



The Journal

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A Publication of the Griffith Historical Society, Inc.

P.O. Box 678, Griffith, IN 46319 ♦ www.griffithhistoricalsociety.org

2019 Officers

President

Ray White

924-4100

Vice President

Antoinette Rickert

292-2403

Secretary

Karen Kulinski

513-8812

Treasurer

Sarah Cundiff

922-6594

Membership Secretary

Shirley Welch

838-2858

2019 Board Members

Peter Ghrist

Maxine Hess

923-2436

Debby Hoot

924-0146

Nancy Stout

670-1621

Board Member Emeriti

Marthann Gatlin

Eileen Janovsky

Jay Nichols

Dale Schwer

Dick Welch

Good-bye Winter, Hello GHS Activities!

Spring is finally here, which means robins return, plants pop up out of the ground — and the Historical Society begins scheduling their spring and summer events.

Outdoor Activities

Beginning on May 10th, we again will start running *The Hess Express*, pulled by *SC's Engine!* The train's first outing will be at Griffith's Central Market on Friday nights (weather permitting.) Central Market's last day for 2019 is September 13th.

The Hess Express also takes part in the **Broad Street Blues & BBQ Festival** at Central Park June 28 to 30; the Griffith **4th of July** parade, beginning at 10 am; the **Public Safety and Community Day** on August 24; the town's **Rock 'n' Rail Festival** over Labor Day weekend. Come Fall, we're at the **Griffith Octoberfest**, October 4–6.

If you are interested in buying advertising space on one of our

barrel train cars, contact **Nancy Stout** at the number at the left.

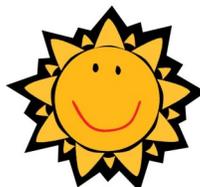
Time to Renew

We need your help to keep on keeping on. We also need your input on what we're doing now and your ideas for new things we might try.

So, it's important you renew your membership! We are enclosing two membership forms — one for you and one to give to a friend or family member.

Enclose the form, along with your check payable to the Griffith Historical Society, in the pre-addressed envelope we have enclosed. Then put a stamp on it and drop it in the mail to us

Note to Life Members: You do NOT need to renew your membership! But you can help us. Please give the two membership forms you receive with this newsletter to two people you think might be interested in joining us.



Super Raffle

It's our new fund-raising effort.

A **50-50 raffle** that goes on for seven months!

You can buy tickets all summer long when *The Hess Express* is running at Central Market. We'll be at all the town festivals, too.

Tickets cost \$2 a piece, or 3 tickets for \$5.

The last time you can buy tickets is at our Annual Dinner in mid November, where we will draw the winning number.

Please buy early and often to help the Society!

Welcome New Board Members

We are pleased to announce four new additions to our Board:

Antoinette 'Toni' Rickert has been elected to the office of Vice President.

Sarah Cundiff has been elected to the office of Treasurer.

Peter Ghrist has been appointed to fill out the term of Craig Hoot.

Deborah Hoot has been appointed to fill out the term of Dale Schwer

New Board Member Status

We have a new operating status — Board Member Emeritus.

This status is designated for long-time board members who, because of health or age issues, can no longer serve as an officer or director but still wants to be involved in our activities.

These members have been devoted to the Society and have years of experience we can draw upon. Current Board Member Emeriti are: **Marthann Gatlin, Eileen Janovsky, Jay Nichols, Dale Schwer, Dick Welch.**

Want to know a bit more about our **Officers and Board Members?**

In our Fall Journal, we will have bios of each of them so you can get to know everybody. The bios will be put on our website, too.

Spotlight on Franklin

We are working on a new permanent Special Display Board — Griffith Becomes an Official Town! It will feature copies of original incorporation documents, including a special 1903 town census and original hand-written ballots. It will be ready by summer.

We continue to digitize information on Griffith History in our cataloging computer program and are nearing 10,000 entries

Our Historical Display Room is open the first and third Saturdays, from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Enter through Door G to the lower level (chairlift available.) During this time, we have a person on hand who can search for info in the computer for you.

He can also scan a photo and immediately return it to you, so please share your old Griffith photos with us.

Can't make a Saturday? Call Nancy Stout and arrange for another day to view the museum. Donations are always welcomed for this service.

Thanks a Heap!

We are so grateful to:

- ☺ **Ray and Rachelle White** for purchasing the annual dinner centerpieces, and to Rachelle for doing the program.
- ☺ **Jim Marker**, Griffith Town Councilman, for swearing in our officers and board members at the dinner.
- ☺ **Lady's Gourmet Popcorn** for inviting us to take Santa photos in their store as part of Griffith's 2nd Kris Kringle Walk.
- ☺ **Craig Hoot, Alan Kulinski and Logan Kulinski** for printing out Santa photos; **Debby Hoot**, for chairing the Holiday Bake Sale, for selling photos, and making up raffle baskets; **Nancy Stout** for selling Santa photos and for counting out and distributing Santa flyers to the schools.
- ☺ **Shawn Graham and Jim Marker** for being Santa for us, and to **Judy Young** for being Mrs. Claus.
- ☺ **Phil Dembowski and Alan Kulinski** for getting the heaters running in the railcars for Santa in the Caboose.
- ☺ **Toni Rickert, Peter Ghrist and Melanie Obermeyer** for volunteering to work during the Santa in the Caboose weekend.
- ☺ **Valerie and John Wotkun** putting up the beautiful lighted Christmas decorations at our Park;
- ☺ The **Griffith Park Department** for keeping our parking lot plowed at the Historical Park all winter.
- ☺ **Karen and Alan Kulinski, Ken Krick, and Phil Dembowski** for decorating the railcars for Santa in the Caboose, and to **Jim Marker** for donating Christmas lights for the cars.
- ☺ **Griffith Tri Kappa** for their generous monetary donations they have given us over the years.
- ☺ And a **really, really BIG** thank you to the Griffith Town Council for the help and encouragement they continue to give us.