



History Matters!

**Newsletter of the Effingham County Cultural Center
and Museum**

Effingham, Illinois

Volume 6, Issue 1

January - February - March, 2019

**The Board and volunteers at the Effingham County Museum
congratulate their
President, DELAINE DONALDSON upon
his recognition as
the 2019 CITIZEN OF THE YEAR.**



**President Delaine Donaldson, and wife Sandi,
at the Effingham County Museum's Event Center**

ECCCMA MISSION STATEMENT

The purpose of the Museum is to establish, maintain, and operate a museum for the general public, and to collect, research, care for and interpret materials and artifacts of cultural and historical interest to the residents of, and visitors to, Effingham County, Illinois. Our vision is that the 1872 Effingham County Courthouse remains as an architectural gem that instills a sense of community pride and provides a venue to educate and showcase the history, art, and transportation of Effingham County. The Museum is a 501(c) 3 organization. Donations are tax deductible.

Hours

Usual hours March-December: Tuesday & Saturday: 10 AM - 2 PM
Other hours by special arrangement
Closed to the general public January-February, except for special programming
or by appointment

Accessibility

The museum is wheelchair accessible from the east side entrance just off the parking lot. Toilet facilities that are wheelchair accessible can be found in the west exhibit room.

Collection Building

The scope of the Museum's collection is directed by its Mission Statement. Donations are accepted of objects that relate directly to the Museum's mission of collecting materials and artifacts of cultural and/or historical interest.

Board and Officers

President	Delaine Donaldson
Vice President	Jane Ries
Secretary	LoElla Baker
Treasurer	Allen Westendorf
Members at Large	Jerry Katz
	Ruben Boyajian MD
	Linda Ruholl
	Sandi Wernsing

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Visit us on Facebook @:	Effingham County Courthouse Effingham Ill
Newsletter Editor:	Linda Ruholl, contact @: lruholl@wbnnorriselectric.com

Events from last quarter 2018

Old Settlers' Reunion - September 29, 2018



The day started with the presentation of the colors by Effingham's American Legion Post.

ECCCMA President Delaine Donaldson lead us all in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Mark Ries and Amy Gillespie registered those attending.

"Old Settler" was defined as anyone who had lived in the county for 30 years.



Becky DeWeese did face painting.



Dan Koester gave wagon rides.



Larry Koester and the Salt Creek Band entertained from 1:00 - 3:00 PM

Members of the group at Kenny Walls, steel guitar; Rick Ashley, lead guitar; Robert Ruholl, rhythm guitar; Doug McDevitt, fiddle; Jim DuBridge, bass guitar; Larry Koester, rhythm guitar and vocals.

Tiffany Bailey was the Winner of the "Name That Dead Doc" Contest, taking home a \$50 Niemerg's gift card.

The doctors in the contest poster were (L to R): Dr. Albert Goebel from Montrose, Dr. Frank Weber from Teutopolis, Dr. David Bristow from Effingham, and Dr. Judson Phillips from Altamont.

Forty-seven people entered the contest.

Here's how many identified each doctor correctly:

Dr. Bristow: 79% (3rd from right)
 Dr. Weber: 66% (2nd from right)
 Dr. Goebel: 24% (1st from right)
 Dr. Phillips: 23% (4th from right)





Charlie & Gert Harris - Longest married



Becky DeWeese - Youngest Old Settler



Rex Borries and his medical display

Event Last Quarter 2018

1872 Celebration and Grand Ball ~ October 5, 2018



Any celebration requires preparation.

Here Ball Committee Members Marylynne Tolliver and Dean Manuel admire the intricate designs on the vintage "water tipper" that graced the refreshments table.



Bev Marshall directed the FACE Orchestra as they played period music prior to the Ball.



Our guests (ABOVE) gathered in the Second Floor event center to hear President Ulysses S. Grant and Mrs. Julia Dent Grant (portrayed by Scott and Peggy Whitney (LEFT). This presentation was followed by the Grand Ball. Music was provided by the Salt Creek String Band. Marylynne and Gratton Tolliver shared a few moments between dances with Dr. Ruben and Mrs. Emily Boyajian (BELOW)



Events Last Quarter 2018
Marion Blumenthal Presentation
October 17, 2018



Holocaust survivor Marion Blumenthal Lazan spoke to a large group of people, sharing her experiences, starting with a happy early childhood in a close family, through the disruption of that family because they were Jews in a time of Nazi power over the citizens of multiple countries.

Marion explained the gradual worsening of affairs that eventually lead to their transfer into the Nazi prison camp system. Stress levels were continually high, and her parents struggled to maintain hope as their living situation deteriorated. Cold, hunger, pain, poor quality sleep - all take their toll on the human body.

Marion, as a child, had her own method - she believed that if she could only find four perfectly shaped pebbles and keep them, that her family would stay intact. When Marion was eventually released at the end of the war, her body weight was only a fraction of the norm for a child her age.

Marion autographed her book, "Four Perfect Pebbles," for many in the crowd. She and her husband are warm and authentic individuals. They are determined that, as long as she is able, she will continue to tell her family's true story of what the Holocaust was really like.

The Effingham County Museum was privileged to host this speaker. She is living history. This event was provided to the Effingham community free of charge. We are indebted to our Vice President, Jane Ries, for her vigorous efforts to facilitate it.

Effingham County Museum Open House

November 30 and December 2, 2018

Jane Ries' Veterans' Tree was a hit. Local grade school children pasted a photo on a red or white heart and trimmed it with glitter. The tree was stationed in the Gallery 3 Media Room. Many kids came in to point out "their" veteran to family members.



The first floor display cases were decorated for the holidays.



The refreshment table was loaded with homemade peanut clusters, mints, sugar cookies and lemon bars; there was snack mix, sausage and cheese, and everything in between. An old fashioned gum drop tree from the 1940s-1950s era dominated one end of the table.



Volunteers Susan and Chuck Hoelscher helped prepare the treats for the Museum's guests.



The FACE Orchestra and On High performed during Hometown Christmas, Dec. 1



Upcoming Event

The museum Board members and other volunteers will be participating in a Strategic Planning workshop on Wednesday, May 22, 2019.

The facilitator will be AMANDA STANDERFER. Amanda is a community developer who specializes in working with non-profit entities.



Amanda is and has been on staff of a number of libraries. Currently, she is the Director of Development and Promotion at the Urbana Free Library. She also worked at the Decatur Public Library as Head of the Adult Division. She functioned as Program Officer for the Lumpkin Family Foundation from 2013-2018. Earlier still, she was Library Director at the Effingham Public Library (formerly the Helen Matthes Library).

Amanda is also active as a consultant. Her business is Standerfer Consulting.

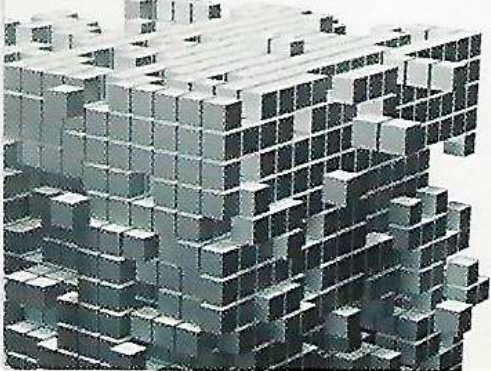


New Signage at the Museum

These new signs are now available to help you locate the various galleries and rooms at the Museum.



Various individuals contributed to creating and putting this signage in place. The signs were designed, created, and donated by **Jacob Doedtman** of Praire Land Designs, a CAD Solutions and Prototyping business. **Allen Westendorf** did the letter painting, and his son, **Jay Westendorf**, donated the wood and smoothed the edges. **Allen** acquired and donated the iron hangers. **Steve Miller** and **Allen** hung the signs.

Jacob Doedtman Owner jacob@prairielanddesigns.com	20277 E. 1300th Ave Teutopolis, IL 62467 217-663-0356
	Prairie Land Designs CAD Solutions & Prototyping www.prairielanddesigns.com

Some of the Events Scheduled to Date for 2019

February 14	Historic Lecture
March 14	Historic Lecture
April 4, 11, and 25	Hospital Fire Lecture Series
April 16	Lincoln Day Celebration
April 28	Honoring Veterans of the Korean Era
September	Old Settlers Reunion-Date TBA
November 3	Honoring Veterans of the 1960s-1970s Era
Late Nov/Early Dec	Annual Holiday Open Houses-Date TBA

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SHARE YOUR MEMORIES OF THE HOSPITAL FIRE

Linda Ruholl is collecting oral histories from current or former residents who remember the hospital fire.

Share your story...

How old were you? Where did you live?

What do you remember?

Call or text 217-690-5701

or

email to lruholl@wbnorriselectric.com

THANK YOU!

