

# Putnam Past Times

Vol. 50

Putnam County Historical Society

July 2024

No. 2

## *2024 Open House Sunday August 11*

The Annual Putnam County Historical Society Open House will be held on Sunday August 11 between 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. at our three facilities along Old Hwy 26 in Hennepin.

Pulsifer House is our historic house, built in 1844 and restored as a mid-19<sup>th</sup> century home.



On display in the Meeting House are military and election memorabilia, 19<sup>th</sup> century clothing accessories, musical instruments, medical paraphernalia, items from the Adam Deck jewelry store in Hennepin, and corn collectibles from the collection of Alice Edgerley Bohlen.

In the Ag Museum, there are the usual displays of farm implements and tools; wildlife and decoys; hybrid corn development; toys; the coal mines at Mark and Standard; and the early 1900s general store, post office, one-room school and farm kitchen. We have expanded the displays on the Grange and the village schools.

Outside are the Hennepin Steel Mill Monument, the Moews Seed Company sign, and more farm implements.



Barnyard Discoveries will be on site with their mobile barnyard from noon to 2:00 p.m. There will also be bounce houses for the kids.



Pork chop sandwiches or hot dogs will be available for purchase at the Meeting House, either as lunches including slaw, beans, chips, cookie, and drink or as sandwiches only.

Join us for a step back in time. Everyone is invited. Admission is free. The Ag Museum and the Meeting House are handicapped accessible; we regret that Pulsifer House is not handicapped accessible.

For information on the Open House contact Sid Whitaker at [sidneywhitaker25@gmail.com](mailto:sidneywhitaker25@gmail.com) or 815-303-5104.

***Putnam County Historical Society***

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## *2024 Annual Meeting & Program Held Saturday April 13*

The Annual Meeting and Program was held Saturday April 13. Following the election of four Board Members, Mark Dvorak performed.

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### *Election of Board Members*

The Board of Directors consists of twelve members. Four are elected for three-year terms each year at the Annual Meeting. This year, **Karen Bailey**, **Gary Boggio**, **Darlene Cofoid**, and **Sidney Whitaker** were re-elected.

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### *Will Duke resigns after 40 Years as Treasurer*

Will Duke was elected Treasurer of the Putnam County Historical Society in April 1984 following the resignation of Russell Glover. For the past 40 years he has shepherded the finances of the Historical Society as Pulsifer House was restored, the endowment fund was established in 1990, and capital campaigns paid for the Agricultural Museum (purchased in 1999) and the Meeting House (purchased in 2016). Teresa Clausen was elected to replace him at the May meeting of the Society Board. He will remain on the Board.

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### *Board of Directors 2024*

(years indicate end of term)

2025	2026	2027
Sue Bruch	Richard Ashdown	Karen Bailey
Sue Campbell	Teresa Clausen	Gary Boggio
Ben Day	Will Duke	Darlene Cofoid
Lonna Nauman	Kevin Kunkel	Sidney Whitaker

### *Officers 2024*

President: Sidney Whitaker  
Vice President: Karen Bailey  
Secretary: Lonna Nauman  
Treasurer: Teresa Clausen

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### *In Memoriam*

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

Betty Campbell	Dorothy Dippel	William Munson
Emil Capitani	Stephen Donini	
Richard Charchek	Helen Kaiser (Life)	

## ***Dick Ashdown resigns from Society Board of Directors***

Dick Ashdown joined the Historical Society Board of Directors in January 2012 following the death of Francis Boyle. His service on the Board, his humor, and his assistance with Open Houses, tours and the annual 4<sup>th</sup> grade visits to the Ag Museum were greatly appreciated.

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## ***Recent Donations***

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

**Marla Antolik** – Seven school notebooks by Edward Barnard of Standard circa 1897, 1910 account book Peter Herline, and 1930 Christmas gift book At Camp in Old Virginia..

**Neil Gensini** – Three photos that belonged to Hazel Stewartson Kibble: Royal Neighbors of Granville June 21, 1903; Granville Grade School students circa 1920; 1913 Hennepin Homecoming attendees in front of Courthouse.

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## ***Wilhelmina Whitaker History Award 45<sup>th</sup> Year***

Wilhelmina Whitaker taught High School mathematics for 45 years, from 1925 to 1970. When the Historical Society was organized in 1963, she was a charter member and served as curator. Her interest in the history of the county and the example of her dedication to the students of the county prompted the Historical Society to establish the Wilhelmina Whitaker Memorial History Award in conjunction with the Putnam County High School in 1980 following her death.

The award, given annually to a junior, is based on excellence in American History, honor, service, and patriotism. The student receives a medallion and the name is inscribed on a plaque that is on display at the Putnam County High School during the school year.

### **Wilhelmina Whitaker Award Winners**

1980 Amy Olsen	1992 Bonnie Loger	2004 Adam Ossola	2016 Victoria Burlingame
1981 Darren Howell	1993 Jina Bryant	2005 Shaina Boyd	2017 Teagan Pantenburg
1982 Cindy Glenn	1994 David Shafer	2006 Angela Serafini	2018 Rebecca Ramey
1983 Terri Priest	1995 Debbie Newman	2007 Philip Edgerley	2019 Jacob Wiesbock
1984 Rae Balestri	1996 Heather Grant	2008 Kaitlyn Foley	2020 Connor Brooker
1985 Gina Gualandi	1997 Amber Dawe	2009 Stevie Croisant	2020 Erin Brooker
1986 Lisa Zarobila	1998 Chauntelle Biagi	2010 Ben Arnold	2021 Lauren Falleti
1987 Brian Martin	1999 Kristin Whitaker	2011 Elizabeth Jeppson	2022 Alexander Myres
1988 Heather Priest	2000 Michael Loger	2012 Nicolas Lenkaitis	2023 Jaden Siegmann
1989 Jennifer Urnikis	2001 Robert Dawe	2013 Jon Mattern	2024 Cadience Bickett
1990 No award made	2002 Angela Mecagni	2014 Scott Urnikis	
1991 Matt Rue	2003 Emily Edgerley	2015 Madison Zellmer	

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## ***Endowment Fund Established 35 Years Ago***

In 1990 the Society Board recognized that the long term financial stability of the Putnam County Historical Society required an endowment. An Endowment Fund was established that is supported by designated donations and by the membership fees from Life, Golden (established in 1990), Platinum (established 2004), and Diamond (established 2015) Memberships. Many people with endowment memberships also take out annual memberships. There have so far been 511 endowment members (231 still living). The current honor roll is enclosed.

## 2024 Memberships

Memberships are the life-blood of the Society. We treasure our members. Listed below are renewing and new members for 2024.

### Business Members

Bruch Farms  
Nancy Dauber  
Day Works  
First State Bank  
Keith & Rita Gehm  
Granville National Bank  
O'Brien Farm – Johnson Bros., LLC  
Putnam County Public Library District  
Spring Valley City Bank

Rodger & Diana  
Brandstatter  
Burton & Susan Brooks  
Henry & Ida Bruch  
Ron & Sue Bruch  
James & Jean Burger  
Jon & Teresa Clausen  
Jack & Lori Dippel  
John & Vicki Ehrhardt  
William & Alba Ellena  
William&Ellen Entwistle  
Ralph&Kathleen Gensini  
Richard & Candace Haar  
Harold Heider

David&ThelmaHolmbeck  
John & Diane Holmbeck  
Thomas & Jane Hopkins  
Gene & Nancy Johnson  
Terry & Barbara Judd  
Randall & Lane Keller  
Dan & Lynn Kuhn  
Norm & Jane Langill

Fred & Ferne Lippincott  
Robert & Linda Morrison  
Robert & Jackie Naumann  
Daniel&DarlissaNeubaum  
Robert & Janice Ossola  
Joseph & Patricia Piccinelli  
Mark Read  
Robert & Janice Schuster  
Michael& Deborah Skowera  
Lynn & Jennifer Stickel  
Louis & Carol Vaessen

Ken & Karen Verda  
James & Rose Wall  
Kenneth & Diana Williamson  
Eleanor Wimbiscus

### Individual Members

Allen County Library  
Ron Bluemer

Shirley Boggio  
Roger K Bunting  
RoseLynn Coleman  
Edwin Cunnea  
Charlene Dean-Jones  
Marilyn Donoho  
Dorothy Emory  
Marie Etter  
Bernice Forney  
Donna Forney  
Joseph Garuckas  
Georgianne Grant  
Sheila Haage  
James Hantak

Doris Haub  
Jeanne Holdcraft  
Gaye Holtz  
Matt Hostetter  
Alice Naumann Johnson  
Ronald Kinkade  
Carolyn Kraft  
Beverley Lapuh  
Michael Miglio

Sherry Miskowiec  
Margaret Burns Parlato  
Barbara Paxson  
Sandra Rippon  
Emma Roelifs  
Alex Rolando  
Lauren Walker Scott  
Stanley Shevokas  
Robert Wheeler  
Janene Stansell Yokoyama

### Endowment Members

\*New Life Member  
\*\*New Golden Member  
Merry Bassi\*  
Alice Edgerley Bohlen  
Bobby Cofoid  
Darlene Cofoid  
Ben Day  
Laurie Glenn  
John C Heider

Luke Holly  
Debra Holmes  
Carol Capponi Hood  
Sally V Houston  
Wayne Hundley  
Kitty Nelson Irvin  
Dennis Kimme  
Carol McGee  
Nancy Parmenter  
Lloyd Schrowang  
Loretta Schrowang  
Lynn Shimkus\*\*  
Diane Wilson

### Family Members

Louise Colby-Dean  
Kenji & Janice Farinelli  
Andy Gehm  
James & Gladys King  
David Piccioli  
Ona Rehn  
Eric & Kim Swartz

### Contributing Members

Sandra L Aeschliman  
Nancy Brandstatter  
Susan McGhiey Campbell  
Philip & Sherrie Carlson  
Phil & Nancy Hopkins  
Jovanna Mear  
Margaret Morine  
Mike Schaab  
Elinor Schrowang Vaughn  
Mark & Mary Walmsley  
Joe & Kathryn Whitely

### Couple Members

Jay & Linda Allen  
Paul & Karen Bailey  
Robert& Janet Bakewell  
William & Brenda Bickerman  
Robert & Deborah Bogatitus  
Sherrylee&Albert Brady