



Quarterly Newsletter

Volume IV, Issue 3 September 2016

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Curator's Corner by Jamie Clemons

This year, Indiana celebrates its Bicentennial on December 12, 2016. To celebrate, communities all over the state are boasting painted fiberglass bison. Syracuse's bison is scheduled to be unveiled during September. There are many different events happening throughout the year, as well. You can get information on some of these events by visiting www.in.gov/ibc, including information on the Torch Relay. The Indiana Bicentennial Torch Relay will begin September 9. In a riotous circuit, the torch will make its way through each county in Indiana, arriving in Syracuse around noon on Thursday, September 29.

A wonderful way to learn about some history concerning our great state is by visiting YouTube. The program, titled "Indiana Bicentennial Minute," has a new one-minute segment each week and is narrated by Jane Pauley. Here are a few of the topics discussed:

- Week 1: The Story of Statehood
- Week 8: Madam C.J. Walker (beauty empire)
- Week 10: Philo Farnsworth, Father of Television
- Week 20: The Soldiers and Sailors Monument
- Week 25: Native Americans
- Week 28: Red Skelton (actor and comedian)
- Week 30: John Dillinger (gangster)
- Week 34: Automobiles in Indiana

I hope you can take a few minutes to watch the Indiana Bicentennial Minute series. I believe it is a wonderful way to learn a little bit more about the Hoosier State.



"If Walls Could Talk"



Centennial Home

"If Walls Could Talk," a program featuring 100 year-old homes on Lake Wawasee, brought over 60 people to the Syracuse Community Center on July 27. Ann Vanderford Garceau introduced eight homeowners to the audience. Each shared the history of his, or her, lake home. A "Centennial Home" plaque was presented to each family to recognize their efforts at honoring history by preserving their historic homes for the enjoyment of future generations. So far, the museum has compiled a list of at least 30 lake homes that are over 100 years-old. These, as well as centennial homes in Syracuse, will be presented in future programs by the museum and individual home owners.

Mike Mock is a Collector at Heart! By Mary Hursh

Cottingham Beach on Lake Wawasee is still “home” to our most recent museum board member, Mike Mock. Mike is a fourth-generation “laker” because his great-grandfather Andrew, his grandfather James Earl, and his father Malcolm all came before him as lake residents. “My great-grandfather came to this area from Pennsylvania in 1890 looking for a good place to fish. People told him to go to Wawasee!”

“My grandparents bought their cottage in the 1940s soon after they married. They wanted to get away from their businesses in Anderson. Their cottage cost \$3,000!” Mike said that when his grandparents came up to the lake, they would always have two spare tires because the roads were all gravel. “You could always count on one flat up and one flat back.”

As a teenager, Mike enjoyed collecting lake mementos. “When I was a teenager, I found poster-board size charts in the basement area of the Johnson Hotel after the hotel was torn down. The charts showed which rooms were available and for which dates. I knew those charts were history going away that would never come back if they were not rescued.”

Life at the lake as a teenager was always fun for Mike. He had a runabout speed boat as a kid. “I went up and down the channels and around the lake...a long ride for a 10-year-old boy. I really enjoyed going to the fish hatchery to see the fish and the tanks. When he was 15, his family bought a ski boat.

Mike’s grandmother Kathleen does come up to the lake on occasion. Mike has done some remodeling at the cottage over the years. Air conditioning and heat have been added along with aluminum siding. The screened-in porch is enclosed now and part of the living room.

Mike visited the Syracuse/Wawasee Historical Museum last spring in search of information he hoped the museum could provide. Later, he noticed on the museum website that there was an opening for a board member. “I decided to throw my hat in the ring!”

Currently, Mike is helping the director digitize pictures. “There is a lot involved in being a board member. It is interesting and the museum is something that the community really needs,” said Mike.

When Mike is not at the lake, he works around his 160-acre farm located close to Anderson.

Scenic Photo Contest



2015 “Oars” entry

The museum, in partnership with the Syracuse Parks & Recreation Department, is hosting an amateur photography contest through October 10. All entries will be displayed at the museum and the Syracuse Community Center from October 14, 2016, until January 3, 2017. Please contact the museum or community center for more information.



2015 “Duckling” entry

Syracuse Community Center Happenings

Do you wonder what is going on at the Syracuse Community Center this fall and winter? Check out the new edition of *The Lakeside Guide*. The museum will be open during these events:

- Scenic Syracuse Photo Contest
- Harvest Festival—October 8, 9a.m.-2p.m.
- Fall Carnival—October 29, 6p.m.-8p.m.
- Community Garage Sales—November 5
- Breakfast with Santa—December 3, 8a.m.-11a.m.

There are many more events sponsored by the Syracuse Parks and Recreation. Come in for a new brochure and avoid missing it all!



Museum Upcoming Events

- September:
 - Scenic Photo Competition runs through entire month
 - IN Bicentennial Celebration—September 29
- October:
 - Scenic Photo Competition
 - Entries due October 10, 8 p.m.
 - Winners announced October 12
 - Photos will be on display October 14 through January 3
 - Night At The Museum, October 18, 6-8 p.m.
 - Fall Carnival—October 29
- November:
 - Election—November 8
 - Thanksgiving—Closed November 24-28
- December:
 - Breakfast with Santa—December 3
 - Christmas Break—TBA

Watch the paper and our website for more upcoming events.

Grants

The museum is proud to announce the receipt of a \$2000 Kosciusko County Community Foundation Grant to help in the implementation of educational programs.

Visiting Exhibits

- **June**—June, as usual, brought a bumper crop of visiting displays. We had a *Syracuse Local Authors, Syracuse High School* (featuring the classes of 1946, 1956, & 1966), *Syracuse Business Advertising, Crow's Nest Photo Gallery, Flotilla*, and a *70-H Race Boat and Stock Outboard Racers Photo Gallery*.
- **July and August**—During July and August, we held on to the *Syracuse Business Advertising* and the *70-H Race Boat and Stock Outboard Racers Photo Gallery*. The boat will remain on display until Labor Day weekend.
- **Future Displays**—The museum is always looking for collections of items that would make a nice visiting display. Visiting displays do not have to be of local businesses or items. Examples of past visiting exhibits include *Native Indiana Woods, Wooden Goblets, Buttons, Hats, Comic Books, Dominoes, Civil War and WWII Medical Instruments*, and *Model Trains*.

Please contact the museum if you believe you have an interesting collection to display. Exhibits typically run 4-8 weeks.

New Gift Shop items

- Eli Lilly's *Early Wawasee Days* reprint is finally here. Bring home a copy of this iconic book of the area highlighting prominent locations and pastimes around the lake. Each book features a fresh new cover and is priced at \$25. Don't forget its companion book by Scott Edgell, *Sketches of Lake Wawasee*, available for \$25.
- We also sell reprints of a 1915 Syracuse and Lake Wawasee Journal. Ads and photos from 100 years ago are sure to spark conversations. Each copy is printed on heavy paper and priced at \$5.
- *Syracuse and Lake Wawasee* by Erin Lomax and Ann Vanderford Garceau is now in its 3rd printing. All copies are signed by Ann and are available for \$23.50.

*All gift shop prices include tax.

The Syracuse-Wawasee Historical Museum is completely funded by private grants and the generosity of its members and patrons. We receive no funding from local, state, or federal entities.



Why have a membership to the Syracuse-Wawasee Historical Museum?

Membership entitles you to first-hand information of Museum happenings, discounts on Museum programs, and the knowledge that you are helping the Museum carry out its mission of preserving local history.

To begin membership, please fill out this brief form:

Date:	
Name:	
Address:	
Telephone:	
E-Mail:	

Membership Type:	Price:	Total Enclosed:
Individual	\$20 Annually	
Family	\$30 Annually	
Corporate	\$100 Annually	
Lifetime	\$150 Per Person *	
Donation		

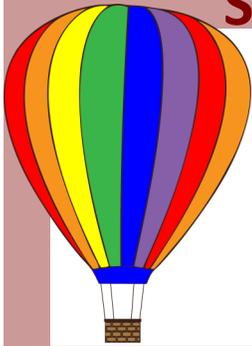
* Lifetime Membership includes a free copy of Early Wawasee Days by Eli Lilly

Thank you for your support. Please make checks payable to “Syracuse-Wawasee Historical Museum” and mail with completed form to:

Syracuse-Wawasee Historical Museum
1013 North Long Drive
Syracuse, IN 46567

Questions? Call 574-457-3599 or E-Mail: director@syracusemuseum.org

“Sharp” Quotes



Welcome to our new segment! All quotes will feature stories from Ron Sharp’s books, *Sharp’s Chronicles: A History of Syracuse* collection. Enjoy!

Balloon Ride

A memorable, but unexpected, event occurred as Syracuse citizens celebrated Jubilee days in Sep. 1909.

A balloon ascension was held about 5:30 in the evening. Quinter Neff, aged 20, some of Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Neff, was standing astride one of the ropes of the balloon, when it was set free and jerked him off his feet, carrying him with the balloon. Luckily the rope was wound securely around him, for he made the ascent in one piece.

The balloonist saw Neff and yelled to him to hang on. As soon as the balloon was high enough, the balloonist bailed out and returned via parachute.

The balloon, with Quinter, settled down at the Kern farm a half mile from town. Everyone followed the balloon on foot and found Quinter munching an apple. However, Quinter was still in trouble with his father, because he was supposed to have been at home tending the cow. (Ron Sharp, 268)

Donation Wish List

There always seems to be something that we need at the museum. We accept everything from office supplies to monetary donations. Seldom do we turn down a contribution! The following is a short list of items that we need to help serve the community better:

- * Yearbooks: please contact museum for a list of missing yearbooks.
- * Local business memorabilia: particularly needing memorabilia from the Chinese Gardens
- * Photos and documents: historical photos pre-1980. We can digitize and return photos and documents, while you wait.

For a more complete list or to inquire about your item, please contact the museum.

Donations

Another great season for donations to the museum!

- **Ted Mahnensmith**—More WWII Navy memorabilia belonging to his father, Lt. JG Orville G. Mahnensmith
- **Judy Jarrett**—1980 South Bend Tribune supplement featuring Syracuse, Syracuse sheet music, 3 Syracuse photos taken by W A Rapp, SHS '36 graduation announcement, milk jug paper seal from Bachman’s Dairy, Yesteryears: Class of 1936s 50th reunion booklet, copy of 1929 Lake Wawasee directory
- **Ann Garceau**—Cordless phone
- **Sally Tipke**—Book: *Indiana Lives* (pg. 260 has her father in it—Ephraim L. Fosbrink)
- **Myrna Harting**—Sesquicentennial items, barber hand clippers, shaving blade, newspaper clipping of barber items
- **Nancy Nelson**—Blue Bird Uniform and a Girl Scout music sheet
- **Alan and Rosemarie Swiatek**—Abstract title and plat map for lots 1-17 in the Elm Grove Subdivision



Thanks
for your
donation!

- **Larry Winkler**—2 parade photos, Thornburg Drugs frontage photo, Royster Fertilizer notepads, 7 “Coming Attractions” bills from Pickwick Theatre, photo political badge (?), Ken-Rad “Bobby” tees, Sesquicentennial items
- **Unknown (dropped off after hours)**—1974 “The Mail-Journal” insert featuring the 64th Sectional Basketball Tournament held at Warsaw HS, SHS newspaper clippings
- **Robert Fanning**—WPOA directories, WACF calendar, Syracuse Lake Association directory
- **Rowena Impey**—*Enchanted Hills: Wine and Cheese Tasting Theatre Party* booklet from 1982
- **Ronald Stoll**—Lake Area Community Band materials, Foo & Faye’s silk fan, fishing and boating leaflets, miscellaneous newspaper clippings
- **Fred Weisser**—Syracuse Rubber Company license plate holder and a deck of Weatherhead playing cards
- **Joyce Arleen Corson**—Stadium seating end cap from the Syracuse High School auditorium
- **Carolyn Gunder**—Women’s Navy uniform jacket
- **John Sells**—Photos dating December 1964-January 1965 of the Vietnam Conflict



Syracuse-Wawasee Historical Museum

1013 North Long Drive

Syracuse, IN 46567

Phone: 574-457-3599

Email: director@syracusemuseum.org

Website: www.syracusemuseum.org

Hours: Tuesday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Find us on Facebook! There's always something interesting, even if it's just the daily "National Day Of..." posting!

Museum Changes

If you have been in the museum at all during the spring/summer, you will have noticed that we have moved many displays around to give a more open feel to the museum. In doing so, we have been able to incorporate some larger displays, such as our current race boat display that will be here through Labor Day. We have begun the process of adding plaques honoring our case sponsors. And, finally, during the spring, the museum purchased a new flat screen television and DVD/VCR. We now have the capabilities to transfer VHS cassettes to a DVD. Stop in and see our changes!

