

# Pioneer Times

## The Society of Indiana Pioneers Newsletter

140 North Senate Avenue, Indianapolis, IN 46204 • 317-233-6588  
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Ancestors: 8290  
Total Members: 891  
Reg. Members: 859  
Junior Members: 11  
Assoc. Members: 21  
Life Members: 197

Issue 5 September 2011

### Members Bulletin Board on the Indiana Pioneers Website

Our Pioneers web site now has a section titled "Members' Bulletin Board." It can be reached by clicking on the "MEMBERS' BULLETIN BOARD" button on the home web site page. (Our web site is [www.indianapioneers.com](http://www.indianapioneers.com).)

Society members can have news items and event announcements placed in this section. Contents of this section will be temporary and must be of historical interest to the membership (with emphasis on items of Indiana history) and must be non-political and non-controversial. For example, announcements of non-Society events will be removed once the events occur. News items such as book publication notices will remain in the section for three months after their publication dates.

Note that the Society events section can be reached using the button labeled "EVENTS."

Permanent web sites that are of interest to the membership can be found in the section reached by using the button labeled "LINKS."

To have an item placed in the MEMBERS' BULLETIN BOARD section, or to suggest that a web site have a link to it in the LINKS section, email the relevant information to Board Member Ed Hultgren at email address: [nodjehult@att.net](mailto:nodjehult@att.net). Every effort is being made to make the web site timely and informative. Visit the web site often!

### Membership Stats

Of the 891 active members, 57% are residents of Indiana and 43% reside out of the state. Of the 511 in-state resident members, 291 or 57% reside within Marion County (Indianapolis) and contiguous counties. So far, in 2011, there have been 32 new members approved of which half live within the state and the other half reside out-of-state.

### Scanning Project Moves Forward

The scanning project has had a tremendous response this year from donations to help continue this important project. *Most recently, Michael Miller, submitted a check for \$5,000 in memory of his late father, Donald H. Miller, a past member of The Society of Indiana Pioneers.*

Currently, we have scanned 1916 - 1969 applications and 2002 - 2011 applications to date. With the addition of the ScanSnap 1500 in 2009, the genealogist is able to scan the documents as time and resources permit. It is imperative that we continue to scan these fragile documents to keep our rich archive of genealogical history available for many generations to come. Even the applications from 1970 are beginning to show just how fragile they are after so many years of people accessing them. It is truly a wonderful gift to be able to access the application without having to place any further stress on our applications and documentation.

We are soliciting gifts for the purpose of continuing the scanning project thru its completion. If you would like to help with this effort, please complete and detach the form below.

**Yes**, I would like to donate to the *Pioneer Application Scanning Project*.

\$10.00     \$25.00     \$100.00     Other \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail to: The Society of Indiana Pioneers,  
140 North Senate Avenue, Indianapolis, IN 46204

### Honoring Pioneer Founders

At the 2010 summer meeting of the Board of Governors, an initiative was approved to pay tribute to exceptional pioneers for their efforts in building early Indiana. The Society of Indiana Pioneers was founded in 1916, when Indiana celebrated its 100th anniversary of statehood. In preparation for the 200th anniversary of statehood — and the Society's centennial celebration — the Society seeks to honor special pioneers from each of Indiana's 92 counties.

A committee chaired by Bob Dora undertook the project to allow contributors to nominate ancestors for this distinction. Each year, 15 to 20 counties will be selected and invited to submit nominations of Pioneer Founders to be honored at the Annual Meeting. At the Centennial celebration in 2016, Pioneer Founders from all 92 counties will be honored.

Currently, we have received around 120 nominations for 2011 from the following counties: Benton, Boone, Clark, Crawford, Dearborn, Floyd, Fulton, Hamilton, Hendricks, Henry, Lawrence, Monroe, Morgan, Ohio, Orange, Perry, Pike, St. Joseph, Tippecanoe, and Washington. Details can be found on the Society's web page.

### Pioneer Awards Given

The Society of Indiana Pioneers bestows two awards: The Society of Indiana Pioneers Medallion, given to a member for "outstanding service to the organization," and Honorary Membership, which recognizes distinctive contributions to Indiana and its history. The SIP Medallion was presented in 2010 to Robert Henry Everitt and Joan Rothrock Everitt. Since our founding, eight individuals have been made Honorary Members: Evaline MacFarlane Holliday, Charity Dye, Robert Todd Lincoln, Dr. I. George Blake, Alfred A. Trefz, Dr. Donald F. Carmony, Evaline Hitz Rhodehamel, and President Benjamin Harrison. Our next Honorary Member will be announced at the Annual Meeting in November and the award will be given at an event in the spring.

## Co-Presidents' Message

Thanks to fellow Society of Indiana Pioneer member, Ivan D. Lancaster, for the following quote by Daniel Webster as quoted by Dorothy Ford Wulfeck in her book, *Wilcoxson and Allied Families*.

*"We live in the past by knowledge of its history, and in the future by hope and anticipation. By ascending to an association with our ancestors by contemplating their example and studying their character; by partaking their sentiments and imbibing their spirit; by accompanying them in their toils; by sympathizing in their sufferings and rejoicing in their successes and triumphs, we mingle our existence with theirs and seem to belong to their age."*

The above quote is pertinent to all of us as members of The Society of Indiana Pioneers. In the world today, we are encouraged to go forward and discouraged from going in reverse. In the Pioneers, we have the unique role of studying the past as a tool for learning from our ancestors on how they advanced forward. They moved forward in location, creation of towns and cities, founding of churches and businesses, farming, schools and forming new modes of transportation. We are today what we are because of their forward progress.

Our responsibility is to write the next chapter for our future generations to study. This chapter will show how we progressed forward in what they will consider as the past.

— Carolyn A. Rose     Stanley R. Evans

## Looking Ahead—2012 Fall Pilgrimage

The **Fall 2012 Pilgrimage** will include a boat ride on the historic **Wabash & Erie Canal**; a visit to **Fort Ouiatenon**, a replica of the historic military post constructed by "New France"; a tour of **Tippecanoe Battlefield**, and visits to other historic sites in Tippecanoe and Carroll Counties. Details are still being worked out, but plan for the pilgrimage in **September** to accommodate the ride on *The Delphi*, a replica of an 1850s canal freighter. Presentations by special speakers at the various sites will be highlights of the pilgrimage. The day will include visits to the Federal-style Reed Case House, the Wabash & Erie Canal Interpretive Center in Delphi, and Fort Ouiatenon (considered to have been the first European settlement in what is now Indiana) as well as a motor coach tour of Tippecanoe Battlefield, a National Historic Landmark where Native American and white cultures clashed.

## 2011 Holliday Award

Congratulations to the Hornet Little Hoosiers Club at Rossville Elementary School, Rossville, the winner of the 2011 Society of Indiana Pioneers John H. Holliday Award. The club sponsored Pioneer Day for all fourth graders where the students and guest adults moved through stations sharing aspects of pioneer life: weaving baskets, churning butter, learning about musical instruments used during the period, and sharing music and dance of our Native American ancestors. Carmen Bordner is sponsor of the Club. In addition to the club's \$300 cash award, Mrs. Bordner received a complimentary one-year Associate Membership in the Society of Indiana Pioneers for submitting the winning application.

Since 1970, the Society of Indiana Pioneers has offered an annual cash award to promote the study of early Indiana history in the schools. The award, named in honor of the founder and first president of The Society of Indiana Pioneers, is given in co-operation with the Indiana Historical Society and its network of clubs affiliated with the Indiana Junior Historical Society.

## Retiring Governors

We acknowledge and give special thanks to the following Governors whose terms will expire with the Annual Meeting or who have chosen not to seek election for another term: Barbara Campbell, Catherine Carvey, Ralph Gray, Nelson Price and Judson Scott. We appreciate their service to the Society of Indiana Pioneers.

## Speakers Bureau

If you belong to an organization that needs a speaker, please call our office. We have a list of available speakers from around the state.

## Genealogist's Update:

Hello! We have added almost 100 new ancestors since the last newsletter was published which puts our number at 8300 approved ancestors since the society's formation in 1916. That is exciting and as usual it is always thrilling to be able to add not only new members and additional lines but also new pioneer ancestors as well. Please remember to encourage your siblings, children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews to join our organization as well! They only need to supply the application and one or two generations of documentation in order to join. The vitality of our organization rests upon the growth of our membership!

As we continue to promote our rich archive of Indiana genealogical information, the requests for access to archived information has continued to rise. Our website has definitely become an important part of the group and its future. We have a treasure-trove of Indiana genealogical history and it is important to make that information accessible but yet respect the privacy of our members.

On **October 22, 2011**, we will be participating in the **Indiana Genealogy & Local History Fair** that will be taking place in the **Indiana State Library**. The hours are 9am – 3:30pm. If you plan on attending or will be volunteering, please stop by our office to see the wonderful area that the State Library has provided for us! Remember, we are located in the Genealogy Room on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor.

— Michele Kerr

## Popular Silent Auction

Again this year, a Silent Auction will be a feature of the Annual Meeting on Saturday, November 5. All proceeds from the auction benefit the Society of Indiana Pioneers and help defray expenses for the Annual Meeting. All members and their guests are invited to participate by donating and purchasing!

We would like to encourage donations with the theme, "All Things Indiana" which could include things made in Indiana, books about Indiana, etc. Let your imagination be your guide!

**Bring your check book and/or cash and plan to participate!** No Credit cards, please. If you have questions or would like to arrange donation pick-up, please call Auction Chair Louise Demore (317-517-3243) or Vice Chair Marcia Krieg (317-253-2600).