

METAMORA ASSOCIATION FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION

NEWSLETTER

April 2021



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NEW (OLD) ISCH'S PICS

A huge Metamora thanks to local historian Phil Fischer for his contribution of these very old Isch's and Abersol Corner pics. And an extra "thanks" to Charisa for helping with them.

It appears that the house below is the store before it was moved next door and the brick structures were built. The structure still stands as a private residence. Did you notice those old wooden sidewalks? Keep your shoes on!

Can anyone help with the crew standing behind the candy counter? Does anyone remember that counter? Looks really good and undoubtedly local, as well!

In the lower right hand picture, here's Ischs showing both sections. For you car enthusiasts, any idea the make and year of the car? Pretty neat! Note that the corner of the lot across the street where Dollar General now stands is not built on yet.



From the 1951 Parrot –

With spring here, thought you might like to see what the “boys of spring” were doing in 1951 – 70 years ago!

THE PARROT
Wins 43rd Annual County T

COUNTY CHAMPIONS



First row, left to right: Jim Zimmerman, Luke Schrock, Bob Chilcot, Gene Schlabach, Capt. Harry Neumann, Don Zimmerman, Phil Fandel.
 Second row, left to right: Wayne Rassi, Jim Welte, Howard Elbert, Dick Herring, Bob Mason, Jack Fries, Clem Ioerger, Jack Gaetz, Don Fandel, Bill Zimmerman, Dick Dehority, Jim Wiltz, Dick Etter.

Neumann Wins Mile in District; Fourth in State Meet May 19

Harold Neumann proved himself to be one of the best Illinois high school distance men by placing fourth in the state mile event. Neumann, THS's greatest distance man, was the first Metamora track man to place in a state meet. Harry gained the right to appear in Champaign by winning the Peoria

district. Breaking the tape three full strides ahead of Peoria Woodruff's Bob Wagler, Capt. Neumann broke the 14 year mile record of Gene Foster by two tenths of a second. After a speedy :62 quarter and a sizzling 2:12 half, Neumann sped by the finish line at 4:35.5. Harold disposed of Woodruff Warrior's Wagler and Charlie Hakes with a blistering stretch kick.

At the state meet Neumann placed behind Steve Murphy of Chicago, Charles Matheny of Paris, and Bob Sath of Proviso. Murphy's running time was 4:25.4. This was just four and two tenths seconds off the national mark of Lou Zamperini.

This ends Neumann's brilliant season and high school career in track. A season in which he has broken six records. A career in

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Streator Eliminates Redbird Nine, 6-1

Metamora High school dropped its first start in the IHSA-sponsored state series of baseball tournaments, suffering a 6-1 loss at the hands of Streator in the Mid-County district meet at Varna Tuesday afternoon.

With the score tied at 1-1, Streater pushed across four runs in the third frame to settle the outcome. They scored their other run in the sixth.

Jim Wiltz was the only Redbird to hit safely as Bob Hayes held them to only two hits. Both were singles.

The winners put together eight hits, three for extra bases, off Durward Guth, who gave eight free passes and hit one batsman. Singer

880-yd. run—Won by Neumann (M); second, Schrock (M); third, Mason (E); fourth, Bob Dehority (P); fifth, Hoke (M-D). Time: 13.
 Discus throw—Won by Bernhardt (P); second, Billy Miller (B); third, Arvin Ioerger (M); fourth, Rapp (E). Distance: 110'3".
 Pole vault—Won by Roger Keller (J); two-way tie for second between 6 Davies (R) and Harley Aeschlim (R); fourth, Dick Reeser (E); th, Duane Quiram (W). Height: '6".
 Shot put—Won by Schroeder (W); second, Woltzen (M-D); third, Gene Schlabach (M); fourth, Don Heck (J); fifth, Jack Fries (M). Distance: 46'5".
 High jump—Won by Klendworth (D); second, Jerry Steffen (E); third, Arnold Tully (B); fourth, Dick Dehority (M); two-way tie for fifth between Frank Knapp (E) and Ward (R). Height: 5'7".
 Broad jump—Won by Vandegraff (P); second, Klendworth (M-D); third, Keller (E); fourth, Damerell (J); fifth, Eldon Roche (R). Distance: 19'4 1/2".
 880-yd. relay—Won by Minorka (Davis, Bill Oren, Hartzler, Klendworth); second, El Paso (Gars, Bernhardt, Vandegraff, Tate); third, Eureka (Hohulin, R. Knapp, Miller, Adams); fourth, Benson (Lank, Smilie, Yunge, Miller). Time: 1:40.6.

make General "Mac" look like a private.
 It all began in the county track meet four years ago when Harry ran the mile for the first time and placed fifth. In his sophomore year he won the Illio and tied for first in the County mile. Neumann entered the 880 in the Illio his junior year and set the record at 2:08.5. At the Delavan relays he won the mile. In the Woodford county meet that year he won both the mile and the 880. Harold climaxed his Junior year by running the Peoria district 880 at 2:04.4. Of course, Harold's record this year speaks for itself.

For 1951-52

Due to Miss Fox's illness at the time, the GAA Revue was not given as regularly scheduled. It was given as an all school assembly before the close of school.

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Eight Lettermen Bolster Baseball Nine

Braving wind, rain and snow the 1951 Metamora baseball squad started practice on March 28. Twenty-four men answered Coach Larson's call for manpower. Included in this group are eight lettermen. Veteran pitchers back for another season are Durward Guth, Jim Wiltz and Jim Seckler. In the infield, Gene Schlabach will be seeking the initial sack for the third consecutive season. Milford Broers is back to reclaim the keystone sack, and Dick Dehority is the leading contender for the hot corner. The only letterman returning to the outfield is Capt. Jim Zimmerman. The eighth letterman is Jack Gaetz, catcher.

There are several promising looking candidates who will make the veterans hustle to maintain their positions.

The other diamond prospects are: Seniors, Bob Chilcot, Dick Goldsmith and Leo Kiesewetter; juniors, Willis Bachman, Marvin Elbert, Dick Etter, Jack Fries, a transfer base-



From the 1951 Christian Union Church History

Who is this curly headed boy?

Recognize this guy?? You've seen him probably a million times. But we're not going to tell you who he is. You have to guess. He's still around town and we can "insure" you that he hasn't changed much since this picture was taken. Well, maybe a little... Who is he??

The answer will be in the Newsletter in the June edition which comes out at the end of May. If your curiosity is simply overwhelming and you can't wait until then, just send us an email and we'll let you know who it is.





THE FELLOWSHIP CLASS

Front Row: Mae Grob, Lois Doak, Leota Jagers, Wilma Malone, Clara Barclay, Jessie Riley, Madeline Sullivan, Hugh Malone.

Second Row: Ione Seeber, Betty Laitas, Reverend Riley, Charles Abel, Grace Engel, Lois Keys, Mary Wagner.



NURSERY CLASS

Marilyn Voelker, Carol Stephenson, Jackie Voelker, Gerry Stephenson, Shelia Lewis, Sharon Larson, Dale Trotter, Jeanne Laitas, Greg Seeber, Curt Robinson, Sue Ellen Baxter, Jimmy Keely, Johnny Todden, Beverly Larson, Johnny Keys.

Thanks to Linda and John for these Christian Union pictures

Staying Cool – Pre-Air Conditioning! Thanks to Carl and Mary for donating a set of old-time hand fans that were given out by local businesses as promotional gifts. You can find pictures of them on our Facebook page.

Google Maps – 1913 Style One of our favs – Larry – sent us the entire King’s Official Route Guide. This guide was printed in 1913 and includes turn-by-turn directions between many towns in the Midwest. The last page of this newsletter below is the partial instructions page on driving from Peoria to Chillicothe – over “some sandy and gravel roads.” Just wondered how drivers were able to read the guide and follow the directions and still keep their Model T on the road. Travel must have been a real adventure!

How Things Change! Another one of our favorite readers, Ron, sent copies of two of his pay sheets for shoveling snow for the Courthouse in 1962. Ron put in 10 hours in eight days in January, 1962. His pay – a whopping \$13.50! Ron probably thought that was a pretty good gig – \$1.35 per hour. That could go a long way in 1962! Bet Ron enjoyed what he spent it on!

Odds and Ends... Special thanks to John and Linda for a “sack” of assorted artifacts including – an invitation 1908 MTHS graduation from Arthur and Isadore Engel held at the Opera House (Courthouse), minutes that show the trees for the Square were purchased for \$11 in 1864, the village bell was muffled and tolled from 11 to noon on 4/19/65 in honor of Lincoln’s death, 120 S Menard was the home of Dr. Jim Whitmire and a former funeral home – and much more!

Contact Us

Questions, Ideas - Love to hear from you

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Illinois—Peoria Section

65.5 Cross iron bridge
65.6 Cross long iron bridge
65.8 Cross covered bridge over river
66.1 Curve right to end of road
66.6 Turn left
66.8 Turn right
67.4 Pass school house on right
67.7 Pass road on right
68.3 Turn left
68.4 Turn right
68.8 Curve left, then right, then left
69.0 Turn right, go up grade
69.4 Pass road on left
69.5 Pass park on left and Calvary cemetery on right; turn left, entering **Lincoln park**, go down grade, curve left, then right
69.7 Cross bridge, go up grade, enter on boulevard (4th St)
69.9 **Cross trolley**, go straight ahead
70.6 **Cross R. R.**
71.2 **Cross R. R. to St. Nicholas Hotel**, cor. Jefferson and 4th **Glen D. Smith Garage**, straight ahead on 4th St. to 413 S. 41st St.
71.3 **Springfield**
See Routes Springfield to other points

Peoria to Chillicothe, Ill., 18.0 miles

For rest of route see **Chillicothe to Peoria** or **Peoria to Chillicothe**

Road mostly gravel

9.5 Jog left and immediately right through **Mossville**
9.6 Jog left and immediately right around brick school house on right, following direct road
11.9 Pass church and school on left
13.9 To prominent 4 corners, school on right, turn right
14.5 Pass church and 2 cemeteries
16.6 Curve left, then right, **across R. R.**
16.9 **Rome**, station on left, turn left along tracks to end of road
18.0 Jog right, then left, along R. R., straight ahead into **Chillicothe**

Peoria, Ill., to Princeton, 76.1 miles

Peoria to Chillicothe, Ill., 18.5 miles

Road gravel and sandy stretches

.0 Leave Court House, cor. of **Jefferson and Washington Sts.**, go northeast on **Jefferson St.**
.4 Passing **St. Mary's School** on left and
.8 Greeley school on left
1.4 **Cross R. R.**
1.7 Pass **Central park** on left and **Avery Mfg. Co.** on right
1.8 Keep left, passing
2.3 **Averyville Hall** on right, follow trolley on **Adams St.**, **cross trolley**
3.0 Jog right, then immediately left, passing city water works over to right
3.4 Curve left, with high bluff on left, and paralleling with trolley, R. R. and Illinois river on right
4.4 Passing **Al Fresco park** on right
4.8 Pass **Virginia Beach** on right
5.4 Pass road on left, with school house on left corner
6.4 Cross small iron bridge
7.6 Cross small iron bridge, curve right
8.8 Cross small iron bridge
9.3 Cross small iron bridge, still parallel with R. R. and river on right, cross small iron bridge
9.5 Jog left, then right
9.6 Cross small iron bridge, straight through village of
9.8 **Mossville**, station on right, passing **Fernwood Inn** on right, go to brick school house on left
9.9 Turn left, then right, around school house
10.4 Cross small iron bridge, curve right, then left and
10.7 Turn right (intersection of optional route)
10.8 Curve left (end of road)
12.4 Curve right, **cross R. R.** and curve left, parallel with R. R. on left, river on right

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