

NEWS

If you have been through the museum lately, you have probably noticed that we have made some changes and improvements.

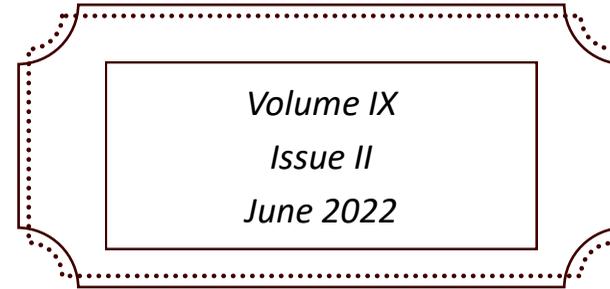
Changes involve the moving of several display cases to make the room flow better, including giving better access to our windows and allowing more natural light to flow into the room during business hours.

Improvements we have made over the past two years include:

- 1) UV filtering window tint added to external windows.
- 2) New shades for external windows.
- 3) Decals on doors.
- 4) LED bulbs replacing the incandescent bulbs.
- 5) New brochure.
- 6) New logo.
- 7) Large storage unit inside the museum.
- 8) "Stanley Bender" lighted art installation under Harkless-Mier automobile.



1013 North Long Drive
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www.syracusemuseum.org



Join us for an Open House

We invite you and your friends and family to join us for an Open House at the museum on June 18 from 11-2. We will have delicious coffee and mini cupcakes for you to enjoy.

Due to the generosity of our members, the museum now houses a variety of displays in new, lighted cases. Currently, teacups and cookbooks from the early 1950s are featured as well as a display on the life and times of Lake Wawasee legend Seth Ward.

Over this past year, several grants have been awarded to the museum for supplies, children's programming and the design and printing of a new logo featured on the museum brochure.

Each month, special events and activities come to the museum. This summer, Jamie Clemons, our director, will once again lead a ten-week Youth History Club for area children featuring bead and jewelry making as well as games and a visit from Werling Animal Rehab.

The popular Centennial Homes this summer highlight Seth Ward in July and the Chinese Gardens in August. September is the month when the museum will partner with Chautauqua-Wawasee to host a three-day archaeology program featuring several speakers.

Come to the Open House and learn about all the wonderful programs as well as the new furnishings that grants and members made possible with contributions to the museum through the annual sponsorship drive.

Centennial Homes, 2022 By Ann Garceau

Seth Ward - Centennial "VIP" presentation, Sat., July 9th at 1:00

Every community has their legends. For the Syracuse-Wawasee area, one of them was towering, silver-haired Seth Ward. He and his wife Betsy moved to Lake Wawasee in the late 1950s. Everybody in the Lakes area knew of Seth; few actually knew him.

Recently, his housekeeper, Norma Baugher, who began working for him in 1968, donated several scrapbooks, pictures and books to the Syracuse-Wawasee Historical Museum.

Ann Garceau has used this information, along with further research and personal recollections to put together a Centennial "VIP" presentation to be held at the Syracuse Community Center on Sat., July 9th at 1:00. Ann discovered pictures in the Ward family scrapbook taken on Wawasee in 1916!! What brought them here remains a mystery.



W.E. "Ed" Long's Chinese Gardens and Game House Sat., August 13th at 10:30



In August, 1936, the Elkhart Truth reported: "W.E. Long dedicated his Chinese Museum at a cost of \$50,000. It was the first Chinese museum established in Indiana. The museum contains many Chinese relics, one of the most unusual being a Manchurian god depicted as a conqueror

of man and beast."

After last summer's Kale Island Centennial Homes program, several in attendance voiced an interest in knowing more about W.E. "Ed" Long's Chinese Gardens. Taking on the challenge, the second Centennial Homes program will be at the Syracuse Community Center on Sat., August 13th at 10:30. Annette Sinn, new owner of the adjoining Game House, will share how she masterfully remodeled the building into a cozy home.

Centennial Homes Programs (2016-2021) Now Available By Ann Garceau

After a lot of hard work, all of the Centennial Homes programs (12 of them) have been edited and are now available to the public in digital format. This Spring and Summer as residents return to the lake, Ann Garceau will see that each presenter receives a USB stick that will play on a computer or television. Ann feels this will be a great addition to documenting the history of the lake and hopes that additional families will want to add this to their collection. They are available for purchase **(\$30)** at the museum. For purchase, please call ahead and allow 2-3 days as the USBs are created on a by-purchase basis.





- **June 2—August 4**—Youth History Club, Thursdays, 10:30—11:30am
- **June 18**—Open House, 10am—2pm
- **July 9**—Centennial Homes, Seth Ward, 1pm
- **July 30**—Mud Line Railroad at Syracuse Library, 1:00pm
- **August 13**—Centennial Homes, Chinese Gardens 10:30 am
- **September 1**—Archaeology Month Program, Mike Kessinger feature speaker, 5:30 pm
- **September 2**—Archaeology Month Program, Jim Hossler feature speaker, 5:30 pm
- **September 3**—Archaeology Month Programs at WACF property, 9:00am—12:00pm
- **September 29**—Lillypad Historical Cruise with Chautauqua, 12:45pm

Gone, But Not Forgotten

This spring, we were saddened to learn of the death of the museum's previous director, Eloise Kuhn. The following is a copy of her obituary, courtesy of The Mail-Journal:

Eloise (Obenchain) Kuhn, 91, Syracuse, went to be with the Lord on Saturday, April 2, 2022, at Orchard Pointe in Kendallville.

She was born in Logansport on Dec. 28, 1930, the daughter of John Donald and Violetta (Lapin) Obenchain. In 1954, she married John Kuhn in Logansport.

She is survived by three children, Mark Kuhn, Michael (fiancée, Brenda Marshall) Kuhn of Indianapolis and Lisa Geiger (Michael) Schultz of Syracuse; five grandchildren, Benjamin (Megan) Kuhn of Kendallville, Aaron (Angie) Kuhn of Ligonier, Katlin Kuhn of Indianapolis; a great-grandson, Samuel Aaron Kuhn of Ligonier; special family friend, Carla Lucas; and last but not least, her fur baby, Gracie.

She was preceded in death by her parents; and sister, Donna M. Pear.

Eloise was a very hard worker and retired from Monsanto in Ligonier after many years of service. In retirement, she owned and operated Bearly Used Antiques in Syracuse. Her last job was her dream job, working as the curator of the Syracuse-Wawasee Historical Museum. Eloise was a devoted evangelical Christian and loved her family, especially her grandchildren. She collected antiques and chicken memorabilia of all kinds. Her greatest passion, however, was sharing the Gospel with others.

Eloise [was] laid to rest with private graveside rites at Cosperville Cemetery.





- **Norma Baugher**—Seth Ward items
- **Sharon Thorson**—1934 Syracuse High School commencement announcement
- **Joan Stoelting**—Gloves belonging to her grandmother, tabletop cigarette holder with an Asian painted theme
- **Mike Mock**—Civil War telegraph paper and envelope, Bicentennial memorabilia
- **Ann Garceau**—Metric to US conversion slide with Harris Funeral Home advertisement
- **Jeff Holus**—1927 Syracuse High School playbook
- **Vicki Shuden**—Bicentennial Calendar
- **Robert Miller**—Don Byrd golf clubs
- **Bud & Mary Hursh**—Graduation dog belonging to Anita Cast, Vivitar 703 camera

2022 Summer Fun 4 Kids!

The museum offers a variety of activities for the kids throughout June thru August. Thursday mornings at 10:30 a.m., the Youth History Club will meet.

All classes are **free**, thanks to generous grants and donations.

This season's topics are:

June 2—Bead making

June 9—Archaeology Day with IDNR-DHPA's archaeologist Cathy

June 16—Necklace making (with beads from week 1)

June 23—Settler clothing

June 30—Sewing: Learn to sew a simple stuffed teddy bear

July 7—Games: Inside or Out (depending on weather)

July 14—Drum Making

July 21—Gardening

July 28—Making Atlats

August 4—Werling Animal Rehab with Kristin Werling and educational animal ambassadors.

All classes will focus on the overall history, and history as it pertains to our area.

Each session will last approximately an hour. Please note that some topics may run longer because they are more hands-on activities.

Classes meet in the Celebration Hall of the community center.

Contact Jamie Clemons at the museum to register and for more information on these topics. Preregistration is not required, but appreciated.

