

OCHS 2016  
234 NW court St

Paoli, IN 47454

Officers for 2016

President Robert Henderson  
Vice Pres. Mark Tope  
Secretary Bettye Kemple  
Treasurer Becky Gardner

Board of Trustees

Terry Cornwell Julie Morris  
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Interested in becoming a member of  
Orange County Historical Society?  
See any of the above people.  
Dues are \$20 and meetings are held  
once a month March through December.

**WE'RE ON THE WEB!!**  
**www:HistoricOrangeCounty.org**  
**info@historicorangecounty.org**

**Purpose of the Orange County Historical Society**

**The Society Shall exist to:**

1. Collect, catalog and preserve historical materials, records, and manuscripts pertaining to Orange County
2. Collect, catalog and preserve historical relics and artifacts relating to Orange County.
3. Establish, maintain, perpetuate the Orange County Historical Museum.
4. Maintain and preserve the Lindley House and any other structure or site of historical significance to Orange County which may come into the possession or Control of the OCHS and assist other organizations in the maintenance and preservation of similar sites in the County.
5. To locate and mark sites of historic significance within Orange County.
6. Co-operate with and supply historical in educational institutions, study groups, and individuals doing research on the history and culture of Orange County.
7. Promote pride and awareness within the county of our heritage and culture.



February, 2016



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# Orange County Historical Society

*Orange Peelings*



## A Message From The President

A new year with lots of happenings. Orange County, along with the Hoosier state are celebrating their biggest birthday party in 200 years!

The Orange County Historical Society (OCHS) will hold its first meeting of the year 2016 March 22nd at the Orleans Town Hall Community Room. The Society continues to have a real and present need of members and willing volunteers to help carry out the various projects for 2016 and future years.

Someone once said "history should not be viewed—it should be experienced." You can help people make a real connection with the past by volunteering through OCHS. From interacting with our visitor friends at the Museum and/or Lindley House to working with our historic collections. OCHS has a volunteer opportunity that's right for you. Please contact

us and let us know that we can count on your participation!

Members are encouraged to attend and to take an active part in all the society's activities.

We welcome your input, comments and/or ideas for improvements to our organization. This is an important year for Orange County and Indiana, and an important year for OCHS. Can we count on you?

Very Sincerely Yours,

**Robert**

Robert F. Henderson, Jr., President  
812-865-3190

[rfh2@netsurfusa.com](mailto:rfh2@netsurfusa.com)

## Happy 200th Birthday, Orange County

A large crowd gathered in the Ruth Uyesugi Auditorium at Paoli High School to celebrate Orange County's 200th birthday on Feb. 1. Imojean Dedrick, Orange County's Bicentennial Coordinator, welcomed attendees from throughout the county. She gave a brief history of the act by local government officials on December 26, 1815 that formed Orange County. The county was originally part of Knox, Gibson, and Washington Counties. The act took final effect on Feb. 1, 1816, thus the date us now known as Orange County's Birthday.

The crowd watched the hour long "Spirit of Orange County" produced and video-graphed by Jason Pear of WTIU, Bloomington. The DVD is available at the WTIU store online.

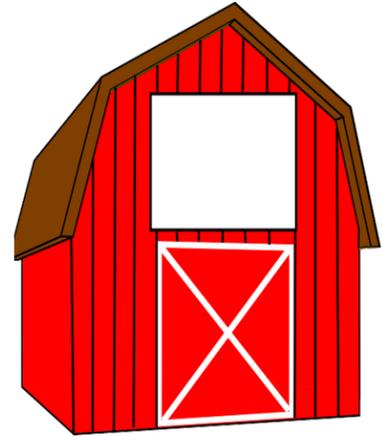
After the viewing, Dedrick gave closing remarks, and then birthday cake and punch

were served to all.

Schedules of upcoming events for the County's participation in the Bicentennial Year Celebration were handed out to each attendee.

A "photo booth" was set up for party guests to have a picture taken and to record some of their thoughts and feelings about the evening and about the upcoming year long bicentennial celebrations in Orange County and also throughout the state as it is Indiana's bicentennial also.

The Orange County Bicentennial Committee, a group of interested individuals, have been meeting monthly since the beginning of 2015. Anyone interested should attend the next meeting at the Paoli Town Hall on Feb. 24 at 6 p.m.



## Shoc's Historic Barn Project

In celebration of Indiana's Bicentennial, images of our historic barns are being saved in a collaborative project between Saving Historic Orange County (SHOC) and students in the art departments of Paoli, Orleans and Springs Valley high schools. SHOC is pleased to announce the Collaborative effort has been endorsed as an Indiana Bicentennial Commission Legacy Project and may use the Official Bicentennial logo.

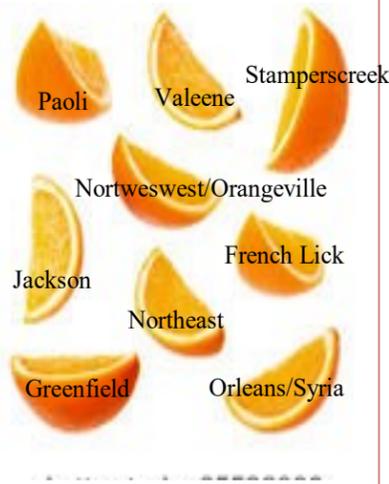
For the project, photos of over 100 of Orange County's historic barns (those believed to be over 50 years old) were snapped last summer. The photos were provided to art students last fall and the young artists have

begun saving their interpretation of those images on paper. Drawings of the barns will be judged this spring and cash prizes will be award to artists by SHOC. The drawings will form an exhibit during May, National Historic Month. It will be open to the public and hosted at the county visitor center in West Baden.



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## Orange Slices



The Orange County Bicentennial Committee is sponsoring an event for the whole county to celebrate the county's 200th birthday. The "Slices of Orange" event will begin on May 1 and continue throughout the summer, with the last slice on Sept. 8, 2016 in Paoli town. These nine "Slices of Orange" events will be held in local communities starting with Southeast Township on May 1, to be held at the Valeene Park. Each community gathering will have a moderator and a committee to guide attendees in REUNITING, REVISITING, and REMINSCING about each local community. Other than Valeene

and Paoli, other communities will be Stamperscreek, Northeast, Northwest/Orangeville, French Lick, Jackson, Greenfield, Orleans/Syria.. All attendees will be urged to bring pictures, scrapbooks, and memorabilia to share.

A punch card will be handed out to attendees at the first event to all attending. Those who attend every "Slice of Orange" event throughout the summer can have their card punched and will then be eligible for a drawing for a free stay at the French Lick Resort.

## Orange County Historian

Jeff Lane has once again been designated as the Orange County Historian by the Indiana State Historical Society. Each county in Indiana has one volunteer historian who promotes history in their county and serves as primary history contact.

The County Historic Programs was established in 1981 by the Indiana Historical Society and the Indiana Historical Bureau.

Lane, as an Orange County native, is well qualified for the Orange County Historian as he is a direct descendant of the first Settler of Orange County, John Hollowell. Hollowell was Jeff's fifth great-grandfather. Lane has taught history at Springs Valley Elementary for many years, is President of the French Lick/West Baden Museum, and a life time member of the Orange County Historical Society.



## "Who Do You Think You Are In Orange County?"

In the year 2016, our bicentennial year, the Orange County Historical Society will be honoring our early county settlers. At some point, if you qualify, there will be a ceremony to honor you and present you with a pin and a certificate.

To qualify, your ancestor must have settled in Orange County between the years of 1809 and 1860. You must submit proof of your lineage. There is a genealogy worksheet that must be submitted along with the documented proof connecting each generation to the next.

Some of the documents that will be accepted are birth, death and marriage records, wills, census records, land records and family records. These should be copies and not originals as they do not have to be certified..

The worksheets will be available at the county libraries.

Most of the documents that will be needed are available in Orange County. Birth and death records are available at the Orange County Health Department located in the County Complex. Their records begin with the year 1882.

Marriage information is available at the Orange County Clerk's office beginning with the year 1816. The OCHS has indexes to these records and cemetery records

In order to cover the cost of certificates and pins, there is a slight cost for submitting the applications. The first application will be \$10.

For more information, contact Becky Gardner, 812-820-6554 or 812-755-1507.

## Coming Events

The celebration of the 200th birthday of Orange County and Indiana is well underway and will continue through December 11th of this year.

First Celebratory Event in Orange County will be "200 Years of Fashion" to be held March 6th at the Hilma Murphy Auditorium from 2:00 -4:00 pm.

The highlight of the Bicentennial Celebration will be the Torch Relay beginning on September 9 in Corydon and winding

its way through all 92 of Indiana's counties.

Orange County's portion of the Torch Relay is scheduled for September 14, lasting from noon until 3:30 p. m. A special statewide gala is planned for December 11, 2016 commemorating Indiana's 200 birthday.

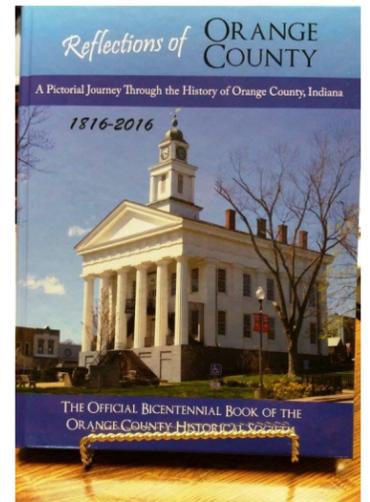


## Orange County Historical Society Honors Roger Moon

As outgoing president of Orange County Historical Society, Bettye Kemple presented Roger Moon with the Society's annual honor. Every year at the Christmas dinner, they go back over the year and come up with an individual who has done a great deal for the community and/or the Historical Society. The individual se-

lected fills both those criteria. This person has done much to draw attention to various parts of our county. This person is a husband, a father, a grandfather, a neighbor and a reporter and has managed each of these roles with joy, devotion and enthusiasm. Roger Moon

Genealogy classes to be held at each of the county libraries. Dates will be announced as soon as they become available.



The "Reflections of Orange County" Album as a bicentennial project was received quite well by those who purchased it. Sales, also went quite well. As present count, out of 700 printed books, we have around 240 books left. If you haven't received one yet, Roslyn's Gifts & Antiques and the Museum in Paoli has them. Robert Henderson at the Clerk's office in Orleans, and the French Lick/West Baden Museum in French Lick has them for sale.

