

GREENTOWN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

October 2010

Sycamore Day

Greentown Historical Society was very pleased and honored to host a special program on Sun., Aug. 22, about the stores in Sycamore with Martha Kendall, daughter of Paul and Velma Kendall, and Carol Mugg, granddaughter of Paul and Belma.

Visitors enjoyed lots of conversation and looking at the exhibits. We received the following note from Martha Kendall: "To everyone who worked on the display of the Sycamore Store. It was a great turn-out and everyone had lots of memories to tell about. Lots of compliments about how everything looked so nice. Carol and I would like to thank you so much for all of the work you have done. My parents, Paul and Belma Kendall, would have been honored."

About eighty visitors reminisced with Martha and Carol.

The current exhibit, "Grocery Stores of Eastern Howard County," features the Kendall Grocery Store that was located in Sycamore from 1925 to 1965 as well as other stores that are no longer in operation.

One item in the display is a baseball bat that belonged to Paul. The bat helps tell the story of an invitation Paul received to try out for the Chicago Cubs. Paul was unable to get to Chicago to try out for lack of \$50.00, even after several area farmers donated to the cause. Visitors had an enjoyable day remembering old times and discussing items on display as well as a few additional items Martha brought for the day.

G.H.S. thanks Martha and Carol for their interest and participation. They made it memorable for everyone.

Plevna Day

On September 12 Plevna day was held at the History Center. Jack, Eileen and Barry Lantz were special guests. More than 70 guests enjoyed visiting with the Lantz's and reminiscing about the stores and happenings in Plevna.

GHS thanks the Lantz's for making another day special at the Greentown History Center.

Phlox and Jerome Day

Special days will also be held as follows:

Phlox Oct. 17

Jerome Nov. 7

GHS Calendar

- **Grocery Store Exhibit until Dec 19**
- **Oct 17 Phlox Day**
- **Nov 4 Annual Meeting**
- **Nov 7 Jerome**
- **Dec 5 Christmas Home Tour**

Martha Kendall and Carol Mugg on Sycamore Day at the History Center.



More Info Needed

More information is needed by the exhibit committee to expand this portion of the early grocery stores exhibit.

A second Clyde Long Grocery/Long's Supermarket was located 4 or 5 stores west of the spotlight on the south side of Main St. Fred Jenkins also worked there 4 to 5 years as a meatcutter, stocking shelves, unloading supply trucks, restocking produce and other jobs as needed. Another longtime employee was Clarence Regan, now living in Sweetser, IN.

It has been learned that John Rosier was a manager of a grocery and that his father, Bill Rosier, worked with the produce. We need your help to determine the name of the grocery store and its location.

Other employees were Jewell Quick, cashier, Loy Sanders, meat cutter, Larry Coffman, meat cutter and Marguerite Freeman.

More Than Just A Penny Postcard

by Carolyn Donson and Rachel Jenkins

Riley Case, GHS board member and collector of postcards, expanded on the variety and significance of post cards during a talk at the Greentown History Center on August 1. Photographic postcards can reveal a lot about businesses, architecture, people, and transportation.

Riley said that the "Golden Age" of photographic post cards was 1907 to 1915, which helps date them. It was the mode of communication during those days. Many young couples would make "dates" by postcard, friends and family would keep in touch via postcards, so they were an important part of life in those days.

Monetary value of "real" photographic post cards is greater than printed post cards.

There are many postcards with pictures of larger cities but very few of small towns. Any postcard with a picture of Plevna, Sycamore, Jerome, or Greentown, for example, would be more valuable than those of Kokomo because there are fewer of them. Riley told a story of his purchase of a postcard of Hemlock, Indiana, for \$9 that he was able to sell on eBay for over \$100. He congratulated the Greentown Historical Society on the size of their postcard collection of eastern Howard County scenes and commented that anyone wanting to add to that collection might donate such cards.

In addition to photographic examples, postcards have a great variety of themes, from holidays, vacation spots, art work, floral, animals, and more. Collectors who are particularly interested in history tend to collect by themes such as a particular town, churches, railroad, or interurban.

The audience had many questions and several stories about postcards. Several attendees brought postcards to show and to share information.



Huckster wagon driven by Ralph Mitchell from 1929 until 1940 for Frank Hobbs grocery in Phlox.

A Special Way To Volunteer

by Rachel Jenkins

From time to time the Greentown Historical Society has openings for positions on the Board of Directors. Our bylaws provide for term limits, which keeps the membership of the board fresh and vibrant. Most terms are for 3 years, with a possibility of 2 renewals.

A knowledge of local history is not a necessity, although you will learn much as your involvement progresses. Each board member is expected to chair a committee. Some committees involve interest/skills in finances, fund raising, research, events, exhibits, building maintenance, organizing people, and publicity.

If you think you might be interested in serving on the Board or want more information, call Rachel Jenkins at 628-3564.

Christmas Homes

G.H.S. has plans to hold its annual Christmas Home Tour on Sunday, Dec. 5. At publication time, we have four homes for the event. The proceeds of the tour go to benefit the programs, exhibits and other expenses of the G.H.S. If you enjoy decorating for the Christmas holidays and entertaining visitors, it's not too late to participate in this effort. Interested persons may call Sally Imbler

at 628-7174 for information. Watch the Greentown Grapevine for further information about the Christmas Home Tour.

GHS Annual Dinner

The Annual meeting of the Greentown Historical Society will be held Thursday, Nov. 4, at Kokomo Zion U.M Church, 5051E 400 N. The meal will be served by the Zion ladies UMW at 6:30 pm. The menu is as follows: oven steak, chicken/noodles, mashed potatoes, vegetable, salad, dessert, rolls and drink.

G.H.S. is proud to announce the program speaker for the annual dinner—Darby Scalf, artist and husband and father of two.

Darby grew up in Greentown and graduated from E.H.S. in 1988. He has been teaching art for 14 years, and is currently on the faculty of Lewis Cass H.S. in Walton. Darby has undergraduate degrees in Art Studio and Art Education, and a Masters in Education. He has exhibited and sold his work in ten galleries and shops as well as at art festivals and art shows. He has professional awards and recognition in Ceramics and Photography. He is an art judge, commissioned and freelance artist, and had a brief position as Artist-in-Residence at Kokomo's Art Center.

In addition to teaching, Darby uses art to share his testi-

mony and the scripture to churches and many other organizations, like G.H.S. You can visit his website:

www.pottersministry.org

Make plans to attend the annual dinner by completing the enclosed registration form and mailing to the indicated address with your check. See you there!

Youth Day

Youth Day was held on September 25th for around 15 youth plus parents. The youth spent time researching prices of the groceries which were stocked several years ago. They also searched for clues to the crossword puzzle and hunted for the mystery items. Mr. Nicholson had offered extra credit to those who attended and completed the tasks so many worked extra time on this.

They then took a walking tour around Greentown noting the locations of previous groceries. Sue Clouser explained how she would bring her eggs to Lantz Grocery to have them candled and in turn use the money to buy groceries. The day ended at Hulce's Grocery doing price comparisons of staple goods from the past to today's prices.

Everyone enjoyed the day and were very interested in the exhibit.

Garage Sale Report

The unofficial total being raised this year as reported by Kent Evans is just over \$7000. Kent would like to thank everyone who helped make this year's sale a huge success.

Kent and Bev are relocating near Lexington, KY this fall. G.H.S. is greatly indebted to them for their loyal and enthusiastic support. We will greatly miss them but wish them the best in their new home.

We're On The Web!

Jan Chase, with sponsorship by Kling's Computers, has been working with G.H.S. board members to launch a brand-new website for Greentown Historical Society. You can find us at www.greentownhistory.org

You will find links to our current exhibit, programs, youth activities, membership information, local history, volunteer opportunities, and more. Check our site often for updates and news.

We wish to thank Jan and Kling's for this important addition to our service to eastern Howard County.

Artifact Donations

We would like to thank the following donors of artifacts during the 3rd quarter of 2010: Myrtle Brinson, Greg Agness, Tom Harper, Jack Horoho, Michael Carr, Rachel Jenkins, Larry McKinney, and Connie Voorhis. The Society receives donations of objects, photos and documents into our perma-

nent collection on Monday afternoons from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. at the History Center. If this is inconvenient for you, call 628-3800 to arrange an appointment

Donations

We would also like to thank the following persons for monetary donations for 2010: Barbara Alexander, Mary Jane Conway, Nancy Harper, Robert Hill, Sally Imbler, Fred and Rachel Jenkins, Heather Jenkins, Martha Kendall, Carol Mugg, Richard and Shirley Moser, Paul and Kimberly Nicholson, Carol Petro, Ronald and Jean Simpson, Lisa and John Stout II, Ron and Karen Swan.

The following material donations were made during 2010; Sue Clouser, Darwin and Martha Freeman, Mike and Joyce Lantz, Don and Barbara Middleton, Ronald and Jean Simpson. The Society is very grateful for these donors.

Milo Hochstedler Remembered

by Rachel Jenkins

Those of us who knew Milo Hochstedler were saddened to hear of his passing on Sept. 18. The Greentown Historical Society would not have the beautiful building at 103 E. Main St. which houses the Exhibit Gallery and the Collections Storage without Milo Hochstedler. Milo was one of the first board members, re-

sponding to the call-out in the autumn of 1998 for those interested in a local historical society.

When the building at 103 E. Main became the focus in a "home" for the society, and there was the possibility it might slip through our fingers, Milo and his wife Mary personally bought the building and then sold it to the society. The society had no credit at that time and certain studies were required to obtain a loan. Milo allowed us that extra time.

He began immediately to do the hard and dirty work of removing deteriorating wood. Other people helped, but no one else put in the hours which Milo did. He then either conducted or was overseer for many steps to reconstruction.

The beautiful oak woodwork was of his choosing and design. The front door was constructed by Milo. The tin ceiling was salvaged from the Ford building to the south which was to be demolished. He then cleaned, painted and installed it. I will always have the memory of him either on a ladder, on the roof, or going down into the crawl space, all when he was about 80 years old.

He was indefatigable!

The Greentown Historical Society and the whole community are indebted to Milo for his love of history and his dedication.

Annual Meeting Reservations

Please reserve my seat for the Annual Meeting / Dinner on Thursday, Nov. 4, 2010. (Reservation deadline is Oct. 27)

_____ Persons @ \$15.00 = \$_____

Send your check and reservation to GHS, PO Box 313, Greentown, IN

I'm sorry I cannot attend but enclosed is a donation to the Society for the following purpose:_____



Greentown Historical Society Membership Form for 2011

Purpose: To promote public awareness and appreciation of the unique history of Eastern Howard County, Indiana, and its citizens, to carry out historical research, preservation and education, and to provide the public with meaningful heritage experiences.

Dues Rates: Junior (18 and under)	\$ 8.00
Individual	\$ 15.00
Family	\$ 45.00
Life Member	\$200.00

Dues are paid for the calendar year. Dues paid in mid-year will be pro-rated by the number of months remaining in the year.

Life Membership dues may be designated to the General Fund or to the Greentown Historical Society Endowment Fund.

Please complete the information requested on the back of this form and mail with your check to G.H.S., Box 313, Greentown, IN

Annual Dinner Reservation form on reverse side.

* * * * *

Membership Form for 2011

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Check one:

Check one:

___ Current Member

Category of Membership: ___ Junior

___ New Member

___ Individual

___ Life Member

___ Family

Life Member: Other donations enclosed: Building Fund \$ _____

___ General Fund

General Fund \$ _____

___ Endowment Fund

Please make checks payable to Greentown Historical Society

An Unpaid Bill At E.E. Trott Grocery

by Craig Trott

One of the stranger stories surrounding my grandparents' store occurred thirty years after its closing. My grandfather had passed away in 1967 and my grandmother did cooking and baking for local families to gather extra income. Around 1973 or '74 Grandma was busy preparing some baked goods in her kitchen when the telephone rang.

When Grandma answered, the caller was a female and asked if this was the Trott family who owned the grocery store in Greentown during the 1930's. Of course my Grandma said she was correct. The female caller said she was a private nurse for a male patient who had lived in Greentown during the depression. She went on to say that her patient was suffering from a terminal disease and was busily trying to "make things right" with people before his passing.

The nurse said that this gentleman was convinced that he owed an outstanding bill for groceries that my grandfather had given him on credit. She asked if there was any way to know if he owed the money and, if so, what the amount would be. Grandma said if the nurse left her phone number, she would do some research and give her a return call.

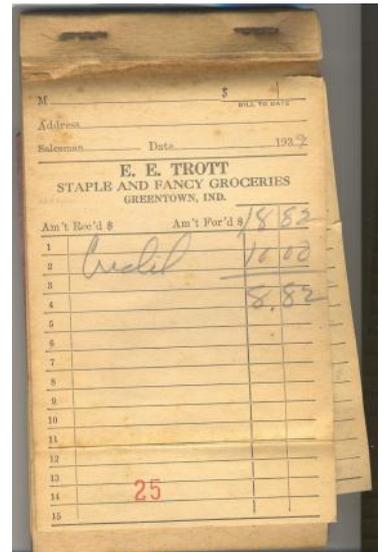
Grandma went to a remote corner in the basement and

found the old box full of the unpaid bills to the store. Within a few minutes she had located the bills about which the nurse had inquired.

Grandma made contact with the nurse and told her the outstanding total was ninety-three dollars and some odd cents. (that was a lot of money during the depression). The nurse thanked her and within one week, Grandma received a check for the entire amount.

Amazing isn't it? Two people received a blessing that took forty years to arrive.

Editor's Note: Visitors can see the E.E. Trott's Grocery bookkeeping box that contains many unpaid accounts from the 1920s and 1930s at the History Center in the current exhibit.



*Scott and Emery Trott
c. 1926 inside E.E. Trott
Grocery.*



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

Phone: 765-628-3800

Email: greentownhistory@comcast.net

Website: www.greentownhistory.org

Gift Shop Ornament

Around the first of November we will have available for sale a gold plated ornament of a 1910 Greentown street scene.

These will be for sale in our gift shop and various other places around town.

The ornaments would make wonderful keepsakes or gifts.

Please check back with us at a later date for availability.



Hudson Grocery around 1948.