

July 9, 2018



Dear Member and/or Friend,

A 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organization

The Kankakee Valley Historical Society is entering an exciting time of renewal, and we invite you to be a part of our growth. Fifteen years ago, the Society envisioned the Collier Lodge site becoming an experiential center where history and ecology come alive. **We are delighted to say we are making progress through several actions underway:**

- Through a Porter County Community Foundation grant, the Society is assessing the environmental conditions of the Collier Lodge structure. This is a necessary first step when seeking federal and state funds for deconstruction and reconstruction of a U.S. Registered Historical Landmark Site.
- Through an Indiana Humanities Council grant, the Society will be producing a short video this year highlighting the history of the Collier Lodge and why this structure remains relevant today.
- The historic Linden Cabin, reclaimed by the Society from the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, is being reconstructed on-site using as much of the original materials as possible.
- The 11th Annual Aukiki River Festival will be held on August 25-26th. This year, the Festival will feature two Native American gardens, one with medicinal plants and the other, with Three Sisters plants. Well over 2,000 people attended last year.
- Through the Indiana Dunes Tourism grant, the Society is undergoing a strategic planning process to identify both short and long-term goals and objectives.
- The Society contracted with its first Executive Director to work closely with the Founders, John and Mary Hodson, and the Board of Directors for increasing the capacity of the organization to implement key projects and programs.



Your membership of \$40 per family or \$30 for individuals in the Kankakee Valley Historical Society has never been so valuable to our mission:

To promote and preserve the rich history, culture and ecology of the Kankakee Valley through wise stewardship for this and future generations.

Society Members receive the following benefits:

- Discount admission to the Aukiki River Festival to be held August 25, 2018 through August 26, 2018.
- Discount tickets to the inaugural Aukiki Flapjack Breakfast to be held on October 20, 2018.
- Discount on Society's original publications and DVDs.
- Invitation to Members Only Tours of the Collier Lodge site.
- Invitation to volunteer on workdays and special events.

Many of funding opportunities and on-site projects ahead require grassroots involvement. Membership is the easiest way you can make a difference.

Please join or renew your membership today and help preserve this unique and incredible part of our history. *If you have already done so for 2018, thank you and enjoy these highlights of your membership at work.* As always, feel free to contact me at (219) 766-2302 or jophod@gmail.com.

Very truly yours,

Kankakee Valley Historical Society

John Hodson
Founder & President



Please cut here and enclose with your payment.

NAME (s): _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____ E-MAIL: _____

Please Check One: INDIVIDUAL \$30.00 FAMILY \$40.00

Is this a membership renewal? Yes No

Place check made payable to KVHS and mail along with your completed form. A return envelope is enclosed for your convenience.

Alternately, you can complete form and use secure PayPal: www.kankakeevalleyhistoricalsociety.org

Thank you for your support!!