

Entertainment/Organizations

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In the community of Marshall, there are many different forms of clubs, organizations, and entertainment. Some of these are the Marshall Moose Lodge, the Knights of Pythias, The Clark County Fair Association, 4-H, Boy and Girl Scout Associations, and the Lions Club. All of these different organizations have grown immensely in our community.



The Moose Lodge of Marshall, Number 133, was first organized in 1853. The date of the first meeting was October 8, 1856. Mr. James C. Robinson was the Worshipful Master. The Moose has been in Marshall for 45 years. The building itself dates back to 1823. This makes the Moose the second oldest building in Marshall. An interesting fact about the Moose is that the downstairs used to be used as horse stables.

People would tie up their horses and go upstairs and watch the opera and have a good time. The current building has been a crystal factory, a children's home, a theater, a roller-skating rink, soccer and boxing ring (Golden Glove Boxing), and the upstairs has been used as a game room for teenagers. The only thing running in the Moose today is the Moose Heart Lodge. The Moose stands for children. If there are any "deprived" children in the community of Marshall, the Moose will take them in and provide them with the essential items that they need. The organization is also willing to pay for their college education. The Moose is a club. It currently has 108 male members and is still growing. There are also women in the club. The Moose donates money and goods to organizations throughout the year. The club holds picnics and suppers each year. The meetings are regular during the month and the week. Bingo is held every Thursday night.

The Knights of Pythias were chartered on December 5, 1876. They started with thirty members. During the late 1880's, they met in the Masonic Hall on Main Street. Later they met in the Castle Hall. Finally, in 1901, the organization invested in the Pythian Theater and Temple.

The Clark County Fair is one form of entertainment that we all enjoy. The Clark County Fair has been in Marshall for 102 years. The most important part of the fair is agriculture. The different types of entertainment enjoyed at the fair are games, rides, horse races, and more. The fair is not much different today than from its beginning.



The agricultural part of the fair has grown immensely. It has grown with the number of animals. This was made possible by the support of our community.

4-H was laid by pioneers in educational work and leaders of farm organizations who realized the value of leisure-time group activities for young people. In 1899, 500 boys in Macoupin County were given small packages of seeds to grow corn. This was the first organized boys corn club. In 1907, the four-leaf clover with an H on each leaf was introduced as an emblem for the club.

Boy scouts have been in the community of Marshall since around the year of 1935. The very first meeting of Pack 81 was on February 12, 1937, and Mr. Aaron Kannmacher was selected to be the club master. The First Methodist Church, Marshall Rotary Club, Marshall Lions Club, and the Marshall American Legion were all sponsors of the boy scouts. In 1950, the American Legion changed the pack's meeting place to the Legion. Another troop that was formed was Troop 81, and it was first organized on October 18, 1935. In this troop, the first scout leader was Mr. Don Heidbreder. There were also other troops formed approximately the same time that these were formed.

Marshall has its share of clubs and organizations. In 1912, girl scouting was organized. One of the first known Girl Scout troops in Marshall was formed in 1930, under the leadership of Miss Nina Kannmacher. In the early 1950's, girl scouts enjoyed hiking and camping in old cabins. Past activities have included a summer day camp, held for two years at the Lee Southard farm and also at Lincoln Trail State Park. As you well know, girl scouts participate in the annual selling of Girl Scout cookies.

Another organization is the Marshall Women's Civic Club. It was first formed in the year of 1938. The first president was Ms. Vera Bennett. Under Ms. Bennett, the club was first known as the Marshall Junior Women's Club. Later in 1956, the club became known as the Marshall Women's Civic Club. Each year the club donates money to cancer research, forest plantings, and scholarships for Indian students, etc.

A well-known organization to the community and also worldwide is the Lions Club. Under the direction of Mr. Tim Bennett, the Lions Club was first organized in 1944. They helped with blind children, by giving them glasses and Seeing Eye dogs. Other projects have included the building of tennis courts at the Catholic church, building the youth center at the Clark County Fairgrounds, construction of a \$80,000 swimming pool in 1956, assisting in the purchase of land for the Lincoln Trail State Park, sponsoring the Marshall High School band to Chicago to the Lions National Convention in 1958, and sponsoring two special education scholarships for Marshall High School graduates, Nancy Davis Adams and Marcia Staub.



As you may know now, there are many and types of entertainment and organizations in the community of Marshall. The Moose, the Knights of Pythias, the Marshall Women's Civic Club, 4-H, and Boy and Girl Scouts are just some of them.