



The Volunteer

RoxAnn Raisner, Director

In Legal Bondage

What we know about the indentured servants at Stephenson House

By RoxAnn Grabowski Raisner, Director



At Stephenson House we have the opportunity to focus our interpretive program on everyday life of indentured servants in Illinois during the early 19th century. It is our responsibility as stewards of history to pay homage to the individuals who had little choice in the direction of their own lives. Unfortunately, little is known about the indentured servants who lived and worked for the Stephensons. No diary or first-hand account has been discovered to date, and references to the servants are limited. Therefore we must rely on a variety of sources to piece together an interpretive scenario for visitors—one that is based on fact, and not on assumptions or stereotypes.

According to Northwest Ordinance of 1787, Illinois territorial laws, and later state laws, Illinois was “free.” This technically meant that slavery was illegal within Illinois’s boundaries. But there were many interpretations of the meaning of “free person.” In order to encourage emigration into the territory from the American South, exceptions to the antislavery laws were allowed. These exceptions were stated in territorial legislation in 1803, 1805, and 1807.

In 1803 the law “established a system by which slavery existed under the guise of voluntary servitude.” Laws restricting the “length of term of servitude” in 1805 strengthened the foothold of slaveholders in the territory by establishing Black Codes. The 1807 act permitted “owners of any negroes or mulattoes, of and above the age of 15 years, and owing service and labor as

slaves in any of the States or Territories of the United States, to introduce said negroes and mulattoes into that Territory.” The second section of this act stated that “the master or owner should, within thirty days after such removal, go with the slave before the Clerk of the Court of Common Pleas, and agree with such slave upon the number of years which the latter should serve his master, and that the Clerk should make a record of such agreements, or indenture.” The act also established that, if a slave refused to be indentured, the owner had 60 days to remove the slave from the territory (“Slavery in Illinois,” *New York Times*, 1854).

The initial sections of the 1807 act seem to account for the legality of indenturing adults. But what about children? Were they considered free upon their arrival in Illinois Territory? The fifth section “provided further for the introduction of negroes and mulattoes under the age of 15 years, and authorized their owners to hold the same to service or labor—the males until they arrived at the age of 35 years and the females until they arrived at the age of 32 years.” Another section of the act dealt with the legality of indenturing children born to indentured parents, stating that “the children born in said Territory, of a parent of color, owing service or labor by indenture, according to the law, should serve the master or mistress of such parent.” Male children were required to serve to the age of 30, and females to the age of 28 (“Slavery in Illinois”). So while slavery was technically illegal within Illinois Territory, and later the state, Illinois lawmakers had established a legal loophole for the continuation of legal bondage lasting much of the 19th century.

The legislation of 1807 cleared the way for slaveholders to enter newly opened Illinois Territory in 1809. Among those settlers were Ben and Lucy Stephenson’s family. When the Stephensons arrived in Kaskaskia from Kentucky in 1809, they brought with them three slaves: Tobe (age 23), Winn (age 18) and Hark (age 15 years and 6 months). It appears that Lucy had inherited at least one of the slaves from her father’s estate when he died in 1793. According to the will of Van Swearingen, Lucy received “the sum of fifty pounds

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June 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 Book Club 7-9 p.m.	3	4	5 Family Fun Day Marbleizing Paper
6	7	8	9	10 Kinder Care 9:30-10:15 a.m. 12+/- Pre-K <hr/> Kinder Care 1-2 p.m. 25+/- k-3rd	11	12
13 Sewing Circle 1-3 p.m. <hr/> American Sewing Guild TOUR, 12-2 p.m., 10 Adults <hr/> Vintage Chevy Club 12-1:30 p.m. 25+/- Adults	14	15	16	17	18	19 Story Time 1-2 p.m.
20	21	22	23	24	25	26 Garden Talk 9:30a.m.: Fruit Trees
	Mrs. Lucy's Academy for Young Ladies (a.m. only) →					 Volunteer Party 5:30 p.m.
27 Sewing Circle 1-3 p.m.	28	29	30			

Calendar Activities

June 2—Book Club, 7 p.m. This month's selection is entitled "The Last Founding Father - James Monroe and a Nation's Call to Greatness" by Harlow Giles Unger. Club members plan to meet at Café Avanti located at 217 E. Vandalia, Edwardsville.

June 5 – Family Fun Day: Marbleizing Paper, General Admission plus \$2 per participant for supplies
Bring the whole family for an adventure in historical hands-on fun! Learn how to make marbleized paper then take your creation home. Marbleized paper was used for a variety of purposes in 1820 including book covers, hat boxes and decorative arts. This activity is something adults and children will enjoy. Prepare to get messy! No registration necessary since the activity takes place throughout the day. An additional fee of \$2 per participant is charged in order to cover supply expenses. *Children must be accompanied by an adult.*

June 10—Kinder Care Tour, 9:30-10:15 a.m., 12+/- Pre-K

June 10—Kinder Care Tour, 1-2 p.m., 25+/- K-3rd

June 13—American Sewing Guild Tour, 10+/- Adults, 12-2 p.m.

June 13—Vintage Chevy Club Tour, 25+/- Adults, 12-1 p.m.

June 13—Sewing Circle, 1-3 p.m. *Free*
(Meets each month on the second and fourth Sunday.)

Bring any period sewing or needlecraft project to share and/or work on in a relaxed setting. Period sewing instruction and help are available to those wanting to advance their skills in the production of period garments. Both ladies and gentlemen are welcome to participate.

June 19 – Story time at the Stephenson House, 1-2 p.m., *free*
Gather under the old shade tree (weather permitting) to listen to stories of adventure and fun. During the months of June through September guest storytellers will entertain visiting children with stories of the past, fantastical worlds and distant cultures. *Children must be accompanied by an adult.*

June 21-25—Mrs. Lucy's Academy for Young Ladies
9a.m.-12 p.m. Ages 8-10. Limit of 10-12 girls. **\$65 per child**
Young ladies attending the Academy will discover what it was like to be a real American girl in 1820. Participants dress in reproduction clothing similar to styles worn in the early 1800s. A variety of activities are planned including learning basic manners and etiquette, creating a journal/sketchbook, simple music instruction, tea customs, watercolor painting, making a watercolor travel kit and much more. At the end of the camp, a tea will be hosted by participants for their mothers (or fathers) utilizing all the skills learned during the week. Dress size needed. Pre-registration is required.

June 26 – Garden Talk: Fruit Trees, 9:30 a.m., *free*
Conducted in the orchard by an experienced gardener, this 30-minute informative talk introduces participants to the basics of growing fruit trees. Weather permitting.

June 26—Volunteer Appreciation Party, 5:30 p.m. See page 7 for details.

June 27—Sewing Circle, 1-3 p.m. *Free*
(Meets each month on the second and fourth Sunday.)
Bring any period sewing or needlecraft project to share and/or work on in a relaxed setting. Period sewing instruction and help are available to those wanting to advance their skills in the production of period garments. Both ladies and gentlemen are welcome to participate.

Meet Kate Durbin, Summer Intern



I grew up in the small farm community of Hopedale, Illinois approximately 35 miles southeast of Peoria. I attended Illinois Central College in East Peoria, where I discovered my love of art history and received an Associate's degree in Art. While attending ICC, I worked at a local bank and volunteered at the Peoria Art Guild, where I was able to enhance my understanding of the importance art has on our community. At the Guild, I served as a committee member for the Fine Art Fair and the Junction City Art Fair, where I was able to interact with the artists as well as involve myself with the overall planning and execution of the fairs. After receiving my Associate's degree, I transferred to Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, where I pursued and completed my Bachelor's degree in Art History. I am currently pursuing a Museum Studies Certificate at SIUE providing me an in-depth understanding of museum operations. I am excited to be at the Benjamin Stephenson House and look forward to the wonderful opportunities!

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lawful money, or a small Negro girl to that value to her, and to her Heirs and assigns forever...." The "negro girl" is not named, but in two cases someone named Win is mentioned in the document. The seventh paragraph bequeaths "unto my said wife one Negro girl by the name of Ester, and her daughter Win...but the said Negro Win, with all of the offspring of said Negro Ester (if any more) to equally divided between her the said Elenor Swearingen's three children...." In the second reference, in paragraph thirteen, Swearingen directed that "when my estate is fully settled by my Executors, that my Negro woman Win, be set free by my Executors...." Which reference is to the Winn who emigrated to Illinois in 1809? It appears that the negro female registered in Randolph County in 1809 would be the younger of the two females named in Swearingen's will, daughter of Ester. The 1809 Kaskaskia indenture lists Winn as 18, putting her birth year about 1791, which is consistent with Swearingen's description.

The will also indicates that Lucy's brother Van inherited "one mulatto boy by the name of Isaak, generally known by the name of Toby who is to become free at the Age of twenty eight years." Again, the 1809 Kaskaskia indenture registration and Swearingen's will support the idea that the "mulatto male" owned by Ben and Lucy is the same "mulatto boy" bequeathed to Lucy's brother. When Ben and Lucy's servant Tobe was registered in Randolph County, his indenture listed him as a 23-year-old "mulatto" male with the following notation: "THIS NEGRO WAS TO BE FREED BY A FORMER EMANCIPATION AT 28 YEARS OF AGE. TOBE WAS 23 YEARS AND 9 MONTHS OLD AT TIME OF ENTRY. HE WAS TO SERVE 4 YEARS AND 3 MONTHS." We are not sure how Lucy ended up with both Tobe and Winn, nor where the third servant, Hark, was obtained. But all three are documented in November 1809 as servants indentured to the Stephenson family. Unfortunately, nothing more than term of indenture (45 years for Hark, 30 for Winn) and sex is included in Winn's and Hark's official terms of indenture.

Documents in the Illinois state archive show that, over the many years that the Stephensons lived in Illinois, they bought and sold at least 11 indentured servants. Eleven indenture records associated with Ben have been found, as well as two different bills of sale for servants sold by Lucy. Whether the Stephensons owned more indentured servants we can only speculate. While some speculation is good, we cannot let it overtake what we can prove as fact. In order to present the history of the known servants, we must be sure to clarify fact from speculation.



Documentation of the servants begins with Winn, Hark and Tobe, the three slaves originally brought to Kaskaskia in 1809. The following year, five indentured servants were listed as part of Ben's household in Randolph County's 1810 federal census. Indenture registrations for June 12, 1810, show the addition of two further servants that year: Deborah (age 3) and Hannah (age 25). Both are listed as female, negro, and "Removed from Kentucky." Deborah was bound to serve 29 years of indenture, while Hannah would serve 30. It is obvious that Deborah was born into indentured servitude, as her term of service is in accordance with territorial legislation of 1807. We might assume that Hannah was Deborah's mother, but there is no proof of this. We are also unsure where in Kentucky the woman and girl were obtained. Were they bought at auction? Purchased through private sale? Inherited from



another family member?

An interesting item dated June 14, 1817, in the St. Louis *Missouri Gazette* gives insight into the life of one servant under Stephenson's ownership. A published letter from Major Ambrose Whitlock, district paymaster during the War of 1812, accuses Ben of mustering a "black man as a soldier in a company of militia" and attempting to claim pay for the man as both an individual soldier and a "personal servant." Whitlock claims that Stephenson was cheating the government but that, through his own attention to payroll, the crime was averted. This information reveals that one of Stephenson's male indentured servants received pay as a soldier from the U.S. government during the war. No muster lists have yet been found to indicate the name of this servant, but research is ongoing. It is interesting that, by the time Illinois's state constitution was written in 1818, it was illegal for either slaves or indentured servants to serve in the militia. Stephenson himself was one of 33 men who wrote and signed that document.

Research has not provided any information regarding Stephenson servants between 1813 and 1816. References to the servants do not appear again until 1817, when the family moved from Kaskaskia to Edwardsville, and new county indentures were filed with the courts. Madison County records show registrations for seven indentured servants on January 15, 1817: Winn, Hark, Debb (age 9), Barksley (age 42 days), Caroline (age 4), Louisa (age 2), and Moriah (age 6). Information provided for Madison County indentures is minimal. A simple notation of "Indentured in Randolph County and then moved to Madison" is all that is listed for Hark and Winn. A bit more information is noted for the five children. The sex and age are given for all four females, but race is left blank. The females also have the following notation: "Moved with Stephenson from Randolph County to Madison County." Obviously Ben obtained Caroline, Louisa, and Moriah after 1810, but when and where remain a mystery. It is possible that they were children of other servants owned by Stephenson, or that they were purchased from parts unknown. Barksley, the only male child listed, "moved from Randolph to Madison with Stephenson." No information is available about the identity of his mother, but his very young age suggests that she was still with him. The only adult female listed in 1817 is Winn, who would have been 26 years old, but the possibility of her being Barksley's mother is only speculation, based on available information.

The 1817 Madison County indentures raise interesting questions. What happened to the servant Hannah, who was registered in Randolph County in 1810? Was she freed? Was she sold? Who were the parents of all of the children registered in 1817? Was Tobe set free, as suggested in the notation on his 1810 Randolph County indenture? If so, where is his record of emancipation? Were Hark and Winn married? Where were their parents? Were some or all of the additional children? Why do we not find official Randolph County indentures for the children who were added between 1810 and 1817?

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In 1818, Illinois Territory finally became a state. The first official state census was conducted, to allow for accurate elected representation. Benjamin Stephenson provided the following information for his household.

Free white males 21 years and older	1
All white inhabitants	6
Free persons of color	0
Servant or slaves	8

Census records at this time listed only the name of the head of household and a total for each category. But we can make educated guesses on individual names from what we already know. The “free white male” is clearly Ben. The “white inhabitants” are Ben, Lucy, Julia, James, Elvira, and Ben V. To determine the identities of “servants or slaves,” we need to refer to the indentures from the previous year. These records document seven servants living with the Stephensons: Winn, Hark, Debb, Caroline, Louisa, Moriah, and Barksley. The eighth “servant or slave” is the only unknown. Currently, there is no indenture registration available to shed light on this nameless person or his or her gender.

The next mention of Stephenson servants occurs on the 1820 federal census. Again, only the name of head of the household is listed, with a total number of residents given for age and race. Benjamin Stephenson reported the following numbers. (Names of family members have been added here, and did not appear on the original record.)

Free white males under ten years	1	(Ben V.)
Free white males of ten and under sixteen	1	(James)
Free white males of forty five and upwards, including heads of families	1	(Ben)
Free white females under ten years	1	(Elvira)
Free white females of twenty six and under forty-five, including heads of families	1	(Lucy)
Persons engaged in Agriculture	3	
Male slaves of fourteen and under twenty-six	2	
Female slaves under fourteen	4	
Female slaves of twenty six and under forty five	1	
Free colored persons, males of fourteen and under twenty-six	1	
Free colored persons, females of fourteen and under twenty-six	1	

Assuming accuracy in the numbers above, we are faced with a new set of questions. Examination indicates that some servants are no longer with the household. What has happened to Barksley? The only reference to male children indicates two between the ages of 14 and 26. Barksley was only 42 days old in 1817, when he was registered as Ben’s indentured servant. In 1820 he would have been about three years of age, but there is no listing in the federal census of a child that young. Did he die? Was he sold? Are the 1820 census figures wrong? And who are the two “male slaves of fourteen and under twenty-six” counted on the record? It is probable that one of these is Hark. At the time of the census, Hark would have been about 26. According to probate records for purchases at Isaac Prickett’s store the

following year, Ben or Lucy bought “1 checked shirt for Hark” on June 11, 1821, indicating he was still part of the household at that time. We



can assume that the four female children are Debb (aka Dot), Louisa, Moriah, and Caroline. It is also likely that the adult female slave is Winn. But who are the two free persons of color living with the family?

In July 1821, two more servants were legally registered to Benjamin Stephenson. The first was an adult male, age unknown, by the name of Jess. He was legally claimed as property on July 1, along with his nine-month-old son Washing Will. Again, the registrations provide only tantalizing bits of information. Jess’s record tells us that his registration was an indenture, that his race was negro, and that he was

“father of Washing[ton?] Will.” Washing Will’s record states that he was being “registered” as an indentured servant (probably for the first time) and that he was the “son of Jess...Born October 5, 1820.” Where did these two individuals come from? How did Stephenson come to own them?

An autumn 1821 item in the Edwardsville *Spectator* sheds possible light on the intellectual and spiritual life of Stephenson’s servants. A report by the managers of the Female Sunday School Society, dated August 2, advised the community of that “[t]wo schools have now for some months been open regularly on the Sabbath, and have been attended, as we believe, with pleasure by those who are most in need of instruction.” One of the Sunday schools was “for the exclusive benefit of coloured people, who attend with great regularity and receive with gratitude and delight that instruction, which (we would observe) cannot otherwise be easily afforded them.” According to this report, there was a shortage of teachers to assist at this school, and the managers pleaded that the “benevolent will come forward and contribute by a trifling exertion to open the minds, and correct the morals of a portion of our race which by a series of oppressions has been debased to a grade of ignorance and vice, from which nothing but the benignant efforts of moral instruction can arouse them.” Lucy Stephenson was acting secretary for the society at this time. It is possible that, as part of her duties, she was responsible for submitting this report for public consideration.

There are no known indentures associated with the Stephenson household after 1821. Available probate records give some information, but it is limited. However, Dr. Sid Denny has pieced together a timeline of goods purchased by the family over several years, and these records allow us valuable insight into daily life at the house—fabrics and notions for sewing, medicines, and merchandise bought for specific servants. One bill from Isaac Prickett’s store, for example, gives enough detail about three separate purchases that we actually know for whom the items were intended.

Isaac Prickett & Co store

June 11, 1821 1 checked shirt for Hark [no price given]

May 2, 1822 One pair shoes for Dot \$2.50

June 13, 1822 For one pair pumps for Dot \$2.50

Deb (also known as Dot) would have been about 14 years old in 1822, when shoes were bought for her. It is interesting that two pairs were bought for the same servant in as many months. There are also three additional shoe purchases during this time, but no reference is made to their intended wearers: one pair of long or ball boots (\$3), one pair of pumps (\$2.50), and one pair of coarse shoes (\$2.50).

Unfortunately, tragedy struck the Stephensons in late 1822. Life for the entire household changed when Ben died of malaria on October 10.





Because he had no will, his estate began the long process of probate. An inventory was taken of all household contents, while bills owed by Stephenson to others, as well as debts that others owed to him, were recorded for payment. It would be several years before the legal issues ended.

Research is still being conducted on the laws applying to 1822 probate procedures, and to Lucy's rights as a widow. It is not clear if Lucy was required by law to sell the entire contents of the house and out-buildings, or whether she was allowed to keep certain items considered imperative to her (and to the children's) survival (i.e., a widow's dower). It is clear that certain household items were not included in the estate auction on November 19, 1822. But whether these exclusions were part of a dower, or were quietly accomplished so that the family could retain ownership, we do not know. The house and land themselves were not auctioned in 1822. Lucy herself managed to keep legal ownership until 1828, and both house and land remained within the family until 1834.

At the estate auction in November 1822, all items listed on the household inventory were sold. Included in this were "one negro man and four children." A value of \$1000 was estimated for the five servants. Lucy bought all five servants back from the estate for a total of \$401. Names of the five servants were not given in the inventory or the auction records. But it is likely, based on other known documents, that three of the four children were Debb, Caroline, and Washing Will. The identity of the adult male is unknown. It could be Hark, Jess, or the nameless male (age 14-26) listed on the 1820 census. But why were only five servants sold? What happened to Winn, Moriah, and Louisa? Perhaps these servants were sold on a previous date. Or perhaps they were removed from the household before the

inventory, to prevent their sale. We hope that future research will answer these questions.

Of all of the servants associated with the Stephenson house, the one for whom we have the most detail is undoubtedly Caroline. We can trace her from her registration in Madison County in 1817 to her release from indentured servitude in 1839. She began her life of servitude with the Stephensons, where she remained until Lucy sold her to William H. Brown in the 1820s or early 1830s. We can document two other owners for Caroline—William Limm and William Haskett of Vandalia—before she finally gained her freedom on November 23, 1839. At the time of her emancipation, Caroline would have been about 26 years old, although the emancipation states 29. A brief physical description, given as part of the emancipation document, even provides a vague portrait of the former slave.

Five feet Two inches in heighth[,] about Twenty Nine years of Age
[.] Scar over left Eye[.] Also a scar on the left wrist and on the back
of the left Hand[.]

What happened to Caroline after her emancipation is currently unknown. Tracing her is next to impossible without more information. We do not know what her last name may have been, whether she married, if she had children, or when or where she died.

Another Stephenson servant for whom we have certain personal information is Jess. Madison County court records shows that, in March 1827, Lucy's servant Jess Price agreed to be sold for \$300 to James Mason. It is assumed that this Jess is the same servant who, along with his son Washing Will, was indentured to the family in July 1821. The exact reason for the 1827 sale is unknown. Ultimately, Jess benefited greatly from this exchange, as he gained his freedom some time within the next two years. The 1830 Madison County census lists Jess Price as a "free person of color." Also listed in the census with Jess are family members of assorted ages.

Children under ten years old	5
Male children of ten and under twenty-four	1
Male of thirty-six and under fifty-five	1
Female of twenty-four and under thirty-six	1

Without names or an outline of relationships, we must speculate that these individuals are Jess's wife and children. It is interesting to note that, in at least one other documented instance, James Mason purchased a local indentured servant, only to free that person shortly afterward. Could this have been Mason's intent when he bought Jess?

The 1830 census also tells us a little about Lucy's changing household. Lucy was still living at the house she and Ben had built in 1821, but according to the census the head of household was her son-in-law Palemon Winchester. At this point in time, the family no longer owned indentured servants, although there are three "free person of color" listed.

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Male male under ten	1
Male of ten and under twenty-four	1
Female of ten and under twenty-four	1

Fifteen people in total were living at Stephenson House in 1830. What had happened to all of the servants? Who are the three “free persons of color”? Again, detailed historical documentation is not currently available to shed light on these nameless individuals. It is possible that the “free persons” were former indentured servants who chose to remain in the only life that they had known, with a family that they may have viewed as their own. Perhaps they were paid to work at the house, performing the same duties that they had as indentured servants.

A tantalizing reference is made by Lucy herself in a letter dated June 15, 1831. It is potentially an important reference to three of the children formerly indentured to the family. Lucy tells her friend Patty Canal that

Mary, her father & Wash have gone to Ohio, Louisa is going to the female school in the house where Elvira lived last winter.

While more research is necessary to prove that the names mentioned in the letter are those of former servants, all three names are those of indentured servants owned by Ben and Lucy in the 1810s to early 1820s. Mary is often a nickname for Moriah, and we know that a Moriah came from Randolph County with the family in 1817. Wash is possibly Washing Will, indentured with his father Jess in 1821. And it is probable that Louisa is the two-year-old child listed in 1817 on Madison County indentures, making her 16 years old at the time of the letter. If these three individuals are in fact former indentured servants, then it is interesting to note the reference to Louisa’s attendance at school. Research is currently under way to learn more about the female school mentioned in this letter, and whether the individuals mentioned are in fact former servants.

By 1840, several Stephenson family members were well-established residents of Carlinville, Illinois. Lucy had sold her Federal-style home to Elvira Edwards in 1834, and the household was much reduced in size after her move to Carlinville. Living with Lucy at the time of the 1840 census were one white male (age 20-30), one white female (age 15-20), and one free male of color (age 10-24). Again, information is not available to identify any of the individuals listed, and we can only speculate about the identity of the “free male of color.” It may have been Wash. Unfortunately, Lucy passed away before the 1850 census. Her elder daughter, Julia Stephenson Winchester, is listed in the 1850 census with her own family. But there is no mention of slaves, indentured servants, or free persons of color in the Winchester household. Nor have records of emancipation or indenture been found, associated with that family.

The servants of Stephenson House are one of the most intriguing aspects of the home’s history, but the one about which we know the least. Additional research regarding the indentured servants will be ongoing. As new information is found, the details of the servants’ lives will add richness and depth to the story of early Edwardsville, the Stephenson family, and slavery in a “free” state.

News & Needful Things

THANK YOU:

Thank you, Elizabeth Bowling, for the donation of wool, salt, sugar and cinnamon.

Thank you, Chuck Schroder, for the wool pants that will be used in a rag rug workshop.

Thank you, Roger Weber, for giving the house copies of photos he took of the house this spring.

Thank you, Mike & Celeste Rockwell, for giving the copper pitcher and drinking mugs to the kitchen.

Thank you, Valerie Klebenow, for donating the antique wave iron to the house collection.

Thank you, Joe & Kathy Weber, for giving the house the 19th century Staffordshire figurine to the house collection.

Thank you, Walt & RoxAnn Raisner, for the shoes given to the wardrobe and set of 19th century playing cards.

Thank you, Jim Couch, for making new graces sticks for the toy basket!

WANTED:

- medium-weight linen for ladies’ mitts
- seamstresses to sew men’s trousers and ladies’ shifts for the wardrobe
- cutting knives with wooden handles (no serrated edges)
- child’s and male dress forms (torsos)
- period forks and knives

Volunteer Appreciation Party!

June 26 @ 5:30 p.m.

Stephenson House wants to say “Thank You” to all of our wonderful volunteers. Join us on the patio for a potluck. We will provide the main course and drinks but ask attendees to bring a treat to share. Please RSVP with RoxAnn or Kate.



Upcoming Summer Camps

Mrs. Lucy's Academy for Young Ladies

JUNE 21-25, 2010

9a.m.-12 p.m. Ages 8-10. Limit of 10-12 girls.

\$65 per child

Young ladies attending the Academy will discover what it was like to be a real American girl in 1820. Participants dress in reproduction clothing similar to styles worn in the early 1800s. A variety of activities are planned including learning basic manners and etiquette, creating a journal/sketchbook, simple music instruction, tea customs, watercolor painting, making a watercolor travel kit and much more. At the end of the camp, a tea will be hosted by participants for their mothers (or fathers) utilizing all the skills learned during the week. Dress size needed. Pre-registration is required.

1820 Wilderness Camp

JULY 19-23, 2010

9a.m.-12 p.m. Open to children entering grades 5th-8th. Limited to 15 students.

\$65 per child

This camp teaches the basics of survival in the wilds of the Illinois Frontier. Instructors will educate participants about wild

plants, identifying different types of trees, starting a camp fire, cooking a simple meal, identifying animal tracks, sewing a simple hunting bag, items needed to fill the hunting bag and much more. Pre-registration is required.

Kids in the 1820 Kitchen (All Openings are Filled)

AUGUST 2-6, 2010

9a.m.-12p.m. Open to children entering grades 5th-8th. Limited to 6 students.

\$65 per child

Spend a week in the Stephenson House kitchen learning how to churn butter, make candles, bake bread, wash clothes, watch a demonstration of how to make soap, create a recipe journal and much more. At the end of the camp, students would receive a t-shirt with a drawing of the 1820 kitchen and the logo "***I Baked My Buns in the Stephenson House Kitchen!***" Pre-registration is required.

For More Information or to register call....

618-692-1818

The Volunteer

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