

# The singing winds

NEWSLETTER OF THE FRIENDS OF T.C. STEELE STATE HISTORIC SITE

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Photo Courtesy of IDNR



Photo courtesy T.C. Steele State Historic Site

"Suspects" who participated in the Murder Mystery Dinner are (standing) from left to right: Christine Atkinson, Brian Galm, Charlie Matson, Stephanie Dean, Betsy Walsh, Mike Walsh, Jane Huffman, Amber Zaragoza, and Andrea deTarnowsky. Seated, are (from left to right), Susie Roush, Tamra Galm, Dan Case, and Stu Huffman.

## SUCCESS OF MURDER IN STUDIO NO MYSTERY! ARTIST IN RESIDENCE CONTRIBUTES VIBRANCY TO SITE EXPERIENCE

The new murder mystery dinner held last Fall at the Steele Historic Site has drawn rave reviews. A thorough investigation by the Friends of T. C. Steele and the site staff has concluded that the event will be resurrected for another shot this October. It was reported that all participants

were breathless with delight at the quality of the food and "old fashioned fun." The evening's playbill called for participants to play the role of a character in the drama, to reenact the murder and then solve the mystery. Surrounded by Steele paintings and other family antiques in the

large art studio, the guests also enjoyed dinner and a "behind the scenes" tour of the House of the Singing Winds. For more information and advance reservations for this October's Murder Mystery, contact (812) 677-2003. Participation is limited to 20 suspects.

The new Artist in Residence Program has brought added vitality to the T. C. Steele State Historic Site, increasing its use by artists as a source of creative inspiration.

Created in 2007 as the signature T. C. Steele State Historic Site Centennial event, the program calls for the selection of artists to work from the site's historic Guest Cottage which has been converted into a studio with living facilities. Artists are asked to work at their art in the studio, to conduct organized educational presentations for the public and to interact with visitors and tour participants.

Plans call for the selection of up to four visiting artists each year by the Friends of T. C. Steele Board of Directors based on the quality of their work and proposal statement. Artists are required to complete at least one public workshop or demonstra-

tion to interact on a regular basis with site visitors while producing work. Modest honoraria, stipends and mileage reimbursement are made available to participants.

Visiting artists thus far have included Patricia Rhoden-Bartels of Nashville; Pamela Denny Rohrbach of Indianapolis and Amber Zaragoza of Bloomington. Honorary Visiting Artist is Nashville's

renowned Frederick Rigley.

The most recent artist selected for the program is Anabel Hopkins, President of the Art Alliance of Brown County. Anabel will display her paintings, offer demonstrations and conduct a workshop during the week of June 23 —28. The Chicago native will offer a workshop for artists of all ages and skill levels on abstract painting with acrylics on the 28th. Her visitation coincides with the June 26-28 Brown County Studio and Garden Tour.



## FRIENDS TO SUPPORT NEW VISITOR CENTER

Plans for a new visitor center at the T. C. Steele State Historic Site are advancing from the shelf to the drawing board. And, with flawless planning and development, the new facility could be welcoming guests in four years.

A crucial element in the success of the venture will be a maximum of public and private sector cooperation. The Friends of T. C. Steele have already taken steps to initiate a funding effort in support of the project.

The amount of the construction appropriation has not been finalized.

During the 2009 session of the Indiana General Assembly, a state budget request of \$600,000 will be submitted by Department of Natural Resources officials and supported by the Friends of T. C. Steele to fund "Phase One Development" activities such as architectural fees and related start-up costs. What is certain is that whenever it is built, the size and quality of the center will be directly dependent on the amount of private funds raised to supplement costs above state appropriations.

If approved in the upcoming legislative session, selection of an architect could occur in the Fall of 2009. Members of the Friends should ask their state legislators to support the

funding request.

Plans call for the new structure to be built near the main entrance of the 211-acre state historic site. Final site selection will depend on soil and archeology tests. Construction of a paved parking area also is contemplated to accommodate vehicles ranging in size from large buses to bicycles.

The Friends of T. C. Steele and the staff of the State Museum and Historic Sites will work together to develop plans for a facility which, at a minimum, will house gallery space, site offices, the site's gift shop, a multi-purpose room with outdoor lab, bird area, a small kitchen and modern restrooms. The aim of both parties is to provide space for the exhibition of additional works of art, class rooms, large meetings, wedding receptions, family gatherings and similar events as well as to provide more exhibit space for local artists and winning entries in the site's major art competitions.

At its meeting on Nov. 22, the Board of Directors of the Friends of T. C. Steele expressed its desire to generate supplemental funding to achieve "Creation of a world class facility to shine as a showpiece and source of pride for all Hoosiers," according to Friends President Stephanie

Dean. The Friends of T. C. Steele has committed an initial pledge of \$5,000 as the first step toward a major fund drive in support of the project. A new "Steele Visitor Center Fund" has been established to accommodate gifts to be dedicated solely for the project. A Visitor Center Task Force is being formed to serve as a vanguard for the effort.

Dean added that she and the board members envision an architecturally unique "green" facility designed to be a reflection of its environment and to contain features befitting the values and needs of the people who will use the facility. Dean concluded, "This is a once in a lifetime opportunity to make each visitation to the site an exhilarating experience for millions of future guests. We must strive together to make it the best possible facility."

Donations, volunteers to serve on the task force and suggestions may be sent to: Friends of T. C. Steele, Visitor Center Fund, 4220 T. C. Steele Rd., Nashville, IN 47448. Email communications may be forwarded to Mike Quinn Sr., Member of the Board of Directors, at [mjquinnsr@comcast.net](mailto:mjquinnsr@comcast.net).

Updates on the project will be posted on the Friends web site: <http://www.tcsteele.org/>.



Both photos courtesy T.C. Steele State Historic Site

Amber Zaragoza, (above) T.C. Steele Artist in Residence in November 2008, at work in the newly refurbished guest cottage studio. "La Casita," as Mrs. Steele called the cottage, serves as headquarters for the program. Bright colors dominate one of Amber's paintings (top photo). Her untitled autumn scene, (above) is an oil on artist board.

# ANN JOHNSON NAMED VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR



Photo courtesy T.C. Steele State Historic Site

2008 Volunteer of the Year Ann Johnson's cheerful smile has been a familiar sight to historic site visitors for several years. Ann began work as a seasonal employee in 2003, but later decided that by volunteering she could enjoy historic site activities and pursue other interests as well. This year, Ann assisted with every major special event, helped lead innumerable group tours and school field trips, and assisted with daily operations when site staff was short-handed, sometimes at short notice. Museum shop operations have been of particular interest, and among other shop-related tasks, she took on the responsibility of organizing outdoor shops for major events. Ann's upbeat personality, dependability, and extensive "nuts and bolts" knowledge of site operations have made her invaluable as a volunteer. Ann, "thank you" for all you do. Volunteers who contribute

over 25 hours receive free membership in the Friends of T.C. Steele. Special recognition goes to Nancy Schmidt, who has unfalteringly volunteered in the historic site office every week since the spring of 2001. Nancy, a past Volunteer of the Year, contributes by far the highest number of hours each year but modestly declines additional honors. Volunteer Michael Ely, also a past Volunteer of the Year, contributed over 100 hours this year. Other volunteers who earned membership are: Jessica Adam, Linda Badger, Arianna Carini, Greg Dickerson, Fuadi Hilal, Mary Martz, Dorothy Owen, and Martha Tedrowe. Organizations that contributed more than 25 hours included the Brown County Rotary Club, Sherwood Oaks Christian Church, and The Nature Conservancy. "Thank you," to all the volunteers who contributed their time and skills in 2008.

## T.C STEELE 2009 Schedule of Events



### Gardening Series

- MARCH 12** 6:30 p.m. **Gardening panel discussion** on garden design, perennials, flowering shrubs and botanical illustration, (free) panel includes: Davie Kean (Grounds Supervisor, T.C. Steele), Bob Baird (Designscape), Moya Andrews (Local Author), Gillian Harris (Botanical Illustrator)
- MARCH 14** 10:30 a.m. **Recycle art for your garden:** Hummingbird feeders (adults) (\$15) and CD mobiles (youth) (\$5)
- APRIL 18** 11 a.m. **Miss Potter's Tea Party** (\$15) Come in your Sunday best for a tea party and finger food. Share Beatrix Potter books and make some art projects.
- APRIL 24-26** **Wild Fower Foray** Join the T.C. Steele State Historic Site along with many other agencies for a weekend of hiking, identification, and fun. Costs may vary depending on the activity.
- APRIL 28** 6:30 p.m. **National Mystery Writer**, Susan Wittig Albert, (free) will talk about gardening with herbs and her new book, *Wormwood*, to be released in 2009.
- MAY 9** 10 a.m.—4 p.m. **Friends of T.C. Steele plant sale and demonstrations.** Bring your mother to the site for a demo on cooking with herbs at 11 a.m. with Barbara Bowman, Brown County Extension Educator, and a demo on reducing your carbon footprint in the garden at 2 p.m. with Amy Thompson, Monroe County Extension Education. There will be papermaking all day.
- MAY 16** 7 a.m.—3:30 p.m. **Festival of Flowers PaintOut** Artists must pre-register.

### Summer Programs

- JUNE 21** 1—5 p.m. **Sunday at Home**, Join us for some old-fashioned fun!
- Fridays in July** 10 a.m.—2 p.m. **Camp Steele**, \$20/day or \$60 for all four days; campers must register. Spend a day in the life of T.C. Steele, hiking and creating art projects. Grades 4 through 7.
- AUG. 29** 2 p.m. **Science in a box** (\$10) Learn about gravity and motion and make a balance toy.
- SEPT. 12** 7 a.m.—3:30 p.m. **Great Outdoor Art Contest**, Artists must pre-register.



### Fall and Winter Programs

- OCT. 10** 7 p.m. **Murder Mystery** \$30, Have appetizers and dessert in the studio, while solving a crime!
- OCT. 23** 7 p.m. **Ghost tours, stories, & bats** (\$5) Have a ghost tour of the site, listen to spooky stories, and learn about bats.
- NOV. 7** 1 p.m. **Unparalleled - Paisley Shawls** (\$3) Join Barbara Livesey as she explores the history of the paisley shawl and evolving technology. Create your own paisley design and see some shawls up close. There will be a special display in the Studio on Selma Steele's shawl collection starting this month. Don't miss it!
- DEC. 6** 2—4 pm: **Steele's Country Christmas** (\$10) Join us for crafts, Santa and music!

All programs are sponsored by the Friends of T.C. Steele State Historic Site. Friends members will receive a discount on programs. \$1 for programs \$5 and under, \$2 for programs over \$5 but under \$10, and \$3 for programs over \$10.

For more information contact:  
Phone: 812.677.2003 Fax: 812.988.8457  
e-mail: [catkinson@dnr.in.gov](mailto:catkinson@dnr.in.gov) [www.tcsteele.org](http://www.tcsteele.org)



Participants enjoyed doing arts and crafts projects at Camp Steele.

## NEW MEMBERSHIP BENEFIT

Want to visit the Indiana State Museum? Feel like visiting another State Historic Site for an interesting event? Members of the Friends of T.C. Steele will receive added benefits in 2009. A reciprocal agreement has been reached between the Indiana State Museum and most of the State Historic Sites, including T.C. Steele State Historic Site. Members of the various Friends groups and the State Museum Foundation need only show their membership cards to get free admission to the State Museum and the State Historic Sites party to the agreement. Other benefits include 10% discounts in the various museum gift shops. New Harmony and Levi Coffin State Historic Sites, which are operated on contract with local organizations, are not included in the agreement. Other benefits include discounts on special programs at T.C. Steele. Those discounts reflect \$1 off programs that cost \$5 and under, \$2 off programs costing \$5 - \$10, and \$3 off programs over \$10. For updates on this and other developing issues, visit the websites of the Indiana State Museum and the Friends of T. C. Steele.

### MEMBERS

#### INDIVIDUAL (\$25)

Patricia Alberts, Linda Bastin, Thomas Barr, Lynn Barrett, Julia Beasley, James Bishop, Barbara Blair, Michael Bocoock, Lawrence Borst, Patricia Brotherson, Steve Bullington, Pauline Caldwell, Gale Clifton, Howard Creveling, J. Marshall Davis, Mary Ann Davis, Lorraine Davis, Marcia DeBock, Pamela Denny-Rohrbach, Susan Douglas, Cheryl Eyed, Ruellen Fessenbecker, Margaret Franzen, Jack Gallien, Tamara Galm, Mary Louise Graff, Catherine Greene, Jane Grider, Lianna Hall, J. Tyler Handwork, Rita Hart, Carol Hatfield, Lisa Hendry, Greg Hertenstein, Jane Herzog, Robert Hoffman, Claire Houk, Howard Hughes, Corinne Hull, Ruth Ingraham,

John Jacobson, Tina Jernigan, Caroline E. Jones, Marsha Jones, Wanda Jones, Patricia Kruse, Morris Kurz, Anita Leason, Sharon Leavitt, Corona Lewis, Dorothy Lewis, Mary Jo Limp, Herb Louk, Mary Maronde, Beverly Mathis, James McCain, Suprena McAtee, Joan McGowan, Ann McNair, Sharon Middleton, Laura Minzes, Dorothy Morrison, Karen Newell, Susan Norton, Allen Oliver, Anne Pancella, Elizabeth Pantzer, Nancy Peacock, William Percifield, Marilyn Peretti, Clenna Perkins, Elizabeth Perry, Carolyn Pitt, Terry Ransel, George Rapp, Daren Pitts Redman, Ruth Reichmann, Patricia Reitemeier, Paula Riggs, Frederick Rigley, Michelle Ritter, Sarah K. Robinson, Randy Sandler, Gerald Sargent, Cathy Sheets, Jonita Shields, Pat Siddiq, James G. Simms, Jim Smidebush, Cheryl Smith, Carol South, Aaron Spicer, Jan Stewart, Carol Stillinger, Creston Stokes, Denise Stuckey, Jane Sweet, Carol E. Thompson, Janis Thrasher, Andra Walters, Kenneth Winzeler, Cynthia Woods, Judy Young

#### FAMILY (\$40)

Thomas M. Barr, Jana & Chris Bartels, Gary & Patricia Rhoden-Bartels, Thomas M. Barr, Jana & Chris Bartels, Gary & Patricia Rhoden-Bartels, Ann & Dave Bartholomew, Helga & Cyrus Behroozi, Glen & Catherine Bengson, Tom & Beth Bridges, Jaclyn & Bill Brizzard, Tom & Mary Ann Butters, Ellen & Jay Carter, Steve & Selma Cobb, Myron & Linda Cole, Marcia Veldman & Steve Cotter, Richard & Betty Darko, Michael & Marylin Day, Rick & Stephanie Dean, Todd & Melissa DeGroff, William & Barbara Dishman, Steve & Sandy Fittz, Lael & David George, Jim & Connie Glea, Vicki & Tom Gross, Steve & Jo Ham, Eugene & Mary Henderson, James & Susan Hetherington, Corrine & Scott Hull, Linda Hunt & Tim Morrison, Richard & Alice Johnson, Monika & Peter Kroener, Linda Lau, Bill & Pat Lloyd, Charles & Katherine Matson, Spencer & Doreen Maxcy, Ed & Ann McEnderfer, Amy Metzger & Jeff Becker, Andrew & Candy Morrison, Arthur & Dorothy Mussett, John & Peggy Obergfell, Robert Ochs, Robert & Mary Orben, David & Dorothy Owen, William & Virginia Percifield, Anthony & Patricia Pizzo, Michael Quinn, Jr., David & Therese Ransel, Dr. & Mrs. George Rapp, Sarah Robinson & B.L. Bruner, Tom & Ursula Roberts,

Mr. & Mrs. James Ross, Richard & Carol Routh, Mark Schauss, Cathy Sheets & Family, Greg & Sue Speichert, Linda & Phil Stafford, Don & Laura Stuart, Judy Stewart & Michael Fulton, Layton & Donna Tackett, Francis & Alice Thompson, Jinny & Mark Thompson,

#### SUPPORTING (\$100)

Don Gilbert, Mary Louise Graff, Greg Hertenstein, Frank Hrisomalos, Ruth Ingraham, Jenny Johnson, Wanda Jones, Judith & Emanuel Klein, Paul & Kim Mannweiler, Martha & David Nord, Michael Quinn, Sr., Cheryl Smith, Robert & Carol Steele, Donna & Layton Tackett, Ursula & Tom Roberts, Barbara Zeig

#### SPONSOR (\$200)

Alice & Henry Gray, Emmanuel & Judith Klein, Donald & Patricia Neubacher

#### LIFETIME (\$1000)

Cathy & Gary Anderson and family, Susan & Harold Apple, Patricia Rhoden-Bartels, William Fortune & Joseph Blakely, Elaine Ewing Fess, Stephen Fess, Richard Ford, Betty & Frank Hrisomalos, Clarence Long, Mrs. Ralph Love, Julia & Warren Payne, (in memory of George & Oneida Payne), Rachel Perry, Patricia Pizzo, Jane & J.B. Ranier, Ann & William Roha, (in memory of

Heydon Franzen), Brown County Psi Iota Xi Indiana Association, Psi Iota Xi

#### ADDITIONAL GIFTS FOR PROJECTS

Beth & Tom Bridges (\$25)  
Mary Ann & Tom Butters (\$25)  
Alice & Richard Johnson (\$10)  
Wanda Jones (\$200)  
Monika & Peter Kroener (\$10)  
Mary Maronde (\$25)  
Katherine & Charles Matson (\$10)  
Dorothy & Arthur Mussett (\$10)  
Elizabeth Perry (\$10)  
Patricia & Anthony Pizzo (\$60)  
Carol Thompson (\$25)  
Treasure Hunters Antique Club (\$50)

#### EARNED MEMBERSHIPS (25 OR MORE HOURS VOLUNTEERED)

Jessica Adam, Linda Badger, Ariana Carini, Greg Dickerson, Michael Ely, Ann Johnson, Mark Jordan, Mary Martz, Nathan Mathis, Dot Owen, Nancy Schmidt, Rotary Club of Brown County, Martha Tedrowe

#### Didn't see your name?

If you've recently become a Friend of T.C. Steele, but your name does not appear in the list above, please note that these names were received before this newsletter went to the printer. We appreciate your patronage and assure you that your membership will be noted at a future date.