



The Mosaic

The Newsletter of the Carnegie Museum of Montgomery County

Museum Hours:

Wednesday through Saturday: **10 am - 5 pm**

Closed January and February

Additional tours by appointment

July 2012

Summer at the Museum: 4th Annual Program Going Strong!

We are about three quarters of the way through the fourth year of *Summer at the Museum*. Parents, grandparents, mentors, and the kids themselves have been quite enthusiastic about the Summer Program. Parents have shared their excitement with friends and now their friends are bringing their own children. Grandparents have not only brought in their local grandchildren, but have moved schedules around so visiting grandchildren participate, too. Mentors have talked it up so much that we have started opening on Tuesdays to give more mentors and their little charges a chance to participate. And the kids, well, they smile and enjoy. We have overheard them say they like the activities, they like the prizes, and one child confessed, "I wasn't going to come because I thought the museum would be boring, but this is fun!"

So far 232 children are participating in the program. To complete the program, children must visit at least five times and work through all the activities. At the start of each visit, children pick which set of activities (color day) they would like to work on. They get their answer sheet, instructions, a pencil, clipboard, a few hints, and they're off! Activities and answers are scattered throughout the museum. And since it's meant to be a non-stressful activity, kids can ask for hints at any time, and parents can adjust the program to fit their child's age and personality. There is still time to sign up and complete the program. It ends August 15th.

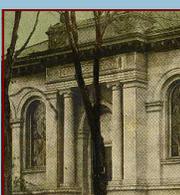
The kids earn little prizes after completing each "color day" and get the Grand Prize (a small stuffed animal) when they complete the entire program.

Goals of the program:

- Create lifelong museum lovers.
- Teach local history.
- Encourage a closer look at museum exhibits.
- Show kids that learning is fun.
- Increase museum attendance.

Collector's Corner

New to the Summer Program this year is the addition of our Collector's Corner. Participants get points for bringing objects found in nature and a short written report. They can then use their points to "buy" items from our Collector's Corner.



Become a Friend or Renew Your Membership Today!

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Make check payable to: Friends of CMMC
Mail to: 205 South Washington Street
Crawfordsville, IN 47933

Membership Amount: \$ _____

Additional Contribution towards: \$ _____

(circle one)

General Fund Exhibits Programs Collections

Your Membership is current _____

Please Renew _____

I am interested in Volunteering. _____

THANK YOU!

2012 Membership Levels:

• Student - \$ 7

Quarterly newsletter, membership card, and invitation for **one** person to special events and previews.

• Individual - \$ 15

Quarterly newsletter, membership card, gift shop discount of 10%, and invitations for **two** people to special events and previews.

• Household - \$ 25

Quarterly newsletter, membership card, gift shop discount of 10%, and invitations for **five** people to special events and previews.

• Industrialist - \$50

Quarterly newsletter, membership card, gift shop discount of 10%, and invitations for **ten** people to special events and previews. Membership listed in Montgomery County "WOW" Gallery.

• Steel Baron - \$100

Quarterly newsletter, membership card, gift shop discount of 10%, and invitations for **fifteen** people to special events and previews and priority option for tours on Mondays and Tuesdays. Membership listed in Montgomery County "WOW" Gallery.

Thank You Friends!

Your support of the Friends helps the Carnegie Museum to better serve the community by collecting and preserving our shared past and by creating *interesting, interactive and interdisciplinary* opportunities for local residents and visitors alike.

The Friends of the Carnegie Museum is a 501(c)3 organization and your contribution may be tax deductible.

One of the most significant benefits of your membership is the knowledge that your dues and contributions support a local, community focused, free museum that seeks to promote **YOUR** history.

Thank you very much for your support!

Agriculture: The Cultivation of Montgomery County

This exhibit, which opened March 1, 2012, features the history of Agriculture in Montgomery County as well as the state of agriculture today. Visitors to the museum learn about the science and business aspects of farming, and the supporting networks of farm-related businesses and organizations in the county and state. This family-friendly exhibit also has activities for all ages and all levels of agricultural knowledge.

In the exhibit, visitors can see old farm tools, seed sacks, maps, local FFA jackets, and 4-H photos, as well as learn about the 1979 Farm Progress Show, the development of agricultural technology, and the state of agriculture today.

Visitors to the exhibit can learn about how Montgomery County fits into the statewide agriculture picture. The 2007 Census of Agriculture lists 745 active farms here in Montgomery County. Almost three-fourths of the land in Montgomery County is used for corn and soybean production, 72.5% to be exact. Montgomery County is 1st in the state of Indiana for soybean production, producing 5.8 million bushels in 2011. Montgomery County is ranked 4th in the state of Indiana for corn production—in 2011 our county produced over 21 million bushels of corn. Montgomery County is also in the top ten counties in Indiana for pork production.



Crawfordsville Post Office Mural: **Indiana Agriculture**
completed 1942

Opening August 15, 2012

Indiana Post Office Murals

This exhibition gives a brief history of the federal Section of Painting and Sculpture, which was established in the summer of 1934 “to secure suitable art of the best quality for the embellishment of public building,” and then focuses on the histories of some of the 36 murals commissioned and executed for Indiana post offices that are in existence today. The exhibit is based on a 1995 IHS publication, *A Simple and Vital Design: The Story of the Indiana Post Office Murals*, by John C. Carlisle with photographs by Darryl Jones.

The first mural installation in Indiana was Henrik Martin Mayer’s two vertically oriented canvases, “Sad News” and “Rural Delivery” in July 1936 in Lafayette, while Marguerite Zorach’s “Hay Making,” installed in Monticello in November 1942 was the last. The “boom years” were 1938 with 12 murals and 1939 with nine new art works in Indiana post office lobbies.

The persons depicted in the post office murals were occasionally specific figures, whether fictional like “The Raggedy Man,” a James Whitcomb Riley character featured in Roland Schweinsburg’s “The Sleighing Party” in Alexandria, or non-fictional such as Solon Robinson and Chief Mewonitoc in George Melville Smith’s Crown Point mural, “From Such Beginnings Sprang the County of Lake.”

“The other people shown may not be identifiable by name, but by type they represent the essence of the American scene concept,” said Carlisle. “They are the farmers, the loggers, the railroad men, the pioneer mothers and the workers of our history.” This exhibit will be on display at the Carnegie Museum until mid September 2012. It was created by and is on loan from the Indiana Historical Society.

Brain Day 2012

Thank you to Wabash College Professors Dr. Karen Gunther and Dr. Neil Schmitzer-Torbert and to their students for volunteering their time to create and staff our 4th annual Brain Day at the Carnegie Museum. It is a very popular event and the museum was full of brain activity that day!



“Spin-In” 2012 Spinning Demonstration

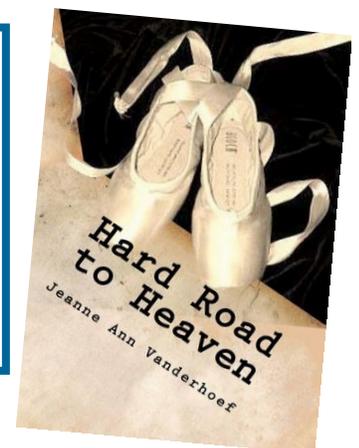


Thank you to Jessica Madsen and Marla Lewis for volunteering their time to demonstrate spinning at the Carnegie Museum. They spent the afternoon explaining the different types of fibers and how they could be spun into yarn. Marla demonstrated her wheel and a Turkish drop spindle, while Jessica showed her skills with a traditional wheel, a top whorl drop spindle, and an Akha spindle (for cotton).

They also had a display of handspun items to show what a difference different fibers can make. Spinning fits into the current major exhibition at the Carnegie Museum, ***Agriculture: The Cultivation of Montgomery County***, as many animals are raised in Montgomery County for their fibers which can be spun into yarns. Goats, sheep, rabbits, llamas, alpacas, and others are all raised locally with this in mind.

Book Signing

Author Jeanne Ann Vanderhoef visited Crawfordsville with her family on May 5, 2012, and signed copies of her books at the museum. She is the daughter of author Janet Lambert and Cavalryman and Wabash graduate Kent Lambert. Jeanne Ann’s books, ***Gibbons in the Family Tree*** and ***Hard Road to Heaven***, are available in the Carnegie Museum gift shop.



A big thank you to CMMC volunteer **Ruth Evans** for researching and writing the following article for the newsletter:

TELEPHONE SWITCHBOARD OPERATION MYSTERY SOLVED!

One of the most popular exhibits in the Business and Industry Gallery at the Carnegie Museum is the telephone switchboard that was given to the museum in 2007 by John Martz. John worked at the Crawfordsville Bell Telephone office for many years. When the local Bell Company converted to an automatic system, the switchboards became obsolete, and they were being removed from the building. John asked for and received several of the telephone switchboards and a Cable Turning Section (CTS) which he stored in his basement. When the new Carnegie Museum was being developed, he offered a long distance switchboard and the CTS to the new museum. The CTS housed the many wires that made the switchboard function. The bundle of wires from the switchboards was turned behind the CTS board and fed through the floor down to the main frame on the first floor of the Bell Telephone Building. The museum curator, Kat Burkhart, gratefully accepted these gifts.

Neither the museum staff nor the volunteers knew exactly how the switchboard worked until CMMC volunteer Ruth Evans, who knew a former Bell Telephone operator, interviewed the lady. **Mrs. Jean Coffin Edwards** worked at the Crawfordsville Bell Company from 1945 until 1979. Fifteen of those years were spent as a telephone operator before she advanced up the line of positions. In her interview, Jean explained the long distance operator's duties at this board as well as the daily operations of the Crawfordsville switchboard. This information has been written down and will explain to museum visitors just how the early telephone operators worked the telephone switchboards.

MCCF Awards Grant to CMMC

The Montgomery County Community Foundation has awarded the Carnegie Museum of Montgomery County a grant for \$2114.00 to upgrade collections management software and to purchase archival supplies. **Thank you, MCCF!**



Save the Date for Denim and Diamonds: Saturday, October 20!

Coming Soon: The Hoosier Salon 2012

88th Annual Exhibit
August 11 – September 8 at the Indiana History Center

Selections from the Hoosier Salon will be featured at the Carnegie Museum in September.



Congratulations to local artists

Rob O'Dell

&

Jerry Smith

for their inclusion in the Hoosier Salon!

New Location for the Hoosier Salon Annual Exhibit!

The Indiana History Center

450 West Ohio Street

Indianapolis, IN 46202- 3269

(317) 232-1882

www.indianahistory.org



FRIENDS OF THE
**CARNEGIE MUSEUM of
MONTGOMERY COUNTY**

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The Carnegie Museum is owned and operated by the Crawfordsville District Public Library

Carnegie Museum Staff

Curator: Catherine Burkhart

Educator: Lissa Fairfield

Guest Relations Associates:
Kathy Brown, Vera Case

Summer Intern:
Mark Shaylor

Volunteers:
Isobel Arvin, Amy Brown,
Vera Case, Ruth Evans, Sue
Fain, William Fairfield, Bill
Helling, Sara Jessica
Hemmerlein, Shannon Hudson,
Patrick Jahnke, Judy Michal,
Troy Mitchell, Anna Moore,
Mormon Missionaries,
Morgan Raters, Betty Sheets,
Christopher Short, Bob Snyder,
Ann Stanley, Judy Williams



**C. Kent Rushing's mural
in the Carnegie Museum lobby
is nearing completion!**

The Montgomery County Playing cards are selling well.
Get yours before they are gone!