



Wheeling Historical
Society and Museum
Newsletter

Winter

January/February 2019

Volume 28, Issue 1

The Wheeling Historical Society and Museum (Illinois) celebrates the link between the past and the present. The museum is a cooperative effort of the Village of Wheeling, Wheeling Park District, and Indian Trails Public Library.

WHEELING HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Museum Campus is
located in
the Wheeling Park
District's
Chamber Park
131 N. Wolf Road
Wheeling Illinois

2018-2019 OFFICERS

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Making ice for storing in the Hartmann barn

***“Ice is most welcome in a cold
drink on a hot day.***

***But in the heart of winter, you
want a warm hot mug with
your favorite soothing brew to
keep the chill away.”***

— Vera Nazarian

Even in the dead of winter, the business owners along Milwaukee Avenue in Wheeling had to be thinking about how to keep their products cool, even planning forward to summer and cold beer. The history book *Wheeling Through the Years* includes stories of ice chopping for use by Hartmann House (pictured right), Stryker’s Meat Market, Balling’s Farm Store and Kuffer’s beer distribution. As Bob Allison describes it: “Ice houses were double-walled buildings and they used a lot of sawdust to fill the space in between. When the ice was 8-10 inches thick they’d saw up a section, load it on the sleds and haul it up to the icehouse. Some of the farmers could count on a little winter work that way, hauling ice up from the river.”



For information about the fate of the Hartmann House icehouse, see Page 4.

Yesteryears...



100 years ago—Jan. 17, 1919 — “ Otto Utpadel, making a contract to fill two ice houses and his own, was kept very busy the past week.”

75 years ago — Feb. 18, 1944 — “A group of young people took advantage of the heavy snow to have an impromptu sleighing party on Sunday evening. After the ride they adjourned to the drug store for dutch treat.”

50 years ago — Feb. 19, 1969 — “Wheeling is finally going to get a new post office, despite repeated delays...The old post office is now located in the shopping center on Dundee and Milwaukee avenues.”

Wheeling Historical Society and Museum

A Message From The President — Elaine Simpson



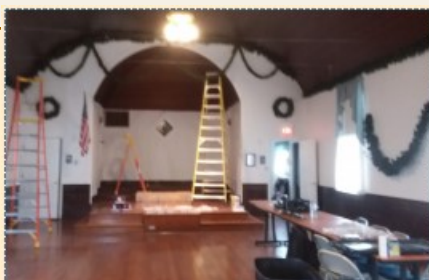
As I sat down to write this column, I was going to mention the passing of two of our members, Judy Abruscato and Pam Dorband, and then I stopped to think of all the wonderful members that have passed: too many to list their names in this column. As I was thinking of them it brought a smile to my face and many memories. They were involved in all parts of the Society and how much fun we had with them at Lollypop Lane, the Auction in February, the Installation dinner and the many speakers and events we had through the years. Some of them were stubborn, some were over-generous, and some had their own agenda for the Society. But the one thing they all had in common was making sure the Society kept going and the members had a great time.

This coming year my wish is that you will become more involved in the Society, offer suggestions on programs or events that we can have, and let other people know so that our membership will increase. My wish to you in 2019 is much happiness to you and your family and looking forward to seeing you sometime during the coming year. Happy New Year!

Elaine

The Curator's Corner — Patti Steilen

LOLLIPOP LANE 2018		
Date	Day	Attendance
01-Dec	Saturday	90
02-Dec	Sunday	204
03-Dec	Monday	75
04-Dec	Tuesday	103
05-Dec	Wednesday	190
06-Dec	Thursday	239
07-Dec	Friday	174
08-Dec	Saturday	387
09-Dec	Sunday	510
Totals		1972
% of Prev. Year		101.60%



Before....

and

after!



With the success of another fun filled Lollypop Lane behind us, we want to thank all the elves who helped make this year surpass all others. As usual we sold out of ornaments and cookies by Saturday. It's always great to see the turnout of volunteers; now we need your help to staff the museum on Thursday mornings. Please ask friends and family if they can assist with work in the museum and basement. Join us for a history tour and some reminiscing of old Wheeling.

It's time to update the museum and change displays. We can use any help you can offer. Get geared up for the annual White Elephant auction and dinner. Put some old treasures together and join us for a night of fun.

Patti

We are looking to donate the organ in the museum. If anyone has any interest in it, please contact Patti at 847-537-7287. We are planning on reconfiguring the museum and need to open more space for different displays.

From Restaurants to Recipes

Cook's Kitchen



PINEAPPLE ICEBOX CAKE

1/2 lb. vanilla wafers
1/2 c. butter

1 1/2 c. powdered sugar
2 eggs (unbeaten)

1 medium can crushed pineapple (drained)
1/2 pt. whipping cream

Pan size 8 x 12 x 2.

Grind the wafers or roll them into crumbs. Put half in bottom of well greased pan. Cream butter and sugar, add eggs one at a time. Beat until smooth and creamy. Pour this mixture over crumbs. Whip cream, add pineapple, pour over first mixture, cover with rest of the crumbs. Put in refrigerator for several hours.



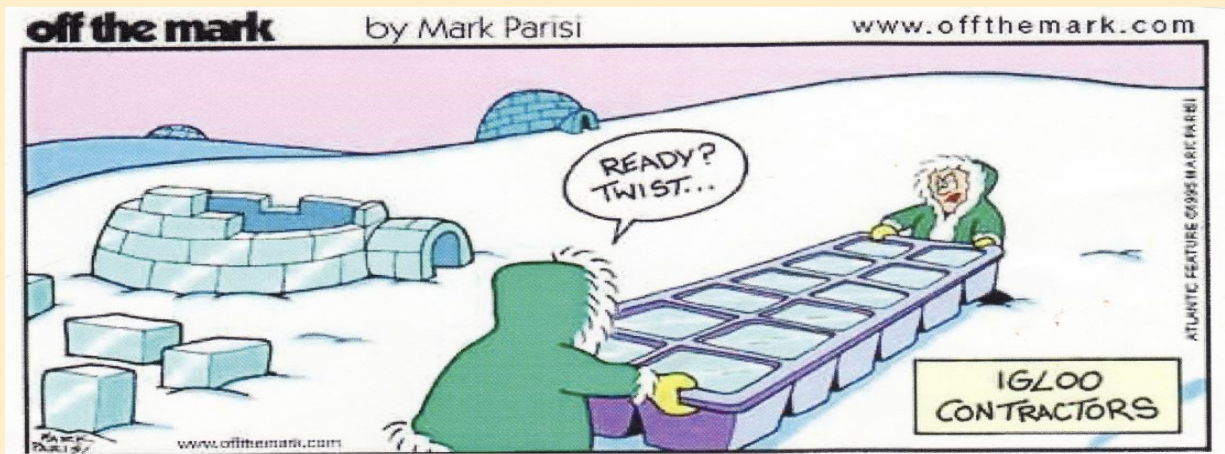
Member News

New Members: Rene Borowski
Lnda Bressett
Jill Koeppen



In Memoriam

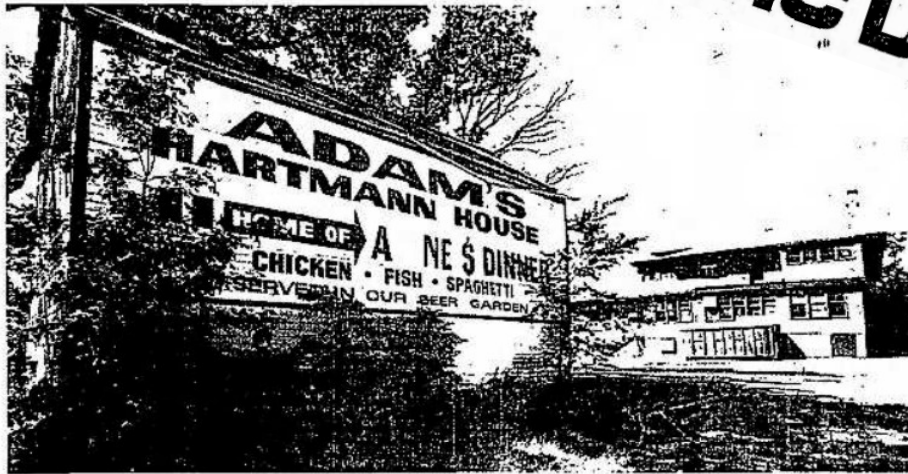
Judy Abruscato
Pamela Dorband



More about ice houses....

THE DAILY HERALD

July 2, 1984



A CENTURY-OLD ice house behind the Crab House Restaurant in Wheeling is being examined by the Wheeling Historical Society for possible preservation. Some residents would like to make sure the restaurant doesn't tear down the structure.

Century-old ice house fate unsure

by Kathy Waugh and Renee Goldstein

Herald staff writers

Concern is spreading again over the fate of a 100-year-old ice house situated behind the Crab House Restaurant, 393 S. Milwaukee Ave.

The ice house, built in the late 1800s and used to store ice for the summer months, has survived dozens of owners who used the building in front of it primarily for restaurants.

Wheeling Plan Commissioners said last week that they will recommend to the village board that current owner, Robert Chinn, be required to keep the ice house intact for one year.

After that, they agreed, he can do what he likes.

When Chinn bought the building two years ago, village trustees agreed that the ice house should remain. But Plan Commission Chairman Paul Elsterhold and other commissioners called the building "an eyesore" and said if Chinn — or any other owner — wants to tear it down, they should be allowed.

EISTERHOLD RECOMMENDED a one-year moratorium to give the Wheeling Historical Society time to hammer out a deal with the restaurant owner if it wants to preserve the building.

Chinn said he has "no idea" what he will do with the ice house after the

moratorium is up, but added that year-old plans to tear the building down and put in an outdoor patio have been delayed indefinitely.

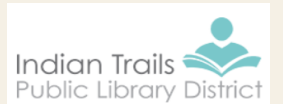
Wheeling Historical Museum Curator E. Albert Fantl said he doesn't want to wait and is interested in "making the ice house an attraction."

"I don't want to see the house destroyed and I have heard talk of tearing it down," Fantl said. "I'm going to try to talk with him and maybe get a landmark designation and fix it up without any cost to him."

"Then it can be used as a tourist attraction and it will even bring people to the restaurant," he said.

Interested in newspaper articles from the past?

Articles like these and more can be found on the AccessNewspaper database at Indian Trails Library, www.itpld.org.



WHEELING HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Save the date!

Monthly Meeting
Wednesday, February 27, 2019
6:00 pm



Annual Dinner and
White Elephant Auction