

Dec. 2008

Vol. 2008 Issue 6

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

Monroe County Historical Society, Inc. presents

Monroe County Historian

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

Our Volunteer: Rachel Peden McCarty

By Mary Pat Livingston

This month we highlight Rachel Peden McCarty, our youngest Historical Society president. Her involvement began while she was working for the *Ellettsville Journal*. Allison Lendman came into Rachel's office to put press releases about the Society into the newspaper. After many discussions, Allison invited Rachel to join the organization, which she soon did. In 2001 she was elected to the board of trustees and became president in 2004 serving three years in the position.

Now her term is over, but Rachel has been named the Monroe County Historian, so she continues to give selflessly to the preservation of the county's history. Also, she remains on the advisory board of the History Center. One of her favorite duties was being involved in the hiring process and reviewing contracts for the Society. She is following in the footsteps of her family with her interest in history.

Rachel remembers going with her parents to see the holiday lights on the courthouse square and afterward, visiting the museum. She was excited to see all the exhibits. Her love of history and preservation of the early culture of Indiana was fostered by her 10-year involvement in the 4-H program. Rachel acquired many leadership skills from 4-H work. She is also a graduate of Franklin College where she was a resident hall assistant and student body president.

Rachel and her husband, Cullen, will celebrate their eighth wedding anniversary



Rachel Peden McCarty has a rich Monroe County heritage. She is the granddaughter of author Rachel Peden, and she is standing in front of a History Center banner that shows a photo of her husband, Cullen McCarty's grandmother, Patsy Earles.

on March 24, 2009 and are expecting their first child on that date. Rachel and Cullen, who shares many interests with his wife, are restoring a home in French Lick. If this wasn't enough, they both are busy with many other organizations. Rachel just completed a stint as the County Clerk's Absentee Voter Supervisor during a very busy national election year. She will be even busier when their first child arrives to enrich their lives. Rachel Peden McCarty - here's a vote for Woman of the Year!

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 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.

December

- MON 8 Volunteer Appreciation Dinner, 5:30pm
TUE 9 Civil War Roundtable Holiday Dinner, Uptown Café, 6:30pm
SAT 13 Historic Showers-Graham House Tour, 12-3pm
SAT 20 Family Fun Open House, 1-4pm

January

- TUE 13 Civil War Roundtable, "27th Indiana Infantry regiment," w/ Michael Tomey
THR 15 3rd Thursday, "The Time and Place That Gave Me Life," w/ Janet Cheatham Bell, 7pm
SAT 31 Week of Chocolate: Sundaes on Saturday, 1-4pm

February

- FRI 6 Gala Benefit Dinner, "Ready, Fire, Aim!" w/ Bill Cook, 750 N. Daniels Dr., 6pm
TUE 10 Civil War Roundtable, "Abraham Lincoln: Weapons Developer" w/ Charles Matson, 7pm
THR 19 3rd Thursday, "Frontier Indiana: Lincoln's Home," 7pm, w/ Keith Erikson

Holiday Closings

Wed., Dec. 24 — Christmas
Thu., Dec. 25 — Christmas
Fri., Dec. 26 — Christmas
Thu., Jan. 1 — New Year's

Snow Closings

The History Center will not open on days the MCCSC is closed for snow.

Exhibit Schedule

Community Voices Gallery "Tea Time Doll & Bear Club"

Opens: October 1

Closes: January 10

Members of the Tea Time Doll & Bear Club are displaying dozens of vintage dolls from their private collections.



"Natural History Photos: Focus on Southern Indiana"

Opens: September 30

Closes: January 24

The Bloomington Photography Club and the Sassafras Audubon Society have pooled their talent to create a spectacular look at nature in Southern Indiana.



"The Dog Made Me Buy It"

Opens: October 10

Closes: February 21

This exhibit created by Jamee Wissink features images and icons that have influenced our purchases during the past century, including the beloved RCA dog, Nipper.



"Best Wishes: Pre-WWI Holiday Postcards"

Opens: November 28

Closes: April 18

This free, mini-exhibit features pre-WWI holiday postcards from the Center's collection. Discover why a Christmas postcard might have a spider web motif or read a postcard with a marriage proposal on it. Holidays featured include: Christmas, New Year's, Lincoln's Birthday, Valentine's Day, Presidents' Day, St. Patrick's Day, and Easter.

"Red & Green Study Quilts"

Opens: January 30

Closes: May 2

A national traveling exhibit will feature more than 50 "study quilts" from the American Quilt Study Group. One of the original antique quilts used as a study pattern and belonging to Mary Lee & Norman Deckard, will also be on display.

Update from the Managing Director

Food Bank

Donations Needed

The History Center will host a Hoosier Hills Food Bank food drive during the first two weeks of December (through Saturday, Dec. 13). Bring a can for free admission to the museum. Make this a family outing, or lunch-hour activity with a friend, as you help build our local Food Bank. Canned fruits, vegetables, meats, beans, and soups are especially needed.



Jill Lesh in front of donor recognition plaques in their new location along the stairs.

Greeters Needed

Are you willing to volunteer at the greeter desk one or more times a month? We need volunteers from 10am-1pm and 1pm-4pm to greet patrons as they arrive at the History Center. Greeters can also help guests in the gift store, do clerical tasks, scan documents, etc., as many or as few other activities as you prefer. Contact Lisa Simmons, 332-2517.

Donor Plaques

The next time you are in, take a look at the donor plaques now relocated along the stairs leading up to the museum. The names are easy to read and reflect the dedication and generosity of the

Gala Benefit

Friday, February 6

Mark your calendars for the second annual Gala Benefit on Friday, February 6. It will be held at the Cook headquarters at 750 N. Daniels Drive. Bill Cook will be the speaker. Proceeds from the dinner tickets and silent auction will benefit the Historical Society Founders' Endowment. Invitations will be mailed in January. We hope you can come.

many community members who have supported the Historical Society over the years.

Support from County & Townships

I want to recognize the valuable support we received this year from the Monroe County Commissioners and the Perry & Bloomington Township Trustees. Their funding, \$5000, \$2000, and \$1000 respectively, helped the History Center fulfill its unique role of preserving historical government documents, maintaining a database of cemeteries throughout the county, and providing genealogy/local history library, and educational programs for adults and children.

Jill Lesh

Your Required IRA Withdrawal Can Be a Tax-free Charitable Gift

Consider taking advantage of the re-authorized legislation that allows donors to make charitable gifts from their IRA accounts during tax years 2008 and 2009, without incurring income tax on the withdrawal. Just ask your IRA administrator to send your distribution check directly to the Monroe County Historical Society.

gift to the Historical Society. While you cannot claim a charitable deduction for IRA gifts, you will not pay income tax on the amount. The Historical Society will get the full amount of your IRA withdrawal.

If you are age 70½ or older and are required to take minimum withdrawals, this may be a great way to make a

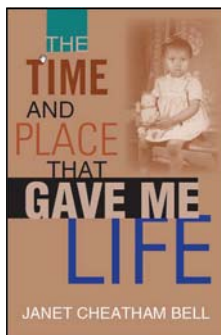
If you are considering a gift to the Historical Society, we can show you how. Contact Jill Lesh, 812-332-2517.

Programs Not To Miss

“The Time and Place That Gave Me Life”

Thursday, January 15
7pm

Bloomington resident Janet Cheatham Bell will recount her experiences growing up as an African-American woman in Indianapolis and coming of age as a student at Indiana University from the 1940s to the 1960s. Based on her recently published memoir *The Time and Place That Gave Me Life*,



Bell’s presentation will spotlight the race and gender issues she encountered.



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

Historic Showers-Graham House Tour

Saturday, December 13
12-3pm

The Monroe County History Center is hosting free, informal tours of the 13-room house built by Edward Showers in 1903. This historic house has been carefully restored and will become the Showers Inn Bed & Breakfast in January.



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

Family Fun Open House

Saturday, December 20
1-4pm

Enjoy the museum, exhibit scavenger hunts, wool spinning demonstrations, and hands-on crafts. Free.



Volunteers needed, call Lisa for details.

Volunteer Appreciation Dinner

Monday, December 8
5:30pm

Traditional and vegetarian lasagna will be provided. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share.



Calling all History Center Volunteers! Please join us in celebrating our successful volunteer program and our amazing volunteers.

Families are welcomed, please R.S.V.P. to Dara.

Sundaes on Saturday A Week of Chocolate Event

Saturday, January 31
1-4 pm

Design your own sundaes with lots of chocolate toppings on Bruster’s Ice Cream.



Also Enjoy:

- 1880s living history interpretations and hands-on demonstrations
- Fun facts about everything from sprinkles to cherries to ice cream and chocolate sauce
- Old-time music
- Over 7,000 square feet of local history exhibits

Sundaes and activities are free with price of museum admission: Adults: \$2, Children ages 6-18: \$1, Children under age 6 and MCHS members are always free

Quarry Worker's Tribute to James Whitcomb Riley

By Penelope Mathiesen

Indiana journalist and poet James Whitcomb Riley (1849–1916) made many trips to Bloomington. In December 1879, bad weather reduced the audience for his poetry reading to one person: the janitor. In May 1885, he spoke at Mendelssohn Hall on the south side of the square. In November 1903, Riley's visit fell on a football weekend, and his lecture was overshadowed by the celebrations following Indiana University's winning game against the University of Illinois. Riley nevertheless returned in 1907 to accept an honorary degree from IU.

Riley's birthday, October seventh, merited an official celebration in Monroe County schools for many years. Pupils received time off from class to participate in programs that honored the occasion. Many of them memorized and recited his poetry. Riley, one of the chief practitioners

of dialect verse, was famous for his depictions of rural Midwestern life. Among his best-known poems are "Little Orphant Annie," "An Old Sweetheart of Mine," "The Raggedy Man," and "When the Frost Is on the Punkin."

The following poem, which imitates James Whitcomb Riley's style and makes references to his works, must have been composed after his death on 22 July 1916. A copy of the typewritten poem is in the Genealogy Library's vertical files (ellipses are part of the text). A note at the bottom states that the author "is employed in one of the Stone Quarries in Monroe County Indiana." On the outside of the envelope containing the poem, the name "Curt Reynolds" is scrawled, along with the words "Riley Poetry." The Monroe County census for 1910 lists a Curtis Reynolds, age 21, living in Perry Township.

JIM RILEY'S GONE?

Jim Riley's gone ... or has he? I'm just wonderin' tonight,
As the frost is on the pumpkin and the shadows are in flight.

The evenin' sun is settin' on this Indiana town,
And I'm wonderin' if Jim Riley isn't up there lookin' down.
Just a lookin' and a knowin' in his great big hearted way,
As we go on makin' our mistakes and stumblin' every day.

But he always understood somehow that God had made us too,
And was watchin' and protectin' as we tried to follow through.
That we might have had old sweethearts jest the same as he had known,
And had had our dollys broken and had reaped as we had sown,
That we might have written verses 'bout the vine and sugar lump,
That though life might gather branches, it is sure to leave a stump.

Jim Riley's gone?... I'm wonderin' if he isn't really here,
To smooth away the heartaches and brush away each tear,
Jest to make the landin' easy as our ship of life shall dock,
When the frost is on the pumpkin, and the fodder's in the shock.

Sources: Thomas Clark, *Indiana University: Midwestern Pioneer*, vols. 1 and 2 (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1970 and 1973); Marcus Dickey, *The Maturity of James Whitcomb Riley* (Indianapolis: Bobbs-Merrill, 1922); *A Literary History of the United States* (London: Macmillan, 1970); Rose McIlveen, "James Whitcomb Riley's Visits to Area Worth Remembering," *Bloomington Herald-Telephone* (26 February 1983); "Passing of Hoosier Poet," *Bloomington Weekly Star* (28 July 1916).

Limestone Community Supports Sanders School

By Penelope Mathiesen

Sanders, on Fairfax Road near the southern boundary of Perry Township in Monroe County, was first known as “Limestone” for the plentiful stone deposits in the area. In 1892, Newell and Corinne Sanders platted the town, which was renamed “Sanders.” Workers from eight local stone operations established homes in the community. It had its own church, stores, and school. The renaming of the town created legal difficulties that required resolution at a later date, according to a 1908 Bloomington newspaper article:

“A bill has passed the senate and will likely become a law changing the name of ‘Limestone’ in the south part of the county to ‘Sanders.’ A law is necessary to correct irregularities in titles of land in the town plats.”

The Sanders School of the 1890s began as a one-room white frame building. Later additions increased its size. A sign of the community’s support for the school is found in a 1919 Bloomington newspaper article:



Above: The former Sanders School building, October 2008. Photo courtesy of Penelope Mathiesen.

Below: The brick four-room Sanders School, housing grades 1--8, opened in 1930. Photo from the collections of the Monroe County History Center.



Tea Party Benefit & Doll Sale

Carol Darling and the Special Events Committee orchestrated a lovely Tea Party Benefit Thursday afternoon, October 23. Sixty guests were served a three course tea by committee members and History Center staff. Carol regaled guests with lore about tea traditions, and Lorretta Neidigh, assisted by granddaughter Emma Johnson, presented a delightful “Raggedy Ann’s Birthday Surprise.” The benefit netted \$859 to purchase archival supplies.

The Doll Sale Benefit was a great success. One hundred and thirty dolls were sold in October, raising \$1652.50. As many of you know, the History Center was given hundreds of dolls by a local collector – dolls of all sizes, ages, and styles. Many are being kept for the museum’s collection; others were sold; some are now for sale in the “gently used” Holiday Decoration Sale.

Above: Martha Wainscott serves Joan Prentice, Betty Faris, Willie Heaton, Marie Webster, Eleanore Dodge, Nancy Kryway, and Margaret Karbon. Can you name the person seated at the far right?

Below: Glenda Morris, Nancy Kryway, & Eleanore Dodge examine dolls.



Sanders School — Continued

“At a box supper held at Sanders Friday night, \$75.76 was raised for the purpose of buying reading circle books and other school supplies. Mr. Setser, the teacher, called the house to order at 7:30 and gave a short talk on the purpose and value of Young People’s Reading Circle after which he introduced Ted Deckard of Battery F, who proceeded to sell the boxes and pies at a high price. The highest which was a box furnished by Helen Head, Bloomington, sold for \$5.50. 14 boxes and 4 pies sold for \$22.40; vote on prettiest girl: Altha Mercer, Sanders, \$29.11; Helen Head, Bloomington, \$14 and other candidates, 25 cents; [f]or a total of \$75.76.”

A new brick school was built in the 1920s. Sources differ as to the year, but class photographs from Sanders School dated 1921, 1922, 1924, 1927, and 1928 show a white frame building in the background. The new brick school was probably built in 1929 and opened for use in 1930. Designed in Tudor Revival style, it stood out among rural schools in the county at that time and suggested a strong sense of community pride. The building had four classrooms and was later enlarged with a limestone addition.

Sanders was among the last of Monroe County’s rural schools to close. The final day of classes was Tuesday, 22 May 1984. A Bloomington newspaper article published the following day noted that a “feeling of ‘community’ has been with Sanders Elementary School since 1930 when it opened.”

In Sanders today, some of the original workers’ houses remain, along with the vacant stone grocery store and the frame school house, converted to a private home. The brick school building is still standing, although it no longer serves the students of Sanders, Indiana.

Sources: Article from an unidentified Bloomington newspaper (10 March 1908); *Echoes From One-Room Schools, Monroe County, Indiana*, comp. Monroe County Retired Teachers (2006); “The Last Day,” Bloomington *Herald-Telephone* (23 May 1984); *Monroe County Interim Report* (Bloomington Restorations, Inc., 1989); “Sanders Box Social Success” (Bloomington *Telephone*, 12 December 1919); vertical files in the Genealogy Library of the Monroe County History Center.

Visitor's View of Bloomington, 1825

By Penelope Mathiesen

The following article provides a visitor's view of Bloomington in 1825. The youthful writer's "Uncle Addison Smith" was among the town's earliest residents and was one of those who bought lots at the public sale in November 1818. He served as the census enumerator in 1820 and became the county agent that same year. He was an attorney at the first Circuit Court of Monroe County. The writer's "Uncle Dudley Smith" came to Monroe County about 1819 and lived near Bloomington for about ten years before settling in Van Buren Township. (*Counties of Morgan, Monroe, and Brown*, ed. Charles Blanchard. Chicago: Battey, 1884.)

NEW ENGLAND LASS WRITES OF VISIT WITH BLOOMINGTON UNCLE IN 1825

(*Bloomington Daily Telephone*, 8 September 1938)

A bit on the literary side, Sarah Russell, a ten-year old New England lass, in 1825, wrote a long and comprehensive letter to the "folks back home" about a visit she was having in Bloomington at the time with her uncle, Addison Smith. Little Miss Russell was a niece of Bishop Philander Chase and the daughter of Lucia (Smith) Russell. The letter came into the hands of Mayor A. H. Berndt in 1936.

It follows:

"Uncle Addison Smith lives very pleasantly. His house stands in full view of the town. It is built of brick with two rooms handsomely furnished, and a kitchen. He has for shade in the front and back yard, the poplar and black locust growing. His garden is large and well-cultivated, and produces vegetables of various kinds. The sweet potato is very delicious. It is very nearly the shape and color of the carrot, from 6 to 12 inches in length, and grows near the surface of the earth. The vine and leaf are a beautiful dark green, resembling that of the ivy.

"In March we moved to a small house near Uncle Addison's. We do our own work, excepting the washing and ironing, and manage a school of about 15 girls. This keeps us as busy as bees through the week. Sometimes we take a ride on horseback into the country and find it very pleasant.

"My mother attends the Presbyterian church, Cumberland, Methodist or Christian meetings whenever she is able. I have attended pretty regularly the Bible class conducted by Mr. Hall, a Presbyterian clergyman, and teacher in the

State Seminary. ...Since I came here I have devoted my leisure time to grammer [sic], writing, and reading to my mother. I have read ... mostly Library books which Uncle Addison had the goodness to procure for me.

"Uncle Dudley Smith teaches school in his former dwelling house, and has about 30 scholars. He has engaged a man to put him up a small brick house on his farm which lays east of town about half a mile. Bloomington is situated between the east and west forks of White River. It lays high and is generally admired by travellers for the beauty of its situation. It contains 120 dwelling houses of which 40 are brick.

"The Methodists and Christians are building houses for public worship. The Presbyterians hold their meetings in the Seminary, the Baptist and Cumberlands, in the Court House. The number of the Methodists amount to 120, Christians 100, Baptists 30, Cumberlands 20, about 10 Dunkerds [sic] and 2 Episcopalians. There are 3 mercantile stores in the place, 3 apothecaries, 4 groceries, 4 taverns, and cabinet shops, 5 blacksmiths, 3 shoemakers, 3 saddlers, 2 tailors and 1 tinner. One printing office, 2 wool factories, 2 for hats, 1 silversmith, 2 wheelwrights, 2 gristmills and 1 sawmill, 13 house carpenters, 7 brick layers, 3 lawyers, and 4 physicians.

"This town being mostly settled by Kentuckians and Carolinians, you must conclude that they differ widely from us New England people, in looks, manners, customs, and mode of living. What we call bread, they call 'pone,' 'hoecake' or 'dodger.' For a great deal or abundance, they use 'right smart chance.' For tell 'let on,' and 'this is a heap better' and 'powerful pretty.' House furniture is called 'plunder.' This is old Kentucky language. This is a higher class, more refined, but I have never seen one that did not say 'I have saw and seed.'"



The Monroe County Courthouse, a brick structure completed in 1826, would have been under construction when ten-year old Sarah Russell visited Bloomington.

News from the Library

genealogy@monroehistory.org

New Books on the Shelves

- Bailey, Jerry. *Out Behind the Barn*. Bloomington, IN: AuthorHouse, 2007. Gift from Warren Henegar.
- Carmony, Donald F. *A Brief History of Indiana*. Indianapolis: Indiana Historical Bureau, 1966.
- Cloud, C. Carey. *Cloud Nine*. Nashville, IN: Cloudcrest, n.d.
- Furlong, Patrick J. *Indiana: An Illustrated History*. Northridge, CA: Windsor Publications, 2008.
- *Grandview School Class Book, 1970–71 and 1971–72*. Gift from Leland Butler.
- Hendricks, Cathy Goodall, comp. *The Goodall Family: 75 Years at 712 W. Wylie*. By the author, 2008. Gift from Kenneth Goodall.
- Jones, Susanna, ed. *Bartholomew County Columbus, Indiana Sesquicentennial, 1821–1971*. N.p.: Avery Press, 1971.
- Lahrman, Dolores M. and Miller, Delbert C. *The History of Mitchell Hall, 1885–1986*. Bloomington, IN: Indiana University Archives, 1987.
- Longest, David E. *Images of Rail: The Monon Railroad in Southern Indiana*. Charleston, S.C.: Arcadia Publishing, 2008.
- Monroe County, Indiana, Plat Books for 1985, 1990, 1995, and 1998. Gift from Claude Rice.
- Myers, Burton Dorr. *Trustees and Officers of Indiana University, 1820–1950*. Bloomington, IN: Indiana University, 1951.
- Nolan, Ann and Buckley, Keith A. *Indiana Stone-carver: The Story of Thomas R. Reding*. Indianapolis: Indiana Historical Society, 1984.
- *Our Downtown: 1993 Downtown Bloomington Symposium*.
- *Owen County, Indiana, 1983 Plat Book*. Gift from Claude Rice.
- Rice, Claude, comp. *Monroe County Marriage Records, 1976–1980*. By the author, 2008.
- *Ryles' Historical Atlas and Gazetteer Series, Monroe County, Indiana*. Ellettsville, IN: Ryle Publications, 2008.
- *University Elementary Memories, 2003–2004*. Gift from Jacqueline Gilkey.

Tour of Turner Doll Factory

Twenty-seven people carpooled to Heltonville, Indiana on November 14 to enjoy a delicious lunch and tour at the Turner Doll Factory. Virginia & Bryce Turner operate the only remaining factory of collectable dolls in the United States.

They do every step of the process from forming the heads, to painting the eyebrows, to sewing the dresses.

(left to right): Johnnie Brantley, John Seward, Joan Prentice, Judy McClary, and Charlie McClary with Virginia Turner (speaking).



New & Renewed Members

Sept. 11—Nov. 12

Monroe County History

Maker

CFC, Inc.
Cook Group Inc.

History Patron

Smithville Telephone
Company, Inc.

Gallery Benefactor

Stephen L. Ferguson
Attorney-at-Law

Exhibit Supporter

Malibu Grill
David L. Ferguson
Attorney-at-Law

Contributor

Greg & Mary Hawkins

Sustaining

William & Ellen Boruff
William & Patricia Cron
Rex Hinkle
Ross S. Jennings
Alice Manifold
Penelope Mathiesen
Michael Molenda
& Janet Stavropoulos
Larry & Ellie Rink
Don & Virginia Tyte
Frank & Carol Zeller

Family

Patsy Fell-Barker
Marion & Lucy Jacobs
Sara LeBien
Jeanette Calkins Marchant
Charles & Judy McClary
Dick & Kathy McFall

Dan & Joyce Turpen

Basic

Robert & Rosanna Blakely
John & Mary Bohenkamp
Jane W. Burris
Ruel & Shirley Cheatham
Wanda Clegg
Richard & Carol Darling
Dan Deckard
& Maria Bucur-Deckard
Allen & Susan Dunn
Bridget L. Edwards
Jane M. Fletchall
Clarence & Frances Gilliam
Bob & Julie Hammel
Thoral Walden Haskell
Tina M. Jernigan
Betty A. Kuntz
David & Margaret Lemon
Janett B. Lowes

Max & Jane Marsh
R. Keith & Marion Michael
Chris & Kelly Molloy
Loretta Neidigh
Doris B. Philbrick
Gregg A. Rago
& Susan Bright
James & Carolyn Richard
Pat & Dotti Riggins
Wayne Warden, Jr.
Gloria D. Westfall
Carol Wise
Mark & Nancy Wroblewski
Dick & Betty Yoder
Baqui & Olga Zai

Student/Teacher

Margaret Karbon*

*** Denotes
New Members**

News from Other Places

IMA to Exhibit Wishard Hospital Murals



The conservation department at the Indianapolis Museum of Art is working to restore murals painted by a group of Hoosier artists in 1914 to cheer patients at Wishard Memorial Hospital (then known as City Hospital). Included in the project were J. Ottis Adams, African American artist William Edouard, Carl Graf, and T. C. Steele. An exhibition on view at the IMA from 17 January to 29 March 2009 will offer views of the murals before, during, and after the conservation process. For more information, call: 317-923-1331 or go

to: www.imamuseum.org (From *IMA Art for You*, November 2008/January 2009, and the web site.)

IHS Acquires State Fair Photographs

A collection of photographs and negatives depicting agricultural activities at the Indiana State Fair, 1926–1952, has been donated to the Indiana Historical Society. The comprehensive collection of State Fair photography represents the work of John C. Allen and his son, Chester

P. Allen, who documented farm and agricultural life throughout the Midwest in the first part of the twentieth century. The photographs are being cataloged and preserved by IHS for the enjoyment of future generations. (From *INPerspective*, September/October 2008.)

Crown Point “Marriage Mill” Records Published

The Northwest Indiana Genealogical Society has published *Justice of the Peace Marriage Index 1935–1947*, containing records of marriages performed by justices of the peace in Crown Point, Lake County, Indiana. At the time, couples married by a justice of the peace did not have to obtain their marriage license in Lake County, and there was no waiting period. Thus, Crown Point was known as a “marriage mill.” The records are of significance for genealogists because they document the weddings of people who obtained their marriage licenses elsewhere and therefore do not appear in the marriage indexes for Lake County. The top states of residence listed in the Justice of the Peace index are: Illinois, Indiana, Wisconsin, Michigan, Ohio, Iowa, New York, Minnesota, California, and Missouri. The two-volume index may be purchased for \$150.00, plus \$16.25 S&H, from: NWIGS, P.O. Box 565, Griffith, IN 46319. (From *Indiana Genealogical Society Newsletter*, August 2008.)

Monroe County History Center
 202 East Sixth Street
 Bloomington, IN 47408

Food Drive
Dec. 1-13
Showers-Graham Tour
Sat., Dec. 13, 12-3pm

Non-Profit
 Organization
 U.S. Postage
 PAID
 Bloomington, IN
 Permit No. 181

Monroe County Historian
Volume 2008, Issue 6

Brought to you by the
 Monroe County
 Historical Society

Society established 1905
Museum established 1980



For subscription
 information contact the
 Monroe County
 History Center at
 812-332-2517, or
www.monroehistory.org

Membership Form

Save The Date

**Gala Benefit
 Dinner**

Friday, Feb. 6

**Bill Cook shares:
 "Ready, Fire, Aim!"**

Annual Membership Levels

- Student/Teacher..... \$20
- Basic..... \$35
- Family..... \$60
- Sustaining..... \$100
- Patron..... \$500

Corporate - Service Organizations

- Exhibit Supporter..... \$100
- Gallery Benefactor..... \$250
- History Patron..... \$500
- Monroe County History Maker... \$1000

Method of Payment

Visa MasterCard Check

Credit Card # _____

Expiration Date _____

Signature _____

Check if you are interested in:

- Volunteering
- Genealogy
- Civil War History
- Planned Giving

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