Ever on the move, the Society of Indiana Pioneers enjoyed a spectacular Spring Pilgrimage on May 18 to historic sites in far-northeastern Indiana, including the Wildflower Woods cabin and gardens of famed naturalist/author Gene Stratton-Porter. We also visited the renowned genealogy division of the Allen County Public Library in Fort Wayne.

The Fall Pilgrimage (which quickly sold out) involved a private cruise on The Delphi, a recreation of a historic canal boat, and a visit to the Wabash & Erie Canal Interpretive Center in Carroll County. We also explored historic sites in Tippecanoe County, including Fort Ouiatenon, a military and trading post constructed by the French in the early 1700s. (This pilgrimage was filmed for inclusion on the DVD that’s being produced about the Pilgrimage.)

Because the motor coach for the Sept. 6 pilgrimage quickly sold out, a repeat tour (with availability for the Pioneers and the general public) visited the same sites, including the Tippecanoe Battlefield, on Sept. 12.

In 2013, the Pioneers will enjoy a Spring Pilgrimage that will feature an architectural tour in Columbus, Ind., as well as visits to two homes and gardens associated with the philanthropic Miller family. During the May 16 trip, we will tour the mid-modern J. Irwin Miller House and Gardens (built in 1953, the house is now owned by the Indianapolis Museum of Art) and an Italianate mansion built in 1864.

For our 2012 Fall Pilgrimage, (the date for which has not been set yet), we will explore the other state historic site associated with Gene Stratton-Porter. It’s the famed Limberlost cabin and swamp restoration in Geneva. We also will visit nearby Berne, with destinations including a 160-foot Clock Tower modeled after a glockenspiel in Switzerland.

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Past Presidents' Circle

On May 1, 2012, the Indianapolis Propylaeum (pictured) served as an elegant setting for the first annual Past Presidents' Circle luncheon. It was a historic event for the Society. We had one hundred percent attendance. Those attending were Evaline Rhodehamel, Allen W. Moore, Robert H. Everitt, Robert D. Rati, Joan R. Everitt, Leigh E. Morris, Dr. Jamia J. Jacobsen, Thomas P. Ewbank, Co-Presidents Carolyn A. Rose /Stanley R. Evans, and V.P./President Elect, Michael H. Miller. The Society is fortunate to have the wisdom of this group to share their ideas with the current president for the future leadership and direction of our Society.

9th Honorary Member award to Dr. James H. Madison


The award was given at a cocktail reception on April 12, 2012, at the Indiana Landmarks Center, located in the Old Northside Historic District of Indianapolis. Past recipients of the Honorary Member award include Robert Todd Lincoln and President Benjamin Harrison. A newly designed Honorary Member crystal medallion was also presented to Evaline H. Rhodehamel, who had received the award in 2004. The reception was chaired by Helen Dickinson, Dr. Jamia Jacobsen, and Dr. James P. Fadely, chair of the Awards & Fellowships Committee. The event, a fundraiser for the Society’s endowment, raised $2,256.

2012 Society of Indiana Pioneers Fellowship

Dr. James P. Fadely, chair of the Awards & Fellowships Committee, announced that Erik Peterson, a graduate student at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis, was the recipient of a $2,000 fellowship from The Society of Indiana Pioneers. The annual fellowships, first presented in 2006, are in the amount of $1,000 each to a master’s student working on the thesis and a doctoral student working on the dissertation in the pioneer period of Indiana history. This year, the full amount was awarded to Mr. Peterson in the absence of a doctoral submission. Peterson, a graduate of Macalester College, is completing a master’s degree in the public history program at IUPUI and specializes in the music of Indiana during the pioneer period (“Learning and Playing Music in Early Middle Indiana”). His research will be utilized by Prairietown, the 1836 Indiana village at Conner Prairie Interactive History Park. Peterson will discuss his research, and perform early Indiana music, at the Annual Meeting on Saturday, November 3.
New Members:

The Society of Indiana Pioneers would like to welcome the following new members who have joined since March 15, 2012:

Regular:
Albright, Barbara
Fleming Island, FL
Gutenkauf, Vicki Fadden
St. Paul, MN
Hall, Molly Lou Rhodes
Tell City, IN
Hanley, Mary Kathleen (J)
Lansing, KS
Hanley, Neal James
Lansing, KS
Herrmann, Angela
Indianapolis, IN
Hoffman, Sonja Alexander
Whitewright, TX
Homann, Mary Carol Koss
Crawfordsville, IN
Kirkpatrick, Barbara Satller
Lafayette, IN
Lankford, Brian Scott
Evansville, IN
Lovell, Mary L. Mensagale
Indianapolis, IN
Lovell, Robert Steven
Indianapolis, IN
Lynn, Carolyn
Charlestown, IN
McCain, T. Daniel
Delphi, IN
McCann, Lois Jeanne Lindley
San Jose, CA
Mynatt, William
Fishers, IN
Pyne, Frederick
Adamstown, MD
Roberts, Sharon
Evansville, IN
Robinson, Joyce Burke
Mooresville, IN

New Members:
Grosvenor, William
Indianapolis, IN
Roth, William Russell
Scaly Mtn, NC
Saltdivar, Julia
Fleming Island, FL
Saal, Dee C.
Indianapolis, IN
Sowell, Carolyn Eugenia
Lubbock, TX
Stanton, Cynthia Lou
Williamstown, NY
Terwicki, Cynthia Potter
Glen Rock, NJ
Thomson, Kelly Beth Roth
Johns Creek, GA
VonBergen, Leslie Mayer
Sherman, TX
Yaden, Thomas Earl
Martinsville, IN
Young, Armilda Royston
Richardson, TX

Associate:
Hendricks, Janet
Vevay, IN
Kanne, Judith
Rensselaer, IN
Griffin, Rosemary V.
Greenwood, IN

(J)= Junior Member

Cameras Roll for New DVD
To Tell Story and Glory of S.I.P.

As Pioneers visit the Wabash and Erie Canal reconstruction and Fort Quiautenon site on the Fall Pilgrimage, Cameraman Dave Streit will photograph the event for the first-ever DVD The Society of Indiana Pioneers is developing. This will help educate potential members, Speakers Bureau audiences, county historical clubs, genealogy conference attendees, school history students, and others about the activities and member benefits of the Society.

Additional footage of the Annual Meeting, conversations with Society members, and the Holliday Award presentation to students will enhance the nine-to-twelve minute presentation. Both the video and a related group of clips to upload to the Society website will be completed and ready for distribution in January, 2013.

2016 Indiana Bicentennial & The Society of Indiana Pioneers

The Society of Indiana Pioneers representatives Michael Miller and Jeffrey Baldwin have begun attending the 2016 Indiana Bicentennial planning meetings held at the Indiana State Library by various groups within state government. It is introducing our Society to many important connections within our state. It is still very early in the process and action is being planned by the group for important celebrations surrounding the 200th year anniversary of our great state. One of the most important projects that our Society membership can get involved with is the Indiana DNR project to identify pioneer cemeteries throughout the state. If you are interested in learning more or volunteering directly we suggest going to the Indiana Department of Natural Resources website at: http://www.in.gov/dnr/historic/3744.htm to get involved. There will be more to follow in coming editions, so please stay tuned.
The Society of Indiana Pioneers Web Site

Our Pioneers web site, http://www.indianapioneers.com/, has a section titled “Members’ Bulletin Board.” It can be reached by clicking on the “MEMBERS’ BULLETIN BOARD” button on the home web site page. Society members may have news items and event announcements placed in this section. Contents of this section must be of historical interest to the membership and be non-political and non-controversial. Entries in this section will be temporary. The Society’s events section can be reached using the button labeled “EVENTS.” Other web sites that are of interest to the membership can be found in the section reached using the button labeled “LINKS.” To have an item placed in the MEMBERS’ BULLETIN BOARD section, or to suggest that a web site have a link to it in the LINKS section, email the information to Ed Hultgren: nodjehult@gmail.com.

John H. Holliday Award

The 2012 John H. Holliday Award was presented by Co-President Carolyn Rose and Stanley Evans on April 28th at the Indiana Historical Society's Hoosier History Bowl to the Switzerland County Junior Historical Society. Janet Hendricks, the Sponsor, received the $300.00 check and a one year complimentary Associate membership in the Society of Indiana Pioneers. The presentation was filmed by VP/Pres. Elect-Michael Miller and Dave Streit for the DVD under the direction of Martha Sue Batt, chairman of the DVD Committee. Other members attending were Secretary Robert Everitt and Treasurer Bruce Oakley.

WANTED: Pioneer Founders of Indiana

The first two years of The Pioneer Founders of Indiana program were a wonderful success. We anticipate this year to be just as successful. It is important that each family record their pioneer family story for history and to be saved in our archives. Future generations will appreciate knowing more about their ancestors. Many family stories are being lost due to the fast pace of the times and to fascination with instant technology. At the Society we offer this program as an opportunity for you to preserve your family pioneer history and stories. The 2010 and 2011 booklets have been sent to the Allen County Library and to the Daughters of the American Revolution Library in Washington, D.C. Please click "Pioneer Founders" on page one of this web site for details about the program—2012 counties, nomination forms and submission information. The 2010 and 2011 booklets may be read and downloaded from our web site. Enjoy!!

Email nominations to societyofindianapioneers@yahoo.com
Requirements for all 2012 counties are 1840 except for Lake, Howard and Tipton.

2010 Counties

Allen
Carroll
Cass
Clinton
Delaware
Harrison
Jefferson
Johnson
Knox
Marshall
Montgomery
Putnam
Scott
Shelby
Starke
Switzerland
Vigo
Wayne

2011 Counties

Benton
Boone
Clark
Crawford
Dearborn
Floyd
Fulton
Hamilton
Hendricks
Henry
Lawrence
Monroe
Morgan
Ohio
Orange
Perry
Pike
St. Joseph
Tippecanoe
Washington

2012 Counties

Bartholomew
Elkhart
Hancock
Howard--1845
Huntington
LaPorte
Lake --- 1845
Miami
Noble
Parke
Posey
Rush
Sullivan
Tipton--- 1845
Union
Warren
Wells
Whitley

“There are thousands of Indiana Pioneer stories out there. Tell us your story”

Carolyn Rose
Co-president
The Annual Meeting of The Society of Indiana Pioneers will be held at Meridian Hills Country Club in Indianapolis on Saturday, November 3. Registration and a welcoming reception will begin at 10:30 followed by the business meeting and sumptuous luncheon. Highlights of the Annual Meeting are always the Silent Auction, election of Governors and Officers, a video account of the Society Pilgrimages during the year and a presentation by the winner of the Society of Indiana Pioneers Fellowship for Graduate Study. A professional photographer will be on hand to film portions of this year’s Annual Meeting for possible inclusion in the Society’s promotional/awareness DVD under production. Watch your mail for reservation information in September.

New Office Manager

Since February 2012, the Society of Indiana Pioneers has had a new part-time Office Manager, Sally Fadely. While her schedule can be flexible, she makes every effort to be in the office in the Genealogy Room of the Indiana State Library between the hours of 9:00 and 2:00 (Eastern Time) on Monday and Wednesday. Her duties as Office Manager include the following: collecting and handling or forwarding mail, answering the telephone, greeting visitors, reading and handling or forwarding e-mails, assisting with mailings, typing, printing, sending press releases, assisting with the Society activities (Speakers Bureau, Pioneer Founders program, Pioneers Fellowships and Grants, sales of pins and charms and others), recordkeeping and communicating with the officers and board of governors at scheduled board meetings. In addition, she works closely with Genealogist Michele Kerr in processing approved new member and added line applications. Because of her significant experience in newsletter formatting, she has assumed responsibility for editing and posting the Pioneer Times on our website quarterly as a service to our members.

Sally and her husband Jim live in Indianapolis and are the parents of two children – both of whom are Junior Members of the Society.

Speakers Bureau

As part of the marketing effort of the Society of Indiana Pioneers, about 150 Indiana genealogy and historical organizations have been offered the free speaking services of our Speakers Bureau members. Seven of the 16 Board of Governors and other member volunteers have given one or two talks to groups across northern, southern, and central Indiana. The first set of email letters offering speaker services was sent in March and April 2012; the second set, in May and June 2012. The talks were scheduled between April and August.

The Speakers Bureau solicitation of speaking engagements and the talks given to various groups generate (1) awareness of the name of the Society of Indiana Pioneers, (2) awareness of the availability of free speakers associated with Indiana pioneer days, (3) awareness of an active Indiana-based genealogy group that is focused on the period generally prior to 1840, and (4) encourages applications for Regular, Associate, Junior, or other membership categories. This is one method that is being used to increase Society membership to 1,000 in the near future.

The Board of Governors is considering the general solicitation of Rotary and Kiwanis clubs of Indiana for speaking engagements for the present speaker volunteers. To service the expected demands from these community service organizations who generally meet once a week for one hour for lunch or breakfast, the current and additional speaker volunteers would face additional speaking responsibilities. A number of resources - including PowerPoint slide shows, DVDs, and sample 15-minute talks - are being developed to help meet the anticipated higher demand for speaker engagements from the many Rotary and Kiwanis clubs.
Indiana Pioneers Launch Award for Society’s Centennial

In anticipated celebration of the upcoming bicentennial of the state of Indiana and the Society’s centennial in 2016, the Society of Indiana Pioneers has launched an award for the promotion of the highest quality of scholarship, research and writing about Indiana Pioneer History from pre-history to and including the year 1851. The John Hampden Holliday Prize will be awarded to 3 individuals who make the most significant contribution to the field of Indiana Pioneer History in works published in the years 2013, 2014, 2015 or 2016. The top prize will be the sum of Five Thousand Dollars ($ 5,000) with second and third prizes being awarded in lesser amount. The prize is being offered by the Society of Indiana Pioneers whose mission is to honor the memory and achievements of those early settlers of the state of Indiana. It was started by John Hampden Holliday, the founder of the Indianapolis News in 1916 to honor the centennial of the state of Indiana. The prize will be awarded at a Centennial-Bicentennial Banquet in December 2016, along with appropriate trophies. Nominations must be submitted on or before February 1, 2016.

For further information contact THE SOCIETY OF INDIANA PIONEERS, 140 North Senate Avenue, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204 or see the Society’s web site at www.IndianaPioneers.com.

Genealogist Report—Michele Kerr

We have added 144 ancestors since the previous newsletter in September 2011. This means that we have 8,415 ancestors that have been approved since 1916. Just since the beginning of this year, we have had 123 applications approved, giving us 51 new members. The other 72 applications were additional line applications made by current members.

Please remember that when you make an additional line application, it is helpful to fill in the application with all the generational information but we only need documentation on generations that have not been proven in prior applications. If filling out the application is holding you back from adding lines, please contact me at the office or mdkerr84@yahoo.com and we can work out something that will help to ease the process!

We had several board members help with our booth at the Midwestern Roots Conference that was held July 20 and 21, 2012. This is always a wonderful time to connect with possible applicants. With the help of iPads and access to our website, we were able to identify quite a few people who had ancestors already approved in our database. We do have a rich archive of Indiana genealogy and it is wonderful to be able to share information on the older generations with descendants of the approved ancestors.

Silent Auction at the Annual Meeting

Due to the tremendous response at last year’s Annual Meeting and Luncheon we will again sponsor a Silent Auction. To mark the continued success of the Silent Auction, we need the help of all the members of the Society of Indiana Pioneers. Please look around your house for odds and ends that you no longer want or need—BUT someone else might want and need; a revered item that someone else would like to live with for years to come!

Ideas for items range from books to wine to theater tickets to memberships. Last year we were so pleased with the variety of beautiful items on hand. The looking, talking and bidding are always the highlights of the Silent Auction. As always, we thank you for your donation. Your donation is also a tax deduction.

To pick up items, please call:
Louise DeMore 317-938-5147 or Marcia Krieg 317-698-5077
THE SOCIETY OF INDIANA PIONEERS

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Newsletter Editor: Sally Fadely

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Hometown and year of term expiration follows each name.
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Martha Sue Batt, Indianapolis 2014
Tiffany Benedict Berkson, Indianapolis 2012
Jinsie Scott Bingham, Greencastle 2012
Maxine Fosta Brown, Corydon 2014
Louise T. DeMore, Indianapolis 2013
Helen M. Dickinson, Indianapolis 2013
Jan Aikman Dickson, Indianapolis 2014
Robert W. Dora, Noblesville 2014
Dr. James P. Fadely, Indianapolis 2012
Judge Thomas G. Fisher, Indianapolis 2012
Terri L. Gorney, Fort Wayne 2013
Robert R. Graham, Brownsburg 2014
Dr. Mary Alice Hines, Indianapolis 2012
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Recognition of Newsletter Contributors
Pilgrimage ___________________________ Nelson Price
Past Presidents’ Circle _________________________ Carolyn Rose / Stanley Evans
9th Honorary Member Award ___________________________ Helen Dickenson, Dr. Jamia Jacobsen,
 & Dr. James P. Fadely
Indiana Pioneer Fellowship ___________________________ Dr. James P. Fadely
New Members ___________________________ Joan Everitt
DVD Project ___________________________ Martha Sue Batt
2016 Indiana Bicentennial & The Society of Indiana Pioneers ___________________________ Michael Miller
Pioneer Website ___________________________ Ed Hultgren
John H. Holliday Award ___________________________ Carolyn Rose / Stanley Evans
Pioneer Founders ___________________________ Carolyn Rose
Annual Meeting ___________________________ Robert Everitt
New Office Manager ___________________________ Robert Everitt
Speakers Bureau ___________________________ Dr. Mary Alice Hines
Pioneers Centennial Award ___________________________ Jeffrey Baldwin
Genealogist ___________________________ Michele Kerr
Silent Auction ___________________________ Louise DeMore