Starke County 12

August 19, 2008

"Tidbits of Starke County History".....

Courthouse tours are coming up during the Harvest Festival, August 23-24 in Knox, Indiana. If you haven't been on this historic/architectural tour, you don't know what you're missing. The Starke County Historical Society has been conducting tours of the magnificent building for the past 13 years, and more than 4500 people have climbed the 157 steps to the top. It is probably the only courthouse in Indiana that is capable of being able to give such a tour.

Attached are photos of the clock. It originally was a pendulum, dual-weight-driven clock, but unfortunately, in the 1950's it was converted to an electric drive. I say "unfortunately" because there is nothing like hearing the beautiful sound of a large pendulum-regulated clock in the hollowness of a clock tower. The slow - perhaps seconds apart - ticking is loud and awesome. The name plate on our clock indicates that it was made October 8, 1898 and the clock number is 988. It was designed by the famous clock maker of the time, A.S. Hotchkiss and sold by Seth Thomas Clock Company.

There is another pendulum, dual-spring-driven, Seth Thomas Clock in the courtroom of the courthouse. This, too, will be pointed out during the Courthouse Tours, August 23-24, 2008.

As in the past, the tours will be conducted by six high school students. This year the students are: Allen Stenberg and Lily Ferch from Oregon Davis; Alyssa Loomis and George Mammarella from Knox; and Bekah Alva and Terry Howard from North Judson/San Pierre. Come, join us on a courthouse tour this weekend.

Jim Shilling Starke County Historical Society

http://www.starkehistory.com
http://www.scpl.lib.in.us/historical/

(If you do not wish to receive "Tidbits of Starke County History" in the future, please let me know.)



