

CORNERSTONE COMMENTATOR

A Membership Newsletter of the Cornerstone Society, Inc.

December 2013

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THE ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY: A MADISON TRADITION!

Good food and holiday cheer abound! This year the festivities will be Saturday, December 14th, from 7 to 9 p.m. at the newly renovated Ebenezer Hall on Poplar Street. This historic, 19th Century building was built as a black Methodist church and was home to an active congregation until recently. Member Sandy Schaeerli purchased the building and member Jack Patchin has restored the clear glass windows. The Christmas Party is free to members, and guests are welcome for the price of a membership. We ' ll collect your membership or renewal at the door (along with updated addresses, emails & phone numbers). Bring your checkbook and your friends and neighbors. Show them that preservation can be fun!



Cornerstone welcomes five new board members...

Camille Fife – has lived all over the country, including New York City where she worked in Advertising. After moving to Indiana, she got hooked on preservation while working for Historic New Harmony, Inc. and met and married well known landscape preservationist, the late Tom Salmon. They started their own firm, The Westerly Group and moved to Madison while working on the National Historic Landmark District nomination in 2002. She served two years as Madison 's first full time Historic Preservation Planner.

Ron Hopper - was born at KDH, grew up in Chelsea and went to the Saluda Schools until the 8th grade. He graduated from Southwestern High School, in Hanover, IN and joined the military. After he retired from a career in nursing in Baltimore, MD, he returned to Madison. Currently Ron serves as president of Madison 's Historic District Board of Review. He also volunteers as a docent for HMI and is a member of Jefferson County Historical Society.

Bob Maile - hails from Cincinnati. In the mid 1990 's he began to purchase and restore old buildings and from experience is now an expert on what NOT to do to such structures. His acquaintance with tin-smith Pat Cunningham brought him to Madison. He started his successful Madison Table and Lamp Co. in an old wagon factory on Main Street. It features his handmade custom tables, as well as other furniture, jewelry and original art work by several regional artists.

Ron Roaks – came to Madison two and a half years ago from California, following his wife 's search for the family genealogy. They decided to make Madison their home when they retired. He began his professional career in urban planning in upstate New York and then became active in the commercial real estate market. He and his wife currently live at Hereford Lake and are active volunteers at the JCHS and HMI.

Ron Zmyslo – Has been involved in the building industry for over 45years. He has a Masters degree from Ball State in Historic Preservation; he was Director of Restoration Services for Indiana Landmarks Inc., (formerly HLF) 1999-2006. Currently Ron is the construction manager for the Indiana State Museum and Historic Sites. He is also a professional drummer/percussionist. He and his wife are interested in purchasing a home here in Madison.

CORNERSTONE SAYS GOODBYE TO CONNIE PARTINGTON

Connie is leaving the Board after 9 years. She has been the Editor of the Newsletter and Secretary Pro Temp. She organized several petition drives for Cornerstone, including the early efforts to save the Elk 's Building. For many years, she 's worked with Brad on the Xmas Party. Her efforts made sure that Charleston Mayor Riley received a warm welcome. While Connie is leaving the board, she is staying active in the Walnut Street Initiative. She hopes to have more time for her creative writing and art.

WORKSHOP -

More than a Pretty Face : The Hows, Whys and Wherefores of Painting your Historic Building.

Saturday, January 11th from 9 to noon at the Madison Library.

Sponsored by Cornerstone, Madison Main Street and the City of Madison.

Sherwin Williams manager along with contractor/preservationist Ron Zmyslo will go over colors for historic buildings, what to paint where, prepping for paint, caulking, taping, lead paint abatement, painting brick (or not). Bring your questions.

WALNUT ST. INITIATIVE (WSI) UPDATE

What a year 2013 has been for the Walnut Street initiative, in terms of both accomplishments and productive affiliations. Camille Fife, of the Cornerstone Society, certainly helped launch our successful working relationship with the City of Madison 's Mayor Damen Welch, our District 's City Councilman, Dick Jones and other City Staff such as Mark Johnson and Andrew Forrester. In February 2013 I was asked to join Sue Livers and Maxine Brown, both long-term advocates of the UGRR (Under Ground Rail Road) experience, to celebrate Black History Month in HMI 's lovely AME Church on E. 5th Street. If you have not been in this building it is certainly worth a visit --either to hear a lecture, let 's say, or to see a play. We finished our Mission and Vision Statements, to the pleasure of all those involved, and articulated 12 initial projects to work on over time --as well as other ones that keep bubbling up to the surface!

We successfully petitioned the City, with the leadership of Dick Jones, another member of the Cornerstone Society, to have a huge, partially rotted, tree removed, sidewalks replaced with ones that are now handicap accessible, handicap dips in the curbs created, and even getting lawns cut and trees trimmed. Mark Johnson worked with the owners of one building, that has had had several fires in it, to begin to get essential work on it completed, so it can be made safe enough to sell by a bank.

The fall of 2013 proved especially exciting for us with an early fall " Street Party " and a visit to Walnut Street by the National Trust 's Youth Summit on October 6, 2013 so they could learn about the UGRR and specifically provide hands-on help to the WSI itself. "The Walnut Blast " Party was a fantastic experience in renewing friendships and community building. Many neighbors brought dishes such as: 200 cup cakes (made by two ladies from scratch) , a young man 's sliced, home grown tomatoes to cookies baked by mother and child. Andrew Forrester insured that the picnic tables arrived from the City, Frank Taff and Charlotte Hubbs provided food as well as serving tables and grilling capabilities in front of their Fire Hall (where we hold our WSI meetings). Jim Estes and Ted LaPine grilled countless burgers and dogs. North-side Liquor and Jackie Knoebel provided soft-drinks, John Wallace our County Sheriff sponsored the "bouncy house " , for all the kids and Walmart helped provide some of the ice cream that over 60 neighbors enjoyed.

Then with the Sponsorship of Historic Madison Inc., (Rhonda Deeg and John Stacier), the WSI hosted 44 students and fifteen staff/teachers from the National Trust 's Youth Summit for two and a half hours on October 6, 2013. Their day began at the AME Church where John Stacier and Connie Partington presented an overview of the Church and the WSI. Camille Fife, Dennis Jorgenson, (both Cornerstone Board

Members) and Anne Fairchild, Eastern Regional Program Manager for the Indiana State Museum, then acted as guides for students to learn about the architecture and UGRR sites on Walnut St., as well as to speak to three long-term residents about the Street ' s history. After this the students came to the Walnut Fire Hall; and then with the Sponsorship of Historic Madison Inc., (Rhonda Deeg and John Stacier), the WSI hosted 44 students and fifteen staff/teachers from the National Trust' s Youth Summit for two and a half hours on October 6, 2013. Their day began at the AME Church where John Stacier and Connie Partington presented an overview of the Church and the WSI. Camille Fife, Dennis Jorgenson, (both Cornerstone Board Members) and Anne Fairchild, Eastern Regional Program Manager for the Indiana State Museum, then acted as guides for students to learn about the architecture and UGRR sites on Walnut St., as well as to speak to three long-term residents about the Street ' s history. After this the students came to the Walnut Fire Hall; and with unbelievable creative zest, they worked on a Facebook Page, Twitter Account and Marketing Ideas for the Initiative. With the superb leadership of such people as Ann Pritzlaff, Summit Director, Michelle Pearson, Suzanne Stanis of Indiana Landmarks and Dona Stokes-Lucus the day could not have gone better. The students came up with a wonderful tag line for the Walnut St. Initiative which we will use on literature and our new Facebook page: *Our History, Your Stories.*

Then on October 31, 2013 at the Indianapolis National Trust Conference, some Youth Summit students presented what they learned about the UGRR and experienced at several sites throughout Southern Indiana to a panel, on which I sat, lead by Judy O ' Bannon, Indiana ' s former First lady as well as a number of individuals such as: Diane Miller, National Program Manager of the National UGRR Network to Freedom, Marsh Davis President, of Indiana Landmarks and Rhonda Deeg of HMI to name a few. The discussion was enlightening and the students were impressed by meeting decedents of slaves amongst many other things.

With this wonderful head of steam up 2014 may be even better!

Connie Partington

Cornerstone Society, member

NATIONAL PRESERVATION CONFERENCE 2013

By Ron Zmyslo

The 2013 National Trust Preservation Conference was held in Indianapolis on October 29-Nov 2nd. Chaired by Marsh Davis President of Indiana Landmarks, the opening plenary was keynoted by Henry Glassie, Professor Emeritus of Folklore at Indiana University and author of 20 books on folk culture. In typical Trust form a grand reception was held afterward at the historic Athenaeum. Over the following days educational and fieldtrip sessions were held throughout Indiana including fieldtrips to Columbus, Bloomington, West Baden and Madison.

Diversity was bandied about regularly throughout the conference including a wonderful luncheon lecture presented by Dr. Price a Distinguished Service Professor of History and the Director of the Institute on Ethnicity, Culture, and the Modern Experience at Rutgers University.

Link and I attended an all day field session assessing the landscape and structures at the 1923 Sommers

Mansion and its Jens Jensen-designed landscape. I also attended a well-received session on historic windows led by my colleague Bob Yapp and his team and helped man the APT booth with the local Ohio Valley Chapter.

Other Cornerstone members who participated in the conference included Camille Fife, who was a speaker for a session on large scale transportation projects in historic districts and at the Madison field trip luncheon held at member Peter Ellis ' venue, the West Street Art Center (see below). Jan Vetrhus and Link Ludington led a tour of the historic district for the field trip participants.



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Our 25th Anniversary year has featured several key accomplishments. Cornerstone hosted the Cornelius O 'Brien lecture at the Brown Gym featuring Major Joe Riley of Charleston, SC.

While we were not able to save the full time historic preservation planner position, we were able to convince the city to re-instate a part time person.

We had the pleasure of nominating Camille Fife for Indiana Landmarks ' Servaas Award - and she won! It was really a life-time achievement award for all her work in preservation in Indiana.

We hosted the Indiana Landmarks ' Moveable Feast at the Clearinghouse in July and the National Trust for Historic Preservation field trip lunch at West Street Center in November.

Another year and we are still spending countless hours on the ELKS building! The roof is on and the building stabilized, and we hope to have the demolition order removed soon.

We are pleased to welcome five new board members - an energetic mix of talent. We look forward to the next 25 years.

Jan Vetrhus



P. O. Box 92
Madison, Indiana 47250

CORNERSTONE SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP:

Annual Membership Categories

- | | |
|---|---------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor | \$1,000 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Capital | \$500 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pillar | \$250 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Foundation | \$100 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Contributing | \$50 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family | \$30 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual | \$20 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Student/Senior | \$15 |

Please check the appropriate category and make your checks payable to: **Cornerstone Society, Inc.**

P. O. Box 92
Madison, IN 47250

NAME-----

STREET-----

CITY-----

STATE/ZIP-----

PHONE-----

E-MAIL-----