



EDUCATES, INSPIRES, PRESERVES

FALL 2009

212 South Water Street
P.O. Box 127
Crawfordsville, IN 47933
765.362.3416
www.lane-mchs.org
mchs@accelblus.net

Dance the night away at the 1865 Grand Ball

1865 was not all blood, mud, death and destruction. On the home front there was elegance, candlelight and dancing!

A ball was one way to forget, at least for an evening, the "fiery trial" of the Civil War.

Want to learn and dance the Virginia Reel or just watch the festivities? Ladies in colorful Civil War era dresses and gentlemen in full military costume will brighten up the Masonic Temple Nov. 14. The Montgomery County Historical Society is planning a gala evening for members and others who want to kick-off the holiday season this year.

The dancers will begin the ball with a very impressive Grand March. Gary Ketchum and the Sugar Creek Woodwinds will accompany the dancers with authentic Civil War music.

Do you know how to do the Grand March or the Virginia Reel? No? That doesn't matter because Carol Baker, of Ohio, will teach you how in just a short time so that you can join in the fun! She calls dances at Civil War balls all over the Midwest. You can receive advance instruction and look like a pro by attending the FREE dance instruction session at the Masonic Temple from 1 to 3 p.m. or learn some steps before each dance at the ball.

"Ladies should remember to fill up their dance card. A woman never dances more than one dance with her husband and single ladies need not worry about partners. However, proper etiquette requires that a gentleman has to be introduced to a lady before he can dance with her," Rusty Adams, re-enactor with the 33rd Virginia, said.

It promises to be an interesting and fun evening as well as packed with information about etiquette, history and clothing of the day as you mingle with the re-enactors and townspeople.

The Masonic Temple is located at 221 S. Washington Street in Crawfordsville.

Step back in time to the Civil War Era

1865 Grand Ball

Presented by Montgomery County Historical Society

Saturday, November 14, 2009

8 p.m. – 11 p.m.

1 -3 p.m. FREE Dance Instruction
Masonic Temple

221 S. Washington Street, Crawfordsville, IN 47933



Advance: \$45 couple
\$25 single
At door: \$50 couple
\$30 single
Receive \$5 off admission if you
belong to a re-enactment unit.

Dress
Formal Attire
Door Prizes
Light Refreshments

1865 Grand Ball Reservations

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Re-enactment Unit: _____

Number attending: _____ Amount enclosed _____

Mail to: MCHS, PO Box 127, Crawfordsville, IN 47933
Call 765 362-3416 for more information

2009 sees record number of visitors

A total of 1,450 visitors toured Lane Place in the first nine months of 2009, setting a record for the first nine months of any year. Approximately 16,000 visitors attended the Strawberry Festival and 11 weddings in the Pattison Pavilion rounded out a record three-quarter year.

Visitor demographics for 2009

Montgomery County.....	790	Missouri	9
Indiana.....	436	Nevada	2
Alabama	1	New York.....	4
Arizona.....	5	Ohio.....	10
California	6	Oklahoma.....	3
Colorado.....	3	Oregon.....	4
Connecticut	5	Pennsylvania	1
Florida.....	11	South Carolina	3
Georgia.....	8	Tennessee.....	2
Iowa.....	17	Texas.....	3
Illinois	40	Utah.....	2
Kansas.....	2	Wisconsin.....	16
Kentucky.....	3		
Louisiana.....	1	<u>Other Countries</u>	
Maryland.....	13	Canada.....	3
Maine	4	China.....	1
Michigan	10	Germany.....	22
Minnesota.....	8	United Kingdom.....	2

Upcoming Events

Annual Meeting & Dinner

Wednesday, October 28 - 6 p.m.
Crawfordsville District Public Library

1865 Grand Ball

Masonic Temple
Saturday, November 14 – 8 to 11 p.m.

Closed:

Labor Day – September 7
Thanksgiving Day – November 26
Closed for Season – December 15

Happy Holidays!

Montgomery County Historical Society Officers and Board of Directors

Kurt Homann, President
Mike Barton, Vice President
Don Sperry, Treasurer
Janice Clauser, Secretary

Don Avery	Richard Merriman
Doug Dawson	Dian Moore
Dick Howell	Ernie Patrick
Don Hunt	Bob Smith
Ruth Johnson	Chuck Sommer
Tom Keedy	Joann Spragg

Staff:

Tamara Hemmerlein, Executive Director
Ann Harvey, Assistant Director
Alison Wright, Curator/Collections Manager
Thomas Warn, Know Indiana Intern
(Wabash College)

Lane Place Gift Shop – a different place to shop

It is the time of year to think about Christmas presents. A great place to shop for friends and family is Lane Place, the home of the Montgomery County Historical Society. A wealth of books and gifts for the history buff are available at great prices and are listed below. We feature mugs, pen and pencil sets and a limited number of Christmas ornaments.

“Battles, Skirmishes, Events” as seen through the eyes of Sgt. Ambrose Remley as he made notes in his diary from Aug. 4, 1862 through July 6, 1865. He was a volunteer Union soldier in the 72nd Indiana Volunteer Infantry. The book is an interesting adventure into the everyday life of a Union soldier. \$8.

“Crawfordsville: Athens of Indiana” Karen Bazzani Zach’s account of the founding of Crawfordsville in 1823 by Ambrose Whitlock and takes us through the years to native Joe Allen’s ascent into space on a shuttle in 1982 and beyond. \$27

“Family Histories of Montgomery County” is a completely indexed, embossed hardbound book and is an absolute must for anyone interested in the genealogy or history of the areas. 1,000 family histories are included. \$35

“Henry and Joanna Lane Celebrate Their 20th Wedding Anniversary” Dr. John Zimmerman captured the MCHS’s portrayal of what might have been the Lane’s celebration of their 20th wedding anniversary had they chosen to celebrate it with a vow renewal. Civil War re-enactors participated in the Feb. 14, 2009 event, lending an authentic air to the vow renewal. Approximately 30 minutes. *DVD* - \$7

Indians of Montgomery County Bridgie Brelsford, local history librarian, answers many questions concerning the Indians of Montgomery County. Mostly fact, the fully indexed book adds interesting tales of local Indian legend. \$10

Kirtley Kronicles: An autobiography by James Marion Kirtley, M.D., a prominent physician in Montgomery County, includes interesting stories about life in the Midwest from the early 1900s. Kirtley relates his experiences as he began his medical practice. He joined the U. S. Army in 1940. He recounts historical and personal accounts of World War II. He reveals why restoring the tower to the Montgomery County Courthouse became an important crusade for him. \$5

Martha Hutchings Griffith Prof. James and Patience Barnes depict a beautiful tale about one of Indiana’s pioneer women doctors. \$3

Meredith Nicholson: A Writing Life: Ralph D. Gray notes in this biography that Nicholson stands as the most Hoosier of all Indiana writers, serving as an outspoken advocate for his state. Indiana literary historian Arthur S. Shumaker called Nicholson the “most rabid” of Indiana’s major authors. Nicholson, born in Crawfordsville, is best known for national best sellers *Zelda Dameron* and *The House of a Thousand Candles*. \$20

Meredith Nicholson Reader: An introduction to the writings of one of the so-called “Big Four” in Indiana’s Golden Age of Literature is presented by author Ralph D. Gray. Meredith Nicholson is the least known of the quartet that included James Whitcomb Riley, Booth Tarkington and George S. Ade. The collection features a number of articles on Indiana and American politics and chapters from three of his books. Other selections illustrate Nicholson’s patriotism, his love of America, and his talent for describing the lives of people, particularly his close friend and fellow poet, James Whitcomb Riley. An entertaining reader designed to restore writings by Nicholson to bookshelves in homes, schools and public libraries, and revive memories of him in Indiana and throughout America. \$25



(Gift Shop con't)

Montgomery County Courthouse: Rebecca Neideffer, county clerk, annotates the construction of Montgomery County's interesting courthouse and its unique clock tower. \$8

Montgomery County Legend & Lore: Thirty-five contributing writers present stories, legend, lore and local history about Montgomery County. \$10

Montgomery County Medicine Men and Women: Karen Bazzani Zach paints a history of physicians from the first doctor listed in Montgomery County in 1831 to those who served during the Civil War and beyond. \$5

One Hundred Years of Public Power, Crawfordsville Electric Light and Power 1890-1990
Pat Cline's interesting "how, what and when" account of electric power in Crawfordsville. She tells the reader how Crawfordsville residents were startled at seeing the night sky lit up and pouring through the trees when it was first introduced. \$5

Sugar Creek through the years and how it developed: Helen Collar, local historian, discusses Montgomery County's cherished natural landmark, Sugar Creek. \$3

Two in the Bush: A unique account published by Dian Moore that recounts her parent's adventure of settling in the northern Ontario wilderness. The book is John Austin Moore's 1946-1949 documentation of the search for a perfect location and the amazing 'do-it-yourself' accomplishments in extreme weather conditions. \$28

Willis Thompson May: Colonel May's personal reminiscences provide images of life in Montgomery County more than 100 years ago. \$3

What's happening at Lane Place

by Tamara Hemmerlein, Executive Director

Great things are happening around Lane Place these days. Thanks to a generous grant from the Montgomery County Community Foundation, we can begin work on the repair and restoration of the water damaged areas of Lane Place. The Lane Place tree map has been updated and the new tree identification tags are being prepared for installation – funded by a contribution from the Flower Lovers Garden Club.

Members of Boy Scout Troop #326 spent a 10-hour, hot day painting the wrought iron fence on the Wabash Avenue side of the property and it made quite a remarkable improvement. Skeve Thompson ended up with a total of 216 hours planning and executing the project for his Eagle Scout project with the help of scout leaders, parents and troop members. Kudos to all who helped.

We are hard at work finalizing the plans for the annual dinner and are looking forward to an entertaining evening spent with friends. Plans for the November military ball are well underway and we have begun receiving reservations for the event. We can't wait to dance with all of you.

The Historical Society welcomes back Thomas Warn, our Collections Management intern. Thomas has worked at Lane Place for several years and assists Curator/Collections Manager Alison Wright with cataloging our collection. He attends Wabash College and his internship is funded by the Know Indiana program. Thomas will be on staff for this academic year and we are happy to have him with us once again.

I would like to personally thank the Montgomery County Historical Society staff and board of directors for their understanding and support during the last few months. During my father's illness and passing Ann, Alison, and Thomas willingly and professionally took on my responsibilities and ably continued with their own tasks. Board members were happy to help and showed a great deal of compassion. They are a great group of people and I am proud to be a part of their team.

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Crawfordsville, IN
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Return Service Requested

**MONTGOMERY COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL 2010**

PLEASE USE THIS FORM TO JOIN THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY FOR 2010
IF YOU HAVE ALREADY JOINED FOR 2010, PLEASE PASS THIS ALONG TO A FRIEND

The Montgomery County Historical Society maintains and staffs the Lane Place home and grounds, publishes books on history, records oral history, and is the home of the Strawberry Festival.

Members receive free admission to Lane Place and discounts on programs and publications. We are classified by the Federal Government as a 501(c)3 charitable and educational organization. Your donation may be tax deductible.

Individual	\$15
Family	\$25
Benefactor	\$100
Patron	\$250

Name: _____ Phone: _____
Address: _____ City: _____
State: _____ ZIP: _____ E-mail _____

I would like information about volunteer opportunities. _____ Yes _____ No

Please fill out this form and mail it in with your payment to:
Montgomery County Historical Society, P.O. Box 127, Crawfordsville, IN 47933