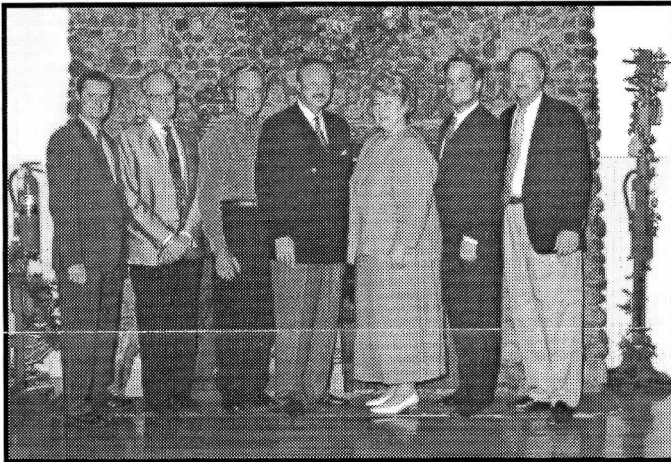




THE MUELLER RECORD

Spring 2001

Museum observes 5th anniversary



Family members attending the 5th anniversary celebration (from left): Mark Staley, Henry Staley, William E. Mueller, John Scot Mueller, Jane Mueller, Peter Mueller and Michael Mueller.

Mueller family members gathered at the Mueller Lodge Saturday, May 5, for the 5th anniversary celebration of the museum. Family members toured the museum, viewed the new car exhibit, the Mueller Family Patents Exhibit as well as the new electronic diarama given to the museum by the Mueller Co., created by Bob Abbott. Over 100 persons visited the museum during its first weekend anniversary celebration, including a group of local 3rd graders. During the month of May, the museum had 186 visitors, twice as many as May of 2000. "The car seems to be the magnet bringing more visitors," says Nancy Jo Batman, manager.



Vi Staley chats with Peter Mueller. Her son, Mark, is in background.



Those attending the dinner at the Mueller Lodge on May 5 included (front row from left): Julie Heil (friend of Mark Staley), Mrs. Henry (Vi) Staley, Mrs. William E. (Donna) Mueller, Tom Wheatley, Betty Wheatley, Beverly Shindler, Jane Mueller and Nancy Jo Batman, manager; back row: Mark Staley, Henry Staley, William E. Mueller, John Scot Mueller, Peter Mueller, George Shindler (Decatur plant manager, Mueller Co.), and Michael Mueller.

For the Record . . .

by Nancy Jo Batman, Manager

On Tuesday, May 5, the biggest green and yellow truck I've ever seen pulled into the parking lot in front of the Hieronymus Mueller Museum.

Ten minutes later, the oldest car I've ever seen was lowered from the ramp and pushed in through the new doors of the museum to its brick road in front of Hieronymus' enlarged photograph.

It looked like it belonged.

The car, which may or may not be a Mueller Motor Carriage, is being loaned to the museum for three years by its owner, Mr. James Renzulli, an antique car collector from San Diego.

Mr. Renzulli found the car almost 30 years ago leaning against an old shed in Independence, CA. He asked the owner, Mr. Joseph Troglin, if he could buy the car. The owner told him to get off his property. Mr. Renzulli visited the old car several times over the past 30 years, always being told the car was not for sale.

In 1996, Mr. Troglin's daughter called Mr. Renzulli and asked him if he still wanted to buy the car. Mr. Renzulli said yes.

The wheels and hubs were gone, but a leather #7 remained with the motor carriage.

Mr. Renzulli did not know what the car was, but started renovating it and added a one-cylinder engine so he could show it in one-cylinder car shows.

When he entered the show at Torrey Pines, "someone" said it looked like a Mueller car. He entered it as a Mueller car and had won several awards with this beautiful blue car which is dated from 1896 to 1900.

We have worked the last three years on trying to authenticate the carriage. We have not been able to. But we did get Mr. Renzulli to loan it to the museum.

It is now surrounded by old photographs, old blueprints, drawings and items from old magazines. We cannot say for sure this is a Mueller-made motor carriage, although the blueprints we have in storage indicate Hieronymus and his sons made at least eight. We hope this is the 7th.

It has drawn quite a bit of attention and is a unique addition to the museum. Come see it!

New members since last newsletter

Benefactor - \$1,0000

Mr. and Mrs. William Staley

Sponsor - \$100

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Archer

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence G. Glenn

Support - \$50

Mr. and Mrs. Henry B. Curry

Mr. and Mrs. Randy McEldowney

Mrs. Joan A. Mueller

Mr. Peter A. Mueller

Mr. William A. Mueller

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Tyrolt

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Wheatley

Family - \$25

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Batman

Mr. and Mrs. William J. Braun

Ms. Deirdre Ford

Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Whittington

Regular - \$20

Mr. Paul L. Best

Mr. and Mrs. Eugene "Skeet" White

Student/Senior - \$15

Mr. and Mrs. Tom Little

"Cute & Comfortable"



The cutline under this photo published in the April 1929 Mueller Record read as follows:

"A majority of the girls in the core room wear overalls during working hours. This apparel is both cute and comfortable. It gives freer action of the body, saves the pretty clothes, and it teaches them in advance of marriage to wear 'the pants.' If you marry a core room girl, you know what to expect." Wouldn't it be great if they had been identified? If you can identify any of these lasses in their "cute and comfortable" overalls, please drop us a line.

Museum Donors:

Jan. 1, 2000-Dec. 31, 2000

Mrs. Nancy Jo Batman
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Durant
Ms. Jane Mueller
Mrs. Joan Mueller
Mr. John Scot Mueller
Mr. Philip Mueller
Mr. Richard L. Mueller
Mr. Fredric E. Schluter
Mr. John A. Schluter
Mr. Peter Schluter
A.E. Staley, Jr. Foundation
Bill and Orli Staley Foundation
Henry M. Staley Charitable Trust

Persons donating items in past year

Mr. Bob Abbott--Electronic Diorama
Mr. Don Asay--scooter from Mueller Co.

Mrs. Marilyn Black--tool case, rocking chair, three photos, letter from Adolph Mueller, pencil, keychain

Mr. William Brooks--Mueller decanter

Mr. Charles Brown--125th anniversary mug, keyring

Mr. and Mrs. Ron Brunner--leather grocery bag, Mueller Co. jacket, 1926 ads for Mueller faucets, 1983 scraper, wrench

Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Brunner--2 tool kits from Sarnia plant

Ms. Evelyn Cox--ceramic mug

Ms. Judith Kaiser--photos of Mueller fire hydrants

Mr. William Knorr--photo of groundkey curb stop from Germany

Mr. and Mrs. Don McQuality--vitreous ware sink/pedestal

Mr. John Moma--wooden tamper, original air-brushed paintings of fire hydrants by Herman Jackson; drawings/blueprints of Mueller motor carriages

Mr. Michael Mueller--photos of Frank H. Mueller

Ms. Jane Mueller--outdoor faucet

Mr. and Mrs. Ron Riley--chrome-plated valve

Mr. and Mrs. W.C. Rohman--watchfob

Mr. Marvin Spitzer--table service, metal hose connection, stoneware from Mueller cafeteria

Mr. Claude Stacey--vintage framed photo of himself as a Boy Scout in Adolph Mueller's Scout Troop

Current Members of the Hieronymus Mueller Museum

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Archer
Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Baker
Mr. and Mrs. Ray Batman
Mr. and Mrs. Paul L. Best
Mr. and Mrs. Marion Bradford
Mr. and Mrs. Mike Boliek
Mr. and Mrs. Edward Booth
Mr. and Mrs. William J. Braun
Mr. Charles L. Brown
Mr. and Mrs. Ron Brunner
Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Brunner
Mr. and Mrs. Dale Capshaw
Mrs. Margaret Chainski
Mr. and Mrs. William Coffey
Mr. Robert P. Cozad
Mr. and Mrs. Henry B. Curry
Decatur Area Convention & Visitors Bureau
Mr. and Mrs. John C. Dennis
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Durant
Mr. and Mrs. Jim Fleckenstein
Ms. Deirdre Ford
Mrs. Janet C. Gates
Ms. Wylene Griffy
Mr. and Mrs. Levi Green
Mr. Dwight Hodson
Mr. and Mrs. Robert K. Howie Sr.
Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Hutton

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Glenn
Mr. Stephen Graliker
Mr. and Mrs. Pershing Griffith
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas K. Hostetler
Mr. and Mrs. Claude Inman
Mr. and Mrs. Bernard B. Jones
Mrs. Pauline E. Jurgens
Mr. and Mrs. Tom Little
Mr. and Mrs. Dean Madden
Mr. and Mrs. William Madden
Mr. Robert W. Mallow
Mr. and Mrs. Donald Matthews
Mr. Leonhard G. Mau
Mr. and Mrs. Randolph McEldowney
Ms. Sandra McReynolds
Mr. and Mrs. David F. Meek
Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Mounts
Ms. Jane Mueller
Mrs. Joan Mueller
Mr. John Scot Mueller
Mr. Peter Mueller
Mr. William A. Mueller
Mrs. Doris V. Neece
Mr. and Mrs. Aaron Norrie
Mr. Robert J. Ott
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph C. Penne
Mrs. Phyllis Gates Pinterich
Mr. and Mrs. George Prust

Mr. and Mrs. James Renzulli
Mrs. Clarence Rhea
Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Riley
Mr. and Mrs. Robert L. Rhodes
Mrs. Mary E. Robison
Mr. and Mrs. W.C. Rohman
Mrs. Barbara Rowe
Mr. Jack C. Rubicam
Mr. Preston Ruthrauff
Mr. and Mrs. Larry Schultz
Mrs. Ruth Seggerman
Mr. and Mrs. Dale R. Smith
Mrs. Frank B. Snell
Mr. and Mrs. Lee Snoke
Mr. and Mrs. Orville Spencer
Mr. and Mrs. Bill Staley
Mr. and Mrs. David Turner
Mr. and Mrs. Frank Tyrolt
Mr. Edward J. Vogel
Mrs. Ruth Wampler
Mr. and Mrs. Tom Wheatley
Mr. and Mrs. Eugene "Skeet" White
Ms. Gillian L. White
Mrs. Lulu F. White
Mr. and Mrs. Genevieve H. Whitney
Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Whittington

Current Museum Volunteers

Mr. and Mrs. Herb Ashmore
Mr. and Mrs. Henry Austin
Ms. Wilma Badorek
Mr. Del Bagenski
Mr. and Mrs. Joe Baughman
Ms. Lavonne Bethard
Mr. Charles Brown
Mr. and Mrs. Ron Brunner
Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Brunner
Mr. and Mrs. Jack Calfee
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Canady
Mr. and Mrs. Dale Capshaw
Mrs. Dorothy Cooper
Ms. Evelyn Cox
Mr. and Mrs. Joe Crane
Mr. and Mrs. John Dennis
Mr. and Mrs. Dean Eaton
Mr. and Mrs. Zodiuss Embry
Mr. Carl Floren
Mr. and Mrs. Donald Frahlman
Mr. and Mrs. Levi Green
Mr. and Mrs. Pershing Griffith

Mr. Claude Inman
Mr. and Mrs. Ben Jones
Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Jones
Mr. and Mrs. Harold Kircher
Mr. and Mrs. Bill Lawyer
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Leake
Mr. and Mrs. George Lebo
Mr. and Mrs. James Leinard
Mr. and Mrs. Bob McCoy
Mr. and Mrs. Richard McKinley
Mr. and Mrs. Don McQuality
Mr. and Mrs. Stan Metz
Mr. and Mrs. Bob Minks
Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Moeller
Mr. John Moma
Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Mounts
Mr. William A. Mueller
Mr. and Mrs. Bob Nelson
Mr. Wilbur Reed
Mr. and Mrs. Dale Reidelberger
Mr. and Mrs. Ron Riley

Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Schumacher
Mr. Morey Sefton
Mrs. Ruth Seggerman
Mr. and Mrs. Lee Snoke
Mr. Marvin Spitzer
Mr. and Mrs. Dale Stanley
Mr. and Mrs. Ray Storck
Mr. Dale Streight
Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Sweazy
Mrs. Louis Tolladay
Mr. and Mrs. Carrol Virt
Mrs. Ruth Wampler
Mrs. Betty Wheatley
Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Whittington

**Our special thanks to Nancy Kircher and Betty Wheatley who fill in as Volunteer Manager when Nancy Jo Batman is away.*

Board of Directors

Ms. Jane Mueller ----- daughter of William E. Mueller; granddaughter of Adolph Mueller; great granddaughter of Hieronymus Mueller
Mr. John Scot Mueller -- son of Ebert Mueller; grandson of Robert Mueller; great grandson of Hieronymus Mueller
Mr. Michael Mueller --- son of Frank H. Mueller; grandson of Philip Mueller; great grandson of Hieronymus Mueller
Mr. Mark Staley ----- son of Henry and Vi Staley; grandson of Mrs. Lenore Mueller Staley Schmick; great grandson of Henry Mueller; great-great grandson of Hieronymus Mueller
Mrs. Betty Wheatley ---- Former employee of Mueller Co. and Volunteer Coordinator for Museum

Recent and Current Exhibits . . .

Mueller Picnics

Photos and artifacts from the Mueller Co. picnics

Ham & Bacon & Sometimes a Goose

Christmas memories of the gifts from the Mueller Co.

All Work and No Play

Photos and artifacts from the more than 50

recreational activities sponsored by the Mueller Co. throughout its history

SNAP!

Photos of the Christmas parties from the 1950s

Mueller Family Patents

A look at some of the 380+ patents obtained by the Mueller Family (runs through end of August)

Hieronymus Hated Horses

The three-year display of a motor carriage c. 1896-1900 on loan from Mr. James Renzulli of San Diego; may be a Mueller made vehicle

Electronic Diorama

A permanent exhibit of the current Mueller products created by Bob Abbott of the Mueller Co.

"Leap Year" Suggestions

In the January 1937 Mueller Record, we found this cutline:

"Being Leap Year, the girls were extremely active from a contest to a conquest. A good many of them got their man, in accordance with our Leap Year slogan, and five of them were lined up for suggestions prizes. One of them, Dorothea Hill, ranked with the second highest group of men, having made four accepted suggestions, and thereby winning \$10. Another, Opal Jackson, in the special suggestion contest for a 1937 slogan got first place. Her slogan is: 'TO GET AHEAD--USE YOUR HEAD.'"



Pictured from left are: Dorothea Hill, Ethel McKee, and Opal Jackson.



Pictured from left are: Ethel Turley, Marian Richards and Helen Pope.

Negatives

We just *know* there is someone out there with a darkroom who would love to develop our box of old negatives from the Mueller Co. either free or for a minimal charge. Are we right? Give Nancy Jo Batman a call at 217/423-6161.

There is only one *Mueller Record* today and this is it! If you know of someone who would be interested in receiving this quarterly newsletter, why not give that person a membership?

Annual Membership Information

Student/Senior Citizen: \$15

Free admission for member and one guest, museum newsletter subscription, 10% discount on gift items.

Regular Membership: \$20

Free admission for member and one guest, museum newsletter subscription, 10% discount on gift items.

Family Membership: \$25

Free admission for member and up to four guests, museum newsletter subscription, 10% discount on gift items.

***Support Membership:** \$50

Free admission for member and up to four guests, museum newsletter subscription, 10% discount on gift items.

***Sponsor Membership:** \$100

Free admission for member and up to four guests, museum newsletter subscription, 10% discount on gift items.

***Patron Membership:** \$500

Free admission for member and guests, museum newsletter subscription, 10% discount on gift items, recognition on museum donor board.

***Benefactor Membership:** \$1000

Free admission for member and guests, museum newsletter subscription, 10% discount on gift items, recognition on museum donor board.

Please circle the type of membership preferred.

* A portion of these membership fees are tax deductible

**Please send this form and payment to
HIERONYMUS MUELLER MUSEUM**

61 South Country Club Road
Decatur, Illinois, 62521
(217) 423-6161

Name _____

Address _____

The Hieronymus Mueller Museum is a privately funded non-profit museum and depends upon donations for its operations

Do you remember?

◆ Officers of the Mueller Co. Isaak Waltons and their titles were: **Elmer O. Baker**, President, Chief Coffee Pourer, Fish Custodian, Trout Line Manager; **Adam Freese**, Vice-President, Mosquito Swatter, Pilot, Lighting System Manager; **W.L. Yonker**, Secretary and Treasurer, Advance Agent for Camp and Trout Line Location, Keeper of Bottle, Frogologist; **Ed Harris**, Past Grand Master, Doughball Wizard, Professor of Fishcraft, Expert Baitologist; **C.L. Gillibrand**, Commodore, Chief Bait Inspector, Official Photographer, Chaperon; **W.G. Cranston**, Lord High Scribe and Composer of Official Notices. ~ Mueller Record, June 1923.

◆ Members of the Mueller Social Club were entertained at Greider's Cafeteria February 28, 1945. Those attending included: Messrs. and Mesdames **A.O. Yonker**, **Wm. Bailey**, **O.C. Draper**, **J.W. Wells**, **Howard Gragg**, **Harry Woodruff**, **Fred Tratzik**, **Francis Carroll**, **Everett Dickey**, **R.K. Duncan**, **Walter Auer**, **R.E. Emerson**, **Al Bashore**, **Herman Jackson**, **Ernest Garver**, **Gerald Yonker**, **Matt Trott**. Others present in addition to the preceding married couples were: **Carolyn Duncan**, **Shirley**

Emerson, **Lois Jackson** and **Ruth Gragg**.

◆ Officers for the Board of Directors of the Credit Union included: **Albert E. Lindamood**, president; **Galen Hutchens**, vice president; **Harold Munsterman**, treasurer; **Thelma Ater**, secretary; **Ross Emerson**, **Helen Pope**, **Frank Kuntz**, **Clark Curry**, **Art Bauer**, **Ernest Watkins**, **Frank Ridgeway**, **L.B. McKinney**, **Roy Coffman**, **Oris Whitacre**, **Otis Fears**. ~ Mueller Record, February-March 1945

◆ **Mrs. Gladys Masterson** was the winner in the Christmas party slogan contest in 1939 with: "Send us Today an Improved Way."

◆ **George Richard Lebo** is in his second year in the Junior High and has a splendid record in all grades and has been on the honor roll all years. ~ Mueller Record, December 1939

◆ The Mueller Co. Board of Directors in 1957 were: **W.H. Hipsher**, **Mrs. Addie E. Mueller**, **Frank H. Mueller**, **Mrs. Pauline V. Mueller**, **Richard E. Pritchard**, **Mrs. Charlotte Mueller Schluter**, **Mrs. Lenore Mueller Schmick**, **Franklin B. Schmick**, **Albert G. Webber, Jr.**, and **Leo Wiant**.

HIERONYMUS MUELLER MUSEUM

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