

METAMORA ASSOCIATION FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION

NEWSLETTER

February 2008



Visit our Website at
www.historicmetamora.com



What's New at the Stevenson House?

Thanks to the donors for your generosity. It is very much appreciated.

- An original painting by Bertha Snyder. (Many thanks to the Gene Springer, right, family who donated the picture from brother Dwayne's estate. The picture now hangs in the first floor southeast room of the Stevenson House.)
- The window candles and timers were generously donated by Sharon Elbert, who also helped decorate the House for Christmas.
- The beautiful peach-colored wedding dress of Garland Pires' mother, Gladys, from 1928.
- A pair of high-laced ladies shoes donated by Garland Pires.
- A military flashlight (for the Veteran's Room) by Garland.
- A picture of Lourdes Church from around 1910 by Laura Adams (from the Helen Dubois estate sale.) A large group of young people plus the horse coral are included.
- A 1920 Woodford County Atlas donated by Betty Bekemeier. The atlas originally belonged Betty's father, Charles Kohl of Washburn.
- 1937 MTHS class picture which includes Ken Willman who donated it. Ken reports that his class was one of the only classes at MTHS not to have a yearbook. Seems the administration let the class vote on whether to have a yearbook or not – and they voted not to have one!



2008 Projects

Restoration continues to keep the Stevenson House in good repair for future generations. Your support is greatly appreciated.

VETERAN'S ROOM. The upstairs, southeast bedroom is in the process of becoming a memorial to veterans, as several flags and other veteran's memorabilia are being displayed. A special thanks to Ken Willman who donated the eagle flag and Kurt Adams who donated a 36-star American flag. The 36-star flag became the Official U.S. flag on July 4th, 1865, after Nevada was added to the union. Stevenson lived in the Stevenson House from 1866-68. It is thought he lived in the back of his law office, which is in the building now owned by John and Phyllis Dietel, before moving to the Stevenson House. The 36-star flag lasted 2 years before other stars were added.

- Front stoop repair
- Final phase of repointing (cost approximately \$15,000)
- Brick sidewalk
- Window reglazing and painting
- Landscaping continues
- The outhouse gets its own crescent moon

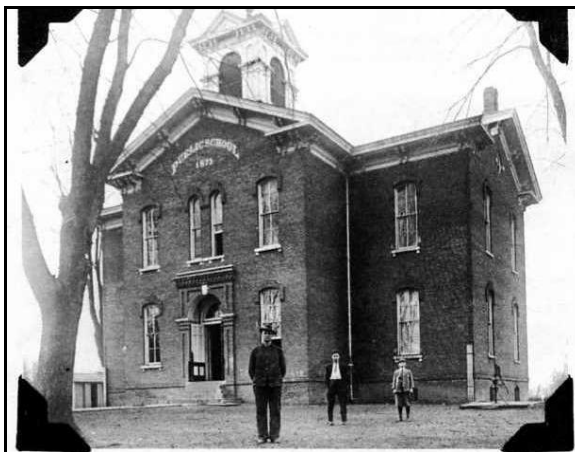
Note: be sure to visit the website at www.historicmetamora.com to learn more about Stevenson's original law office and its life later as the Joe Noe tavern.

The Old School

1873-1952

The grade school met in the lower level the high school met upstairs until 1915, when the high school was moved to the former St. Mary's Orphanage, which is site of the current high school.

The school stood at the northwest corner of Hanover and Partridge.



1953 GRADE SCHOOL GRADUATING CLASS

The class of 1953—the first class to graduate in the new Grade School. Seated left to right: Marsha Barnes, Orla Clyde, Mary Ann Morris Spencer, Carol Wiedman, Judy Cook, Karla Kail, Rachel Minger, Connie Meeks, Helen Ahrens. Standing: left to right: Terry Jones, Richard McClary, Leon Self, John Kenagy, Malcolm Steider, Harold Steider and Larry Durst.

Fine Arts Christmas Tour a Big Success

The MTHS Fine Arts Christmas Tour of Homes on December 15 was a huge success despite very cold, snowy conditions. Approximately 100 visitors enjoyed the tour. Violinists from the school made the event a memorable one as the Fine Arts department began plans for an even bigger tour in 2008. The students demonstrated their gratitude with a charcoal portrait of the Stevenson House, signed by Kary Dorethy.

Winter Tours Continue

The Girl Scouts winter project that was scheduled for the Stevenson House has been postponed until later.

If your group is interested in a fun way to learn more about local history, Shirley (and other members) does an excellent job! You can set up a special tour by contacting any of the board members at the contact information below.

Super Neighbors...

Thanks to neighbor John Keys for keeping the sidewalk in front of the Stevenson House clear of snow. Very much appreciated, John.

From the Files... Seems like only yesterday... Note the old press box!

1975 State Champs



1975-76 Metamora High School Football Team - State Champions Class 3-A

Front Row: Asst. Coach John Vogelsang, Scott Ruder, Dan Foster, Tom Miller, Paul Wernsman, Jim Garber, Mark Whittington, Bud Tanton, Scott Bartel, Pat Ruder and Manager Greg Bernius. Middle Row: Asst. Coach Jim Wiltz, Larry Sommer, Bill Dubois, Bill Reich, Jeff Nauman, Rob Martynowski, Steve Holman, Gary Hendryx, Scott Reynolds, Craig Doerr, Greg Elbert, and Coach John Helmick. Back Row: Jeff O'Conner, Dan Seckler, Mike Guth, Jeff Selburg, Phil Schertz, Neil Cortus, Brian Epping, Todd Wiechmann, Tim Christy, Marty Stomberger, Gary Guth, Greg Hill and Vic Friederich.

Season Record was 13-0 - Heart of Illinois Conference Record 7-0

Metamora 33 Hall 0

Metamora 44 Morton 16

Metamora 26 Washington 0

Metamora 27 Canton 0

Metamora 7 Pontiac 6

Metamora 14 U-High 0

Metamora 33 Central Catholic 7

Metamora 55 Central Catholic 7

Metamora 55 Woodruff 6

Metamora 63 I.V.C. 0

State Playoffs

Metamora 41 Alton Marquette 28

Metamora 31 Bishop MacNamara 8

Metamora 14 E. St. Louis-Lincoln 12

Metamora 25 Geneva 7

Contact Us

Questions, ideas...

We would love to hear from you. Laure Adams, President, 367-2706 or 369-2353 or jrfarmer@mtco.com; Kenneth Willman, Vice President, 367-4426; Shirley Adams, Secretary, 367-2289; Jack Weddle, Treasurer, 367-4017 or 645-0963 or jweddle@mtco.com; Board members: Don Harbers, 367-2164 or harbersd@mtco.com; Susie Ryan, 367-2511 or susie@mtco.com, and Barbie Perry, 678-8402, barbeperry@mchsi.com