

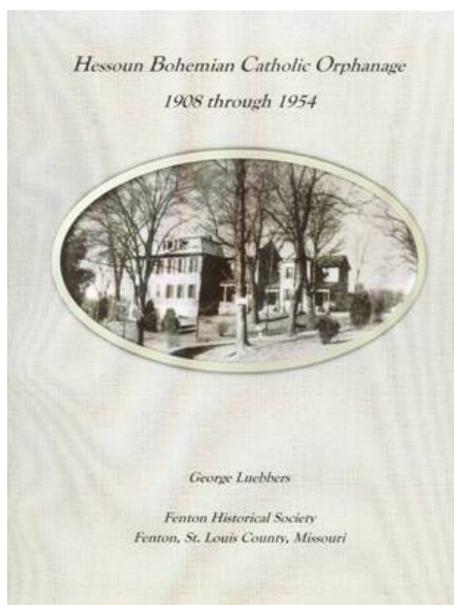
October - December 2011

~ Historical Times ~

A publication of the Fenton Historical Society

WHERE THE PAST AND THE PRESENT MEET

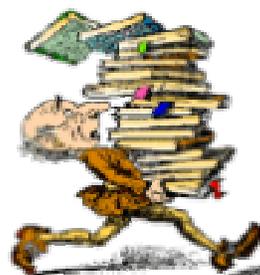
The Hessoun Bohemian Catholic Orphanage books have arrived!



A historical look at the Hessoun Bohemian Orphanage that once stood in Fenton Missouri, from 1908 until the time of their closure in 1954; including the 1970 fire.

The Fenton Historical Society took the better part of a year to research and gather the history.

The museum has the books for sale for \$25.00 and can be shipped to you for an extra \$10.00. Either call the museum or email the organization for more info.



THIRD ANNUAL BOOK FAIR

Saturday, October 1, 2011

Swantner House

10:00 am to 3:00 pm

WE HAVE LOST A VALUED MEMBER

It is with sadness that we report the recent passing (June 2011) of a Charter member, Gene Halbman.

Gene joined the Fenton Historical Society in 1993 and was a very active member.

The Society sends its heartfelt condolences to Gene's family.

FHS Officers

President
Marlin Mackley

Vice President
Nancy Confer

Secretary
Mary Mick

Treasurer
George Luebbers

Directors
Margaret Chott (12)
Patty Hunt (13)
Marlin Mackley (14)

WHO can volunteer?



Genealogical/Cultural Conference

Sheraton Westport Chalet Hotel

Matterhorn Room

Oct 27th thru Oct 29th

Fenton Historical Society will have a booth, presenting their newly released publication - Hessoun Bohemian Catholic Orphanage.

In addition, we will be selling FHS postcards, note cards and the book on Fenton Missouri.

We will also have a small historical display for visitors to view.

Setup - Wed, Oct 26th start-7pm
Thurs, Oct 27th -9am-5pm
Fri, Oct 28th -7:15am-12:15pm
and then again from 1pm- 5pm
Sat, Oct 29th -7:15am- 12:15pm
and then again from 1pm-3pm
Close up and out by 4pm

**Please let George Luebbers know
if you can volunteer
636-343-1699**

Fenton Historical Society SEPTEMBER PROGRAM

Fenton Historical Society held a program on the **1849 St. Louis Epidemic and the fire that occurred during the epidemic.**

The program was presented by Dr. Robert Wilson, Professor of History at UMSL.

The program was free and open to the public.

It was held on Saturday, September 17th at the Fenton Rockwood Bank.

The Great Fire of 1849 consumed 23 steamboats and the riverside commercial district.

As the fire raged, a far deadlier event was ravaging St. Louis — a cholera epidemic that killed at least 10% of the city's population, possibly more but due to the lack of accurate record keeping, the exact number is unknown.

At the time, some people thought Cholera was caused by the night air so everyone made sure their windows were closed. Some people thought fruits and vegetables caused it.

Steamboats approaching St. Louis were made to stop at an island near the foot of Arsenal Street where passengers were examined. All those who appeared sick had to leave the boat they were on and stay in a rather dilapidated passenger boat until they recovered.

THANKS to Mary Mick, George and Judy Luebbers, Allen Casey and Vera Glick for providing the refreshments.



**Fenton Historical Society
Annual Christmas Open House**

Saturday, December 3rd

1PM to 4PM - Swantner House

**Learn about the Society and Museum
Enjoy Delicious Refreshments**

**Invite your family and friends
Free and Open to the Public**

MUSEUM HAPPENINGS

- ➔ **LOOKING FOR** - Volunteers to hold the museum open for approximately three hours each on two Saturdays and two weekdays each month. For more information, call 636-326-0808 or 636-343-4186.
- ➔ Our **2012 ANNUAL SPRING LUNCHEON** will be held on Saturday, April 28 next year at Sunset Lakes Banquet Center.

The Jefferson County Library with the Jefferson County Genealogical Society will not be hosting their annual Family History Fair this year.

However, they are making plans to host it in 2012.