February 2012
Vol. 2012 Issue 1

Monroe County Historical Society

Membership Form

Please write your information as you would like it to appear.

Method of Payment

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<th>Annual Membership Levels</th>
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Corporate - Service Organizations

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

Check if you are interested in:

- Volunteering
- Genealogy
- Civil War History
- Planned Giving

Credit Card #
Expiration Date
CVV Number
Signature
Print Name

Address

Phone
E-mail

April 2012
Vol. 2012 Issue 2

March Cemetery of the Month: Bunker Cemetery

The most common family names buried here include Betche-

Submit your information as you would like it to appear.

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May 2012
Vol. 2012 Issue 3

June 2012
Vol. 2012 Issue 4

July 2012
Vol. 2012 Issue 5

August 2012
Vol. 2012 Issue 6

September 2012
Vol. 2012 Issue 7

October 2012
Vol. 2012 Issue 8

November 2012
Vol. 2012 Issue 9

December 2012
Vol. 2012 Issue 10

Annual Gala – Friday, February 24, at COOK World Headquarters

The fifth annual History Center gala is fast approaching. The gala will again be held at COOK World Headquarters, as it has been for the previous three years. The proceeds from this year’s gala will support the initiative of having meaningful and enjoyable interactive exhibits installed in our Henry & Cecilia Wahl Gateway Gallery and the Gayle Cook Permanent Gallery. The new exhibits will give patrons and visitors the opportunity to touch and experience history in a meaningful way.

We will be holding a silent auction again this year with a new and exciting addition to the regular routine, a Wall of Wine. The Wall of Wine will contain bottles of red and white wine, graciously donated by board members, small business owner’s, members of the History Center and local eateries, that you will only be able to see the bottom of. You simply give a minimum donation of $10.00 and choose your bottle from the wall. You may walk away with a $10.00 bottle of wine or a $100.00+ vintage bottle.

This year we welcome guest speaker Professor Glenn Gass, provost professor of music at Indiana University, Jacobs School of Music. Professor Gass, affectionately known as the “Professor of Rock and Roll” by his students, has an impressive background in music, currently teaching courses on the history of rock and roll and popular music. Professor Gass is the recipient of the Herman B Wells Lifetime Achievement Award, the Indiana University Sylvia Bowman Distinguished Teaching Award, the IU Student Alumni Association Student Choice Award, the Society of Professional Journalists Brown Derby Award, and other teaching awards and honors. Professor Gass will present a history of the Beatles.

We hope you will join us for an enjoyable evening. Please RSVP by Friday, February 17
In Memory:

- Manson & Margarette Barkhurst & Rose & Kathy Burkhardt
- Myrl Campbell by Julian & Mary Pa Livengood
- Vaughn & Faye Clipp by Phil & Bonnie Clipp
- Bill Cook by Gary & Julie Curry
- David Rowland by Kate Kroll
- Mary Ann Smock by George Smock
- Jeanne Stroppelius by Janet Nunberg & Michael Molenda
- John Temple by Victoria Temple Division

In Honor:

- MCJH Volunteers & Staff by Dwayne Ballard
- Randy Hudgens by Marjorie Hudgens

Donors:

- Robert & Maryellen Biecher
- Jane Bolyusk
- Randy & Vivian Bridges
- James & Martha Dawson
- Tim & Cherri Delbruiker
- Terry & Barbara Edgeworth
- Anna Fradkin
- William Gosser
- Nat & Paty Hill
- David Lawler
- Bud & Cathly Lynch
- Matti Mathiesen
- Dick & Kathy McFall
- Tom & Susan McGlasson

Annual Appeal Contributors

The History Center wishes to acknowledge the generosity and support of the following individuals that contributed to our Experience History Project which will introduce meaningful and enjoyable interactive exhibits in our permanent gallery.

- Laura Newton
- David & Martha Nord
- John & Joyce Poling
- Rebecca Spang & David Polly
- Bob Ralston
- Philip & Eva Ravbo
- Bernta Rudeen
- Jeanne Speckman
- Jim Stark
- Thomas Teter

stores, which offered a limited selection of high-demand items at attractive discounts. The Kresge presence in Bloomington reflected this trend. In 1931, Kresge opened a second, more “upscale” (5¢ to $4) downtown store at 109 N. College. This address retained the Kresge name from 1931 until 1965, when it appeared in the Bloomington city directory as the Jupiter Store. By 1969, the former Kresge space at 101–103 N. College was vacant, and 109 N. College bore the combined name “Jupiter Store (Kresge’s).” Bloomington’s first Kmart opened in 1971 at 3216 East Third Street (near the newly developed College Mall). In 1986, 109 N. College was taken over by J. L. Waters, marking the end of a sixty-year run for the Kresge Company on the west side of the square.

What happened to the Kresge Building after the Kresge Company moved out? City directories list the House of Fabrie at 103–105 N. College in 1970–74, followed by Monique Fabrics in 1975–86. Howard’s Bookstore is listed from 1987 until it moved to the south side of the square, and Talbots opened in the Kresge Building in January 1993. Talbots is now gone, but the building with the Kresge name carved in limestone remains. At the time of this writing, one wonders: What’s next for this downtown landmark?


The cemetery has experienced damage and loss of gravestones over the years. The markers for neither Eleanor Dunn nor Nancy Alexander can be found. There is occasional vandalism. In July 2008, two gravestones were broken off and stolen. More recently, in September 2010, five gravestones were tipped over. In neither case were the culprits identified. Indiana University restored the damage in each case, even though it does not own the property.

Nature provided its own vandalism on 23 May 2011, when a severe thunderstorm with strong winds tossed down the large tree in the middle of the cemetery. Fortunately, it missed all of the gravestones.

Dunn Cemetery, a September 2016, showing tipped-over gravestones. Photograph by Alex Farley. Reproduced with permission of the Indiana Daily Student.

Dunn Cemetery, tree downed from thunderstorms on 23 May 2011. Photograph courtesy of Lee Elkins.

Continued from Page 4

Continued from Page 5
BARGAINS BENEFIT BUDGET!

Once again the History Center’s resale sales have added significantly to our income. The big garage sale in June brought in $36,035, and the December holiday decor sale netted $2,307. Special donated items are also featured in the annual Gala silent auction. In addition, our Museum Store at the History Center carries a wide selection of used books all year round at bargain prices—browse welcome!

These events are successful because of your donations of merchandise, made possible by our year-round warehouse facility where we can accept donations at any time. We sincerely thank COOK Pharma, for making the warehouse available, and the sale volunteers who work hauling, sorting and cleaning donated items.

Let the office know if you have merchandise for our resale events. We cannot accept outdated computers and television sets, mattresses, non-working appliances, broken furniture or clothing. We can sell nearly everything else, and your donations are tax-deductible.

See What’s Happening At The Monroe County History Center

To see more pictures from these events, please visit www.monroehistory.org

Canopy of Lights

The annual Canopy of Lights open house took place on Friday, November 25th. We had our largest turn out ever with 800 people coming through the History Center’s doors!

The Madrigal Singers came in and performed for part of the evening and the Bloomington Community Band received special recognition for all of their tireless work and priceless contributions.

Sue Shelden graciously catered the evening and the meal was enjoyed by everyone.

Our volunteers are our shining stars!

Volunteer Appreciation Dinner

The annual Volunteer Appreciation Dinner was held December 5th.

This year we honored Jackie Gilkey, Volunteer of the Year; Steve Rolfe and Bob Dodd, Outstanding Service Awards; Lucy Jacobs, Genealogy Library Volunteer of the Year and the Collections Exhibits Committee received special recognition for all of their tireless work and priceless contributions.

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News from the Library

Winters are conducing oral histories on the topic of change. If you or someone you know would like to be interviewed about your memories of a local town, school, church, factory, or any other definition of a community, please contact the Genealogy Library (email: genealogy@monroehistory.org or telephone: 812-332-2517 ext. 4).

Recent Acquisitions

* Richardson, Randi. Index to 1842 Tax Duplicates, Monroe County, Indiana, compiled by Randi Richardson. 2011. (These are the first available tax duplicates for Monroe County.) Gift from Randi Richardson.


Partnering and Collaboration

All of us familiar with the Historical Society and History Center know the different areas of operation: exhibit galleries, Genealogy and Research Library, Museum Store, educational programs and the preservation of our local history. An important part of our success is the ongoing programs of partnership and collaboration that occur on a daily basis with many organizations.

Here are a few examples of the collaborations taking place:

- The History Center is a grant partner with the Monroe County Public Library in gathering information on the bedrock (limestone) industries, the Civil War, and collections of Smithville newspaper. The Mathers Museum and MCHC are able to conduct tours and provide transportation for MCCSC students as part a Wall Family Grant for transportation. Those tours meet Indiana academic standards.

- The Community Voices Gallery provides designated space for our city and county organizations to tell their story through displays, videos and exhibits.

- Collaboration with Indiana University provides intern experiences and projects for student groups. This semester we have 16 interns gaining hands-on experience in different areas of the History Center, supervised by staff. Student projects in oral histories, information technology, and marketing act as a catalyst for operational improvements.

- We routinely do “call outs” to the community asking to borrow objects for Exhibit displays. This is happening with the upcoming Quilt Exhibit in early March.

- We are working with others in the community to collaborate on oral histories and having a central repository for the histories.

- We collaborate with all other museums in the county on various projects via the Alliance of Bloomington Museums.

News from the Library

New in the Library

Compiled by Penelope Mathiesen and Elizabeth Schlemmer


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What’s Next for the Kresge Building?
By Penelope Mathiesen

Talbots, the women’s clothing store at the northwest corner of Kirkwood and College on Bloomington’s downtown square, closed in 2011 after 18 years of operation. It occupied a limestone building designed in Classical Revival style, with limestone urns on the tops corners of the facade and the “Kresge” name carved above the central pair of second-story windows.

Based on local history sources, the Kresge Building was probably constructed at 101–103 North College about 1926. Other businesses are listed at that location in Bloomington’s 1925 city directory, while a photograph with the date “1926” on the back shows the S. S. Kresge 5¢-10¢-25¢ Store with signs in the windows that say “Open,” “Opening Day,” and “Peanuts.” In the photograph, a portion of The Fair Store can be glimpsed to the right of the Kresge Building. City directories list The Fair Store at 105, 107, and 109 N. College, dated 1926. From the collection of the Monroe County History Center, 1988.109.0165.

N. College) were transformed with Art Deco-style limestone facades around 1930. Perhaps this was in part due to a rebuilding effort in the aftermath of a fire on 7 January 1929, which started in the building occupied by Hoosks Drugstore (105 N. College) and spread to the businesses on either side (Kresge, 101–103, and The Eagle Store, 107) before it was put out. In any case, the limestone facades provided a unified architectural effect for this half-block, echoed by the appearance of a new J. C. Penney store with an Art Deco limestone facade north of the alley in 1931.

The S. S. Kresge Company, based in Detroit and founded in 1911, was one of several large variety chains that came into being around the start of the twentieth century. (Others included S. H. Kress, J. J. Newberry, and F. W. Woolworth.) They catered to general shopping needs (basic clothing, housewares, linens, school supplies, shoes, toys, etc.) and usually occupied downtown locations that often included a snack or lunch counter. Long-time residents of Bloomington remember Kresge’s for its hot nuts, snack bar, and opportunities for frugal shopping on a limited budget.

When the variety store model declined over the years, the Kresge Company started planning for a transition to the discount store business. It eventually launched the Kmart chain in 1961. As an interim measure, many of the older Kresge locations were converted to “Jupiter”-style lime-

..."all desirable monuments & improvements & ornaments Suitable to such a place...." After the legal description for the cemetery’s land, Dunn concludes by stipu-

Continued on Page 7

The cemetery is a monument with the inscription: “This ground was deeded by George G. Dunn for perpetual use as a cemetery. See Deed Record ‘R’ Monroe Co page 222.” Dunn deduced the property on 21 November 1883. The document has some interesting words and phrases, opening with:

“In order to Secure and perpetuate to the decendants [sic] of Eleanor Dunn, Nancy Alexander, and Jane Irwin who lie buried within the plot of ground hereinafter described and to those with whom they may intermarry forever a place of private burial where they Shall repose together as one famil-

Continued on Page 7

To walk along the east side of the Indiana Memorial Union on the Indiana University campus, there is a private cemetery nestled between the Union and the creek, now called Jordan River, but originally called “Spanker’s Branch.” Beck Chapel, in the background of the accompanying photograph, is on the cemetery’s southern edge.

In the northwest corner of the cemetery is a monument with the inscription: “In order to Secure and perpetuate to the decendants [sic] of Eleanor Dunn, Nancy Alexander, and Jane Irwin who lie buried within the plot of ground hereinafter described and to those with whom they may intermarry forever a place of private burial where they Shall repose together as one family in the long night of death and rise up together as from one bed at the last day.”

Dunn goes on to specify the cemetery’s exclusive purpose, permitting “...all desirable monuments & improvements & ornaments Suitable to such a place....” After the legal description for the cemetery’s land, Dunn concludes by stipulating “...no unnecessary harm or damage thereto & it is further provided that no graves Shall ever be placed herein after West of a line cutting the corner Stones...” He finally provided for "...walks & [ornamental trees] & a dead house if one Should ever be desired."

Moses Dunn, a relative of George, sold ten acres of land, including the cemetery, to Indiana University in 1885, with the stipulation that the cemetery itself be reserved by the family. The most recent burial was of Marilyn Seward Warren in February 2014.

The cemetery has experienced damage and loss of grave stones over the years. The markers for neither Eleanor Dunn nor Nancy Alexander can be found. There is occasional vandalism. In July 2008, two gravestones were broken off and stolen. More recently, in September 2010, five gravestones were tipped over. In neither case were the culprits identified. Indiana University restored the damage in each case, even though it does not own the property.