

METAMORA ASSOCIATION FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION

NEWSLETTER

Visit our Website at
www.historicmetamora.com

June 2008



Garage Sale Set June 7

Spring cleaning usually means digging up a few old "treasures" that would look MUCH better in someone else's house! If you've run across some of these this spring and would like to help them find them a new home, call Laure at 369-2353. She's gathering "treasures" for the MAHP GARAGE SALE on June 7 at the Art Studio on Rt. 89 (the Old Ice Cream Station.) What a neat way to help the MAHP and get rid of all those valuable dust collectors that need a new home!

How Well Do You Know Your Metamora History?!

Post Office Trivia
*See the answers below and
rate your knowledge!*

- Q1: What was the name of the first post office in Woodford County?
- Q2: Where was it located?
- Q3: What was it named after?
- Q4: How long was it there?
- Q5: Where was the first post office in Metamora?
- Q6: When did rural carriers first use the automobile to deliver mail?



Restoration on the Last (East) Side

Repointing work is now being completed on the east wall of the Stevenson House. Experts in historic restoration, Stone Solutions, of East Peoria have completed this latest project. Even though this is the last side to be repointed, the House still needs its stoop and windows restored.

Seems like the work never ends, but these projects are necessary to keep the house viable and provide a place to display Metamora's rich history. At the right is a Stone Solutions carefully restoring the east wall.

Don and crew are also in the process of replacing the entrance sidewalk. You'll be hearing more about that project in the near future.



A Big Announcement is
Coming on the
Sidewalk Restoration!

Open House Hosts Needed

If you're looking for a good way to spend a Sunday afternoon, how about helping host a Stevenson House open house? They're open each Sunday from 1-4 p.m. You would be trained earlier and then could either host by yourself or with someone. It really is fun to talk with the visitors and show them around. If you'd like to give it a try, just call Shirley at 367-2289.

Metamora Grade School 1938-39

How many can you
recognize?



**Try not to look at the
names and see how
many students you
recognize.**

**Then check the roster
and see how many
you got right!**

METAMORA GRADE SCHOOL - 1938-39

| | | |
|--|---|---|
| ROW 1: Kenneth Hayden Bobby Deatherage Ronnie Musselman Bobby Full Janice Sullivan Ramona Wagner Burton Schertz Durward Guth Harold Richmond Rodney Bell | ROW 2: Bobby Tippy Robert Brodt Mae Kern Margaret Richmond Dorothy Ehringer Jack Malone Joanne Musselman Barbara Abel Corinne Ranney Richard Schrock Gene Fehr | ROW 3: Miss Ewing Mary Wagner Donna Lou Gamb Martha Kern Ross Wilder Gerald Ehringer Robert Schertz Jack Engel Edith Wagner Annabelle Hayden Gordon Wagner |
| ROW 4: Loring Utring Glenn Meyer Mildred Richmond Geraldine Jackson Phyllis Willman Jean Sullivan Harlan Sluga Marshall Belcher Miss McDermott | ROW 5: Hugh Abel Gary Gamble Carroll Meyer Raymond Sharick Bobby Garber Junior Kern | ROW 6: Alverda Schertz G Leontine Koch Melba Wagner Carol Belcher Mrs. Wave Frerick Mr. Rohman, Janit |

What's New...?

Plan on stopping by and seeing what's new when the Open Houses resume in May – each Sunday May through October from 1 p.m. – 4 p.m.

- Check out the story about St. Mary's Grade School on the internet. Very interesting reading!... www.historicmetamora.com
- A photo of the entire Metamora Grade School from the early 20's. Stop in a see if you recognize anyone. Thanks to Ken Willman for this donation. Ken says he recognizes his uncle and some others.
- "Outhouse Guru" Don has lined up a chamber pot for a later donation. Don does many things for our group but seems to have specialized, lately.
- Thanks to Maxine Kern who has donated a set of patriotic poems from World War I.
- A picture of an old fashion elevator donated by the family of Betty Nauman via Mrs. Abel.
- And don't miss this! Don has added a crescent moon to his outhouse (also known as the "historic building")!!

Community

Foundation Grant

Maurice Elbert's
Generosity Contributes to
Restoration



The Community Foundation of Central Illinois awarded the Metamora Association for Historic Preservation a grant of \$1,000 to help complete the restoration of the side windows by the entrance of the Stevenson House. This program/project has been made possible, in part by a grant from the Maurice Elbert Charitable Fund of the Community Foundation of Central Illinois. Mr. Elbert was a long-time resident and supporter of Metamora.

During the winter months before the restoration, condensation formed on the inside of the windows and dripped down to the wood below, causing water damage.

Metamora Grade School Tours

Metamora Grade School's third graders toured the Stevenson House during their annual walking tour. They're a lot of fun and asked a lot of good questions. There's a lot of energy there! We look forward to their visit every year!

Update from the April Newsletter

Renee Parks, who was the assistant to Jean Myers at the Courthouse, volunteered her artistic talents on restoring the America's Coffee sign on the Dietel home. Renee also restored the cast iron courthouse sign on the southeast corner of the square - as a volunteer! As Jean points out, Renee deserves a lot of credit for her spirit and talent! Thanks, Renee!

Recognize these Historic Metamora Homes?



220 West Partridge - this early day home was originally owned by Sol Egbert. It is often referred to as the "Honeymoon Cottage" because so many couples started their housekeeping in it.



405 North Davenport - original home that was a showplace. Mrs. Dora Schertz, wife of a banker, and her daughters served chicken dinners to customers from Peoria. The inn served by reservations only and the food was excellent. Mrs. Schertz donated the first dishes to the Christian Union Church. This house is reported to have been a part of the underground railroad. It has been owned for many years by Bernard and Marie Burns.



The Isaac Wykoff Home (a remodeled original) - 504 East Mt. Vernon. It was here in 1878 that Mr. Wykoff and four or five other citizens met to form one protestant church in Metamora rather than the five existing ones. The name chosen for the new church was Christian Union.

Coming Events

Old Settlers and the
Friday Night Concert in
the Park

Mark your calendar for June 18-21 for Old Settlers. Once again, we'll be selling raffle tickets for a CASH drawing! (Inside tip - all the winners have bought their winning tickets with the arm-length \$5 method!! What a deal!!)

Also mark your calendar for June 27 when we'll be hosting the Friday night concert ice cream social. According to Ken and Don, the ice cream and pies all have no calories - so you can eat two servings!

Metamora History

Answers

Post Office Trivia Answers

5-6 Right "Metamora
Whiz"

3-4 Right "Junior Whiz"

Less than 3 Join MAHP
Immediately

A1: Black Partridge (later known as Metamora) in about 1834.

A2: In the James Boys house, about 3 miles north of town on the old Chicago to Bloomington stage coach route. (See picture above.)

A3: It was named after the old Indian chief whose wigwam once stood near where the house is located.

A4: About 3 months. It was moved to about a mile north of town, and renamed Partridge Point (later referred to as the Hanover post office.)

A5: When the post office moved into town, it was located in the Frank Giehl building, located where Springer Electric formerly operated.

A6: In 1912, carriers began to use the car for rural deliveries during the summer months. Before the roads were improved for the car, mail was delivered with a one horse shay over roads that were for the most part, a pair of ruts.

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, barbperry@mchsi.com