



On The Square

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The Quarterly Newsletter for the McLean County Museum of History

Volume 45, Number 2

June-July-August 2013

All-New Museum Website to Debut this Summer

We are very excited to announce that the Museum is launching a brand new website this summer. In fact, there's a chance it might be up and running by the time you read this! Former Museum intern Gary Iverson was the first to suggest the Museum consider updating the increasingly out-of-date website, as he envisioned a simpler layout with dynamic design. Although the "old" website was state-of-the-art when first "built" in 2005, rapid changes in technology threatened to make it obsolete. Gary, a talented web and graphic designer who studied geography at Illinois State University, was given a stipend to custom design our new site, and we are happy to announce that he went far beyond our expectations.

Accessibility and navigability were at the top of our list for this new website. The site is built to self-adjust to any browser (though if you're using Internet Explorer 9 or earlier you will be prompted to upgrade). Not only that, but the site will conform to any platform, whether you are on a computer, smart phone, or tablet. The website is also adjustable for the hard-of-sighted, who can use "CTRL +" to increase the size of any page (tip: this trick works everywhere on the web, while "CTRL -" brings the page back to its original size). And we have ensured that the new site is screen-reader friendly for the blind.

The navigation bar at the top of the new site reflects our mission, with tabs labeled: Visit, Exhibitions, Research, Learn, and Participate. The latter tab, "Participate," is a new addition, intended to inspire our virtual visitors to take part in the collection and curation of McLean County's history.

New Website - continued on page 4



When you go to the Museum's new website, you will find a blast of color beneath this new header.

History Makers Gala Almost Here!

On Thursday, June 13, the Museum will present its second annual History Makers Gala. Presented in conjunction with the Museum's annual meeting, this year's event will honor Stevie and Roger Joslin, Judy Stern Harrison Markowitz, Woody Shadid and Ruth Waddell—five people who have truly made history in our community.

Tickets will be available until May 31, and can be purchased at the Museum. For more information, contact Beth Whisman at 309-827-0428 or via email at bwhisman@mchistory.org.

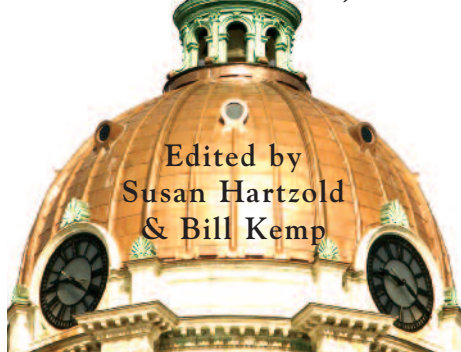
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Quarterly Newsletter

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Edited by
**Susan Hartzold
& Bill Kemp**

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HOURS
Mon., Wed., Thur., Fri. & Sat. 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
Tuesday 10 a.m.-9 p.m.

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Greg Koos, Executive Director
Susan Hartzold, Curator of Collections and Exhibits
Mary Anne Schierman, Dir. of Volunteers and Interns
Bill Kemp, Librarian/Archivist
Jeff Woodard, Dir. of Marketing & Comm. Affairs
Candace Summers, Director of Education
Beth Whisman, Director of Development
Amelia Hill, Development Assistant
George Perkins, Archivist
Tod Eagleton, Registrar
Rachael Kramp, Education Program Coordinator
Harlan Fuller, Bookkeeper
Betty Turchirollo, Volunteer Assistant
Torii Moré, Curator of Digital Humanities

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Davis Merwin	

Civil War Exhibit Coming in June



Disease was the deadliest weapon of the Civil War—killing two soldiers for every one felled in battle. Disease, the conventional weapons used to create slaughter on an unprecedented scale, the horrific injuries suffered on the battlefield, and the heroic efforts of medical personnel to treat soldiers on both sides are explored in the traveling exhibit “To Kill and to Heal” coming to the Museum’s First Floor, June 1 through June 29.

Through the use of quotes and photographs this exhibit relates the experiences of actual soldiers, lending a human touch to the horror of war. The exhibit is on loan from the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library & Museum in Springfield and underwritten by the Looking for Lincoln Heritage Coalition. “To Kill and to Heal” is a traveling version of a larger exhibit of the same name previously featured at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library & Museum.

Vote on New Constitution Slated July 17

The Board of Directors is recommending a new constitution and by-laws to the members of the McLean County Historical Society. As a membership-based organization such a change must be voted upon by members in attendance at a regular or special meeting. The Board has scheduled the meeting for July 17 at 3:30 p.m. here at the Museum. If you make an annual contribution to the Museum you are a member.

A yearlong review of our constitution and by-laws was conducted by the Board in order to verify our adherence to these documents. Numerous amendments since the adoption of the original constitution in 1892 had left the document cumbersome, difficult to manage and in some cases, simply obsolete. So, instead of further amending the document, it was decided to adopt a new constitution and by-laws.

There will be no substantive changes in the way we conduct our business as a membership-based organization. We are maintaining the same structure where members elect directors and officers at an annual meeting. The Board will continue in the same role as before. Over all the new changes will better reflect how the Society is governed and managed.

Copies of the draft constitution and by-laws are available on our website at <http://www.mchistory.org/draftconstitution.pdf>. Should you wish a paper copy, please email gkoos@mchistory.org or write to Greg Koos, McLean County Museum of History, 200 N. Main St., Bloomington IL 61701.

Illinois Outlaws Coming to the Museum!

The Museum is pleased to welcome writer, speaker and adult educator Dr. John Hallwas, Distinguished Professor Emeritus at Western Illinois University, who will present his program *Desperadoes: Notorious Outlaws of Early Illinois*. The program will be held on Saturday, July 13 at 1:00 p.m. in the Museum's Governor Fifer Courtroom. This program is free and open to the public.

From the early frontier lawbreakers at Cave-in-Rock to such figures as the Maxwell brothers and Frank Rande, Illinois prior to the twentieth century was a dangerous place fraught with crime. Dive into Illinois' notorious past and learn about a wide variety of Illinois outlaws and gangs during the nineteenth century, as well as such related matters as early law enforcement, vigilantes, lynchings and more through dozens of images featuring outlaws, jails, wanted posters, hideouts and the prison in Joliet.

Born and raised in Illinois, Hallwas earned bachelor's and master's degrees in education from Western Illinois University, and a Ph.D. in English from the University of Florida. He went on to teach English for 34 years at WIU and hosts a namesake lecture series there each September. Now retired from WIU, Hallwas is a member of the Illinois Humanities Council's "Road Scholars" program.

For more than 30 years Hallwas has also functioned as a public intellectual, bringing historical and cultural insights to the people of Illinois and adjacent states through a wide range of publications, lectures, and workshops focused on literature, history, community life and creative nonfiction. Well-known for his many books about Illinois and the Midwest, he has also written scores of journal articles and hundreds of newspaper and magazine essays, as well as several plays. His most noted book, *Dime Novel Desperadoes: The Notorious Maxwell Brothers*, won the 2009 Midland



Dr. John Hallwas

Award for Best Biography from the Midwest. Copies of *Dime Novel Desperadoes* will be available for purchase at the program.

Free parking will be available at the Lincoln Parking Deck on Front Street located one block south of the Museum. For more information about this program, please contact the Education Department at 309-827-0428 or via email education@mchistory.org

Rescheduled: An African-American Soldier's Story

The Museum welcomes Robert Davis, Civil War reenactor and historian, who will present his one-man show *A Soldier's Story: The Ghost of Andrew Lewis*. Originally scheduled to appear at the Museum in February, Davis' program was cancelled due to a snowstorm. The rescheduled event will be held on Saturday, July 20, at 1:00 p.m. in the Museum's Governor Fifer Courtroom. This program is free and open to the public.

A Soldier's Story brings to life a 52-year-old Civil War veteran reminiscing about his journey from slavery to freedom. It is a riveting account of a soldier's birth as a slave on a Kentucky plantation, his sale to a family of slaveholders in Missouri, his escape to freedom in Illinois, and finally, his participation in the Illinois 29th Infantry. The presentation will highlight the emotions of a soldier yearning and fighting to be free.

Davis is retired from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources in Springfield. He has taught at the University of Illinois at Springfield and Lincoln Land Community College in Illinois. He serves on the Board of Directors of the Abraham Lincoln Association, the Sangamon County Historical Society, and the Looking for Lincoln Heritage Coalition. He has been studying the Civil War for more than 30 years and is well known as a Civil War reenactor, particularly for his one-man presentation.

For more information on this program, contact the Education Department by phone at 309-827-0428, via email at education@mchistory.org, or visit our website at www.mchistory.org. Free parking will be available at the Lincoln Parking Deck on Front Street located one block south of the Museum.

Lincoln's Festival

Join the Museum for the fifth annual Lincoln's Festival in Bloomington-Normal. Throughout the day, various sites will host Civil War reenactors, traditional craft demonstrations, children's activities, period music, carriage and wagon rides, and a variety of other historical programs. Saturday activities on the Courthouse Square will include a walking tour of Lincoln-related sites with Executive Director Greg Koos (meet on the east steps of the Museum). Participate in youth and adult Lincoln-related scavenger hunts at the Museum and nearby "Looking for Lincoln" sites and receive a *Lincoln in Bloomington* audio tour CD.

Other locations participating in the festival are the David Davis Mansion State Historic Site, Bloomington Public Library, the Burr House, Franklin Park and Illinois Wesleyan University. Watch for more information coming soon about these events on our website www.mchistory.org.

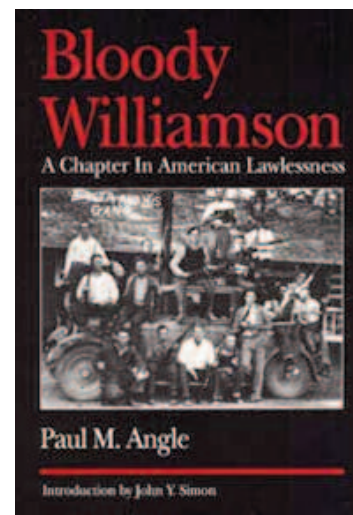
Bloody Williamson on Tap for Upcoming 'History Reads' Program

The popular "History Reads" book club, sponsored jointly by the Museum and Bloomington Public Library, will meet again on Tuesday, August 6 at 7:00 p.m. The book to be discussed is *Bloody Williamson: A Chapter in American Lawlessness* by Paul Angle.

Copies of the book will be available for checkout at Bloomington Public Library or can be interlibrary loaned through your local public library.

The club meets quarterly on the first Tuesday of the month. Discussion begins at 7:00 p.m. and lasts approximately one hour. This program is free and open to the public and is held in the Museum's Governor Fifer Courtroom. Free parking is available at the Lincoln Parking Deck on Front Street one block south of the Museum. You need not attend all sessions, but rather are free to pick and choose those books that sound interesting to you.

For more information on this program, please contact the Education Department at the Museum via email at education@mchistory.org, or contact Karen Moen at the Bloomington Public Library at reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org.



Website - Continued from page 1

For those of you interested in the back-end specs (and I'm sure a few of our members fall in the "computer geek" category), Gary has built the site using PHP and Foundation framework, and has put the site in a Content Management System called Perch so staff can edit almost anything without having to bother with coding (this means we won't break any links in the process).

When the new website makes its public debut, we will publicize the fact via Facebook and other communication avenues. The URL will remain www.mchistory.org.

We are interested in hearing what you have to say about this new site, so once it's up and running, please visit or email Museum Curator of Digital Humanities Torii Moré at tmore@mchistory.org to share your thoughts. This website is the virtual window to our Museum and we want it to reflect our programs, events and mission as accurately as possible.

Calling All Knitters and Crocheters!

The sixth quarterly Under the Dome Knit-In will take place on Saturday, August 31, 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The Museum welcomes all knitters and crocheters to create charity items or work on your own project during this popular get-together. This event is free and open to the public and will be held in the Museum's Governor Fifer Courtroom.

Information about the "Knitting for Victory: Knit Your Bit" campaign and local knitting and crocheting charity opportunities, plus copies of free patterns to make items for those charities, will be available. Light refreshments will also be served. Just bring your own project or the materials to begin a new one. Knitting, snacks and good conversation—what more does anyone need?

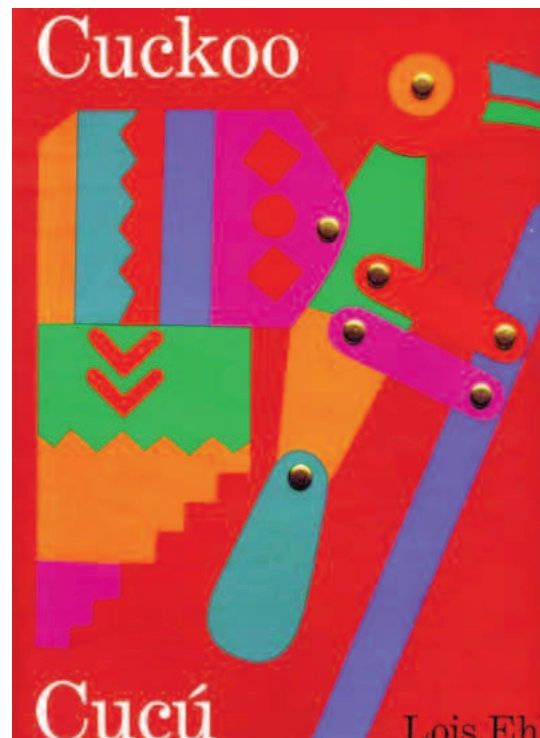
For more information about this program, please contact the Education Department at 309-827-0428 or via email at education@mchistory.org. Free parking will be available at the Lincoln Parking Deck on Front Street located one block south of the Museum.

Museum Partners with Bloomington Public Library for Bilingual Story Time

On Saturday, June 8 and Saturday, August 17, the Museum and Bloomington Public Library will present Bilingual Story Time. The programs will begin at 11:00 a.m. each day. The June 8 story time will be held in the Story Room on the second floor of Bloomington Public Library. The August 17 story time will be held in the Governor Fifer Courtroom on the second floor of the Museum. These events are free and open to the public and are being held in conjunction with the Museum's current exhibit *¡Fiesta! A Celebration of Mexican Popular Arts*.

Bilingual Story Time is intended for all children, but we especially want to reach out to English Language Learning (ELL) students and families. Both programs will be presented by Cecilia Sanchez, Adjunct Professor of Hispanic Studies at Illinois Wesleyan University, and Georgianne Schau, Youth Services Librarian at Bloomington Public Library.

Several short stories, including the book *Cuckoo-Cucu* by Lois Ehliert, will be read in both English and Spanish. In between stories, Cecilia Sanchez will play guitar and lead participants in Spanish-language sing-a-longs. Program participants will be taught several Spanish words so they can participate. The program will wrap up with a craft activity where children will get to make their own cuckoo bird out of paper and brass fasteners or color a cuckoo bird.



For more information about this program, please contact the Museum's Education Department at education@mchistory.org or by phone at 309-827-0428. You can also visit www.bloomingtonlibrary.org/, or contact the Library's Children's Services at 309-828-6094 or via email at childreference@bloomingtonlibrary.org.

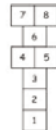
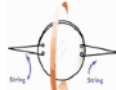
This program is made possible in part by a grant from the Illinois Humanities Council, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Illinois General Assembly and support from COUNTRY Financial.

Kids
Corner

TOY TRIVIA

Directions: Study each toy below. Which toys were played with in the past and which are still played with today? Are there some that were played with in the past and still are today? Under each toy, please write whether the toy was played with in the past, present or both.

PAST PRESENT or BOTH?



BECOME A Trailblazer MEMBER OF THE MUSEUM FOR FREE

You must be 18 yrs old or younger. Call or email the Education Department for more info at education@mchistory.org or 309-827-0428

Bill LaBounty: Museum Volunteer Extraordinaire

William (Bill) LaBounty represents the second of three generations of printing artisans in the McLean County community. His uncle was the first national advertising manager for the local newspaper. His mother's father founded The stappenback bookbinding business where, at the age of 13, Bill first learned typesetting. His son continues the tradition at Pantagraph Printing and Stationary Co.

When Bill returned from four years of duty in the U.S. Air Force, he rejoined the family bookbinding

business and worked there until 1970 when he started as a book-binder at Illinois State University. By his retirement in 1993 he had worked his way up to Director of Printing Services.

It was a stroke of great fortune for the McLean County Museum of History that Bill LaBounty (a long-term member of the Historical Society) was not the kind of person to sit around and do little in retirement! Bill quickly offered his volunteer services to the organization. His knowledge and skills in the publishing/graphic arts field—an industry which continues to experience great technological change since his retirement—equipped him perfectly to manage and produce the printed products published and utilized by the Historical Society/Museum. When work could be done “in house” he could take care of that and, when the work had to be done “outside,” his knowledge of local printers and their capabilities permitted the staff to work with the appropriate vendor.

For the past 20 years and some 10,045 hours of volunteer time, Bill LaBounty has been the production manager for hardbound and paper-bound books, brochures and newsletters. A year ago Bill managed the Museum's first print-on-demand and e-book, *Come and Get*

It! McDonaldization and the Disappearance of Local Food from a Central Illinois Community, which was the culmination Dr. Robert Dirks' research for the Come and Get It! exhibit.

Over the past 20 years, Bill has worked with virtually every staff member while managing most printing projects. His most recent project was the layout and design of Bill Kemp's book *Pages from the Past*. His scanning services have become crucial in the exhibit development process. In addition, he is co-editor and design/layout person for the Museum's quarterly newsletter *On the Square*, the playbills for *Voices from the Past: Evergreen Cemetery Discovery Walk*, and many annual reports.

Using his own desktop publishing equipment, Bill has scanned most of the images used in many of the Museum's publications, entered the copy, designed the publication, researched printing costs and provided the printer with the final product in a digital format.

It is hard to estimate the dollar value of Bill's services over the past 20 years. We feel that no price can be placed on his services. Behind his always smiling face is a willingness to help with any project in a timely and professional manner. We consider Bill a valued co-worker, great friend, and an amazing blessing to this organization.

Please join us in saluting William P. LaBounty for his 20 years and 10,000-plus hours of service to the McLean County Museum of History.



Bill LaBounty

Did you know...

The McLean County Historical Society was founded 121 years ago this May 27, 2013!

Happy Birthday to Us!



Saying Goodbye to Mary Anne and Graham

Bad news comes in threes—it just the way of the world. In our last newsletter we said goodbye to Terri Clemens. In this newsletter we are saying goodbye to two staff members who have contributed greatly to this Museum.

Mary Anne Schierman, our Director of Volunteers and Interns, came to us in 1999. She brought with her a fine appreciation of community life and a great understanding of people, in all of our quirks and delights. Under her leadership our volunteer program saw significant growth, much of it driven by Mary Anne's ability to broaden the scope of what work can be accomplished by volunteers. Pat Miller, the well-regarded Illinois museum leader observed that, "She is one of the best volunteer managers I know." Mary Anne excelled at collaborating with our educators, Candace Summers and Rachael Kramp, in the successful Cemetery

Walk program. Her leadership was recognized by her peers when she was elected as Mid-West Regional Director of the American Association of Museum Volunteers.

Graham Cowger, our Director of Development, started here in 2007. One year later the United States saw the worse economic conditions it had experienced since the Great Depression. In the face of this adversity Graham was able to improve our program for financial support. He consistently hit the goals we established by significantly improving our written communications. He won grants for the Museum from a number of agencies, and working with the Board continued to improve our Lincoln Club program. All on staff enjoy Graham's musicianship and he provided entertainment at our annual "Christmas at the Courthouse" program. Graham and his wife Victoria are expecting a third child, so Graham chose to redirect himself to the rearing of their children, who are very lucky kids indeed.



Mary Anne Schierman



Graham Cowger

Focus on Volunteers

Every year an anonymous donor makes a Lincoln Club donation of \$1,000 in the name of one of our dedicated volunteers. Considering there are so many deserving volunteers who give so much each year, it's always a challenge to pick just one! After many worthy suggestions, it was decided that Peg Kirk would be this year's recipient.

Peg's first experience volunteering with the Museum was in 2002 as a tour guide for the Evergreen Cemetery Discovery Walk. As one member of the staff described her, "Peg has been a wonderful tour guide for many years. She does not just present the facts at the Cemetery Walk but she has a natural talent of bringing the history we teach to life."

Before retirement, Peg was an English and speech teacher at Normal Community High School. She is an accomplished actress, writer, and poet. In fact, she is the only poet whose work has been published in this organization's quarterly newsletter!

In 2004, Peg decided to expand her involvement by becoming a volunteer at the reception desk. Greeting each visitor who comes through the door with a warm smile, she goes out of her way to give our visitors a thorough orientation to the Museum. She is always willing to help with small, last minute tasks requested of her by staff. As stated in her volunteer application, "As a Museum member I've been impressed by the quality and variety of work done by the volunteers. I decided it would be fun to be a part of this group." Well, with more than 1,750 hours of volunteer service under her belt, we are thrilled she's on our team. We sincerely thank Peg for her service, and we thank our donor who makes this annual recognition possible.



Peg Kirk

The Museum's Valued Volunteers 2012-2013

Kay Abbott	Kelby Cumpston	Carolyn Guilford ***	Peg Kirk
Nicholas Ahlstrand	Sara Cushing	Jacalyn Hadley ***	Jeremy Kman
Cindy Alexander	Amy Davis	David Hall	Verena Knapp
Craig Alexander*	Julia Davis	Dave Halpin	Carole Knipp (247)
Barbara Allsup	Nancy Davis	Sandra Harmon*	Pat Kohoutek
Deb Amdor	Dianne DeLong	Joann Hart (254)	Carol Koos
Mary Anderson	Doug DeLong	Diane Hawk	Lauren Koszyk
Brianna Andrews** (210)	Brenda Denard	Kimberly Healy	Bill LaBounty (606)
Marilyn Aucutt	Eva DeVore	Mary Heath **	Dorothy Lambert
Phani Aytam*	Mike DeVore (153)	Karen Heinrich	Charles Lamlein
Courtney Balk	Ben DiGiovanni	Alexa Helmboldt	Mark Langenfeld
Diana Behnke	Elizabeth Doorn	Kay Henrichs	John Learned
Carl Behr*	Terry Doyle	Lauren Henry ** (164)	Nicole Learned ***
Rebecca Bell (241)	Tod Eagleton	Carol Herdien	Elissa Ledvort **
Judie Bey	Chris Eisele	Timothy Higginson	Katie Lenzi
Scott Birns	Susan Emmerson	Frank Hill	Michael Lester (165)
Cathy Bissoondial ***	Sara Engels	Mary Rose Hill	Melissa Libert
Maureen Blair	Jane Farmer	Pat Hiser	Katrina Lukes **
Barbara Blunk	Lynne Fazzini	Leah Hoeniges	Patricia Luthe
Madison Bobrytzke	Rob Fazzini * (233)	Gary Hoffman	Scott Lyjak ** (169)
Patricia Bolda	Rhett Felix ***	Nicole Hoffman	Nola Marquardt (453)
Diane Bostic *	Emma Florio **	Gary Hoover	Vickie Masa
Deb Boston	Flora Foltz	Richard Hughes	Mike Matejka*
Sean Boston	Jamie Fox	Rachel Hunt	Janet McBeath
Shirley Boward	Guy Fraker*	Deborah Hutchins (162)	Kathy McNiff
Anthony Bowman	Russel Francois*	Zoe Iutzi	John Meek*
Roger Bridges*	Kirsten Fredrickson**	Gary Iverson ** (361)	Amy Miller
Brad Briney*	John Freese	Milan Jackson (828)	William Miller
Dayna Brown	Marilyn Freese	Christine Jaegle	Jo Mink
Judy Brown ** (231)	Sharon Frizzell	Hannah Johnson **	Arlene Mitchell
Willie Brown*	Nancy Froelich*	Dean Kamps ** (211)	Gretchen Monti
Amelia Buragas*	Mary Gastelum	Eileen Kanzler	Charlene Morger (182)
Natalie Cherwin ***	Chuck Geigner	James Keeran	Jack Muirhead
Julie Clemment	Judy Geigner	Ceil Kemp ***	Pam Muirhead*
Ruthie Cobb	Janet Giegerich	Tricia Kennell	Judith Myers (406)
Kathleen Conley	David Glacinski ***	Alec Kepuraitis	Margaret (Dee) Myers
Jarrold Cook	Nick Goodwin	Chris Kibler	Daniel Myerscough
Elaine Cousins	Steve Gossard	John Kibler	Dick Nagy
Dani Creasey	Jay Groves *	Jana Kiefer	Marcia Nagy
Mike Crouch	Connie Guhlsdorf	John Killian*	Rachel Namboodiri
*Board member **Student intern ***Completed 50 hours of service to earn a name badge Bold: 150-plus hours during fiscal year 2012 – 2013 The Museum apologizes if your name was inadvertently left off this list. Please call Director of Volunteers, 309-827-0428, with any corrections.			
			Robert Neuleib
			Kayleigh Newman** (162)
			Kay O'Brian
			Marie O'Brotka
			Kathy Oberhardt
			Volunteers - continued on page 9
			Vicki Olsen

April Ott	Michael Schmolzel	Juliana Sullivan	Doug Williamson
Marcy Parsons (174)	Joyce Schneider	Joe Summers ***	Patrick Wilson
Pat Perkins	Jeff Schroder	Emily Swartz	Bob Wills
Delores Perry (210)	Katelyn Scott ** (191)	Sharon Tallon	Richard Wilson*
Stephanie Pierson **	Mary Scott	Lisa Texeira	Annajean Winn (159)
Seth Powers	Robert Scott	Yazmin Torres	Edward Wittrig ***
Nadine Prall	Ardys Serpette	Tony Turchirollo	Arielle Woodard
Barbara Price	John Sicks, Jr. (201)	Joan Unsicker	Angela Woodard
Kay Ramseyer	Dan Slowik	Rebecca Valadez	Mark Wyman
Nadine Reining	Carolyn Smith ***	Sal Valadez (316)	Carolyn Yockey *
Kyle Riley **	Vickie Smith	Norma Valentine	Ethlyn Yount
Colin Ringle	Michael Soderstrom	Paul Van Ness *	Mary Kay Zeter
Denise Fries-Romack (238)	Peg Sours	Phylis VerSteegh	Bill Zimmerman *
Betty Salch	Patty Stahly	Sandra Voyles	Charlene Zimmerman
Dorothy Sallee	Harry Stern	Robert Watkins*	Laura Zimmerman ***
Neil Sallee	Koby Stern	David Watt ** (163)	Eve Zook
Loretta Santejka	Ruth Stewart	James Weirman	
Elsie Schalk (208)	Aingeal Stone *** (195)	Bill Wetzel, Jr.*	
Ken Schmidt ** (208)	Carol Straka (580)	Nancy Wilkey	

All-time Volunteer Stars

Every year the Museum tallies up the accumulated hours of its volunteers. This year's all-time all-stars are:

William P. LaBounty (1993)	10,045 hrs.
Judith Myers (1998)	5,276
Nola Marquardt (1992)	4,636
Elsie Schalk (1990)	3,710
Carol Straka (2003)	3,458
John Sicks, Jr. (1997)	3,423
Ardys Serpette (1997)	2,430
William Miller (1993)	2,324
Mary Anderson (1994)	2,265
Margaret (Dee) Myers (1996)	2,137
Sara Cushing (2001)	2,028



All-time Volunteer Stars (left to right): Sara Cushing, Ardys Serpette, Nola Marquardt, Dee Myers, John Sicks, Bill LaBounty, and Mary Anderson are honored at the 2013 Volunteer reception.

The Museum Wants You!

Education Outreach Volunteers (EOV) – Education Outreach Volunteers are trained to assist the Director of Education and the Education Program Coordinator with school tours and the Museum's History Careers Day camp. This is a very flexible volunteer opportunity. You are called to assist as the need arises. The average time commitment is usually two hours (except during day camp). Education volunteers work with children of all ages, but primarily pre-school through junior high school. A complete training and all materials are provided.

Are you interested in meeting people in an exciting atmosphere and contributing to your community? Please call or email Mary Anne Schierman, director of Volunteers and Interns, at 309-827-0428 or MSchierman@mchistory.org.





2013 Volunteer Recognition Celebration

Meet Beth Whisman, the Museum's New Director of Development

What did you do before coming to the Museum? I was news director and midday talk show host for WJBC AM-1230 / FM 93.7 and WJBC.com.

What's the biggest difference between working at a radio station and working at a museum? There actually are many similarities. Both require a lot of teamwork, a working knowledge of local events and people, and both thrive on community support. WJBC is a big part of this community's history and its news and talk shows create a public dialogue that helps people stay in touch with the larger community. The Museum reconnects the larger society to its roots and fosters a better understanding of who we are. The Museum is the final guardian of our local stories, but I like to think local media help with that important job along the way.

What attracted you to the Museum? I was ready for a new challenge after almost 14 years with WJBC, but I didn't want to leave for just any job. I needed to work for something I could believe in. I was already a Museum fan and Greg Koos had become a favorite regular guest on my radio show. So when the opportunity arose, I knew it would be a good fit and my next big adventure had arrived!

What do you hope to accomplish in your new position? I hope to do justice to the amazing people and exhibits that make the Museum so successful. My job is to foster the relationships and financial support that allow our educational programs and exhibits to continue making an impact for generations to come.

Where were you born? You could say my hometown is "The South." I was born in Memphis, TN., in the same hospital where Elvis died. I don't know why that means something to me, but it does. My youth was spent first in Mississippi and then in Kentucky.

How did your hometown shape the person you are today? Spending so much time in very different parts of the same region gave me an appreciation for the eclectic cultures that exist in our country. People mistakenly assume The South is basically the same from state to state, but the people, industries, music, food—and yes, the accents—are anything but similar! It made me understand the power of a stereotype and the unfair labels we place on people who seem different. Breaking through those barriers and embracing what made me unique was quite empowering.

Have you always had an interest in local history? Yes. I'm a history fan and the daughter of a history professor. When I first moved to McLean County, I made a point of visiting most of the local historic sites to get a feel for my new home.

Do you have family? My husband, Eric, was born and raised in Bloomington. Most of my immediate family lives in The South, but my younger sister and my in-laws live here in Central Illinois. It's a true testament to how I feel about this community that I heavily lobbied my sister to move here. She's a very talented graphic designer who used to live just miles away from the beach. I basically eliminated my free place to stay for vacation!



Beth Whisman

What were you surprised to learn about the Museum in your first several weeks here? I knew the museum had a library and archives, but I wasn't prepared for how comprehensive it is. Wow! Anyone who has interest in researching their family tree (regardless of where you're from) really must visit the Museum's Library. The primary sources, volunteers, and staff are first-rate.

What is the last good book you read? *The Road* by Cormac McCarthy. It was disturbing and not really my taste, but I'm always reading something friends recommend. The book that I often recommend for a "fast & furious" read is *Manhunt* by James Swanson. It's not new, but I think even a casual Lincoln/history fan would enjoy it.

What do you like to do for relaxation? Spending time with my family and friends, reading and going to movies.

Meet Tod Eagleton, the Museum's New Registrar

What did you do before coming to the Museum? I was the Processing Manager for Heartland Bank and Trust. In addition to staffing and developing employees for Heartland Data Services, I was an IBM systems administrator working as a technical lead on conversion teams, mergers, IBM hardware and software upgrades, and item processing system upgrades.

Why the change in careers? Since going on field trips to the Museum of Science and Industry and Field Museum in Chicago, I have always loved visiting museums. That is what partly fueled my passion to study Biological Sciences at ISU. When I graduated in 1992, I wasn't sure what I wanted to do and took a bank job with National City Bank because I already had some experience. I had a long successful banking career, but it wasn't my passion. Then in 2009, while visiting the "*Real Pirates: The Untold Story of the Wydah From Slave Ship to Pirate Ship*" exhibit at the Field Museum, I had an epiphany. Seeing how the exhibit was put together



and allowed the artifacts to tell the story was fascinating to me. I told my wife, "I want to work in a museum!" She prompted me to approach Mary Anne about possibly volunteering here to see if I liked it. I did and the rest is history...

How did your education prepare you for this job? I just finished my M.A. in Museum Studies from Johns Hopkins University. Being completely immersed in "all things museum" from education to curatorship to collections systems management has prepared me well for my new position as Registrar.

So far, what's your favorite part of working here? Getting to know the collection. There is so much to learn and I feel like there's a long way to go, but it's exciting!

What do you hope to accomplish in your new position? I would like to master all elements of museum collections management, from cataloging artifact records and database management to building donor relationships and mentoring interns. I would also like to install a regular inventory routine for the Museum's collections. The collections are so valuable in educating the community about the McLean County Museum of History, and acquiring artifacts is only a small part of it. Inventories enable us to properly maintain and care for the collection.

Were you born in the Twin Cities? If not, where? I was born and raised in Decatur, IL. I attended one year at Millikin University before moving to Normal, transferring to Illinois State University. After graduation I got a job and never left.

Have you always had an interest in local history? Yes I have, but more as a hobby than an academic pursuit. My undergraduate degree is in Biological Sciences, but I've always loved history and science equally.

Visiting museums has always been a passion of mine. Once I started volunteering at the McLean County Museum of History a few years ago, I really got the bug for local history.

Do you have family? I have been married to my beautiful wife, Angie, since 1999. We have a 13 year old son, Seth, and 9 year old daughter, Ali. The kids attend St. Mary's in Bloomington.

What is the last good movie you've seen? *Lincoln*. Daniel Day-Lewis is phenomenal.

What do you like to do for relaxation? I enjoy traveling with my family; we especially like camping and hiking. I have always enjoyed listening to music and going to concerts as well.

Salutations to New Members!

The Museum would like to welcome the following new members to the Museum:

Ms. Barbara P. Schlosser
Mr. and Mrs. John and Lynda Butler
Mr. and Mrs. Robert and Heather Gregory
Ms. Deanna Sears
David and Elsie Gilmore
Mr. and Mrs. Ed and Sarah Riehl
Ms. Marilyn C. Myers
Mrs. Diane Grady
Mr. Alberto Espinosa
Mr. Mel Theobald
Mr. Clayton R. Johnson

**Thanks so much
for your support!**

New to the Collections

OBJECTS

- Clara Flegel Tipton's side saddle; Kathleen Tipton's toy piano, washing machine, cook stove, flatirons, baby shoes and baby bowl; horse shoes, reins, currycomb, bridle, whip, and drainage pipe from Dillon Horse Farm; Andy Gump brush and mirror; husking glove, thumb protector and peg, and sheep shears from Robert Flegel Farm; Mary Flegel's dress, cape, petticoat, brooch, pin and bonnets; Tipton and Flegel shaving mugs; Flegel potty jar; donated by the Estate of M. Kathleen Tipton
- Laborers International Union political button and German Veteran's Association delegation ribbon; donated by Mike Matejka
- Football helmet used by Komnick boys; donated by Jim Komnick
- Spice rack given as a shower gift to Carman Burtis Gresham, doll cradle made for Phoebe Burtis by her father c. 1829; donated by Carman Burtis Gresham
- Billy club owned by M. L. Houser; donated by Steve Goben

ARCHIVES

- Issue of *Road & Track* magazine, November 1968, featuring article on Bloomington-to-Joliet "Great Race" promotional stunt; donated by Don Munson (one of the organizers!)
- Collection of World War II letters from James Richard Quinton to his parents, March-June 1945, written while Quinton was a B-17 pilot over Europe (letters added to existing Quinton Collection); donated by James Quinton
- Wall map, "Illinois Railroads," 1911; donated by Catherine A. Helton
- Miscellaneous newspapers, World War I-era and other dates, *Pantagraph* and *Bulletin* (long-defunct competitor of *Pantagraph*); donated by Harry and Josephine Thiel
- Flier, Bloomington High School, class of 1924, "To Whom It May Concern ..." (critique of school principal); donated by Kurt Becker
- Miscellany, mostly receipts, relating to Sam Stern, 1940s and 1950s; donated by Sybil L. Mervis
- Brochure/booklet, Brokaw Hospital, early 1950s; and program, groundbreaking for new Brokaw building, October 11, 1951; donated by Lou Herrin
- Front page/news sections of four World War II-era issues of *The Pantagraph*, 1939 (2) and 1940 (2); donated by Elieen Bill
- "One Voice" Bloomington-Normal Economic Development Council program book, March 12-14, 2013 visit to Washington, D.C.; donated by Mike Matejka
- Carl Vrooman materials, including "Vrooman for Senator" brochure, 1914, and flier/poster, "New

Two fabulous circa 1920s toys were included in a recent gift from the estate of Mary Kathleen Tipton. The "Royal" stove and a "Kiddie Washer" were toys she played with during her childhood. With its six burners, warming racks, skillet, kettle, coal bucket, and lid lifter, the toy stove is a deluxe version of what typically only had four burners. The second item is a fully functioning "Kiddie Washer" with copper-painted rocking basin and wringer. Both toys include all of their parts and accessories and are fully functional — you could really cook on the stove and wash doll clothes with the washer.



Toys like these, from the Mary Kathleen Tipton Estate, were often used as tools for teaching children household chores. Sometimes collectors confuse actual toy stoves with sale samples which were typically larger, weighing as much as 70 lbs. The "Royal" stove pictured here is an actual toy. Smaller than a sales sample, but based on a real stove, you can understand how this could cause confusion.



Museum Board member Mike Matejka donated this intriguing photograph of an Illinois Terminal Railroad Company scene. What's intriguing is the "Decatur Cartage Co." sign on the building while "Bloomington ILL April 1945," is handwritten on the reverse of the image. Decatur in Bloomington? The answer to that question is "yes!" Although there was no Decatur Cartage by the time the photograph was taken (1945), Decatur Cartage shows up in 1930s Bloomington city directories at 111 S. Madison St.

The Illinois Terminal RR was the interurban (electrified light rail) system that connected Bloomington to Peoria, Decatur and points beyond, including St. Louis, Champaign and Danville. The first line of the expansive system reached Bloomington in 1906, and the last interurban cars passed through the city in 1953.

Blood Needed in Congress," no date; donated by Elizabeth Glidden

- Collection of "The Rainbow Connection" newsletters, publication of the Advocacy Council for Human Rights, Bloomington (added to the Advocacy Council Collection); donated by Margot Mendoza
- Large format blueprint/schematic of Chicago & Alton (later Gulf, Mobile & Ohio) Yards, west side of Bloomington, ca. 1954; donated by Matt Kerner
- Bloomington High School diploma, 1877; donated by Dick and Susan File
- Miscellany, including University High School student directory, 1988-1989; and 2011-2012

directory of Illinois State University annuitants; donated by Robert Neuleib

- Speech, handwritten (William R. Bach is the likely author) to the William T. Sherman Post of the Grand Army of the Republic, ca. 1903, and other items; donated by Virginia B. Foscett
- Genealogical research conducted by Kim Goben of the Goben family line, and other items (material will be organized into the Goben Family Collection); donated by Steve Goben (brother of Kim)
- Sound of Illinois (barbershoppers) show programs, 2012 and 2013; donated by James A. Stahly
- Materials relating to St. Joseph's Hospital School of Nursing,

including student handbook and graduation announcement, 1955; donated by Barbara (Little) Sennello, graduate of nursing program

- Illinois Soldiers' and Sailors' Children's School (ISSCS) "Show Time" program, March 31, 1955; donated by Jacqueline D. Erikson

BOOKS

- *Letters to Lizzie*, booklet, transcriptions of Civil War letters from Frank Leeper, Eighth Illinois Infantry, compiled by Catherine H. Roberts; donated by Catherine H. Roberts
- *Love Now and Forever* (1983), poetry collection by Gene

Collections - continued on page 18

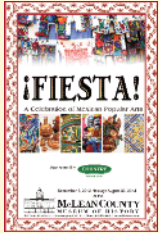
McLean County Museum of History

Calendar of Events for March, April, and May 2013

Through August 9, 2014

The Greening of the Prairie: Irish Immigration and Settlement in McLean County

For the past 200 years, Irish people have made their way to Central Illinois. This exhibit tells their story through historic objects, photographs, maps and more.



Through August 30, 2014

¡Fiesta! A Celebration of Mexican Popular Arts

Travel through time to learn about the rich history of Mexican culture and folk arts and how they were incorporated into the decorative arts “north of the border.” The exhibit features color pictures, maps, a market stall filled with a vast array of contemporary items sold at Mexican markets, and hands-on craft activities for children.

June 1 through June 28

To Kill and To Heal: Weapons and Medicine of the Civil War

This traveling exhibit comes from the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum & Library and is underwritten by the Looking for Lincoln Heritage Coalition.

Saturdays through October 26

Downtown Bloomington Association (DBA) Farmers' Market

Museum opens at 8:30 a.m. to all visitors. Tour the Museum's latest exhibits and shop at the wildly popular (and wildly healthy!) Farmers' Market. Visit the DBA's website at <http://www.downtownbloomington.org/farmersmarket> to learn more and find out what's fresh at market.



Saturday, June 8

11:00 a.m.

Bilingual Story Time

Join the Museum and Bloomington Public Library for a free bilingual story program open to families. This program will be held at Bloomington Public Library. For more information about this event, please see page 5.



Thursday, June 13

Doors open at 5:30 p.m., program begins 6:15 p.m.

History Makers Gala

McLean County has no shortage of people who have dedicated their lives to making our community a better place to live. The Museum wishes to honor those people by presenting the second-annual History Makers Gala in connection with the Museum's annual meeting. This year's honorees are Ruth Waddell, Judy Markowitz, Stephany “Stevie” and Roger Joslin, and Woody Shadid. See page 1 for more details.

June 17 through June 21

History Careers Day Camp Session I

Open to students entering fourth, fifth and sixth grades in the fall. This camp explores the history-related careers of archaeology, museums, art history, architecture and environmental science, now expanded to a five-day camp. Registration forms are available at the Museum or on our website at www.mchistory.org. Registration limited to 20 students per session.

For more information please contact the Education Department at 309-827-0428 or via email at education@mchistory.org.



Thursday, June 27

5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

121st Birthday Party

In honor of the McLean County Historical Society's 121st birthday, we will be throwing a party in which Trailblazers are invited. All Trailblazers who attend will be able to enjoy educational activities, pizza, cake and more! Registration will start on May 28. Contact the Museum's Education Department at education@mchistory.org for more information.

Thursday, July 4

Museum Closed for Fourth of July Holiday

July 8 through July 12

History Careers Day Camp Session II

Saturday, July 13

1:00 p.m.

***Desperadoes: Notorious Outlaws of Early Illinois* with John Hallwas**

Join the Museum in welcoming writer, speaker and adult educator Dr. John Hallwas, Distinguished Professor Emeritus at Western Illinois University, who will present a program on early frontier lawbreakers in Illinois. For more information about this program, please see page 3 for more details.



Saturday, July 20

10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Lincoln's Festival in Bloomington

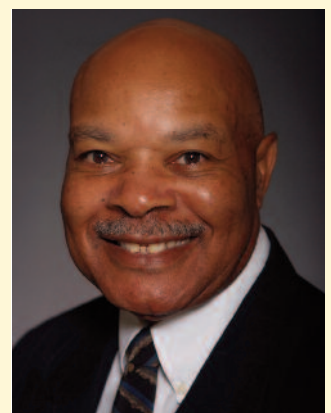
Join the Museum for this annual festival celebrating Lincoln's legacy in Bloomington-Normal. See page 4 for additional details.

Saturday, July 20

1:00 p.m.

A Soldier's Story: The Ghost of Andrew Lewis

In conjunction with Lincoln's Festival in Bloomington, join the Museum in welcoming Robert Davis, Civil War historian and reenactor, who will present his one-man show about African-American soldier Andrew Lewis. This program is free and open to the public. See page 3 for more details.



July 29 through August 2

History Careers Day Camp Session III

Tuesday, August 6 7:00 p.m.

History Reads Book Club

Join the Museum and Bloomington Public Library for the third installment of the History Reads book club for 2013. The discussion will be held in the Museum's Governor Fifer Courtroom. See page 4 for more details on this free program.

Saturday, August 17 11:00 a.m.

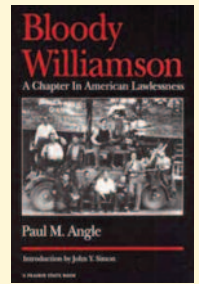
Bilingual Story Time

The Museum and Bloomington Public Library are teaming up for this English-Spanish language program, open to all families. Story Time will be held at the Museum in the Gov. Fifer Courtroom. For more information about this event, please see page 5 for more details.

Saturday, August 31 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Under the Dome Knit-In

Grab your friends, needles, hooks and yarn and stop by the Museum to "knit for a bit!" This program is free and open to the public. See page 4 for more details.



Collections - continued from page 15

- Townsend (local author); donated by Elsie L. Schalk
- Two school yearbooks, Ellsworth High School and Ellsworth-Downs Unit District No. 3 (1949 and 1950); donated by Dale Honey
- St. Mary's High School (Bloomington) yearbook, 1926; donated by Charles Ridenour
- *Glances through the Rearview Mirror*, compilation of newsletter articles published for the 175th celebration of First Christian Church, Bloomington; donated by First Christian Church
- *Beautiful Dreamer: The Completed Works and Unfulfilled Plans of Sculptor Lorado Taft* (2012) by Lynn Allyn Young; donated by Mel Theobald
- *Lincoln at Peoria: The Turing Point* (2008) by Lewis E. Lehrman; donated by Rhett Felix

PHOTOGRAPHS

- Nine 4x6 color photographs of

Veterans Day 2012 event, held on the east side of the McLean County Museum of History / Courthouse Square; donated by Mike Matejka

- Thirteen 5x8 (approximately) black-and-white photographs of Alton steam locomotives, 1930s and 1940s; donated by Gilbert H. Young
- Six 8x10s of Ellsworth school groups, 1949 and 1950; donated by Dale Honey
- Color postcard, "Looking South on North Main Street," undated; donated by Joe Wilson
- 8x10 black-and-white, student nurses at Brokaw Hospital, 1951; donated by Lou Herrin (donor's father, William Herrin, was hospital administrator)
- 8x6 photograph of bicycles in front of E.E. Fenn's motorcycle and bicycle shop, 618 N. Main St., no date; donated by Otto and Sandy Groth
- 5x3 Kodacolor print of Illinois Terminal RR Co. scene, ca. 1945;

and collection of color slides, mostly Illinois State University scenes, 1960s; donated by Mike Matejka

- Color slides of Wesley United Methodist Church, Bloomington; donated by Virginia B. Foscett
- Various postcards relating to McLean County, and other items; donated by Twyla Sweeney
- Large collection of photographs relating to the Tipton and Flegel families, as well as photographs relating to the Illinois Tractor Co., Bloomington; donated by estate of Mary Kathleen Tipton
- 8x10 class photograph, School of Nursing, St. Joseph's Hospital, 1955; and postcard of school building; donated by Barbara (Little) Sennello, graduate of nursing program

To make donations of photographs, books or archival materials call the Museum's Librarian/Archivist, Bill Kemp. If you have objects you wish to donate to the collection call the Museum's Curator of Collections, Susan Hartzold. Both can be reached at the McLean County Museum of History, 827-0428.

Calling all business owners and professionals

One big piece of news from that American Taxpayer Relief Act was that the vast majority of Americans have been permanently excused from worrying about federal estate taxes. The permanent \$5 million estate tax exclusion, indexed for inflation (\$5.25 million in 2013), should limit the impact of federal estate taxes to a few thousand estates per year. But that does *not* mean people should become complacent about their estate planning.

Business owners and professionals with practices provide especially vivid examples of the continuing importance of estate planning. Leaving aside the question of whether the business or practice is valuable enough to enter the federal estate tax zone, there are four other major objectives for a business owner's estate plan.

Control and ownership. One normally doesn't want to be in business with one's partners' family members. A buy-sell agreement is needed to provide an orderly plan for successor management.

Family members. There can be problems among heirs if some members of a family are active in a business and others are not. Those who are not active probably should not be given a voice in management, even if they will have a financial interest in the business. An estate plan may need to address equalizing inheritances in a way that won't impair the business' value or manageability.

Probate avoidance. No one wants to have his or her business mired in the probate process. Imagine that you can't cash royalty checks, or sell a building, because you need to wait to have a personal representative appointed and the statutory period for creditors to make claims to pass. Even worse, in formal probate, no distribution of assets can occur without a court order. Imagine that a professional business valuation to the tune of \$10,000 must be obtained to legally claim the value of the business with the court. A trust, buy-sell agreement, transfer-on-death shares, or a combination thereof, will avoid the costly delays and court requirements of probate.

State death taxes. Most states have eliminated their estate and/or inheritance taxes. Those that still have them typically have "decoupled" from the federal tax guidelines, and they impose their taxes at death on much smaller estates, in the area of \$1 million. If you live in one of those states, or own property in one, you still may have some tax planning to do.

If you haven't seen your estate planning advisors this year, make an appointment soon. Now that the federal estate tax law is settled, you can develop a durable plan for your family's financial future.

We would be glad to help with any financial planning needs you may have. Give us a call today.

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Mystery History

For this issue, can you tell us the name of this Bloomington resident? And if you know his name, you probably know a little something about his fascinating career! If you think you know the answer, contact Librarian Bill Kemp via email at library@mchistory.org, or by phone at 309-827-0428.

The previous mystery photograph was an old-fashioned stumper for many of our most devoted sleuths. The photo showed a large crowd gathered on East Street to watch the Tuesday, June 3, 1958 fire that destroyed a four-story State Farm Insurance Co. warehouse at 515-519 N. East St. Total damage was estimated around \$200,000 (or more than \$1.5 million in 2012 inflation-adjusted dollars). Fortunately, there were no injuries to either State Farm employees or firefighters called to the scene. Several other Mystery History sleuths incorrectly identified the crowd scene as part of the July 19, 1965 funeral for Adlai E. Stevenson II.

Those that had at least part of the story correct include David Kraft and Harry Stern. Local history buff Jim Hoppe called to say he was in the crowd that afternoon tooling around on his bike! And Steve Whelen wrote to say that his father, who owned a tavern at 104 E. Market St., had to have his Pontiac (which was parked on Market St.) repainted due to all that smoke and falling ash.



McLEAN COUNTY
MUSEUM
OF **HISTORY**
200 North Main Street
Bloomington, IL 61701
Phone: 309-827-0428
www.McHistory.org

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