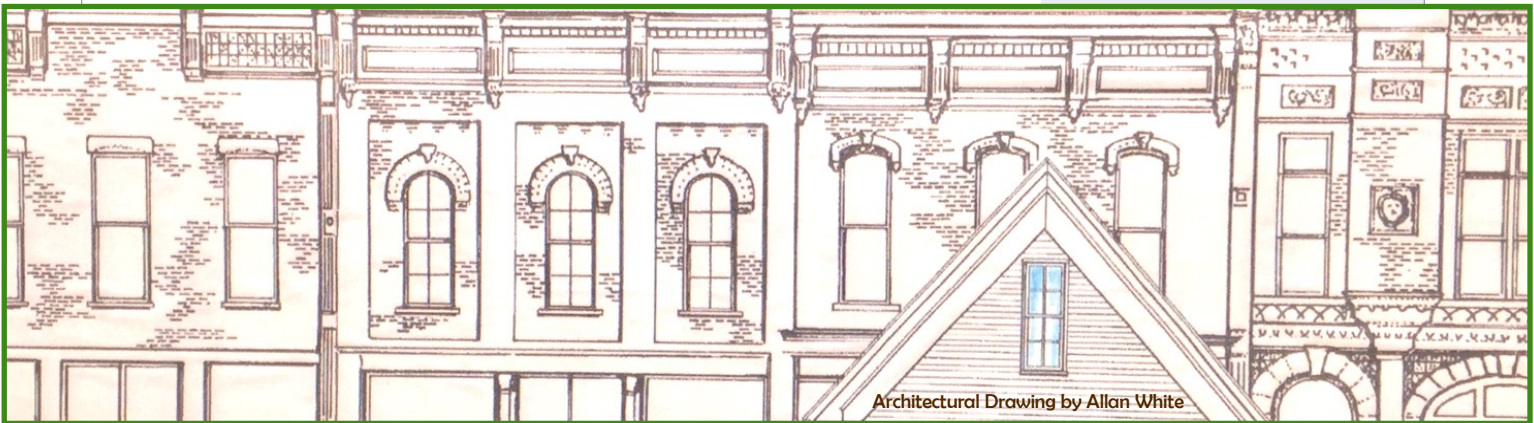


Summer

2022

# North Manchester HISTORY

*Interpreting the History  
of North Manchester  
and the Eel River Valley*



Architectural Drawing by Allan White

**Join the  
North Manchester Historical Society at**

*Art on the Bricks!*

June 23 | 6-9 pm | North Manchester Center for History Alley

Featuring:

Live Music by Brenda Eberly Horein

Local Artists

Food Trucks

Refreshments will be served in a private reception area for Members and their guests.

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## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Daniel Garber, Jr.....2

David Metzger ..... 3

The Ingo ..... 4

Travel Tales.....5

From Pencils to Pixels.. 6

DeWitt Opening.....6

From the Director.....7

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**The Center for History**  
122 East Main Street  
Tuesday through Friday, Mar—Dec  
10:00a—4:00p  
Saturday 10:00a—2:00p

**Visit Thomas Marshall House**  
409 North Market Street  
First Saturday Apr—Dec  
1:00p—4:00p

## Daniel Garber, Jr.

*“Some twenty odd years ago a Chester township lad of a dozen or fifteen summers was giving his fond parents a good deal of concern because he persisted in paying more attention to drawing pictures than doing sums in arithmetic or to the conjugation of irregular verbs. The boy in question was a pupil in the North Manchester schools, and while he was tolerably proficient in his regular studies, it is related that his teachers, as well as his parents, were sometimes sorely vexed at his propensity for art as contracted with his inclination for the more practical pursuits of the classroom and the every-day affairs of life.”*

Wabash Daily Plain Dealer, February 6, 1917

Daniel Garber was born in 1880, the youngest of eleven children. Living on a farm outside of town (now Allen Rice’s) the family moved to the south side of Singer Road after his father was crippled. Garber graduated from Manchester High School (Union school) in 1897 and desperately wanted to pursue his art. A German Baptist upbringing had not prepared his parents for such worldliness. When seeking advice from an elder in the church his father was advised to send him to art school saying, “If you don’t you might lose him.” At the age of seventeen he enrolled in The Art Academy of Cincinnati. His formal education later took him to the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts followed by the Darby School of Painting just outside of Philadelphia. It was here that he met May Franklin whom he married in 1901.

While still a student, he was employed as a commercial artist for department stores and made cover designs for several magazines including; McClure’s, Scribner’s, Harpers Bazaar, and The Century Magazine. At the age of 25, winning The Cresson Prize for European Travel, his exceptional talent gave him the opportunity to study art in Europe for two years. Upon completion of his education he brought his young family back to Philadelphia and began teaching at the School of Design for Women. Daniel eventually spent 41 years teaching at the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts. Founded in 1805 it is the first and oldest art museum and art school in the United States. At his retirement, teachers and students expressed their admiration and respect for a much loved teacher.

The Pennsylvania landscape had a strong hold on his heart and it was the inspiration for his work throughout the rest of his life. Daniel’s career and acclaim grew as he focused on his landscape art which was filled with color and light. Living on the Delaware River he belonged to the New Hope Colony of Painters, a group of late Impressionist painters, becoming one of the most prominent members of that group. His paintings are displayed in museum collections around the world including the Smithsonian American Art Museum, the Art Institute of Chicago and the Philadelphia Museum of Art.

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In 2003, Garber's painting *Byram Hills, Springtime* sold at Sotheby's in New York for a record \$1,128,000. One can only imagine what a man that was quoted as saying, "I am a very happy man! I am a simple man...I've had a wonderful life.", would think about that.



Left: Daniel Garber and L.D. Ikenberry in 1937 with a portrait commissioned by Manchester College. (courtesy Manchester University)

Right: Garber's painting, *Tanis in White*. Portrait of his daughter.



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## *The Church Split of 1881 and How England Paid For David and Susannah Metzger's Farm*

By Tom Brown

The author's particular interest in David and Susannah Metzger is that they are his great grandparents. Their fourth child, Irvin Metzger, was his grandfather and Irvin's daughter, Kathryn Metzger Brown, was his mother.

The "Church Split" in 1881 divided the Solomon Metzger family. Solomon and Barbara and five of their children and their families stayed with the more traditional ways and became "Old Order German Baptist Brethren". This group met in members' homes until a meeting place could be constructed. This building, erected in 1883, is now the church at the end of 9th St. and St. Road 13. Seven of Solomon and Barbara's twelve children, including David and Susannah, joined the more progressive group, known today as the Church of the Brethren. This group continued meeting at their church just west of N. Manchester on St. Rd. 114 (known today as The Old Order German Baptist-New Conference).

Although David and Solomon did not follow the same church membership, they still remained a close family. David and Susannah lived on an adjoining farm to the west of Solomon and Barbara's farm, buying 120 acres from them and living in a two story log house located on the property. A picture of this two story log house is located near the entrance of the log cabin display of our local museum. My grandfather, Irvin, is sitting at the far left in this picture. David's picture can be found in the log cabin, on the fireplace mantle. This is a well preserved chalk drawing, circa 1890.

As boys will be boys, Irvin and his older brother Lyman were caught in their bedroom playing cards one Sunday afternoon. As this was considered an evil and unforgivable sin to the Brethren, the boys received their just deserves by being paddled by their father, David, and sent to bed that night without their supper. They also had to apologize to the entire congregation during the next church service.

*continued*

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David was fortunate in the fact that most of his land had not been cleared of trees, meaning he only had about 30 acres of cleared land in which to plant crops. The rest of his land was made up of original first growth hardwood trees, consisting mainly of walnut, various oak varieties, elm, hickory and tulip poplar. Some of these trees were as much as 5-6 ft. in diameter. Fortunately for him, England had completely depleted their supply of hardwood lumber to build homes as well as government buildings and looked to the United States for their needs. Also, it just happened that a mile down the road, in the small town of Rose Hill, was a steam powered saw mill which was buying standing timber. Transportation of goods was and still is today the biggest factor in making the towns along its path prosper. The Big Four Railroad, linking Benton Harbor, Michigan, to Cincinnati, Ohio, was this important link to the outside world. As luck would have it, David was able to pay off his farm due to his windfall, being able to sell his timber to the saw mill at Rose Hill.

My grandfather, Irvin, bought his 100 acre farm across the road from his father and my father, Lowell, purchased 100 acres that was across the road to the west of his father-in-law, Irvin's farm. My roots are deep in the Rose Hill Community area, as I am the 5th and final Metzger to live there. Located in the west field of our farm, adjacent to the railroad track, I would search through the remaining foundation ruins of Rose Hill finding broken pottery, etc. I tried to imagine what the buildings looked like and what life was like in this small, now forgotten town of Rose Hill, some 75 years ago.

When I was growing up in this community, it was jokingly said that if you scratched most any Old Order German Baptist Brethren in the Manchester area you would find Metzger Blood! I suspect that I am not done with my quest to discover more about my heritage and hope to stay in touch with our relatives in Ohio to learn more about them, as well as obtain pictures of Solomon and his family.

I find it fascinating that Jacob, Solomon's father and my great, great grandfather is buried at the Eel River Church Cemetery located on St. Rd. 14. Years of weathering (170) have not been kind to what appears to be a sandstone grave marker for Jacob. Metzger is misspelled. Jacob has the distinction of being one of the first Brethren to buy land directly from the State of Indiana for \$1.25 an acre; he walked from his home near Brookville, Ohio, in 1835 to buy two quarter sections of land, located in Clay and Chester Townships, for two of his sons.

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### *New Accession*

Ingo bikes were very popular from 1934-37. The one we have was donated to the *Center for History* by Ryan Sincroft. It belonged to Hazen Lautzenhiser who owned four of the bikes and rented them out in the summer.

The bike was invented by two brothers Phillip and Pescott Hayssen and manufactured by Ingersol Rand of Chicago. It has solid rubber tires. The front wheel has a 19 inch diameter while the rear wheel is 27 inches. It is one of the safest bikes ever built because the riding platform is only six inches from the ground, and the bike has no chains, sprockets, or gear shift. Also, the fenders prevented flying mud and other injuries.

The bike functioned on the principle of an eccentric rear wheel. The rider stood on a wooden platform and rode the bike by bouncing up and down and pulling and pushing on the handlebars. It is reported that a skilled rider could make 15 mph. One inventor described it as a "galloping scooter" and it does resemble a horse-rider's motion.

Production ceased in 1937 as the building was converted into an army shell factory.



# Travel Tales

By Bernie Ferringer

The North Manchester Historical Society/Shepherd's Center travel group recently traveled to Pigeon Forge, Tennessee on May 16<sup>th</sup> to May 19<sup>th</sup>. Our group of forty-four travelers decided it was time to get out and enjoy a little fun time.

After a full day on the road, we arrived in Pigeon Forge in time to enjoy a family style meal at Applewood Farmhouse Restaurant. After dinner we took our coach to Paula Deen's Lumberjack Feud Show. We enjoyed watching axe throwing, chopping, sawing, log rolling and speed climbing. Jose in our group was even awarded a wooden "cookie" for his enthusiastic appreciation of the show. After the show we finally arrived at Country Cascades Resort for our three-night stay. This was the first of three busy days.

Day two took us on a laughing but educational tour of the Pigeon Forge-Gatlinburg area with a stop in Gatlinburg for a tasting at The Ole' Smoky Moonshine Distillery. We then boarded our coach to be dropped off at The Island in Pigeon Forge. Here there was free time to have lunch on our own and browse through the many shops in the center of Pigeon Forge. Later in the afternoon we went to the Hatfield and McCoy Dinner Feud. We enjoyed a family style meal of southern comfort food followed by a variety show about the Hatfield-McCoy family feud that went on for year. The evening was topped off at Country Tonite with a great fast-paced show of dancing, singing, comedy along with powerful gospel and American patriotism.

The third day we went back to the Country Tonite theater for the Smith Morning Variety Show. This show featured Southern music and culture along with comedy in a pleasing and family friendly environment. Traveling to Dollywood Theme Park, we had lunch on our own and the chance to spend the afternoon strolling through the park to check out the many shows, craft shops and of course many food choices. Our coach took us to Five Oaks Farm Kitchen for an evening meal of great Southern food. After dinner we traveled to The Comedy Barn for a great show of family comedy, jugglers, ventriloquist (this guy was great), and live music. After another long day we headed back to our hotel, to rest and get ready to head home the next day. It was a long ride back to Indiana, but everyone was glad to be on the road home after a busy and fun time in the Pigeon Forge area. Thank you to everyone that joined us on this trip. It was great to have several first-time travelers and to welcome them to our traveling family.



Taking reservations now for

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## From Pencils to Pixels: Hoosier Cartoons and Comics

Traveling exhibit, May 27-June 27

From the antics of fat-cat Garfield to the cracker-barrel philosophy of Brown County savant Abe Martin, the many creations of Hoosier cartoonists are highlighted in this colorful exhibit designed to amuse and intrigue the audience. The exhibit explores the amusing goings-on of characters from comic strips like “Chic” Jackson’s “Roger Bean,” which featured the lives of a typical Hoosier family, to the editorial musings of Pulitzer Prize-winning artist John T. McCutcheon, who was a fierce opponent of America’s entry into World War II.



Drawn from the collections of the Indiana Historical Society, Indiana State Library, and other institutions throughout the state, the exhibition also examines the life and work of such Indiana cartoonists as “the dean of America’s editorial cartoonists,” Evansville’s Karl Kae Knecht; artists from the Crawfordsville area known as the Sugar Crick School of Art; “the first black political cartoonist,” Henry Jackson Lewis, who worked for the Indianapolis Freeman; Abe Martin creator Frank McKinney “Kin” Hubbard; Richmond’s Gaar Williams, who earned a designation as the “James Whitcomb Riley of the pencil”; and Muncie’s Jim Davis, responsible for bringing Garfield to life.

*From Pencils to Pictures* is made possible by Kroger and Local History Services/Indiana Historical Society.

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### *DeWitt Auto Company Grand Opening*

Thank you to all that joined us in April for the opening of the DeWitt Auto exhibit. A special thank you to Janet Egolf and David Waas for their gifts and support. This permanent exhibit is quickly becoming a favorite of our patrons!



Janet Egolf center right and far right with Jack Schuler as Virgil DeWitt



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## Highlights from the Director

I saw my first fireflies of the year last evening! A sure sign that summer is here bringing back memories of fairs, parades, camping and much more. We've been busy since the opening of the DeWitt exhibit planning programs and events to make your summer memorable at the *Center for History*.

Summer Camp is in its third year and is bigger than ever. We were fortunate to receive a Good Deeds Grant from the *Community Foundation of Wabash County* allowing us to expand the program and give the kids a special treat. The final week for the kiddoes will include a ride on the Visit Wabash County trolley as they tour and learn about sites in the community. They will also spend a day at the Thomas Marshall House and have a special lunch catered by North Manchester Rotary. Enrollment is up this summer -we anticipate 35-40 kids. Thank you to Diana Bucher, Sandy Bendsen and Chris Fisher for leading this program.

Our sincere appreciation goes out to the Directors of the Paul Speicher-Ralph Naragon Advised Fund at the *Community Foundation* for providing funds for a new roof on the Thomas Marshall House. The new roof is now complete. It was sorely needed and this funding was critical to the project.

June 23 we will launch a new summer series—*Art on the Bricks*. This evening event will take place from 6-9p in the alley adjacent to our building. Live music by Brenda Eberly Horein and art vendors hand selected by our neighbor, Elizabeth Wamsley, from the Art Bank Studio, will be on display. As a member of the Society you are invited to an oasis where we will serve wine and snacks—and please bring a friend! We are always looking for ways to enrich your membership—so this is it—our gift to you! Thank you to our event sponsors *Visit Wabash County* and *Beacon Credit Union*.

Bernie and Vicki are at it again and have planned a September trip to beautiful Southern Indiana. Three days and two nights touring caverns, art glass demonstrations, a winery, visit to Santa Claus, IN, shopping in Nashville, IN and more. Wow! Email the Ferringers at [bernievicki@gmail.com](mailto:bernievicki@gmail.com) or call 260.982.8734 for more info.

In July we say goodbye to Karen Eberly in the **Kaleidoscope Gallery**. Karen's *100 Day Project* has been an amazing exhibit that brought us many new visitors. Pam Hoover will be our next guest artist coming mid-July—be sure to visit and see her beautiful textiles!

Monday, June 13 at 6:30p we will host Joe Krom as he presents his program, *Serendipity on the Mississippi*. Our programs are now quarterly and take place at the museum. The CfH staff looks forward to seeing **you** at the museum!

Laura Rager, Director

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### Free Admission Sponsored by:

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## North Manchester Center for History

### Mission Statement

The North Manchester Center for History of the North Manchester Historical Society serves to promote the Society's mission as a nonprofit educational association that collects, preserves, and interprets the history of North Manchester and northern Indiana (the area of the Eel River Basin) from the arrival of the first Native Americans in the region to the present day through the collecting and preserving of books, documents, artifacts and other cultural objects. The Center interprets its collection to the public by means of a museum facility, educational programs, lectures, public events and publications and encourages others to help collect, preserve and interpret the history of North Manchester area.

## MEMBERSHIP FORM

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PO Box 361  
North Manchester, IN 46962  
260.982.0672**

\_\_\_ New Member \_\_\_ Renewal  
\_\_\_ Individual \$30 \_\_\_ Couples \$50 \_\_\_ Sustaining \$75 \_\_\_ Supporting \$100

In addition to membership, I would like to give a donation of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to be used for:

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Note: Membership dues provide specific member benefits and are not the same as Annual Fund gifts, which provide purely philanthropic support.