

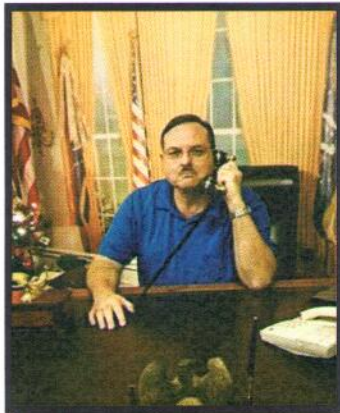


ORANGE PEELINGS



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From the Desk of your President:

As most of you know the Orange County Historical Museum in Paoli is temporarily closed for a period of renovation. Orange County Historical Society (OCHS) President Robert F. Henderson said "Work is presently underway to refresh and revitalize some of our permanent exhibits. "We are also exploring ways to hopefully better tell and interpret our county's rich and interesting history."

"In some cases artifacts in the museum collection that have been on display 24/7 for years now have been affected by light and dust and simply need to be rotated for preservation purposes."

"We would also very much like to be able to implement some new exhibits as well." Henderson added.

Henderson and several other OCHS Society members participated in a 21st Century Museum Professionals/Collection Care Training which was held late last year on site by Indiana Historical Society staff members.

The day long workshop provided in-depth hands on training for board members, trustees and museum volunteers alike on how to better care for the historical collection.

The OCHS Museum collection established in 1978 and housed in the historic Dr. J.H.

Sherrod House on the town square includes objects, manuscripts, books, graphics, and ephemera.

The collection care workshop also included a formal report from Indiana Historical Society professionals on its various findings at the museum and a number of recommendations and museum type practices going forward.

We have been discussing in our board meetings for the past several months a number of ideas on how to keep the museum fresh from a visitor's perspective. We are adhering to the recommendations provided by IHS staffers and working closely with them during the renovation effort.

In some cases some of the displays and rooms in the old building look rather tired

and simply need a facelift. Several of the old glass display cases are also cracked and in disrepair. Henderson explained that while the OCHS pays the utilities, the museum building itself is county owned. OCHS officers and trustees are working with the county commissioners and recently arranged for a walkthrough of the museum to discuss the proposed improvements. "We are grateful to the commissioners for their interest in the museum and continual support."

Several of the museum rooms are to receive a fresh coat of paint, and minor lighting improvements. Windows will be fitted with light-blocking shades or curtains that will be drawn during the times the museum is closed to visitors.

And while the Museum itself is closed to visitors at this time Henderson said plans are to have the Historic Lindley Farm House, which is owned by OCHS open for guided tours on some weekends weather permitting. Presently the home site is available for touring by appointment only. Programs ideas for the site are also being considered.

Some of the display areas such as the upstairs period one room school room and Doctor's Office will be redressed with artifacts during the renovation process.

The museum is also looking for mannequins to be able to display some of the collection's historic clothing that has been donated through the years.

No formal time table has established for the completion of the project and reopening to date as the museum is a work in progress but an Open House and reopening type of event is planned later this year.

For more information about the Museum and/or Historic Lindley House please contact OCHS President Robert Henderson, 812 653 121.



Recent projects at the Historic Lindley House included fitting all of the home's windows with light-blocking shades as shown here in the front parlor area. This will be a great help to better preserve the furnishings and artifacts from being further damaged from the effects of sunlight when the house is closed thanks to friend and fellow OCHS member Julie Morris for her assistance in this endeavor.

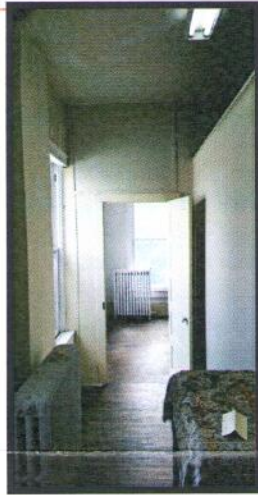


Pardon our Mess

Prep work underway at the Museum for a much needed face-lift.

Artifacts were moved out of a number of the rooms that were being renovated and were stored out of harm's way

In some cases, artifacts in the museum collection that have been on display for years now have been affected by the light and dust and simply need rotated for preservation purposes.



An inside view of some of the changes going on in the Museum.

Museum Gifted

The Museum was recently gifted with a much needed Microfilm Reader for the research room courtesy of our friends and neighbors at the Lawrence County Museum of History in Bedford. We appreciate receiving their very generous donation.



The OCHS recently produced a brand new colored brochure to promote the Historic Lindley House and Museum. The new promotional piece includes a brief history of the site and descriptions of the various rooms and artifacts at the old farmhouse. In addition, the brochure also highlights the Museum, the mission & goals of the OCHS, contact info, etc.

Wish List

As with any renovation, new things are needed to replace some things that had to be retired.

Though the OCHS, Museum and Historic Lindley House are always appreciative of your financial support, there are some items needed that individuals or businesses might be able to donate. Below is our wish list, a partial list of items, their descriptions, and why we need them.

Mannequins: We are proud to have a fair amount of historical clothing. However since we have very few complete mannequins (and many of these are in disrepair), we would like to have additional clothing from our collections on display. Both full body and torso mannequins would be helpful.

Display Cases: Some of the present display cases in the Museum have broken and/or discolored glass, and are in a state of disrepair.

Historic Lindley House Needs: We are in need of some additional Mid-19th Century household type items that would help us better interpret the late 1850s-1860s Farm Home. Some items include a butter churn, cookware, flatware, wooden bucket(s), old fashioned straw broom, pie safe, flat iron(s), period type hanging lantern(s), and period china pieces.

We are also in serious need of period like curtain material as the present window coverings throughout the house are decades old and quite dirty, fragile and in a state of disrepair. There is also a need for some period quilts or reproduction heirloom type quilts in patterns/design for the time period of the house for the three bedrooms. The present original bed coverings have been on permanent like display and are fast becoming fragile and badly need to be rotated and/or removed from display along with some bed type linens to be able to better preserve them long term.

Other wish items for the farmhouse include a period or 1860s reproduction light fixture that would be suitable in an entrance way and/or stairwell area.

OCHS Helps Host Family History Program



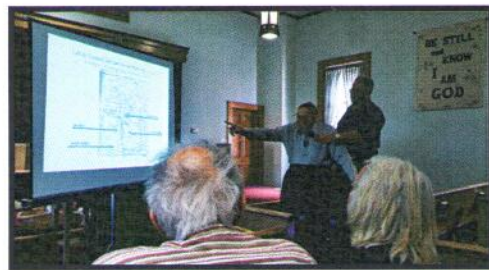
OCHS was proud to join Paoli Friends in hosting a very interesting and informative family history program on the evening of June 10th.

A sizeable crowd was on hand to hear and interact with guest lecturer "Cousin" John Allen, a Quaker genealogist who specializes in Quakers who migrated from North Carolina to Ohio, Indiana and Illinois in the early nineteenth Century. He has extensive knowledge of family trees and connections. Mr. Allen's excellent presentation was entitled "From Orange Co., NC To Orange Co., IN. A Quaker Odyssey."

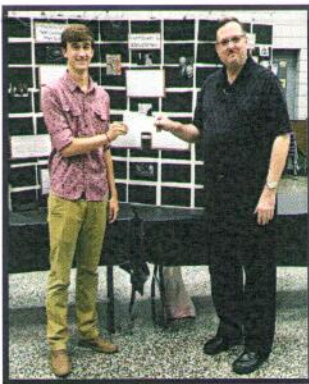
Earlier that day, some of our members helped to arrange a special "VIP" tour of Orange County Quaker related sites for Mr. Allen and his party.

John, who is 91 years young was born and raised in Alamance County (formerly Orange County) North Carolina and is a retired dairy farmer. He is a birthright and life-long Quaker. He is a direct descendant of Thomas Lindley, brother of Jonathon Lindley, who arrived in Orange County in 1811.

Arrangements were made with our friend and fellow member, Duane Busick, to video the presentation, which he graciously agreed to do so. He has since posted the program on the OCHS Facebook page for viewing.



"A Night at the Museum"



Congrats to P.H.S. student, Garrett Vincent, who took the best of Show Award from the Orange County Historical Society during the recent "A Night at the Museum" event put on by our good friend and member, Mr. Chris Lindley and the Advanced U.S. History students. There were 14 exhibits on 20th Century subjects. Pictured is Garrett receiving a special cash award from OCHS President Robert Henderson. The OCHS was proud once again to partner and help sponsor this outstanding student event.

His theme "Determining the Destiny of the World" The Role of Cold War Leaders and Their Summits.

"Show and Tell"

A recent OCHS meeting included a brief time of "Show & Tell" with some of our members bringing in some small fun type items of historical significance to share with everyone. Glen Hall brought an antique tractor he had as a young child along with some handmade attachments he made for the tractor. Barbara Hall shared a beautiful handmade quilt and quilted vest made by Glenn's mother.

Terry Cornwell had an old plate with a picture of silent movie star Margarite Snow from "The Company Store." in Paoli. Brenda Cornwell shared a vintage ashtray and name-tag from Cornwell & Co.

President Henderson brought a rare piece of wood mailed from New Zealand with the antique mailing label and postage still visible on the wood that the Jenkins Brothers of Orleans used for custom made gun stocks. Rock and Ralph Jenkins were World Champion Trap Shooters. Ralph was also a gun maker. He collected wood from all over the world for his gun stocks. The brothers lived next door to each other in Orleans.



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Address:

2017 OC Historical Soc. Meeting Dates

June 27
July 25
Aug 22
Sept 26
Oct 24
Nov 28
December Annual Dinner TBA

*OCHS Meetings unless otherwise noted are held at the Paoli Library meeting room 7 p.m. Members are always welcome and urged to attend.



304 NW Court sT
Paoli , IN 47454
www.HistoricOrangeCounty.org
info@historicorangecounty.com
Ph: 812-865-1212

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Orange County's Link to Abraham Lincoln

Did you know that our own Orange County has an interesting link to Abraham Lincoln? Augustus H. (Gus) Chapman who was born in Paoli around 1822 was a relative by marriage to the famous 16th President. He provided numerous stories about Lincoln for Herndon's informants.

Augustus, who was the son of early Orange County pioneers Thomas Fuller Chapman and Abigail Stickney Chapman married a daughter of Dennis Hanks, President Lincoln's cousin-once-removed, foster brother, step-brother-in-law. Harriet Ann Hanks Chapman (1826-1915) and "Gus" were the parents of at least four children. Harriett is remembered as being Abraham's favorite niece. In fact she lived with the Lincolns in their Springfield, IL home for a short time from 1844 to 1846, while she continued her schooling. Augustus died on September 11, 1898 in Coles, IL and rests next to Harriett. I visited the gravesite a few years back and snapped this photograph of their stone which notes Gus' Orange County, IN birthplace.