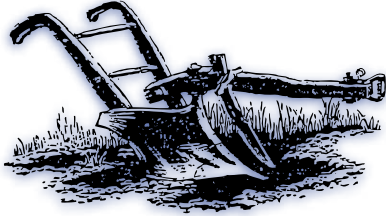


Grundy County Historical Society Newsletter



Volume 9 Issue 1 January 2021

510 W. Illinois Ave. ← Morris, IL 60450 ← 815-942-4880

Web site: www.grundycountyhs.org

E-mail: grundyhistory@att.net

Facebook: Museum of the Grundy County
Historical Society-Illinois

Museum Hours: Thursday, Friday, Saturday
10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Group Tours by Appointment—Call for Appointment

The Grundy County Historical Society Newsletter is published four times a year. It is distributed to members of record free of charge via e-mail and USPS. Subscriptions start at \$10 for students annually.

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DEAR MEMBERS

We are reopening the museum today, January 21, 2021, Masks and distancing are required. The board is discussing projects that need to be done and prioritizing them. Revisions of our procedures have been reviewed and updated.

FESTIVAL OF TREES

Our annual Festival of Trees was a bit different this year due to CDC COVID-19 guidelines. But I must admit, I'm quite pleased with the outcome. We can't thank all of you enough for your participation and support for our on-line auction and raffle. Our revenue exceeded our expense which certainly helps with future operations of the Society and Museum. Although we did not make what we have in the past, we did quite well.

We would like to thank our sponsors for the raffles: Mark and Ruby Kellogg for the Galena Escapes trip; The Tom Wawczak Group of Century 21 Coleman-Hornsby and Lisa Wawczak of Bellacino's for the Star Wars Extravaganza; Lawrence Advertising for the Holiday Dinner and Century 21 Coleman-Hornsby for sponsoring the online raffle site. Thanks also to Jane Kerr from Apple Butter and Shugies for our sparkling shirts and masks.

Congratulations to our Raffle winners: Andrew Brandt won the Galena Escapes trip; Kathy Nove won the Star Wars Extravaganza, and JoEllen Johnson won the Holiday Dinner.

All this would not have been possible without the help of the committee who worked tirelessly along with many volunteers assisting with decorating, setting up and manning the event. Also, a thank you to Erik Olson who patiently help us novices navigate the auction site.

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!

Sue Cunnea, Chairperson, Festival of Trees

PROGRAMS

We closed the Museum as soon as Festival of Trees was completed, per the Governor's orders.

As noted earlier, we reopened January 21, following COVID-19 restrictions.

No programs are scheduled at this time. Upcoming programs will be posted on our website, www.grundyhistoryhs.org and on our Facebook page Museum of the Grundy County Historical-Illinois.

FACEBOOK



While we have been closed, Dorothy Cunnea has continued to post "100 years ago in Grundy County" and local obituaries on Facebook.

RADIO



The first Monday of the month at about 9:10 am, tune into WCSJ 103.1 for "People Are Talking" to hear what is happening at the Museum.

MEMORIALS

A number of donations have been received as Memorials to Eleanor Anderson, a longtime member of the Historical Society. She passed away in December.

We extend our sympathy to Ellen Hanson and family on the death of John Hanson.

DONATIONS

New items donated in the fall of 2020 came from Tim Beck. They had belonged to Ethel Gregg, long-time Morris librarian. Among the items were a needlepoint of the Andrew Carnegie Library that was made by our own Debbie Steffes for Ethel. Also, a scale that was used in Ethel's father's Harrod Grocery store on Washington Street was part of the donation.

Julie Buick donated the Cracker Box Derby car used in many Corn Festival races in the 1970's. It was made by her Uncle

Alfred “Red” Jenkins of Morris. His son, grandson and granddaughter all used the car.

In December 2020, the Heritage Corridor Visitors Bureau had someone take a video of the museum (free) and it has been posted on their website under GCHS Museum.

The URL for the video is: <https://www.heritagecorridorcvb.com/Attractions/Grundy-County-Historical-Society-and-Museum>

We have received a donation as a result of a member turning their Hilton Honor Loyalty Points into cash. Hilton Honor has partnered with PointWorthy, a site that will convert the points into cash to donate to nonprofits or charities. If you don't plan to use your points, or they are about to expire, please consider donating them to the Historical Society.

We are listed as one of the places you can donate to. You will need the information from your Hilton Honor account, then go to PointWorthy.com type in the Search bar “Grundy County

Historical Society” and follow their directions. If you have any problems, please call Marion Gore at 815-942-5482.

Another easy way to donate to the Museum is with Amazon's Smile program. You set up the account to donate a percentage of your purchase to the Historical Society. There is no cost to you.

WHO AM I?

Last issue's mystery person was Allen Jessie Kennedy. Can you guess, from the following description, who this issue's mystery person is? Look for the answer in our next issue—April 2021 or, now that the museum is open again, stop in and look for me.

I was born in Braceville. I resigned as circulator of the Joliet News to become treasurer of Grundy County and became County Clerk in 1914. I became cashier of the first Trust & Savings Bank in 1916 and held that position until I died. I was noted for my athleticism and was interested in all sports. *Who am I?*

2020 Festival of Trees Highlights

