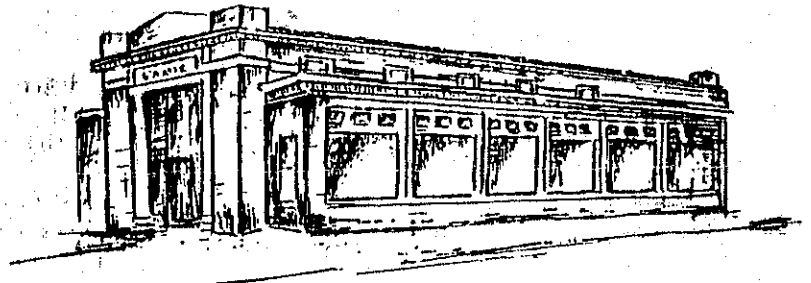


The PHUNN



Excelsior Springs Historical Museum

October 2001

Thanks to All Our Volunteers

Without the volunteers it would be impossible to run the museum. The museum is currently staffed with volunteers on Thursdays from 1 p.m. - 4 p.m. and Saturdays noon - 4 p.m. Every month since the new board has taken office volunteer hours have increased. The monthly totals of hours volunteers have donated are as follows: April - 70 hours, May - 98 hours, June - 102 hours, July - 114 hours, and August - 152 hours. If you would like to volunteer, come down and join us on a Thursday or Saturday afternoon.

From All Over

People from as far away as Germany have visited our local museum. Visitors who have signed in have been from Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, District of Columbia, Florida, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska, Ohio, and Germany. The number of visitors is also increasing. Monthly totals have been: April - 20, May - 54, June - 83, July - 143, and August - 123 visitors. The museum has hosted 124 September visitors as of the 21st. We have also been visited by senior citizens tours, schools, and organized tour groups.

New Displays

Come and see our new look. We are trying to keep displays current. We had a tea display this summer. Currently an antique quilt display is on exhibit. The quilt display features quilts up to 150 years old. It is our goal to change the display every 3 to 4 months. We have a new patriotic display in the vault and a Mineral Water Bowl display. If you have a collection you would

be willing to make available as a temporary display, please let us know.

Quilt Classes, Arts, Crafts

Quilt classes taught by Cynthia Titus are currently being offered at the museum on Saturday. It is our goal to offer several different Arts & Crafts classes. A different class is planned for each month, with time off for holidays. Let us know if you are interested in attending or teaching a class. If there is something you would like to learn, tell us that also.

Memorandum from the "Interim" Curator

What an education I have had since April of 2001! When I accepted the position as a member of the board of the museum, I had no idea what a precious asset our community has in the Excelsior Springs Historical Museum. I also had no idea how complicated the running of a volunteer organization could be! Many acknowledgments could be extolled - from each member of the newly organized board to the many ladies who baked cookies for Waterfest Day. However, I wish to especially say "Thank you" to Estella Morrison. She has been a valuable mentor to me in the day-to-day operations of the museum. Her knowledge and patience are beyond compare. Without her past experience and dedication, I would not have been able to establish the committees and budget for the volunteer museum staff. Again, "I appreciate you, Estella."

All interested in the museum know the basic goal is for people of all ages to enjoy the artifacts and history of our area. The members and board of the museum have many challenges

in the future. A finance committee has been formed to establish budget goals. Continued cooperation with the Chamber is necessary so the museum will have a place to be housed. Everyone interested in the preservation of the museum will need to be actively involved! As written by Voltaire, "Perfection is attained by slow degrees, it requires the hand of time." Our museum will face many trials in the next two years; however, with determination and commitment maybe "perfection" is in sight.

Jinx Fisher, Board Member
"Interim" Curator

Fundraising

We have a new finance committee in place. This new group has met three times in the month of October under the direction of Mel Boyer. To date our two fund-raisers have been the sidewalk sale at the Waterfest, earning \$218.35; and the Antique Show, earning \$2,694.77, held in August at the Excelsior Springs High School. The group is investigating grants and other fundraising avenues.

New Slide Show

Deb Napier has put together a new Excelsior Springs Slide Show. She is willing to come and give a presentation to your group in the evening or on a weekend. If interested, call the museum.

Museum Building

The Chamber of Commerce has purchased the museum building from the city. It is our understanding that we will not have to pay rent or utilities, other than the phone, for three years. After that time, our rent, including utilities, will be \$1000 per month. This has not been officially confirmed. We will be paying for our own phone starting 10/20/01. It may mean that we have to change our phone number. In that event, we hope that this will not cause any inconvenience.

Membership Meeting

Please attend our next meeting Tuesday, Nov. 20 at 7 p.m. It is our annual general membership meeting. Volunteers will be recognized at this time. The new bylaws will be voted on at this meeting. Please look them over, they are enclosed in your mailing. Come and bring a friend. We look forward to seeing you.

Voting

Enclosed you should find your ballot for museum board members. Our current board has not yet served one full year. The proposed board is the same as the one seated in April, with the exception of Pam Grubb. She replaced John Shepard upon his resignation in September. Please either mail your ballot back to the museum or place it in the donation box at the museum. Votes will be counted at/after the Nov. 20 meeting.

Membership

Current membership fees are as follows:
Student - \$1, Regular - \$2, Family - \$25, Patron - \$100, Lifetime - \$200, Benefactor - \$1000.

A membership bought now is good through 2002. We could use more members. If each member could contact a non-member, our membership could be doubled. Do you belong to a club? Try to get all the members to join and support the museum. We will supply you with membership cards for the organization.

Quilt Squares

We are interested in quilt squares to be donated to the museum as part of the quilt display. The quilt squares should be either 10.5" or 12.5". The edges do not need to be finished or quilted - just pieced. Please include your name and a copy and name of the pattern used.

Current Board Members

Darryl Coutts, president; Jinx Fisher, vice-president; Melvan Boyer, treasurer; Frances Powers, secretary; Marian Hurtubise, member; Pam Grubb, member; Sam Shouse, member.