, 1988.
6. "Death of Francis Burgoon," *Bloomington Courier*, 29 June 1897.
7. Ibid.
8. Wiggins, *Burgoon Family*; 1870 and 1880 Monroe County censuses.
9. The 1860 U.S. Census has Anna Keene, 23, born in Ireland, living in Newark, New Jersey. HeritageQuest Online, accessed 4 August 2007.
10. Wiggins, *Burgoon Family*; 1870 and 1880 Monroe County censuses.
11. Untitled news item, *Bloomington Semi-Weekly Telephone*, 17 September 1886.
12. "Ex-resident Dies in West," *Bloomington Telephone*, 12 August 1932.
13. Barnard, "Burgoon Friendship Baptist Church."
14. *Echoes from One-Room Schools, Monroe County, Indiana*, Monroe County Retired Teachers, 2006, p. 230.

Fun at the County Fair



The History Center's booth in the Commercial Building at the County Fair was a big success and a lot of fun. Volunteers and staff members worked at the booth for the seven evenings and gave away 342 complimentary passes to the visitors they engaged in conversation.

Thanks to volunteers Allison Lendman, Dax Collins, Kate Cruikshank, Joel Foust, Jackie Gilkey, Liz Knapp, Rachel Peden McCarty, Lou Malcomb, Glenda Murray, Laura Newton, Marilyn Skirvin and Steve Rolfe.

Kate Cruikshank, Joel Foust in Civil War Re-enactment attire, and Lou Malcomb, MCHS Trustee, staff the booth on July 26.

Our Volunteer: Jackie Gilkey

By Erica Kendall

It was 1970 and the 1969 Dodge Coronet R/T was packed. Jackie Gilkey and her husband Bill waved bye to Texas as they drove to their new home in Bloomington. Arriving in a new town and with Bill in a new position, Jackie had the opportunity to seek a master’s degree in Education at IU. In the early years, substitute teaching gave her a feel of the school system. After her degree, she taught for many years at University, Childs, Unionville, and Templeton schools.

ware in the collection. Upon asking what she fancied most, she explained that she enjoyed learning a new computer program and learning about the accessioning process—how a donated item becomes an artifact in the museum. Overall, learning about the history of the items greatly interests her since she is not originally from here. She explained, “I think volunteering, from a teacher’s point of view, provides structure in your life.”

Following retirement in 2005, Jackie immediately began to volunteer for BRI. Her first project was being a docent at Jamee Wissink’s house followed soon after with working at the Red Cross book sale where she met Mary Lee Deckard. Both Jamee and Mary Lee explained that the MCHS was in need of volunteers. Eager to find activities that she was interested in that included her love for old books and artifacts, she decided to give the History Center a go. Whether she knew it or not, Jackie was bitten by the volunteer bug.

When Jackie is not working to organize artifacts in the collections, she works at the greeter desk and in the museum store. She is also secretary of the Historical Society Board of Trustees and serves on the Membership Committee. One might think that she has little time for anything else, but her kindness and willingness to help others does not stop here.



Jackie Gilkey in the museum store suggesting “The Taste of Monroe County” as a great gift idea.

I met Jackie in October of 2005 when she began helping me to sift through the artifact database, Past-Perfect, and to process the glass-

Jackie also volunteers at the Public Library and for Master Gardeners. She also enjoys taking yoga and body shop classes at the YMCA. Jackie explains, “I enjoy volunteering because I am able to do a variety of jobs that I have not yet had an opportunity to experience.”

Stone-Age Institute Tour: Part of the 3rd Thursday Series



Nick Toth and Kathy Schick captivated 3rd Thursday participants in August with a behind-the-scenes look into their research of the Stone Age and the study of human origins.

Monroe County History Center
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Holiday Decoration Sale
Fri. & Sat., Nov. 9 & 10
see insert for details

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Membership Form

**Greeter
 Desk
 Volunteers
 Needed**

Will you volunteer at the greeter desk for one or two shifts each month? A three-hour greeter shift can be fun and gives you the opportunity to perform tasks that help the History Center.

Call volunteer coordinator Lisa Simmons,

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| <p>Annual Membership Levels</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Student/Teacher..... \$20</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Basic..... \$35</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Family..... \$60</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining..... \$100</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Patron..... \$500</p> <p>Corporate - Service Organizations</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Exhibit Supporter..... \$100</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Gallery Benefactor..... \$250</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> History Patron..... \$500</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Monroe County History Maker... \$1000</p> <p>Method of Payment</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Visa <input type="checkbox"/> MasterCard <input type="checkbox"/> Check</p> <p>_____ Credit Card #</p> <p>_____ Expiration Date</p> <p>_____ Signature</p> <p>Check if you are interested in:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Volunteering</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Genealogy</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Civil War History</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Planned Giving</p> | <p><i>Please write your information as you would like it to appear.</i></p> <p>_____ Name</p> <p>_____ Address</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____ Phone</p> <p>_____ E-mail</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Send to: Monroe County Historical Society, Inc. 202 East Sixth Street Bloomington, IN 47408</p> |
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