



Historico

The newsletter of the Sangamon County Historical Society
 308 E. Adams Street, Springfield, IL 62701
 www.sancohis.org 217.522.2500

October, 2005

October 12, Wednesday, 5:00 pm

Board Meeting

Lincoln Library, Carnegie Room South

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October 18, Tuesday, 7:00 pm

Program

Lincoln Library, Carnegie Room North

REFORM IN MEDICAL EDUCATION

AND THE SIU FACTOR

Richard H. Moy, M.D.

Dr. Richard Moy will discuss the evolution of medical education from the early 19th century to the present. In the early 19th century, physicians were held in quite low esteem. Poorly educated and generally crude people, their methods, based on ancient teachings rather than science, could often cause more trouble than the diseases they were supposed to cure. Medical schools were run by small groups of doctors who profited from tuition. The curriculum was an eight-week term taught yearly. Students attending two terms graduate with an M.D. degree. The curriculum was not made too hard so as not to discourage students and cut income.

The M.D. degree is now conferred after a four-year curriculum. Entering students continue on for a residency program and are certified in their specialty by strict standards and examinations. Physicians are now held in reasonably high esteem. The speaker will trace this revolution, which is still going on, and record the rather significant impact that SIU School of medicine has had on this process.

Dr. Moy, a 1949 graduate of Illinois' Naperville Central high School, belonged to the National Honor Society and served as student body president there. He completed his A.B., B.S. and medical degrees, all with honors, at the University of Chicago. After an internship, service as Clinical Associate at the National Cancer Institute/National Institutes of Health, and Internal Medicine residency at the University of Chicago where he afterward started a teaching career, he became Dean, Provost, and Professor of Medicine at Southern Illinois University where he initiated an inno-

Don't miss!!

October 7th 7-9 pm Colloquium Reception at the Lincoln Home Visitor's Center

October 9th 9th Annual Cemetery Walk
 Oak Ridge Cemetery Noon—4:00 pm

October 22 Bus tour to Bishop Hill

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*20th Annual Lincoln Colloquium Reception
October 7th 7-9 pm*

The Lincoln Visitor's Center will be the gathering place for this reception and walking tour co-hosted by SCHS. Curtis Mann will make a brief presentation on Springfield in the 1850s prior to the tour; Bill Furry will be providing a musical background and SCHS will be providing refreshments. The tour will include the Jesse K Dubois house with the Lincoln Home area, the newly opened Iles House and the Vachel Lindsay house.

You are all invited to attend, but we ask you please to call Robinson's at **522-2500** if you are coming as it will help us plan the refreshments.

Bishop Hill Bus tour See page 5 for details

Katrina damage to historical/archival sites

As the flood waters have receded, damage to historical sites and documents is being assessed across the area. Historical preservation teams are beginning the long process of retrieving documents, photographs, and other important pieces of history that have helped to shape the nation. Freezer trucks are standing by to provide temporary archival storage, as time is of the essence to counter the damage from humidity, mold, and water damage can occur in a matter of days.

In order to help assess the total damage and also to help disseminate to all what is known, the American Association for State and Local History (AASLH) working with the American Association of Museums (AAM) has put together a "first reports" webpage that is continually being updated. <http://www.aam-us.org.us.org/aamlatest/news/HurricaneFirstReports.cfm>.

Several organizations have established funds to aid in the restoration: AASLH has established a Historical Resources Recovery Fund, and the National Trust for Historic Preservation is also raising funds, as are others. If you are interested in helping with the restoration effort, you can contribute directly to those organizations or send a contribution to SCHS, marked for Katrina restoration, and the contributions will be combined and sent.

*9th Annual Walk through Oak Ridge Cemetery:
Echoes of Yesteryear October 9th 12-4 pm.*

This year's walk is shaping up to be wonderful! The actors are all lined up: Mary Welles, a wealthy widow will be portrayed by Linda Schneider; Jane Bergen Allen, first Springfield school mistress will be portrayed by Lisa Szabo; Judge Samuel Treat will be portrayed by Don Schneider; Rev. Francis Springer will be portrayed by Bill Furry; Virginia Dresser, youngest child of Rev. Dresser, will be portrayed by Kate McCreight; and Sam Pruitt will portray Orson Stafford.

The Historama will feature several not-for-profit agencies; about seven authors will be there with their books; there will be a 'Here 'n Hereafter' area to give you more insight into the characters portrayed; the Prairieland Dulcimer Strings will again entertain; and there will be again be a concession table.

Extra importance is given this year's Cemetery Walk by the fact that Oak Ridge Cemetery is using the event as the first of their events planned to celebrate their 150th Anniversary which they will kick off with a press conference on October 4th at 9:00 AM.

Report on September Program

Carl Oblinger explained that his book, Divided Kingdom, was the result of many oral histories taken from aging miners in the 1980s, information from his father, an FBI agent charged with following the mining world, and other sources. He began his presentation by outlining many of the circumstances that led to the mining union wars in Central Illinois during the 1930s. He pointed out that the stage was set by a changing energy world that required less coal at the same time that mechanization was lessening the demand for labor and concentrating mining efforts on the more profitable mines to the detriment of smaller, less productive ones.

This inevitably led to miners being put out of work at a very time in our history, the Depression, when alternative jobs were not available, creating an explosive situation. The UMW was determined to control the allotment of jobs and control of the mining industry, while those who were losing their jobs or striking to protest what they felt were unfair conditions, were desperately forming the Progressive Union and trying to shape their own future. But the power of the UMW to influence the mining companies, local and federal authorities and legal conditions ultimately doomed the PMA. Oblinger stated that the PMA had almost no money for years, but had managed to stay afloat through the strong community efforts of the various ethnic groups involved.

Oblinger pointed out that violence of all forms was virulent, and concluded that 36 PMA members were finally jailed on charges manipulated by the UMW. His book details the progression of the strikes, wars and legal battles.

2005 Membership Drive

The list below represents those members, paid through the fiscal year of 2005-2006 (June 1, 2005-May 31, 2006) Please check and note that if your name is not included, your dues for this year have **not** yet been paid. You can remedy that by quickly sending a check to: SCHS, 308 E. Adams, Springfield, IL 626701

You will note that there is a brand new brochure included with this Historico. Please put your name on the bottom of the membership form (so you will get credit), duplicate as necessary, or pick up more copies at Robinsons, and hand out to all of your friends that might be interested in joining the historical society.

Because we have a very special prize, to be awarded at the "December Surprise" to the member who brings in the most memberships, we have developed a complex scoring system because we are just sure this will be a very competitive endeavor. New memberships will be awarded 1 point each; and renewed memberships, your own, or ones you pay for, will be awarded 1/2 point each.

So get out there and start lining up members!

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*Dedication of Old Stone House by
 The Rochester Historical Preservation Society*

Sunday, October 23 2:00 PM
 Rochester/Lake Springfield Road

The house was built in 1836 by Samuel Stevens, and stood on what is now Buckhart Road for almost two hundred years before it was donated to the Society by the Chester Mendenhall Family. It required razing of the building so it could be rebuilt in the Historical Park, which took several years.

A varied program, including period music, will be presented, and refreshments served. Mini-tours of the Stone House will also be possible.

The President's Corner

During our first regular Board meeting September 14, we thanked our Editor for her vision in making the *Historico* a more vibrant and attractive newsletter. We created the Booksales Committee with Sue Wall as chair to push the sale of SCHS books during Society events and help promote our county's history. We addressed other issues noted in the minutes of the meeting. Our October program has Dr. Richard H. Moy presenting on the continuing revolution in medical education and the influence of Springfield's SIU School of Medicine on it. I encourage you to attend the program. Invite your friends. It's free and educational and we will always have some special delights waiting after the presentation as you chat and visit with the speaker and those present.

The recent disaster in the Gulf Coast area caused by Hurricane Katrina has many people doing what they can to help the victims of the disaster. The Society deemed it wise also to encourage members to donate to a fund to aid in the restoration of historical documents damaged by flooding there. Donations may be routed to the SCHS, which can combine and forward the collection to the proper agency (see report this issue).

October 7 ushers the SCHS/NPS Reception at Lincoln Home Visitors' Center. Most important, our 9th Annual Cemetery Walk on October 9 under the charge of Carol Andrews is very promising of a great experience for us. It is also our last chance to see the beauty of fall at Oak Ridge before the weather change. Don't miss to join our Bishop Hill tour, also in October.

In closing, our condolence and sympathy to two of our Board members, past president Kathryn Harris on the loss of her husband, the "Old Dude," Al Chism "Cookie" Harris, Jr., and R-Lou Barker, on the loss of her husband, Morton D. Barker, Jr. We pray for their peaceful repose. – VRP.

Bus tour to Bishop Hill

This year's fall bus tour promises to be a delight! The bus will leave the Stratton Building parking lot at 8:00 AM on Saturday, October 22 and go straight to Bishop Hill for its first stop at the Olof Krans art gallery. Lunch at a Swedish restaurant will follow an orientation video and museum tour. Then a tour of the village followed by time for shopping or tea before its arrival back in Springfield at 6:45 PM.



Please make your reservations soon as we need to confirm our arrangements.



Bus tour to Bishop Hill, October 22



Members \$30.00

I am currently a Sangamon County Historical Society Member _____

Non-members \$35.00

I am joining SCHS herewith _____

Please reserve _____ place(s) on the bus Request handicapped accessible space _____

Enclosed: \$ _____

Name _____

Phone number: _____

Mail to: SCHS, 308 E. Adams, Springfield, IL 62701



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Historico History Calendar

A listing of history events, lectures, conferences, etc., as we learn of them, in Sangamon County.

October

- 3 ALPLF *Evenings to Remember: Gov. Jim Thompson* www.alplm.org
- 7 20th Colloquium *Reception & program, 7:00 pm* Lincoln Visitors' Ctr. Reservations
- 8 20th Annual Lincoln Colloquium Contact: Tim Townsend 492-4241 ext 241
- 8 New Salem candlelight tour
- 9 SCHS annual 12:00 – 4:00 pm. *Echoes of Yesteryear, 9th Annual Cemetery Walk.*
- 13, 20, & 26. UIS Center for State Policy and Leadership. Lincoln Legacy Lecture Series.
- 18 SCHS Program, 7:00 pm: *Reform in Medical Education and the SUI Factor*, Dr. Richard Moy
- 20,21,27 &28 "Ghost tours" of Edwards Place Info: Amanda Lampert 523-2631
- 22 SCHS *bus tour to Bishop Hill,* For reservations, call:
522.2500
- 24 ALPLF *Jim Edgar Lecture Series featuring David McCullough* www.alplm.org
- 27 & 28 IHPA *Conference on Illinois History.* www.illinois-history.gov/conference.htm

November

- 5 ALPLF *Adlai Stevenson of Illinois* www.alplm.org
- 10 *Book Review: The Bondwoman's Narrative,* presented by Barbara Burris
- 15 SCHS Program, 7:00 pm: *CWLP: A History of Trailblazing,* Paul Gonet

December

- 1, 2, & 3. ISHS, 26th Annual Illinois History Symposium. *Religion in Society.* www.historyillinois.org

The Re-dedication and Opening of Iles House a great success!



Win Barringer honored for the exhibit and her 84th birthday



Former owners and descendants pass along the keys



'Museum of Springfield History' dedicated to Farrell and Ann Gay