

Illinois Bicentennial 2018

In a Convention held in the territorial capital of Kaskaskia in August 1818, thirty-three delegates prepared a Constitution for the state of Illinois.

The Northwest Ordinance of 1787 had made provision for a state with its north boundary in line with the south tip of Lake Michigan when the population reached 60,000. But the statehood bill prepared by Illinois partisans and approved by Congress in April 1818 placed the northern boundary 42 miles farther north and only required a population of 40,000. This was still a problem because the population was only 34,620. However, Illinois controlled the census and reported a population of 40,258.

When the new Constitution was submitted to Congress, it was approved by the House on November 23 and the Senate on December 1. Illinois became a state on December 3, 1818 with President James Monroe's signature.

Illinois began a year-long celebration of its Bicentennial on December 3, 2017. Information about events can be found at <https://illinois200.com>.

Hennepin Bicentennial

The Historical Society participation in Hennepin's celebration of its Bicentennial on September 22-24 was very successful. Pulsifer House and the Agricultural Museum were both open on Friday and Saturday and hosted a few dozen visitors. The cemetery walk in Riverside Cemetery on Saturday was also well-attended.

2018 Winter Quarterly Program Sunday February 25

The Winter Quarterly Program of the Putnam County Historical Society will be held 1:30 p.m. Sunday February 25, 2018 at the Meeting House, 403 Old Hwy 26, in Hennepin.

Fred Lippincott of Hennepin will be speaking on his interests in decoys, calls, and hunting in the Illinois Valley.

Pulsifer House Closed for the Winter

Pulsifer House is closed for the winter season and will reopen for regular hours Wednesday March 14, 2018. The Putnam County Historical Society Board wishes you and your families all the best in the coming year.

Putnam County Historical Society

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In Memoriam

We mourn the loss of the following Putnam County Historical Society members and friends. Over the years all have supported the Society's goals and programs. All will be sadly missed.

Richard Forney	Sandi Palm	Howard Schrowang
Rose Lapuh Hoff	Alfred Piccinelli	Harold Siegman
Anna Mae Read Kocher	Eleanor McCoy	Lloyd Smith (Life)
Robert Lutes	Edward Schorn	

Memorials & Tributes

The following Memorials honor the lives of members and friends of the Society:

Richard Forney – Gail & Cynthia Carr, Sharon Clausen.

Robert Lutes – Gail & Cynthia Carr.

Lloyd Smith – Nancy Brandstatter, Virginia Baver Gansemer, Alice Johnson, Jeanne Naumann, Robert Naumann.

Memberships

The Putnam County Historical Society is a 501(c) non-profit charitable organization. We depend on memberships and donations to cover the annual cost of maintaining Pulsifer House, the Agricultural Museum, our new Meeting House and carrying on our mission of keeping the history of Putnam County alive through education, restoration and genealogy. Memberships are the life-blood of the Society. We treasure our members.

Listed below are new members since the last newsletter. An * indicates a member that was omitted in error from the list in the last newsletter.

Categories

Golden:

Carol McGee*

Life:

Sue Bruch*

John Gehm*

Eleanor Litherland*

Charles Turner*

Business:

Condit's Ranch

Family:

Arch & Judy Hopkins

Couple:

Fred & Ferne Lippincott

Individual:

Patricia Clark

Marilyn Donoho

Margaret Eattoni

Donna Forney

Matthew Hostetter

Nola Smith

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year