

ON THE SQUARE



The Quarterly Magazine of the McLean County Museum of History

March-April-May 2022

Volume 54, Number 1

Old Things in New Contexts

page 3

The Other End of the Needle

page 3

West Bloomington Historic Preservation

page 4

The Jesse Fell Legacy Society

page 10



Also inside this issue:

Announcements & New Members	2
pt.fwd Music Series	6
Davis Mansion Celebrates 100 Years ..	8
A History of Community Service. . . .	9
New to Collections	12
Calendar of Events	14
Remembering Ed Jelks	15
Mystery History	16

With thanks to our magazine sponsor:



ON THE SQUARE

Quarterly Magazine

Edited by Susan Hartzold and Hannah Johnson for the
McLean County Museum of History



200 N. Main St., Bloomington, IL 61701
Phone 309-827-0428 Fax 309-827-0100
www.mchistory.org

Museum and Visitors Center Hours:

Visit mchistory.org for current hours and
Covid safety protocols

Admission:

FREE - Children and Students with ID
\$5 - Adults \$4 - Age 65+

Museum Staff

Julie Emig - Executive Director
Susan Hartzold - Curator of Collections & Exhibits
Chelsea Banks - Registrar
Candace Summers - Community Education
Hannah Johnson - Youth & Family Education
Norris Porter - Director of Development
Brandy Maloney - Development Assistant
Bill Kemp - Librarian
George Perkins - Archivist
Rochelle Gridley - Assistant Archivist
Rachael Masa - Director of Volunteers
Betty Turchiello - Volunteer Assistant
Jeff Woodward - Marketing & Public Relations
Torii Moré - Curator of Digital Humanities
Joe McDonnell - Visitors Center Manager
Kathi Davis - Visitors Center Assistant

Museum Board

OFFICERS

Tom Eder - President
Carolyn Perry Yockey - 1st Vice President
Michelle Pazar - 2nd Vice President
John Killian - Treasurer
Robert Porter - Secretary

DIRECTORS

Craig Alexander
Keith Cornille
John Davenport
Larry Dietz
Russell Francois
Terri Goss Kinzy
Sandra Harmon
Todd Lowery
Mike Matejka
John McIntyre
Marcos Mendez
Pam Muirhead
S. Georgia Nugent
Shelli Opsal
Josh Rohrscheib
Ann Sullivan
Carl Teichman
Paul Van Ness
Robert Watkins
Bill Wetzel
Bob Williams



Cover image: R.B. Still, left, manager of the Illinois Telephone Company, inspects new dial equipment with R.R. Burgener, foreman of the workers installing the system. Seated is Gerry McKeon, the trouble desk clerk.

Announcements

SAVE THE DATE!



Wednesday, June 15, Brown Ballroom, Bone Student Center, ISU

2022 History Makers Gala

The 2022 class will be revealed at a March 29 press conference
Gala tickets will go on sale that afternoon

Thank You Corporate Alliance Partners

We are grateful for the support of our business partners who invested in the work of the Museum through sponsorship and corporate membership during 2021. These partners helped us to serve the community with programming for patrons of all ages. Corporate Alliance Partners included *Bloomington Public Library, Carle BroMenn Medical Center, CEFCU, Cumulus Radio Bloomington, Evergreen Memorial Cemetery, Gailey Eye Clinic, Heartland Bank & Trust, Illinois Farm Bureau, Illinois State University, MCK CPAs & Advisors, McLean County Chamber of Commerce, Nicor Gas, The Pantagraph, and WGLT.*

Welcome New Members!

We look forward to seeing you soon!

Jamie Atchison
Rep. Dan Brady
Louis Carlat
Cathy Ethington
Brian R. Feldkamp
Lawrence Keach

Patricia King
Matt and Esther Lamb
Erick and Jada Miner
Pamela Veerman
Cheryl Weigel
NAACP, Bloomington/Normal Branch

Museum membership is an act of philanthropy that supports local history, preservation, and education for the entire community. Each membership also offers direct benefits to you and your family with free admission to the Museum and Library / Archives, discounts in the gift shop, member pricing for event tickets, and our *Time Travelers* reciprocal membership that offers free and discounted admission to hundreds of sites across the U.S.

Old Things in New Contexts



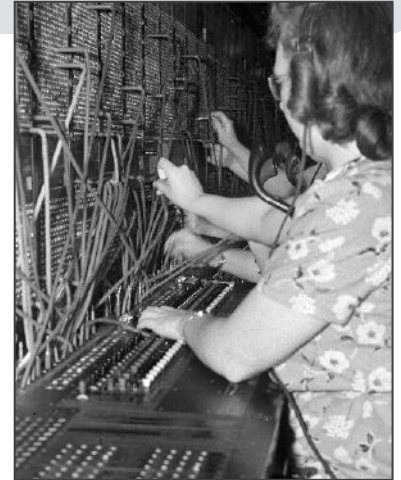
As we embrace the spring season of 2022, we at the Museum have been reflecting on William Faulkner's words: "The past is never dead. It's not even past." We are, after all, entering the third year of the COVID-19 pandemic, which continues to conjure comparison with the Spanish Influenza of 1918 (see Bill Kemp's Pieces From Our Past *Pantagraph* article from March 2020).

In this issue, Kate Bass writes about David C. Lane, a local scholar and tattoo enthusiast, who reflects on the long history and culture of tattooing. While the artform largely maintains its traditions, newcomers to the craft continue to innovate and evolve the genre. Greg Koos writes about the recently launched *West Bloomington Historic Preservation Project*, an effort to capture community stories and invest in structures of the past to create new ways forward.

New contexts create opportunities for change—opportunities that typically have both positive and negative ramifications. The front cover features an image from 1946 when new telephone technology was switched to rotary dialing.

The woman in the picture is Geraldine "Gerry" McKeon (1895-1975), who started as an operator in the company in 1915, connecting incoming calls with a complex array of switches and cords. Gerry and her older sister, Marguerite, were among leaders who formed the Telephone Operators Department—the first telephone operators union in Illinois—and were instrumental in fighting for better wages and working conditions for women. With the advent of rotary phones, operators resisted the transition in the name of employment. This story is both old and current. Waves of "new" technology provide contexts for change, but something is inevitably lost when gained. (Speaking of new tech, see our newly launched digital exhibit of *Working for a Living* to learn more about the McKeon sisters). Even still, though "there is no new thing under the sun" (Ecclesiastes 1:9), there is always a new pathway, albeit already partially paved, in the face of any historical change.

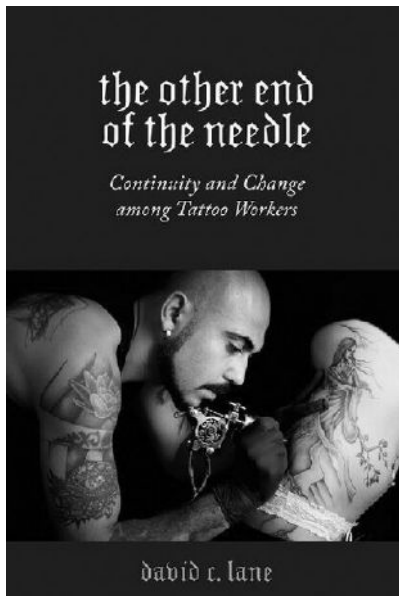
—Julie Emig, Executive Director



In an effort to stop technology upgrades that would eliminate switchboard operators, Bloomington's Operators Union placed a non-binding referendum on a 1940 ballot. The referendum passed, but the phone company mechanized anyway.

The Other End of the Needle

On Tuesday, May 10 at 6:30 p.m., the Museum will host ISU assistant professor David Lane in conversation about the work surrounding his book, *The Other End of the Needle: Continuity and Change Among Tattoo Workers* (November 2020). Lane's program, "Tattooing Finds You': How Tattooists Navigate their World," will take you on a journey about how the contemporary tattoo world operates.



Using vivid firsthand accounts from tattooists and an art world's perspective, Lane will discuss how these workers pursue meaningful labor. This discussion will explain the methods of learning to work, the hierarchy among tattooists, the mechanisms for maintaining social control, and how tattooists manage changes that threaten their control. Underlying these descriptions is an emphasis on the collective social processes needed to make art worlds operate. Ultimately, as Lane argues, tattooists have created and sustained an art world that relies on an anachronistic model of organizing labor.

In *The Other End of the Needle*, Lane shares a distinctive perspective from inside the world of tattooing. Instead of focusing singularly on the art or the body that has been tattooed, Lane shares the viewpoint of the tattooists and the social nature of working in the tattoo industry. As quoted in a WGLT article, Lane said it was pretty much inevitable that he would end up getting tattoos as he grew up in the punk and skateboarding scene, constantly surrounded by bodies that were tattooed. Over the years, he has spent much time within tattoo shops—both as an observer and while receiving ink himself. While within these spaces, he took interest in what could be described as a contradiction. Instead of being business rivals as expected by capitalist standards, tattoo artists and their shops have a sense of solidarity, in that tips and tools were shared with each other in order to further the work.

His book and talk argue to this point—that the world of tattoo work is a social world, where individuals are socialized, manage a system of stratification, —*Needle continued on page 5*

West Bloomington Historic Preservation

One of the goals of a community-based organization, such as the Museum, is to be a good neighbor—in its own neighborhood. One of the definitions of the social and economic lines that exist in our city is east side / west side. Veterans Parkway is now thought by many to be the dividing line. But there is a much older invisible line, and that is the one that runs down Main Street. And along that line, the Museum is in West Bloomington. So, how can the Museum be a better neighbor in West Bloomington? It has worked much with West Bloomington schools and organizations like the West Bloomington Revitalization Project, Western Avenue Community Center, and West Market Street Council, but a new opportunity is arising in which the Museum is partnering. That new effort is the West Bloomington Historic Preservation Project.

By Greg Koos, Vice Chair, City of Bloomington Historic Preservation Commission

This project arose from recent City of Bloomington strategic plans: the 2015 Bring It On Bloomington! plan and the 2021 Bloomington Community Preservation Plan. The 2015 plan was notable in the quality of documentation, which called out the need for regenerative economic investment in the heretofore neglected West Side. The benefit of such reinvestment would be to enhance the tax base for the City and for Bloomington Public Schools, District 87. The 2021 preservation plan specifically called for developing programs to identify historic buildings and neighborhoods in West Bloomington and other areas as well. This information is to be used to develop historic marker projects, identify city landmarks, and provide a basis for community reinvestment programs to enhance these neighborhoods.

It is known that many structures of architectural and/or historic interest are found in West Bloomington. Among them are the residences of two attorneys and friends of Lincoln, Harvey Hogg and Leonard Swett. Bloomington architects are well represented in the area, which includes the house that George Miller designed for his family at 405 W. Market and many buildings on West Wood Street that were designed by Paul Moratz. Of interest are three Art Moderne-style school buildings (Sheridan, Raymond, and Lincoln) from the 1930s, which were designed by the firm of Schaeffer and Hooten.

With the goals of such plans in mind, a project group has formed that includes members of the Bloomington Historic Preservation Commission, the Museum, and the West Bloomington Revitalization Project (WBRP). This group includes



James G. Lange lived and produced wine at his 817 W. Grove St. residence. The home dates to about 1858.

past and present members of city council, a county board member, and board members of WBRP. In a preliminary meeting, the project group agreed to consider the following projects:

- Collect and document stories of West Bloomington homes, places of work, and people. These stories can then be turned into radio shows, newspaper columns, and public presentations for West Bloomington groups.
- Use the above collecting and research to develop interpretive signage sharing West Bloomington stories where they happened.
- Develop and present data to civic leaders and elected officials that document the value of the tax base of West Bloomington, which is hugely important to District 87 and to the City of Bloomington.
- Work with the City of Bloomington Historic Preservation Commission to designate City Landmarks in West Bloomington that do not carry S-4 zoning.
- Work with the City of Bloomington to preserve City Landmark and West Bloomington homes by programs to be developed.
- Work with such groups as Dreams are Possible, Heartland Community College, Bloomington-Normal Trades and Labor Assembly, craft



The Chicago & Alton Railroad Freight House, located at 801 W. Chestnut St., was completed in 1888.



St. Patrick's Catholic Church and Rectory, located at 1209 W. Locust St., was completed in 1897.

unions, and preservation specialists to train crafts people needed to repair vintage houses.

After this work group coalesced, Alderperson Jamie Mathy announced an initiative for Bloomington City Council consideration to have staff *"create incentives for investment into these areas to encourage both individuals and developers to either remodel existing properties or build new in infill areas."* He said that such initiatives should be directed at projects that increase the value of the property as well as *"maintain neighborhood character and bring buildings to code."*

The mission of the McLean County Museum of History is to preserve, educate, and collaborate in sharing the diverse stories of the people of McLean County. The Museum's alignment with and partnership in the West Bloomington Historic Preservation Project is exemplary of that mission and demonstrates the Museum's further commitment to learn with its communities in order to preserve those histories and share those stories, while actively investing in the people and places of our county.

Needle continued from page 3— create spaces conducive for labor, develop sets of beliefs and values, struggle to retain control over their tools, and contend with changes that in turn affect their labor. Tattoo artists, as Lane describes, make decisions, but they work within this social world that constrains and shapes the outcome of their labor—i.e. the tattoo.

The pathway to even enter this line of work is distinct from most lines of business. Tattoo artists do not go to college to pursue the profession. In fact, Lane argues that the credentialism and formal education that other jobs require and use to build credibility is uniquely avoided in the tattoo world. Instead, tattooists are united in some degree by shared values, instead of formal teachings. This is evident in how the knowledge of tattooing is passed on to new artists. Tattooists, according to Lane, generally will not teach just anyone their craft. An individual typically must show the utmost care to not only the art and technique, but also the history and tradition of the art form. *"It is common for artists to reference its history and past masters of the industry since they learn a cultural code that helps them to make sense of the world around them,"* says Lane. *"It is a cultural code that values tradition."*

In his book, Lane describes in detail the typology within this worldview. Legends or masters, in his framework, are the people that have established themselves as the embodiment of the profession. These are the people that have a sense of collective memory surrounding them and therefore are the people others look up to. Beneath legends are craftsmen, who value the traditional sense of the job; and artists, who value tattoos as a medium to express their creative liberties. Between craftsmen and artists is some overlap. Lane describes that artists rely on craftsmen for tools and materials, and craftsmen rely on artists to push the craft into new territories. Lastly, in this framework, Lane places what he dubs the "shopless and scratchers," who are considered outsiders as they are untrained or self-taught. In the tattoo world, these individuals are the antagonists, and no one wants to be or admits to being one.

The Museum is excited to have Professor Lane speak more on this disregarded history and culture that flourishes locally in Downtown Bloomington. For more information, contact the Education Department at or (309) 827-0428. To register for this in-person program, go to bit.ly/MCMHTattoo



David C. Lane

David C. Lane is an assistant professor in the Department of Criminal Justice Sciences at Illinois State University. He holds a Ph.D. in sociology from the University of Delaware. His monograph, *The Other End of the Needle: Continuity and Change Among Tattoo Workers* was published by Rutgers University Press and is available wherever books are sold. His research articles on tattoo work appear in *Deviant Behavior* and the *Sociology Compass*. He also has a forthcoming original research chapter in the *Handbook of Social Organization* titled, "Resistance and Resilience among Tattoo Workers." Broadly, Lane's research focuses on tattoo work and culture as a social process, labor and the changes to cultural production in capitalist systems, crime in relation to natural hazards, art theft, and constructionist approaches to social problems. He also serves as the Chair of the Body Art and Images area of the Mid-Atlantic Popular and American Culture Association. His research expertise has been featured on *Inking of Immunity* podcast, *Telemundo's Radar 2021*, *Bloomberg Made*, *The Pantagraph*, and WGLT. Lane is currently researching the relationship between acquiring a tattoo and experiences of trauma. For more information about this study, or if you are interested in being a participant, go to tattoostudyisu.com or contact David Lane at dclane1@ilstu.edu

pt.fwd Series Two Years in the Making

After more than two years of partnership, pt.fwd and the Museum are ecstatic to present our first official in-person concert series, which will allow people to experience the “Old Court-house’s” rich historic and acoustic characteristics through the creative use of new sound and music. On Thursday, March 17 at 7:00 p.m., the second concert of the series will feature Door County, Wisconsin-based percussionist Jon Mueller. The live, free, in-person performance with Mueller will take place onsite at the McLean County Museum of History. Registration is required and attendance is limited to 40 people. To register, go to bit.ly/PtFwdMar2022

Mueller’s “Afterlife Cartoons” are solo acoustic percussion performances that use repetitive tom patterns and subtle shifts in grid-like pulsing to instigate overtones, phasing, and choir-like acoustic phenomena that transform the work from mere drum solo to the sonic illusion of a small orchestra. Rhythmic minimalism, contemporary phrasing, and energetic sustain drive Mueller’s improvisations into a space somewhere between modern electronic music and primal drumming, inspiring audiences toward movement and contemplation. His aim has been to move drums, percussion, and rhythm from its anticipated backbeat to a central musical focus, something more intuitive and natural than usually imagined. You can check out Mueller’s music by going to bit.ly/3qENeku

pt.fwd’s mission is to celebrate the communal experience of coming together to listen to powerful new sonic

COVID-19 Protocols

For this partner program series, all in-person attendees must show proof of either full vaccination—OR—a negative COVID-19 test performed within 72 hours prior to entry. Patrons will be asked to show their valid vaccination card or test result (photocopies or digital copies on your phone are permissible) alongside a government-issued ID (to confirm identity) when they arrive at the door. Types of “negative” COVID-19 testing allowed include: Rapid “Shield” tests, PCR tests, or Over-The-Counter Antigen tests. All patrons will be required to wear a facial covering over both the nose and mouth for the duration of the performance regardless of vaccination status, per Illinois State mandates and current CDC guidelines.

The Museum and pt.fwd continue to monitor the conditions that surround the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and how these conditions will impact our ability to hold future in-person programs. As long as current health and safety guidelines from the CDC and State of Illinois allow for in-person programming at that time, we plan to host this concert series in-person at the Museum. Visit mchistory.org or follow us on Facebook for updates on this and other upcoming programs.

art. Since their inaugural season in 2018, pt.fwd has worked hard to cultivate compelling, independent programming that puts artists first by paying them well and providing a stimulating environment for creative experimentation. pt.fwd also strives to build community by offering free events in accessible venues (like the Museum) and highlighting work that benefits underserved members of our communities. Broadly speaking, pt.fwd aims to champion music without racial, gender, academic, economic, or geographic boundaries—it only asks that it be new, and that it be great!

In late 2019, pt.fwd first approached the Museum as a potential partner in a new concert series that would feature contemporary music and sonic arts performances by local and regional artists in Bloomington-Normal. Though the events of 2020 forced us to transform and transition those performances to an online platform, the partnership between pt.fwd and the Museum continues—and in many ways is only stronger for it.

In an effort to support the arts and musicians during lockdown in the early days of the COVID-19 pandemic, pt.fwd quickly pivoted to hosting a series of Quarantine Concerts through the Chicago-based Experimental Sound Studio (ESS) that provided an avenue for artists to share their work and continue to earn a living during a time when live performance opportunities were slim to none. The Quarantine Concerts has since grown to be an ongoing, collaborative international venue in its own right, and musical performances continue to be streamed online.

In July 2020, pt.fwd launched its Artist-in-Residency program. Conceived as a “residency without walls,” the program enables pt.fwd to assist artists with needs-based financial support during the creation of new work and encourages community participation in the creative process. Through the program, pt.fwd was able to add two public performances to its annual calendar and two new opportunities for community members to directly engage with contemporary art-makers, while providing critical early-stage financial support to ambitious artists.

In April 2021, the Museum hosted pt.fwd’s Artist-in-Residency, Allen Moore, a Chicago-area Black American interdisciplinary painter, experimental sound artist, educator, youth mentor, and curator. While in residency, Moore created a concert-length performance that drew upon materials from the Museum’s Bloomington-Normal Black History Project. Moore’s work examines both visual and experimental music, emphasizing the importance of nurturing the Black Imagination with social representation. His educational and curatorial practices focus on building spaces for advocacy, creative representation, and healing. His work converses with the signifiers of African American and popular culture, bringing to view the underlying themes of racial, emotional, and socio-economic conditions.

Upon reflecting on his experience in the program, Moore stated that *“funding in the arts is very competitive and opportunities are limited. It’s tough to see projects to fruition without access to resources that allow for research and experimentation.”* Moore was grateful for the opportunity to have access to the Museum archives and to perform in the Museum itself. *“I thought the connection between the museum and the residency was seamless,”* Moore stated.

On February 26, in the first of the current two-part series, the Museum hosted Lia Kohl and Macie Stewart, a Chicago-based duo who create freely improvised music that explores rich harmonies, timbres, and textures. Over the course of several years, the duo has created a series of pieces performed in various locations throughout the Midwest, testing the elasticity of their intuitive connection and finding new ways to interact with and react to their environments, whether lakeside lighthouses, bridges under a highway, or cavernous buildings. To listen to a sampling of Kohl and Stewart’s music, [visit bit.ly/3qENfPO](https://bit.ly/3qENfPO)

pt.fwd artist Alan Moore



David Davis Mansion to Celebrate 150 Years

On Saturday, April 2 at 1:00 p.m., the Museum will welcome Dr. Marcia Young, historian and former executive director of the David Davis Mansion State Historic Site, for a program on her forthcoming publication about the history of the David Davis Mansion in Bloomington. This free, public program will be held in the Museum's Governor Fifer Courtroom. Attendance is limited to 75 people and registration is required. Visit forms.gle/9eKufnHngaHSrT5k7 to register.

2022 marks the 150th anniversary of the construction of the David Davis Mansion. To commemorate this special milestone, the site's foundation board is publishing a new, limited-edition book entitled *The David Davis Mansion: 150 Years at Clover Lawn*.

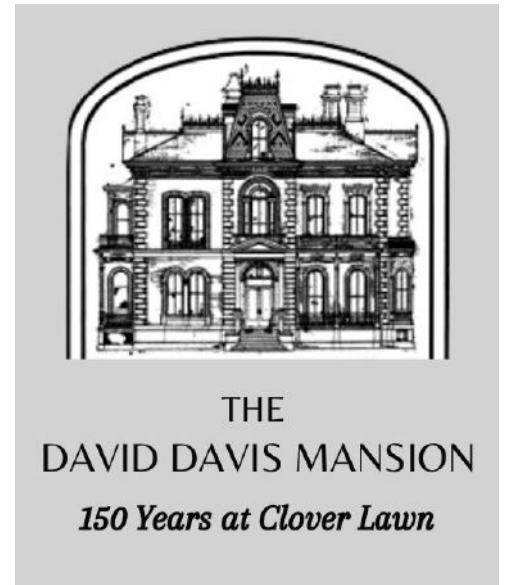
Known as "Clover Lawn," the mansion was originally the home of Supreme Court Justice David Davis—friend, mentor, and presidential campaign manager of Abraham Lincoln. It was also the cherished residence of Davis's wife, Sarah, who spent her time entertaining family and friends, cultivating her gardens, and traveling to and from Washington, DC; New York City; and western Massachusetts. Since its construction in 1872, the David Davis Mansion has served as a key example of Victorian life and style and an illustration of the important role Illinois played in nineteenth century American history.

Written by Dr. Marcia Young, accomplished historian, former executive director of the David Davis Mansion, and a recipient of the Illinois State Historical Society's Lifetime Achievement Award, the book includes a detailed history of the mansion, an account of its restoration, and hundreds of high-quality, rarely seen photographs. Using new

archival sources, this commemorative book takes a fresh look at the mansion's early years and reveals some surprising discoveries. It provides a reassessment of Sarah's role, a revealing portrait of Judge Davis after Sarah's death, and a new appreciation for George P. Davis's significant achievement in preserving the mansion and the Davis family's papers during the more than 30 years he resided at Clover Lawn after his father's death. Dr. Young presents the mansion's history as a uniquely American story—a story about the country's westward expansion and its transformation after the U.S. Civil War into the most modernized and economically powerful nation in the world.

This hardback book is scheduled to be delivered by March 1, 2022. Order your copy for \$100 at clover-lawn-museum-shop.square.site. A select number of truly limited-edition copies of *The David Davis Mansion: 150 Years at Clover Lawn*, retailing at \$1,000, are still available as well. This version is leather-bound, gold foil embossed, slip-cased, and signed by the author. To inquire about purchasing this version, please contact the foundation's program coordinator Adrienne Huffman at adrienne.r.huffman@gmail.com.

For more information about the public program, contact the Education Department at education@mchistory.org or call (309) 827-0428.



Marcia Young

A HISTORY OF COMMUNITY SERVICE

The Museum has a history of service. Throughout our time as a collecting institution, we have often served as a collection site for items needed by fellow nonprofit organizations to fulfill their missions of providing for the basic needs and wants of our community members. From the hundreds (if not thousands) of items made by our network of *Knit In* knitters and crocheters, to the boxes of school supplies collected each year for the Back 2 School Alliance, to the hundreds of face masks made and distributed through our Face Mask Fence in the early days of the pandemic, the Museum is continuing in that spirit of service and community in 2022.

Starting in March, during each quarter of the Museum's fiscal year, we will be "adopting" a different local nonprofit to help collect much-needed items to assist fulfilling the needs of their patrons. Those who donate items to the Museum from the wish list of our "adopted" groups will be entered into a drawing for a special prize at the end of each quarter.



For this quarter (March through May), the Museum will be collecting items for The Baby Fold in Normal. Founded in 1902 (and celebrating their 120th anniversary this year), The Baby Fold was organized as a home to care for an increasing number of local orphaned children. Today, The Baby Fold serves over 1,200 individuals every year through 12 programs that wrap services around children and families across 28 counties in Central Illinois. The Baby Fold builds positive futures with children and families and strives to transform children's lives through strong family and community partnerships.

Individuals who donate items from The Baby Fold's wish list below will be entered into a drawing for a Museum-branded shoulder bag with several local history publications in it, and a voucher for tickets to The Baby Fold's Festival of Trees this fall! (Limited to one entry per person).

Additionally, in May, the Museum will host a temporary display of archival materials related to The Baby Fold outside of our Library on the second floor in honor of the 120th anniversary.

For more information or questions, please contact the Education Department at education@mchistory.org or (309) 827-0428. Thank you in advance!

BABY FOLD WISH LIST

Pull-Ups (all sizes)

Crayons

Markers

Colored Pencils

Baby Gates

Gift cards for Big Box Stores
(for clothing, bedding, etc.)

So You Want to be a Museum Volunteer!

Meet Ben! Ben Rosset became a Visitors Center Reception Desk Volunteer in September 2021. As a reception desk volunteer, Ben's day-to-day includes greeting visitors, taking phone calls, talking Route 66 attractions with tourists, enticing folks to visit the Museum, and the all-important selling of souvenirs and locally made goods to all of our loyal patrons.



A community-minded, board game inventor from the Chicagoland area, Ben's favorite subject in school was history. He was also active in several sports and school band. After earning a degree in economics and finance at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Ben worked for the Labor Department in Washington, DC. Ben and his wife, Shelley, moved to Bloomington so that Shelley could earn her master's degree in Music Therapy from Illinois State University.

Ben's main interest in adulthood has been designing and licensing his own board games fulltime. He is the Director of HR and Training for Panda Game Manufacturing—one of the leading board, card, and dice game manufacturers in the world.

When Ben was new to town, he took the advice of a friend to reach out the local history museum to get connected with the community. And we are glad he did! Ben is particularly moved by the Museum's *A Community in Conflict* exhibit. He looks forward to spending more time learning and reflecting on how past national historic trends affected people of McLean County.

Interested in joining Ben as a new Visitors Center Reception Desk Volunteer? Contact Rachael Masa, Director of Volunteers & Interns, at rmasa@mchistory.org or (309) 827-0428 to explore that possibility or any of the many other volunteer opportunities at the Museum.

Introducing the Jesse Fell Legacy Society

The **Jesse Fell Legacy Society** is being launched to recognize individuals who choose to support the Museum through a planned gift made from estate assets. A legacy gift is a planned future gift that designates some part of an individual's estate as a donation to the Museum. Jesse Fell's legacy was critical to the early development of McLean County. He had simple tastes and was less given to luxury and show—he used his wealth to enhance his community.

A **charitable bequest** is one of the easiest and most flexible ways you can leave a legacy gift to the McLean County Museum of History (MCMH) that will have a lasting impact. With the help of an attorney, you can include language in your will or trust specifying gifts to be made to family, friends, and MCMH as part of your estate plan. Another simple way to create a legacy gift is to designate MCMH as the recipient of assets from Life Insurance, IRAs, or Pension Plans by naming the Museum as a recipient through a "**beneficiary designation**"—a contract between you and your insurance company or pension plan administrator to transfer the asset at your death to the person(s) or institution(s) you have designated. You do not need to have a will, or change a will, to take advantage of this opportunity.

Legacy gifts have historic significance for MCMH and have been instrumental in building an endowment to support the Museum's mission of preservation and sharing of the rich history of McLean County residents. The Museum's endowment, first created in 1920, has grown over the years to support our work and is critical to the health of the organization during both good and uncertain times, such as the pandemic. **Our mission is timeless and your support makes a difference.**

The biggest barrier to charitable legacy gifts is planning—approximately 56% of those over the age of 50 have done no estate planning. While 80% of Americans engage in philanthropy every year, only 6% transfer dollars to charity upon death. Of those who transfer dollars to charity, the most common types of gifts include bequests, followed by beneficiary designations for other assets.

Documenting your legacy gift intent with the Museum is simple and helps ensure your wishes are met with respect to designating a specific purpose for your investment. Documenting your intentions also allows the Museum to honor you now as a member of our Jesse Fell Legacy Society and may



Jesse Fell

Jesse Fell's influence, vision, and impact are evident throughout Bloomington-Normal and Central Illinois. He was the first attorney in Bloomington and speculated in land acquisition and development, having a hand in the founding of Normal, Clinton, Towanda, Pontiac, Lexington, LeRoy, and El Paso. He founded the first newspaper in Bloomington, helped introduce Abraham Lincoln to the nation, was a key player in the development of local railroads, and was responsible for Illinois State University being located in McLean County.

inspire others to consider a similar gift that will help to ensure our mission and its goals to preserve collections, learn with our communities, and share the stories of our history. **Will the next chapter of your life story include a legacy gift for the Museum?**

For more information or to document your legacy, contact Norris Porter at development@mchistory.org or by phone at (309) 827-0428 ext. 104

Planned Giving in 2022

The idea of “planning” a gift to charity may not spring as readily to mind as investment or retirement planning. Yet there are many ways to give, and many kinds of gifts to consider, especially when philanthropy is one of your core values.

► Initial steps

Of course, the very first step in your planning is to identify the object of your philanthropy. Then consider what you intend your gift to accomplish: how you would like your gift to make a difference both in general and specific terms. At this point you probably will make contact with the director of development at your chosen charitable organization to discuss your gift.

With the procedural steps out of the way, creativity begins. How can you shape your gift? For instance, your gift need not be cash (except that non-cash gifts do have a lower deduction limit). You may own certain assets that you may want to donate, and your charity will be more than glad to receive.

► Qualified Charitable Distributions

Those who are 70½ or older may direct up to \$100,000 from an IRA to a qualified charity (a Qualified Charitable Distribution, or QCD). The QCD will qualify as a Required Minimum Distribution (RMD), which is mandated for those over age 72. The QCD may be a good choice for the charitably minded, because the amounts so transferred are not included in income, and that can have other tax benefits.

► Gifts of property

Generally, your federal income tax deduction for your gifts to charity is the fair market value of the transfer. There's a tax bonus when you make a gift of a long-term capital asset that has appreciated in value during the time that you owned it.

Here's how it works: You plan a substantial gift and are considering selling some securities that you have owned for years which have grown significantly as the means to fund the gift. You'll pay a long-term capital gain tax on the sale and then can pay what's left over to your charity. If you make a gift of the securities themselves, you will pay no capital gain tax. The charity can sell the securities without incurring any tax. You also will be entitled to an income tax deduction for the fair market value of the gift of securities (limited to 60% of AGI).

► Gifts of real estate

For some people a gift of a parcel of land held for many years that has appreciated significantly in value may be an especially attractive candidate for a gift to charity.

As with other appreciated property, you will have the opportunity to take an income tax deduction for your charitable contribution equal to 100% of the property's fair market value, which, if you have held the property for some time, may be substantial. In addition, you pay no capital gain tax on the past appreciation. An added bonus: You are reducing your taxable estate by the value of your gift.

If you would rather take a “wait-and-see” approach, you can make the real estate gift as a bequest in your will. Although you receive no current income tax deduction, your estate receives a full deduction for the real estate's fair market value at your death.

► Gifts in trust

Fashioning your gift in trust adds a great deal of flexibility to your gift giving.

There are many ways to establish your trust. For example, you may set up your trust during your lifetime or through provisions in your will. You can arrange for the trust to provide you with income from the trust for your life, or income for someone whom you name in the trust document. You can provide for the gift of income to yourself or the named beneficiary or beneficiaries for a period of time or for life, followed by a transfer to the charity (a charitable remainder annuity trust, or charitable remainder unitrust); or the reverse—a gift of income to the charity followed by a transfer of assets to the named beneficiary (a charitable lead trust).

You may fund your trust with cash or be more creative by using the aforementioned appreciated securities, real estate, or perhaps a life insurance policy. When your donation is placed in the trust, you receive an income tax deduction for the charitable part of the gift.

You'll need to cross all the “t's” and dot all the “i's” in order to reap all the possible tax benefits from a charitable gift in trust. Be sure to confer with your attorney, wealth advisor, and the charity itself when considering any of these creative ways of giving.

The information contained within this article is provided for informational purposes only and is current as of the date published. Please consult with your tax and legal advisors before implementing any strategies. This information is not intended to be and should not be treated as legal advice or tax advice. Readers should under no circumstances rely upon this information as a substitute for their own research or for obtaining specific legal or tax advice from their own counsel. January 2022 © 2022 M.A. Co. All rights reserved.



It's more than an investment,
it's your legacy.

Grow, protect, and
transfer your wealth
with confidence.

Wealth Management

hbtbank.com | 855-244-1217



Not FDIC Insured	Not Bank Guaranteed	May Lose Value
Not Insured by Any Federal Government Agency	Not a Bank Deposit	

New to Collections

Objects

- Straw cutter used by Harrison Lott and Jesse Earl Lott, c. 1900; donated by Gerald W. Lott
- Steak 'n Shake uniform worn by Scott Olson in 1979; donated by Bea Olson
- Portable compact disc player, c. 2008; donated by Colleen Reynolds
- Cash register used at Stern's Furniture Company in downtown Bloomington, c. 1920s; donated by Scott Harrison
- Child's dress worn by Linda Lacy, c. 1952; Girl Scout sash, c. 1963; candy striper cap and pins worn by Linda Lacy, c. 1966; donated by Linda Lacy
- Child's car seat used by the children of George and LaVon Schultz, c. 1958; donated by LaVon M. Schultz

- Commemorative mug from the 1987 renovation of the Colonial Plaza Shopping Center; donated by John Elterich
- Refrigerator magnet from Steven Purcell's city council campaign, c. 2010; plastic wallet from McGrath Inc., c. 1990; donated by Sandra Stengel
- Cast-iron shelf from stove manufactured by the Cooperative Stove Company of Bloomington, c. 1900; donated by Terrance Whitecotton
- Plastic Christmas candy containers, c. 1970s, used by the Porter family; donated by Beth and Norris Porter
- Console television belonging to Edith Brown Smith, c. 1999; donated by the family of Edith Brown Smith
- Collection of pin-back buttons from Bloomington High School and Normal Community High School,

c. 1970s; donated by Todd Bettis

Archives

- Handwritten letter from the Illinois Soldiers' and Sailors' Orphans' Home, Normal, acknowledging receipt of \$15 for a month's board for Johnnie Barnes, April 28, 1885; one-page of biographical material explaining same; donated by Mary Ellen Gass
- Amateur Radio Station licenses and related items for Herbert "Mick" Rediger (donor's uncle); donated by Verma Rediger Gummerman
- Collection of family materials, including Jesse Douglas's funeral card and transcription of Spanish-American War journal; and items related to Olive Douglas and Ernest Jones, among others; donated by Peg Hutson
- Illinois Sesquicentennial (1818-1968) booklet; donated by Bea Olson
- Three large binders relating to the Miller family farm in Allin Township, including a detailed history of owners since 1852; donated by Janet Miller Griswold
- Large collection of miscellany, including 1999 commemorative booklet, 30 Years of Bloomington's Own Eastland Mall; DVD of the dedication of the Connie Link Amphitheatre, July 5, 2008; 2014 Connect Transit Riders' Guide; and other items; donated by Ruth Cobb
- First day of issue covers (new stamps and / or commemorative envelopes) for Lincoln-themed and local events, including the 100th anniversary of Lincoln's "Lost Speech" in Bloomington, issued March 29, 1956; 100th anniversary of the Lincoln-Douglas Debates, issued by the Corn Belt Philatelic Society, October 4, 1958, and others; donated by Patricia Townley Carlson
- "The Tickle Toe," early aviation-themed sheet music published by M. Whitmark & Sons, 1918; donated by Steve and Mary Pollitt
- Various, including David Davis letter to Morris Hallowell, Philadelphia, 1847; letters to and from Hohenstein's Drug Store, Bloomington, and Weisert Tobacco, St. Louis; and others; donated by David Parker
- Second Christian Church, Bloomington, Bible School certificate, 1917; Nellie and Eldridge Powell (both from Randolph in Randolph Township) marriage certificate, 1921; donated by Carol White
- St. Joseph School of Nursing diploma; State of Illinois Certificate of Registration as nurse, both from 1959 and relating to donor's nursing career; donated by Shannon Perry
- Compact disc featuring music of local artists Gregg Brown and David Nelson, 2008; donated by Gregg Brown
- Seven ledgers relating to various local social service groups, including the minutes of the

Featured Artifact

Child's Car Seat – donated by LaVon M. Schultz

This child's car seat with steering wheel was used by the George and LaVon Schultz family of Normal. First purchased in 1958, it was used with each of their four children through the mid-1960s. It typically hung between the driver and front passenger seats of their automobile. Both the steering wheel and seat cover were replaced by George Schultz after the originals broke or became too worn.



Children's car seats first appeared in the 1930s, not as a safety device, but as a means of restraint that also kept young children within view of driving parents. It wasn't until the early 1960s, after the widespread adoption of seat belts, that safety became a serious consideration in children's car seat design. In 1971 the first federal government standards on safety seats were adopted, rendering older child's seats, such as this one, obsolete.

Bloomington Bureau of Associated Charities, 1900-1902; minutes of the Bloomington Benevolent Society, 1900-1906; and others; donated by Chestnut Heath Systems

- Collection of items recovered from a home in Lexington, including Applied Technique (third edition, 1906), notated music by O.R. Skinner, published by Skinner (who ran a music school in Bloomington); donated by Kathy and Tim Vroman
- Wide-ranging assortment of material, mostly collected by donor's mother Betty Hileman Miller Stengel, including local restaurant menus; programs for local music and athletic events; promotional fliers; and other items; donated by Sandra Stengel

- Two handwritten journals by Sally Ann Pence Sinks, including transcriptions made by donor, 1869-1873 and 1977-1979; donated by Donna J. Sinks

- Several items, including Nashville Country Show at the Bloomington Consistory, autographed by Diana Trask, June 4, 1972; donated by Robert Myers

- Various items relating to Illinois State University and University High School, including U-High Pioneer Alumni Newsletters, spring 2018, spring 2020, fall 2020, and spring 2021; donated by Robert Neuleib

- Pontiac Daily Leader, Illinois Sesquicentennial edition, October 3, 1968; Daily Pantagraph, front section, October 26, 1972 (Watergate); and other items; donated by Robert Bradley

- Scrapbook on the life and career of Bernard Johnson Claggett (1861-1919), including "Candidate for Treasurer of Illinois" cards; donated by Teresa Connelly

- Large collection of items, including The Limited—A Railroad Man's Magazine, volume 1, 1925, published in Bloomington; East Bay Camp book, 1950; program, first annual IHSA state football playoffs (Normal Community was a participant), 1974; Prairie Days Festival 1988 booklet (Hudson Lions); and many more; donated by Richard Savage

- Scrapbook relating the Odyssey Project through Bard College and the Illinois Humanities Council (donor was participant), 2002-03 through 2007; donated by Nancy McKinney

- Several items, including envelope from Dr. H. Schroeder, Vineyards and Fruit Garden; donated by Kevin and Carol Lowery

- State Farm Holiday Classic high school basketball tournament program, December 2022; donated by Jeff Findley

Books / Periodicals / Publications

- Illinois Sketches: by Roscoe Misselhorn (Swiss Village Bookstore, 1985); donated by Rachael Masa

- Henry Frank and Elizabeth Snyder of Piatt County, authored by donor (2006); donated by Susan Kellar Ratcliffe

- Silent Connection (2020) and Deadly Quiet (2021) authored by B.J. Baumgardner; and A Story Worth Telling (2021) by Mary M. Waters in collaboration with Diana K. Childs; donated by Betty J. Baumgardner and Diana K. Chiles

- Cadette Girl Scout Handbook (1963) used by donor for the Centennial School Brownie troop; donated by Linda Lacy

- Along the Mackinaw River (2004), book of photographs by donor; donated by Ken Kashian

- Booklet, Newcomers Key to Bloomington-Normal, published by the Civics Activities Association, 1949; donated by Denise Wilson

- History of Coles County, Illinois (1979); donated by Embree Effingham

- Employments of Women: A Cyclopaedia of Woman's Work (1863; 2021 reprint) by Virginia Penny; donated by Greg Koos

- Lincoln, Life-Size (2009) by Philip B. Kunhardt III et al.; donated by Norris Porter

- We Remember: Col. Samuel Washington Beeler and His Descendants, compiled by the donors; donated by William G. and Sharon Beeler

Photographs

- Several photos related to donor's father's time with the Civilian Conservation Corps in Skokie during Great Depression; and others; donated by Patrick D. McCowan

- Team photograph, Heyworth men's baseball team, undated; donated by Dennis Vogel

- Two photographs (exterior and interior) of the C.L. Utesch grocery, Bloomington, both undated; donated by Sue Neville

- Large collection of Behr and Miller family and local photographs, including photo postcards; donated by Linda Lacy

- Two photographs, including donor as Trinity High School graduate, 1956; donated by Shannon Perry

- Undated view of uniformed men (streetcar conductors?) standing in front of the McLean County Courthouse; donated by Kevin and Carol Lowery

- Picture postcard showing the Chicago & Alton Railroad roundhouse in Bloomington, undated; donated by Mike Schulz

The Museum
collects personal, military,
household, business, art , and
native objects, created and used by
the people of McLean County.

**What's gathering dust
in your attic?**



**Futures in
HISTORY
Camp
2022**

**REGISTER
MAY 1**

**2 SESSIONS
16 Campers
July 11-15
August 1-5**

.....
**Any area camper
entering 4th - 6th
grades in Fall 2022**

Explore law,
archaeology,
architecture,
museum studies,
& environmental science

WWW.MCHISTORY.ORG

CALENDAR OF EVENTS*

Every Tuesday

5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Old Time Music Group Live

"Oldtime" music hails from the Appalachia region of the U.S. from before the time of radio and phonograph. People would play these "fiddle tunes" at house parties and square dances. There are pockets of Oldtime players all over the U.S. and Canada, with inspiration for some of the songs coming all the way from Scotland and Ireland. The music is mostly unwritten and learned and played by ear. The Old Time Music Group is a laid back and diverse group of musicians that try to gather once a week. They welcome any instrument to come and play with them, but the group is primarily composed of fiddle, guitar, mandolin, and banjo. Not a musician? Just come to listen!

Every Saturday May through October

Museum at the Market

The Museum opens at 8:30 a.m. to all visitors, with FREE admission until noon! Tour the Museum's latest exhibits and shop at the surrounding Downtown Bloomington Farmers' Market. Stop by the Museum's plaza on Washington Street to purchase all of your local history needs and favorite treats, and participate in a variety of free activities for all ages!

All of March

Women's History Month

In recognition of Women's History Month, the Museum will host a banner installation by local graphic designer Rachel Lapp-Whitt. All Museum visitors are invited to consider the history and present reality of empowered women. This installation is a partnership between the Museum and the City of Bloomington.

March 4

5:00 to 8:00 p.m.

First Friday: Celebrating Female Entrepreneurs

Downtown Bloomington is proud to be the chosen home for over 50 female-owned businesses, and we are excited to celebrate them and the ways they make our district unique! On First Friday the Museum will host representatives from Women Build of Habitat for Humanity, Dreams are Possible, Labyrinth Made Goods, and the ExtraOrdinary Women Project. Collections for Neville House will also be accepted. Learn of the amazing work these organizations are doing by, for, and with women; and learn more about the history of women in McLean County by exploring the Museum's exhibits.

March 10

12:10 p.m.

Lunch & Learn: The Pantagraph—Images to Inform and Inspire with Rochelle Gridley, Museum Assistant Archivist. To register for this Zoom webinar, go to bit.ly/MCMHMarLL

March 10

7:00 p.m.

Artists, Advocates, Acrobats, and More! Women Who Made McLean County History

Candace Summers, the Museum's Director of Community Education, will present a program highlighting 20 McLean County women from all walks of life who helped shape our history. From the first woman Illinois State Senator, Florence Fifer Bohrer; to the "Queen of the Flying Trapeze," Antoinette Concello; to Civil Rights activist Sister Mary Antona Ebo, this illustrated program will explore their lives and recognize their lasting contributions to our community and our world. To register for this free Zoom presentation with Bloomington Public Library, visit bit.ly/bplmccowomen

March 12-13

In Memory: Two Years of COVID-19

The Museum will acknowledge the second anniversary of the

COVID-19 pandemic and the loss of life McLean County has experienced in that time with a display of candles on the Washington Street Plaza totaling the number of lives lost. People are invited to visit the outdoor memorial throughout the weekend.

March 17

7:00 p.m.

pt.fwd Concert Series: Jon Mueller

See page 6 for more information. To register to attend this in-person performance, go to bit.ly/PtFwdMar2022

March 26

1:00 p.m.

Before Rivian: The Henney Kilowatt—Bloomington's Battery-Powered 'Car of Tomorrow'

Join Museum Librarian Bill Kemp for a program delving into the history of the Henney Kilowatt electric car! Long before Rivian become one of the hottest electric automakers on the planet, the Twin Cities were center stage for another battery-powered vehicle—the Henney Kilowatt, a project of the National Union Electric Co., a conglomerate whose holdings included Bloomington-based Eureka-Williams Co. Although less than 50 autos were sold during the two-year (1959-1960) manufacturing run, the Henney Kilowatt story is in many ways more essential today than it was 70 years ago. To register to attend this hybrid program, go to bit.ly/Kilowattcar22

April 2

1:00 p.m.

The David Davis Mansion: 150 Years at Clover Lawn with Dr. Marcia Young, historian and former executive director of the David Davis Mansion State Historic Site. For more information about this in-person program, see page 8. To register to attend, go to forms.gle/9eKufnHngaHSrT5k7

April 14

12:10 p.m.

Lunch & Learn: COVID-19 Past, Present, and Future—Lessons Learned with Vickie Folse, PhD, APRN and Professor, Director, and Rupert Chair School of Nursing; and Melissa Graven, BSN, RN at Arnold Health Services from Illinois Wesleyan University. To register for this Zoom webinar, go to bit.ly/MCMHAprLLL

April 16

6:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Mix.Fuze.Evolve.: Latine Influence & Contribution to Hip Hop Culture

Mix.Fuze.Evolve., an annual fundraiser event for Museum partner BCAI Cultural Arts and Humanities, will bring you an enlightening and intriguing evening full of Latino/a/e/x representation in Hip Hop through music, food, and hands-on exploration. The Museum will be on deck with Lotería Museo for players of all ages at the IWU Hansen Student Center. This is a ticketed event. For more information and to purchase tickets, go to bit.ly/3HfBK6y

April 19

6:30 p.m.

McLean County Genealogical Society Program

Kathy Michael, McLean County Clerk, will discuss research resources available through the Clerk's Office. This program will be held in the Museum's Governor Fifer Courtroom.

April 30

10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Trades & Labor Fest 2022

The Museum, in partnership with Bloomington-Normal Trades and Labor Assembly (AFL-CIO) and Livingston & McLean Counties Building & Construction Trades Council (AFL-CIO), presents the first annual Trades & Labor Fest! Spend the day on the Museum Square with local laborers, trades people, skilled workers, business owners, and artisans who will showcase their crafts and what services they provide in interactive ways. Look for more information coming

***All Zoom programs noted.**

soon on participating local businesses, organizations, and trades and labor unions.

May 1

Register for Futures in History Camp

Registration for Futures in History Camp is open to any area campers entering 4th, 5th, and 6th grades in Fall 2022. From law to archaeology, architecture, museum studies, and environmental science, there is a future for everyone at Futures in History Camp! See page 13 for details and follow the Museum on Facebook for updates.

May 3

7:00 p.m.

History Reads Book Club: High-Risers: Cabrini-Green and the Fate of American Public Housing by Ben Austen. This hybrid discussion will be held in the Community Room at Bloomington Public Library. Go to bit.ly/bplhistoryvirtual522 to register for the online discussion or bit.ly/bplhistoryinperson522 to participate in person. To request a copy of the book, contact the Reference Desk at Bloomington Public library at reference@bloomingtonlibrary.org or call (309) 590-6168.

May 6

5:00 to 8:00 p.m.

First Friday: Preservation Month

"Arch" you glad May is Preservation Month?! Join the Museum and our fellow Downtown businesses for an evening in celebration of historic Downtown Bloomington. Visit the Museum Square for hands-

on, all ages, architecture fun and put your design skills to the test.

May 10

6:30 p.m.

'Tattooing Finds You: How Tattooists Navigate their World with Dr. David C. Lane, assistant professor in the Department of Criminal Justice Sciences at Illinois State University. For more information about this in-person program, see page 3. To register, go to bit.ly/MCMHTattoo

May 12

12:10 p.m.

Lunch & Learn: University-based Innovation Centers are "Making" a Difference with John Quarton, Director of the Petrick Idea Center at Illinois Wesleyan University. To register for this free, Zoom webinar, go to bit.ly/MCMHMayLL

May 17

6:30 p.m.

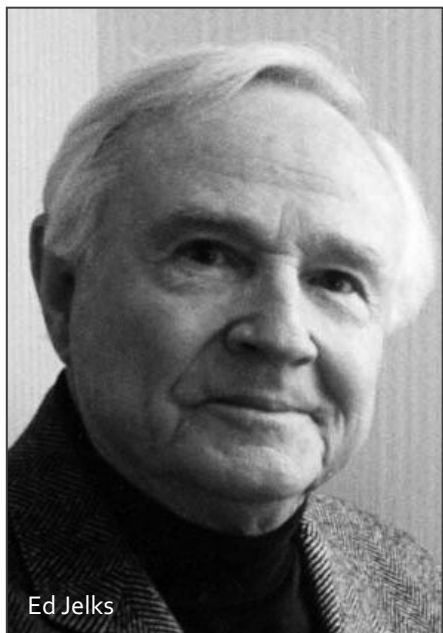
McLean County Genealogical Society Program

Tina Beaird of Tamarack Genealogy will discuss research methodology and resources. This program will be held in the Museum's Governor Fifer Courtroom.

May 30

Museum Closed for Memorial Day

Remembering Ed Jelks



Ed Jelks

Ed Jelks, an internationally renowned archaeologist and past President of the Board of Directors of the McLean County Historical Society (1983-1985), died at his home in Colorado on December 22, 2021. Jelks worked with the Museum to develop public archaeology programs in which people of the community could participate and visit an active archaeological site. He also encouraged the Museum to engage in scholarly publication and to use scholarship to support its various activities.

In 1984, under Jelks's leadership, the Museum published the *United States Military Buttons of the Land Services, 1787-1902: A Guide and Classificatory System* by then curator Martin Wyckoff. This work provides a critical dating tool to historic archaeologists excavating U.S. military sites. "In these projects and in his leadership role at the museum, Ed was enthusiastic, friendly, engaging, and simply fun to be around," said Greg Koos, Museum Executive Director Emeritus. "He and his wife Julie enjoyed their lives to the fullest."

Jelks was one of the founders of the Historical Archaeology discipline in the United States. His early digs included Jamestown, Yorktown Battlefield, and a Revolutionary War site at West Point in New York. He served as Professor of Anthropology at ISU from

1968 to 1983 and founded the Midwest Archaeological Center there. While at ISU, he and his students excavated sites associated with the French in Illinois including Fort St. Louis at Starved Rock and the first Fort de Chartres in southern Illinois. Among his students were Mike Wiant, past Director of the Illinois State Museum, and Floyd Mansberger of Fever River Research, one of the most productive historic archaeologists in Illinois.

In McLean County, Jelks supervised, advised, and participated in numerous local excavations including the Noble-Wieting site, Grand Village of the Kickapoo, Miller-Davis Building, and the McLean County Courthouse (now Museum) Square. As a participant in the Bloomington-Normal Black History Project (BNBHP), Jelks organized excavations at the William Carey Barton House in Normal, which resulted in a site report published by the Museum in 1996. Excavations at the Wayman African Methodist Episcopal Church site on North Center Street were also undertaken by Jelks and the Midwest Archaeological Center as part of the work of the BNBHP.

Ed Jelks made history through his contributions to the field of historical archaeology and his local discoveries. He is missed.



McLean County
MUSEUM of HISTORY

200 N. Main St., Bloomington, IL 61701

309-827-0428 or mchistory.org

NONPROFIT
US POSTAGE
PAID
BLOOMINGTON IL
PERMIT NO. 118

Mystery History Quiz



Last issue's Mystery History photo featured the "solarium" atop Fairchild Hall / Metcalf School on the Illinois State University campus. It was once used to give special education and other students a chance to play and get some fresh air and exercise. "It was a great place for parties," Denny Steele tells us. "We had a few there when I was in Metcalf Grade School in the late 1950s." In addition to Denny, those who knew the answer included Margaret Bratcher, Carol and Roger Elliott (who shared with us several photos of Fairchild Hall showing the solarium), Dennis Fox, Martha Geison, Franklin Hoopes, and Paul Segobiano.

There were a number of incorrect but well-thought guesses, including the Ensenberger Furniture building, the Lafayette Apartments, the Miller Park Pavilion, and the old downtown Bloomington YMCA. For history sleuths, there is no dishonor in getting it wrong. It's the love of history that counts!

This issue's photo is another tough one. What did you expect from us? Anyway, can you identify the location?

And as a bonus, do you know this gentleman? If you know—or if you want to make an educated guess—give Museum Librarian Bill Kemp a ring at (309) 827-0428, or email at bkemp@mchistory.org

