METAMORA ASSOCIATION FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION

NEWSLETTER

June 2022



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UNDERGROUND RAILROAD CEREMONY HONORS LOCAL CONDUCTORS -

On May 15th, Linda Kern Moore, her husband Don and several descendebts of the Kern/Dutton family and others met at Oakwood Cemetery to honor Linda's great-great grandfathers, George Kern and Norman Dutton. Led by president Laure Adams, the Metamora Association for Historic Preservation dedicated special markers that recognized their brave work. Linda honored her grandfathers by placing the markers. She also gave a riveting presentation about their experiences at the Woodford County Society on May 12. Linda and Don are pictured at the right.

George and his son James were arrested for harboring slaves and were defended by Abraham Lincoln. They were eventually acquitted when the state couldn't prove the "cargo" were slaves.

A primary route of the UGRR was the old Springfield to Chicago stage coach route that ran through Metamora. Several local citizens who lived on or close to the route were very actively involved. Their experiences are a gripping part of Metamora's rich history that is generally not well known.

UNDERGROUND RAILROAD BOOK IN METAMORA NOW AVAILABLE – MAHP is proud to announce our latest book. It details the significant participation of Metamora area abolistionists in the Underground Railroad – in their own words!! You can pick up a copy (\$10) at Commerce Bank, the Metamora Library, Timeless Treasures (east side of the Square) – or we'll send you one if you send your name and mailing address to Metamora Association for Historic Preservation, PO Box 264, Metamora 61548. Be sure to include your name, mailing address, and a check payable to Metamora Association for Historic Preservation for \$15.

STEVENSON HOUSE OPEN HOUSE -mark your calendar for June 12th or 26th, as open houses at the Stevenson House (104 W Walmut) resume from 1pm-3pm. Lots of new artifacts to check out!!

TOUR HISTORIC METAMORA – the drving tour of historic Metamora is now up and running... Lot's of old pictures, lots of amazing history! You'll find the video on YouTube by typing in Metamora Association for Historic Preservation in the search bar on your phone. A good project on a warm summer day! Check it out!

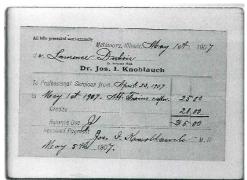


"Maple Grove School" by Kay Sears #4 of 10 prints

The State Department of Education in Springfield, Illinois purchased the original of this painting. It hangs in their reception area along with two other school paintings from the "Country School" series.

Thanks to Carol Wood for sharing this picture of Maple Grove School.. Her father went to school here. So did Bob Fandel, Linda Kern, John Alig, and others!





This birth certificate is Bob Remmert's mother's. The \$25 fee for delivering a baby is almost inconceivable today. And Dr. Knoblauch, who lived where Mason Funeral Home now operates, probably made a house call to boot!

Bob also sent the ad for the old 1902 corn planter. Quite a bit different than today's huge machinery!



Alden Catalog – Do you remember when your family got its first TV??



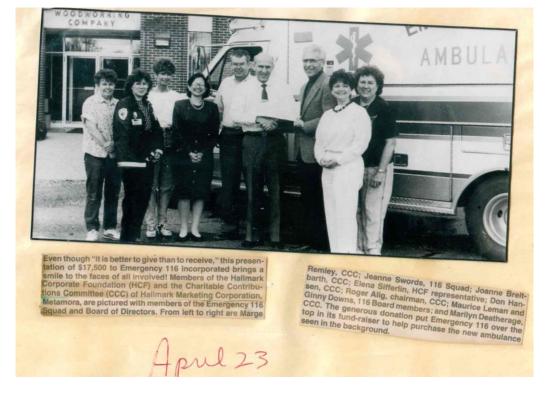
How excited were you when the new catalogs arrived? We just about wore out the pages of the toy section! And if we were lucky enough to order something...!



More Alden Catalog – No electronics here – but the prices are right!! And if your mom took you shopping (ugh!) and you behaved yourself, you might get to stop at the dime store! (Thanks to Bob Remmert for sharing these old Alden catalop pages.)

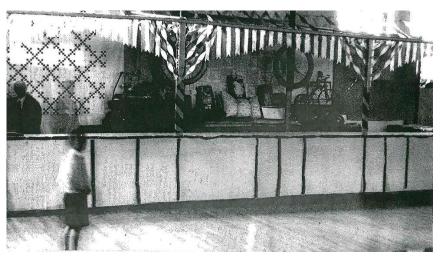


Metamora Ambulance Crew – Does Anyone Remember What Year This was Taken?





Doug Depauw shared these two pictures of St. Mary's. Not sure what the occasion above was, but the group certainly was dressed up! Doug's grandparents, Joe and Josie Waldschmidt sat at the first table on the right side. Mr. Ryan, who ran the Herald is the first person on the left at the first table. In the picture below, Bob Remmert remembers when St. Mary's used to have these big events. He thinks the spinning wheel is still around! Thanks, Doug, for sharing these pictures. If anyone has any information about the event or the attendees, we'd love to hear from you. More to follow...



Contact Us

Questions, ideas - Love to hear from you

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