

# Portage Community Historical Society News

President—Valeria Roach

Vice President—Anne  
Koehler

Secretary—Donna Smith

Treasurer—Valeria Roach

Board of Directors:

Barb Borg-Jenkins

Jim Franzen

Lisa Garcia

Sue Lynch

Wanda Samuelson

Richard Turnak

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## MOUNT BALDY & OTHER COASTAL DUNES

A presentation given by Zoran Kilibarda, Chair of the  
Dept. of Geosciences at IU Northwest



**Oct. 18, 2017 at 7PM**  
at Woodland Park, main building  
2100 Willowcreek Road, Portage, IN

Brought to you by  
**THE PORTAGE COMMUNITY  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

Join the Portage Community Historical Society on Wednesday, October 18 for a talk about Mount Baldy and Other Coastal Dunes.

The speaker will be Zoran Kilibarda, Chair of the Department of Geosciences at Indiana University Northwest.

This event is free and open to the public. It will be held at 7:00 at Woodland Park in Portage in the Hickory Hollow Room.

**SOCIETY NEWS****Installation Dinner**

Sunday November 19, 2017 1–4 pm

*This will be held in the new Countryside Hall. Everyone bring a dish and dessert to share and the society will provide the meat and drinks.*

*R.S.V.P. to Val at 762-3722 so we have enough meat provided.*

**2017 Christmas Open House**

*Saturday, December 2, 2017, 10 am until 4 pm*

Will be held at the barn museum in Countryside Park. Decorated for Christmas, cookies and punch, kids games and crafts, Christmas music and Father Christmas and Mrs. Claus.

We need cookie donations from members for this open house.

**Wolf Mansion Tour**

*Saturday, December 9, 2017 10:30 am*

Tickets [\\$15.00](#) - you will be able to attend a guided tour of the Wolf Mansion.

You will learn about the history of the Wolf family and the mansion.

The Wolf mansion is now owned by Lynda and Clement Khan who are members of the historical society and they've invited us to do a tour.

The mansion itself is decorated to the late 1800's and will be decorated for Christmas. Tour tickets are limited so get your reservation in early.

R.S.V.P. to Clement and Lynda Khan at 219-364-8102

## Tribute to Irlene Holley



Irlene M. Holley, age 69, of Portage, passed away Thursday, September 21, 2017. She was born in Tacoma, WA on October 21, 1947 to the late Earl and Donna Marie (nee Kavanaugh) Geisbert. Irlene retired after 30 years from the Portage Public Library. She was a member of Nativity of Our Savior Church in Portage where she worked on Garden Angels. Irlene loved rescuing dogs and treated them like her babies. She even took her dogs to the Golden Living Center Nursing Home to help comfort the residents. Irlene volunteered for Meals on Wheels. In her free time, she enjoyed reading and gardening.

Irlene is survived by daughter, Donna (Chris) Hudi; son, Steven (Tammie) Holley; grandchildren, Brian Hudi, Sarah Hudi, Andrew Delaney, Eric Delaney, Stephanie Hunthrop; sisters, Caroline (John) Soccio, LaDonna (Bill) Dicks, Gay Haugsdal; and brother, Joseph (Sara) Renville.

A funeral service for Irlene will be held Tuesday, September 26, 2017 at 7:00 pm at Rees Funeral Home, Olson Chapel, 5341 Central Ave. Portage, IN 46368 with Deacon Dennis Guernsey officiating. Visitation will take place just prior to the service on Tuesday from 4-7 pm. For more information, please call 219-762-3013. Online condolences may be shared with the family at [www.reesfuneralhomes.com](http://www.reesfuneralhomes.com).

*Steel Shavings Volume 20, 1991 p. 93*

### *A History of Portage Indiana*

"As the park department staff pondered over what would be the best use for the Countryside buildings, the concept of a community historical society started to take shape. Carl Fisher, Terry Jarosak, Irlene Holley of the Portage Public library and a few other local residents founded such a society. Their first public meeting was held on November 10, 1987 and was attended by approximately fifty people. Jaclyn Macedo, a Portage teacher, was elected to be their first president."



**PORTAGE  
COMMUNITY  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY,  
INC.**

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<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  
Woodland Park, 7:00 pm  
Hickory Hollow Room**

**October 18, 2017**

**We will be voting to accept the 2018 Board of Directors.  
President and Treasurer Val Roach, Vice President Anne  
Kohler, Secretary Donna Smith and other members are  
Barb Borg-Jenkins, Jim Franzen, Wanda Samuelson,**

Tuesday, October 10, 2017—Board  
Meeting 6:30 Portage Library

Wednesday, October 18, 2017—Bi-  
Monthly Meeting 7:00 Woodland  
Park  
2018 Election of Officers

Tuesday, November 14, 2017—Board  
Meeting 6:30 Portage Library

Sunday, November 19, 2017—  
Installation Dinner  
***To Be Held At Countryside Hall***

Saturday, December 2, 2017—  
***Christmas Open House to be held in***



The Portage Community Historical Society is looking for volunteers knowledgeable in applying for grants. We have a few projects that we would like done but need financial assistance before we can start work on them. Please email Barbara Jenkins at:

[bborgjenkins@gmail.com](mailto:bborgjenkins@gmail.com)

if you would like to help the Society with obtaining grants.

2018 we will be celebrating the 50th anniversary of the City of Portage and the 30th anniversary for the Portage Community Historical Society. Check out the new posters at Founder's Square commemorating our Portage Township history.