

Lansing Historical Society

NEWSLETTER April, 2008

LANSING HISTORICAL SOCIETY

GARAGE SALE

Saturday, July 19, 2008

Community Room ~ Lansing Library

9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Is it time to clean out your basement, closets, garage?

Help your society with this fundraiser!

Please save anything you would like to donate to the Society for this sale.

(no clothes will be accepted)

Donations will be accepted at the museum

Sat July 12th - 10:00 a.m. to noon

Mon. July 14th - 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Wed. July 16th - 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Call

Tony at 895-0993

Marilyn at 474-8399

Donald at 474-4785

or Bud at 895-2671

if you have questions or items to donate.

THE MUSEUM IS OPEN

LANSING HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM INVENTORY IS COMPLETE

The Lansing Historical Society is pleased to announce that the inventory process is complete! In January, February, and into the first week in March, we counted the possessions, collections, and property in the museum. This monumental task began just after the Festival of Lights display came to a close.

The volunteers logged a total of 315 man hours on this project! We located, counted, and documented 2423 items in our collection and 195 property items.

Several pieces of interest were found that had been long forgotten. In particular some Lansing memorabilia items came to our attention. Those items will soon be on display.

Volunteers responsible for completing this task were:

Tony DeLaurentis, Donald Olsen, Therese Liesenfelt, Floyd Fairfield, Marilyn Kooy, George Dommer, Patty Eidam, Jackie Ore, Bud Eidam, Geri Besse, Maxine Olsen, Carole Sebastian & Anne Sowinski.

Next comes the lengthy process of cross referencing and computerizing our files.

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2007 - 2008

Officers and Directors

Donald Olsen, President

Patty Eidam, Vice President

Marilyn Kooy, Treasurer

Jackie Ore, Secretary

Gerri Besse, Director

George Dommer, Director

Tony DeLaurentis, Director

Therese Liesenfelt, Museum curator

Maxine Olsen, Membership

Elayne Young, Publicity

Newsletter Publisher & Editor, Patty Eidam

Editors:

Donald Olsen

Toni DeLaurentis

Marilyn Kooy

Bud Eidam

THE NEWSLETTER IS PUBLISHED IN

SEPTEMBER, NOVEMBER,

FEBRUARY, AND APRIL OF EACH YEAR

DON'T FORGET

April 28th - "Chicago on Screen"

May 19th - Annual Banquet

June 8th - Wings & Wheels

June 23th - Historic Walk

Message from the President

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DONALD OLSEN

I hope everyone had a joyous Easter celebrating the resurrection of our Lord...Hallelujah.

This will be the last time I will be writing an article as your President. It has been a great three years, thanks to the great group of officers and directors I was privileged to work with.

I'm proud of the accomplishments that were made by our Society in the past three years. We were able to support Eagle Scout Dan Toren in his project of placing an historical marker on Ridge Road where John Lansing had his general store. We sponsored the Tri-Motor in Plane View project which was a great success. Not only did the planes beautify Lansing, but also with the hard work and organization of Mrs. Toni DeLaurentis, all the schools in Lansing got involved and students learned a little more about Lansing especially the airport and the "Historic Ford Hangar".

We are still working on the Lansing Journal project. We are little more than two-thirds complete. Hopefully it will be completed this year. A big thank you to Tom Highland for all the time and effort he has put into this project.

Thanks to Tony DeLaurentis for putting together a disaster plan that concurs with the library plan.

We also took inventory of the museum and that will be finished soon. The society purchased its own computer through which we will be able to retrieve information from our Lansing Journals. In time we will also use the computer for our inventory.

Our most recent project is a contest open to the entire village to come up with a design for a Lansing Flag. We also in the past three years have increased our Life Time Membership by 19.

We have had tremendous programs this last three years thanks to our outstanding Vice President Patty Eidam. Patty not only arranged the great programs but also supervised the Tri Motor Project and the Flag contest. I can never thank her enough for all the time, organization, and effort she has put forth in the past three years.

Thank you also to our faithful and competent Treasurer and Secretary, Marilyn Kooy and Jackie Ore. They are terrific. Finally, thanks to our directors and our Curator, Therese Liesenfelt for all their help and cooperation.

Thanks to all and God Bless.

Don



*"Abigail Adams"
(Leslie Goddard)
was our February guest speaker.*



Leslie is seen above portraying Abigail, the wife of our second president and mother of the sixth president. Her delightful personality entertained all of us as she told the story of her life with her husband John Adams

We are grateful to the Illinois Humanities Council for their sponsorship of this program.



Society member Richard Dust chats with "Abigail" after the program



Members were taken back in time by "Abigail"

Thanks to the following for the refreshments served after the program.

Elayne Young, Jackie Ore, Toni DeLaurentis, Therese Liesenfelt, Maxine Olsen, Marilyn Kooy, Gerri Besse, & Patty Eidam

Our Society WILL have an entry in the Good Neighbor Day Parade - Call Donald if you can help! 474-4785

Wings & Wheels - Lansing Municipal Airport

Sunday, June 8, 2008

Celebrate the Golden Age of the Airplane and the Automobile

All you can eat pancake breakfast 7:00 a.m.- 11:00 a.m.

Guest speakers in the Ford hangar 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Lunch 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Stroll through rows of antique and historical aircraft.

Large display of Ford Model A's and Model T's - free rides!

Visit the Lansing Historical Society booth!

www.jolietmarc.org/wingsandwheels - for more info

**Lansing
Historical Society
Annual Banquet
Monday May 19,
2008
Columbian Room
Lansing
Knights of Columbus**

Details to be announced.

**Invitations will be mailed
to all members in
mid-April.**

**We're working on some
entertainment and
raffle/door prizes.**

GOOD NEWS

One of the Society directors, George Dommer, had a pacemaker "installed" a few weeks ago. We talked to both George and Lea and both the pacemaker and George are doing very well!

Mr. & Mrs Clarence E. Eidam Sr., frequent visitors at our Historical Society events, will celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary on May 22nd. Congratulations Bud and Jean! They are the recipients of gift memberships from their son and daughter-in-law, Bud & Patty Eidam.

e.mail us about YOUR good news!

ITEMS WE FOUND IN THE MUSEUM IN THE PROCESS OF TAKING INVENTORY:

Book of "General Ordinances of the Village of Lansing" from the year 1895.

Ordinances of the Village of Lansing book dated 1935.

LANSING ADVERTISING MEMORABILIA FROM:

Fred Vierk Dry Goods calendar dated 1909

John Swart Groceries early 1900's letter holder

Lansing Motors Road Atlas 1955

Village of Lansing information book - 1957

Sliding cardboard pill box - Hotz Drug Store

Memo book - Citizens Federal Laon Corp - 1958

Johnny Reb Restaurant menu- 1962

Ash tray from Bob & Bills Cities Service Thornton-Lansing Road & Torrence

Roys Friendly Service promotional salt & pepper shakers

First National Bank promotional personal directory - 1966

Promotional card - Oak Glen Trust & Saving Bank 109 Torrence, Oak Glen, Illinois

Lansing 4th of July lapel pin - 1929

Bernard Pharmacy promotional playing cards

Phillip Stateline Service Station promotional pencil - 1954

Lansing map - 1970

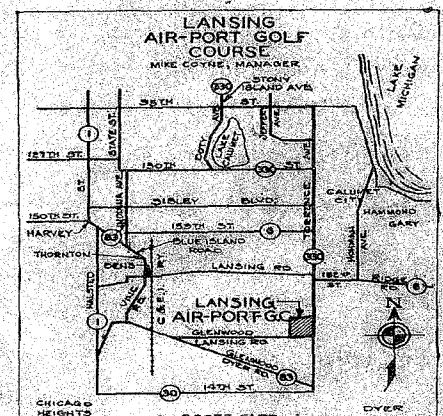
We'll try to get these Lansing items on display in the museum ASAP !

REMEMBER WHEN ??

Who remembers golfing at the "Lansing Air-port Golf Course" ?

This little score card is one of the pieces of memorabilia found at the museum in the process of taking inventory.

If anyone has more information about the golf course please let us know!



HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERS

Norm Abbott *
 Debbie Albrecht
 Florence Albright
 Grace Bazylewski *
 Betty Beenes
 Gerri Besse
 Cookie Borys
 Carolyn Bryan
 Judy Cheek *
 Bertha Chipokas
 Mary Clark
 Jerry Cole
 John & June Cole *
 Richard & Denise Cox *
 Douglas & Margaret Darlington *
 Tony & Toni DeLaurentis *
 Jerry DeYoung
 Darlene Dohl
 George & Leanette Dommer
 Phyllis Drewno
 Richard & Barbara Dust
 Nancy Eichorn *
 Bud & Patty Eidam *
 Floyd Fairfield & Therese Liesenfelt *
 Carla Fielder
 First National Bank *
 Eldon Freeman
 Arthur Galanis *
 Betty Gapinski
 Ray & Naomi Guhl
 Rudolf & JoAnn Hartge
 Tom & Nancy Highland *
 Jack & Penny Hoekstra *
 Elaine Humbert
 Jean Imes* & Adele Schultz
 Ernest Johnson *
 Sandra Johnson
 Kents Barber Shop
 Ronald Kiedaisch
 Jim & JoAnn Kijewski
 Bill Knight *
 Vera Knott
 Len Koenes
 Joe & Maxine Kolarczyk *
 Butch & Marilyn Kooy *
 Ann Marie Koppitz
 Lynn Kostopoulos
 Milice Krilich
 Herb Krumm
 Lan Oak Bowling Lanes
 Patti Leach
 Ed Lugowski *
 Sonja Malinski

Bob Malkas
 Bob & Mary Lou Maxeiner
 Cleo McClaire
 Bill McGrath
 Janet Moldenhauer
 Ken & Kari Morlock
 Joyce Mulder
 Dawn Myers
 Anita Neff
 Norreen Nelson
 Milton & Vanessa Nesbit
 Donald & Maxine Olsen *
 Bob & Jacquelyn Ore
 Mariann Orlick *
 Arline Perkins
 Maureen Grady Perovich
 Bob & Kim Piekarski *
 Joan Pitchford *
 Jackie Protsman
 Ridgeway Chevrolet
 Diane Roberts
 Dorothy Rossi
 Elizabeth Rowland *
 Joe & Jennifer Saia
 Shirley Schmuesser
 Josephine Schoettle
 Donna Brum School of Dance *
 Schroeder-Lauer Funeral Home
 Paul & Carol Schultz *
 Duane & Sandy Schultz *
 Ed & Betty Schumann
 Lucille Sebahar
 Carole Sebastian
 Delores Shone
 Anne Sowinski
 Carrie & Bradley Steinweg
 Mary Alice Sylvester
 Lorna VanKley-Bischof *
 Arnold Vierk *
 Village of Lansing *
 Karen Walker-Kehl
 Bob West *
 Marjorie Winterhoff
 Charlene Wright
 Elayne Young
 Marjorie Zeider
 Susan Zmuda

* = life time members

**Call membership chairman
 Maxine Olsen 474-4785 with
 membership questions.**

**It is never too late to join the Historical Society!
 Society memberships make great gifts! Simply use the
 form below and make a note if the membership is a
 gift. We'll be glad to mail the membership card to the
 new member as a gift from you!**

LANSING HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP FORM

MARK THE APPROPRIATE MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY.

() CURRENT MEMBER () LIFETIME MEMBER () NEW MEMBER
 () Annual dues \$10.00 () Patron dues \$15.00 () Business dues \$ 25.00 () Student dues \$5.00 () Lifetime dues: \$100.00

Name _____

Street address _____

City _____

State _____

Zip _____

Phone _____

Birth(s) - (month & day) _____

e.mail address _____

Please detach and return with your check made payable to:

LANSING HISTORICAL SOCIETY P.O. BOX 1776 LANSING, ILLINOIS 60438

GETTING TO KNOW**A LANSING SOCIETY MEMBER****JOSEPHINE KNUPFER SCHOETTLE****BY ~ MARILYN KOOY**

Josephine Knupfer was born December 31, 1909 in Esslinger Germany. She was one of four children. She came over by boat with her longtime sweetheart, Julius Schoettle, in 1929. They had to have a sponsor in the United States and had to register with the German Consultant before they could come to the States. It took about two years before they could leave Germany.

The ship they crossed on was called the 'Berlin' and it took about seven days to reach Ellis Island. The cost was about five hundred dollars each. They arrived at Ellis Island and traveled by bus and train to Chicago and East Chicago and then Hammond before they settled in Lansing.

Josephine and Julius were married in March, 1931. They had three children, Julius, Mary Lou Gambino, and Kurt. Josephine has 9 grandchildren, 15 great grandchildren, and 1 great great grandchild. Josephine told me that she and Julius loved to dance. When the music started, they were dancing. Josephine and Julius joined St. Ann's church and were very active. Josephine still is very active in the church, where she has been a member for 70 years and is in charge of the hospital ministry.

Josephine and Julius opened their business, "Flowers By Josephine", in 1958 which they operated out of their home on Roy street, where Josephine still lives. "Flowers by Josephine" was opened for 49 years before they closed the doors last year. Josephine was very involved in the Chamber over the years and is part of Lansing's great history.

Josephine is still involved in several organizations. She is one of the original members of the Lansing Business Women's Association and a longtime member of the Lansing Historical Society.

Josephine has received many awards over the years. She was the winner of the Chamber's Athena Award in 2004. She received from the Archdiocese of Chicago, in honor of her 85th birthday, a Special Apostolic Blessing from John Paul II. In September 2005 she received from Francis Cardinal George and the Archdiocese of Chicago, the Christifideles Award for Extraordinary Lay Ministry in the Life of the Church.

Josephine tries to keep herself busy. She still crochets and she tries to attend as many meetings as she can. Most of her family is still in the area, and she loves spending time with them.

**CONDOLENCES TO
THE FAMILY AND FRIENDS OF
LA VERNE C. (BUSACK) BARKOW**

La Verne Barkow, age 89, passed away February 6, in her home where she was born February 23, 1918.

La Verne was a founding member of the Lansing Historical Society. She embroidered a square for the Lansing Centennial Quilt which hangs in the Historical Society Museum.

Laverne was a member of several other local service organizations and will be dearly missed.

Mrs. Barkow and her family are a part of Lansing history forever.

**WELCOME TO OUR NEW
LIFETIME MEMBERS
BOB & KIM PIEKARSKI**

**We are also pleased to have new members
Cookie Borys, Betty Gapinski, Bud & Jean Eidam, and
Dorothy Rossi join the Society!**

April Program
"Chicago on Screen"
Sarah Marcus



Monday, April 28, 2008

6:30 p.m.

Community Room Lansing Library

We're proud to announce that we have applied for, and received another grant from the Illinois Humanities Council for a speaker from their Road Scholars Program!

Dr. Sarah Marcus,

Historian at the Chicago History Museum

will show us the history of Chicago through television and film, noting how producers of popular culture have depicted the city and its residents.

Using a variety of clips - from Scarface (1932) to the Untouchables (1987) to Stud's Place (1950) and Good Times (1974) - this presentation follows the camera's focus and reflects on lasting impressions created by flashing images on the screen.

*This program is open to the public.
 Donations will be accepted at the door.*

Light refreshments will be served after the program.

**Lansing Historical Society
 Flag Design Contest
 for the
 Village of Lansing**

**Mayor Dan Podgorski
 and the Lansing Village Board
 voted in February to give the
 Lansing Historical Society
 permission to hold a contest to create
 a flag to represent our village.**

**The following is the press release that went to
 local media, all our schools and the
 Lansing Village Vision**

The Lansing Historical society invites Village of Lansing citizens of all ages to participate in their "Flag Design Contest".

Flags are a time-honored means by which a community can display its pride for all to see. The Lansing Historical Society is honored to help the Village of Lansing develop a flag that displays the character of Lansing.

All citizens are encouraged to support and participate in the Lansing 'Flag Design Contest' sponsored by the Lansing Historical Society. The competition gives everyone an opportunity to show their knowledge and pride in Lansing.

Research material on the Village of Lansing is available at the Lansing Library.

General flag design information is available from the North American Vexillological Association web site at:

<http://www.nava.org>.

Entry forms can be picked up at the Lansing Village Clerks office : 18200 Chicago Avenue, or at the Lansing Public Library, 2750 Indiana Avenue.

Deadline for entries is Friday May 16, 2008.

Finalists will be chosen by the Lansing Historical Society Board. The final decision will be made by the Lansing Mayor and Village Board of trustees.

The winner will be notified by phone and invited to a Village Board meeting to be recognized and receive the prizes.

**Sure would be great to have several entries from our society members and their families!
 If you don't have a copy of the booklet
 "Good Flag/Bad Flag" contact a board member !**

Note from the Vice President: Patty Eidam

It has been a pleasure and a privilege to be your Vice President for the past three years. I have enjoyed planning and arranging the programs and being involved with folks that care about Lansing and our Society as I do.

Thanks to my husband, Bud, for his help with everything from moving Tri Motors and chairs, to suggestions about programs and encouragement to try new things.

We are very excited about our "Flag for Lansing" contest. Hopefully we'll see many entries from our own members and their families! If you don't have a copy of the booklet 'Good Flag / Bad Flag' let me know - it is full of good ideas to get you started!

Even though we will have a new Vice President next year, I will continue to do the newsletter for our Society. Please feel free to write an article about an old building, business, family or organization for the newsletter. We're always looking for new ideas and contributions.

If you would like to become more involved in our Historical Society, there are many ways to help...just call any board member!

I wish you a happy summer!

Patty

**Did you know.....**

In the village of Lansing in the year 1935 it was against the law to have a motor vehicle painted red!

Chapter XI, section 12 of the Village ordinances from that same year stated that the Chief of Police shall be the keeper of the "calaboose"! AND that the persons confined there should receive proper treatment.

This space was reserved for the old picture you
did not
send in for the newsletter !

Deadline for the next newsletter is:
August 27, 2008

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

*to our members
celebrating over the summer months*

April Birthdays

- 1 - Karen Walker-Kehl
- 4 - Milton Nesbit
- 6 - Rudolh Hartge
- 20 - Grace Bazylewski
- 20 - Duane Schultz
- 20 - Susan Zmuda
- 21 - Vanessa Nesbit
- 21 - Kim Piekarski

May Birthdays

- 2 - Leonard Koenes
- 4 - Floyd Fairfield
- 7 - Joe Saia
- 9 - Diane Roberts
- 15 - Elayne Young
- 22 - Bud Eidam
- 23 - June Cole

June Birthdays

- 4 - Herb Krumm
- 27 - Darlene Dohl

July Birthdays

- 4 - Dorothy Rossi
- 10 - Marilyn Kooy
- 18 - Mary Alice Sylvester
- 28 - Barb Dust
- 31 - Mary Clark

August Birthdays

- 7 - John Cole
- 8 - Gerri Besse
- 8 - Marge Darlington
- 11 - Jean Eidam
- 19 - Ray Guhl
- 28 - Ron Kiedaisch

*Happy belated Birthday to Adele Schultz,
longtime member of the LHS,
who celebrated her 95th birthday on February 8th.*

*Our thanks to membership chairman
Maxine Olsen
for compiling this list for us!*