

Leaves of Thyme

VIGO COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
VOLUME 44, NUMBER 1

SPRING 1990

HOW WE DO THINGS AT TERRE HAUTE, IND.



"How we do things in Terre Haute, Ind." is the title of this postcard, one of many currently on display at the Museum. It was copyrighted by A.S. Johnson, Jr. of Waupun, Wisc. in 1913.



**VISIT THE
MUSEUM GIFT SHOP**

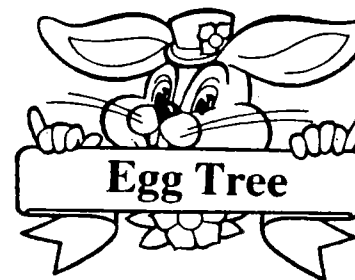
*You'll be amazed and pleased at the
quality of its products. It's a great place to buy
a gift for a friend or yourself.*

"Wish You Were Here..."

You won't want to miss the exhibit currently being shown in the Vigo Room. "Wish You Were Here..." is a collection of over 500 postcards of Terre Haute's past. These postcards have been loaned to the Museum by Paul and Helen Martin, long time local antique collectors.

This group of postcards has something of interest for everyone. Terre Haute residents are sure to find pictures that will bring back many memories. Out of towners can enjoy the scenes, buildings and events which tell the story of our city as it used to be.

"Wish You Were Here..." is part of a series of exhibits called "Vigo County Collects". Over the past year, local collectors have generously shared their prized possessions with visitors to the Museum. Mr. Martin's collection promises to entertain, inform and bring back memories.



The annual Egg Tree means that Spring has come to the Vigo County Historical Museum. Beginning Sunday, March 18, the brightly decorated tree will be on display. Students from the Farrington Grove Elementary School will design and decorate the eggs for this year's tree. This is the thirteenth year for this delightful Easter custom at the Museum.

Leaves of Thyme is published by the Vigo County Historical Society, 1411 South Sixth Street, Terre Haute, Indiana 47802. Address all mail regarding change of address and material for publication to the above.

1988 Society Membership Dues: Student—\$10.00; Individual over 65—\$10.00; Individual—\$15.00; Family—\$20.00; Club or School—\$20.00; Patron—\$25.00; Contributing—\$50.00; Sustaining—\$100.00; Business Associate—\$50.00; Business Patron—\$100.00; Business Sponsor—\$250.00; LIFE MEMBERSHIP—\$500.00.

Museum hours: 1 to 4 p.m., Tuesday through Sunday. Groups are requested to make tour appointments in advance. Museum Telephone: (812) 235-9717.

Party at the Rod and Gun Club

Members of the Vigo County Historical Society will gather for a social hour from 6:30 to 8:00 P.M. at the Springbrook Rod and Gun Club on March 20th.

This popular dining club houses a collection of memorabilia acquired from Madame Edith Brown and her husband, Eddie Gosnell. Bob Johnson, owner of the restaurant will reminisce as he shows and discusses the collection during his program, "If Only the Walls Could Talk".

Appetizers will be served and there will be a cash bar. Reservations at \$5.00 per person must be mailed in with a check. A reservation form is on the last page. There will be no phone reservations taken. Those wishing to make dinner reservations following the Historical Society party may do so by calling the Springbrook Rod and Gun Club.

This is expected to be a popular event, so members are urged to make reservations early.

Women's History Month

During March the Vigo County Historical Society, the YWCA, and the Vigo County Public Library co-sponsor Women's History Month. Each year we choose one woman who has made important historical contributions, either locally, at the state level, or nationally.

1990's choice is Mrs. Virginia Jenckes, once called the "First Lady of Indiana's Politics." Mrs. Jenckes was the first woman from Indiana to be elected to the U.S. House of Representatives. She was elected to the Sixth District in 1932, twelve years after women earned the right to vote. An exhibit on Mrs. Jenckes will be displayed at the Historical Museum during the month of March.

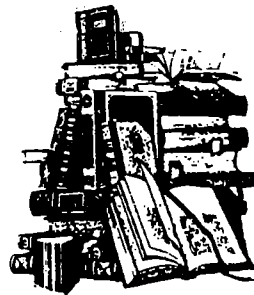
The YWCA will also host their Women's Breakfast on Wednesday, March 21st at 7 A.M. Judy Calvert will be the featured speaker with a program on Virginia Jenckes. Reservations for the breakfast are required. The cost is \$2.00 per person. Please call 232-3358 for reservations.

Volunteers Needed

The Vigo County Historical Museum Needs Your Help!

Volunteers play such a big part in making the Museum available to the public. Since the Gift Shop expanded and added many attractive items, more help is necessary, especially on weekends. If you can possibly give 3 hours of your afternoon to act as a hostess, tour guide or salesperson in the Gift Shop, please call the museum at 235-9717.

BOOKS BELOW
USED BOOKS FOR SALE
OUT-OF-PRINT SEARCH SERVICE



Elizabeth H. Bevington

BY APPOINTMENT
(812) 234-8989

Summer Celebration

Turn your calendar ahead to July and put a big circle around the 14th! That's the date of the Historical Society's annual Summer Celebration.

The program will be based on music and dancing of the 1930's and local spots such as the Trianon Ballroom will be featured. Anyone having memorabilia from the Trianon or other dance halls of that era are asked to call the Historical Museum at 235-9717.

This year's committee is wondering how they can top last year....but they will. You'll want to be there to see it.

"...But Not Forgotten"

A program unique to this area is being planned by the Historical Society for May 19th. Interested persons are invited to gather at Woodlawn Cemetery at 11 A. M. to listen to a volunteers discuss the lives of two persons buried there. B. Michael McCormick and Jan Buffington are currently researching the lives of these interesting individuals and will tell their stories to those in attendance on this Saturday in May. A brief history of Woodlawn Cemetery will also be included.

APPRAISALS
ANTIQUES & RESIDENTIAL CONTENTS
BY APPOINTMENT ONLY



Jo Ann Rogers

MEMBER
American Society of Appraisers

PHONE 812-234-7996
AFTER 6:00 P.M.

P.O. BOX 3239
TERRE HAUTE, IN 47803



Friends of the Historical Museum



Thanks to everyone who participated in the "Housekeeping Shower" in January.

Also, thanks to Jan Buffington, Helen Mitchell, Maurine Roehm and Elsie Wier for their help with the cleaning.

Our programs for the rest of year are as follows:

March 19 - Dave Buchanan, Museum Awareness Day
April 16 - Helen Mitchell - a program on Dolls
May 21 - Vicki Walsh will have us at her Victorian home,
(election of President and Treasurer)

1990's raffle quilt is to be flower baskets. The material has been purchased and anyone wishing to make a block please see Jan Buffington or Barb Wilkinson. Last year's quilt was won by Maggie Mason of Marshall, IL.

Barbara Wilkinson
President of Friends



The Museum grounds lost two trees during February. One, a large Mulberry on the west boundary, split in half during a wind storm. Because the remaining half was leaning toward the home next door and part of the trunk was beginning to rot, the decision was made to cut the tree down.

The second tree was in the tree row at the corner of Sixth and Washington. The Street Department had to move the stop sign closer to the intersection. The tree was in the way and had to be removed.

We would like to replace both trees (the one for the tree row will be placed farther to the west). If you would like to donate a tree, perhaps as a memorial, please contact the museum office (235-9717).

John Biel's Scrapebook

"Folklore Of Early Terre Haute"

Reprinted from October 1951 Leaves of Thyme, Volume 2, Number 8

A girl should never marry until she can pick clothes out of boiling water with her fingers.

A good way to remove freckles was to wash in dew or stump water before sunrise on the first of May.

If a girl ever sat on a table she would never marry.

Children should never be weaned when the sign was in the stomach; only when it was in the feet.

If a person killed a toad, his cow would give bloody milk.

Never, never move a broom or a cat from one house to another.

The time to plant corn was when the elm tree leaves were the size of a squirrel's ear.

Butchering had to be done before the full moon if the meat was not to "fry hard and leave lard".

Shingle a house only in the waning moon as it would pull the shingles flat.

Soap must be made in the light of the moon and stirred only one direction and only by one person.

Cut fence rails only in the light of the moon.

It is bad luck if a bird flies past the window.

Corn beef and cabbage is good for a blacksmith with cramps, but it ain't worth a d--n for cramps in a minister.

If a baby's hair was cut before he was a year old his life would be short.

The best remedy for croup was the right front foot of a mole tied around the neck with a black thread.

Whooping cough could be cured by passing the sufferer through a horse collar three times.

Many Thanks...

We would like to thank the following for their recent gifts to the Museum's collections:

Helen Mitchell, Dr. William Chandler, Ben Walker, Betty Priest, Virginia Minar, Susie Dewey, Pearl Neff, and David Felstein.

Thanks also to those who recently gave donations to the Vigo County Historical Society:

Anna K. Schomer, Ruth Bopp, Joyce Oehler, Ann Hubbard, Mary Wright, Carolyn Gurman, Louise McCullough, Francis Failing, Frances Williams, Weston Wabash Foundation, Ronald Pratt, Marian Kintz, Patricia Engelland, Sue Salmon, Nancy Rubey, Charles Bradford, Dr. J. Lewis Stoelting, B. Michael McCormick, Max Gibson, PEO, Chapter BN, Elizabeth Jane Wheat and Women of United Methodist Temple.

Many other special "thanks" go out at this time:

To Mary Hooper for purchasing a typewriter for the Assistant Director; to members of Alpha Tau Omega Fraternity, Chris Frazier, Steve Buis, Mike Newport, Chris Prather, Jay King and Bryan Nell for raking leaves; to Jan Buffington for purchasing a wall phone to hang beside the hostess desk in the Vigo Room; to Barbara and Joe Wilkinson, Naomi Craig and Peg Swank for poinsettias which added to the festive look during the Christmas holidays; to the Heidl family for the azalea plant for the "Stiffy Green" exhibit opening and to Marian Kintz for silk Christmas wreaths for the front windows.

Special thanks to those who brought housekeeping supplies to the January meeting and to many other volunteers who could not attend that meeting, but brought supplies on their own!



The Springbrook Rod and Gun Club

Vigo County Historical Society Members Only

You're Invited

"If Only the Walls Could Talk ..."

The Memories of Bob Johnson and the

Springbrook Rod and Gun Club.

March 20, 1990

6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

Program begins at 7:15 p.m.

- January 30 - May 6 "Wish You Were Here..."
Exhibit of postcards of Terre Haute's past on loan from Paul and Helen Martin in the Vigo Room
- March 18 Opening day for Annual Egg Tree Exhibit will continue through April 15.
- March 19 Friends of the Museum meeting 12:30 P.M. at the Museum
- March 20 "If Only the Walls Could Talk"
Program by Bob Johnson at Springbrook Rod and Gun Club 6:30 to 8:00 P.M.
- April 15 Easter! Museum is closed
- April 16 Friends of the Museum meeting 12:30 P.M. at the Museum
- May 6 Opening of new Exhibit "Button Collection" in the Vigo Room
- May 19 "...But Not Forgotten"
Program at historic Woodlawn Cemetery 11:00 A.M.
- May 21 Friends of the Museum meeting 12:30 P.M. at the home of Vicki Walsh

Appetizers Included

Cash Bar

Tear off this portion and return it, along with your check to:
The VCHS, 1411 South 6th St., Terre Haute, IN 47802.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Telephone _____

Please reserve _____ seats at \$5.00 each.

Note: You may make reservations for dinner following the program, but reservations must be made directly at the Springbrook Rod and Gun Club. *Please be sure to tell them you are coming as a member of the VCHS for the program. Cost of dinner is NOT included in this program. *(466-2521)

VIGO COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

1411 South Sixth Street
TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA 47802

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