

Illiana News

September 2020

A Letter From Our President

Hello to everyone,

September has really been a whirlwind, it seems.

Thanks to Joan Fry, Dave Sims, & David Hobbs, Illiana History Day is going to be, I believe, a huge success. David Hobbs filmed & recorded everything live and will spend many hours editing, with the finished production being distributed to the teachers and also put on our own website so it is available to us as well.

The weather was beautiful and thanks to the mowing crew, the grounds looked immaculate.

I want to thank each and every one who came and talked, demonstrated, etc., all the various activities that we present at Illiana.

I sowed the wheat last week. Thanks to Chad Hasser for the use of his equipment to get this done.

Thanks goes to Jeff Troike and Boswell Ceres for donating the wheat fertilizer and to Tony Martin of Martin Seeds in Pence for the seed wheat.

Gary Jones has donated a John Deere 290 planter with manual to Illiana to be sold, with proceeds going to the building fund. This planter needs seed and fertilizer boxes plus tires, as it has set outside, but it would be a good restoration project. If interested, send written offers to me before November 1st and the winning bidder can get it. The seed box lids are good and also have extra rims for tires and new marker chain.

Leo Mann of Otterbein has donated all of his Dad's (Leonard Mann) books to be sold, with the proceeds to also go toward the building fund. Lots of good books of railroading and steam engines, and others. Call me if interested.

Thanks to Gary and Leo for these donations.

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Fall Festival/Swap Meet Cancelled

The Board of Directors has decided to cancel plans for a Fall Festival/Swap Meet.

Directors will meet Tues., Oct. 20 @ 7:00 pm. No Oct. club meeting.

Be sure to get dues to Doris as soon as possible. See page 4.

The board of directors will be meeting in October to make a decision about Christmas in the Village for 2020.

Tetia Lee of TAF has notified us that we will not be receiving grant money for 2021. However, thanks to information from Michelle Stucky of Warren Co. Comm. Foundation, Brooke has applied for a small grant from Indiana Art Commission to possibly help us pay some of our operating expenses this year due to not having our show.

Last, I would be remiss if I didn't thank Dave Sims for bringing Henrietta, Rue, and Dumb & Dumber to History Day on Friday. We enjoyed having them and invite them back anytime. Let Dave explain this to you!

Everyone be safe and stay well,

- **Tom**

Illiana Antique Power Earns Another Grant

Submitted by: Joan Fry

The Benton Community Foundation offered an opportunity to earn a grant. The newspaper ad said "Benton Community Foundation is helping Santa grant the wishes of non-profit organizations in the community this summer." All we have to do is to write a "Letter 2 Santa" and request funding for a charitable project. We recently had to cancel our summer show as well as all activities, including History Day. The Board of Directors then decided we could do a virtual History Day by video recording the various stations for teachers to use in their classrooms. But do we have the equipment? Do we have a member who can handle the filming and editing? How much will it cost? Can our meager treasury fund it?

Joan Fry wrote a Letter 2 Santa. Guess what? We were granted \$500 to use for this project. Andrea Bowman of the Benton Community Foundation presented the check to the History Day Committee. We are thrilled to be a recipient of such generosity. Thank you to the donors of the Benton Community Foundation. Andrea says her philosophy is "It never hurts to ask." With that money we were able to purchase some equipment to use as well as provide some expertise needed. It is nice to know that even when things go crazy like they have in 2020, people are still out there using their resources to benefit the community. Thank you Benton Community Foundation.

Live History Day 2020 is “History”

Submitted by: Joan Fry

Friday, September 21, 2020 was scheduled to be History Day at Illiana Antique Power Association grounds. The pandemic changed everyone's plans!

With the help of a bunch of volunteers and the blessing of the directors, we videotaped several of the 36 or so stations we have presented to the fourth graders over the years. It is our goal to have the short pieces edited and posted to YouTube by the first part of October. After the posting is complete we hope to have a movie night with popcorn so the whole club can see History Day 2020.

It is our plan that each classroom teacher will be able to use the internet to bring a station to her classroom when she needs it. Since it will be on YouTube, home schoolers and others who are interested can pull it up too. In addition to the videos, we hope to have teacher resources available on our website.

This project could not have been done without the help of two Daves. Dave Sims was our “Mr. Rogers” and tied every video segment together by being in each one, asking questions the kids might have asked. Dave Hobbs was the techy person who ran the cameras, crashed his drone into a tree, and is now editing each part! These two guys are amazing. They each gave up days of work to do the filming and have sacrificed a lot of family time to see that this Illiana project is done right.

Tom Swanson, our faithful president, spent many hours getting ready for the taping. He was not the only one - Owen Moudy spent a whole day fine-tuning the sawmill. From the blacksmiths, Dominick Andrisani, and his helper (whose name I have missed, sorry) brought lots of stuff to show and built up the fire so we could tape the making of a nail, which took about 30 minutes. Then they packed it all up again. Lots of hard work! A big thanks goes out to the behind the scenes guys who helped organize. Charlie Lupinik called the train guys, Doc Fontaine got the old cars lined up, and Ted Stout arranged for the blacksmiths and Rob Durrett to be there. Gary York was our gate man. We wanted to control the traffic and it worked perfectly. Everyone who helped is appreciated.

A special thank you goes out to the Beheler family. They have helped during History Day for several years and again they volunteered. Liam was a spinner along with Kathy Olin, Callum took still photos to be used as needed, and Phoebe helped Peggy Brenner, a new volunteer, to make the butter video. Amanda and mom Beheler, made sure everyone got where they needed to be and had what they wanted and needed. This extra help is appreciated!

The video stations are grouped into 4 main sections. Community life, including the community businesses of blacksmithing, sawmilling, the post office, and community entertainment of the dulcimers. Transportation by trains and old cars were taped. Videos taken around the barnyard and on the farm include getting water from the windmill with a gas engine, the scale house, and the implements that allowed for frontier expansion. The largest group of videos is the section called Family Life. A tour of the cabin led off the videos of the basic needs for shelter, food, and clothing. This includes shelling corn, grinding corn, and making cornbread - then making the butter to spread on it. Then videos about spinning wool and quilting blankets, as well as washing these clothes and garments were included. As you can tell, there are many areas not mentioned. In order to keep this project manageable for our first effort, we had to pick and choose. But after this first batch is up and going, we can think about getting some of the ones missed in this first effort.

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Live History Day 2020 is “History” (cont.)

Submitted by: Joan Fry

The following is a list of the folks involved and the stations filmed. The weather was perfect, the schedule worked out, and we kept social distancing as there was never a crowd of folks and we were outside. The best part is we now have a treasure of videos sharing some of the knowledge our folks have. Great folks!

The Illiana Quilters.....Kathy Kyle, Becky McCormick, Rita Stringer

Spinning....Kathy Olin and Liam Beheler

Making butter....Peggy Brenner, Phoebe Beheler

Shelling corn and grinding it to meal...Joe Fry

Making Cornbread....Joan Fry

Printing at the print shop...Cecil Krebs

Getting Water at the windmill....Roger Horn

The Scale House....Roger Horn and Tom Swanson

The Dulcimers...Julia Poor, Kathy Hofmeister, Linda and Richard Jenkins, Donna Starry, Charlie Fry-Schutt, Courtney Million, Paul Potosky, James Schamburg. And Tom Eller.

The Sawmill...Owen Moudy and Guy

Old Cars.....Doc Fontaine and Dennis Donahue

Laundry....Kenny and Kim Short

Lewis and Clark...Rob Durrett

Blacksmiths....Dominick Andrisani and assistant

Trains....Mike Puetz, Nathan Bryant, and helpers

Swanson's Cabin, the Post Office, farm implements.....Tom Swanson



Dave Hobbs taped over 100 short videos. They are wonderful. There was not the time pressure of regular History Day and each presenter only had to talk once. We didn't fight the weather and school schedules. It was a great couple of days. If you want to be involved in the next round, please let Joan Fry know. We have room for everyone who wants to help next time!

Dues are Due!

Please send your dues to Doris Manlief at:

**3618 Donna Dr.
Lafayette, IN 47905**