



# MACOUPIN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

## From Your President

The Strawberry Festival was a success and I was very, very, happy Saturday morning when the weather turned out to be so beautiful, the volunteers arrived and took their stations, and the people began to show up! Attendance was down a bit but we were still fortunate to have had so many people come to our festival. I hope everyone's summer is going well. It's surprising to realize that this summer is already 2/3 over. Labor Day is coming up and planning and work are already underway for the Fall Festival.

There's a correction to the spring newsletter: Robert "Bob" Huyear and Mark Bouillon planted the crops this spring. Bob was seen pulling a John Deere disc with his International tractor and Mark used his Allis-Chalmers WD-45 diesel to pull the John Deere planter. When visiting the grounds feel free to travel around back of the blacksmith shop to take a look at the crops. A work crew has also cut the wheat with a binder so we'll have wheat to thrash at the Fall Festival.

Louise Jett volunteered to be in charge of publicity for the Macoupin County Historical Society. Louise has attended several monthly membership meetings and attended the July board meeting. The board accepted Louise's offer and Louise will be attending board meetings. Many of you may have seen Louise's recent articles about the society in local papers. Louise works at the Macoupin County Enquirer-Democrat, has skills in both journalism and graphic art, and recently graduated magna cum laude from Greenville College. Louise lives in Carlinville and has a seven year old son. Welcome aboard, Louise!

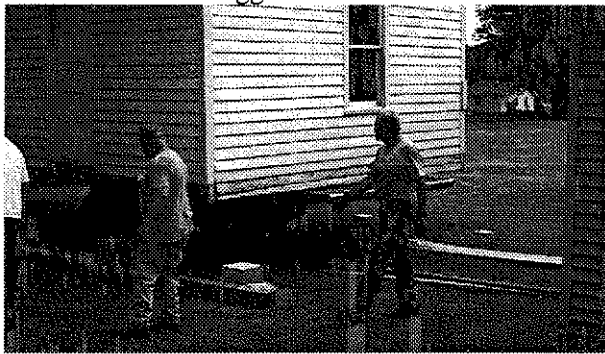
The building committee continues to work on plans for a new building that will be located east of the mansion where the mobile home now stands. The trailer will soon be removed to allow for site preparation. The committee is considering a 30 foot by 70 foot single story structure that will house the genealogy department, an office for the society, and a large meeting room. This will allow the society to move the genealogy records and the society office out of the mansion and allow those

areas of the mansion to again be used for display. Benefits include having a single story, handicapped accessible building that is well insulated and much more energy efficient. No more lugging all the genealogy books and materials up to the second story or the attic! The meeting room will be used for our monthly board and membership meetings, committee meetings, the annual meeting, and will allow us to be more comfortable, hopefully resulting in better attendance. Officers and committee members needing to use the office won't have to go in and out of the mansion to do their work. These changes will make it unnecessary to turn up the heat in the mansion during the cold months. We plan to move the music stage to the new building. Proper electrical service to accommodate the musicians and office equipment will be available in the new building. The model the committee is using for our new building is a white building behind the house at the Jersey County Historical Society in Jerseyville. We're looking at the west portion of that building only, not the warehouse portion. The building has a nice porch on the west, large windows, and was designed to resemble a farm building. Anyone interested in obtaining more information about the new building is welcome to contact Bill Egelhoff, Vada Frank, Augie Schmidt, Barb McCormick, or Dee Snell. The committee last met on July 28.

The donated summer kitchen has been moved to its permanent location north of the general store. Bill Egelhoff, Mark Bouillon, and Zane Austwick dug the piers and built the forms.



Curry Ready Mix poured the concrete. Joe Jacobs of Quickie Rental brought out a large telehandler and a truck with a hydraulic flat bed trailer. Roger Hammann operated Dave Rathgeb's forklift. The telehandler and the forklift were used to raise the building up, and then Joe Jacobs backed his trailer under the building. The building was hauled to its permanent location and after some fine maneuvering by Joe Jacobs the trailer was backed in, over the piers, and the telehandler and forklift were used to raise the building so the trailer could be pulled away and the building set down on its piers. Board members Dave Hockett and Bill Egelhoff and other members, including Lonny Hood and Dave Waggoner assisted.



It was very hot that day! The cold water from the blacksmith shop was certainly appreciated. The plan is to convert the summer kitchen into a replica gas station and build a canopy on the west side. Any offers of help to do the work will be appreciated.



Jim Frank and Alice Randolph have announced their intention to retire from the kitchen committee after the Christmas show. The board is looking for volunteers to take over management of the Red Barn kitchen.



Mary and Dorothy Etter have announced their intention to retire from the genealogy committee soon. Jean Redolfi, 217-839-2795, has volunteered to help with the genealogy work but doesn't want to be the chairman. So the board is in search of a chairman or co-chairmen for genealogy.

VH Builders of Carlinville is doing repair work on the front and back porches of the mansion. There are leaks on both porches that have resulted in rotten boards that are being replaced. After the repairs are complete we will need one or more volunteers to paint the porches before the fall show.

Looking ahead toward the Fall Festival the board would like to encourage exhibitors who will dress in period costume and do demonstrations of crafts or trades by waiving the fee for booth rental. We're trying to attract some antique farm equipment parts vendors and have offered those vendors a booth rental of \$20. on a trial basis. Those vendors will be located on the east end of the grounds in or near the Hays Building. Any members who receive inquiries about booth rental should refer vendors to Jean Ball at 217-627-3094 or Kay Vance at 217-627-2851. Looking ahead toward the Christmas Market the kitchen committee would like to get the word out that they plan to have a bake sale. Anyone interested in donating baked goods should contact Jim Frank or Alice Randolph. We also need volunteers to help with decorations for the Christmas Market show at the mansion.

I would like to thank past presidents Lloyd Strohbeck and Wes Loveless for staying involved and helping out. Thanks also goes to officers Joan Anderson, Ralph Scheldt, and Bill Egelhoff, the other board members, committee members, and other members who help out. Please remember that work days are Wednesdays between 10 AM and 2 PM. We're always looking for volunteers to help with the work involved in running the Historical Society. Stop by, introduce yourselves, and get involved. It's fun!

**See you at the Fall Festival.**

**HISTORY BOOK FOR SALE IN GIFT SHOP**

One of our members, Jim Frank, has written the following three history booklets. The History of Shipman, Piasa and Shipman Township; The history of Plainview and Hilyard Township; The History of Polk Township. Jim has donated these booklets to the Macoupin County Historical Society Museum gift shop to be sold along with other County History books that are for sale in the Gift Shop. The cost of each of the three history books donated by Jim is a donation of \$15 each.

**Other books for sale in the Museum Gift Shop are:**

**1879 History of Macoupin County, Hardbound \$40, Mailed \$45.**

**1891 Autobiographical History of Macoupin County, \$32 – Mailed \$36.**

**1875 Plat and 1893 Plat (Atlas), Hardbound (all plats of township in Macoupin County in one book, \$20 – Mailed \$23.**

**Tombstone Revelations, Book 1, (cemeteries in Scottville, N. Palmyra, N. Otter, Virden, Girard, Barr, S. Palmyra S.Otter and Nilwood townships) Hardbound - \$34; mailed – 38.**

**Tombstone Revelations Book II, (cemeteries in Bird and Western Mound townships) \$12 – Mailed \$14**

**Tombstone Revelations III, (cemeteries in Brushy Mound, Shaws Point, and Honey Point townships) \$12 – Mailed \$14.**

**Tombstone Revelations IV, (cemeteries in Chesterfield and Polk townships and includes Medora City cemetery) \$12 – Mailed \$14.**

**Tombstone Revelations V, (cemeteries in Hilyard and Shipman townships) \$12 – Mailed \$14.**

**Tombstone Revelations VI, (cemeteries in Carlinville township) \$20 – mailed \$23.**

**History of Shipman, Piasa and Shipman Township, \$15 Mailed \$18.**

**History of Plainview and Hilyard Township, \$15 – Mailed \$18.**

**History of Polk Township, \$15 – Mailed \$18.**

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**Remember When**

*By Josephine Remling*

(Here is the lost article missing in our last edition.)



How many remember when we did not have any furniture in the museum?

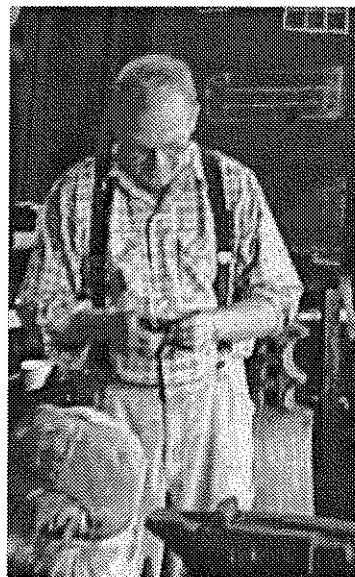
There was torn wall paper, broken plaster, so much cleaning to be done. But members came and worked long hours, and people shared their family heirlooms with us. We have been so well blessed by everyone! Today we have a beautiful museum. Thanks to many, many people and their hard work.

Additional note:

Founding member Josephine Remling fell on her 93<sup>rd</sup> birthday and broke her hip. Following surgery in Springfield, Josephine is at the new Carlinville Area Hospital for physical therapy. Please join with me in wishing Josephine a speedy recovery.

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**August 2 Member Meeting**

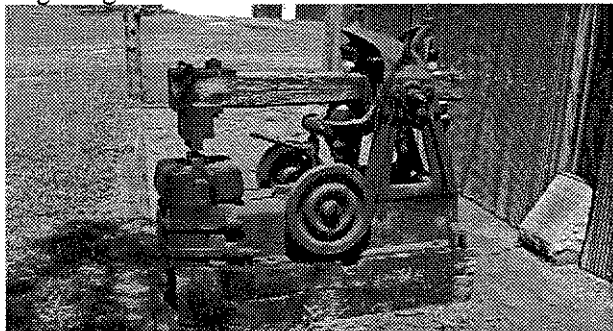


IVBA member Dave Kervin a retired Fire Chief from Springfield, IL was our guest speaker at the August member meeting. Dave was a tinsmith before joining the fire department, and teaches several beginning and advanced tin smith classes for the Sun Foundation at Peoria.

Dave demonstrated the various tools and methods, and the skill needed to develop the layout used to make the tin ware used by our ancestors.

### From The Smithy

It's been a quite summer at the Village Blacksmith Shop so far this summer. Late in April we bought the 130 year old Bradley Helve Hammer at a Sale north of Springfield. This will be our winter project of getting it restored.



Big Mike (Mike Lanham) let me know that he and Christy are expecting a new little blacksmith this October,

In July we had visitors to the shop from Germany. Uta Robison, one of our smiths, sister, Ingrid and her two children Phillip and Annalena were over for a visit. They came up and spent a day with us in the smithy.

We now stock West Virginia blacksmith coal at the shop. Bill Egelhoff was getting coal for us, but the place in Indiana closed. A place in Streator Illinois trucks in coal and sell in in the northern part of the state. I got a load of 30 bags from them and now have it to supply the west central part of the state. It is \$15 for a 50 pound bag

On Monday October 4<sup>th</sup> will be the annual wiener roast behind the blacksmith shop. The blacksmiths will present the program



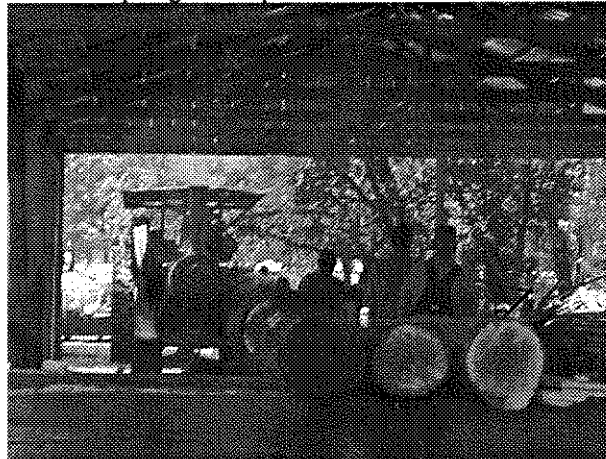
Scott striking for Gary Jameson at last years hammer-in

Don't forget to mark your calendars for the Hammer-in on Saturday November 6. Scott Springer will be our demonstrator in the morning, then an auction of blacksmith made or related items.

### Sawmill

Any members who have logs they would like sawed at the Fall Festival should call Bill Egelhoff or Mark Bouillon. The sawmill has some logs to saw but would like to have more and this is a great chance for members to get their logs sawed.

The steam engine and saw mill ran nearly perfect after the spring tune up.



### Apple Fest

The Jersey County Historical Society located at 601 North State Street in Jerseyville is having its annual Apple Fest on Saturday October 2<sup>nd</sup> from 8<sup>am</sup> to 5<sup>pm</sup>.

Historical tours of the Cheney Mansion, Lone Star School, Log Cabin, Museum and flautt addition are available for \$5.00 per person. Tours must be completed before 4:30

Children's games, entertainment, craft booths, demonstrations, Quilt raffle, and many more activities will be taking place during the day.

The society will serve Pioneer Stew, Ham and beans with cornbread, chicken strips, fish, fries, hot dogs, pie and cake, and Kettle Korn.

For more info call 618 498-2876 or e-mail [t31scott@frontiernet.net](mailto:t31scott@frontiernet.net)

### Bits and Pieces

*By Lloyd Strobeck*

It has been an eventful few months for the Historical Society. To begin with I want to mention the long hours put in by new (young) member Raymond Reynolds from Shipman. Raymond got a little experience with the outdoor Christmas lights last winter. Then this spring he spent each day of the Strawberry Festival washing trays and cleaning the food pavilion after the serving had ended.

There were other volunteers during part of each, but Raymond was there all of both days. Then when he was done there he helped me pick all of the trash barrels, dump them and get them ready for the next day. This took until after 7pm each day. I know there are many other volunteers that spend long hours also, but I wanted to mention the one who helped out this old man.

One day this spring the grandson of Will Otwell showed up with a banner that was hung at the Sty. Louis Worlds Fair in, I think, 1904. Otwell had large Iris fields in the west side of Carlinville which attracted many sightseers when they were in bloom. He also started the Otwell Farmer Boys organization which was the forerunner of the 4-H Clubs. Otwell was in charge of the Illinois pavilion at the Fair and told the farmer boy members to send him their best ten ears of corn and he would display the corn at the fair. In the Otwell display on the second floor of the Museum there is a display of Otwell pictures and info. In this display there is a picture of a large platform covered with individual ten ear stacks of corn. Above the corn is a long banner stating (grown by the farmer boys of Illinois). That is the banner that his grandson brought from California and is now on display in the upper hall of the Museum.

We hosted three bus tours from St. Louis this spring. On one of the tours a lady said she wanted to donate a book that was found in the attic of her mother's home. The lady said that she went to country school near Hornsby which is between Gillespie and Litchfield. She said that her mother's home was in the east part of Macoupin Co. Years ago Hornsby was called Clyde and old plat books list both names. The book was a hardcover about 1-1/4 inches thick and written in the German language. The only English writing was on the cover- Carlinville 1900.

Different towns in Macoupin Co. were mentioned individual paragraphs with the rest in German. On the first page under the title someone had written with pencil (In my leisure hour). It just happened that a couple of weeks before I had given a tour to a nice gentleman from Germany who did not speak English. His granddaughter, who was an exchange student at the local high school, came along to translate. The school put us in touch with the young lady and she was kind enough to translate some paragraphs and the table of contents in the

short time she had left in the states. The gentleman must have disliked prohibition because some of the paragraphs about local towns complained of not being able to get a drink. Samples follows.

Our glee club had tried a couple of times to rehearse this song. It was supposed to be sung on the German day in fall in Mt. Olive. But they had to cancel that because their throat was dry.

Carlinville has about 12 doctors, 3 drug stores, whose stores are loaded full of all kinds of medicine. Plus the quacksalver, who bring full wagons of mixtures and sells them to people. The population our city is growing regardless.

The table of contents included...The unhappy donkey...A unfortunate love story...Gottlieb Hundenbuegel and his Mother-in-law...The pig slaughter...and Why I don't marry her...among many others.

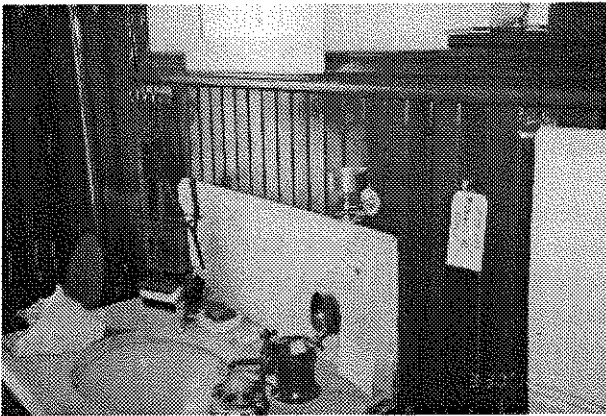
The name on the book was F. G. Oeltjen. Dorothy Etter found an obituary for a Fred G. Oeltjen. The time frame is right and the obituary showed that the gentleman came from Germany when he was seventeen and attended Blackburn College. The paper said that Fred G. Oeltjen was Carlinville Town Clerk and also County Clerk for four years. If this is the same person he certainly had a wry sense of humor. We hope to know more in the future.

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Virgil Sutton on the Cub and Charlie Fritz, our yard crew have had a buzy year have kept busy keeping up with the mowing

These pictures should have been in your last newsletter



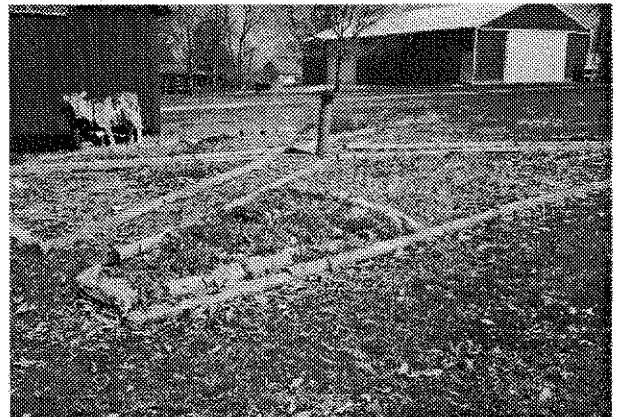
Tooth brush-cup holder back in place after being returned by local lady. Had been given to her by caretaker when house was empty and boarded up.



Toothbrush and cup holder back on wall in original bathroom.



Wedding dress made by Neva Heath from WW2 nylon parachute.



Elvira the guard cow watches after Master Gardener, George Church, cleaned out the trash

[www.macsociety.org](http://www.macsociety.org)

### Macoupin County Historical Society Officers – 2010

Title	Name	Address	Phone	E-Mail
President	Dan Hauter	#4 Crestwood Drive Carlinville IL 62626	(217)-854-9725 hm (217)-710-8056 cp	
Vice President	Bill Egelhoff	9399 Breitweiser Lane Shipman, IL. 62685	(618)-729-3295	Egel68@irtc.net
Secretary	Joann Anderson	216 North Jersey Gillespie, IL 62033	(217)-839-2920	
Treasurer	Ralph Scheldt			

### Directors

Bd. Member	Augie Schmidt	424 Crestview Drive Wood River, IL 62095-	(618)-254-9235	beanies@charter.net
Bd. Member	Dave Hockett	1016 N Monroe Litchfield, IL 62056	(217)-324-7033	Grizzley-addams2@yahoo.com
Bd. Member	Barb McCormick	228 East Second Carlinville, IL 62626	(217)-854-3099	
Bd. Member	Donna Scott	10119 Merideth Rd Carlinville, IL 62626		
Bd. Member	Veryl Reiher	15253 Deerfield Dr. Carlinville, IL 62626	(217) 854-3360	

### Committee Chairman

Newsletter	Velma Schmidt	424 Crestview Drive Wood River, IL 62095	(618)-254-9235 hm (618)-447-3538 cp	beanies@charter.net
Publicity	Louise Jett			
Genealogy	Mary & Dorothy Etter	355 West State Waverly, IL 62692	(217)-435-9056	
Food/Programs	Jim Frank	12735 Shipman Rd, Plainview, IL. 62676	(618)-836-5890	frank10@frontiernet.net
House	Mary Schwab	21371 Barnett Road Raymond, IL 62560	(217)-854-8963	

### 2010 Programs for Macoupin County Historical Society

Date	Program	Remarks
September 13 <sup>th</sup> 7:00 pm	Bill Thiel	Antique Tools
September 18 <sup>th</sup> & 19 <sup>th</sup>	Fall Festival	Macoupin County Historical Society grounds, Carlinville, IL
Monday October 4 <sup>th</sup>	Annual Weiner roast	Program by the Blacksmiths
Saturday November 6 <sup>th</sup> 9:00 am	Hammer-In	Scott Springer Demonstrating at the Blacksmith shop
Monday November 1 <sup>st</sup> 7:00 pm	Robyn Woodside	Roaring 20's pre Lake Williamson era
December 3-4-5 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Show	Theme "Christmas A to Z"



Submissions for our Quarterly Newsletter received, assembled, and prepared by Member Velma Schmidt "Beanie" are due Oct. 15, 2010.

If you have a story, information item, or picture you wish to see in the Newsletter, please call or email Velma Schmidt, Editor (see contact information on this page of your Newsletter). I would love to discuss submissions with you. Remember, this Newsletter belongs to you—our valued members—get involved and share in its content!

Macoupin County Historical Society  
P. O. Box 432  
Carlinville, IL 62626

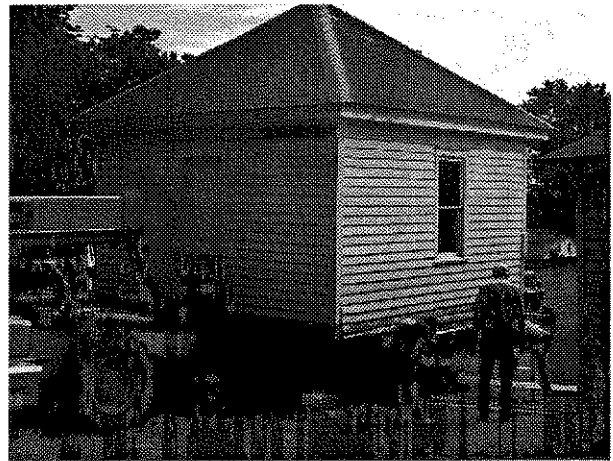
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Return Service Requested

Lloyd & Nancy Strohbeck Life  
15850 Town Hall Lane  
Carlinville, IL. 62626-



Moving day of the summer kitchen



Set it down easy guys

