



History Matters!

Newsletter of the Effingham County Cultural Center
and Museum

Effingham, Illinois

Volume 4, Issue 3

July - August - September, 2017

ISHS 2017 Excellence Awards



(L to R): Elaine Egdorf, Linda Ruholl, Phil Lewis, Jane Ries, and Delaine Donaldson

Five of the ECCCMA's Museum Page writers received the Illinois State Historical Society's Excellence Award for their contributions to the Museum Page in the *Effingham Daily News*. The awards were presented at the 2017 Annual Awards dinner at the Trutter Center on the campus of Lincoln Land Community College, Springfield, Illinois. Elaine G. Egdorf, immediate Past Vice President of ISHS, was the presenter.

Peer reviewers considered samples of the Museum Page from the 2016 issues, and commented, "What a pleasure it was to read the five examples of the Effingham County Courthouse Museum Page, which appears in the *Effingham Daily News*. The authors' straightforward writing styles, thorough research, and good use of photographs provides their readers with solid information and a unique understanding of their rich community."

Jerry Eident also received an Excellence award, but did not attend the event.

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
	Dean Manuel
	Sandi Wernsing
	Henry Poterucha MD (emeritus)

CONTACT INFORMATION

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

ECCCMA Membership Application

Please print clearly.

Detach and mail to: ECCCMA, P. O. Box 324, Effingham, IL 62401

Name _____

Mailing address _____

email address: _____

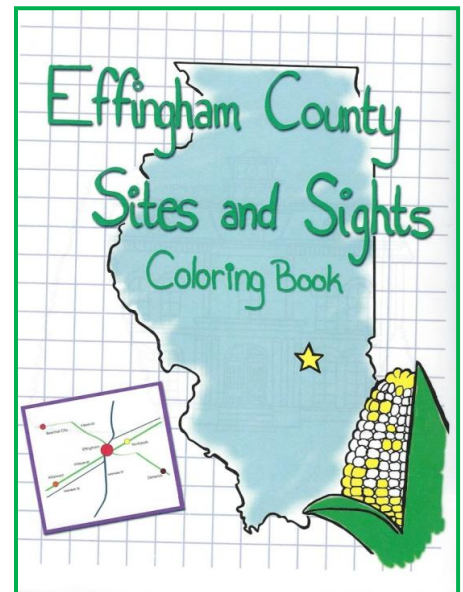
Check # _____ enclosed for one year membership:

_____ \$25.00 individual _____ \$ 50.00 family

Membership can also be obtained via PayPal by visiting the ECCCMA website:

www.effinghamcountymuseum.org

Coloring Book Features Effingham County Sights and Sites



Teutopolis High School student Maria Vonderheide created an adult coloring book for her 2017 CEO project, with some help from ECCCMA volunteers. Maria was one of the many CEO students with a booth displaying their wares and services at the Keller Convention Center of May 2, 2017.

Maria included several Museum-related pages in her creation, including a frontal view of the Old Courthouse Museum, as well as models of the 1949 St. Anthony Hospital and the St. Joseph College Bell Tower, both located in Gallery 5 (the Train Room). Maria graciously donated 10% of her sales to the Effingham County Cultural Center and Museum Association. Thank you, Maria!

Recent Event

April 27, 2017

Third Annual Lincoln and His Times Celebration



Ross and Sandy Richardson greeted guests at the Museum's front door.

Later in the evening, Sandy assumed the persona of Matilda Flack, who once danced with Lincoln in Vandalia. Matilda was the wife of the Postmaster of Freemanton, in the same era when Abraham Lincoln was a neophyte Illinois legislator.

The Vandalia Hotel was also called the Flack House. It was a well-known and widely frequented establishment in the 1830s. The hotel was a 2 1/2 story structure, and quite the place to go to see and be seen. Sleeping rent was reasonable at 12¢ per night, but there was an accompanying 50¢ fee to stable a horse. Daytime meals cost 25¢, but supper ran 37 1/2¢. As this part of Illinois was still sparsely populated at that point, the dances and other events held there were quite popular.

Lincoln was seeking female companionship at one such event. After being snubbed by some of the other women, he asked Matilda Flack's husband for permission to dance with her. Upon receiving it, he asked for Matilda's permission, which she gave. Unfortunately, the dance did not go well. Lincoln stepped on Matilda's skirt with such force that it ripped the fabric. He was mortified and apologized profusely. Matilda accepted his apology, but her private conclusion was, "That young man will never amount to anything!"

Lincoln Celebration April 27, 2017 (Part 2)



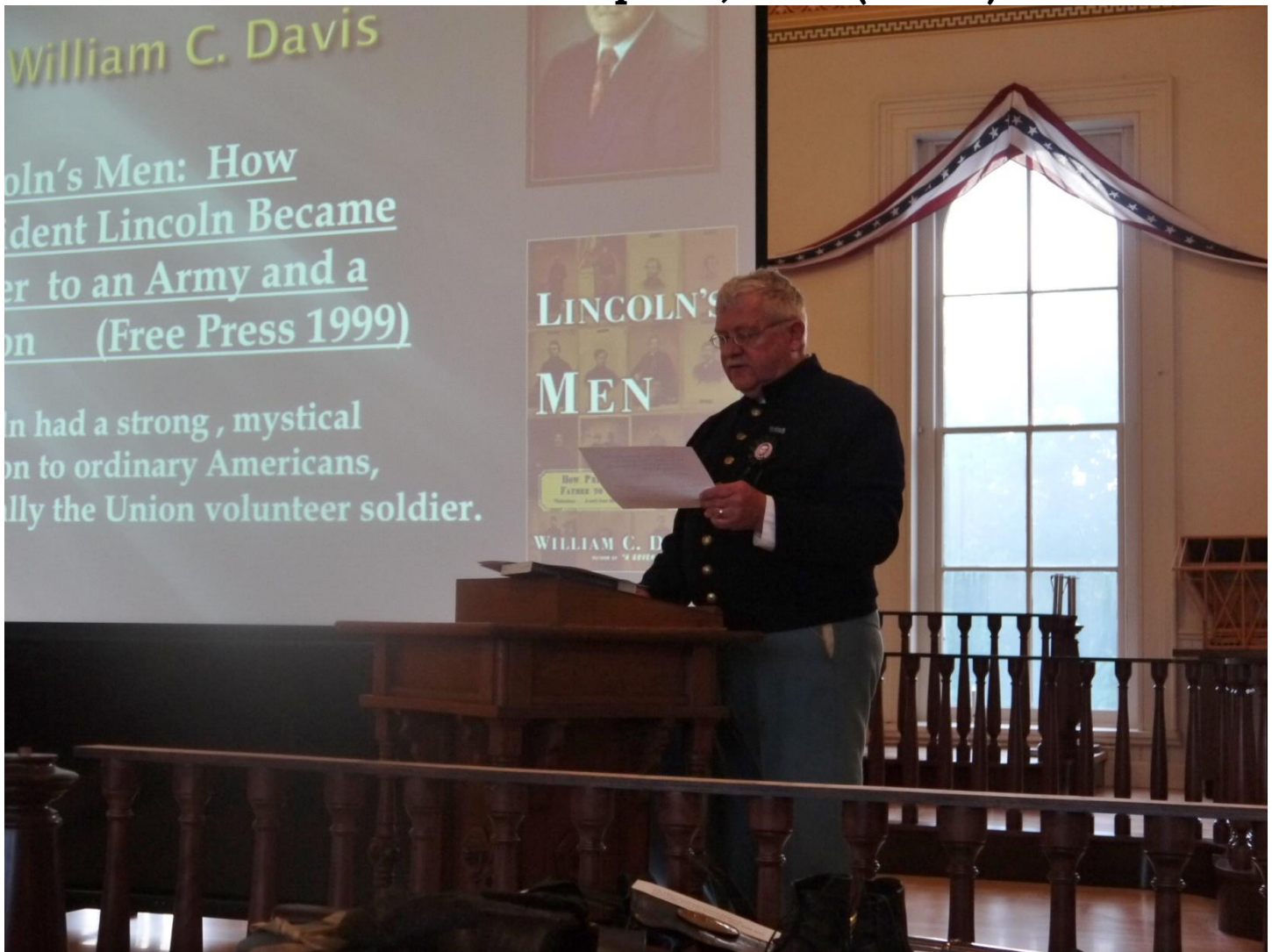
Gratton and Marylynne Toliver played prior to the start of the formal spoken presentations. Their period music is the result of careful research into the source and context of the each arrangement. Gratton and Marylynne are two of the four members of the Salt Creek String Band.

Some of the pieces they played and sang were from the Civil War era, "All Quiet on the Potomac Tonight," "Dixie," "Just Before the Battle," "Tenting Tonight," and "Battle Hymn of the Republic."

Marylynne commented that some of the lyrics in these songs may seem sentimental to us, but at the time they were created, the people who sang them meant precisely what they were saying. "Just Before the Battle," for example, expressed a young soldier's fears and longings, and the sad foreknowledge that he might not live to see his mother and other family members again.

The audience ranged in age from three to 90+ years. They had a chance to chime in with singing, and many did. The Tolivers furnished leaflets with the lyrics, which was very useful, as some of their songs had six or more verses. The acoustics of the old courtroom are perfect for this kind of educational and enjoyable entertainment.

Lincoln Celebration April 2, 2017 (Part 3)



Dan Wormhoudt shared his thoughts on "A Soldier's View of President Lincoln". Dan made the point that Lincoln had a gift for connecting with ordinary people, an attribute that was particularly strong when he interacted with the Union volunteer soldier.

William Davis' book, *Lincoln's Men, How Lincoln Became a Father to An Army and a Nation*, resonated with Dan, and he used it as the basis of his presentation. The volume was published in 1999.

Dan remarked that some people claim Lincoln's first priority as President was the end of human enslavement. However, Dan believes Lincoln's primary objective was to save the Union, and that the end of slavery was #2 on his list.

In 1864, the "soldier's vote" provided support to keep Lincoln in office for a second term, and he won by a good margin. His opponent, General George B. McClellan, had a more distant relationship with the private in the ranks. Upon Lincoln's death just weeks after his reelection, there was an immense outpouring of intense and very personal grief from those Union volunteers.

Lincoln Celebration April 27, 2017 (Part 4)



Shane Rogers of LLC spoke about Lincoln photography and shared his collection.



Matt Greider, also of LLC, shared information about very aspects of Lincoln's complicated relationship with the newspapers of his era.



Ladies attired in some of **Sandy Richardson's** Civil War era clothing collection assisted with the program.

Recent Event
Lake Land College
Celebrates
30 Years of ADN Program Education
in collaboration with ECCCMMA
May 5, 2017



Twenty-two Spring graduates of the Lake Land ADN Program celebrated their personal achievements, as well as the long-term success of their Program at an event on May 5. President Josh Bullock (lower right) and Vice President for Academic Affairs Jon Althaus (lower left) joined the students for a catered meal, followed by healthy helpings of Niemerg's famous coconut creme pie.



Nicole Jones (left), a 1999 ADN Program graduate, is now a member of the Lake Land College ADN faculty. She modeled the blue tabbard that was a part of the student nurse uniform in early days of the program.

The ADN Program switched to white student uniforms, with a blue collar and a blue belt, after the Year 2000 curriculum redesign.

Other memorabilia associated with the ADN Program's early days can be seen in the Kluthe Center's Lobby.

Recent Event
June 10, 2017
AN EVENING AT THE MOVIES

Jane Ries and Matt Devall (abintramedia.com) introduced eight videos to the public during this event. Curently, these videos are available on the Museum *Facebook* page, on the YouTube channel *Effingham Museum*, as well as on monitors at the Museum itself.

Video 1: ***WHAT IS THE EFFINGHAM COUNTY MUSEUM***
 1 minute 50 seconds
Featuring Kurt Becker Jill Boone Marilyn Heuerman
 Greg Sapp Gary Tipsword Jane Westjohn

Video 2: ***HONORING THOSE WHO SERVED***
 4 minutes 36 seconds
Featuring Eldon Ooton Calvin Mitchell
 Charles McWhorter Corey Dasenbrock
 Jane Ries

Video 3: ***RESTING AT SEA***
 4 minutes 38 seconds
Featuring LoElla Baker Lorean Macklin

Video 4: ***FIRE EVERYWHERE***
 8 minutes 55 seconds
Featuring Marylene Ries Linda Ruholl
 Robert Devall Michael Dupske
 David Storm



Video 5: ***ADA KEPLEY: A LOVE STORY***
 7 minutes 7 seconds
Featuring Jo Thomas Dan Wormhoudt Delaine Donaldson
 Grandchildren of Jo & Russ Thomas

Video 6: ***ANGELS ON THE BATTLEFIELD***
 8 minutes 35 seconds
Featuring Patty Winn Linda Ruholl Betty Bailey

Video 7: ***EFFINGHAM COUNTY RAILROADS***
 6 minutes 21 seconds
Featuring Jo Thomas Russ Thomas Dean Manuel

Video 8: ***RESTORING OUR CULTURE***
 7 minutes 7 seconds
Featuring Rueben Boyaijan, MD Delaine Donaldson
 Jerry Katz Steve Miller Allen Westendorf

Recent Event
**ECCCMA and the Effingham County Health Department Celebrate
 70 Years of ECHD Service to Effingham County
 June 23, 2017**



Area residents visited the Effingham County Health Department on June 23, 2017 to commemorate ECHD's 70 years of service to area residents (1947-2017).

The state level Fire Safety Award given to Rebecca Merten was part of the exhibit.



Seven display boards presented historic photos about early Board members, the first Health Officers, the TB Board, the Home Delivery Service, as well as Primary, Secondary and Tertiary Prevention over the Years.



Recent Event: A Museum Fund Raiser

**Ladies Tea Party
June 24, 2017**



Jessica Wilson-Audrey Niebrugge



Ross Richardson



McKenna Steineman



Megan Hodge- Sandy Richardson



Makenzie Koenig



Delaine Donaldson



Sandy Richardson



Baleigh Stockman-Abigail Cothran-Paula Tolch



The Place Settings



Susan Hoelscher, creating delicious refreshments

The Ladies Tea Party was a sold-out ticketed event benefitting the Museum.

A hearty Thank You to Susan and Sandy and all their helpers.

UPCOMING EVENT

Friday August 4, 2017

7:00 PM

(Doors open 6:30 PM)

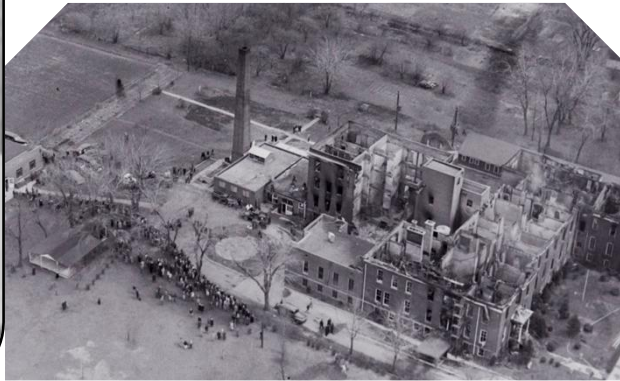
Old Courthouse Museum

Second floor Event Center



**Dr. Linda Ruholl, ECCCMA Nurse Historian
presents her research on the**

AFTERMATH OF THE HOSPITAL FIRE: THE ECHD HOME DELIVERY NURSING SERVICE 1949-1954



A burned out hospital + many pregnant women + an emergency hospital with NO maternity care = **A 1949-1954 Problem**

A new Health Department + a dedicated nurse + an experienced Public Health officer = **The Solution**

COME HEAR THEIR STORY!

						July 2017
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Open 10-2
2	3	4 Open 10-2	5	6	7	8 Open 10-2
9	10	11 Open 10-2 Gen Meeting 6 Board 7:30	12	13	14	15 Open 10-2
16	17	18 Open 10-2	19	20	21	22 Open 10-2
23	24	25 Open 10-2	26	27	28 Ham Jam	29 Open 10-2 Ham Jam
30	31					

						August 2017
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Open 10-2	2	3	4 Open 630 Aftermath of Hospital Fire Program by Linda Ruholl	5 Open 10-2
6	7	8 Open 10-2 Gen Meeting 6 Board 7:30	9	10	11	12 Open 10-2
13	14	15 Open 10-2	16	17	18	19 Open 10-2
20	21	22 Open 10-2	23	24	25	26 Open 10-2
27	28	29 Open 10-2	30	31		

						Sept 2017
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 Open 10-2
3	4	5 Open 10-2	6	7	8	9 Open 10-2
10	11	12 Open 10-2 Gen Meeting 6 Board 7:30	13	14	15	16 Open 10-2
17	18	19 Open 10-2	20	21	22	23 Open 10-2 Old Settlers Reunion
24	25	26 Open 10-2	27	28	29	30 Open 10-2