



Pioneer Times

Ancestors:
8,512

Total Members:
934

These include:
Life members: 194
Junior Members: 20
Associate Members: 26

Issue 9 September 2013

Items Needed for Annual Auction!

The Silent Auction will be held at the Annual Meeting on November 2, 2013. Marcia Krieg and Louise DeMore will again be your co-chairs and invite you to donate your hidden treasures to be auctioned off to your fellow Pioneers. We accept anything you think would be a treasure to someone else. In the past we have auctioned off books, dishes, paintings, trips, dinners, food, wine, crafts, organization memberships, jewelry, antiques and especially Indiana memorabilia.



This year we are lucky enough to have some items already on hand. They include a beautiful black iron "wine man" who stands 5'6" tall and holds 15 bottles of wine (wine not included, sorry!) and 2 lovely blue and white Wedgwood plates. One of the plates is a commemorative plate depicting Lady Di and Charles' wedding and the other plate has the Mayflower ship on it.

To review: the Auction needs your donations. We cannot operate without you...

And remember on the day of the auction you will have fun looking, laughing and talking to your fellow Pioneers. It's a great time to catch up with everyone!

When a purchase is made at the Auction we can accept only cash or checks. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts as you make this all possible.

If you have a donation, please call either:

**Marcia Krieg-317/698-5077 or
Louise DeMore-317/938-5147.**

President's Message

Michael Miller

The Society recently had the opportunity to attend the Federation of Genealogical Society conference held in Fort Wayne during August 2013. The conference was well attended by exhibitors from all over the country, which provided a terrific forum for interaction between like-minded individuals involved with genealogical societies from places like New England, Texas, California, Wisconsin and Illinois; to name a few. In speaking with individuals who stopped by our booth to chat about the Pioneers and our purpose, I found two more connections to my family research on names for which I had hit the infamous "brick-wall." It would seem the more people you can interact with, face to face; the lower the barrier(s) become in answering and solving what previously seemed insurmountable.

The break-out sessions, focused on specific topics relevant to the beginner to advanced genealogist, were terrific. This was my first national genealogical conference and likely won't be my last. One of the more important session topics I attended spoke to "strategic planning" within genealogical societies. Strategic thinking certainly helps each of us in our daily lives and most certainly is applicable in business, but its application to the operation of a genealogical society rarely receives a second thought.

The Pioneers have taken many initiatives from conversation, to concept, to practice in our recent past. The establishment of the Society's Endowment Fund is just one of those best examples. Our Society Secretary was recently reviewing some historical Board minutes and noted that our last dues increase

was in 1997. How many things can you think of that have not gone up in price for 16 years? Now, I am not proposing an increase but that is a real "positive." Because of the generosity of members in contributing to our Endowment and careful control of expenses, the Society has been able to maintain dues at the same level (\$20/year) for more than 16 years. Couple that with our diverse and dynamic board and officers, we should all be proud of the work we have done and the legacy we are perpetuating. None of the societies present at the "strategic planning" break-out session spoke of such an accomplishment. Many had a dwindling volunteer board coupled with a decrease in enrollments, funds and participation.

We, however, must not become complacent. So, in the coming months I will be creating an outline and proposal that I will present to our current Board & officers for comment and suggestions. It may take a few iterations to get the scope and focus of a "strategic planning process" outline correct. My desire and hope for this project will be to solicit the feedback from our internal resources and our external customers (our membership) to begin molding additional, great ideas for use by the Society of Indiana Pioneers during the next 100 years

Pilgrimages:

An Outstanding Member Benefit

With destinations in southern as well as northern Indiana, the Society of Indiana Pioneers enjoyed two pilgrimages this year, beginning with a spectacular Spring Pilgrimage on May 16 to Columbus.

In addition to visiting sites that have won national acclaim because of their contemporary architecture, we toured two distinctive – and distinctively different – homes associated with J. Irwin Miller, the late philanthropist and business leader credited with building Cummins Engine into a Fortune 500 company. We toured the J. Irwin Miller Mid-Century Modern House and Garden (commissioned in 1953 and now owned by the Indianapolis Museum of Art) as well as the family's ancestral home, a Civil War-era mansion that's now a bed-and-breakfast known as the Inn at Irwin Gardens.

Next up was the Fall Pilgrimage on Sept. 6 that included a tour of the legendary Limberlost Cabin (the historic home of novelist/naturalist Gene Stratton-Porter) in Geneva and the nearby marshlands and swamp, which have recently been restored. We also visited Berne, where sites included a 160-foot Clock Tower modeled after a glockenspiel in Switzerland. The day also included a rare opportunity to tour an Amish school and home.

In 2014, the Pioneers will enjoy a Spring Pilgrimage focused on Benjamin Harrison, the only president elected from Indiana, as well as sites associated with other early political leaders. During the June 10 trip, we will enjoy special opportunities at the Harrison Presidential Site; take in a presentation at the Supreme Courtroom at the Indiana State Capitol about the cases he argued as a lawyer; tour his grave site at Crown Hill Cemetery, and visit the oldest private home in Indianapolis, a residence built in the 1820s for Gov. James Ray.



Benjamin Harrison Home

For our 2014 Fall Pilgrimage, the date for which has not yet been set, we will explore sites involved with our food heritage in the Hoosier state. Destinations likely will include Wick's Pies in Winchester, the country's largest makers of sugar cream pie (our official state pie); Red Gold Tomatoes, and Abbott's Candy in Hagerstown, an Indiana landmark for about 120 years.

Genealogist Report

Michele Kerr

"People will not look forward to posterity who never look backward to their ancestors." Edmund Burke

As members of The Society of Indiana Pioneers, I think that we can all agree that taking that look back at our ancestors has a way of giving us a different perspective on our lives and the roles we play. I work with applicants who get frustrated when their ancestors did not leave any document trail. I remind them and myself that these are the pioneers that were out in their fields working hard to make a better life for their families. While there are some very stingy ancestor lines, I am very open to building evidence that makes a solid circumstantial case using whatever means that are available.

If you have been a member for a while, it might be time to take another look at your family tree and shake it a bit to see if there are any new bits of information that have fallen to the ground. So many books and documents are being digitized daily and put online that it is literally the best time in the world to let your fingers do some walking and see what you might find. The FamilySearch website has a digitized collection that is awe-inspiring and if you haven't been to their site in a while, you might want to check it out. Not all their images are indexed but having access to digitized microfilm records can be very rewarding.

<https://familysearch.org/search/collection/list>

I have set up a Facebook group for The Society of Indiana Pioneers and if you haven't searched for it, please do. While it is a closed group, I am very quick to allow access to anyone interested in our society or the Indiana pioneer time period. It is picking up some speed and we have several active participants who share great information and tips – the more the better! I try to put genealogy information on the page as well as Society events. It is open to all current members and potential members as well; in fact, we have several new members who have joined recently after making contact with me through the Facebook group.

Census records are always a sensitive topic when it comes to genealogy proofs. Only the census records from 1880 forward give the family unit and its relationships. I have had several times when a family unit that was listed in an earlier census record ended up being not quite what it looked like. Where the children were listed, there were nieces and nephews mixed in. While most census-takers would add these extra family members at the end of a family unit, I have had several families where two sets of children were all listed in age order as one family. This doesn't mean that I don't find value in the early census records but that I use them to track families and verify that I have the correct family units. You can see some interesting things when you plot out the family by census years and quite possibly you might find some clues that weren't apparent any other way.

As always, I am available to help with additional lines and hope that you do not hesitate to contact me with any questions that you might have. societyofindianapioneers@yahoo.com

SEARCHING FOR DESCENDANTS of 1816 & 1860 Convention Delegates



The Society of Indiana Pioneers is looking for today's descendants of the delegates of the 1816 and 1850 State Constitutional Conventions. It looks to honor the delegates through their descendants as part of Indiana's Bicentennial in 2016. If you are or know of any descendants of the delegates, please contact our office in Indianapolis. The Society will provide more information about our planning process in a forthcoming issue of the newsletter. In the meantime, spread the word to your local genealogy or historical society. What a great way to commemorate Indiana's 200th birthday!

For a listing of the 1816 and 1860 delegates, please go to the Society's website (www.indianapioneers.com) and click the PIONEER TIMES tab. The Summer 2013 issue of the newsletter contains a complete list of delegates by county.

SEEKING Pioneer Founders of Indiana Carolyn Rose and Stanley Evans, co-chairs

We are happy to report that this year's Pioneer Founders of Indiana program was another splendid success. Year number four is now complete; and, the new booklets will be available

to all attendees of the 2013 Society of Indiana Pioneers annual luncheon/meeting on November 2nd. After the meeting, the 2013 booklet will be installed on the Society's website (www.indianapioneers.com) for all to view and download.

Our thanks first go to all the contributors who so honorably nominated Indiana pioneers and ancestors from this year's 18 counties plus those from the previous counties. Next, a special thanks to Sally Fadely, our office manager, for her contribution to the program. Sally received, filed, wrote thank you notes and typed all the booklet pages of the nominations. Also, we appreciate the editing and introduction supplied by Secretary Robert Everitt.

Next year, we complete the program with the final 18 counties and will in addition accept nominations from all counties from those who missed the deadline in previous years. We encourage all society members and Hoosiers to take advantage of the final year to honor their ancestors by nominating them for the program.!

Requirements for all 2013 counties are 1840 except for Newton which is 1855.

2013 Counties:

Blackford	Brown	Clay
Daviess	DeKalb	Dubois
Fayette	Franklin	Gibson
Greene	Jackson	Kosciusko
Madison	Newton	Porter
Randolph	Vanderburgh	White

John Hampden Holliday Prize - \$5,000

In anticipated celebration of the upcoming bicentennial of the State of Indiana and the Society's centennial in 2016, the Society of Indiana Pioneers has launched an award for the promotion of the highest quality of scholarship, research and writing about Indiana Pioneer History from pre-history to and including the year 1851. The John Hampden Holliday Prize will be awarded to 3 individuals who make the most significant contribution to the field of Indiana Pioneer History in works published in the years 2013, 2014, 2015 or 2016. The top prize will be the sum of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000) with second and third prizes being awarded in lesser amounts. The prize is being offered by the Society of Indiana Pioneers whose mission is to honor the memory and achievements of those early settlers of the state of Indiana.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

The Society of Indiana Pioneers would like to welcome the following new members who have joined since March 15, 2013:

Regular:

Boyd, Susan Jean Mayer Gay	Larsen, Carmen Patricia
McComb, MS	Los Angeles, CA
Carpenter, John Christopher	Maddix, Linda Wagner
Iowa City, IA	Sedalia, MO
Carpenter, Rachel Woodrow	McCammon, Mobie L
Modoc, IN	Bloomington, IN
Carpenter, Sam Clark	Murray, JoAnn Harter
Indianapolis, IN	St. Johns, FL
Carpenter, Wendy	Riddle, Martha Kilgore
Modoc, IN	Fairborn, OH
Clark, Amanda Kaye Ford	Schweitzer, Stephanie Myers
New Castle, IN	McCordsville, IN
Damewood, Judith Carter	Sons, Jeaneen Terry
Springfield, VA	Bedford, IN
Drexler, Louis Paul	Storm, Arlen Ray
Greenwood, IN	Puyallup, WA
Emmons, Joseph Allen	Troyer, David Lloyd
Lawrenceburg, IN	Odessa, FL
Griffin, Judith Ann New	Troyer, John Jacob II
Lawrenceburg, TN	Clearwater, FL
Griffin, Robert Allen	Wagner, Linda Thatcher
Lawrenceburg, IN	Sun City, AZ
Haywood, Helen Thom	Wood, William H.
Indianapolis, IN	Indianapolis, IN
Hutchinson, Mary Foster	
Northglenn, CO	

Thanks to the many contributors to the articles in this newsletter. For more information on many of these topics go to www.indianapioneers.com and click on Pioneer Times.