

# O.S. accolades for 97-year-old china painter

By Debbie Lowe  
Staff writer

A lifelong county resident is living proof that it is never too late to learn something new. After many years of doing what she loves most, she is being honored by the Delphi Art Club during the 2009 Old Settlers Celebration.

Former Carroll County Clerk and 12-year county council member Mary Catherine Carter turned to applying paint to china surfaces in the late 1970s after many years of doing other painting prior to the new venture.

"I am just interested in everything," Carter said at her home in Flora.

Carter is a long-time member of the Delphi Art Club and will be featured in the annual Old Settlers Art Show in the courthouse rotunda and lounge. The 97-year-old painter plans to be present in the courthouse Thursday from 2 to 6 p.m. and Saturday from 3 to 6 p.m.

Born in Cutler, the artist graduated from Cutler High School where she partici-

pated in art classes. She attended Indiana State and Purdue universities and later helped to manage Carter Funeral Home in Flora with her husband. She joined the art club in 1980 and began painting china while working in the courthouse. She continued with classes in Lafayette for many years.

Carter said china painting is done directly on blank white porcelain plates, bowls, pitchers and vases. A glaze is the medium used for the specialized painting.

"You need to understand how to mix colors," Carter explained. "There is no white glaze in china painting, so in order to lighten a color, you need to use another color of glaze."

Carter said that both her children and grandchildren have painted with her over her 29-year painting career, which is still going strong. She continues to paint weekly with friends at her home.

"We don't miss many weeks," she said.

Carter recommended those interested in art, in any media, to join the art club,



**Relaxing at home**  
Delphi Art Club member Mary Catherine Carter, with dog Mocha, recently reflected about growing up and creating art in Carroll County. Carter continues to paint weekly with friends. Comet photo by Debbie Lowe

which meets the first Thursday of most months. The next meeting will be Sept. 3. For additional information,

contact president Carol Oliver during the Old Settlers Art Show in the courthouse.

# Canal Park welcomes visitors

Comet staff report

The annual Old Settlers Rendezvous (pioneer and primitive encampment) will be Wednesday through Saturday at Canal Park, Delphi. The temporary village dwellers will tell visitors about times past, and some will have wares to sell.

The Canal Interpretive Center (interactive canal history museum) is open daily this summer from 1 to 4 p.m., with extended Saturday hours, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission to the museum is free.

Stated hours for the boat rides on the canal are 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. on Saturday and 2 p.m. on Sundays, but as long

as there are crowds waiting to ride, the boat makes extra trips. Celtic harp music played by Brenda Bowen Cox will entertain guests aboard The Delphi on the two regularly scheduled rides on Saturday. Boat runs will continue on weekends through the middle of September.

The Reed Case House will

be open on Saturday during regular 10-4 hours and also this Sunday from 1 to 4 p.m.

Bike rental is available at the Mule Barn everyday.

Saturday's hours for the park may be extended if people coming from the Old Settlers meeting, held this year at the Canal Center, want to stay and tour the Canal Park Village.

# Old Settlers entertainment begins tonight

Comet staff report

There is something for everyone at the 154th annual Carroll County Old Settlers celebration beginning tonight, Aug. 5, and running through Aug. 8, from rides and amusements to the Rendezvous encampment at canal park. Fair goers can browse through the historical museum and art show in the courthouse or visit the Opera House Gallery and take a tour. As always, there will be plenty of entertainment!

Special entertainment will be featured every night on the courthouse lawn. The first night, Aug. 5, will be Snow Tae Kwon Do Mixed Martial Arts and Pride Demonstrations from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. with D.J. Miller beginning at 6:30

p.m. and Aaron Kelly at 8:30. Do not forget to bring a lawn chair.

"Black Comedy," a one-act play, will be at the Opera House Aug. 6 and 8 at 4 and 8:30 p.m. The Carroll County Homemakers Chorus will perform from 5 to 6 p.m. The Cowboy Church will perform from 6:30-8 p.m. and Resurrection will begin at 8:30 p.m.

A Canine Cavalcade preview will be Friday evening from 5 to 6 with the Tonsil Klackers performing at 6. The Atlantic Music Hall Band will present "Big Band Music" at 8 and the Donahue Band will begin at 9:30.

On the last day, Saturday, the Fife and Drum Corps will play at 1 p.m. Twin Lakes Gymnastics can be seen at 2 p.m. with the Eel River Indian Drum

Band performing at 3:30 p.m. Dulcimers will gather on the south lawn of the courthouse from 3:30 to 5 p.m. There will be Snow Tae Kwon Do Martial Arts Demonstrations from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. and the Banjo Nutz will perform on the south lawn from 5 to 6 p.m. More entertainment will follow with the Tequila Mockingbird Band at 6 p.m., Burnett Creek Bluegrass Band at 7:30 p.m., and the Lone Wolf Sounds from 9:30 to 11 p.m.

The public is invited to the Old Settlers Meeting on Saturday at 1:30 p.m. at the Wabash & Erie Canal Center. Joey Martin will provide special music and there will be an award presentation. "Carroll County's Wabash & Erie Canal - From Past to Present" will be presented by Gail Baker Seest

and community children. Be sure to check the Old Settlers Schedule of Events found on pages 6A and 7A for a full listing of activities.

# Museum plans OS activities

Comet staff report

Carroll County Historical Society Museum invites residents to connect with local history during Old Settlers this year.

This is the 154th year for the annual celebration, which honors the earliest settlers in Carroll County. This year also marks the 181st anniversary of the establishment of the county.

In addition to its regular exhibits, the museum is planning craft demonstrations, free children's games, and special entertainment.

The museum, located inside the courthouse in Delphi, will be open its regular hours plus 6 to 9 p.m. on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, and noon to 9 p.m. on Saturday. Crafts and children's games will be Friday evening, and Saturday noon to 9 p.m., inside and outside the museum. Families and individuals

will find many interesting artifacts inside the museum. Examples are old photos, toys, clothes, tools, and a prairie schooner.

Special demonstrations and displays will include weaving, spinning, tating, basket making, Native American artifacts, gourd art, and boats that were manufactured at a former boat factory in Delphi.

Besides various children's games with prizes, children can also make their own corn

husk dolls, beginning at noon on Saturday.

Outdoor entertainment sponsored by the museum will include the Dulcimer Gathering from 3:30 to 5 p.m. on Saturday, followed by Banjo Nutz from 5 to 6.

The museum has a special display inside the south door of the courthouse. It features a selection of photos from previous Old Settlers celebrations, from the 1800s through more recent years.

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