The 40th Annual Garage Sale Extravaganza is just around the corner!

The Monroe County History Center’s 40th annual garage sale extravaganza will be held this year on **June 11 and 12** at the warehouse located at 4015 Profile Parkway, within the old GE complex. Hours are 8am to 4:30 pm on Friday & Saturday, June 11th & 12th. Even with restrictions in place for COVID-19, last year’s sale brought in over $70,000, an important contribution to support the operations and programs of the History Center.

This year you’re invited to use your new **early access membership benefit** to come shop on Wednesday, June 9 from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Please remove and keep the ENCLOSED FLYER with information about donating items to the sale. There is some pick-up available for larger items. We would also like to thank Cook Medical for the use of the warehouse and for their amazing support of the sale throughout the year.

The Koontz House and the Village of Palestine, Indian Creek Twp.

By Penelope Mathiesen

Early settlers found that Indian Creek Township, located in Monroe County’s southwestern corner, encompassed “one of the richest tracts of land to be found within a radius of many miles.” Its soil contained more loam than other townships, its topography was less hilly, and it was drained by tributaries of Clear Creek and Indian Creek. These features provided desirable conditions for farming.1

In the course of the nineteenth century, several small villages sprang up in this rural township. Among them was Palestine, founded in the 1830s in Section 3 by Alexander (continued on page 2)
Sutherland. He was “the first storekeeper. … One of the Koons also sold goods there.” The name was also spelled Coons, Koonse, Koonts, and Koontz. Members of the Koontz family played a large role in the development of southwestern Monroe County. Gaspar and Elizabeth May Koontz arrived in the area by the early 1820s and acquired property in southern Van Buren Township, near its border with northern Indian Creek Township.

John F. Koontz, the son of Gaspar and Elizabeth, was born in Indiana in June 1822. He married Melissa (also spelled Malissa or Mallissa) Paddock in Monroe County on 18 December 1842 and embarked upon life as a farmer, increasing his land holdings and raising a large family. The 1850 U.S. census shows John (age 27) and Melissa (age 25) living in Indian Creek Township with three children: David G. (5), Minerva J. (3), and Sarah E. (infant). The 1860 U.S. census shows John (38) and Melissa (36) now with six children: David (15), Minerva (13), Sarah (10), Amanda (5), Harriet (3), and John (1). The 1870 U.S. census shows seven children, including Vina (7), the youngest.

By 1870, the family’s property extended to over 500 acres that included parts of Indian Creek Township sections 3, 4, and 10. In 1872, John and Melissa Koontz built a new house in Section 3, at the intersection of Harmony and Mount Zion roads in the vicinity of Palestine. The dwelling was a two-story brick structure with a two-story rear wing.

The village of Palestine appears on an 1856 map. It was deserted by the early 1880s, but the Koontz residence remained “as the centerpiece of what became a very profitable large Monroe County farm.” Agricultural Census shows the Koontz farm with 440 acres that produced corn, oats, apples, wool, butter, and other commodities. It “employed 52 farm workers.” According to the 1880 U.S. census, John (58) and Melissa (56) still had three children living at home: Manda (24), Hatta (22), and Vina (15). Sons David G. and John H. resided on adjoining farms with their own families. In the 1900 U.S. census, the household consisted of John (77), Malissa (75), and Grace Crawford (14), a servant/housekeeper.

Malissa died on 30 March 1910, age 86. The 1910 U.S. census shows the oldest son, David G., and his wife, Ellen, living with John, who remained in the house until his death. John died on 30 September 1911, age 89. Both he and Malissa are buried in nearby Koontz Cemetery.

The year before John’s death, he transferred ownership of his property to David G. and Ellen Koontz, who sold the house and land in 1920. After that, “the property changed hands numerous times and the land was slowly subdivided.” The house now occupies a small parcel of 6.08 acres. It was listed in the National Register of Historic Places on 26 March 2014, described as “an outstanding local example of the regionally distinctive two thirds I-house type displaying the Greek Revival style.”

Indian Creek Township is still largely rural, but Harmony Road now crosses an overpass spanning I-69 about a mile north of the Koontz House, located on the southwest corner of the intersection of Harmony and Mt. Zion roads. Across from the house stands Mt. Zion Assembly of God Church. New Harmony Worship Center is a bit further south. Although the village of Palestine disappeared long ago, the area has continued to be a gathering place.

Notes

2. Ibid., 518.

(continued on page 3)
5. Monroe County Marriage Record B, p. 42a: “Married John Koonse and Melissa Paddock.”
7. A New Gazetteer Map of Monroe County, Indiana (Davis & Kennedy, 1856). Available at: monroehistory.org—Library—Indexes and Resources.
8. Blanchard, 518. (The village was deserted by the time the book was published in 1884.)

Part III: The Women of the Edgeworthalense Society
By Lee Ehman

The first two articles in this series* described the formation and meetings of the Edgeworthalense Society. Now the members themselves will be explored.

There were 12 charter members: Miss Mary Maxwell Alexander, Mrs. Mary W. Barnes, Miss S. Jane Dunning, Mrs. M. L. Hinkston, Mrs. M. Elizabeth Hughes, Miss J. F. Hughes, Miss Laura C. Hughes, Miss Jinsey L. May, Miss Amanda Maxwell, Miss Margaret Anderson Maxwell, Mrs. C. Morrison, and Miss Rachel L. Rogers.

For new members, the constitution laid out an elaborate process:

“Art. 12th. Any person desiring membership shall make application in writing accompanied by the names of 2 members who can state that they believe the applicant is influenced by a desire for improvement and that her admittance would be beneficial to herself and the society.

Art. 13. One negative vote shall be sufficient to debar membership, provided objector can give good grounds for her opposition to a select committee appointed by the officers.”

After its founding, 21 more women were admitted into membership, but one, unnamed, was objected to by a single member, and was not admitted. The grounds for the objection were not recorded.¹ There was also a formal process for leaving the Society. An honorary certificate was given if the departing member had “sustained a respectable standing, paid all debts & fines, and [had been] a member for six months.”² The minutes noted seven women who became “honorary members.” One member, Mrs. Mary A. Martineau, was “disowned,” with the reason given as “having missed 4 meetings, being warned, still neglects her duty.”³

A total of 33 names appear in the minutes.⁴ As far as can be determined, they were young. Of the five for whom we have birth dates, they ranged in age from 19 to 22.⁵ Seven were married and 26 single, although at least four married during the Society’s time: Verlinda Van Buskirk (Benjamin McGee), Louisa Jane Howe (James Darwin Maxwell), Laura C. Hughes (John S. Geiger), and Jinsey L. May (Asa East).⁶ There were several close relationships among the members.⁷ Mrs. M. Elizabeth Hughes was the mother of member Laura C. Hughes, and Rev. Levi Hughes, who later married member Amanda Maxwell.⁸ Margaret and Amanda Maxwell were sisters, daughters of David Hervey and Mary E. (Dunn) Maxwell.⁹ James Darwin Maxwell was their brother, making Louisa Jane Howe their sister-in-law. It is probable that other members were related either directly or through marriage, all making it a tight-knit group.

Six women served as presidents. Each gave an inaugural address, copied in full in the minutes. These speeches show us their thinking about the Society, as reported in Part II, which discussed Society meetings. Mrs. Mary E. Hughes was the

(Continued on page 4)

* Continued from page 2)
first president, beginning on 22 January 1841. She died the following January, one of two members noted in the minutes as having died.¹⁰ The following presidents were Mrs. Mary W. Barnes (11 June 1841), Mrs. M. L. Hinkston (28 January 1842), Mrs. C. Morrison (29 July 1842), Miss Margaret Maxwell (11 November 1842), and Miss Mary E. Lowe (1 September 1843). The first four were married, followed by two single women.

We must assume that the Society’s women were middle- or upper-class, with free time to devote to meetings and their preparation. Their (or their husbands’) probate records showed they had money and owned land. Husbands’ professions included lawyers, church ministers, professors, and prominent businessmen.

Church records from the times showed that at least seven were Presbyterians. Two, Amanda and Margaret Maxwell, married Presbyterian ministers. Amanda married Rev. Levi Hughes, and together they moved to Minneapolis and founded the First Presbyterian Church there. Margaret married Rev. William Y. Allen, and they founded the First Presbyterian churches of Austin and Houston, Texas. Margaret is claimed to be the “first white child born in Bloomington.”¹¹

Three years after the end of the Society’s meetings, in 1847, the First Presbyterian Church started its Ladies Sewing Society, a fund-raising group. Former Edgeworthalean Society members Margaret Batterton, Eliza Baugh, Amanda Maxwell, and J. F. Hughes were members.¹²

Verlinda Van Buskirk (Mrs. Verlinda McGee) was a charter member of the Methodist Episcopal (later the First Methodist) Church in Bloomington, and active in its fund-raising women’s groups. She also helped found the local chapter of the Woman’s Christian Temperance Union.

The Edgeworthalean Society was formed from the first generation of women settlers in Bloomington. They were determined to engage themselves intellectually as well as socially, and debated social and political issues of their day. Given that Bloomington’s 1840 population was about 950, with perhaps half adults, and half of them women, the Society’s gathering together 33 women was an impressive accomplishment, and speaks to the nature of Bloomington’s frontier community 180 years ago. Many local women’s clubs followed in the second half of the 19th century, becoming instrumental in founding Bloomington Hospital and the public library, and working on suffrage and prohibition. But the Edgeworthaleans were the first, and we honor their achievement.

Notes


1. Minutes, February 3, 1843. (See note 4.)
3. Minutes, December 30, 1842. (See note 4.)
4. The existing minutes of the Edgeworthalean Society are contained in one book, held in the Indiana University Archives, and can be accessed at: http://webapp1.dlib.indiana.edu/findingaids/view?docId=InU-Ar-VAC9160.xml&doc.view=items. Use Firefox browser; Chrome does not work.
5. The only woman we know of who would have been a generation older was Mrs. M. Elizabeth Hughes, who had at least two children, one of them Laura C. Hughes, a Society member.
6. Original Monroe County Marriage records, as well as Indiana marriages and other sources were searched.
7. Tracing all the relationships in the group is made difficult by the uses of initials rather than full given names in the minutes.
8. The minutes were donated to Indiana University in October 1925 by Florence A. Hughes, granddaughter of one of the Society’s charter members, Mrs. Elizabeth Hughes, and daughter of another charter member, Miss Amanda Maxwell at the time she helped found the group, and later Mrs. Hughes, having married Rev. Levi Hughes. Florence’s statement of the relationships is found as an addendum to the minutes.
9. David Maxwell was Bloomington’s postmaster during this time, and was noted as having successfully lobbied to have the state seminary located in Bloomington. He was President of its Board of Trustees. Indiana University Archives, accessed at: http://webapp1.dlib.indiana.edu/archivesphotos/results/item.do?itemId=P0021414 on 6-26-2020.
10. Miss C. Swearingen died, as noted in the minutes of 28 July 1843.
April is Volunteer Appreciation Month and I just can’t say enough about all of our wonderful volunteers! We truly are blessed that you give so generously of your time and skills. Thank you, thank you, thank you! We’ll be featuring some of our wonderful volunteers throughout this issue of the newsletter. And if you’re not a volunteer, but interested in becoming one, contact Andrea at Volunteers@monroehistory.org.

We’d like to send a big shout-out to all of you who donated toward our new shrubs and mulch and to those who came out on a lovely fall Saturday to help us paint signs, plant shrubs, trim shrubs, weed planting beds, pick up dead limbs, cut down dead shrubs and mulch, mulch, mulch. All of that work really freshened up the lawn and looks wonderful.

I’m especially looking forward to seeing all of the new native prairie plants come up on the east side of the building in our new prairie garden. We have a wonderful article by Jim Shearn a little later in the newsletter that gives more information on the various plants chosen for the garden.
During our Grounds CleanUp volunteer day last fall, a small, new native plant garden was installed on the east side of our History Center. Thanks to all volunteers for making this possible. Plants were donated by James Shearn, Scott Loman, Kate Mulligan, Terry Clark, and US Perennials, a local mail order nursery specializing in native plants.

The new garden replaces overgrown shrubbery in front of a wooden fence that, for many years, has hidden the air handler for the building. With a new coat of paint, courtesy of Ross Fleck, the fence provides a dramatic backdrop for our new garden. The plants in this garden are all native to Indiana, but not necessarily native to Monroe County. Some are selections, that is, plants that have been selected for a particular characteristic, such as Blackhawks Big Bluestem, and Standing Ovation Little Bluestem. Some are hybrids, such as Rudbeckia ‘Goldsturm’ developed in Germany. Each of the plants will be labeled. It is our hope that this little garden will attract an array of butterflies and moths, including the iconic monarch. If we are fortunate, and our plants do well, they may provide nectar for hummingbirds, finches, and native bees.

Here are photos of the different native plants along with a brief description of each so you can identify them on your next visit:

- **Andropogon gerardii**, common name is Big Bluestem ‘Blackhawks’ - this is a 4-5 ft tall native prairie grass with upright foliage; starts dark green, turns purple by August, nearly black by late September.
- **Amsonia tabernaemontana**, common name is Bluestar - reaches 3.5 ft tall with a 2 ft spread; pale blue spring flower; golden fall foliage
- **Penstemon digitalis**, common name is Foxglove Beardtongue - stands 3 ft tall with a 1.5 ft spread; showy white flowers
- **Schizachrium scoparium**, common name is Little Bluestem ‘Standing Ovation’ - reaches 3 ft tall with a 1.5 ft spread; native prairie grass; pale blue upright foliage
- **Echinacea purpurea ‘Ruby Star’**, common name is Coneflower - reaches 3 ft tall with a 2 ft spread; magenta-red daisy like flowers midsummer to fall
- **Rudbeckia fulgida ‘Goldsturm’**, common name is Black eyed Susan – reaches 1.5 - 2 ft tall; slowly spreading; bright yellow flowers midsummer to fall
- **Solidago riddelli**, common name is Riddells Goldenrod - reaches 2 - 3 ft tall; yellow flowers
- **Sporobulus heterolepis**, common name is Prairie Dropseed - reaches 2 - 4 ft tall with a 2 ft spread; bright green, drooping leaves/ blades
Letter from the (New) President

Phil Stafford

Having been a board member for a few years now, I am appreciative of the support to move into the presidency for the coming year. Jennifer Bolland has been so effective, inclusive, and energetic…I feel like I am trying to fill “Big Dave” Van Buskirk’s shoes.

Thank you, Jennifer, for continuing the tradition of excellence at the Monroe County History Center. The pandemic presented hundreds of unforeseen challenges for you, the board, many volunteers and the fantastic staff. We are privileged to look back on a year of progress, not regression, in terms of both finances and programs.

There are many exciting items on the agenda for the upcoming year. It’s daunting but, being a collective endeavor, can’t fail. I look forward to staying in touch through the newsletter and encourage comments in any form or fashion. My phone number is 812-361-6267 and my email is staffor@indiana.edu.

A Quick Note from the Director

Susan Dyar

I’d also send out a thank you to Jennifer for her two years as the President of our Board of Trustees. She’s been a wonderful advocate, resource, and friend during this crazy time. Phil is going to make a wonderful President and I look forward to his tenure. He has been serving as the Chair of our Grants Committee since I’ve been here and has been a wonderful resource in that capacity.

For those of you who haven’t heard, Rose Hessert, our intrepid Office Manager for the past six years, has moved on to another opportunity with the IU Museum of Archeology and Anthropology. We will miss her friendship and her jokes but we wish her all the best in her new role.

And finally, I have one more announcement that I have to share. I have informed the board that as of the end of May I will be transitioning out of my role as Director of the History Center. My husband Tom and I are moving to Florida to help my father who is living with Alzheimer’s. I have so thoroughly enjoyed my time with the History Center and I have loved getting to know so many of you. It has been a joy to learn the history of Monroe County and working with our staff and volunteers to develop and share so many fun programs and exhibitions. The Board is beginning the search for a new Director and I have committed to making myself available until we find someone to take the helm.

Thank you to all of you for your assistance through the years but most of all for your friendship. I will miss you.

News from the Library

Compiled by Megan MacDonald and Penelope Mathieson library@monroehistory.org

New in the Library


* Arbutus. 1914. Indiana University yearbook, dedicated to James Whitcomb Riley. Gift from John Rowland.


* Highway Map of Monroe County, Indiana. 2020. Shows changes to the road system after the completion of I-69.


Volunteer Spotlight
By Andrea Hadsell

April is Volunteer Appreciation Month! There is so much to be thankful for when it comes to our volunteer corps. Through a global pandemic our volunteers continued to support the History Center by giving their time and expertise. In 2020 alone, our volunteers recorded over 4,000 volunteer hours in all departments of the museum! This dedication is proof of the community’s support of the History Center and its 40 years in Monroe County. The Monroe County History Center Board of Trustees is a group of volunteers from our community who act as stewards for the History Center’s mission. The Board of Trustees holds regular monthly meetings on the third Thursday of every month.

We would like to congratulate our new Officers:
- President: Phil Stafford
- Vice President: Scott Loman
- Treasurer: Vickie Fry
- Secretary: Jennifer Borland
- Associate Secretary: Michael Flory

And welcome our newest members of the Board:
- Charles Aiken
- Lois DeHoff
- Scott Emory
- Rosalind Gerstman
- Kurt Jourdan
- Kelly Richardson

History Center Annual Meeting

The History Center’s annual meeting looked a little different this year. Many of our members, staff members, volunteers, and Board members chose to join via Zoom this year while others were able to attend in person.

Thank you to our meeting equipment grant funders
A 2020 grant from the South Central Indiana REMC Operation Round Up program enabled us to purchase equipment to mount our projector from the ceiling and a new screen that is easier to read with the lights on.

Hybrid meetings like this, with some people at the History Center and some joining via Zoom, look like they’re not going away any time soon so we’re planning for that future. Using grant funding we received from the Wahl Family Foundation, we are investing in a new 360-degree camera, speaker, and microphone system that sits in the center of the meeting room and zooms in to the person speaking to enable those watching virtually to hear and see the speaker as though they are in the room. The future is here and we are a part of it!

Welcome Justin Roberston

Please join us in welcoming our new Office Manager, Justin Robertson. Justin is a Bloomington native who joins us after 18 years as the Office Manager and Research Associate at Rockman et al. Justin is passionate about Monroe County history and actually interned and volunteered at the History Center 20 years ago while studying anthropology at IU. When not at the History Center immersed in all things Monroe County, he tells us that he enjoys hikes with his dog Teddy Roosevelt, traveling, antiquing, and performing with local theatre and radio groups. Please stop by or send him a note to say hi. Justin can be reached by email at Office@monroehistory.org.
Education Updates
By Andrea Hadsell

As metrics from the Indiana Department of Health and the Monroe County Health Department improve, the History Center is getting creative with our programming. Your health and safety are our priority as we work on opportunities to engage with you in-person. In the warmer months, events will be offered on the front lawn to encourage social distancing. Tour group capacity will remain limited to prevent overcrowding in the galleries. And virtual options will continue for those that still want to stay engaged with the History Center from the safety of your own home. Be sure to stay up-to-date with all of our programs by visiting our website!

Upcoming Program Dates:

APRIL
- 13- Civil War Roundtable
- 24- HiStory Book Club (Virtual)
- 26- Memory Walk (Virtual)
- 26- Volunteer Recognition (Virtual)

MAY
- 11- Civil War Roundtable (Virtual)
- 24- Memory Walk (Virtual)
- 29- HiStory Book Club (Virtual)

Collection’s Corner
By Hilary Fleck

The museum collection has recently received an amazing new donation - a photograph of the early Monroe County Courthouse from a vantage point not seen before! Donated by Mr. and Mrs. Robert Weir, the photograph dates to before 1900 and depicts the courthouse from the Southeast corner. Clearly visible is also the County Library, the first independent structure built to house the library. Several horses with buggies and wagons are hitched to the posts circling the Courthouse and construction scaffolding and the fire department bell tower appear in the far right of the image, north of the Courthouse. This is an astonishing piece of history because it gives us an additional view of the County Courthouse before the current Courthouse was built in 1908, as well as an excellent view of the County Library and outhouses, which were both housed on the Courthouse property before the new Courthouse construction.

Volunteer Appreciation Month Festivities
By Andrea Hadsell

April is Volunteer Appreciation Month, and we can’t say enough about how much we appreciate all the time our volunteers donate on various activities throughout the year. This year, our Volunteer Appreciation Event will still look a bit different due to the pandemic. We plan to gather everyone safely for a volunteer Zoom on April 26 at 2 pm. An email invitation will be sent soon to announce the log-in information.

During the Zoom call, volunteers can connect with each other after being separated for the last year. We will be honoring the recipients of the Liz Knapp Genealogy Volunteer of the Year and Gayle Cook Volunteer of the Year awards during this time. While we would love to see everyone again in person for our annual luncheon, we look forward to doing so in 2022!
Current Exhibits

RECHTER GALLERY: From the Collection: Medical History

In our permanent collection you can find all sorts of medicines, bottles, and instruments. The world of medicine and medical treatments has changed dramatically over the years. Generations of Monroe County families went to the same doctors for all stages of life. Some doctors traveled on horseback to visit patients while others operated from their houses. On display from March 20th to May 28th will be many of the interesting and strange stories from Monroe County’s medical history.

BROWN GALLERY: Transportation in Monroe County

For the past 200 years, the import and export of raw materials, finished goods, and people has been a challenge for those living in Monroe County. Exhibits in the Brown Gallery tell the story of how Monroe County continued to grow despite obstacles presented by hilly terrain and a region without a major water source. The ongoing theme of the exhibits in the Brown Gallery will be transportation in Monroe County with changing artifacts throughout the year. Come check out the newest exhibit on Ralph Rogers and the Rogers Group.

HILL GALLERY: Extra! Extra! Bloomington Newspaper Advertisements

Before the internet, television, and radio, newspapers told Monroe County families what was happening around the world. It wasn’t just the stories, but the advertisements that captivated people’s attention. Car dealerships, retail stores, and everything in between relied on this method to spread word of their sales and events. The Monroe County History Center has on display larger than life copies of advertisements showcasing the Monroe County community from almost a century ago. (Image source: *Bloomington Evening World*, April 16, 1915.) On display until September 30, 2021.

DECKARD EDUCATION ROOM: See Her Run

Through research gathered from Monroe County Election Records, the exhibit, *See Her Run: Monroe County Women in Politics*, highlights the remarkable Monroe County women who have run for public office. The exhibit features artifacts, documents, and photographs from the museum collection that trace the difficult defeats and historic victories of women in local politics. Sponsored by the SCI REMC Operation Round Up program.

DECKARD EDUCATION ROOM: Collection Spotlight Case:

Currently on display at the Monroe County History Center is *Rediscovering Hendricksville Pottery*. We invite you and your family to come learn about one of southern Indiana’s earliest European-American pottery families and the stoneware they crafted from the 1820s to the early 1900s. Come find out why stone crocks hold a meaningful place in Hoosier history. Rediscovering Hendricksville Pottery will be on display in the Center’s Education Room until the end of May.
JANUARY, FEBRUARY & MARCH MEMBERS

Sponsor
Kimberly Oshenschlager
John & Joyce Poling

Benefactor
Ralph Nowak
Carol Seaman
Janet Stavropoulos & Michael Molenda

Supporter
Margaret Clements
James Diehl
J. Michael & Sarah Dunn
Ted & Kathy Frick
Robert Fulwider
Nat & Patty Hill
B.J. Irvine

Individual
Becky Boyle
Nancy Brinegar
Vicky Crowe
Audrey Duncan
Betty Cleveland
Kathy Koontz
Constance Shotts
David Skirvin

Family/Grandparents
Ray & Kathy Beeker
Brenda Duncan Davis
Terry & Sarah Fischer
Patricia Harris
Tom & Jean Kapczynski
Kelly & Jonathan
Richardson
Stephan & Ann Schecter
Beverly White-Allen
Judy Woodley

Teacher
Beverly Elkins

Student
Abby Gaudet
Barrett Gaudet
Audrey Elizabeth Schmalz
Mae Stahl

Sponsor
Ronald Kovener
Vanessa McClary
Marlyn Naylor
Ellyn & Alexis Pruitt
Emily Rosolowski

Benefactor
Mike Sutherland

Supporter

JANUARY, FEBRUARY & MARCH ANNUAL APPEAL CONTRIBUTORS

Paul & Sandra Bender
Jennifer and Chris Borland
Audrey Duncan
Scott and Pam Faris
Michael Flory

Sponsor
Scott Loman & James Shearn
Tom & Penny Mathiesen
Kathy & Richard McFall
Cheryl & Patrick Munson
Glenda & Patrick Murray

Benefactor
Phil & Linda Stafford

Supporter
Janet Stavropoulos & Michael Molenda
Robert & Ann Wrenn

Sponsor
Mary & Tom Dyar

Benefactor
John Belbutoski
Thomas Breyer & Christine Peterson
Mike Cornman
Martha Dawson
Susan & Tom Dyar
James Shearn & Scott Loman
Kelly Kish
John & Marilyn Spieth

Benefactor
Ralph Nowak
Carol Seaman
Janet Stavropoulos & Michael Molenda

Supporter
Margaret Clements
James Diehl
J. Michael & Sarah Dunn
Ted & Kathy Frick
Robert Fulwider
Nat & Patty Hill
B.J. Irvine

JANUARY, FEBRUARY & MARCH ANNUAL APPEAL CONTRIBUTORS

REMEMBERING

Juanita “Johnnie” Brantley, 92, passed away in March of 2021. Johnnie’s career spanned over thirty years as an elementary school teacher, librarian, and district administrator, a career she found deeply rewarding.

Mike Sutherland, 73, passed away in March of 2021. Mike was a State Farm Insurance agent in Bloomington for many years and gave back to the community by volunteering at the Community Kitchen and at his church.

Geraldine M. “Gerry” True, 90, passed away in February of 2021. She was a long-time Bloomingtonian who was devoted to her family and an avid fan of IU basketball, which she was known to “coach” from her seat at Assembly Hall.

News from the Museum Store

New in the store is The Ku Klux Klan In The Heartland by James H. Madison, the Thomas and Kathryn Miller Professor of History Emeritus, Indiana University.

*The Ku Klux Klan In The Heartland* offers a detailed history of this notorious organization and examines how, through its use of intimidation, violence, and the ballot box, the activities of the Klan in the 1920s have continued implications for America today.

The book is available for purchase at the Monroe County History Center in the Dunn Museum Store for $25.00.
Monroe County Historical Society’s
Monroe County Historian
April/May 2021
Vol. 2021, Issue 2

Society established 1905
Museum established 1980

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

Collection Spotlight

Mary Alice Dunlap campaign matchbook/hosiery repair kit.

For more information on Mary Alice Dunlap’s public service, visit the See Her Run: Monroe County Women in Politics exhibit in the Deckard Education Room

Monroe County History Center Membership Form

Annual Membership Levels
□ Student $10
□ Teacher $20
□ Individual $40
□ Family/Grandparents $50
□ Supporter $100
□ Benefactor $250
□ Patron $500
□ Sponsor $1000
□ Sustaining membership beginning at $5 a month

Name (please print):
____________________________________

Address:
____________________________________
____________________________________

Phone: __________________________

Email: _________________________

Method of Payment
□ Visa □ Mastercard □ Discover □ Check

Credit Card Number: ____________________________

Expiration Date: ____________  CVC Number: __________

Signature: __________________________

Check if you are interested in:
□ Volunteer Information

Renew and donate online at:
http://monroehistory.org/join-and-give

Or Send form to:
Monroe County History Center
202 East Sixth Street
Bloomington, IN 47408