



MACOUPIN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

From Your President

Hello! My name is Dan Hauter and I'm your new president. And I sure didn't see this coming! I've been a member since about 1998 and have been mostly involved with our sister organization, the Macoupin Agricultural Antique Association. A few months ago I was asked if I would consider being on the board of the Historical Society. "Sure", I said. My wife and I attended the annual meeting at the Gillespie Civic Center. Nothing was said about my joining the board. I thought maybe I was off the hook, maybe they filled the vacancy with someone else. Then I was reminded that I needed to attend the March board meeting. So I attended and walked away as president. "I just got here." was my first response. Second response: "I'm not retired yet." Ralph Scheldt also attended his first board meeting that night and walked away as treasurer. Ralph's not retired, either. I think I can speak for Ralph, also, and say that we both have a lot to learn but we'll certainly give it our best shot.

My wife, Lisa, and I live in Carlinville. We also have a farm that I'd like to live on some day. My mom, Pat Hauter, is a charter member of the Historical Society. I remember touring the mansion the first time in 1974. I work for the Department of Children and Family Services as an investigations supervisor. That's why our phone number is unlisted. Lisa works at Locust Street Resource Center as a manager for outpatient services. We both have to take our turns as after hours supervisors. It's really fun at our house when we're both on call the same week. Which leads to a conflict I have with the Strawberry Festival. I'm the after hours supervisor beginning at 8:30 AM Saturday morning and continuing until 8:30 AM the following Saturday. I haven't found anyone who will switch with me so I'm stuck. If you see me talking on a cell phone, pacing, writing notes, and then disappearing to work on a laptop it's because I'm talking to one of the DCFS on call workers.

As much as I love antique tractors, and as much as I appreciate the blacksmith shop, church, school, and

other attractions on our grounds, I think that the mansion is our centerpiece. We have beautiful grounds at the Historical Society that we can all be proud of. The night of the March board meeting was possibly the first time I'd actually sat down in the mansion and looked around. Even though I've been in the house many times I was still impressed with its beauty.

Twice in the last 10 days I've gone out to the Historical Society and found young people there. The first time I found two college girls walking around and taking pictures. One of the girls is from Carlinville and I know her. The second time I found a young family with three children setting up a camera on a tripod to take pictures of the mansion. I know them, too. Both times I was asked if it was "OK" for the young people to be there. OK? This is wonderful! For the Historical Society to survive we have to attract younger people and I was happy to see young folks interested in our grounds.

Today is Wednesday, I was off, and I stopped by the Historical Society. There was a really good group of people there for "work day". I'd like to remind all of our members that Wednesdays are "work days". The time is 10 AM to 2 PM. And we'll also welcome non-members who would like to come by and volunteer. This is how things get done and we could always use another volunteer. One of our projects is to straighten up the big machine shed. It's gotten cluttered up and it's difficult to get tractors and implements in and out of the shed. We've designated the first Wednesday in May as clean up day for the shed. If it rains that day the second Wednesday in May is the "rain date". Please be respectful of other people's tractors and implements. The owners of some of these restored tractors have invested thousands of dollars in their tractors. If you move someone else's tractor or implement please be careful.

I'm looking forward to the Strawberry Festival and I'm also a little worried. It'll be "my" first show. So I'm hoping that Mother Nature smiles on us, all

the volunteers show up, the people come, and everyone has a great time.

Our home phone number is 217-854-9725. My cell phone number is 217-710-8056. Soon I'll have my own E-mail address and I'll share that with you. My regular work hours are 8:30 AM to 5 PM so please call outside of work hours. We're usually in bed by 9:30 PM. Other than that, feel free to call.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the Strawberry Festival.

Dan Hauter
President



Remember When

By Josephine Remling

Due to a lost article we will hear from Josephine in the next newsletter.

Don't believe that it was Josephine that mislaid it, someone younger than she...managed to do that.

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Treasures Market

By Dee Snell

In the fall of 2009 the MCHS Board of Directors approved the floor plan of a Genealogy Room and Meeting Area which was submitted by a committee formed by Former Pres. Wesley Loveless. The building is planned to be located where the mobile home is currently.

I am pledging all funds raised by the Treasures Market to the Building Fund. We have had very generous donations since the Fall Festival and are looking forward to a very successful event. The Historical Society grounds have seen many outstanding improvements over the past few years and with the new Board we are anxious to see continued improvements with their guidance! Your help and support is vital to our success and we are looking forward to seeing you at the Spring Festival.

Bits and Pieces

By Lloyd Stralbeck

One day this Winter a local lady came to the Museum with a unique tooth brush and told me that when the Museum was vacant and boarded up, she told Uncle Jim she would like an item from the museum for her house. He showed up with the toothbrush and cup holder. Now that the house is open for tours she thought that the item belonged back in the original bathroom. It had been covered with a hard white paint which was removed with some difficulty. It is solid brass and is now on the wall in the original second floor bathroom.

Things are starting to be done to get ready for a busy year. The water and gas have been turned on in the Red Barn to get ready for the first monthly meeting April 5th. Master Gardener George Church has cleaned all trash and dead growth from the Herb Garden. It will look nice for the Festival. Charlie Fritz has been out with his mower mulching leaves. He did hit a very soft spot by the medicine wheel garden and almost got stuck. The ladies in the house have been busy dressing mannequins and sweeping up Asian lady beetles.

Last newsletter we printed one page of a letter written to Piasa, Ill. Blacksmith Harmon Talley during the war. There were other interesting items in the business ledger where the letter was found. One item was a Receipt (original spelling) for hog cholera which follows.

1 lb. of sulphur 1 lb. of asaphettia

1 lb. of arsenic 1 lb. of Pine tar

1 Qt. of coal oil 1 Qt. of turpentine

With that mixture I don't think the hog would die from hog cholera.

We want to welcome the new members on the Board of Directors. In February Pres. Wes Loveless appointed life member Dan Hauter to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Marian Hefti. At the annual meeting in Gillespie, Donna Scott, Dave Hockett, and Ralph Scheldt were elected to three year terms on the board. We wish them well as it is a bigger job than most folks realize.

We also need to thank departing board members Wes Loveless, Ray Riffey, and Dee Snell for their hard work. Wes Loveless 's coffee shop connections helped get some things done at little or no expense for the Society. Dee Snell, in addition

to good ideas, also has done a great job with the (Treasures Market) during the festivals. Ray besides being the master electrician kept the money in the right accounts and was frugal with the Society funds. Thanks folks.

Member Cal Heath recently brought in a wedding dress worn by his late wife Neva when they were wed June 13, 1948. Cal was a parachute rigger in Okinawa during the WWII. When a nylon parachute came in that was too damaged to reuse he sent it home. He got back home and later met Neva who was an excellent seamstress. Neva used the parachute material to make her wedding dress which is now on display on a mannequin in the music room. Many folks who toured the Museum during our festivals could find Neva quilting in one of the rooms.

Hope all of the corn and beans are planted by the Strawberry Festival and we have good weather both days.

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April 5' 2010 Meeting

By Catherine Harms

The April meeting of the Macoupin County Historical Society was held Monday, April 5th in the Red Barn on the society grounds. Dan Hauter, newly elected MCHS President opened the meeting. Joanne Anderson, returning MCHS Secretary, read the minutes from the December 7th meeting. Newly elected MCHS Treasurer, Ralph Scheldt, read the treasurer's report.

Guest Speaker Paula Robinson, Director Macoupin County University of Illinois Extension, gave an informative slideshow presentation on the history of 4-H in Macoupin County. W.B. Otwell of Carlinville is credited as a pioneer of the 4-H Clubs. The Smith-Lever Act of 1914 established a system of cooperative extension services, connected to the land-grant universities, in order to inform people about current developments in agriculture, home economics, and related subjects. Dr. James H. Green was the first state leader of the boys and girls clubs. The first club was the Union Pig Club formed by C.C. Coots of Palmyra. 13 members raised feeder pigs which were judged in August. Macoupin County hired W.P. Miller in 1918 as its first farm advisor. Under his leadership seven clubs were formed. Membership in the 4-H clubs declined after WWI until the 1920's when the

Illinois Extension Service formed two club programs; agriculture for boys and home economics for girls. In 1932 P.J. Rosentreter was named as chairman of the newly organized 4-H Club Committee. The first rally, held at the old fairgrounds, exhibited more than 300 hogs, 35 sheep, 15 calves and 15 poultry coops – over 3,000 people attended the picnic and dance. In 1966 the agriculture and home economics 4-H County Committees erected a 40'x72' building on the current Macoupin County Fairgrounds – total cost of the building was \$8,000.

Today 4-H has grown into a community of six million young people across America learning leadership, citizenship and life skills. 4-H can be found in every county in every state, as well as the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and over 80 countries around the world. The 4-H community also includes 3,500 staff, 518,000 volunteers and 60 million alumni. 4-H'ers participate in fun and hands-on learning activities supported by the latest research of land-grant universities.

4-H Pledge

"I Pledge my **Head** to clearer thinking,
my **Heart** to greater loyalty,
my **Hands** to larger service,
and my **Health** to better living,
for my club, my community, my country, and my
world."

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A LITTLE DUST FROM THE SAWMILL

By Bill Egelhoff

Lonnie hood has been working on the blade for the sawmill this winter and he brought it up last month and installed the blade. Mark bouillon belted his old tractor to the sawmill. Lonnie gave the saw a good workout, he sawed two knotty oak logs. Dave Hockett got a work out stackings the boards. Lonnie said we are ready to go for the spring show. We still could use some more logs for the show.

Zane Austwick, Dave Waggoner and Bill Lange have been working in building 3. Shelving has been put up to display small items and larger machinery put in rows so we can walk through the building

Steam Engine Update

By Larry Pitman

Several problems showed up since we last used the steam engine last fall. First, the coal we got was too small and would seal over, not letting air flow to get through and get as hot as it should. This caused problems in keeping steam pressure up. Next, a flue pipe in the side of the fire box started leaking. After many phone calls, the special 1½' pipe was found in St. Louis. The flues will be replaced before the Spring show. Also needed for the repairs were gaskets for the hand holes in the side of the boiler. These were also found at a boiler repair shop in St. Louis

Several places have been called about the proper size coal. But most of them only carried the small stocker coal. We need the small "Lump" coal that is about 3" in size. A place in Ava Illinois seems to have what we need. We will have to make a trip to check it out.

We have a lot to get done, but we will be ready for the show.

Interesting facts or useless stuff to fill empty spaces

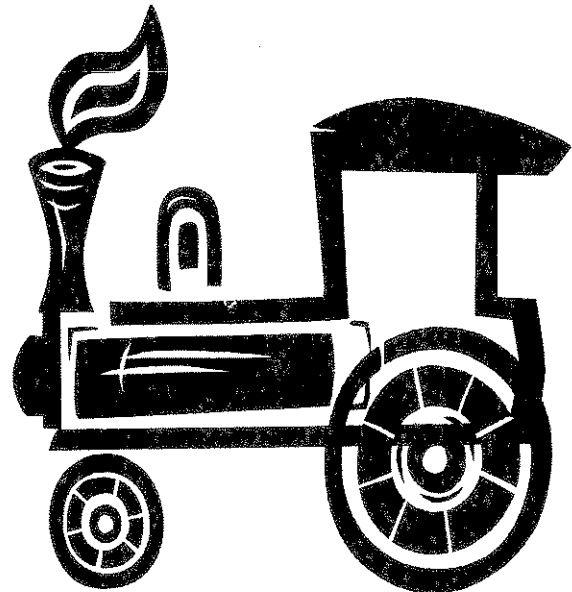
- To find the speed of a belt, multiply the diameter of the pulley in inches by 3.1416. this gives the circumference of the pulley in inches. Multiply this by the RPM of the pulley = belt speed in inches per minute. Divide by 12 to get feet per minute.
- To find the number of board feet in a log, subtract 4" from the diameter and square the remainder. The result will be the number of board feet in a 16' log.
- To find the bushels of grain or shelled corn in a bin or wagon box, multiply the number of cubic feet by .8
- To measure ear corn in a crib, divide the cubic feet of corn in the crib by 2 1/2 . This will give a good estimate of the amount of ear corn in bushels.
- A pint's a pound, or very close of the following commodities. Water, wheat, butter, sugar, and blackberries.
- A keg of nails weighs 100 pounds.

MAAA News

by Veryl Reiher
Sec. MAAA

The corn crop is planted. After Bill Lange and Bob Huyear worked, and leveled the ground, they planted it to corn on April 13, 2010. Sonneborn Bros. helped us with the fertilizer, and Rosentreter Seeds did the same with the seed. The corn is coming up and looking good.

The steam engine has a leaking fitting on the boiler which Larry Pitman and Joe Graziano of Wood River are in the process of repairing. Larry found a strip mine in Ava, Illinois which will supply us with some coal for our engine to burn. This will provide us with a hotter fire, which will require less fueling.



The saw mill has been tested at the speed that the steam runs, and it performed beautifully! Should put on a nice show! P. J. Rosentreter tells us there are two toy tractor sellers due at the spring show. They will be in the Hays Building.

Bill Lange and Bill Edmonds have been doing some spring cleaning in the Big Shed [#3]. We'll never find anything now!

The Spring Show will feature Oliver and Minneapolis-Moline tractors and machinery, but all brands are welcome.

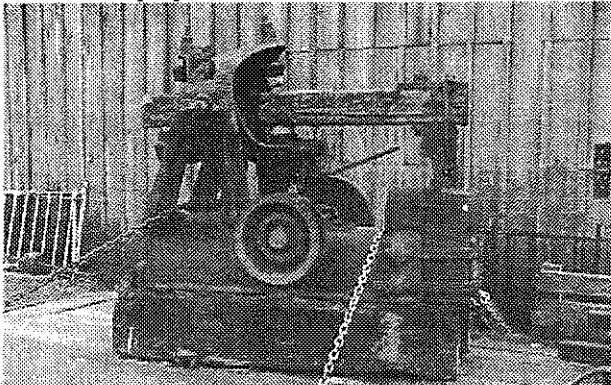
See ya at the show!

- Did you know that 1" of rainfall means 100 tons of water on every acre.

From the Blacksmith Shop

This winter we sort of kicked back and just sat around the stove drinking coffee, eating cookies and spreading the BS. Just the typical things that would have gone on in an old village smithy.

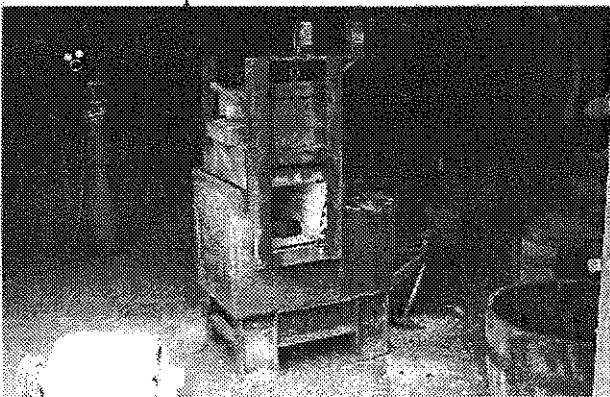
On April 17th Daryll Allen did a Rose Workshop. Six people came out. Then on April 24, a long time IVBA member and tool collector, Wilbur Gaedtko, had an auction of part of his vast collection. We were able to purchase a Bradley Helve hammer. This hammer originally came out of a Coal mine in Logan County. It needs work to get restored which will be our project for winter 2010.



The Bradley Company started in Syracuse NY in 1832 making farm equipment. They made their first hammer about 1870 this is one of the early models. Bradley hammers were not cheap. They were the Cadillac of hammers with a 100 pound version costing about \$850 in 1885. This was a big chunk of money when the average skilled tradesman only made about \$1.00 a day. Needless to say, most village smiths could not afford to buy one.

One interesting note was while researching the history of the Bradley, I came across an entry of a Columbus Washington Corr of Carlinville Illinois being issued patent number 206,665 on August 6 1878 for a helve hammer.

Another recent acquisition is a gas forge from the Hillsboro Zinc plant.

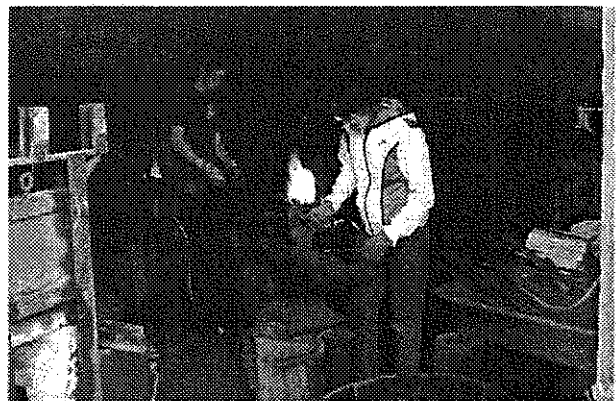


Dave Hockett found this forge at the old zinc smelting plant at Hillsboro, made some inquiries, and got the forge donated. The plant is to be torn down latter this year. It will make a good display item of what an industrial forge setting would have looked like years ago.

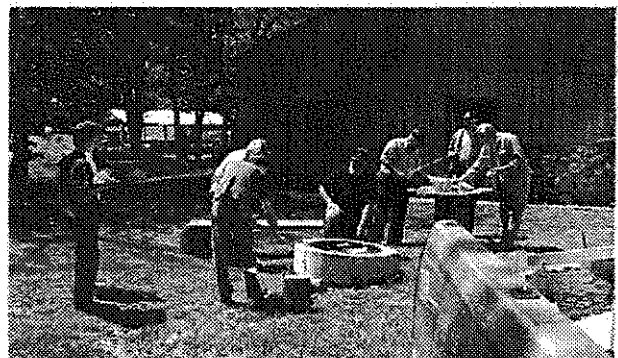
Our shop is a class room about once a month for Kathy Beauchamp and her two sons. This is there field trip day to learn about blacksmithing. Kathy is home schooling her sons Robert and David



Kathy and David watching Robert heating piece to forge out



Kathy tries her hand at hammering hot iron



Part of Wednesday work crew having wiener roast lunch behind the blacksmith shop.

A Remarkable Obituary

Today we mourn the passing of a beloved old friend, Mr. Common Sense. Mr. Sense had been with us for many years. No one knows for sure how old he was since his birth records were long ago lost in bureaucratic red tape.

He will be remembered as having cultivated such value lessons as knowing when to come in out of the rain, why the early bird gets the worm and that life isn't always fair. Common Sense lived by simple, sound financial policies (don't spend more than you earn) and reliable Parenting strategies (adults, not kids, are in charge).

His health began to rapidly deteriorate when well intentioned but overbearing regulations were set in place. Reports of a six-year-old boy charged with sexual harassment for kissing a classmate; teens suspended from school for using mouthwash after lunch; and a teacher fired for reprimanding an unruly student, only worsened his condition.

Mr. Sense's health declined even further when schools were required to get parental consent to administer aspirin to a student; but, could not inform the parents when a student became pregnant and wanted to have an abortion.

Finally, Common Sense lost the will to live as the Ten Commandments became contraband; churches became businesses; and criminals received better treatment than their victims, and he finally gave up the ghost after a woman failed to realize that a steaming cup of coffee was hot, she spilled a bit in her lap, and was awarded a huge financial settlement.

Common Sense was preceded in death by his parents, Truth and Trust, his wife, Discretion; his daughter, Responsibility; and his son, Reason.

He is survived by two stepbrothers; My Rights and Not Me, and two stepsisters; Ima Whiner and Ida Know. Not many attended his funeral because so few realized he was gone.

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@frontiernet.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.net
Bd. Member	Barb McCormick	228 East Second Carlinville, IL 62626	(217)-854-3099	
Bd. Member	Donna Scott	10119 Meredith Road 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
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
Mon, May 3, 2010 @ 7:00pm	Brad Winn	Lewis & Clark Expedition
Sat & Sun, May 29 & 30	Spring Festival	Macoupin County Historical Society grounds, Carlinville, IL
June 6, 2010, @ 12:30pm	Annual Potluck	Fred Nolan, Steam engine/saw mill
Monday July 5, @ 7:00pm	Joe Bland	Civil war era guns, Cannon
Monday, August 2 nd 7:00pm	Dave Kervin	The Village Tinsmith
September 6 th 7:00 pm	Bill Thiel	Antique Tools
September 18 th & 19 th	Fall Festival	Macoupin County Historical Society grounds, Carlinville, IL
Monday October 4 th	Annual Weiner roast	Program by the Blacksmiths
Saturday November 6 th 9:00 am	Hammer-In	Scott Springer Demonstrating at the Blacksmith shop
Monday November 1 st 7:00 pm	Robyn Woodside	Roaring 20's pre Lake Williamson era
December 3-4-5 th	Christmas Show	Theme "Christmas A to Z"



Submissions for our Quarterly Newsletter are assembled and prepared by Member Velma "Beanie" Schmidt are due Jul 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
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Carlinville, IL 62626

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