

The Carmel Signal

CARMEL CLAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

January-March 2012

Established 1975

Our 36th Year



FOUNDERS DINNER KICKS OFF 175TH CELEBRATION

One hundred seventy-five years ago on April 13, 1837, four farmers with adjoining property donated land to create a town at the intersection of what today is Main Street and Range Line Road. The original 14 lots made up the town that was originally called Bethlehem. To celebrate the beginning of our community, the Carmel Clay Historical Society is partnering with the City of Carmel to host a Founders Dinner April 13 at the Ritz Charles. The event will mark the beginning of a year's worth of events throughout the city that celebrate our community's history and its future.

Carmel native, Steve Inskeep, will be the guest speaker at the dinner. Inskeep is the host of NPR's program *Morning Edition* and a 1986

graduate of Carmel High School. Emmy-Award winning newscaster and Carmel resident Kevin Rader will serve as Master of Ceremonies.

A cocktail reception begins at 7 p.m., with dinner at 7:45 p.m. and Inskeep's program following. For more information, visit www.carmelclayhistory.org. Proceeds will benefit the Carmel Clay Historical Society.

Tickets may be purchased at The Center for the Performing Arts Box Office, One Center Green, Carmel, IN 46032, or by calling 317-843-3800. The box office is open Monday through Friday,

Spring Luncheon

Mark your calendars for the CCHS Springtime Luncheon, May 10. Keeping with the theme of the city's 175th anniversary, the program will feature recently made video recorded oral histories of long-time Carmel residents. Among those whose remembrances will be seen is that of the late **Phil Hinshaw**. CCHS member **Chuck Duke** spent hours recording the remembered histories of a number of Carmel's residents, including Hinshaw. CCHS member and author **Dan Logan** will MC the event. Look for more information in the next newsletter.

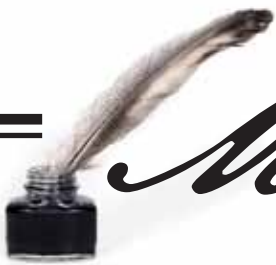


Steve Inskeep



Kevin Rader

10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., and Saturday, noon to 4:00 p.m. Tickets may be purchased by phone or through the box office only. Ticket price is \$75 plus service charge.



Member News

Our condolences are extended to the families of **Rose Watts**, who passed away Nov. 30 and **Marcella Pursel**, who died Dec. 27

Thanks to the following volunteers who have donated their time in the last two months: Jeff Lefton, Tania Karakash, Katie Loggins and Andrew Lyons, **Jennifer Hershberger, Susan Boch, Michael Draper**. A special thanks is extended to the following people who worked hard on the 15th annual Holiday Home Tour: **Mary Cage, Don Childs, Nancy Childs, Peg Durrer, Betty Estridge, Fred and Alice Hecker, Judy Huber**, Corinne Nordin, **Jan Randall, Barb Rumer, Ginny Terpening**.

Thanks to Tim and Tamara Hall, who made a donation in honor of CCHS members **Susan Boch** and **Jennifer Hershberger**

We welcome new members:

June Hedges
Jerry & Dolly Hughes
Kiel Kinnaman
Steve & Sherry McVey- *renewing after absence*
Bradley and Debra May
Dixie Packard
Belinda Rulon
Rich and Lauren Taylor
Patricia Walton
Karen Willman

We had two board members resign their positions at the end of last year: Corresponding secretary **Betty Sanford** and board member **Chuck Duke**. We extend our most appreciative thanks to both for dedicating their time to the CCHS.

VALENTINE'S DAY TEA FOR KIDS, PARENTS, AND ME!

Family members of all ages are invited to the Valentine's Day Tea at the Simply Sweet Shoppe Feb. 11 at 11 a.m. Enjoy finger sandwiches (kid-friendly, of course!), petite cakes, other tiny nibbles, and of course tea after having fun with a hands-on craft. During our tea we will learn a little about the history of afternoon tea as a traditional event and why some people still enjoy it. Participants are welcome to dress up in fancy tea attire, though casual diners are welcome too!

The cost for the tea is \$15 per adult, \$10 for the first child, and \$7 for each additional child.

The event is sponsored by the Simply Sweet Shoppe and the Carmel Clay Historical Society. Call 317-

846-7117 to reserve your spot. This is a wonderful activity for grandparents and their grandchildren, too!



2011 ANNUAL REPORT

2011 was a busy year for the Carmel Clay Historical Society. Staff and volunteers spent a great deal of time and effort implementing its strategic plan, offering new programs to the public, advocating for preservation of historic structures around Carmel, and planning for Carmel's 175th anniversary this year.

Our staff and volunteers had contact with more than 3,000 people in 2011 at various programs, presentations, meetings, and at our own site. Volunteers contributed 513 hours of time processing collections, cataloging our artifacts, staffing our genealogy lab at the Monon Center, and keeping open the Monon Depot Museum. Four hundred thirty-two hours were spent in the Monon Center Geneology lab. Docents spent 224 hours accommodating the museum's 372 weekend visitors, 451 school children, and 30 Boy Scouts who visited the Monon Depot Museum on tours. Volunteers also visited the schools twice, seeing 50 children in their classroom. Total volunteer hours donated in 2011 was 1,189. This does not include tremendous amount of time spent planning and carrying out our Springtime Luncheon and Holiday Home Tour, which are our biggest fundraisers.

Our membership has grown this year by 37 new memberships, for a total number of 218 memberships. Eight of those new memberships are family memberships and one is a life membership. This is 41 more memberships than last year. Ninety-eight are life members and 120 are annually renewing members.

We have grown this year by 37 new memberships, for a total of 218. I have worked hard at making the CCHS more of a presence in Carmel. We reached a wide audience this year at Rock the District on Main Street and spoke to hundreds of Carmel business people at a Chamber of Commerce meeting. We have begun to advertise our six annual programs to the public and have seen attendance rise. This has earned the CCHS some money and also brought in new memberships. Likewise, the CCHS FaceBook page resulted in donations, memberships, and even contributions to an exhibit.

Our budget is balanced, and our board of directors has worked hard to see that we have a number of different revenue streams. Historical societies like ours typically support themselves by a collective effort of annual donations, in-kind gifts, sponsorships, membership fees, program fees, grants, and fundraisers. So we are very much like other groups in that way. Most, however, do not have a paid staff member, so we are ahead of most such organizations in that manner. The board and I are excited about what lies ahead this year, and a number of members are already involved in planning activities for the 175th anniversary. I hope you will join us as we celebrate our community's history.

Katherine Dill



The second Carmel Clay Historical Society annual campaign is complete, and the generous donations of our members and friends have helped the society raise \$7,155 -- that's more almost \$2,600 more than last year's campaign earned! Your support will help support the development of new exhibits and programs for Carmel's 175th celebration in 2012. Many thanks to those who contributed to the campaign.

The Carmel Clay Historical Society greatly appreciates the following donors:

Donations of \$1,500
Karri Phelan

Donations of \$1,000
John Graves

Donations of \$200-\$300

Katherine Dill, *in honor of CCHS Volunteers*
James C. & Susannah H. Dillon, *in memory of Daniel Ragsdale Christian*
Ron and Judy Hagan*
Virginia and Bob Terpening
Judy Huber

Donations of \$100-\$200

James & Marianne Brocke
Carmel Lions Club
Don & Nancy Childs
Ann & Charles Conrad
Phil & Judy Dunlap
Jane F. Englert
Ethel Folger
Carol Hinkley
Michael Ann McIlrath
C. Joseph Russell, *in memory of Eric Clark*
Moe & Judi Silverman
Karl & Charlotte Swain
Carol Valentine
Joan Wischmeyer

Donations of at least \$100

Anonymous
Joan Ball
Susan Bock
Kathy Bolander
Lois Bowen, *in memory of Maxine Cotton*
Bill & Sheri Craig, *in memory of Lucille Bowman*
Dr. & Mrs. John Durrer
Mary Jo Edwards, *in memory of Bill Edwards*
Jane F. Englert

Betty Estridge, *in memory of Maxine Cotton*

Doreen Squire-Ficara

Helen Filipow

Don Gross

Tim & Tamara Hall, *in honor of Jennifer Hershberger and Susan Boch*

Fred & Alice Hecker *

Jennifer Hershberger, *in memory of Martha Nutt*

Kelly Hindman, Edward D. Jones

Elly Hoffman, *in memory of Joan Persell*

William Hull

Craig S. Ito

Jean & Jerry Jansen

James & Helen Johnson

Charles Johnson *

George & Donna Jones

H. Jean Kyle

Jim & Clella Lewis

Peg Looney

Sue Maki

Gary & Sandra Martindale

Jerry & Kay Myers

Neal & Jan Randall, *in memory of Phil Hinshaw*

Edna Reilly

Myron & Phyllis Rockhill

Joyce Rogers, *in memory of Joe W. Rogers*

Betty Sanford

Russ & Ruth Schwartz

Johanna & Dave Smith

In-Kind Donations

American StructurePoint

Bub's Café

Katherine Dill

Lee Dolen

Judy Dunlap, CPA, *The Point*

Betsie Internetwork

Matthew Snyder

Fred Swift

LETTER FROM THE *President*

The year 2012 marks 175 years since the founding of Carmel, and major events are planned for the year. A city committee has been established to produce these events, starting with a Founders Day banquet April 13. That date was chosen because it was on that date in 1837 that four local pioneers platted the town of Bethlehem centered at what is now the intersection of Main Street and Range Line Road. The Carmel Clay Historical Society urged this observance be staged to acknowledge the community's beginning. Similar celebrations have been held each 25 years since the 1937 centennial.

Events following the Founders Day banquet include CCHS's Springtime Luncheon in May, a city golf tournament in June, CarmelFest in July, an August program developed by Carmel Clay Schools with a historical theme, and the CCHS annual Holiday Home Tour in December. Details on these and other programs will be publicized as the year progresses.

The historical society will have programs for its members and the public on the second Sunday of February, April, June, August, October and December. We hope our membership will attend these programs and learn about the various individuals and events that have helped mold Carmel into the community it is today.

The society is cooperating with the city's overall 175th Anniversary Committee, which is meeting regularly to develop the events of the year. The committee is headed by co-chairmen **Jerry Hughes** and Jim Burrell. Its membership includes representatives from the city, school system, Carmel Arts Council, Carmel Clay Public Library, Carmel Chamber of Commerce, Carmel Dad's Club, Carmel Rotary chapter, and the CCHS.

We look forward to a anniversary year of festive and informative events which all Carmelites are encouraged to enjoy.

Fred Swift

MAKING ART AT THE DEPOT

Though winter is typically a quite time at the Monon Depot Museum, children and adults were in and out of the museum throughout December. CCHS volunteer **Ginny Terpening** held a series of drop-in activities, where children could make "Putz" people. They were modeled after

Renee and Anthony Back work with pine cones, styrofoam balls, ribbon, and gumdrop candies to make Putz people.



antique Putz people in **Joan Wischmeyer's** collection, which was on display for the Holiday Home Tour and drop-in activities.

Later, during winter break, local artist **R. Carol Skinner** offered art classes for children and

adults. Budding artists painted pictures that represented Old Town businesses and created paper dolls that "walked" through maps of Old Town. The students had a wonderful time depicting Bub's Burger's, Bazbeaux Pizza,



Elizabeth Kelleher used painted pieces of paper to make her pizza look three-dimensional.

O.W. Nutt Hardware Store, and Sophia Square. In the adult class, Skinner directed artists as they sketched sites on Main Street. Both projects were made possible by a grant given to the CCHS by the

Carmel City Center Community Development Corporation.

CARING FOR OUR COLLECTIONS

Our members know how we spend most of our time: planning programs and fundraisers, offering tours of the Monon Depot Museum, advocating for the preservation of local buildings. They even participate in a lot of them. But most don't get to see one of the most important things we do: conservation – repair and protection – of our collection.

The pictured marriage certificate had broken in six pieces, each of which were curled almost into a tube, all laying on top of each other. They

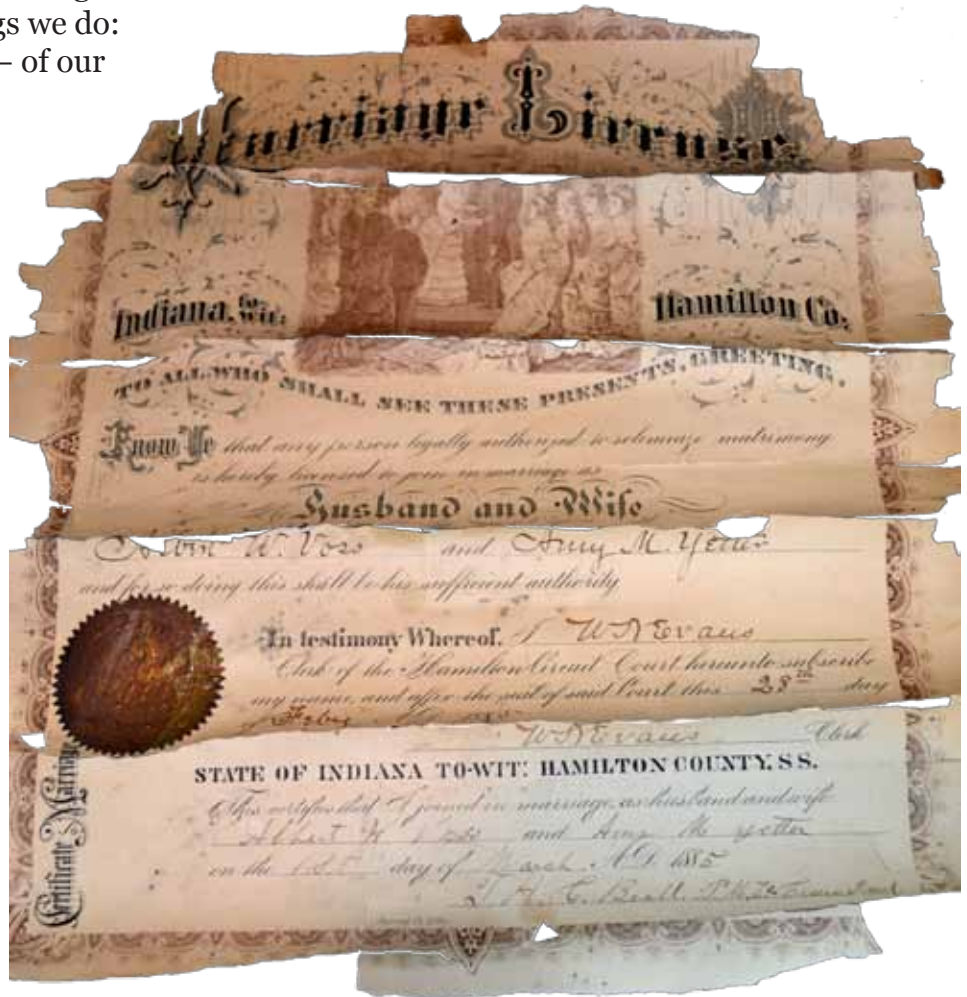
*We preserve
[documents] so
they can tell us
the story of our
community.*

crumbled to the touch. The pieces of the marriage certificate were put into a humidity chamber over the course of several days so the pages would relax. Then they were removed and laid together, almost like a puzzle, between two sheets of mylar – which is a protective covering of polyester film. Now, once again, the pages tell the story of the union of Albert Voss and Amy Yetter, ready for researchers and descendants to use.

Conservation is an important part of what we do. Without it, there would be little reason for us to exist. We preserve the Monon Depot. We preserve photographs. And we preserve manuscripts, diaries, and letters, all so they can help us tell the story of our community.

At the start of the 175th year of Carmel's history, now is an excellent time for you to start caring for your own collections. Here are a few hard and fast rules for working with historic items, whether in a museum, historical society, or at home.

◆ Store your documents, photographs, etc. in a place that has a pretty consistent temperature, between 65 and 73 degrees. Do not store them in an attic, basement, or garage. Changes in temperature, high humidity, and damp environments are detrimental to old papers, books, and photographs.



- ◆ Use mylar to protect documents; do not laminate them.
- ◆ Use gloves when handling photographs; oil from your skin can damage pictures.
- ◆ NEVER use tape to repair a torn document. It will discolor and damage the document.
- ◆ To label your photographs, use photo pencils. They write easily on the slick backs of photographs without hurting them.

A general rule to follow is to never do anything that you can't later undo. If you have any questions about conservation, contact Katherine Dill at carmelclayhistory@yahoo.com or 317-846-7117.

PROGRAMS OFFER HISTORY, INTRIGUE

The first CCHS program of the year will be held on February 12, when Lee Lonzo, former assistant principal and athletic director at Carmel High School, will give a presentation about the life of Dale Graham. Graham spent 25 years (1964 to 1989) as principal of Carmel High School and was president of the National Association of Secondary School Principals. The year 2012 marks the 125th anniversary of Carmel High School, and to have one individual at the helm of the school for a full one-fifth of its history is remarkable. Lonzo will talk about the accomplishments that occurred under Graham's tenure.

The next CCHS program sees the return of the popular Antique Appraisal event, which will take place April 15. Grab a treasure you've always wondered about and find out more about it. A

local antique dealer will provide general value information and history on the pieces brought in. Who will have the most unique item? Most valuable? Come be surprised! Members can have one item appraised for free. Extra items cost \$5 per appraisal. Non-members must pay \$5 per item. *Disclaimer: Estimates will be provided for the purposes of entertainment with this program only and are not intended for insurance purposes, etc.* (Note: Due to spring break, this CCHS program will be held on the third Sunday of the month.)

Both programs will take place at Carmel Christian Church, 463 E. Main St., at 2 p.m.

2012 Calendar at a Glance

February

- 11 Valentine's Day Tea, Simply Sweet Shoppe
- 12 CCHS program: "The Life of Dale Graham, Carmel High School principal for 25 years"

April

- 13 Founders Dinner
 - 15 CCHS program: Antiques Appraisal Event
 - 24 Photo identification program
- "Percherons and Purebreds: Lynnwood Farm" exhibit opens**

May

- 10 Springtime Luncheon,
- 12 Mother's Day Tea, Simply Sweet Shoppe

June

- 10 CCHS Program: Hamilton County's Contribution to the Civil War
 - 26 History's mysteries: Old Carmel Cemetery Speaks
- "Clubbing in Carmel: 40 Years of Rotary" exhibit opens**

August

- 12 CCHS program: Ice Cream Social and Soapbox Political Rally

September

"125 Years of Greyhound History" exhibit opens (Carmel High School exhibit)

October

- 14 CCHS program: History of the Interurban

December

- 7-8 16th Annual Holiday Home Tour
- 9 CCHS annual meeting and holiday party and Christmas break activities

Other activities planned for the year but not yet scheduled are an Old Town architecture drawing contest; a family Scavenger Hunt; and free family activities along the Monon Greenway through the spring, summer, and fall.



Carmel Clay Historical Society
211 First Street, S. W.
Carmel, IN 46032

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GENEALOGY PROGRAMS AT THE CCPL

One of the new programs resulting from the move of the CCHS's genealogy lab to the Carmel Clay Public Library is a series of "Ask the Expert" roundtables. The roundtables began in January and continue through April. After a summer break, the sessions will pickup again in the fall. Participation is open to anyone and is free. Roundtables will be held in the program room at the Carmel Clay Public Library. The following topics will be presented:

- ***"Family Tree Myth Busting"***
Feb. 21, at 1 PM
- ***"Resources on Heritage Quest"***
March 22, at 7 PM
- ***"1940 Census"***
April 19, at 7 PM

The Board of Directors

Fred Swift, *president*
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Judy Hagan, *treasurer*
Stephanie Curtis, *secretary*
vacant
corresponding secretary
Nancy Childs

Danny O'Malia
Jan Randall
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Matt Snyder
Karl Swain
Kathy Venable
Joan Wischmeyer
Katherine Dill, *executive director*

CARMEL CLAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

317-846-7117 • www.carmelclayhistory.org
carmelclayhistory@yahoo.com
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