



Indiana Historical Bureau

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NEWS

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North Manchester will dedicate state historical marker

A public dedication ceremony for an Indiana state historical marker is scheduled for August 11, 2006. The state historical marker honoring Brethren Annual Meeting will be dedicated at 9:30 am EDT, at Harter's Grove in Warvel Park, North Manchester, Indiana.

The text follows for the state marker entitled "Brethren Annual Meetings":

Church of the Brethren founded 1708 in Europe. By 1778, Brethren met annually to determine church policy. First annual meeting in Indiana was in Elkhart County 1852. North Manchester Church of the Brethren hosted annual meetings 1878, 1888, 1900; last two meetings held here in Harter's Grove. Had enormous social and economic impact on area. Business meetings and preaching by prominent Brethren leaders drew thousands from U.S. In a fair-like atmosphere, visitors had access to modern conveniences of the time, including in 1888, electric lamps. Area residents cooperated in providing visitors with housing, transportation, vast quantities of food, goods, and clean, running water.

Everyone is invited to attend this dedication recognizing the historical significance of these national events staged in North Manchester.

Historical markers commemorate significant Indiana individuals, places, and events, and they help communities throughout Indiana promote, preserve, and present their history for the education and enjoyment of residents and tourists of all ages. Via the Internet, that history reaches a worldwide audience.

For more than 80 years the Indiana Historical Bureau, an agency of the State of Indiana, has been marking Indiana history. Since 1947, the marker format has been the large roadside marker, which has the familiar dark blue background with gold lettering and the outline of the state of Indiana at the top. There are more than 470 of these markers across the state.

For a digital version of this release and further information about this marker, the state Historical Marker Program, and other resources about Indiana, visit the Indiana Historical Bureau Web site at www.IN.gov/history or call 317-232-2537.

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