

Minutes of Grant County Historical Society Meeting

Wednesday, October 16, 2024

Monthly Meeting – Marion Public Library

The October 2024 Historical Society meeting was held at the Mairon Library. President Sarah Evans convened at 6:20 pm. There were 7 members and 2 officers present along with the guest speaker. Pledge of Allegiance was offered. September minutes were approved as amended with the date of the October meeting changed to the 16th. The financial report was distributed and accepted.

Speaker: Deb Geyer spoke on “The Quilters Hall of Fame: Marie Webster.” At the dawn of the 20th century, quilts were transferring from simply utilitarian to works of art. Marie Webster, aware of this trend, studied a rose in her garden, and created a quilt using that pattern. Friends encouraged her to mail a picture of this to Ladies Home Journal (LHJ), whose readership was 1.5 million women. LHJ requested drawings which they published in 1911. This led to Marie’s creating pattern packets and quilt boxes to be shipped to buyers.

Marie’s granddaughter gave Marie’s home to The Quilters Hall of Fame (TQHF). This year TQHF Museum celebrates 20 years and has approximately 1500 visitors a year. Deb displayed Marie’s Windblown Tulips quilt at the meeting. TQHF is restoring the old depot as a research library, storage for archives, and meeting room.

Opportunities to view quilts:

Quilters Hall of Fame – ongoing displays and yearly celebration

Bed Turning at Jay House – Nov. 20, 6 pm – learn more about Webster’s quilt designs

TQHF Open House and Holiday Craft Boutique – Nov. 23

Art Museum Indianapolis – ongoing

Old Business:

Marker placement and fundraising – tabled until November

County flag – tabled until November

Fall fest – October 26 from 2-5 pm at Matter Park. Tina would like 1-2 people to work with her.

GCHS file cabinet organization – Oct. 21 from 10am-1pm, MPL Conference Room

Committee planning workshop – Nov. 6 at 6:15 pm in Jay House

Sarah closed the meeting at 7:05 pm. The next meeting will be November 20, 2024, at Marion Public Library.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice Miller

Janice Miller, Acting Secretary