

April 15, 2009

The Grant County Historical Society members and guests met for the Annual Meeting and Dinner at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, April 15, 2009, at the Sunnycrest United Methodist Church.

President Sue Israel welcomed those attending. Kay Dougherty led the Pledge of Allegiance. A moment of silence was observed to allow each to give thanks before the meal.

A delicious dinner was served by the Sunnycrest Church United Methodist Women, and appreciation was expressed by the group.

A short business meeting followed. Sue presented the President's report, a brief review of the 2008-2009 year:

- An enjoyable trip was taken on June 18, 2008 to visit the Lincoln Museum in Fort Wayne (which closed on June 30).
- A Committee was formed to consider the matter of programs and frequency of meetings. It was concluded that the present format works well, but we are continuing to consider the matters of activities and outreach for 2009-2010.
- The Society cooperated with the Grant County Convention and Visitors Bureau to develop the Downtown Marion Audio Tour, titled *In the Footsteps of Giants*, a new version of the previous Celebrity Walking Tour. The new Audio Tour was publicly announced at a press conference in the Marion Public Library Museum on October 23, 2008.
- The Society provided support for the upcoming workshop on using DNA in genealogy research planned by Indiana History and Genealogy Services at Marion Public Library. Information sheets that give the schedule of events for the May 30 event were distributed. The registration fee is \$65 and includes all five sessions with Megan Smolenyak, (well-known for her contributions to genealogy research), lunch, and evening banquet.
- The May 20 meeting will feature Patty Chapman, presenting a program on the *History of Gas City*.

The minutes of the 2008 Annual Meeting and the Treasurer's report were approved as presented.

The election of Board members was conducted. The three-year terms of Kay Dougherty, Ralph Kirkpatrick, Juanita Rapp, and Clyde Wilson on the Board of Directors ended in April 2009. All are willing to serve again. On motion of Nancy Scott, seconded by Mozelle Humbert, these four members were unanimously re-elected to the Board for 2009-2010. Nancy Scott finds it necessary to resign as a Board member, and she was presented with a certificate of appreciation for her service.

Sue thanked all our members who helped to make this past year successful. Regret was expressed that Society members Don Brown and Betty Ann Powers had passed away.

Ken Israel thanked everyone for the get-well card and expressions of concern regarding his recent injury. Stan Steiner updated the group on Asherwood.

Stan introduced Mel Hankla, presenter of our evening program. Mr. Hankla has been active in the "living history" of the frontier era since the early 1980s. He enacted the fascinating life of Simon Kenton (1755-1836), explorer, early Kentucky settler, and friend of Daniel Boone.

The program was excellent, and appreciation was expressed to Mr. Hankla.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Israel, President/Secretary

