

Mission

The mission of the Delphi Preservation Society is to support the preservation, protection and restoration of historic structures in the greater Delphi area from the threat of neglect, obsolescence, and the pressures of a modern society.

To achieve this mission, the Delphi Preservation Society will support, encourage, inform, and educate the public as to the architectural significance, history and heritage of the greater Delphi area.

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Historic “C.O. Julius” Transom Reinstalled...

The Assion-Ruffing Building, along with others in the block, underwent a "modernization" in the 1910s to late 1920s as cast-iron arches were replaced structurally with steel beams to allow for large display windows in the retail bays. At right is of the C.O. Julius Clothing Store before the modernization with the original cast-iron arches in tact.



C.O. Julius (r) in front of his store in the early 1900s. Photo provided by Georganna Julius in 2008.



Matthias Julius established the Julius Clothing Store in 1882 and In 1907 his son C. O. became the sole owner continuing the business until 1943. C.O.'s son Robert owned and managed the Julius Clothing Store in Flora.

The restored C.O. Julius transom being installed over the entrance to the Opera House Gallery. Julie & Christian Knoeller are sponsors for this transom.

Carroll County Historic Sites & Structures Inventory Now Available...



Architectural surveyors from Indiana Landmarks spent over a year driving throughout Carroll County to document historic places. The new *Carroll County Historic Sites and Structures Inventory* records well-known landmarks and less recognized structures such as the Murphy Drinking Fountain in Delphi, the Greenup Brothers Farm in Tippecanoe Township, and the Camden Auto Company in Camden.

The new survey included in the count all buildings within a historic district—not just those considered architecturally outstanding—and considered properties constructed through 1969. The previous survey of Carroll County was completed in 1980.

The current survey and report were funded in part by matching grants from the U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service Historic Preservation Fund, administered by the Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Division of Historic Preservation and Archaeology (DHPA). The Delphi Preservation Society was among the organizations providing funds for the survey. The *Inventory* will be available for purchase in the Opera House Gallery gift shop.

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Recent Goings-on with your



The Marie Litta Commemorative Recital

In April 1882, renowned soprano Marie Litta and her Grand Opera Company christened the Lathrope & Ruffing Opera House in Delphi with a standing-room-only performance hailed by reviewers. Her career was cut short as she fell ill while touring the following year returning to her home in Bloomington, Illinois, where she died at the age of 27.



Morgan Harrington, a graduate of the IU School of Music, received a standing ovation for her portrayal of Marie Litta at the May 15 recital held at Duncan Hall in Lafayette commemorating the Grand Opening of the Lathrope & Ruffing Opera House in Delphi in 1882.

Included in the program were songs known to have been in the repertoire of Marie Litta, including tunes by Steven Foster, arias from operas by Verdi, Handel, Meyerbeer, and Rossini. The final number, "Letze Rose" from *Martha* by Flotow, is known to have been performed at the Grand Opening of the Opera House. Ms. Harrington's performance brought the



audience to its feet demanding an encore!

Morgan Harrington's powerful, crystal clear soprano voice carried beautifully in the hall in a performance made all the better by her dramatic ability and rapport with the audience. Piotr Wisniewski accompanied Ms. Harrington and performed two solo pieces, both by Chopin, which also earned him a standing ovation.

A tea and reception immediately followed the recital in the Victorian Room of Duncan Hall. Sponsored by Shelley Lowenberg-DeBoer the tea, sandwiches, and scones were catered by Beyond My Garden Gate Tea Room in Delphi.

Recognition Awards Given at the DPS Annual Meeting May 18



Carol Wellnitz received the Atkinson, Sanders, Rodriguez Award for Leadership for her dedication and strong fiscal management for the Society. Carol assumed the Office of Treasurer just as DPS was opening the Opera House Gallery of Contemporary Art.



Delphi Preservation Society

Second Annual Delphi Rotary Gala *to benefit the Opera House!*



Brent Laidler's Jazz Quartet provided the musical entertainment for the Rotary Gala on May 6 which featured hors d'oeuvres and a chocolate fountain catered by Shoup's Country Foods & Catering. Wine tasting was provided by Wildcat Creek Winery.

Attendees enjoyed the opportunity to relax in the Opera House Gallery of Contemporary Art. The support of the Delphi Rotary Club illustrates how important the restoration of the Opera House is in the revitalization of Delphi.

Gerry Underhill and Martin Krutak presented a \$1,500 check from the Delphi Rotary Club to the Delphi Preservation society at the DPS Annual Meeting in May. Thanks as well to the many businesses that provided items for the silent auction which benefitted the Opera House restoration.

Thank You, Martin, and Good Luck!

A special thank you to Rotarian Martin Krutak who came up with the concept for the Gala and whose flair, organization, and commitment made the first two years such resounding successes! Martin's recent promotion at ALCO will take him from Delphi to Delphos, Ohio, where he will train store managers for the company. While we wish Martin the best, we will miss him!



Martin Krutak



Mark Smith was presented the Charles Gerard Historic Archival Award for his work with the newly formed DPS Educational Committee and its project with Delphi's historic homes.



Don Harrison received a City Hall print for his work last summer to successfully remove the decorative plaster medallions from the ceiling of the Opera House. Project leader Joe Kitchel was presented a print at an earlier function

From The President's Desk. . .

"Help Us Keep Things Rolling"

DPS has two key projects going at this time. The newly formed Education Committee has designed information plaques that will be placed in the front of historic homes. This project will "tie in" nicely with the Delphi downtown architectural trails. The plaques will contain historic photos, architectural information, the date the home was built, and interesting tidbits on the residents who have lived in the home. If you own one of Delphi's historic homes, please consider placing one of the plaques in front of your home. You can get in touch with Kevin Kologinsky who chairs this committee at lawgarden@aol.com.

Project number two is a big one! This spring, DPS completed the City Hall/Opera House Roof Project. Now is the time to start fundraising for the remainder of the Opera House Renovation Project. How much will this project cost? We estimate \$3 million plus an additional \$500,000 for interior finishes, stage lighting, sound equipment. The project will roll along in phases which may look like this: 1) Structural upgrade to the existing City Hall Building; 2) Tear off the ground level rear of the building behind the Tea Room and Gallery; 3) Construction of three-story addition with elevator, fire stairs, HVAC, restrooms, dressing rooms, banquet and meeting rooms, theater lobby, and 4) Complete the second floor museum space and the third floor Opera House.

We will start these phases as we reach specific fundraising levels, so please keep us in mind for a tax deductible gift or donation.

Greg Norman, President

UPCOMING EVENTS

Volunteer Workdays ...

Fourth Saturdays from 9 am to noon.

Wed., Aug 10, 7 pm, Canal Center

Presentation of the *Carroll County Sites & Structures Survey*—printed volumes available for \$20.

Wed.—Sat., August 10-13, Old Settlers Celebration

Thurs., Fri., Sat., 8 pm; Sat. matinee 3 pm; *Reader's Theater Radio Show*, rear of Opera House Gallery.
Fri. Aug 11, 7 pm, Superior Courtroom, Courthouse 3rd Floor. *"Egyptian Tour in Photos"* Alan & Elaine McConnell.
Saturday, 6 pm Trolley tours of Delphi's historic neighborhoods. From Murphy Fountain, SW corner of the courthouse. *Opera House tours nightly at 6 pm*

Saturday, September 17, Delphi Diamond Dash 5K Run/Walk

Race begins at 8:30 am in front of the Delphi Opera House. Cash prizes for top finishers. Register online at delphidiamonddash.org
All bib numbers eligible for grand prize drawing at 10:30 am of diamond necklace donated by Fielding's Jewelry & Time

Saturday, October 29; begins 6:30 pm.

Halloween in the Opera House with dinner in the Gallery followed by showing of silent film *Hunchback of Notre Dame* in the Opera House, finishing with desserts in the Gallery! Watch for details at www.delhipreservationociety.org.

THE DELPHI COLUMNS...
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Delphi Preservation Society, Inc.
P.O. Box 161
Delphi, IN 46923-0161
www.delhipreservationociety.org



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