



A Publication of the Griffith Historical Society, Inc.

P.O. Box 678, Griffith, IN 46319 ♦ griffithhistoricalsocietyinc.wordpress.com



Our End-of-the-Year Activities!



2018 Officers

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Ray White

924-4100

Vice President

Ryan Schultz

292-2403

Secretary

Karen Kulinski

513-8812

Treasurer

Nancy Stout

670-1821

Membership Secretary

Shirley Welch

838-2858

2018 Board Members

Maxine Hess

923-2436

Eileen Janovsky

838-2601

Jay Nichols

Dale Schwer

773-734-3740

Dick Welch

838-2858

GHS ANNUAL DINNER

We will hold our **Annual Dinner Meeting** and Election of Officers on Thursday evening, November 15th, at the Griffith Senior Center, 348 N. Indiana..

The event begins with dinner at 6 p.m., followed by a PowerPoint overview of Society activities. The **election of officers** for 2019 will end the evening.

Dinner is \$10. Call Nancy Stout, 670-1621, if you plan to attend. Then, please send your check for the number of dinners reserved to P.O. Box 678, Griffith, IN 46319.

We hope everyone comes out and celebrate another successful year with us. We are grateful to the Griffith Senior Citizen's Center for the use of their facility for our dinner and monthly meetings.

SANTA, 2018

Santa is coming again soon!

On December 8th, as part of Griffith's KrisKingle Walk, we will again be at Lady's Gourmet Popcorn, 118 N. Broad St, taking Santa photos. All proceeds from the event will go to the Historical Society.

The following week is our 21st annual **Santa in the Caboose** event, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on December 15, and noon to 4 p.m. on December 16.

Again, we will be offering private Santa visits for families in our caboose, and low-cost, high-quality Santa photos. The weekend will also feature our **Holiday Bake Sale** and basket raffles containing merchant gift cards and other items.

We will be calling members in late November asking for donations of home-baked goods for our sale.

Our New Raffle!

In place of our yearly raffle, we have been selling 50-50 tickets all summer at all our events.

Enclosed please find six 50/50 tickets — priced at 3 for \$5 — that we are asking you to buy. Send the stubs and a check for \$10 to P.O. Box 678 Griffith, IN 46319.

We will sell tickets at our Annual Dinner on November 15th, then draw the winning ticket at the end of the night.

Farewell, Dear Friends!

In the past few months we had to say goodbye to **Evelyn Bunce, Janet Schweitzer** and **Sarah Williams**.

Evelyn and her late husband, George, were members of the Historical Society from the very beginning and were active participants in all our activities.

Evelyn served on the Board of Directors and as an officer, including as president. She was the official unofficial historian of Griffith and was instrumental in saving much of Griffith history that would have been lost without her efforts.

Janet served on our Board of Directors for many years and was Board Secretary, as well. She was a willing volunteer in all our activities,

Both Janet and Evelyn were part of the core group responsible for major projects such as acquiring our first three railcars and moving the Tower.

Sarah was also a long-time member and volunteer and donated our first tractor to us to pull The Hess Express.

They will be missed, but never forgotten.

Our Depot is Lookin' Great . . .



. . . thanks to Griffith Boy Scout Troop 264, and Mason Isenblatter's Eagle Scout project. Toni Rickert was Mason's mentor for the project.

Troop members and volunteers did an outstanding job on the Depot, beginning with scraping the entire building of all old paint. Holes were patched, trim was fixed or replaced, then two coats of paint were put on the Depot and the trim, around the windows and doorways, which were painted in a contrasting color, as were the doors.

To finish up the project, the Troop scraped and painted all the railings and the cement blocks, then laid new river rock in the front basement pit window and black dirt around the Depot,

We are so grateful to everyone who worked on this project.

Spotlight on Franklin

Our Historical Display room is open the **first and third Saturdays**, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Enter through **Door G**, and our chairlift is operational for anyone who needs it,

We continue to enter information into our historical documents cataloging computer program. We are now nearing 9,000 items

that have been digitized, and we're not even close to being finished.

By the spring we will have a new display, "A Town is Born," featuring all our town's incorporation documents from 1903-04, including the special census done in all three townships prior to the vote.

Thanks a Heap!

We have so many people to thank this month!

- ☺ **Paul Goldsmith** and **Musetta Yeager** for again coming to our Franklin History Room during Rock & Rails to visit with people and sign autographs. And to **Musetta** for allowing us to scan so many of her family photos.
- ☺ **Jim Marker** for naming us to receive \$210 from the Blue Jean Day collection where he works.
- ☺ **Craig Hoot, Toni Rickert, Carlos Lee**, for driving The Hess Express at our events; **Debby Hoot** and **Nancy Stout** for selling tickets; and **Sarah Cundiff** and **Karen** and **Alan Kulinski** for filling in when needed; and to the scouts from Troop 264; the Griffith Explorers; and the Griffith High School Honor Society members who also helped with the train.
- ☺ Our Saturday Franklin Museum volunteers: **Andrea Corgan, Sarah Cundiff, Marthann Gatlin, Georgia Helfen, Val Larson, and Musetta Yeager**.
- ☺ The **Griffith Park Department** for keeping our Park looking great all summer.
- ☺ And a **really, really BIG** thank you to the **Griffith Town Council** for their continued support and encouragement.
- ☺ *Special thanks go out to everyone involved in our **Opening Day** event in June during which we dedicated the **two bronze plaques** purchased by Operation Neighborhood Spotlight/Legacy Foundation and placed in front of our Depot Museum designating it and our Tower as being on the **National Register of Historic Places**. Coordinating this activity was **Ken Karlstedt**, and we are grateful to him and so many others for all their work in making the day and the project a success: **Shawn Cornett, Griffith Boy Scout Troop 264, Mitchell Bright, Jim Marker, Marthann Gatlin, Karen Kulinski, Ray White, Curtis Rex, Bricklayers and Allied Crafters Union Local #4, Jeff Cavinder and his apprentices, American Legion Post 66, Griffith Park Department, Steve and Barb Stelk, Phil Dembowski, and Craig Hoot.***