Monroe County History Center

Where the past and present meet.

812.332.2517

202 East Sixth Street
Bloomington, Indiana 47408

monroehistory.org

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Monroe County Historical Society's

Monroe County Historian

February 2012

Vol. 2012 Issue 1

Society established 1905
Museum established 1980

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

February Cemetery of the month: Knightridge Cemetery is located in Salt Creek Township on Old Knight Ridge Road. The most common family names buried here include Butcher, Chandler, Hillenburg, Robertson, Sexton, and Shields.

March Cemetery of the Month: Bunger Cemetery is located behind Melton's Orchard at the intersection of St Rd 45 and Airport Rd. Most of the burials are from the 19th and early 20th centuries, including at least three Civil War Veterans.

Cover painting by Dorothy Bain, courtesy of the Arthur Clark Estate, from the MCHC Collection

Membership Form

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

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

Check if you are interested in:

□ Volunteering
□ Genealogy
□ Civil War History
□ Planned Giving

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202 East Sixth Street
Bloomington, IN 47408

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February, 2012
Vol. 2012 Issue 1

Monroe County History Center

Museum
Genealogy Library
Museum Gift Store
Educational Facility

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

Hours
Tuesday — Saturday
10am — 4pm

Museum Admission
Adult — $2
Child (6-17 yrs.) — $1
5 yrs. & Under — Free
Members — Free

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Monroe County Historian

Preserving the Past for Future Generations

Newsletter of the Monroe County Historical Society, Inc.

B E A T L E M A N I A- "The Long and Winding Road"

An evening of wining, dining and the Beatles

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 years 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

Calendar of Events

All events held at the History Center unless otherwise stated.

February

- SAT 4th– Week of Chocolate, Sundaes on Saturdays, 1:00pm-4:00pm
- THUR 9th– Board Meeting, 4:30pm
- SAT 11th—WFHB presents Saturday's Child, 10:00am-1:00pm
- TUES 14th - Civil War Roundtable, 7:00pm
- THUR 16th– Third Thursday Series, 7:00pm
- TUES 21 & 28– Continuing Studies Class on Civil War, Presented by Jeanne Madison 6:30pm
- FRI 24th- Annual Gala, "The Long and Winding Road", a night of wining, dining and the Beatles, speaker: Dr. Glenn Gass, 6:00pm at COOK World Headquarters

March

- TUES 6th- Continuing Studies Class on Civil War, Presented by Jeanne Madison 6:30pm
- WED 7th– Genealogy Group presents: Gravestone Rubbings with Benjamin, 2:00pm
- THUR 8th– Board Meeting, 4:30pm
- SAT 10th—WFHB presents Saturday's Child, 10:00am-1:00pm
- TUES 13th– Civil War Roundtable , 7:00pm
- THUR 15th—3rd Thursday Series: 7:00pm

Current & Upcoming Exhibits

Also available at www.monroehistory.org

***Community Voices Gallery presents: "The Bloomington Old Time Music and Dance Group"* Opens: December 16th Closes: March 24, 2012**

The Bloomington Old Time Music and Dance Group is dedicated to the enjoyment of music and dance, BOTMDG is a local nonprofit community organization. The music is like "fiddle tunes from Appalachia," and the dances are contra-dances and square dances. BOTMDG first began having dances in the basement of the Monroe County History Center.

***"What is your quilting story?"* Opens March 2nd Closes: July 31**

The theme for the annual quilt show is "The Quilter's Story". We are displaying quilts from community members along with the stories attached to the quilts. We have gathered stories about where the quilts come from, why they were made, who were they made for and many other fascinating details. Please come see this amazing show of color and memories.

"Making Clothes Making Do: Carol Wise and the Art of Daily Living"

Opens: October 11th Closes: April 7th, 2012 Carol has made clothing, much of it by hand, for most of her adult life. For Carol, clothes-making offers a sense of self-sufficiency and continuity with the past. She can do for herself as did her ancestors.

***"Titanic: 100 Years Later"* Opens: March 8th Closes: May 26th**

This exhibit will look at Monroe County's involvement with the sinking of this "unsinkable" ship. Monroe County resident Mr. John Bertram Crafton was a first class passenger on the Titanic and he was among the hundreds that perished in the tragic events of that fateful night back in April, 1912. Mr. Crafton has a headstone in Rosehill Cemetery.

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.

In Memory:

- Munson & Marguerite Burkhart by Ronald & Kathy Burkhart
- Myrl Campbell by Julian & Mary Pat Livingston
- Vaughn & Faye Clipp by Phil & Bonnie Clipp Anderson
- Bill Cook by Cary & Julie Curry
- David Rowland by Kate Kroll
- Mary Ann Smerk by George Smerk
- Jeanne Stavropoulos by Janet Stavropoulos & Michael Molenda
- John Temple by Victoria Temple Davison

In Honor:

- MCHC Volunteers & Staff by Diane Ballard
- Randy Hudgins by Marjorie Hudgins

Donors:

- Robert & Maryellen Bieder
- Jane Billyeald
- Randy & Vivien Bridges
- James & Martha Dawson
- Tim & Cheri DeBruicker
- Terry & Barbara Edgeworth
- Anne Fraker
- William Gosser
- Nat & Patty Hill
- David Lawler
- Bud & Cathie Lynch
- Penny Mathiesen
- Dick & Kathy McFall
- Tom & Susan McGlasson
- Kathleen Myers
- Laura Newton
- David & Martha Nord
- John & Joyce Poling
- Rebecca Spang & David Polly
- Bob Ralston
- Philip & Eva Rambo
- Bertina Rudman
- Jeanne Speakman
- 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 $1) 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 Fabric at 101–103 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 Talbot's opened in the Kresge Building in January 1993. Talbot's 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?

Sources Consulted: "Bloomington Historical Survey," viewed at: bloomington.in.edu.gov; Bloomington, Indiana, city directories; *Bloomington, Monroe County, Indiana, Sanborn Map* (New York: Sanborn Map Co., April 1927); *City of Bloomington Interim Report* (2004), pp. 49–51; "Historic Fires," viewed at: Bloomington.in.gov/documents; "Pleasant Family Shopping: S. S. Kresge's Pre-K Days," viewed at: pleasantfamilyshopping.blogspot.com; "Thanks for the Memories of … Kresge's Five and Dime," *Bloomington Herald-Times*, 20 November 2009; Rebecca Troyer, "Downtown Talbots Closing after 18 Years on Square," *Bloomington Herald-Times*, 13 May 2011.

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Dunn Cemetery, 9 September 2010, showing tipped-over gravestones. Photograph by Alex Farris. Reproduced with permission of the *Indiana Daily Student*.

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 downed the large tree in the middle of the cemetery. Fortunately, it missed all of the gravestones.

Dunn Cemetery, tree downed from thunderstorm on 23 May 2011. Photograph courtesy of Lee Ehman.

Dunn Cemetery's oldest grave marker still stands, that of seventeen-year-old Jennet Seward, who was buried in 1814—two years before Indiana became a state, and four years before Bloomington was founded. The grave and cemetery are probably the oldest in Monroe County.

Sources Consulted: Issues of the *Indiana Daily Student* for 16 February 2004, 7 July 2008, 9 September 2010, and 5 and 29 October 2010; *Monroe County Deed Book R*, p. 222.

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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--browsers 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 Pharmica, 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 group Sweet and Low (horn group) played for part of the evening as well.

Marsh Supermarkets on West Third Street donated refreshments.

A big thank you to all of the volunteers that made this evening possible.

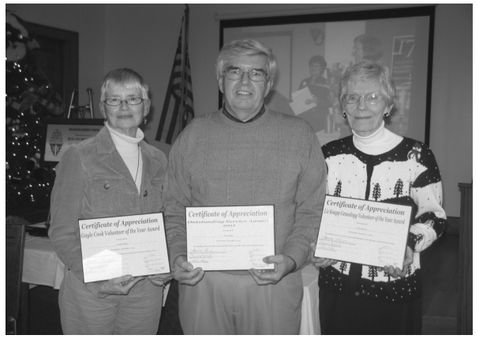
Volunteer Appreciation Dinner

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 and Exhibits Committee 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!



Message from the President

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 Wahl Family Grant for transportation. These 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.

Jamie Cady
President

News from the Library

News from the Library

Compiled by Penelope Mathiesen and Elizabeth Schlemmer

New in the Library

It's a new year, and the Genealogy Library welcomes the following new and very recent volunteers: Leah Bowman, Ted Brackemyre, Lisa Denlinger, Matt Newton, Molly Richmer, Krista Timney, and Rhonda Wathen.
The Genealogy Library now has sets of full-color 11"x17" Sanborn maps for Bloomington and Ellettsville. These bright, detailed maps transport you back to turn-of-the-century streets. Sanborn maps are an excellent resource for researching properties and determining the prior use of buildings. The maps were recently made publicly accessible by the Herman B Wells Library Map Collection at Indiana University. Library users may request individual sheets printed in full color for $1.50 per page.
Library volunteers are back to filing newspaper clippings from the early twentieth century. Take a peek at our card catalog drawers and see if we have added a news piece about one of your ancestors.

Oral History Project—Your Help Needed

Can you answer the question: How have you witnessed a community in Monroe County change in your lifetime? Spring interns Matt Cesnik, Shannon Silva, and Emily Winters are conducting 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

* *Bloomington High School North*, 1996. Yearbook.

* *Monroe County Court Records, 1818–1875*, compiled by volunteers of the Genealogy Library. 2011.

* *Nikean*, 1997. Bloomington High School North Yearbook.

* *Nikean*, 1998. Bloomington High School North Yearbook.

* Peat, Wilbur D. *Indiana Houses of the Nineteenth Century*. 1962. Gift from Becky Boyle.

* 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.

* *Sanborn Maps. Vol. 1, Bloomington 1883–1907.*

* *Sanborn Maps. Vol. 2, Bloomington 1913; Ellettsville 1895–1910.*

What's Next for the Kresge Building?

By Penelope Mathiesen

Photograph of the Kresge Building at 101–103 North College, dated 1926. From the collection of the Monroe County History Center, 1988.109.0265.

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 top 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 N. College in 1925 and 1927 (when Kresge is first listed), but it is gone by 1929. On the 1927 Sanborn fire insurance map for Bloomington, a large building occupies the spaces at 101–103 N. College, with additional retail space in the basement opening onto the sloping sidewalk along West Kirkwood. The building has a slightly different footprint than the structure that occupies the same space on the previous Sanborn map (1913), suggesting that new construction has taken place. Structural details on the 1927 map state that the building has a "steel frame" and is "stone-faced."

The Kresge Building's limestone exterior may have sparked a trend. Three other buildings in the same half-block on the west side of the square (105, 107, and 109 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 Hooks 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 line in 1961. As an interim measure, many of the older Kresge locations were converted to "Jupiter"

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Origin of Dunn Cemetery, 1855

By Lee Ehman

As you 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.

Dunn Cemetery, facing southeast, with Beck Chapel in the background. Photograph courtesy of Lee Ehman.

In the northwest corner of 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 deeded the property on 21 November 1855. The document has some interesting and even poetic language, opening with:

"In order to Secure and perpetuate to the decendants [sic] of Eleanor Dunn, Nancy Alexander, and Jane Irvin 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 of 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 hereinafter 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 1895, with the stipulation that the cemetery itself be reserved by the family. The most recent burial was of Marilyn Seward Warden in February 2004.

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.

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Stinesville Town Marshal vs. the Liford Clan in 1916

By Bob Dodd

LIFORD CLAN AND STINESVILLE OFFICER IN PITCHED BATTLE—EZ DUNNING CLEANED AS USUAL—HIS ASSAILANTS IN JAIL HERE

Bloomington Daily Telephone, 1 August 1916

Town Marshal Ezra Dunning of Stinesville, who has been whipped more times than any man in this section of the state, lost another battle last night with the clan of Lifords which reside in the Stinesville neighborhood. While the Stinesville officer was properly cleaned he ended the festive evening by arresting three of the Lifords and bringing them to the Jones club where they will be protected from the piercing rays of the sun until the September term of court.

Ez in his official duties somewhat resembles a bull dog with an undershot jaw—plenty of nerve and absolutely nil as a fighter. Last night when the Liford clan did a Pancho Villa run into Stinesville Ez lived up to his past performances and after the streets had been thoroughly wiped up with him, he pinched his men and came to Bloomington with them. After which he called on his physician and was patched up.

According to the story of Stinesville citizens the Lifords filled up to their back molars with squirrel-booze and swept into Stinesville looking for Officer Ez, against whom they had an ancient grudge.

"Where is that blankety, blank, blank, kankety, blank marshal? I want him," shouted Nick Liford. With more nerve than judgment, Marshal Dunning came to the front and dramatically remarked: "Here he stands."

Instantly the battle opened. Nick Liford and Marshal Dunning fell upon each other and thirty seconds later Ernest Liford and Charles Liford also fell upon Dunning. It was a grand old fight and the Lifords were traveling the road to put Ez in the morgue when Millard Easton, Charles Dunn and a number of other citizens came to the officer's rescue and subdued the fighting Lifords.

Marshal Dunning placed his three prisoners in an auto and they were driven to Bloomington by Ova Buskirk. This morning they were before Squire Bailey and each was placed under a $700 bond for assault and battery with intent to kill. They can not raise their bond and so must stay in jail until the next term of court.

The Stinesville citizens generally are back of Dunning and have employed Robert G. Miller as a special attorney to help prosecute. Dunning's injuries consist of a bad scalp wound, a peeled nose and several battered ribs. He was able to be in town this morning.

How many times Dunning has been whipped has been lost count of by the Stinesville people. The folks up at that hustling village admire the nerve of their peace office and regard him rather as a grand old fighting bull dog whose teeth do not meet.