



# BYRON HISTORY EXPRESS

## MUSEUM ENTRANCE & OFFICES MOVE

The Byron Museum is pleased to announce it has recently moved its offices to the 110 N. Union entrance. While still in the museum complex, the offices and entrance will be where the Byron Chamber of Commerce was previously. The former office area will now be a gallery space for temporary exhibits. A number of other moving and remodeling changes are planned for the next several months. "We are very excited about the changes that are coming. They will create a more inviting space for our visitors," said Jessica McCause, Executive Director. "We want the Museum to be inviting for not only our regular visitors, but also for those people who come to see the Smithsonian's traveling exhibit, *Between Fences*." Some other changes that have, or will occur include, the museum's library which is now located in the former director's office. Two interior walls of the former library will be torn down to make the exhibition hall more open. The newly created gallery space will give the museum, an opportunity to host additional traveling and temporary exhibits throughout the year, and will soon be opening a new traveling exhibition of World War II Posters. Our goal is to help the museum bring new and exciting exhibits to the community, and make the museum a comfortable, engaging learning place for all of our visitors.

### WEB RESOURCES:

#### PRESERVE YOUR TREASURES

Check out the Canadian Conservation Institute (CCI) Website.

[www.preservation.gc.ca/index\\_e.asp](http://www.preservation.gc.ca/index_e.asp)

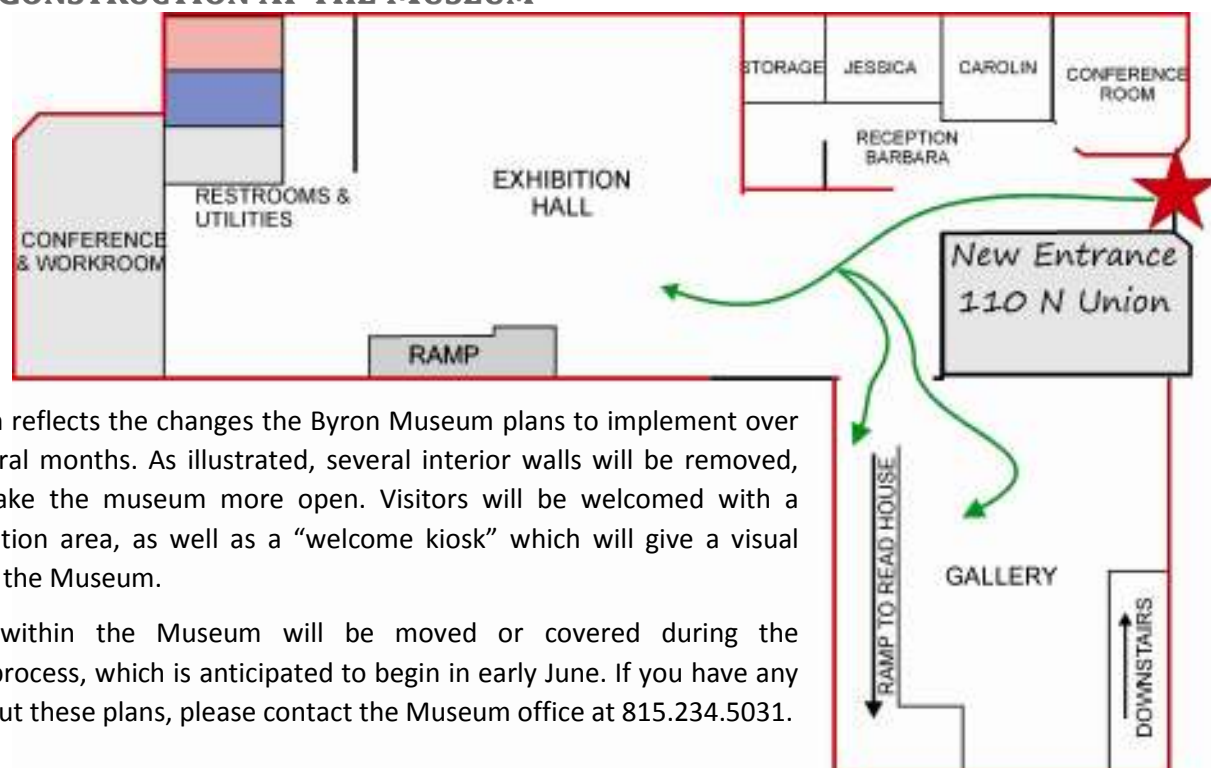
***They are a leading authority on conservation, and they have very helpful resources for the layperson.***

[www.slv.vic.gov.au/services/conservation/guides/index.html](http://www.slv.vic.gov.au/services/conservation/guides/index.html)

#### ***Information guides for taking care of paper or photographs***

*A how-to on storing newspapers, caring for photographs, family history documents, dealing with mold, etc.*

## PLANNED CONSTRUCTION AT THE MUSEUM



This floor plan reflects the changes the Byron Museum plans to implement over the next several months. As illustrated, several interior walls will be removed, which will make the museum more open. Visitors will be welcomed with a friendly reception area, as well as a "welcome kiosk" which will give a visual orientation to the Museum.

All artifacts within the Museum will be moved or covered during the construction process, which is anticipated to begin in early June. If you have any questions about these plans, please contact the Museum office at 815.234.5031.

## The Byron Museum District

### Board of Commissioners

Randy Stukenberg, *President*  
 Angie Bauer, *Vice-President*  
 Ron Beem, *Secretary*  
 Kim Boyden, *Treasurer*  
 Harry Adams, *Commissioner*

### Staff

Jessica McCanse, *Executive Director*  
 Carolin Kauten, *Program Director*  
 Kristi Gile, *Project Coordinator*  
 Barbara Haines, *Archival Coordinator*

Meetings are open to the public, and are held on the **4th Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM** in the Museum's conference room.

Address changes and inquiries may be addressed to:

### Byron Museum of History

PO Box 186  
 106 N. Union Street  
 Byron, IL 61010-0186  
 Phone: 815.234.5031  
 Email: [jessica@byronmuseum.org](mailto:jessica@byronmuseum.org)

# Photo Highlight



### **Byron Boys. Can you identify any of them?**

*We have many interesting images in our archives, of people, places, and events dating back to the mid-19th century. The public is always welcome to view our collection—come and check them out!*

## WORLD WAR TWO PROPOGANDA POSTER EXHIBIT OPEN HOUSE MAY 30TH

The Byron Museum announces the inauguration of its new gallery with a special traveling exhibition highlighting United States Government issued propoganda posters from World War Two. The exhibit, opening May 30th, features nine original posters printed by the United States Government, which was actively involved in propoganda efforts to encourage citizens to support the war in Europe and Asia. Posters played a vital role in this effort.

"We have been collecting artifacts and stories of area veterans for the past several years, so, this is a great opportunity for us to highlight some of our collection partnering with some very poignant images from

**Inaugural Open House  
 for WWII Poster Exhibition  
 May 30th at 6pm**

**Refreshments &  
 Dramatic Reading of  
 World War II Letters**

American history," said Jessica McCanse, Executive Director of the Byron Museum. "This World War II Posters exhibit is on loan to us from the Illinois Association of Museums through July 15<sup>th</sup>. We are grateful for the opportunity to exhibit this wonderful collection of posters."

The Byron Museum will host an Open House for the opening of this exhibit, at 6:00 p.m. on Friday, May 30<sup>th</sup>. The open house will include refreshments, a dramatic reading of World War II letters, tours of the Museum complex, and a glimpse at some of the exciting changes on the horizon. Admission is free.

# BYRON 4TH GRADERS VISIT MUSEUM



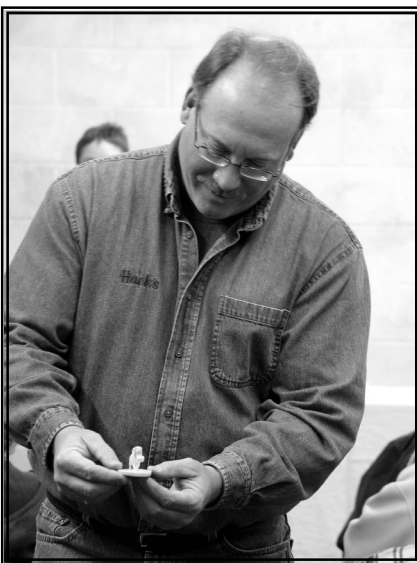
*Melinda Charbonneau answers questions about the dairy industry*

The Byron Museum recently hosted Byron's 4th Grade class for tours and activities. This year, the 4 classes visited over the course of two days. Each class received a guided tour of the museum complex, enjoyed 2 activities, and then had some free time to explore and complete a scavenger hunt. The two activities were designed by Melinda Charbonneau, the Ag Literacy Coordinator for Ogle County. Ms. Charbonneau presented a lesson on the

evolution of dairy farming, then assisted the students in making their own butter. The students were able to taste the result of their hard work, and they seemed to enjoy the fresh butter! The other activity was enthusiastically dubbed "Baseball in a Bag" by a student, and involved teaching the many ways baseball relates to and depends on agriculture. Each student was able to take home a "Baseball in a Bag" as a souvenir.

We sincerely appreciate the volunteers who helped make the tours possible, and the excellent lessons provided by Melinda Charbonneau. We also thank the students and teachers who helped make the tours so much fun. Thank you!

*Our thanks to Jan Emmons, Ron Beem, Mildred Bridgeland, Mable Ashelford for assisting us with these tours!*



Swan Hackmeister from Hack's Auction & Realty



Leslie Goddard, PhD

## INQUIRIES

Sometimes the Museum staff comes across an object or person from Byron's past that stumps us. If you recollect, or have pictures or objects relating to any of the following, please contact us.

*Dr. Mary Blount*

*Byron's Ice House*



*Dr. Mary Blount and an unknown child*

**This March we held two exciting programs:**

**Our annual Antique Appraisal brought Swan Hackmeister from Hack's Auction and Realty, who has emceed this event for us for several years. Many interesting treasures were brought and shared.**

**On March 29th, Leslie Goddard presented the Great Women of Illinois, a lecture & dramatization of Illinois women's fight for suffrage.**

## ANNUAL VOLUNTEER BANQUET

Volunteers were treated to a dinner of appreciation at Leombruni's on April 17, 2008. Volunteers dined on Pasta with Artichokes, Spinach, Sun-Dried Tomatoes and Pesto, Roast Beef, Chicken Marsala, Roasted Sweet & White Potatoes, and finished with iced cream for dessert. Musical entertainment was provided by the Johnson Sisters of Sterling, who delighted the dinner audience with harp and violin duos.

The Volunteer of the Year of the award was awarded to Jan Emmons for all her work through out the year. Along with working the Quilt Show every year, she also pitches in at various events and works on transcribing our oral histories. Our volunteers are vital to us, and we would like to thank you for all your work.

## UPCOMING EVENTS & PROGRAMS

**Between Fences 101** - Get to know Between Fences, the traveling Smithsonian Exhibit that is coming to the Byron Museum in November. The Byron Museum will host these seminars at various locations around Ogle County during the next several months.

**WWII Poster Exhibit and Open House** - May 30th. Come see this new exhibit on World War Two posters and come and see the changes happening here at the Museum.

**21st Annual ByronFest Quilt Show** - July 11-13. Enter your quilt, wall hanging, or wearable art in this judged quilt show. Or, just visit us and enjoy looking at the lovely entries free of charge!

*Special thanks to our Board of Commissioners, who have provided us with extra help over the last several months, and several other volunteers who have come at a moment's notice to help save the day.*

*Thank You!!*