



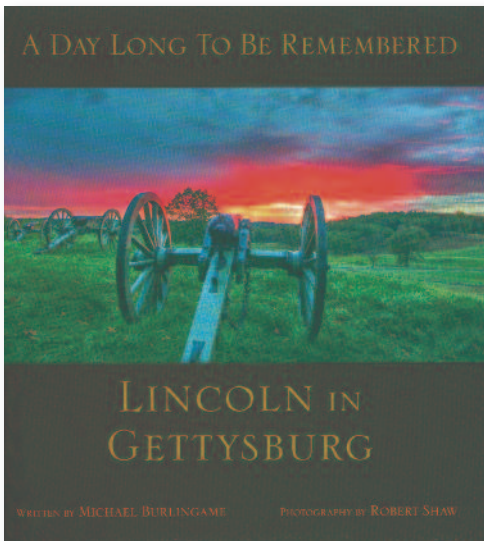
On The Square

Sponsored by Heartland Bank

The Quarterly Newsletter for the
McLean County Museum of History

Volume 46, Number 1

March - April - May 2014



Lincoln Scholar and Local Photographer to Tell Gettysburg Story

The Museum is pleased to welcome author and renowned Abraham Lincoln scholar Dr. Michael Burlingame and local professional landscape photographer Robert Shaw, who will present a program on their new collaborative book, *A Day Long To Be Remembered: Lincoln in Gettysburg*. This free public program will be held in the Museum's Governor Fifer Courtroom on Tuesday, March 25 at 7:00 p.m.

In this presentation, Burlingame will explain the close connection of the Gettysburg Address to Central Illinois. He will also offer new evidence regarding a newspaper article written about the Gettysburg dedication that appeared in a Washington newspaper two days after Lincoln delivered his address. Burlingame is certain the article was written by John Hay,

Lincoln's assistant private secretary. The article has often been quoted over the years by historians, but the author has never been identified. Shaw's photographic images will be shown throughout the presentation.

Michael Burlingame is the Chancellor Naomi B. Lynn Distinguished Chair in Lincoln Studies at the University of Illinois Springfield. He has received numerous awards and honors for his scholarly research and writing. In 2010, Burlingame received the

Lincoln - continue on page 4

Save the Date for the Third Annual Gala

Mark Thursday, June 19 on your calendar for this year's third annual *History Makers* gala. This community event will take place at 5:30 p.m. in the Brown Ballroom at Illinois State University's Bone Student Center and will honor five local people who have dedicated their lives to making McLean County a better place to live.

This year's honorees will be revealed during a live news conference inside the Museum's historic Governor Fifer Courtroom in late March.

Presented in conjunction with the Museum's annual meeting, the gala dinner will feature live dramatizations by actors with the Illinois Voices Theatre, who will celebrate the 2014 *History Makers* and their lives of service. Tickets for the event go on sale in April.

Watch this newsletter and www.mchistory.org for event updates.

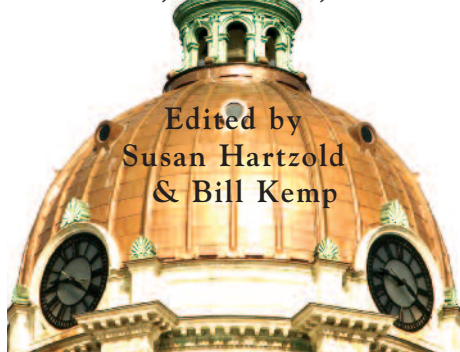
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On The Square

Quarterly Newsletter

Volume 45, Number 4, 2013-14



Edited by
Susan Hartzold
& Bill Kemp

McLean County Museum of History

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www.McHistory.org

HOURS

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

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Bill Kemp, Librarian/Archivist
Jeff Woodard, Dir. of Marketing & Comm. Affairs
Candace Summers, Director of Education
Rachael Kramp, Education Program Coordinator
Beth Whisman, Director of Development
Deb VanAntwerp, Dir. of Volunteers and Interns
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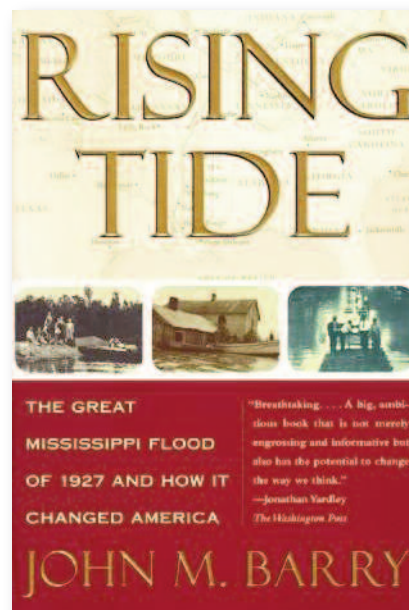
Barbara Allsup	Edward B. Jelks
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Book Club to Tackle History of 1927 Mississippi Flood

Do you enjoy reading historical nonfiction? If so, join the Museum for our next History Reads Book Club discussion on Tuesday, May 6, at 7:00 p.m. in the Governor Fifer Courtroom. The featured book this season is *Rising Tide: The Great Mississippi Flood of 1927* by John M. Barry. This free, quarterly program is brought to you by the Museum and Bloomington Public Library.

The discussion will last approximately 60 minutes. Participants are welcome to explore the Museum before or after the meeting. Free parking is available at the Lincoln Parking Deck located one block south of the Museum on Front Street.

Copies of this book will be available for checkout at Bloomington Public Library or by interlibrary loan through your local public library. For more information on this program, please contact the Museum's Education Department at education@mchistory.org or contact Karen Moen at the Bloomington Public Library at reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org.



Pre-Inventory Sale

It's that time of year again! In order to prepare for our end of year inventory, the Museum will hold an On the Square gift shop pre-inventory sale. All clearance items will have an additional 50 percent discount off the lowest ticketed price. We will also offer a 20 percent discount on all regularly priced items.

Sale dates are March 1 through March 31. There will be no additional member discount on sale items. The sale does not include genealogy publications. Some favorite books of ours (that no lover of history should do without) in the shop include: *Fifty-Nine in '84: Old Hoss Radbourn*, *Barehanded Baseball*, and the *Greatest Season a Pitcher Ever Had* by Edward Achorn for \$25.99; *Seasons on Henry's Farm* by Terra Brockman for \$17.00; *Recipes from Historic Rt. 66* for \$18.00; and *Lessons from American History—Abraham Lincoln to Modern China*; *The Black Book of Senator Adlai Stevenson III*, *Governor Adlai Stevenson II*, and *Vice President Adlai Stevenson I*, by Adlai Stevenson III for \$35.00. Hurry in while supplies last!

GIFTSHOP
SALE

50% OFF
CLEARANCE ITEMS

20% OFF
everything else!

Old Hoss Coming to the Museum!

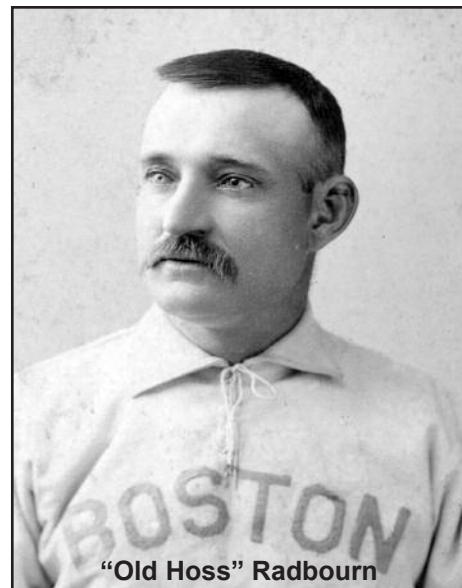
The Museum, in collaboration with Illinois Voices Theatre, will present the original drama *Old Hoss* by Jared Brown. During the play, Charles “Old Hoss” Radbourn, Bloomington's hot-tempered Baseball Hall of Fame pitcher, is forced to come face-to-face with his past. Rhys Lovell returns as Old Hoss (His first performance nearly stole the show during the 2004 Cemetery Walk).

There will be three performances: Friday, March 7 and Saturday, March 8 at 7:00 p.m., and Sunday, March 9 at 1:00 p.m. The play will be presented in the historic Governor Fifer Courtroom at the Museum. There will also be a concession stand featuring Beer Nuts, Cracker Jacks, and bottled water.

A discussion about Radbourn, old-time baseball, and the theatrical interpretation of Radbourn's life will be held immediately following the Sunday matinee performance.

Leading the discussion will be Jared Brown, former director of the School of Theatre Arts at Illinois Wesleyan University and a great fan of baseball since 1948, who fashioned the script on Radbourn's life using all of the historical material available. Also leading the discussion will be James Bennett, co-author of *Old Hoss, the Fictional Account of Radbourn's Life* (2002) Bennett is an award-winning novelist for young adults whose books have been used as a curriculum choice at junior and senior high schools and college level courses. Museum Librarian Bill Kemp will also join the discussion.

Ticket sales will begin on Monday, February 3. Tickets can be purchased in advance at the Museum, over the phone at 309-827-0428, or at the door the day of each performance. Tickets are \$12 each for members of the Museum and \$15 each for the general public.



“Old Hoss” Radbourn

Seating is limited to 105 per performance so buy your tickets early!

For more information about this program, or to purchase tickets, please contact the Education Department at 309-827-0428 or via email at education@mchistory.org.

This theatrical production has a rating of PG-13 due to coarse language and mild sexual content.

Symphony's Lincoln Concert to Benefit Museum

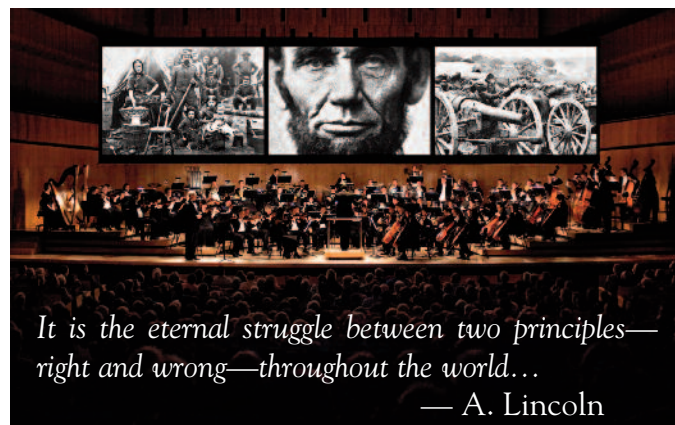
History and music will combine during a special Illinois Symphony Orchestra event to celebrate the 150th anniversary of Abraham Lincoln's presidency and the Civil War.

The ISO will present *Lincoln's Legacy* at 8:00 p.m. on Saturday, May 3, at the Bloomington Center for the Performing Arts. The ISO has teamed up with Westwater Arts to offer a powerful combination of dramatic music, the stirring words of Lincoln, and hundreds of historical photographs from their collection titled *The Eternal Struggle*.

The live concert will include a stunning display of visual-audio choreography set to Aaron Copland's powerful and moving *Lincoln Portrait* and Mahler's *Fifth Symphony*. Before the performance, Museum staff will be in the lobby to share Lincoln items from the Museum's collections.

Concertgoers who purchase tickets for *Lincoln's Legacy* through the ISO's Community Partnership program will see half of their purchase go toward supporting Museum programs. Ticket prices range from \$20 to \$60 each.

To order these special tickets, Museum members must send their ticket order and a check to Elaine Cousins, ISO VP for Community Engagement and Education, 1 Alder Ct., Bloomington, IL 61704. Patrons will be able to pick up their tickets at the BCPA box office before the performance.



The Irish in America: The ‘Ethnic Fade’ that Didn’t Happen

Join the Museum in welcoming James Rogers, director of the University of St. Thomas Center of Irish Studies and editor of *New Hibernia Review: A Quarterly Record of Irish Studies*, who will present a program about what Ireland has meant historically in America and what it has come to mean in present-day multicultural society. The program, held in conjunction with the Museum’s current exhibit *The Greening of the Prairie: Irish Immigration and Settlement in McLean County*, will be on Saturday, March 22 at 1:00 p.m. in the Museum’s Governor Fifer Courtroom. This program is free and open to the public and is sponsored by State Farm.



James Rogers

Rogers admits that conventional wisdom tells us that the Irish should have ceased to exist as a distinct ethnic identity in America long ago. Changes in demography, the drying-up of immigration, and the forces of globalization all suggest that a meaningful Irish-American identity is a thing of the past. Yet, although the historic markers of Irish identity, such as parish-based Catholicism, the Democratic Party, and nationalism have waned, the reality is that the Irish in America never “just melted away.” And an Ireland of the imagination exerts a powerful presence in our larger American popular culture and recent literature. Even among Americans many generations removed from their immigrant forebearers, a sense of affiliation with Ireland remains strong.

Rogers is also a widely published essayist and poet. A book signing will immediately follow the program and copies of his most recent publication, *Extended Family: Essays on Being Irish American from New Hibernia Review* will be for sale.

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

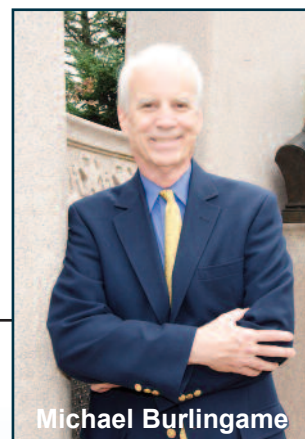
Lincoln - continue from page 1

Lincoln Prize for his two-volume work *Abraham Lincoln: A Life* (2008), considered the preeminent biography of Lincoln.

Heyworth resident Robert Shaw has been a professional photographer for books and calendars for 27 years. He specializes in landscape images, photographing throughout the United States. Shaw began working as a professional photographer in 1986. His photography has been published by National Geographic Books and Abrams Books. He is coauthor of the acclaimed book *Abraham Lincoln Traveled This Way—The America Lincoln Knew* (2011), his first collaboration with Burlingame.

A book signing will immediately follow the program and copies of *A Day Long To Be Remembered* will be available for purchase.

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



Michael Burlingame



Robert Shaw

Michael Burlingame (upper right) and Robert Shaw (right) will present *A Day Long To Be Remembered: Lincoln in Gettysburg* on March 25 at the Museum.

Twentieth Anniversary Evergreen Cemetery Walk Characters Announced

The Museum, in partnership with Illinois Voices Theatre and Evergreen Memorial Cemetery, is pleased to announce the characters for the Twentieth Anniversary *Evergreen Cemetery Walk*. This year 8 individuals previously featured during the past 20 years of the event will be brought back to help celebrate the rich and diverse history of our community. A special feature will be two “Fan Favorites” who were selected by members of the community.

Featured characters for 2014 are:

Marie Litta - featured in 1995 (week-end performances only)

Bell Blue-Claxton - featured in 2003

Adam Guthrie - featured in 2000

Charles “Old Hoss” Radbourn - a “Fan Favorite” featured in 1995 and 2004

Celestia Rice Colby - a “Fan Favorite” featured in 1998

Adlai E. Stevenson II - featured in 1997

Asahel and Mary Gridley - featured in 1998 and 2001 respectively

Dates for the 2014 Evergreen Cemetery Walk are Saturdays and Sundays, October 4, 5, 11, and 12, with performances at 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. each day. In the coming months watch for more information about this exciting twentieth anniversary event on the Museum’s website and Facebook page.

Cemeteries and Graves Program Coming in May

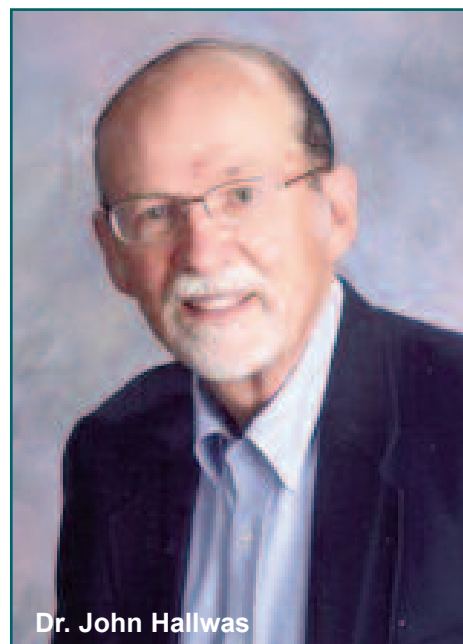
The Museum, in partnership with the McLean County Genealogical Society, is pleased to welcome Illinois historian and Distinguished Professor Emeritus at Western Illinois University Dr. John Hallwas, who will present “Cemeteries and Graves: American Historical and Literary Perspectives.” This program will be held in the Museum’s Governor Fifer Courtroom on Tuesday, May 20 at 7:00 p.m. It is free and open to the public.

Hallwas' program is a lively and probing look at the American response towards cemeteries and graves. He will examine the ever-changing view of cemeteries and graves, especially in the nineteenth century when park-like burying grounds were developed and attitudes toward death became more complex. Hallwas will also focus on universal issues such as temporality, remembrance, confronting death, and coping with loss. Short poems by noted American authors, such as John Greenleaf Whittier, Emily Dickinson, Edgar Lee Masters, Carl Sandburg, and Dave Etter, will be part of the program.

John Hallwas was born and raised in Illinois. He taught 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 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.

He is the author of more than a dozen books, including *Here to Stay: Reflections of the Dead in a Small-Town Cemetery*. He is also the creator of the *Memory Shall Be Ours*, a musical reenactment of a traditional nineteenth-century Decoration Day ceremony, set in an Illinois cemetery.

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



Dr. John Hallwas

Ask a Trust Officer

When do federal estate and gift taxes kick in?

DEAR TRUST OFFICER:

What's the story with estate and gift taxes? Do I need to worry?—AWARE OF TRANSFER TAXES

DEAR AWARE:

Most people don't need to worry about estate and gift taxes, but for those who do, it can be a very important worry indeed.

First, you have the annual exclusion from the gift tax, which is \$14,000. That means you can give up to \$14,000 to each of as many people as you wish, and you need not even file a gift tax return. Married couples can "split" their gifts, so that as a couple their annual exclusion is \$28,000.

Second, the direct payment of qualified tuition or medical expenses is not considered a taxable gift at all.

Third, the exemption from federal estate taxes is \$5.25 million in 2013, \$5.34 million in 2014. Married couples can double this number as well.

Fourth, that same exemption is available for gifts that exceed the \$14,000 annual exclusion. Although gifts up to \$5.34 million are taxable, no tax will be payable until that threshold is crossed.

Finally, the available estate tax exemption is reduced to the extent that the lifetime gift tax exemption was used. If a donor made lifetime taxable gifts of, say, \$2 million, his or her 2014 federal estate tax exemption is just \$3.34 million. This figure is adjusted every year for inflation.

Don't overlook state death taxes (inheritance tax, estate tax, or both). Although most states have abandoned their death taxes, those that retain them generally impose them at much lower wealth levels. Even if you live in a state without a death tax, you could be affected if you own real property in a state that continues to impose one.

(December 2013)

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200 W. College Ave.

Normal, IL 61761

309.662-4444 / 888.897.2276 toll free

www.hbtbank.com

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

History Careers Day Camp to Celebrate 11 Years!

This summer, the Museum will celebrate 11 years of the History Careers Day Camp, an educational, interactive summer day camp experience that teaches students entering fourth through sixth grade 4 different careers that rely on the field of history. It is important for children to understand the variety of job opportunities available for the history lover. The Museum prides itself on offering a cost-effective, educational summer camp to all students of McLean County regardless of family earned income. Every year, almost half of our campers are awarded a scholarship to attend camp at no charge.



Daycampers explore the architecture of the Old Courthouse.

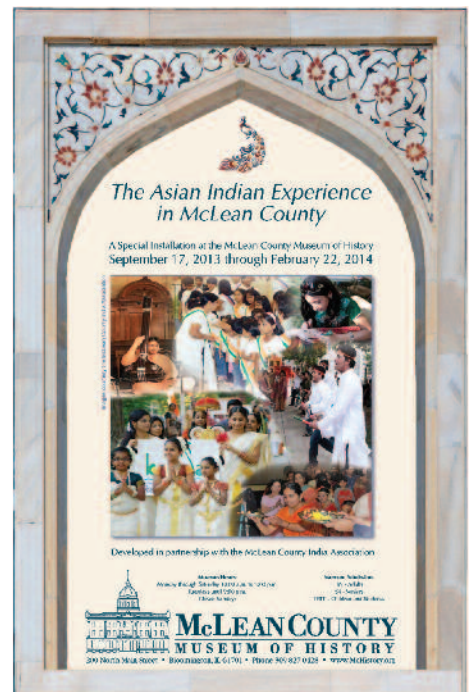
This summer, campers will explore the fields of archaeology, architecture, museum studies, and environmental science at the Museum, the David Davis Mansion, and Sugar Grove Nature Center. Not only do professionals from each field come talk to campers and teach them skills needed for each job, but students get to try all of these skills themselves.

If you have a child or grandchild who enjoys learning in interactive ways, is interested in history, and is entering fourth through sixth grade next year, sign them up for this unique camp experience. Feedback from campers and their parents has been overwhelmingly positive. In fact, many parents with multiple children end up sending all of their children when they come of age.

Registration will begin April 15 and is open to the first 20 students for each of the 3 camp sessions. Please note the following camp dates: Session 1 is June 23-27; Session 2 July 7-11; and Session 3 July 28-August 1. For more information, please contact the Education Department at education@mchistory.org or 309-827-0428.

The Asian Indian Experience Extended

The Asian Indian Experience display, installed last September in the People gallery of the *Encounter on the Prairie* exhibit, and originally scheduled to end on February 22, 2014, has been extended! This well-received display will now run through May 2015. Although a few items will be removed (most items in this display are on loan), the exhibit will remain much the same.



Salutations to New Members!

The Museum would like to welcome the following new members:

Michael and Kathryn Allen
Elsie Cadieux
Jessica Henrichs
Mr. and Mrs. B. Franklin Hoopes
Jillian Hutson

Clayton R. Johnson
Lloyd and Carolyn Johnston
Michael and Mabel Lux
Alberto Martinez
Valerie Joyce Moré

Eric Secoy
Laurie Sprague
Mel Theobald
Paul and Trudy Vogel

Your membership is an act of philanthropy that supports educational programs and preservation of local historic artifacts and stories.

Thanks so much for your support!

Spring's New Crop of Interns

We are fortunate to have three new bright, eager interns serving at the Museum this spring.



Cody Walker

Cody Walker is working with Candace Summers and Rachael Kramp as the Cemetery Walk intern for the Education Department. Cody recently graduated from Drake University in Des Moines, Iowa, with a bachelor's degree in history and a minor in politics. After dabbling in education courses at Drake, Cody wants to use his knowledge to teach history. Cody is doing additional research on the candidates for the 2014 Evergreen Cemetery Walk and helping to get a head start on 2015, as well. One of his goals at the Museum is to learn new ways of thinking when it comes to research. He says that networking and

hearing other staff members' stories of how and why they got involved with the Museum is an added bonus!



Rachel Marquardt

Rachel Marquardt, a senior history major at Illinois Wesleyan University, has been interested in history from a young age. She knows that her experience at the Museum will give her the opportunity to share this interest with others. This spring Rachel is collaborating with the Education Department on many of the Museum's public programs, including our summer History Careers Day Camp and the Presidents' Day Open House. For the open house, she will create crafts and other activities to help educate children about John F. Kennedy and other presidents. She is eager to learn about all the opportunities that working in a museum can offer.



Emily Eades

Emily Eades is interning with Curator of Collections and Exhibits Susan Hartzold. She is a senior at Illinois State University, majoring in studio art with a concentration in photography and minoring in women's and gender studies. Emily will be photographing the Museum's art collection and uploading the photographs into PastPerfect, the Museum's collections database. If she completes the art collection, she also hopes to photograph our large collection of crayon portraits. These nineteenth century portraits are actually large scale black-and-white photo reproductions that have been hand colored with charcoal and pastels. This process was popular prior to the development of quality large scale photo enlargements.

Emily hopes one day to work at an art museum or gallery, so she is very excited about this internship and what she will learn at the Museum this semester.

As always, if you see one of our interns please introduce yourself and give them a warm welcome.

Illinois State University Renews Community Partnership

The Museum is pleased to announce that Illinois State University has renewed its corporate membership. This support demonstrates Illinois State's high level of dedication to our mission to educate and we sincerely appreciate the university's longstanding partnership.

As a corporate member, Illinois State will receive many perks for its employees and students while supporting the important work the Museum does to connect people with local history. Business and community leaders are invited to learn more about our corporate membership program by contacting Director of Development Beth Whisman at (309) 827-0428 or bwhisman@mchistory.org.



ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY

Illinois' first public university

Meet Board Member John McIntyre

John McIntyre joined the Museum's Board of Directors this past summer.

What is your "day job?" Retired educator, athletic coach, and businessman. Currently, a member of the McLean County Board, and various community voluntary boards.

How do you see your role as the County Board representative on the Museum's own Board? Although I am a liaison for the County to the Museum Board, I would also like to be able to make a vested contribution as an active member.

What special things, if any, can you bring to the Museum Board?

Having been a long-time member of the

community and involved in a number of organizations, I believe that I bring a special perspective and some practical experience in the areas of education, government, and business that can make a meaningful contribution.

What is your favorite thing about the board? There are many. I've been very impressed with how many levels of the community are touched by the number of educational programs and the personal involvement as evidenced by the amount of volunteerism.

What is one change that you'd like to see at the Museum? I would like to see the addition of a county Visitors Center that could attract many more tourists to the community.

What challenges does the Museum face in the near future? Three challenges that immediately come to mind are the transition to digital exhibits and new technology in programming, the ongoing challenge of the preservation of documents, and an increased amount of support needed for the Museum's educational outreach programs.



What is the last book you've read? *Wilson*, a new biography by Pulitzer Prize-winning author A. Scott Berg.

What do you like to do for relaxation? I do some traveling with my wife, Lorry. Also, we visit our children and grandchildren. In addition, I am still involved with athletes by umpiring baseball and officiating football on a limited basis.

Kids Corner

Historic Landmarks



What state is each historic landmark below located in?



1. Mount Rushmore



2. Statue of Liberty



3. Golden Gate Bridge



4. Lincoln's Tomb



5. Liberty Bell



6. Jefferson Memorial



7. The Arch



Answers: 1. South Dakota 2. New York 3. California 4. Illinois 5. Pennsylvania 6. Washington D.C. 7. Missouri

BECOME A TRAILBLAZER MEMBER OF THE MUSEUM FOR FREE

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

New to the Collections

Objects

- ❑ McCain-Palin 2008 campaign button; donated by Amy Miller
- ❑ Boy's wool suit, c. 1935; donated by Harlan Kahle
- ❑ Vietnam-era Air Force uniforms, military patches, badges, and pins, c. 1969; donated by Dennis Mammenga
- ❑ Gavel used by former president of the Normal Chamber of Commerce, Robert D. Randall, c. 1954; donated by the Town of Normal (c/o Sandy Fedden)
- ❑ Coal from the McLean County Coal Mine, c. 1892; donated by Kenneth Callahan
- ❑ Normal Sanitary Dairy baseball uniform, c. 1941; donated by David Hall
- ❑ "Vote for Ike" 1952 political button; donated by A. Gridley Antiques

Archives

- ❑ Various, including Corn Belt Bank account book, 1919-1931; official Illinois highway map, 1940; campaign posters, including Leslie C. Arends for Congress, 17th District (date unknown); an issue of *The Sunday Eye* (a Bloomington newspaper), August 30, 1885; ticket stub for Lexington Fire Department benefit, 1934; Bloomington Extreme (indoor football) season program, 2007; "Big Dance" flyer, Central Opera House, Colfax, 1923 (two copies); and many other items; donated by Amy Miller
- ❑ Large donation of material, including general highway maps of McLean County, 1962 and 1966; essay on type designer Frederic W. Goudy, 1963; Gridley public school catalogs, 1909 and 1910; Fourth of July program, Gridley, 1893; and many other items; donated by Bill Detmers
- ❑ Bloomington High School, class of 1959, 25th, 35th, and 40th anniversary materials, including roster of classmates, etc.; donated by Ruth Stewart
- ❑ Material relating to Henry Capen, the Capen family, and the insurance business; donated by John "Jack" Bowles
- ❑ Collection of early materials relating to Latinos United (Latinos Unidos), 1980s, and Western Avenue Community Center; donated by Sarita Mendiola

One of the most exciting recent additions to the Museum's object collection, a baseball uniform used by a member of the Normal Sanitary Dairy team, was generously donated by David Hall.

The wool jersey is typical of those worn by players in the late 1930s and early 1940s. What makes the pants unique is the owner's alteration on the right hip. The addition of a hand-sewn pocket indicates that the uniform was probably worn by a pitcher, who needed a place to hold his rosin bag. (Powdered rosin is used for better ball control.)

The Normal Sanitary Dairy, located at 301 Broadway Street in Normal from 1930 to 1959, owned its own baseball diamond, which was located directly behind the building. Local businesses would form teams and enjoy a little friendly competition of "America's favorite pastime."

Since the mid 1800s, grassroots baseball has been played in sandlots, open fields, and community ball diamonds all over the country. From its beginnings, the sport has been a cornerstone of American entertainment in good times and bad. This World War II-era uniform is an incredible piece because it helps us imagine how much baseball may have meant to the men who played the game. During a period in our nation's history when stories of fighting and conflict filled the news, the crack of a bat or an umpire's call provided a temporary escape from the larger issues that unsettled people's minds.



- ❑ Reminiscences of Betty Woodward Farmer titled "Remembering 1931-1934," 17 pages; donated by Beth Schneider
- ❑ Various, including St. Matthew's Episcopal Church of Bloomington directories, late 1960s / early 1970s; set of color postcards of St. Matthews, and other items; donated by Judy Brown
- ❑ Pattern / promotional materials from various local clothing stores, including C.J. Northrup, My Store, C.W. Klemm and others; two issues of *Prairie Farmer*, 1879 and 1898; donated by Robert Hartzold
- ❑ Two Centennial Christian Church (Bloomington) blackface minstrel show flyers, one undated and the other February 22-23, 1934; donated by Brian Simpson, Babbitt's Books
- ❑ Additions to the Advocacy Council for Human Rights / Prairie Pride Coalition Collection; donated by Margot Mendoza
- ❑ "Autobiography," Pat Littlefield, 49 pages, 2013; donated by Pat Littlefield
- ❑ Materials relating to a street lighting ceremony, August 1951, including three LPs with recordings of the event; donated by the Town of Normal

Collections - continued from page 10

- ❑ Collection of approximately 440 WJBC AM 1230 "Forums," commentaries delivered by Doug Williamson, 1985 to 2002; donated by Doug Williamson
- ❑ Large collection of Community Players Theatre programs and newsletters, 1950s to 2013; donated by Bruce A. Parrish
- ❑ Several items, including University High—Metcalf School concert program, 1945; Illinois Wesleyan University program, "Messiah," 1946; donated by Catharine Knight
- ❑ Newsletters, 1998 and 1999, from Nordine's Construction and Remodeling; donated by Sandra K. Voyles
- ❑ Illinois State University *Redbird Pigskin Magazine*, September 1986; and scrapbook, "The National Champion Redbirds," including photographs, news clippings and other items detailing the 1969 ISU baseball team that earned the school's only national title (to date); donated by Rich Gordon (a player on that team)
- ❑ Three items pertaining to the 1969 ISU national championship baseball team, including an all-conference certificate; proclamation from Illinois Gov. Richard Ogilvie honoring the team's national title; and a letter from ISU President Samuel Braden congratulating the players; donated by Dennis Fox (another player from the title team)
- ❑ Large collection of material on the Bieber family and General Telephone & Electronics Corp.; donated by Suzie Zeigler (material from the home of Edward Bieber—unsold items from auction/sale)
- ❑ Various items relating to ISU and U-High, including two Pioneer Alumni newsletters, 2011 and 2013; donated by Robert Neuleib
- ❑ Programs, including those from the Bloomington-Normal Symphony, Bloomington High School, Washington Junior High School, and others, various dates; donated by Sybil Mervis
- ❑ S&H Green Stamp book; donated by Nancy Wilkey

Books

- ❑ *McLean County Farm Directory*, 1931; donated by Robert Hartzold



1931 Women Bowling Champs: Olive Strange, Charlotte Murray, Marie Key, Leota FitzHenry, and Rose K. Craig. That said, we don't know whether the names read left to right or vice versa! If you can identify anyone, please contact Librarian Bill Kemp.

The Museum receives donations from all kinds of folks in all kinds of places and circumstances. In December, for example, we received this photograph from *The Pantagraph* via Jon Harris of West Tisbury, Massachusetts. Mr. Harris was unaware of the Museum, so he thought the local daily newspaper was the best "home" for this Great Depression-era photograph. *The Pantagraph*, which no longer operates a library or historic photographic collection, sent the unsolicited donation to the Museum.

The reverse of this photo reads: "1931 Women Champions / Harkins Bowling Parlor / Bloomington, Ills." Pat Harkins' "bowling parlor" was located at 115 East Jefferson Street in the old Odd Fellows Building, which was later torn down to make way for the northerly addition to the State Farm Insurance office building.

The reverse of the photo also lists the names of the five women: "A long time ago I bought the enclosed photograph in a thrift store here in Massachusetts," Mr. Harris tells us. "It's an interesting historical curiosity, for sure." Interesting indeed!

- ❑ Report, *Bloomington Public Schools*, 1911-1923; *Souvenir Picturesque Bloomington*, 1905; and other titles; donated by Amy Miller
- ❑ *Illinois Fellowship Songs*, undated, published in Ohio but used by the Illinois Conference of the Methodist

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Focus on Volunteers

Judy Brown and Judith Myers both are Library volunteers at the Museum, but they also have something else in common: they completed their higher education after their children were grown.



Judy Brown and Judith Myers

Judy's journey began when she graduated high school in 1960. She started college but got married and quit school in 1963, shortly before she had her first child. Thirty years later, while working at Illinois State University, Judy realized that she needed a degree to advance her career. She restarted college but became discouraged at the slow pace and quit once again. In 2008, feeling that she had unfinished business, she returned to school. When Judy retired two years later, she had thirty hours of coursework remaining and

became a day-time student. She graduated in 2012 with a degree in history and, with encouragement from her sons, walked at ISU's commencement. According to Judy, once she made up her mind, "it wasn't so hard—it just took me 52 years to do it!"

As for her connection to the Museum, Judy had begun volunteering as a receptionist shortly after her retirement. Then, in her final semester at ISU, she interned with us in the Library and fell in love with the work. The rest, including her degree, is history!

Judith Myers' experience was different but no less satisfying. After high school she entered ISU as a full-time student, taking 16 credit hours of classes in the mornings and working at State Farm in the afternoons. After one semester she quit school to work full time at State Farm, where she rose through the ranks as secretary, supervisor, and analyst. Judith stresses that her lack of degree never affected her ability to have a satisfying career; however, she had always loved reading and learning about new things. A coworker suggested that she return to school, reminding Judith that "the years are going to go by, whether you do it or not!"

With that advice in mind Judith considered whether, at age 50, she was too old for college. She began at Heartland and earned her associates degree through evening classes while working. Judith found that she loved school and was very successful as a student, so she enrolled at ISU and continued her education. Judith graduated in 1990 with a Bachelors degree in English and, like Judy, walked at her commencement with proud family members in attendance.

Four years later Judith took early retirement from State Farm. Then she brought her grandchildren to the Museum, which she had never visited herself. Judith says that she looked around and quickly decided this was a place she would enjoy. She began volunteering in 1996 and has enjoyed the Museum through more than 5,500 hours of service!

Both women found personal satisfaction in completing their education, and both say they had very positive experiences in their classes. Judy's fellow students sometimes assumed she was doing coursework to supplement a teaching certificate and were surprised but

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- ❑ Church, Bloomington; donated by Kurt Neubauer
- ❑ *Have Chalk, Will Travel: On-Campus Commuting by Teachers at Illinois State University* (1985); and *An Atlas of Illinois State University Affairs* (1984); donated by Michael D. Sublett (author of the former and editor of the latter)

Photographs

- ❑ Various, including four of Miller Park and Miller Park Zoo; and one showing the fire department at the Chicago & Alton Railroad Shops, March 29, 1930 (only H.J. Herrold, safety agent, identified); donated by Amy Miller
- ❑ Bloomington High School, class of 1959, 10th, 25th, 35th, 40th, and 50th anniversary photographs; donated by Ruth Stewart
- ❑ Photograph of Anna Cox Tyner and John L. Tyner; donated by Martha Tyner
- ❑ Photograph of Henry Gillan in buggy with "Bill," his favorite horse, and photo of World War I soldiers at Camp Dodge, Johnston, Iowa, featuring Edward Kahle; donated by Harlan Kahle
- ❑ Hoopes family photographs, including one of an unidentified child, 1909; donated by Amy Miller
- ❑ Collection of color slides of area subjects, undated; donated by Michele Hopkins Gonzalez
- ❑ Mounted photograph of Normal Mayor Robert Randall, with ceremonial shovel, at Illinois State Normal University, undated, event unknown; donated by the Town of Normal
- ❑ "1931 Women Champions," Harkins Bowling Parlor, 1931; donated by Jon Harris
- ❑ Several photos, including Miller Park Zoo, seal feeding time; donated by Sybil Mervis

To make donations of photographs, books or archival materials call the Museum's Librarian, 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 309-827-0428.

Volunteers - continued from page 10

supportive when they heard she was seeking her degree. Students in Judith's classes were also very welcoming. In both cases, their professors recognized them as serious students and were appreciative of their commitment to their studies.

Judy said, "Completing my degree was one of the best things I ever did. Degrees provide a grounding for everything else. I was meant to have it!" Judith agrees. "I felt so glad about accomplishing the goal I had set for myself. It was a matter of personal satisfaction for me. I was introduced to authors whom I might not have found on my own for years, and my education broadened my knowledge of the world. I still use my education, and I'm so glad I did it."

Judy hopes her success will inspire her four teenaged grandchildren in their own studies. As far as we are concerned, both women are inspirations and we are so glad they are a part of our Museum family.

Take a Day Trip with Your Museum Membership Card

As you begin planning your spring break and summer adventures, consider taking advantage of your Museum membership in order to get deals at other sites across the U.S. Our reciprocal membership program is called Time Travelers, and you are already enrolled if you are a Museum member.

The Missouri History Museum in St. Louis actually created the program in 1998 so members of historical institutions like ours could receive exclusive benefits and privileges at museums and historical sites nationwide. There are now more than 250 organizations in more than 40 states that participate, offering a variety of benefits such as free admission, gift shop discounts, and parking deals.

There are many Time Travelers day trip options to consider that are located within a two hour drive of McLean County. You can save money as you look for Lincoln with half-priced adult admission to the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum in Springfield. You'll also find discounts at the Illinois State Museum in Springfield and the Vermilion County Museum in Danville that includes the Fithian Home, a Lincoln site on the National Register of Historic Places. For architecture fans, you will receive discounts on admission at several Frank Lloyd Wright homes, including the Dana-Thomas House in Springfield and the Frank Lloyd Wright House and Studio in Oak Park. The Chicago History Museum offers free admission to our members, too. If you're looking for a hands-on experience, try out the ever changing scene inside



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McLean County Museum of History

Calendar of Events

Through January 16, 2016

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 January 16, 2015

¡Fiesta! A Celebration of Mexican Popular Arts

Travel through time to learn about the rich history of Mexican culture and folk arts.

Through February 22, 2014

The Asian Indian Experience in McLean County

Asian Indian immigrants began arriving in McLean County in the 1960s. This exhibit explores the challenges they faced and explores the efforts made to maintain important traditions and practices while at the same time embracing American culture.

Third Saturday of every month through April 2014

Winter Farmers' Market

Get your meats, eggs, and produce, and explore the Museum at the Downtown Bloomington Association's Winter Farmers' Market at the Museum. This event is free and open to the public. Visit the DBA's website at www.downtownbloomington.org/farmersmarket to learn more.

Second Thursday of every month until May 2014

Lunch and Learn at the Museum

Bring your brown bag lunch to the Museum's Governor Fifer Courtroom from 12:10 to 12:40 p.m. the second Thursday of every month through May for a new topic to explore and discuss. The final three Lunch and Learns will be on March 13, April 10, and May 8. These free public programs are sponsored by Illinois Wesleyan University, the McLean County Museum of History, and the Collaborative Solutions Institute.

March 6 7:00 p.m. - (rescheduled *History Reads* Book Club)

Sundown Towns by Jim Loewen at the Bloomington Public Library in the Community Room.

March 7 through March 9

Old Hoss: Ornery, Belligerent—and Just Maybe the Best Pitcher Who Ever Lived

Performances will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Friday and Saturday and 1:00 p.m. on Sunday. See page 3 for more information.

March 22 1:00 p.m.

The Irish in America: The "Ethnic Fade" that Didn't Happen

Join the Museum for an afternoon with James Rogers, Director of the University of St. Thomas Center for Irish Studies and editor of *New Hibernia Review: A Quarterly Record of Irish Studies*, who will present a program about what Ireland has meant historically in America and what it has come to mean in our present multicultural moment. See page 4 for more information about this free public program.

March 25 7:00 p.m.

A Day Long To Be Remembered: Lincoln in Gettysburg

Join the Museum in welcoming local professional photographer Robert Shaw and Michael Burlingame, holder of the Chancellor Naomi B. Lynn Distinguished Chair in Lincoln Studies at the University of Illinois Springfield, for a program on their new book about the Battle of Gettysburg, Lincoln in Gettysburg, and the myth surrounding the Gettysburg Address. See page 1 for more information about this free public program.

On display from April 2 to April 23

Tri-Valley Middle School History Fair Projects

These projects were created by seventh grade students attending Tri-Valley Middle School. Projects feature McLean County and Illinois history-related topics and will be displayed throughout the Museum.

Saturdays beginning May 3 through October 25

Museum Opens at 8:30 a.m. to all visitors! Tour the Museum's latest exhibits and shop at the Farmers' Market.

May 6 7:00 p.m.

History Reads Book Club

Join the Museum and Bloomington Public Library for the second installment of the History Reads book club for 2014. The discussion will be held in the Museum's Governor Fifer Courtroom. See page 2 for more information about this free public program.

May 17 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!" Light refreshments will be provided. This program is free and open to the public.

May 20 7:00 p.m.

Cemeteries and Graves: American Historical and Literary Perspectives

The Museum, in partnership with the McLean County Genealogical Society, is pleased to welcome Dr. John Hallwas, Distinguished Professor Emeritus at Western Illinois University, who will present a program on the ever-changing views towards cemeteries and graves throughout American history. See page 5 for more information about this free public program.

For additional information on any Museum program, contact the Museum's Education Department at education@mchistory.org or call 309-827-0428. Free event parking is available on Saturdays and Tuesday evenings in the Lincoln Parking Deck one block south of the Museum on Front Street.

Travelers - continued from page 13 the Peoria Riverfront Museum. They offer Time Travelers free admission, a great view and easy access to other adventures along the city's popular riverfront.

So even as your annual Museum membership is without a doubt an act of philanthropy that benefits our community and supports our mission to educate and preserve local history, there are also many direct benefits to you!

To learn more, check out our membership page at www.mchistory.org or contact Director of Development Beth Whisman at development@mchistory.org.



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Mystery History

Last issue's Mystery History proved a real stumper for many of our readers. It showed the Illinois Traction System (or ITS—later known as the Illinois Terminal Railroad) depot in Heyworth. The ITS was the interurban or electrified light rail system that connected many Central Illinois communities, namely Bloomington, Peoria, Decatur, Champaign, and Danville, with the St. Louis metropolitan area. The Decatur-to-Bloomington portion of the system opened in late 1906, followed by the Peoria-to-Bloomington connection six months later in April 1906. The end for Twin City interurban riders came in 1953 when the Illinois Terminal abandoned service between Mackinaw (in Tazewell County) and Forsythe (Macon County) with Bloomington in between.

Those who knew the correct answer included Jerry Armstrong, Nancy Beveridge, Jack Keefe, Tom Marquardt, Mike Matejka, and Gary Simpkins. The photo was undated, but it's clear it was taken during the early years of the system.



For this issue, can you identify the light-colored building on the right? If so, can you also tell us something about it? If you think you know the answer, contact Librarian Bill Kemp via email at library@mchistory.org, or by phone at 309-827-0428. As always, good luck!