

Putnam Past Times

Vol. 46

Putnam County Historical Society

December 2020

No. 2

At Least a Year Lost to the COVID-19 Pandemic

We had hoped that prompt action and a national strategy would bring the COVID-19 pandemic under control during the summer and that we would be able to re-open our facilities. However, that did not happen and conditions are now worse than in the spring.

There are well over 14 million confirmed cases, over 278,000 confirmed deaths, the rates are still rising, and the surge from Thanksgiving travel still has to play out. Even though there is the good news that vaccines may be available by the end of the year, it is unlikely that large numbers of the general public will have been vaccinated before mid-summer 2021. As a result, we expect that we will not be able to re-open or hold in person programs before then at the earliest. That means we probably won't be able to have our annual dinner again and will have to hold our annual meeting by newsletter again.

Although we have been unable to open our facilities, we have continued some behind the scenes activities. Karen Bailey and Gary Boggio repaired and refinished two items that were in very



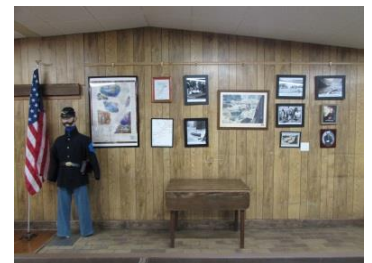
poor condition and that have been in storage for many years – the display case from the Adam Deck Jewelry Store in Hennepin and the Honor Roll from the Marshall-Putnam Farm Bureau (see photos in the Fund Drive letter). Both are now displayed in the Meeting House.



Ben Day mounted the telephone from the 3-I (Howe) bridge that crossed the Illinois River north of Moronts in the Ag Museum (see photo in the Fund Drive letter).

Frank Boggio built and installed brackets for display of the class photos from Hopkins Township High School that were provided by the Hopkins Alumni Association (see photo in the Fund Drive letter).

Karen and Nancy Hopkins prepared a display in the Meeting House of the material from Ron Bluemer's program in June 2019 on the John Wesley Powell Expedition of 1869 down the Colorado River. Ron very generously donated the materials when he was done with the series of Powell programs he presented in 2019.



Karen and Sue Bruch hung pictures on the walls in the banquet room of the Meeting House.

Karen, Gary Boggio, and Will Duke began making space in the Ag Annex building for an enclosed storage area so that we can use much of the space for overflow display area for ag tools and implements.

Putnam County Historical Society

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2020 Annual Meeting

The combined Annual Meeting and membership drive in the May newsletter was very successful. This gives us confidence if we have to do it again in 2021. We had 206 responses with 156 voting for the slate of Directors. The Board of Directors and Officers for 2020 are listed below. The 2020 annual memberships are listed on the next page as well as new and changed endowed memberships.

Board of Directors 2020

(years indicate end of term)

2021	2022	2023
Karen Bailey	Sue Bruch	Richard Ashdown
Gary Boggio	Sue Campbell	Lori Balensiefen
Darlene Cofoid	Ben Day	Will Duke
Sidney Whitaker	Lonna Nauman	Kevin Kunkel

Officers 2020

President: Sidney Whitaker
Vice President: Karen Bailey
Secretary: Lonna Nauman
Treasurer: Will Duke

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.

Iner Anderson	Robert Judd (Life)	William Smart
Roger Beck	John Luebbe	Kathy Spratt
C. Robert Belden (Life)	Bill Miller	Viola Immel Strout (Life)
Irma Besola	Nevin L. Morine	Dorothy Tonarelli
Marilyn Fiedler	John Petersen Jr.	Roy Waldschmidt
Gary Harrison (Life)	Thomas Roesch (Life)	Ann Wink

Memorials & Tributes

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

Iner Anderson – Sidney Whitaker
William Smart – Sidney Whitaker
Viola Immel Strout – Carol & Jerry Patterson
Roy Waldschmidt – Virginia Terando

2020 Memberships

Memberships are the life-blood of the Society. We treasure our members. Listed below are renewing and new members so far for 2020.

Business Members

Day Works LLC
First State Bank
Andy Gehm
Keith & Rita Gehm
Granville National Bank
Eugene & Joan Kunkel
Michael Miglio
Robert & Linda Morrison
Putnam County Public
Library District
Spring Valley Bank
Ron & Alma Toedter

Family Members

Emil & Diane Capitani
Louise Colby-Dean
Ben & Tracy Day
Kitty Nelson Irvin
Ron & Marlene Migliorini

Contributing Members

Sandra L Aeschliman
Susan McGhiey Campbell
Linda Dutcher
Janice Edgerley
Kenji & Janice Farinelli
Sydney Glover
Phil & Nancy Hopkins
Charles & Sydney Morine
Nevin & Margaret Morine
David Piccioli
Mike Schaab
John & Cynthia Teegarden
Ila Weddell
Joe & Kathryn Whitely

Couple Members

Jay & Linda Allen
Karen & Paul Bailey

Robert & Deborah
Bogatitus
Gary & Lorraine Boggio
Donald & Nancy
Brandstatter
Henry & Ida Bruch
Jean & Jim Burger
Duane & Marilyn Calbow
Jon & Teresa Clausen
Kevin & Jennifer Coleman
Charlene Dean-Jones
Stephen & Diane Donini
William & Alba Ellena
Roy & Mary Fearman
Richard & Cheri Glenn
Richard & Candace Haar
Tom & Jane Hopkins
Alice Naumann Johnson
Gene & Nancy Johnson
Randall & Lane Keller
Dennis & Debra Kimme
William & Carolyn Kraft
Dan & Lynn Kuhn
Chris & Sharon Kunkel
Norm & Jane Langill
Fred & Ferne Lippincott
Paul & Sherry Miskowicz
Robert & Jackie Naumann
Daniel & Darlissa Neubaum
John & Jennefer Oien
Joseph & Patricia Piccinelli
Larry & Sharon Priest
Robert & Ona Rehn
Alex & Carole Rolando
Robert & Janice Schuster
William & Gloria Shafer
Ron & Kathy Spratt
Bruce Steele
Lynn & Jennifer Stickel
Dave & Nancy Thompson
Louis & Carol Vaessen

Ken & Karen Verda
Mark & Mary Walmsley

Individual Members

Beth Ann Acuncius
Allen County Library
Shirley Mae Barnes
Ruth Bent
Shirley Boggio
Gwendolyn Bray
Barbara Chambers
Rose Lynn Coleman
Julia Ann Condit
Elaine Day
Dorothy Dippel
Marilyn Donoho
Joseph Engelhaupt
Charlene Fassino
Bernice Forney
Georgianne Grant
Sheila Haage
James Hantak
Doris Haub
Jeanne Holdcraft
Debra Holmes
Gaye Holtz
Matt Hostetter
Delores Jessen
James Johnson
Joyce Ann Kemp
Ronald Kinkade
Beverley Lapuh
Jovanna Mear
Mark Read
Michael Schelter
Stanley Shevokas
Nola Smith
Robert Smith
Marguerite Sons
Judy Kays Terando
Marcia Thompson

Marge Van Ness
Robert Wheeler
Betty Lou Whitlock
Eleanor Wimbiscus

New Life Members

Carol Hood
Robert Hopkins
Grayce Haworth Mesner
Diana Williamson
Kenneth Williamson
Thodora Yuhás

Towards Golden Member

Nancy Dauber
Wayne Hundley
Nancy Parmenter
Lynn Shimkus

New Golden Members

Dysart Cofoid Funeral
Home
Scott Madson
Lloyd Schrowang
Loretta Schrowang

Towards Platinum Member

Tracy Smith

New Platinum Members

Karen Bailey
Darlene Cofoid
Nancy Maze
Diane Wilson

Towards Diamond Member

William Gage

Recent Donations

We thank the following donors for recent gifts to the Historical Society:

Ron & Sue Bruch – records and other material from the Marshall-Putnam County Fair and from the Granville Co-operative Company.

Dixon Public Library – microfilm of the 1870 Census for Pulaski and Putnam Counties.

Sheila Haage – records and photographs from the First Evangelical Lutheran Church of Granville. The church has closed after 118 years serving the Swedish Lutheran community of Putnam County.

Calvin Neubaum – coal miner's helmet thought to have been used at the Mark mine and miner's pick thought to have been used at the Standard mine.

Linda McCabe Pinn – violin, banjo, and mandolin used by her grandfather Edward Newhaven.

What Is Next Now?

We will be closed for the winter through March 16, 2021, as we would be in a normal year. Sometime during late January we will review the progress of the pandemic and the vaccination program (if it has started) to decide if we can reopen Pulsifer House and the Ag Museum on March 17.

At the same time we will decide if the Annual Meeting can be held in person or if we must hold it through the newsletter again.

In the meantime, we hope that you and your loved ones are well and keeping safe. Please take care.