

Greentown Historical Society

103 E. Main Street, Greentown, IN 46936

GHS Calendar

- Jan. 21-Feb.26 Lincoln Exhibit in the front window
- Feb. 4 Valentine Workshop
- Mar. 4-June 25 History of Businesses in eastern Howard County (exhibit)
- July 8-Dec. 17 History of Schools in eastern Howard County (exhibit)
- History Center closed on Sat. and Sun. in Jan. and Feb. Open on Mondays

Be Mine

Make a Valentine for your Sweetheart at the History Center, 103 E. Main St. Materials will be available on Sat.. Feb. 4, from 1 PM to 3 PM for you to make a valentine. Bring your creative ideas and a friend. All ages are welcome to cut, fold, draw, stamp and paste a valentine to take home. For more information call Lisa at 765-552-6155 or Jean 628-7674.

Thanks to Milo

The Greentown Historical Society wishes to extend our sincere thanks to out-going board member Milo Hochstedler for his many hours of hard work and dedication to the formation of the Society and the restoration of 103 E. Main.

The first exhibit of 2006 in the History Center will be on the theme of the history of businesses and commerce in eastern Howard Co., using artifacts donated to the G.H.S. Newspapers are great sources of information about names of businesses and owners, their locations and offerings, and also great insights into culture, values, and economics. This advertisement is from the December 15, 1921. Gift Givers Guide edition of

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The Greentown Gem:



Dwight Schaaf Elected to GHS Board

At the annual meeting of the Greentown Historical Society, members elected Dwight Schaaf to the board of trustees for a three-year term. Also re-elected for three-year terms were Joyce Lantz, Barbara Middleton, and Lisa Stout.

Dwight is the sixth child of the late Wayne Schaaf and Geneva (Kline) Schaaf. His Howard County roots go back to 1867 when Great-Great-Grandfather Lewis Schaaf came to America from Germany and settled in Indiana in 1850. Dwight has found that through generations of marriages he has a connection to many other lifelong residents here. He

graduated from Eastern High School in 1971 and married his high school sweetheart. Ganiece Harris. in 1973. They have two children, Dwayne, 22, and DeLena, 20, and a 2 1/2 year-old grandson, Jaelen.

Dwight began his career as a brick mason in 1977 and is the owner of Dwight Schaaf and Son Custom Masonry. He re-pointed the façade of the History Center and removed paint from the fireplace inside, revealing the original brick. A major accomplishment has been his and Dwayne's masonry work on the fountain plaza in front of the City Hall.

Dwight grew up in a family that cherishes history and family. His mother still has many family heirlooms, handmade furniture from ancestors, and priceless family memorabilia. Dwight and Ganiece enjoy "antiquing" and flea markets and collecting rare and unique items.

One of Dwight's prized possessions is his Abraham Lincoln collection which his grandmother Nora (Hensler) Schaaf began long before Dwight was born. He boasts of having nearly 1,000 pieces and has had to stop adding to it until he has a place to display it.

2005 Christmas **Tour of Homes**

by Mike Imbler, Event Chair

The Greentown Historical Society hosted their second annual Christmas Tour of Homes on Sunday, December 4, 2005, from 5:00 PM till 8:00 PM. This year's families who opened their homes were: Ron and Jean Simpson, 323 E. Main Street; Ron and Jan Warner, 6177 Cloverdale; and Jeff and Libby Updike, 1376 S - 1010 E. Each home had special items that their family use to celebrate the Christmas season. The Simpsons put fresh green garlands on their open staircase with big red bows. The Warners decorated a nine-foot Christmas tree with homemade popcorn roping and bubble lights. The Updikes used Christmas wrapping paper with bows and wrapped the pictures on their walls. The Updikes also made special treats; Libby made round pretzels with a chocolate kiss melted in the center with an M&M on top of the kiss, making a very tasty treat. All of the homes had hot cider and cookies to share with the visitors. All proceeds of \$541.00 go toward the Greentown Historical Society Building Fund.

Volunteers Update

by Jean Simpson, Volunteers Coordinator

Main Entry: do.cent

Pronunciation: $dO-s^{\delta}nt$, dO(t) -'sent

Function: noun

Etymology: obsolete German (now Dozent), from Latin docent-, docens, present participle of docEre 1: a college or university teacher or lecturer

2: a person who leads guided tours especially through a museum or art gallery

The year 2005 has been a busy one for our faithful docents during our open hours in the History Center. Those who greeted visitors are the following: Charlotte Nulf, Ron Simpson, Rita Kingseed, Joyce Higginbottom, Ellen Cranor, Charles Swisher, Betty Swisher, Julia Bright, Charlotte Agness, Jan DeWitt, Juanita Morton, Madeline Deckard, Sue Clouser, Jerry Loomis, Janalyce Hatton, Martha Lou Zirkle, Helen Hickman, Nella Padfield, Tom Manderfield, Jean Simpson, Paul Nicholson, Lisa Stout, Bonnie Turner, and Barbara Middleton. I am so pleased that they were willing to give of their time. Please thank them when you see them.

Special

thanks go to Martha Lou Zirkle and Betty Swisher who spent many hours calling and scheduling. Also appreciation goes to these members who opened and closed the History Center for the docents: Rachel Jenkins, Barbara Middleton, Dave Turner, Bonnie Turner, Lisa Stout, Ron Simpson, and Jean Simpson.

Exhibit 2006

The exhibit team is planning a future exhibit pertaining to the schools of eastern Howard Co., including oneroom schools and township schools. In order to include as much information as possible, residents of the Greentown area may wish to loan us for the duration of this exhibit your eastern Howard Co. school photos, athletic gear, books, other memorabilia that would tell the story of your school days in this area. In addition, we have several local school photos of unidentified persons that we need help in identifying. Please feel free to stop by the History Center on Mondays from 1:00 - 4:00 to talk about your ideas.

Thanksgiving Open House

by Jean Simpson

The History Center celebrated Thanksgiving during the Greentown Main Street Association Christmas Open House on Nov. 4. A "Puritan Lady" (aka Rachel Jenkins) was eager to tell of her life in settling the New World. Lisa Stout recorded Thanksgiving and Christmas memories of some of the 65 visitors to the History Center. Congratulations to all of the door prize winners: Pat Gray, Jim Speidel, Pat Holkenbrink, Henry Holkenbrink, Marietta McWhorten, Marsha White, Joyce Steiner, Kaye Douglas, and Marietta Wimmer.

Madeline Deckard, David Long, and Jean Simpson furnished decorations, and the donors of door prizes were Hainlen's Orchard, Hallev's Restaurant and Grill, and Greentown History Center Gift Shop.

Join Us!

The work of the Greentown Historical Society is organized and carried out by several standing committees. We can always use more enthusiastic volunteers to help with this important work in the preservation of the history of eastern Howard Co. If one of these strikes your fancy, please contact the chairperson listed or the History Center at 628-3800: **Programs:** Lisa Stout

Exhibit Team: Joyce Lantz, Lisa Stout

Fund-raising: Madeline Deckard

Building and Grounds: Dwight Schaaf

Housekeeping: Barbara Middleton

Membership: Ron Simpson

Volunteers: Jean Simpson

Artifact Collection: Joyce Lantz

Long-range Planning: Mike Imbler

Publication: Joyce Lantz

Research: Joyce Higginbottom

Nominating: Rachel Jenkins

Marketing/Publicity:

Audit: Debbie King

Finance/Budget: Barb Middleton

Marketing/Publicity: Rachel Jenkins

Executive: Ron Simpson

2006 Dues Thanks to all of you who have paid for your 2006 dues; we appreciate your support very much. We're looking forward to another successful year of programs and events made possible by your faithful support. If your newsletter mailing label has a red dot, your '06 dues have not been paid. Please send renewals to GHS, 103 E. Main, Greentown, IN 46936.



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The history of Greentown's merchants and commerce is long and varied, and a chronicle of change. According to the Sesquicentennial Commemorative History (1998), Liberty, Union and Jackson Townships were laid out in 1853, where simple trading took place to satisfy the pioneers' household needs, and then commercial growth from the railroad and manufacturing would come along after 1879.

Imagine the great bustling of commercial activity in Greentown from about 1910 until 1920 when these businesses, listed in the Sesquicentennial Commemorative History (1998), were in place: Cates Livery Barn, Bob Ettinger Leather Shop, Herman Wagner Hardware, Kemper Brothers, John Martin Shoes & Grocery Store, Conklin's Variety Store, Ezra Gallion Fencing, E.G. Scott Merchandise, Weaver Brothers, Greentown Gem, G.W. Smith Merchandise,

John Fell Drugs, Corona Mills, Palmer Hotel, Manring Drugs, St. George Hotel, State Bank of Greentown, R.W. Clark Engines, H.C. Sutton Buggies, Harness Farm Implements, Hamer Lumber Co., William Hancock Furniture, C.E. Slaughter Cigar Store, Bond & Son Bakery, J.F. Brown & Son Grocery, Cates & Wood Candy & Cigars, John Holliday Elevator, N.T. & Fred Richer Buggies & Ford Cars, Fulwider & Mast Furniture & Undertaking.

The Sesquicentennial Commemorative History (1998) goes on to describe the businesses of the outlying areas around Greentown. Plevna, founded in the 1870s as Pleasantville, had two early tile factories, physicians, a hatchery, a saw mill, a barber shop, and more.

It describes the village of Jerome, incorporated in 1877, as having general merchandise stores, a blacksmith, a mill, and a barber shop.

The book documents that Phlox had a grocery store which had a huckster wagon route to serve the countryside, as well as a garage, blacksmith, a barber shop, and a cider It describes mill. Jackson Twp.'s only village of Sycamore. established in 1881, as bustling with a saw mill, a slaughter house, a barber shop, Kendall's Grocery, Cranor's Greenhouse, a grocery store, and a gen-



eral mercantile store. While there's a lot of contemporary debate about the commercialization of Christmas, Santa Claus seems to have been in on the act back in 1921, as evidenced in his letter above in this Weaver's ad (also from The Gift Givers Guide, Dec. 15, 1921).

G.H.S. Donors

Monetary Donations

Dick Moser Judy Horner Rosemary White June & Bob Hill Brian's Surplus W.H. Begeman First Farmers Bank Brad Shrock Smart Mart First Unit. Meth. Church Jerry & Barb Loomis Sycamore Primary Care Greentown Lions Club **Roseland Rayl** Barb Alexander/Key Bank Ron & Jean Simpson Fred & Rachel Jenkins Dale & Grace Kingseed Paul & Sue Hubbard Dick & Jo Howell Chas. & Norma Spangler Lisa Hill Insurance Co. John Peters Jim & Carol Ratliff

Janice David Sally Imbler Lisa Stout Susan Kirkpatrick **Rex Riggs** Nancy Kingseed Myers Harold Kessler Milo Hochstedler Janet Smith Jerry & Ann Haines Julia Bright **Imbler Enterprises** Amer. Legion Post 317 B.J. & Helen Matchett **Thomas Patterson** Barry & Vera Carstensen Nella Padfield **Deloris** Maple Janice David Carolyn Howell Max Kingseed Jolene Rule Zana Kaufman John T. Hunt

Juanita Morton Mike & Joyce Lantz Mary P. Mitchelen Ada & John Middlesworth Paul Nicholson Tom & Jackie Howell Heather Jenkins Town of Greentown Anne B. Smith Michael McCann Russ & Cella Kirchner Rita Kingseed Bonnie Middlesworth Greg & Melody Sumpter

Material Donations

Barbara J. Middleton Joyce Lantz James A. Harris Lisa Stout Ron & Jean Simpson JoAnn Imbler Clarke Joyce K. Metz Carol Ratliff Madeline Deckard Dorothy Powell Jan DeWitt **Charlotte Agness** Betty Oyler Nella Padfield Ada Middlesworth Mary Lou Callis Barb Loomis Paul & Sue Hubbard Sallv Imbler Colleen Ladd Come & Get It Pastry Diva Humphrey Printing Howard Co. Historical Soc. Mike Imbler Lisa Stout Milo Hochstedler

Greentown Historical Society P.O. Box 313 Greentown, IN 46936

