

GRANT COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2007

Wednesday, April 18

2007 ANNUAL MEETING GRANT CO. HISTORICAL SOCIETY SUNNYCREST U. M. CHURCH

Registration, 6 p.m. Dinner, 6:30 p.m.
Cost, \$12.00 a plate

For reservations: call Margaret Wilson
662-8563 before Mon. April 16th

SPEAKER FOR ANNUAL MEETING MEL HANKLA

There has been a change in our program since our last newsletter. Instead of Simon Kenton, Mr. Hankla will bring a familiar character to life for us. GEORGE ROGERS CLARK, Kentucky Frontiersman, Hero, and Founder of Louisville, will be our guest and lecturer. MEL HANKLA, is a historian and teaches Kentucky History and Folklore at Lindsey Wilson College, Columbia, Ky. He has worked with the Kentucky Humanities Council since 1997 as a Chautauqua-Living History Character and portrays several historical characters in addition to George Rogers Clark. He has been active in the "living history" of the frontier era since the early 1980's. He also is a flintlock gunsmith and makes several traditional longrifles each year. In Mr. Hankla's performance, the props and clothing are historically correct, down to the smallest details of materials used and methods of manufacture.



LIBRARY NEWS: Genealogy Class, Thursdays,
May 3rd and 10th.

GENFEST, June 8th and 9th.

Over 100 have registered for Genfest representing 14 states. You can register too. Be a part of the fun and learning by calling Rhonda Stoffer, 668-2900, Ext. 145.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

MAY 16th Blue Star Marker at Marion
National Cemetery- a project of the
Garden Club of Marion

JUNE 20th "Exotic Quail In Indiana"
Ralph Kirkpatrick

MARION CIVIC THEATRE HISTORY

David Wright

In 2001, Marion Civic Theatre celebrated fifty years of presenting the Marion Community with a wide variety of cultural experiences. The first theatrical production of MCT was presented in the Emerald Room of the Spencer Hotel. That production, *Goodby, My Fancy*, starred Barbara Foust. Since that time, MCT has presented productions in a variety of locations including, the Hostess House Ballroom, the lodge room of the IBEW building, the Grant Co. 4-H Community Building, Eastbrook High School Auditorium, Marion High Auditorium, Carey Industries, and now at the recently-renovated James Dean Memorial Theater.

Over the years, MCT has experienced several memorable "firsts". The first show directed by Adeline Nall was *Guest in the House. Fantasticks* was the first musical the group presented in 1965 at the Hostess House. The late Jean Rosen, MCT's first Best Actress Award for her role in *Three Men on a Horse*. In 1973, Jim Moritz and Lee Brown produced 1776, the first of several musicals. In 1971, MCT audiences were introduced to Don Overman in his initial performance of *Harvey*. Over the years, MCT has been an important part of the Marion community. The commitment of hundreds of faithful patrons, volunteers, and board members has sustained MCT through some lean years. Today MCT is a vital and growing organization, thanks to the support of businesses and individuals who believe in the value of the arts.

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