



# The Journal

July, 2017  
Vol. XX, No. 2

A Publication of the Griffith Historical Society, Inc.

P.O. Box 678, Griffith, IN 46319 ♦ [www.griffithhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.griffithhistoricalsociety.org)

## 2017 Officers

President

**Ray White**

924-4100

Vice President

**Ryan Schultz**

292-2403

Secretary

**Karen Kulinski**

513-8812

Treasurer

**Nancy Stout**

922-6594

Membership Secretary

**Shirley Welch**

838-2858

## 2017 Board Members

**Richard Fortner**

922-6594

**Dan Frost**

682-4041

**Phyllis Frost**

682-4041

**Maxine Hess**

923-2436

**Eileen Janovsky**

838-2601

**Alan Kulinski**

513-8812

**Jay Nichols**

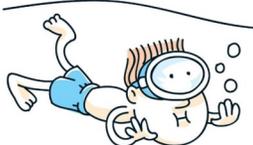
923-4234

**Dale Schwer**

773-734-3740

**Dick Welch**

838-2858



## Lots of GHS Activities, and More to Come!

Summer is racing by, and it's been fun-filled and successful so far.

### Outdoor Activities

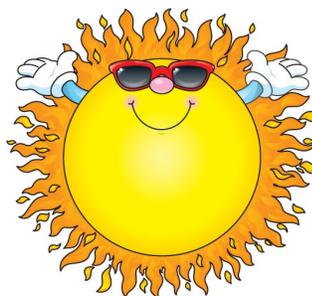
*The Hess Express*, has been chugging along on Friday nights at Griffith's Central Market and will continue to do so (weather permitting) until the end of August.

*The Hess Express* was also in the Griffith 4th of July parade, and to hear tell, the train and the kids were a hit!

Speaking of hits, our annual **Bands 'n' Brews** event on July 14th and 15th was a big one! The weather cooperated beautifully, the music was terrific and we're already making plans for next year's event on July 20 & 21, 2018.

We're looking forward to again taking part in the town's **Public Safety Extravaganza** in Central Park on August 26th and the town's **Rock 'n' Rail Street Festival** over Labor Day weekend.

At Rock & Rails we'll be running *The Hess Express* on a new route due to the increasing crowds on Broad Street, and our booth will be located directly across the street from our previous location.



As a Festival special, we are offering an assortment of different Griffith T-shirts, both adult and kids sizes, at rock-bottom prices, so come early to shop.

With Labor Day signaling summer's end, our last outdoor event is taking part in Octoberfest in Central Park on October 6th.

### It's Raffle Time Again

Enclosed with this newsletter are 12 tickets for our annual raffle. Each ticket sells for \$2 individually, or 12 for \$20.

The raffle drawing will be held on Sunday evening, September 3rd, at Rock & Rail Fest.

Funds raised helps support our two Museums, up at our Historical Park and down at Franklin, so we hope members will participate to the extent that they are able.

Mail your raffle stubs and check payable to the Griffith Historical Society, Inc., to P.O. Box 678, Griffith, IN 46319. Or drop them off at our Rock & Rails booth.

-----  
**Note:** Our next **Board Meeting** will be held on **Monday, August 7th**, at 1 p.m. in the Griffith Senior Center.

## The Tale of Some Rail

A few months back, GHS member **Phil Dembowski** learned that the Lake County Parks Department was going to have the old C&O Reder Road rail line removed to expand the existing bike trail.



Phil contacted the Parks Department and asked if they would donate the old rail to us if we removed it off their site and move it to our Historical Park. When they agreed, Phil spent many days digging up twelve long pieces of rail, plus assorted tie plates, spikes, jointbars and other rail hardware.

The additional rail will be used to increase the length of our existing trackage to allow us to rearrange our railcars to move the flatcar toward the front. Our plan is then to turn the flatcar into a train-watching platform for train buffs, families and photographers.

We plan also to use the platform for Bands 'n' Brews performers and decorate it at Christmas time.

## Spotlight on Franklin

We're open again come Saturday, August 5th!

The issues with our chair lift that have kept us closed are now resolved and our main display room will be open on the first Saturday, August 5th from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

On that day, we will

debut our newest seasonal display featuring champion racer **Paul Goldsmith**, who paired with **Ray Nichols** to build and race prize-winning automobiles

When he retired from racing, Mr. Goldsmith was instrumental in creating the Griffith Airport.

## Thanks a Heap!

We have so many people to thank this month!

- ☺ **Lake County Parks** for donating rail and other pieces of track equipment to us, and to **Phil Dembowski** for all the work he did removing the rail and equipment and moving it to our Historical Park.
- ☺ **Town of Griffith Park Department** for keeping our Historical Park looking beautiful all summer, and for announcing our Bands & Brews event on their lighted signs.
- ☺ **Musetta Yeager** for providing a wealth of information on **Paul Goldsmith** for our new display.
- ☺ **Craig Hoot** for driving our train in the 4th of July parade; the kids who rode in the train, including those from the First Christian Church and the parents who walked with them; and to **Wendy Wilken** who rode in the back.
- ☺ **Jay Nichols** who drove the truck in the 4th of July Parade, and to **Neza De LaNaza** and her niece **Emma** who kept the kids on the train supplied with candy to toss out during the parade.

And then we must thank everyone who helped with **Bands 'n' Brews!**

- ☺ **Troop 264 Scouts and Leaders** for helping with banners and fence set-up and take-down.
- ☺ **Griffith Park Department** for providing picnic tables and garbage cans.
- ☺ **Griffith Police Department** patrolling our area during Bands 'n' Brews.
- ☺ **Town of Griffith** who put Bands 'n' Brews on the town website.
- ☺ **Debby Hoot and Nancy Stout** for coordinating Bands 'n' Brews
- ☺ **Pokro Brewing Company and Wildrose Brewing** for participating in Bands 'n' Brews, and a very special thanks to **Wildrose** for their very generous donation to us.
- ☺ Our wonderful **Bands 'n' Brews** volunteers, including **Andrea Corgan, Neza De LaNaza** and her niece **Emma, Marthann Gatlin, Alan and Karen Kulinski** and sons **Ken Krick and Scott Kulinski, Manny Monrail, Jay Nichols, Ryan Schultz, Dale Schwer, Ray White, Joy Wilson** and her friend **Stuart, Bill and Tina Witham, and Haley Wright.**
- ☺ And a really, really **BIG** thank you to the **Griffith Town Council** for their continued help and encouragement.