



On The Square

Sponsored by Heartland Bank

The Quarterly Newsletter for the
McLean County Museum of History

Volume 46, Number 3

December 2014-January-February 2015

Christmas at the Courthouse Returns

Christmas at the Courthouse has become a time-honored tradition. The McLean County Museum of History opens its doors to the community each year on the first Saturday of December. Join us December 6 from 11:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. for a day of family fun and holiday cheer. Visitors can enjoy holiday music, storytelling, homemade cookies, cider, a visit with St. Nick between 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m., children's crafts, and more.

Musical entertainment will include the BHS Quartet, Orpheus Mandolin Orchestra, Loving Missionary Choir, Sound of Illinois Chorus, and SFEA Chorus. The Museum is also excited to announce we are planning a special visit by Illinois State University's Reggie Redbird.

This free event is sponsored by State Farm Bank. For more information, call 309-827-0428 or contact the Museum at www.mchistory.org.



UPDATE

Bloomington-Normal Visitors Center

Thanks to support from the State of Illinois and the Bloomington-Normal Convention and Visitors Bureau, our work to develop a Visitors Center here at the Museum is being realized. We have chosen the title *Cruisin' with Lincoln on 66* as the theme of the center. The center will feature an exhibit which will parallel Lincoln's road experiences with those of the Route 66 traveler under the sub-themes of Travel, Lodging, and Dining. Visitors will learn that Lincoln introduced the first act which established the now 163-year-old transportation corridor from Chicago to St. Louis.

A principle grade-level entry for the Visitors Center is currently under construction on the Washington Street side of the Museum. This plaza was designed by Francois and Associates and is being constructed by Tarter Construction.

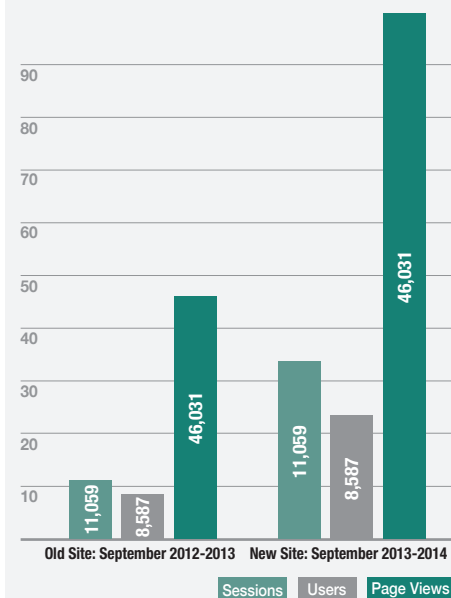


The plaza is centered on the south door and returns symmetry to the site. Additional work includes the installation of new landscape, also designed by Francois and Associates. Their plan calls for the removal of dying crab apple trees and evergreen shrubs. In their stead, four large burr oaks have been planted and the square will be enhanced by low-spreading leafy yews.

(continued on page10)

WEBSITE STATS

THIS SEPTEMBER OUR WEBSITE TURNED 1!
BELOW YOU WILL FIND A STATISTICAL COMPARISON
BETWEEN THE OLD WEBSITE AND NEW WEBSITE



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Quarterly Newsletter

Volume 46, Number 3

Produced by
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Jane Flanders Osborn

McLean County Museum of History

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www.mchistory.org

HOURS

10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Monday, Wednesday, Thursday,
Friday, Saturday
10 a.m. - 9 p.m. Tuesday

STAFF

Greg Koos, Executive Director
Susan Hartzold, Curator of Collections and Exhibits
Bill Kemp, Librarian/Archivist
Jeff Woodard, Dir. of Marketing & Comm. Affairs
Candace Summers, Director of Education
Hannah Johnson, Education Program Coordinator
Beth Whisman, Director of Development
Deb VanAntwerp, Dir. of Volunteers and Interns
Torii Moré, Curator of Digital Humanities
George Perkins, Archivist
Harlan Fuller, Bookkeeper
Betty Turchirollo, Volunteer Assistant
Tod Eagleton, Registrar
Lauren Lacy, Development Assistant
Anthony Bowman, Education Outreach Coordinator
Barb Adkins, Visitors Center Manager

OFFICERS

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Carolyn Yockey, First Vice President
Russel Francois, Second Vice President
Sandra Harmon, Secretary
John J. Killian, Treasurer
Rob Fazzini, Immediate Past President

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Brad Briney	John B. Meek
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Amelia Buragas	Ann Sullivan
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Tom Eder	Robert Watkins
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Benjamin J. Rhodes	Michael G. Matejka
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David Ashbrook	James A. Stahly
Carl Behr	Carol Struck
John Bowles III	Steve Wannemacher
Nancy Froelich	

History Reads Book Club: 2015 Titles Announced

The Museum and Bloomington Public Library are pleased to announce the new group of books that have been selected for our popular joint program, the *History Reads Book Club*. This free, quarterly program is open to the public and held in the Museum's Governor Fifer Courtroom.

Each book discussion begins at 7:00 p.m. and lasts approximately one hour. Participants are welcome to explore the Museum before or after each meeting. Free parking is available at the Lincoln Parking Deck located one block south of the Museum on Front Street. Street parking is also free.

February 3:

When the Mississippi Ran Backwards: Empire, Intrigue, Murder, and the New Madrid Earthquakes by Jay Feldman

May 5:

The Forgotten Storm: The Great Tri-State Tornado of 1925 by Wallace E. Akin

August 4:

The Farmer from Merna: A Biography of George J. Mecherle and a History of the State Farm Insurance Companies of Bloomington, Illinois by Karl Schriftgiesser

November 3:

Lincoln's Manager: David Davis by Willard L. King

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

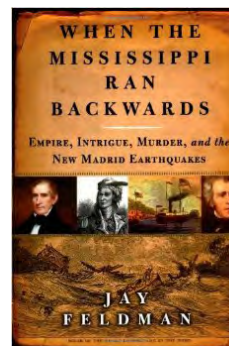
For more information on this program, please contact the Museum's Education Department at education@mchistory.org or contact Karen Moen at the Bloomington Public Library at reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org.

DBA Indoor Winter Farmers' Market Moves



The Downtown Bloomington Association Indoor Winter Farmers' Market has expanded and will now take place at the U. S. Cellular Coliseum, 101 S. Madison Street, beginning on the third Saturday of December from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. It will continue on each third Saturday of the month through April. The market offers a wide array of farm products including vegetables, fruits, cheeses, pork, beef, free-range poultry and eggs, flowers, plants, herbs, and more. All items are grown or produced by the individuals selling them. There will also be live entertainment and cooking demonstrations each month.

**For more information, contact the DBA at 309-829-9599
or www.downtownbloomington.org.**



Put the Gift of History on your Holiday Shopping List

Having trouble finding that perfect gift for a lover of history? Visit the Museum's On the Square gift shop for your holiday shopping. Choose from a variety of gifts such as posters, T-shirts, tote bags, note pads, bumper stickers, *Cruisin' with Lincoln* on 66 buttons and window clings, cookbooks, books on local history topics (many by local authors), books on Abraham Lincoln, and more!

Looking for some history gear? What better way to outfit that lover of history in your life than with one of our *Evergreen Cemetery Walk* T-shirts or hooded sweatshirts. Sizes range from adult small to 2XL. T-shirts are \$16 each and hooded sweatshirts are \$32 each. We also still have several limited edition 1969 Replica ISU Baseball caps for \$40 each.

We are offering a few new local history books this holiday season. First is *Rt. 66 in Illinois* by Joe Sonderman and Cheryl Jett. This softcover book details the 300 miles of adventure, history, culinary delights, and quirky attractions to be found along Route 66 between Chicago and St. Louis. It is filled with historic images and sells for \$21.99. Another new offering is *A Day Long to Be Remembered: Lincoln in Gettysburg*. This photographic history by Robert Shaw and narrative by Michael Burlingame tells one of the greatest American stories in a wonderfully conceived book. Shaw's dynamic images are woven together with Burlingame's outstanding writing and Lincoln's telegrams, letters, and speeches to create a dramatic exploration of Lincoln and the Gettysburg story. The book is hardcover and is \$34.

Do you have a budding historian in your life? Consider *Meet Abraham Lincoln* by Barbara Cary. It's a short biography of America's most well known president in history. It is softcover and sells for \$4.99. Another great option is *Lincoln, Grant, Regan, Obama: Presidents from the Prairie State* by Pamela Farris. This book explores four men who had humble beginnings, overcame incredible odds, and became President of the United States. It is softcover and is \$15.

Some of our favorite books in stock (that no lover of history should be without) include: *Fifty-Nine in '84: Old Hoss Radbourn, Barehanded Baseball, and the Greatest Season a Pitcher Ever Had* by Edward Achorn for \$25.99; *Sears Homes of Illinois* by Rosemary Thornton for \$26.99; *Lincoln's Ladder to the Presidency: The Eighth Judicial Circuit* by Guy Fraker for \$34.95; *Hazle Buck Ewing: Promoter of Peace on Earth and Goodwill toward Men* by Karen Griep Heilburn for \$24.95; and *Lincoln's Forgotten Friend: Leonard Swett* by Robert Eckley for \$34.95.

Looking for stocking stuffers? We have a large selection of postcards including the Old McLean County Courthouse, Lincoln Bench, Miller Park, the David Davis Mansion, scenes from Evergreen Memorial Cemetery, the Barn Quilt Heritage Trail, and more. Prices range from 50 cents to \$1 each. We also have note cards with a variety of images on them such as the Museum's dome, the Lincoln Bench, local imagery, and fruit and flower prints from the Museum's collection. We have several CDs including *80 Years of WJBC*; *Hardtack and Coffee* and *Rally Round the Flag* by the 33rd Illinois Volunteer Regiment Band; and *A Tour Narrated by Abraham Lincoln*.

Not sure which gift to get? Gift certificates to our **On the Square** gift shop are available for purchase along with membership gift certificates.

We also offer discounts: get an additional 50 percent discount on any clearance items purchased from the gift shop between now and December 31. Hurry in while supplies last as the clearance items are going fast! Items that are not on clearance are always 10 percent off for our Museum members.

For more information, please contact the Museum's Education Department at education@mchistory.org or by phone at 309-827-0428.

Schedule for 2015 Under the Dome Knit-In

Knitters and crocheters — mark your calendars for another year of the *Under the Dome Knit In*!



The Museum welcomes all knitters and crocheters to come down and create charity items or work on your own project at this highly popular ongoing program. This event is free and open to the public and is held in the Museum's Governor Fifer Courtroom from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Dates for 2015 include four Saturdays: February 21, May 16, August 15, and November 14.

Information about the "Knitting for Victory: Knit Your Bit" campaign, local knitting and crocheting charity opportunities, and copies of free patterns used to make items for those charities will be available.

Light refreshments will be served. Just bring your own project or the materials to begin a new one.

This program is free and open to everyone. So grab your friends, your needles, your hooks, and your yarn and stop by the Museum to knit for a bit!

For more information about this program, please contact the Education Department by calling 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.

Give a Gift Before 2014 Becomes History

Dear Museum Members & Friends,

As the holiday season approaches and the calendar threatens to fast-forward to the end of the year, we are reminded that this is an exciting time for the Museum, our members, volunteers, Board of Directors, and community partners. The last year has unveiled new, significant opportunities for us to secure the role that our history museum will play in the community's future.

However you choose to support the Museum each year, we want to take this opportunity to thank you for your philanthropic spirit and passion. Without your annual support, we could not serve the more than 8,200 local students and senior citizens who have come to rely on our free educational programs. And, we certainly couldn't keep our commitment to the preservation of local artifacts, documents, and photos that inspire new appreciation and understanding of our local story and McLean County's special place in history.

We are excited to announce the first six months of our Extending Excellence campaign have been a success thanks to our amazing volunteer campaign committee. Donors have already committed more than \$2 million toward our \$3 million goal of installing a new permanent exhibit, integrating new technology throughout the Museum, expanding the Education Department, and improving the landscape of the Museum Square. Now is a great time to consider a year-end tax-deductible gift to help our committee raise the final amount needed to meet the growing demand for our educational services across Central Illinois.

Gifts to the campaign offer not only tax benefits and major support for our future as a museum; they also offer unique commemorative opportunities. All campaign gifts of \$5,000 and above will be honored on a permanent plaque that will celebrate your generosity for generations to come. Larger gifts offer lasting naming opportunities for you or loved ones as we recognize campaign donations with special plaques in our galleries and as part of the new landscaping design.

Other year-end giving options include holiday gift memberships for friends and family, or an additional contribution to the Museum's annual fund.

Timing is important for these gifts. Please date your check on or before December 31, 2014 and mail it with a postmark on or before that date. Gift checks mailed with that postmark will be counted for 2014 regardless of when they are received at the Museum. You can also hand-deliver your check and enjoy a quiet break during the holiday rush by visiting our galleries and library.

Your gift by credit card or PayPal can also be processed very easily via our website www.mchistory.org on or before December 31, 2014. Credit card gifts sent via the mail will be processed on the date they are received, so please allow plenty of time to mail them before the deadline.

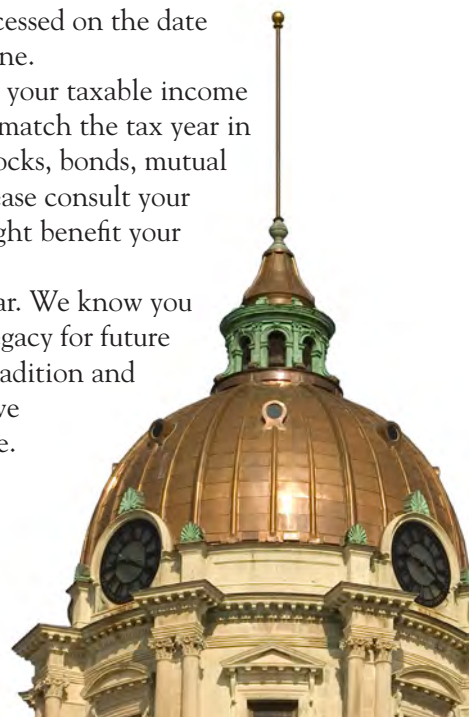
If you converted your traditional IRA to a Roth IRA in 2014, you can offset your taxable income by making a charitable gift. Your gift or campaign pledge payment date should match the tax year in which the conversion income is reported. Other gifts, including appreciated stocks, bonds, mutual funds, and real estate require more planning to meet the year-end deadline. Please consult your accountant or financial adviser for more information about how these tools might benefit your tax planning.

Of course, the tax benefits are only part of what inspires you to give each year. We know you also share our passion for history, education, and preserving our community's legacy for future generations. Thank you for making the Museum a part of your annual giving tradition and we hope to see you at *Christmas at the Courthouse* on Saturday, December 6 as we team up with State Farm Insurance to give back to the community that we love.

Sincerely,



Beth Whisman
Director of Development



New Membership Levels Simplify Museum Support

It's hard to imagine what this 122-year-old institution would be like without friends and supporters exploring our galleries, attending the *Evergreen Cemetery Walk*, or celebrating local legends at our *History Makers Gala*. It's even harder to imagine how we would keep up with the growing demand from local schools and assisted-living centers for free educational programs or how we'd be able to care for the local artifacts entrusted to us by so many generations of McLean County residents.

Funds donated through annual Museum memberships support all of these efforts and are essential for our daily operation.

"Almost 70 percent of the Museum's annual revenue comes from private sources, so annual memberships are critical to our daily operation," said Museum Executive Director Greg Koos.

Museum staff and the Board of Directors annually steward those dollars to run a professionally managed, world-class operation. This fiscal responsibility is a big part of why the McLean County Museum of History is in the *top three percent* of museums in the nation, having earned consistent accreditation from the American Alliance of Museums since 1984.

Starting this fall, you will notice some differences in our membership program that simplify donor levels and better address today's operating costs. The previous levels were based on the Museum's annual needs that existed when it moved into the Old McLean County Courthouse in 1991. Member support has been strong and consistent since that time, but our needs are changing and costs are significantly higher today.

"Inflation is a frustrating fact of life," said Craig Alexander, president of the Board of Directors. "The McLean County Museum of History is providing an exceptional level of service to our community and it needs our support to fulfill its mission."

When the Lincoln Club began in 1994, the daily operating costs were close to \$1,000. Today that figure is \$2,500 a day. Because a number of existing members already give that much or more on an annual basis, the Museum's Board of Directors was inspired to start a new level of donor recognition called the McLean Club. The name honors both the county and its namesake, U.S. Senator John McLean.

Another change embraces a growing spirit of philanthropy in our community from individuals who want to invest in local culture but might be living on a limited income. The "Give What You Can" level is designed to encourage membership and community pride by offering a donor opportunity for any McLean County resident who wants to do their part to preserve local history.



The complete list of donor levels can be found on our new membership brochure and on our website www.mchistory.org:

□ **McLean Club — \$2,500+**

Named for the county's namesake, U.S. Senator John McLean, a McLean Club membership funds one full day of operations, exhibits, and educational programs.

□ **Lincoln Club — \$1,000-\$2,499**

The 16th President's legacy continues to inspire history fans, and a Lincoln Club donation covers the cost of four school tours during the annual *Evergreen Cemetery Walk*.

□ **Stevenson Club — \$500-\$999**

Named for Illinois Governor and United Nations diplomat, Adlai Stevenson II, this annual membership supports one full week of services in our world-class Stevenson-Ives Library and Archives.

□ **Fifer-Bohrer Club — \$250-499**

Bloomington's Florence Fifer-Bohrer became the first woman to ever be elected to the Illinois Senate. A donation at this level helps furnish hands-on artifact loan kits for local teachers to use in the classroom—just one way the Museum reaches more than 7,000 local students each year.

□ **Davis Club — \$100-249**

Named for U.S. Supreme Court Justice David Davis, donations in this range cover costs for public programs such as on-site Senior Reminiscence activities for residents in assisted-living centers.

□ **Primary Membership — \$50-99**

The Primary level covers basic membership costs, including mailings, member events, the quarterly newsletter, and the *Time Travelers* reciprocal membership.

□ **Give What You Can \$ _____**

This new member level is designed for McLean County residents on a limited income who want to support local history and value the Museum's mission to educate and preserve.

Of course, Museum membership also offers discounts on tickets to Museum events such as the *Evergreen Cemetery Walk* and the *History Makers Gala*. You will get nation-wide discounts with the *Time Travelers* reciprocal program that comes with every Museum membership which offers more access and cost-savings when you visit other historic sites and museums across the United States.

Whatever inspires you to join, please know that your Museum membership truly is an act of philanthropy that supports local history, preservation, and education for the entire community. Your gift is also 100 percent tax deductible.

We are excited to revitalize our membership program and we look forward to continuing our partnership with you for many years to come. If you have questions about our new levels or you would like to check your membership status, please contact Beth Whisman at (309) 827-0428 or via email at development@mchistory.org.

Fall Interns Are Wrapping Up Their Semester at the Museum

We'll soon be saying goodbye to our most recent group of interns, and we'll be sad to see them leave. They're a talented and enthusiastic trio of workers with very different interests.



Savanna Fowler serves as an intern in the Education Department as a technical writer. She has been in charge of preparing an application for the American Association for State and Local History's Award of Merit. The Museum is nominating its Senior Reminiscences program for the award. Growing up in an incredibly small southern town, this is Savanna's first time working for a museum and her first opportunity to visit a museum regularly.

Savanna is a final year Master's student at Illinois State University, majoring in Professional Writing and Rhetorics. In addition to satisfying a requirement for her major, she is hoping to gain experience with non-profits, along with the opportunity to apply her technical writing studies and skills in a setting outside of the university.



Katie Lucas is the Library/Archives intern for the fall semester. She is a senior history major and religion minor at Illinois Wesleyan University.

Currently Katie is working on the Morrell / Moreland family collection, as well researching Abraham Lincoln court cases in McLean County and other topics for the upcoming (2016) Lincoln exhibit.

Through her internship Katie has already learned about many different facets of museum operations, as well as the research that goes into creating an exhibit.

Katie has found this internship an exciting and beneficial experience, and she hopes to use her semester at the Museum as experience toward her planned graduate studies in library science.



Zohra Saulat is a junior at Illinois State University. She is majoring in history with a minor in Middle Eastern and South Asian studies.

Zohra is the Public Programs intern for the Education Department this fall. A major part of her internship was helping with the preparation and implementation of the 20th annual *Evergreen Cemetery Walk*. Zohra has also worked to develop family craft and game activities for the upcoming *Christmas the Courthouse* event. In addition, she works with Education Department staff as they coordinate programs for children, seniors, and Museum visitors.

Zohra's time at the Museum has proved valuable. Her experience at the Museum will help her to decide her future plans. Zohra has always been curious in regards to the "behind-the-scene" operations of a museum, so she considers herself lucky to have experienced it.

120,000 Historic McLean County Images Now Digitally Available in Museum's Library

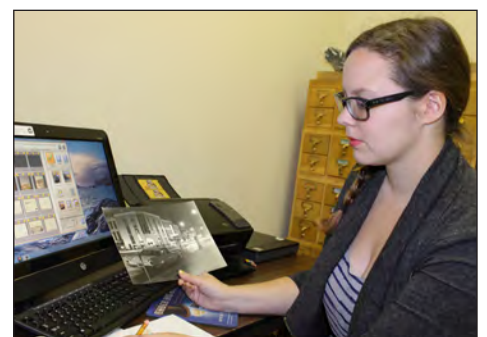
Through the efforts of a small team of volunteers guided by Museum Archivist George Perkins, the Archive Photo Scanning Project was completed in mid-September. For the first time, the Museum's entire main collection of photos has been scanned and is now available for viewing by staff and patrons in the Museum's Library Reading Room.

The team put in more than 1,400 hours, scanning 282 boxes of photographs to produce 120,000-plus scanned images. The photographs came from the Museum's "Subject" and "People" photographic collections as well as our collection of photo prints from *The Pantagraph*. The latter is not to be

confused with the approximately 750,000 *Pantagraph* negatives currently held by the Museum—scanning those negatives will entail an even more ambitious future project.

Not only does the current Archive Photo Scanning Project make all Museum images available for easy viewing and retrieval, but it represents a major step in the long-term preservation of Museum photographs. Having ready access to digital scans will greatly reduce potential damage to the physical photos, many of which are more than 100 years old, including some that are brittle, frayed, torn, or generally worse-for-wear.

The staff, Board, and volunteers of the



Museum would like to congratulate Archivist George Perkins and his team on the successful completion of this project.

Your support makes projects like this possible. Thank you!

Meet Anthony Bowman, Museum Staff

What's your role in the Education Department? I've taken on the newly-created Education Outreach Coordinator position. One of my main responsibilities is to present and grow our Senior Reminiscence programs. I also contribute to other educational programs, such as school tours and the *Evergreen Cemetery Walk*.



Tell us about your family. My wife Amy and I met in college and have been married for the past five years. We have two daughters; Zoey is four, and Ellie is two years old.

How did you end up at the Museum? I started as the Public Programs intern in the Education Department in order to complete my Master's degree in 2009, working full-time for six months. When that ended, I began volunteering — first at *Evergreen Cemetery Walk*, then at the reception desk. When Rachael Kramp left earlier this year, I expressed interest in working at the Museum, interviewed, and was later offered my current job.

How do you get students interested in local history? I think, first and foremost, you have to meet people where they are and make the topic relevant. History is full of dramatic and exciting stories. It's also the story of people, who all share fundamental similarities to which anyone can relate.

Is it easier to engage younger students (preschool or elementary) or older students (junior and high school age)? I personally find it easier to engage younger students, maybe because I have two of my own, but also I find that younger students are not afraid to show their wonder or to ask questions. When I carry out programs I work at the onset to make everyone comfortable with asking questions, no matter their ages.

What are you most excited about when it comes to the Museum? In one word: growth. New opportunities to tell our stories are all around us. The Visitors Center construction, *The Pantagraph* negatives acquisition, our updated web page, and the thousands of newly-digitized photos are just a few examples of the activities that drew me to the Museum.

What challenges does the Museum face in the near future? With growth comes the need to manage that growth, not to spread ourselves too thin, and to be really good at what we do. I think we're positioned very strongly and will continue to meet the needs of our audience as we face these new opportunities.

Meet Larry Dietz, New to the Museum Board

What is your professional background?

I have been honored to serve as President of Illinois State since March 22 of this year. I came to the university in 2011 as Vice President for Student Affairs. Previously, I served as Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs at Southern Illinois University-Carbondale for 10 years. I also served as Special Assistant to the Chancellor at SIU-C and as a tenured Associate Professor in Educational Administration and Higher Education. Prior to my tenure there, I served as Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management, among other leadership positions, at the University of Missouri-Kansas City for 15 years, and in leadership positions at Iowa State University for 13 years.



How did you come to the Museum Board? My Chief of Staff Jay Groves suggested I might enjoy serving on the Museum Board, and after a discussion with Greg Koos, I decided it was a good fit with my personal and community interests.

Have you always had an interest in history? Yes, and being from DeSoto, Illinois, and a farm background, I also have an interest in Illinois history and its foundations in agriculture.

How do you balance your "day job" with off-campus responsibilities such as this one? I think it is important to have community interests that complement my responsibilities with the university. The history museum certainly fulfills that role in combining educational pursuits with community involvement and interaction. Being engaged in the community is one of the "duties" of being a university president, and this role is one I enjoy.

What are you most excited about when it comes to the Museum? When you talk to people in the community, you quickly become aware that the McLean County Museum of History has an outstanding reputation, not only locally, but statewide. Its qualities and leadership stack up with any community museum around the country, and it is exciting and fulfilling to be involved with such a great local asset.

What challenges does the Museum face in the near future? Like most organizations, funding is always a challenge, and the goal becomes continually telling your success stories to the individuals and groups who will invest in your success and help you build for the future.

What is one of the best kept local secrets? I think it was the Illinois State University Galleries, which was tucked away in a hard-to-find corner of our Quad. But its recent move to Uptown Station means it will be a secret no more!

20 Year Anniversary Marks New Successes for the *Evergreen Cemetery Walk*

October 2014 marked the twentieth year of the *Evergreen Cemetery Walk*. This milestone anniversary brought a grand total of 3,933 individuals to the Walk, including 2,008 students and chaperones. Taking into account the ratio of actors to attendants, those numbers indicate that this year's *Walk* was one of the largest to date.



The *Evergreen Cemetery Walk* is a program 20 years in the making, and despite the fact that the cast of characters featured this year were all returning favorites, the 2014 *Walk* was still a year of firsts. This year's *Walk* was the first ever to boast a waiting list for the four days of school tours that are offered

Monday through Thursday between the public weekend performances. This accomplishment was no doubt a direct result of another first: Evergreen Memorial Cemetery's decision to provide full sponsorship of this year's program. Sponsorship from the Cemetery, in conjunction with an outpouring of support from Museum members and members of the community, allowed the Museum to waive all admission fees for students and chaperones who attended the *Walk* throughout the week—yet another first for us.

At this time the Museum, along with its partners Illinois Voices Theatre and Evergreen Memorial Cemetery, would like to take one last opportunity to extend its appreciation to all those who contributed their time, energy, and resources to making the twentieth *Evergreen Cemetery Walk* the most successful yet. The Museum would also like to give a last shout out to Artistic Director Judy Brown for her 20 years of passionate



and dedicated service to the *Walk* and to welcome another *Cemetery Walk* veteran, Rhys Lovell, as incoming Artistic Director. Now to wait and see what the twenty-first annual *Evergreen Cemetery Walk* has in store!



Don Shadrow reprising his role as Adlai Stevenson II.

Explore 20 years of *Evergreen Cemetery Walk* in an Interactive Map

Ever wondered about the variety of people featured in our *Evergreen Cemetery Walk* over the years? Now you can discover all 148 people in one place—an online map! Each person is plotted on this map where they are buried in the cemetery. You can read a short biography about them, see a picture (if one exists), and click a link to visit their full-length biography on our website. You are also able to sort people by name, year they were featured on the walk, or decade they were born.

It is easy to get lost reading about all the different people buried in one beautiful place, so set aside some time to visit! If you are viewing on a desktop, visit the map on our website at:

www.mchistory.org/learn/programs/map.php.

If you are on a tablet or smart phone, you can scan this QR code. However the mobile version does not have sorting capabilities described earlier.



We Want Your Recipes!

Dig out your old family photos, gather your favorite recipes, sift through pictures on your phones, and ask your relatives to share as well. The Museum is planning on including your family food traditions in its new permanent exhibit!

When we open the new permanent exhibit gallery *Choices, Challenges, & Change: Making a Home* in November 2015, there will be a digital interactive that will feature recipes, photos, and stories that reveal the history of food traditions and practices in McLean County. The interactive will not only show these stories, pictures, and recipes, but also allow visitors to choose recipes and email them so they can make new memories using your family recipes.

Centered around themes such as “Holiday Gatherings,” “Special Occasions,” “Community Celebrations,” “Everyday Recipes,” and “In the Kitchen,” the interactive will feature the foods we have eaten past and present, how these foods were prepared, and the reasons we gathered together for special meals.

To build this interactive we will need pictures and recipes representing all the residents of McLean County, including holidays or special events they celebrate. We want to know what they ate and how they prepared it. Without your recipes and photos we will not be able to put this activity together!

What are your family favorites? Corn casserole? Biryani? Arroz con leche? We will include any recipes and memories you are willing to share with the community. If your parents, grandparents, or great-grandparents lived here, we would love to include their pictures and recipes too. Photos and recipes don’t have to be from a special occasion for them to be used in this activity. As long as there is a connection to McLean County, you can contribute! We need hundreds of pictures and recipes to make this work.

Don’t be bashful! Imagine the fun you will have seeing your own photos in this interactive and comparing them to what others have added. To get started, take a look at the picture and story Museum Curator Susan Hartzold has shared. Then gather up your photos and follow the accompanying directions.

“In the Kitchen”

When I was six, my mom taught me how to make pie. This included making the crust from scratch. I loved rolling out the dough! My favorite pie was cherry—the really sweet kind from a can. I would cut cherry shapes and stems out of the top crust for decoration. Mom let me to cook the scraps of leftover dough sprinkled with sugar and cinnamon—a tasty treat to snack on while waiting for the pies (we always made two) to finish cooking. When I was growing up, mom served



dessert with every meal. I think it was her way of getting me and my seven siblings to eat the vegetables on our plates.

Story submitted with this family photo and a recipe for cherry pie

Rules for sharing your pictures, stories, and recipes:

- 1) Each recipe that is submitted must include a story; a photo is optional, but desired.
- 2) Each picture that is submitted must include a story (at minimum, a caption/label); a recipe is optional, but desired.
Pictures must show at least one person and some food or drink. Pictures of food without people in them will be accepted if they correspond with the recipe submitted.
- 3) The recipe or picture must have a connection to McLean County. Please explain the connection, and be as specific as possible.

Directions for how to contribute your pictures and recipes:

- 1) Be sure to include the story for every recipe or picture you contribute. Specify how it is related to McLean County, and detail any memories or traditions you have. Better to provide too much information than not enough.
- 2) Send your files*
 - a. email them to mcleanmuseumofhistory@gmail.com
 - b. share them via Dropbox or Google Drive
 - c. give them to us on a flash drive

*If your photos are not in digital form we can provide instruction how to scan them at home. If you do not have a scanner, we can scan them for you.

For more detailed instructions, call Torii at 309-827-0428.

McLean County Museum of History Welcomes Our New Members!

Amy and Anthony Bowman
Laura Coen
Dr. and Mrs. Mark Daniel
Mr. and Mrs. Erik Heinonen
Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Jameson
Rev. and Mrs. Herb Knudsen
Rachael and Tim Kramp
Christy and R.C. McBride

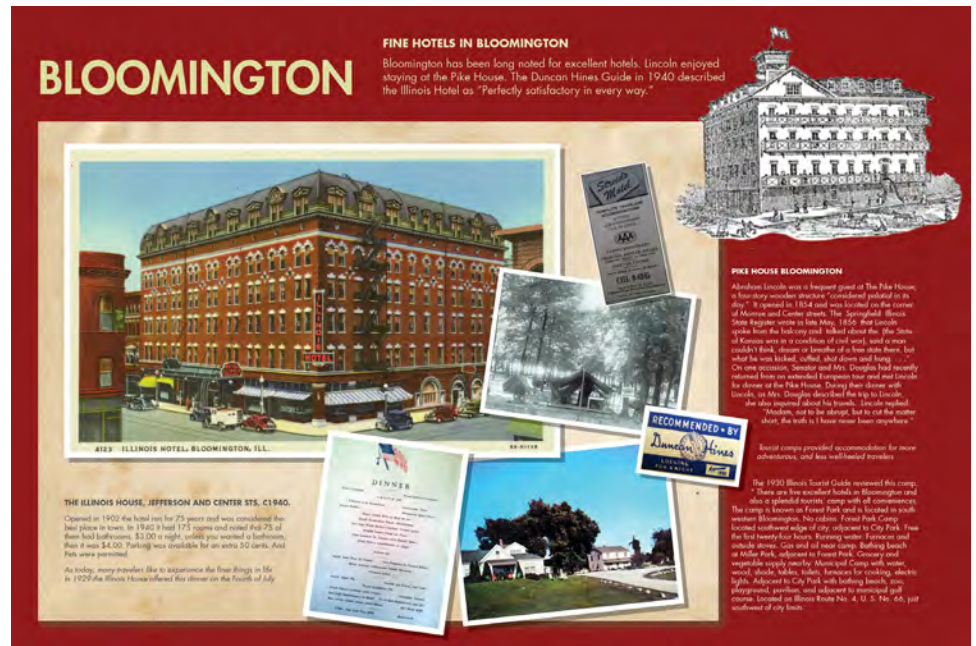
William Mullenix
Julie and Ken Poirier
Janet and David Seng
Steve Troyanovich
Linda Vert
Bill Waller
Mr. and Mrs. Chris Weiher

Bloomington-Normal Visitors Center (continued from page 1)

Due to the historic importance of the square, archeology preceded the construction. Floyd Mansberger and Christopher Patton of Fever River Research conducted the investigation. The most significant find was the foundation remains of the second courthouse—the one used by Abraham Lincoln. Remains of an 1847 county jail were also uncovered. The 2nd courthouse south wall will be memorialized in brass tracing across the plaza.

The Visitors Center exhibit is being developed by Executive Director Greg Koos and is being designed by Teller-Madsen, Francois and Associates has designed a reception station for the center which incorporates a judges desk that is original to the fourth courthouse.

Visitors Center operations are being developed by an advisory committee which includes: Jeff Woodard (Museum), Crystal Howard (Convention and Visitors Bureau), Terry Ryburn (Route 66 scholar), Karen Schmidt (Bloomington City Council), Wayne Aldrich (Director of Public Works, Town of Normal), Patti Penn (Beer Nuts Inc.), Marcia Young (Looking for Lincoln Heritage Coalition), Steve Nalefski (Illinois Route 66 Association member), Sue McLaughlin (Interim Assistant City Manager, Bloomington), Barb Adkins (Museum), and Greg Koos (Museum).



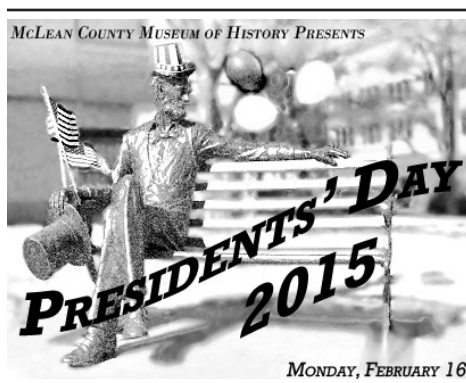
Museum hires Barb Adkins as Visitors Center Manager

The Museum is pleased to announce that Barb Adkins has agreed to serve as manager of the Bloomington-Normal Visitors Center. Barb recently retired from working for the City of Bloomington. She served the city for 32 years, most recently as Deputy City Manager. Her service has been recognized by numerous awards, including YWCA's

Women of Distinction. Executive Director Greg Koos said, "We are really excited about Barb's willingness to join in on this project. Her deep experience and people skills will see to it that we have a welcoming place for travelers who are enjoying the Mother Road or who are 'Looking for Lincoln.'"

'Get Your Kicks' on Presidents' Day

Our Presidents' Day celebration is back! Although Jack Frost put a damper on the festivities last year, the Museum is happy to announce the



return of Presidents' Day open house on February 16, 2015 from noon to 4:00 p.m. This is a family-friendly event, and all activities will be free and open to the public. In anticipation of the Museum's upcoming Bloomington-Normal Visitors Center with its theme of *Cruisin' with Lincoln on 66*, we invite you to celebrate our nation's founding fathers by taking a trip down the Mother Road.

Did you know the official starting point of Route 66 is Chicago—the former home of current president Barack Obama? Or that the develop-

ment of the U.S. interstate highway system in 1956 was championed by President Dwight D. Eisenhower—the political opponent of Bloomington native and Democratic presidential nominee Adlai E. Stevenson II? Learn more facts like these at the 2015 Presidents' Day open house. Activities will include a mock election, crafts, games, and cake!

A word to our current Trailblazers: be sure to check in at the Museum that day for a special Trailblazer token of appreciation. Also, keep an eye out for the new and improved Trailblazer membership program scheduled to launch in 2015.

Q&A on IRAs

A new report from the GAO estimates that 43 million taxpayers have IRAs, worth an estimated \$5.2 trillion. Some 42.3 million of these IRAs are worth less than \$1 million, and 800,000 are worth more. 314 taxpayers have IRAs worth \$25 million or more. That is some serious capital, which can raise serious questions. Here are four that crossed our desk recently.

Inherited IRAs, nonspouses

Q. *I've inherited a substantial IRA from my parent. What are my choices? Can I roll over the money into my own IRA? What I'd really like to do is convert the inherited IRA to a Roth IRA.*

A. Those approaches are not available to you. Because you are not the spouse of the decedent, you only are permitted to arrange a trustee-to-trustee transfer of the money to another IRA in the name of the decedent and yourself. A death triggers the process of exposure of the IRA accumulation to taxation. Although that taxation can be extended over your actuarial lifetime, it can't be delayed beyond that, which is why the decedent's name always must appear on the IRA. If you attempt to convert an inherited IRA into a Roth IRA, the conversion will be treated as a complete and taxable distribution of the IRA followed by an excess contribution to the Roth IRA. Similarly, if you attempt a trustee-to-trustee transfer from the inherited IRA to one in your own name, it will be treated as a complete distribution followed by a regular contribution to your IRA (not a rollover contribution).

Deemed distributions

Q. *Can I use my IRA as collateral for a loan?*

A. No, you cannot. Any portion of an IRA used as security for a loan is a deemed distribution, and that amount becomes taxable. The acquisition of a collectible by an IRA, such as a work of fine art, is also a deemed distribution. The amount of the distribution is the cost of the collectible.

Prohibited transactions

Q. *My son needs to borrow \$100,000. Can I lend him money from my IRA if he signs the appropriate paperwork and the IRA charges him an appropriate interest rate? The rate of return on my IRA has been poor lately, and this could be a win-win all around.*

A. No, you cannot do this. Any direct business transaction between an IRA or a Roth IRA and a "disqualified person" is a "prohibited transaction." You are a disqualified person, and so are your spouse, your ancestors and descendants, and your spouse's ancestors and descendants.

A prohibited transaction results in the end of the IRA being treated as an IRA. Instead, the entire IRA is treated as distributed on January 1 of the year that the prohibited transaction occurs, with the full amount subject to income taxes. With a Roth IRA, there may not be immediate taxation, but the future tax deferral is lost at that point. Prohibited transactions must be avoided.

What if the borrower is a brother or sister? Although such an individual may not be named a "disqualified person" in the statute, this is at best a grey area. Better to avoid courting trouble.

Q. *I have an asset that I think is worth at least \$100,000. I'd like to sell it to my IRA for \$50,000. That can't hurt the IRA, can it?*

A. Prohibited transactions are prohibited regardless of whether or not the IRA is harmed. As you are a disqualified person, you can't sell assets to your IRA. If you think about it, your bargain sale could really be considered an excess IRA contribution.

Other examples of prohibited transactions:

- An IRA owner and his spouse tried to purchase from an unrelated party (a bank) a promissory note on which the couple were the obligors. The Department of Labor considered this an extension of credit between the IRA and its owners, even though the IRA was not a party to the original transaction and the purchase of the note was at arm's length [Advisory Opinion 2011-04A].
- An IRA owner signed an agreement with a brokerage firm that gave the firm a security interest in the IRA to secure the owner's potential liability associated with a taxable futures trading account. The Department of Labor found this to be a prohibited extension of credit [Advisory Opinion 2011-09A]. However, the IRS has stated that if the cross guarantee is not actually activated, the penalty may not be imposed [IRS Announcement 2011-81].

(October 2014)
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MAIN OFFICE:
200 W. College Ave.
Normal, IL 61761
309.662.4444 / 888.897.2276 toll free
www.hbtbank.com

New to Collections

Donations

- Book sculpted from marble taken from 1900 courthouse, c. 1960; donated by William and Diane Detmers
- “Mondale-Ferraro” political button, c. 1984; Sheridan Elementary School pin-back button, c. 1995; Young Authors commemorative button, 1985; “Homecoming of the Kickapoo” commemorative button, 1998; Jack Horenberger Field opening day baseball signed by Jack Horenberger, 1999; donated by Jack and Pam Muirhead
- “Certified Seed” seed bag, c. 1960; “Brothers of the Beard” commemorative button, 1988; Carlock Lumber Co. yardstick, c. 1905; Farmers Elevator Co. yardstick, c. 1940; Melvin Hendricks & Sons ruler, c. 1965; donated by Andy Luber
- James Smith’s metal social security card, c. 1930, and St. Christopher Medal, c. 1918; donated by Joyce Maitland
- Berenz & Son brick carrier, c. 1937; donated by William Short
- Infelder’s baseball glove, c. 1968; 1969 NCAA College Division Baseball Championship commemorative medals, 1969; Illinois State University “NCAA Baseball Champs” Bulova wristwatch, 1969; donated by Dennis Fox
- McLean Centennial Bearded Brotherhood pin-back button, 1955; William Morrell’s Illinois 152nd Volunteer Infantry military badge, c. 1863; donated by Mary Mitchell
- Dr. Floyd Beel’s WWII U.S. Army Air Corps AN 6550 flight suit, goggles, leather flight helmet, oxygen mask, aviator glasses, Army-issued sewing kit, lighter, compass, bracelet and military pins, c. 1943; donated by Steve Troyanovich
- Crayon portraits of Abram & Eunice Ellsworth Brokaw, 1896; donated by Allen Cline and Mary Elizabeth Cline Canady
- Ganesha statue, c. 1980; donated by Balwant Singh
- Wedding sari, 2000; donated by Vijiya Singh Rathod
- Alfred Carlsson Lundeen’s toolbox and woodworking tools, c. 1870 - 1939; donated by Robert Lundeen
- Flying Valentines’ trapeze artist net-making needle, c. 1938; donated by Jim Sherer

Dr. Floyd Beel’s WW II U.S. Army Air Corps flight uniform



Steve Troyanovich recently donated friend and colleague Dr. Floyd Beel’s personal effects from WWII, including his U.S. Army Air Corps AN 6550 flight suit, goggles, leather flight helmet, oxygen mask, and aviator glasses. Beel entered the U.S. Army on February 9, 1943 and would pilot 27 missions as a B-24 Liberator pilot for the 8th Air Force over Occupied Europe.

Dr. Beel would often speak of his time in the service with Steve and, on one such occasion, he shared an amazing story of how he had “cheated death.” During a flight back to base after a bombing run in Northern Germany, Beel was flying over the island archipelago of Heligoland in the North Sea. Firing upon his plane, German gunners damaged the hydraulic system. With no way to accurately control the

plane for a safe landing, he believed his time had come. Somehow managing to muscle the plane to a safe stop, he saved not only his life, but the life of his crew.

Discharged from service in December 1945 as a war hero, Beel was awarded the prestigious Air Medal with three oak clusters for meritorious achievement during aerial flight. After his military service, Beel graduated from Logan Chiropractic School in St. Louis in 1949. He began his chiropractic practice in Bloomington in 1949, retiring in 1989.

- Virgin of Guadalupe celebration dress, 1985; shawl, c. 1973; doilies, c. 1980; ceramic piggy bank (cochinito), c. 2000; paper lanterns (farolitos), c. 1985; donated by Socorro Luna Alvarez

Archives

- Souvenir Program, German Evangelical Lutheran Church, 1884-1904, 64 pages, text in German; donated by Terri Clemens
- Several items, including 1969 Bloomington Federal Savings and Loan calendar, Grand Cafe menu (when restaurant was located at 106 W. Front St.), “Annual Labor Directory and Union Label Guide, 1942-43,” published by the Bloomington Building and Construction Trades Council, and other items; donated by Kaye Andrews
- Ten scrapbooks and other material relating to Bloomington High School boys basketball seasons, 1990s; scrapbooks include photographs, programs, and newspaper clippings; donated by Rich Gordon (BHS head coach at the time)
- Collection of Burtis family documents; donated by Carman Gresham

- Material relating to Raymond Thompson (1915-2012), including report cards from Little Brick School (Bloomington Township), 1920s; daily class record, 1943-44, Wapella High School, DeWitt County (Thompson taught agriculture at Wapella); and other items; donated by Gary and Brenda Thompson
- Collection of local theater programs; donated by Dianne and Doug DeLong
- Packet of material relating to the 1982 Illinois gubernatorial recount between incumbent James R. Thompson and challenger Adlai E. Stevenson III (donor served as Thompson representative in the discovery recount process); donated by Guy C. Fraker
- Abstract of title for lot in the Payne Place Addition of Normal, and a collection of material incorporated into the Guy Carlton Collection; donated by Sandy Brown
- Manuscript, “History of McLean County” by Agnes Kelly (donor’s great aunt), as well as other Kelly research pertaining to local history”; donated by Martha Middleton

- Sakemiller Lumber Co. twelve-month calendar, 1969; donated by Connie S. Griffin
- Various, including June 2, 1899 Bloomington High School commencement program, and a restaurant permit for Kay's Lunch Stand, located at 703½ S. Morris Ave., Bloomington, dated September 1918; donated by Amy Miller
- Illinois State University, Department of Geography-Geology research paper, "Geographical Aspects of the Illinois Great Rivers Conference, the United Methodist Church," by Nicholas W. Goodwin, 21 pages, 2014; donated by Michael D. Sublett
- Scrapbook relating to World War I experiences of James Smith, including postcards, photographs and ephemera; donated by Joyce Maitland
- American Passion Play program, 1928, Scottish Rite Players production; donated by William Kostlevy
- Street map of Bloomington-Normal, 1949; donated by Patricia Barth
- *The Arrowsmith News* (newspaper), June 24, 1916; donated by Betty Ann Yoder
- Scrapbook relating to golf, compiled by Mary Catherine "Tommie" Riley, 1947-1954; various items relating to Illinois State University, including "Editorial and Visual Identity Standards," second printing, 1996; "Taking Flight" magazine (*Pantagraph* publication), November 2, 2001, commemorating opening of the Central Illinois Regional Airport; other items; donated by William LaBounty
- Collection of articles (newspaper clippings and magazines) and photographs (mostly prints) on the Dixie Truckers Home; donated by Chuck and Charlotte J. Beeler (former owners of the Dixie!)
- Large collection of Clara Catherine Gellert Runge items, including handwritten recipes, farm receipts and record books, Ben Funk School newsletter, grade school report cards, and other items; donated by Janice Metz (granddaughter of Clara)
- Material relating to St. John's Lutheran Church, Bloomington, including eighty-fifth anniversary booklet, as well as "Discovering St. John's" CD and other material; donated by Harold Skillrud (retired St. John's pastor)
- December 1896 issue of "The Home Circle," an eight-page newspaper published in Bloomington and described as

Donate Your 'Vinyl' to the Museum!

The Library/Archives recently organized its scattered collection of LP (long play) 33 1/3 rpm records, as well as older "78s" and some 45 rpm discs. The Museum is now interested in increasing the depth and breadth of its "vinyl" collection and is seeking recordings relating to, or originating from, McLean County.

The collection currently includes some local musicians—such as a few Joe Dowell 45s, including the "Little Red Rented Rowboat" from 1962 seen here—church choir pressings, Adlai Stevenson speeches, and WJBC AM 1230 compilations. That said, there is much we do not hold. If you have LPs or 45s from local bands (country, rock 'n' roll, blues, gospel—it doesn't matter) or other subjects please consider donating



them to the Museum, where they will be cared for in a climate-controlled, acid-free environment to ensure that they will be around and appreciated for many generations to come.

If you are interested in donating local records, please contact Librarian Bill Kemp, either 309-827-0428 or via email at BKemp@mchistory.org.

- a "Journal of Best Literature for Home & Family;" donated by Nancy Carrico
- Documents associated with the architectural firm of Lundeen, Hooton, Roozen, & Schaeffer, a successor firm of Arthur L. Pillsbury's practice; donated by Robert Lundeen
- "Indict Sheriff King" bumper sticker, 1974; donated by Gail T. Walsh
- Collection of Brokaw Hospital Follies material, including booklets (1947, 1974, 1978, 1981, and 1984), newspaper clippings, and miscellany; donated by Vi Gilmore
- Large collection relating to the Sebastian, Stoltzfus, Ayers, Bishop, Keller, and Morgan families, including three nineteenth century diaries, two letters dated 1848, and many other items; donated by Donna Sebastian
- One Room Schools of Randolph Township, DVD with PowerPoint presentation and booklet containing prints of PowerPoint slides; presentation was part of Heyworth Public Library / Heyworth History Club's Randolph Township History Symposium; donated by Beth Porter of Heyworth Public Library
- Civilian Conservation Corps Annual, 1937, Fort Brady District, Sault Ste Marie, Michigan; donated by Richard Anderson
- Day journal, January 1920, for Mary Duke Wright, Bloomington; donated by Hope N. Pinkerton
- 8mm home movies transferred to digital format; includes scenes from Burr Robbins Circus in 1938 and Ringling Brothers in 1939; donated by Jim Sherer (member of the last trapeze act to come out of Bloomington-Normal)
- 8mm home movies transferred to digital format covering three generations of a circus family, 1940s to 1984; donated by Shane Sherer (trapeze artist and brother of Jim)
- Four circus films transferred to digital format, 1970s to 1984; donated by Manuel Cordero, a local trapeze artist
- Material relating to Stephen A. Merrill, Lexington photographer, including prints from glass plate negatives of Great Bloomington Fire, June 19, 1900, and other items; donated by Norm Hiser
- Various, including McLean County Fair, Saybrook, "helper's ticket," 1897, and other items; donated by Sally Zortman, care of Heather and Trent Zortman
- Fountain pen blotters used as promotional giveaways, Peer Loan Co. Inc., Normal Cleaners, and Bob Moore, painter; Woolen Mill Store savings club booklet; Bloomington-Normal City Lines (early bus system) schedule, 1959; and other items; donated by Jim Komnick

(continued on page 15)

McLean County Museum of History

Calendar of Events

Through Spring 2015

The Asian Indian Experience in McLean County

Asian Indian immigrants began arriving in McLean County in the 1960s. At first there were only a few families but by 2010 Indian immigrants represented nearly three percent of our community's population. As they arrived, they brought with them a desire to continue their cultural traditions and practices. From drastic changes in weather and loss of traditional food supplies to religion and western clothing, this exhibit explores the challenges they experienced and reveals the efforts made to maintain important traditions and practices while, at the same time, embracing American culture.

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. It is sponsored by State Farm Insurance.

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 and how, as these arts became popular in the United States, they were incorporated into the decorative arts "north of the border." It is sponsored by Country Financial.

Second Thursday of every month until May 2015

Lunch and Learn at the Museum

Bring your brown bag lunch to the Museum's new series, featuring engaging and enlightening topics for discussion. Join us the second Thursday of every month through May for a new topic to explore and discuss. The programs will be held in the Museum's Governor Fifer Courtroom from 12:10 to 12:40 p.m. The next three **Lunch and Learn** sessions will be December 11; January 8, 2015; and February 12, 2015. These programs are free and open to the public. They are sponsored by Illinois Wesleyan University, the McLean County Museum of History, and the Collaborative Solutions Institute.

December 5 — 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Once Upon a Holiday First Friday

Join the Museum staff for a free, fun, and festive evening for the whole family. Enjoy holiday music performed by Marcos Mendez, a celebrity reading of "Twas the Night Before Christmas" with *Pantagraph* columnist Bill Flick, homemade cookies, hot apple cider, adult eggnog, and more! For more information about this event and a complete list of participating locations, please visit the Downtown Bloomington Association's website at <http://downtownbloomington.org/events-lists/>.

December 6 — 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Christmas at the Courthouse

Join the Museum staff for this annual holiday tradition. Enjoy holiday music, Christmas carols, homemade cookies, children's crafts and activities, and a St. Nicholas for the kids! The Museum will be collecting non-perishable items for Clare House. See page 1 of this newsletter for more details. It is sponsored by State Farm Bank.

December 24 and 25

The Museum is closed for the Christmas holiday.

December 31 and January 1, 2015

The Museum is closed for the New Year holiday.

February 3 — 7:00 p.m.

History Reads Book Club

Join the Museum and Bloomington Public Library for the first installment of the History Reads Book Club for 2015. The discussion will be held in the Museum's Governor Fifer Courtroom. See page 2 for more information about the event. This program is free and open to the public.

February 16 — 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Presidents' Day Open House

This program is free and open to the public. For more information, please see page 10 of this newsletter.

February 20 — 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. See page 3 for more information about the event. This program is free and open to the public.

ARCHIVES *(continued from page 13)*

- Lucille Sutter baby book, c. 1915 (placed in the existing George Kelley Collection—Lucille was George's wife); donated by Elizabeth Schneider

Books

- *Portrait and Biographical Album of Champaign County* (1887); donated by Terri Clemens
- First United Methodist Church (Normal) directories, five total, 1982 to 1997, donated by Dianne and Doug DeLong
- *Windrush Reflections* (1965) signed by the author H. Clay Tate; donated by Sharon Tallon
- *The First One Hundred Years of Second Presbyterian Church* (1956) and others; donated by Sherry Cowan
- Swedish hymnal used by members of the Swedish Evangelical Lutheran Church of Bloomington; donated by Harold Skillrud
- *The Civil War Letters of Carey Campbell Wright of Tazewell & McLean County Illinois* annotated by Mark Dunn; donated by Mark Dunn
- Normal Community High School year-books, 1965, 1966, and 1976; donated by Elizabeth Schneider

Photographs

- Collection of Burtis family photographs; donated by Carman Gresham
- Various, including 8x10 of the Commercial Trades Institute (WWII training program) in Bloomington, November 1943, as well as photos of the Bloomington's west side and St. Patrick's Catholic Church, and others; donated by Gary and Brenda Thompson
- 8x10 color aerial of Bloomington High School and surrounding area, undated, as well as 14 photos (both 4½ x 2¾ and 2½ x 3¼) on the construction of Illinois Route 24, undated; donated by Amy Miller
- Three photo prints, two 4x6 and one 5x7, showing blacksmith shop of Charles Kimes, undated, shop located in the warehouse district south of downtown Bloomington; donated by Loretta Darnall
- 8x10 black-and-white of Don Clemens working for Irvin Bros., local Pepsi bottlers, summer of 1951 (reverse includes signed note by *Pantagraph* Sports Editor Fred Young to Clemens); donated by Shirley Clemens
- Collection of photographs (mostly prints) relating to the Gathman family; donated by Betty Ann Yoder
- Four photographs, 8x10 black-and-whites, Washington School, Bloomington, boy's basketball team, 1944; Bloomington High School baseball team, 1946; and BHS football team, 1946 and 1947; donated by William LaBounty
- Large collection of photographs, various dates and sizes, relating to downtown Bloomington buildings and street scenes, Illinois State University's Cook Hall, aerial views of Bloomington, Western Avenue Community Center, and Biddle Advertising office and staff; donated by Sherry Cowan
- First Methodist Episcopal Church, Normal; undated, though note on back references recent completion of church organ; donated by Joanne Pomar
- Collection of photographs relating to miniature steam train, Miller Park, and others; donated by Sally Zortman, care of Heather and Trent Zortman
- Four 8x10 prints of three business interiors and one exterior, George Lathrop barber shops at 216 W. Front St. and 423-425 N. Main St., Bloomington, c. 1904-1915; donated by Norm Hiser
- Large collection of photographs of the October 1997 demolition of the west side Bloomington train depot (Chicago & Alton, GM&O, and later, Amtrak); donated by Steve Gossard



Mystery History

Last issue's mystery pic, which showed the lower spillway at Lake Bloomington in the late 1920s, proved easy as pie for a gaggle of history sleuths. Those who knew the answer included Nancy Brady, Donna Curry, Mary Ann Downen, Arlin Ehrlich, Dennis Fox, Wendell Fuller, Carman Gresham, Roy and Linda Groves, Kevin Huette, Nola Johnson, Tom Marquardt, Jim Messer, Sondra O'Connor, Jim Raymond, Michael Sublett, and Jeanne and John Wroan. Whew! Our apologies if we left anyone off the winner's list.

Construction commenced on Lake Bloomington in March 1929, to serve as the municipal water supply for thirsty Bloomington residents and businesses. Eau Claire, Wisconsin-based Cast Stone Construction received the contract to clear the land, while the dam, spillway, and pump house were built by the J.L. Simmons Co. of Bloomington.

Nola Johnson tells us that back in the late 1920s when her future first husband Ron Smith was a Lexington teenager, he cleared land and performed other jobs during the construction phase of the lake.



For this issue can you identify the gone-but-not-forgotten Bloomington landmark that featured this feline-themed architectural remnant? If you have the answer, contact Librarian Bill Kemp by email at library@mchistory.org, or by phone at 309-827-0428. As always, may you be blessed by the local history gods!