

Portage Community Historical Society News

New to us and to the museum but is probably close to 100 years old, we received 2 items from Dave and Pat Fowler who reside in the state of Washington. They inherited these items after the passing of Marjorie Robbins Herren and her son and daughter-in-law, Nick and Sharyn (Fowler) Herren. They felt these items belong here in Portage and are the only pieces we have from the Robbins Mansion. They are also sending us Robbins family pictures. Years ago we had a Robbins display and Nick loaned us some beautiful Robbins pictures but at that time I didn't think to make copies of them. Janet Robbins Sharpe verified the authenticity that these did indeed come from the Robbins Mansion.



SOCIETY NEWS

New Members

We welcome new members Mike & Shelly Janiga family, Shellie & Kevin Kramer, Peggy McHugh, Dorothy Mokry, Connie Ellefson, Linda Mills and Ed Stout.

Big thank you to Kappa Kappa Kappa Inc. Sorority for their generation donation to our society.

Ron Garrison and Kathy H. have been updating our website. We also have a volunteer historian, Bob Miller. He has submitted some early historical articles. Bob's father, Wayne F. Miller, was involved with the beginning of Pop Warner football and Portage Park Department Soccer.

We have received some new accessions at the museum. Our museum committee has a policy that we now only accept things connected to Portage, is very unusual or we don't already have. We always accept newspaper articles, pictures and yearbooks related to Portage.

President—Valeria Roach

Vice President—Anne Koehler

Secretary—Donna Smith

Treasurer—Valeria Roach

Board of Directors:

Barb Borg-Jenkins

Jim Franzen

Wanda Samuelson

Richard Turnak

Fred Untch

Honorary:

Lois Mollick

Recently received a packet of great Lute Family pictures from Phil and Laura Lute, some we've seen but many we have not.

From Richard Davis, his Dad's newspaper clippings and about 12 copies of 1959 and 1960 Portage News. His Dad was Earl Davis who was involved early with the town of Portage and served as Town Board President.

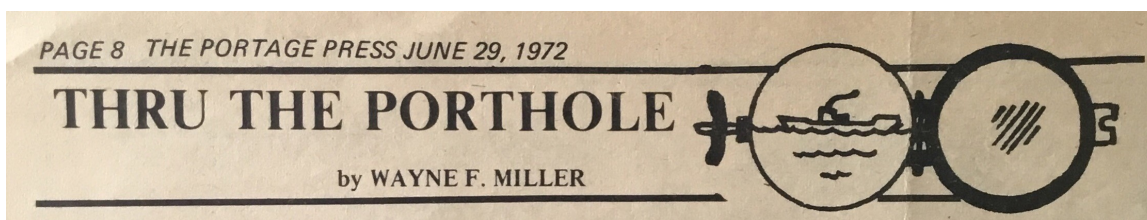
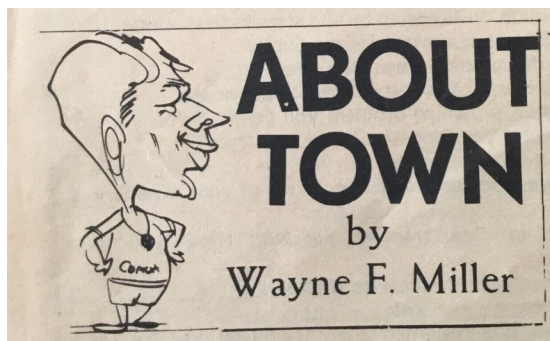
Five yearbooks were donated during the festival was but unknown who left them. Some are duplicates and we offer to sell duplicates for \$25 each.

Belated condolences go to member Kenita Kersten whose brother, Jerry Ray Nelson, passed away April 29, 2018. He was in the PHS Class of 1962. He is buried in the Dallas-Ft. Worth National Cemetery in Texas. He was a veteran of the Vietnam War.

Wayne F. Miller

We have been in touch with Bob Miller residing in Virginia. He has much of his Dad's early Portage memorabilia especially to do with sports. I've asked Bob for a bio of his Dad which is included here. We have posted the articles Bob has written on our website www.inpchs.com

Wayne F. Miller (1925-2001) was born in Michigan City but spent over half his life as a resident of Portage, 1961-2001. He was very active in youth sports and contributing to Portage newspapers. During the 60s and 70s he was a very successful basketball coach in Portage Biddy basketball and Youth Basketball leagues as well as serving as President of the leagues several years. He was one of the founding fathers of Portage Pop Warner in 1967. He was also a coach in the first year of soccer in the Portage Parks department league and coached Cub Scout softball. He was President of the Central Elementary PTA for two years and Aylesworth Jr High PTA one year. Additionally in the 60s and 70s he wrote many articles on Portage youth sports for papers such as the Portage Wave, Portage Herald, Portage Press and Portage Scanner. Though he ran unsuccessfully for a City Councilman in the City's first election, he would later serve several terms on the Portage Port Authority Board. After retiring as a training supervisor for NIPSCO in 1985, he traveled the world training power plant operators in countries that included India, Pakistan, Greece, Bangladesh and Brazil and also in several states in the U.S.A. He would give lectures to local civic groups on his travels and also to junior high classes at Aylesworth and Fegley Jr Highs. Submitted by Bob Miller August 2018



A team comparable to the Portage Pirates always springs from deep roots. One must look back to 1967. The name of William R. Wood who introduced soccer in Portage Park comes to mind and recently the name of Wayne F. Miller rings a pleasant bell – a gentleman who gave such outstanding publicity to the team.

We are on the web
<http://www.inpchs.com>



**PORTAGE
COMMUNITY
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY,
INC.**

P.O. Box 305
Portage, IN 46368

Phone: (219) 762-8349
E-mail: info@inpchs.com
<http://www.inpchs.com/>
<http://www.facebook.com/pchs88>

Memberships: Yearly Single \$20,
Family \$50, Business \$60

Portage Community Historical Society Bi-monthly meeting

Wednesday, October 17, 2018

7:00 pm

Woodland Park

Public Welcomed and refreshments will be served

Tuesday, September 11, 2018

Board Meeting, Portage Library,
6:30 pm

Saturday, October 6, 2018

Alumni Dinner Dance

Tuesday, October 9, 2018

Board Meeting, Portage Library
6:30 pm

Wednesday, October 17, 2018

Kenneth Schoon about his
new book: "Swedish Settlements
on the South Shore of Lake Mich-
igan."

Wolf Mansion Tour

Tours will begin again in the fall and new members
to our society will get a free tour. Sign up for mem-
bership and the tours by September 30, 2018.
Limited tickets for free tours.

