Putnam Past Times

Vol. XLI

Putnam County Historical Society

March 2015

No. 2

2015 Annual Meeting & Program Saturday April 18

The 2015 Annual Meeting Dinner and Program will be held at the United Methodist Church in Hennepin at 6:00 p.m. Saturday April 18, 2015. Mark Dvorak will perform.

Mark is celebrated as a folk singer, teacher, and composer. His performances mix songs with stories about the songs emphasizing the history of American Folk Music.

Tickets (\$15.00) are available from Putnam County banks, Hennepin Food Market and Board members

(Dick Ashdown, Karen Bailey, Sue Bruch, Sue Campbell, Darlene Cofoid, Teresa Clausen, Will Duke, Kevin Kunkel, Lonna Nauman, Sid Whitaker). Mark your calendars and plan to attend. Everyone is welcome.

Two Board members Resign

Luke Holly and Brad Popurella have resigned from the Society Board due to the conflicting demands of their other commitments. The other members of the Board thank them for their support while on the Board and wish them well in their other endeavors. Luke has agreed to continue as Chair of our Ag Committee. We will be electing replacements for Luke and Brad at the Annual Meeting on April 18.

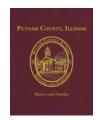
Pulsifer House Reopens for Year

Pulsifer House reopened for the year on Wednesday March 18, 2015 when the normal hours of Wednesdays and Fridays between 10:00 am and 3:00 pm resumed.

Putnam County History & Families

Copies of the new Putnam County history book are still available from the Putnam County Historical Society.

Orders at \$55.00 for pick-up or \$61.50 for mail delivery can be submitted by mail to: **Putnam County Historical Society, P.O. Box 74, Hennepin, IL 61327.**



Questions should be sent by email to: shwhitaker@starband.net or phone to: 815-303-5104.

Putnam County Historical Society P.O. Box 74 - Hennepin, IL 61327-0074 putnamcountyhistoricalsociety.org 1-815-925-7560 pchs61326@yahoo.com

In Memoriam

We mourn the loss of the following Putnam County Historical Society members and friends. Over the years they have supported the Society's goals and programs. All will be sadly missed. Thomas Morfoot Sr. Dr. Jerome Sickley

Memorials & Tributes

The following Memorials honor the lives of members and friends of the Society: **Thomas Morfoot Sr.** – Sidney Whitaker.

Donald Troglio – Joe & Jean Panier.

Bequests

The Society has received a bequest of \$10,000 from the estate of Jennie Balestri.

Bequests are critical to the future of the Putnam County Historical Society. They build our endowment and provide the core financing for major projects.

Year-end Fund Drive

The Putnam County Historical Society thanks these additional donors to the year-end Fund Drive. We depend on the generosity of our members and friends during fund drives to cover the annual cost of maintaining Pulsifer House and the Agricultural Museum and carrying on our mission of keeping the history of Putnam County alive through education, restoration and genealogy.

Shirley Mae BarnesWilliam GageCarol KirkElaine TheisingerWilliam & Brenda BickermanSheila HaageGrayce Haworth MesnerSue BruchRobert & Barbara JuddRobert & Linda MorrisonDynegyJoyce KempMargaret Parlato

Recent Donations

The Putnam County Historical Society thanks the following donors for gifts to the Society in recent months:

Dan Greenwood – Copies of the Moews Merchandiser from October 1942 through June 1969. **Joan Montesa** – 6 sketches from 1931-32 for Granville business ads by Adeline DeGroot Capello and biographical information.

Robert & Linda Morrison – 3 bushel baskets, 3 half bushel baskets, 16 quart berry baskets, ads for Drennen duck calling school and do-it-yourself duck call kits, copies of Drennen clipping and 4 Carrier, Thomas and Kuhl family obituaries and death records.

The Hennepin Cannon

The Village of Hennepin is currently seeking support to remount the cannon. If you wish to support that effort, we will accept donations for that purpose.

Adeline Degroot Capello

Adeline DeGroot was born in Peru, IL on August 14, 1912 and went to public schools in Peru. From the time she was old enough to hold a pencil she loved to draw and wanted to become an artist. However, in her day women were taught to become wives and mothers. Although she didn't realize her dream to become a full-fledged artist, she was involved in art her whole life.

Adeline's mother and father died in 1927 and 1929 at the start of the Great Depression. After her father's death she moved in with her brother and his wife temporarily, then moved to Mendota for a year and worked for room and board on a farm. There she learned to drive a horse and wagon beside a husking machine. She then moved to Granville and lived with a cousin and worked at a raincoat factory in Mark on a button-making machine earning 8 cents an hour. While living in Granville she made signs for local businesses to earn extra money.

She met her husband, Joseph Capello of Granville, in 1932. The following year they were married and moved to Peru. During the depression, she continued making signs for local businesses. She drew a label for the Star Union Brewery (used on their bottles for years) for which she was paid the princely sum of \$5.00. She would also go door-to-door painting silhouettes of children and adults in pen and ink. She painted duck decoys for hunters and portraits for friends and family. In the 1930's she painted a sign over the door entrance of the Club Del Rio on Water Street in Peru and sketched the entertainers who performed at the club. On Peru's 150th anniversary she won first prize for her portrait of the Club's hostess, Marceline.

She painted a female figure on the drum of Syd Bartlett, who was a member of Joe Livek's Orchestra. Twice, she sketched silhouettes of the 8th grade class for the Washington School's graduating class booklets in the 1950's and once painted a life-size cigar store Indian for Ed Weiland's Cigar Store in Peru. She designed and painted the logo for the Peru Rescue Station in Peru. She did a pen and ink drawing of the First Congregational Church of Peru, which appeared on their Anniversary Booklet, placemats and cookbook.

Through the years she had three children and at one point they moved to Granville and lived on the outskirts of town for about two years. The family returned to Peru where she continued raising her family and drawing and painting. As a member of the First Congregational Church she was the president of their social Kandoo Club for many years. She became a member of the NOA Kitchen Band in 1978 for 15 years until she retired.

After her death on January 4, 2010, we found samples she would sketch when starting the design for a particular ad for businesses in Granville and other nearby cities. She set up her designs for the ads on a lightweight brown paper. The sketches open a window into the history of those days during the depression. *Joan Montesa*

ALENDER, RELET ality THESE here greased here all the special areases_ water wheel for ked-all for 1.00 TODAY YOUR WAUXER WIND NOW FOR INSTALLED HAVE NEW SIOUX VALVE NDER AND REAM TO INSURE AND EXPERT JOB Ib. four cents en RINDER DUP ONE OT delicious 3/1 GRANVALLE DTANDARD OIL GARAGE This offer good only ILLINOIS

SAT. FOR AUG GRANVILLE Store SOAP-Tvory lood Soap bars almolive PURE CA ANE Special large barg \$4.25 HOUSE Ibs. Price vite/ 10 2/2 5%6 Small Cans large 4 234 Cookies Lebs. Flour Pillsbury Sunnyfield Flour 70+ 2416; bag 464 24 16. 629 \$1.37 91\$ 48 1b. bag 48 16. bag *\$2.81 \$1.81 98 16. bag 98 1b. bag P&G Soap 514 10 Bars Bottle Caps per gross 194 HARD WATER SOAP 4 for 19# SINGER ALE MOOT BEER GREEN RIVER! 24 oz. bottles Pork and Beans Campbells Quaker Mard d 3 for 5 cans 25 4 and CornMeal Lard exe. 3 lbs. 19 - 163. ¢ 9000 # for GHO

astagnolis"hristmas Junch cloths argains stoilet bath Practical 25+ 49+ 75+ towel sets 39¢ ladies silk 25¢ scarts 49¢ s embroidered pillow cases colored hemstitched pair 594 - 654 Gifts rayon lingerie 25 + 49 ladies boxed handkerchiefs 15¢ up Kid gloves 98+-\$1.49 \$1.95 mens' kid gloves \$1.49 \$1.95 \$2.49 mens ties 25¢ 35¢ 49¢ mens rayon and wool stockings dress shirts all colors 854 254 13 ladies' pure silk hose 59¢ up E I BUY THE KIDDIES Princess all silk bias 59 CHEAP ladies bedroom YEAR - COME IN -LOOK AROUND SEE THE MANY MORE USEFUL ITEMS AT TO-DAYS PRICES mens bedroom. Slippers slippers 79 + up 49 + up