

Heritage Awards presented at Old Settlers meeting



Old Settlers Heritage Award recipients

Pictured are the 2007 Heritage Award recipients named at the Old Settlers Meeting Saturday morning. In the front row, left to right, are Martha Lewis and Diane Brown representing Carroll Manor, Ralph Rohrabough and Janice Johnson. In the back row, l-r, are former commissioner Clara Rider who was instrumental in Carroll Manor improvements, Steve Siwinski, Debbie Siwinski and Lowell Johnson. Comet photo by Debbie Lowe

Comet staff report

Stephen and Debbie Siwinski of Flora are 2006 Heritage Award winners for two activities. Other Heritage Award winners are Lowell and Janice Johnson, Ralph Rohrabough, and Carroll Manor.

The first challenge for the Swinskis could be called a leap of faith as they changed a 1902 church building, which formerly housed Flora Church of the Brethren on South Center Street, into their personal residence.

The couple discovered hardwood oak flooring under the carpeting and kept the patterned tin ceiling tile above the balcony. The second floor master bedroom included a large stained glass window.

The Siwinski's second achieve-

ment was a restoration of the log cabin at Flora Community Park. The work included chinking, window-repair, shoring up the floor, restoring the stairway to the second floor, landscaping and more.

Kenny Orem donated the cabin, built in 1834. Glen Dillman was active in getting the cabin moved to the park from another location.

Lowell and Janice Johnson

Lowell and Janice Johnson received the Heritage Award for work done on a property on the site of the former Van Doorn Greenhouse in Flora. The Johnsons both remember visiting the greenhouse to buy flowers when they were growing up. Some of the walls from the original building are still standing on the property.

When the Johnsons acquired the property they spent nearly a year

restoring the house, doing most of the work themselves. They removed the paneling and carpet, installed drywall, restored hardwood floors and stripped the oak woodwork.

The kitchen is adorned with original etched glass in two cabinet doors and has many windows overlooking the back yard. The house itself has over 60 windows.

The upstairs has three bedrooms, two baths, an office and a sun porch. The downstairs has an open stairway in the entryway, a fireplace in the living room, a half-bath, dining room and sun porch.

The house was built in 1919 in the Arts and Crafts style, has built-in bookcases, two sets of French doors and a large yard with a small woods.

Ralph J. Rohrabough

Ralph J. Rohrabough, a native of Scott County, has been a Carroll County resident since 1938. He was elected to the town board in 1960. He has been president of the town council for 25 years and a former area plan commission member. He has been president of the advisory board for the emergency management agency and has served on the Carroll County Economic Development Corporation since 1990.

Rohrabough was instrumental in Camden being the recipient of new curbs, sewer systems, a new water tower, new water treatment facility and several grants, which included a \$110,000 from the Build Indiana Fund for town improvements and a \$225,000 housing rehabilitation grant. The town also purchased two defibrillators under Rohrabough's direction. He is credited with devoting much of his time in serving and maintaining the town of Camden.

Carroll Manor

Carroll Manor was built in 1910. Total cost for the facility and its outbuildings was \$40,000. The exterior and location has remained the same, but the interior and attitude have changed over the years.

Over the years, the building was known as the Poor Farm, the County Asylum, County Infirmary and the County Home. The current name fits the current style and atmosphere of the facility.

At one time, residents were called inmates, cells were used along with other unacceptable restraints and residents were forced to grow food in the garden, help with livestock, and the cleaning.

By the time Jack and Augusta Burkhalter served as superintendents, attitudes were changing and Burkhalters reflected that in their lives with residents. Today, living at the home is living in comfort and beauty.

Retired sheriff Jim Coghill and wife, Neda, followed Burkhalters

as superintendents in 1971. After the death of the former sheriff, his wife continued in the superintendent position until 1998. She added her decorating touch to the home and her daughter, Martha Lewis,

and staff, including assistant Diane Brown, continue the hominess of Carroll Manor today.

Residents need to be ambulatory, even with a cane or walker and able to self-care.

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Painting

Bob Quinn's painting, "Country Store," pictured, was voted People's Choice at the Delphi Art Club Art Show at Old Settlers. Another painting by Quinn, "Robbins Trail," took third place in the judging. The paintings were displayed in the courthouse rotunda. Photo provided

Delphi Art Club names OS winners

Comet staff report

Delphi Art Club announces the winners for the Old Settlers Art Show. Entries were judged in two areas, the rotunda and the lounge.

Rotunda

Winners in the paintings category were: Leola Widmer, first place, "Red Grapes;" Bob Sales, second place, "Landmark;" and Bob Quinn, third place, "Robbins Trail."

Kathy Snoeberger won first and second places in photographs and Jessie Snoeberger took third place in the same category.

Lounge

First place in china went to Libby Sparks for pitcher with pink poppies. Second and third places were won by Leola Widmer for plate with callas and bowl with roses, respectively.

In the miscellaneous category, first place was taken by Arlene Smith with a "Wastebasket/Scenic." Carol Oliver won second place with "Hissamer Rattlesnake Gourd" and Vicky Isaacs won third place with a "Milk Can Mosaic."

People's Choice

The People Choice Awards in the rotunda went to Bob Quinn with a painting named "Country Store" and a portrait of Tim Stieben by Carol Oliver.

In the lounge, People's Choice winners were Sparks for her china piece, "Tall Pitcher" and Oliver for her "Hissamer Rattlesnake Gourd."

The raffle of a painting by Phyllis Porter was won by Francie Thompson of Delphi.



China painting

Libby Sparks won two awards in china painting at the Old Settlers Art Show. The "Tall Pitcher," left, received the People's Choice award, and "Pitcher with Pink Poppies," right, won first place from the judges. Photo provided



'Hissamer'

Carol Oliver won a People's Choice award for her gourd rattlesnake in the Old Settlers Art Show. She created the snake's appearance through wood burning. It took her over 100 hours to complete. The snake was one of two People's Choice awards from the exhibits in the courthouse lounge. Oliver's snake also placed second in the judging of miscellaneous exhibits. Oliver also received a People's Choice award for "Portrait of Tim Stieben," displayed in the rotunda. Comet photo by Jennifer Archibald

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