Historico

The newsletter of the Sangamon County Historical Society 308 E. Adams Street, Springfield, 1L 62701 www.sancohis.org 217.522.2500

June, 2008 Tuesday, June 17, 6:00 PM Annual Meeting, banquet and program Island Bay Yacht Club 76 Yacht Club Lane Officers President Carolyn Moore Remembrances of a Historic Site Manager **Vice President** Past President Carol Andrews, SCHS President 1996-1997 **Taylor Pensoneau** Secretary and Sally Cadagin Treasurer Recollections of the Reconstruction of the Old State Capitol Nancy Chapin Directors **Directors to 2008** Augie Wisnosky, architect Carol Andrews **Phyllis Brissenden Robert Davis** Carol Andrews had an interesting career as a site manager in the area. After **Phyllis Eubanks** serving eleven years as site manager of Lincoln's Tomb, she moved to the Old Carolyn Oxtoby State Capitol where she remained for eighteen years. Her responsibility there **Directors to 2009** included the Lincoln Law Office and Tinsley Store as well as oversight of the Dan Buck Susan Hammond Vachel Lindsay Home. She also served as interim site manager at the Dana **Tim Krell** Thomas house soon after its purchase by the state. Steve Leonard David Scott Augie Wisnosky served as one of the architects for the restoration of the Old **Directors to 2010 Elaine Birtch** State Capitol and has many a tale to tell about the process. Kim Efird Carol Schwend Smith The evening will conclude with the customary drawing for door prizes. Tickets Allen E. Smith for the prizes may be purchased that evening at the Sangamo Club. Persons Martha Wolters **Honorary Director** wishing to contribute items for the drawing are asked to contact Curtis Mann William Hughes Diller, Jr. at 753-4900 (extension 234) or cmann67@hotmail.com. **Committee Chairmen Cemetery Walk Dave Barringer Constitution & By-laws Curtis Mann** INSIDE THIS ISSUE: Finance Allen Smith 1 Annual Meeting, Island Bay Yacht Club Membership Dan Buck Program 2 Nominating Comm. Report; Report on May meeting, Announcements Steve Leonard Nominating Susan Hammond 3&4 Membership list **Project Awards Elaine Birtch** 5 Annual Meeting and Renewal form Bookseller Kim Efird President's Year End report 6 Historico Editor Nancy Chapin 7 Museum exhibit; Welcome new editors; announcements; Webmaster Fred Slocombe 8 Cemetery Walk; Report on Home For Friendless wall dedication

Around town -

June 10 Brookens Aud. at UIS Sponsored by WACCI & ALPLM "Adlai Stevenson's Lasting Legacy" Call 529-9330 for reservations

June 14 – 16 Old State Capitol "House Divided Speech" Sesquicentennial For information: www.oldstatecapitol.org/events.htm

ISHS Call for Papers

"Abraham Lincoln in Ante-Bellum Illinois: 1830-1861". Proposals due by Sept. 30, 2008. Illinois History Symposium Illinois College, Jacksonville March 26-28, 2009

Nominees for Officers and Directors

Susan Hammond, Nominating Committee Chair, has offered the following slate of Officers and Directors to be presented at the Annual Meeting.

President—Nancy L. Chapin Vice-President—David Scott Secretary– Curtis Mann Treasurer– John Huther Past President-Carolyn Moore Directors to 2009: R-Lou Barker Joe Brewer Directors to 2011: Jack Alexander Connie Bussard Sally Cadagin Jack Navins Jane Vetter

Conference on Illinois History October 30-31, 2008 Banquet Speaker: Harold Holzer

Report on May programs -

Prior to the start of the May program, President Moore called for a vote on the Constitutional amendments proposed last month and both passed unanimously; the first recognizing the desirability of multiple terms for officers and the second recognizing the need for a commitment from Board members. (See May issue for details)

Following the vote and other announcements, Mrs. Elizabeth McDevitt, long time secretary of the Sangamon County Fair, gave a comprehensive report of the growth and development of the fair. She pointed out that while its purpose hasn't changed over the years—to promote soil, crops livestock and the arts—the facilities, prize money and entertainment certainly has been upgraded dramatically.

Mrs. McDevitt traced the physical location of the fair from its origins on the grounds of the high school, through its start on the edge of town due to a gift from the Pfeiffer family, and that expansion to its current 30 acres. She noted that the continuity of fair personnel has been a great asset, but that the approximately 200 volunteers utilized each year are what keeps the fair afloat and the community involved. While admitting to the hard times the fair endured in the '90s, she said that the introduction of corporate sponsorships in 1998 had enabled the fair to regain solvency and to plan for infrastructure maintenance for the future.

Following the regular program, the Lincoln Magnet School regional history award winners ably performed their skit on "Love and Death: Abraham Lincoln and Ann Rutledge", and Cara Dunn, whose paper on the reconstruction of the Old State Capitol was published in last month's *Historico*, was recognized. It was a pleasure to recognize the hard work of these delightful students.

Sangamon County Historical Society

Membership list as of May 1, 2008

Life Members

Charles W. Adams Ann Allan **R-Lou Barker** Daniel Monroe Barringer Tadd K. Baumann Joann Bayer Jay Elliott Bell Norma G. Bibb Mary Blumle Mrs. Fred C. Blythe Mr. Edward A. Brooks Mr. Robert H. Bunn Ms. Sally Cadagin Terri Cameron Charles & Nancy Chapin Mr. Bradley S. Churchill Job C. Conger IV William Hughes Diller Jr. Mr. John B. Dixon Frank B. Farley Barbara H. Farris Nadine Ferguson Carol Jean Fraase F. Sheplor Franke C. David Franke III Mrs. Carl D. Franke, Jr. Mr. Donald Hay Funk Karen Graff Dr. Donald R. Graham Perry and Marilyn Hall **Ginger Harmon** Mr. Richard E. Hart Earl W. Henderson Jr. Mrs. Patricia Henry Mr. Frederick B. Hoffmann Mrs. Kay V. Hattoon Hofmann Brenda June Holmes Walter Wesley Johnston Alex J. Jones IV William S. Klein Karla Krueger Mr. Robert C. Lanphier III Dr. Victor H. Lary Miss Mary Frances Lavin Lincoln Library Mary Ellen McElligott Mr. and Mrs. Thomas C. McNichols Dr. Kriegh P. Moulton Mrs. Paula S. Mvers Joe Nicoud Jr. Mrs. Georgia Northrup Mrs. Thomas D. O'Brien

Victoria O'Brien Thomas D. Patton Elena E. Pilapil Dr. Virgilio R. Pilapil Priscilla Reyhan Sarah Robinson Pauline Roesch Dorthy Ross Patricia K. Rudolph Edward J. Russo Paul Schanbacher Logan H. Schlipf Nanchen and Michael Scully **Don Springer** Dr. Charles A. Starling Mr. and Mrs Robert A. Stuart Jr. Mr. Don Tracy Enrique J. Unanue Mrs. A. D. Van Meter Mrs. Benjamin Victor Elizabeth A. Weir Mrs. Louise F. Wollan L. A. Wollan Jr. Mrs. Harold B. Wright Mary Jane Wright Dr. Elvin Zook Mrs. Sharon Zook

Sustaining Members

Mr. & Mrs. Justin A. Blandford Jim & Madelyn Bogue Mrs. Walter F. Brissenden John & George Anne Daly Mrs. Barbara Weitekamp Diller Charles & Susan Hammond Mr. & Mrs. Walter Hanson Mrs. Hella M. Holman John & Catherine Huther Mr. and Mrs. J. Patrick Joyce, Jr. John S. Melin R. W. Troxell & Co. Carl W. and Roberta E. Volkmann

Family Members

Bill & Kathie Adams Gary & Jan Adams Stan and Carolyn Adams Jack and Carol Andrews Ed & Mary Ann Armstrong Douglas M. & Pamela Barringer Richard Kerhlikar & Judith Barringer Mary and Jim Beaumont Jack & Sue Ellen Billington Dr. Alan & Elaine Birtch Sherri Boner Family Charles & Patricia Boyce Dr. Joseph & Sylvia Brewer Donald and Joanna Bucci Mr. & Mrs. George N. Buck Mr. & Mrs. John H. Buck, Jr. Ross W. and Dorothea Buie Chris Bulter Connie & Larry Bussard Jack and Janice Butler Mr. and Mrs. Richard Carlson Mr. & Mrs. Denis J. Conlon McClernand & Stephanie Crawford Mr. & Mrs. Wayne Crome Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Davenport Mr. & Mrs. Kirby Davenport Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Davenport, Jr. G. Cullom & Anne Davis Robert & Patricia Davis Mr. & Mrs. Patrick Derhake Mr. & Mrs. Robert Dickerman Mr. & Mrs. Paul Dorocke Lela E. Espenshied David & Laurie Farrell Stuart and Judith Fliege William and Galen Furry Mr. & Mrs. Farrell Gay Louis M. Gietl Ron and Fran Greenfield Ralph & Nancy Hahn Dr. & Mrs. Donald Hallmark Mr. & Mrs. Philip E. Hanna Dr. & Mrs. Mark E. Hansen Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Hiler Mr. & Mrs. John P. Hiler, Jr. Bruce and Sue Imig Mr. & Mrs. William Irvine Bryan & Mary Lou Johnsrud Orville A. & Miriam Keirs Joan Keller Jan T. and Darlene J. Kessinger Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Knox Mr. & Mrs. Wayne F. Leinicke Stephen & Patricia Leonard Terry Bayliss and Joan Lewis Mr. & Mrs. Loren L. Lowery Mr. & Mrs. Robert Lynn Denise & Robbie MacDonald Mark and Grainne Mahoney Frank & Ruthann Mazrim Ron & Melinda McDonald Stephen D. McKenrick Ralph & Carolyn Moore Drs. Richard & Caryl Moy James and Leah Myers Mr. & Mrs. Robert Narmont Harry & Betsy Newman Randall & Kathy Culver Nickell Mr. & Mrs. Jon Noll Martine Paludan Mr. & Mrs. J. W. Patton III John and Joanne Paul Phil & Thelma Peabody Taylor & Elizabeth Pensoneau

schs@sancohis.org

John & Janice Petterchak Ernie & Ruth Ponai Bud & Mary Jo Potter James and Rosemary Ransom Royce & Linda Reed Lawrence & Elizabeth Reisch, Jr. Mr. & Mrs. William Sausaman Jr. David and Virginia Scott Dr. Richard & Sally Sellwood Thomas & Gloria Shanahan William H. & Bonnie Shannon Tom Shrewsbury James A. & Jo Skeeters Mr. & Mrs. Duane Slater Allen & Tot Smith Robert & Mary Sneed Mr. & Mrs. Arnold A. Stern Robert & Virginia Taylor William B. and Julianne R. Thomas Michael and Debra Thompson Terry and Judith Ullrich William and Jane Vetter Gary & Jean Vitale Richard E. & Mary Ellen Walton Mr. & Mrs. John Watt Randall & Karen Witter John and Martha Wolters Keith R. & Marian L. Wright

Individual Members

Glen H. Alexander David Barringer Mary R. Barringer Byron A. (Bud) Bartlett Alyce Beggs Estella P. Booth Galyn Bowman Mr. David M. Brady Michael D. Brophy Phillip J. Broughton Daniel Buck Norman Ray Buecker Mrs.Barbara J. Burris **Diane Canavan** Donna Catlin Cathy Caughlin Chatham Area Library Mr. Robert E. Church Mary L. Cleverdon Alberta Conover Elaine Corum Cathy Cragoe Mrs.Mary Crane Theresa Faith Cummings Dana-Thomas House Thelma Davenport Mr. Timothy Davlin Mary Lou Delahunt

Anna Marie Diefenback James A. Edstrom Kim Efird Phyllis N. Eubanks Karen E. Everingham James H. FitzGerald Kathleen F. Friedman **Russell Friedwald** Kevin Fuhrmann Patricia Furry Mrs. Leila Mae Georg Donald Gottschalk **Doris Hamel** Kathryn Harris Margaret E. Herman Stanley M. Herrin Daniel Hiler Elaine Hoff Judith Ann Hollenberg **Charles Hoots** William J. Hosking Doris Hunter Jane E. Hurie Jacqueline D. Jackson Jerome Jacobson Julia L. Jeffers Lawrence Jefferson Roberta Johantgen M. L. Kelly L. Eileen Kendle Jody Kienzler Mike Kienzler Rosemary King Elizabeth N. Kloppenburg Ann Kramer Mrs. Margot L. Kramer Tim E. Krell Deborah S. Krohe Ronald D. Ladley Mary M. Larson Mrs. Robert G. Larson Marion Leach Doris J. Leonard Jeff Lightfoot Lincoln Home Curtis Mann Alice E. Martin Mrs. John McKee Richard McLane Rita Midden William S. Minder David Mourey Paul R. Mueller E. George Myers Byron Nesbitt Jr. Mrs. Lorraine O'Hern Gerald L. Owens Carolyn Oxtoby

Membership notice;

The new fiscal year began on June 1 and therefore membership fees are now due. We will not be sending out membership reminders in July because special mailings have become so expensive, and we do not want to raise membership fees. Please renew on the enclosed form whether or not you plan to attend the Annual meeting!

> Ian J. Patterson Mary L. Paxton Polly Poskin Barbara Jean Reid Mrs. Philip Langdon Robinson Orvetta Robinson Rochester Historical Preservation Soc. John R. Rodenburg Barbara Roseberry Mrs. Joyce Sandage Betty Schoenborn Cathy Schwartz Thomas F. Schwartz Dorothy Z. Sheedy Ruth E. Simmons **Diane Simpson** Dore Skeels Lynda E. Skinner Carol Schwend Smith **Dorene Smith** Elmore W. Snyder Katie Spindell St. Joseph's Home Harriet T. Steahly Mrs. Barbara Steward Nicky Stratton Phyllis G. Summers John Taylor Frances M. Telsey Donald P. Thannen Sarah H. Thomas Karen Thompson Glenda Tjelta Mary L. Townsend Jone M. VanWinkle Matthew Vernau Joe Victor Charlene M. Vollmer Susanne Wall Richard R. Wallin Betty Washko Patricia Wilkes Wynn T. Wilkins Betty Tabor Woods

schs@sancohis.org

Renew Your membership now!!
wewperil

2008 ANNUAL MEETING

Annual Meeting, Banquet and Program June 17th

6:00 PM Cash bar with dinner at 7:00 PM Island Bay Yacht Club 76 Yacht Club Road

Reservation deadline, June 13th (\$5.00 surcharge on all reservations made after June 13th)

Name(s) _____

Number of Reservations: Member _____Non Member _____Telephone _____ Note: Non-member spouses/friends of members to pay non-member cost

The cost is **\$28.00** per member; **\$32.00** per non-member

Make your check payable to: The Sangamon County Historical Society 308 East Adams Street Springfield, IL 62701

You may write one check and include your SCHS dues for 2008-2009!!!

To join or renew your membership, simply fill out the form below and mail it along with your Annual meeting reservation. (If you want to give a gift membership, fill in name, address and telephone number of new member(s); designate (X) in 'Gift" box; sign your name as Donor; and don't forget to include that total on your check. A letter announcing the gift will be sent to the recipient including the donor's name.

	Individual - Family - Sustaining -	\$17.50 \$25.00 \$50.00	Individual life - Family life -	\$250.00* \$400.00* *One time	payment
Name	(First)		(Middle)	(Last)	
Address					
Phone	Email		Gift membership donor		
If you wo	uld like to voluntee	er for Society	activities, please indicate y	our interest:	
Would you	u be willing to prov	vide refreshm	ents for one of the monthly	y programs?	
If you wo	ould be willing to s	erve on a cor	nmittee, please indicate yo	ur interest:	
schs	@sancohis.org		Total enclosed for 5	membership	sancohis.org
No. of Dinner reservations Total enclosed for Annual Meet					6

President's Year End report -

I feel privileged to have been a link in the chain of SCHS leadership. We have been entrusted with an important obligation: keeping the past alive for future generations. It is a rich history, so it is a pleasure to be involved with the Society as we present programs to spotlight interesting aspects of our county history. Focusing on the history of the city of Springfield, we were treated to presentations about the Enos family, Susan Lawrence Dana's quest for spiritual truth, the 1908 race riots, and a behind-the-scenes look at the Muni Opera. Programs that encompassed other areas within the county included the Old Stone House in Rochester and a look at the Sangamon County Fair located in New Berlin. Of course, you cannot live in Sangamon County without acknowledging Abraham Lincoln. We heard the story about a lesser known aspect of Lincoln's life --- that of a surveyor. We were pleased to welcome representatives from the Illinois Bicentennial Commission who spotlighted events which will occur throughout the state of Illinois in 2009 to honor the birth of Abraham Lincoln. This 200th anniversary celebration will have events ranging from ice cream socials to symposiums to the Illinois Symphony Orchestra performing music to the words of Lincoln. We have an opportunity awaiting us to be a part of this historic event.

Another highlight of the year was the debut. of the book, *In Lincoln 's Shadow,* which is a compilation of stories submitted by individuals who share memories about their family connection to Oak Ridge Cemetery. This project was spearheaded by Dr. Gil Pilapil and provides a fascinating glimpse into some local family histories. We enjoyed a festive afternoon at the Iles House partaking of delicious goodies while being treated to first-hand stories by the authors.

Other events which were under the auspices of the SCHS included the 11th Annual Walk Through Oak Ridge Cemetery, the dedication of a marker at Cantrall where Charles Lindbergh made an emergency landing in 1926, our support of "Old Settlers' Day" at the Strawbridge-Shepard House, hosting a book table at ISHS Symposium at Millikin University, participating in the 40th anniversary re-dedication of the Old State Capitol, attending the book signing of Walter Hansen's book, *From a Kansas Farm to the Engineer-ing Hall of Fame*, and receiving a generous check from him to benefit the Society, participating in the wreath-laying at Lincoln's Tomb, being a part of the dedication of the Home for the Friendless Memorial Wall in Oak Ridge Cemetery, and providing judges for the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency Regional History Fair.

As a result of our part in this Fair and our gift of monetary awards to the winners, we have been honored by having presentations by local students from Lincoln Magnet School: Cara Dunn's paper on "170 Years: Illinois' Old State Capitol Looks to the Future" and a performance at a program meeting by Timmy Wiggers, Maddie Funderburg, Matt Havey, and Neal Parker on "Love and Death: Abraham Lincoln and Ann Rutledge". I am particularly pleased that we are reaching out in our support of students who are investing their time in historical research.

As always, the *Historico* has been a wealth of information. Thanks to editor, Nancy Chapin, who accomplishes the task each and every month of compiling the articles so we may fully know what is happening within our Society. Curtis Mann's "Fort Taylor" series has been an eye-popping saga of Springfield history.

The past year has been a potpourri of interesting events and I am pleased to have been a part of them. I have just touched on some of the highlights of the year, but there have been many other facets and many people who have made this an enriching experience. I could fill an entire newsletter with thanks and notes of appreciation to so many who have given of their time, efforts, and talent to further the goals of the SCHS. To each and every one of you:

from Board members and officers, to individual members, to Mary and Theresa at Robinson's, who conduct our office business, to the updating of our website (www.sancohis.org) and past services of webmaster, Karen Everingham, to everyone who played a role in the 2007-2008 year, I thank you for your positive contribution in enhancing our Society. May the years ahead be filled with sharing the fascinating history of the past. Farewell and Welcome to the Volkmanns -

This is my last issue as *Historico* editor and I want to thank all of you for your patience in the face of my all-too-often blunders. You are all incredibly polite! You often made me wonder if you even looked at the newsletter you were so silent about the goofs I made. (One of the reasons I miss John Chapin is because he used to call me on them!)

The Society is really fortunate to have that now famous team of Roberta and Carl Volkmann taking over as editors. They've proven their capabilities with their fast selling book this year, and now you will get the benefit of their talents!

I know you will give them the same courtesies as they settle in to the role, and please, please send them lots of stories and other material for the newsletter! It's wonderful to get and a nice diversion to Curtis' bawdy tales—though I will be ever grateful to Curtis for bailing me out of blank pages every time I sent out an appeal!

Good luck Volkmanns, Nancy Chapin

2008 Favorite Teacher

The State Journal-Register reported on May 6 that Past President (2002-2003) Perry Hall had been voted 'favorite teacher' for 2008 by the students at Tri-City HS and that the senior hall, was renamed "Perry Hall" in his honor.

For those of you not aware of it, Perry Hall is the friendly, tophatted greeter at the main gate on the day of the Cemetery Walk. When you see him this October 5, congratulate him on the fine honor!

Get well Dorthy Ross!

Our best wishes to Dorthy who has so ably handled publicity this year as she recuperates from Knee surgery at St. John's!

Happy 90th Pat Henry!!

Pat Henry, *Historico* editor emeriti, is turning 90 on June 10! She is in poor health and can't receive flowers, etc. but she would love your cards! Her address is: Pat Henry

3301 Sterling Drive, Apt. 106 Burlington, IA 52601-8660

Springfield as Urban Frontier 1818-1836

This is the newest exhibit at the Farrell and Ann Gay Museum of Springfield History at the Iles House. It can be viewed on Wednesdays and Saturdays from noon until 4:00 pm until October 4. The exhibit displays are made up of a unique collection of photographs, documents and maps with well done descriptions of early Springfield people, places and artifacts. There is an absolutely wonderful map of Springfield, researched by Linda Garvert and beautifully painted by Sonia Lang. It is a visual representation of John Stuart's description of the town upon his arrival on horseback in 1828.

The exhibit was prepared by a team led by Curtis and Linda of the SVC, and includes contributions by the IL State Museum, the ALPL, IRAD, Floyd mansberger of Fever River Research and artist Sonia Lang. The exhibit was designed by Edward Russo and Corrine Fritsch of Sangamon Researchers. The exhibit is made possible by a grant from Farrell Gay.

A wonderful addition to our community that is well worth seeing!

Sangamon County Historical Society 308 E. Adams Street Springfield, IL 62701





Sunday, October 5, 12th Annual Walk Through Oak Ridge Cemetery

This year's walk will be different in that it has a theme—two themes, in fact. We will be honoring the 100th anniversary of the formation of the Abraham Lincoln Association, or actually its predecessor organization, the Lincoln Centennial Association. Toward that end we will be featuring 4 people who were either themselves involved, or were related to someone who was very involved: Dougie Hay Funk will tell about her father, Logan Hay's, involvement in developing the Association; Melinda Bunn will tell of her husband, George W. Bunn's great love and interest in furthering the Association's work; Dr. William Jayne was the only founding member of the Lincoln Centennial Association who also had attended Lincoln's first inauguration; and then Benjamin Caldwell, also a founding member, tells about that Centennial banquet.

The other centennial event to be remembered was the infamous 1908 race riot. Four of the African Americans affected by the riot will reflect on their reactions to it: Charles L. Lee was a businessman on the Levee whose establishment was absolutely demolished; George Richardson was the work-man falsely accused of rape by a white woman who feared for his life as the mob's roar grew; William Donnegan was the respected, elderly African American lynched by the mob in their frustration over not being able to get at who they felt were the real culprits; and Rev.Lyman Hubbard, tells of his grandfather, Bluford Chandler, who adamantly remained on his porch with a .30 -.30 determined to protect his property from the mob.

The 'Historama' area will again feature exhibits by historical associations, the popular Prairie land Dulcimers will be providing a musical backgrounds; again the wonderful concession will offer popcorn, cookies and cider; SCHS will have books to sell and the Springfield International Folk Dancers will again be there to entertain.

Dedication of wall and name plaques honoring Home for the Friendless at Dak Ridge Cemetery

A dedication ceremony was held on May 25 in honor of the name plaques and memorial wall recently placed in Block 4, Oak Ridge Cemetery to honor those buried there from the *Home for the Friendless*. The Prairie Chickens provided background music as a prelude as Girl Scout from Troop 6051 handed out flowers; Scouts from Rochester Troop 58 presented the flag; Polly Poskin, President of the Board of Managers of Oak Ridge welcomed those gathered; 9 readers read the 230 names on the newly placed plaques; and Bill Furry provided a comprehensive background of both Block 4 and the *Home for the Friendless* origins. This was a project of the Board of Managers of Oak Ridge Cemetery from a proposal made 4 years ago by Paul Mueller and supported by nearly \$22,000.00 donated by the community.

The memorial is very effective and worth stopping to see if you are near Block 4 at Oak Ridge Cemetery.