

Newsletter of the Putnam County Museum

Putnam

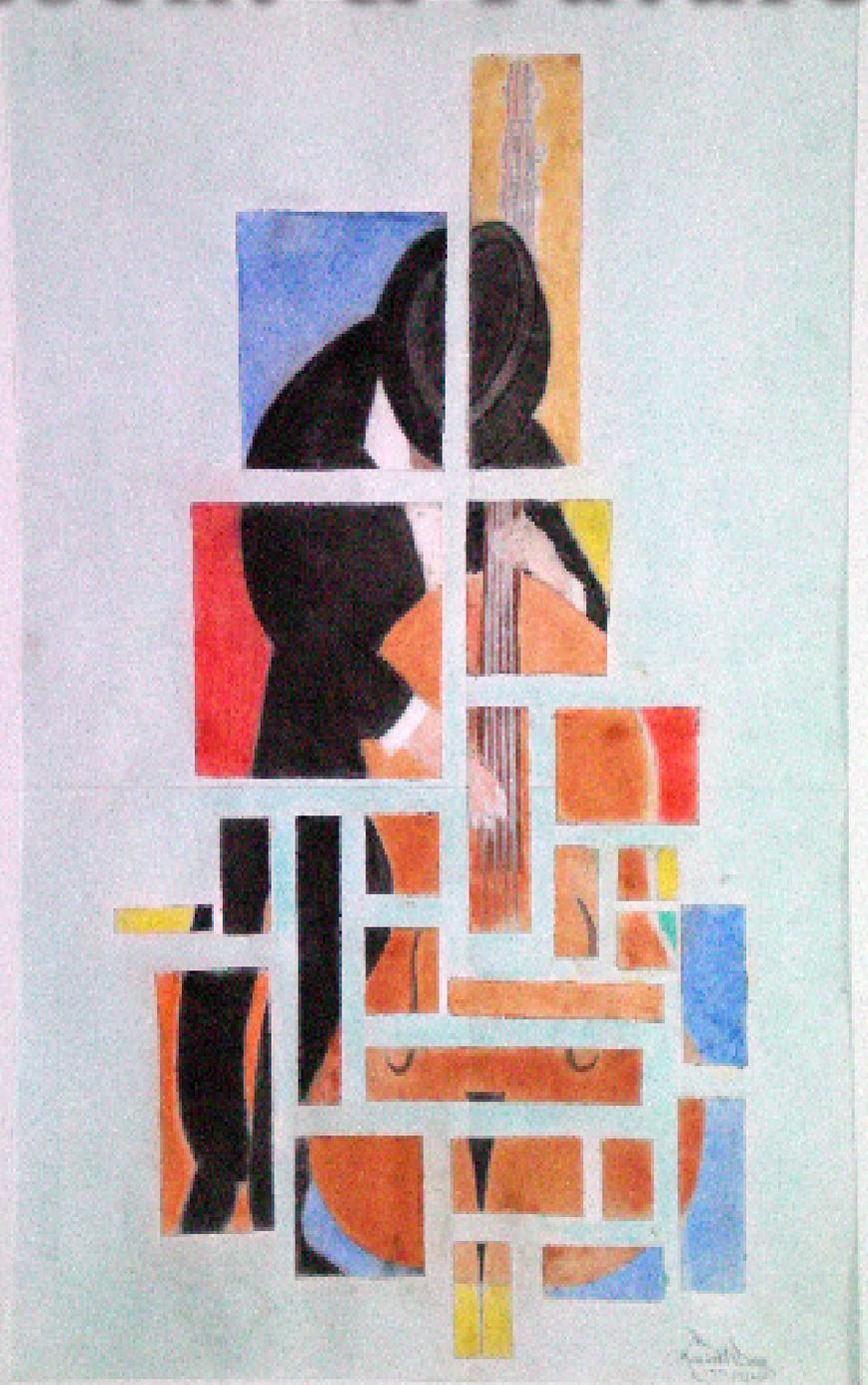
Past Present & Future

Volume 6 Issue 1 • Summer 2008

Seventh
Annual
G a l a

Valued
Museum
Partner

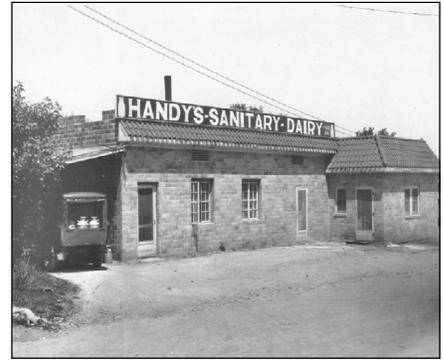
J o h n
Baughman
B o o k



Putnam

Newsletter of the Putnam County Museum

Past Present & Future



Events

- Beading class • July 8
- Clowning techniques • July 23
- Pine needle baskets • July 31
- Annual Meeting & Gala • August 2
- Mask Making • August 9
- Nature walk • August 12
- Walk/Run • September 27

Exhibits

- Putnamville Correctional Art Show • Now
- Church architecture photographs • July
- Reelsville School curated exhibit • July
- High School sports in Putnam County • October

Contact

Putnam County Museum
1105 North Jackson Street,
Greencastle, IN 46135
(765) 653-8419
museum@co.putnam.in.us
www.co.putnam.in.us/museum

Hours

Tuesday - Friday • 1:00p - 4:00p
Saturday • 10:00a - 4:00p
and by appointment

4 Annual Meeting, Gala & Silent Auction

Join the fun and bring something to help make this the best auction ever!

By Sally Gray & Ken Bode

5 A Message

From the Board President

By Warren Macy

7 Norm Handy

A Valued Museum Partner

By Sally Gray

9 Reserve your copy!

Our Past, Their Present: Historical Essays on Putnam County, Indiana.

By Ryan Pyles

From the Director's Desk

The Simple Acts of Charity



Jennifer Ro

With the cost of fuel rising, and in turn causing a rise in everyday household goods, I want to remind everyone that despite the hard times, the cause of charity should not be forgotten. Charity can come in many different forms, not just the monetary kind.

Recently, I watched a news piece that described a whole town coming together to fill bags of sand for potential flood victims in the Great Plains. These men, women, and children did not fill sand bags to save their own town, but to save neighboring towns downstream. Each of the citizens took time out of his/her day to fill thousands of bags of sand to assist other towns from preventing the flood waters to destroy their communities. It did not take money, but the effort and kindness of strangers to potentially help stave off a catastrophic disaster.

I am still amazed everyday by the simple acts of kindness of human beings, everything from opening a door for a person who may have their hands too full to working day and night to rescue others in an earthquake-ravaged building. Each act of charity speaks to the person's character and willingness to put someone else's well-being before their own.

I appreciate all acts of kindness. I am eternally grateful for the volunteers and docents that we have at the museum who work tirelessly to ensure not only the success of the museum, but also to just keep the museum doors open. Our volunteers give their time to perform various tasks — greeting the visitors, documenting our collections, and helping to maintain the finances of the museum. Without these generous people, there would not be a museum.

As we approach the half-way point of the year, I want to remind everyone to do at least one charitable act. May it be donating money to a needy organization or to visit a neighbor who may be house-bound to keep the person company. In a world where there are food crisis, natural disasters, and genocidal violence, there is a stronger need than ever for the kindness of human beings. For every tragedy, there should be some sort of ray of hope at the end of the tunnel. Although it may be too late to declare New Year's resolutions to do one act of charity (and I am always not a fan of resolutions because they are constantly broken), maybe we should declare this summer as a time for performing charitable acts. If more acts of charity are performed, then maybe the stories we hear on the evening newscast will not be of horror, but of the wonderful acts that people do to help others.

Museum Meets Third Foundation Challenge

For the third time in less than two years the Putnam County Museum has met the challenge offered by the Putnam County Community Foundation, thereby earning a \$10,000 match in each challenge cycle. The challenge required the Museum to raise \$20,000 for its endowment fund in each period, which has been accomplished.

While the Foundation match has been met, Sally Gray still has a challenge that will match by 50% every gift to the endowment fund of \$500 or more. "I've been immensely gratified by the response to my challenge," she said. "But I still have almost half of the \$25,000 to donate, and I am eager to do so. If you've been thinking about giving at a level that will result in my match I will be delighted to respond with my promised match."

The Museum has set a goal for its endowment fund with the Foundation of \$500,000 by the end of 2009. The Museum has over \$400,000 in its endowment fund at this time.

Museum Annual Meeting and Gala August 2



By Sally Gray

Peeler pieces, antique chairs, a mink jacket, artwork by David Herrold, and much, much more will be up for bids at the Silent Auction which will be held from 11:00 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the Museum's Annual Meeting and Gala.

The luncheon meeting will be held at the DePauw University Memorial Union building ballroom August 2. The social hour prior to the noon lunch will give members a chance to meet and greet and have a look at the fine auction offerings. A cash bar, tended by our own Joe Miles, will offer mimosas and champagne.

The buffet features a super deli board and brownies. Iced tea will be available at the tables.

The speaker is Mike Redmond, a journalist and humorist who wrote for the *Indianapolis Star* and now writes for the *Indianapolis Business Journal*.

The annual meeting will bring members up-to-date on the Museum's past year and its plans for the coming year. The 2008-2009 Board of Directors and officers will also be elected.

The Gala is always a special event, and 2008 promises to be the best ever. Get your reservations in no later than July 28. The price is \$25 for members, \$30 for non-members. Bring your checkbook; you are going to find many appealing items at the Silent Auction!

Join the Museum's Silent Auction Game

By Ken Bode



Hey, Folks, this is just a little tickler about the Silent Auction! This is a team effort and we're counting on the museum crowd to make this the most interesting, successful Silent Auction on record.

In addition to the items in the photograph, we will have a fancy scrimshaw cribbage board engraved on a walrus tusk. How about a set of four English porcelain egg coddles? Sheri Gammon is offering a homemade pine-needle basket. We have a lovely shawl made by the Spinners and Weavers, a Cottage Garden music box, and a Joyce Lear decorated birdhouse. There is also a special Gordon Walters painting,

"The Poker Game".

There's still time for you to get in the game. Remember, this is a Silent Auction, which will feature museum members' treasures. Go through that old hutch, the attic or basement. Find paintings, jewelry, a rare book, pottery, antique fountain pens, taxidermy, even furniture.

Contact Jennifer at the Museum at 765-653-8419 to arrange a pick-up. And keep in mind, all gifts to the Silent Auction are tax deductible.

A Message from the President



It has been said, and I have found it to be true, that time flies when you are having fun. A prime example has been my term as president of the Putnam County Museum board. It seems as though I just assumed the presidency and already this is my last “message from the president”. I have truly enjoyed the year. The only thing that could have made it better would have been weekly Peeler Pottery parties!

We have continued to strive to meet our mission through exhibits, programs, and other endeavors. Our Peeler exhibit was very big for the museum, creating significant community involvement. Our natural history exhibit spawned museum based lectures and county tours. The student art exhibit was another success drawing in our younger residents as well as their parents and

grandparents. The exhibit uncovered a couple of budding “Peelers”! And....(drum roll)..... the John Baughman book is finally off to the publishers.

Contrary to what some of you might have expected the doors did not close under my watch! In fact, our position continues to strengthen. Our membership appears stable. Our collections continue to grow as exemplified by our permanent Peeler pottery exhibit. And, thanks to your numerous contributions and generous matching grants from Sally Gray and the Putnam County Community Foundation, our endowment fund is now over \$400,000 and growing to support our Putnam County Museum for generations to come!

Speaking of the future, what does it hold for the museum? Work is already underway for our fall exhibit on sports in Putnam County. This should spark a great deal of interest. There is talk of creating a permanent Putnam County Sport Hall of Fame within museum. With the Baughman book, as mentioned, off to the publishers, we are ready to ramp up the work on our next publishing project, “Peeler Pottery- How Appealing” (my working title). We have approximately 400 photos for the book and are still collecting more. This is a major example of your Putnam County Museum working to meet its mission.

This energetic agenda for the next year will be under the direction of my most competent successor, Diana LaViollete, who will lead the slate of officers proposed by the nominating committee for your approval at our Annual Meeting and Gala August 2.

As I leave the presidency and phase into making high priced after dinner speeches and supporting my wife should she decide to run for office, I would like to thank some folks who made my year as president so enjoyable. Jennifer has done everything from painting the walls to readying our book for publication. Anne is also an extraordinary multitasker and, with her wonderful staff of docents, puts a non-stop smile on the face of the museum. I also have had a wonderful, diverse board with an expert for each and every need. Working behind the scenes, our collections expert, Mavis Broadstreet has been invaluable. Finally, I would like to thank a Putnam County treasure, Marj Peeler, for making my pet project, our Peeler pottery exhibit come to life. I have so enjoyed my time spent with her.

Thank you all,
Warren

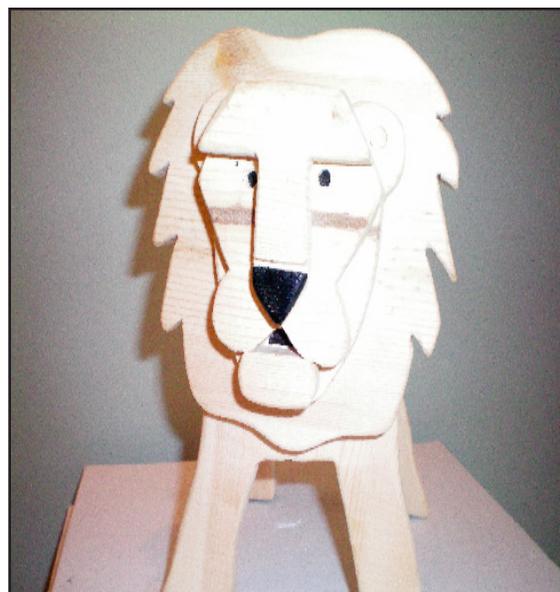
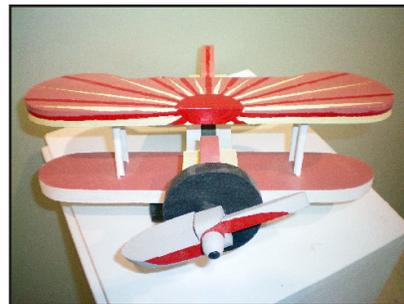
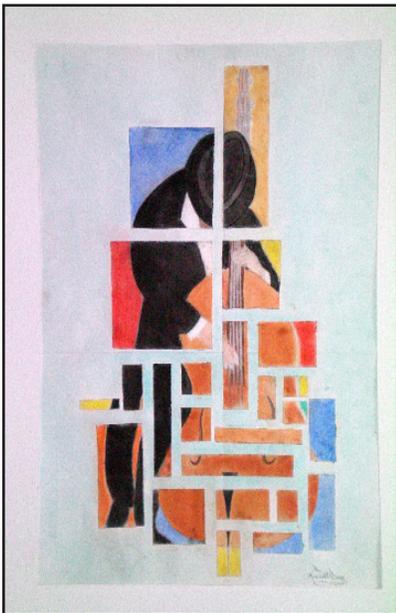
Putnamville Correctional Facility Arts and Crafts Exhibit

If you ever doubted that each of us has a need to be creative, visit the Museum to see the artwork and crafts on exhibit which are the creation of inmates at the Putnamville Correctional Facility.

There is no formal instruction available at the prison, only an arts and crafts room to do their work.

Furthermore, the men must pay for their own supplies out of commissary accounts. But the time, effort and creativity evident in the work on display makes it clear how seriously the opportunity to put pencil or pastels to paper, or to carve on wood, or work with leather, is taken by the men who participate.

The artwork on the walls is primarily in celebration of Black History Month. This is an exhibit you won't want to miss.



Norm Handy: Valued Museum Partner

By Sally Gray

Handy's Dairy was a household name in Greencastle, Putnam County, and surrounding counties for decades. A family owned business, Handy's provided fresh milk and a wide variety of dairy products to thousands of families and a livelihood for four generations of Handys.

A business owned and operated by the same family for almost a century is notable, indeed. But it is the story of the dairy's beginnings that captures the imagination. W.T. Handy, his wife, Edith, and their sixteen year old son, Bernard, were living on the east end of Anderson Street in 1915 after they moved to Greencastle from Greenfield. W.T. was a conductor on the Interurban.

The Handys had neighbors with a very productive cow, far more productive than required to meet their needs. So they worked out an agreement with Edith Handy whereby Edith milked the cow and got half the milk. The arrangement was the start of what you could call a half-cow dairy, because Edith sold her surplus milk. Bernard was Handy's first route man, delivering milk in tin buckets by horse cart to nearby households. Unpasteurized, twice a day—the cow was there was no mechanical kept their milk in wooden

Business was so good own cow (it was now a one Business continued to grow, Almost by accident, Edith that became an institution in

By 1921, with a dozen moved to the old Peck Farm And when grade schools of pasteurized milk, Handy's pasteurization machinery and of pasteurized milk in the delivering its product by horse and wagon.

In 1925, the 35 cow Handy herd was relocated to the "old orphans home" property on Cemetery Road; at the same time the plant and offices were moved to 312 North Vine Street, formerly the site of Nance's Creamery. Production had grown to over 150 gallons of milk a day.

Shortly after the move, the Vine Street building was destroyed by fire and while a new facility was being built, production was moved to the Garner Brothers Ice Cream Company on South Broadway and Main Streets.

In the mid-1930's Handy products began delivery in Stutz package cars and trucks. Then beginning in 1950, refrigerated Divco trucks were used for delivery.

And how about this: in 1936, when prices were set by the state Milk Control Board, the retail price of a pint of milk was 6 cents; a quart of milk, 10 cents; ½ pint of whipping cream, 18 cents; ½ pint of coffee cream, 10 cents.

By 1930 Edith was managing the farm, and Bernard, the milk plant. In 1948, Handy's bought the Garner Ice Cream Company; they had already added butter to

"The retail price of a pint of milk was 6 cents, a quart of milk was 10 cents; 1/2 pint of whipping cream, 18 cents; 1/2 pint of coffee cream, 10 cents."

the milk was delivered milked twice a day and refrigeration. Customers ice boxes.

that Edith bought her and one-half cow dairy). so she bought more cows. and her son started a dairy Putnam County.

cows in the herd, Handys on what was then 43 South. were looking for a supply bought new, modern became the first processor county. The dairy was still

their production mix. When the Garner building was destroyed in 1951, all production moved to the Vine Street plant.

As is most often the case in a family business, employees spanned generations. Norm, W.T. and Edith's grandson and Bernard and Wilma's son, began working at the company as youngsters. At the age of thirteen, Norm was helping with all cleaning up,

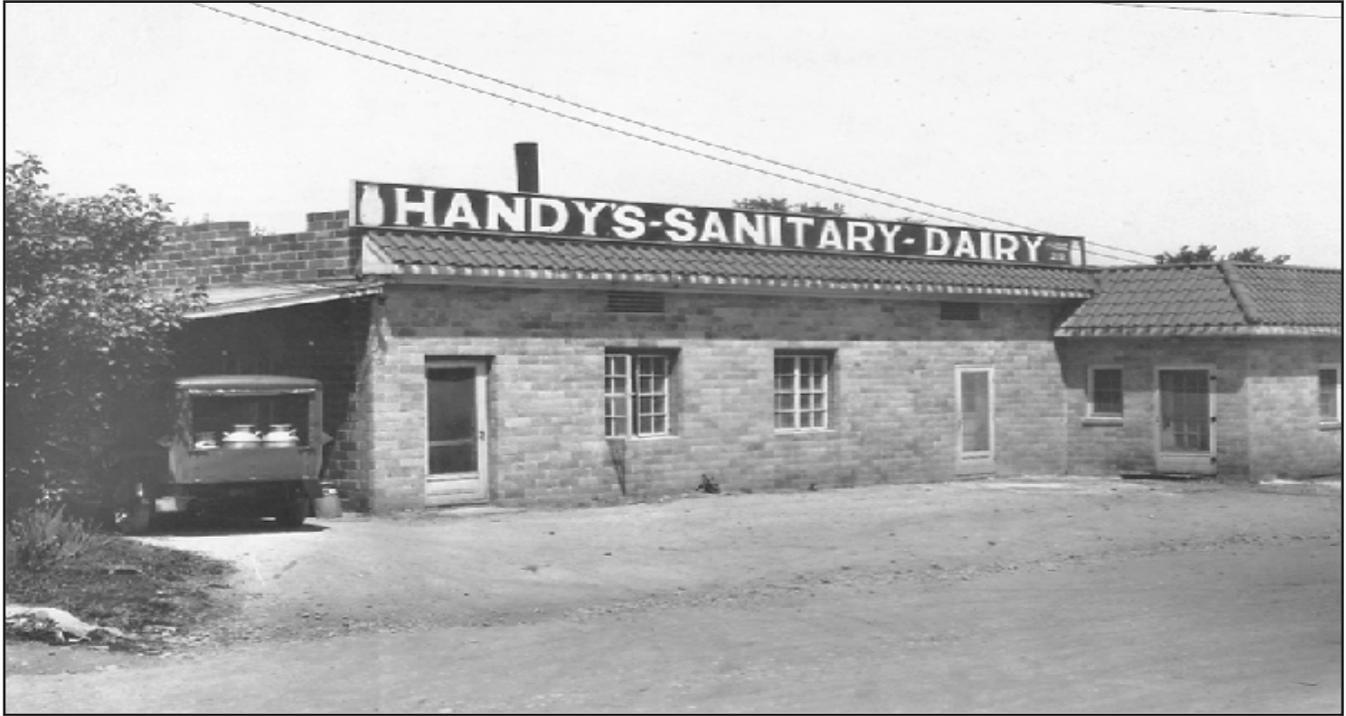


photo provided by Norm Handy

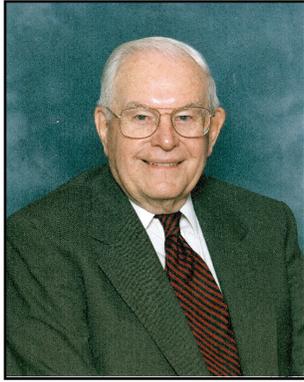
and with loading trucks in the early morning.

Norm attended Purdue University and earned a B.S. in Agriculture in 1950 with a concentration in dairy farming. After a two-year stint in the army in Korea, he returned to Greencastle in 1952 and entered the family business. That is when Norm married Murlin Rossok, then a nurse at the old hospital. They had two sons, Tom and Jon.

With Bernard's death in 1961, Norm became president of Handy's Dairy. His mother, Wilma, remained actively involved in the dairy even after she officially retired. At the time of Bernard's death, Handy's Dairy employed twenty-two full-time employees. When Handy's was sold to Prairie Farms in 2002, the company was delivering to Hendricks, Montgomery, Boone, Parke, Owen and Clay counties and was selling a full line of dairy products.

Handy's Dairy was an esteemed family business in the best American tradition, serving a wide community with quality products. Norm Handy's generous partnership with the Putnam County Museum is an extension of that commitment to the people of Putnam County.

LOOK FOR HANDY'S DAIRY EXHIBIT IN THE COMMUNITY CURATOR CORNER IN OCTOBER!



Reserve your copy of John Baughman's book today!!!

By Ryan Pyles

You can enjoy Putnam County's rich history in John Baughman's book, *Our Past, Their Present: Historical Essays on Putnam County, Indiana*.

John Baughman's book will provide you with enjoyment and pleasure as well as the "significance and the importance of some men, women, and events that preceded us".

In this book, you will find essays that include a variety of topics from the county's beginnings to the more recent memories, historical photos, and an index. Also in this book, you will read stories of the good, the bad, and the ugly. You will read tales of farmers, ministers, murderers, authors, musicians, and presidents. You will also learn of churches, homes, businesses, saloons, monuments, and theaters. All of these tales of individuals, places, and events happened in your own backyard, and they are told by a master storyteller, who likes putting in his "own opinions and personality into each piece."

The book also answers questions, like "How did Putnam County play a role in the original Coke bottle? Or What college was once located in Russellville?"

Copies of the book can be purchased for \$23.95 (plus tax) for museum members and \$29.95 (plus tax) for non-museum members. The book is expected to be out later this summer. Contact the museum at (765) 653-8419, or email us at museum@co.putnam.in.us if you have any questions or would like more information about the book.

Sheep to Shawl closed early due to rain



Due to the heavy rains and threats to flooding in the surrounding areas, the Sheep to Shawl at the Museum on Saturday, June 7 was called off early. Despite the early threats of rain clouds in the morning, the program did begin as scheduled with the Putnam County Spinners and Weavers Guild acting as host for the event.

David Greenburg, an award-winning sheep-shearer, talked about wool and shearing. He followed the talk with shearing two sheep at the museum for the public to view.



After the shearing session, the Spinners and Weavers Guild set up several demonstration stations. One dealt with brushing out the washed wool. Another station demonstrated the dying of the wool fibers, and the two other stations showed the spinning and weaving of the wool.

A shawl was woven as part of the program and will be donated as part of the Putnam County Museum's Silent Auction during its Annual Gala Luncheon and Membership Meeting on August 2. The proceeds made from the item will go to benefit the Museum.



In addition to the program, a few of the Guild members also have some of their works of art as well as tools of the trade displayed in the community-curated exhibit space. The exhibit will be up until late July and is open to the entire public.

Because of the bad weather, another program, may be planned for next Spring for those who are interested in seeing the trade of the Guild members.

What's happening this summer at the Museum?

By Anne Lovold

A summer of fun awaits the residents both young and old in Putnam County. The Museum has planned 5 workshops that we hope will bring you to the Museum to learn some new skills. July 8, we featured a beading class. Jill Kessler will be our instructor and she will be teaching the Basics of Beading where all participants will get to take a beading project home.

- July 23 we will be offering a 3 hour class on the techniques of "clowning". "Binky", a professional clown will be teaching juggling, balloon twisting, magic and skits...all the tools that one would need to start out in the business.
- On July 31, Sherry Gammon will be instructing a pine needle basket weaving class. She will demonstrate some basic techniques to weaving using pine needles grown in North Carolina. All the supplies needed to practice making a basket will be included.
- In August, as summer comes to an end we will offer a mask making workshop taught by local artist Kace Huber. This class will teach the art of creating wire and cloth masks. The students will have a selection of several different types of templates to choose from to create a mask.
- Our last class will be an outdoor nature walk instructed by the DePauw Nature Park staff. Students will walk the Rail Trail at the DePauw Nature Park and visit stations focusing on various plant and animal life.

To learn more about these summer workshops please call the Museum at 765.653.8419 and request our summer brochure or stop by and pick one up. Some classes have a small fee and a limited number of participants.

- The last Saturday in September, Sept. 27, 2008 at the DePauw Nature Park, Lee and Susan Stewart are organizing a Walk/Run fundraiser for the Museum. Call the Museum for details. 765.653.8419.

We need your help!

This fall the Museum will feature a Sports Exhibit on the high school sports of Putnam County, through the ages. We are looking for memorabilia from all the area past and present high schools, North Putnam, Bainbridge, Russellville, Roachdale, South Putnam, Belle Union, Reelsville, Fillmore, Cloverdale, Greencastle, Clinton Center, and Floyd Center high schools. So think about where you put that old letter jacket, photos of the teams, a special newspaper article, or some other artifact that would be a great addition to the Sports Exhibit coming this fall. Call 765-653-8419 or drop by the Museum at 1105 N. Jackson St. with your items. We would like to have all items by August 15.

Honor Roll of Donors

These are the list of donors that have contributed to the Putnam County Museum Endowment Fund, since the last newsletter. () Indicates a gift which qualified for the Sally Gray match.*

Anonymous*

Art & Janice Evans

Don & Kay Weaver

Ralph & Sally Gray (In memory of Glen Walters)*

Shawn & Laurie Gobert

Bob & Ann Newton

Bob Calvert & Rita Schendel

Richard Lynch & Stacy Klinger

Betty Aker*

Richard & Sally Sunkel

Steve & Linda Raines Fund

James Mannon

Fred & Linda Mann

Carl & Margaret Singer

Nancy Fogle

Jinsie Bingham*

Welcome New Members

Dale & Ruby Smith

Parke County REMC

Dave's Heating & Cooling

Serendipity Gourd Art

Richard Hall/Hall Koehler P.C.

Chester Fornari & Paula Evans

Jay Wright

Shuee & Sons

Edward Jones, Bob Hardwick

Autumn Glen

St. Vincent's Physicians Network

Max & Joy Evans

Special Thanks to...

John, Mike, Don and Mark from the Putnam County Jail for cleaning the museum.

Museum wish list

For Object Cataloging

Tripod
Cloth or latex gloves

For the Exhibit Hall

Television (27" or larger)
Exhibit cases

For Multipurpose Room

10-20 folding chairs
LCD Projector
Sofa

For Education/Children's area

Tupperware storage cases
Historic dress up clothes

For the Office

Fax Machine

For the Computers

Battery backup (UPS, 650 VA or more)
USB Mouse with scroll wheel
Wireless mouse and pad
Jump drives
External hard drive

For Maintenance

Outdoor Trash/Ash Can
Fans – box or free standing
Lamp shades



Nonprofit Bulk Rate
US Postage Paid
Permit No. 5
Greencastle, IN 46135

The Putnam County Museum
1105 North Jackson Street
Greencastle, IN 46135

