



Dubois County Museum E-Newsletter

Volume 3, Issue 2

February 2017

*Dear Members,
You are the Heart
of the Dubois County
Museum!*

Kevin Stonerock as Billy Yank, February 18 @ 10:30am EST

The Dubois County Museum will host Kevin Stonerock as "Billy Yank, Common Soldier for the Union" on Saturday, February 18, at 10:30am. EST

From his website, Stonerock writes "The program "Billy Yank" concerns an actual soldier from Henry County, Indiana named William H. Fentress. The presentation is set in the year 1864 with a battle-weary Fentress home

on leave from the Union Army. Although the character portrayed was a real individual, much of the presentation deals with issues or items which would have been common to most northern soldiers of the Civil War. These include camp life, battlefield experiences, army humor, food, equipment, music, weapons, uniforms and the home front. The program objective is to bring the audience as close as

they will ever come to visiting with a real veteran of the War Between The States and to give them a better understanding of the men who wore the blue." The museum welcomes ages Grade Three to adults for this program due to the subject matter of war. **Stonerock has been performing his living history presentations since 1980 with over 4,000 performances to date.**



Kevin Stonerock presents "Billy Yank, Common Soldier for the Union."

Black Heritage in Dubois County Exhibit opens February 18

The exhibit of Black Heritage in Dubois County has a new addition of select items from Lee Martin (deceased) and Pearline Martin Brahm. Artifacts are shown from Rachel Kirlin who came to Indiana with a family, then got sick, and went to live with the family of Lee's great-, great-, great-, great-, grandfather James Crawford. Rachel helped to

raise their children and had a permanent room in their home. Indiana had strict laws against slavery in those days. Most slaves who came were set free soon after coming, but some chose to stay with the families (but free). Their closeness to the family is indicated by the fact that Rachel was buried in the Hackelman plot. (Lee's ancestral line.)

Visitors to the museum will find not only the Freedom Settlement story and the binder of their ancestry, but now the quilt made by Rachel, her own pitcher and bowl, and letters from the family to Rachel in the late 1800's.

What's New at Our Gift Shop



Stop in at the Museum Gift Shop to see all the new items. A number of new items for kids is available, including stickers, coloring books, and cuddly stuffed bunnies for Easter and Spring. We are continuing our offering of

historical books, cook-books, and handmade items from local

craftsmen. Postcards of the Town Murals are available, also.



Who was Eddie Rottet?



Eddie Rottet:

A loyal scout.

A great athlete.

A real boy.

On display in the Sports Area is the Eddie Rottet Memorial Trophy. It is the highest special award granted annually to local Scouts honoring outstanding character and achievement. Who was Eddie Rottet? Eddie had only five years in scouting, but made those years count. As a member of Jasper

Troop 2, he was a leader and attained Life Rank with 15 merit badges in 1934. As a star athlete at JHS, he was named basketball All State guard in 1934, was captain of the Junior Legion State Champ baseball team, was city tennis champ, played league softball, and played on the Jas-

per Reds in '34. He participated in Glee Club, dramatics, and was offered scholarships to two colleges. He contacted typhoid fever the summer before going on to Purdue and died. Troop 2 made a special scrapbook of his life. Come read the scrapbook entries and see the Memorial Trophy on display.

Sprauer Studio



Work on the items donated to the Museum by Sprauer Studio of Jasper has finally reached its conclusion. Volunteer Fred Clark began on November 23, 2010 to accession

the items into the museum's vast collection. On April 23, 2013 he began scanning photo negatives into the computer. After all those years of work on Tuesdays, Fred has finished

the assignment. Thanks for your hard work, Fred!

Rumor has it that Fred will now be beginning on the John J. Fierst Collection.

Photos Displayed from John J. Fierst Collection



John J. Fierst was our county historian, a teacher, and a collector of anything history related. His family has shared his collection with the museum and our Collections Department volunteers have

been working at cataloging and processing his collection. Recently the Collections Department has created a photo gallery of early Jasper photos from his collection. The gallery is located in the hallway as you walk down the ramp towards our Main Street area. The photo on the left is of the Dubois County Courthouse area

around 1930. A total of about 17 photos are beautifully framed and matted and include two photos taken from the St. Joseph Church tower looking down on the town from east and northeast, a glimpse of Patoka River and the mill, and a photo of Newton Street looking north showing mud roads and early businesses.

Take a stroll through early Jasper when you take in this photo gallery.

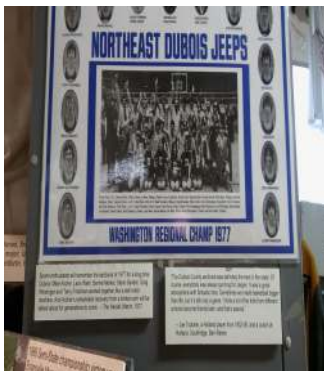
Winter Wellness Walking Walk the Museum

If you are a person who likes to get out and walk each day for your health and are wanting a new change of venue during this unpredictable winter weather, come in to the museum and walk inside our 50,000

square feet of space. A 1/6 of a mile path was measured off by walking around the perimeter of Room II and around Room I. Your membership entitles you to free admission and guests pay only \$1.



40th Anniversary of 1977 Dubois Jeeps



On January 28, 2017, the Northeast Dubois High School officials honored the 40th Anniversary of the Boys Basketball Semi-state runner-up Dubois Jeeps' team.. To learn more about this group of county athletes, come in and check out the Museum's

Sports Area. You can read about the events of that amazing run through the state tourney of this small school in Northeast Dubois County by checking out the several items on display, as well as, other items on Jeep players and teams.





DUBOIS COUNTY
MUSEUM

2704 N. Newton Street (US 231)
Jasper, IN 47546

812-634-7733

Open T-F 10-2pm,

Sat 10-4pm, Sun 1-4pm

Closed Monday

Admission: \$5-Adults, \$3 HS & MS
students, \$2-Elem students, 4 and
younger-Free

The Dubois County Museum is a local non profit organization committed to the collection, preservation and interpretation of historical artifacts and information important to the citizens of the county. Museum operations are funded by annual memberships, admissions, donations and gifts from visitors, area residents and businesses. The DCM staff consists entirely of volunteers. It is located in Jasper at 2704 N. Newton Street (US231). Call (812) 634-7733. Please allow two hours to view exhibits. Visit the museum web site at www.duboiscountymuseum.org. Like them on Facebook at Dubois County Museum.



All Aboard for Membership at the Dubois County Museum!

The Annual Membership Dinner was held on Thursday, January 26, at the museum. About 125 members and guests came out to enjoy the meal by Catering by Meyer, the annual meeting, and the train presentation on Trains in Dubois County and Southern Indiana by Bill Stroud.



Many delicious cakes were available for the enjoying, like this yummy cake donated by The Mad Batter Bakery in Jasper.

New and renewed memberships for 2017 are now being taken.

Your Membership card will be attached to the March Quarterly Newsletter that will be mailed to all members in Mid March.