

Since 2015

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THE CHAIR'S REPORT



Philip Gregory, Chairman
Canton Area Heritage Center
Executive Board
Cell: (309) 208-2943

Our Annual Meeting announcement means we're completing another year, and we'll be reflecting on our progress in preserving history.

The 2022 Annual Meeting is set for November 10, at Donaldson Center, 6:30 p.m. We'll conclude with the entertaining presentation, "Mrs. Lincoln in Love." And, you're invited! Read more details on p. 4.

This past year we've put together several unique exhibits showcasing acquisitions like three hand-crafted, one-of-a-kind plows by brothers Samuel and David Buchen. Another exhibit included rare cigar boxes, and we've added to an extensive sports collection.

I'm proud of the dedicated volunteers who work to keep the museum attractive, organized and open!

Come visit us to learn more.



THE BICENTENNIAL June 20-29, 2025

Plans for Canton's Bicentennial in 2025 are ongoing. There will be ten days of planned festivities, June 20-29, 2025.

To coordinate the celebration of the 200th birthday, Canton's Bicentennial Committee has been formed. It will operate as an arm of the Spoon River Partnership for Economic Development (SRPED) office, located at 48 North Main Street, Canton, IL.

The committee is chaired by Mike Walters. The other members are Carla Bobell, Carol Davis, Rick Klinedinst, and Kevin Stephenson. The committee has already been exploring a variety of events to be a part of the observance. Watch for them.



Petrovich Grocery Store on Birch Street. Read about the family on page 3. Photo courtesy of David Pickel.

DUES REQUEST, PLUS

You'll find a 2023 dues form with this issue of the newsletter. We ask you to donate annually. NOTE: We now have a means for Caterpillar employees, present and past, to extend donations.

The Canton Area Heritage Center is registered as a charity eligible to receive matching funds from **Caterpillar Foundation Matching Gifts program**. The Foundation's website states that "Since its founding in 1952, the Caterpillar Foundation has contributed to helping improve the lives of people around the world.... As a Foundation, we focus on the complementary human, natural and basic services infrastructure needed for individuals to thrive and communities to be resilient." The Canton Area Heritage Center certainly strives to achieve this mission, as well.

Caterpillar active employees worldwide and U.S. based retirees donating a minimum of \$25 can submit a request for matching funds via the website:

www.caterpillar.com/en/company/caterpillar-foundation/matching-gifts

The maximum amount of matching funds is \$10,000 annually per person. Matching funds are paid out on a quarterly schedule (i.e., any donation submitted by January 31, 2023, and confirmed by February 15, 2023, will be matched and paid in March, 2023).

If you're a Cat employee or retiree, please consider making a donation and request matching funds. Donations are tax deductible. If you have questions or need assistance, please contact us, (309) 647-2242.

Kathy Myers, Museum volunteer and retired Caterpillar employee

Special points of interest

• FOLLOW OUR PROGRESS IN THIS QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

• MEET MOVERS AND SHAKERS, THEN AND NOW

• LEARN INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT OUR COMMUNITY

• VOLUNTEER WHERE AND WHEN YOU CAN

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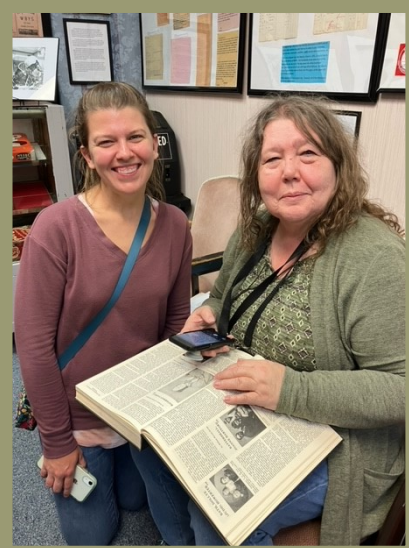


Our hours are
 Fridays, 10am-12 noon
 Saturdays, 10am-2pm
 Sundays, 1pm-4pm
 Come see us!

The Museum Newsletter

SUMMER VISITORS

Groups included the McDonough Co. Genealogical Society, CHS Class of 1972, Lambs of God Childcare Ctr., YWCA Daycare, UIUC student volunteers, as well as our 2000th Visitors, Margie & Jenny Queen (center). Groups are invited to schedule tours with us; call (309) 647-2242 and leave a message. We will call back, promptly.



**THANK YOU
FOR VISITING!**

Editor's Note: We welcomed visitors #1999 and #2000 on September 11, 2022, the Queen family of Dickson, TN. Help make our numbers grow; come in and step back in time with us!

DID YOU KNOW?

There are many successful entrepreneurs who hailed from Canton and Fulton County; Gilbert Stein was a giant among them. He was very dynamic and a forward thinker, even as a young teenager. He grew up on his parents' dairy farm near Canton, and during his early years at Canton High School he purchased milk from his father, bottled it in the family basement, then delivered it on his bicycle to households in Canton. By his senior year (1933), he was delivering 200 quarts per day before and after school in his model T Ford.

In 1936 he opened the "Goldenrod Dairy" on West Locust Street, where he pasteurized and bottled the milk. In 1941 he wanted to expand to a larger community and purchased the failing Golden Cream Dairy in Galesburg, IL. This new venture was a success, as well, and inspired him to take his next big leap.

In 1946 he began his 65-year association with Dairy Queen. He opened his first store that year in Normal, IL, as a pioneer in the company. His was the ninth Dairy Queen store. He later moved his family to Springfield, IL, and acquired the franchise rights to most of Illinois, Missouri, and parts of Arizona.

In 1962 Mr. Stein and four partners bought the national and international franchises of Dairy Queen and formed the "International Dairy Queen" of which he was the first president. At one time, Mr. Stein owned 28 stores himself and had franchised 140 outlets in Illinois and Missouri.

Mr. Stein was given an Honorary Doctorate of Letters by the University of Illinois-Springfield in 2005. Gilbert N. Stein died on April 30, 2011, at age 97 as one of Fulton County's most successful entrepreneurs.

Jim Morgan, Treasurer



Gilbert N. Stein, member of Class of 1933, Canton High School

NEW ACQUISITIONS: BUCHEN CULTIVATOR AND PLOWS

Recently, Lynette Isaacs of the Villages, FL, presented the museum with a hand-crafted model of what is believed to be a P&O/IHC #2 Diamond Gang Plow. It is missing two wheels but otherwise is accurate in detail. A plate names the maker, Samuel Buchen, Lynette's great grandfather.



Earlier, Phil Morgan, Bartonville, IL, presented the museum with a replica of a No. 66A Adjustable Walking Cultivator. The size, the patina, detail and involved relatives make it probable that Samuel Buchen produced both models. Mr. Buchen later ran a grocery store at Elm and Fifth Avenue in Canton for 27 years, after employment at P&O Plow Works for 26 years.



Samuel was from a large family of 16 children with 10 boys, most of whom worked at some time for P&O/IHC. Brothers George Lee, John E. and David F. worked a total of almost 140 years at the Canton Plant.

The Buchen men were talented, hard-working citizens who also built and remodeled houses for members of the family.

I am a former IHC management employee and CAHC board member. I made available a model of a Diamond Wheeled Sulky Plow at the opening of the museum four years ago. Mr. Dave Buchen made this plow, and it was determined to be an accurate replica by IHC inspection employees in the late '60s.

Mr. Buchen remembered the little boy next door (me), who had played with the plow, and gifted it to me upon his death.

Jack Pollitt, Acquisitions Committee member

PETROVICH GROCERY STORE

Catherine "Katy" and Victoria "Torrie" Petrovich born July 31, 1907, and March 26, 1914, respectively, ran the Petrovich Grocery store that was opened in 1911 for more than 60 years at 447 E. Birch Street. Their father had begun selling groceries out of the house before building what would become the iconic store next door.

Petrovich Grocery sold everything but meat. This was because a man by the name of Bill Wilstead ran a meat market down the street. Petrovich Grocery began selling meat after Mr. Wilstead retired. He taught Katy how to cut the meat and moved the meat counter to Petrovich's store.

Students from the high school would go to the store during the lunch hour for lunch meat sandwiches, chips, and soda. Farm kids who rode the bus to the elementary school on Birch Street could walk to Katy and Torrie's during lunch, if they had a note from their mother. Janice Dare Bruster shared, "We could take a dime to Katy's store and buy 10 pieces of candy, which she put in a little brown sack. The kids going brought back candy for everyone who had to eat at school. There were always extra pieces, so we usually had two pieces. Everyone loved Katy and Torrie!" It was said they gave away more candy than they ever sold. The sisters were so loved by the children, they would bring their school pictures every year to be hung in the store.

When the health department learned they were serving food, they were required to install a sink and a bathroom, which were put in the basement. Katy and Torrie had to lift a big heavy door in the floor to get downstairs. The store closed in 1988.

Hannah Cox, Museum Volunteer



Katy and Torrie were portrayed at 2021 Cemetery Walk. See those school pictures on display to left of the Petrovich sisters. Photo courtesy of David Pickel.

Preserving our history...

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We're on the Web:

[www.cantonillinois.org/
heritage-center](http://www.cantonillinois.org/heritage-center)



ANNUAL MEETING, NOVEMBER 10, 6:30 P.M.

We will hold the annual meeting of our non-profit organization, Thursday, November 10, 6:30 p.m., in Donaldson Center, 250 S. Avenue D, Canton. We will review our accomplishments and conduct a brief business meeting. You're invited to attend, where you'll also meet Mary Todd Lincoln (as portrayed by Laura Keyes) in a special program.

Annual Meeting Program, Mrs. Lincoln in Love

Mary Todd Lincoln lived a life filled with triumphs and tragedies, but few people know her story. Now, librarian Laura Keyes shares Mary's story in an entertaining and educational program entitled, "Mrs. Lincoln in Love," which is set on January 31, 1862, when Mrs. Lincoln and her family are settled comfortably in the Executive Mansion.

Visiting with ladies at an Afternoon Tea, Mary Todd Lincoln reflects on the Loves of her Life – her children, her husband, and her country. She even shares some of Mr. Lincoln's love letters to her! Learn how Mary's knowledge of both politics and social customs made it possible for a backwoods frontier attorney to achieve the highest office in the land.

Following is a brief "bio" of our presenter.

Laura Keyes graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, with a Master's Degree in Library Studies, and is Director of the Dunlap Public Library. Laura is a lifetime member of the Association of Lincoln Presenters, and in 2017 she won the Mary Todd Lincoln Oratory Contest at the Lincoln Days celebration in Hodgenville, KY. See "Historic Voices" on Facebook for more information.

There is no fee to attend the program; however, donations will be appreciated.

For additional details about Canton Area Heritage Center's programs, acquisitions policy, members and donors, and volunteer opportunities, check our webpage, www.cantonillinois.org/heritage-center.

Cheryl Bielema, Secretary

