



of INDIANA INCORPORATED

NEWSLETTER

Fall 1988

FALL TOUR:

The tour, in conjunction with the Canal Society of Ohio, was conducted October 7-8, 1988. Tour headquarters was the Holiday Inn in Defiance, Ohio.

Approximately 60 members of the two societies participated in the historical tour tracing the course of the Miami&Erie Canal from Independence Dam to its intersection with the Wabash & Erie Canal in Junction, Ohio and then following its route to Antwerp, Ohio, near the Ohio-Indiana state line.

Following the banquet buffet, Dr. Robert Boehm, of the Defiance College, spoke on the "History of Transportation in the Defiance area." A fellowship period following the program was enjoyed by those in attendance.

On Sunday morning the slide-tape program, "Indiana's Canal Heritage," was shown.

Members of the Canal Society of Indiana attending were: William Dzombak, Stan Emerson, Tom Floyd, Gerald and Mary Ann Gettig, Barney and Lois Golding, Clarence and Phama Hudson, Dr. Brian Kutner, Edith McNally, Daniel and Elsie Perch, Jack Seigel and Harry Valley.

NEWS FROM MEMBERS:

In a letter from Jim Hicks was a news clipping about Carole Mayrose, an elementary teacher at Northview School, Brazil, Indiana. She was chosen as one of five Indiana teachers to attend the National Geographic Summer Geography Institute in Washington, D.C. All participants had to present a lesson to the other participants. Mayrose gave hers on the "Wabash & Erie Canal of the Wabash Valley."

Jim also reported that due to the extremely low water in the rivers this summer the dam at Newburg was very visible west of highway 57 bridge. The guard lock is visible in the south bank. Four or five square logs are still stacked and locked together and one corner of the lock is visible.

Stan Schmitt also reported that many of the old canal structures were visible this summer because of the low water levels.

At a program presentation to the Vermillion County Historical Society in Clinton, Indiana, Norman Skinner shared with your president some information about an old canal warehouse. It was built originally over a canal slip near Perrysville, Indiana, then moved to a farm where it has been in use as a barn. Norman has purchased it and is moving it to his Skinner Farm Museum four miles west of Perrysville. He indicated that it is in reasonably good shape and the wooden hoist mechanism is still intact.

Thomas C. McCain, 1908-1988.

Tom died October 23, 1988. He was a charter member of the Society and a strong supporter of its programs. His loss will be especially felt by the members of the Carroll County Wabash & Erie Canal Association, Delphi, Indiana, as they proceed with their plans to establish the Canal Park in Delphi. Our sympathy is extended to his wife, Roseland, and the family.

DELPHI PROJECT:

The Dedication of the Kuns Cabin and a Fall Celebration of the Canal Park was held Sunday, October 16, 1988 from 1-5 PM at the Canal Park in Delphi, Indiana.

Over 200 members and friends were in attendance. Members of the Kuns family made up about 20 percent of those who were present-- some coming from as far as Kansas.

Continuous activities all afternoon included spinning by Carol Trap, cider making by Dan McCain and Family and rail fence building by Lewis Mullin.

The weather cleared and the sun shone brilliantly as the dedication ceremonies got underway at 2:30 PM under the Speece shelterhouse. David Hanna presided and music was provided by the Delphi High School music department. The Kuns family and special guests were introduced. Dennis McCouch gave a brief history of the cabin and Roseland McCain spoke about the "Dream of the Canal Park." "Future Plans- A Projection" was explained by Theo Webb and the relationship of the Canal Society of Indiana to the park project was explored by Clarence Hudson.

A framed Kuns Family Memorabilia was presented to the Kuns family and will hang in the cabin.

The cabin is to represent the period around 1850 in time. It has been furnished with period furniture and several items, such as the wood burning stove and the straw-tick covered bed, are originals to the cabin's furnishings.

Cider and cookies were served after the dedication. A Lafayette television station covered this first event to be held at the Canal Park-- it will not be the last!

1989 DUES - DUE AND PAYABLE:

Two hundred twenty two names are on our mailing list. Twenty of these are Mr./Mrs. members giving us a total membership of 242.

Enclosed is your annual dues notice. Please take time to write your check and return it and the completed form as soon as possible.

This year we had over \$300 given by members toward the work of the Society. You might wish to consider a donation in addition to your dues this year.

Thank you for your prompt reply!

NOW YOU KNOW!

As of this date our slide-tape program has been presented 37 times all over the state. The total audience has been 1810 people. Several more programs are scheduled into next year.