

June 26, 2013

TOURING SULLIVAN COUNTY'S MUSEUM

. . . while dusting

At this time of year, we usually highlight artifacts within the museum's complex to entice you to actually come into the museum buildings for a visit. But this week we'd like to tell you of a celebration, of sorts, that we have: it's our BIRTHDAY! Yes, the Sullivan County Historical Society is legitimately 75 years 'young'. Although the earliest record of our inception begins in 1932, it wasn't until 1938 that we



incorporated. In the May 25th issue of the Sully in 1938 an announcement appeared for a county-wide meeting to be held at the courthouse. "An enthusiastic response from all sections of the County has been the answer to the proposal to organize a Sullivan County Historical Society. People from all walks of life have manifested a keen interest in the idea that Sullivan County, now practically on the threshold of its first centennial [1947 would be the 100th anniversary of the formation of the county], is at last to have a real historical society of its own." The article repeats the phrase "every man, woman and child" to make the point that involvement and visiting the museum is an open invitation to all persons of all ages. This stands true today, in that visitors and volunteers alike are a cross section of people exploring Sullivan County's history and where it's come from. The official proclamation to organize came on June 4th of 1938 for that month's court session with the following statement: "We urge every citizen in Sullivan county who feels an interest in preserving for posterity matters of local historical interest and priceless treasures having historical value, to attend. . . We owe this, and subsequent assistance in carrying on the work of the organization, as a labor of love and a debt of devotion to the hardy pioneers who more than a century ago settled this mountain wilderness and laid the foundations of our present community life." The early signers of this incorporation were F.W. Meylert, Jos. F. Ingham, B.T. Martin, Herbert L. Molyneux, Sidney J. Peale, Maurice J. Harrington, Walter T. Rinebold, V.B. Holcombe, H. R. Henning, Payne P. Sturdevant and added onto our pages is "39 contributors of \$25, + Osthous and Miss E.J. Wrede".

To celebrate this occasion, we're having a Bake & Yard Sale at the museum on Sat., June 29th starting at 11 a.m. following the completion of the Carpenter's Cruise through Laporte (that starts at 10 a.m.). We will be open for regular hours throughout that day until 5 p.m. Anyone wishing to donate yard sale articles (no clothing, please) or home-made baked goods can bring them in on Thurs. or Friday (6/27-28) from 1 to 5 p.m. and baked goods from about 9:30 onward on Sat. For those of you wishing to shop, we can guarantee an assortment of baked goods from some of the best cooks in the county and would encourage you to peruse the yard sale items also.

To visit any other time, we're open Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays from 1 to 5 p.m. or by appoint if you phone (570)946-5020 or email museum@scpahistory.com Meanwhile, visit our website at scpahistory.com or facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/sullivancountypahistoricalsociety> This Society is still, 75 years later, making every effort to preserve our county's history with the best intentions established so long ago.