

# GENE STRATTON-PORTER MEMORIAL SOCIETY, INC.

NEWSLETTER • FALL 1996  
BOX 639 • ROME CITY, IN 46784  
219-854-3790

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The Gene Stratton-Porter State Historic Site Staff  
cordially request your presence at the

## **Premiere Showing**

of the documentary:

## **GENE STRATTON-PORTER: A Voice of the Limberlost**

hosted by

the Robert Schermerhorn American Legion Post 0381  
Rome City, Indiana

on Monday, October 21st, 1996 at 7:00 p.m.

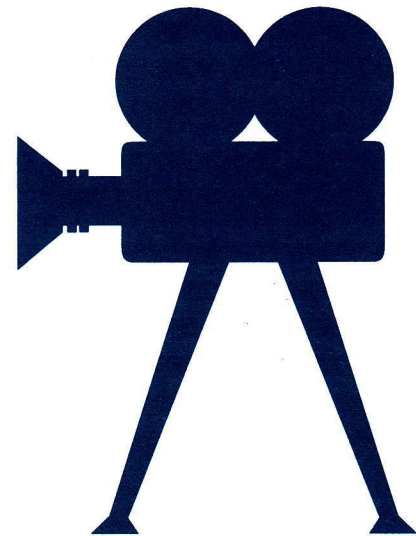
With your attendance you may be able to win  
a documentary and study guide.

Refreshments served by Legion Auxiliary

RSVP by October 18, 1996

Positive responses only, 219-854-3790

*The one-hour video highlights the life of Gene Stratton-Porter, author and naturalist. One is treated to glimpses of her childhood in the Wabash area, her days at Limberlost South, Geneva and Limberlost North, Rome City. Viewers will especially enjoy the use of the old photographs from the area: scenes of the Chautauqua Island Park Assembly, train station, water tank and hotel. The documentary also contains modern views of Sylvan Lake, nearby swamps and wildflowers from Wildflower Woods, Mrs. Porter's home.*



*This documentary produced in 1996 by Ann Eldridge and Nancy Carlson has already won the Film Advisory Boards "Award of Excellence". The voice of Gene Stratton-Porter is portrayed by actress Annette O'Toole.*

## HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE

**Friday,  
November 15, 1996**  
9 A.M. - 4:30 P.M.

*Tour 1st and 2nd Floors  
Entertainment  
"Homemade Goodies"*

**Saturday,  
November 16, 1996**  
9 A.M. - 9 P.M.

***Candlelight Walk***  
6 P.M. - 9 P.M.

**Sunday,  
November 17, 1996**  
11 A.M. - 4:30 P.M.

Information:  
(219) 854-3790



## CHRISTMAS IN SEPTEMBER

The Society received a wonderful gift from Sherry L. McCullough, a life member. She gave the Society approximately 60 magazines including McCalls, Ladies Home Journal, Recreation, Outing, etc. containing articles written by Gene Stratton-Porter. The articles will be copied to be shared with others and the magazines used in exhibits at the historic site.

The second gift was a bookmark advertising the 1934 movie "Girl of the Limberlost". The bookmark came from the Seymour Library and the movie was shown at the Capitol Theatre beginning November 30, 1934. Along with the bookmark was a copy of the New York Times, November 9, 1934 with a review of the movie. These items were gifts from Joel Cadbury. The question was immediately asked, "In what town is the Seymour Library?" A few phone calls and the answer appears to be that the Seymour Library is in Seymour, Connecticut and the Capitol Theatre in the nearby town of Ansonia.

Another wonderful gift was given to the Site through the society. The Dekko Community Fund donated funds for a television with built in VCR, a camcorder, and tripod.

Big thank yous to Dekko, Sherry and Joel!





# 1996 CHAUTAUQUA was a great success!

It was a thrill to see the Chautauqua Princess gliding through Sylvan Lake to Wildflower Woods. What fun to greet old friends and meet new ones! Everyone enjoyed the music of the Auburn Dixielanders, food from KunTree Folks, Gene's birthday cake, the boat ride, and perfect weather.



Friends waiting to board the Princess.



Friends disembarking from the Princess. Notice the pier reinforcement that Pat, Joe, and fellows from Chain of Lakes Correctional Camp installed. The timbers have been removed and are being used to make a new flower bed in the shelter area.





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## **SOCIETY NEWS**

Your Society is in the preliminary stage of planning the carriage house. One log house company representative met with Pat Bolman and Guy Swartzlander recently and is preparing blue prints and estimates on the shell. The state site engineer will also submit plans. Another log home company will be contacted for their plans and estimates.

A company which installs lifts has been contacted for information and prices. The second floor must be handicapped accessible.

At some place on the lower floor a "look through" will allow visitors to view the original foundation. Hopefully the carriage house will have 2 rooms and an entrance room with elevator entrance and restrooms on the first floor. The 2nd floor will be a large single room for lectures, slide and movie shows, and meetings. Applications for grants and individual gifts will be completed during the winter months and it is our "dream" that construction may start sometime next year. We will bring you up to date in the spring news letter.

Mark your calendar. ANNUAL MEETING, TUESDAY, MAY 13, 1997 AT 6:00 P.M., ROME CITY METHODIST CHURCH, ROME CITY, INDIANA

Your board approved ordering 300 Christmas ornaments. The ornament is a 2 5/8" diameter white ball with a maroon line drawing of the cabin and Gene. These are quality balls, boxed, and moderately priced. They will be available at the Christmas Open House. Remember the Site Gift Shop is a wonderful place to do your Christmas Shopping this year.

