



# HISTORICO

*Sangamon County Historical Society Newsletter*

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OCTOBER 2018

## Annual Oak Ridge Walk: October 14

Grab that light weight jacket, don your most comfortable shoes! It's time for the Sangamon County Historical Society's annual *Echoes of Yesteryear* Oak Ridge Cemetery Walk, this year saluting the state's bicentennial.

The Sunday, October 14 walk, an official State Bicentennial event, will have stops at the grave sites of seven early Sangamon County residents who played a prominent role in the state's 200 year history near the time it was admitted to the Union as the 21st state.

Dressed in period costumes, re-enactors at each site will take the audience back to an earlier time, providing insight into the personal lives of the individuals they are portraying based on extensive historic research. The event runs from Noon to 4 p.m., with the last tour starting at 3:15 p.m. The rain date is October 21.

The 365-acre Oak Ridge Cemetery, bordered on the west by North J. David Jones Parkway (North Walnut Street) and North First Street on the east in

Springfield, is the largest municipal cemetery in Illinois and is the second most visited cemetery in the United States after Arlington National Cemetery near Washington, D.C.

Attendees will be transported by bus from the start of the tour at the Oak Ridge Bell Tower, to the first gravesite, then walk to the other gravesites before boarding the bus to return down the hill to the starting point, a distance of about a mile. Motorists should follow the signage at the Cemetery entrances directing them to the parking area. On-site parking is free as is the event which is open to the public, although donations are suggested

Stops will be made at the gravesites of:

**Moses Broadwell** (1764-1827), who came to Sangamon County near Pleasant Plains in 1819. He purchased nearly 2,000 acres of land and with his son John, built the Broadwell Inn, that is now part of the

*(Continued on page 4)*

## Area's Transit History to be Focus of October 16 Meeting

The transformation of Sangamon County into a modern center of government, commerce and industry didn't happen overnight.

It's more like 200 years. And if you have any doubt about that, you may want to catch the Sangamon

County Historical Society's Tuesday, October 16 meeting. It's a pictorial essay on the history of transportation that will visually take you on a ride through history, from dirt roads to modern highways, the dream of flight, steam engines to high speed rail, and from horse drawn

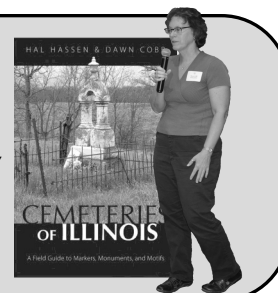
carriages to the age of the automobile. In a special Bicentennial presentation, Society member Ernie Slottag will bring to the Powerpoint screen a collection of some rare photos that demonstrate how new inventions and transportation services transformed Sangamon County and Central Illinois over the last 200 years. The program, at 5:30 p.m. in Carnegie Room North, City of Springfield's Lincoln Library, is free and open to the public.

*(Continued on page 5)*

### INSIDE:

- From the President's Desk.....2
- Museum Seeks Your Story.....3
- Musical Statehood Salute.....5
- SCHS History Movers & Shakers.....6

**CEMETERY SYMBOL** expert and author Dawn Cobb shared her knowledge of in grave markers, monuments and motifs with the Society in September. Photos, page 7.





## Busy SCHS Season Offers a Chance for You to Step Up

Great programs and special events don't happen overnight. They take planning—in some cases months of it—and an army of volunteers, which is why the Sangamon County Historical Society is thankful that we have a body of people who continuously step forward to plan the activities we enjoy every month and sometimes in between.

The coming Oak Ridge Cemetery Walk is no exception. Under the leadership of Mary Alice Davis and her hardworking committee, the event continues to flourish and provide the community with an important bridge to the past.

There's no magic about volunteering to be part of the process by which the Society selects and then carries through its offerings. It's a great way to put your imprint on our future.

All of us who serve you started out by stepping forward. It's as simple as collaring a board member or committee chair at a meeting, calling the Society at 217-525-1961 or dropping an e-mail to [schsoffice@gmail.com](mailto:schsoffice@gmail.com). We have a lot of events coming up as we head into what's left of fall and into 2019. There's a spot for you. You just have to ask.

\* \* \*

Next month, you'll be getting details of our November 20th meeting, one that traditionally acknowledges the role veterans have played through our history. Our speaker, McClernand Crawford, the great, great, great grandson of Civil War General John A. McClernand, has a fascinating, multi-generational story to tell. Don't miss it.

\* \* \*

It hasn't been difficult getting into the holiday spirit that will hit hard starting in November. The Society has been playing a major role in helping the 50-member annual Memorial Festival of Trees committee

prepare for an event that will be like no other. We usually decorate a "History Tree" for the event, but this year our role goes much deeper. The Festival has been designated an official State Bicentennial event and to that end, will have state and local history as its theme, from decorations to entertainment and more. We're delighted that they have chosen one of our former presidents, Kathryn Harris, as this year's honorary chair, and that several members of our board and organization have been involved in the planning process. Our tree this year will salute the 200th anniversary of our statehood.

\* \* \*

Several major projects will be launched in coming months. Some of you have expressed interest in helping vice-president Angie Weiss as we work with the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum Oral History Program to develop, identify, and train those members who would like to be part of this long-term project. Your participation is welcome.

We are also in the throes of introducing an on-line calendar that will appear on our web and social media sites, offering all local history organizations a place able to post their events on one site.

Space limits the amount of non-Society events we can post in *Historico*. In addition, we limit our e-mail messages to important information about Society meetings and activities.

An all-encompassing internet-based history calendar option is a much broader venue with which all history groups could benefit, ourselves included. We hope it will ease schedule conflicts and make it easier to share knowledge of all history programs and activities around Sangamon County.

*Vicky Whitaker*



*Historico*, published 10 times a year (except July & December), is the official bulletin for members of the Sangamon County Historical Society. *Winner, Certificate of Excellence, Illinois State Historical Society.*

You can download back issues of *Historico* in PDF format by going to our website, [www.sangamohistory.org](http://www.sangamohistory.org) or [sancohis.org](http://sancohis.org). Send event announcements to [historicoeditor@gmail.com](mailto:historicoeditor@gmail.com).

Vicky Whitaker, *Historico* Editor, Photos by Kathy Dehen, Larry Stone

***"We Are Illinoisans" to Debut in 2019***

**State Museum Seeking Names, Stories and Photos for 2019 Exhibit on Immigrant Experience**

Do you know who the first person was—in your family—to move to Illinois? If so, the Illinois State Museum wants to know that too.

Even better, they'd like you to share that person's story and, if you have any photos, submit them as well!

The quest comes in conjunction with preparations for a new exhibition highlighting immigrants to Illinois from the 18<sup>th</sup> century to today. The exhibit, *We Are Illinoisans*, will open on February 23 and run through mid-June, 2019.

To participate, all you need do is share a photo and brief biography of the first person in your family to come to this state. The photographs will be printed and posted on a photo mural at the museum at 502 South Spring Street, Springfield, and also will be viewable electronically through the Illinois State Museum's Facebook page.

Photos need to be submitted by December 15 and sent to the Illinois State Museum Assistant Curator of Decorative Arts, Erika Holst at [erika.holst@illinois.gov](mailto:erika.holst@illinois.gov).



**IN SEARCH OF:** Erika Holst, Assistant Curator of Decorative Arts at the Illinois State Museum, is seeking your photos and more for "*We Are Illinoisans*," an exhibit that will make its debut here in late February.

Submissions should include the immigrant's name, birth and death date (where applicable), country of origin, year arrived in Illinois, occupation, and nominator's name.

"Please feel free to write a brief biography or share additional information as well," notes Holst.

Photos should be between 150 and 300 dpi (dots per inch) at 100 percent.



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Please make note of our official mailing address:

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**Box 9744**  
**Springfield, Illinois,**  
**62791-9744**

**OCTOBER 2018 MEMBERSHIP & DONOR REPORT**

*The Society is pleased to welcome new members: Linda Law, Pat Baska, and Karen Willard.*

*And we expresses appreciation to the following for donations to the Society for its annual Echoes of Yesteryear Oak Ridge Cemetery Walk:*

Arnold Monument Company  
 Butler Funeral Homes  
 King's Daughters Organization  
 Stabb Family

# Cemetery Walk Links to State's Bicentennial



**LOTS OF HISTORY:** As in past years, a large turn-out of history buffs is expected when the Society holds its annual *Echoes of the Past* Cemetery Walk at Oak Ridge on October 14. Visitors will also get a close-up view of the of the Lincoln Funeral Hearse reproduction (below, right) re-engineered from photos by P.J. Staab for the Lincoln Funeral Reenactment in Springfield on the 150th anniversary of the President's funeral. The original had been destroyed by fire in 1887. Donna Catlin, Kathy Dehen photos.

(Continued from page 1)

Clayville Historic Site. Re-enactor Dennis Darling will portray John Broadwell.

**John Kelley** (1783-1823), who was one of the first settlers in the area. He arrived in 1819 with his brother Elisha and a large extended family. The family built a cluster of nine cabins where they later hosted judges, lawyers and others who traveled here to attend court. He will be portrayed by Pat Foster.

**John Todd Stuart** (1807-1885), a cousin of Mary Todd Lincoln, who came to the village of Springfield in 1828 when it was still considered frontier. Stuart later became Abraham Lincoln's mentor and first law partner. Playing Stuart will be Dennis Rendleman.

**Catharine Bergen Jones** (1817-1915), who traveled to Springfield by wagon in 1828 with her father, the Reverend John Bergen, a Presbyterian minister from New Jersey. In 1914 she assisted in helping women register to vote and cast the first ballot of her life. She will be portrayed by Linda Schneider.

**(Aunt) Carrie Post** (1824-1914), who is the namesake of the Carrie Post King's Daughters Home for Women; mother of Charlie (CW) Post, who was the founder of Postum Cereals Com-

pany; and grandmother of socialite and business woman Marjorie Merriweather Post. Tracy Petro will portray Post.

**Martha Hicklin** (1838-1922), who came to Springfield in the 1860s with her husband Hezkiah, who established a barbershop in the downtown area. She served as vice president of the Illinois State Colored Historical Society. Hicklin's story will be told by re-enactor Roni Betts.

**Catharine Lindsay** (1877-1957), who was a Springfield civic and religious leader, and mother of poet Vachel Lindsay, who authored *The Golden Book of Springfield*. She will be played by Mary Disseler.

At the walk, attendees will be able to purchase books published by the Society and refreshments provided by the Springfield and Central Illinois African American History Museum. They also will be able to see the reproduction of Lincoln's funeral hearse from the P.J. Staab Funeral Home that was created for the Lincoln Funeral Reenactment in May 2015 on the 150th anniversary of the President's funeral. (The original was destroyed by fire in 1887).

The cemetery walk, co-sponsored by the Society and Oak Ridge Ceme-

tery, was held annually for twelve years beginning in 1996 and ending in 2008. It was brought back three years



ago by popular demand.

More than a year of planning goes into the event, chaired by board member and former SCHS president Mary Alice Davis, under whose efforts the cemetery walk was revived. Her SCHS member committee this year included Mike Lelys, executive director of Oak Ridge, Curtis Mann, Mike Kienzler, Jennie Battles, Ruth Slottag, Susan Helm, Linda Schneider, Ernie Slottag, Terry Castleman, Jerry Smith, Larry Stone, and Peter Harbison.

# October 16 Meeting to Eye Transit History Here

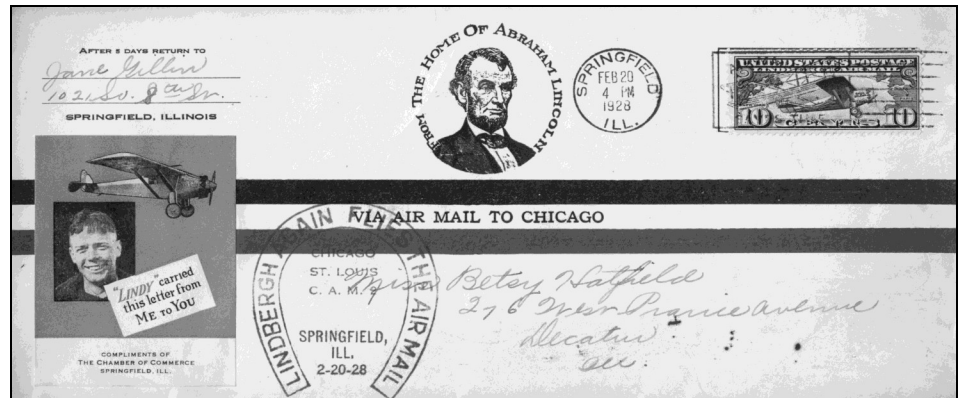
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Part of the Society's regularly scheduled monthly offerings, it is also part of a broader Springfield Bicentennial Town Hall lecture series that began in February and concludes in November.

The development of Sangamon County and Springfield through transportation has always been of interest to Slottag, a long-time Springfield resident who, prior to his retirement, served as the city's public information chief through several administrations.

His research into old records, maps and photos has been fascinating, he says, bringing home the dramatic changes modes of transportation have had on the community.

Among the images will be details of a patent granted to Springfield's most famous citizen, Abraham Lincoln, who invented a bellows system to lift flat bottom boats used transport farm products over shoals and river obstructions; Springfield's earliest public transportation; even a letter from a Springfield resident delivered by famed aviator Charles Lindberg.



**RELICS OF THE PAST:** A letter bearing the photo of Charles Lindberg (above) and an electric street car taking the curve as an automobile driver and pedestrians wait their turn, are among the history-laced items you'll view October 16 in a Sangamon County Historical Society Powerpoint presentation at the City of Springfield's Lincoln Library.



## Free Concert in Rochester on October 25 to Honor Illinois Statehood

Singer, songwriter, multi-instrumentalist and educator Barry Cloyd will perform in Rochester on Thursday, October 24 in a free concert, open to the public, that's part of the community's salute to the state's bicentennial.

"Our Land Between the Rivers: Illinois in Story and Song," begins at 6:30 p.m. at the Rochester United Methodist Church, 555 South Walnut Street. The event is co-sponsored by the Rochester Sesquicentennial Committee and the Rochester Fortnighly Book Club.

Cloyd performs over 200 shows a year and is one of the featured entertainers on the *Spirit of Peoria* riverboat based in Peoria, Illinois. He has co-written and produced more than 20 original folk musicals, written more than 350 songs in addition to numerous television, radio and film credits. He is co-founder of Prairie Folklore Theatre, a touring theatre company which creates and produces original musical theatre based on the history of the Prairie and Great Lakes States. and is featured in a Prairie Folklore Theatre documentary film project entitled "Voices for the River," funded by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency.

For more information about the concert, contact Carolyn Moore at [carmor1@comcast.net](mailto:carmor1@comcast.net).

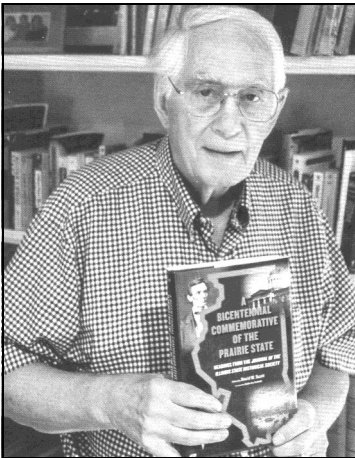


## SCHS HISTORY MAKERS & SHAKERS.....SCHS HISTORY MAKERS & SHAKERS

**PLAYWRIGHT:** Multi-talented Springfield writer and historian Tara McCellan McAndrew turned months of research on the abolitionist history of Illinois College in Jacksonville into a new play. Tapped by the college to pen the work, *"Against the Tide: Illinois College and Abolition,"* the play will make its world debut Saturday, October 27, at 7:30 p.m. with additional performances on Thursday, November 1 through Friday, November 3 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, November 4 at 2 p.m. at the College. *Against the Tide* reaches back to the earliest days of Illinois College, when its first president, Edward Beecher, brought his young wife and family from the culture and refinement of Boston to the "wild frontier" of Illinois. Beecher finds himself taking a leadership position at the fore of a rising tide abolitionist sentiment. Pushback and protests from local slavery supporters become riots, ultimately leading to violence. "Its history has ties to William Herndon, Lincoln, Richard Yates--our Civil War governor--and Springfield's Underground Railroad and abolitionists," notes McAndrew. an SCHS member who hopes the production, funded with a grant from the Illinois Humanities Council and the Illinois State Historical Society, will also be produced in Springfield. For tickets (\$10) go the Jacksonville performance, go to [www.ic.edu/theatre/tickets](http://www.ic.edu/theatre/tickets).



McAndrew



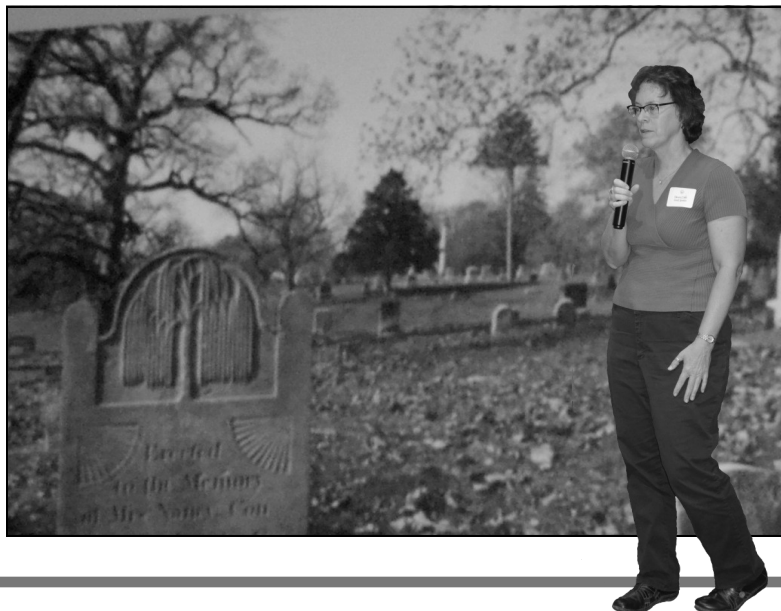
Scott

**STATE FOCUS:** David W. Scott, a past president of the Sangamon County Historical Society and the Illinois State Historical Society, has just produced an anthology of articles from the *Journal of the Illinois State Historical Society* which has been published continuously for 110 years. The new six-part book, *A Bicentennial Commemorative of the Prairie State: Readings from the Journal of the Journal of the Illinois State Historical Society*, is composed of 33 articles covering six specific time periods in Illinois statehood. Scott, who received a Lifetime Achievement Award this spring from the ISCS, is a Life Member of SCHS. A graduate of Denison University from which he received a degree in history, he holds a master's in history from the University of Wisconsin and a doctorate in political science from Northwestern University. Copies of the new book, published by the Southern Illinois University Press, are available through on-line bookstores including SIU Press and Amazon and at retail bookstores.

**PRESERVATION:** Members of the Oak Ridge Cemetery board of managers (from left) Gary Hammons, SCHS member Katie Spindell, and board president Mitch Murdock, and Springfield Mayor Jim Langfelder, display the Springfield 2018 Preservationist of the Year Award presented to the board at a September 19 reception at the headquarters of the Illinois Realtors, which co-sponsored the awards program with the *Springfield Business Journal*. The board was cited for its continuous preservation efforts that included restoration of the first interment book that recorded burials including Abraham Lincoln and his son, Willie. Oak Ridge, operated by the City of Springfield, is the largest municipal cemetery in Illinois. It is the second most visited national cemetery in the United States, after Arlington.



**MEMBERS AND GUESTS** of the Sangamon County Historical Society got a visual lesson in cemetery symbols when Dawn Cobb, co-author of the book *Cemeteries of Illinois: A Field Guide to Markers, Monuments and Motifs*, spoke to a full house at the Society's September 18 program meeting at the City of Springfield's Lincoln Library. Cobb, director of the Illinois Department of Natural Resources Cultural Resources Management Program, provided examples of headstones and monuments that spanned numerous eras across Illinois. The program, which kicked off the Society's fall-winter meeting season, served as a primer for its October 14 *Echoes of Yesteryear Walk* through Oak Ridge Cemetery in Springfield.



## On the Calendar

### PROGRAMS

**Tuesday, October 16: *The History of Transportation in Sangamon County.*** The Sangamon County Historical Society's contribution to the Springfield Bicentennial Town Hall series provides a fresh look at how changes in transportation have shaped how we live today. Ernie Slottag narrates this Powerpoint presentation loaded with rarely seen photos of how we got from here to there. 5:30 p.m., Carnegie Room North, City of Springfield's Lincoln Library, 326 South Seventh Street. Free.

**Tuesday, November 20: *A Veteran's Legacy: the McClermands in Springfield.*** The Sangamon County Historical Society plays host to Indianapolis-based McClermand Crawford, great-great-great grandson of Civil War General John A. McClermand, a close friend and political ally of Abraham Lincoln. McClermand served in both the Illinois House of Representatives in 1836 and from 1840-1843 and in the U.S. House of Representatives from 1843 to 1851. 5:30 p.m., Carnegie Room North, City of Springfield's Lincoln Library. Free

### SPECIAL EVENTS

**Saturday, October 6: *History Happy Hour: Rum.*** Historic Edwards Place hosts this fund-raiser tasting session featuring premium rums from Central/South America and the Caribbean, smooth expressions made by expert distillers to be sipped and enjoyed. The ticket price includes tasting and desserts. 7 p.m., at Edwards Place, 700 North Fourth Street, Springfield operated by the Springfield Art Association. For ticket information call 217-523-2631.

**Sunday, October 14: *Sangamon County Historical Society Annual "Echoes of Yesteryear" Walking Tour of Oak Ridge Cemetery,*** Noon to 4 p.m. (last tour begins at 3:45 p.m.). Free but a free-will offering will be accepted. Rain date, October 21.

**October Friday, October 19 & Saturday, October 20: *Edwards Place Murder Mystery.*** Get ready for another who-dun-it at Edwards Place in this murder mystery that combines dinner and entertainment in the historic home operated by the Springfield Art Association. Tickets: \$45.

For information, go to [collections@springfieldart.org](mailto:collections@springfieldart.org) or call 217-523-2631.

**Thursday, October 24: *"Our Land Between the Rivers: Illinois in Story and Song,"*** featuring singer Barry Cloyd. 6:30 p.m. at the Rochester United Methodist Church, 555 South Walnut Street. The event is co-sponsored by the Rochester Sesquicentennial Committee and the Rochester Fortnightly Book Club. Free. For information contact Carolyn Moore at [carmor1@comcast.net](mailto:carmor1@comcast.net).

**Friday, October 26 & Saturday, October 27. *Edwards Place Murder Mystery.*** If you can't make the dinner theater show at the historic home operated by the Springfield Art Association on October 19 & 20 (see above), here's one more opportunity. See [collections@springfieldart.org](mailto:collections@springfieldart.org) or call 217-523-2631.

**Saturday, October 27: *World Premiere of "Against the Tide: Illinois College and Abolition,"*** a play by Tara McClellan McAndrew dramatizing the earliest days of Illinois College at the fore of the rising tide of the abolition movement. 7:30 p.m. (The play also will be performed on Thursday, November 1 through Friday, November 3 at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, November 4 at 2 p.m., Illinois College, Jacksonville. Tickets are \$10 per person. For reservations and information, see [www.ic.edu/theatre/tickets](http://www.ic.edu/theatre/tickets).

### EXHIBITS

**Now Through February 3, 2019: *Bicentennial and Beyond: Illinois Legacy Collection.*** Take a journey through 200 years of Illinois history at the Illinois State Museum, Springfield. The exhibit features rare and rarely seen artifacts from the museum's collection of more than 13 million items. For hours, fees and information see [illinoisstatemuseum.org](http://illinoisstatemuseum.org).

**Now Through February, 2019: *1908 Race Riot.*** Springfield and Central Illinois African American History Museum, 1440 Monument Avenue, Springfield. For hours and information, call 391-6323.



**Sangamon County Historical Society**

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**Sangamon County Historical Society MEMBERSHIP/MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL Form**

Mail this form with your check to the Sangamon County Historical Society, Box 9744, Springfield, IL 62791-9744. You may also join or renew on line by going to [sangamonhistory.org](http://sangamonhistory.org). Our membership year runs from June 1 to May 31. All memberships — except Business/Corporate and college/university students — cover adults and children 16 and over at the same address. Be sure to include their names.

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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Cell: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_



**Status**

\_\_\_ New Member

\_\_\_ Renewal

\_\_\_ 2018-2019 GIFT of Membership from:

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**2018-2019 Membership Levels**

Except for business and college/university student membership, all levels listed below cover adults and children 16 and over *living at the same address*. **Please list their names in the space below.**

\_\_\_\_\_

- Regular Membership - \$30
- Pioneer Level - \$100
- Trailblazer Level - \$500
- College/University Student (individual) -\$20.
- Settlers Level - \$250
- Lifetime Membership - \$700 (one time fee)

I am adding a donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

Business /Corporate Membership - \$200