



# Carroll County Comet

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# Old Settlers Celebration... a hit with all ages



**Past brought to life**  
Jo Collins of Kokomo demonstrates weaving on an inkle loom during Old Settlers. She said the portable inkle looms date back to medieval times. This particular one, a newer model, makes 15-foot sashes and belts. Comet photo by Jennifer Archibald



**Sizzler**  
"Sizzler," the name of this thrilling ride at Old Settlers, also could be used to describe the intense heat, especially on Saturday. Comet photo by Jennifer Archibald

## DPS fashion show

### 'What Should I Wear to the Opera?'



By Jennifer Archibald  
Staff writer

Fashions of yesteryear were modeled in the Carroll County Courthouse last Friday evening.

The aisles in the third floor Circuit Courtroom became runways as models Debbie Low, Chanler Norman, Jordyn Bieghler, and Brianna Walters strutted the latest apparel from the 1860s to the early 1900s.

The program was sponsored by the Delphi Preservation Society, and the clothing came from Cole Clothing Museum in Logansport.

Staged during the Old Settlers event, the fashion show was designed to cover the opera house period in Delphi.

Jean Cole, founder of the museum, narrated the show, dividing the fashions into time periods and setting the scene for each decade.

She went backward in time, starting with the era of silent movies, women's suffrage, and Prohibition. One of the models representing this period was dressed all in black, with a black hat, black boa, and a white sign that read "Right to vote."

Cole had costume changes herself, and one was from 1912, the year of the sinking of the Titanic. The dress had a low neckline and sheer sleeves. She wore white gloves and a hat with a feather.

Going back to the "Gay Nineties," and the turn of the century, Cole pointed out the emergence of trolley cars and the horseless carriage. She mentioned the "Gibson girl" style of this era, with a high collar, puffed sleeves, and a tight waistline.

Most of the fashions modeled in the show were full-length, dress-up styles, accessorized with hats and occasional parasols. One fashion from the 1890s departed from that scenario. The model appeared in swimming attire, complete with ruffled hat and striped socks. As a contrast, she walked out with another model, wrapped in a beach towel. A quick and momentary unwrap of the towel revealed a modern bikini. Cole described the contrasting fashions as "You've come a long way, baby."

The last, and earliest period of the show was the Civil War and Reconstruction Era, and the coming of the railroad.

Hoop skirts and hourglass figures were the trends of the time. Cole and another model appeared in dresses reminiscent of "Gone with the Wind."

Joe Kitchel helped set the scene for this period.

He told about a reception held in the Assion-Ruffing hall in Delphi in 1865, welcoming home the local Civil War regiments. It was in this building that the Lathrope & Ruffing Opera House opened in 1882 and closed in 1914. A century later, fashions from that era were being modeled across the street in the courthouse.

In the course of the show, Cole talked about corsets and petticoats, bustles and brassieres, necklines and waistlines, and fitted and flowing styles.

She noted that although today's women have come a long way in "women's rights," they also wear larger size clothing, larger shoes, and have more age spots.

### 'Gone with the Wind' revisited

Chanler Norman, foreground, and Jean Cole, background, are modeling 1860s fashions in a style show at the Carroll County Courthouse. The dresses came from Cole Clothing Museum, 900 E. Broadway, Logansport. Comet photo by Jennifer Archibald



### Care for a swim?

Debbie Lowe modeled some elegant vintage dresses in a style show Friday night, but it was this swimming attire from the 1890s that turned people's heads. Comet photo by Jennifer Archibald



### Freedom Run

Ninety-nine bikers rode 100 miles and donated \$802 to the Carroll County Salvation Army on Saturday. The Freedom Run started at the Freedom Center in Delphi, then followed a route to Monticello, Logansport, and Burlington. After lunch at The Dinner Bell, the bikers returned to Delphi. Photo provided

## Top dogs of Canine Cavalcade

### Comet staff report

Riley Park in Delphi was the hot spot for canines during this year's Old Settlers' festival. The day of fun in the sun was centered around Bill Marion's Canine Cavalcade.

Dog-focused information and demonstration booths lined the park's open field where 49 person/dog pairings participated in several contests held around midday Saturday.

The human-canine duos worked together in catch-and-toss, shoot-out, speed, distance, accuracy and junior division contests.

In catch-and-toss competition, four class divisions

yielded three winners each. Top Dog division winners were Adrian Custer with his dog Six, Christina Curtis and Jack, and Rick Kimball with Dugan. Deiwert Pro winners were Chandler Curtis with Nitro, Marshall Smith and Bud, and Ron King with Monty Boy. Tops in Novice division were Mark Pastor and Chip followed by Audra Hoveel with Pee Dee and Richard Lee with Molly. Senior division winners were Bill Marion with his dog Star, Amy King with Monty Boy and Neo King with Monty Boy.

Men's shoot-out champions were Marshall Smith with Bud.

Women's division winners were Mary Jo Corso and her dog Murphy Brown.

Speed course winners were Matt Maynard and Anabelle with a time of 26 seconds for the men. Christina Curtis and Nitro took the women's top spot with a time of 49 seconds.

Long distance awards went to Adrian Custer and Six for their 80-yard connection, and Christina Curtis and Nitro for their 48-yard toss and catch.

Accuracy champs were Rick Kimball with Dugan and Amy King with Monty Boy.

Twin sisters Dakota and Nicole Smart tied for first in the junior division.

## Old Settlers meeting



### Time and distance matter

No one is too old, too young or traveled too far to be part of the 152nd annual Old Settlers' Meeting held Saturday during the festival. During the event, meeting vice-president Billie Hedde presented awards to attendees who were representative of those categories. Pictured, left to right, are award winners Katie Haydon and son Christopher of California – farthest traveled, Clatia Whiteman – oldest woman present, Everett Gruber – oldest man present, and Savannah Brown, daughter of Ben and Tanya Brown of the Peterson family – youngest present. Comet photo by Kevin Schnepf



### Rewarded for preserving county treasures

A central part of every Old Settlers' annual meeting is the presentation of Heritage Awards to Carroll County residents for various efforts aimed at preserving the county's historical legacy. Three families and three individuals were awarded plaques during the 152nd meeting Saturday. Pictured with wife in front of husband, left to right, are Richard and Nancy Hicks, Erick and Gayle Peterson and Bob and Elaine McCain, all honored for restoring historic family homes. Each family's restoration timelines were read aloud by meeting officers. Individual honorees pictured to the right of the families, l-r, Loren Hylton, Bill Brown and Ross Brown were thanked for protecting Adams Mill, the mill's covered bridge, a resident's home and Lancaster Covered Bridge during heavy rainfall and flooding in 2003. Bill Brown related the story behind the structures' salvation during the meeting. Comet photo by Kevin Schnepf