

THE CARMEL SIGNAL

CARMEL CLAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Third Quarter 2022

Established 1975

Our 47th Year



CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

The Monon Depot has been temporarily relocated to a lot on 3rd Avenue SW. The decision to move the Depot was made to protect this beloved landmark during construction of the Carmel Clay History Museum. With the Depot relocated, the cottage on the adjacent lot to the south will soon be razed in preparation for the new museum.

The initial construction bids were excessive, which required us to alter the design slightly. However, the footprint will remain the same. We are seeking additional bids from other local general contractors in the hopes that we can break ground early next year. Good things come to those who wait, and we are certain the new museum will be grand!



coming weeks. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Deb Gangstad at 317-979-4236 or dgangstad@carmelclayhistory.org.

ANNUAL MEETING



All are invited to attend CCHS's Annual Meeting at the Caucus Room at City Hall on October 26. This year's meeting will be held at 7 p.m.

At the meeting, we will share an update on the new museum. Executive Director Deb Gangstad will also present our Year in Review as well as what's in store for 2023! The meeting will conclude after a vote is taken on changes to the by-laws and for the slate of officers and board members. You can find proposed changes to our by-laws on our [website](#).

HOLIDAY HOME TOUR

We are so excited for the 26th Annual Holiday Home Tour!! This year's tour will be on December 2 and 3. The theme of this year's tour is always a favorite—midcentury modern! We will be posting details regarding the event soon, so check our website and Facebook page in the



Members will vote on the following candidates. Additional nominations from the floor will be allowed before the election.

Officers (1 year term)

President: Brad Sexauer

Vice President: Lily Pai

Secretary: Lisa McLaughlin

Treasurer: Deb Teets

Board Members (3 year term)

Nick Davis
Larry Lawhead
Dan McFeely
Christine Owens

Current in Carmel
Tuxedo Brothers
Mary's Mountain Cookies

SQUIRREL STAMPEDE

On Saturday, September 17, we were joined by 335 eager runners for CCHS's inaugural fun run! This event was conducted in honor of the Bicentennial Celebration of Hamilton County. The squirrel theme commemorated an event that happened two hundred years ago, when a great squirrel emigration swept across Central Indiana and destroyed everything in its path. Farmers lost much, if not the entirety, of their cornfields and gardens. The incredible number of squirrels involved was confounding, and the pioneers were helpless to stop them.



We are so grateful to the over 100 families who participated in the festivities and helped us raise funds for the construction of the Carmel Clay History Museum! Thank you to Hamilton County Parks and Recreation for their support and for allowing us to hold the event in beautiful Coxhall Gardens. We are excited for next year's fun run, where we will once again show how nuts we are about Carmel's history!

We would like to thank our generous corporate donors:

Church, Church, Hittle, and Antrim
Old Town Design Group
Rangeline Self-Storage
Engledow Group
National Bank of Indianapolis

CCHS is grateful for our philanthropic event sponsors:

Hamilton County Tourism
Julie and Jeff Kingston for a Pet Friendly Services booth
All Things Carmel
Meg and Associates
American Dream Nut Butter
RPM
Abby Schweigart of Edward Jones
My Dad's Sweet Corn
TNT Designs

EMILY HANAWALT'S NEW ADVENTURE

Our collections manager, Emily Hanawalt, is moving to Albuquerque, New Mexico, where she has taken a position at the National Hispanic Cultural Center. While we are sad to see her go, we are excited for her new adventure! In the past three and a half years, Emily has greatly improved the condition of our growing archives. She also worked as the city archivist, cataloging hundreds of pictures of Carmel. These past few months, Emily applied



for and received two grants to enhance both our future museum and the city archives. Thank you, Emily! We will miss you!

GRANTS

CCHS received two grants this quarter. The Indiana Arts Commission provided us with a \$3,899 Regional Arts Partners Grant. These funds will allow us to host a collaborative mural painting event featuring a pioneer village scene. Jill Kniptash, a local educator with an art background, has been commissioned to lead the project. CCHS staff will host a program at the 2023 Carmel International Arts Festival, where local children and their families will be offered the chance to paint a portion of the large canvas mural. The finished piece will be installed in the new Carmel Clay History Museum.

We also received a \$4,999 Heritage Support Grant from the Indiana Historical Society that will fund storage materials for the City of Carmel Archives Collection. We extend our gratitude to the Indiana Historical Society, the Lilly Endowment, Inc., and the City of Carmel for their support on this project, which will ensure that historic photographs and archival materials can be properly preserved and stored for future generations.

The public is welcome to view the City of Carmel Archival Collection [online](#).

VISIONS IN MY MIND – A NEW BOOK BY STEPHEN BROWN

If you have ever read the I Grew Up in Carmel Facebook page, you have probably encountered some of Stephen Brown's stories about Home Place. He has many of them, and they're all fascinating! Brown recently published a book called *Visions in My Mind* that includes many of these stories. Copies are available at All Things Carmel for \$20, or you can order a copy by contacting Brown at TheHawk65@embarqmail.com.

From very early recollections to "the night the stars went out" this book takes you on an adventurous—sometimes comical, sometimes tragic—journey of the author slowly losing his vision while living in the world of the sighted.

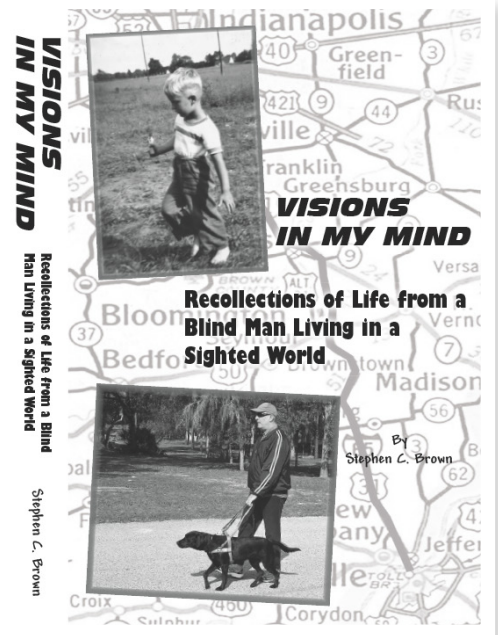
Follow along on two teenaged hitchhiking trips across the country as the author recounts life as a baby boomer growing up in small-town USA, and the mischief a young boy can get into. Also describes many close encounters with death as well as the very special attention received in some historic sites as a blind adult.

The author takes an in-depth look at dealing with his loss of sight both emotionally and physically, detailing technical as well as mobility and Guide Dog training received in order to continue to function in the world of the sighted—peppered with comical and absurd experiences.

Includes original 1960 road maps and dozens of personal photos.



Stephen C. Brown has always been a storyteller. Now at the urging of friends and family, he compiles a lifetime of stories into the story of his life.



Member News

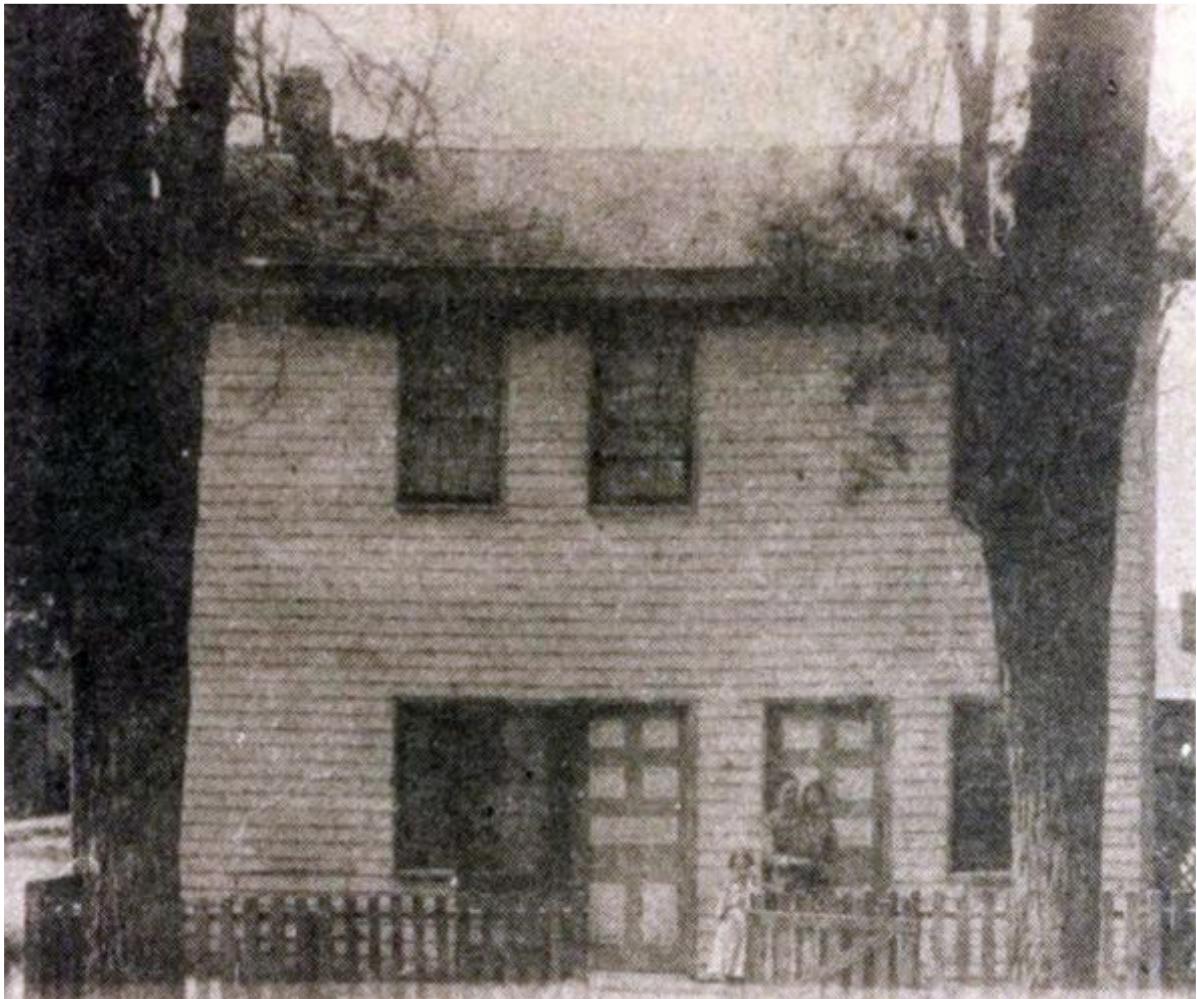
We welcome the following New Members who joined CCHS in the 3rd Quarter of 2022!

Holly Totten Crawford
Jack and Linda Williams
Barbara Williamson Lawlor

Tidbits from our Facebook Page

This house was built by John West, but it is more often referred to as the Elijah King home. It was almost as old as the town of Bethlehem, now Carmel, which was platted in 1837. The house stood on the northwest corner of Main and Range Line from 1838 until it burned down in the Great Fire of 1913 along with a block of West Main Street and a block of North Range Line Road. Elijah King was a Quaker and one of Carmel's most successful merchants. He ran a general store on the southeast corner of Main and Range Line from 1846 to about 1876.

In 1875, the Noblesville Ledger printed the following: "Elijah King [is] one of the oldest merchants of the county, who started in a little log cabin long years ago near the place his store now stands; and through the many shifting scenes of business he has held steadily on, 'going slow and certain' was his motto, and success has been his reward. He has seen the younger dashing, eager aspirants for fame and fortune appear upon the scene, and for a short time play their brief part upon the business stage. Still the old man holds the helm of steady progress."



**SPECIAL THANKS IS EXTENDED
TO OUR CORPORATE MEMBERS:**



CCH+A, Old Town Design Group, Engledow Group, The National Bank of Indianapolis, All Things Carmel, Meg & Associates, Bussell Family Funerals, Shepherd Insurance, Carmel Welding, Ceramica, Musselman Landscape Solutions, Current in Carmel, Range Line Self Storage, The Barrington, Wedgewood Building Co., White's Ace Hardware, and Anthony's Chophouse.

CARMEL CLAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
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