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HISTORICO

MAY, 1990

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LOOKING AHEAD - THE HISTORY OF NATURE ART

The Sangamon County Historical Society will present a program, "The Manner of Nature Painting -- Past and Present," by Robert G. Larson, Artist-Naturalist. Larson was formerly Artist-Curator with the Exhibits Section of the Illinois State Museum. Larson will present an illustrated program in the Carnegie Room in Lincoln Library on May 15th at 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Larson will discuss the history of nature art and the role played by nature artists in dispensing an understanding of the spectacular natural world through their art. The audience will see and hear how the nature artists became an important part of the world-wide movement to arrest environmental decline and gain protection for endangered wildlife.

Recently, one of Larson's expansive nature paintings was dedicated at Southeastern Illinois College in Harrisburg, Illinois. Larson's program will include a review of the various stages and methods required to complete his most recent work in Harrisburg.

He will also mention the history of nature art and the special bond this group of artists has with each other and with the natural realm.

Bob Larson, a long-time SCHS member, was born in Minnesota, where he spent much of his boyhood absorbing the wonders of the great outdoors and observing at close hand the flora and fauna of his native state. His interest in picturing the details of nature led him to start drawing at the young age of five, developing a talent which later prompted him to enroll at the Layton School of Art in Milwaukee, Wisconsin after World War II. His wedding to Mary Carey took place during the time he lived in Milwaukee. Bob became an expert at painting ecological habitat backgrounds while holding positions at several museums in Wisconsin, Missouri and Texas. The Larsons came to Springfield in 1963 when Bob joined the staff of the exhibits section of the Illinois State Museum. He has painted the habitat backgrounds for many of the museum exhibits, as well as murals, and has done numerous drawings and illustrations for various publications. He also has created a number of sculptures. He retired from the State Museum in December, 1987. Bob's interest in nature has resulted in his concern for the conservation of natural resources which he strongly promotes.

SPRING TOUR - WE TRAVEL TO BISHOP HILL

Our trip to Bishop Hill takes off at 8:00 A.M. on Saturday, May 19. Reservations may be made with checks made payable to the Sangamon County Historical Society, marked for "Spring Tour", and taken or sent to our business office: Robinsons Advertising Service, 308 E. Adams St., Springfield, IL 62701. (Tel. 522-2500). The cost is \$17.00 each for members and \$22.00 for non-members, and includes the bus fare and gratuities to guides and driver. The schedule for Saturday, May 19:

8:00 A.M. Bus leaves parking lot across from the State Museum; arrives at Bishop Hill at 10:30 A.M.

10:30 - 12:00 View a short orientation film, followed by a guided tour of the village.

12:00 - 1:30 Lunch "on your own." There are several good places to eat in the village.

1:30 - 2:30 P.M. Tour of the Henry County Historical Society Museum.

2:30 - 3:45 P.M. Time to shop or visit historic sites of your choice. There will be a quilt show at the Colony School for those who may be interested. Admission fee is \$1.00.

3:45 P.M. Leave for nearby town of Galva.

4:00 - 4:30 P.M. Tour of the Wiley House (Galva Historical Society's Museum).

4:30 P.M. Leave for Galesburg.

5:00 - 6:30 P.M. Dinner at Jumer's in Galesburg; order from the menu, "Dutch Treat."

6:30 P.M. Leave Galesburg; arrive in Springfield about 8:30 P.M. The May/June issue of ILLINOIS MAGAZINE features a detailed article on Bishop Hill.

ANNUAL MEETING - JUNE 19, 1990

Time for the Annual Meeting again - closing our 29th year!

SANGAMON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO ATTEND

THE ANNUAL MEETING

TUESDAY, JUNE 19, 1990 - 6:00 P.M.

ILLINI COUNTRY CLUB, 1601 ILLINI ROAD

HONORING PAST PRESIDENTS