



Quarterly Newsletter

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Memories of Kale Island shared at museum event. By Mary Hursh

Article originally published in The Mail-Journal on July 14, 2021.

Ann Garceau, board member of the Syracuse-Wawasee Historical Museum, presented the first summer Centennial Homes talk of the season and featured four speakers from Kale Island.

Back in the late 1850s, squatters Kale Oram and his brother Thomas had a little shack on an island at the head of the channel (Kale Island was an island west of what is now called Pickwick Park.)

The log cabin at Pier 723 on Kale Island has been in the Quinn family since 1937. Brad Quinn related his family’s ownership of the cabin over the years. Emma Hayden (1899-1982), Quinn’s grandmother, bought the original log cabin. The cabin passed to Quinn’s mother Wanda Hayden Quinn-Isenbarger (1923-2020) and then to Quinn and his brother at her death.

“The cabin is really old. My grandmother always said it was the sixth cottage on the lake and was probably built in the 1860s,” said Quinn.

The cabin is slated to be moved in late September to the Land Between the Lakes as its permanent site. A new family cottage will be built at Pier 723 once the cabin is moved.

The cabin was built from tamarack trees which were once plentiful on the swampy grounds of Kale Island. Emma Hayden bought the cabin around 1937 for \$3,200. “The average range of prices for homes then was between \$2500 and \$7500,” said Quinn. Because Hayden’s husband refused to live in an actual log cabin, he had it sided. From 1937 until today, the cottage has not changed. Emma filled the cabin with antiques, quilts, cut glass plates, vases,



and cruets, green and white wicker, and family pictures. The back door leads into a small laundry room, kitchen, living room with fireplace, porch, and bedroom with twin beds. Upstairs are two bedrooms and a bath. There is a painting of the cabin by Indiana artist Barbara Fuson on the porch over a pitcher of daisies.

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Centennial Homes and Families Visits Area Past By Martha Stoelting



KROH FAMILY — Descendants in attendance for the photo are from the left, first row, Amy Coy Matherly, Nancy Clashman Butcher, Jane Kroh Clashman and Cindy Myrick Rosenberg. In back are Eli Kroh, Tom Kroh, David Freeman, Mark TeGrootenhuis, Greg Kroh and John Steven Kroh.

Article was originally printed by The Mail-Journal on August 18, 2021.

Syracuse-Wawasee Historical Museum presented its second Centennial Homes and Families program of the summer, Saturday, Aug. 14. The well attended event focused on two area families, the Krohs and the Crows, and their homes and businesses on Lake Wawasee and in Syracuse. Many descendants of both families still live in the area. Others traveled from out of state to be present.

Amy Coy Matherly, daughter of Susan Kroh Myrick, gave an insightful and detailed talk with exhibits on the Kroh family. The Kroh family first settled around what is now called Truesdell Street, one the homes being in the Truesdell Lodge. They eventually moved to Syracuse on

Lake Street and purchased a half interest in Thornburg's Drug Store. John Kroh eventually owned the chain of Thornburg Drugs. Family names explored were Freeman, Walter, Weaver and Kroh.

The Crow family is one of the pioneer families of the area, owning property both on the east side of Lake Wawasee, in town Syracuse including the grist and flour mill, and farmland northeast of Syracuse. The mill was located at what is now West Main Street, the property that Mill Street runs into. The family is perhaps best known as the builders and owners of the Crow's Nest Inn. Representatives of several branches of this family spoke. Although cousins, some had never met.

Ross Heil gave data on the family and the Crow's Nest, a former landmark on Lake Wawasee. Family names presented included Crow, Doll, Dull, Fick McClintic, Price and Jarrett. Participants were awarded commemorative plaques for their efforts in sharing local history and lore.

Ann Garceau, museum board member, spent much time and effort putting this program together. Museum Director Jamie Clemons manned the video and sound equipment. Members of the museum board in attendance and helping out were Peggy Genshaw, Jack Darr, Mike Smith, Garry Ringler, Kip Schumm, Mary Hursh and Martha Stoelting. Other board members are Mike Mock, John Heckaman and Patrick Appenzeller.



CROW FAMILY — Descendants in attendance for the photo are from the left, Mike Doll, Sonja Crow Wells, Steve Crow, Chuck Crow, Sally Crow, Haiden Arnett, Stephanie Crow Arnett and Crayten Crow. In back are Adam Shock, Jack Wells, Chris Crow and Rick Arnett.

The Syracuse-Wawasee Historical Museum is home to over 4,000 individual items ranging from a set of dishes once used at the Oakwood Hotel restaurant to a grandfather clock built in 1709.

The Board of Directors, made up of eleven community members, works with director Jamie Clemons in overseeing the management, finances, and direction of the museum.

“We have so many opportunities for volunteers at the museum. Our research files are quite large, and we would really like to have community members volunteer to help go through our research collection to remove duplicates,” said Clemons.



The museum’s calendar includes many special activities for which volunteer help would also be appreciated.

In the summer, the museum hosts programs including Youth History Camp, Centennial Homes, archaeology, and the annual artist talk and members’ meeting. Volunteers for these events are needed to

work with children during history camp, pass out programs, bake cookies, and welcome visitors at other events.

Those with creative bents could help design exhibits for the ten display cases scattered around the museum or write stories about local spots of interest and interesting people in the community. Those with special skills in writing may enjoy applying for various grants to bring additional funding to the museum.

Photographers are also needed to document activities such as the Thunder Run, parades, opening and closing of businesses, and centennial cottages and homes in the community.

Recent Donations

Stop by and see our “Recent Donations” display!

- **Jenny Rowland**—Medicine bottles from Thornburg’s
- **Rod Weingart**—Photo from 50th class reunion of 1945 SHS class
- **Patricia Tolson**—Collection of nine books
- **Denny Bailey**—“Float” or “Native” copper
- **John Mahnken**—Framed maps dating 1796, 1832, 1935, 1841, and 1860
- **Tina Kocher**—Kosciusko County Guidebook (vols 1&2 from 1948) and Sea Nymph Boats ball point pen
- **Alex Valentine**—Mosasaur tooth fossil found in Morocco, North Africa

THANK YOU

Archaeology Month By Jamie Clemons

September is Indiana Archaeology Month, and while we didn't focus on the theme "Cheers, Indiana" and the history of alcohol production, the museum and Chautauqua-Wawasee celebrated in style once again with the annual 3-day program. This year's Thursday program welcomed Dr. Jeff Pyle with his discussion and display of the Fred Bartol, a Warsaw native, collection of prehistoric artifacts and how Dr. Pyle came to acquire the collection.



Friday's program welcomed Dr. Mark Schurr, Notre Dame professor, and his knowledge of the natives of our area all the way back to protohistoric times (11,500 BC).

Saturday's program was chock-full of presenters. The program began early with a talk about Myaamia plant traditions, led by Dani Tippmann, Myaamia tribal woman and director of Whitley County Historic Society. Following Dani's program, demonstrators showed off various skills. Joe Zdziebko is a 1750s French Marine and spoke about his equipment, uniform, musket, furs, and maps. Jeff Mesaros was again in attendance demonstrating how to flintknape and allowed the public to try their hand at making a piece of lithic points. Mike Smith showcased his hand-built 17-foot sea kayak, discussing his methods to creating this beautiful piece of watercraft. Jamie Clemons led a mock dig for "artifacts" that tell the story of the area being excavated. Most children guessed correctly that the "artifacts" showed that a family lived there because of the small toys, chimney slag, coal, and broken pottery found in their dig box.

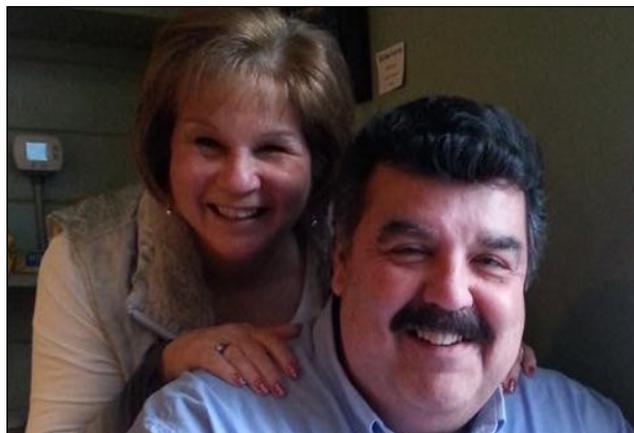
New Board Member By Jamie Clemons

I have been negligent in my last newsletters and have not featured our newest board member, Kip Schumm.

Let me rectify this right now.

Kip Schumm joined our crew, replacing Lera Reinholt's spot on the board, in February 2021. In his previous work life, Kip spent 38 years as the Director of Marketing with The Papers, Inc., retiring in August 2020. He also spent 20 years on the board of the Wawasee Property Owners Association, recently retiring his position on the board. Kip was recently awarded the 2021 Chief Award from the Wawasee Property Owners Association.

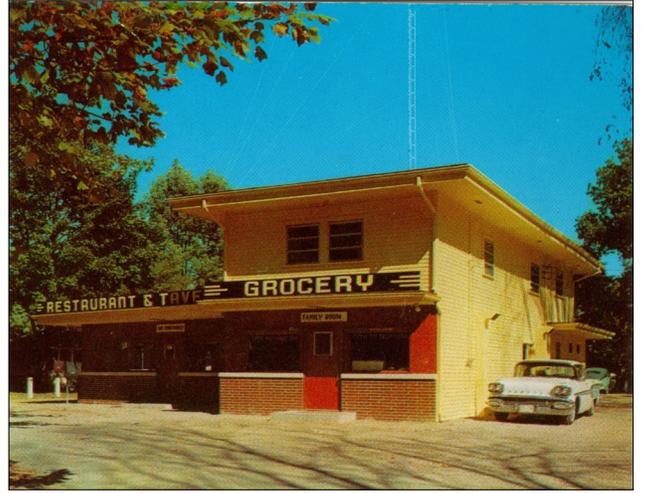
Kip has many current activities going on throughout the town of Syracuse including sitting on the boards of several organizations. He currently holds positions on the Syracuse Park Association board, Chautauqua-Wawasee board, and our own Syracuse-Wawasee Historical Museum board. Kip has currently been instrumental in the designing of a new brochure for the museum, and is bringing fresh, new ideas to the table on a variety of subjects.



Kip has been married to his lovely bride, Pam, for over 42 years. Pam is also heavily invested in organizational boards, with the Wawasee Area Conservancy Foundation being the first thing this director thinks of when Pam is mentioned. Not only are they busy making their community better, Kip and Pam are busy with their two daughters and their families, including four grandchildren with another soon to arrive.

Kale Island...Continued

Other guest speakers from Kale Island at the Centennial Homes event included Patrick Appenzeller who spoke about the 34-year career of his mother, painter Betty Appenzeller. Many in the community took lessons from her in the studio behind the Appenzeller home on Kale Island. Nancy Nelson shared memories of Mayme Long and Syracuse philanthropist W.E. Long, the creator of the Chinese Gardens along Kale Island and a visionary for the many changes that came to Syracuse over the life of W.E. Long. Janet Hays, owner of the Beacon, explained the popularity of the restaurant many enjoyed visiting over the years. The Hays purchased the restaurant in 1976 and sold it in 2005. Shirley Tungren, once a waitress in 1961 at the root beer stand on Kale Island, talked about the many people who visited the stand especially to eat one of the famous tenderloins.



Upcoming Events

- October 9—Harvest Festival, 10am-2pm: Pumpkin Painting booth. The museum has stepped in and will run the pumpkin painting booth that Grace Lutheran Church used to run. Painting supplies were donated to the museum by Grace Lutheran Church.



- October 23—Fall Carnival: The museum will be open during the fall carnival.
- October 30—Trick or Treat Drive Thru, 3-5pm: Returning for the second year, the museum will be one of many town organizations handing out candy.



- November 27—Old Fashioned Christmas @ Oakwood, 6-8pm: The museum will be participating in the annual Old Fashioned Christmas with a Reindeer Food craft booth.
- December 4—Breakfast with Santa, 8-11am: The museum will be offering the Reindeer Food craft during the event.



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Have you seen our online "Donate" button?

This link allows you to
securely donate using
your credit card or
PayPal account.



Grants

By Ann Garceau & Jamie Clemons

The Syracuse-Wawasee Historical Museum and the Syracuse Public Library will be digitizing the microfilms of the Syracuse newspapers from the late 1800s through 1990. The



Hoosier State Chronicles
Indiana's Digital Historic Newspaper Program

searchable newspapers will be available online at Hoosier State Chronicles by next summer. This project is made possible by a \$13,500 grant from the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services, administered by the Indiana State Library.

This month, the museum is wrapping up several grants that have been in use the past two years. These grants include the Dekko Foundation, the Kenneth & Lela Harkless Foundation, and a Covid Recovery grant from the Kosciusko County Community Foundation.

In addition to finalizing grants, it is also time for us to be writing new ones so we can continue our funding. These grants are the Kenneth & Lela Harkless Foundation, Kosciusko County Community Foundation, and the Dekko Foundation. As we hear about other grant opportunities that we may qualify for, we will send in a proposal and hope for the best.

Our goal is to sustain ourselves through private grants and our supporting community. To all of you that send us support, we thank you whole heartedly.



If you carry a “Family” or “Individual” membership, your membership to the Syracuse-Wawasee Historical Museum is up for renewal. Membership entitles you to first-hand information of Museum happenings and the knowledge that you are helping the Museum carry out its mission of preserving local history.

To continue your membership, please fill out this brief form:

Name:	
Address:	
Telephone:	
E-Mail:	

Membership Type:	Price:	Total Enclosed:
Individual	\$30 Annually	
Family	\$50 Annually	
Corporate	\$100 Annually	
Donation		

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

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