

# Celebrate a Century!

SPRING 2010

*Honoring the Kaske House (1910-2010)*

VOL 2 ISSUE 2



*Kaske House 2009 – "Signs of Spring"*



**WELCOME**  
TO THE  
CELEBRATE A CENTURY!  
SPRING NEWSLETTER.

## SEASONAL REFLECTIONS....

*Spring is a season of growth, renewal, and new life. Aroused by the "nesting" instinct, a frenzy of spring cleaning begins. Doors and windows are thrown open, allowing a cleansing breeze inside. Just as buds emerge, our neighbors appear, eager for conversation and camaraderie. As the earth warms, we feel a burgeoning desire to plant peas and pansies. Set free from clutter, ready for fresh starts, re-energized by new friends...spring is a perfect season to be a member of the Munster Historical Society!*

**April 22 Program:**  
**"Tour Chicago" by Huetta Kaplan**

**May 16 Event: "A Century of Fashion"**  
**Luncheon & Fashion Show**

**May 27 Program: "Indiana Prohibition"**  
**by Author Jason Lantzer**

## *Thanks for the Memories:*

- Thank you to Attorney Jonathan Petersen who volunteered to help us with a 5-year agreement between Munster Parks and the Society. This will be a useful tool for working together. Thank you to Munster Parks & Recreation Director Bob O'Shaughnessy for initiating the agreement and Munster Park Board Member Ken Schoon for meeting with us to help finalize the details.
- Thank you to Diane and John Kitchell who helped move the heaviest and bulkiest of our holiday decorations to our storage facility. In addition to Irish linen, paper dolls, and a round work table, Diane and John donated a vintage Hartmann suitcase and steamer trunk with a Cunard sticker. Diane & John also set up chairs for the February 25<sup>th</sup> informational meeting.
- Thank you to Russ Snyder and his environmental group for volunteering to pick up litter that accumulated over the winter at Bieker Woods. Thank you to botanist Dr. Naida Lehmann and members Beth Palmer and JoAnne Shafer for their help, along with many others, at the Heritage Park Shovel & Spade Garden Day. Thanks to Munster Parks & Recreation for providing gloves & bags.

## **SIGNS OF SPRING**

If you would like to become a museum docent and/or help with school tours, please call our office at 219-836-6530.



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## Inside the Kaske House....

### Sad News

We regret to inform you that on February 23, 2010, JoAnn Jelinek (daughter of James and Laura Munster) passed away. In 2004, JoAnn Munster Jelinek generously donated the Jacob Munster family loveseat and chair to the Munster Historical Society. She also allowed the Society to have the original photo of the Munster family reproduced for photo enhancement by Frank Darrington at Galaxy Arts. She is survived by her loving husband of 59 years, Wally Jelinek.

### A New Face in a Century-Old Place....

**Diane Kitchell**, pictured lower right, is the owner of DK/Interior Concepts, specializing in interior design of environmentally healthy spaces. She is a full time Associate Professor at The Illinois Institute of Art – Schaumburg, teaching advanced level classes in Commercial Design. She also teaches part time as an Instructor for Westwood College Online. She earned a Masters of Business Administration, with Leadership Concentration degree from Argosy University Chicago; a Bachelor of Interior Design, and Associate of Interior Design, from Harrington College of Design in Chicago.

Diane served as the Past President of the Chicago Chapter of Institute of Business Designers (now IIDA) Charter Member IIDA and is currently a Munster Civic Foundation board member.

Diane is working on the interior design and space planning for Heritage Park's proposed replica of the Brass Stagecoach Inn. She was recently awarded The Institute of Art – Schaumburg 2010 Sabbatical Award, in which the Brass Stagecoach Inn design project will be featured as the project she is using to learn new 3D Drafting and rendering skills.

As a 12-year Girl Scout Leader, Diane guided five girls to achieve Gold Awards, all of which included Heritage Park and the Munster History Museum in the following projects: Girl Scout Garden by Katie Palmer; the display of Native Animals donated by Dr. Lorin Brown created by Melissa Rangel; the construction of the Girl Scout Bridge in the Kaske House Historical Gardens built by Jillian Magsaysay; the interior signage and treasure hunt school tour enhancement by Lindsey Kitchell, and the exterior signage on native plants and animals by Jessica Kitchell.

Diane has been a member of the Historical Society since 2001, and a member of the Heritage Park Master Plan committee since 2004. This year, Diane has volunteered to be the Society's Girl Scout Director.



JoAnn Munster Jelinek and husband Wally



Diane Kitchell captivated a packed audience with a detailed PowerPoint presentation of her Brass Stagecoach Inn design.

*Celebrate a Century! Newsletter  
published seasonally*

*Please submit photographs, articles, historic facts  
and/or other pertinent information to:*

*info@munsterhistory.org or*

*Call: 219-836-6530*

*Fall Newsletter Deadline August 10th*

*JoAnne Shafer, editor*

*Contact info@munsterhistory.org*

*for newsletter options: mail or email opt in or opt out*

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Hartmann wardrobe trunk (top) could be restored as pictured in the lower photos showing drawers that are all fully lined with exterior painted and the metal recolored.

## Locket & Lace

*Locketts hold cherished photos that can be priceless heirlooms, even if they are not made of gold. Lace, whether machine or handmade, may be a precious reminder of a special occasion. Such artifacts from the Munster History Museum will be the objects of this Locketts & Lace column where we hope to draw attention to the conservation needs of these priceless and precious pieces of our local history.*

### Steamer Trunks

*Steamer trunks served travelers from the 1800s to the early 1900s. Today these workhorses of the past may be used as coffee tables or storage chests, but they remind us of the sacrifice our ancestors made when they left their homelands with very few possessions packed inside.*

*We are asking for donations to help pay for professional restoration.*

**Adopt an Antique...call 219 836-6530 or email [info@munsterhistory.org](mailto:info@munsterhistory.org)**

### 2010 Officers

JoAnne Shafer, President/Curator  
Kelly Benoit, Vice President  
Cindy Watson, Secretary  
Susan Schmidt, Treasurer

### Volunteer Staff

Norma Benoit, Program Director  
Diane Kitchell, Girl Scout Director  
Len Miller, Private Tour/Concessions Coordinator  
Beth Palmer, School & Scout Tour Director  
Jim Schmidt, Museum Manager & Assistant Curator  
Shirley Schmueser, Office Manager  
Michele Walavich, Finance & Grants Specialist  
Len Walavich, Private Tour/Concessions Director  
Cindy Watson, Press Secretary/Spokesperson

### 2010 Board Members

Kelly Benoit  
Norma Benoit  
Beth Palmer  
Jim Schmidt  
Susan Schmidt  
JoAnne Shafer  
Len Walavich  
Cindy Watson

### Concessions

Girl Scout Troop #187  
Ed Lebryk  
Len Miller Family  
Jim & Susan Schmidt  
Shirley Schmueser  
JoAnne & Dave Shafer  
Michele & Len Walavich

### Celebrate a Century! Committee

September Alexander  
Norma Benoit  
Kelly Benoit  
JoAnne Shafer, Co-Chair  
Cindy Watson, Co-Chair

### Tour Guides & Museum Docents

September Alexander, Kelly Benoit,  
Bob & Norma Benoit, Dorothy Kovach,  
Ed Lebryk, Len Miller Family,  
Munster Junior Historical Society,  
Beth Palmer, Jim & Susan Schmidt,  
Shirley Schmueser, JoAnne Shafer,  
Peg & Ken Schoon, Michele & Len Walavich

\*\*\*Join the Celebrate a Century! Committee\*\*\*

Volunteer for the Kaske House 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party at Heritage Park on Saturday, June 26, 2010.

Individuals, organizations, and businesses wishing to participate in or sponsor this old-fashioned event, email [info@munsterhistory.org](mailto:info@munsterhistory.org) or call 219-836-6530.

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## Save the Date!

**April 22 Program: "Tour Chicago" by Huette Kaplan**

**May 16 Event: "A Century of Fashion" – Luncheon & Fashion Show**

Sponsored by the Celebrate a Century! Committee

**May 27 Program: "Indiana Prohibition" by Author Jason Lantzer**

Visit Event Calendar/Event Flyer at: [www.munsterhistory.org](http://www.munsterhistory.org)



### Munster Historical Society

Munster, Indiana

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MUNSTER, IN 46321

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[www.munsterhistory.org](http://www.munsterhistory.org)

#### Munster History Museum

at the historic 1910 Kaske House

Corner of Ridge Road & Columbia Avenue  
Munster, Indiana

Open on the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of every month  
10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

### 2010 Program/Event Calendar

April 22	"Tour Chicago" by Huette Kaplan
May 16	"A Century of Fashion" Luncheon/Show
May 27	"Indiana Prohibition" by Jason Lantzer
June 26	Kaske House 100 <sup>th</sup> Birthday Party
June 27	Rain Date - Kaske House 100 <sup>th</sup> Birthday Party
June 27	Evening Concert – Sag Valley Boys
July 3-4	4 <sup>th</sup> of July Float – Prep & Parade
Aug. 26	Program Pending – TBA*
Sept. 19	Heritage Park Volunteer Picnic
Sept. 23	Program Pending – TBA*
Oct. 28	Program Pending – TBA*
Oct. 29	Haunted History w/Terry Lynch
Nov. 1-6	Clean & Decorate Museum
Nov.-Dec.	Children's Tea Parties
Dec. 4	Holiday Candlelight Open House

\*Tentative program pending details to be announced

Programs & events are subject to change.

Visit [www.munsterhistory.org](http://www.munsterhistory.org)  
Click on Event Calendar/Event Flyer  
for up-to-date program dates, times, and details.