

# METAMORA ASSOCIATION FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION

## NEWSLETTER

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December 2010

# MERRY CHRISTMAS

FROM THE  
METAMORA ASSOCIATION FOR  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION

### Christmas, 1910-Style

Santa told the Metamora Herald reporter, "I will arrive in Metamora at 5 o'clock Saturday afternoon, December 17 (1910). Please make arrangements for my coming and I would also ask that you procure the celebrated ('little German band') Spiegelburger Band for the afternoon.

"I will come in my airship if the wind is right, providing it is not laid up for repairs, in which case I will fall back on my automobile; and if the roads are bad I will come with team and buggy or sleigh, as you know I sent my reindeer back to the north pole last winter when I bought my auto.

"I would ask you to tell all the children to come to town that I may see them and decide who most needs presents this year."

☼Have any old Christmas pictures? We'd love to have a copy!!



### Schlipf Auto Sales \$3,000,000 of Tuckers!!

"If you happen to run across any photos, please let me know and I can help you identify which car it is..."

We occasionally get a request for information on old businesses, families, etc. But we seldom receive pictures or info with the request.

For this reason, we were excited and grateful to receive the picture at the right from Mike, a fan of old Tucker cars, who is doing research on these old cars. →



The sign on the building says SCHLIPF AUTO SALES

Mike writes – "I am presently doing research on the 1948 Tucker automobile and I'm looking for information on Ezra Schlipf. Schlipf was an implement dealer in Metamora in the late 40s and early 50s. He also sold automobiles. He was a Hillman Dealer and would have been a Tucker dealer had the cars went into production. Schlipf did buy several of the prototypes at the factory auction in October 1950. Is this building still standing?"

After a little driving around, we found the building at 306 W Walnut. And the house in the background at 201 S Lafayette was the Schlipf residence.

He continues – "Schlipf played a very important part in the history of the Tucker. There were only 50 cars ever built and presently they sell for around one million dollars so a photo of three million dollars worth of cars sitting in front of a Metamora building is pretty interesting. Most of Mr. Schlipf's cars are in museums now including the Henry Ford Museum which has one of his in the main entry. "

### It was a Very Good Year

Annual meeting on November 4<sup>th</sup> recaps progress in 2009-10...

#### FINANCIAL

- \$1,500 Cat Matching Grant
- \$800 Community Foundation
- \$6,931 Income Membership and Fund Raisers
- Antique Store Opened

#### RESTORATION

- New Roof Installed
- Window Restoration Begins with 2 Windows
- Child's Room Ceiling Repaired
- Garden Plan Started

#### TOURS AND COMMUNICATION

- 136 Visitors from Open Houses and School Groups
- Website Continually Updated
- Newsletter Published 6 Times per Year

### New This Month...

- Camel back trunk, braided rug, and wall oil lamp courtesy of Ed and Betsy Smith
- The Website mills story was updated with photos of the millstones in front of the Courthouse and the Fire House
- The Fire House millstone was donated by Arthur Schierer. It was originally located at the mill on his property
- A big Historic "thanks" to Don Harbers and Ted Alig for the fresh coat of paint on the fence. Great job, fellas!

### Contact Us

Love to hear from you...

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