



Hinckley Historical Society News

2023, volume 2

Hinckley History Comes to Life



After being closed for months to enlarge the space and then more time to prepare and install displays, the Hinckley Historical Society Museum is open again for visitors. Cathy Bartels, board vice president, supervised the project with a vision of doubling the museum space and presenting an overarching history of Hinckley from 1834 to the present.

The project started by removing a wall and connecting the old post office (from 1946 to 1986) with the Hinckley Review newspaper office (1946-1991). The original wood floors were refinished, bathrooms were modernized, lighting was updated and rooms received fresh paint.

“We were very pleased with the work of Dennis Bulson construction, Tim Salter’s painting, Bickford Electric, and Norm’s Hardwood Flooring,” she said.



Once the construction was completed, Bartels called upon two friends from Oakland California to help with the displays. Dan Franco and Jay Young (pictured to the right with Cathy) took time off from their regular jobs in retail visual merchandising and work for Facebook, to help arrange and install the exhibits. Young noted we wanted the free-standing displays to be engaging and allow the viewer to interact with them. Bartels recalls “The board wanted to present our archives in a digestible form and picked highlights from each decade.” The displays are not presented in a linear fashion but require the viewer to stroll through the museum as their interests guide them.



The displays were given a further professional touch with the services of Jay Yaggie at Stripes Plus More, Hinckley. He made dozens of exhibit cards, vinyl images, substrates that tell a story, and logos, plus created a permanent Memorial for the men and women who have served in the armed forces from our townships come to life with a unique acrylic listing over a Memorial Day service photo from 2016. Then too, there was a lot of research from board members and endless help from Frank Bartels and Mark Trumpy.

Besides using the dioramas created by former Curator Dolores Bastian, the displays tell stories about our rural and town schools, businesses, sports teams, the evolution of our fire department, and mini theater to view movies made in Hinckley. One side of the museum contains the story of our Post Offices while the other side chronicles the weekly newspapers from 1878 to 2000.



HHS Charter Members discuss displays



Jen Klambauer shows the mini theatre



Larry and Karen Yaggie

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Bartels noted some displays will rotate so more artifacts can be displayed over time while other displays, like the veterans' memorial mural, will be a permanent fixture. Some stories will continue to expand with further research like the historic homes in town and farms that have been in the same family for a century or longer.



Pete & Anne Geroulis helped with earlier remodeling



Sue & Ed Carter & Karen Carter Allen owned the Hinckley Review



Jerry Bahl was an HHS and Lion Charter Member

One of the services provided for members of the Historical Society will be help with family genealogy research. The museum has some local family histories, collection of high school yearbooks, digitized copies of the local newspapers, and computers to access international ancestry data. “Not every member of a family is interested in their genealogy but usually one person takes an interest and the Historical Society wants to help them,” Bartels offered.



Dolores Bastian and family

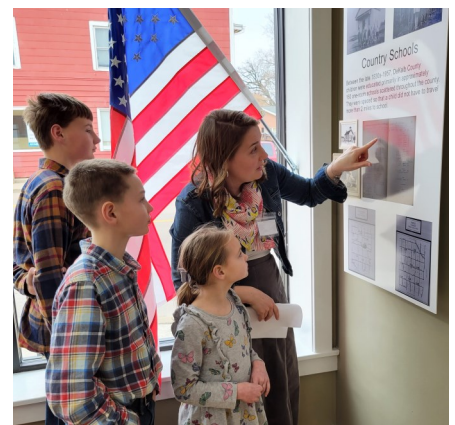


Karen Yaggie and Sharon Maroo share school stories

What's next? The Historical Society is starting a video library with a grant from Meta. HHS wants to film stories from residents that will be cherished by generations from now. If you would like to help us record a story teller or share your memories of a particular time in your past, give the museum a call. Stories mean more when you see and hear the teller.

∞ Meta

Is helping HHS record and share stories before they are lost



Board member Rebecca Nickels discusses a display with her children

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HHS Officers:

President -
Bob Pritchard

Vice Pres. -
Cathy Bartels

Secretary -
Jeff Wielert

Treasurer -
Jennifer Klambauer

Board members (L-R) Jen Klambauer, Ardith Trumpy, Bob Pritchard, Cathy Bartels, Jeff Wielert, Shawn McCrea, and Pat Bastian. Also Mark Trumpy. Board member Rebecca Nickels not pictured.

Join Us for Programs this Summer-Fall

The Historical Society is excited to announce six programs planned for the community through October. Summer band concerts in the park and our second cemetery walk will continue this year by popular demand.

Summer Band Concerts on the Community Building lawn starting at 6:30 p.m.

- * June 13: Bella's Second Shot Band—jazz/swing
- * June 29: DeKalb Brass Quintet --patriotic songs/marches
- * July 11: Fox Valley Brass Band—traditional brass music
- * August 8: Shade Tree Music Company—country/pop/classical rock

September 24: Cemetery Walk at Greenwood Cemetery

October: Showing of one of the movies made in Hinckley

December: New Christmas tree ornament sale



Plenty of Success for HBR Teams This Year!

CHESS

Chess is a new sport at HBR but in the first year of competition, the team made it to state finals. Coach David McMurtrie says that's phenomenal for a school our size to be competitive with larger schools. He started the school chess program when his children were in middle school and volunteers with the public library summer reading program to interest younger players. According to McMurtrie chess is a life-long sport that develops skills in math, creativity, concentration, time management, and critical thinking. He notes that Illinois with 175 teams, has the largest team chess tournament in the country and with high levels of competition. Asst. coach Chris Toman and Coach David McMurtrie urge players to enjoy chess during the library summer reading program and to practice online at www.chesskid.com.



(L-R) Jonah Challender, Nathan Schlachter, Austin McMurtrie, Savannah McMurtrie, T.J. Kerlin, Brandon Aloisio, Jackson Challender, and Sam Nickels

Toman and McMurtrie enjoy the mental challenge of chess

Boys Basketball

This year's team had a slow start while playing larger schools, but in the last 19 games they found their identity, improved their defense and ended being Regional Champions. This was the school's first Sectional Tournament appearance since 2012. Coach Seth Sanderson also noted this was the first year that the team had balanced shooting with all five starters in double digit scoring throughout the year.

Ben Hintzsche had a tremendous year according to the coach and will continue playing basketball for Aurora University. Martin Ledbetter scored the most points for the season and had the most rebounds this year. According to Sanderson, next year's team will be shorter overall but has the athletic talent to be very competitive.



The 2022 team was young but captured the first Regional Title in a decade.

Martin Ledbetter scored the most points, 537 points, this season

Ben Hintsche scored 426 points and led in assists



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Ladies Basketball

The lady Royals had a tremendous year and ended the season with back-to-back Regional Tournament titles as they did in 2014. Coach Doug Brewington summarized the team as taller than normal, with good depth that allowed rotational play. With four seniors graduating, next year's team will have to adjust their style of play and call upon younger players to step up the coach concluded. Since 1979, HBR Lady Royals teams have won 850 games, the smallest school in the state to achieve that level of success.



(L-R) Carlino, Michalski, Manager Babcock, Matinez, Day, Harrod, Swanson, Feick, Coach Brewington, Herrmann, Werner, Wagner, Allen and Hellebrand.

Graduating senior Devin Werner was voted All-Conference and All-Area player with 637 career points making her 35th in the HBR school all-time scoring list. She will continue to play basketball in college.



Freshman Anna Herrmann was also voted all conference, all area, and Basketball Coaches Association all-state special mention this year. Her 76 three-pointers set a school record and was third highest in the state. The team will start work outs in June.



Julie Morsch Remembered

Former museum curator Julie Morsch loved to share Hinckley's history with visitors...younger, older...didn't matter. She did not live to see the reopening of the museum but will be remembered for her years of volunteering, creative enactment at last fall's cemetery walk, and many displays and presentations on behalf of the society. She is now part of our history.



New Businesses fill Empty Buildings

Corner Pocket, LLC, 242 West Lincoln Ave., (331-454-6141)

Whether you just moved into a home with a pool table that needs repairs, want to set up a pool table, or ship a table to a new home, call one of the newer businesses in Hinckley for help. Corner Pocket, LLC at 242 W Lincoln Ave. will get you shooting in no time. Upon their arrival, they first inspect the table and its components to make sure everything is there and worthy of the set up or repair. With their knowledge and experience with all types of pool tables, customers can rest assured that a worthy table will be set up and leveled properly before they leave.



The company will also assist with moving a pool table and even storing it until the home is ready for occupancy. They disassemble the

table, create tailor-made crates for the slate beds, and carefully ship it to a new location. When it comes to older tables, Corner Pocket staff will inspect the cushioning to see if it is hard, soft, mushy, or falling. They can replace the bumpers with new ones that have a 30-year guarantee and recover the table with new felt in a variety of colors.



Corner Pocket services DeKalb, Kane, DuPage and McHenry Counties. Visit their website at Cornerpocketllc.com or call 331-454-6141 to welcome them to their new location.



INKFLI Printing, 9795 Somonauk Road, (630-277-9779)

If you drive by The Pub at Somonauk Road you will see their new yellow sign that was created by one of the newest businesses in Hinckley. Jon Krumme and Nick Muellner partnered in 2020 to start INKFLI Printing in Yorkville. They moved to 9795 Somonauk Road, Hinckley, last year to a building just up the road from the former Carls Oil station. Nick and Jon have worked in the printing industry for 10 years selling and repairing film printers. They searched far and wide for a company name that would be unique and memorable so they could market online from coast to coast. INKFLI has a 64 inch film printer, computer cutters and a laminator.



Nick and Jon, owners of INKFLI



They started making wraps and decals for dirt bikes but have expanded into boat and vehicle wraps, wall covering, banners, yard signs, lighted signs, apparel, and stickers. Long time residents of the area will remember their business is located where Vernon Gee had his fuel oil business and later a lawn and garden shop. Visit the INKFLI website INKFLI.com or call them at 630-277-9779 to welcome them.

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(Businesses, continued from page 6)

US Eagle Auto Sales, 640 E. Lincoln Ave, (815-616-9939)



When he immigrated to the U.S. seven years ago, the owner of Hinckley's only car dealership left behind a good job as a government Internal auditor, his wife and four children. Abdelaziz Sheikhali says "the economy in Jordan was faltering and I wanted to come to the U.S. where the economic outlook is brighter and bring my family here." Abdelaziz chose to open an auto dealership because everyone needs transportation. He buys used vehicles from two companies that search for vehicles all over the country.

He uses Diamond Lube N Oil in town to help tune-up the vehicles and he relies on the internet to attract customers. Abdelaziz takes pride in providing vehicles better than what someone may be driving. His goal is to build an inventory and perhaps even export vehicles to the Middle East.

He has received his U.S. citizenship and earlier this year was granted a sales license. With the high cost of starting a business, Abdelaziz is working hard to market his vehicles and to build his savings so he can bring his family here. Currently he lives with his brother in Popular Grove and works from 10 to 6 every day except Sunday to achieve his dream. Asked why he chose the name Eagle Auto Sales, he replies "I admire Eagles and I like to be active in the culture here." Abdelaziz was delighted to learn Hinckley has it's own live pair of Eagles west of town.



Program Answers Questions

The Historical Society has researched the former businesses in Hinckley that have helped to shape the community and presented their findings in a program on March 25. During the program, pictures of businesses were shown, a directory of their locations was made available, and a panel of four long-time residents shared their memories. HHS President Bob Pritchard moderated the program which he said was the response to a lot of questions from current residents.



Viewing west of Sycamore Street, early 1900s

The panel consisted of (L-R) Harold Campbell, Jerry Bahl, Dorothy Myers, and Ron Klein.

Besides their memories of shopping in Hinckley where you could find nearly anything, they talked about school, recreation, parades, fires and community spirit. Jerry Bahl said it was the business owners and employees who organized events, paid for them, and made things happen.

Pritchard noted that the town sprung up in 1872 after the arrival of the railroad. Buildings at first were made of wood and most were replaced with brick in the early 20th century.

Copies of the directory are available at the HHS museum on Saturdays from 10 to noon, or by appointment by calling Bob at 815-761-4058, or emailing HHS.





145 E. Lincoln Ave., P.O. Box 486
Hinckley, IL 60520

HinckleyHistoricalSociety@gmail.com

Facebook: Hinckley Historical Society

Website: Hinckleyhistoricalsociety.com

Phone: 815-761-4058

Events:

Museum is open every Saturday from 10 to Noon

April 28: Music Artists in Residence Program at grade school

May 4: Give DeKalb County 24-hour on-line fundraiser

June 13 Bella's Second Shot Band, 6:30 p.m. Community Bldg. lawn

Follow us on Facebook for comments, pictures and events.

On May 4, Donate to HHS and Have Your Support Multiplied

Operating a museum takes resources and every donor makes a big difference. If you like to see your donations to good causes go farther, then participate in the Give DeKalb County Day for nonprofit organizations during the 24 hours of May 4. This annual fundraising event sponsored by the DeKalb County Community Foundation raised more than \$1.5 million last year. Each participating nonprofit serving DeKalb County also received a percentage of the \$186,000 bonus pool, which makes every dollar donated more important.



Hinckley Historical Society is one of the local organizations participating again this year. Donations to HHS support its programming and our museum.

To participate in the Giving Day, you can send a donation by mail between April 20 and May 4 to DCCF, 475 DeKalb Ave., Sycamore, IL 60178. Or go online at GiveDeKalbCounty.org during the 24 hours of May 4 and make your gift there. Donations should be made to DCCF with the notation they are for HHS or other nonprofits.

Thank you for participating in this event and supporting the work of your local historical society.

JOIN OUR GIVING DAY!

Support us and give back on May 4, 2023 12:00 AM-11:59 PM

For more information, go to GiveDeKalbCounty.org