

WARREN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY



OCTOBER 20, 2009



LOG CABIN FESTIVAL PARADE FLOAT WINNERS

Historic Best: Spring Hill Historic Methodist Church Reconstruction by Jim & Grace Wood Family



Merchant's Choice: Wood Family Historic Quilt Display by Mark & Carolyn Harkin



Best of Theme: Country Scene of Reconstructed Original Outhouse with sign "off the beaten path" and pump with running water by Greg & Nancy Vlieger Family. This was a WPA latrine and Greg moved it

QUILT WINNER

Linda McCormick

LIVING HISTORY IN WARREN COUNTY PHOTO CONTEST

Adult: 1st- Coal Creek Bridge, Mary McCormick; 2nd- Corner Sundry, Dawn Johnson; 3rd- Grist from Lawrenceberg, Jerry Beatty
Child: 1st- Dust on the Victrola, Abby McCormick; 2nd- Cans on the Shelf, Clint McCormick
Professional: 1st-Warren County Conservation Pond, Jon Vernon; 2nd-Turtles on a Log, Jon Vernon; 3rd-Baby Owls, Jon Vernon

LOG CABIN QUEEN & KING

Mary Jean Brewbaker & Phil Elgin

SPRING HILL HONORED COUPLE

Elma Joy Cooper Sparks and Raymond Cooper

2010 LOG CABIN FESTIVAL

Theme: Simpson College, 150 Years

Date: Fri. September 24 & Sat. Sept. 25

Friday-Noon to 8:00pm & Saturday 9-5

Co-Chairs: Rex Armstrong & Kerry McKasson



Overton Hearse

THANK YOU!

Thanks to everyone who helped, donated and attended Warren County Historical Society Log Cabin Festival 2009. Without you we could not have accomplished this event. Special thanks to the Spring Hill community for their support.

All WCHS **volunteers** are invited to our **VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION DINNER** to be held Tuesday, November 17th at 6:00 pm in the museum dining-room.

CHANGING INDIANOLA'S STREET NAMES

Jack Barker recently brought to the museum an 1880s Indianola map. This map had the original street names. This caused us to wonder when the names were changed. The excerpt from History of Warren County, compiled by Gerard Schultz and Don L. Berry in 1953 provides the answer.

Change in Names of Streets

Ordinance No. 32, passed by the city council of Indianola on December 10, 1894, changed the names of the streets and established a uniform system of naming the streets in the city.

Madison became Ashland, North became Boston, Bordon became Clinton, Main became Salem, South became First avenue, Washington became Second avenue, Franklin became A street, Steam became B street, Fremont became C street, Howard, remained Howard, East became first, State became Second street. All of the remaining streets were named according to this pattern. It was also ordered that all streets running east and west be known as avenues, while all streets running north and south were to be known as streets. Later A street was changed to Buxton and Second street was changed to Jefferson way.

ON BOARD

FOR WARREN COUNTY MODULAR RAILROADERS

Tuesday October 27th at 7:00 pm the Warren County Model Railroad Club will update us on what they have been doing and what their immediate plans are. Come to find out what exciting things have been happening in our basement.

2nd Rock Island
Indianola
Depot. Photo from
Dick
Tinder



WW II Veterans Share Story



World War II Veterans: Jim Weinman, Russell Long and Bob Davey share their (one, very long day) Hy Vee sponsored trip to Washington to visit our National Memorials. It was a wonderful

Join WCHS

NEW OR RENEWAL MEMBERSHIPS
CLIP AND MAIL TO WCHS, BOX 256
INDIANOLA, IA 50125

NAME _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE _____

E-mail _____

TYPES OF MEMBERSHIP

(Please Check)

ALL ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE

_____ Individual \$15

_____ Business \$50

SURPRISING USE OF A COAL MINE from Indianola 1924 Newspaper COAL MINE THAT YIELDS LIQUOR Sheriff Found Still Hidden in Depths of Earth Near Prole

Bubbling merrily in the dark depths of the Al Dennis coal mine north of Prole, Sheriff Hartzler found a still in full operation about daylight last Saturday morning, and took the still and its managers, Cloyse McAvoy and Harry Epps, into custody. Dennis was also made a prisoner, and all three hauled before Justice Speer who bound them over to the grand jury under bonds of \$800 each. The still had been running for some time in the mine, which had been apparently doing a better business in breeding white mule than in mining coal. Ed McIlwee, on whose land the mine was located, said he might have made more out of the lease if he had been getting a royalty on the liquor instead of the coal. But McIlwee was not let in on the distilling operations until Sheriff Hartzler disclosed them.

Volunteer Appreciation Dinner

Tuesday November 17th at 6:00 pm

You are invited if you have volunteered or supported WCHS in 2009. Bring a donation for the Helping Hand -item or cash



Scotch Ridge Road 150 year old house built for Wm Buxton

WM BUXTON HOME

Simpson Hargis bought this Scotch Ridge land for \$1.25 an acre in the 1840s and built a log cabin. Hargis later established the Carlisle Flouring Mills.

He sold the Scotch Ridge land to Englishman Wm Buxton in 1854. Construction of this Buxton house began in 1859 and was completed in 1860. Scotsman Peter Schooler was the carpenter and cabinet maker who built this house, two barns and several sheds at a cost of \$3000. Schooler was paid a \$1.00 a day.

North of this house was an orchard with a large elm called the "Meeting Elm". Many Scottish



Original fireplace, still in use

Original open covered drive through (entrance) was enclosed to make a sun-room



End of original house. Addition was added.

C.P. Parish
with trophies
& plow



Wick Holds State's

Eldest Plowing Match!

Iowa's oldest plowing match celebrated its 50th birthday this year (1952). This grandfather of them all-known as the Wick Field Association-has been going strong in Warren County since it was organized back in 1903.

A plowing match that attracted but little attention outside the Wick community for 50 long years, the match this year attracted the to lever-land plowmen from the entire state. Because of its long history, the Wick Field Association, cooperating with radio station WHO, played host to the state match.

A few of the folks who attended the first Wick Field Day 50 years ago were still around this year. Emory Day, who took home the trophy from that first event, acted as the unofficial historian this year. The three-horse walking plow which Day won the original contest was the object of considerable interest to visitors at the 1952 event. Mr. Day and his plow were featured on a float in the community parade. The first winner to use a riding plow was also present this year. He is 80 year old C.P. Parish, who also rode atop a float bearing the plow he used to win the 1904 event. Parish, whose father, a civil war veteran, came from Illinois to Iowa in 1867, still owns the three 40 acre tracts of land his dad bought 85 years ago. The younger Parish was born on the farm in 1872. He attended the first Wick picnic in 1903, and boasts today of having never ridden on a tractor.

Mr. Parish recalls "going to town" when he was a boy. It involved carrying a lantern, to light his way, across the fields to the town of Wick, which today consists of 15 houses, one church, a filling station and a store. Parish married for the first time five years ago-at the age of 75.

As historian Day notes, the first thought in the minds of the folks who organized the Wick Field Association, was to hold "contests of supremacy in nearly all lines of farming: stock raising, fruit growing, cooking, sports, good roads and plowing." The picnic and plowing contest site was moved to Martensdale when that town was organized in 1913.

At the 1907 Wick event, Iowa's Governor A. B. Cummings served as judge of the "good roads contest," a big and popular contest back in the days when a farmer and his road drag maintained the highways in the neighborhood. 1907 was also the first year in which an automobile brought visitors to the field day, according to Mr. Day.

This year's state level-land plowing winner was Bob Bane, a young Ankeny farmer whose father has also won plowing matches. As a state winner, Bane competed in the national level-land plowing contest in Minnesota later last month.

Local interest centered on the Warren County events, in which Dick Davitt, 15, won the junior division contest, and Robert Morrison topped other local entrants in the Warren County senior division. The junior event was started only two years ago, and has proved to be extremely popular with folks in the Wick-Martensdale area.

Association officers: Lloyd Brown, treasurer; Jim Crawford, Vice President; Katherine Seymour, Secretary and George Middleswart,

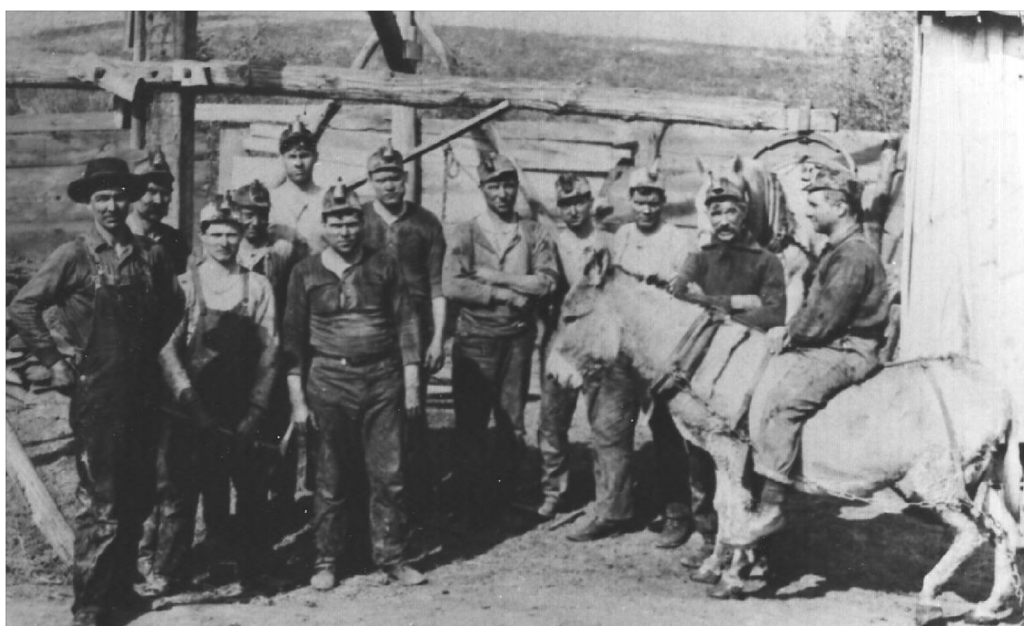


In September WCHS received some of the items that had been in a State Plowing Time Capsule. This is one of the articles

WARREN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
 TREASURER'S REPORT- September 30, 2009

Check Balance 9/1/2009:	\$7,455.61	Expenses General Fund	
		Mid American Energy	17.60
Receipts:		City of Indianola	378.11
Donation	\$ 390.00	Quest	68.07
Membership	45.00	Weinman Ins	745.00
Rent	90.00	Past Perfect Training	69.00
BookSale	5.00	Dan Flaherty Mowing	55.00
Thimbles	1.00	General Fund Total Expenses	1,332.78
Total General Fund Receipts:	531.00	Log Cabin Festival Expenses	
Log Cabin Festival Receipts:		Bob's Custom Trophys	85.50
Craft Vendors	\$ 40.00	King & Queen Crowns	7.61
Antique Vendors	175.00	Start Up Change for activities	1,200.00
Raffle Tickets	1,106.00	Syrup	4.98
Donations	225.00	Kiwanis Knoxville for pancakes	442.00
Photo Contest	15.00	Gooseman Entertainment	600.00
Mini Crocks	17.00	Ground Zero speakers	105.00
Food Vendors	300.00	Gordon Wells signs	20.00
Flea Market	115.00	Bernard Epple restroom cleaning	50.00
Gooseman Donations	250.00	Inflatables	30.00
Ticket Sales	301.30	Total Log Cabin Festival Expense	\$2,545.09
Pie Auction	1,154.50	Grand Total Expense	\$3,877.87
Breakfast-141 adults, 7 children, 12 under 5	792.00	Checking Balance as of 9/30/2009	\$10,101.39
Ice Cream Social	206.50		
Bingo	95.35		
Start Up Change	1,200.00		
Total Log Cabin Festival Receipts	5,992.65		
Grand Total Receipts	\$ 6,523.65		

Warren County photo of coal miners. Do you know where this photo was taken and can you identify any of the miners? Please call 961-8085 if you have information.



WHAT'S NEW AT THE LIBRARY – From RUTH

We welcome researchers in the library and through the web site. Cris and her helpers are indexing records and the indexes are available through the web site, www.warrencountyhistory.org. We have a fee schedule for research for people who can't come to the library. It is cheaper to pay for the research than to drive long distances and pay for overnight stays. More people are doing a part of their research by mail or e-mail. The web site has also generated donations and memberships.

Juanita has finished setting up the protocol for entering acquisitions into our PastPerfect software. She has completed an on-line class that has helped her with complex procedures. Mary McCormick will help and both of them will be merging cataloging that has already been done for library and museum materials. Many photographs are being indexed by Peggy Kruse. Many photos are not identified. Our next step will be to purchase expanded software that will network the program to our computers.

Can you estimate how many individual objects, paper materials and photos there are in the museum and library? Think what a massive project we are undertaking. The finished product will track everything from the time it enters the building to its current location. We will be able to look up the donor, donation date and everything we know about the object. An information security process is being set up by Dwight McCormick, our webmaster, to collect and store the information off-site.

We need people with basic computer skills who can enter data into an index. We will provide instruction. People who avoid computers but who like to work with preservation of scrapbooks, create displays, or fifty other tasks are also needed as volunteers.

The focus on Spring Hill brought a nice collection items to the museum and library collections. Rosemary Hoover did a wonderful job of contacting people. The history of Spring Hill has also spurred an interest in the Warren County's coal mines. Know coal mine information? Share it with us.

Researchers in the library who have said they would like to be contacted by people who have information on their families are:

Kate Kellum Billett-Miller/Easter, Adamson and Kellum

Patricia Read Fleischman-John B., Boyd F. John C. and Donald E. (Toby) Read

Paula Darr-Darr, Chittenden, Weeks and Smith

If you have information for them, contact us at the library.

New acquisitions in the library include: Lots of Spring Hill things from Donald Lytton, Wanda Garrison Solheim, LaDonna Cowdin Russell, Virginia Gray, Arlene Hill Longabaugh and others. The Lytton material included a Johnson family history.

Lorraine Hill donated two Indianola Days flyers (dropped from airplanes in the 1950s) and some older Warren County Fair books.

John R. Whipple donated information on the Iowa Plowing Association which has ties to Warren County.

Our hours are still 9-4 on Thursdays and 9-12 on Saturdays with the exception of the Saturday after Thanksgiving. If you would like to research that weekend we will try to be available for appointments. If the road is snowed in, we will not be at the library. On bad days you can call or check by driving by to see if cars are there. Looks like, winter is coming upon us quickly.

BASIC GENEALOGY CLASS AT WCHS

Saturday, November 7, there will be a basic genealogy class offered for the public at the Warren County Historical Society. The class will be from 10-11:30 in the dining- room. There is no cost but reservations are appreciated. Reserve your spot by calling the WCHS at (515)961-8085 and leaving a message or E-mail us at contact@warrencountyhistory.org.

WCHS Hours
9-4 Thursday and 9-12 Saturday

Web Site
www.warrencountyhistory.org

E-mail
contact@warrencountyhistory.org

Phone
(515)961-8085

	SCHEDULE
October 27	7:00 pm WCHS Meeting On Board for Warren County Modular Railroaders
November 10	3:00 pm Executive Committee
November 17	6:00 pm Warren County Volunteer Appreciation Dinner. You All Come!

Warren County Historical Society
Box 256
Indianola, IA 50125