

YESTERDAY & TODAY

“Life holds more meaning when the past ties into the Present--When this happens one gains assurance that the Present will also tie into the Future--Author Unknown

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Local Lore, Back Roads, and Random Thoughts

by
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A current rock song states that, “All my heroes have now become ghosts”. We all know that the passage of time dims our memories of our past heroes. The success of our athletic teams this year at Rockville and at our other county schools in past years is truly an enduring legacy. State champions, State finalists, semi-state and regional competitors. Having coached in Rockville for 23 years, I am keenly aware the meaning of both today. Yet the ghosts of our past give today’s accomplishments a slightly deeper twinge of meaning.

Don Lash? A Track and Field legend. Mordecai Brown? A century old reminder of what the Cubs can truly be. Bill Newton? Sidekick to the greatest college Basketball scorer of all time. Montezuma’s classic battle with the Milan of cinematic fame. Turkey run’s State championship. Rockville’s great girls’ hoops team of 1981. Every community of any size has that legendary team and those athletic heroes that even now evoke fond memories and help define the community.

Maybe our heroes have, indeed, become ghosts, but the abundance of haunted stories in this county remind us that ghosts often appear to remind us of what was, is, and can be. Here at the Museum those ghosts have found a home; they are waiting for you and have much to share!

Come and See: Our hair wreaths – just a little bit eerie! Also, our 1892 diary. If you can’t come and see, check our website at www.parkecountyhistoricalsociety.org.

Did You Know? How did Lodi get its name?

Bits from Bill Swern: It’s time to renew our HVC Rebate Cards. Please complete the enclosed form and turn it in to your local IGA to benefit the Historical Society every time you shop. Thanks.

Upcoming Events:

Ice Cream Social: The annual Ice Cream Social will be Saturday, August 16th, 2008. We will be at Beechwood Park from 6:00 to 8:00 pm. Music is planned for our entertainment.

Log Cabin Carry-In Dinner: The annual Log Cabin Carry-In Dinner will be Saturday, September 13, 2008 at 6:00 pm. The meat and drinks will be provided. Bring a covered dish and your lawn chair.

Answers to last newsletter’s - Did You Know?

Norval Dixon (former Rockville National Bank President) attended the U.S. Naval Academy in 1949. Come, see his uniform, sword, and hat. Uniforms like this have been worn by many brave individuals!

Message from the President

Hi, everyone! Hard to believe we're beyond the Fourth of July already, but it's been a full summer. The Parke Players' musical production took many, many nights and hours, and I have had Drivers' Education every day, but those are both over now. Life may return to some level of normalcy, but we'll see just what that means.

We are undergoing repairs and maintenance on the museum building. We have been fighting a moisture problem around the chimney and foyer ceiling for some time now. Finally, I found a leak big enough to be seen in the attic, and I believe repairing the leak will solve the problem. I climbed into the attic during one of the recent storms—always an adventure of its own—and was finally able to actually see the water dripping. We are replacing the roof, and we are in need of a new paint job. We're receiving quotes now for both jobs, and it is my hope that both will be finished by fall.

On the inside, the restroom is undergoing a complete renovation that was desperately needed. It will have a new coat of paint and soon a new tile floor. The paint and tile have been donated by Marsha Garrison. When that project is completed and the new roof is on, we will repaint the foyer walls and ceiling and make repairs of damage caused by the leaking from the recent big rains.

I am beginning the process of repainting the historical markers we have around the county. Several are in disrepair and need new posts and a good facial. I'll do them as I can, but hope to have them all by next spring. The marker by the Mecca turnoff was down and Bill Swern brought it to our house. I'll replant it once it's had the facelift.

The log cabin has survived the winter in good shape, and I hope the weather permits us to have the carry-in dinner there this year. If you remember, we got rained out last year and had to move to Beechwood Park.

I hope to see you all at the Ice-cream Social on Saturday, August 16, 2008. – Jim Meece