

METAMORA ASSOCIATION FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION

NEWSLETTER

Visit our Website at
www.historicmetamora.com

August 2012



Lucky Old Settlers Raffle Winner...

Linda Eckstein, Washburn...?

Lucky Linda won the \$100 raffle at Old Settlers – and generously donated \$20 to MAHP! Thanks, Linda!



The First Soldier From Metamora Goes to WWI...



March 1917

This parade was held for Lyndon Murray, the first soldier from Metamora to go to WWI. Alvin Willman is thought to be in the picture but partially hidden by the flag.

The back of the card says "Mr. McGuire leading the parade," "Sam Rife carrying the flag" and "Lyndon Murray, oldest son of W. A. Murray of Metamora, Maine, the last heard from him, several weeks ago, but it is his ambition to go to France and train as a flyer. He has been accredited second class pharmacist since enlisting more than a year ago and seems bond to advance further."

The picture was taken near what is now the junction of Routes 116 and 89, looking south.

Did You Know...?

...Cat Trail is an outgrowth of the old River Bottom Road that was little more than a pair of mud ruts in the early days of WWI. Holt Company wished to test new equipment named "Caterpillar" and offered to repair the existing road. Travelers of the day reported seeing the long line of Caterpillars and the Cat Trail name stuck.

...that Old Settlers was organized in 1870. John Summers was the first president and held that office for seven years.

What's Old...

But new at the Stevenson House...

- Variety of High School Pictures
- Alvin Willman's Army "blouse"
- Bob's TV Advertising Piece

- Slate from High School Roof
- School Books from Imogene Ramoley Collection
- Old Books from Peggy Nieschlag

Early Metamora Leader...

Cass Irving...



Cass's father built the Courthouse. Cass also had a large personal collection of Lincoln items and a great wealth of anecdotes of the days when Lincoln was in Metamora.

After receiving his primary education in the common schools of Metamora, he began his business career as a grocery store clerk. Following 2 years of college at Eureka College, he continued clerking until 1869 when he entered the office of the Woodford Sentinel. There he learned the printer's trade and grew to the rank of foreman.

In 1880, Cass accepted the position of deputy circuit clerk and served for 8 years. He followed with 4 years as circuit clerk and 4 years as Master in Chancery.

He also served a number of terms as president of the village board and was ever a foremost citizen in community life. He remained active in all public and local matters up to the time of his death.

J.C. Irving is accredited as father of the water works of Metamora. After the devastating fire of 1886, he was the original agitator and drew plans for the same, which gained approval of the villagers. Fairbanks, Morse & Co. was awarded the contract for \$5,980.

Irving Home – Corner of Partridge and Niles



See the complete story at www.historicmetamora.com

This and That...

New Board Member...

Welcome to new board member Mary Curry. Mary is a long-time Metamora resident and a graduate of MTHS (we won't reveal the year...!) Mary replaces Barbie Perry, who we'll all miss.

Garden and Landscaping

Always looking for volunteers to help out with the landscaping (also known as weed maintenance!). If you have some time, just let us know...!

Open Houses

The Stevenson House will be open to visitors on August 5th and 19th from 1-4 p.m. Stop in and see what's old.

Contact Us

Questions, ideas...

We would love to hear from you. Laure Adams, President, 369-2353 or jrfarmer@mtco.com; Kenneth Willman, Vice President, 367-4426; Shirley Adams, Secretary, 367-2289; Jack Weddle, Treasurer, 645-0963 or jweddle@mtco.com; Board members: Dave Pohlman, 369-3290; pohlman46@hotmail.com; Lee Summer, 367-4059, 635-0259, lsummer@mtco.com; Mary Curry, 367-2185