



Orange Peelings



From the Desk of the President

The OCHS has had a wonderful year celebrating the Bicentennial of both our own Orange County and the State of Indiana!

We have completed two Legacy Projects endorsed by the Indiana Bicentennial Commission 1) the publication of Reflections of Orange County, A Pictorial Journey through the History of Orange County 1816-2016 and 2) the planting of the county's Bicentennial Tree of Hope in memory of the late Arthur Dillard.

A highlight of the year was our Bicentennial edition of the Annual Ice Cream Social, which was one of our best in recent years.

Please plan to join us for our Annual Christmas Dinner on Thursday, December 1st at Orleans Methodist Church where we will install our new officers for 2017.

Am proud of all that we have accomplished together this past year. And I am grateful to all our members for their continued support and efforts for the betterment of OCHS.

Thank you for the privilege of being your President this past year.

Robert F. Henderson



It was an honor to be able to welcome so many Lindley Family Descendants "back home" again for our 2016 Ice Cream Social held the last Sunday of August at the Lindley House Historic Site. Many traveled from out of state to be with us for this special Bicentennial Homecoming.

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Bicentennial Edition of Annual Ice Cream Social

Despite the extreme heat and humidity, a large number were on hand for the Bicentennial Edition of our Annual Old Fashioned Ice Cream Social. The event which is traditionally held each year the last Sunday in August at the Historic Lindley House in Paoli, serves as one of our main fundraisers. This year, proceeds in the form of donations received, totaled a record amount of \$1,700.

Monies raised during the event are used for the preservation and upkeep of the Lindley House Historic Site. Attendees were treated to lots of cold ice cream and an array of delicious desserts, gallons of lemonade and tea, live entertainment, with a number of area bands performing on the home's shady front lawn. Performing were Crawford County Community Band, Lick Creek and the Orange Co. Jammers. This year's event was expanded to also include a number of heritage type activities that were also set up on the lawn. Some of the exhibits included an exhibit of Orange County Barns sponsored by Saving Historic Orange County. Patoka Lake provided an interesting display of stories

beneath the lake as well as display of early pioneer toys and games. Attendees also enjoyed skilled demonstrations including quilting, handspinning, blacksmithing, bee keeping, and old tyme toys.

Glenn Hall exhibited some 40 pieces of his one of a kind metal sculptures.

A large number of individuals also enjoyed getting to take a tour of the historic 1852 farm house which is furnished to reflect the 1850s and 1860s when the site was a farm. The gardens and grounds were available for informal touring as well.

The Lindley Trough was on public display for the first time ever and attracted quite a bit of attention. The 10 foot long livestock trough is an early piece of Orange County history from the William Lindley farm. He came on the wagon train with Jonathan Lindley.

Through dendrochronology, the scientific method of dating, based on analysis of patterns of tree rings, Dr. Darin Rubino, a Harvard professor, ha determined this popular tree began growing in 1522.





What's New with Orange County Historical Society



Orange County Historical Society's officers, board members and staff person recently participated in a Collection Care Site visit, a special traveling program provided through the Indiana Historical Society (IHS). OCHS President Robert F. Henderson said that during the free one-day visit, the local group was able to receive some in-depot, specialized training on its historic collection care and fundraising for the collection.

The presenter for the workshop was Karen DePauw who serves as Coordinator of Local History Services for HIS.

Henderson explained that the IHS Local History Services department is staffed by people who have worked in small organizations and understand the challenges and opportunities local historical organizations like OCHS face. They assist local historical societies, museums, libraries, archives, genealogy groups and preservation groups to promote Indiana's history statewide.

The educational session was divided up with equal time spent at both the Museum building and the historic Lindley House site.

The organization-specific training also included:

- ^Basic handling and storage techniques of various artifacts, documents, and photographs.
- ^Basic environmental concerns, building condition and maintenance at both the Museum and Lindley House.
- ^Assessing the collection
- ^Using proper display conditions and techniques

^Preparing for fundraising

^Developing an overall collections policy

The local organization also received a free starter kit of collection care training resources and materials. Henderson added the training was very informative and that the historical society would be looking at implementing a number of objectives in the coming months in an effort to better care and preserve its sizeable historical collection as a whole.



These items are found in several rooms at the Lindley House and

should be considered in the preservation process as are other items found in the various rooms in the House.



Historical Collections at Risk

Indiana's collecting institutions are at risk of losing many Hoosier memories, and the threat to thousands of historical artifacts and documents is real and ongoing. That is why the Indiana Historical Society (IHS) developed its collections care traveling exhibit, Endangered Heritage.

The Orange County Historical Society (OCHS) was please to be able to host this special exhibit which was displayed at the Paoli Library. The informative display suggested solutions to the problems facing large and small historical organizations across the state.

Endangered Heritage gave visitors samples of some of the most common dangers to object and documents in Hoosier history collections. The exhibit also focused on the needs of heritage collection organizations for humidity and temperature controls, adequate storage and funds to care for their collections



“History Detective” Dates Lindley House

OCHS enjoyed working with our friends Saving Historic Orange County (SHOC) and Dr. Darrin Rubino, a professor at Hanover College, this past summer on a **real life history mystery**.

The Society has long been interested in documenting the actual age of the historic Thomas Elwood Lindley house. So SHOC arranged for Dr. Rubino to travel to Paoli. He visited the site and removed a pencil size sample of original wood. In short, he matches tree ring growth in the wood to historic weather patterns in his data base determining when the log was “born” and when it “died” (was harvested) and is able to conclude when a structure was built. We **announced the results of our fact finding at the close of our recent Ice Cream Social**. Here is our own History Detective Darrin’s analysis of Lindley House. Very exciting!

“All said and done, I would say it was built in 1852 or late 1851. The outer ring (wane or bark), if present, is almost always 1851. It is not possible to tell if the 1851 ring was completely formed or not. I can say that the 1852 ring had not yet started to grow. Therefore, the logs were harvested prior to April 1852 and sometime after June or July of 1851 (there is some growth in that year). So, the “addition” is not an addition. I believe some of you thought it was original. What’s great about this project is we have dates from the basement, the L-addition, and the main house/structure. I went up into the attic of the main structure and was able to date the sill (WOW was it hot in there). In the main house attic, there were several walk boards which I think were the original roof sheathing of the house. The current roof looks like a replacement, but I couldn’t find any wane or bark to date it. The “walk boards” had a live edge and MANY nails and nail holes suggesting shingles were once nailed to them. In all, we dated 1990 rings and created a chronology dating from 1562 to 1850.”

Grand “Old Lady” Gets Facelift

The Historic Thomas Elwood Lindley House underwent a much needed face lift during this Bicentennial year including extensive repair work to the front and east porches. Thanks to Terry Cornwell and his crew for all their efforts. The historic exterior of the home also soon receives a new coat of paint. In addition, all of the windows were reglazed and 22 broken glass panes were replaced.

The work was performed by Jeff Cook and Genesis Painting of Orleans.

Our friend and member, Julie Morris recently repaired the home’s wonderful old period screen doors. Some of our members braved the heat and spruced up the interior for the Ice Cream Social.



We were really excited as the “historic Lindley Trough” for the very first time ever was on public display for the Ice Cream Social this past August.

The 10 foot long livestock trough is an early piece of Orange County history from the William Lindley farm. He came on the wagon train with Jonathan Lindley.

The trough previously was housed on the Lindley farm, owned for decades by Rachel and Jim Bowen. It was purchased from the Bowens by Saving Historic Orange County (SHOC) and is now being shared with Orange County Historical Society at the Thomas Elwood Lindley House.



The gardens at the Lindley Historic Home Site received some much need attention this summer. We are grateful to member Karen Padgett for volunteering her time and talents to spruce up the Memorial Garden located on the east side of the house. We are also grateful to our friends and partners, The Dirt Diggers Club who several years ago planted the back kitchen garden and continue to lovingly care for that space.



Thanks to our friends at HD Graphics in Orleans for the generous donation of the beautiful new sign at the Lindley Historic Homesite.

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In conjunction with the upcoming Nov. 20th Paoli Downtown Merchants Open House, OCHS will host an old-fashioned holiday event at the Thomas Elwood Lindley House.

The Museum on Courthouse Square will be open during that event, and that will be the last day of operation for 2016.



Never before, and most likely, never again, have Hoosiers had the chance to experience such a memorable and amazing event as the Indiana Bicentennial Torch Relay. The Torch traveled through Orange County on September 14. It was carried through the Springs Valley area, the Paoli Square and onto Orleans before entering Lawrence County that afternoon. Several OCHS members participated by helping to carry Indiana's enlightenment during its trek through Orange County.



Our own Glenn Hall, appropriately enough, on his antique tractor.

Have you visited our newly updated Orange County Historical Society webpage lately?

We now share a website with our friends at Saving Historic Orange County (SHOC). We have made a number of updates to our pages, added interesting links, on-line listing of our commemorative items, revised membership pages and forms. Check it out!!

Be A History Maker, Join us

Orange County Historical Society
 P O Box 454
 Paoli, IN 47454

Individual Membership \$20
 Lifetime Membership \$200

*Dues include "Orange Peelings" and postage for mailing four issues per year. Please enclose payment for membership checked.

New Member _____ Date _____
 Renewal _____

Lifetime _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone # _____ cell _____

Email _____