

PULASKI COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Preserving history for a better future.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7 PROGRAM

USE OF REAL POSTCARDS IN HISTORICAL RESEARCH



On Saturday, December 7, the Museum will be open for normal hours, 12:00 - 4:00 PM. During open hours, Historical Society Board Member Brian Capouch will present a program on the use of postcards as tools for historical research beginning on the hour at 1:00, 2:00 and 3:00.

If you have a historic postcard, family picture



or negative, bring it in and, if possible we will help you scan it.

Brian has been collecting Real Picture Postcards for many years. In 2016, he undertook a project to archive high-resolution scans of RPPCs and developed software that allows (registered) users to upload, edit, and view high-resolution scans. Later, he purchased several scanners with holders for a variety of prints and negatives.

(The software is available at www.scene-history.org. The software includes a "zoomer" function that allows a Google-like pan-and-zoom of images archived on the site.)

On Saturday, December 7, he will demonstrate the process from start to finish as well as demonstrate the wonderful information that can be gleaned from these scans using the scene-history software.

The first image is a scan of a glass plate that was taken outside of Medaryville. The men are smoking cigars and apparently wagering on the outcome of a boxing match that is about to happen. (Zoomer link: <https://www.scene-history.org/zoomer/pugilists.tif-1461911534400>.)

The second is a capture of the original that shows the Tyrolean garb that one of the young men is sporting. He was possibly a German immigrant. The vintage is mid-1890s.



PULASKI COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

FREE!

**Hot Chocolate
Coffee
Homemade
Cookies**

**Real Picture Postcards
as a tool for historical research**

Watch the process of scanning from start to finish. bring your own postcards, RPPC, glass plates or negatives to use during the program.

**Saturday, 12/07: 1:00, 2:00 & 3:00
Free Admission, Donations Welcome**

500 South Monticello, Winamac, the Carriage House

FUND RAISING INITIATIVE



We are raising funds to repair the west wall of the Vurpillat Opera House! As soon as we receive pledges for 50% of necessary funds, we will submit a grant to OCRA (Office of Community and Rural Affairs) with the State of Indiana. We received a significant contribution from the COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF PULASKI COUNTY. Rather than leave donors "out" of this announcement before they have had an opportunity to participate, we will not post other contributions until our next newsletter.

If you want to be a part of the "Members & Friends" campaign, please fill out this form and submit it by December 1. AND THANK YOU!

Donation Pledge Form

The Historical Society must reach a 50% match requirement before a grant application can be made to the State to (a) repair the west side exterior of the Opera House and (b) replace the main entry doors to the Opera House. We received significant funding from the Community Foundation of Pulaski County, but we need to raise an additional \$4,700. Any assistance you can provide to help us maintain this beautiful building and to enhance the look of "downtown" would be appreciated. *We cannot send this grant application in until we have secured the funds or the promise of funds. Please return this to us by no later than December 1, 2019, and Thank You!*

Donor Information (please print or type)

Name: _____

Billing Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone 1: _____ Phone 2: _____

Email: _____

Pledge Information

I (we) pledge a total of \$_____ to be paid Now By 12/31/2019 By 03/31/2020

I (we) plan to make this contribution in the form of Cash Check Credit Card

Credit Card Information

Type: VISA MasterCard Exp Date: _____ Card Number: _____

Authorized signature: _____

(The Historical Society does not have a credit card account. The receipt will say Tiger Lily's Café)

Gift will be matched by: Company Family Foundation

(Please forward a form to the appropriate donor, or give us the appropriate information to do so.)

Acknowledgement Information

Please use the following name(s) in all acknowledgements: _____

I (we) wish to have the gift remain anonymous.

Authorization

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Payment Information

Please make checks, corporate matches or other gifts payable to: Pulaski County Historical Society.

Pledge forms and checks can be mailed to the Historical Society at PO Box 135, Winamac IN 46996.

Pledge forms can also be emailed to Kathi Thompson at kathit@pwrhc.com. For additional information, call Kathi at (574) 270-0128.

TIPPECANOE CHURCH CEMETERY



Although there were families in the southeastern sections of Beaver Township in the earliest years of settlement, there were no cemeteries in that area of Pulaski County.

It wasn't until 1888 that George & Sarah Miller conveyed 2 acres out of their farm in section 24 Beaver Township to the Trustees of the New Light Christian Church for a church building and a cemetery.

The oldest readable tombstone is for Laban Capron's daughter who died

in 1886. Another early stone is Anne Keplar's, who died in January of 1888. This county church and cemetery have been in use from that time to the present.

If searching for ancestors from this part of Beaver Township prior to the establishment of this cemetery; Clark Cemetery just south of Beaver Township across the White County line, is a final resting place of some Beaver Township families.



Submitted by Janet Onken

MEDARYVILLE TOWN ELECTION

Poll book of an election held in the Town of Medaryville, Pulaski County and State of Indiana on Thursday the 23rd day of March 1854 for the purpose of electing four trustees for the Medaryville Meeting house on the Medaryville Circuit for the use of Methodist Episcopal Church. Names of voters: Silas S. Taylor, James Mitchell, Aaron Lambert, Joseph B. Schultz, Josiah Briant, Enoch Brewer, Alfred W. Tilton, John McDonald, Simon Bailey, Silas Phillips, John Brewer, Reason McDonald, Thomas M. J. Bell, Benjamin Stout, Nepthali Gates, John Pike, Oliver Stanfield, Peter Schultz.

Names of candidates and number of votes: Josiah Briant 16; Oliver Stanfield 14; Benjamin Stout 12; John Pike 13; Leonard Petro 15; Nepthali Gates 15; Aaron Lambert 12.

I do hereby certify that the above is a true poll and that the above named candidates received the number of votes set to their respective names. A. W. Tilton, Clerk

Filed for record March 28, 1854. Recorded April 20, 1854 J. B. Agnew P.C.R., Miscellaneous Record Book A p7.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE LOCATION

From White & Pulaski Counties History p. 582: The Methodist Episcopal Church society, in Medaryville, was organized in 1853 by Rev. Thomas C. Workman, first pastor. Number of full members, forty-three; members and probationers, eighty-five. The first church was built about 1854, at a cost of nearly \$1,000. *[The church was out of use by the 1870s.]*

Submitted by Janet Onken

BECOME A MEMBER

Membership renewals and requests will be mailed out in January for calendar year 2020. Keep an eye out!

REMINISCENCES OF E. R. BROWN

Pulaski County Pioneer 1845 - 1930 (Part 3)

Formerly this county was said to be in the "oak barrens" along with most other counties in the northwestern part of Indiana. It was understood to mean that the timber was mostly oak, of limited quality and of somewhat inferior quality. The timber originally found here was, indeed, mostly oak, as that in other counties was mostly beech, hard maple or elm. Larger finer poplar, black walnut, gray ash and perhaps other species of valuable timber have seldom been found anywhere then were formerly common along the Tippecanoe.

Beech had always been and still is, more abundant in our state than any other kind of timber. Indiana has also been widely noted for its abundance of hard maple. It seems curious, therefore, that both of these should have been so scarce here. No finer specimens of healthy, luxuriant hard maples can now be found in any city or town in the state than are so plentiful along our streets in Winamac.

As to white oak, black oak, burr oak and red oak timber, I have never seen larger, more perfect specimens of these noble trees, though I have been in all but just a few counties of Indiana and all but just a few states in the Union, than formerly grew here, often very close together and covering several sections of land in the same locality. Some were smaller of course, but plenty of them were four feet or more in diameter and towered a hundred feet or more towards the sky. All were unusually free from blemished of any kind.

The largest and finest of them all grew on my father's land in Indian Creek township. It was a white oak and though I have heard of larger being cut in this state I never saw another one as large. This splendid king of the forest had an ignoble ending.

I was cut down at night by a reckless boy from an adjoining neighborhood, in pursuit of a raccoon. By actual measurement, clearly authenticated, it was over five feet in diameter and carrying its proportions uncommonly well, was almost seventy feet to the first limb. The body, which proved to be without blemish, was sold to a cooper for \$5.00 to be worked up into barrel staves and heading, because it was too large for the saw mills of that date.

To cut and dispose of the timber and bring the land into cultivation was as a rule, the wise thing to do. It may be that some rough and hillside land had better been left in timber, and perhaps it should now be replanted in timber. But it is bad for a community in an economic sense to have such non-productive land, while, counting the interest on the investment and the matter of taxes and drainage assessments, there was no profit in holding timber land. But, after all, I feel lonely when I think about all those enormous stately trees being gone.

Abstracted from *Pulaski County Democrat* 24 February 1922

Submitted by Janet Onken



**PULASKI COUNTY
HISTORICAL SOCIETY**
Preserving history for a better future.

**THE MUSEUM IS OPEN
COME SEE THE HISTORY OF US**

SATURDAYS 12:00 - 4:00

500 SOUTH MONTICELLO, WINAMAC
"THE CARRIAGE HOUSE"

MORRILL ACT & COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

BOOST U.S. DEVELOPMENT AS WORLD LEADER

The embracement of public education for its citizenry, and the dissemination of knowledge from higher education to everyday households has been instrumental in U.S. development as a world leader, beginning in its earliest years.

MORRILL ACT

During the darkest days of the Civil War, President Abraham Lincoln signed the Morrill Act which created the nation's land-grant universities.

Arguably the greatest democratization of higher education in history, the Morrill Act stressed that higher education should be practical and that it should be accessible.

In 1869, the Indiana legislature accepted an offer from John Purdue of 100 acres of land and \$150,000 to establish the Indiana land grant university in Tippecanoe County and to name it Purdue University.

Over the past 150 years, the Morrill Act has had a profound impact on the economic and social landscape of the nation by expanding access to higher education beyond the privileged few to the nation's citizenry at large.

Further, its focus on education in agriculture and the mechanical arts dramatically altered the role of universities—shifting from an education focused on the classics to a mission of preparing students to address critical societal needs, creating new knowledge, and engaging with the public.

Specifically in agriculture, the impact was enormous in disseminating knowledge in agriculture mechanics, methods and farm sciences.

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE

A significant factor that helped boost the U.S. ahead of the world in rural development was the Cooperative Extension Service.

In 1914, President Woodrow Wilson signed the Smith-Lever Act establishing USDA's partnership with land-grant universities to apply research and provide education in agriculture.

Congress created the Extension system to address rural and agricultural issues. At that time, more than 50 percent of the U.S. population lived in rural areas, and 30 percent of the workforce was engaged in farming.

In Indiana, a network of "county agents" shared the latest Purdue University agriculture research with farmers across the state, and also taught families home economics, nutrition and other practical information.

Extension spearheaded the nation's food production during both world wars, assisted families with sound economic practices during the Great Depression, and guided farmers through new technologies in the second half of the 20th Century.

For the past 100 years, Extension has adapted to changing times and landscapes. And the service continues today with an Extension office in or near most of the nation's approximately 3,000 counties. Program areas include agriculture and natural resources, health and human sciences, economic and community development, and 4-H Youth.

Adapted from the Northern Indiana Power From the Past 2016 Indiana Bicentennial Legacy Project "200 Years of Hoosier Farming," prepared by Pulaski County Historian Karen Fritz

PULASKI COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

PO Box 135, Winamac IN 46996
info@pulaskihistory.net
www.pulaskihistory.net
www.Facebook.com/PulaskiHistory

Officers

President: Ryan Harrison
Vice President: Kathi Thompson
Secretary: Janet Onken (also Genealogist)
Treasurer: Lin Morrison
Curator: Natalie Federer
Past President: Kathi Thompson

Board Members

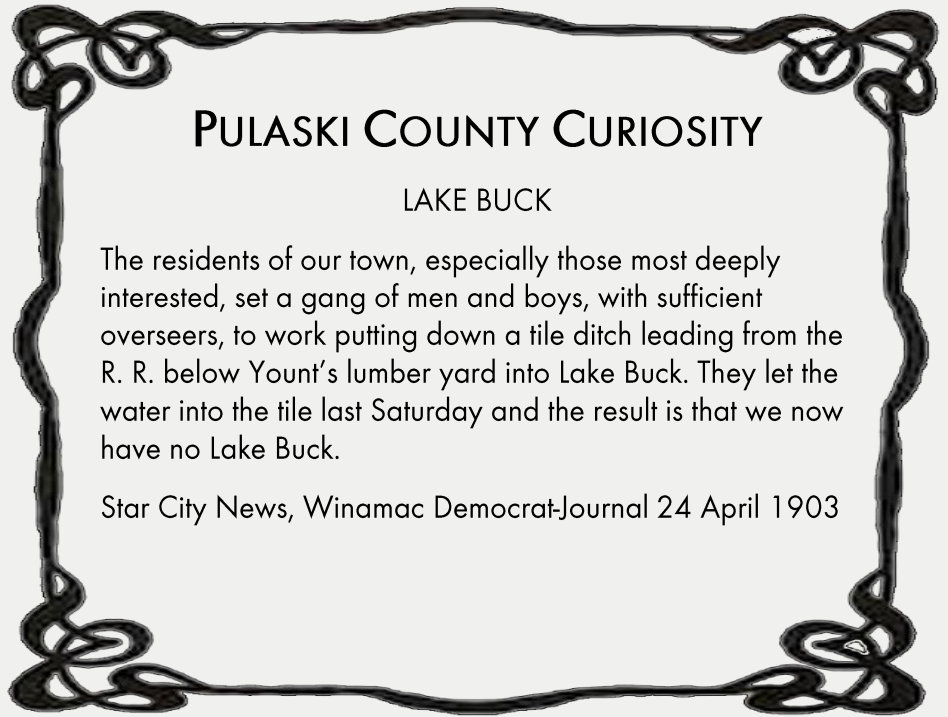
Term Ending 2020: Mary Conner,
Ryan Crawford, Becky Dilts
Term Ending 2021: Brian Capouch,
Louise Gudas, Mike Shurn
Term Ending 2022: Raye Anne
Absher, Sara Kroft, Jolie
Simmemaker
Ex-Officio: Karen Fritz, County
Historian

PULASKI COUNTY CURIOSITY

LAKE BUCK

The residents of our town, especially those most deeply interested, set a gang of men and boys, with sufficient overseers, to work putting down a tile ditch leading from the R. R. below Yount's lumber yard into Lake Buck. They let the water into the tile last Saturday and the result is that we now have no Lake Buck.

Star City News, Winamac Democrat-Journal 24 April 1903



Ask The Historian!

Pulaski County Historian Karen Fritz
Pulaski County Public Library
(Winamac)
2nd Tuesdays 1:00 - 3:00



Ask The Genealogist!

Pulaski County Genealogist Janet Onken
Pulaski County Public Library
(Winamac)
every Monday 4:00 - 6:00



MEMBERSHIP

- \$30 Individual
- \$40 Family
- \$80 Sustaining

2019 has been a great year for us. The Historical Society Museum is open, and we continue to seek new volunteers. Become a member and see how you can become involved.

Membership information can be found on the website: www.pulaskihistory.net.

Pulaski County Historical Society
PO Box 135
Winamac IN 46996