



Medical Professionals Exhibit Continues Through June

"Is There A Doctor In The House?" continues at the History Center through June. Visitors are welcome from 1-4:00 on Saturdays, Sundays, and Mondays. We also welcome new information, photos and related donations to the exhibit.

Two upcoming speakers are scheduled of interest to persons who enjoy the history of eastern Howard County: On Sunday, April 6, at 2:00 p.m. Sister Martin McEntee, a native of Kokomo and former President of St. Joseph Hospi-

tal, will speak of the history of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Tipton, Indiana, and their founding of Howard Co.'s first hospital, the Good Samaritan Hospital, later known as St. Joseph Hospital and Health Center. From the first ten-bed facility on East Vaile Avenue to the present, the Sisters have relied upon the providence of God and the commitment and generosity of local citizens in fulfilling their mission, "to heal as Jesus healed".

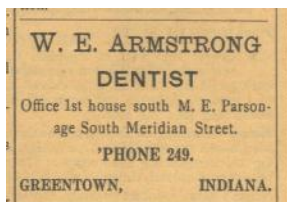
On Sunday, April 20,

also at 2:00 p.m., Carolyn Donson will speak about her father, Dr. A. L. Keim, who had a veterinary practice in the Plevna area. Carolyn will tell of his practice and about her experiences helping him.

Both programs will be held at the History Center at 103 E. Main Street, Greentown, and are free and open to the public.

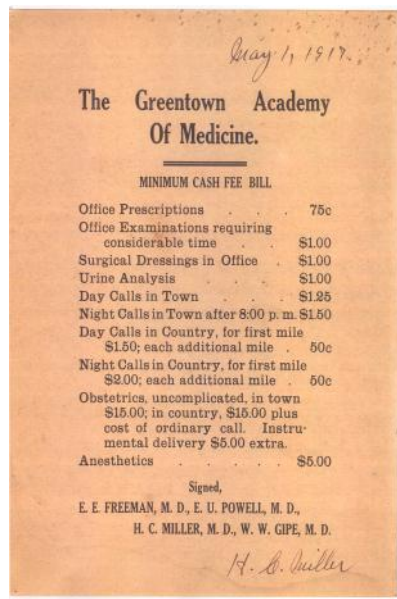


(above) Ella (Davis) Swisher, midwife for Dr. John L. Puckett, dressed to make a house call. Copy provided by Lisa Stout, her great-great-granddaughter.



1918 Gem adv't

(below) Esther Lantz Shrock served as nurse to Dr. H. B. Shoup, office on Grant Street. Photo taken in 1941. Copy provided by Emily Musgrave, her daughter.



(above) Fees charged and agreed upon by Drs. Freeman, Powell, Miller, and Gipe, dated May 1, 1917. On display at the History Center. Image provided by Dwight Schaaf.

G.H.S. Board Welcomes New Member

Sue Clouser became a member of the GHS Board on Jan. 1. She was born in Tipton Co., received most of her schooling at Union Twp. School, and graduated from Windfall High School. After graduation until her marriage to Lamoine Clouser, she worked at Stellite. They are the parents of Sid, who lives in Ohio, Matthew of Texas, and Rodney, deceased. Their grandsons are Ben, of Ohio, and Travis and Clay in Texas.

They have lived on the farm in Union Twp. for 56 years and Lamoine still farms. They are active in the Methodist Church in Windfall.

They enjoy traveling and have gone mainly with farm-connected tours to China, Africa, Australia, New Zealand, and Europe as well as extensive traveling in the U.S.

Sue has a well-grounded knowledge of the happenings of eastern Howard Co. She was involved with her sons' activities in Eastern Schools where they attended, and she worked at the State Bank of Greentown beginning in 1965. She has a deep interest in preserving the history of the area and is looking forward to supporting the GHS in all of its functions and activities. Sue is 2008 Chairperson of Marketing and Public Relations for GHS.

Artifact donations

We thank the following patrons who have donated artifacts to the collections at the History Center from January through March 2008: Tom Harper, Paula Childress, Hazel Heck, Darwin Freeman, Mary Miller, Dick Trott, Ronald Simpson, and John Pickett.

Historic Preservation Tour and Cafe

The Greentown Historical Society, Greentown Main Street Association and the Howard County Historic Preservation Committee are co-sponsoring the Eastern Howard County Historic Home Tour on Saturday, May 17. Five historic homes will be open to tour between 1 and 6 p.m. Tickets are available for \$8 in advance at the Public Library and Mast Furniture in Greentown, and at Treasure Mart Antiques, 1116 Alto Rd. in Kokomo. They may be purchased for \$10 the day of the event. "A Pause In History" Café will offer sandwiches, fruit and sweets for \$5 at the G.H.S. Bank Annex from 11-3. Reservations are recommended. Call Rachel Jenkins at 628-3564.

Thank You To Our Volunteers

Our thanks go to all who donated their time and talents over the last quarter in the History Center : Charlotte Agness, John F. Buckley, Sue

Clouser, Nancy Echelbarger, Darwin Freeman, Linda Grove, Tom Harper, Sally Imbler, Rachel Jenkins, Debbie King, Max Kingseed, Joyce Lantz, Bonnie Middlesworth, Barb Middleton, Steve Myers, Paul Nicholson, Carole Petro, Dwayne Schaaf, Dwight Schaaf, Jean Simpson, Ron Simpson, Barb Sorrell, Lisa Stout, Karen Swan, Betty Swisher, Charlie Swisher, and Judy Weir.

Rummage Sale

As you do your spring cleaning, remember the G.H.S. garage sale will be June 12-14. Our location will be at the Simpsons' garage at Main and Indiana St. All items are welcome, except clothing. Call Sally Imbler at 628-7174 for more information, drop-off times, or pick-up.

G.H.S. Monetary Donations

Ron Simpson, Greentown Lions Club, Greentown Research Club, Paul and Kimberly Nicholson, Rachel Jenkins, Ora E. Sharp, Tippecanoe Arts Federation, Town of Greentown, Budget Blinds.

G.H.S. Material Donations

Rachel Jenkins, Barbara Middleton, Linda Grove, Jean Simpson, Lisa Stout, and Joyce Lantz.

G. H. S. Wish List

Besides monetary donations, our patrons may wish to donate to a specific need here at the History Center. Some of our immediate needs are the following in the Bank Annex: Vertical blinds for the newly installed windows, shelving and storage for the exhibition staging area, time and labor to install underlayment and bathroom tile and carpet, do minor wall repair around a window, and replace door knobs and locks. Call 628-3800 to volunteer.

Teachers as Subject of Exhibit, Dinner

Beginning July 19, an exhibit honoring eastern Howard Co. teachers both past and present will open at the History Center. We need your *immediate* help to complete this display. Any information, pictures, documents, or personal memories to loan would be very much appreciated. Please call Lisa Stout at 628-7674 to make arrangements.

The annual Tributes and Tales Dinner on June 7 will kick off this new exhibit about our educators. Held at the Jerome Christian church, it will be emceed by Paul Nicholson, and our speaker will be Dr. John Knot. GHS members are invited to volunteer as servers for the dinner.

Gem 1912 Sept 9

by Joyce

Lantz

As I transcribe many of the Greentown Gems in our collection for the Indiana Memory Project, I read many interesting stories that I would like to share with other history buffs. Since the topic of the next exhibit and Tributes and Tales Dinner will be eastern Howard County educators, I found this excerpt from Sept. 9, 1912, of interest. The Gem spotlights the laying of the corner stone for the "new" school building in Greentown by describing in detail the dimensions of the structure and its building materials. Then the coverage turns to the history of education in our area:

"The first school in Liberty township was taught by Miss Lillis Cook, in a log shanty northwest of Greentown. This was in the year 1848-49 and it was fitted out by subscription for this one

year. In the year 1853 Liberty township was supplied with a public school. This was held in a hued-log structure, which was afterward supplanted by a frame structure, one square east of the present school grounds, and later became the Dunkard Church property.

"The main part of the present old school building of four rooms, was erected in 1876, at a cost of \$3,000, and at that time was considered the finest building in the county outside the county seat. Little did they realize what would happen 36 years later.

"In the year 1895, this building was purchased from the township, by the Greentown school board, and a frame addition was built to it in the rear. The year following, the frame structure was removed to make room for the two-story brick addition, which completed the school structure as it stands today, and which will be dismantled in 1913. (Continued page 4)



“From 1897 to 1900 the schools were so overcrowded that children could attend but a half day. One section in the forenoon and one in the afternoon. Later the Dunkard church and a second floor business were rented, to take care of the increased attendance. In 1903 a three-room one-story frame building was erected and has since been used by primary and second grades.

“The first class to graduate from the Greentown High School—now the Liberty Township High School—was that of 1902. The commission was granted in the fall of 1901.

“The first class was instructed by H. B. Dickey, Supt.; C. H. Stanley, Prin., Miss Clara Seaman, Asst. Prin. There were four members of the class, Misses Mary Carter, Elsie Fay, Georgia Frierhood, and Malissa Powell.”

The Gem editor heralds the new era of their new school with pride and vision:

“Onward! Onward! Is the educational cry, which is to echo and re-echo through the next hundred years. Today, September 9th, A.D. 1912, we halt, we look backward over the past, which has slipped away with unsuspecting rapidity, and then we close our eyes upon the scene that seems to be so unreal.

“We step forward and focus our vision on the tomorrow, whether it be fifty or an hundred years. By a practical example of the past, we strike a

ratio for the future. It is as accurate as the best scientific observations can make it.

“The history which we make in Greentown today, will tell the future generations, which come after us, how near we guessed the problem or how great was the error of our calculations.”

The Gem coverage goes on to list their teachers in 1912 :

Liberty Township Teachers
Greentown:--High school, J. H. Brackemyre, Supt.; D. Morrell Moore, Prin.; Osie M. Ramsey, 1st assistant; Everett Singer, 2nd assistant; Georgina Wooton, Art; Helen Waters, Music.
Grades 7 & 8, Omer Wooldridge. Grades 5 & 6, Glen Brunk. Grade 4, Zoa Devore. Grade 3, Garnet Spencer. Grade 2, Clova Mills. Grade 1, Olive E. Turner.
District No. 2. (Miller) Omen O. Schaaf.
District No. 3 (White) Edward S. Lindley.
District No. 4 (Plevna) William H. Fay
District No. 5 (Flabby) Almeda Evans
District No. 6 (Martin) Oren A. Sloan
District No. 7 (Foreman) Lela Davis
District No. 8 (Lindley) Pauline Locke
District No. 9 (Richville) Cleo Daily

Twins Wed Twins

by Joyce Lantz

In the GHS archives we

have stored the following wonderful love story about two Greentown area sets of twins printed in the St. Louis Post Dispatch, dated February 19, 1911, and donated by Kent McQuiston. The same story may be also found in one of our local newspapers, but I haven't yet done a search to find out. If a reader knows of another source, please let the History Center know about it.

TWIN BROTHERS WED TWIN SISTERS AFTER 16-YEAR SEARCH FOR RIGHT PAIR

From a Staff Correspondent of the Post-Dispatch.

They Courted Three Different Sets of Twins Before They Found The Wives They Believed Could Make Their Homes Happy.

KOKOMO, Ind., Feb. 18—An agreement entered into 16 years ago by Dalton and Delmer Johnson, twins, never to marry unless they could marry twins, was fulfilled Thursday night when the Johnson twins married Lulu and Kata Clark, twins.

The young men held true to the pact through all the years when young men's minds lightly turn to thoughts of love and found in each other, until they were 32 years old, such singular unity and constancy that no one girl's charms availed to draw one of the twins away from the other. And there is no reason to doubt that, if twins had not been found to accept them they would, as

fervently assert, have remained unmarried until death.

In the 16 years that the agreement was kept the twin brothers paid dual court to four sets of twin sisters, thrice journeying distances to find girls who, in point of age and twinship, met the requirements. After three such courtships had not matured beyond the incipient stage, the brothers settled down to wait for the Clark sisters, two little twin girls of their own neighborhood, to grow up to marriageable age.

Boys Look Exactly Alike.

Delmer and Dalton Johnson, so near alike that only their parents could tell them apart, and even they had sometimes to guess twice, and so inseparable that they had never been for more than a few moments out of each other's sight, were 16 years old when the subject of the future and matrimonial probabilities came up between them.

They lived with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Johnson, on a farm near Greentown, and one morning they were on their way to the Greentown school. They were more silent and thoughtful than usual as they trudged along the roadside.

"Dalt," said Delmer, "I've been thinking about the time when maybe we'll be married."

"Been thinking about the same thing," said Dalton.

They walked a little further in silence.

"Dalt," said Delmer, "I've been thinking that you and



me oughtn't to get married unless we marry twins."

"Been thinking the same thing," said Dalton.

"I won't marry anyone unless we marry twins if you won't," said Delmer to Dalt.

"I won't if you won't," said Dalt to Delmer. And so the pact was made, to hold until death or girl twins should dissolve it. And they trudged on their way to school.

Have the Same Personality.

The Johnson brothers were two in person, but one in personality. They were altogether inseparable. Nobody ever saw one without the other. If a task or an errand was to be done that needed but one, both did the task or the errand. They dressed precisely alike, to the smallest details, not at anyone's suggestion but from choice.

Everything that one

owned the other owned, either jointly or in duplicate. Their tastes and inclinations were the same. Their only sports were hunting and fishing and riding. One never wanted to go hunting when the other wanted to go fishing. They had duplicate guns and duplicate fishing rods. There was only one point of superiority. Delmer could see a squirrel further and shoot it quicker than Dalton. But it is Dalton who speaks of it.

There was another slight point of difference. Delmer could also see a dollar further, get to it quicker and hold it longer than Dalton. Dalton was just as free to confess his brother's superiority in this, so it came about that, for their best joint interest, Delmer became the treasurer for both, taking care of their joint funds and paying what had to be paid out of the common fund.

So they grew to manhood, and by and by, such was their thrift, they were able to buy a 50-acre farm adjoining their father's. The deed provided that in the event of the death of one title should pass to his brother.

The boys were 20 when Tilman Clark moved with his family from Decatur County, Ind., to a farm a scant mile from the Johnson home. He had twin daughters, but they were only 7. Nevertheless, the Johnson twins took a twinly interest in the Clark twins. There was no thought then that the Clark twins would grow up to be the wives of the Johnson twins. For one thing, the Johnson twins were just then getting along right nicely in a double courtship of the Keiter twins, Laura and Leora, at Cassville, nine miles away. Still, when the Johnson boys were on their way to call on the Keiter twins, and stopped a moment in front of the Clark home to talk to the Clark twins, hanging on the fence, and then drove on, it was Kate's face, a little rounder than Lulu's, that lingered longest in Delmer's mind, while Dalton was thinking of Lulu.

They Wouldn't Tolerate Rivals.

Delmer had a rival for Leora Keiter. The rival sent her a gold pen. She accepted it. Delmer would not stand for that. He and Leora were quits. So were Dalton and Laura.

Then the Johnson

twins went courting the Curless twins, Ora and Osie, near West Liberty, 18 miles away. They could not go that distance very often and between times another fellow called on Ora. She mentioned it when the Johnson twins came again, and she and Dalton were quits. So were Delmer and Osie.

For a long time the Johnson twins did no courting because there were no girl twins of courting age whom they could find. But when they went to Argos, 50 miles away, to attend a family reunion, they heard about the Boggs twins, Zena and Zita, and accompanied by a mutual acquaintance, they made bold to call. It was a hurried call, just before train-time, but they asked Zena and Zita to correspond with them and the girls said they would.

Now the Boggs twins did not look as much alike as twins usually do, and the Johnsons, being twins, should not have committed the blunder of getting the Boggs twins mixed, but they did. On the way home they talked it over and agreed which should correspond with which. Dalton said he liked the little slim-faced one the best and Delmer was sure he fancied the other one most.

"The little slim-faced one is Zita," said Dalton.

"Yep," said Delmer.

But the little slim-faced one wasn't Zita, and so it happened that

from summer time to Thanksgiving, Delmer was corresponding with the little slim-faced one that had been Dalton's choice and Dalton was corresponding with Zena, who was Delmer's choice. But when the Johnson twins called on the Boggs twins Thanksgiving day they got themselves sorted out and after that Dalton corresponded with Zita and Delmer corresponded with Zena. Not that it made much difference, because the Johnsons wrote alike as they did everything else alike.

Cupid Couldn't Go 50 Miles.

But the correspondence waned. Fifty miles was too far. Correspondence was too unsatisfactory and railroad fare was too high, for the Johnson twins were thrifty. Besides, the Clark twins were developing into very pretty, wholesome girls, and they were only a mile away.

So the correspondence with the Boggs twins was dropped and the Johnson twins began a discreet campaign to win the Clark twins, discreet because they were mindful that the discrepancy in ages might hinder. The Clark girls attended the Bethany church and Sunday school and the Johnson twins began to take an interest in religion. They became regular attendants at Bethany church and divided their attention religiously between the sermons and Sunday school lessons on

twins on the other. They were the same way, homeward bound, and sometimes the Johnson twins stopped in to chat a while with the parents of the Clark twins.

There came a time when the Johnsons, consulting together, concluded that they might risk another step. They went to town and bought a postcard apiece. They were the folding sort, the finest to be had.

Dalton picked for Lulu a pictured blue bird of impossible blue, and Delmer's choice for Kata was a pictured pink flower of impossible pink. These they mailed to the Clark twins. They bore no identification of the senders except the handwriting, and that was so much alike that no one except the Clark twins could tell which Johnson twin had sent which card. But the Clark twins somehow seemed to know.

This bold stroke met with no rebuff, and the Johnson twins, encouraged, sent other cards. Between times they dropped in at Tillman Clark's to talk crops with the father of the Clark twins, and though nothing was said about the cards, they gathered the impression that all was well.

Buy a Buggy for Wooing.

The Johnsons were 30 years old now, and the Clark girls were 17. The Johnsons felt it was now or never. They went the limit. They bought a new buggy. It wasn't a thrifty thing to do, but it was shifty. They did not know what minute a rival

would come along in a buggy and win one of the girls away for to the country girl a boy and a buggy are irresistible.

And on Sunday evening, dressed in their best, they drove over to Clark's and tied the horse and went in and asked the girls if they wouldn't like to go to meeting at Bethany church. The girls said they wouldn't mind, and they went (the buggy was built to carry four), and next day everybody within 10 miles of Bethany Church knew that the Johnson twins were courting the Clark



twins.

That was May 23, 1909, as either Mrs. Dalton Johnson or Mrs. Delmer Johnson will tell you, as they show you the blue bird of impossible blue and the pink flowers of impossible pink.

It was every Sunday evening after that, and sometimes they sat in the cozy parlor, and other times they went driving through the country lanes. Neither of the Johnson boys ever proposed, in just so many words, but by August there was

a pretty good understanding. Delmer and Dalton went to town and bought two wedding rings, just alike. The next Sunday evening they all went riding in the buggy built for four.

As they jogged along in the gloaming, Delmer drew two tiny boxes from his pocket.

"We bought these for you girls," he said. He handed one to Dalton. Then Delmer placed one of the rings on Kata's finger and Dalton placed the other on Lulu's finger. And that was how the betrothal of the Johnson twins and the Clark twins was sealed.

Brides Dressed Exactly Alike.

The twin brides were dressed exactly alike as they stood with their twin bridegrooms before the Rev. Free-land A. Hall of the Greentown Methodist Church in the parlor of the Clark home. The bridegrooms were dressed exactly alike, except in one small detail and that was a cause of distress of mind to both. Their shoes did not exactly match.

"We could not get them exactly alike," said Delmer afterwards as he ruefully extended his foot. "There were not two pairs exactly alike at the store. We hated it, but we got them as near alike as we could."

Dalton extended his foot and nobody but the twins could tell that there was a difference. "And if you had not found twins to be your wives?" the Johnson twins were asked.

"Then we never would have married," they answered

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

After the double ceremony the Johnson twins went together and the Mrs. Johnson twins went together on their four-mile wedding trip from the Clark farm to Greentown. That was, however, only because they wanted to avert a threatened double *charivari*. Mrs. Dalton Johnson accompanied the preacher and his wife to the parsonage and awaited her bridegroom there. Mrs. Delmer Johnson accompanied Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Fulwider to their home and awaited her bridegroom there.

The twin bridegrooms drove into town together, disposed of their vehicle and slipped through the dark streets to the trysts with their twin wives. Delmer went with Dalton as far as the parsonage gate.

“Good night,” said Delmer, as he started away.

“Good night,” said Dalton as he turned toward the light that streamed from a window of the parsonage.

It was the first time in their lives that the Johnson twins had spoken the words to each other.



GHS Calendar

- **History Center current exhibit: “Is There A Doctor In The House?”**
- **Apr 6 Sister Martin, first hospital history program**
- **Apr 20 Carolyn Donson, “Doc” Keim program**
- **May 17 Historic Homes Tour**
- **Jun 7 Tributes & Tales Dinner**
- **Jun 12-14 Rummage Sale**
- **Jul 7-11 Howard Co. Fair**
- **Jul 19 New exhibit opens**