

Since 2015

Volume 1, Issue 2

April-May-June 2018

The Chair's Corner



The last time I wrote a column for publication was around 1965; I was editor of a weekly paper. Perhaps I'll tell you more about that later. In this issue I want to focus on what will happen in the next few months at the CAHC. —JS

To date, our support has come from Canton Main Street (the group facilitating our launch as an organization), membership fees, & individual and business donations, both dollars and materials. We have a physical site, courtesy of Graham Hospital. Obviously our financial needs are growing as we prepare to present our vision for CAHC. While our membership continues to grow, we will soon begin seeking significant corporate and private contributions, especially local. Preparations will also be made to seek donations and/or grants from foundations.

PURPOSE

The CAHC Newsletter is intended to keep our members, donors and friends informed and involved.

Please note that our name is 'Canton Area' Heritage Center. Although we haven't defined "area," I'll take a risk to name these neighboring communities and their histories we'd like to document: Breeds; Brereton; Bryant; Cuba; Dunfermline; Fairview; Fiatt; Gilchrist; Liverpool; Maples Mill; Norris; and St. David. We do not intend to offend/nor invade the offerings presently available in Lewistown or Farmington.

While we're anxious to open the center, we will resist doing so until we have the facility ready for viewing. Personally, I believe the grand opening is achievable by August.

Here are just a few tasks that we need to complete. We must build and/or acquire sufficient fixtures for display use. Documents and photos must be scanned, perhaps enlarged, printed and mounted and appropriately displayed. Signs, descriptive texts, and biographies must be created and mounted. Collections must be accumulated for designated areas. (See article on collections and acquisitions). Docents must be

found and scripts written for presentations. Office operations, retail sales, sales tax, housekeeping and more need written procedures.

And while I'm developing lists, our equipment needs include phone service; security/alarm system(s), computer and support equipment to serve our present and projected requirements. To be specific, we could use a scanner/printer; large paper cutter; cash register; camera; 4-5 flat-screen TVs and DVD players; art and office supplies.

We are creating a repository of artifacts and historical records to tell our collective stories. We're excited to see it all come together! You, members, friends and donors, are essential in this process. Please contact me if you can volunteer or are willing to help acquire the equipment I've described. Thank you!

Joe Stone, Chair

Canton Area Heritage Center
PH: (309) 255-7255



Special points of interest:

- FOLLOW OUR PROGRESS IN THIS QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER
- MEET MOVERS AND SHAKERS, THEN AND NOW
- LEARN INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT OUR COMMUNITY
- DISCOVER HOW TO DONATE OR LOAN ITEMS TO THE HERITAGE CENTER



Inside this issue

ACQUISITIONS PRIORITIES	2
CAHC MISSION	2
COLLECTING BOTTLES AND LOCAL HISTORY	2
FACILITIES COMMITTEE	3
FUNDRAISING/MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE	3
PROMOTION/MARKETING COMMITTEE	3
BASKETBALL CHAMPIONS OF 1926 AND 1928	4

Canton Area Heritage Center
111 South Main Street

Newsletter

Collections and Acquisitions Priorities



Acquisitions Committee Chair Mike Walters records information for authenticating an item.

The Heritage Center is ready to acquire artifacts representing our history, culture and industries. These artifacts are being sought for permanent collections:

- ♦ *P&O and International Harvester memorabilia*
- ♦ *Mining in Fulton County*
- ♦ *Disasters and Canton's come-back stories*

- ♦ *Notable people in industry, civic life and philanthropy*

Please contact Mike Walters, Acquisitions/Exhibits Chair, to let him know you have items you'd like the center board to consider.

Telephone Walters at (309) 338-6272 or email walters.michael@hotmail.com.

"Collecting patent medicine bottles created a passion in me to learn more about our local history."

- Jim Morgan

Mission of the Canton Area Heritage Center

The mission of the Canton Area Heritage Center (CAHC) is to foster a deeper understanding and appreciation of Canton's and surrounding area's history, culture, and industry.

To accomplish its mission, CAHC will collect, preserve, research, interpret and exhibit history and artifacts of Canton, IL and the surrounding area.

Collecting Bottles Leads to Passion for Local History

My interest in collecting patent medicine bottles began in 1977. I stopped at a yard sale in Farmington IL one Saturday and the gentleman having the sale was a bottle collector. He had several cool patent medicines and other old bottles; I was instantly hooked. He was a member of the Pekin Antique Bottle Collectors Assoc. and invited me to a monthly meeting. I later joined the club and served as president several times over the past 40 years.

My interest in researching the patent medicine companies also led to local drug store bottles and an interest in local business histories.

During the 1980's and early 1990's, I gave talks on antique bottles to many service clubs,

church groups and at our monthly meetings of the bottle club. Also, I've been a presenter for the Spoon River College Lifelong Learning Conference. Topics were Western Stoneware Co., Monmouth, IL; 100 Years of Canton Drug Stores; Milk Bottles from the Backside; and The Roebling's Bridge Builders for America.

My interest in history was also spurred by doing genealogy research and the fact that my great grandfather was a Civil War veteran. I am a big fan of Abraham Lincoln's life and his role in the Civil War.

Jim Morgan, Treasurer



Facilities Committee

Facilities Committee will lead site selection process, identifying likely buildings in downtown area that match the focus and mission of the Heritage Center. Members will work with local government, health and safety agencies, and owners to meet the requirements and regulations impacting an accessible, secure and safe physical plant.

The committee is planning and installing security and exhibits at the present time. If you have expertise in one of these areas, we'd love to have your assistance. Please contact us.

Phil Gregory

Committee Member

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Jim Morgan

Committee Member

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NOW IS THE TIME
FOR FRIENDS AND
NEIGHBORS TO
STEP FORWARD
WITH ARTIFACTS
YOU THINK WE
OUGHT TO SEE.

Fundraising/Membership Committee

Fundraising/Membership Committee will raise and oversee the funds required for the development of the physical space, displays, maintenance of physical plant and programs of the heritage center. Annual membership drives, fund-raising events & collecting for specific needs are the committee's responsibilities.

Major donors at Benefactor and Founder levels will be recognized at the center.

Founder* - \$1,000.00

Benefactor* - \$ 500.00

Sustaining - \$ 250.00

Contributing - \$ 150.00

Make checks payable to
Canton Area Heritage Center
and mail to the address on
page 4 of this newsletter.



Commemorative dishware was often given for specific purchases or business promotions.

Promotion/Marketing Committee

Our Promotion and Marketing Committee is responsible for communicating progress of the Heritage Center to the general public and specific audiences with whom the museum maintains a relationship or wants to involve. Committee will help make decisions about what messages and promotional pieces are needed.

The next event: 2018 *Heritage Days Antique & Collectible Show*.
Save the date.

Would a community group like to hear more about the center? Speakers are available; please contact us.

Dana Smith, John Froehling and Debbie Stephenson, Committee

EM: dsmith@cantonillinois.org

PH: 309-647-2677

3rd Annual
**Canton Heritage Days
Antique & Collectible Show**
Downtown Canton, Illinois
Saturday, August 11, 2018
Jones Park 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.



**FUN! GREAT FOOD!
GREAT ENTERTAINMENT!**
TOE-TAPPING MUSIC IN THE GAZEBO!

Interested in being a vendor?
To receive a registration packet, or for more information, email
your contact information to Dana Smith at dsmith@cantonillinois.org,
or call her at 309.647.2677, Ext. 1

Preserving our history...

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E-mail: dsmith@cantonillinois.org

First location is 111 South Main
Street, Canton, Illinois 61520

We're on the Web:

[www.cantonillinois.org/
heritagecenter](http://www.cantonillinois.org/heritagecenter)

BASKETBALL CHAMPIONS OF 1926 AND 1928



Patent Medicine Bottle
7 Sutherland Sisters
Hair Grower (contributed
by Jim Morgan)

The high school basketball season has just concluded. We asked our local coach and sports historian to share facts regarding these award-winning Canton teams.

When Canton won the State Basketball Tournament in 1928, beating West Aurora, 18-9, they qualified for the Tenth Annual Amos Alonzo Stagg Interscholastic Basketball Tournament in Chicago. We lost to Ashland, Kentucky, in the Championship game, 15-10. Canton finished the tournament with a 5 and 1 record.

Two years before, in 1926, Canton placed second in the State Tournament, losing to Freeport, 24-13. When Freeport couldn't go to the Eighth National Tournament hosted in Chicago, Canton as Illinois' runner-up, was invited.

The Kiwanis Club gave the team \$40.00 to apply to their expenses, and the balance came from selling magazine subscriptions. Canton placed fourth in Consolation Bracket, winning 3 and losing 3.

In each of the tournaments, six games were played. By playing in both tournaments, Russell Cardosi could have the record for "most games played" (12) in the classic tournament.

Roy Hopper, Member
CAHC Board of Directors

*"We cannot escape
history."*

-A. Lincoln