

# Lowell Library Lines

FEBRUARY 2001

## PIONEER HISTORY ON THE WEB

"Gold fever! The founder of Lowell, Melvin Halsted, was not the only early settler of Lake County affected by the gold rush in the west." Among other early settlers who heard the call of the gold fields was Jacob Baughman II. Want to read more?

History buffs can find a wealth of historical information on the Internet. And, for those who are interested in the history of Lowell and the Tri-Creek area, "Pioneer History" can be accessed at <http://www.lowellpl.lib.in.us/ltschmal.htm>. Lowell's official "Town Historian" Richard C. Schmal, has spent the last 22 plus years writing a monthly column on the history of the region for the *Lowell Tribune*. With his permission, the Lowell Public Library is making these columns available on the web. The web "Pioneer History" has an alphabetical index and a table of contents. The website remains a work in progress with fifty articles recorded and 150+ to be added.

Mr. Schmal has traced the genealogy of his family and other local families who have lived in the Tri-Creek area. Many descendents of the early settlers are still living in the town of Lowell and the outlying areas.

### Pleasant Grove

Excerpt (in the March 26, 1980, *Lowell Tribune and on the net*).

It was spring of 1835 and many homesteaders were entering the prairies and groves of the newly surveyed area which would become Lake County in 1837.

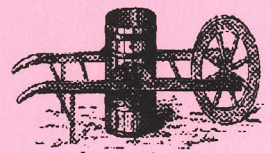
These hardy pioneers came by horseback and by wagon pulled by horses or oxen. Soon small settlements were started, especially in the area east and north of the present town of Lowell. They were called Southeast Grove, Plum Grove, Orchard Grove and Pleasant Grove.

Pleasant Grove began early in the spring of 1835, near what is now 161st St. and Hendricks St. Some readers will know that this is the area of the Jones School House.

There is much early history written about the pioneer settlement of Pleasant Grove, as many of our farmers and businessmen were the early settlers there. In the spring of 1835, while Richard Fancher and his two aides were erecting a cabin on his claim at Crown Point, Pleasant Grove was being started.

About the first of April, 1835, the Bryant family arrived. Among this group were E.W. "Wayne" Bryant, Elias Bryant, Simion Bryant, Samuel D. Bryant, David Bryant and a brother-in-law named Agnew. They began the "Bryant Settlement" and Wayne chose the name of Pleasant Grove.

On the 4th of April, Agnew lost his way on the prairie in that terrible snowstorm, and, overtaken by darkness, perished with the cold. This was the first death among the settlers. Agnew was buried on Morgan Prairie in Porter County. His wife Nancy took possession of the claim.







# Adult Programs

## Harmonica Course - Lowell

Each Saturday, February 3, 10, 17, 24, at 1 PM. Musician Bret Sayers will teach this four- week beginning harmonica course. Fee for the course is \$89, due upon registration. A harmonica is included in the fee.

## Library Quilters Meet - Lowell

Each Monday: February 5, 12, 19, 26  
9 AM - 12:30 PM

## Blood Pressure Screening

Shelby - Thursday, February 8, at 10:30 AM  
Screening is offered as a service of HouseCalls

Lowell - Tuesday, February 20, 1 PM - 4 PM

Screening is conducted by technicians of CareGivers Plus. Screening is conducted on a first come/first served basis.

## Mid-West Writers' Forum - Lowell

Thursdays, February 8 & 22, at 7 PM.  
Have you written a novel, poetry, short stories? Join the Mid-West Writers' Forum sponsored by the library and share your writings with other members.

## Health Provider CPR Renewal Course - Lowell

Thursday, February 8, at 6 PM  
A CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation) course for people in the health care field seeking renewal of their CPR certificate will be taught by Katherine Misiore, R.N., and Leon Misiore, E.M.T.-P. Fee for the course is \$25 due upon registration.

## Weave a Cabin Girl/Boy Basket - Lowell

Participants will create a Cabin Girl/Boy Basket  
Thursday, February 15, at 6:30 PM  
Tuesday, February 20, at 8:30 AM  
Tuesday, February 27, at 6:30 PM  
Fee is \$24. The baskets are on display.  
**Note:** Call the Shelby Branch Library at 552-0809 for information on its basket weaving programs.

## At Home in Mitford Book Discussion - Lowell

Thursday, February 15, at 7 PM or  
Friday, February 2, at 10 AM

Once you have been to Mitford will you want to leave? We don't think so. Jan Karon's book, *At Home in Mitford*, set high in the green hills of South Carolina, is described as a cozy neighborhood read.

Meet the eccentric residents of this charming town with a big heart, including a mangy dog the size of a Saint Bernard, a seemingly lost, lovable but unloved boy and Father Tim who wants to take care of his flock and find a place to belong. Karon's fans are flocking to this bestseller, a quick and satisfying read. Copies are available for checkout at the circulation desk. Refreshments will be served. Please pre-register for Book Discussion.

## Discover the Writer in You - Lowell

Each Monday, February 5, 12, 19, 26  
Creative Writing, a six-week course for beginning and experienced writers will be taught by published free-lance writer and poet Sharon Palmeri.

Fee for the course is \$34 due upon registration. Participants will need a copy of *Writing Down the Bones* by Natalie Goldberg (under \$10).

## The Subject is Roses - Lowell

Monday, February 26, promptly at 7 PM.  
Master Gardener Karl Bapst will present a slide show and demonstration on roses. The program, 7th, in a series of 12 gardening programs at the library, is co-sponsored by the Lake County Cooperative Extension Service. Master Gardeners can achieve advanced training hours by attending any of the gardening series.

## Free Childhood Immunizations

The Lake County Health Department will offer free childhood immunizations at the Lowell Public Library on Thursday, February 15, from 9 AM to 3 PM. The free service is offered by the Lake County Health Department. Please bring your child's immunization records.





## Fantasy Themes at Garden Show

Ahoy mates! Enjoy Treasure Island with its pirate ship, firing cannon and chest of gold, surrounded by a vast array of orchids. Take a stroll in the "*Garden of the Gods*," and go through Medusa's gazebo, on your way to the "*Hobbit Garden*."

There is plenty to see and do at the Chicago Flower and Garden Show at Navy Pier and the Friends of the Library would like to take you there.

Board a comfort bus at the library on Sunday, March 11, at 9 AM for your trip to Chicago. Fee for the bus to Navy Pier is \$16 (non-refundable and includes a donation to the Friends). Re-board the bus at 4 PM. A trip information sheet will be available at the circulation desk.

There are 30 different themed gardens at the 2001 Garden Show. See them all, and enjoy dining at Navy Pier. Admission to the show is \$11 for adults, and \$5 for children. Discount coupons for \$2 off the admission price are available at local Ace Hardware stores.

## Tax Help!

Help us spread the word that tax assistance is available at the library for low to moderate income individuals, senior citizens and persons who have disabilities.

The Lowell Library is scheduling tax assistance every Wednesday and Friday morning beginning at 9:15 AM. The Schneider and Shelby Branches will have tax assistance available on alternate Tuesdays beginning at the Schneider Branch on February 6, at 4:30 PM. Call to schedule an appointment.

## The Tumble Bears Are Coming!

The Lowell Parks Department in cooperation with the library will sponsor the Tumble Bears, a gymnastic program open to pre-school and school age children. The program will be held at the library each Friday from 3 PM to 5:45 PM in the library's Program Room.

Call the Parks Department at 696-1570 to register your child. With this program children will experience "Gymnastics skills on the bars, balance beam, vault, tumbling, and pommel horse as well as learning hand-eye activities & stunts, calisthenics & stretching exercises.

## Board to Meet

The Lowell Public Library Board of Trustees will hold their regular meeting on Monday, February 19, at 7 PM



## Upcoming Programs

**Quilts of the 30's: Women of the Times**, will be presented by Quilt Artist, Lecturer and Historian Carole Sutton on Monday, March 1, at 7 PM. A series of other quilting programs, offering a wide variety of topics and stories, will be offered by Carole in the fall.

**YA Acrylic Painting** will be presented by Artist Daylene Richmond Wiley of Wild Thyme in Lowell. Young adults, ages 12 and up, will learn the basics of acrylic painting from on Saturday, March 17.

**Water Ponds**, presented by Crystal Palace Perennials, will be held on Monday, March 26, promptly at 7 PM. The program is part of a gardening series cosponsored by the Purdue Cooperative Extension Service. Master gardeners can achieve advanced training hours by attending any of these garden programs.





## Valentine Craft Corner

Pre-schoolers attending Craft Corner will create a Puppy Love Candy Cup. School age children will make Valentine cards.

Craft Corner hours are:

**Lowell** Thursday, February 8  
Both crafts - 3:30 PM

**Shelby** - Wednesday, February 14  
Both Crafts - 3:30 PM

**Schneider** - Thursday, February 15  
Both Crafts - 3:30 PM

## Bedtime Story Hour

Snuggle up on our comforters, in your pajamas or play clothes to hear Miss Heidi read the special bedtime story *Time For Bed* by Mem Fox. The Story Time for children ages 3 to 5, will be held on Thursday, February 22, at 6:30 PM.

To pre-register for programs call: Lowell 696-7704 Shelby 552-0809 Schneider 552-1000



**Lowell Library Lines**  
**1505 E. Commercial**  
**Lowell, IN 46356**

Bulk Rate  
U.S. Postage  
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Lowell, IN  
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## Toddler Time Begins

Toddlers, 18 months to 3 years, can enjoy a spirited 20 minutes of non-stop activity at Toddler Time. Children's Programmer Miss Heidi, will introduce toddlers to picture books and other fun activities they are sure to enjoy as they interact with other children during this five-week program.

Toddler Time hours are:

**Shelby Branch** - Each Monday at 9:30 AM  
February 19 - March 19

**Lowell** - Each Tuesday at 10 AM & 11 AM  
February 20 - March 20

Each Wednesday, at 10 AM  
February 21 - March 21