

Monroe County Historical Society, Inc. presents

# Monroe County Historian

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

Aug. 2008

Vol. 2008 Issue 4

Museum

Museum Store

Genealogy Library

Educational Facility

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

### Hours

Tuesday—Saturday  
10:00a.m.—4:00p.m.

### Museum Admission

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

Members are always free.

### Highlighted Articles in This Issue

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*Monroe County Historian*

Editor: Jill Lesh

Design/Layout: Lisa Simmons

## Henry Wahl's Gift

By Glenda Murray

The Monroe County Historical Society is pleased to announce a wonderful gift from one of our founders. Henry Wahl was one of nine community volunteers who were the incorporators of the Monroe County Historical Society in 1973. He supported the creation of the museum, and he encouraged The Old Library, Inc., the entity which rescued the Carnegie Library from demolition, to transfer ownership to the Historical Society in 1994. Henry was active in History Center activities as long as his health allowed him to participate. In addition, Henry remembered the Historical Society in his will. His \$250,000 gift has been added to the Founders' Endowment.

We invite you to join us in helping make the History Center stronger by donating toward a match for Henry's gift. Your gift

will also be added to Henry's gift in the Founders' Endowment, where the interest helps support the programs, the museum, and genealogical library. Our current goals include making more of our exhibits interactive and increasing programs in the community. People who are interested in considering gifts through planned giving can contact the director, Jill Lesh; the president, Glenda Murray; or Chair of the Endowment Committee, Rachael Peden McCarty.

We are extremely grateful to Henry and Cecelia Wahl for planning this gift years ago. We celebrate both of their lives, as they were active in so many community organizations. They were wonderful friends, and we miss them, but their legacy continues through this generous gift.



Henry and Cecilia Wahl, c late1980s.

# 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.



## Staff

Jill Lesh: Managing Director  
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Jamee Wissink: Exhibits Designer  
design@monroehistory.org

Rachel Peden McCarty: Historian  
rachelmccarty@bluemarble.net

# 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 Steve Rolfe at 336-0757.

## 3rd Thursday Series

3rd Thursday of the month from Jan.-Nov. a free program is held, usually at 7pm.

## Genealogy Group

Every 1st Wednesday of odd months.

### August

THR 21 3rd Thursday: "Echoes from One-Room Schools of Monroe County," 7pm, see page 4 for details

### September

WED 3 Genealogy Group, TBA  
TUE 9 Civil War Roundtable, TBA, 7pm  
THR 18 3rd Thursday: "A Nose for the News: 19th Century Bloomington Editors and their Newspapers," w/ Owen Johnson 7pm, see page 4 for details

### October

TUE 14 Civil War Roundtable, TBA  
THR 16 3rd Thursday: "Do's & Don'ts of the Graveyard," w/ Lou Malcomb & Lisa Simmons, 7pm, see page 4 for details  
THR 23 Tea Party Benefit, 1-3pm  
FRI-SAT 24-25 Doll Sale Benefit, 10-4pm  
SAT 25 Hands-on Cemetery Workshop: Learn about GPS, Graveyard Maintenance, and Digital Photography, 9am-12pm

### November

MON 3 "Arguing about History: Battlefields, Museums, and Other Memorial Sites," IU Continuing Studies Course, Three Mondays, Nov. 3-17, 7-8:30pm, call 855-5108; meets at the History Center  
WED 5 Genealogy Group, TBA  
TUE 11 Civil War Roundtable, TBA, 7pm  
SAT 15 Native American Tools Identification Benefit  
THR 20 3rd Thursday, "Tools of Indiana's Native Americans," w/ IU Anthropology Department, 7pm  
FRI 28 Canopy of Lights Open House, 7pm

# Exhibit Schedule

## "The Monroe County Courthouse: 100 Years Under the Fish"

Opens: May 9

Closes: September 27

A chronicle of the construction and restoration of the Beaux Arts building we so proudly call the Monroe County Courthouse. The exhibit includes the original 1908 architectural drawings, pieces of the original copper dome, and carving tools of sculptor Albert Molnar who carved the limestone "Light of the World" at the courthouse entrance.



## "Life in 1908"

Opens: May 9

Closes: September 27

The exhibit includes everyday items common to 1908 homes: toys, cooking utensils, fashions, and furnishings. Copies of the 1907 Sanborn Fire Insurance maps of Bloomington document structures in the central part of Bloomington.



## "Community Voices Gallery: Sycamore Land Trust"

Opens: July 15

Closes: September 27

This exhibit explores the impact of the Sycamore Land Trust and its work to preserve Southern Indiana's disappearing landscape. The Land Trust, founded in 1990, is headquartered in Monroe County and preserves over 60 properties in 10 counties.



## "Carburetors, Hubcaps & Bloomington's First Cars"

Open: April 26 Closes: Late September

This unusual glimpse at Monroe County's vehicular past was created by intern Bobi Cross, a senior in Museum Studies at Indiana University. Vintage automobile parts are labeled only by number so viewers may guess the purpose of each item. Artifacts are generously loaned by Norman Deckard.

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## **Update from the Managing Director**

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### **Blood Drive Honoring Zachary May**

The History Center hosted a blood drive on July 1. Our office manager Dara May organized a blood drive with the Red Cross in honor of her husband Zachary who died May 4. During his cancer treatment, Zachary received 179 units of blood. Dara's goal of 30 donors was exceeded with 65 people participating. They gave 53 units of blood. Volunteers Anne Hyde, Jenn Marcum, Debra Mitchell, and Jamee Wissink were indispensable. Thank you to everyone for the wonderful response.



Jill Lesh next to Sanborn Fire Insurance map of Bloomington in the "Life in 1908" exhibit. Exhibit closes September 27.

### **New Lawn**

In June, the cement sidewalk leading to the old entrance for the Education Room was removed, and the area was filled in with top soil. Grass is now growing, and our west side looks very nice. We have plans to add new boxwood shrubbery at the main entrance.

### **Jennifer Gowen**

We wish our library associate Jennifer Gowen the best of luck in her move to Oklahoma with her husband John. Jenny was the first person to hold the new library associate position. She blazed the trail and set a high standard. We will all miss her.

### **Flood Photos Wanted**

We would like to have photos of the recent flooding in Monroe County to document this historic event. If you have a photo (digital or hard copy) of the flood where you can identify the location and any of the people, please consider donating a copy to the History Center. More than 3700 photos of historic Monroe County are now available in a searchable database at [monroehistory.org](http://monroehistory.org). More photos are added every few months.

*— Jill Lesh*

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## **Corporate Members**

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### **Monroe County History Maker (\$1,000)**

CFC, Inc. Cook Group, Inc.

### **History Patron (\$500)**

Ivy Tech Community College Monroe County Farm Bureau, Inc. X-Printwear & Promotions, Inc.

### **Gallery Benefactor (\$250)**

Regions Bank Smithville Telephone Company, Inc.  
Stephen L. Ferguson, Attorney at Law United Commerce Bank

### **Exhibit Supporter (\$100)**

Bloomington Central Lions Club, Inc. John Bethell Title Co., Inc.  
Bloomington Convention & Visitors Bureau John Byers Associates  
Commercial Service of Bloomington Curry Buick-Pontiac-GMC, Inc.  
David Ferguson, Attorney at Law Malibu Grill  
Meadowood Retirement Community Gilbert S. Mordoh & Co., Inc. Morrow Realtors  
Hylant Group ISU/The May Agency, Inc. Jeanne Walters Real Estate  
Shean Law Offices Sullivan's Inc - Fashions for Men United Commerce Bank



## Programs Not To Miss

### “A Nose for the News: 19th Century Bloomington Editors and Their Newspapers”

with Owen Johnson

Thursday, September 18, 7pm

Owen Johnson, Associate Professor at Indiana University’s School of Journalism, will speak about the history of news publishing in Monroe County with a focus on early newspaper editors.

Dr. Johnson is a specialist on topics in U.S. journalism history, including World War II correspondent Ernie Pyle, and the historical development of the college press. He utilizes the



development of the press in Indiana and specifically Monroe County in various courses, exploring the backgrounds of early editors and its impact on their journalistic efforts.

### “Harry Heth Blunders into Gettysburg”

A Civil War Roundtable Program with Mark Acres  
Tuesday, September 9, 7pm

Gettysburg expert Mark Acres will attempt to answer the questions, “What was Harry Heth thinking that morning of July 1, 1863?” and “How did he get Lee to engage in a battle Lee expressly ordered to avoid?” and “Is there an historic basis for the story that the battle started over shoes?”



Each month, the Civil War Roundtable invites the public to join them in a discussion of Civil War history issues.

Civil War Monument at Spangler’s Spring, the battle-field where Monroe County local David “Big Dave” Van Buskirk’s unit, the 27th Indiana Infantry, fought on July 3.

### “Do’s & Don’ts of the Graveyard”

with Lou Malcomb and Lisa Simmons

Thursday, October 16, 7pm

Learn about the proper methods to record cemetery data, what visitors can do to help preserve our history, and what common practices can actually cause damage. Also, learn about what hidden information is available for visitors by uncovering the language of mortuary motifs. This talk will be a lead up to a hands-on workshop.



The Waldron grave plot marker located in Rosehill Cemetery. This single carved limestone piece incorporates a multitude of commonly used mourning motifs.

### “Hands-on Cemetery

**Workshop: Learn about GPS,  
Graveyard Maintenance, and  
Digital Photography”**

Mulkey Cemetery

Saturday, October 25, 9am-12pm

*This free program is part of the Monroe County History Center’s 3rd Thursday program series.*

### “Echoes from One-Room Schools”

with Helen Sturbaum, Loretta Neidigh,  
and Lois Sparks

Thursday, August 21, 7pm

Enjoy a look back at the way school used to be in Monroe County with retired school teachers, Helen Sturbaum, Loretta Neidigh, and Lois Sparks, just in time for school to start!

They were part of the group that compiled the book: *Echoes from One-Room Schools of Monroe County Indiana*, published in 2006. They will share their favorite one-room school stories and tell about the challenges they faced in creating the book.

*This free program is part of the Monroe County History Center’s 3rd Thursday program series.*

An 1800s  
one-room  
school  
teacher with  
students.



## News from the Library

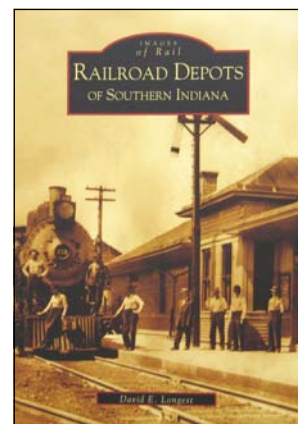
genealogy@monroehistory.org

### New Books on the Shelves

- *African American and American Indian Patriots of the Revolutionary War*, 2001. Gift from Liz Knapp.
- *Bloomington Historic Preservation*. Bloomington, IN: Bloomington Restorations, Inc., 1982. Gift from John Eakin.
- *Book of Record of Graduates from the District of Monroe County, Indiana*, n.d. Gift from Andrew Crouch, in memory of Margaret Raab.
- Bradley, Jill and Wells, Annetta. *Lawrence County, Indiana, First Land Owners*, 2008. Gift from Mobie McCammon.
- *The Descendants of Charles Graves and Malinda Graves Crum*, 1999. Gift from Morris R. Graves.
- Doty, Eva Emery, comp. *Chambers and Feamster Families (A Supplement for Chambers and Feamster Genealogy, comp. by Lura B. Emery, 1957)*, 1996.
- Emery, Lura B. *Chambers and Feamster Genealogy*, 1957. Gift from Paul Holtzmann.
- Harvey, Max. *The Covered Bridges of Parke County, Indiana*. Montezuma IN: Wabash Valley Printing Co., 1961.
- *Indiana, 1930*. Indianapolis: Board of Public Printing, 1930.
- *McCammon: South Carolina, Kentucky, and Indiana*, 2008. Gift from Mobie McCammon.
- Mitchell, Patricia Ann. *Ancestors and Descendants of Isaac and Phoebe Chambers Mitchell of Monroe County, Indiana*. Bloomington, IN: Collegiate Printers, 1978. Gift from Phyllis Bruton.
- Murphy, Paul C. *What's Happened...Since 1776*. Oklahoma City: Heartland Enterprises, 1975.
- Rhodes, Steven B. *Catalog of the Seimes Microfilm Collection, DAR Library*, 2001. Gift from Liz Knapp.
- Ridge, Lee. *History of the 588th*, 2008. Gift from Austin Lee Ridge.
- Shifron, Gal. *A History of the Jewish Community of Bloomington, Indiana, 1844–2005*. Bloomington, IN: Congregation Beth Shalom, 2005. Gift from John M. King.
- Stuckey, Clay W. *Moses Fell Dunn: A Biography*, 1983.
- Sturgill, Mack H. and Sturgill, Kenneth L. *Smyth County Virginia Cemeteries*, vol. 3. Marion, VA: Dean Tucker Printing, 1995. Gift from Kay Beth Harrell.
- Wayland, John W. *Virginia Valley Records*. Baltimore, MD: Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., 1930. Gift from Don Matson.

## Museum Gift Store

☞ Hot New Items ☞



**Left:** The Bloomington canvas bag and the Monroe County History Center mug make great gifts and souvenirs.

**Middle:** Kendall Reeves full-color postcards featuring gorgeous Monroe County scenes.

**Right:** The brand new *Railroad Depots of Southern Indiana* book.



## Community History of Monroe County

By Bob Dodd

Did you know that during its history Monroe County has been the location of more than a hundred small communities? Most of these communities were informal without any official governmental organization. Some were located around churches, others near post offices. A few were associated with schools. Some were simply an informal grouping of farms in a particular valley or along a ridge top. Indeed, it is difficult to define what was a community.

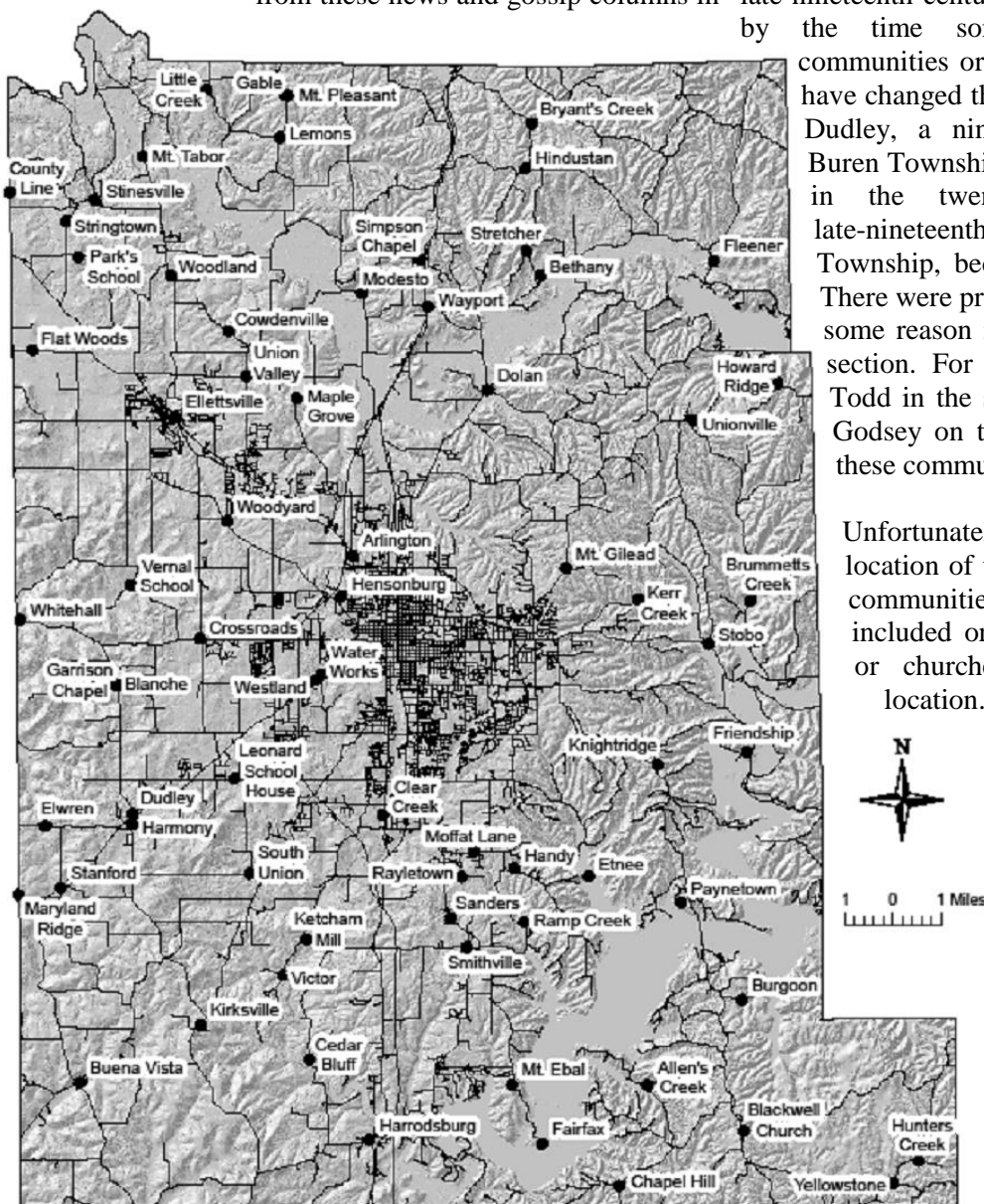
One definition is those groupings of people that inspired the local newspapers to include a column of news and "gossip." The Genealogy Library at the Monroe County History Center includes a large file of newspaper clippings from these news and gossip columns in

Bloomington papers, dating from approximately 1880 to the 1950s. For the most part, the clippings do not make very exciting reading. They mostly report who was visiting whom and which of the locals were making trips to the big cities of Bloomington or Gosport. Occasionally they include real news and interesting tidbits that shed light on the nature of life in the past in Monroe County. Sometimes the advertisements and articles on the reverse side of the clippings are more interesting than the local gossip!

The file includes 158 folders, one for each community (some of which are in adjoining counties). Many still exist, but many are now gone. Indeed, they probably never all existed at the same time. Some of the late-nineteenth-century communities were probably gone by the time some of the mid-twentieth-century communities originated. A few communities seem to have changed their names through time. For example, Dudley, a nineteenth-century community in Van Buren Township, seems to have changed to Harmony in the twentieth century. Blanche, another late-nineteenth-century community in Van Buren Township, became Garrison Chapel by the 1930s. There were probably additional communities that for some reason never made it into the gossip column section. For example, there are no clippings for Todd in the southeastern part of the county or for Godsey on the northern border, although both of these communities show up on maps.

Unfortunately, the clippings do not indicate the location of the community. Some of the "extinct" communities are difficult to find, but many are included on old maps. Association with schools or churches sometimes give clues to their location. The items in the clippings will sometimes also give a clue by referring to nearby features that are shown on maps. The map included with this article shows the location of those communities we have been able to locate.

Shaded relief map of Monroe County showing location of communities. The map shows modern roads. The Indiana Geological Survey prepared the base map. Paul Irwin and Kimberly Sowder of the Indiana Geological Survey helped with positioning of communities on the map. Their help is gratefully acknowledged.



We would like to have help from our readers. Do you know of any communities that are not shown on the map? Do you see any errors in the location of particular communities? Below is a listing of communities that we have not been able to locate (some may not be in Monroe County). Can you give us any help? If so, please e-mail: [genealogy@monroehistory.org](mailto:genealogy@monroehistory.org) or [dodd@indiana.edu](mailto:dodd@indiana.edu); or call the Monroe County History Center.

### Listing of Communities Not Yet Located

Argue/Argument Ridge	Ford Hollow	Pecktown
Beech Grove	Forsaken Ridge	Polley Ridge
Big Springs	Gent	Saddle Creek
Buck Creek	Goat Run	Shawtown
Cornett's Creek	Greenbriar Ridge	Sipes Branch
Coveyville	Hollywood	South Pike
Dellville	Low Valley	Willow Creek
Fairview	O-Possom Hollow	Youno

## “Blue Ike” Van Buskirk

By Lee Ehman

David Van Buskirk was famously the tallest man serving in Union forces during the Civil War—he stood 6' 10". David (“Big Dave”) was a captain in the Indiana 27th Volunteer Regiment and hailed from Bean Blossom Township in Monroe County, Indiana, near Gosport in Owen County. However, David was by no means the only Van Buskirk soldier who served in the Indiana 27th. There were four others in Company F (the “Monroe County Grenadiers”), including two Isaacs, John (“Sandy”), and Michael Henry. Earlier men in the family had served in the Revolutionary War and the War of 1812.<sup>1</sup>

Isaac Shelby Van Buskirk, also of Gosport, was a second lieutenant, a brother of John and cousin of David, Michael Henry, and the second Isaac (nicknamed “Deaf Isaac”). The family gave him the nickname “Blue Ike” partly because he had a blue birthmark on his cheek and also to distinguish him from his cousin (and many other ancestors with that name).

Blue Ike had previously volunteered for the army, in 1846, to serve in the 3rd Indiana Volunteer Regiment, Company A, which was one of two companies composed of Monroe County men seeing action in the Mexican War. Blue Ike mustered in at New Albany on 22 June 1846, and was first sergeant of the company, its highest enlisted rank.<sup>2</sup> Company A saw action during the opening campaign, culminating in the battle of Buena Vista in February 1847. The regiment subsequently returned to the U.S. that spring and mustered out of service in New Orleans. (The other Monroe County unit, Company G, 4th Regiment, entered later and served in the Vera Cruz–Mexico City campaign, which led to the war’s end.)



David Campbell  
“Big Dave” Van Buskirk



Isaac Shelby  
“Blue Ike” Van Buskirk

Blue Ike began Civil War service on 30 September 1862 at age 35, from his occupation as a farmer. He was a regimental wagon master, a very responsible position, and was later promoted to second lieutenant. In October 1862, he was captured, held as a prisoner of war in Winchester, Virginia, and soon paroled at Richmond, Virginia. He rejoined his regiment in January 1863 and was severely wounded in the right leg in the Battle of Chancellorsville, where he was again captured and made a POW. Paroled once more, he either died in the Union 12th Corps General Field Hospital, Aquila Creek, Virginia, on 15 May 1863, or “after a long trek back to Indiana in the back of a wagon...,” of wounds suffered at Chancellorsville.<sup>3</sup> Isaac Shelby Van Buskirk was buried in the Van Buskirk family cemetery in Bean Blossom Township.

Blue Ike’s famous cousin, David Van Buskirk, was also captured in the Battle of Winchester. David was a POW at Libby Prison, paroled three months later, and served in the Battles of Antietam, Fredericksburg, Gettysburg, and others. He mustered out in April 1864 because of rheumatism and returned to his farm near Gosport. He died in August 1886 and was buried near his cousin and others who served the Union cause.

#### Notes

- 1) Information and pictures taken from <http://www.geocities.com/pentagon/barracks/3627/companyf.html#ivbuskirk>
- 2) Perry, Oran, compiler. *Indiana in the Mexican War*. Indianapolis: Adjutant General of Indiana, 1908.
- 3) The first version is from <http://www.geocities.com/pentagon/barracks/3627/companyf.html#ivbuskirk>, accessed 5 May 2008; the second is from Durham, Roger S., “The Biggest Yankee in the World,” *Civil War Times Illustrated*, 13:2 (May 1974), p. 29.



## Our Volunteer: Jamee Wissink

By Tosha Daugherty

Long-time Monroe County History Center volunteer Jamee Wissink first became involved with the organization nearly 20 years ago when she served as the treasurer for TOLI (The Old Library, Inc.) which was a coalition that worked to restore the old Carnegie Library, now home to the History Center. Jamee spent so much time at the old library building that she really got to know the people involved with the Historical Society and eventually she became a loyal supporter of the History Center and one of the organization's most dependable and dedicated volunteers.

That first introduction to the organization was nearly 20 years ago, but Jamee's dedication to the History Center has only grown with time. She is in the third year of her current term on the Board of Directors, this being the third time she has served on the board. Jamee serves the museum on the Collections and Exhibits Committee, the Fundraising Committee and the Special Events Committee, where she truly shines. You've probably seen her always-smiling and friendly face at opening receptions and other special events, usually behind the scenes in the kitchen ensuring that visitors always have something incredibly good to eat and drink.

In addition to sharing her culinary and fundraising talents with the museum, Jamee also currently serves as the Exhibits Designer, a volunteer position which requires several hours of her time each week. Jamee spends an astounding 30 hours per week working on History Center projects and has had the pleasure of creating some wonderful exhibits, including an upcoming exhibit in the community voices gallery, which she is especially excited about. The new exhibit opened on July 15<sup>th</sup> and explores the impact of the Sycamore Land Trust and its work to preserve Southern Indiana's disappearing natural landscape.



Anne Hyde and Jamee were indispensable volunteers at the blood drive, July 1, 2008.

History Center Managing Director Jill Lesh calls Jamee a creative genius, adding that "Jamee's exciting ideas for events and exhibits have provided countless reasons for the public to visit the History Center. Her energy and inspiration are seemingly boundless."

Despite the dedication that Jamee has to the Monroe County History Center and her family, she also manages to participate in a number of other local organizations. She nurtures her green thumb with memberships in the Bloomington Garden Club and the Limestone Garden Club, volunteers for the local Red Cross to help with their annual book sale and is a member of her neighborhood association. Her work with the History Center has even inspired her to go back to school and continue her education. A graduate of Indiana University with a degree in forensic anthropology, Jamee recently returned to school to take a class in museum studies.

As if she isn't busy enough, Jamee and her husband Scott, a nuclear physicist with the Indiana University Cyclotron Facility, have also been working on ongoing renovations to their 1895 Queen Anne home for the past 20 years. They share the historic Showers family home with four beloved feline companions (and an assortment of other creatures). When asked about the home, Jamee says that it keeps them "very busy, off the streets and mostly broke!" Fortunately for us, she's never too busy to donate her time, energy and baked goods to the Monroe County History Center.



2007 Outstanding Service Award winners Jamee Wissink, Sue Shelden, and Loretta Condra, December 3, 2007.



# History Center Event Photo Recap—June & July



- 1) **Eric Sandweiss**, standing at right, led, "Reading the City," a walking tour of downtown Bloomington.
- 2) **Re-enactors** from the Indiana 42nd Infantry gathered at the History Center for this years Civil War Encampment on June 7 & 8.
- 3) **Office Manager, Dara May** enjoying a snack after donating blood at the Zachary P. May Blood Drive on July 1. Dara organized the successful event in honor of her husband Zachary May who passed away on May 4.
- 4) **Sherry Wise** demonstrating plants and herbs that were used during the Civil War to help with everything from health to food preservation.
- 5) **The Annual Civil War Encampment** features 1st person interpretation by skilled persons, such as Suzanne Julian.
- 6) **Jenn Marcum** and other volunteers helped to make the Blood Drive a success.
- 7) **Kip May** was one of the many blood donors who helped us to collect 23 units over our goal. The Center looks forward to making the blood drive an annual event.
- 8) **42nd Indiana Infantry members** are happily educating visitors. Special thanks to Steve Rolfe and the entire Civil War Roundtable for organizing the Encampment.



# Recipes Wanted for Cookbook

By Sue Shelden

We need your favorite recipes for the upcoming cookbook *Mouthwatering Monroe County*. This is a great way to pass recipes on to family members and share your traditions with the community.

This cookbook will have a special section of cake recipes from Monroe County Government employees in celebration of the Courthouse 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, July 4, 2008.

The first cookbook, *The Taste of Monroe County* was an excellent fundraiser for the History Center. We hope the new cookbook will have additional appeal because it will include an index by contributor's name. How fun to see what recipes your fellow county residents contributed.

To submit a recipe (up to 6 per person), send your recipe along with comments to the History Center. You can also submit it online at [www.typensave.com](http://www.typensave.com). The login is `mccooks2` and the password is `5eesq`. At the next screen, click on the "add recipe" button at the top.

We are looking for ANY favorite recipes! Recipes from restaurants or special events are especially welcome.

## GRANDMA "MIMI'S" CHOCOLATE SHEETCAKE

2 c. flour	2 c. sugar	1 tsp. baking soda	1 tsp. cinnamon
1 c. water	2 sticks butter	3 T. cocoa	

Sift first four ingredients together. Then bring to a boil the remaining three. Combine:  
1 1/2 c. buttermilk    2 eggs    1 tsp. vanilla

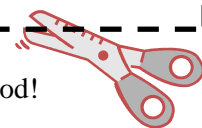
Mix all the dry and wet ingredients together. Grease and flour a 11 x 17-inch pan.  
Bake at 325° for 20-25 minutes.

ICING:	5 T. buttermilk	1 stick butter	3 T. cocoa
	1 tsp. vanilla	2 c. powdered sugar	Nuts

Bring buttermilk, butter and cocoa to a boil. Remove from heat; add vanilla and powdered sugar, combining well. Stir in nuts. Spread on cooled cake.

"My grandmother Alma (Mimi) Owens always made this cake for my birthday and brought it into my office for me to share."

- Jim Fielder, Monroe County Clerk



Recipes don't have to be original -- just good!

- Entrees
- Desserts
- Salads
- Vegetables
- Appetizers
- From Local Restaurants
- Wild and Wacky
- Grandma's Favorite
- Special War Recipes

More information and a form to download is available at [monroehistory.org](http://monroehistory.org). We would love to see as many Monroe County residents represented as possible, and we look forward to receiving your recipes.

# Garage Sale Report—A New Record

By Gayle Cook

The 27th annual MCHS benefit garage sale was another success—it brought in over \$20,000, an all-time record!

Once again, we maintained our reputation as Monroe County's largest garage sale, or as one customer exclaimed, "a monster sale."

## Special Thanks go to the Following Wonderful People

At Cook Pharmica: Jerry Arthur, Rick Naftzger, Larry Newell, and crew, who allowed us to use the Pharmica

warehouse and were a big help during the preparation and sale.

At CFC, Inc.: Jim Murphy and crew, who donated truck use, hauling, labor, and merchandise. The sale wouldn't be possible without them.

We thank John and Joyce Holmes and Jeanne Walters Real Estate for the use of their trucks, Estate Specialist Brian Sample for estate donations, and all the other many volunteers who hauled, donated, sorted, priced and bought. We enjoyed lots of laughs and lunches

together over the weeks of work in the warehouse.

A big thank-you goes to the members and friends who generously donated items to be sold, some very special and valuable, all very much appreciated and profitable.

## Don't Forget

This year's garage sale site will again be the location for next year's sale, which means that the Society can accept and store merchandise year round.



## News from Other Places

### Old Buildings Supplement Indiana Climate Record

Old buildings are being used to supplement the record of climate change in Indiana. Dendroarchaeology, a subfield of dendrochronology (the science of dating tree rings), uses the dating of wood in structures built from early forested lumber to create a record of climatological events. Old growth forests in Indiana’s Ohio River Valley had all been cut down by 1895, but structures built from early forested lumber provide another source. Dr. Darrin Rubino and his students at Hanover College are assisting Historic Landmarks of Indiana by taking samples from a hewed-log structure in the Denver Siekman Environmental Park near Rising Sun in Ohio County. The team’s data is still being analyzed. (From “Lord of the Rings,” by Kent Abraham, *Indiana Preservationist* [April 2008], pp. 4–5.)

### Memorial Day at Gosport Cemetery Honors Civil War Veterans

On Memorial Day, 26 May 2008, the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War dedicated a plaque at Gosport Cemetery to commemorate 12 members of the 59th Indiana Volunteers who died during the winter of 1861–1862 at a training camp southwest of Gosport. Members of the Sons of Union Veterans, dressed in uniforms of the period,

performed a gun salute to honor the Civil War soldiers. Another member played taps for all those buried at the cemetery. (From “Plaque at Gosport Cemetery,” *Herald-Times*, 21 May 2008; and photo section in the *Gosport Express News*, Week of May 26, 2008.)

### Genealogy Resources at Indianapolis’s Central Library

When planning a genealogical research trip to Indianapolis, don’t overlook the Indianapolis-Marion County Public Library (IMCPL), also known as Central Library. The resources of its Indianapolis Special Collections Room include histories, church information, biographies, yearbooks, and city directories. Indianapolis newspapers from 1822, including those published in German, are available on microfilm, and copies of obituaries can be obtained for a fee. The recently expanded and renovated Central Library is located at One Library Square, 40 E. St. Clair St., in downtown Indianapolis. For more information on the Central Library’s collections, hours, and parking, go to: [www.imcpl.org](http://www.imcpl.org) or call (317) 275-4100. (From “Around Indiana,” *Connections: The Hoosier Genealogist* [Spring/Summer 2008], p. 56; and the Web site.)

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## New & Renewed Members

May 10th-July 10th

### History Patron

Monroe County Farm Bureau, Inc.

### Gallery Benefactor

Regions Bank

### Exhibit Supporter

Commercial Service of Bloomington

### Contributor

Julian & Mary Pat Livingston

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Eleanor Byrnes  
Lee Ehman & Barbara Wilcox  
Stephen C. & Jo Ellen Ham  
Barbara Henn  
John & Karla Kamstra

### Family

Ron & Jean Brown  
Nancy Bryan

Bradley Goodall\*  
Marion H. Gottfried  
James & Blanche Scherschel

### Basic

Allen Co. Public Library  
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Richard H. & Martha S. Becher  
Margery Belisle  
Michael Bell & Danielle Bachant-Bell  
Jean Campaigne  
Ray & Sarah Caudill  
Janice Clinch  
Sandra Clothier\*  
Marjorie S. Counsilman  
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David Freese  
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**Membership Form**

**- Save the Date -**

***Tea Party***  
***Benefit***

***with***  
***Carol Darling***

***Thursday, Oct. 23***  
***1-3 p.m.***

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Student/Teacher..... \$20  
 Basic..... \$35  
 Family..... \$60  
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