



A. E. Swope

# SWOPE NEWS

## 2003 REUNION 6 JULY



Kate Swope



Mayme  
Year 2002



Ralph  
No 3 December



Elnora



Laura



Kathryn



Alice



Isabel

Editor Paul Swope

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### EXHIBIT TO OPEN AS MEMORIAL TO KEN McCUTCHAN

An exhibit of paintings from the collection of Ken McCutchan will hang in the McCutchan Gallery in the Forum Hall of the Wright Administration Building at the University of Southern Indiana.

An opening reception will be held at 2 p.m. on Sunday, October 27, hosted by USI President H. Ray Hoops. The exhibit is a tribute to Ken McCutchan's life of service to the community and to the University. The University community is invited to attend the reception.

Mr. McCutchan, one of the area's leading historians who wrote more than a half-dozen local history books, died in August. He painted for pleasure and collected the works of Indiana artists. His collection was one of the largest private collections of Hoosier art in Southern Indiana. During his lifetime he gave a large portion of his collection to the University of Southern Indiana for display and use as a teaching collection. The exhibit features paintings, prints, and ceramic works by various Hoosier artists, including William Merritt Chase, William Alden Mote, Michael Helton, Florita Eichel, Ron Riordan, Stephanie Sowards, Michael Evistrom, and George Smith.

At his death his collection of Indiana authors went to Historic New Harmony and his papers to the University Archives. He also left a major gift to

construct a teaching gallery for the art program at USI.

During the reception Bettie Engelbrecht of WIKY will reminisce about McCutchan's contributions to the early years of radio. Katie Waters, chair of the USI Department of Art, Music, and Theater, will talk about the value of the McCutchan collection for USI and the students. James Peva of Indianapolis will represent the family. Jim Sanders, USI director emeritus for corporate and foundation relations, will recall McCutchan's lifetime penchant for travel and history.

The reception is open to the public.

News release from U.S.I.

### MEMORIES

At Christmas time, I remember my sister Alice (Swope Cooksey) as she was born unfortunately on December 25. I say "unfortunately" because my brother Ralph for whatever strange superstition or tradition prompted him, would seize Alice on her day and unceremoniously put her under mom's bed. She would emerge a good sport, laughing as we all did, but I wonder if she really found it so funny?

Since no one had much money in those days, she'd get either a birthday present or a Christmas present, not both. Or maybe she'd get something like the tops of P.J's for a happy birthday present and the bottoms for a Merry Christmas!

As a teacher, she loved taking interesting items from the country to show her city students. Maybe a birds nest, some colored leaves, and even a banty hen! In the summer, as a playground director, she often brought home with her some of the poorer city kids to enjoy a few hours in the country, a real treat for them. They'd play games, wander down through the woods, and some times take turns riding the one horse she called her own.

Alice was always adventurous. One time she urged Kathryn and me down into a Kentucky coal mine, another time into a tobacco barn, and a roller coaster ride for a honeymoon!

But let me tell you about that. Her best friend called one morning and asks her to be a witness for her marriage that day. Alice excitedly said, "let's make it a double!" She knew her patient fiancé was working somewhere on the county roads, so they rode around until they found him, dusty, covered with road grime and driving some huge contraption. They gave the surprised but elated Cooksey time to tell his boss, go home to clean up and join us. Guy and I were already married. We all piled in one car, crossed the river into Kentucky, somehow found a preacher and a church and the two couples were married. Then we crossed back and went to the then Cook's Park. What could be better for a honeymoon than a ride on the roller coaster?!

For some reason, Alice wanted to keep her Marriage a secret, so her new husband, to be with her, managed to climb the vine covered trellis to the upstairs porch as access to her room. I don't know how long this arrangement lasted!

Alice was always outgoing, fun loving, and thoughtful of others. She was my best friend!

Anne (Isabel) McKeeby

### FRANCE FAMILY

Over the summer Raymond and Audrey visited their daughter, Tammy White and family twice. Their granddaughter, Amy, graduated from high school and will go on a Junior College this fall. The second trip was for granddaughter Rachel's wedding, August 17.

Kevin, Lisa, Tom and Kenny spent several days home in July. The boys stayed longer and Raymond and Audrey took them home. They live in Republic MO.

Kerry spent 2 weeks this summer at Camp Atterbery for the Army Reserves summer drill.

Janice Evans

### FROM ISABEL

Dear Paul,

Thanks so very much for the slide show shown at the Swope reunion. I know we (Don & I) will enjoy it. I'll have no way of showing it. Amy though will probably like to see it (granddaughter) as she seems interested in family & its history.

Right now Don is recuperating from a hernia operation two days ago. He's still rather sore. Sara Mac stays home from school to be with him. She's gone back to teaching a Special Ed class even though she had retired. Her school started last week.

FtLauderdale School doesn't start until later as Gyanne said she'd go down to be with her grandson Ben a week before he goes back to school.

I see that you have moved. I hope you are enjoying your new home. Is it to be home for a new wife? Don't blush! Anyway, best wishes!

Love, Isabel

### JUDY & NEIL McCUTCHAN'S ADVENTURE IN YELLOWSTONE

We had visited Yellowstone NP several times across the years. In 1998 we went on a trip to the NW of the USA. On our way back we went through Yellowstone. As all tourist do we bought a few souvenirs. The clerk seemed to be having a good time and we struck up a conversation. She said that she was retired and had gotten a job for Hamilton Stores in the park and it was fun. We thought about it and then in the winter of 2002 I searched the internet for the companys website.

After finding it Judy & I completed an application and mailed it off the middle of March. A week and a half later we had a telephone interview and were assigned to work at the Tower Store in the NE of the park.

We were advised that wed be living in the dormitory and eating in the employee dining room. Judy was to be cashier and I would work in the fountain. This is the dorm.



There were about 50 workers living two to a room. The van was used to shuttle workers to and from the store. The store was at the bottom of a hill (a walk of about 1/2 mile downhillseemed like 2

miles returning back up hill).

After about a week at the store I was asked if I would be Dorm Supervisor (janitor). It meant that Judy & I could stay on the same eating schedule,



so I ended up at the dorm and Judy at the store. Workers did a split shift with an early shift (8-12

and 3-6) and a late shift (12-4 and 6-9). I worked a straight 8 hour day. All of us had two consecutive days off, ours was Wed. & Thurs.

We had a bear family (female and two cubs) that lived around the store and dorm. And there was a deer family (female and male and female yearlings).



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There was a family of mountain sheep that could be seen once in a while also. Of course wed see a multitude of small animals in the area. As we traveled the park on our days off wed see elk, prong horns, moose



and bison (we didnt brake for bison as they were common). The moose were rather uncommon to see. Judy & I saw five bull moose in early September near an area called Petrified Tree.



Although there were wolf in the park they were rather allusive.

On our weekends we visited various sites in

the park, West Yellowstone, MT, Cody, WY, Bozeman, MT, Billings, MT, Idaho Falls, ID, Jackson, WY, Cooke City, MT, Gardiner, MT, Red Lodge, MT. We traveled and saw the Tetons, Craters of the Moon (in Idaho), the Chief Joseph Scenic Highway and went over the Beartooth mountains through the pass (10,200). We were also able to visit my niece Mary Helen and her husband Jack in Missoula, MT. And were able to visit my sister Marg in a nursing home there. We have over 150 pictures of our travels and have placed them on AOL picture site and another photo site called, dotPhoto. If you would like to see them send me an e-mail & Ill send you the key to get in just (NeilJMc@aol.com).

Our trip was fun and yes wed do it again. It was our paid vacation. We were there from 6 Jun through 9 Sep. and we dont think we could manage the 90 days. After over 80 years Hamilton Stores, Inc. lost the franchise for stores in the park. So there may be a number of changes that we arent aware of that could affect an individuals application. If we return to the park next year we wont be at the reunion.

Wishing everyone the best.

Neil & Judy McCutchan

### MORE FRANCE FAMILY

I'd like to thank everyone who helped celebrate my birthday April 20. I received so many cards and gifts. The girls really went all out with the food they fixed. I even got some extra cleaning done, Thanks! Jim and the boys got jobs done, painting and fixing. That was the week the boys had Spring break and they flew in. Janice and I are going to see them over Labor Day (just a long weekend). I know the girls plan to shop!

Janice enjoyed her trip to Italy with the Evansville Philharmonic Chorus with an extra week for sightseeing and a two day layover in London. Then July 10 she had an appraiser meeting in Honolulu. Again she took several sightseeing trips.

Jean is starting a new job with the city of Enfield, CT in Youth Services.

Jim took Michael and Andrew and met his brother and his two boys from Florida in Salt Lake City August 2 to tour about nine days.

Evelyn Evans

### HENRYS 8/18/2002

Paul - Thanks for the info on Ken McCutcheon. It's the passing of an era and icon. Just to give you updates.

Mother (Mary Lou Henry) fell and broke her hip last Tuesday. She was released from the hospital today to a Skilled Nursing Facility.

To save money on mailings just take her name off but leave mine on. I would also recommend you take Cornelia Henry off as she also has dementia but you might add her son who lives in Olympia where Cornelia does and would keep her updated. It's Hank & Helen Henry 7610 Shore Acres Dr. Olympia, WA. 98506. Hank is the only one of Cornelia's 3 sons who would be interested in the family info. In fact I think he made it back to a few of the reunions.

Please educate the uneducated. What is Oakhill Cemetery? I only know the cemetery at the McCutchanville United Methodist Church. (I sent Judy information on Oakhill. For others that may not know, Oakhill Cemetery is the large city owned cemetery on the north side of Evansville. The main entrance is off of Virginia Street, near the end of Oakhill Road. Editor)

Was great to read the newsletter as one tends to lose track of people but still have memories. Saw the note from Kenny Cooksey and remember a reunion at the Cookseys (house by the old airport) where the big thrill was to pick the June bugs off the screen door (the older folks were inside playing cards) and throw them at each other.

Well, enough of this chatter. Will keep you posted of the far flung Henry side of things as I hear the news.

Judy Rezendes

#### **FROM MARY KRAMER**

Jack and Mary Kramer are pleased to announce that their daughter Audrey Kramer married David Jorgenson on August 24<sup>th</sup> in an outdoor cowboy wedding. All went very well and the weather cooperated the whole day. Lots of family and friends came and carriage rides and horseshoe games were the two favorites of the day.

While the fishing season has ended and we find ourselves staying at home more, seems like we are busier than ever. Our craft shop is now open two evenings and Sunday every week. We are getting ready for the big craft sales after Thanksgiving and that has had us very busy to say the least. All the children and grandchildren are doing very well. We are very thankful that our Grandson, Justin is home and safe from overseas. We have another Grandson, Brian that will be entering the Marines very soon. We have another Granddaughter Jackie, in college going for her Masters. Yet two other granddaughters in Maine (Amy and

Michelle) are both going to college for business and teaching careers. We have one granddaughter Erin attending the University of Montana for her first year. Our granddaughters Dorie and Tiffany will be graduating from High School this year. They do grow up fast! Our youngest Tanner, has cut his first teeth. I don't know who is prouder, Tanner or his parents!

Marjorie Hart continues to do very well. The move to the new Nursing Home, Hillside, has proven to be a very good move for her. She enjoys it much more and the atmosphere is much brighter and more appropriate for her type of care. She continues to play the piano at times, most songs from memory, which continues to surprise all of us. While she has forgotten most names, when given a steno pad will write everyones name down and almost every word that she is given. She still enjoys magazines and cards and reads words from these. Her birthday party she enjoyed, especially the cake and icecream!

The weather has been mild this year so far, hardly any snow at all, which in this country is not good. Our ski resorts need the snow for their business in the winter months and the snow is so important to help prevent fires in the spring and summer months. Without the snow pack, the mountains are very dry and the slightest thing can start a fire. My job is going very well and I do enjoy it. I have also been taking some classes in computers, updating my skills. Our office has "adopted" the nursing home where mother is at (Hillside) and has about 20 patients who have no family that we will be providing Christmas for. We also have provided a source and collect magazines, games, clothing, slippers, and other needs of the residents as we find out about them. We have also "adopted" two other families with children that we found out about and will be providing their holiday meals and helping with Christmas for the children. I am very fortunate to work with such loving and giving people...

Jack turned 70 this year and we had a small dinner party with our children and grandchildren. (Well as small as it can be with as many children and grandchildren as we have!) One of his birthday surprises was a trip to the National Rodeo Finals in Las Vegas in December from Shannone and K.C. Shannone's work found out about her plans to take her Dad to Las Vegas and also gave them 4 days at the Pendleton Rodeo in Oregon in September. They are really getting to be gadabouts! They do enjoy it though. In March there is a trip planned to Anaheim California to visit