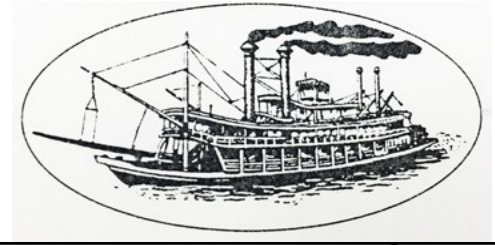


Friends



A quarterly publication of the Friends of Rocheport Society No. 8, October 2021

Hall of Fame weekend includes entertainment and honors

The Hall of Fame weekend of June 12-13 was filled with entertainment on Saturday and honors on Sunday.

Once again, John Milne presented his ragtime piano concert and lecture, and the Hall of Fame inducted Moses Payne and Isadore and Daisy Broadus as members for their significant roles in Rocheport's history.

Once again,, Bob Priddy from the State Historical Society was the keynote speaker, and State Representative Chuck Basye provided recognition from the Missouri House of Representatives.



Tour group visits museum

A group of five couples from the Warrensburg area made Rocheport the destination for one of their regular tours September 23. One of their

stops was a specially scheduled visit to the Friends of Rocheport Society Museum, opened just for their visit. Nearly an hour in the museum was followed by a hike through the Katy Trail tunnel, then lunch at the General Store and several other stops.





Ice House played an important part in Rocheport's early life

The photo above shows Rocheport in 1900, with the approach to the railroad/Katy Trail tunnel in the foreground. In the lower right corner are two of several ice houses that occupied the area near the river. These structures covered deep in-ground silos that were filled each winter with ice, to be used by residents throughout most of the year. One such house remains as a historical attraction, owned by the Friends of Rocheport, on Lewis Street near the Community Hall. Plans are underway to make needed repairs to create a more informative historic site.



Mums sell out early this year. . .



The photo at left shows the opening moment of the second day of this year's Friends of Rocheport Mum Sale September 10-11 at the Community Hall.

These were the only plants left over from the previous day's sales. About 75 plants of three sizes were purchased for the sale from a nursery at Fortuna, MO. Those that remained for the second day were sold by 10:30.

Proceeds for this annual event go to help fund community projects supported by the Friends .

Next time you have friends over, test their knowledge of Rocheport with this trivia quiz. Read them the questions below — be careful to not read the answers at the end of each question.

Rocheport Trivia Quiz

Who was Rocheport's first postmaster? *Cary Peebles in 1832.*

Who opened Rocheport's first regular tavern? *Jesse B. Dale in 1833, on Moniteau St.*

Who first owned the land site of Rocheport? *The U.S. government deeded the land to David Gray in 1822. It was sold several times before becoming a town.*

When was Rocheport laid out as a town? *December 15, 1832.*

What is another name for Moniteau Creek? *Creek of the Great Spirit.*

What distinguished visitors stopped in Rocheport in 1804? *Lewis and Clark*

What was the first name intended for the town? *Rockport. A French missionary insisted it be changed to Rocheport.*

When did the first steamboat land in Rocheport? *1819, at the mouth of the Moniteau Creek, to pick up wood.*

What was the most popular beverage in early Rocheport? *Whiskey, made locally.*

What event placed Rocheport in the middle of the 1840 presidential election? *The national Whig Convention, on the bluff overlooking the town.*

Epidemics hit Rocheport in 1833, 1849 and 1852. What was the disease? *Asiatic cholera, with dozens of deaths.*

What Civil War bushwhacker called Rocheport "our capital"? *Bloody Bill Anderson.*

What Civil War colonel became the area's leading tobacco processor in Rocheport following the Civil War? *Col Robert A. Caskie, from 1870 to 1884.*

Did Rocheport have a newspaper. *Yes, three of them – Times in 1868-69; Enterprise in 1872-73; Commercial in 1879-beyond 1882.*

Who was Rocheport's first merchant? *A man named Barlow, 1830, in a log house on Moniteau St.*

Who established Rocheport's first ferry across the Missouri River. *John Gray, 1819.*

What group formed in 1967 to celebrate and report on Rocheport's history? *The Friends of Rocheport Society operates the Rocheport Museum from May through October, and has created a Rocheport Hall of Fame to honor our early leaders. You are welcome to join us.*

The Friends of Rocheport Museum is the Society's primary presence in the community. A committee is considering ways to improve the displays and make the museum more appealing to visitors from the Katy Trail, the community, and the general public.

*Generally, the museum is open on weekends from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m., from May through October, **although last year's schedule was on hold due to the pandemic, it is once again open for visitors this season.** The museum contains a treasure trove of historical artifacts, documents, and photographs, many permanent possessions, some on permanent loan from residents, past and present.*

Suggestions for improving the museum exhibits are always welcome. If you would like to help or make suggestions, please mail your ideas to the Friends of Rocheport, P.O. Box 122, Rocheport, MO 65279, or email Rocheport@aol.com.



Restoration of Barth Garden ready to begin

Planning is underway with construction to begin at any moment on the rehabilitation of the Barth Garden next to Art Off The Trail Gallery at 203 Central Street.

Joe and Peggy Guest have accepted the challenge to restore the space to a welcoming and usable feature of downtown Rocheport. Appropriately, the Guests were instrumental in the original development of the area.

The project is jointly sponsored by the Rocheport Rotary Club, which raised most of the funding, and The Friends of Rocheport Society, which owns



the property.



The Friends of Rocheport Society wants to feed you

Chili



Ham & Beans

Saturday, October 23, 2021
Serving 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
At the Rocheport Fire Station
Adults \$10 / 12 & Under \$5.00

***There also is a Bake Sale
for carry-home treats.***

***Your ticket enters you in a drawing for a country ham
donated by Steve and Lynda Baumgartner.
Raffle tickets are available for other prizes donated by
merchants and friends.***

***Each ticket entitles you to all you can eat chili or ham & beans,
plus cornbread, drink and dessert.***

Friends of Rocheport Society Membership Form

Name: _____

Address: _____ City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail address: _____

Membership Dues: \$20 per household or business. Special Gift Donation: _____

Please make your check payable to "Friends of Rocheport Society"

Mail to: Friends of Rocheport Society, P.O. Box 122, Rocheport, MO 65279

Please check how you would like to receive information from us. Email ☐ U.S. Mail ☐

Reminder:

No need to clip the form from this newsletter; just send the requested information to the address shown. Thank you; you are what keeps us going.

Friends



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