

Syracuse-Wawasee Historical Museum, Inc.

1013 North Long Drive

Syracuse, IN 46567

574-457-3599

www.syracusemuseum.org

VOLUME I, ISSUE III

DECEMBER 2013

Curator's Corner

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Happy Holidays to all of you! I always look forward to the winter months as a time to snuggle in and enjoy the blessings of family. As you gather with your family to celebrate this season of giving, consider spending the time and effort to conduct an oral history interview. Sit down with an older relative and find out what his life was like as a child, or share some of your fondest memories and feelings about the past with a visiting granddaughter. An oral history interview, recorded or written down, can draw your family closer

and document family history for future generations. Here are some basic steps and tips for starting your own oral history project through a family member interview:

1. Determine who will be interviewed.
2. Write down questions in advance. Questions about past memories and feelings work best.
3. Find a cozy spot in the house to conduct the interview. Set up any equipment in advance. Interviews can be written down on paper or recorded for posterity.

4. Plan to spend no more than about 45 minutes conducting the interview—your subject will get tired!
5. During the interview, be sure to look the subject in the eye, listen carefully, and ask follow-up questions about particular topics that interest them.

Consider recording the interview so that it can be played later at reunions or memorial services, or copied and shared with the whole family. It's sure to be a treasured gift!

News from the Board of Directors

The Syracuse-Wawasee Historical Museum has recently lost a beloved board member: John Connolly. John was an enthusiastic supporter of the Museum. He served for many years on the board, a short time ago as the Vice Presi-

dent. He passed away of cancer in September 2013. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his wife, Shirley, and the Connolly family in this difficult time. We remain deeply grateful to John for his dedication to the mission of the SWH Museum.

The Indiana Historical Society will send several staff members to call on the SWH Museum in Spring 2014. The IHS offers free on-site visits to Indiana museums to offer advice and aid in improving museum displays, programs, and patronage. We are excited!

Upcoming Programs



Ice Fishing on
Johnson's Bay 1942

A goal of the Syracuse-Wawasee Historical Museum is to offer educational history programs on a monthly basis. If you have suggestions for program topics, or if you would like to offer a program to the general public through the Museum, please call the Museum at 574-457-3599 or stop by!

December 2013: Visit the Museum during regular business hours and learn how to make your own 1800s-style ornament from Christmas cards. Free.

Saturday, January 11th, 2014: Come and hear two-part talk by Jack Elam, well-known local history buff. Part I will be a short history of Syracuse; Part II will cover Indians of

Kosciusko county. Free; donations appreciated. Light refreshments will be served. 10:30 am.

Saturdays, February 2014: Take a guided tour through the Museum. Offered every Saturday on the hour, between 10 am and 2 pm. Can't make Saturdays? Schedule your tour by appointment.

You can't walk alone. Man is not made that way. Each man is bedded in his people, their history, their culture, and their values.

- Peter Abrahams

Collection Curiosities

Here is a picture of an interesting recent donation to the Museum from Garry Ringler—a pair of 1968 “Senior Cords” from Syracuse High School. Senior Cords are believed to be an undergraduate tradition that started at Indiana University around 1912. The tradition eventually trickled down to high school seniors. Each

senior would decorate a pair of corduroy pants or a corduroy skirt with personal artwork and lettering that reflected his or her school experiences. Cords were worn regularly through the senior year, typically on Fridays. The tradition died out years ago, probably due to the increasingly lewd nature of the



pictures and wording on the cords. The tradition is believed to be unique to the state of Indiana—

senior cords have not yet been found in any other state!

Community Contributions

Many generous contributions have been received at the Museum recently—Thank you!

Loans:

Daggerboard and rudder of wooden sailboat, 1930s ice auger, antique fishing pole (Kevin Stanley); digital camera (Pat Appenzeller).

Gifts:

Spink and Oakwood Hotel pictures (Ruth Bailey and Wayne Myers); Instrument notations for the Syracuse School Song (Jean Koher);

History of the Syracuse Church of God (Stan Owen and CofG Congregation); Wawasee Playhouse programs, Sesquicentennial t-shirt, and photos (Jack Darr); Indian Village books (Karl Keiper); Syracuse High School Pins (Lucy Rammerdiener); Senior Cords (Garry Ringler); Oakwood pictures/documents/memorabilia (Oakwood Property Owners); WPOA Directories, Wawasee Prep magazine, and post cards (Sherry Lantz); plastic sheet protectors (David Sheets); Fish Hatchery

photo (Diana Castell); Syracuse Lumber apron and Natti Crow Beach cap (George Bushong).

We'd like to thank Bob Kennedy, Steve Sharp, and Helen Yoder for donating their time to scan and edit pictures for the Indiana Memory Digitization project. We'd also like to thank John Stout of Wawasee Antiques for selling Museum gift shop items at his shop in the past few months!



The “American Girl” Steamer
on Lake Wawasee

Membership

It's time for our annual membership drive! Please consider renewing your annual membership or upgrading to a lifetime membership today. New lifetime members will receive a free copy of [Early Wawasee Days](#) by Eli Lilly, which can be picked up at the Museum.

Membership entitles you to first-hand information of Museum happenings (through this newsletter, for example), discounts on Museum programs, and the knowledge that you are helping the Museum carry out its mission of preserving

local history. Membership options and fees are:

Annual	Individual	\$20
	Family	\$30
	Corporate	\$100
	Lifetime	\$150 / person

Annual memberships run from January to December. To continue your membership, complete and mail the following 2014 Membership Renewal Form. Please make checks payable to Syracuse-Wawasee Historical Museum. Thank you for your continued support!

clip here

2014 Membership Renewal Form

Name		
Address		
Telephone		
Email		
Membership Type	Individual Corporate	Family Lifetime
Total Enclosed		

Mail form and payment to:
Syracuse-Wawasee Historical Museum
1013 North Long Drive
Syracuse, IN 46567

History Mysteries



Spear Point

Arrowhead Point

Dart Point

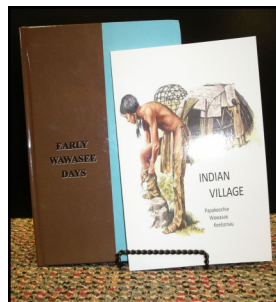
I've been looking at the Museum's assortment of Indian artifacts this past month and marveling at how many projectile points we have on display. 90% of the artifacts in our extensive collection are from Kosciusko county. Artifacts in the collection range in age from around 10,000 years old to more "modern" artifacts of the late 18th century. Did you know that the primary way to identify and determine the age of Indian projectile points (commonly called arrowheads) is by **size** and **shape**? Projectile points are linked to culture and time period on the basis of their characteristics. Shapes and thicknesses changed over time for reasons prob-

ably related to function and technology. **Notching**, another physical characteristic, also indicates the function of the point, and therefore the age. In general, larger, finely made points are the oldest points (15,000—7500 B.C.E.), called spear points, and were used as the working ends of spears. Medium-sized, fairly thick points are called dart points; they were used with atlatls between 8000 and 1000 years B.C.E. Tiny triangular points are the most recent points, used at the ends of arrows shot with bows. These true "arrowheads" have been dated from 800 B.C.E. to 1650 C.E. Stop in and see our new interactive display, where you can put some points in order from oldest to youngest!

Museum Gift Shop

Visit the Syracuse-Wawasee Historical Museum Gift Shop for unique gifts this holiday season. A book on local history could be a great present for the history buff on your list. Consider [Early Wawasee Days](#) by Eli Lilly or [Sketches of Lake Wawasee](#) by Scott Edgell. We also stock several books written by local author Karl Keiper on Native American history: [Land of the Indians](#) and the newly published [Indian Village](#). Kids might enjoy a

coloring book on Indiana Indians or Indiana state history.



Books for sale

The shop has several DVDs for sale for those on your list who prefer to watch rather than read. The Wawasee Property Owners Association has a new Family Memories DVD out this year with reminiscences of life on the lake in years past. The Wawasee Film Collection is another great choice—a set of three short features filmed on Lake Wawasee in the 1930s, including promotional footage for the Spink-Wawasee Inn.

**There is history
in all men's
lives.
- William
Shakespeare**

SWH Museum Gift Shop also has some terrific stocking stuffer options, including laser print note cards of historic Syracuse scenes and Mier car key chains or lapel pins. Gift cards are available as well; inquire at the desk.



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December 2013 Newsletter

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Thank you to the LIFETIME MEMBERS of the Syracuse-Wawasee Historical Museum:

Bill Appenzeller
Jan Appenzeller
Pat Appenzeller
Elinor and Fred Avery
Dennis Beadle
Barbara Beemer
Mark Beesley
Anne S. Benninghoff
Avon Bushong
George Bushong
Al Campbell
Jim Caskey
Joyce Chapman
Shirley Connolly
Albert Conradt
John Dalton
Jack Darr
Terrence Dickson
David and Judy Eckrich
Ann and Art Garceau
Eric Genshaw

Peggy Genshaw
David Grandstaff
Jane Grandstaff
Barbara and Doug Grant
Richard Green
Charles Harris
Connie Heckaman
Michael Hixenbaugh
Barrie and Don Hooley
Bud and Mary Hurst
Needham Hurst
Charles Huyette
Wanda Quinn Isenbarger
Carol Kiley
Regina and Tom Knopp
Richard Kowallik
Rosemary and Charles Lanham
Marilyn and James Lantz
Sandy and Bob McNary
Barbara Naab
Mark Nill

Garry Ringler
Julie and Ernie Rogers
Maryann Roth
Matt Roth
Donna Schrock
Pam and Kip Schumm
Anna and Dean Schwalm
Christine and David Sheets
Phil Smith
Dianna and David Stell
Karen Swanson
Randall Tobias
Joe Todd
Karen and Jim Tranter
Brian Underwood
Nancy and Jim Walts
Robert Wildman
Jean Wildman
Jacqueline Wonso
Jim Bickel