



Indiana Historical Bureau

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NEWS

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“Wanted by the FBI” Indiana State Historical Marker Will Be Dedicated in West College Corner, Indiana

A public dedication ceremony for an Indiana state historical marker honoring FBI Special Agent Nelson B. Klein is scheduled for Wednesday, August 16, 2017. The date marks the 82nd anniversary of Special Agent Klein’s death as a result of adversarial action while in the line of duty. The marker dedication, hosted by the Society of Former Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Cincinnati and Indianapolis offices of the FBI, and the Greater Cincinnati Police Museum, will begin at 11:00 a.m. at Stateline Ball Park / Town Grove, near 305 Church St. in West College Corner, Indiana. Parking for the event will be available along Church St. in front of the park and along the adjacent streets in the neighborhood.

The text follows for the state marker entitled **“Wanted by the FBI”** and **“Captured by G-Men”**:

On August 16, 1935, FBI Special Agents Nelson B. Klein and Donald C. McGovern spotted car thief George W. Barrett here. Barrett, a convicted criminal, ran a scam stealing cars, altering them, then selling them. He transported cars over state lines, violating National Motor Vehicle Theft Act, passed 1919. The federal law helped catch many criminals in 1920s and 1930s. [image of FBI badge] Klein called upon Barrett to surrender. Barrett opened fire near here, killing Klein and getting wounded himself. A 1934 law made killing a government agent a federal offense, punishable by death. Barrett was tried and convicted in Indianapolis and hanged March 24, 1936.

The public is invited to attend the dedication ceremony for this Indiana state historical marker that examines the work of the FBI during the 1930s, specifically with regard to the National Motor Vehicle Theft Act, and honors FBI Special Agent Nelson B. Klein. The marker will be located at the entrance to the park, approximately 100 feet from where Special Agent Klein was killed. This is only the second state historical marker installed in Union County. Special guests at the dedication ceremony will include FBI executives from the Tri-State, members of the Hamilton County (Ohio) Police Association Honor Guard, and Director of the Greater Cincinnati Police Museum. Music will be provided by the 35th Indiana Pipes & Drums and the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick Glee Club of Cincinnati. Light refreshments will be served following the dedication. In case of inclement weather, the ceremony will be held under the park pavilion.

State historical markers commemorate significant individuals, organizations, places, and events in Indiana history. These markers help communities throughout the state promote, preserve, and present their history for the education and enjoyment of residents and tourists of all ages. For over 100 years the Indiana Historical Bureau, an agency of the State of Indiana, has been marking Indiana history. Since 1946, 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. Over 600 of these markers have been installed over the years.

For more information about the Indiana Historical Marker Program and other resources about Indiana, visit the Indiana Historical Bureau’s website at <http://www.IN.gov/history> or call (317) 232-2535. For more information about the marker dedication ceremony, please contact William Plunkett at wplunkett@zoomtown.com.