

December 1991



THE INDIANA JUNIOR HISTORIAN

PUBLISHED BY THE INDIANA HISTORICAL BUREAU, STATE OF INDIANA

Focus—Celebrate! Celebrate!

The Parke County, Indiana float "Spirit of Progress and Civic Achievement" as it proceeded along the parade route in Indianapolis during the Centennial celebration in October 1916. The young girls represent each of the townships in Parke County.



Focus

We have all had occasion to celebrate birthdays, anniversaries, or graduations. Often, these celebrations involve parties, games, and general festivities. We celebrate these events because we have grown a year older or reached a milestone of some sort. People have been celebrating personal events for a very long time.

Communities, states, and nations have special days to celebrate, too. The 100th anniversary of the Indiana State Fairgrounds, the 175th anniversary of Indiana statehood, the 200th anniversary of the ratification of the Bill of Rights, or the 500th anniversary of Columbus arriving in the New World are all examples of current historical celebrations. These historical birthdays give us a good reason to plan a party or a parade, but they also give us a chance to look at our collective past and interpret (or explain) its meaning.

"History should be more than a glorification of pioneer roots. The primary purpose of history is to help us learn how we have arrived at where we are, and consequently to provide a foundation upon which to plan for the future. Anniversary celebrations provide a unique opportunity to learn from the past while planning for the future, because so many people who normally show little or no interest in an area's history will participate in a celebration."¹

This issue of *The Indiana Junior Historian* looks at historical celebrations of today and long ago. Your community may be approaching a special day in its history. We hope that you can use some of the information in this issue to *celebrate!*

¹ from Petersen, *Historical Celebrations*, p. 6.

Activities, for "When Indiana Was 100," p. 2.

- After reading the broadside and the information on page 2, think about and plan a celebration for the 175th anniversary of Indiana's statehood. How is your celebration different from the one in 1916 in Fayette County?
- Read the brief description of the carnival company in the broadside. Do you agree with the author that the carnival and concessions should not have been part of the Centennial celebration?
- Look in a dictionary to find the meaning of the word "relic." What "relics" do you think would have been exhibited in 1916? What "relics" would you exhibit at your 175th Celebration for the years 1916 through 1991?
- Why is the history club called the Clio Club?

When Indiana Was 100

Indiana Centennial Fayette County Celebration

TO BE HELD AT

Connersville, Ind.
July 3, 4 and 5
1916

Industrial and Historical Parade.

Historical Pageant-500 People

10 Bands, Headed by Indianapolis Newsboys' Band, and Connersville Commercial Club Band.

\$1,500 Fire Works Display on Night of July Fourth

The Mammoth Carnival Company, Composed of a Dozen or More High Class Shows, Among Which Are Aerial Acts, Musical Comedies, Dog and Pony Shows, Merry-Go-Rounds, etc.

Automobile Parade

Base Ball Games each Afternoon between Professional Teams

Balloon Assension Day and Night

Historical Exhibit of Relics Dating From 1816 to 1916.

SPEAKERS

Governor Samuel Ralston, Hon. James E. Watson,
Hon. Marshall T. Williams, of Marion,
Hon. Charles A. Bookwalter, of Indianapolis, And Others.

Well Trained Choruses of School Children

HOME COMING

All Former Residents of Connersville and Fayette County
Are Expected to Return on These Dates.

Excursions on all Railroads and Electric Lines

Stupendous Event in Every Particular, Exceeding Anything
Heretofore Attempted in This Vicinity.

Everyone Welcomed

On the opening night of the Centennial Celebration, the third of July, the Connersville High School Alumni Association will hold their Annual Banquet.
On one of the three days of the Celebration there will be a dedication of a suitable Centennial Memorial, as well as a dedication of a Public Drinking Fountain, given to the City of Connersville by the
The
or Publish-

In 1916, the state of Indiana was one hundred years old. Citizens spent much time and money celebrating Indiana's 100th birthday. In most counties, individuals and organizations worked to provide pageants, bands, and other entertainments for the local residents.

The broadside (printed advertisement) pictured here shows the events scheduled for the Fayette County celebration, July 3-5 in Connersville. Additional activities included the preparation of a written history of the county and the observation of Indiana Products Day, on which a meal was served using only products grown in Indiana.

"Concerts were furnished throughout the celebration by the Indianapolis News Newsboys' Band. On every afternoon and evening the historical moving picture, 'Indiana,' was shown at a local theatre. One of the best features of the whole observance was the splendid display of all kinds of relics in the show windows of the main street."

On the evening of July 5, 1916, a pageant depicting the history of Connersville and Fayette County was presented to a large audience. Scenes included: "John Conner's Post in 1813," "Pioneer Life in 1820—Claypool's Inn," "A School of the Forties," and "Life in the Forties and Fifties. Apple Peelings. Husking Bees." In the closing scene a giant birthday cake with 100 lighted candles was presented.

The only criticism of the celebration in Connersville was that the "management made the mistake of opening up the main streets to carnival attractions and concessions, the noisome [noisy] confusion and tawdriness [cheapness] of which detracted very largely from the Centennial observance."

Residents of Fayette County also erected two permanent memorials to Indiana's Centennial. Forty thousand dollars was raised to build the Fayette County Memorial Hospital which was dedicated in 1916. And the Clio [history] Club presented the city of Connersville with a public drinking fountain which was dedicated in July at the celebration.

From: The Indiana Centennial 1916, pp. 117-120.

Activities on page 2.

The broadside is in Manuscripts, Indiana Division,
Indiana State Library.

Celebrating Indiana's 100th Birthday

The 100th or centennial birthday of Indiana in 1916 certainly called for a celebration. But celebrations of any type take time, energy, and money. Who would plan such an event, and who would pay for it? In 1915, the Indiana General Assembly created the Indiana Historical Commission; it authorized \$20,000 to plan the centennial celebration for the state and \$5,000 to publish historical material relating to Indiana. This volunteer group of commissioners consisted of eight men and one woman.

The Commission developed a statewide campaign of centennial publicity, financially assisted celebrations of statewide significance, and hired a state pageant

master to introduce the pageant movement to the state.¹ The commission hired an artist to design a centennial medal and made it possible for a seven reel motion picture on the history of the state to be produced. The centennial celebration also renewed interest in the study of state history.

Charity Dye, a commission member, edited "The Centennial Story Hour," a column for children, in the Sunday edition of the *Indianapolis Star*. She also organized a State-wide Letter Exchange by which children from different parts of the state wrote about the history of their communities to their pen pals.

The work of the Historical Commission was well received by the citizens of Indiana. Harlow Lindley, another commissioner and director of the Department of History and Archives, Indiana State Library, wrote: "From the bluffs of the Ohio to the sand dunes of lake Michigan there has been a general outburst of patriotic interest in Indiana and its history. The schools, as never before, have turned to a consideration of their

own commonwealth; club programs have been given the same direction; by city, by township, and by county, facts of local history have been unearthed and rehearsed, both in print and in pageantry; pioneer relics and heirlooms have been rescued from the oblivion of hundreds of attics and displayed to an appreciative public; the state has been fairly dotted with memorial markers; centennial committees have

developed into permanent historical societies."²

The work of the Historical Commission did not end after the centennial celebration. One of the most important things that the new Historical Commission did was to begin a project which would



The Indiana Historical Commission in 1916. Lew O'Bannon, grandfather of current Lieutenant Governor Frank O'Bannon is standing at the far left in the back row.³

Courtesy: Indiana Division, Indiana State Library.

result in the creation of permanent state parks for the state. It was also instrumental in the development of an organized state roads network for Indiana. The commission began to publish books on the history of the state. In 1925 the Indiana Historical Commission became the Indiana Historical Bureau, a state agency, which still publishes historical materials including *The Indiana Junior Historian*.

¹Pageants are dramatic plays depicting historical or legendary themes. Pageants were very popular during the early years of the 20th century.

²Mr. Lindley gave a presentation entitled "Possibilities in State Historical Celebrations" in 1918 which was published in Volume IX (1918) of the *Proceedings of the Mississippi Valley Historical Association*. This quotation is from that speech which includes the capitalization error on lake. Notice the formal language that he uses.

³Other members of the Commission, front row, left to right—Samuel M. Foster, Frank B. Wynn, Gov. Samuel M. Ralston, Charles W. Moores, James A. Woodburn; back row, O'Bannon, John Cavanaugh, Harlow Lindley, Charity Dye.

Celebrate Your Community

Will your county, community, church, or school have a special reason to celebrate in the near future? If so, begin to plan a celebration now. Your history club or class could organize an historical celebration. It's true; students could plan and carry out this type of activity. You will probably need some adults to help, but students should get involved with the history of their community.

Historical Celebrations by Keith Petersen is a wonderful book that will help you plan the special day for your community. The most important thing that you will need is time. The advance time needed to research the historical event and plan the celebration is even more

important than the money needed to hold that event. A year, or even two years before the event, is not too soon to begin.

Mr. Petersen includes chapters in his book about project organization, fundraising, sample project activities, and publicity. An historical celebration or commemoration for your community would make a wonderful IJHS club project.

Begin to look around your community. Is there a building or an organization that will be reaching an important anniversary? Talk to other members of your club, your sponsor, and your principal to see if you would have enough support to plan your own *celebration!*

Alphabet Math

Use the alphabet number code to finish the math puzzle. The first math puzzle is done for you. Your answer should be in letters.

The Code

#	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l	m	n	o	p	q	r	s	t	u	v
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
										w	x	y	z									
										23	24	25	26									

$$\begin{array}{r}
 a^{(1)} \quad d \quad a \quad b \quad k \quad a \quad c \quad o \quad a \quad f \quad b \quad q \quad d \quad k \quad p \quad g \quad d \quad m \\
 + \quad c^{(2)} \quad a \quad b \quad c \quad b \quad a \quad b \quad c \quad d \quad f \quad c \quad e \quad a \quad c \quad d \quad a \quad c \quad f
 \end{array}$$

D⁽³⁾ _

j l # j b f g n c b # t
 i h a j c b h a a b a e

Celebration Timeline

1775	1800	1825	1850	1875	1900	1925	1950	1975
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1777 Independence Day first observed. • 1792 Columbus Day first celebrated in New York City. 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1863 President Lincoln made Thanksgiving Day a national holiday although it was first observed in 1863. • 1866 Decoration Day (later Memorial Day) first was observed to honor Civil War dead. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1882 Labor Day first observed in New York City. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1892 Indiana State Fair opened at the 38th Street location in Indianapolis. • 1893 World's Columbian Exposition, held in Chicago to celebrate the 400th anniversary of Christopher Columbus's arrival in the Americas. • 1900 Territorial Centennial—Indiana Territory was created in 1800. • 1904 Hoosier Frank Hering offers the first known public plea for a state. • 1916 Centennial of Indiana's Statehood celebrated statewide. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1925 December 11 declared by state General Assembly as a day of observance. • 1929 The 150th anniversary of George Rogers Clark's victory at the Battle of Vincennes. • 1932 The Bicentennial of George Washington's birth. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1961-1965 Civil War Centennial • 1966 The Sesquicentennial of the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1976 The Bicentennial of the signing of the Declaration of Independence • 1976 The Bicentennial of the signing of the Constitution • 1976 The Bicentennial of the signing of the Bill of Rights • 1976 The Bicentennial of the signing of the Northwest Ordinance • 1976 The Bicentennial of the signing of the Indiana State Constitution • 1976 The Bicentennial of the signing of the Indiana Statehood

Activities

- Add to this timeline any additional anniversary dates found in this issue or any that would pertain to your own community.
- Anniversary planning committees often have a logo (or symbol) designed to represent that celebration. The logo can be used on stationary, newsletters, press releases, and any give away items such as balloons, napkins, coffee mugs, etc. Two logos appear on page 9.

Select one of the anniversary celebrations of the past, or one that you know of that is coming up, and use the space on the next page to design a logo for it.

Remember that the logo will represent the celebration and will be seen by a large audience. What symbols and designs will you include? Write one paragraph describing the symbols in your logo.

Send a copy of your logo and your paragraph to *The Indiana Junior Historian*; we will publish a selection.



Courtesy: Bass Photograph Collection, Negative 5116, William Henry Smith Library, Indiana Historical Society.

Partying with the Animals

The centennial of the Indiana State Fair, to be celebrated in 1992, will mark the Fair's 100th year at the East 38th Street location. This land was formerly the Voss farm which had been purchased by the State Fair Board in March 1892.

Previous locations of the State Fair, since its founding in 1851 by the Indiana State Board of Agriculture, have included: Military Park in downtown Indianapolis, Lafayette, Madison, New Albany, and again at Indianapolis in 1860. After being held in Fort Wayne in 1865, the Fair found a permanent home in Indianapolis on the former grounds of the Civil War era Camp Morton, from 1866 to 1891.

The grandstands left of the main street in the 1905 photograph above were among the first of 72 buildings located at the East 38th Street

site built to the designs of J. F. Alexander and Son, architects of Lafayette, Indiana, and Peoria, Illinois. These grandstands faced a one-mile horse racing track. Currently, the oldest building still standing at the fairgrounds is the Exposition Building (1919).

The 75th anniversary celebration of the State Fair in 1927 marked a major building campaign with the completion of the Administration Building and the Poultry Building, among others. During the war years, 1942-1945, the fairgrounds were turned over to the Army. The facilities were further improved with the construction of the Radio Center (1947), the Conservation Building (1951), the Service Building (1952-1953), and the Farmer's Building (1954).

From: Indiana State Fair Collection, Indiana State Archives.

Two Hundred and Still Going Strong



How do you celebrate your birthday? You probably have cake, ice cream, and presents.

How would you celebrate the 200th birthday of a very special *piece of paper* – the Constitution of our country?

The Constitution is a very important document, and Americans have been celebrating the 200th anniversary for four years. The Constitution was first drafted in 1787, but it was not really complete until the Bill of Rights was approved—or ratified—on December 15, 1791. That means that this December, the Bill of Rights will be 200 years old.

The Constitution is like the set of rules that comes with a new game you might get as a present for your birthday. It tells each player what he or she can do. The Constitution tells the president what he can do, and it tells the Congress and the Supreme Court what they can do. The Constitution contains the rules for our country.

Who made these rules? Two hundred years ago the people who lived in our country arranged for a meeting to make the rules for America. They wrote the Constitution—this very special

piece of paper. The Bill of Rights was added a few years later.

Now, how could we celebrate such an important birthday? We wanted to make everyone think about the meaning of the Constitution and, also, show respect for the Constitution.

One way to honor the Constitution was to print the Constitution on big pieces of material and let people sign their names on it, just like the people did at the meeting 200 years ago. Lots of schools had a special day when they sang songs about our country, put on a play about the writing of the Constitution, and rang bells to mark the actual time the people signed the document so long ago. Some students sent balloons up into the sky to celebrate!

Lots of parades were held and speeches made. Some communities planted trees in honor of this special anniversary. But a good way for *you* to celebrate is to read the Constitution and talk about it with other people. This helps everyone learn more about the Constitution and what it means for each of us in our daily lives.

By Carole Allen, Assistant Director of the Indiana Commission on the Bicentennial of the United States Constitution.

Quincentennial Quandary*



Anniversary dates are not always a cause for great celebration.

On October 12, 1992, we will recognize the 500th (or quincentennial) anniversary of the voyages of Christopher Columbus. At first, the people who plan events and celebrations were excited about celebrating the 500th year of the *discovery* of America.

Native Americans soon reminded us that Columbus did not *discover* America because a native population already lived there. "How could you discover the land when we were already there?" they asked. It was an important point to consider.

Other groups said that Columbus and his men destroyed the native culture and brought disease, war, and slavery to this *new land*.

The men from Europe also brought good things, such as horses, cows, chickens, oranges, and coffee to the Americas. Columbus and the others who were to follow him took such good things as potatoes, corn, tomatoes, green peppers, peanuts, and pineapples back to Europe.

You will be hearing a great deal about Columbus and the 500th anniversary in this next year. Read the stories, watch the television presentations, and decide for yourself how this anniversary should be recognized.

* A quandary is something that is confusing or perplexing.

1816 - A New State Crossword Puzzle

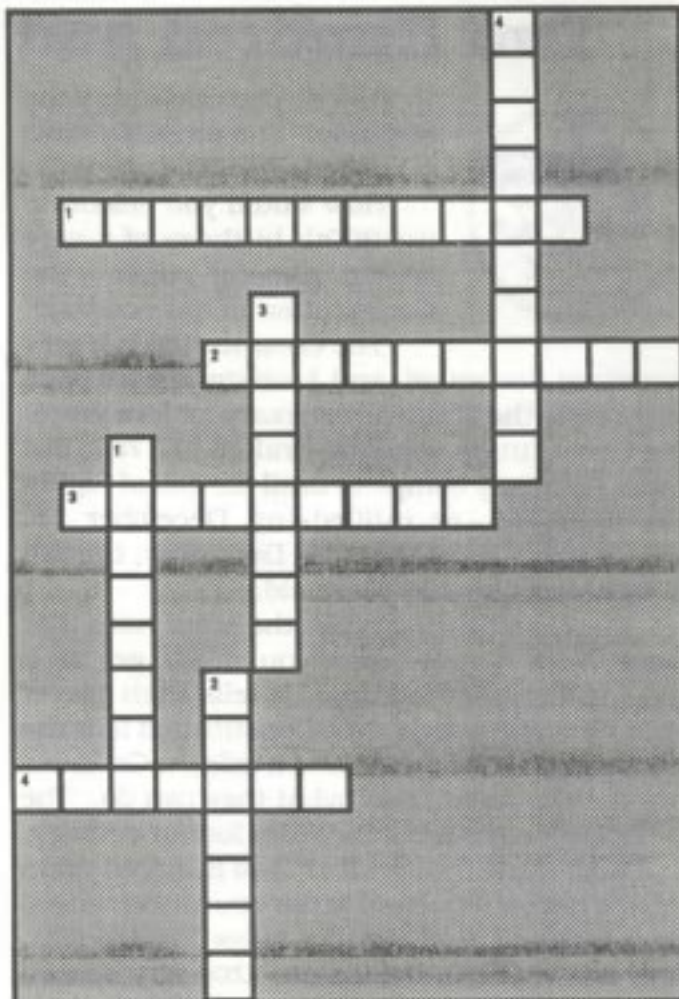
Fill in the crossword puzzle to learn more about the newest state in 1816. You will not find all of the answers in this issue.

Across

- 1 To honor the memory of an occasion with formal ceremonies.
- 2 A 100th anniversary.
- 3 Land before statehood.
- 4 The first state capital of Indiana.

Down

- 1 The month in which Indiana became a state.
- 2 The U.S. President who approved Indiana's statehood.
- 3 The first governor of Indiana.
- 4 In 1816, Indiana became the ___ state (a number).



Time Words

These terms are used to describe periods of time:

- annual, yearly
- bicentennial, relating to a period of 200 years
- centennial, relating to a period of 100 years
- decennial, relating to a period of 10 years
- dodrasquicentennial, relating to a period of 175 years*
- millennial, relating to a period of 1,000 years
- quadricentennial, relating to a period of 400 years
- quincennial, relating to a period of 500 years
- quindennial, relating to a period of 15 years
- quinquennial, relating to a period of 5 years
- semicentennial, relating to a period of 50 years
- sesquicentennial, relating to a period of 150 years
- tricennial, relating to a period of 30 years
- vicennial, relating to a period of 20 years

From: The New York Public Library Desk Reference, New York: Webster's New World, 1989, p. 9 except as indicated.

* Supplied by Random House to the Indiana Division, Indiana State Library.

An Apple for Everyone

Selected sources pertaining to Celebrations!



• Boomhower, Ray. "Celebrating Statehood: Indiana's 1916 Centennial." *Traces of Indiana and Midwestern History*. Summer 1991, Vol. 3, No. 3. pp. 28-39.

This is a good article with excellent photographs.

• Brown, Dee. *The Year of the Century: 1876*. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons. 1966.

This book deals with the centennial celebration of the nation in 1876.

• Cottman, George. *Centennial History and Handbook of Indiana*. Indianapolis: Max R. Hyman. 1915.

This is a very interesting book with wonderful old photographs.

• Dunkling, Leslie. *A Dictionary of Days*. New York: Facts On File. 1988.

This book lists the curious stories behind more than 850 named days. It can be addictive!

• George, Gerald W. "Ten Strange Ways To Celebrate a Centennial." *History News*. September/October 1988, Vol. 43, No. 5. pp. 23-25.

Actually, Gerald George offers good advice rather than strange ways to celebrate a centennial.

• Lindley, Harlow, ed. *The Indiana Centennial 1916*. Indianapolis: The Indiana Historical Commission. 1919.

A record of the celebration of the 100th anniversary of In-

diana's admission to statehood. The author was one of the original commissioners who helped to plan the statehood centennial.

• Myers, Robert J. *Celebrations: The Complete Book of American Holidays*. Garden City: Doubleday & Company, Inc. 1972.

This is a fun and easy book to read.

• Petersen, Keith. *Historical Celebrations*. Boise: Idaho State Historical Society. 1986.

This is a wonderful source for anyone planning an historical celebration. It is full of suggestions and tips.



Young women of Parke County joined in a pageant celebrating the 1916 Centennial. Portraying "Spirits of the Trees," they depicted the richness of Indiana's natural resources.

Courtesy: Indiana Division, Indiana State Library.

Indiana Historical Bureau
140 North Senate Avenue
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

Nonprofit Org.
U. S. Postage
PAID
Indianapolis, IN
Permit No. 4956



The Indiana Historical Bureau was created in 1915 to celebrate the centennial of statehood. It is the duty of the Historical Bureau to edit and publish documentary and other material relating to the history of the state of Indiana, to promote the study of Indiana history, and to work with others engaged in such pursuits. The Historical Bureau provides books, educational resources, and programs for students and teachers. Several are listed below. The Bureau also directs the Historical Marker Program and the care of the Governors' Portraits Collection.

- **BROADSIDES** produces supplemental educational materials based on primary sources for teaching Indiana history. Student packets encourage active participation and skills development with possible integration in various grades and subjects. An extensive teacher guide provides ready information and teaching resources.

- **Indiana Close Up** is a high school local government program affiliated with the national Close Up Foundation. This participatory annual event encourages study and discussion through the Jefferson Meeting on the Indiana Constitution.

- **Indiana History Day** encourages students grades 4 - 12 to research and prepare papers, exhibits, performances and media presentations on an annual historical theme. An emphasis on original research and interpretation allows students to experience the excitement of discovering or developing skills and interests that enrich their education and their lives. It is part of the National History Day network.

- **REACH**— Resources Educating in the Arts, Culture, and History— is a dynamic program that utilizes art and objects to stimulate dialogue and provide hands-on experiences, exploring not only the arts but also the culture and history of Indiana. Its arts-in-education basis encourages on-going planning for involving community resources in the school.

The Indiana Junior Historical Society is a network of history clubs for students in grades 4 - 12. Locally sponsored clubs initiate and participate in activities which encourage the study of Indiana history, often outside the classroom. The Indiana Junior Historical Society program is administered by the Indiana Historical Society, 315 West Ohio Street, Indianapolis, IN 46202; 317-232-1882.

The Indiana Junior Historian is published nine times each school year by the Indiana Historical Bureau, State of Indiana. It is distributed to members and sponsors of the affiliated clubs of the Indiana Junior Historical Society of which the Indiana Historical Bureau is a co-sponsor. The publication is provided free to school media centers and public libraries throughout the state. Subscriptions are available for \$7.50, which includes first class mailing.

Virginia L. Terpening
Newsletter Editor