

Pioneer Times

The Society of Indiana Pioneers Newsletter

140 North Senate Avenue, Indianapolis, IN 46204 • 317-233-6588 • www.indianapioneers.com



Issue 3 September 2009

Silent Auction at Annual Meeting. Hoping for repeat of last year's success!

Due to the tremendous response at last year's Annual Meeting, we will again sponsor a "Silent Auction" to benefit the Society of Indiana Pioneers on Saturday, November 7th.

All members and their guests are invited to participate by donating and purchasing! Last year we were so pleased with the variety of items on hand. Items to include are books, wine, jewelry, decorative items, event tickets, and Indiana memorabilia. Let your imagination be your guide! The looking, talking and bidding were a fun time for all. Bring your check book and/or cash and plan to participate. No Credit cards, please.

If donating, please call: Louise Demore 317-517-3243 (Southside); Marcia Krieg 317-698-5077 (Northside); and Carolyn Rose 765-448-4208 (Lafayette).

Pioneers Office Moves within Indiana State Library

During the week of September 14, our offices in the Indiana State Library have been moved to space within the Genealogy Room on the first floor of the Library, Ohio Street entrance.

Our mailing address and telephone number are unchanged. We are most appreciative of the Library making this space available to us without charge and believe that the new location will give us much needed visual contact with potential members.

Scanning Project Moves Forward

The archives of the Society of Indiana Pioneers include original applications and documents submitted for proof going back to 1916. A \$20,000 gift from Ruth Lilly several years ago made it possible for us to outsource the scanning and indexing of all of these submitted from 1916 to 1967. The Genealogist and other officers are now able to review these records without retrieving the storage boxes and handling the original documents, many of which are now quite fragile.

Some gifts designated for this purpose were used this year to purchase our own scanner and the Genealogist is now scanning the approved applications and proofs as they are received. Our hope is to continue the scanning from 1968 forward as time and resources permit until all of the records are available digitally and the archives can be appropriately protected and preserved.

We are soliciting gifts for this purpose. If you would like to help with this effort, please complete and detach the form below.

Yes, I would like to donate to the *Pioneer Application Scanning Project*.

\$10.00 \$25.00 \$100.00 Other _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Please mail your check payable to:

The Society of Indiana Pioneers.

140 North Senate Avenue, Indianapolis, IN 46204

Fellowships help Students of Early Indiana History

To support the object of our Society and to honor the memory and work of our pioneer ancestors, the Board of Governors established the Society of Indiana Pioneers Fellowships to promote scholarly research in Indiana history during the pioneer period. All eleven colleges and universities in Indiana that offer graduate degrees in history are contacted to solicit applications by worthy students for these awards.

The 2009 winner of a \$1,000 Fellowship is Jennifer Harrison, a doctoral candidate at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis. She is researching the topic, "Equal in God's Eyes: The Contest over Slavery in the Old Northwest," or "Lemen Family Antislavery History Reconsidered." Jennifer has been invited to discuss her work as our guest at our annual meeting.

Genealogist's Update:

Hello! What an exciting year this has been. We have been receiving a steady stream of applications all year long which has kept me busy. In June, it was decided to return to the practice of having one person fill the position of Office Manager and Genealogist to provide a more streamlined operation. I am now serving in the dual capacity of Genealogist/Office Manager. We appreciate the past service of Pat Jeffers who served the society well during her tenure as Office Manager.

About the same time that I took over both positions, our advertisement in the DAR American Spirit magazine ran and I have been overwhelmed with a large number of new applications! Within the past couple of months, I have had over 60 applications for our Registrar and Secretary to sign. We have had a large influx of applications directly related to this advertisement from all over the country. How interesting it is to see how the descendants of our Indiana Pioneers continued their movement to all parts of the United States! — Michele Kerr