

HENDRICKS COUNTY HISTORY BULLETIN



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**Hendricks County
Historical Society**

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**HENDRICKS COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.
ORGANIZED 1967**

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Plainfield, IN 46168
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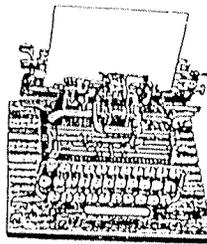
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**Special Thanks to
the North West Hendricks
School Corporation, and
Linda Rambis**

On the Cover:

The North Salem Post Office in 1911 featured motorcycle mail delivery. From left: Ed Hadley, rural carrier; Ed Elder, Postmaster; Sherman Waters, John Adams, rural carrier; Vesta Gill, postal clerk and Horace Waters editor of the North Salem Herald. Photo from The History of Hendricks County 1914-1976.



PRESIDENTS MESSAGE:

Well, I guess I'll start with the obvious - the new look for **The Bulletin**. We are very interested in your comments, please take a minute and let Betty, Libbe, or me know how you feel about the change. Right now this is an experimental issue and our membership will determine whether we stick to this or return to the mimeograph form. It is important that we hear from you so that we can make our plans for 1992.

The August meeting at the Plainfield Library will feature one of our newer members. Bill Hartung, who collects "Postal Memorabilia" (that is anything having to do with the Post Office including post cards and letters and the cancellations on them). He is very knowledgeable and will talk about many of the Post Offices in Hendricks County. Lest you think that is a limited area, it is interesting to note that since the first Post Office in Hendricks County was established at Danville in 1825 there have been Post Offices in at least 45 - yes 45 not 4 or 51 Hendricks County communities. I looked it up in the '76 History Book and Clark Kellum researched Post Offices in such places as Cincinnati, Progress, Smoots Dell and Spray.

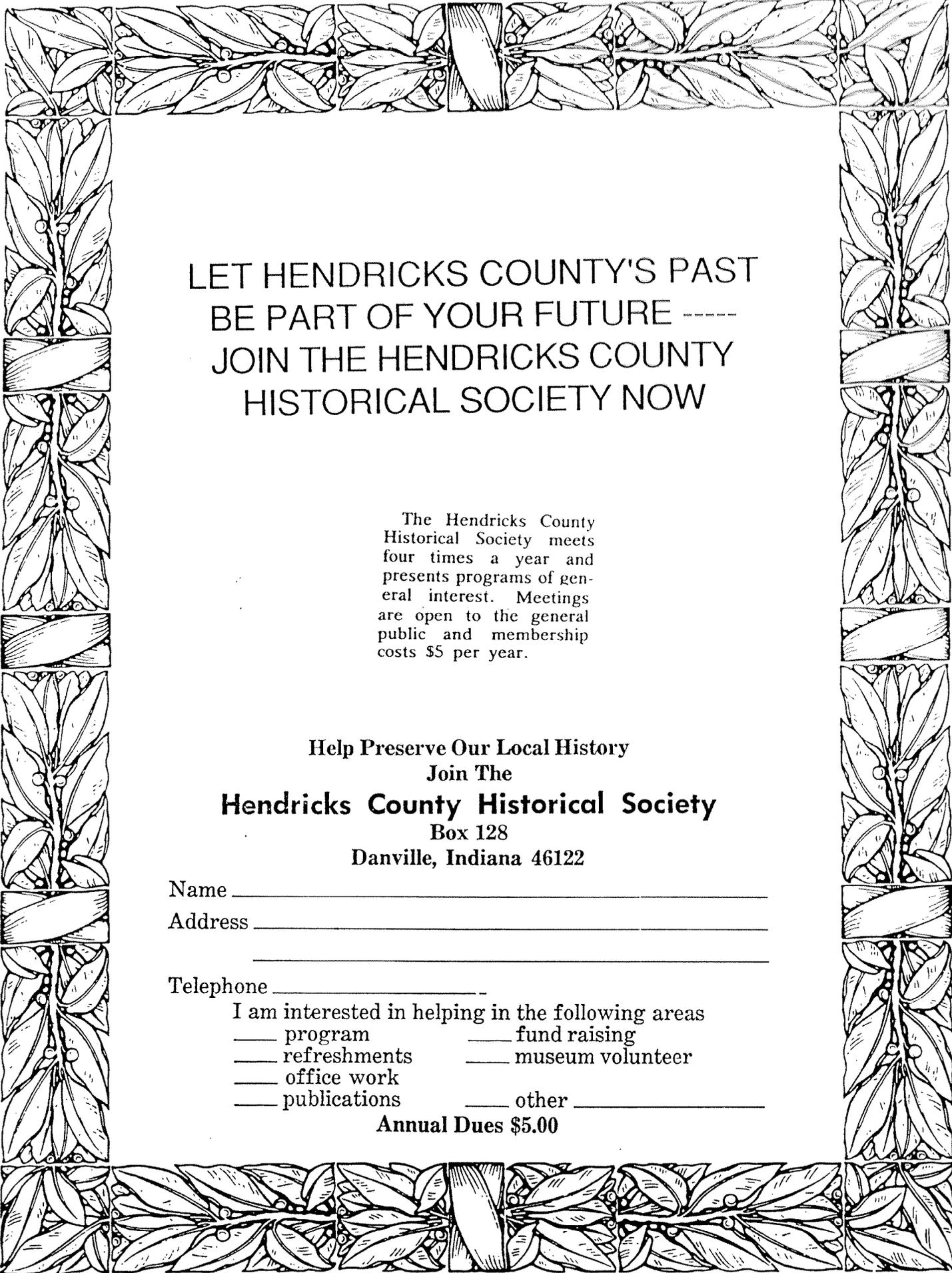
If any of you have any early Hendricks County postal cancellations on old post cards or letters please bring them for the display table. Also any post cards showing Hendricks County places would be of interest. Please bring them along to share. I think the display table adds a great deal and I personally always enjoy looking at the items that are brought in.

The big project now under way is a cookbook. We would like all members to submit at least 2 recipes for possible inclusion, and to also gather recipes from your friends and neighbors who are not Historical Society members. Either bring these to the August and November meetings or send them to "**Cookbook**" 170 W. Washington St., Danville, IN 46122. Be sure to put your name on the recipe so we can give you credit. Also if you have any background information such as "This was my Grandmother Smiths favorite cake. She lived on a farm North of Clayton between 1910 and 1955" or "This originally was on the Quaker Oats box in the 1930's" etc., include that. This cookbook should be fairly unique, as we plan to include quite a bit of history as well as some great recipes. We are also interested in old photos for possible inclusion. Start looking through your recipe files now! We also need more people who are willing to work on a fun project with us. Volunteer now, or possibly be drafted later. (This organization is like Uncle Sam in that respect). please talk to Mary Jeanette Winkleman or me

The money this project makes will be divided between the Historical Society and the Hendricks County Museum, and will fund some much needed additions to our organizations. It is a **big project** so don't expect to see it in published form for a while but I hope you will agree that it is worth waiting for! It will be done "sometime" in 1992, but at the November meeting we will have a small sample pamphlet for preview.

Am looking forward to seeing a large crowd at the Plainfield Library. See you **Sunday August 4 at 2:00 P.M.** and let's all learn some more about Hendricks County History.

Judy



LET HENDRICKS COUNTY'S PAST
BE PART OF YOUR FUTURE -----
JOIN THE HENDRICKS COUNTY
HISTORICAL SOCIETY NOW

The Hendricks County
Historical Society meets
four times a year and
presents programs of gen-
eral interest. Meetings
are open to the general
public and membership
costs \$5 per year.

Help Preserve Our Local History
Join The
Hendricks County Historical Society
Box 128
Danville, Indiana 46122

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

I am interested in helping in the following areas

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| <input type="checkbox"/> program | <input type="checkbox"/> fund raising |
| <input type="checkbox"/> refreshments | <input type="checkbox"/> museum volunteer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> office work | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> publications | <input type="checkbox"/> other _____ |

Annual Dues \$5.00

"SECRETARY'S REPORT"

The Hendricks County Historical Society met on Sunday May 5, 1991 at the Brownsburg Public Library. Approximately forty-five attended. Our president, Judy Pingel, welcomed the group.

At the August meeting in the Plainfield Public Library, Bill Hartung will talk about "Postal History in Hendricks County". He requested that anyone having mail with the postmarks of Gail and Montclair to please bring them to the meeting. At the November meeting in the Pittsboro Christian Church, Dr. Malcom Scamahorn will tell of medical changes and advances.

The secretary's report was read and approved as read. The treasurers report was read and accepted. The museum report was given. The request was made for help to type, clean etc.

Old business: A committee consisting of Rich Pingel, Margaret Baker, Margery Clay will revise the Society's by-laws. This is to be completed by the August meeting. Samples for our new cookbook are due for our November meeting.

The special meeting this spring put on by the Indiana Historical Society in the Circuit Court Room was a success. This display in the rotunda of the Court House was popular with the Public. Also shown and offered for sale were calendars and pamphlets. The Indiana Historical Society will return five dollars of a new membership to the county historical society of the new member.

There was no new business.

The charter members were recognized. Several could not attend. Several essays of the essay contest were read. The winners were: Jennifer Atkinson, Tammy Cundiff, Shivaun Owen, Kelly Marlar, Justin Ray Stevenson. Over all winner was Shivaun Owen from North Salem. Nominees for the Blanche Wean award were: Margaret Baker, Jewell Bell, Ida Mae Miller, Susan Carter, Ruth Pritchard, Grace Cox, Dorothy Templin, Dorothy Kelly, Blanche Wean. The winners were: Grace Cox and Dorothy Kelley.

The meeting was adjourned, and refreshments were served by Lincoln and Brown townships.

IN MEMORIAM:

The society regrets learning of the passing of two long time members: **Margaret Scearce**, for many years Home Economics teacher in the Danville School system and later dietician at the Hendricks County Hospital. **Louis Armstrong**, Danville native whose job with the Federal Government took him far from Hendricks County for most of his life, always maintained his contacts with local friends. Louis last visit back to the County co-incided with the CNC Reunion and a trip to the Museum when he and wife Joan presented the Society with a watercolor done by notorious Hendricks County "alleged" murderer Rev. Henshaw.

Both individuals will be missed by the Society and their friends. Our sympathy to their families.

GRACE COX, DOROTHY KELLEY HONORED



Society President Judy Pingel is shown presenting the first annual Blanche Wean Awards to Dorothy Kelley (left) and Grace Cox (right).

At the May Meeting the first annual Blanche Wean Awards were presented to Dorothy Kelley and Grace Cox. The Wean Award, named in honor of Blanche Wean who has served as treasurer of the HCHS since its founding, will honor individuals for their work in preserving our local history.

Dorothy Kelley was honored for her work as curator of the Hendricks County Historical Museum. "Mrs. Kelley has served as curator of the museum since its inception and has devoted long hours to its organization and upkeep. Due almost entirely to Mrs. Kelley's insight, perspective, and volunteer efforts the visitors to the Hendricks County Museum, including hundreds of school children, are given sampling of the diversities of this county and an awareness of its history. Without Dorothy Kelley there would be

no Hendricks County Museum" reads part of the nomination letter for Mrs. Kelley.

The nomination for Grace Cox states that "Grace works so quietly that one almost has to dig to find out what all she has been up to. But few people have contributed more toward preserving the history of Hendricks County than has Grace Cox. One of the most unusual, interesting and worthwhile projects she will always be identified with is her cemetery indexing."

Grace reads the inscriptions, often faint and difficult to decipher, and transfers the information to index cards that are deposited in the Counties' Historical Collections. With her labor of love she has helped many families trace their roots, and has helped fill in many gaps in our local history.

Other nominees for the Wean Award were Margaret Baker, Jewell Bell, Susan Carter, Ida Mae Miller, Ruth Pritchard, Dorothy Templin, and Blanche Wean. Historical Society President Judy Pingel stated that an organization would be fortunate to have any of the nominees as a member and that our Society has benefited from the many talents of these individuals.

A plaque listing the winners of the Wean Award will hang in the Hendricks County Museum.

SHIVAUN OWEN WINS ESSAY CONTEST

The second annual essay contest for elementary school students received many excellent entries from throughout the county. The contest, sponsored by the Historical Society, strives to encourage an interest in local history. This year even more students wrote about happenings that touched their lives personally. One of the goals of the Historical Society is to teach that history doesn't just happen far away and to famous people. History happens every day and to each one of us - our lives are influenced by what happened to our parents and grandparents.

The contest winner, Shivaun Owen, a sixth grade student at North Salem Elementary School not only wrote a good essay, she used a "primary source" for her information. A primary source is someone who was actually involved in the event, and it is important that historians recognize and use such sources in their research.

The Historical Society would like to congratulate all five finalists in the essay contest and hopes that they continue to maintain an interest in local history. The essays are printed elsewhere in **The BULLETIN**.

The Society would also like to congratulate Shivaun's teacher, Mrs. Patty Jensen. This is the second year that one of Mrs. Jensen's students has won the contest.

The five finalists all received gold Hendricks County Sequentential medals and certificates of achievement. Shivaun also receive a copy of The History of Hendricks County

Dorothy Kelley, Mary Jeanette Winklemann and Judy Pingel attended a two day workshop sponsored by the Association of Indiana Museums.



The five finalists in the Historical Essay Contest are Jennifer Atkinson, grade 3 Pittsboro; Tammy Cundiff, grade 5 Pittsboro; Kelly Marlar, grade 3 Mill Creek West; Shivaun Owen, grade 6 North Salem; and Justin Ray Stevenson, grade 3 Pittsboro Elementary School.

ATTEND WORKSHOP

Three representatives of the HCHS attended a six hour workshop at DePauw University in July. Carol Norris Waddell, associate director of development for the Indianapolis Zoo and former director of the Tippecanoe Historical Association, was the speaker. The workshop, which was sponsored by the Indiana Historical Society, was designed for local historical societies interested in increasing their financial resources. Representing the HCHS was Judy Pingel, Betty Bartley and Donna Jones.

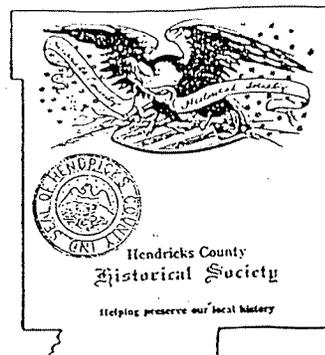
THE SUPRISE BANK WITHDRAWAL

"Uncle Russell, tell us a story." said Kaity. "Yes, a true story, about you!" added Whitney. "Well, let me think. What should I tell you that I haven't already told you?" mumbles Russell. "Have I told you about my little red wagon? He looked in my direction. I nodded. "Well, what about the bank robbery I was in?" "No, tell us, tell us!" Yelled Kaity. "Shhh," I said, "then he will tell it to you, I'm sure."

In the winter of 1950, December 28 to be exact, a man I will call Mr. Doe attempted to hold-up the North Salem State Bank, a small bank at that time. I was the vice-president. Mr. Doe came into the bank pretending to be interested in making a loan to buy a sports car. He was talking to Mr. Smith about the loan. The bank closed at 3:00 p.m. while Mr. Doe was still talking. After closing there were only 3 people in the bank. When the doors closed he then pulled out a gun and announced that this was a stick-up, and he wanted all the money the bank had. He sat Mr. Smith and me down at a long table with our backs to him. He then hit me over the head with the butt end of the gun which momentarily knocked me out. The gun slipped out of his hand and fell against the wall on the opposite side of the table. Mr. Smith then took the opportunity to wrestle with Mr. Doe. They wrestled and Mr. Doe pulled out a scout knife and tried to use it on Mr. Smith. While they were scuffling, they fell to the floor and the knife struck me on the shoulder cutting a gash in my shoulder. Mr. Smith was holding the knife too. His hands were cut badly. However as they fell to the floor I regained my senses. Mr. Smith shouted for me to get Mr. Doe's gun, telling me where it was. I immediately grabbed the gun. Mr. Doe said "I have made a big mistake." I held the gun on him while Mr. Smith called the tavern next door for help. Mr. Smith let several men from the tavern in the bank who took Mr. Doe into custody. The sheriff, Leon Bayliss, picked him up shortly after. Mr. Smith and I were taken to the hospital where we stayed for 2 or 3 days for treatment.

Mr. Doe was given 5 years in prison for attempted robbery. "Gee, Russell, did that really happen?" questioned Whitney. "Yes, it really did happen," answered Russell.

Shivaun L. Owen
North Salem Elementary
Grade 6
Mrs. Jensen class



THE TELEPHONE IN HENDRICKS COUNTY

The telephone was first demonstrated in Indiana at the State Fair in the fall of 1876-115 years ago. From 1890 to 1910, farmers formed small associations, bought telephones, strung lines between their homes, used a variety of poles, trees and other supports to hold the lines up and gave each party a different ring. Every town had its own little association. In Pittsboro, in 1901 for 4 hours a day, seven days a week a person would receive \$1.50 for operating a switchboard. The switchboard was operated by a hand crank. Consolidated Telephone Co. bought the first telephone company in Hendricks County from the local residents operating it. In 1910, the Home Telephone Company was organized by James D. Gentry, John T. Leonard, William E. Beaman, William M. Dillon and David Surber. The switchboard was housed in a building on the west side of Maple Street about 100 feet south of the intersection of Main and Maple. Later it was moved to a building on the east side of Maple about 250 feet north of the intersection. In 1949, the Home Telephone Company was purchased by O.C. and Polly Buck. In the 1960's they built a new building on the south side of Main Street at the approximate location of the original exchange. In 1901 Brownsburg had one telephone located on the southwest corner of Main and Green Streets in the Cope and Hunt store. This phone was on the line between Pittsboro and Danville. A company was soon organized and a switchboard set up. In 1925 the company was purchased by C.L. McCraz of Attica. One June 10, 1928, the exchange was purchased by Clyde L. Cummings and named the Brownsburg Telephone Company. At this time the exchange was located at 26 East Main Street above a store. One cooperative line existed south of Brownsburg among a group of farmers who operated their own line. It was known as the "82" or "Tilden Line" and each farmer bought his own phone and paid 25 cents a month on its upkeep. If you wanted to hook on, you asked each farmer on the line for permission. The Lizton telephones also were owned by local residents about 1901. The members were stockholders and bought their own phone and lines. The telephone exchange was located in the northwest corner of the old schoolyard. Later it was moved to the Richmond Building. Stock in the Lizton Telephone Company was bought up by two members who sold it to Max Hoser. Hoser went bankrupt and the receiver hired Leonard Johnson on July 12, 1955 to manage the company. In September, 1957 the Ellettsville Telephone Company purchased the company. In 1960, the dial system (using only numbers) was installed. In the fall of 1899, the North Salem Telephone Company was organized, and the first telephone system built. During the 1930's and 40's the exchange was located in the front room of a home just behind Wendling's Hardware store. The operator of a switchboard had to listen to a conversation to know when it was over so she could disconnect a call. About 100 phones composed the local calling area at that time. The telephone company offered a vital service to the community.

Tammy Cundiff
Pittsboro Elementary
Grade 5



Hendricks County
Historical Society

E.B. OWEN AND COMPANY - AMO

Eleazer Bales (namesake for Eleazer Bales, first Quaker minister in Hendricks County) was born near Plainfield in 1837. He and Willaim F. Henley first purchased the store from James G. Ralston in 1866. Eventually it became E.B.Owen and Co., and was operated by Mr. Owen until his death in 1933. His brother also worked in the store. On the first floor, there were all kinds of yard goods, dishes, silver, kitchen and cooking utensils, shoes, boots, work clothers, and complete line of groceries and smoked meats were for sale. Across the alley to the south, was a frame building, (no doubt the original store), which housed crockery and hardware; farther west was a building where dynamite was kept, and all types of farm machinery could be purchased. Needless to say, it was quite a large operation for it's day: heresay is that it at one time was the largest General Store in Hendricks County. This cannot be documented but it was certainly a most impressive business. In 1901, Amo suffered a disastrous fire and all of the E.B. Owen and Co Buildings were destroyed except this large brick structure. It truly was the forerunner of our department stores, and even better, for I have been told "you could buy anything from a threshing machine to a toothpick" at E.B.Owen and Co. The building has massive, foot thick brick walls, is now a restaurant run by Mr. and Mrs. Lee Hanlon, and there are apartments upstairs. It seems to be in fine condition. While the year it was built cannot be documentd, it's construction dates between 1850 and 1870.

Jennifer Atkinson
Pittsboro Elementary
Grade 3



Hendricks County
Historical Society



AUGUST MEETING

Bill Hartung speaker

"Konsider the postage stamp my son,
its usefulness konsists in its ability
to stick to one thing until it
gets there."

--Josh Billings

At our next meeting we will "konsider" the usefulness of the postage stamp in revealing the history of our county. The establishment of a post office in a community was a milestone in its growth. For many of the towns that disappeared from the map, the postmark is the only remainder of a once thriving settlement.

Our speaker will be Bill Hartung, president of the Indiana Postal History Society. His presentation will describe the stories that lie behind the lowly postmark.

The meeting will be held at the Plainfield Public Library, 1120 Stafford Road, at 2 P.M., on Sunday, August 4. Members are encouraged to bring any examples of postal history for "show and tell".

"HOOSIER HOMEMAKER" Series Reviewed

Memories of Hoosier Homemakers is a 6 volume series based on an oral history project begun to commemorate the 75th anniversary (in 1988) of the Indiana Extension Homemakers. The first home economics clubs were begun in 1913 to receive "lessons" from the Cooperative Extension Service at Purdue University and help rural women learn new ways. (Today there are approximately 45,000 members of the Extensions Homemakers in Indiana and the local county clubs still typically meet in members homes where educational material on home, family, and community is presented.)

The books show, through the words of friends and neighbors, the impact of technological change on rural homes and homemakers. The matter of fact way that many things about small town life styles are stated makes them more dramatic and moving than the interviewees probably imagined possible. The volume "Buggies and Bad Times" for instance, shows the impact the Depression had on ordinary Hoosiers, and a careful reading of it and the other volumes can add to our understanding of the period covered. These books cover a range of subjects, but everything mentioned from butchering and baking to "privies" show the miriade details that made up the lives of these women and their families in rural Indiana between 1890 and 1940. The photographs included in each of the volumes really do advance our understanding of the subjects

covered and are worthy of a book by themselves.

When the project was begun the organization found that there was practically no material available showing women's role as a homemaker in the rural areas of the state. Because so many homemakers and members of this organization were still available to be interviewed they chose to show how the ordinary woman lived in Indiana. Two members of the HCHS conducted interviews for these books. Both Dorthy Kelley and Mary Ann Moore worked on the project and they talked to Flossie Foster, Leona Hunt and Mildred Newby as well as being interviewed themselves. The six titles in the series are: Feeding Our Families; Party Lines; Pumps and Privies; Buggies and Bad Times; Girlhood Days; Going to Club; Living Rich Lives.

In all the volumes the interviewees tell of a time when farms and small towns were isolated and self contained. Miles seemed longer when the only transportation was a buggy or early automobile, so most shopping, school, churches and social events were only a few miles from home. Life however was not dull and the people made their own entertainment often turning work into fun by making it a social occasion (as the threshing rings or shared community butchering days.)

The households were large and often what we now call "extended" and usually included grandparents, unmarried or orphaned relatives and

GEOGRAPHICAL DICTIONARY OF HENDRICKS COUNTY

occasionally hired help as well as frequent guests who stayed for fairly long periods of time. Because travel was not usual, once relatives or friends from a distance arrived they made the trip worthwhile by staying for a while!

The work of the homemaker was physically very hard as neither electricity or gasoline engines were available for household chores. Energy was supplied by "woman power." This included pumping and carrying water from an outside well for drinking, cooking, laundry and bathing for the entire household. These are women who "did with what they had" and did it well. They are to be admired as well as respected for making a difficult life one filled with loving and pleasant homes and good neighborhoods. These women were all experts in "making do and getting by" but they still found time to make pretty party dresses from printed feed sacks, and embroider bleached flour sacks for pillow cases, and plant flowers and well as vegetables in the large gardens they tended. No one can read these books and not be filled with admiration for the women whose lives and daily routines are depicted in such understated words as: "I didn't get a washing machine until my seventh child was born." Before that "I would wash every day by hand of course." and "There wasn't anybody in town that had running water..... The pump was outside and we didn't have a sink "so we washed dishes in a dishpan and "stood on boxes to reach the dishpan."

As small towns fade and numbers take the place of names, much of our history is lost. The following installment is the first in a series. Anyone with additional information or place names, contact Betty Bartley, 1223 S. 450 W., Danville, IN 46122.

A B C PARK: A recreational park opened in 1925 by A.B. Carter on his farm just west of Avon on the Rockville Road.

ABNER'S CREEK: Creek in eastern Washington township. Named for Abner Dunn, who settled in the area in 1823. A Regular Baptist Church and cemetery also bear the name.

AMO: Town in Clay township. Established as Morrisville in 1850. Name changed to Amo in 1855.

AVON: Town in Washington township. Founded as Hampton in 1833. Name changed to White Lick in 1853; Soothsdell in 1868. Also called New Philadelphia. Name changed to Avon in 1870.

BELLEVILLE: Town in Liberty township. Established in 1829. First Hendricks County Circuit Court held there.

BIG CREEK: Section of White Lick Creek between Avon and Plainfield after Abner's Creek joins.

BOOT JACK: Community in Eel River Township.

BRADSHAW: Town in Washington township on the B&O Railroad.

BRAYTON: Town in Brown Township. Established ca. 1885.

BROWNSBURG: Town in Lincoln township. Established in 1835 as Harrisburg. Name changed to Brownsburg in honor of James Brown, first settler.

BUTTERNUT ISLAND: Area between Danville and Lizton. Named for Confederate sympathizers living there during Civil War.

BUZZARDS ROOST: SEE HAZELWOOD.

CAMP SHORT: Recreational camp established northeast of Clayton.

CAMP WINMORE: Bible camp located southeast of Coatesville.

INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

100 years ago in 1891, there was a school different than the ones we have now. It was called The Industrial School for Girls. The Industrial School for Girls in Hadley was for orphan girls.

They sewed, milked, made butter, took care of the garden in the summer, and tended to the fruit vines. They canned fruits and vegetables, and ground wheat into flour.

By 1900, there were 17 girls at school. The girls attended the Hadley Public Schools and had literary and cultural training in the home.

During the summer, the older girls assisted in the garden and the fruit patches.

In the 1900's a teacher lived in the home and taught music.

The Industrial School for Girls in Hadley was a very well known school.

Social welfare workers came from Washington and Oregon to visit the home. The girls were placed in approved homes for the summer to reduce expenses.

During 1909, only \$65 had been received from the Union and \$500 had been paid from the state treasury.

In April of 1910, the school was turned over to the Children's Home Society. Not too long after that, the school was closed. By the time the school was closed completely, all girls had been placed in private homes.

They worked very hard, so no one can say The Industrial School for Girls was a total failure.

A few years ago, The Industrial School for Girls in Hadley was torn down.

I live about 3 miles from where The Industrial School for Girls was.

Kelly Marlar
Mill Creek West
Grade 3
Mrs. Collier



Hendricks County
Historical Society

THE RAY STEVENSON DRAIN

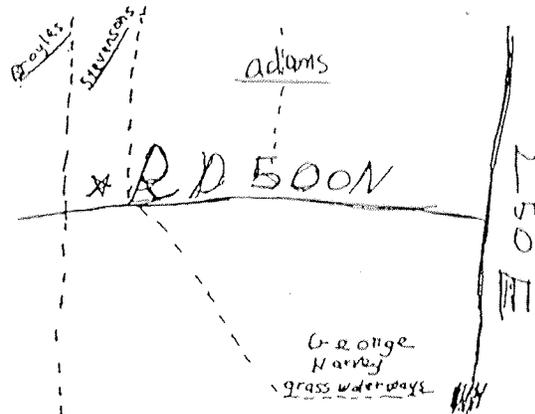
I'm going to tell you a story about my great grandfather and how he helped design and layout a ditch line which drained four family farms. This ditch is located in the central part of Hendricks County. It started in nineteen hundred and twenty seven. It ran through the property of Broyles, Stevenson, Adams and Harvey. They dug it all by hand. It is six thousand and twenty feet long. The cost of the drain was two thousand dollars. The depth of the ditch ranged from two and a half to five feet. Known as the Ray Stevenson Drain. In order to farm the fields they needed to have good drainage. Here is a map to show where the ditch runs.

Justin Ray Stevenson
Pittsboro Elementary
Grade 3



Hendricks County
Historical Society

* My house



CIVIL WAR TOPIC AT PLAINFIELD

The Plainfield Public Library's Local and Indiana History Department, under the direction of Susan Miller Carter, will present the final lecture in their Indiana History Series on September 24. The program will be in the Library, 1120 Stafford Rd., at 7:00 p.m. The speaker, Tony Trimble, is a popular presenter at Civil War Roundtables throughout the state and has published an article on Hoosiers in Sherman's Army. His slide talk should be of great interest. Call 839-6602 or visit the Libraries' Circulation Desk for further information or to preregister.

CHARTER MEMBERS RECEIVE AWARD

Sixteen members of the Historical Society were honored at the May meeting. These individuals are charter members of the Society who have maintained their membership for 25 years. Recognized were: Margaret Baker, Jewell Bell, Virginia Cummings, Ondah Evans, Frances Fisher, Jack Gambold, Scott Hosier, Margaret Hufford, Virginia Joseph, Carolyn Kellum, Darlene Lynch, John Miller, Lucille Stamper, Owen Stamper, Dorothy Templin, Blanche Wean, and Mary Jeanette Winklemann.

Exhibit Depicts Indiana Bands

From ragtime to rock 'n' roll, the different bands and groups that have set Hoosiers' toes tapping through the years are showcased in the Indiana Historical Society exhibition, "Strike Up the Band! Musical Groups in Indiana," which opened Friday, 31 May, and runs through Tuesday, 6 August, at the Society.

The photographic exhibit includes approximately thirty images drawn from both the Society's visual collections and the Indiana State Library's Indiana Division. Some of the Hoosier band scenes represented are the 1874 Adelpian Band of Greenfield, to which James Whitcomb Riley supposedly belonged; the Ladies Military Band of Waterloo; the giant Purdue University marching band drum at the 1927 Indiana State Fair; and the World War II Mothers Kitchen Band of Terre Haute.

From about 1850 until after World War I, bands were the preferred form of entertainment for Americans, with as many as twenty thousand bands tooting their horns across the country. These bands represented towns, social organizations, ethnic and age groups,

and various occupations.

Bands played an important role in the cultural life of communities, entertaining crowds at concerts, dances, picnics, parades, political rallies, weddings, and other social gatherings. Bandstands on county squares were the scenes of regular Saturday night concerts that drew people from miles around. One study of forty-three central and northern Indiana counties found that at one time the area had seventy to eighty bandstands.

Following World War I, town and other bands saw their audiences decrease as new forms of amusement—phonographs, movies, radio, and the automobile—took hold across America. However, not all bands fell by the wayside. School and college marching bands continue to be popular today.

"Strike Up the Band! Musical Groups in Indiana" is open free to the public and can be viewed from 8 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. Monday through Friday in the foyer of the Indiana State Library and Historical Building auditorium.



Society Acquires Automotive Records

Materials on the Hoosier state's role in the manufacture and distribution of automobiles were recently acquired by the Society. The collections include the business and financial records of Indianapolis's Gibson Company, donated by J. William Julian of Indianapolis, and research materials on Indiana's automotive history, donated by Wallace Huffman of Kokomo.

"Indiana has been in the vanguard of the automotive industry since its beginnings. In fact, the state was regarded as the national leader in automobile production until Detroit emerged as the industry giant in the 1930s. Both collections contain valuable information about Indiana's place in automotive history," said Paul Brockman, Society archivist.

Included in the Gibson collection are ledger books from 1911-13 and 1923-24; company

payroll books from 1913-18; contracts and correspondence with production companies; stockholder information; photographs; and blueprints, drawings, and specifications for the construction of the Gibson Company building in 1916.

The Huffman collection contains information on Indiana automobile producers. The collection includes original advertisements; publications; photographs, stock certificates, and letterheads from Indiana auto companies; original parts and instruction manuals; and books dating from the 1900s to the 1920s about the automobile industry.

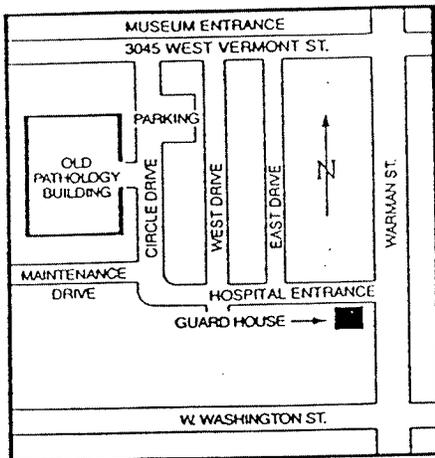
Both automobile collections are part of the IHS Library's manuscripts and archives department and are available for research by library patrons. For more information, contact the IHS Library at (317) 232-1879.



"To preserve the heritage of the healing arts in Indiana"

Located on Indianapolis' near westside, the Indiana Medical History Museum is a state treasure. The museum is housed in the Old Pathology Building, the nation's oldest surviving pathology laboratory. Virtually untouched by time, this unique architectural landmark allows the visitor to step into the past and experience the beginnings of modern, scientific medicine.

Built in 1895, the Old Pathology Building provided Central State Hospital staff with state-of-the-art facilities to study mental and nervous disorders. When it opened, the laboratory building was the most elaborate medical research facility in the state. The building functioned as a laboratory until the 1960s. In 1969, the Indiana Medical History Museum, a private, not-for-profit corporation was established to preserve this historic structure. The building is included on the Historic American Buildings Survey and the National Register of Historic Places.



The museum is open to the public on Wednesdays and Fridays from 1 to 4. Admission is free. Call (317) 635-7329 for further information.

JOIN US !! FRIENDS OF THE
Hendricks County Museum

170 SOUTH WASHINGTON STREET DANVILLE, INDIANA 46122

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY
Student _____ Member _____ Contributing _____ Institutional/Business _____
\$1.00 \$5.00 \$10.00 \$25.00

I am interested in helping in the following areas
_____ Museum Tour Guide _____ Fund Raising _____ Refreshments
_____ Office Work _____ Special Programs
_____ Exhibit Restoration/Preservation _____ Other _____
_____ Facility Restoration/Preservation _____ Other _____

The Hendricks County Historical Museum is interested in preserving items pertaining to our local history. If you have items to donate please contact us.

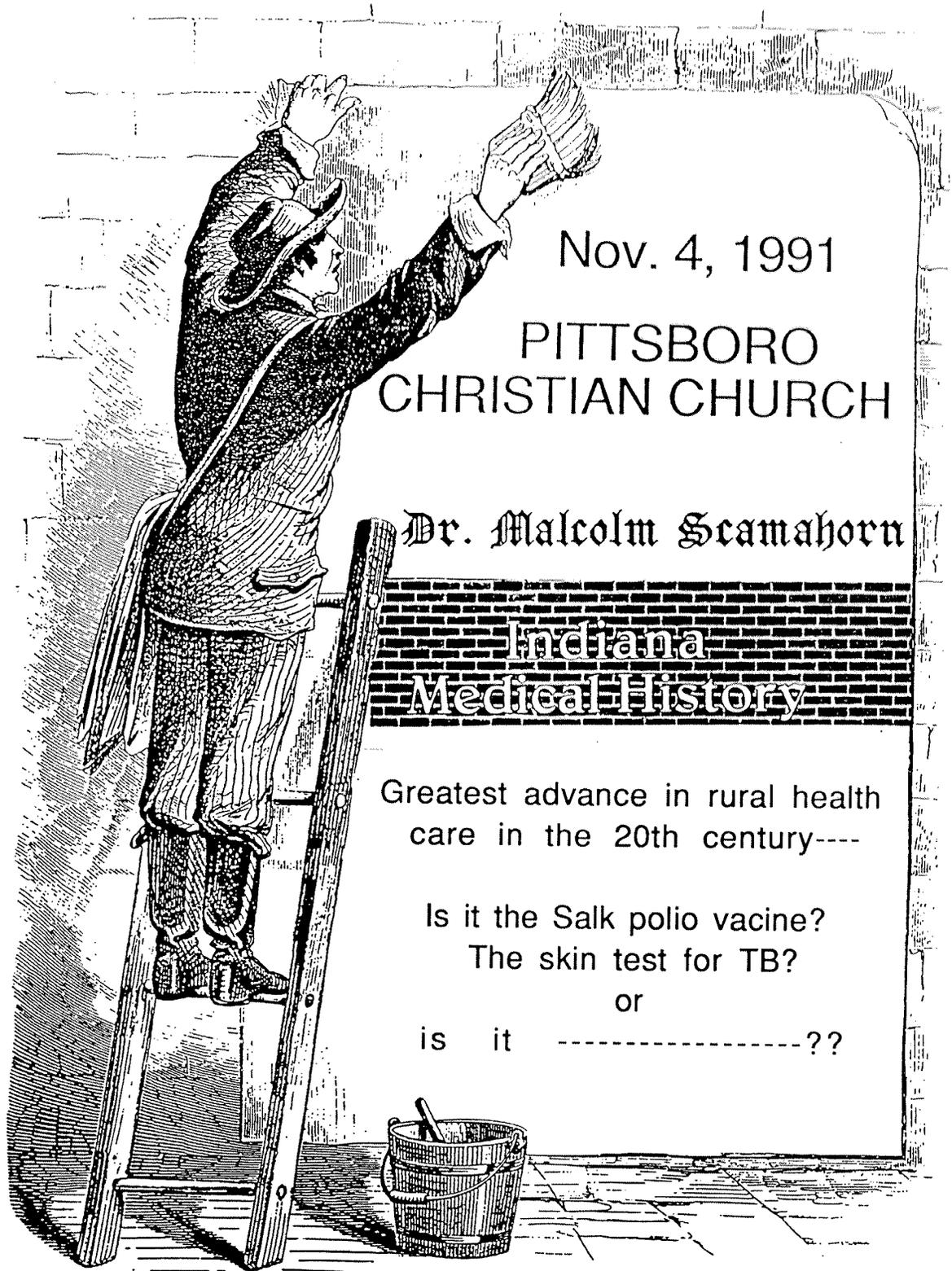
Wanted to Buy:

Patricia Simmons
8505 Victory Lane
Potomac, MD 20854
would like to purchase a copy of a book by Harlan V. Hadley entitled the Hadley's of Hendricks County Indiana.

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Hendricks County
Historical Society



Nov. 4, 1991

PITTSBORO
CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Dr. Malcolm Scamahorn

Indiana
Medical History

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or

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Hendricks County
Historical Society

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