



# On The Square

Sponsored by Heartland Bank

## The Quarterly Newsletter for the McLean County Museum of History

Volume 42, Number 4

December., January, February 2010-11

### Book based on *Come & Get It!* Exhibit to be Published

This winter the Museum will publish a book based on its current exhibit *Come and Get It! The Way We Ate 1830-2008*. Written by the guest curator Robert Dirks, this book will provide an in-depth account of the changes in our food habits over time. Dirks is an emeritus professor of anthropology at Illinois State University. He has conducted research in areas of food and nutrition for nearly 30 years. His publications include papers in *Annual Review of Nutrition*, *Journal of Nutrition*, *The Cambridge World History of Human Disease*, *African*

*Food Systems in Crisis*, *American Anthropologist*, *Current Anthropology*, *Natural History*, and *World Cultures*.



Tracing the course of the history of cooking and dining in McLean County and the Bloomington-Normal area takes us back 180 years. Early settlers from the Southern states and parts of the Northeast brought with them divergent tastes,

but irrespective of their culinary leanings they generally made do with foods they either raised or collected themselves. Later on, newcomers from Ireland and Continental Europe established homes in various parts of the county. As a result, foodways throughout Central Illinois increased in complexity, and a variety of new food-related industries developed.

McLean County's residents made beer, candy, ice cream, pickles, sausages, soda water and vinegar. They manufactured stoves and refrigerators, milled flour, baked various types of bread, packed pork, and canned tomatoes. Bloomington companies distributed produce and continued on page 15



**HAPPY HOLIDAYS!**  
**From the Board and Staff**

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# On The Square Quarterly Newsletter

Volume 42, Number 4, 2010



Edited by  
Susan Hartzold  
Bill Kemp &  
Bill LaBounty

## McLean County Museum of History

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[www.McHistory.org](http://www.McHistory.org)

### HOURS

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

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Mary Anne Schierman, Dir. of Volunteers and Interns  
Bill Kemp, Librarian/Archivist  
Jeff Woodard, Dir. of Marketing & Comm. Affairs  
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Graham Cowger, Mgr. of Development Operations  
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## Museum Explores Renewal of *Permanent Encounter on the Prairie*

In March 2011 the permanent exhibit *Encounter on the Prairie*, which is located on the first floor, will see its nineteenth birthday. In this period of time nearly 300,000 people have visited the four galleries: People, Work, Politics and Farming.

A lot has changed since then. When *Encounter on the Prairie* opened in 1992, few had heard of things called cell phones, and no one had googled, tweeted or friended because Google, Twitter or Facebook did not yet exist. During the same period the Museum has researched, developed and mounted a variety of exhibits which have increased our knowledge of many aspects of McLean County history. In addition, the museum has since acquired many objects which are often more interesting than those on display.

The last nineteen years have also seen our new communities become larger and more involved in broader McLean County and Bloomington-Normal issues. In a very profound way, McLean County is more like our county of the 1880s than our county of the 1950s. We have an amazing variety of ethnic groceries and restaurants as well as ethnic organizations. The McLean County India Society now partners with the museum, African-American groups use the museum for a variety of activities and we continue to work to collect and interest Spanish-speaking people in our Museum.

With these understandings the museum of history is now undertaking preliminary studies and planning to redevelop *Encounter on the Prairie*. The notion of renewing as opposed to replacing also brings us the benefit of significantly reducing the cost of addressing a twenty year old exhibit. The planning process therefore will focus on better telling the story of McLean County as a place of cultural encounter. The planning project will look at improved graphics, more intentional script writing, selective replacement of objects and the addition of digital-based interpretative media such as sound, video, digital interactive exhibits. Also, we will consider a web-based exploration of the *Encounter on the Prairie* exhibit.

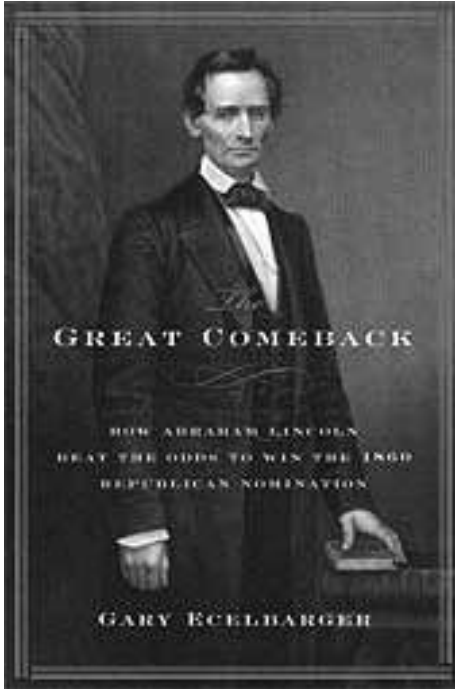
The first step has been the retention of the exhibit design firm Teller Madsen, who were the original designers of *Encounter on the Prairie*.

They were selected in a competitive process. Frank Madsen and Alan Teller initiated their work on November 1 and expect to complete it May 2011. They will work with the Museum to assess the current exhibit, identify new interpretative strategies and estimate the costs of remodeling the exhibits to accomplish our goals.



# Museum and BPL Partner for History Book Club

Do you love history? Do you love to read? This coming year, the Museum and Bloomington Public Library will partner to create a new



*The Great Comeback*, by Gary Ecelbarger, will be the first in the “History Reads” book series

book club called “History Reads.” This club will focus on books dealing with Illinois History and will include fiction, nonfiction, biography, and local history. The program will be held in the Governor Fifer Courtroom at the museum, and is free and open to the public.

The club will meet quarterly, the first Tuesday of the month—February, May, August and November. Discussions will begin at 7:00 p.m. and last approximately one hour. Participants are welcome to explore the Museum before or after each meeting. Free parking is available at the Lincoln Parking Deck on Front Street located two blocks south of the Museum.

The “History Reads” schedule is as follows:

**February 1, 2011** - *The Great Comeback: How Abraham Lincoln Beat the Odds to Win the 1860 Republican Nomination*, by Gary Ecelbarger

**May 3, 2011** - *Fifty-Nine in '84: Old Hoss Radbourn, Barehanded Baseball, and the Greatest Season a Pitcher Ever Had*, by Edward Achorn

**August 2, 2011** - *The Seasons on Henry's Farm: A Year of Food and Life on an Organic Farm*, by Terra Brockman

**November 1, 2011** - *Cahokia Mounds*, by William Iseminger

Copies of each book will be available for checkout at Bloomington Public Library, can be interlibrary loaned through the library, or can be purchased at the Museum's *On The Square Gift Shop* at a discounted price.

For more information on this program, please contact the Education Department at the Museum via email at [education@mchistory.org](mailto:education@mchistory.org) or contact Karen Moen at the Bloomington Public Library at [KarenM@bloomingtonlibrary.org](mailto:KarenM@bloomingtonlibrary.org).

## State Awards Grant to Museum

The museum was pleased to learn that it was awarded \$225,000 by the Illinois Public Museum Capital Grants Program. The program is funded by capital development bonds, and is administered by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources.

The award is to replace special air conditioning units that control humidity and temperature levels in collection storage areas. These units are critical in our care of 20,000 historic objects, 10,000 library books and 1,600 linear feet of archival material. Eleven units will be replaced, all are twenty years old.

The grant also provides funds for the museum to install air-conditioning in the old courtroom, the library reading room and staff offices. These areas have been treated with window units. For the first time the courtroom, where we host so many meetings and lectures, will be comfortable and quite on hot days.

Credit is due to Jack Moody, County Facilities Manager for his hard work and professionalism in preparing this grant.

## The Museum Welcomes the Following New Members

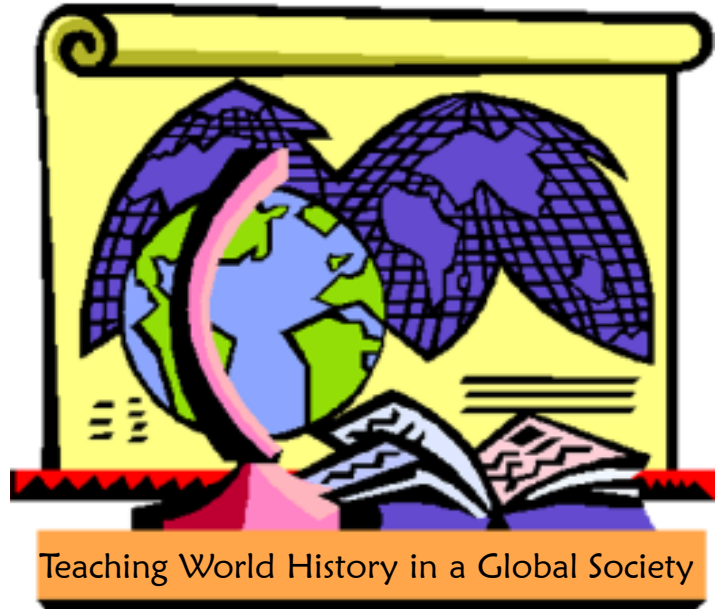
Thanks so much for your support!

Mr. and Mrs. Tom and Shirley Boward  
Mrs. Linda Pendell  
Mrs. Mary Houska  
Dr. Janice Neuleib  
Mr. and Mrs. Daryl Chenoweth  
Mrs. Rosemary Luitjens  
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Mr. James Stonestreet  
Andy and Marie Streenz  
Mrs. Jen Swope  
Mrs. Marilyn Prault  
Ms. Deborah Senger  
Sinsinawa Dominicans  
Mr. and Mrs. Tom and Leslie Peterson  
Rhonda Strong  
Mr. Michael McFarland

# Museum to Host History Teacher Conference

The McLean County Museum of History, in partnership with the Regional Office of Education #17 and the Illinois State University History Education Department, will host a history teacher conference for both in-service teachers and student teachers. The topic for the January 28 conference will be global history.

The goal of the conference is to provide area teachers with the opportunity for continued growth and professional development and to help them keep up to date on current teaching strategies and topics in history. This year's theme is "Teaching World History in a Global Society." Included in the day long program will be sessions on Africa, Asia and Latin America, as well as those on career choices, strategies for special needs and English language learner students, and bridging the generation gap. Teachers will also be encouraged to tour the museum with Candace Summers, director of education or Rachael Kramp, education program coordinator.



Last year, almost 200 teachers and student teachers participated in the conference. Those who attended provided positive feedback regarding the need for such programs. Teachers who wish to attend the conference can visit the Regional Office of Education's website at [www.roe17.org](http://www.roe17.org) and click on professional development for more information.

## Country Financial Becomes Corporate Member

The Museum is pleased to announce that Country Financial has become a corporate member at the Patron level. Our corporate members enjoy many perks available to their employees, while supporting the important work the Museum does to educate the public about our history.

Support from McLean County business leaders like Country Financial shows their high level of dedication to our educational mission, and we appreciate their support.



## State Farm Renews Corporate Membership

The Museum is pleased to announce that State Farm has renewed as a sponsor of the Museum at the Platinum Level. Their support in the amount of \$15,000 maintains State Farm as sponsor of the exhibit *Come & Get It!*, as well as *Christmas at the Courthouse* and the Museum's Family Workbook. State Farm's support over the years has truly helped the Museum become one of the leading cultural institutions in Central Illinois. Their sponsorship

further underscores their commitment to the community and to the Museum's mission of public history education.

You will likely notice State Farm's logo on exhibit posters, event flyers, advertisements, etc. This is one way the Museum recognizes the importance of their support. Ultimately, that support helps bring the quality exhibits and programs to the community that the Museum has come to be known for. For that, we are very grateful that

State Farm continues to support the Museum.

Any business interested in a sponsorship opportunity with the Museum should contact Graham Cowger in the Development Office at 309-827-0428 or email [development@mchistory.org](mailto:development@mchistory.org)





Pillsbury Exhibit Opening

## Museum Hosting Lunch and Learn Series

The Museum has partnered with Illinois Wesleyan University and Collaborative Solutions Institute to present a “Lunch and Learn” series. Bring your brown bag lunch to the historic Governor Fifer Courtroom to hear interesting speakers on the second Thursday of each month through May 2011. Sessions start at 12:10 p.m. and wrap up around 12:40 p.m.

On December 9th, Karen Schmidt will present "Can you cuddle with your Kindle: The E-publication craze and its impact on the reader."

Her presentation will explore e-book/e-publication trends and the

devices, such as Kindles, that look to be popular this Christmas. Schmidt is University Librarian at Ames Library at Illinois Wesleyan University. Linda French, professor of Physics at IWU will present “Hearing with the Eyes: The Astronomical Education of John Goodricke.” on January 13, 2011. On February 10, 2011, Pam Murhead will present "Who were the early African-American migrants to McLean County?" On March 10 April Schulz will discuss Irish Immigration.

Carl Teichman of Illinois Wesleyan, Peggy Schickendanz of Collaborative Solutions Institute and Greg Koos of the Historical Society developed the series to engage the community on a number of interesting topics. Back in October the first speaker in the series was Tari Renner, a professor of political science at Illinois Wesleyan University. Tari spoke on the midterm elections and examined the shifting political landscape. Approximately 35 people attended and participated in a lively Q&A session.

We invite you to come out, relax, and join us for this new series. For more information on upcoming speakers visit [www.McHistory.org](http://www.McHistory.org) and click on the “News and Events” link. You can also e-mail [marketing@mchistory.org](mailto:marketing@mchistory.org) with suggestions on possible topics and / or speakers for the series.

**Kids Corner**

**Trailblazer Trivia:**  
Complete the crossword puzzle below:

**Across:**  
1. This person worked as a lawyer in Bloomington from 1837 until he became the 16th president of the U.S. in 1860.

**Down:**  
2. This man was once a famous judge in town who's home is still visited by many people today.  
3. This landowner/ businessman founded Illinois State Normal University in 1857.

**Clue:** A statue of these men now stands in front of the Bloomington Center for the Performing Arts

**MAKE HISTORY TODAY!**

**BECOME A Trailblazer MEMBER OF THE MUSEUM FOR FREE**

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

# Museum's Fall 2010 Interns

Illinois Wesleyan student **Jessica Hinterlong** is conducting original research for Greg Koos, who is co-curating with Eileen Kanzler the upcoming exhibit, *The Greening of McLean County: Irish Settlement of the Prairie*.

Jessica is compiling and analyzing census data on the large numbers of Irish who worked and eventually bought farms in rural McLean County. She is also conducting oral history interviews with descendants of these farmers. Jessica is also reviewing local newspapers for descriptions of St. Patrick's Day festivals and for other aspects of Irish life in McLean County.



This fall the Education Department welcomed **Stephanie Owens** as its public programs intern. Stephanie is currently a graduate student at

Illinois State University studying archaeology. During her experience at the museum Stephanie has helped with behind-the-scenes preparation for the 2010 Evergreen Cemetery Discovery Walk, organized primary resources of past characters of the cemetery walk, and

shadowed Rachael Kramp, education program coordinator, during educational programming both here at the Museum and offsite at senior centers.

Stephanie is also in charge of creating and organizing all the crafts and games for our Christmas at the Courthouse event on Saturday, December 4. Stephanie is an eager worker and has been a valuable addition to the Education Department. She also volunteered her time this past summer for History Careers Day Camp and did an excellent job with the students.



This fall the Library / Archives is pleased to have the services of **Rachel Thompson**, an Illinois State University senior. Rachel is majoring in history and seeking a minor in Anthropology. She decided to intern here in order to gain experience in the museum field, since she plans to pursue a career in the field after she graduates in the spring. Her hope is to eventually earn a graduate degree in museum studies.

She is reorganizing the Civil War Correspondence Collection, which has not been updated since 1994. Since that time, the collection has been added to, meaning that some files are not included in the now out-of-date finding aid. In addition to reorganizing the collection, she is also researching the individuals involved in the correspondences in order to create short biographical sketches of their lives. A key part of this research is finding out the individuals' connections to McLean County. Furthermore, the completed finding aid will eventually be placed on the Museum's website.

Her favorite part of this project is the fact that she has the opportunity to work with original documents, and thus has gained a glimpse into the lives of some of those who lived through and fought in the Civil War. Some of her favorite examples from the collection include a valentine and a pressed flower. Both were sent to William McCarty, along with several other letters from suitors, one of which he later married.

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## Self-insurance for long-term care\*

The good news for retirees is that life expectancies are growing longer. In 1955 an American aged 50 could expect to live to be 75. By 2005 that figure had jumped to 81. What's more, a 50-year old now has a 24% chance of surviving to age 90 and beyond. (These figures come from WolframAlpha.com.)

The potentially bad news is that longer retirements require more resources to preserve financial independence. One important aspect of planning for a long retirement is addressing the possibility of an extended stay in a nursing home. Should you buy insurance to cover such costs? Or can you afford to assume the risks, to "self insure" and pay nursing expenses out of your retirement resources?

Many factors will go into that analysis. One rule of thumb, according to a recent article at FinancialPlanning.com, is the "two-household" approach. If a couple has enough cash flow to maintain two households, they have enough to cover the expenses for one spouse in a nursing home and one still living in the couple's home. This is more likely to be true for those with \$2.5 million and up in investment assets. Those with smaller fortunes should give more serious consideration to long-term-care insurance.

What about singles? When there is no surviving spouse to provide for, fewer assets may suffice, and the threshold for self-insurance perhaps may fall as low as \$1 million, if there is pension and Social Security income. That's because in this situation the home may be sold, and the proceeds paid over time to the nursing home.

The answer on purchasing long-term-care insurance also turns upon whether an inheritance is wanted for children or other heirs. An extended nursing home stay can consume the family fortune quickly. Insurance is a mechanism for protecting that fortune.

Heartland Bank would be glad to help with any estate planning services you may have. Give us a call now.

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### Interns - continued from page 6

**Taylor Yager**, a student at Illinois State University working on a masters degree in art, has been spending the semester working in the Museum's exhibit are, . assisting the curator with the installation of the exhibit *A Passion For Details*. Her work has included, framing and hanging the hand colored renderings featured in the exhibit, preparing and installing exhibit panels and artwork, and a variety of additional exhibit preparation activities, including cleaning a terra cotta wolf head from the Greisheim Building - a Pillsbury designed structure that went up in downtown Bloomington shortly after the Great Fire of 1900. The highlight of her internship was helping the curator placing 84 signs in the yards of homes designed by Pillsbury. "I loved getting out and actually seeing the houses that he designed!" Taylor hopes the practical experience she has gained working at the museum will help her to achieve her ultimate goal of working in an art museum.



# New to the Collections

## OBJECTS

- ❑ BHS and ISNU sports letters; donated by Francis “Mike” Michaels
- ❑ Bar Association’s Bull Slinger trophy; donated by Mark Dunn
- ❑ Bracelet and earrings, elephant pin, Percy pin; donated by Jean McCrossin
- ❑ Hair dryer chair made in Bloomington; donated by Kathy Musselman Kaufman
- ❑ Woman’s “going away” suit; donated by Beverly Meginnes
- ❑ Two coal shovels; donated by Dave Striegel
- ❑ “Emergency Drinking Water” rations WWII; donated by John Sicks
- ❑ Nazi podium banner, US Army unit patches and dog tags, WWII hankies from the estate of Herman Schultz; donated by Stephen Thomas
- ❑ Horse muzzle, hanging beam scale, ice tongs and ice cleats of John Kelley, and Army undershirt and tree saw of John Stark; donated by Family of John and Lois Stark
- ❑ McLean County matching game; donated by Becky Ayers
- ❑ Courthouse chair; donated by Marilyn Townley
- ❑ ABWA pin and Nixon pin; donated by Donna Bruno
- ❑ Vietnam Marine uniform of Doug Peppers; donated by Judy Peppers

## ARCHIVES

- ❑ Normal Community High School (NCHS) class of 1945 65th reunion (June 2010) booklet; by Flora M. Poling
- ❑ Blueprints for 307 E. Chestnut St., Bloomington, an A. L. Pillsbury designed residence

- that is now the Illinois Wesleyan University (IWU) Sigma Alpha Iota house; by Jeannie Herbst
- ❑ German-language journal, author and date(s) unknown; by Ralph Bellas
- ❑ Wide-ranging collection of railroad equipment manuals, timetables, rules and regulation books, union contracts, etc., relating to career of lifelong railroader George Striegel, a Chicago & Alton employee; by son Dave Striegel
- ❑ IWU class of 1941 and class of 1942 fifty-year histories; by Peggy Sours
- ❑ Booklet, 39 pages, travel journal of Nonie Stephenson, 1894,

- typed transcription; by Emily Hauser
- ❑ Several items, including 1878 Central Illinois Nursery (Normal) catalog and Lutheran School (Bloomington) German-language report card, 1917-1918; by Brent Wielt
- ❑ Civil War discharge paper, 1865, for David Carlock, other miscellany relating to Carlocks; by Rosemary Powell
- ❑ Various, including two Manufactured Ice Co. (Bloomington) coupon books, *Illinois Garden Guide* booklet, published by the Illinois State Council of Defense, 1943 or 1944, and other items; by Margot Mendoza

The Museum recently received a “Lady Air” hair dryer manufactured in Bloomington by L.S. Watlington Mfg. The chair was purchased second-hand by the donor Kathy Musselman Kaufman. Kaufman went to University Beauty School in Bloomington and worked at Fashion Plate in Roland’s before opening her own shop in her basement at 202 W. Columbia in Danvers. She used the chair there from 1975-1979.

This beauty parlor “beauty” was made by the L.S. Watlington Manufacturing Company of Bloomington. Owned by Lee and Evelyn Watlington, it was first listed in city directories in 1943 and continued to operate under that name until 1967, when it became Watlington-Anderson Sheet Metal Fabricators.



- ❑ Various publications containing Evy Reis poetry, including *Sunshine Magazine* (November 1981); by Evy Reis
- ❑ Mary Boncher Model Agency sheets featuring Donna Maaks, as well as Zonta Club materials, including programs; by Donna J. (Maaks) Bruno
- ❑ VHS tape, "Discovering Excellence" (history of the Paul F. Beich / Kathryn Beich Candies), two Paul F. Beich account books, and wedding certificate, Harrison Lawrence and Cynthia Smalley, 1869; by David Beich
- ❑ Lineup card, independent professional baseball Frontier League game, Normal Cornbelters vs. Evansville, in Evansville, 2010, signed by manager Hal Lanier (first game in Cornbelters history); by Alan Sender
- ❑ Various from the Alice Studeman estate, including a 1933 American Passion Play program; by Barbara Steiling
- ❑ Collection of letters by George Raymond Kelley to Lucille Sutter, 1938-45 (Sutter was a LeRoy school teacher at the time, and the two later married); by Elizabeth Kelley Schneider
- ❑ Various, including scrapbook of Gridley area newspaper clippings, and pedigree chart of Kent family, 1600-1995; by Frederick Kent Thieman

#### BOOKS

- ❑ NCHS yearbook, 1974 Reverie; by Ruth Cobb
- ❑ *Col. Jonathan Merriam and Family* (1940) compiled by Ralph Merriam; by Paul A. Adams
- ❑ Undated McLean County plat book with miscellaneous plats,

Frederick Kent Thieman of Betonville, Arkansas, recently donated photograph albums and newspaper scrapbooks relating to Gridley history and the Kent and Freed families. Included in the donation was a cabinet card of Samuel Edgar Houghton, who performed with Harry Deakin's Lilliputian Comic Opera, as well as other circus-like entertainments.

Samuel Houghton was born in Dorchester, Massachusetts, in 1852. When he was 4 years old his family moved to Lexington Township. Taking the title "Major," Houghton enjoyed a successful career as a diminutive curiosity.

"He frequently passed back and forth on the trains, selling his photograph, and interesting the passengers with his bright and intelligent conversation," noted an 1879 history of McLean County. After some 16 years on the road, Houghton retired in Gridley to live with his widowed mother. He passed away on April 2, 1904.



"Major" Samuel Edgar Houghton

- 1930-1942; by Mark T. Dunn
- ❑ *The Life and Times of Earle B. Johnson* (self-published in 2002) signed by author Earle Johnson; by Peggy Sours
- ❑ Five Tri-Valley High School yearbooks from the 1960s; by Vi Gilmore
- ❑ *The John Watkin Evans Family of Bloomington, Illinois* (2010, compiled by Bill LaBounty and Carol Straka), 2 copies; by Richard V. Evans, Jr.
- ❑ *The Family of Margaret Larkin and Michael Kinsella* (2006, partially updated in 2010); by Patricia I. Kelley
- ❑ Several self-published family histories, including those on the Martin Hodel (1786-1846) and George Michael Mangold (1843-1908) families; by Susan Hodel
- ❑ *Lexington High School Basketball, 1900-2004*; by Rick Stephey (the book's compiler and author)

#### PHOTOS

- ❑ Large format "landscape" photograph of old McLean County Courthouse and surrounding square, ca. 2005; by Keith Adams
- ❑ Collection of photographs relating to various local clubs (including the "Ritzies") and organizations, many featuring Evelyn Bye Colton and Howard Martin Colton; by Warren Colton

**Collections** - Continued from page 9

- ❑ Large photograph of parade on South Main Street (today, the location of the Law and Justice Center), fall 1949 or spring 1950; by Suzanne Bender Kohl
- ❑ Several 8x10 photographs (prints and photocopies) relating to Herman Miller, Danvers; by Dave Gaspardo
- ❑ Various photographs of the grand opening of Prairie State Bank, 1975; by Donna J. Bruno
- ❑ Bloomington High School (BHS) basketball team, 1933, both team photo and collage of individual players; by Francis “Mike” Michaels
- ❑ Fifteen prints of rural school-houses located in McLean County, undated; by Barbara Marshall
- ❑ Various, including several albums, relating to Freed and Kent families from the Gridley area; by Frederick Kent Thieman

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

## Make New Friends as a Museum Volunteer

### **On the Square Gift Shop seeking motivated manager**

In this position, the volunteer would be in charge of ordering appropriate history resources, pricing, maintaining inventory and other general duties. A complete training is provided by the Director of Education, the staff supervisor for this position. The Museum’s gift shop is an extension of our education mission, which reflects our local history. From its sales, the organization receives \$5,000 to \$7,500 per year in revenue.

**Girl Scout Badge Program Volunteer** – In this position, the volunteers assist Museum Educators in providing quality Girl Scout history related badge programs for first through sixth graders. Programs are taught after school and on Saturdays. Each program lasts approximately three hours. A complete training is provided by Museum Educators. These programs are craft related and a lot of fun.

### **Reception Desk Volunteers – Weekend shifts needed.**

In this position, the volunteer is the official greeter and Museum representative. The reception desk assistant greets visitors, and gives them a brief introduction to the Museum. They also answer the phone,

take brief messages for staff, and answer general questions. A complete training is provided. In this interesting position, you meet visitors from all over the world. Reception desk assistants are asked to serve two four-hour shifts per month. The Director of Volunteers and Interns works with your schedule and availability.

### **Education Outreach Volunteers (EOV) –**

Education outreach volunteers are trained to assist the Director of Education and the Education Program Coordinator with school tours. This is a very flexible volunteer opportunity. You are called to assist as the need arises. The average time commitment is usually two hours. Education volunteers work with children of all ages, but primarily preschool through junior high. A complete training and all materials are provided.

Are you interested in meeting people in an exciting atmosphere and contributing to your community? If so, please contact Mary Anne Schierman, director of volunteers and interns, 827-0428. Or you can email her at [volunteers@mchistory.org](mailto:volunteers@mchistory.org) to receive information on the volunteer program.



# Give the Gift of History

There is always at least one person on your holiday list each year who is hard to shop for. If that person you know happens to be interested in history or genealogy, a gift membership to the Museum makes a great gift. In addition, if you know of a family who might be interested in what the Museum has to offer, your gift membership covers their entire household.

Recipients will receive a welcome letter informing them of your gift made in their name(s), as well as membership cards and a list of benefits that all Museum members receive. Simply check the "Gift membership" line below and fill it out with the recipient's information, then send it with payment to the Museum. Make sure to fill out your own information, too.

## Make a year-end gift to the Museum

This holiday season, please consider making an additional donation to the Museum. Your gift will go a long way toward ensuring that our service to the community remains unchanged.

Many students, seniors and families have benefited from many of the programs we offer free of charge. However, these free programs require resources to maintain. When making decisions about your year-end giving, please consider including a gift to the Museum. You can return the form below with your gift, or you can donate online at [and click the Donate Now! button.](#)

Thanks so much for your support!

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**Yes!** *I want to strengthen the educational opportunities in our community by becoming a member of the McLean County Museum of History!*

<input type="checkbox"/> Lincoln Club	\$1000	Check / Cash / Credit Card (circle)	Visa	MC
<input type="checkbox"/> Stevenson Club	\$750	Card # _____	Exp. _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Fifer Club	\$500	Dr./Mr./Mrs./Ms./Miss/Mr. & Mrs. (circle)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fell Club	\$250	Name _____		
<input type="checkbox"/> Davis Club	\$100	Address _____		
<input type="checkbox"/> Allin Club	\$50	City _____ State _____ Zip _____		
<input type="checkbox"/> Primary Club	\$30	Email _____		
<input type="checkbox"/> Students/Seniors	\$15			

(used only for Museum announcements)

Gift membership? Y\_\_\_

Gift membership recipient's contact info:

Dr./Mr./Mrs./Ms./Miss/Mr. & Mrs. (circle)  
Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Mail completed forms to:

McLean County Museum of History  
200 N Main St  
Bloomington, IL 61701

**Or make a year-end donation:**

\$\_\_\_ Year-end gift amount

# Cemetery Walk Requires Herculean Volunteer Effort

A group of dedicated Evergreen Cemetery Discovery Walk volunteers comes together each year to prepare for and execute the Museum's largest public outreach event. For some in this group, the work began ten months ago as they researched new characters for the 2010 walk. Once the research is completed, it is read, reread, and copied. Two volunteers, Doug Williamson and Judith Myers read the research from the perspective of the tour guide and working with the staff and Illinois Voices Theater Director Judy Brown, write an outline of the information that needs to be communicated to the visitors. This information does not duplicate the actor scripts.

The education department's public programs intern trains to be a tour guide, takes an inventory and assists with the purchase of needed supplies. In early September, tour guides receive their scripts and begin learning their parts and practicing the route. Strong volunteers move truckloads of supplies to the cemetery, and then back at the end of the eight days. Box office assistants greet our visitors and set the tone for the experience. Marcy Parsons makes sure we have food and keeps command central clean and well-organized. Most of the volunteers return to participate year after year. This year our group of volunteers collectively contributed 1,157 hours. We salute and thank them for their service.

This year's Cemetery Walk volunteers included:

## **Tour Guides**

Jim Anderson  
Mary Anderson  
Marilyn Aucutt  
Sean Boston  
Kathleen Conley  
Mike DeVore  
Karen Fleming  
Denise Fries  
Diane Hawk  
Kay Henrichs  
Scott Johnson  
Jana Kiefer  
Peg Kirk  
Mary McClintock  
Amy Miller  
Judith Myers

Stephanie Owens  
Nadine Prall  
Kay Ramseyer  
Mary Scott  
Claron Sharrieff  
Phylis VerSteegh  
Doug Williamson  
Carolyn Yockey  
Mary Kay Zeter

## **Box Office, Stage Hands, etc.**

Tod Eagleton  
Susan Emmerson  
Marilyn Freese  
Joann Hart  
Frank Hill

Mary Rose Hill  
James Keeran  
Chris Kibler  
John Kibler  
Carole Knipp  
Kathy McNiff  
Gene Murray  
Dick Nagy  
Gary Nichols  
Stephanie Owens  
Jerry Parsons  
Marcy Parsons  
Joyce Schneider  
Harry Stern  
Pete Whitmer  
Kerry Young

## **Intern:**

Stephanie Owens

## **Research volunteers:**

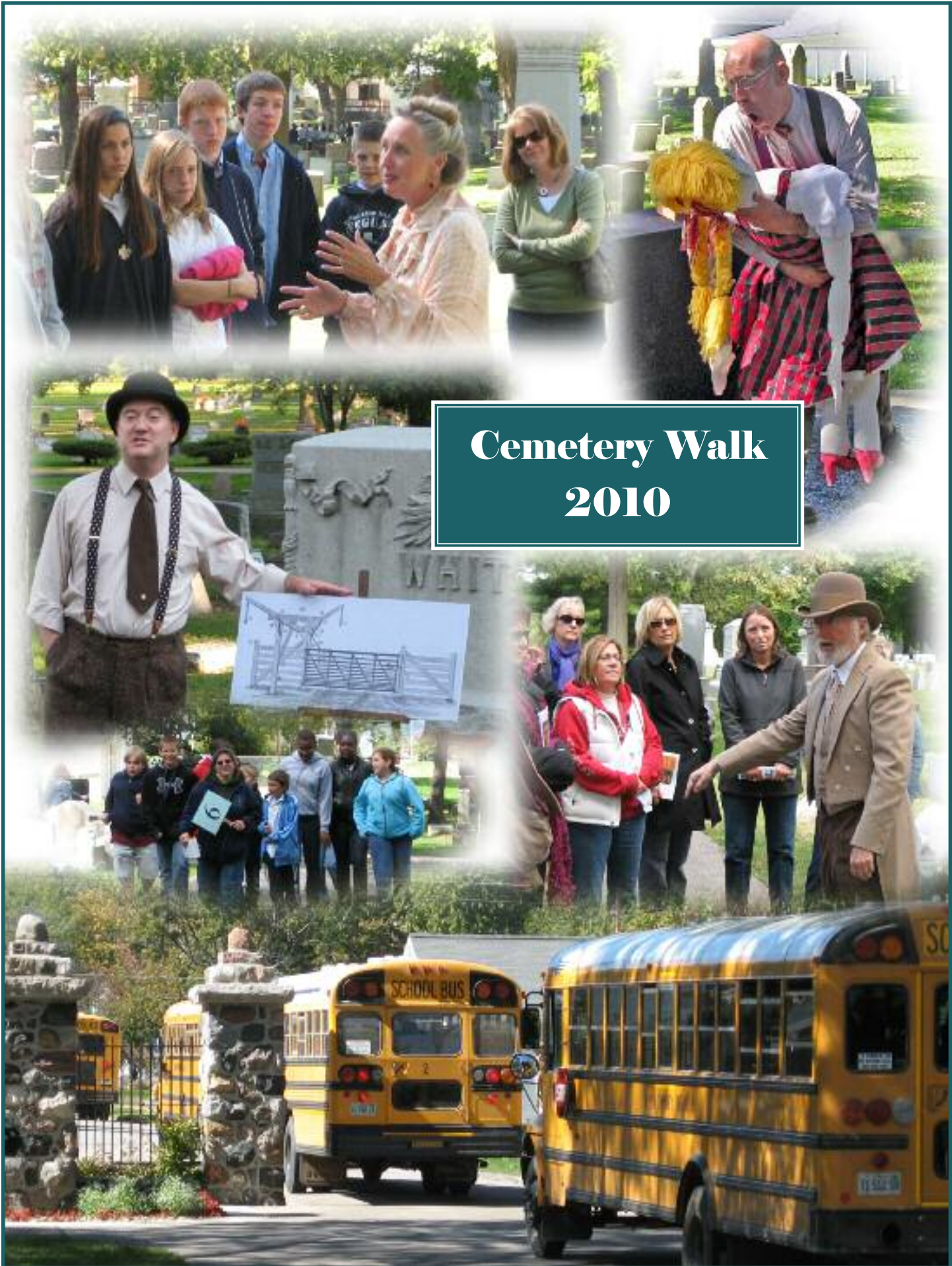
Sarah Cushing  
Denise Fries  
Milan Jackson  
Nola Marquardt  
Amy Miller  
Judith Myers  
Stephanie Owens  
Paul Rayburn  
Carol Straka  
Emily Swartz  
Doug Williamson  
Mary Kay Zeter

## Cem Walk Characters Biographies Available Online

The Museum is proud to announce that biographies of most individuals featured during the last 16 years of the Cemetery Walk can now be found on the Museum's website. Go to <http://www.mchistory.org/CemwalkBios.html> and you will find a list of all the people that have been portrayed during the entire 16 years of the Cemetery Walk. Individuals are listed by the year they were featured, as well as alphabetically. Click on the person's name and a box will pop up with the biography. While we are still working to write biographies of some of the earliest individuals featured, the years 1999 through 2010 are complete, with some biographies for people from 1995 to 1998 avail-

able as well.

The biographies have been created by hardworking and dedicated interns and volunteers in the Education Department over the last several years. The biographies were then vetted and edited by Candace Summers, director of education, and Greg Koos, executive director. While the work continues, the Education Department would like to give a special thank you to the following volunteers and interns for creating these biographies: Mary Alice Wills, Laurie Peterson, Sarah Yoo, Lisa Dretske, Anthony Bowman, Doug Williamson, Judith Myers and Emily Swartz.



**Cemetery Walk  
2010**

# McLean County Museum of History

## Calendar of Events for December, January, February 2010 -2011

Through August 6, 2011

**A Turbulent Time: Perspectives of the Vietnam War** explores the complex ways McLean County residents perceived and responded to this crucial twentieth century event.

Saturdays until August 6, 2011

**Support our Veterans.** Every Saturday during the Vietnam exhibit, visitors may donate items listed below in exchange for the admission fee. These items will be given to patients and residents of the Department of Veterans Affairs Danville Medical Center. **New and unused items:** (no hotel items please) spray deodorant, mouthwash, hairbrushes, combs, hand liquid soap, body powder, toothpaste, toothbrushes, shaving cream, pre-shave lotion, aftershave, disposable razors, stationary kits, paperback puzzle books (large print is preferred), playing cards, t-shirts, and socks.



Through January 28, 2012

**Come and Get It! The Way We Ate 1830-2008.** This exhibit explores the eating habits, cooking equipment and methods and diverse food traditions of McLean County residents since the early 1800s. Discover how dramatically our habits have changed over time. Investigate four kitchens, each representing a different era and illustrating how the kitchen has changed in the last 180 years. Use the hands-on interactives to better understand where food comes from and how dramatically food sources have changed.

Through August 30, 2011

**A Passion For Detail: The Architectural Legacy of A.L. Pillsbury.** This exhibit showcases the hand-drawn and colored renderings that noted Bloomington architect A. L. Pillsbury produced to enable clients to visualize his designs. Visitors will also learn about Pillsbury's life, and be able to see photographs of many residences he designed over his career.



December 4

11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.



**Christmas at the Courthouse.** It's that time of year again for the Museum's annual holiday open house. This year's theme is *Christmas through the Years*. Bring your family and friends for some food, fun, and holiday cheer. Sit on Santa's lap, listen to holiday music, try your hand at some festive holiday crafts, play some games, and enjoy hot cider, punch, and cookies. This year we will again be collecting canned, unexpired food donations for the Claire House. This free event is brought to you by State Farm and is open to the public. So come one, come all and have a ball!

December 9

12:10 to 12:40

**Lunch and Learn at the Museum** - *Can You Cuddle With Your Kindle: The E-publication craze and its impact on the reader.* Presented by Karen Schmidt (see page 5 for details).

December 24 and 25  
**Museum Closed for Christmas Holiday**



December 31 and January 1, 2011  
**Museum Closed for New Years Holiday**

January 13                    12:10 to 12:40  
**Lunch and Learn at the Museum** - *Hearing with the Eyes: The astronomical Education of Gohn Goodricke*, presented by Linda French, professor of physics at IWU (watch your mail for more information).

February 10, 2011        12:10 to 12:40  
**Lunch and Learn at the Museum** - *Who were the early African-American migrants to McLean County?* Presented by Pam Muirhead. (watch your mail for more information).

March 10, 2011            12:10 to 12:40  
**Lunch and Learn at the Museum** - *Irish Immigration*, presented by **April Schulz** (watch your mail for more information).



Saturday, March 12, 2011  
**Maple Sirup Workshop at Sugar Grove Nature Center.** The Museum, in partnership with Sugar Grove Nature Center, will present a workshop on the history of maple sirup-ing. During this workshop, participants will learn how to tap a maple tree, hear about Native American practices, visit the sugar shack to learn how sap is turned into sirup, and sample tasty treats made out of maple sirup and sugar. You'll also learn why it's spelled "sirup" and not "syrup." Look for more information coming soon on how to sign up for this fun and educational event.

**Book** - continued from page 1

groceries throughout Central Illinois. Despite the availability of so much, many families beyond the city limits produced and processed nearly everything they ate and only occasionally visited a grocery store.

By the end of the second millennium, most people had little idea where their food and drink came from, and it was hard to find locally produced food, let alone people with many food-related skills. The area's telephone directories listed no cheese shops or fishmongers. Skilled butchers and bread bakers barely existed. A couple of artisanal confectioners still had shops in Bloomington, but you could forget it if you wanted to buy milk from a local dairy. Finding groceries and fresh produce outside of a chain supermarket was a challenge, not to mention locating a chef-owned restaurant.

How did this situation come to pass? *Come & Get It!* finds causes deeply embedded in the American experience and cultural crises that had remarkably strong affects on food consumption in Central Illinois.

The book will be published using current technologies and will be issued in a Kindle version, available though Amazon.com. We will also offer it in a print-by-demand version though Amazon.com. The Museum store will keep a few copies for retail sale. Watch your mail for more information on when the book will be available and ordering information.



## Mystery History

A near-record number of history sleuths correctly identified last issue's image of First Church of Christ, Scientist, located at the corner of Prairie and Monroe streets east of downtown. Those who knew the answer include Brett Arseneault, Julianna Bickus, Don Cavallini, Carol J. Churukian, Ed Cronic, Jan and Denise Fries, Carman Gresham, David A. Hall, Jim Hoppe, Donna and Ted Jordan, Jack Keefe, John Kibler, Pat Littlefield, Judy Markowitz, Joan Marshall, Will McCord, Anne McGowan, Marie O'Brokta, Charles Payne, Nadine Reining, Denise Romack, Ruth Steele, Judy Stone, Betty M. Swartz, Joan Willis and Jeanne Wroan. If we forget anyone, we apologize, but given the number of correct answers, I'm sure you'll understand!

Built in 1908-1909, Bloomington's First Church of Christ, Scientist was an architectural jewel. Designed by Bloomington architect Arthur L. Pillsbury, the Classical Revival-style building featured a copper dome and Greek temple-style entryway. In 1979, the building was sold to a Pentecostal congregation and the local Christian Scientists relocated to a modernist building on North Regency Drive behind St. Joseph Hospital. Sadly, the old domed church building was razed in November 1994, and another Twin Cities landmark was replaced by a surface parking lot.

## MYSTERY HISTORY QUIZ

Hopefully the answer to this issue's mystery image will prove more elusive. Can you tell us what McLean County community is shown in this photograph? For a bonus, can you tell us what special event is being commemorated?



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