

WHEELING HISTORICAL SOCIETY

1986-1987

WHEELING

HISTORICAL

SOCIETY

1986 · 87

Membership List

Wheeling Historical Society Members

(Corrected May 4, 1986)

| | | |
|-------------------------------|--|----------|
| Allison, Don & Marge | 537 Isa Dr., Wheeling | 537-1817 |
| Altieri, Tony & Sandy | 36 Laurel Trail, Wheeling | 537-5110 |
| Avalon, Richard and Family | 714 Roosevelt, Arlington Hts. 60005 | 577-1708 |
| Balling, Marshall | 44 E. Dundee Rd., Wheeling | 537-0015 |
| Barrie, Betty | 155 W. Wayne Pl., Wheeling | 537-0327 |
| Behm, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph | 212 Peach Dr., Greensboro NC 27405 | |
| Bridgett, Sister Mary (Hon.) | C/O Villa Addolorata, Wheeling | 537-2900 |
| Broda, Jan & Adrian | 437 Virginia Pl., Wheeling | 537-6659 |
| Buerger, Robert & Eleanor | 712 N. Green Dr., Wheeling | 537-1976 |
| Buerger, Robert Jr. & Linda | 1435 Gas Light Dr., Algonquin 60102 | 658-5433 |
| Cunningham, Helen W. | 717 Linda Lane Tr., Wheeling | 537-4151 |
| Curasso, Marvin & Marcie | 1518 Clearwater Dr., Wheeling | |
| D'Argo, Ed & Janet | 262 Cindy Ln., Wheeling | 537-2929 |
| Dattilo, Sam & Irene | 403 Rauppp Blvd., Buffalo Grove | 537-0686 |
| Dolgopol, Christine | 216 E. Center St., Wheeling | 537-0784 |
| Drake, Dennis & Linda | 1029 Valley Stream, Wheeling | 459-4405 |
| Fanella, Nick & Dorothy | 391 E. Jeffrey, Wheeling | 459-3275 |
| Feinberg, Al & Lenore | 1500 Sandstone, Wheeling | 437-4688 |
| Flentge, Dorothy | 101 E. Clarendon, Prospect Hts. 60070 | 259-0309 |
| Forke, Margaret & Barbara | 246 E. Center St., Wheeling | 537-0398 |
| Franta, Willie | 329 Surrey Rd., Wheeling | 537-8193 |
| Glasson, Gregory & Kim | 325 Shadow Bend Dr., Wheeling | 459-1121 |
| Haben, Jack and Lorraine | 608 McHenry Road, Wheeling | 537-0654 |
| Haben, Virginia | 550 Haben Lane, Wheeling | 537-0778 |
| Hague, Mr. and Mrs. Dennis | 52 Regent Circle, Shaumberg 60193 | 998-9478 |
| Hein, Dolly - Pub 541-2477 | 272 Maureen, Wheeling | 537-2315 |
| Hein, William & Ruth | 138 Berkshire Ln., Wheeling | 520-1661 |
| Hiller, Elsie | 270 S. Milwaukee Ave., Wheeling | 537-0121 |
| Horcher, M. O. (Syke) & Ellie | 600 McHenry Rd., Wheeling | 537-2321 |
| Horath, Virgil & Helen | 614 N. Haddow, Arlington Hts. 60004 | 253-9171 |
| Irmiter, Matt | 265 S. Wheeling Ave., Wheeling | 537-88 |

| | | |
|-----------------------------|--|----------|
| Klocke, Ed & Alberta | 245 F. Wayne, Wheeling | 537-0574 |
| Koeppen, John & Shirley | 1625 Sheridan Rd., Wilmette IL | 251-6585 |
| Kotarba, Joseph S., Sr. | 592 Merle Lane, Wheeling | 537-1090 |
| Krause, Walter & Roberta | 58 W. Jeffrey, Wheeling | 537-0224 |
| | | |
| Lark, Don & Scott | 593 Merle, Wheeling | 537-1028 |
| Lorenz, Tom & Kathy | 459 Longtree, Wheeling | 537-1976 |
| | | |
| Main, Ed & Maria | 925 Pebble Dr., Wheeling | 537-7012 |
| McIntyre, Barbara & Bob | 218 Coach Rd., Wheeling | 537-3497 |
| Moore, Bertha | 44 Natchez, Lincolnshire IL | 945-5977 |
| Mueller, Ed & Shirley (Hon) | C/O Connor, 11907 W. Dowles Cir. Littleton CO 80127 | |
| | | |
| Nathan, Bernard & Emma | 1500 Sandstone, Wheeling | 541-8244 |
| | | |
| Orlowski, Otto & June | 667 S Milwaukee Ave., Wheeling | 537-0485 |
| | | |
| Paisley, Don | 567 N. Green, Wheeling | 537-4534 |
| Piazza, Comcetta | 6423 N. Oakley, Chicago IL 60645 | 338-3428 |
| | | |
| Rasmussen, Barbara | 164 Coral, Wheeling | 541-4351 |
| Rudolph, Charlie & Clare | 223 E. Center, Wheeling | 537-0531 |
| | | |
| Schnaitmann, Frank & Lonnie | 920 Valley Stream Dr., Wheeling | 520-4254 |
| Schneider, Miss Adeline | 133 N. Milwaukee Ave., Wheeling | 537-0040 |
| Staples, Vern | 379 Glendale Rd., Buffalo Grv. | 541-2428 |
| | | |
| Trunda, John & Gertrude | 702 Linda, Wheeling | 537-1335 |
| | | |
| Wargo, Bob and Alice | 401 S. Wolf Rd., Wheeling | 537-5127 |
| Wieder, Ethel | 180 N. Wolf Rd., Wheeling | 537-0080 |
| Willis, Merle (Hon) | Countryview Rd., Allendale MI | |
| Wolf, Janet | 1638 Bow Trail, Wheeling | 394-9184 |
| | | |
| Zilka, Bing and Betty | 924 Valley Stream Dr., Wheeling | 459-9457 |

Zip Codes: Wheeling--60090; Buffalo Grove--60089

| | | | |
|---------------------|----------|-------------|----------|
| Chamber Park Church | 537-9698 | Chevy Chase | 537-2930 |
| Chapel--Childerley | 459-0930 | Museum | 537-3119 |

NOTE The Wheeling Historical Society meets at 8 p.m. on the fourth Wednesday of each month at the Community Church in Chamber Park. No meetings are held in June, July and August.

Genealogy Society 537-0550

Constitution

CONSTITUTION WHEELING HISTORICAL SOCIETY

ARTICLE I NAME

The name of this organization shall be the WHEELING HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

ARTICLE II OBJECT

The object of this society shall be the discovery, preservation and dissemination of knowledge about the history of the Wheeling Community.

ARTICLE III LOCATION

The location of the society shall be in the Village of Wheeling, Counties of Cook and Lake, State of Illinois.

ARTICLE IV MEMBERSHIP

Membership in this society shall consist of eight classes and honorary. Fees for each class shall be set by the board of directors.

ARTICLE V ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting shall be held in May.

ARTICLE VI OFFICERS

The officers of the society shall be: President, Vice President, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer, Curator, and three elected Directors. All the above constitutes the board of directors.

ARTICLE VII AMENDMENTS

The Constitution may be amended at any regular meeting by a two-thirds vote of the active members present at any regular meeting of the society, providing a quorum is present, no less than seven shall constitute a quorum of the active membership, and that such proposed amendment has been submitted to the active membership at a previous meeting, and a notice to all active members not at the previous meeting.

ARTICLE VIII
BY-LAWS

The Wheeling Historical Society, or officers and directors of the same shall with the approval of the membership present, enact certain by-laws that may properly guide and direct the activities of the society.

ARTICLE IX
EFFECTIVE DATE

This Constitution dated September 11, 1964 shall supersede any and all prior constitutions of the Wheeling Historical Society upon its adoption by the membership.

BY-LAWS OF THE WHEELING HISTORICAL SOCIETY

ARTICLE I MEMBERSHIP

- SECTION 1: Any person interested in the history of Wheeling may become an active member of the society upon enrollment with the Secretary, and payment of dues to the Treasurer.
- SECTION 2: Honorary membership may be conferred upon persons deserving special recognition upon their commendation of an active member to the Board of Directors and a two-thirds affirmative vote of the members present at any regular meeting of the society.

ARTICLE II MEETINGS

- SECTION 1: The regular meetings of the society shall be held from September through May on the fourth Wednesday of the month. If the regular meeting date falls on a legal holiday, the President and/or the Board of Directors shall designate a substitute date.
- SECTION 2: There shall be a minimum of seven members including one officer to properly constitute a quorum for the transaction of business in any regular or special meeting of the society.
- SECTION 3: The Board of Directors may at the discretion of the President meet during the week prior to the regular meeting. The time and place of the meeting to be designated by the President.
- SECTION 4: Five members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum for transaction of business at a Board Meeting.
- SECTION 5: Special Meetings of the Society or of the Board of Directors may be called by the President.

ARTICLE III DUTIES OF OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

- SECTION 1: The President shall preside at all meetings of the society and of the Board of Directors. The President shall be a member ex-officio of all committees. The President shall set up two (2) special committees, 1) nominating and 2) auditing committees. The President shall not be an ex-officio member of these committees.
- SECTION 2: The Vice President shall perform the duties of the President in the latter's absence. Shall also serve as Dean of Chairperson and shall when asked assist the Chairperson of all committees in their work. He or she shall serve as Chairperson of the Rules and Revisions Committee.
- SECTION 3: The Recording Secretary shall perform the duties of the President & Vice-President in their absence. The Recording Secretary shall keep a record of the proceedings of the society and of the Board of Directors, and read them at the next succeeding meeting. A record of all persons enrolling as members of the society shall be kept, with date and signature of

enrollee. In addition, the Recording Secretary shall maintain an attendance log for each meeting showing the date and names of the individuals present.

- SECTION 4: The Corresponding secretary shall send notices of elections and notify Committee Chairpersons and members of their appointments and shall conduct other correspondence of the society that may from time to time be appropriate.
- SECTION 5: The Treasurer shall be custodian of all society funds. All checks will require the signature of two officers, one of which shall be either the President or Treasurer, the other of which shall be the Vice President or Recording Secretary and/or the President, and/or Treasurer. An itemized Treasurer's report attested to by the Auditing Committee shall be provided in writing to all members at the first regular meeting in September. All funds received by the society from any and all sources inclusive, shall be reflected on the books of account. Any and all disbursements of funds shall be recorded on the books of account.
- SECTION 6: The Curator shall gather together and carefully preserve, file and catalog the historical materials of this society. He or she shall have charge of all files and historical materials of this society. Under no conditions shall the materials and records of the society be removed from the museum without the Board of Directors approval. Records shall show: a) date received; b) accession number; c) description; d) history; e) name of donor or lender; f) address of same. Accession number must be attached securely to the object. It shall follow that the corresponding secretary be advised of receipt of all accessions so that proper acknowledgement can be made. The Curator and Board of Directors shall meet at their convenience to examine and evaluate accessions received and display suitability of the same.
- SECTION 7: All records kept by the Officers and Committees shall be returned to the Society President at the end of the fiscal year, to be kept at the museum office.
- SECTION 8: The Board of Directors of the Wheeling Historical Society shall make provision for the custody of all material of historical value received by the Society. Should the Wheeling Historical Society disband, the Directors of the Society shall tender all files, records and accessions to the nearest museum.

ARTICLE IV AMENDMENTS

SECTION 1: The By-Laws of the society may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the Active Members present at any regular meeting of the society, providing such proposed amendments have been referred to the Rules and Revisions committee. The Rules and Revisions Chairperson shall present proposed amendments to the Board of Directors. The Corresponding Secretary shall send a notice of each proposed amendment to each active member of the Society at least five(5) days before the meeting at which the proposed amendments are to be voted upon, providing there is a quorum present.

ARTICLE V DUES

SECTION 1: The Annual Dues of active members shall be, five (5) dollars per couple and three (3) dollars per single, payable at the annual meeting.

SECTION 2: Members failing to pay dues by the October meeting following the annual meeting will be dropped from membership.

SECTION 3: No dues shall be collected from Honorary Members, and they shall have no voting rights.

ARTICLE VI PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

SECTION 1: Robert's Rules of Order, Revised, Shall be the authority in all matters of parliamentary procedure in which they are not inconsistent with the Constitution or these By-Laws.

ARTICLE VII ELECTIONS

SECTION 1: A nominating committee of three (3) members, only one of whom may be a member of the Board of Directors, shall be selected by the Board at its meeting preceding the regular February meeting of the Society in an election year. The Committee shall present a slate of candidates for each office at the regular meeting in March, at which time other nominations may be made from the floor.

SECTION 2: The officers shall be elected at the regular meeting in April. If there is but one candidate for any office, the vote may be by acclamation unless objection is made. If there is more than one candidate for office, the vote shall be by ballot, and a majority vote of those present shall elect.

SECTION 3: All officers shall be elected to serve two (2) years. The election of officers will be: The even year: President, Recording Secretary, Curator, and one (1) Director. The odd year; the Vice President, Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer and two (2) directors. In case of a vacancy, it shall be filled by the President with the approval of the Board of Directors.

SECTION 4: No individual shall serve more than two successive terms in the

By-Laws

same office.

SECTION 5: The newly-elected officers shall be installed as the last order of business at the annual meeting in May. The most recent Past President will serve as ex-officio advisor.

ARTICLE VIII COMMITTEES

SECTION 1: The society shall have five (5) standing committees, which will serve from September to September as follows: 1) Membership; 2) Publicity; 3) Rules and Revisions; 4) Budget; and 5) Liaison.

SECTION 2: All standing committees to be appointed by the President at the regular meeting in September.

SECTION 3: Special committees may be created as required to promote the objects and interests of the society.

SECTION 4: Special committees may be named by the President from time to time to perform other assignments.

ARTICLE IX HISTORIAN

SECTION 1: The Historian shall be appointed by the President with the consent of the Membership at the Annual Meeting.

ARTICLE X BUDGET COMMITTEE

SECTION 1: The budget committee will be President, Treasurer, Recording Secretary.



Museum - 251 N. Wolf



Society Board - 1986-87
not pictured: Barb Forke, Dolly Hein

Sam Dattilo
Bob McIntyre
Frank Schnaitmann
Betty Bannie
Marshall Balling
Tony Altieri
Robert Buenger

Wheeling Historical Society

You are cordially invited
to become a Member

"The object of this Society shall be the discovery, preservation and dissemination of knowledge about the Community of Wheeling."

-- W.H.S. Constitution

Meetings are held in the Community Church in Chamber Park, 251 N. Wolf Rd., on the fourth Wednesdays of the months of Sept., Oct., Nov., Jan., March and April. A pot-luck supper and auction takes the place of a February meeting, and the Installation Banquet is in May.

We conduct Lollipop Lane for the delight of children in December, and host the Old Settlers' Picnic on July 4.

Members serve as guides for the Museum on Sunday afternoons the year 'round, and for the Lark/Childerley Chapel on Sundays from Memorial Day until Labor Day. There also are informal work sessions at which volunteers get together to set up new exhibits, restore and catalog old artifacts and to do research.

In addition to an opportunity to participate in projects or serve as museum guides, members receive Society newsletters and attend the opening parties as new museum exhibits are launched.

If you would like to become an active member of the Wheeling Historical Society, please fill out this application:

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

.....
(name)

.....
(address)

.....
(city, state)

.....
(phone)

.....
(zipcode)

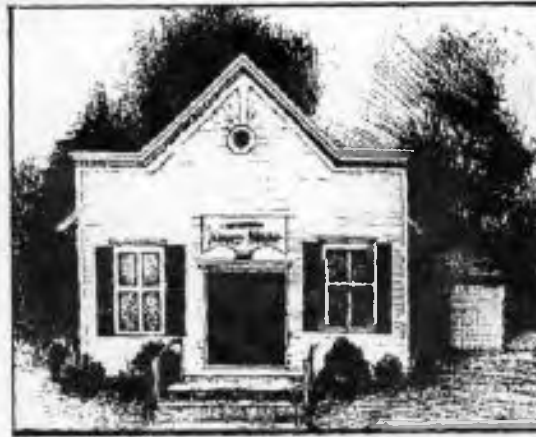
TYPES OF MEMBERSHIP

- Life Membership \$100
- Family \$5 per year
- Individual \$3 per year

Make checks payable to Wheeling Historical Society and mail to:

Wheeling Historical Society
P.O. Box 3
Wheeling IL 60090

Annual membership dues are payable in May.



Original Village Hall

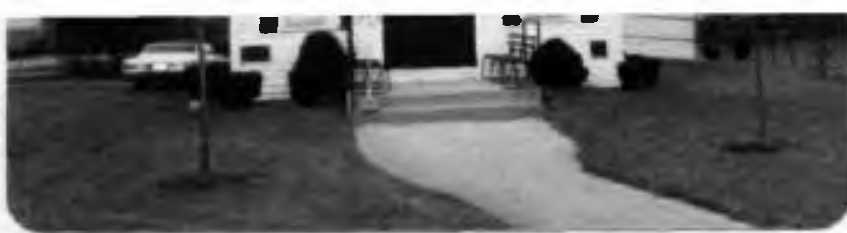
The white frame building at the west end of Chamber Park, which serves as our Historical Museum, was the original Wheeling Village Hall. It was built in 1895 at a cost of \$553.26 for a building "20 by 30 ft. with two cells at the western end, 7-1/2 by 9 ft. each." It served as a meeting place for the trustees, a police station, and a court. A lean-to on one side housed the hand pumper purchased by the Volunteer Fire Department in 1904.

The pumper is now in the building itself. There is one abbreviated cell remaining, and there is an addition at the rear and a basement. The latter serves as a working area and research center for the Museum, and every inch of space upstairs is used for permanent and changing exhibits. This building was originally at 84 S. Milwaukee Ave. and was purchased by the Park District and moved to its present location in 1978.



Lark/Childerley Chapel

The small brick chapel, located in the Wheeling Park District's Childerley Park, was built in 1927 by Frances Crane Lillie to be a place of worship for her family as well as the families who lived on the Crane farm across the road. This was a charitable school-home facility established in 1917 to house widows and orphans. The original chapel was a log cabin built in about 1827, which was moved to this location from the south section of Buffalo Creek Farm. It was connected to this newer facility by a walled garden. The garden walls and log cabin have since been destroyed and the library was added in 1940. Originally a Catholic chapel, it has been non-denominational since the Park District took it over in 1977. Restoration was done by the Wheeling Historical Society members and they now staff it on summer Sunday afternoons.



Museum - 251 n. Wolf



Society Board - 1986-87
not pictured: Barb Forke, Dolly Hein

Sam Dattilo
Bob McIntyre
Frank Schnaitmann
Betty Bannie
Marshall Balling
Tony Altieri
Robert Buenger

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(name)

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(address)

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(city, state)

.....
(phone)

.....
(zipcode)

TYPES OF MEMBERSHIP

.... Life Membership \$100
.... Family \$5 per year
.... Individual \$3 per year

Make checks payable to Wheeling Historical Society and mail to:

Wheeling Historical Society
P.O. Box 3
Wheeling IL 60090

Annual membership dues are payable in May.



Original Presbyterian Church

The Wheeling Historical Society meetings are held here, as are Lollipop Lane and the Old Settlers' Picnic. On week days the building is used for pre-school classes by the Park District, which owns it. This original Zion Presbyterian Church building was erected in 1865 and was the first and for many years the only church in Wheeling. Services were held half in English and half in German. The building served as a social gathering place as well as a place of worship for the village. In 1962 a new Presbyterian church was built on Highland Ave. and in 1969 the old church was moved from Dundee Rd. west of Milwaukee Ave. to Chamber Park where it now stands, serving the community in a different capacity.



Wheeling High School "New Downs" Entertainment



Sandy Altieri is a winner



Irene Dattilo & Dolly Hein
paying the bill

Bridal Exhibit - June & July

The
BRIDE

JUNE & JULY 1986



THE BRIDE

Traditionally, ceremonial robes have been richly colored, and in many cases they were handed down from generation to generation. During the Middle Ages, red was the favored color, and it is still the color chosen by Hindu, Islamic, and Chinese brides as a symbol of celebration. This "color of defiance" was also worn by brides during the American Revolution.

The white wedding dress is a fairly recent tradition. Victorian brides from privileged backgrounds wore white to indicate that they were rich enough to wear a dress for one day only -- but still the majority at that time simply wore their best finery. Even when white had caught on as a symbol of purity, the dresses were often worn more than once. At the turn of the century, women wore their wedding dresses on special occasions throughout the first year of their marriage. The association of white with purity has relaxed, and these days the color symbolizes just the celebration itself.

The wedding veil, one of the most ancient of wedding traditions, has always stood for youth and virginity. In the United States, the veil was not part of a colonial wedding costume until George Washington's stepdaughter, Nellie, an incurable romantic, inadvertently set the trend. She was sitting by a lace-curtained window when her stepfather's aide, Lawrence Lewis, walked by and saw her lace-framed face. It was love at first sight and clever Nellie later re-created the flattering effect by wearing lacy veiling when she married Lawrence.

The symbolic wedding crown could vary from a simple one of flowers to the elaborate headdress that Japanese brides wear to this day. But the most familiar headpiece and veil symbolize for the rest of us the bride's majesty, as on her special day she dresses in royal "robes," rides in a coach -- even if it is only the shiniest car in the neighborhood -- and presides at a feast. And we all wish on a star for a life that will be happy forever after.

The Wheeling Historical Society would like to thank those who loaned the family wedding dresses, accessories, and pictures for this exhibit.

SANDY ALTIERI
BETTY BARRIE
DOROTHY BALLING FLENTGE
BARBARA FORKE
MARGARET FORKE
LUCILLE SCHWIND GRIEP
LORRAINE HABEN
VIRGINIA HABEN
GLADYS KEIL
MINNIE KEIL
BARBARA MCINTYRE
ETHEL WIEDER

Thank you for visiting the Wheeling Historical Museum. We hope you enjoyed your visit and will come again. Our next special exhibit will be "School Days" which will be presented in August and September.

The Wheeling Historical Society
requests the honour of your presence
at the preview of the Wedding Exhibit
on Sunday, June eighth
nineteen hundred and eighty-six
from one o'clock until five o'clock
Wheeling Historical Museum
Chamber Park
251 North Wolf Road
Wheeling, Illinois



Opening - June 8

Museum exhibit adds new life to old wedding gowns

by Sherry Boemmel

Herald correspondent

They have come out of old, dusty cardboard boxes in attics, from old trunks and closets and many old drawers.

Family heirlooms dating back to the 1890s and as recent as 1977, they were worn by the young women of Wheeling as they entered married life.

And this month, they are part of a special exhibit of wedding gowns at the Wheeling Historical Museum at Chamber Park, 251 Wolf Road.

Researched and arranged by Sandi Altieri of the Wheeling Historical Society, the exhibit includes shoes, a veil, a ring pillow, invitations, photographs, wedding certificates, bridal gifts and even some lingerie, all from families with Wheeling connections.

THE EXHIBIT is part of a continuing program of changing exhibits organized by the society.

"What we're trying to do is get more people into the museum," said Altieri. "By putting in a new exhibit every two months we make the museum more interesting. We try to fit it in with the seasons. I tried to think of something that fits in with June (weddings) and that's why August and September are going to be school days."

Compiling the exhibit took many long hours, but Altieri said she was encouraged by her first few phone calls or she may not have continued. She already knew of some things she wanted, but others were offered without her having to call.

"We had a lot of cooperation," she said. "Everyone who had a wedding dress at home brought it in."

Altieri said one dress made during the war was inexpensive. She said the 1942 dress cost \$10 — \$5 for the material and \$5 for the dressmaker.

"I wanted it because it had such a cute story," Altieri said.

THE OLDEST dress in the exhibit is an elegant black silk floor-length gown with a gold-embroidered net collar and velvet sash dating back to about 1890. The gown, which belonged to the grandmother of long-time village resident Virginia Haben

is known to the family as an "opera dress."

It may have been worn for a wedding because many women at the time wore their dresses for other occasions, says Altieri.

"Around the 19th century, they had one good dress," Altieri says.

A white handkerchief dripping with **tatting**, also came from the **Haben** family, Altieri says. It has been used

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— Sandi Altieri, Wheeling Historical Society

by Haben brides since the 1890s.

The other dresses in the exhibit — all white — are simpler in design and materials than the Haben gown. Two long ones are from the first years of the 20th century and the two short ones are from the 1920s.

The ensemble Tillie Stueve wore when she married Frank Forke in 1905 is included in the exhibit. It features a batiste blouse, skirt and cummerbund with an embroidered collar and yoke and ribbon trim. Her shoes are also included in the exhibit.

The bridal wear have been lent by Barbara Forke, Tillie's granddaughter, and her mother, Margaret Forke, both long-time residents of the village.

A white batiste dress with lace inserts worn by Altieri's grandmother's around 1908 is exhibited at the museum. It is a one-piece floor-length gown and was worn by Alice Allstrom when she married Earnest Allen in Chicago. Altieri is the connection to Wheeling.

THE KEIL and Schwind families contributed short dresses displayed in

the exhibit.

Carrie Keil and William Lenzen were married in 1921. Her nieces, Gladys and Minnie Keil of Maywood, inherited her wedding finery along with her house in Maywood.

Her nieces still have an aunt — their mother's sister — Elsie Pieper Hiller, in Wheeling but their father's family, the Keils, moved from Wheeling to ~~Maywood~~ **Maywood** in 1910.

"We kept hers," says Gladys Keil of the dress, "but we don't know what happened to our mother's."

"I don't remember ever seeing it," said Minnie Keilsaid.

The short simple cotton dress was made by a dressmaker friend, Elizabeth Meyer, who rented a room from the Keil family. The only decorations are inserts of embroidered netting. Carrie Keil also wore a big-brimmed hat, which was thrown away along with her shoes by her nieces after her death.

HER NIECES said Carrie was about 40 when she got married to Lenzen, who lived in Volo.

Lucille Schwind Griep, who lives in Lake Zurich, found her mother's wedding dress and veil at the Wheeling family home after her mother's death in May. She had never seen them before, although she had heard about them.

"All I know that it was in the trunk," Griep said. "She always mentioned it, but I never saw it."

The short white dress with lace-trimmed sleeves is displayed with a wedding photograph of the Lucille Schneider and Alphonse Schwind in 1906. They were married 56 years when she died. Her husband Alphonse died last week.

"It looks like she carried a bush," said Griep of her mother's mammoth bouquet of white flowers, which could reach from her neck to her knees.

The wedding exhibit is open for viewing Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and Sundays from 1 to 5 p.m. until the end of July.

Appointments can be made by calling Sandy Altieri at 537-3119 or 537-5110.



Herald photo by Sig Bokalders

MOMMA'S DRESS. Lucille Schwind Griep touches up the wedding dress worn by her mother back in 1926. The gown is part of an exhibit of wedding

gowns and bridal paraphernalia on display this month at the Wheeling Historical Society Museum at Chamber Park.





Bridal gowns unveiled

Tony Altieri, curator of the Wheeling Historical Museum, shows off a turn-of-the-century wedding dress. The dress is one of five old-fashioned gowns on display at the museum's bridal exhibit, which runs through July. The museum, located at Chamber Park, 251 N. Wolf Road, is open to the public from 1 to 5 p.m. on Sundays. (Brian Hart photo)



Jamie
Conroy
Merrell

If you find yourself with time on your hands this Sunday, stop by the Wheeling Historical Museum anytime from 1 to 5 p.m.

An exhibit of wedding dresses, many from the turn of the century,

will still be on display until the end of July.

Residents who loaned family wedding dresses, accessories and pictures include Sandy Altieri, Betty Barrie, Dorothy Balling Flentge, Barbara Forke, Margaret Forke, Lucille Schwind Griep, Lorraine Haben, Virginia Haben, Gladys Keil, Minnie Keil, Barbara McIntyre and Ethel Wieder.

The museum is located at Chamber Park, 251 N. Wolf Road.

If you would like to join the Historical Society, send \$5 (for a family membership) or \$3 (single) to Wheeling Historical Society, P.O. Box 3, Wheeling, IL 60090.



CHICAGOLAND HISTORICAL EXPOSITION

Saturday, June 14, 1986

10:00am to 4:00pm

Northeastern Illinois University

Commuter Center Building

5500 North St. Louis

Chicago, Illinois

Chicagoland
Historical
Exposition



Wheeling's
Restaurant
Exhibit



Booths in Alumni Hall:

Artists For Sharing-North Park Village
 Checagou, DuSable, Fort Dearborn Hst Cm
 Chicago Art Deco Society
 Chicago Genealogical Society
 Chicago Historical Society
 Chicago Maritime Society
 Chicago Public Library-Special Coll.
 Comm.-Chicago Hist. & Arch. Landmarks
 DuSable Museum-African American Hist.
 Edgewater Community Council-Hist. Comm.
 Elk Grove Historical Society
 Fort Sheridan Museum
 Garfield Farm Museum-LaFox
 Greater Chicago Neighborhoods
 Historical Society of Buffalo Grove
 * Irving Park Historical Society

Lincolnwood Public Library-Hst Coll
 Long Grove Historical Society
 Looking Backward to Move Forward
 + Morton Grove Historical Society
 + North Eastern Il Historical Council
 North Suburban Genealogical Society
 Northbrook Historical Society
 * Norwood Park Historical Society
 * Ravenswood-Lake View Historical Asc
 Ridge Historical Society
 * Rogers Park Historical Society
 Skokie Historical Society
 * Uptown Historical Society
Wheeling Historical Society
 Wilmette Historical Society
 James Woodworth Prairie Preserve

* Sponsoring Organizations

+ Supporting Organizations

Crafts and other displays:

American Indian Center

Illinois Labor Historical Society

Chicago Historical Bookworks

Jewish Genealogical Society of Illinois

Historical Baskets

Mitchell Indian Museum-Kendall College

Appearance by: Mayor's Office of Special Events





General
Store
Exhibit
at Library

WHEELING

Thursday, June 19, 1986

SECTION 3

THE DAILY HERALD

Historical square envisioned

'Turn of the Century Wheeling': plan

by Evelyn Dorman
Herald staff writer

After nearly two years of debate, the Wheeling Historical Society's idea for an antique carriage house may never come to fruition.

But what the society hopes to resurrect in its place may be an all-encompassing village of several historic buildings. That is, if the Wheeling Park District commissioners approve of the concept — setting in motion the society's master plan to capitalize on the village's rich historical past.

Society officials are envisioning a village square made up of historical buildings and residences. Blacksmiths, shopkeepers, crafts people and a general store would give semblance to the square and hopefully capture a "Turn of the Century Wheeling" feeling.

"The plan is just a concept," Robert McIntyre, Wheeling Historical Society member, said. "It's the old-time village concept. What we're looking at is an expression of approval for it. We're not asking (park commissioners) for money."

EVEN THOUGH specific plans have not yet been nailed down, society members have mentioned that such a square could be re-created at Chamber of Commerce Park, where it would be anchored by the existing museum.

Another consideration is possibly locating the square on vacant land southwest of the Billy and Co. Restaurant, 124 S. Milwaukee Ave. That area, already included in the village's tax increment financing district, is slated for future downtown redevelopment. The historical village, in close proximity to Wheeling's restaurant row, would offer patrons an outlet for shopping, officials say.

The historical society also has raised the possibility of moving buildings that may be condemned during downtown redevelopment to either location to house historical artifacts.

And just maybe there could be a carriage house after all. But for now, the issue is "not on the front burner," McIntyre says.

"We aren't in much of a hurry as we were a year ago," he said. "Now there may be another location. And

while some of us have ideas, there hasn't been a consensus. We want the general idea approved first, then we'll agree to the site."

THE PROPOSED carriage house was to house several donated antique carriages, and had been the center of controversy between the park district and the Wheeling Historical Society for more than a year.

The society had been seeking a small one-room building with a loft, but with no kitchen, bathroom or heat, for about \$45,000. But the park district had preferred a heated structure, which at one time was estimated to cost \$360,000.

In February, both sides had agreed to compromise on a 1,800-square-foot building with toilets, heating and a sprinkler system at a total cost of about \$134,000.

But those plans ran into snags because the proposed building didn't meet current building codes for height.

And now the historical village concept is providing yet another option, but park district commissioners said they would have to determine

whether it is feasible to consider such a project and how it would be funded. In the case of the proposed carriage house, the society would have been considered the technical owners, while the park district would have footed the bill for the building.

ALREADY, SOME affiliated with the park district question the master plan when maintaining and improving the existing park system is a concern.

"When I look at this elaborate a setup, and I'm the father of two kids, I'd like to see some baseball fields and lit diamond fields," Greg Klantecki, chairman of the district's Capital Needs Reassessment Advisory Committee, said at a recent park board meeting.

Added Ruth Wieder, advisory committee member, "When are we going to maintain what we have?"

In any event, commissioners have said they would hope to resolve the matter soon.

"We have to sit down and decide what is what and pass a resolution and that's it," Commissioner Edward L. Klocke said.

Panel puts equipment in tax hike plan

by Judy Fahys and Evelyn Dorman

Herald staff writers

As part of its proposal for a tax referendum to fund a new community center, Wheeling Park District's citizens advisory committee also is recommending installing new playground equipment at most parks and putting pews back in the Chamber of Commerce Park Church.

The Capital Needs Reassessment Advisory Committee recommends making play areas safer by installing new equipment at eight district parks. "I don't think we've done anything exciting," said committee Chairman Greg Klatecki. "I think we've just brought things up to stan-

dard."

The decision to recommend funding for the playground project was part of a three-hour session devoted to the district's park property and facilities needs. Klatecki said the projects under consideration all involved preserving and improving the district's existing grounds and buildings rather than adding new ones.

THE COMMITTEE already is considering recommending that park officials hold a referendum to fund a \$1 million community center at the former Hawthorne School, 200 Glendale Ave., Wheeling. Other park improvements may be included in that referendum.

Klatecki explained that the play equipment should meet national safe-

ty standards because of the liability insurance crisis that has made many public bodies across the country scramble to stay open and insured.

It may cost roughly \$276,000 to replace and upgrade playground equipment at the eight parks, excluding Heritage Park, 222 S. Wolf Road, and the "Last Four Acres" park near the Polo Run subdivision at Wheeling and Hintz roads, and at Eugene Field, Tarkington, Mark Twain, Whitman and Sandburg schools.

While reviewing recommendations for improvements to the Chamber Park museum and church, the committee decided to ask the park board to consider restoring the church to its original use. The pews have been stripped from the church, which the

district uses to house a preschool and dancing and arts and crafts classes.

The committee also recommended upgrading the siding, windows, roofing and gutters at both buildings. The museum masonry would be tuck-pointed and the church would get a new handicapped-accessible entrance, a coat of paint, and floor and sign improvements under the proposal.

The committee will present its recommendations to the park board in September. Park commissioners will have to determine the priority of the projects and whether to push for a November tax referendum to pay for the work.



Curator - Tony Altieri



General Store



Wash Day

LIFE in Wheeling

Chapel pays homage to protector of parks

5/22/86

As the days grow warmer, thoughts turn toward picnicking along a bubbling stream nestled in a grassy grove surrounded by trees. For a picturesque touch, add a small chapel to the grove.

Sounds good, but where do you find such a beautiful spot? Right here in Wheeling, at Childerley Park on McHenry Road.

The Wheeling Historical Society completed a restoration project on the chapel in 1981. Volunteer workers stripped and stained woodwork, painted walls, refinished seats and kneelers, and made simulated stained glass windows. Brat and beer festivals financed the restoration. Beginning Memorial Day, the chapel will be open to visitors Sundays from 1 to 5 p.m. It was named the Lorraine E. Lark Chapel of the Orchard, in honor of the former park district commissioner who spearheaded the drive to protect Childerley from development and possible destruction.

Childerley (children's meadow) was originally part of a 600-acre farm on the banks of Buffalo Creek, which was bought by Frances and Frank Lillie in 1907.

The original chapel on Childerley Farm was a log cabin built before 1830. In 1927, a small brick chapel was built and a library was added in 1940. In 1977, about 13 acres were bought by the Wheeling Park District.

All of this is just food for thought while you enjoy your picnics there this summer.

* * *



Jamie Conroy Merrell

Town calendar

| JULY | | | | | | |
|------|-----|-----|-----|------|-----|-----|
| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THUR | FRI | SAT |
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | |

Today

Visit the Wheeling Historical Museum from 1 to 5 p.m. in Chamber Park, 251 Wolf Rd. The Childerley Chapel, 506 McHenry Road, is also open 1 to 5 p.m., every Sunday through the summer.

Childerley Chapel

Park board keeps keys to Childerley Chapel

By C.L. WALLER

6/26/86

The Wheeling Historical Society is getting nowhere in its effort to get the keys to Childerley Chapel from the park district.

A society representative appeared before the park board last week and asked commissioners to give chapel keys to the president of the group and the curator of the historic chapel.

Now, the society — which maintains the building — has to rely on a park district employee who lives on the Childerley Park site to open the chapel.

The society wants its own keys because members want to be able to come and go as they please in the chapel. The chapel, like other historical buildings in the village, is owned by the park district and maintained by the historical society.

THE CHAPEL IS open to visitors during the summer from 1 to 5 p.m. Sundays, and society volunteers are there at that time to give tours of the building.

Historical society president Frank Schnaitmann said if visitors were still at the chapel at 5:15 p.m., volunteers could stay late and close up the building instead of "pushing them out" at 5 p.m.

But the three park commissioners present at last Thursday's meeting — Ed Klocke, Don Lark and Julia Robberson — weren't too receptive to the society's request. Although formal action on the matter was tabled until the board's July 3 meeting, Lark and Klocke have already said they oppose giving keys to the historical society. Klocke even voted against tabling the request saying, "I'd

like to get it done and get it over with."

Klocke said historical society members are not working inside the chapel and they would only need the keys for a short period of time because the chapel is only open during summer. He said leaving the keys with the employee who lives near the chapel is sufficient.

LARK, ON THE other hand, suggested hiring a retired person to work four hours on the Sundays the chapel is open and put him in charge of opening the chapel at 1 p.m. and closing it at 5 p.m. With historical society members having the keys, there may be times when the society volunteer with the key couldn't open the chapel and someone else would have to take his place, Lark said.

"This is a situation that never improves. You always have difficulty doing that (getting volunteers)," he said.

Acting Park District Manager John Muno said park board President Tony Abruscato told him it wasn't necessary for society members to have keys because park district staff could open the doors.

But Schnaitmann said the park district would save money by giving the society the keys because it wouldn't have to pay someone to open the door. "If they aren't willing to give us a key, the park district can pay employees to do it," Schnaitmann said.

He appointed Lorraine Haben, who lives two doors down from the chapel, to be chapel curator. But, "her hands are tied" to do any work at the chapel because she doesn't have a key, Schnaitmann said.

7/20/86
Lisa Schab

Wheeling



Lorraine Haben helps preserve chapel history

"Everybody's got history," says Lorraine Haben, "but if you let it go by, you're going to lose it."

Haben is the recently appointed chairman of the Lorraine Lark Chapel in Childerly Park, 506 McHenry Road in Wheeling. The Chapel, which has been standing on the site since 1928, has just this year come into more prominent view as the bushes and trees that used to hide it from the road have been cut away. Haben was appointed to the job by Wheeling Historical Society President, Frank Schnaitmann. Quoted as "a natural for the job," Haben lives two doors away from the chapel and is related by marriage to the unique Childerly community.

Unknown to most Wheeling residents and passersby, "Childerly" was at one time a summer residence for Dr. and Mrs. Lillie, the Mrs. being from the Crane family of Crane Plumbing in Chicago. Mrs. Lillie was a great philanthropist who sought to serve the needs of many of the widows and orphans connected with the Crane business. In the early 1900s, she started a charitable home for the needy women and children on the acreage that now houses Addolorata Villa.

"I'VE LIVED IN WHEELING for 60 years," explains Haben, "and I can remember the 'Childerly Crane Farm,' as they used to call it. It was like a self-contained town, with its own stores, pool, tennis courts, vegetable gardens — and the children went to school there. Mrs. Crane started out with only two cottages, but when her father died, he left her money to really do it big.

"The chapel itself was built in 1928, and before that it was just a small wooden chapel. It was actually an old pig barn that they had brought over from the main farm... The house which now stands on the property was for housing the teachers there. My mother-in-law was Virginia Haben, who was the daughter of Elisabeth Port, one of the teachers." According to the Historical Society, Virginia Haben and her siblings were raised in the Port House (now called St. Joan's House), which still stands on the Childerly property.

"What we'd like to do," says Haben, "is to really develop the little library which is connected to the chapel. We'd like to make it more of a historical museum, contact the people who lived there and see what they'd like to donate — pictures or books or whatever... Then I'd like to get a sort of book together, a sort of pamphlet, putting all of these things together into something that we could give to people.

"You know we're having the grandest time, my husband and I, going through all of these old papers and everything. It's fun for my mother-in-law, too. It jogs her memory, and she remembers a lot about it. Someone really did a fantastic job of keeping all of these pictures together. We even have a piece of wood from the original old pig barn."

HABEN, WHO WAS BORN AND bred in Wheeling — in fact, born in the Wheeling Hospital, a two-story building standing next to the Kolssak of Wheeling Funeral Home, in days quite a bit before the Ambulatory Care Center — tells that every once in a while there is a reunion for all of the children and their families who originally lived on the Childerly property.

Anyone interested in visiting the chapel may do so from 1 to 5 p.m. on any Sunday afternoon, "in good weather." Childerly Park is also a beautiful place for a summer picnic. For more information, contact the Wheeling Historical Society at 537-0654.

"To learn the worth of a man's religion, do business with him."
— John Lancaster Spalding

NEIGHBORS

Chapel in the park: A piece of history lives on

6/5/86
By C.L. WALLER

At five minutes to and on the hour, the bells at Childerley Chapel have been tolling for Richard and Mary since 1927.

Richard and Mary never heard the bells, but they are still very much a part of the chapel built by their daughter, Francis Crane Lillie.

And on the plaque with the Cranes' names is a description of what the chapel as well as the "self-contained village" that surrounded it — meant to their daughter: "Come ye children hearken unto me. I will teach you the fear of the Lord."

Francis Lillie and her husband, Dr. Frank R. Lillie, purchased a 600-acre farm on Buffalo Creek in 1907 and intended to use it as a vacation retreat from their biochemistry work in Chicago.

LILLIE BECAME PARTICULARLY attached to the farm and, 13 years later she had created her own village for widows and orphans.

The chapel she built now stands on the 13-acre Childerley Park on McHenry Road in Wheeling, and the cottages and the school built on the farm are now used by Addolorata Villa, a Roman Catholic home for the elderly.

In looking back, it's not surprising the daughter of the millionaire founder of the Crane Plumbing Corp. and a social activist took on the project — constructing the chapel, cabins, cottages and a school for needy Crane employees.

Lillie would take up causes along with her friends, such as Ellen Starr. The two women picketed together during the garment workers' strike in 1915. Starr, along with Jane Addams, founded Hull House in Chicago.

IN CREATING HER own village, Lillie depended on some help from her friends such as Elsbeth Port. Port came to teach the orphans at the farm, after being principal at Francis Parker School in Chicago.

Together, Port and her daughter, Elsbeth Fain Port, constructed St. Joan's House, which stands about 50 feet from the chapel in Childerley Park.

Even though the house now has park district programs conducted inside, it will always be the Port house to 82-year-old Virginia Port Haben.

Haben was adopted by Elsbeth Fain Port when she was 3 months old and they came to the farm when she was 6. Haben was one of five children adopted by her mother. "A single lady adopting five children in those days was really unusual," Haben recalled.

HER MOTHER AND grandmother built the Port house and lived among the village of widows and orphans. Haben left the farm when she married at 19, but her memories of growing up around Lillie are very clear.

"She had two daughters my age and we used to have a lot of fun," she said.

A portrait of Lillie that hangs inside the chapel reinforces Haben's description of her as "very plain." Although she was an heiress to a millionaire, Lillie wore cotton stockings and lived in a simple house in Chicago with black woodwork and no curtains, Haben said.

She did have three servants and a mink coat, though, Haben said.



"**SOME PEOPLE THOUGHT** her rather queer," she said. However, Haben said, "She was very generous."

A quart of milk for each child and a half pint of cream were given each day to those who lived on the farm, she said.

The original chapel, called Chapel of St. Francis, was a log cabin built before 1830 and moved from the south farm — now in the vicinity of St. Armand Lane and Dundee Road — in 1910. It was connected to the present brick chapel by an old-fashioned walled garden in 1927.

"That was Mrs. Lillie's place where she went to meditate," Haben said.

THE FOUNDATION IS all that's left of the log cabin and the garden is now gone.

While places like the garden, the school and infirmary were important to Lillie, the chapel was "her baby," said Haben's daughter-in-law, Lorraine Haben, who now lives two houses away from the chapel and knows the history of the chapel.

"Mrs. Lillie said when she died she wanted her heart buried by the chapel. Of course, they didn't do that," Virginia Haben said.

Seven years before the brick chapel was constructed, Lillie was converted to Catholicism by an English theologian, Baron Friedrich von Hugel. Following her conversion, the brick building became a Catholic chapel.

THERE WAS NO convincing Lillie to attend church anywhere else. "She was

eccentric enough that she didn't want to go to St. Mary's, which was a mile down the road," Lorraine Haben said.

The families that came to the farm eventually moved on over the years. Virginia Haben said that when two in a family were old enough to work, they were sent to Chicago and if they needed assistance, they were told to contact someone at the Crane Corp.

The chapel, now ecumenical, is used occasionally for weddings, following its restoration by the Wheeling Historical Society. It has been rededicated as the Lorraine E. Lark Chapel of the Orchard because Lark, a former park district board member, was instrumental in protecting the property from development.

The Lorraine E. Lark Chapel of the Orchard is located at Childerley Park, 506 McHenry Road. It is open to the public from 1 to 5 p.m. every Sunday through Labor Day. The chapel is also available for small weddings. For more information regarding availability, contact John Piazza at the Wheeling Park District, 537-3119.

Above, the Childerley Chapel — or the Lorraine E. Lark Chapel, as it's now known — has been a fixture in Wheeling for nearly 50 years.

Below, Virginia Haben shares memories of the old chapel. (Staff photo by Kathy Tray)



4th of July Parade



Color village's Fourth red, white and blue success

by Charles Riggle

Herald correspondent

Wheeling's Fourth of July celebration stepped into full swing Friday morning with a 65-unit parade under sunny skies. Residents lined the approximately 1.5-mile route to view the passing clowns, floats and bands, including the Holmes and Cooper junior high school jazz bands.

The parade followed Dundee Road east from Route 83 to Wolf Road, then continued south to Heritage Park, 222 S. Wolf Road, and the site of the village's Familyfest.

The Wheeling Park District, celebrating its 25th anniversary, was represented by members of the youth baseball and soccer teams. Local Cub Scout and Brownie Troops also participated.

Youngsters watching the parade pointed excitedly at the appearance of He-Man and She-Ra, clearly the high point of the parade for them. Riding in the car with the two cartoon heroes were their villainous foes, Skeletor and Catra. All appeared at Familyfest as well.

All ages were among the approximately 400 parade marchers, including participants from the Horizons Children's Center and the Pavi-

lion Senior Center. The parade's theme was "America the Beautiful."

OTHER ORGANIZATIONS participating were the Indian Trails public library, Wheeling Historical Society, the postal service and Wheeling village officials.

The parade also featured the Northern Illinois Motorcycle Riding Association, whose members rode a variety of cycles, and the Wheeling Police Department's crime prevention unit.

Children rode their decorated bicycles in the parade hoping to win the judging at the end of the route.

The parade ended at Heritage Park, where Familyfest continues through the weekend, featuring entertainment, carnival rides and food booths. The climax to Friday's events was a spectacular fireworks display at the park.

Familyfest, which began Wednesday night, runs through Sunday at St. Joseph the Worker Catholic Church, 181 W. Dundee Road. Entertainment is provided on both a main stage and a children's stage. Local restaurants offered refreshments at booths.

For the adventuresome, there were helicopter, hot air balloon and elephant rides. And for those seeking a little more down-to-earth entertainment, there was miniature golf.



Lisa Schab

Wheeling



Wheeling has something for everyone on Fourth

The holiday weekend is here. Fireworks, parades, flags and picnics; Wheeling has something to offer for every age and taste this weekend. Whether you want to look to the future, reminisce about the past, or just enjoy the present to its fullest, you won't have to travel far from home to find an activity for Fourth of July fun.

The Wheeling Historical Society once again is sponsoring its third annual Old Settlers Picnic at noon Friday. These festivities, held at Chamber Park, 251 N. Wolf Road, Wheeling, are a special tribute to anyone who has lived in Wheeling since before 1960. All residents falling into that "old settler" category are invited to come and join in the fun. Each family is asked to bring a salad or meat dish to pass; beverages and desserts will be provided by the Historical Society.

Entertainment at the picnic will be provided by the Pavilion-aire, a swinging new 20-member group made up of men and women from the Pavilion Senior Center in Wheeling. The group is under the direction of Ivy Dale.

Old Settlers Picnics were common in this area in years past. It was one of the big social events of the year, with group pictures taken and speeches given. Following in this tradition, some of the guests will be invited to get up and speak of "old times in Wheeling." Dorothy Flentge, a long-time Wheeling resident will give the opening speech.

Anyone attending the picnic is asked to bring pictures of "old Wheeling" which will be copied for the museum archives and returned to them at the picnic.

For more information on this event, call Dorothy Flentge at 259-0309, Sandy Altieri at 537-5110, or Margaret Forke at 537-0398.



Old Settlers Picnic - July 4th

The Wheeling Historical Society

cordially invites you to attend

the Third Annual

Old Settlers Picnic

July 4th. at 12:00 noon

Community Church
Chamber Park
251 N. Wolf Road
Wheeling, Illinois

The picnic will be pot-luck. Please bring a meat dish or salad to pass.

Please bring your old photos of Wheeling. We would like to make a copy of them for the museum archives. We will be set up to copy them at the picnic and return them to you that day.

Entertainment will be provided by the Pavilionaires, the singing group from the Pavilion Senior Center in Wheeling.

You are invited to get up and speak of "old times in Wheeling" if you so desire.

If you will need a ride and live in the Wheeling area, let us know.

Please RSVP to one of the following people:

| | |
|-----------------|----------|
| Dorothy Flentge | 259-0309 |
| Margaret Forke | 537-0398 |
| Eleanor Buerger | 537-1976 |
| Willie Franta | 537-8193 |
| Sandy Altieri | 537-5110 |

We're looking forward to seeing you!

Dorothy Flentge, Chairman



Pages of history

Long-time Wheeling residents gathered last week-end for a picnic sponsored by the Wheeling Historical Society. At left, Mary Clesen and Carolyn Goodman flip through some photos of days gone by. (Staff Photos by Geoff Scheerer)

Thursday, July 10, 1986





Remembering

THE OLD SETTLERS Picnic, sponsored by the Wheeling Historical Society on Friday, July 4, was a time for recalling what it was like in Wheeling many years ago. Among the participants in the event were Sally Marcus (left) and Josephine Backus. (Photo by Alan Sue)

OLD SETTLERS PICNIC. The Wheeling Historical Society will sponsor its third annual Old Settlers Picnic at noon Friday, July 4, in Chamber Park, 251 N. Wolf Road. Anyone who lived in Wheeling before 1960 is welcome to come. Each family is asked to bring a salad or meat dish to pass; beverage and dessert will be provided by the Historical Society. Entertainment will be provided by the Pavilion-aies, the 20-member singing group under the direction of Ivy Dale. The members consist of men and women from the Pavilion Senior Center. The guests are asked to bring pictures of "Old Wheeling" which will be copied for the museum archives and returned to them at the picnic. Guests will be invited to speak of "old times in Wheeling." Dorothy Flentge, a longtime Wheeling resident, will give the opening speech. For more information, call Flentge, 259-0309, Sandy Altieri, 537-5110, or Margaret Forke, 537-0398.

Pavilion-aies



* * *

All you Wheeling residents who have lived here since 1960, it's time for the Wheeling Historical Society's third annual Old Settlers Picnic.

Each family is asked to bring a salad or meat dish to share at the picnic July 4 at noon in Chamber Park, 251 N. Wolf Road. The society will provide beverages and dessert.

Guests are also asked to bring pictures of "old Wheeling" which will be copied for the museum archives. Pictures will be returned to their owners at the picnic.

Old Settlers picnics were common in this area years ago. The picnic was one of the big social events of the year with speeches and photos. Following tradition, guests are invited to get up and speak of old Wheeling. Longtime village resident Dorothy Flentge will give the opening speech.

The Pavilion-aies, a 20-member singing group from the Pavilion Senior Center, will entertain at the picnic. They will perform under the direction of Ivy Dale.

For more information about the picnic, call Dorothy Flentge, 259-0309; Sandy Altieri, 537-5110; or Margaret Forke, 537-0398.

Park District
25th Anniversary
July 27

Anniversary party

The Wheeling Park District is planning festivities on July 27 to help celebrate their 25th Anniversary at various parks and facilities.

The morning will start with an all-denomination Chapel Service at Childerley Park, 506 McHenry Rd., at 9 a.m. followed by coffee, juice, and pastries. At noon there will be a dedication of Horizon Park and Youth Baseball Games Exhibition. From 1 to 3 p.m., Heritage Park will have activities and entertainment for all including Hoffman's Animal Kingdom Show, Face Painting, Costume Characters and more. From 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Chamber Park will feature an outdoor concert and Ice Cream Social along with Historical Exhibits. From 7 to 9 p.m., Chevy Chase will

have presentations, dancing and Anniversary Cake Cutting Ceremony.

Plan on attending and help the park district celebrate its 25 years of service.

Historical Society
Craft Booth
outside museum



Sherry Boemmel Teaching jewelry making

Donald, District

WHEELING PARK DISTRICT
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
1961-1983

- | | | | |
|------|--|------|--|
| 1961 | Arthur Aronson Ted Scanlon Arthur Brown Ralph Neubauer Audrae Duke Richard Ault 6/61 Roy Hammond 10/61 Michael Donzella 12/61 | 1973 | Eugene Sackett Robert Ross Gus Nizzi Lorraine Lark Hugh Wilson Frank Schnaitmann 10/73 |
| 1963 | Arthur Aronson Audrey Christianson Clayton Wieder Roy Hammond Richard Ault | 1975 | Robert Ross William Nevenfeldt Lorraine Lark Hugh Wilson Frank Schnaitmann Doris Kerr 2/77 |
| 1965 | Joseph Harrison Audrey Christianson Clayton Wieder Richard Ault Bernard Erlin Harry Thill 3/65 | 1977 | Lorraine Lark Doris Kerr Frank Schnaitmann Shirley Mueller Glenn Meier |
| 1967 | Audrey Christianson Richard Ault Bernard Erlin Lorraine Lark Alj Wilson Robert Ross 9/67 | 1979 | Lorraine Lark-Deceased 9/80 Frank Schnaitmann Shirley Mueller Glenn Meier Edward Klocke |
| 1969 | Robert Ross Bernard Erlin Lorraine Lark Alj Wilson Eugene Sackett Gus Nizzi 4/71 | 1981 | Shirley Mueller Glenn Meier Edward Klocke Donald Lark Russell Baker |
| | | 1983 | Donald Lark Edward Klocke Russell Baker Julia Robberson Anthony Abruscato Dennis Drake 7/84 |

25TH
ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION
SUNDAY JULY 27, 1986
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
1985

ANTHONY ABRUSCATO..... PRESIDENT
EDWARD KLOCKE..... VICE PRESIDENT
JAMES GALLAGHER..... COMMISSIONER
DONALD LARK..... COMMISSIONER
JULIA ROBBERSON..... COMMISSIONER

WHEELING PARK DISTRICT
CHEVY CHASE
1000 N. MILWAUKEE AVE.
WHEELING, ILLINOIS

1961-1986



Sherry Boemmel Teaching jewelry making

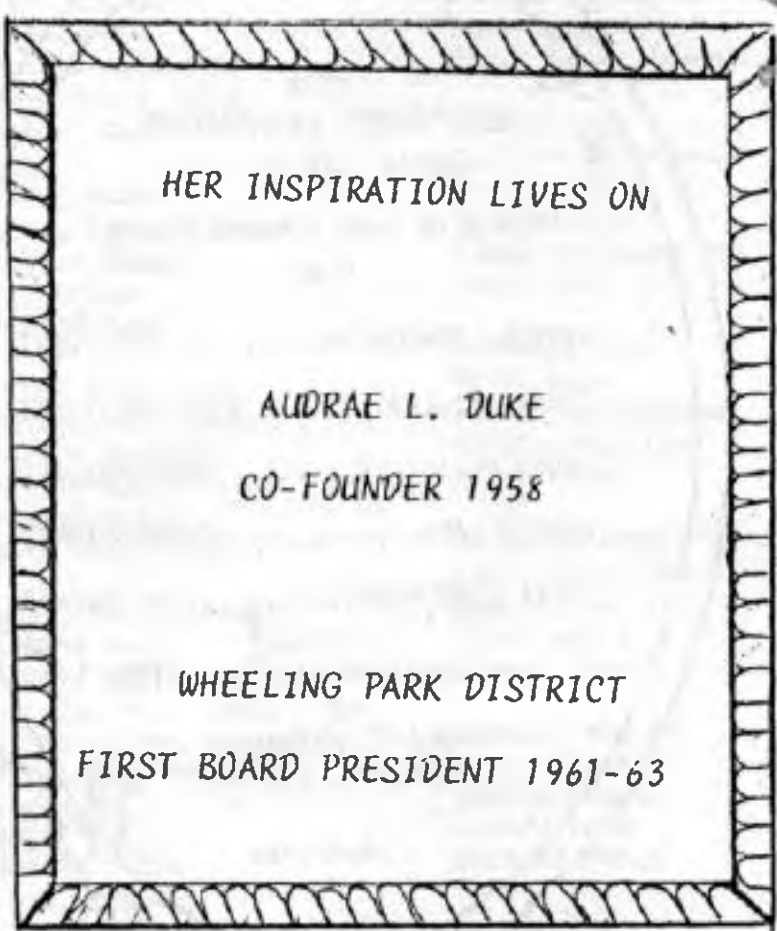
Deals District

WHEELING PARK DISTRICT
25TH
ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION
JULY 27, 1986

WHEELING PARK DISTRICT
25TH
ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION
JULY 27, 1986

6:30 P.M. Audrae Duke Dedication Ceremony

CEREMONY



WHEELING PARK DISTRICT
CHEVY CHASE CLUB HOUSE
1000 N. MILWAUKEE AVE.
WHEELING, ILLINOIS

7:00 P.M. Welcome
7:15 P.M. Opening Ceremony
Commissioner Klocke. Introduction of Past Commissioners
Commissioner Lark. History of the Wheeling Park District
Commissioner Gallagher. Time Capsule
Commissioner Robberson. Volunteer Recognition
Commissioner Abruscato. Wheeling Park District Future
8:30 P.M. Cake Cutting Ceremony

Dancing All Evening. Vito Buffalo Orchestra

"A Special Thank You"
To The 25th
Anniversary Committee

Alberta Klocke
Ruth Wieder
John C. Muno
Rhea Lauing

John Piazza
Tracy Taylor
Cindy Schaar
Patricia Hancock

And

The Staff of the Wheeling Park District



Sherry Boemmel Teaching jewelry making

WHEELING PARK DISTRICT
STAFF

John C. Muno.....Acting Park District Manager
 Rhea Lauing.....Administrative Secretary
 Janice Murphy.....Administrative Secretary
 Luther Lockwood...Superintendent Finance & Personnel Services
 Barbara Weder.....Finance & Personnel Services
 Cathy Heer.....Finance & Personnel Services
 John J. Piazza.....Superintendent of Resource Management
 Joanne Dziubinski.....Safety Director
 Mitch Cohen.....Resource Management
 Ramiro Acuna.....Resource Management
 Robert Douglas.....Resource Management
 Joe Gorman.....Resource Management
 Greg Hartmann.....Resource Management
 Tom Graff.....Resource Management
 Philip Badame.....Resource Management
 Patrosinio Murillo.....Resource Management
 Michael Roach.....Resource Management
 Tom McDonald.....Resource Management
 Russell Issleb.....Resource Management
 Jim Hyczyk.....Resource Management
 Paul Wagner.....Resource Management
 Ben Madrid.....Resource Management
 Joseph Platek.....Resource Management
 Roger Christensen.....Superintendent of Club House Services
 Dorothy Oglesby.....Club House Services
 Diane Kahl.....Club House Services
 Don Larson.....Club House Services
 Ed Most.....Club House Services
 Pearl Gleers.....Club House Services
 Vern Verstraete.....Superintendent of Golf Services
 Yvonne Bedford.....Golf Services
 Keith Vernon.....Golf Services
 Michael Wallaert.....Leisure Services
 Tracy Taylor.....Leisure Services
 Cindy Scharr.....Leisure Services
 Julie Nemmer.....Leisure Services
 Colleen Farrell.....Leisure Services
 Barbara Weidner.....Leisure Services
 Beverly Jirolin.....Leisure Services
 Earl Ebers.....Attorney

**Wheeling Park District
Wheeling, Illinois
Facilities/Properties
1986**

| FACILITY | PHONE | ADDRESS | Total Acreage | Administrative/Recreation Office | Basketball Court | Ball Diamond (Lighted) | Historical Building | Clubhouse/Banquet Room/Restaurant | Fitness Room | Food Concession Stand | Football Field | Golf Course | Ice Skating/Warming Shelter | Outdoor Hockey Rink | Outdoor Ice Skating Rink | Picnic Area | Playground Apparatus | Recreation Building | Gymnasium | Soccer Field | Swimming Pool—Inside | Gameroom/Party Center | Senior Citizen Center | Tennis Courts |
|--------------------------|----------|------------------------|---------------|----------------------------------|------------------|------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------|-----------------------|----------------|-------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|-----------|--------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|---------------|
| Heritage Park | 537 2222 | 222 S. Wolf Rd | 66 | R | 1 | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Chamber of Commerce Park | 537 9898 | 251 N. Wolf Rd | 6 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Misty Park | | Lee Street | 5 | | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Northside Park | | 220 Glendale Ave | 3 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Neptune Facility | 537 3489 | 900 S. Elmhurst Rd | 1 | | | | | | 1 | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Maplebrook Kn Ldr | | Nancy Lane | 5 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Horizon Park | | 378 Schoenbeck Rd | 10 | | | 4 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Chidley Park | 537 8990 | 506 Vichery Rd | 13 | | | | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Cherry Chase Facility | 537 2930 | 1000 N. Milwaukee Ave | 125.4 | A | | | | 1 | | | | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Maple Park | | Laurel Dr. e | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Pavilion Senior Center | 459 2870 | 199 First Street | 5 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Law & Kie Park | | Partridge & Hopefields | 4 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Totals | | | 345.4 | 2 | 3 | 7 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 7 | 5 | 1 | 8 | 1 | 4 | 1 |

"A Big Thank You to the Wheeling Park District Volunteers"



Sherry Boemmel Teaching jewelry making

Wheeling has four museums ???

Official: call 4 buildings museums for tax purposes

by Vicki Speer and Evelyn Dorman 7/22/86

Herald staff writers

A Wheeling Park District commissioner is urging that four park buildings be designated as museums to qualify them for funding through a special historical tax.

The resolution by Commissioner James W. Gallagher is an attempt to clarify which park district facilities are financed through the district's historical fund.

He is recommending the church and museum at Chamber of Commerce Park and the Lorraine Lark Chapel Library and St. Joan's House at Childerley Park be designated as museums on the basis of their age and exterior appearances.

The phrase "historical fund" in the district's public documents would be

replaced by "aquariums and museum" in future documents to match the terminology used in an Illinois statute regarding public parks.

STATE STATUTES authorize the collection of a tax by a park board for the purpose of setting up and maintaining a museum or aquarium.

"I'm just trying to get us focused on what we're spending our money on," Gallagher said. "It will clarify things."

The current historical fund tax rate of nearly 3 cents generates about \$95,000 annually in revenue for such historical purposes and has been used to operate the 92-year-old museum at Chamber of Commerce Park, 251 N. Wolf Road, and the 57-year-old Lorraine E. Lark Chapel of the Orchard, 506 McHenry Road.

St. Joan's House at Childerley Park, 506 McHenry Road, and the

Chamber of Commerce Park Church are paid for out of other park district funds. St. Joan's House is about 76 years old and Chamber of Commerce Park Church is 121 years old.

BUT MEMBERS from Wheeling's Historical Society have charged the park district is using money generated from the fund for other park district facilities. And they oppose any efforts to call other park facilities museums.

"As far as we're concerned, the only museum we have is at Chamber Park," Frank J. Schnaitmann, president of the Wheeling Historical Society, said. "If that's what they're doing, then I don't agree."

Park commissioners are expected to study the matter, but have not determined whether they would adopt the resolution.

WHEELING

Friday, August 8, 1986

SECTION 2
THE DAILY HERALD

When is a museum not a museum?

by Vicki Speer

Herald correspondent

Wheeling Park District commissioners and Wheeling Historical Society members can't agree on when to call an old building a museum.

A park district commissioner has proposed that four buildings — the church and museum at Chamber of Commerce Park, and the Lorraine Lark Chapel Library and St. Joan's House at Childerley Park — be designated museums and therefore funded

by the district's historical tax. Currently, the historical tax provides funds for only two of those buildings, and none is formally designated a museum.

Park district officials support the proposal as a practical way to determine what can and can't be funded through the historical tax.

"WE NEED to establish at least what we are going to charge (to the historical fund)," park board President Anthony Abruscato said. "I think we should just call everything for

what it is, and this may be a starting point for doing that."

The district hasn't even formally declared the museum at Chamber of Commerce Park a museum, he said.

Historical society members define a museum as a building in which artifacts are preserved and shown, and say that two of the buildings in question probably don't qualify as museums.

St. Joan's House and the Chamber of Commerce Park Church, both

more than 75 years old and funded through other park district taxes, are used more for recreational activities than as museums, historical society member Robert L. McIntyre said.

"I disagree completely with St. Joan's and I find the church questionable," McIntyre said.

Officials will further discuss criteria for determining what is a museum and how Illinois statutes that authorize the park board to collect a historical tax may affect the naming of museums.



Darts to Wheeling Park District commissioners and the Wheeling Historical Society for not being able to define when an old building should

be classified as a museum. A park district commissioner has proposed that four buildings be designated as museums so they could be supported by the park district's historical tax. Only two of the four buildings in question are supported by the historical tax. Historical society members, however, say that a museum is a building in which artifacts are preserved and shown. It's time for the park district and the historical society to stop quibbling and develop a definition that each can work with.

8/11/86

School Exhibit - Aug. & Sept,

THE WHEELING HISTORICAL SOCIETY

presents

'SCHOOL DAYS'

AUGUST, SEPTEMBER 1986



THE CURRENT "School Exhibit," now showing at the Wheeling Historical Museum in Chamber Park, 251 N. Wolf Road, is being extended to run through Sunday. The museum is open regularly from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays and from 1 to 5 p.m. on Sundays; also by appointment. Student groups and scout troops or other organizations are encouraged to come and view the exhibit.
For more information, call 537-3119 or 537-5110.



THIS 1900 DRAWING BY W.L. TAYLOR DEPICTS A TYPICAL SCHOOL IN THE EAST WHERE PUPILS OF ALL AGES OCCUPIED THE SAME ROOM UNDER ONE SCHOOLMASTER.

Wheeling's first school was built in 1845. This building, which was very small, was used only until 1861 when a larger school was erected. This second building was destroyed by fire in 1870. In 1871 a new two-story school was completed on the south side of Dundee Road just west of Milwaukee Avenue. This structure served the community until 1925 when the brick school on Wille Avenue, now Walt Whitman, was completed.

There was also the small Strong School located on the northeast corner of Milwaukee Avenue and Palatine Road. This school, which was built after the Civil War, served the children who lived in the far south end of town.

The Elisabeth Port School for Country Children, located on McHenry Road, was attended by the youngsters who lived on the grounds of Childerley.

For high school, the Wheeling children attended Des Plaines (now Maine on Thatcher), Deerfield Shields (now Highland Park), and Northbrook High Schools. Wheeling High was built in 1963.

From this humble beginning, Wheeling's school system has grown, and today it boasts of having one of the country's finest school districts, both at the primary and secondary levels.



LESSON XIII.

| | | | | |
|-----|-------|------|-------|---------|
| low | soil | said | what | child |
| yes | join | here | wean | bring |
| sew | nicc | caps | wash | frocks |
| hem | frill | done | scam | la-dy |
| new | turn | wipe | made | up-on |
| may | stool | your | pains | moth-er |

THE GOOD GIRL.

MOTH-ER, may I sew to-day?

Yes, my child; what do you wish to sew?

I wish to hem a frill for your cap. Is not this a new cap? I see it has no frill.

You may make a frill for me; I shall

like to wear a frill that you have made. Here is a bit of cloth which will make a nice frill. You must hem it. I will turn it down for you; but take care not to soil it.

Wash your hands, and take care to wipe them dry. Now sit down on your low stool. Now you may go on. You will see best here by my side.

You must join these two bits with a seam; and when you have done as far as this pin, bring it to me to look at.

Jane sat down upon her stool and sew-ed like a lit-tle la-dy. In a short time she said, Moth-er, I have done as far as you told me; will you look at it?

Yes, my child, it is well done; and if you take pains, as you have done to-day, you will soon sew well.

I wish to sew well, Moth-er, for then I can help you to make caps and frocks, and I hope to be of some use to you.

LESSON XXX.



falls scent civ'il be-gin' a-lone'
 high place sto'ry shad'y wish'ed
 bark smell tell'er be-fore' a-round'
 snow please go'ing mas'ter per'sons
 noise school Pe'ter ap-pear' chil'dren
 mouse taught Pin'dar Tow'ser snow'drifts

THE STORY-TELLER.

1. PETER PINDAR was a great story-teller.
2. One day, as he was going by the school, the children came around him.
3. They all wished him to tell them a story, they had never heard.

4. "Well," says Peter, "I love to please good chil-dren.

5. "As you all appear kind and civil, I will tell you a new story.

6. "But before we begin, let us sit down in a cool, shady place.

7. "And now, master John, you must be as still as a little mouse.

8. "Mary, you must not let Tow-ser bark, nor make a noise.

9. "A long way from this place, there is a land where it is very cold, and much snow falls.

10. "The hills are very high there, and per-sons are often lost among them.

11. "The men keep large dogs. These are taught to hunt for per-sons lost in the snow.

12. "They have so fine a scent, or smell, that they can find per-sons by that alone.

13. "Some-times it is so dark, that they can not see any thing.

14. "Those who are lost, often lie hid in the deep snow-drifts.

EXERCISES.—What was Peter Pindar? Who came around him? What did they wish? What did he say? What place did he tell them of? What do the men keep there?

Wheeling Historical Museum
Chamber Park
251 N. Wolf Road
Wheeling, Illinois

Open Sundays.....1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Open weekdays by appointment

Childerley Chapel and Library
Childerley Park
506 McHenry Road
Wheeling, Illinois

Open Sundays.....1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
(Memorial Day through Labor Day)

We invite you to become a member of the
Wheeling Historical Society.

Name _____

Address _____

City & State _____

Zip _____ Phone _____

_____ \$5 - Family _____ \$3 - Single

Make checks payable to:
Wheeling Historical Society
Mail to: P.O. Box 3
Wheeling, Illinois 60090

Education exhibit rekindles memories

by Sherry Boemmel

9/18/86

Herald correspondent

Not everyone loved school as much June Grandt Orłowski.

As a youngster growing up in Wheeling during the 1920s, she was so anxious to learn that went to first grade a year early.

"I went to first grade for two years," she said. "The school let me. I was a very curious kid. I'm still curious."

That curiosity recently brought Orłowski to the Wheeling Historical Society Museum, where she visited a new exhibit on the early days of education in the village.

The exhibit, which runs through the month at the museum in Chamber Park, includes a picture of her class at Wheeling School, which was later combined with Walt Whitman School.

She has one at home, a gift she got from her aunt about 10 years ago, but she did not have one as a child because her family could not afford to buy her one.

"I made sure my kids got theirs," she said.

Orłowski sat at an old desk with cast-iron sides and remembered how she and her cousin Esther Grandt were on the girls basketball team. Orłowski was in eighth grade at the time.

"IT WAS quite an accomplishment because we had no gym to practice in," Orłowski said.

That desk also brought back memories to Elsie Pieper Hiller, a lifelong resident of Wheeling who graduated from Wheeling School in 1923.

"The desk was just the kind we had when we were there," Hiller said.

Hiller was one of the lucky Wheeling children who was able to go on to high school. In the early days, students who wanted to continue after eighth grade had to take the milk train to Des Plaines and then walk a long way to Maine Township High School.

Hiller attended Maine, but other Wheeling students went to Highland Park High School. Arlington High School was built about 60 years ago and Wheeling High School was built in 1963.

Pictures of Tripp School students from about the turn of the century and a 1914 photo from Strong School, which was at Palatine Road and Milwaukee Avenue, are also in the exhibit. The 22 children and their teacher from Tripp (Milwaukee and Aptakasic Road) had their picture taken outside with nine American flags.

A **SECOND-GRADE** report card belonging to Marshall Balling, now a retired banker, shows what an obedient child and good student Balling was that year. He got seven stars and seems to have added an eighth himself.

The report card shows how he performed each month.

"Mama knew if you were studying," Orłowski said.

School books also are included in the exhibit. The marks of the owners tell about them.

"If you want to know my name, look on page 138," said the owner of a 1920 school book.

The exhibit is open from 1 to 5 p.m. Sundays and between 9 a.m. and noon on most Tuesdays. More information and group tour appointments may be made by calling the museum at 537-3119 or Sandy Altieri at 537-5110. The museum is in Chamber Park, 251 N. Wolf Road.



Herald photo by Vince Pierr

SCHOOL DAYS, SCHOOL DAYS. Remembering the early days of education in Wheeling, Dorothy Balling Flentge, left, and Elsie Pieper Hiller visit a display of school memorabilia at the Wheeling Historical Society Museum. The exhibit runs through the end of the month.



LIFE in Wheeling

8/21/86

Museum teaches school lessons of old

Here are some of the qualities people expected of their teachers in 1831: good sense, correct morals, general intelligence, kind feelings, and, most important, an aptness for teaching.

This information can be found in the 1831 book, "Essays on School Keeping," which is part of the Wheeling Historical Museum's school exhibit, which will run through September.

The exhibit has a "hands-on" feel to it, as children are allowed to sit at antique school desks and look through school books dating from 1893 to the 1930s.

Other items in the exhibit include attendance books from 1894 to 1907 and classroom pictures dating from 1900 to 1947 from the Wheeling School (now Walt Whitman), Tripp School and Strong School, which was located on the northeast corner of Milwaukee Avenue and Palatine Road.

Groups are encouraged to attend the exhibit, and, of course, it's a natural for students.

The museum is open Sundays from 1 to 5 p.m. and weekdays by appointment. Call 537-5110 to arrange a visit.

* * *



Jamie
Conroy
Merrell

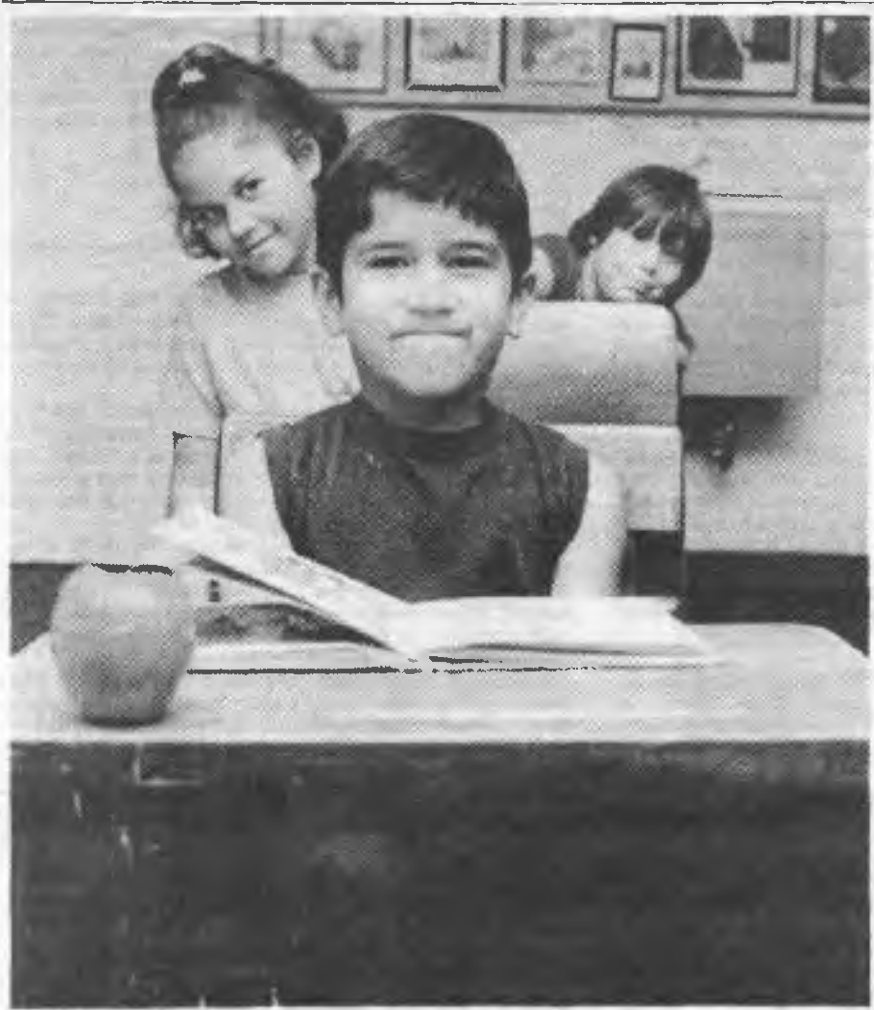


Lessons of old

A CENTURY-OLD SCHOOLHOUSE exhibit is on display at the Wheeling Historical Museum during the month of September. Above, Elsie Pieper Hiller (left) and Dorothy Balling Flentge show a third-grade reader from 1902 to Norma Grandt Scheck (right). (Photo by Alan Sue)

9-18-86





School daze

Jimmy Gonzalez, 7, his sister Amanda, 10, and 9-year-old Mike Mejla get a taste of what class was like around the turn of the century at the Wheeling Historical Museum. The youngsters were visiting an old-fashioned school exhibit that's on display from 1 to 5 p.m. Sundays through the end of September at the museum, located at Chamber. (Staff photo by Kathy Tray)

Thursday, August 14, 1986





8/24/86
Lisa Schab

Wheeling



Poster puts Wheeling in Farrah's territory

Don Johnson's got one. The Chicago Bears' "Black and Blues Brothers" have their own. Farrah Fawcett had a super one.

Of course, not everyone has one. And not just anyone has one. Claude Monet has a few, and politicians will have them in election years. But they're not something that you just qualify for just by being around. There seems to be some definite status attached to them. They seem to be a mark of notoriety, a sign of fame, a true symbol of high recognition.

So, of course we're proud that Wheeling has joined the ranks of the well-known, reached the heights of quality and worthiness that make it possible.

IT MADE its debut at Familyfest, right near the popcorn stand: The chamber of commerce happily announces that our village is now officially "suitable for framing" with its own poster.

"This is going to be a limited edition," says Jackie Pollack, from the Wheeling Chamber of Commerce. "It's exciting — unique. It's a unique depiction of what Wheeling looks like in 1986."

And I'm sure that's how Wheeling will want to be remembered, (as will Farrah Fawcett, when she turns 70, of her poster so popular in the 1970s.) although cities do tend to age more gracefully than people — and usually outlive them, too. Perhaps 200 years from now, Wheeling will look back on this poster of its youth and blush a little at its naivete and immaturity.

At any rate, it will be a collector's item. One day the Wheeling Historical Society of the future will hang this in its then-expanded, computerized museum of the past, and they will point out to little children and newcomers, "See? That's where Dundee Road used to be, before they put in the space shuttle port. And right here? This building was called a 'post office.' People back then had a primitive method of communication through 'mail.' Of course, that went out when telepathy came in..."

THE 24-BY-36-INCH four-color depiction of our village will carry Wheeling through time, reminding future generations of the Wheeling That Was in 1986 — before the three consecutive presidents of the United States were born here; before the Bears moved out here; before Woodstock II was held on the Familyfest grounds — (hey, every village is allowed its pipe dreams.)

And while we're waiting for the future to come, Pollack says that you can enjoy your poster right now. "I think it's great for a family room or den because it is so colorful," she explains. "It's an artist's rendition of Wheeling. It shows buildings, schools, community buildings and many businesses. It has some churches, parks, the post office, the high school, and other city landmarks. It lists phone numbers of the police and fire department and the chamber of commerce, and it gives a little history on Wheeling."

The chamber originally decided to take on the poster idea when they were approached by a company from out east that has been offering its services to local communities. They had an artist take an aerial photograph of the village, and then local merchants could purchase advertising space on the poster to ensure their inclusion.

"The chamber was enthusiastic about this, and glad to be able to co-sponsor this project," Pollack said. "We do have pride in this community."

"This is not a detailed, street-for-street, accurate road map. It's not intended to be. The artwork is good and it's colorful, and there are over 100 advertisers. I think it's a neat poster, and promotes a positive community image."

The Wheeling Area Chamber of Commerce and Industry has posters available in its offices, as do many participating community merchants and organizations. For more information on where you can get your copy, call 459-2613.

"You gotta get a gimmick if you wanta get ahead." — Veteran stripper in "Gypsy"

9/11/86

Historical society, park district feud over desk

Members of the Wheeling Historical Society say they feel snubbed because park district officials won't let them move a desk from Childerley Park to the historical museum at Chamber Park.

The historical society, which has an old-fashioned school exhibit on display at Chamber through the end of this month, wants to move the desk from the chapel library at Childerley to the museum. But the park district, which oversees the society, won't OK the move from one of its facilities to another.

However, at a liaison meeting between the park district and society Tuesday night, park commissioner Don Larke said he would bring up the issue up for discussion at the park board meeting next week.

The society apparently telephoned John Piazza, superintendent of resource management services, to arrange moving the desk and Piazza in turn polled the park board by telephone to see if the desk should be moved. Four of the five board members said "no."

BUT AT TUESDAY'S meeting, Larke told historical society liaison members that the group should have come to the park board about moving the desk from Childerley to the museum at Chamber Park in the first place.

"It came as a surprise to the board to

learn of this," Larke said.

Instead of complaining and arguing about activities such as moving a desk, a policy should be devised for staff to follow, said Julia Robberson, park board member and liaison member.

"The staff is very insecure. The staff is in a position where they are grasping for leadership," she said.

TWICE IN THE past the park board has refused to allow items to be moved from Childerley, said Jim Gallagher, park board member and liaison member.

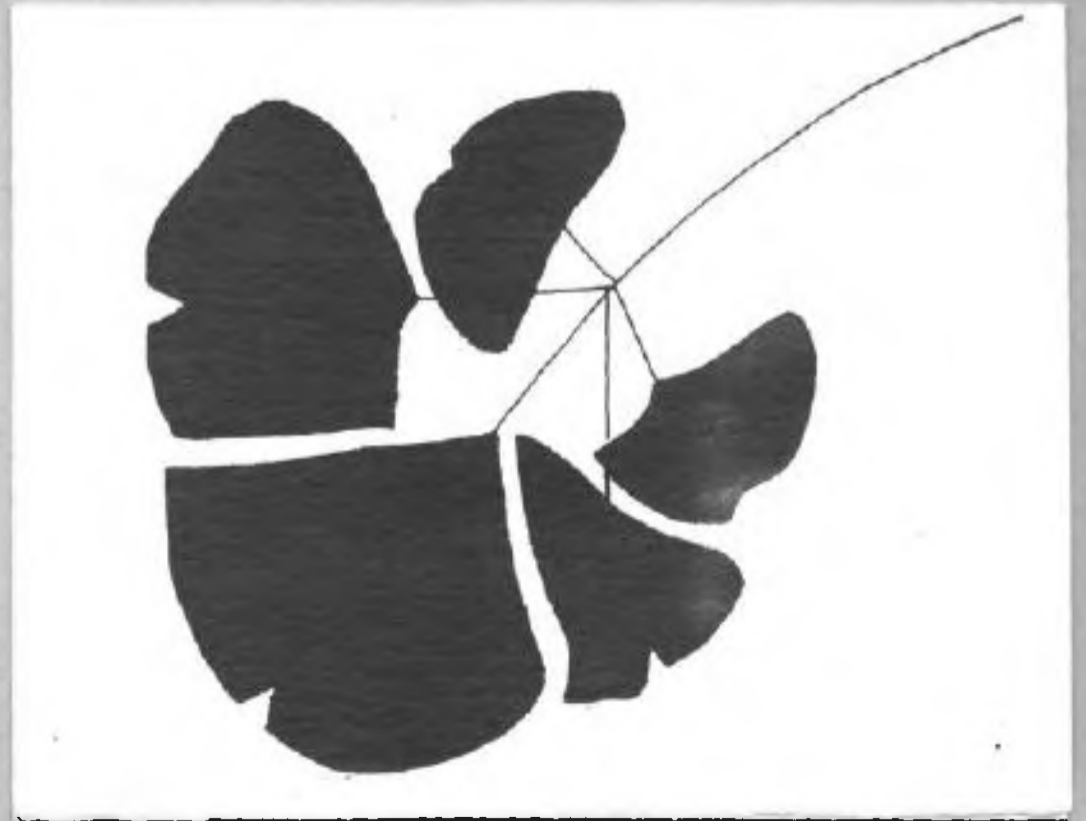
"We may, in effect, have a de facto policy," he said.

Larke said there has been an unwritten agreement to leave things as they were at Childerley Park for fear items might be stolen in a move. When the museum was moved to Chamber Park, a lot of items were taken, he said.

Gallagher said he did not see why materials cannot be moved from one park district building to another without staff members losing them.

Society member Bob McIntyre agreed with Gallagher's logic saying park operations are more organized now than they were then.

"I can see the concern over stolen items, but I don't think this is the same situation," said historical society president Frank Schnaitmann said.



Banta House Opening - July 25
Arlington Heights

Society purchases display units -



Notice of

Department of the Treasury / Internal Revenue Service

Public Auction Sale

Under the authority in Internal Revenue Code section 6331, the property described below has been seized for nonpayment of internal revenue taxes due from

Rancor Inc., d/b/a Athena

The property will be sold at public auction as provided by Internal Revenue Code section 6335 and related regulations.

Date of Sale: September 9 19 86

Time of Sale: 10:30 am - pm

Place of Sale: Olsen Brothers, Inc., 19 W. College Drive, Arlington Hts, Illinois 60005

Title Offered: Only the right, title, and interest of Rancor, Inc. d/b/a/ Athena in and to the property will be offered for sale. If requested, the Internal Revenue Service will furnish information about possible encumbrances, which may be useful in determining the value of the interest being sold. (See the back of this form for further details.)

Description of Property:

- Inventory of gift shop:
- 1 TEC MA 135 cash register
 - 1 lot assorted framed prints
 - 1 lot assorted unframed mounted prints
 - 1 lot rolled posters
 - 2 Super-Browser glass display units
 - 4 chrome poster display units
 - 1 lot assorted greeting cards
 - 1 lot matches
 - 1 lot Advent calendars
 - 1 lot soft sculptures
 - 1 lot assorted candles
 - 1 lot assorted ceramic gifts
 - 1 lot assorted Christmas decorations
 - 1 lot assorted gift wraps
 - 1 roll interior carpeting
 - 1 lot assorted stationery
 - 2 wood card display racks
 - 2 wood briefcases
 - 1 paper cutter, 4' x 2'
 - 1 lot stuffed animal toys
 - 1 lot assorted wood gift items
 - other assorted gift items

Property may be

Drive, Arlington Hts, Illinois

10:30 a.m. only.

ce of highest bid

er cent of successful bid at sale.
er 9, 1986.

ed check, cashier's or treasurer's check or
press, or telegraph money order. Make
nternal Revenue Service.

| | |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| yped) venue Officer | Date 8/19/86 |
| ad is 60173 | Phone 397-8350 |

Form 2434 (Rev. 10-82)

4

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
of the
HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF ARLINGTON HEIGHTS

Cordially Invites Society Members to
Celebrate the Progress of the
Banta House Restoration

Friday, July 25, 1986
7:30 until 9:00 p.m.

Honored Guest:
Elizabeth Banta Mueller

Banta House
514 N. Vail
Arlington Heights

Reeb property on East Dundee Rd. -
Society goes in to search for artifacts



Reeb house & mill was sold to Main Bank



Feed mill



barn



Bob Buerger & Tony Altieri



Feed mill



old truck sold



inside feed store



scale



fanning mill



Going



Going



Gone



Book on Wheeling will soon be history

by Wendy M. Winkelhake

Herald staff writer

9/15/86

A book detailing the history of Wheeling should be completed sometime this fall, ending several years of work by the village's historical society.

Bob McIntyre, who with his wife, Barbara, is editing the publication, said 146 of the 200-plus pages that will be included in the book are completed. Although no deadline has been set, McIntyre expects the history book to be completed in the next few months.

"The projected completion date keeps getting pushed back as we find more information," McIntyre said.

"I'm sure when it does come out, we'll find we have missed something as more information is uncovered."

So far, the history of the village through 1955 has been prepared for publication and volunteers are wrapping up final chapters that go through present day, McIntyre said. The village was founded in 1894.

The book, which will be called *Wheeling Through The Years*, will be unique because it is an "oral history," meaning text will be direct narratives from the people interviewed, McIntyre said. Old newspapers and county and village records were used to fill in the "holes" in the stories, he said.

"This is not a history history. It's an oral history in the words of the people. The whole body is the words of the people," McIntyre said.

Plans for the cover of the book involve using a photograph of six or eight bike riders perched atop high-wheel bikes and parked in front the

Old Chicago House, McIntyre said.

The photo was taken many decades ago to commemorate bike races between Chicago and Wheeling held at the turn-of-the-century. The Old Chicago House was on Milwaukee Avenue, south of Dundee Road and near the present site of the Billy and Company restaurant.

213787 Volunteers needed

The Wheeling Historical Society is looking for volunteers to "man" the Wheeling Historical Museum from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays. The Historical Museum is located at Chamber Park, 251 N. Wolf Road, in Wheeling.

To volunteer or get more information, call Tony Altieri at 537-5110.

THE WHEELING Historical Society is on the lookout for a genuine, used-in-Wheeling slot machine. If you have one, or have any information on an item of this nature, call the museum at 537-3119, or write the Historical Society at P.O. Box 3, Wheeling, IL 60090.

Girl Scout Troop
visits museum



Marshall Balling
gives guided tour

NEWS FROM **WHEELING AREA** 10/16/80
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY



Wheeling Chamber Bus Tour

On Tuesday, September 16, the Wheeling Chamber sponsored its first guided bus tour of Wheeling. Pictured are the many Chamber members and guests who took advantage of this excellent opportunity to learn more about industrial and commercial developments in the village and other points of interest. Village Manager Tom Markus served as tour guide.



Gerry Means



Jim Ceriale

Chamber Welcomes New Members

The Chamber is pleased to welcome new members Jim Ceriale of Spectrum Manufacturing, and Gerry Means, of Betsy's Hallmark.

"Spectrum is basically in the high precision machining business, dedicated mainly to aerospace defense work and things of that nature," says Mr. Ceriale. He adds that Spectrum, which has been located on Wolf Road in Wheeling for about four years, is now constructing a 25,000 square foot facility at Hintz Road and Chaddick Drive in Wheeling. "We're very happy to be staying in this area."

As the new owner of Betsy's Hallmark, which is located in the Riverside Plaza at 381 E. Dundee Road in Wheeling, Ms. Means invites everyone to stop by the shop and see some of the changes that have been made. "We purchased the store in mid-August and we're in the process of filling it to the rafters with new and good merchandise — gifts as well as cards," says Ms. Means.

Historical Society Project

Robert McIntyre, Secretary of the Historical Society of Wheeling, reports that he and his wife, Barbara, who is the President of the Historical Society, are putting together a history book on Wheeling, which they hope to have ready for distribution to local schools and stores by late fall/early winter.

"The project actually began in 1972 when members of the Historical Society started taping the remembrances of the old settlers who were still in the region," says Mr. McIntyre. "It has just been within the last three years that we have actually been working on making a book out of these oral histories."

Mr. McIntyre adds that he is still looking for material concerning the development of the village since 1955 — the beginning of the suburban explosion. To make contributions of material or photographs, call Mr. McIntyre at 537-3497.



Robert McIntyre

"Business After Hours"

The Wheeling Chamber's next "Business After Hours" will be hosted by Podolsky & Associates on Wednesday, Oct. 29, 5:30 to 7:00 p.m., at the Corporate Square, an office development located at the southwest corner of Wolf and Palatine Roads in Wheeling. Chamber members and guests are welcome to attend this popular Chamber event, which gives area business people the opportunity to get acquainted and exchange business cards in an informal atmosphere.

Next Chamber Meeting . . .

The Wheeling Area Chamber of Commerce & Industry meets on the third Tuesday of each month, 12:00 NOON, at Hackney's, 241 S. Milwaukee Avenue, Wheeling. The cost of the lunch is \$7; reservations are not required and guests are always welcome. Chamber members are also invited to participate in Chamber Board meetings, which are held at 10:00 a.m.

**WHEELING AREA
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

JACKIE POLLACK, EXECUTIVE MANAGER
P.O. BOX 29 A, WHEELING, ILLINOIS 60090
TELEPHONE 459-2613

OFFICE HOURS: 9 A.M. TO NOON; 1 TO 3 P.M.

Main Bank - Oct.



Sam Dattilo's
1923 Overland
on display



Park district eyeing new tax for care of chapel, historical museum

9/11/86
Wheeling park district officials are considering levying a new museum tax to pay for the maintenance of the Lorraine Lark Chapel/library at Childerley Park and a historical museum at Chamber Park.

Park commissioner Jim Gallagher has proposed a resolution declaring the two structures museums and replacing an existing historical tax with an aquarium and museum tax. He brought the resolution before the historical society liaison committee Tuesday night.

Gallagher, who is also a liaison member, said some historical society members are concerned that historical tax revenue is not being used properly.

For instance, historical revenue is being used to maintain the church at Chamber Park and St. Joan's House at Childerley Park, even though those two structures are used primarily for classes sponsored the park district.

"I THINK WE have some legitimate debate as to whether St. Joan's House or the church are historical buildings," Gallagher said. Even though classes are held in the church, the 125-year-old exterior is being preserved, he said.

Declaring the tax a museum and aquarium tax rather than a historical tax would limit the use of revenue from tax collections.

An informal commentary sent to the park district from the Illinois Attorney General's office says, "It is clear that the the General Assembly intended that a museum tax be used solely for establishing, acquiring, erecting, remodeling, operating and maintaining an aquarium or a museum of art, industry, science or nature."

Therefore, if St. Joan's House and the church are used primarily for exhibit areas, the museum tax could be used. "On the other hand, if objects are displayed in these structures merely as an incident to their primary uses or as a subterfuge to take advantage of the museum tax, it appears that the museum tax may not lawfully be applied to the maintenance and remodeling of such structures," the commentary said.

DECLARING THE MUSEUM and the chapel/library as museums would mean museum tax money could only be used for those two structures, based on the attorney general's comments.

"My feeling is we should drop the historical tax and use monies we now have for the museum," said Don Larke, park board member and historical society liaison committeeman.

The resolution will be presented at the board's next meeting this month or at its first meeting next month, Gallagher said.

Park district changes name of property tax

9/25/86
Calling it an "attempt to formalize" the property tax imposed to maintain historical buildings, the Wheeling Park District approved changing the name of the historical tax to a museum and aquarium tax.

The historical tax's existing rate of 1 cent per \$100 assessed valuation will stay the same. The tax costs a typical resident with a \$75,000 home about \$2 annually.

Park commissioner Jim Gallagher sponsored a resolution changing the name of the tax and declaring St. Joan's House and the chapel/library at Childerley Park along with the museum and church at Chamber Park as "museums" in relation to the museum tax.

Gallagher sponsored the resolution, saying some historical society members are concerned that the historical tax revenue is not being used properly.

FOR INSTANCE, THE church and St. Joan's House are used to house park district programs and are not solely used for historical purposes.

In researching the tax, Gallagher found an unofficial opinion from the Illinois Attorney General's office that said park districts could issue a tax to maintain museums, but there was no specific mention of a historical tax.

"As far as I can tell there is no such thing as a historical tax," Gallagher said.

Historical society liaison committee chairman Bob McIntyre agreed with Gallagher saying, "By calling this thing a historical fund, we have fussed up the edges."

SPEAKING ON BEHALF of the historical society, McIntyre asked that St. Joan's House and the church be removed from the resolution. "St. Joan's House is not in the same category as the chapel," he said.

But the four commissioners present at the meeting last Thursday unanimously approving the resolution making "museums" of St. Joan's House, the church, the chapel/library and the museum.

And only revenue generated from the museum tax can be used for maintaining those buildings, according to the attorney general's statement.

The unofficial opinion from the attorney general's office also said objects displayed in structures merely to take advantage of the museum tax was not allowable and museum tax money could not be applied to the maintenance and remodeling of those structures.

WHILE THE CHURCH and St. Joan's House are used for park district programs, Gallagher said. "In passing my resolution it may require some rethinking on how we use those facilities."

Wheeling Historical Society is affiliated with the park district in that park officials administer collections of historical, now museum, taxes.

The park district owns all buildings such as the church and historical museum at Chamber Park and St. Joan's House and the chapel at Childerley Park, but historical artifacts in the buildings belong to the historical society.

WHEELING

Park officials designate

by Wendy M. Winkelhake

Herald staff writer

10/2/86
Wheeling park commissioners have designated four park buildings as museums to qualify them for funding through a special historical tax.

The action, proposed by Commissioner James W. Gallagher, is an attempt to clarify which park district facilities are financed through the district's historical fund. The move will help the district "focus" on where it is spending its money.

THE FOUR facilities are the church and museum at Chamber Park, 251 N. Wolf Road; the Lorraine Lark Chapel of the Orchard, 506 McHenry Road; and St. Joan's House at Childerly Park, 506 McHenry Road. The facilities will be classified as museums based on their age and exterior appearances.

However, calling the buildings museums may call for some rearranging of park district programming, Gallagher said. Facilities at Chamber and Childerly parks currently are used to house childrens' classes, which may have to be moved to other facilities once the building is

THE DAILY HERALD Thursday, October 2, 1986 W Section 5-3

4 buildings as museums

termed a museum.

The resolution also will replace the phrase "historical fund" with "aquariums and museum" in future park district documents to match terminology used in an Illinois statute regarding public parks.

Illinois statutes authorize the collection of a tax by a park board for the purpose of setting up and maintaining a museum or aquarium.

THE CURRENT historical fund tax rate of nearly 3 cents per \$100 assessed value generates about \$95,000 annually in revenue for such historical purposes and has

been used to operate the 92-year-old museum at Chamber Park and the 57-year-old Lorraine Lark Chapel.

St. Joan's House and the church at Chamber Park are paid for out of other park district funds.

Members of the Wheeling Historical Society have opposed the move to classify the buildings as museums because those buildings do not match a definition of museum issued by the Illinois Attorney General's office.

The definition said a museum is "an institution devoted to the procurement and display of items of lasting value." Society members have argued that because classes are held at two of the facilities they are not museums.

Official: call 4 buildings museums for tax purposes

by Vicki Speer and Evelyn Dorman

Herald staff writers

A Wheeling Park District commissioner is urging that four park buildings be designated as museums to qualify them for funding through a special historical tax.

The resolution by Commissioner James W. Gallagher is an attempt to clarify which park district facilities are financed through the district's historical fund.

He is recommending the church and museum at Chamber of Commerce Park and the Lorraine Lark Chapel Library and St. Joan's House at Childerley Park be designated as museums on the basis of their age and exterior appearances.

The phrase "historical fund" in the district's public documents would be

replaced by "aquariums and museum" in future documents to match the terminology used in an Illinois statute regarding public parks.

STATE STATUTES authorize the collection of a tax by a park board for the purpose of setting up and maintaining a museum or aquarium.

"I'm just trying to get us focused on what we're spending our money on," Gallagher said. "It will clarify things."

The current historical fund tax rate of nearly 3 cents generates about \$95,000 annually in revenue for such historical purposes and has been used to operate the 92-year-old museum at Chamber of Commerce Park, 251 N. Wolf Road, and the 57-year-old Lorraine E. Lark Chapel of the Orchard, 506 McHenry Road.

St. Joan's House at Childerley Park, 506 McHenry Road, and the

Chamber of Commerce Park Church are paid for out of other park district funds. St. Joan's House is about 76 years old and Chamber of Commerce Park Church is 121 years old.

BUT MEMBERS from Wheeling's Historical Society have charged the park district is using money generated from the fund for other park district facilities. And they oppose any efforts to call other park facilities museums.

"As far as we're concerned, the only museum we have is at Chamber Park," Frank J. Schnaitmann, president of the Wheeling Historical Society, said. "If that's what they're doing, then I don't agree."

Park commissioners are expected to study the matter, but have not determined whether they would adopt the resolution.

Parks, historical society head for split

by Wendy M. Winkelhake and Liz Russell

Herald staff writers

A Wheeling Park District commissioner is suggesting the district sever relations with the village's historical society because "we haven't been getting along the last few years."

Commissioner Donald P. Lark presented to the park board a resolution that would end the longstanding, and sometimes stormy, affiliation between the park district and the historical society.

Lark had little to say Friday about

his push except that, if approved, the resolution would end all dealings between the two groups. However, the park district would continue to maintain historical society buildings, he said.

"If it's terminated, we would not be working together," Lark said. "We would continue to maintain the buildings, but nothing ever said we would fund them. They are to have fund-raisers to support themselves."

Lark's proposal came as a surprise to historical society members, who protested because the resolution was not included in the board's scheduled

agenda but instead was added to the agenda at Thursday's meeting.

"WE'D LIKE a chance to have members exchange their ideas before the board takes unilateral action," said Robert L. McIntyre, secretary of the society. "It's more desirable to discuss this together, instead of having it rammed down our throat."

"The statements were added to an agenda, not on it," society President Frank J. Schnaitmann said. "We should have a chance to discuss it."

Lark's proposal also caught at least one park board member off guard. Commissioner Julia D.

Robberson said the resolution was a "shock."

"I walked into the meeting, sat down and there it was. I had no word about it," Robberson said.

Following the protest, commissioners delayed a vote until the park district/historical society liaison committee has a chance to discuss the proposal. The committee will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday at the Chevy Chase Country Club, 1000 N. Milwaukee Ave.

SOCIETY MEMBERS are gearing up for a fight and already have con-

(Continued on Page 5)

Parks, historical society may split

(Continued from Page 1)

tacted attorneys to study the issue, longtime member Lonnie Schnaitmann said. If Lark's proposal is approved, the society may look to affiliate with the Indian Trails Library or with the village of Wheeling, she said.

The two groups have a longstanding history of feuds, with the most re-

cent being over the district's move to designate four buildings as museums.

Park officials said that by naming the buildings museums, they would be better able to channel funds collected through the district's historical fund and help them focus on where money is being spent.

However, society members opposed the move, mainly because the

buildings do not match a definition of museum issued by the Illinois Attorney General's office.

The definition said a museum is "an institution devoted to the procurement and display of items of lasting value." Society members argued that because classes are held at two of the facilities they are not museums.

10/9/86

Park district, historical society may call it quits

By JULIE WESSEL

Comparing it to a divorce, Wheeling Park District and Historical Society officials are seriously considering going their separate ways, but not without going to court.

Historical Society Secretary Bob McIntyre told park board officials that although the society would ideally like to work out its differences with the board, he could offer no other solution, on advice of legal counsel, but to separate through a court proceeding, much like a divorce.

But park board President Tony Abruscato said he was in favor of a resolution drawn up by park board commissioner Don Lark that would disaffiliate the two organizations, quickly and directly ending several years of fighting, accusations and mistrust between them.

"It hasn't been a good situation," Abruscato told a liaison committee of the park board and the society Tuesday night. "I think things have gone too far, farther than they should be. The park district needs to come back and regroup...and re-evaluate its priority in the historical effort. I'm in favor of the resolution put together by Don."

OTHER HISTORICAL society members said they wanted to try to salvage the ties between the board and the society because of past efforts to keep the two groups together.

The Historical Society has accused the park district of misusing museum tax funds, cheating them out of having a carriage house and mishandling other funds within the park district budget, among other things.

"Whatever the problem is, I'd like to know. Let's resolve it," said Sam Dattilo, a society member. "I don't see any reason

why we should let this whole thing go down the drain now."

McIntyre suggested the liaison committee try to talk things out in order to bring harmony between the groups, but Abruscato said he doubted that could ever happen.

"I'M NOT TOO positive about that occurring," Abruscato said. "I see (both groups) getting wider and wider and wider apart."

McIntyre said he could offer no other solution to resolving the groups' problems then to go to court and deal with the situation "like a divorce."

"Maybe cutting loose is one solution," McIntyre said. "But on advice of legal counsel, I can't offer a compromise. (The park district) seems to be making the historical society the bad guy. Things have been a little uncomfortable both ways."

Abruscato said he was "scared to death" to bring in a new park board manager with the continued fighting between the two groups.

"(THE NEW MANAGER) doesn't need to be thrown into the same arena with the rest of us," Abruscato said. "I don't like the slanted agendas of liaison meetings. I don't like the innuendos of lawsuits. This is above and beyond what is expected of me. I don't see any committee of the village of Wheeling to be in the same position as what the historical society has been with the board."

McIntyre said both organizations have a responsibility to the constituents who elected them, and they should not be satisfied to just be complacent and happy.

Both groups decided to meet one more time at the end of this month, but the park board may vote on the disaffiliation resolution at its next meeting Oct. 23.

Idea's all wet

Wheeling Park Commissioner Jim Gallagher is proposing that the park district look into setting up an aquarium in town. The aquarium would be a great place for school kids to come visit, he says. The Boy Scouts could earn merit badges by feeding fish or helping clean tanks, Gallagher adds.

We're not saying an aquarium in Wheeling is a bad idea, but it seems to us that park commissioners have a few more important issues facing them that should be resolved first before they dive into an adventure like this.

Like what? Well, for starters, how about hiring a new park manager? Former manager Dave Phillips has been gone nearly six months now and the board still hasn't hired a replacement.

Or how about patching up the stormy relationship between the park district and the Wheeling Historical Society? Why worry about establishing a new volunteer group to run an aquarium when the park board can't get along with the organization that runs its historical museums?

Or perhaps the park board should come up with a plan to follow through with some of the recommendations for park improvements that were recently completed by the board's citizens' advisory committee.

Again, we're not faulting Gallagher for wanting to look into establishing an aquarium. But we think he and other commissioners should take care of some more pressing matters first.

Wednesday, October 15, 1986 Section 1-5

THE DAILY HERALD

Official urges park improvements

by Vicki Speer and C.L. Waller

Herald staff writers

A Wheeling Park District commissioner wants to use museum tax funds to improve buildings at four parks and to hire a full-time worker to build museum displays and look after the buildings.

But park programs held in some of the buildings likely would have to be moved out so the buildings could be used only for historical purposes, thereby qualifying them for museum tax dollars.

Commissioner James W. Gallagher is proposing improvements for the church at Chamber Park and to St. Joan's House at Childerley Park, but he says park staff first should study moving park district programs — including a preschool — out of the buildings.

Gallagher also is proposing maintenance projects within the year for the museum in Chamber of Commerce Park and the Lorraine E. Lark Chapel/Library in Childerley Park in



James W. Gallagher

response to a citizens advisory committee's recommendation to improve Wheeling parks.

And he recommends the district hire an additional employee to maintain the renovated museums along with building and maintaining museum displays.

THE CAPITAL Needs Reassessment Advisory Committee, appointed by the park board, suggested improvements such as painting and installing air-conditioning and new sid-

ing for the two buildings in Chamber and Childerly parks.

Existing funds in the park district's aquarium and museum tax fund, which has \$73,085, could be used to pay for projects the committee recommended, Gallagher said.

The hitch over allowing park district classes to be held in buildings designated as museums stems from a resolution the park board recently passed to rename the historical tax it collects as a museum and aquarium tax. The resolution says museum taxes cannot be used for buildings such as the church and St. Joan's house unless those buildings are used for historical purposes.

Childerly Park currently houses a preschool and Chamber of Commerce Park has dance, fitness and preschool programs. Those programs would have to be moved or eliminated under Gallagher's proposal.

"It's a case of if we want to restore the church, we can't keep preschool programs in it," he said.

MEMBERS OF the Wheeling Historical Society had opposed making

the church and St. Joan's house museums.

"Maybe if they took the preschoolers out of the church that could be considered a museum, but making it a museum first is putting the cart before the horse," said society President Frank Schnaitmann.

Schnaitmann also said he thinks hiring someone to oversee the museums would be a needless expense because historical society members have been working voluntarily at the museums.

When listing its recommendations to the park district in August, the citizens committee asked for improvements to begin at Heritage Park, 222 S. Wolf Road, followed by improvements at Childerley and Chamber parks.

"All I want to see is you people to commit to the park that we've designated our No. 1 park, and that's Heritage," citizens committee Chairman Greg Klutecki said.

Gallagher said his plan would not delay Heritage Park improvements because funds for it would come from taxes other than the museum tax.

Parks seek 'divorce' from group

by C.L. Waller

Herald staff writer

Wheeling park board president Tony Abruscato Tuesday threw his support behind a resolution that would sever the ties binding the park district with the Wheeling Historical Society.

The idea of "disaffiliation," as board members put it, or the separation of the two organizations, was presented by park commissioner Don Lark at last Thursday's park board meeting. Lark said he presented the resolution because there have been problems between the two organizations.

"The way things have been since I've been on the board, the ever-increasing problems, I would be in favor of the resolution," Abruscato said Tuesday during a meeting of the historical society liaison committee.

PARK COMMISSIONERS may vote on the proposal at their next meeting, Oct. 23. Commissioners Ed Klocke and Jim Gallagher have already said they will be absent from the next meeting. That means Abruscato, Lark and commissioner Julia Robberson, who also favors the separation, will be the only board members present to vote should the resolution come up.

The liaison committee members had sat down to air complaints about the long-standing divisions between the society and the park district. The historical society's allegations that the park district misused historical tax funds rose to the surface once again.

Bob McIntyre, secretary of the historical society, said former park district manager David Phillips used historical tax revenue "to bail out other park district funds."

Historical society members believe any disharmony has occurred because society members were serving as "watchdogs" of the park district.

"Each of us was elected by a contingency to serve that contingency and not to be complacent and happy," said McIntyre.

Abruscato said he wanted to resolve the conflict between the society and the park board before the park district hired a new park manager. "I don't think he (the new park manager) needs to be thrown into an arena the rest of us are in. We should take down the ropes before he gets here," Abruscato said.

Herald
10/8/86

Friday, October 31, 1986

SECTION 2

THE DAILY HERALD

Settle the disputes: historical society

by Vicki Speer

Herald correspondent

Wheeling Historical Society members say they will try to resolve disputes that prompted Wheeling Park District commissioners to propose severing their ties before the society considers filing a lawsuit against the district.

Park Commissioner Donald P.

Lark, citing ongoing conflicts, proposed ending the affiliation between the two organizations. The park district would continue to maintain historical society buildings, Lark said, but would not fund the society through its historical tax levy.

But the historical society says it wants to continue the affiliation and that disputes can be ironed out.

"WE WANT to keep this affiliation agreement going, we want to

work with the park district. We don't want all this fighting," society President Frank J. Schnaitmann said.

And, society members add, any change in the affiliation — including its termination — must be agreed upon by both organizations, according to the affiliation contract.

"They can say what they want to say, but there's still an agreement to contend with that, in my view, is val-

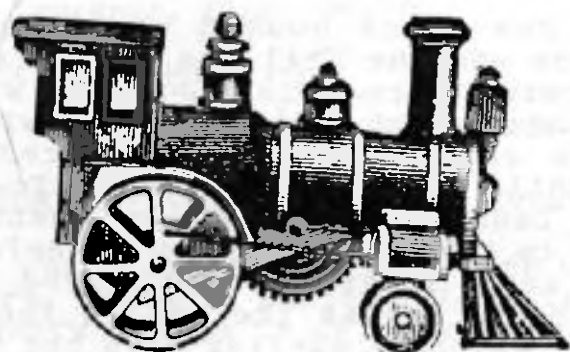
id — on both sides," said Lawrence Rochell, a Wheeling attorney hired by the historical society. The lack of a time limit in the affiliation agreement means it's perpetual, he said.

Historical society members said they will consider filing a lawsuit if the park district does not sever ties. They said affiliating with Indian Trails Library or the Village of Wheeling were other possibilities.

Wheeling Station Exhibit - Oct. & Nov.

"WHEELING STATION"

October & November 1986

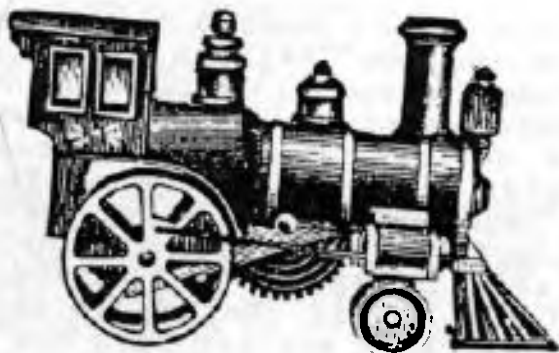


presented by

THE WHEELING HISTORICAL SOCIETY

"WHEELING STATION"

October & November 1986



presented by

THE WHEELING HISTORICAL SOCIETY

"WHEELING STATION"

Wheeling Station was like a small self-contained town located south of Dundee Rd. along the railroad tracks. The depot, built in 1886 by the Wisconsin Central Railway, was always bustling with activity in the early days.

The morning train into Chicago, known as the milk train, would stop at Wheeling to fill up with water from the large water tank, pick up milk, cream, and livestock from the farmers, and furs from the trappers to be sold at the market. It carried a passenger car which would take some of the Wheeling teenagers to Maine Township High School in Des Plaines.

The depot housed the telegraph office and the mail was picked up and delivered there. Frank Johnson, who was the depot agent until 1925, his wife and three children Rollin, Mildred, and Marcella lived in a home on Town St. Bill Laurance was the depot agent from 1925 to 1957. Bill, his wife Helen and two sons Oscar and Art lived in an apartment across the tracks from the depot which in earlier days had been a saloon and hotel. The families who lived in Wheeling Station were mainly the ones who worked in the area along with a few truck farmers and their families.

Near the depot was a stock yard, Merkle's Pickle Factory, a creamery which later became Evangers Pet Foods, and a Standard Oil Bulk Fuel Station that would deliver fuel to the farmers in the area. In the early days, Quirine Weidner owned a grain elevator and Wheeling Lumber and Coal Co. on the corner of Dundee Rd. and Railroad St. The Stahl and Weidner families operated the Mercantile Store down the street.

The railroad, which later became the Soo Line, played an important part in Wheeling's history and still does today. Those who grew up there have many fond memories of "Wheeling Station."

The Wheeling Historical Society would like to thank those who contributed to this exhibit:

Don Altieri, Northbrook

Marshall Balling, Wheeling

Oscar Laurance, Libertyville

Carl Sennett, Wheeling

UPCOMING HISTORICAL SOCIETY EVENTS

Bring the children to visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus at Lollipop Lane in the Community Church in Chamber Park. It will be open from Dec. 13 thru Dec 21.

Visit the museum during the month of December for "An Old-Fashioned Christmas." The theme will be Christmas in the early 1900's.

Thank you for visiting the Wheeling Historical Museum today. We hope it was an enjoyable experience and that you will return again soon.

Wheeling Historical Museum
Chamber Park
251 N. Wolf Road
Wheeling, Illinois

Open Sundays.....1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Open weekdays by appointment

Childerly Chapel and Library
Childerly Park
506 McHenry Road
Wheeling, Illinois

Open Sundays.....1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
(Memorial Day through Labor Day)

We invite you to become a member of the
Wheeling Historical Society.

Name _____

Address _____

City & State _____

Zip _____ Phone _____

_____ \$5 - Family _____ \$3 - Single

Make checks payable to:
Wheeling Historical Society
Mail to: P.O. Box 3
Wheeling, Illinois 60090

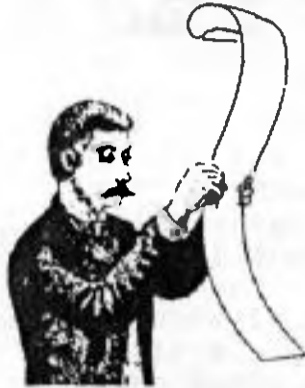
P.O. Box 3
Wheeling IL 60090
Museum phone: 537-3119

Vol. 1, No. 4 Sept. 1986
Editor: Barb McIntyre
Phone: 537-3497



Wheeling Historical Society

NEWSLETTER



THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER -

Dear Members:

Fall is here and our first regular monthly meeting will be Sept. 24 at the Community Church in Chamber Park at 8:00 p.m. Our Curator has asked me to announce that the museum will be open that night at 7:00 p.m. so members will have an opportunity to see the school exhibit before our meeting. (Find your school picture!)


I would like to thank those members who remained active in the Society during the summer--working on the Old Settlers' Picnic, exhibits at the museum two mornings a week, hosting the chapel at Childerley and the museum on Sundays, the 4th of July parade and liaison committee meetings.

Since May 25th Childerley's Lorraine Lark Chapel was open every Sunday through Labor Day. I appointed Lorraine Haben to be chairperson for the chapel and library. She is ideal for the job as she lives close by and has a personal interest thru her mother-in-law, Virginia Port Haben. She has taken responsibility for getting hosts every Sunday and it was a real disappointment to us when the Park Board voted not to give her a key to the building.

The Park Commissioners did agree to let us have a key to the Chamber Park museum and the old Community Church. We still await their decision on the historic village concept, to hold artifacts of Wheeling and the Thompson carriages.

Hoping for another successful year with help and cooperation from all,
Frank Schnaitmann (392-3171)

THE CURATOR SAYS:



The school exhibit which runs thru the end of Sept. has been a great success, especially with the local children. One of the fourth graders at Whitman School, Amanda Gonzalez, seems to have become our "Junior Museum Guide." In August she took it upon herself to round up the neighborhood children, bring them to the museum, and give them full, guided tour on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

The museum is open every Tuesday and Thursday from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. These are work days and there is plenty of work to be done, so feel free to stop in during these hours and lend a hand.

HIGHLIGHTS -

Main Bank allowed the Society to go through the Reeb property before demolition. Some of the more significant things we found were:

Deeds from 1847 on the property
Tax receipts on the Filkins farm
land from 1901 to 1922
A family will

Thanks to Main Bank for permitting us to do this, and thanks to the Society members who helped.

WHEELING STATION

The Society will be featuring "Wheeling Station" in our special exhibit for October and November. We are interviewing people who lived there, collecting artifacts and railroad memorabilia, etc. Anyone who can help, please call the museum at the working hours above, or call me at 537-5110. Tony Altieri

THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY is responsible for keeping the museum in Chamber Park open from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. on Sundays throughout the year. The current schedule is:

- Sept. 7 - Emma & Bernie Nathan
- 14 - Elsie Hiller & Dorothy Flentge
- 21 - Frank & Lonnie Schnaitmann
- 28 - Tony and Sandy Altieri
- Oct. 5 - Open for Volunteers
- 12 - "
- 19 - "
- 26 - "

RECENT MUSEUM ACQUISITIONS:

Marge and Bob Hartmann, Jan. '86, pictures, menus and glassware from the Hartmann House.

Ceil Sharkey, May, shaving items from her father for our General Store exhibit.

Bud Utpadel, July, original picture of doctor and child from the office of Dr. Benz.

Winnie and Gladys Keil, July, wash-tub for laundry exhibit.

Main Bank, July, approximately 200 items from Reeb Feed Mill.

Elsie Hiller, Aug., mustache cup from her father, August Pieper.

Louis Lacascio, Sept., six ledgers from Fassbender's hardware store.

Many pictures and news clippings.

DONATIONS FOR MUSEUMS -

\$50.00 for Reeb Feed Mill truck.
\$100.00 from Peggy Kruse Bumgarner in memory of her parents, to purchase display units for pictures and maps. These were bought Sept. 9 at auction.



WANTED--Genuine used-in-Wheeling slot machine. Call the Museum (537-3119) or write the Society at P. O. Box 3, Wheeling IL 60090.



THE ILLINOIS GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY is issuing "Prairie Pioneer Certificates" to direct descendants of early settlers of Illinois.. For more information, contact the Illinois State Genealogical Society, Box 157, Lincoln IL 62656.



CHAT FROM THE LARK/CHILDERLEY CHAPEL

First off, thanks to all my volunteers. Several people had never had the "duty" before and came away with lots of new information. Slowly we are getting our old pictures and historical information together and by next spring we hope to have a permanent display of some kind.

Hugh Wilkins again had the little garden planted in memory of his late wife, the former Edna Ragusin. Lots of color!

There were three weddings in the chapel and the newly donated organ was put to good use. It has a lovely sound. The Society was given a generous donation by Fran Geho, mother of the bridegroom, at one of the weddings.

The chapel averaged between eight and ten visitors per Sunday. Two were people who had come for retreats when Childerley was owned by the Calvert Club. Robert Larkin and his wife, who lived at Childerley in the Twenties, came to visit from Arlington, Va. His mother had been Superintendent at the time. Jean Stavros brought her senior group, "Forever Young," for their monthly outing. In all, I think we had a great summer.

Lorraine Haben, Chairman

Now Chat we refer to as "Wheeling" BOB

...SOCIETY
...CERTIFI-
...OF
...FOR
...THE ILLI-
...ETY.

BOOK REPORT

Now that we are working on Chapter VI out of seven, it is time to start referring to our village's history as "Wheeling through the Years," instead of "the book." The title is one we found and coveted. It was used for a pageant presented as a part of Wheeling's Diamond Jubilee celebration in 1969. We doubt that it will draw any TV or movie offers as there is no explicit sex and the romance is the conquering of the prairie. However, there is lawbreaking and a murder or two . . . who knows?



PERSONALS

We wish you well:
Irene Dattilo, Matt Irmiter, Bill Hein and Don Paisley who is recuperating at the home of his son David at 314 Kingsbury Dr. Arlington Heights IL 60004. HAPPY BIRTHDAY to our oldest member, Adeline Schneider, who will be 96 on October 15.

CALENDAR

September

- 20 - 10 to 5 and 21, 12 to 5, Annual Palatine Historical Society Antique Show and Sale, Gray Sanborn School, 101 N. Oak St., Palatine
- 21 - Shermerfest, Northfield Inn, 1776 Walters Ave., Northbrook
- 21 - Pioneer Days Festival, Elk Grove Historical Society, 399 Biesterfield Rd.--Crafters, etc
- 21 - 11 to 4, Fall Festival of Pioneer Crafts, Lake County Museum, Lake County Forest Preserve on Rte. 176
- 28 - 2 to 6, Autumn Fest, Wheeling Park District, Chamber Park

October

- 4 - Opening, "History Comes Alive," Randhurst Mall, Mt. Prospect Historical Society participating. Thru Oct. 13
- 5 - Grove Festival, Kennicott House, Crafts etc., 1421 Milwaukee Ave., Glenview



LIAISON COMMITTEE

What makes a museum a museum? The Liaison Committee, made up of representatives of your Society and of the Wheeling Park Board, has been struggling with this question for several months. Seems simple on the surface of it, but there are widely divergent views and we have won one of the Daily Herald's editorial darts for failing to come to agreement on it for so long. The Park Board prefers a broad interpretation that would permit using museum tax funds to maintain buildings used for day school classes and aerobics sessions. Your representatives have defended the more conservative view that a museum is what most people think a museum is.

Now a solution seems in sight. In response to an inquiry by the Park District Manager, an Assistant Attorney General has commented that a museum is, indeed, what the dictionaries say it is. Shawn W. Denney, Chief of the Opinions Division of the Attorney General's office, quotes Webster to state that a museum is "an institution devoted to the procurement, care, and display of objects of lasting interest or value." We trust that his three-page response will resolve the question, reserving museum tax funds for the purposes originally envisioned by your Society. Copies will be available for your inspection at the September 24th meeting.

We are indebted to Attorney General Neil F. Hartigan, and to Shawn Denney and Eugenia Chapman of his office, for expediting this response. We trust that it will solve the problem and enable our Society to get on with exciting things like the carriage house proposal and the historic village concept.

Bob McIntyre, Chairman

MINUTES, May meeting



Wheeling Historical Society

Meeting of May 28, 1986

The Society's annual Installation Banquet was held at Chevy Chase Country Club. President Frank Schnaitmann called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and led the pledge of allegiance. Fifty members and friends of the Society were present.

The minutes of the meeting of April 23, previously distributed by mail, were approved.

Curator Anthony Altieri reported on activities at the Museum which has attracted a new high attendance rate of from 100 to 150 visitors per month. He thanked the members who have presented special exhibitions: Adeline Schneider for the Schneider Family exhibit; Betty Barrie for her Telephone Exhibit; Margaret and Barbara Forke for the Forke Family exhibit and Marshall Balling for his display of paintings and drawings of Wheeling area subjects.

An Honorary Membership in the Society was presented to Donald Paisley, who is retiring to Arizona, in recognition of his years of service and especially for his dedicated performance as Santa at Lollipop Lane. President Schnaitmann also presented Certificates of Appreciation to those who contributed to the special exhibitions and to the outgoing officers.

Past President Robert Buerger officiated at the Installation of Officers: Frank Schnaitmann, President; Barbara Forke, Vice President; Robert McIntyre, Secretary; Tony Altieri, Curator; and Sam Datillo, Director.

Sandy Altieri reported on plans for the Society's participation in the Historical Fair held at Northeastern Illinois University June 14.

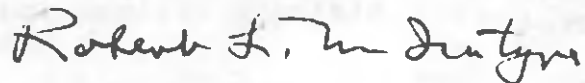
Eleanor Buerger announced that the Society would participate in the Wheeling Park District's 25th anniversary celebration July 27.

Sam Datillo reported that his antique 1928 Overland touring car would be in shape to participate as the Society's entry in the Fourth of July parade.

Dorothy Flentge reported that plans are under way for the annual Old Settlers' Picnic, to be held July 4.

The meeting was adjourned shortly before 8 p.m., when Wheeling High School's New Dawns singing group presented a lively program of old and new numbers. The performance was a special one for them--with many seniors graduating, it was the last show they would put on together. The evening concluded with a raffle, with prizes donated by members and Wheeling businesspeople.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert L. McIntyre, Secretary

Marshall &
Tony setting
up exhibit

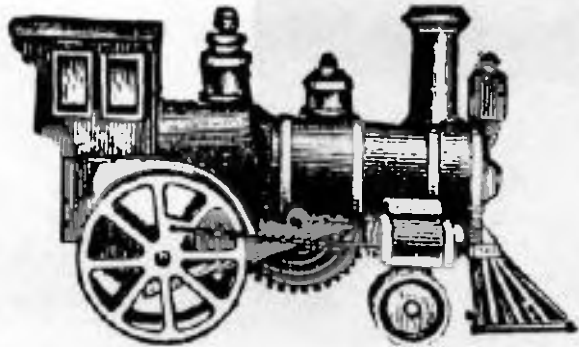


former "Wheeling
Station" residents
being interviewed
for newspaper



Bakker, Laurance, Holtrop Families

"Wheeling Station" opening - Oct. 19



The Wheeling Historical Society cordially invites you to attend the opening of our new exhibit.

WHEELING STATION

Sunday, October 19, 1986

2pm to 4pm

Wheeling Historical Museum
Chamber Park
251 North Wolf Road
Wheeling, Illinois

You are invited to visit with some of the residents who once lived in "Wheeling Station." Several collectors of railroad memorabilia will also be on hand. Join us for a fun afternoon and learn what living in the small section of town called "Wheeling Station" was like.

Refreshments will be served.

Community briefs

11/21/86

Railroad mementoes on display

Railroad memorabilia from the part of Wheeling called Wheeling Station or Camp 20, will be on display through the end of November at the Wheeling Historical Museum located in Chamber Park, 251 N. Wolf Road. Photographs of families and buildings once located in that part of town are included in the display. The museum is open from 1 to 5 p.m. Sundays and during the week by appointment.



Wheeling Station in photos

Railroad memorabilia from the part of Wheeling called Wheeling Station, or Camp 20, will be on display through the end of November at the Wheeling Historical Museum located in Chamber Park, 251 N. Wolf Road. Photographs of families and buildings once located in that part of town are included in the display. The museum is open from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Sundays and during the week by appointment.



Old friends get together at opening





Riding the rail 11/20/86

Wheeling resident Carl Sennett, a "railroader" for the past 30 years who now works as an engineer for the Soo Line Railroad, displays some of the railroad memorabilia he has lent to the Wheeling Historical Society as part of its "Wheeling Station" exhibit. The exhibit, which features pictures and railroad equipment from years past, is open from 1 to 5 p.m. on Sundays at the Wheeling Historical Museum in Chamber Park, 251 N. Wolf Rd. Appointments for tours on weekdays can also be made.
(Staff photo by Richard Bajjalieh)



Exhibit rekindles old memories

by Sherry Boemmel

Herald correspondent

Most of what's left of the small neighborhood along the Soo Line Railroad tracks known as Wheeling Station is memories. But a group of friends who once lived there had a wonderful time reminiscing when they visited an exhibit about their former home at the Wheeling Historical Museum.

Obviously, much has changed since those early days. Only two buildings remain: a fireplace store across from Lynn Plaza, which once served as home for Weidner's Coal and Lumberyard, and Evanger's Pet Foods on Wheeling Road.

The old Soo Line station, the stock pens, the railroad water tank, Merkle's Pickle Factory, the Standard Oil Bulk Fuel Station and the Stahl and Weider store are all gone.

The saloon and hotel and the houses and the truck farms on Railroad Street, Wheeling Avenue and Town Street are gone, too.

But the stories remain. The best tales about Wheeling Station came from the four Bakker children, Oscar Laurance and Winnie Holtrop Bos.

Those early residents range in age from 60 to the 80s, but they can recall their days in Wheeling Station as if they were yesterday.

The Bakkers lived in Wheeling Station until about 1924, Bos lived there for 28 years and Laurance's family lived there from 1925 to 1957. The neighbors ranged in age from the eldest, born in 1907, to the youngest, who was born in 1919.

MOST OF the stories revolved around a group of young men whose escapades are notorious in Wheeling's long history. The girls were also involved, but they take less credit.

"We were never in trouble," Laurance says with a sly grin. "We were always getting blamed for something."

"We could run pretty fast then," said Garret Baker, who has dropped the second "Dutch k" from the spelling of his name.

The Bakker sisters — Jennie Iversen, Anna Bakker and Etta Swierenga — and their brother Garret recalled many stories. Their family ran a truck farm until about 1934. They now live in Des Plaines, Lombard and Elmhurst.

Oscar Laurance, now of Libertyville, is the son of the depot agent, who worked at the station from 1924 to 1957. Winnie Holtrop Bos lived in Wheeling Station for 28 years. Her family lived in the saloon apartments along with the Laurances.

Though they had many stories about the fun they had living near the railroad, the farm dominated the Bakkers' lives. School took a back seat to their duties at home. They worked in the fields, loaded cabbage trucks and shoveled manure from the stock cars on trains to fertilize the fields.

Garret, who did not like school, says he probably didn't finish sixth grade after spending two years in each grade. Anna, who loved school, spent half of each day working, but she graduated from Wheeling School.

WHEN THE children weren't



Herald photo by Nancy Stone

REMEMBER WHEN? The "good old days" in Wheeling Station, a neighborhood in old Wheeling, are recalled by two early residents, Oscar

Laurance, left, and Garret Bakker. The two visit a new exhibit about Wheeling Station at the historical society museum, located at 251 Wolf Road.

working, they found plenty of ways to have fun. Garret says the boys would swim in the water tank until the railroad found out and closed the top.

He says they would take the handcar and pump their way down the track — at least until they saw a train. Once, they rode all the way to Prairie View.

Garret's brother, Ed, had a narrow escape when playing tag on top of some railroad cars. He fell backwards off a pickle car and hit his head on a track. He was unconscious for three days.

Oscar also had a miraculous escape when he fell onto some tools after hanging from a roof by his hands.

"Oscar slid off the roof," Etta remembers. "Everyone thought you were dead, but you weren't."

"That's why you never grew," commented Anna.

Relics from early days of village on display

Relics from the early days of Wheeling, when the town was known as Wheeling Station, are on display this month at the Wheeling Historical Museum, 251 Wolf Road. Photographs and railroad memorabilia from the collections of Oscar Laurance of Libertyville, a former Wheeling station resident, Carl Sennett, a former Soo Line engineer who lives in Wheeling and Don Altieri, a railroad artifact collector from Northbrook, are featured.

The exhibit focuses on the town that grew up along the Soo Line Railroad and at one time was called Camp 20 for the number the

railroad assigned it when it sent out crews to build the line.

The exhibit features railroad drawings by Marshall Balling, a Wheeling resident since 1915.

The railroad exhibit, along with some other continuing exhibits, can be seen during museum hours from 1 to 5 p.m. Sundays and by appointment weekdays. Tours for groups can be arranged.

There is no charge for visiting the museum. More information is available by calling the museum at 537-3119 or Sandy and Tony Altieri, Wheeling Historical Society curators, 537-5110.



Wheeling Historical Society

NEWSLETTER



THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER -

Dear Members:

As some of you have already read in the newspaper, our Society has a problem. The Park Commissioners, on a motion by Don Lark seconded by Ed Klocke, are trying to cancel the affiliation agreement between the Park District and the Society. Although it was not on the original agenda for the Oct. 2 meeting, Don Lark asked to have it added to the agenda at the start of the session. If Bob McIntyre and I had not been present, they could have pushed it through.

We did not feel that Don Lark should have attempted to get this resolution passed without giving any notice to the concerned parties and we asked to speak on behalf of the Society. We suggested that the motion be tabled and referred to the Liaison Committee for discussion at its meeting on Oct. 7. It was tabled by the other three Commissioners, over the dissenting votes of Lark and Klocke. Don Lark then commented on the many differences he feels have arisen in the 11 years of affiliation, and especially during the past year.

Comments have been made that the Society can't work with the Park District. That is not true. The Society is made up of volunteers, and those volunteers have manned both the Museum and Childerley every Sunday. The number of visitors has increased greatly and special exhibits have been presented every six or eight weeks. During Lollipop Lane the Society also kept the
(Continued on next page)



NEXT MEETING--OCT. 22
New Time: 7:30 p.m.

Come to the next meeting
of our Society and get the
very latest news.

CALENDAR

October

- 23 - 8:00 p.m. Northbrook Historical Society, "Flora and Fauna of Northbrook." 1776 Walters.
- 25 - 11:00-5:00 Niles Historical Society Chuck Wagon Party, 8970 Milwaukee Ave.

November

- 6 - 7:30 p.m. Arlington Heights Historical Society, "Art of Hand Spinning" Hendrickson Room Arlington Heights Library
- 9 - 2:00-4:00 p.m. Glencoe Historical Society "75th Anniversary Boy Scouts Exhibit" Watts Center, 305 Randolph St.
- 9 - 2:00 p.m. Northbrook Historical Society, Joan Thiry, author of "Roots and Wings" will speak on importance of family traditions. 1776 Walters.
- 19 - 7:30 p.m. Wheeling Historical Society meeting, Community Church in Chamber Park.

December 13-21

Lollipop Lane in the Community
Church in Chamber Park

Museum open, giving more parents a chance to visit it and introduce their children to Wheeling history.

In 1985, during the Park's "Sounds of Summer" the Society cooperated by presenting exhibits in the Community Church on concert evenings. Attendance increased. However, for the summer of 1986 the Society was informed that the Church would not be available for exhibits because Prenatal classes had been scheduled for all Wednesday evenings. This would affect our Society meetings which are scheduled for the fourth Wednesday of each month. I went to see John Muno, the Acting Superintendent, and he stated they would just reschedule the classes on our meeting nights. There have been several instances where the Park has not informed the Society of activities it was planning, which caused conflicts with Society events.

When our Curator planned the school exhibit at the Museum, an old desk from the Childerley school, now in the Chapel library, seemed a natural part for the exhibit. Yet somehow John Piazza felt it necessary to poll the Park Board for permission to move the desk, and they refused. It's as though the desk was sacred and couldn't be moved from one Park District building to another. The Society members have always taken care of the artifacts they have been trusted with, often have restored them. After all, it's the taxpayers who pay to finance Wheeling's historical effort and they have a right to enjoy the exhibits the Society prepares.

It does not appear that the Commissioners have always tried to work with us, and yet some of them try to make it appear that it is the Society that is causing all the trouble. The Society has always tried to solve problems that have arisen by going through the chain of command of the Park District. I, as a

former Commissioner, have felt that bringing up our differences and trying to work them out would make our relationship a more viable one. But when we have Park Board members who do not want to continue our affiliation I cannot see how they feel they are making their decisions in the best interests of the community. I feel that this is truly a cop-out and that they want to break the agreement for other reasons. The active members of the Society have always given freely of their time to help our community enjoy its history. Our Affiliation Agreement with the Park District specifies that we shall provide expertise on historical matters to help the Park District. However, we seldom have been given this opportunity. Our recommendations always seem to end up on the back burner, indefinitely.

The Historical Society does not want to dissolve the Affiliation Agreement with the Park District, as proposed by Mr. Lark and Mr. Klocke. At the Oct. 7 meeting of the Liaison Board, the Society representatives tried to convince the Park Board representatives present (Tony Abruscato and Julia Robberson) that the dis-affiliation should not proceed, but it appears that they were not successful.

With the authorization of the Society's Board of Directors, we have secured legal counsel to help us in this situation. He is Lawrence H. Rochell, who has offices at 4 S. Milwaukee Ave. in Wheeling and who was recommended by the Bar Association for our particular situation. We must remember that we have our community at heart and want to continue to serve it the best way we can. We have been entrusted to preserve the history of Wheeling and we intend to continue to do so.

Historically Yours,

Frank Schnaitmann, President

HALLOWE'EN

Hallowe'en customs came to this country with the Irish immigrants in 1840. Common pranks had to do with outhouses. Marshall Balling recalls: "The outhouse back of the Masonic Hall was the one that traveled most on Hallowee'en. One gang would come and put it in front of the bank, and the next gang would pick it up and take it two blocks south to the barber shop. Then late at night, it would wind up in front of the bank again."

THIS OLD HOUSE

Watching the news program on Channel 7 Sept. 18, we were thrilled to see a 136-year-old house moving down Ogden Ave. in Lisle. The Yender home, built in 1850, had to relocate because of the construction of a car dealership. It cost \$35,000 in community contributions to move the huge building, but Lisle now has an historical museum.

BOOK REPORT

We are grateful to the Wheeling Chamber of Commerce, and to Tom Markus who did the commentary on its bus tour of Wheeling industrial development on Sept. 16, for permission to tape. His remarks will provide up-to-date information for Chapter VII.

On Sept. 3 Esther Noffke gave us past and current history on Palwaukee Airport, again on tape.

Vivian Finkelstein of our village made a contribution to "Wheeling through the Years" as well as to the Society's library with a copy of her scholarly report on the history of library development in Wheeling and Buffalo Grove, 1930-1978. She wrote the paper while working on her Master's Degree in Library Science at Northern Illinois U. in 1978. A copy will be available for examination in the Museum library. Indian Trails Library also has a copy for reference. --Ed

POTPOURRI



Betty Barrie reports on attending a meeting of NEIL at Morton Grove Historical Society. Their quarters are in an old home, moved and restored at a cost of some \$50,000. In addition to her telephone program, Betty is developing a talk on old-time school days and an early trial presentation was enthusiastically received by youngsters who asked questions.

Sam Dattilo's antique 1923 Willys Overland car is on display in the lobby of the Main Bank. Sam was able to drive it right up the steps and through the door--with inches to spare.

Lorraine Haben, Lark/Childerley Chapel chairman, reported that there is a need for repairs to the organ, which has a stuck key and inoperative foot pedals. She suggested that a protective covering be placed over the map of the Holy Land on the back wall of the Chapel.

Myla Lange has donated Christmas decorations for Lollipop Lane.

The long-awaited village display at Buffalo Grove Historical Museum is now completed. The Museum is at 901 Dunham Lane.

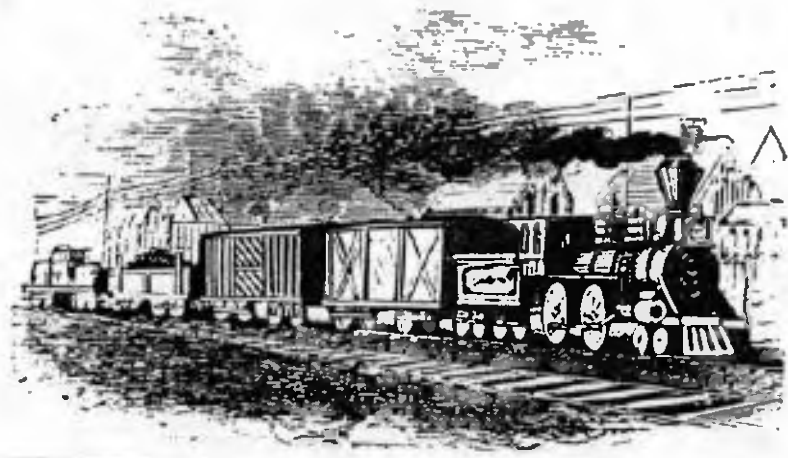


OOPS - WE GOOFED!

In the September issue, please substitute "fanning mill" for "family will" in the item on Reeb house finds.

We failed to mention an 8-track tape donated to the Museum by Bob Buerger.

Also, we were not aware at the time that Vern Staples was a patient at Northwest Hospital. We wish you well, Vern. --Ed



The Wheeling Historical Society cordially invites you to attend the opening of our new exhibit.

WHEELING STATION

Sunday, October 19, 1986

2pm to 4pm

Wheeling Historical Museum
Chamber Park
251 North Wolf Road
Wheeling, Illinois

You are invited to visit with some of the residents who once lived in "Wheeling Station." Several collectors of railroad memorabilia will also be on hand. Join us for a fun afternoon and learn what living in the small section of town called "Wheeling Station" was like.

Refreshments will be served.

Parks, historical society head for split

by Wendy M. Winkelhake
and Liz Russell

Herald staff writers

10/4/86
A Wheeling Park District commissioner is suggesting the district sever relations with the village's historical society because "we haven't been getting along the last few years."

Commissioner Donald P. Lark presented to the park board a resolution that would end the longstanding, and sometimes stormy, affiliation between the park district and the historical society.

Lark had little to say Friday about

his push except that, if approved, the resolution would end all dealings between the two groups. However, the park district would continue to maintain historical society buildings, he said.

"If it's terminated, we would not be working together," Lark said. "We would continue to maintain the buildings, but nothing ever said we would fund them. They are to have fund-raisers to support themselves."

Lark's proposal came as a surprise to historical society members, who protested because the resolution was not included in the board's scheduled

agenda but instead was added to the agenda at Thursday's meeting.

"WE'D LIKE a chance to have members exchange their ideas before the board takes unilateral action," said Robert L. McIntyre, secretary of the society. "It's more desirable to discuss this together, instead of having it rammed down our throat."

"The statements were added to an agenda, not on it," society President Frank J. Schnaitmann said. "We should have a chance to discuss it."

Lark's proposal also caught at least one park board member off guard. Commissioner Julia D.

Robberson said the resolution was a "shock."

"I walked into the meeting, sat down and there it was. I had no word about it," Robberson said.

Following the protest, commissioners delayed a vote until the park district/historical society liaison committee has a chance to discuss the proposal. The committee will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday at the Chevy Chase Country Club, 1000 N. Milwaukee Ave.

SOCIETY MEMBERS are gearing up for a fight and already have con-
(Continued on Page 5)

Parks seek 'divorce' from group

by C.L. Waller

Herald staff writer

10/8/86
Wheeling park board president Tony Abruscato Tuesday threw his support behind a resolution that would sever the ties binding the park district with the Wheeling Historical Society.

The idea of "disaffiliation," as board members put it, or the separation of the two organizations, was presented by park commissioner Don Lark at last Thursday's park board meeting. Lark said he presented the resolution because there have been problems between the two organizations.

"The way things have been since I've been on the board, the ever-increasing problems, I would be in favor of the resolution," Abruscato said Tuesday during a meeting of the historical society liaison committee.

PARK COMMISSIONERS may vote on the proposal at their next meeting, Oct. 23. Commissioners Ed Klocke and Jim Gallagher have already said they will be absent from the next meeting. That means Abruscato, Lark and commissioner Julia Robberson, who also favors the separation, will be the only board members present to vote should the resolution come up.

The liaison committee members had sat down to air complaints about the long-standing divisions between the society and the park district. The historical society's allegations that the park district misused historical tax funds rose to the surface once again.

Bob McIntyre, secretary of the historical society, said former park district manager David Phillips used historical tax revenue "to bail out other park district funds."

Historical society members believe any disharmony has occurred because society members were serving as "watchdogs" of the park district.

"Each of us was elected by a contingency to serve that contingency and not to be complacent and happy," said McIntyre.

Abruscato said he wanted to resolve the conflict between the society and the park board before the park district hired a new park manager. "I don't think he (the new park manager) needs to be thrown into an arena the rest of us are in. We should take down the ropes before he gets here," Abruscato said.

Parks, historical society may split

(Continued from Page 1)

tacted attorneys to study the issue, longtime member Lonnie Schnaitmann said. If Lark's proposal is approved, the society may look to affiliate with the Indian Trails Library or with the village of Wheeling, she said.

The two groups have a longstanding history of feuds, with the most re-

cent being over the district's move to designate four buildings as museums.

Park officials said that by naming the buildings museums, they would be better able to channel funds collected through the district's historical fund and help them focus on where money is being spent.

However, society members opposed the move, mainly because the

buildings do not match a definition of museum issued by the Illinois Attorney General's office.

The definition said a museum is "an institution devoted to the procurement and display of items of lasting value." Society members argued that because classes are held at two of the facilities they are not museums.

Divorce!! What next??

Park district, historical society may call it quits

By JULIE WESSEL

10/19/86
Comparing it to a divorce, Wheeling Park District and Historical Society officials are seriously considering going their separate ways, but not without going to court.

Historical Society Secretary Bob McIntyre told park board officials that although the society would ideally like to work out its differences with the board, he could offer no other solution, on advice of legal counsel, but to separate through a court proceeding, much like a divorce.

But park board President Tony Abruscato said he was in favor of a resolution drawn up by park board commissioner Don Lark that would disaffiliate the two organizations, quickly and directly ending several years of fighting, accusations and mistrust between them.

"It hasn't been a good situation," Abruscato told a liaison committee of the park board and the society Tuesday night. "I think things have gone too far, farther than they should be. The park district needs to come back and regroup...and re-evaluate its priority in the historical effort. I'm in favor of the resolution put together by Don."

OTHER HISTORICAL society members said they wanted to try to salvage the ties between the board and the society because of past efforts to keep the two groups together.

The Historical Society has accused the park district of misusing museum tax funds, cheating them out of having a carriage house and mishandling other funds within the park district budget, among other things.

"Whatever the problem is, I'd like to know. Let's resolve it," said Sam Dattilo, a society member. "I don't see any reason

why we should let this whole thing go down the drain now."

McIntyre suggested the liaison committee try to talk things out in order to bring harmony between the groups, but Abruscato said he doubted that could ever happen.

"I'M NOT TOO positive about that occurring," Abruscato said. "I see (both groups) getting wider and wider and wider apart."

McIntyre said he could offer no other solution to resolving the groups' problems then to go to court and deal with the situation "like a divorce."

"Maybe cutting loose is one solution," McIntyre said. "But on advice of legal counsel, I can't offer a compromise. (The park district) seems to be making the historical society the bad guy. Things have been a little uncomfortable both ways."

Abruscato said he was "scared to death" to bring in a new park board manager with the continued fighting between the two groups.

"(THE NEW MANAGER) doesn't need to be thrown into the same arena with the rest of us," Abruscato said. "I don't like the slanted agendas of liaison meetings. I don't like the innuendos of lawsuits. This is above and beyond what is expected of me. I don't see any committee of the village of Wheeling to be in the same position as what the historical society has been with the board."

McIntyre said both organizations have a responsibility to the constituents who elected them, and they should not be satisfied to just be complacent and happy.

Both groups decided to meet one more time at the end of this month, but the park board may vote on the disaffiliation resolution at its next meeting Oct. 23.

Fishy plans on tap at Wheeling Park District

The Wheeling Park District may be on its way to becoming one of a handful of park districts that owns and operates its own aquarium.

Park Commissioner Jim Gallagher last week presented a resolution to the park board that calls for the creation of the Wheeling Aquarium Society, a volunteer group that would operate an aquarium in conjunction with the park district.

Gallagher is proposing to house the aquarium at St. Joan's House, a historic building located at Childerley Park on McHenry Road.

The proposal comes shortly after park board approved the establishment of a new museum and aquarium tax. That tax replaced the park district's old historical tax, which generated about \$100,000 annually for the district.

PARK OFFICIALS have already said they will use the museum and aquarium tax to fund the church and historical museum at Chamber Park and the chapel and St. Joan's House at Childerley.

But Gallagher said the new tax may generate enough funds to also pay for the establishment of an aquarium. Admission fees could also be used to help offset the cost of running the facility, he said.

Gallagher said he's suggesting the establishment of an aquarium to reach some residents who may not already be using park district facilities.

"We have people who don't have children and aren't interested in sports

that we aren't offering recreation to," he said. "Right now we don't have a lot of programs for those type of people."

GALLAGHER SAID AN aquarium would be an ideal place for elementary-school-aged children to visit on annual field trips. Local scouts may be able to earn merit badges by volunteering to help out at the aquarium, he said.

The resolution proposed by Gallagher calls for park district staff to determine whether there's sufficient interest in the community for establishing a support group to maintain the aquarium.

If the aquarium becomes a reality, the Wheeling Park District would become the ninth park district in the state to have its own aquarium, according to the Illinois Association of Park Districts. The John G. Shedd Aquarium, operated by the Chicago Park District, is the largest in the state. Of the 322 park districts in the state, only 62 have their own museums, according to the association's latest figures.

Gallagher realizes there may be little support for the idea within the community, but he said the resolution would at least test the waters to see if there's any interest among residents.

At its meeting last Thursday, the park board took no action on the resolution, which is also being presented to the Wheeling Historical Society.

Gallagher said he expects the resolution to be discussed by the park board within a month.

EDITORIALS

Idea's all wet

10/9/86

Wheeling Park Commissioner Jim Gallagher is proposing that the park district look into setting up an aquarium in town. The aquarium would be a great place for school kids to come visit, he says. The Boy Scouts could earn merit badges by feeding fish or helping clean tanks, Gallagher adds.

We're not saying an aquarium in Wheeling is a bad idea, but it seems to us that park commissioners have a few more important issues facing them that should be resolved first before they dive into an adventure like this.

Like what? Well, for starters, how about hiring a new park manager? Former manager Dave Phillips has been gone nearly six months now and the board still hasn't hired a replacement.

Or how about patching up the stormy relationship between the park district and the Wheeling Historical Society? Why worry about establishing a new volunteer group to run an aquarium when the park board can't get along with the organization that runs its historical museums?

Or perhaps the park board should come up with a plan to follow through with some of the recommendations for park improvements that were recently completed by the board's citizens' advisory committee.

Again, we're not faulting Gallagher for wanting to look into establishing an aquarium. But we think he and other commissioners should take care of some more pressing matters first.

:LING

Wednesday, October 15, 1986 Section 1-5

THE DAILY HERALD

Official urges park improvements

by Vicki Speer
and C.L. Waller

Herald staff writers

A Wheeling Park District commissioner wants to use museum tax funds to improve buildings at four parks and to hire a full-time worker to build museum displays and look after the buildings.

But park programs held in some of the buildings likely would have to be moved out so the buildings could be used only for historical purposes, thereby qualifying them for museum tax dollars.

Commissioner James W. Gallagher is proposing improvements for the church at Chamber Park and to St. Joan's House at Childerley Park, but he says park staff first should study moving park district programs — including a preschool — out of the buildings.

Gallagher also is proposing maintenance projects within the year for the museum in Chamber of Commerce Park and the Lorraine E. Lark Chapel/Library in Childerley Park in



James W. Gallagher

ing for the two buildings in Chamber and Childerley parks.

Existing funds in the park district's aquarium and museum tax fund, which has \$73,085, could be used to pay for projects the committee recommended, Gallagher said.

The hitch over allowing park district classes to be held in buildings designated as museums stems from a resolution the park board recently passed to rename the historical tax it collects as a museum and aquarium tax. The resolution says museum taxes cannot be used for buildings such as the church and St. Joan's house unless those buildings are used for historical purposes.

Childerley Park currently houses a preschool and Chamber of Commerce Park has dance, fitness and preschool programs. Those programs would have to be moved or eliminated under Gallagher's proposal.

"It's a case of if we want to restore the church, we can't keep preschool programs in it," he said.

MEMBERS OF the Wheeling Historical Society had opposed making

the church and St. Joan's house museums.

"Maybe if they took the preschoolers out of the church that could be considered a museum, but making it a museum first is putting the cart before the horse," said society President Frank Schnaitmann.

Schnaitmann also said he thinks hiring someone to oversee the museums would be a needless expense because historical society members have been working voluntarily at the museums.

When listing its recommendations to the park district in August, the citizens committee asked for improvements to begin at Heritage Park, 222 S. Wolf Road, followed by improvements at Childerley and Chamber parks.

"All I want to see is you people to commit to the park that we've designated our No. 1 park, and that's Heritage," citizens committee Chairman Greg Klatecki said.

Gallagher said his plan would not delay Heritage Park improvements because funds for it would come from taxes other than the museum tax.

Thursday, October 9, 1986

Historical Society threatens park suit

by C.L. Waller 10/10/86
Herald staff writer

The Wheeling Historical Society will file a lawsuit against the Wheeling Park District if park commissioners try to cut their ties with the society, says an attorney hired by the society to fight the move.

"I think it's like a civil war," said Wheeling attorney Lawrence Rochell. "They are saying, 'We want you to secede from this organization.'"

Rochell said he would file a suit against the park district if it cut its

affiliation with the society and then spent taxes collected through the district's historical fund for park purposes.

"If they attempt to unilaterally cancel the contract and go on to use tax funds, collected for museum purposes, for other park district activities, a lawsuit will be filed," he said.

PARK COMMISSIONER Don Lark last week proposed the district sever its affiliation with the historical society because of ongoing disputes between the two groups.

The latest disagreement was over

the park district's designation of four buildings as museums to help it better channel funds collected through its historical tax levy.

But society members said the buildings do not match a definition of museum issued by the Illinois Attorney General's office and that the park district has misspent money that should have gone for "historical enrichment" projects.

The historical society has taken its questions about historical fund use to Cook County States Attorney Richard Daley. In a letter to Daley, society

secretary Robert L. McIntyre said the 1986 park budget earmarks more than \$15,000 in museum tax funds to reroof and air-condition the church at Chamber Park, 251 N. Wolf Road, which the board recently designated a museum.

"Members of the historical society feel that the museum tax funds should be reserved for the procurement, care and display of objects of lasting interest or value, in buildings that are truly museums," the letter said.

10/23/86 Divorce no answer to stormy problem

The Wheeling Historical Society and the Park District Board have had a stormy relationship, so stormy that the Park Board is considering breaking off its 11-year affiliation with the society.

Commissioner Donald Lark, in fact, with no prior notification to Historical Society, made a motion early this month to dissolve the relationship.

A majority of the Park Board tabled the resolution until Thursday, when the board may reconsider it.

We urge the Park Board to kill the motion and try harder to resolve its differences with the Historical Society.

After all, the society has performed a valuable service to the Park District by providing its expertise and by running the Historical Museum at Chamber Park.

True, through the years, the society has caused problems by attempting to impose its will on the Park Board, perhaps forgetting its advisory role to parks management. Further, personality conflicts have surfaced in the past, leading to a somewhat-strained relationship between the two bodies.

The society should recognize the limits of its jurisdiction and continue to work for causes within these bounds.

But the Park Board should face up to the fact that it has not been easy to get along with, either.

Just look at the manner in which the issue of dissolution was brought up. After 11 years, Historical Society members should have been warned such a move was afoot—yet the resolution wasn't even on the board's agenda. Even though the Park Board did not approve the resolution that night, the way the matter was handled is outrageous.

The Park Board often gives the impression of being defensive and in disarray. If Park Board members are having trouble getting along with the Historical Society, they should look not only at the behavior of the society but also at the way they are acting.

Why not schedule several workshop meetings to try to iron out the differences between the two bodies? This is preferable to summarily calling for a divorce.

It would be a shame for the Park District itself to have to operate the Historical Museum, currently run by volunteers. It would be sad for the Park District not to be able to use the expertise of so many informed members of the community.

Board members should also remember that just because society members disagree with them does not mean they all have to get into the gutter for a dog fight.

Gentlemanly disagreements are possible. Perhaps the Park Board should be a little more tolerant of citizens who don't like their point of view.

Parks, Historical Society feud

WHEELING — The Park Board is considering dissolving its 11-year association with the Wheeling Historical Society.

About two weeks ago, Commissioner Donald Lark made a resolution that the Park Board disaffiliate itself from the Society. The motion was tabled to Oct. 23, but may not be voted on then because of the expected absence of two commissioners.

In explaining why he proposed the resolution, Lark said, "We have not been agreeing with anything for a long time so it's better to dissolve it and each one go on its own way."

But Frank Schnaitmann, president of the Historical Society, called on the Park Board to continue the association.

"Allow us to advise," he said.

"Don't think that every time we advise we are trying to cause trouble."

The Historical Society affiliated with the Park District at the Society's request about 11 years ago.

The Society runs the Chamber Park Historical Museum and either owns or has borrowed the artifacts in the building, which is owned by the Park District. A Historical Society volunteer curator helps operate the museum.

Lark said he would like to see the Park District run its own museum. As part of his resolution Lark called on the Historical Society to remove all the artifacts in the Chamber Park building within 30 days. Anything not removed would be considered abandoned and put in Park District custody. Lark also

wants the Society to turn over its keys to the museum and to the Chamber Park church, where the Society holds its monthly meetings.

There have been numerous disagreements between the Park District and Historical Society. One of the most recent disputes was whether St. Joan's House at Childerley Park and the church at Chamber Park, which both house preschools, should be considered museums. The Park Board said they were although board members indicated money levied through the historical tax would not be spent on the buildings until the preschools moved out.

The Historical Society, however, argued that the preschools should have moved before the buildings were designated museums.

The Park Board and Historical Society also came into conflict over how large a carriage house should be built for the Society's antique cars and carriages. That project is apparently no longer being discussed.

Schnaitmann said the Park Board is looking at the Historical Society as the only party causing the trouble. He indicated that the affiliation between the groups has been good for the community.

"We feel that what the society members have done is for the community, and dissolving the affiliation agreement is no answer."

But Lark said dissolution of the association is necessary because the two groups have fruitlessly tried to work out the problems between them for several years.

WHEELING

Friday, October 31, 1986

SECTION 2
THE DAILY HERALD

Settle the disputes: historical society

by Vicki Speer

Herald correspondent

Wheeling Historical Society members say they will try to resolve disputes that prompted Wheeling Park District commissioners to propose severing their ties before the society considers filing a lawsuit against the district.

Park Commissioner Donald P.

Lark, citing ongoing conflicts, proposed ending the affiliation between the two organizations. The park district would continue to maintain historical society buildings, Lark said, but would not fund the society through its historical tax levy.

But the historical society says it wants to continue the affiliation and that disputes can be ironed out.

"WE WANT to keep this affiliation agreement going, we want to

work with the park district. We don't want all this fighting," society President Frank J. Schnaitmann said.

And, society members add, any change in the affiliation — including its termination — must be agreed upon by both organizations, according to the affiliation contract.

"They can say what they want to say, but there's still an agreement to contend with that, in my view, is val-

id — on both sides," said Lawrence Rochell, a Wheeling attorney hired by the historical society. The lack of a time limit in the affiliation agreement means it's perpetual, he said.

Historical society members said they will consider filing a lawsuit if the park district does sever ties. They said affiliating with Indian Trails Library or the village of Wheeling were other possibilities.

Veterans Day - Nov. 11 - Society
serves continental breakfast to Vets
after ceremony in the park



Veterans Exhibit

Historical Society ouster pursued

(Continued from page 1)

prise to Historical Society members who said they had not been notified that such an action would be attempted.

The Historical Society runs the Chamber Park Historical Museum and either owns or has borrowed the artifacts in the building, which is owned by the Park District. A Historical Society volunteer curator helps operate the museum.

Lark said he would like to see the Park District run its own museum and wants the society to turn over its keys to the museum and to the Chamber Park Church, where the Society holds its monthly meetings.

He said he wants to dissolve the association because of the numerous disagreements between the Park District and the Society. The two groups have fruitlessly tried to work out their problems for years, Lark said.

But Schnaitmann said the affiliation between the Park District and Historical Society has been good for the community.

"There have in the past been personality conflicts, but I don't think personality conflicts should cause the two organizations to split," Schnaitmann said.

He said if the Park Board attempts to unilaterally dissolve the relationship with the Historical Society, the Society will take the issue to court.

He said the Society has hired a lawyer who has been attempting to talk to the Park District's attorney.

The Historical Society and its attorney believe that the Park Board cannot dissolve the relationship without the agreement of the Historical Society. Schnaitmann said. He said the agreement establishing the affiliation stipulates that no changes can be made in the pact without the consent of both parties.

Lark, however, said that disaffiliation is not the same thing as changing the agreement, it is ending it — an act, he said, the Park Board can do unilaterally.

Despite the dispute, last Thursday the Park Board unanimously agreed to donate \$100 to the Wheeling Historical Society's annual Lollipop Lane. The Society holds Lollipop Lane every Christmas season by decorating Chamber Park Church where Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus are available to visit with children.

Historical Society ouster pursued

WHEELING — A move by a Park Board member to dissolve the Park District's 11-year affiliation with the Wheeling Historical Society is still alive despite objections from Historical Society members.

Park Commissioner Donald Lark said this week that he intends to re-introduce his resolution to have the Park District disaffiliate from the Historical Society.

The resolution was not considered at last week's Park Board meeting, Lark said, because the agenda was too full.

Frank Schnaitmann, president of the Historical Society, said he hoped the resolution was dead, but if it wasn't and were approved by the Park Board the Historical Society would file a lawsuit.

Lark introduced the disaffiliation resolution in October, but it was tabled and has not yet been considered by the Park Board. The move to disaffiliate came as a sur-

(Continued on page 3)

Gallagher to seek re-election to his seat on park board

by C.L. Waller 11/29/86
Herald staff writer

Wheeling park board member James W. Gallagher announced Friday he is seeking re-election to the post he has held for two years.

Gallagher, 35, is running for what will be the first four-year term on the board, which is phasing in a plan to pare commissioners' terms down from six years to four years.

If successful in the April 7 election, Gallagher said he would like to see the park board act on placing lighted baseball diamonds and soccer fields at Heritage Park. The lighted fields were among recommendations made by the capital needs reassessment advisory committee, made up of 15 park district residents appointed by the board.

A RESIDENT of Wheeling for 13 years, Gallagher acted on another recommendation from the citizens advisory committee by sponsoring a resolution changing six-year terms to four-year terms.

Gallagher, elected for the first time in 1985 to fill a vacancy, agreed with the committee's findings that six years were too long and the park board approved the resolution in September.

With an election theme of "Re-elect Coach Gallagher," he points out that he is active in youth sports,

including coaching two basketball teams his children play on.

Gallagher would not comment on former park manager David F. Phillips' sudden resignation in April, but he was critical of the board's procedures in making decisions.

"ONE OF the things we can be criticized for is people make requests and we don't say yes and we don't say no. We just leave them hanging. I think that was because we were on a lot of fronts at the same time and we just didn't do anything," he said.

Gallagher said the board has still not made a decision on construction of a carriage house proposed by the historical society in December 1984. He said the park board should look at one park at a time when addressing citizens' recommendations.

Gallagher would not take a firm stand on cutting ties with the historical society saying he did not propose the idea. Park Commissioner Donald P. Lark has suggested that the park district, which administers the historical society's funding, cut its ties with the group.

"I don't plan to take a lead role in that issue. I have ideas to lessen the impact of moving society artifacts out of the buildings," Gallagher said.

He added, "I think it's one of those issues time will heal."

Gallagher seeks 2d term on park district board

By BOB KEHOE

Wheeling Park District commissioner James Gallagher announced last week he will seek re-election next spring.

Gallagher, who was elected to a two-year term in April, 1985 to fill a vacancy, cited his continued interest in park district issues and in working to support a number of Capital Needs Re-assessment Committee (CNRAC) recommendations as some of his main reasons for seeking a four-year term.

A software programmer with Amoco, Gallagher has lived in Wheeling since 1973. He currently serves as a first and second grade basketball coach. Gallagher is the only candidate to emerge so far for the lone park board seat on the April 7 ballot. Filing for the post will take place between Jan. 19 and Jan. 26.

In a meeting with local reporters Friday, Gallagher talked about what the park district has done over the last two years and what key issues the park board may face in the years ahead.

AMONG THE ISSUES Gallagher said he'd like to see the board address is a CNRAC recommendation to install lighting to accommodate night sports in Heritage Park.

By installing the lights, Gallagher said the board could placate a number of residents' requests for Friday night baseball games and also make night soccer games possible.

Although he said the park district

doesn't have cost estimates on what the lighting project would cost, Gallagher said he thinks the project could be a worthwhile addition which would enable the district to schedule more baseball games during evening hours.

Gallagher said he also supports another CNRAC recommendation to schedule repairs at all park district-owned parks. Gallagher said it might make the most sense for the district to focus attention on one park at a time.

ON ANOTHER CAPITAL improvements issue, Gallagher said he isn't sure what direction the board will go in the long-talked about issue of opening a community center.

"Everyone wants it, but (no one has) figured out a way to pay for it. We talked of buying a District 21 building, but I think the taxpayers would have killed us for buying a building they had already paid for," Gallagher said.

It is issues such as the possibility of purchasing or building a community center that seems to have plagued the park board in recent years. Decisions on finding a new park director and on whether or not to end the district's relationship with the Wheeling Historical Society seem to drag on almost endlessly before they are resolved.

"One of the things we can be criticized on as a whole is when people make a request and we don't say 'yes' or 'no' and we leave them hanging...and we've done it

(Continued on page 17)

Gallagher—

(Continued from page 12)

on a number of occasions," Gallagher conceded.

IN SPITE OF the apparent overly deliberate decision-making process on key issues, Gallagher said he thinks the board has used its time wisely to avoid making quick decisions before all the facts were in.

A good example of this, he said, was when the board moved to hire Karop Bavouglan after months of searching for a replacement for previous park district Manager David Phillips.

Part of the reason for the long delay before hiring Bavouglan, Gallagher said, was because of the large number of applicants the board had to consider. Once that process was completed, however, the board was unanimous in its endorsement of Bavouglan, he said.

Another controversial issue the board seems to be now agonizing over is whether to end the district's relationship with the Wheeling Historical Society. Again, Gallagher said the delay is serving to give board members a chance to fully analyze all implications involved in such a move.

GALLAGHER WAS RELUCTANT to say much about where he stands on the historical society issue, saying only that he suggested an amendment to the motion that the board move to sever its relationship with the society and thereby force the society to remove its artifacts from park district-owned facilities.

Like a number of local elected officials and residents, Gallagher said he is still hopeful some compromise can be reached to avoid a complete breakdown in the relationship between the two groups.

Wheeling Historical Society

NEWSLETTER



THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER

As you all know, our major current concern is a resolution presented to the Board of Park Commissioners by Commissioner Don Lark requesting that our Affiliation Agreement be dissolved in the best interests of the residents of Wheeling. The Society does not agree. We feel that the Affiliation Agreement should continue, and therefore we were forced to hire an attorney to help us preserve our rights to the Museum and to enable us to fulfill our responsibility to the community.

The Resolution was tabled at their October meeting and not brought up for a vote at the November meeting where Bob and Barb McIntyre, Tony and Sandy Altieri and Lonnie and I were in attendance. During Verbal Communications, Lonnie got up and requested that the Park donate \$100 to this year's Lollipop Lane. The Board approved this request 5-0. Commissioner Gallagher brought up some items on the 1986 Budget he did not feel should have been charged against the Museum Tax. There seemed to be Board agreement that this would be used as a guide in preparing the next Budget.

After our long affiliation with the Park District, I hope these are signs that both sides will work to improve our relationship and that we can provide our historical expertise and act as advisors to the Park as defined in the Affiliation Agreement. Our attorney will be in touch with their attorney, and we hope they can help resolve the situation.

We were introduced to Karop Bavougian, the new Park District Manager, and he seems to be a person we can enjoy working with.

Frank Schnaitmann, President

THE CURATOR PRESENTS:

"An Old-fashioned
Christmas"

This special exhibit is scheduled for December 7 thru January 4.



Shirley Bertrand is loaning dolls from Shirley's Dollhouse on Milwaukee Ave. in Wheeling.

Don Pielin is loaning toy soldiers, and assorted toys including an old tin train from his private collection.

As usual, the Museum will display early Christmas decorations (1900-1930) and hot spiced cider will be served. The preview for Historical Society members and invited guests will be Dec. 7, 2 to 4 p.m.

Our special exhibit, "Wheeling Station," will continue through Nov. 30, so you still have a few more weeks to stop by and see it.

SPECIAL EXHIBIT LOANS:

Many photos and railroad memorabilia were loaned by the following people:

Don Altieri, Anna Bakker, Marshall Balling, Bob Buerger, Jennie Bakker Iverson, Oscar Laurance, Carl Sennett and Winnie Holtrop Vos.

ON LOAN:

Eleanor Buerger, Wheeling--A ricer, which has been added to our General Store exhibit.

Skip Tubbs, Wheeling--Early campaign coin for Peter M. Hoffman for sheriff, motorcycle license, dog tag. (Skip is Wheeling's resident "metal detector person" and we appreciate his bringing in Wheeling related items he digs up.)

RECENT MUSEUM ACQUISITIONS:

Ginny Zdenhalik, Northbrook--Plate and wall vase from Welflin's general store.

Don Palumbo, Chicago--Pair of spats.

(The above items have been added to our General Store exhibit.)

Edna Grewe Laurance, Libertyville--Dress worn by Emma Wulff Grewe in 1914-15, two children's dresses, toy spelling board, Pocket Information Directory of Wheeling, 1927-28, and other assorted items.

Carl Sennett, Wheeling--Surveyor's tripod, and a bugle once used by Lucile Schneider when she had her Girl Scout Troop. The bugle can now be seen in the Schneider exhibit.

Marion Cargill, Wheeling--Asssor-



SIGN LANGUAGE

Reading minutes of the November, 1979 meeting we find that Gene Kavanagh asked that the Village provide a sign indicating the location of the Wheeling Historical Museum and pointed out that Buffalo Grove had one on Dundee Rd. The matter came up again in 1980 and here we are, approaching the year 1987 and still no signs.

Recent inquiry disclosed that the Village could provide signs at \$30-\$35 each, but they couldn't be erected on State roads (Dundee, Wolf or Milwaukee) without a permit from the State. Permit was denied by the main office of the Illinois Department of Transportation and finally by the Warrants Dept. by letter of October 22. There must be a way to advertise our location. A hot air balloon, maybe?
--Ed.

BOOK REPORT

Chapter VI, which includes Restaurant Row, Prohibition, the Depression and World War II, has been completed and pages have been sent to the interviewees for their corrections or approval. Now we are on the home stretch, with Chapter VII on "Suburbanization" and the Chronology to go. If "Wheeling Through the Years" is completed in 1986 we will have something to celebrate in the January Newsletter.
--Ed.

HELP WANTED

We purchased two "Super Browsers" at an auction, and they are now put together and looking great. Now we have to mount our maps, documents, etc. in them for display. We need a lot of help, as we are anxious to get all of our things organized and easily accessible.

The Altieri garage is still loaded with artifacts found in the Reeb Mill. We need help cleaning these items before we can bring them to the museum. Anyone willing to lend a hand, please call Tony at 537-5110.

INTERVIEW TURNED REUNION

On Monday, Nov. 3 an interview was set up to publicize the Wheeling Station exhibit. Sherry Boemmel, feature writer for the Herald, and the photographer came to the museum ready for a typical interview and photo session. What ensued was not so typical.

First to arrive was Jennie Bakker Iverson who brought along her sisters, Anna and Etta, and brother, Garrett, and Winnie Holtrop Vos. Oscar and Edna Laurance also came from Libertyville. These were the "kids" who lived and hung around together at Wheeling Station. Marshall Balling was also there to be interviewed on his railroad drawings.

After all the hugging, we got down to the interview. Everyone laughed and all talked at once the whole evening. They came up with some really hilarious stories--some, I'm sure, unprintable. I think we now know who the Wheeling rabblers of the Twenties were. Sherry Boemmel called later to say this was the "most fun interview" she has ever done. So watch the Wheeling Herald Neighbor Section for the article--it should be fun reading.

LOLLIPOP

LANE



The Wheeling Historical Society's 14th Lollipop Lane will begin at the Villa for lunch, singing Christmas carols with the Sisters and resi-

dents on December 13. Santa will give each one a gift. Then Santa and Mrs. Claus will leave the Villa and go by sleigh to the Church at Chamber Park and be ready to greet all the children at 2 p.m. Lollipop Lane will be open Saturday and Sunday from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. and weekdays from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. The dates are December 13th through the 21st. Cookie Chairpersons Irene Dattilo and Eleanor Buerger will be calling members requesting homemade cookies for our cookie sale at \$2.25 per tin during Lollipop Lane. The cookbooks, with correction sheets, will also be on sale at \$2.00 each.

I would like to thank all our Santas and Mrs. Clauses for donating their time and talent, and all who will be making cookies and spending evenings at Lollipop Lane. The following have made donations already: Original Grannie's, Striker Lanes, MFC Mortgage, Heins-Hatfields and K-Mart (which gave us a terrific deal on coloring books last year). We still have enough books for two or three more years. The Wheeling Park District also made its annual donation towards Lollipop Lane.

Our annual Wassail Bowl will be on December 13 and Adrienne Broda is our Chairman. Invitations will be sent out, and please RSVP. Let's make Adrienne's job easier by letting her know whether you're coming! Thank you.

Lonnie Schnaitmann
Chairman, Lollipop Lane



The spicy smells of Christmas come from

ELSIE HILLER'S GINGER SNAPS

In a sifter, mix:

- 4 cups of flour
- 2 teaspoons ginger
- 4 teaspoons baking soda
- 2 teaspoons cinnamon
- 1 teaspoon salt

In the big bowl of your mixer, mix:

- 1-1/2 cups shortening (Crisco)
- 2 cups sugar
- 2 eggs
- 1/2 cup molasses

Mix ingredients in big bowl well. Then add flour mixture that has been sifted together. Make small balls of dough, about a rounded teaspoon, and roll in sugar. Place 2 inches apart on an ungreased baking sheet and bake for 12 minutes at 350 for slightly rounded tops. Makes eight dozen cookies.

CHRISTMAS GIFT

The Northeast Council of Genealogists suggest a unique gift for the grandchild: the "Grandparent Book" has room for your family tree, memories, pictures, etc. to give the child a knowledge of family history. The book is published by Random House at \$7.95.



Adv. CLEANING SALE! Adv.
Help Dolly Hein clean her storeroom Nov 29th and 30th at 141 S. Milwaukee Ave. She is selling office, restaurant and bar equipment, auto parts, and a Jeep with plow!

CALENDAR

November

- 14 - 6:30 p.m. Wilmette Historical Society Heritage Dinner, Jerry W. Lewis, "Those Who Came Before the Potawatomi" 256-3914 for information.
- 19 - 7:30 p.m. Wheeling Historical Society Meeting, Community Church in Chamber Park.
- 20 - 7:30 p.m. Joe and Joan Pound, "Early American Ancestor Research as a Couple" Northeast Council of Genealogists, Mt. Prospect Library.
- 28 - Dec. 26 Old Fashioned Christmas at Lambs Farm, Libertyville 362-6774

December

- 6 - 7 From noon to 4:30 p.m., Christmas at Naper Settlement, Naperville 420-6010
- 6 - 7, 13 - 14 Guided Tour of Ansel B. Cook Victorian Mansion and Museum, Libertyville 362-2330
- 7 - 2-4 p.m. Preview of Wheeling Museum Christmas Exhibit for members of Wheeling Historical Society.
- 7 - 10-4 p.m. Christmas Bazaar, Glenview Area Historical Society, 1121 Waukegan Rd. Glenview
- 7 - thru Jan 6, Palatine Historical Society presents 1870 Christmas at Clayson House. 991-6460
- 13 - 7:30 Wheeling Historical Society's Wassail Bowl party
- 13 - 14, Old Fashioned Christmas at the Arlington Heights Museum
- 13 - 21, Lollipop Lane, Community Church, Chamber Park, Wheeling
- 13 - 11-4p.m. Des Plaines Historical Society, Victorian Christmas at Kinder House, 789 Pearson St., Des Plaines 391-5339

January

- 11 - 2 p.m. "History Shapes Art" by Betty Dustman, Northbrook Historical Society, 1776 Walters Ave., Northbrook

THIS OLD HOUSE



The Edward Schultz house at 116 N. Milwaukee Ave. has been purchased by the Village and is scheduled for demolition as a part of the Crossroads program. According to Adeline Schneider, the house has no real historic value. She remembers it as originally having a stucco exterior. Elsie Hiller says it was one of several in a row, built about 60 years ago by the Utpadels. The present Tien Tsin Restaurant at 144 N. Milwaukee started as one of these houses, but was enlarged by Eric Wenzlaff when he made it into a restaurant. Elsie remembers the Schultz house being owned by Jesse Tesch, whose wife was Elsie Wiegand. Our Curator found it thoroughly stripped, with no artifacts.

The brick bungalow on S. Milwaukee Ave. built by Carl and Ed Moeller in 1924 was demolished recently. It was popularly known as the "Player Piano" building in recent years and was noted for its fine oak woodwork. The most recent owner is the Erickson/Stevens building to the north, and the site will be used for expansion with another office building.

East of the Main Bank, grass now grows on the site formerly occupied by the Reeb house and Feed Mill. The house was built around 1922 by Conrad Reeb. The mill was built in 1886 by Henry Wessling and was sold to Peter Schmidt, who operated it for many years. It was purchased by Conrad Reeb in 1911 and passed on to Henry Reeb in 1934. It was gutted by fire in 1941 when a torch being used by Henry's brother-in-law, Delver Dever, exploded. Artifacts from the mill and house will be in the Wheeling Historical Museum.

NEW MEMBER

We welcome Anna Bakker as a new member, but she is an old-timer in Wheeling. Her address is 1416 S. Meyers Rd., Lombard Il 60148.



Let's iron out differences: Historical society prez

By BOB KEHOE

A board motion to dissolve the relationship between the Wheeling Park District and the historical society is expected to remain tabled at tonight's park board meeting and as far as historical society officials are concerned it can stay tabled.

Frank Schnaitmann, historical society president, said Tuesday he still hopes the two parties can put aside their differences and once again concentrate efforts on preserving the village's history.

Several historical society and park board members approached this week for interviews declined to discuss the touchy subject of the relationship between the two boards.

Schnaitmann, however, talked openly about wanting to continue the long-standing relationship in which historical society members serve in an advisory capacity and staff the historical museum while the park district contributes

the funds necessary to run the museum.

IF THE MOTION that is now tabled were to be approved, the historical society would be forced to remove its artifacts from the museum and find a new home for future exhibits — a prospect Schnaitmann clearly does not want to see happen.

"Working together has to be kept going or the ones who will suffer are the citizens," Schnaitmann said.

In a recent discussion with park board member Don Lark, who made the motion to dissolve the relationship between the two boards, Schnaitmann said he tried to emphasize the importance of maintaining the village's history by working together.

Schnaitmann said that while Lark didn't make any promises about future dealings between the two boards at least he listened as a friend.

"**THE ONE** thing I did feel good about was that at least

we were able to talk. Whether I changed his mind I don't know," he said.

Lark could not be reached for comment on the issue.

Having served seven years as a Wheeling park commissioner, Schnaitmann said he can understand the concerns of both parties. In the final analysis, though, he sees no reason the relationship should end.

It appears members of both boards are taking a similar approach to the subject by stepping back to examine their positions and to consider whether they want to let philosophical differences and personality clashes get in the way of the task of preserving village history.

"**I HOPE** they think twice about this issue, and I don't say that with any sarcasm intended," Schnaitman said. "The historical society has a very good standing in this community. Anything we've tried to do is done with the idea of saving the park district money."

EDITORIALS

12/4/86

Parks' role in history

It appears as though the Wheeling Historical Society and the Wheeling Park District are about to sever a long-standing relationship. If they do, it would be a shame.

The historical society, which is made up of volunteers, stores its artifacts and stages exhibits in buildings owned and maintained by the park district, which levies a property tax specifically for historical purposes.

Lately the two groups have been feuding over a variety of issues, including whether the historical tax money collected by the park district is being used properly and how much control the society should have over the historical buildings.

Apparently a few commissioners on the park board are getting tired of the squabbling and have launched an effort to disaffiliate the historical society from the park district.

Although there's a resolution now pending before the park board to cut the society off from the park district, commissioners are saying little about why they think separating the two groups is a good idea for the community and the park district.

After talking to some of the involved parties, it seems to us that this is more of a personality clash between members of the two groups than anything else. Park commissioners pushing for the split appear to have no clear-cut reasons for wanting to break off the relationship — or if they do, they're keeping those reasons to themselves.

We think the historical society serves a worthwhile function in Wheeling and it deserves the continued support of the park district. Rather than arbitrarily cutting off the society, the park board should try to work with its members to iron out any philosophical differences that exist.

Wassail Bowl Party - Dec. 13



Wheeling Historical Society

~~84 South Milwaukee Avenue • Wheeling, Illinois 60090~~
P.O. Box 3 Wheeling IL 60090

December 1, 1986

Dear Members and Friends:

In keeping with tradition, the Wheeling Historical Society invites you to the annual:

Wassail Bowl

at 7:30 p.m.

on

Saturday, December 13, 1986

at

Lollipop Lane, Chamber Park

We will have entertainment and surprises for all! A special door prize will be given away. Won't you please join us for an evening of delightful entertainment and refreshments?

We must have an exact head count to make the Wassail Bowl a success. Please RSVP - Yes or No

R.S.V.P.
by December 8
537-6659
392-3171

Adrienne Broda
Lonnie Schnaitmann
Wassail Bowl



Mr. & Mrs. Claus pay
a visit (Frank & Lonnie
Schnaitmann)



Christmas Exhibit - December



An Old Fashioned
Christmas

presented by

THE WHEELING HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Cover drawing by Marshall Balling

CHRISTMAS PAST IN WHEELING

Perhaps the most wonderful thing about Christmas when I was a boy, from about 1910 to the early 1920's, was the absence or great rarity of artificial Christmas trees. Trees were seldom put up before Christmas Eve so we could awaken the morning of the Great Day and be thrilled by the tree and all the presents under it. Best of all was the wonderful smell of the spruce needles; the entire house was saturated with it and it seemed to set the tone for the season.

My impression is that Christmas was emphasized first of all by the churches and then by the schools. There was commercialism and all the big loop stores had Santas for the children to speak to and it was a supreme goal to have all children get to State Street at least once during the holiday excitement. Up until after World War II Wheeling had no stores large enough to put on displays of Christmas gifts. The little general stores and shops would have a small tree lighted in the window and all the restaurants (roadhouses) had elaborate trees in either the barroom or the eating areas.

The Wheeling Chamber of Commerce in the 20's and 30's came forward with a fine community-wide celebration of the holiday spirit. A site in the village was selected for a huge bon-fire and logs, railroad ties, and other wood was accumulated and piled high. A few days before the celebration, the Chamber members gathered to fill stockings with candy, fruit, and nuts. The school children were prepared for songs and public notice was given that on the appointed evening the bonfire would be lit and all the children of the village and surrounding area were welcome to come and see Santa arrive. About this

Department collapsed
Whitman School gymnasium; and if the weather was too inclement, the celebration was moved to that indoor place. These events were so well planned and carried off that children from other villages and townships came to Wheeling to be a part of it. For many years, a large fir tree alongside the old Community Church on Dundee Road was used as a Village tree and the Chamber trimmed it and strung it with lights for the holiday season.

As Wheeling grew too large, the community celebration lapsed; so those of us who were fortunate enough to have lived when the village was small can recall many, many exciting memories. It is fortunate that in our great free country the local churches can celebrate the real meaning of Christmas apart from the glitter and tinsel. Our own Lollipop Lane has revived the community spirit of the celebration of Christmas; and children, whose season this really is, have reason to be grateful.

Marshall Balling

The Wheeling Historical Society would like to thank those members who contributed to this exhibit:

Tony & Sandy Altieri
Marshall Balling
Bob & Eleanor Buerger
Jack & Lorraine Haben
Virginia Haben

A very special thank you to our guest exhibitors:

Shirley Bertrand of Shirley's Dollhouse,
Milwaukee Ave, Wheeling

Don Pielin, the American Dimestore Toy
Soldier Collector, of Wheeling

"An Old Fashioned Christmas" opening - Dec. 7



The Wheeling Historical Society cordially invites you to attend the preview of our new holiday exhibit.

An Old Fashioned
Christmas

DATE: December 7, 1986

TIME: 2 pm to 4 pm

PLACE: Wheeling Historical Museum
Chamber Park
251 N. Wolf Road
Wheeling, IL

Refreshments will be served.

This exhibit includes displays by Shirley Bertrand of Shirley's Dollhouse and Don Pielin, a private collector of toy soldiers and antique toys.

We hope you will be able to join us for a fun afternoon.

For more information, please call: 537-5110.



1900 tree



1940 tree



Dolls from Shirley's Dollhouse



Barb McIntyre & Lorraine Haben admire Three Kings



1920 Tree

Collection of soldiers stands tall

by Sherry Boemmel 1/8/87

Herald correspondent

Don Pielin says mother was a "thrower-awayer." So, when Pielin went away to college, his toys also went away to the family trash can.

The 44-year-old Pielin, however, has more than made up for his losses. Today, he is an avid collector of toy soldiers with an army reaching 3,500 figures, some of which are on display at the Wheeling Historical Society Museum, 251 N. Wolf Road.

The display includes an array of soldiers and related camp personnel, tanks, aircraft — one with a wingspan of two-feet — a train, figures of people at a railroad station, figures of sledgers, skiers and skaters and a group of mechanical toys. There is also a Buck Rogers ray gun.

Pielin, says he got started on his collection 10 to 12 years ago, when he began visiting an old train shop in Park Ridge with a friend who collected.

"HE STARTED an addiction," Pielin said.

When Pielin started, the old soldiers which cost a nickel when new, sold for about 35 to 50 cents. Now, he said, a figure in good condition is worth \$6 to \$8.

Pielin said the soldiers were sold one by one in dimestore and the more popular figures, like soldiers shooting and marching, are easier to find than more passive figures like banjo players. Pielin, the father of three daughters, said the only way



Herald photo by Gilbert R. Boucher

HOLDING A RARE three-engine war plane, Don Pielin shows off part of his toy collection on display at the Wheeling Historical Museum, 251 Wolf Road.

The 44-year-old Wheeling resident has 3,500 figures in his collection, including toy tanks, soldiers, cars and a train.

he can justify the cost of some rare figures is to buy collections and sell what he does not want.

"There are probably a dozen I don't have," Pielin said. "All that are left are \$100-\$200 apiece. I keep looking for collections."

The museum display features only part of his soldier collection. He has fighting soldiers, soldiers at camp with their tents, soldiers typing and even boxing in a ring. A medical corp is there with doctors, nurses,

stretcher bearers, and an ambulance and a tent.

Pielin said he has done a lot of research on toys of the Depression era because he is a junior high social studies teacher in Northbrook and enjoys finding out how toys reflect society.

He noticed, for example, that American manufacturers never made enemy soldiers, partially because when the United States got in World War II, metal was needed for war production. Before that, there

was a great deal of isolationism and pro-German sentiment. He also noted that unlike German soldiers, American figures show no carnage.

"THE WAR was pretty remote," he said. "It was a comfortable feeling. They would march and shoot and no one got hurt."

After the war, toy soldiers never regained popularity and, finally, production died in the late 1960s.

Pielin has published much of what he knows in three books and a

(Continued on Page 3)

Collector's toy soldier collection stands tall

(Continued from Page 1)

newsletter he and four other collectors publish for 2,000 subscribers. He and the *Old Toy Soldier News* publishers also organize an annual show in September in this area.

Pielin has published all three books himself. They are identifica-

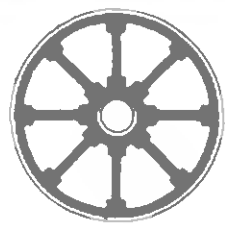
tion guides to "give the collectors a fighting chance." The second book was a revision of the first loose-leaf edition and has better quality paper.

The third — "The American Dimestore Soldier Book" — contains much more information.



Don Pielin's antique Toy display

Lollipop Lane - Dec. 13 thru Dec. 21



Wheeling Village Views

Wheeling Village News

November/December 1986

Here Comes Santa Claus!



Straight from the North Pole, Santa and Mrs. Claus will arrive in Wheeling on Saturday, December 13. Amidst decorated trees on Lollipop Lane, the jolly pair will greet children and parents beginning December 13 through December 21 at the chapel in Chamber Park, 251 North Wolf Road. Santa's schedule will be:

Weekdays: 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Sat. & Sun.: 2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Santa reports he would be happy to pose for pictures for any parents who would like to bring along a camera.



Community Church

Lisa Schab

Wheeling

12/11/86



Santa Claus is coming to town on Saturday

It's happening again — Just like the song says. Santa Claus will come to town Saturday.

After a luncheon and caroling at Addolorata Villa in the morning, Santa will be riding by sleigh to make a 2 p.m. arrival at the Chamber Park Community Church building, 251 N. Wolf Road in Wheeling. Children are encouraged to stand along the sleigh route between 1:30 and 2 p.m. to wave to Santa and Mrs. Claus as they go south on McHenry Road from the Villa, then east on Dundee Road to Wolf Road, and north on Wolf Road to the church.

Once at "Lollipop Lane," children will be invited to visit with Santa and the Mrs. There is no admission charge for this event, and parents are urged to bring cameras to take pictures of the children on Santa and Mrs. Claus' lap.

Lollipop Lane is sponsored jointly by the Wheeling Historical Society and the Wheeling Park District. Historical Society members have spent a week decorating the 120-year-old church with Christmas trees and toys. Historical Society members have also been busy baking cookies, which will be on sale at the church along with Historical Society cookbooks and note paper.

Cookie chairmen this year are Irene Dattilo and Eleanor Buerger. Donations were made from community businesses including K mart, Original Grannie's, Striker Lanes, MFC Mortgage, and Heins-Hatfields. Lonnie Schnaitmann was chairman of Lollipop Lane.

Lollipop Lane will be open from 2 to 5 p.m. on weekends, and from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. on weekdays from Dec. 13 through Dec. 21. For more information, call Sandy Altieri of the Wheeling Historical Society at 537-5110.

LIFE IN WHEELING

Santa, Mrs. Claus make annual trek

BY ANITA SANTORO

12/11/86

■ Direct from the North Pole, Santa and Mrs. Claus will arrive at Lollipop Lane on Saturday, Dec. 13.

Parents and children may visit the pair from Dec. 13 to 21 during the hours 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. on weekdays and



SANTORO

2 to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday at the chapel in Chamber Park, 251 North Wolf Road. Santa will be available to pose for pictures, so remember to bring your camera.

Santa is coming to Chamber Park

Santa Claus will be greeting children in Wheeling at 2 p.m. Dec. 13 in Chamber of Commerce Park, 251 N. Wolf Road.

Residents at Addolorata Villa Home for Aged Men and Women will first visit with Santa Claus at 1 p.m. After singing Christmas carols with the residents and presenting a gift to each one, Santa will travel by sleigh to Lollipop Lane at Chamber Park.

Lollipop Lane, sponsored by the Wheeling Park District and the Wheeling Historical Society, will be open for visits to Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. on weekdays and from 2 to 5 p.m. on weekends beginning Dec. 13 through Dec. 21.

HAPPENINGS

Santa Claus visiting sweet Lollipop Lane

12/18/86

The Wheeling Historical Society, in conjunction with the Wheeling Park District, will host Lollipop Lane at the Community Church in Chamber Park, 251 N. Wolf Road.

In preparation for Lollipop Lane, Historical Society members spend one week decorating the 120-year-old church with Christmas trees and toys. Santa and Mrs. Claus are visiting Lollipop Lane and parents are urged to bring cameras to take pictures of the children on Santa's and Mrs. Claus' lap. Admission is free.

Homemade cookies will be on sale at the church along with Historical Society cookbooks and notepaper.

While at the park, stop in the museum to see the "Old-Fashioned Christmas" exhibit. Experience what Christmas was like 75 years ago. Don Pielin, a private collector from Wheeling, will display toy soldiers and antique toys, while Shirley Bertrand of Shirley's Dollhouse, displays dolls.

Lollipop Lane, Santa and the Museum will be open from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. weekdays and from 2 to 5 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays through Dec. 21. The Museum exhibit will continue through Jan. 4. For information, call 392-3171 or 537-5110.

SPINNING WHEEL

12/18/86



By BEVERLY SPADAFORA

THE WHEELING HISTORICAL Society, in conjunction with the Wheeling Park District, is hosting Lollipop Lane again this year. Moms and dads can bring their children to see Santa and Mrs. Claus at the Community Church in Chamber Park. Historical Society members spent one week decorating the 120-year-old church with Christmas trees and toys. Homemade cookies and Historical Society cookbooks will be on sale. Lollipop Lane is open weekdays 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. and 2 to 5 on Saturdays and Sundays and will continue until Dec. 21. Lonnie Schaitmann is the chairman of Lollipop Lane.

Also stop in at the Museum to have some free hot apple cider and see the "Old Fashioned Christmas" exhibit and experience what Christmas was like around the turn of the century. Don Pielin, a private collector, will have his toy soldier exhibit and old fashioned tin train on display and Shirley Bertrand from Shirley's Doll House will have dolls there. Historical Society note cards will also be available for \$3. Each set is made up of 12 cards of pen-and-ink drawings of three Wheeling sites (Childerly Chapel, the original Presbyterian Church and the original Village Hall) drawn by area artist, Lee Broede. Museum hours are weekdays, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., and 1 to 5 on Saturdays and Sundays. The exhibit will continue until Jan. 4.

LOLLIPOP LANE. The Wheeling Historical Society, in

conjunction with the Wheeling Park District, is once again hosting Lollipop Lane in Chamber Park 251 N. Wolf Rd. at the Community Church in Wheeling. Santa and Mrs. Claus will arrive at Addolorata Villa Home for the Aged, 555 McHenry Rd., at 1 p.m. Saturday. There they will dine with the residents and give gifts to everyone. From there, they will go by sleigh to the Community Church where they will be available to visit with all of the children. Children are encouraged to stand along the route to wave to Santa and Mrs. Claus about 1:30 p.m. There is no admission charge for this event, and parents are urged to bring cameras. Homemade cookies will be on sale at the church, along with historical society cookbooks and notepaper. While at the park, stop in the museum to see the old fashioned Christmas exhibit. Experience what Christmas was like 75 years ago. Don Pielin, a private collector from Wheeling, will have toy soldiers and antique toys on display, while Shirley Bertrand of Shirley's Dollhouse will have dolls on display. Lollipop Lane and the museum will be open from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. weekdays, and from 2 to 5 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays through Dec. 21. For more information, call 392-3171 or 537-5110.



Herald photo by Kevin Virobik-Adams

Here comes Santa Claus

Braving the chilly winds, Santa (Jan Broda) and Mrs. Claus (Willie Franta), steer their sleigh into Lollipop Lane at Chamber of Commerce Park, 251 N. Wolf Road, Wheeling. The Clauses first stopped for lunch

with residents at Addolorata Villa Home for Aged Men and Women. Santa and Mrs. Claus will greet children at Lollipop Lane from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. through Friday and from 2 to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.



Bob Buerger & Sam Dattilo prepare sleigh for Santa's arrival.

Wheeling Countryside



Strolling down Lollipop Lane

No, Lollipop Lane isn't the main street in the North Pole, it's a special Christmas exhibit that's presented by the Wheeling Historical Society and the park district. Santa was a busy fellow there Saturday, with a long line of kids with last-minute gift requests. (Staff photo by Rich Bajjalieh)



A search for Christmas spirit

A kids-eye view of the holiday

by Sherry Boemmel

Herald correspondent

12/25/86

Some have said the spirit of Christmas is dead, a victim of early decorations, too many television commercials and high prices.

But we doubted it.

And to prove our case, we searched the suburbs for the true spirit of the holiday. We looked for love, kindness, a sense of family and, of course, the spirit of giving.

The search brought us to Lollipop Lane in Wheeling, where kids 6 to 14 years of age from Wheeling and Buffalo Grove were waiting in line to see Santa and Mrs. Claus.

What better place, we thought, to find the true spirit of Christmas.

And what we found was heartening.

Although visions of shiny presents danced in the heads of many youngsters, we found the spirit of Christmas alive in their young hearts.

Just listen.

● "Sharing." That's what Christmas means to 9-year-old Brenda Batka of Wheeling.

"And giving presents and giving thanks," her twin brother Brian quickly added.

● "I think it's time for giving and a holiday for families to get together," says 9-year-old Bill Ridell of Buffalo Grove.

● "The spirit of Christmas is like with Santa and Mrs. Claus and the children get to see them and Christmas trees with all the colorful lights and kids being happy and playing in the snow," says Tammy Schnaitmann, 12, of Wheeling.

● "Giving." is the Christmas spirit for Brian Coyne, 7, of Wheeling.

● Katie Rolla, 6, of Wheeling, thinks of Christmas as a time when "Santa Claus comes. He gives us presents."

● "You give presents," says 8-year-old Carly Rolla of Wheeling, "and you receive presents and you remember Jesus' birthday."

● "Well, it's fun because you get to open presents and stuff," says Jason Foltyn, 14, of Wheeling, "and you get to see all the relatives you don't always get to see."

● "You get to open lots of presents, get things you want and every year I come to Lollipop Lane," says Adam Foltyn, 9, also of Wheeling.

● Eddie Schomer had to think for a second about the meaning of Christmas.

"Um, um, loving, sharing, for family," the 8-year-old from Wheeling finally said.

● "Um, I don't know, um, it's a hard question," began Shannon Schomer, 12, of Wheeling, when asked about the meaning of Christmas. "Well, it's about loving and happiness. You shouldn't be sad on it — that's all."

● "Sharing gifts," was the simple reply of 7-year-old Michelle Stewart of Wheeling.

● Eight-year-old Jeffrey Peters says Christmas is "about joy."

● "Well, it's for giving and something about like thinking about other people," says 7-year-old Katie Jeffreys of Buffalo Grove.

● "Jesus born in Bethlehem," Joanne Kozmer, 8, of Wheeling says.

● "Jesus," says 6-year-old Brent Whittington of Wheeling. "I came to see Santa to tell him what I wanted for Christmas."



Public speaking

● Belinda Burke, library clerk at Whitman School in Wheeling Township Elementary District 21, explains her idea to take 45 Hispanic children to meet Santa Claus for the first time, through an interpreter. "They really don't know what Santa Claus is. I thought, 'What must be going through those kids' minds when their friends are talking about seeing Santa Claus?'"

Hispanic children visit Santa

WHEELING

Monday, December 22, 1986 Section 1-5

THE DAILY HERALD



Herald photo by Scott Sanders

First hello

A seat on Santa's lap brings a smile to Yesenia Melgoza's face, as she and other Hispanic children from Walt Whitman School visited Santa Claus for the first time. About 40 Wheeling and Prospect Heights chil-

dren from the Wheeling Township Elementary District 21 school traveled to Lollipop Lane in Chamber of Commerce Park to learn about Santa through an interpreter.

WHEELING

Monday, December 8, 1986 Section 1-5

THE DAILY HERALD

45 kids to meet Santa for first time

by C.L. Waller

Herald staff writer

Forty-five Hispanic children from Walt Whitman School in Wheeling will meet Santa Claus for the first time in their lives, through an interpreter.

The children from Wheeling Township Elementary District 21 will greet the elf himself Dec. 17 at Lollipop Lane at Chamber Park, 251

N. Wolf Road, Wheeling.

Whitman School library clerk Belinda Burke got the idea after she read a Christmas story to a group of kindergartners.

"I was getting this blank stare from 16 children," Burke said.

Besides speaking little English, the children are from low-income families, the kind that don't shop at malls, Burke said. "If they (do) go to Randhurst, they probably feel like

they have to pay to see Santa Claus," she said. "They really don't know what Santa Claus is."

In most Latin countries, the three wise men are said to visit children on Jan. 6, leaving gifts, said Rosa Kuhn, kindergarten teacher.

Lollipop Lane will open especially for the Wheeling children, according to chairman Lonnie Schnaitmann.

"I thought, what must be going through those kids' minds when their

friends are talking about seeing Santa Claus?" she said.

Just like other children who visit Lollipop Lane, the kindergartners will receive a coloring book and rings along with a seat on Santa's lap, Schnaitmann said.

"It's a cultural experience. If they're going to live in this country they need to experience our culture," Burke said.

We can't distribute flyers ??

Christmas fliers get grounded

by C.L. Waller

Herald staff writer

Fliers promoting local Christmas activities for children will not be passed out at all the schools in Wheeling Township Elementary District 21 this year because the practice offended some Jewish parents.

Superintendent John Barger said some Jewish parents called the district offices to complain after fliers were sent home with students inviting them to a Wheeling Park District "brunch with Santa."

Although Barger said he hasn't had "an enormous number" of phone calls, there were enough to temporarily halt distribution of additional fliers being circulated separately through the schools by the Wheeling Jaycees, the Wheeling Historical Society and the Wheeling Park District.

"We pretty much pass park district fliers along no matter what," he said. "I attempt to see there's no undue pressure put on the children."

The practice is a community service that had been left up to Barger, but school board member Helene Kahn said it may be time to create guidelines.

"I REALLY feel bad for Dr. Barger, because he's kind of like the Scrooge about this," Kahn said.

Distribution has been stopped on 1,800 Wheeling Jaycees fliers inviting children to write Santa.

Jaycee president Mark Santy said he still hopes fliers can be handed out in schools on the east side of the district where there are fewer Jewish children and school officials can simply announce the fliers are available in schools on the west side.

But, for the first time in 14 years, students won't receive fliers about Santa and the popular Lollipop Lane at Wheeling's Chamber of Commerce Park, said Lollipop Lane chairman Lonnie Schnaitmann.

Superintendent to monitor flyers

by C. L. Waller

Herald staff writer

4/19/87
Distribution of flyers to students in Wheeling Township Elementary School District 21 will be left to the superintendent's discretion, school officials have decided.

Superintendent John S. Barger traditionally has decided which flyers he will allow distributed in the schools, and school board members say they don't want to change the policy.

Some parents complained to the school late last year that the Wheeling Jaycees and Wheeling Historical Society were distributing flyers

about upcoming Christmas activities.

Barger said that basically not-for-profit groups are the only ones allowed to distribute flyers to children. Park districts, scout groups, the Northwest Suburban Jewish Community Center, camping organizations and the YMCA are among groups considered not-for-profit, he said.

Barger added that he asks organizations not to send flyers that try to "hook" children, but rather inform parents a particular activity is available.

Sometimes flyers are distributed to all students.

Herald wrong about Santa flyers

by Ralph S. Barger

Community Consolidated School District 21 has a policy JKA which includes the following: "Sale of tickets and the distribution of advertising or flyers for other than school activities shall not be carried on without the approval of the Superintendent of Schools." As part of the policy implementation procedure flyers advertising any community activity routinely come to my office for approval before being distributed to students.

On Dec. 17, the Daily Herald published a story headlined "Christmas fliers get grounded."

Ten days prior to the date the article ran, the Herald reporter called me and asked if there was a controversy regarding distribution of holiday activity flyers. She specifically raised the issue of the Santa Claus program flyers by the Wheeling Jaycees, the Wheeling Historical Society and the Wheeling Park District.

My response was that I assumed I would be meeting with representatives of those groups, as I normally do with any group that proposes distributing fly-

John S. Barger is superintendent of Community Consolidated School District 21 in Wheeling.

Guest view

ers through the schools, and did not anticipate any real problems.

When asked if I had received any calls regarding the flyers, I said "I had received a few." At no time did I indicate from whom they came. Since I accept all calls to my office and respond only to legitimate issues anyway, I see no reason to ever determine the religious belief of the caller.

When the reporter indicated she was looking for a story, I told her I believed no controversy existed; furthermore, I suggested that a story might well create a controversy where none previously existed. I told her I would have no part of creating an issue and would not answer any more questions on the topic.

I suggested to her that the holiday issue was a sensitive one in the community, and District 21 works toward bringing the many segments of the community together as a harmonious unit, rather than emphasizing minor differences that could cause dissension among the groups. I suggested the Herald had a responsibility to do likewise.

During the week I met with representatives of the above groups. We agreed on the flyers and how they were to be dis-

tributed through the schools in Wheeling.

Since the Herald's erroneous inflammatory article appeared, I have received many calls from concerned citizens. In 9 of 10 cases these callers supported the process used by the district as well as the decisions made. Many were concerned that some pressure group was causing decisions to be made differently as the Herald suggested. I would like to reassure those who are concerned that no small pressure group is working on me.

We will continue to work with the many community groups to provide the maximum opportunities for our children. Parents of children in our schools know that many public information flyers, including those in question, were distributed through the schools. We have no plans to change this procedure. On the other hand, we will continue to not permit children to be solicited directly, or have children pressured to make decisions which should be made by their parents.

We in the District 21 community are fortunate to have citizens representing a broad spectrum of cultures, religious, ethnic and socio-economic backgrounds. This provides a unique opportunity to broaden our perspective and to learn more about one another. I hope we continue to see this as opportunity rather than a threat.



Wheeling Historical Society

NEWSLETTER



THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER -

I hope each and every one of you had a very happy holiday season. Lollipop Lane was very successful, due to

Lonnie and our other members who gave up their free time to help out. We had 1,800 kids come to visit Santa and Mrs. Claus. Cookie sales were good and we were able to sell a few more cook books. Lonnie did a great job of soliciting donations to help pay for Lollipop Lane. I would like to give a special thanks to Bob and Eleanor Buerger for devoting so much time to Lollipop Lane. They helped set it up, worked there every night, and then helped Lonnie and me take down all the decorations.

At its December meeting the Board voted to authorize the purchase of four new Christmas trees and other decorations for Lollipop Lane. These were bought at a great saving just after Christmas.

Tony and Sandy Altieri did a fine job of setting up the Christmas exhibit at the Museum and many visitors had the opportunity to visit it from Lollipop Lane. Adrienne Broda deserves special thanks for the fine job she did as chairman of the Was-sail Bowl. Her party pizzas were a real hit!

Now that we are entering 1987, I hope that more of our members will decide to take an active interest in the Society's projects. With the number of members we have, it shouldn't be necessary for the same people always to have to do all the work. Let's all chip in to get the job done.

Next meeting of the Society will be on January 28, with refreshments by Sandy Altieri and Barb McIntyre.

Historically Yours,
Frank Schnaitmann.

THE CURATOR SAYS:

Members and friends of the Society have made many donations to the Museum since our last report:



ARTIFACTS--From Marshall Balling, his report card from Wheeling School dated 1915; from Loretta LaForge, 16 early Wheeling post cards; and from Sheila Schultz, an ornate shaving brush brought from Germany in 1917.

FINANCIAL--From Evangers Dog & Cat Food Co., a contribution of \$100.

LOANED FOR CHRISTMAS EXHIBIT--From Lorraine and Virginia Haben, doll buggy, basinette, doll, doll dishes, and Three Kings set; from Eleanor Buerger, antique Christmas ornaments.

OLD WHEELING PHOTOS--To be copied and returned, loaned by: Rudy Horcher, Oscar Laurance, Anna Bakker, Jennie Iverson and Winnie Bos.



VOLUNTEER HELP WANTED
Wheeling Historical Museum
Tuesdays and Thursdays
10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Call Tony Altieri at 537-5110



THANK YOU to those who helped with the Christmas Exhibit: Marshall Balling, Betty Barrie, Bob and Eleanor Buerger, Lorraine Haben, Virginia Haben and Barb McIntyre. And to our Special Exhibitors: Shirley Bertrand and Don Pielin.

We appreciate all of your contributions. Because of the great success of this exhibit, we are extending it to the end of January. So if you haven't seen it yet, you
(Continued on next page)

THE CURATOR SAYS (Continued)
still have a few weeks to stop by
the Museum.

A very special thank you to Betty Barrie and Gertrude Century, who come into the Museum every Tuesday to volunteer their help. Gertrude is our typist, and Betty is working on the Who's Who (tracing genealogies of early Wheeling families.)

OUR NEXT EXHIBIT will be on Palwaukee airport. It will run in the spring with the opening tentatively scheduled for the middle of February. Watch your mail for an invitation to the opening.

Tony Altieri, Curator

NEW MEMBERS -

Please welcome the following new members and add them to your membership list:

Winnie Holtrop Bos, 19 W. 781 Fullerton, Addison IL 60101 (543-9247)

Don and Arlene Malin, 124 Laurel Ct., Wheeling (541-5816)

Henrietta Bakker Swierenga, 1416 S. Meyer Rd., Lombard, IL 60148

Skip Tubbs, 509 E. Manchester, Apt. E., Wheeling (541-3709)



OOPS! - WE GOOFED!

Our apologies to Marion Cargill, whose museum contribution list was cut short due to an error in the Nov./Dec. issue. It should have expressed thanks to Marion Cargill, Wheeling, for "assorted

items from Wheeling State Bank, Fire Dept. and an original photograph of the Union Hotel, 1921."

BOOK REPORT

"Wheeling Through the Years" came through on schedule. The events of 1986 close this volume and the manuscript was completed by the end of the year. We are now sweeping up housekeeping details such as the appendix, preface, table of contents, and a final proofreading. We are aiming for a few clean, bound copies to turn over as tools for the Finance and Marketing Committee. Then our baby will become their baby to determine price, funding, and marketing. Ed.



MERLE WILLIS 1899-1987

Funeral services for Merle Willis, first President of the Wheeling Historical Society, were held at the Community Presbyterian Church on Friday, Jan. 16, and burial was in Wheeling Cemetery. His wife, the late Hazel Utpadel Willis, was our first Curator. Both were elected at the organization meeting of the Society on Aug. 25, 1965.

CALENDAR

Jan. 24, 1-4 p.m. Collector's Showcase, Hendrickson Room, Arlington Heights Library

28, 7:30 p.m. Wheeling Historical Society meeting in Community Church, Chamber Park.

Feb. 5, 7:30 p.m. Program: "Illinois' Part in the Civil War," Skokie Historical Society, corner of Flora and Oakton.

28, 8 p.m. Wheeling Volunteer Fire Dept. 90th Annual Sweetheart Ball, Chevy Chase Country Club.

PERSONALS



Aside from the 90% of our membership who have been suffering from some flu virus or another, five that we know of have been hospitalized with other ailments: Marshall Balling, Virginia Haben, June Orlovski, Don Paisley and Alice Wargo. We wish them well.

Thanks to Lorraine Haben for making the closed Childerley/Lark Chapel come alive with two sprays of evergreens with big, red bows at the entrance.

Our sympathy to Sam Dattilo, who lost his brother, Gus, on Jan. 9.

NOW YOU TELL US!

This new column is born of the heartbreak when we hear stories that would have been perfect for the book, but are too late. It is open for more items you think we'd wish we had earlier. This one is a belated arrival from Syke Horcher.

"You already have mentioned shiva-rees as part of some wedding celebrations. Another event that would take place from time to time was the kidnapping of the bride. When the groom's attention was diverted, the bride would be spirited away from the reception and the groom had to find her and come up with a ransom of sorts--which was then spent on beer and snacks or what-have-you.

"When Arlene Grandt was married, she was taken away from the reception in a police car. But instead of someone's home or another night club, she was taken to the police station and confined in a cell. Up to this point it was all fun and games, with the bride's cooperation.

"However, it seems that the key got lost. Furthermore, the bridegroom was totally unaware that such shenanigans could take place at a small-town wedding. He was, to say the least, not very amused. Yet,



Next Meeting 7:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Jan. 28

true to form, he paid a modest ransom which went into the coffee fund at the police station--which not only provided coffee, but also was a resource for hand-outs when people were down and out or there was an emergency need.

"Arlene has since remarried, but when we reminisced she filled me in on more details and conspiracies than even I was aware of. Her name is now Arlene Jacobson. Address and phone numbers are: 7300 W. 15th Ave., Gary, Ind. 46406, 1-219--923-3262. . . .And one of the conspirators in the above kidnapping was our Fire Chief, Bernhardt Koeppen."

THIS OLD HOUSE

We hear that the Lindquist Building at 34 N. Milwaukee Ave. is next to be demolished to make room for the Crossroads project. Thanks to the memories of Ethel Wieder, Elsie Hiller and June Stewart, we have been able to trace its origin back to around 1926, when it was built by the Utpadels. In the 1930s it housed the Williams Meat Market which also carried some groceries. Living quarters were on the north side which extends out toward the street and the market was on the south side.

In 1967 it was rented to Marge Wiercioch, publisher of the Reminder newspapers. At that time the building still had a porch. In 1976 the business was sold to Hope Krieger, who published the Wheeling Independent. We understand that the most recent owner, Ivan J. Lindquist, has purchased another original Utpadel family home at Dundee and First St. and will move his business there.



LOLLIPOP LANE - 1986

1800 children visited Santa and Mrs. Claus this year. We sold 158 tins of cookies, 34 cook books and 6 packs of historical note paper. We received \$17.25 in donations from parents. Income and expenses for Lollipop Lane are broken down as follows:

Income:

| | |
|--|-----------|
| 158 tins of cookies @ \$2.25 | \$ 355.50 |
| 34 cook books @ \$2.00 | 68.00 |
| Donations | 17.25 |
| 6 packs historical note paper @ \$3.00 | 18.00 |
| Total | \$ 458.75 |

Expenditures:

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|
| Miscellaneous, such as napkins, etc. | \$ 26.29 |
| Stamps | 25.00 |
| Table cloths | 14.00 |
| Flat bed misc. (for sleigh) | 17.03 |
| Wig and beard | 135.00 |
| Bob McIntyre, stamps & envelopes | 17.00 |
| Wrap | 13.00 |
| Hot chocolate | 1.83 |
| Multi Color Lites | 19.14 |
| 3 aprons | 18.00 |
| Rings | 9.50 |
| Total | \$ 295.79 |

\$200.00 was approved for gifts to the residents of the Villa. We actually used \$194.00 and \$6.00 is being returned to the Society. Christmas cards were donated by Eleanor Buerger and Lorraine Haben, so we did not need money to purchase cards for the Villa. If any members have left over cards and would like to donate them for next year, we would appreciate them. Ekco Products donated 500 pie tins, used to pack cookies.

Money Donations:

| | |
|------------------------|-----------|
| Chamber of Commerce | \$ 75.00 |
| Hein's/Hatfield's | 25.00 |
| Hoyne Savings & Loan | 50.00 |
| MFC Mortgage | 50.00 |
| Original Granny's | 25.00 |
| Striker Lanes | 25.00 |
| Tim O'Neill | 25.00 |
| Wheeling Park District | 100.00 |
| Total | \$ 375.00 |

Respectfully submitted,

Lonnie Schnaitmann

Book
almost
complete!!

12/25/86

Lisa Schab

Wheeling



Wheeling history book debuts in the New Year

The typewriters keep clacking and the copy keeps coming. The Wheeling Historical Society is happily in the last phases of its current project, the book "Wheeling Through the Ages." At last word, Chapter VI, which includes Restaurant Row, Prohibition, the Depression, and World War II, was completed and sent to the interviewees for their rejection or approval.

Chapter VII is in the home stretch, on Suburbanization, and then the Chronology. Writers and editors have been working hard for quite some time on this book. Its publication will be something to look forward to in the new year.

Wheeling moves forward on airport, TIF, schools

WHEELING — The village had a generally upbeat year in 1986 as it moved ahead with plans to renovate the Milwaukee Avenue corridor and rushed to complete purchase of Pal-Waukee Airport.

Sportmart store and another major establishment.

The center will also include about 30 smaller stores and a third larger one that will be about 10,000 square-feet in size.

Vantage is receiving financial help from the village because the shopping center is a major portion of the village's tax increment financing district. To pay for the village's portion of the redevelopment, the village has issued bonds that will be paid off through TIF, which involves freezing the amount of property taxes taxing bodies will

YEAR IN REVIEW

The Village Board chose Vantage Companies earlier in the year to develop a new shopping center on the northwest corner of Dundee Road and Milwaukee Avenue. Plans call for the shopping center to be anchored by the existing

Please turn to page 3

Wheeling moves forward on airport

Continued from page 1

collect from the area for a maximum of 23 years. Increases in taxes, due to the increase in the assessed valuation, will go to pay off the bonds.

Part of the TIF district also includes Arbor Court Apartments, formerly known as Wildwood, which is being renovated and upgraded, again with the village's financial help.

The purchase of Pal-Waukee, which has been years in the making, appeared to be near at hand as the village and city of Prospect Heights voted to jointly buy the facility for a minimum of \$22 million.

Village officials predicted that the purchase would be made by Dec. 31 so Priester Aviation, owner of the airport, could take advan-

tage of tax breaks that will be sharply curtailed in 1987 under revised federal income tax laws.

This was also the year when the village could see the beneficial effects of flood control measures it has been taking. Floodwaters that devastated surrounding areas this fall, largely left Wheeling untouched. It was a triumph of no small proportions.

There was also good news in 1986 for School District 214. The School Board in February appointed Stephen Berry its new superintendent and made a settlement with former superintendent D. Louis Christensen.

Berry, who had been named acting superintendent after the School Board removed Christensen from office, has won praise for his performance from teachers and School

Board alike.

The highlight of District 21's year was the announcement of the impending retirement next June of Supt. John Barger and the selection of the district's Business Manager Bud DesCarpentrie to replace him.

The Park District had a tumultuous year that included the sudden resignation of Supt. Dave Phillips. Phillips resigned suddenly at a Sunday Board meeting in April that was closed to the public. His resignation has never been explained.

The Park Board also faced problems with its Capital Needs Reassessment Citizens Advisory Committee when the chairman, Ed Main, and secretary, Linda Noe, resigned in May. Both Main and Noe criticized the way the Park District was functioning. There was more trouble later in the year when

Park Commissioner Donald Lark introduced a resolution to dissolve the Park District's 11-year affiliation with the Wheeling Historical Society.

Lark cited the numerous disagreements between the society and district as the reason for his action, which, however, he has not pursued.

On the positive side, the Park District's Reassessment Committee under a new chairman amicably finished its report and made recommendations on which park facilities should be improved.

And in October, the Park Board moved forward by selecting a new superintendent, Karop Bavougian, former superintendent of the Hazel Crest Park District.

Boy Scout Troop visits museum



Marshall Balling and Betty Barrie
conduct guided tours

Who will be Citizen of the Year?

1/15/87

BY RUTH BOHAN
Staff Writer

And the winner is...
Soon enough the envelopes will be opened and their contents revealed. But at the moment, a panel of judges are reviewing the qualifications of the 1986 Life Newspapers Citizens of the Month and will choose a Citizen of the Year and runner-up within a few weeks.

At a spring luncheon, trophies will be awarded to the winners and runners-up in each of the Pulitzer-Lerner Community Newspapers six newspaper groups.

Candidates for the Citizen of the Year for 1986 from the far North group are:

February: **ROBERT RICHTER** of Northbrook, who won the annual Hall of Fame award from the Northbrook Park District for his "outstanding contributions as a swimming official and as a starter/referee for the Northbrook District's dual and conference swim meets," has been volunteering his time with the district ever since he and his family moved to Northbrook 13 years ago. In addition, he promotes swimming as a sport that teaches discipline.

March: **ALICE BLITSTEIN** of Northbrook has had her volunteer efforts on behalf of special education students acknowledged by two groups. The District 225 Board of Education honored her for her contributions to the high schools' special education programs and for helping establish the Special Education

Parents Advisory Board.

April: **SANDY ALTIERI**, Wheeling, feels it is important to preserve the history of towns and villages. She has watched her village grow to a bustling community in the 23 years she has lived there and spent countless hours at the village's Historical Society museum preparing exhibits, conducting tours, engaging in research and editing the society's newsletter.

May: **GAY MEIER**, Glenview, whose daughter, Michelle, died of Cystic fibrosis at the age of 12, has honored the girl's memory by devoting her energies to raising money for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation with a memorial run. During the first four years of the event, the Michelle Meier Memorial Run has raised more than \$20,000 for the foundation. Her job has been to coordinate the local race, chart a course, recruit entrants and publicize the event.

June: **PAT TAYLOR**, Northbrook, director of the North Shore Senior Center in Winnetka, devotes not only her working hours to the needs of seniors but most of her spare time as well. She serves as president of the Illinois Chapter of the Older Women's League, is an advisor to the Northbrook Senior Housing Commission and was recently appointed to the Governor's Guardianship and Advocacy Commission for the State of Illinois. In 1981 she was elected delegate to the White House Conference on Aging.

July: **CECIL SACHER**, North-

brook, retired from teaching in 1976, only to find herself turning to what she knew best and volunteering to tutor students from the St. Gregory's Anglican Choir School in Chicago. In addition, Sacher serves as chairwomen of Am Shalom congregation's "We Care" committee which visits hospitalized or homebound congregation members, prepares meals for families in need and makes regular phone calls to congregants who live alone.

August: **PAT AND BILL MARSHALL**, Northbrook, are a husband and wife team enthusiastically sharing their love and knowledge of scuba diving with elementary and junior high students in Northbrook. Through the Volunteer Pool, they present a 45 minute slide show, answer the children's questions and demonstrate the equipment. Pat has also donated volunteer time to the Hospice of Highland Park and is a volunteer coach for the Northbrook Speed Skating Club. Bill is a former Little League coach.

September: **ERNEST KING**, Deerfield, does volunteer work in two very different areas: the art world and the children's world. As a crossing guard, the retired art director safely shepherds children across a busy intersection three times a day. He also does art work for the Deerfield Historical Society with projects ranging from designing a float for Deerfield Family Day to calligraphy to creating award-winning illustrations of the five buildings in the Historic

Village.

October: **ENID WENIG**, Deerfield, spends at least 20 hours a week on volunteer work with the Jewish Federation, a commitment she never dreamed of when she first joined a discussion group for couples sponsored by the Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Chicago. She recently won a leadership award in recognition of her work with the Young Women's Board, for which she has served as vice president and president.

November: **MARIAN LITTEKEN**, Deerfield, founded a support group for the visually impaired, which she calls Lights. Although she is classified as legally blind, Litteken works continually to provide assistance and emotional support to those afflicted with visual problems. Litteken has also been writing stories about those with limited vision. One book currently is being reviewed by a publisher. Litteken is a former president of Deerfield Homemakers.

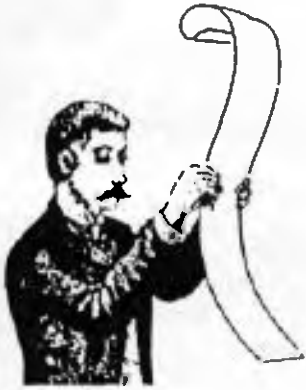
December: **MARY BELL GILLUM**, Glenview, is one of the stalwarts at the North Shore Senior Center, presenting programs on a variety of subjects, baking bran muffins to both eat and sell for the center's benefit, and providing the center with produce from her garden. She has also worked with the Youth Group at her church, escorting the young people around the Midwest to paint churches and cooking for them while they traveled.

P.O. Box 3
Wheeling IL 60090
Museum phone: 537-3119

Vol. 1, No. 8 Feb. 1987
Editor: Barb McIntyre
Phone: 537-3497



Wheeling Historical Society
NEWSLETTER



THE PRESIDENT'S
LETTER -

Dear Members:

By now I'm sure you have received your invitation to our annual Potluck Dinner and Auction. I hope you have all given your R.S.V.P. The Pot-luck Dinner is being catered and it is extremely important that we know the exact number of people that will be attending. I really hope that we will have a large turnout.

At our January meeting, Dolly Hein, Barb Rasmussen and Ed Main volunteered to be on the Finance Committee for our book, "Wheeling Through the Years." Barb Forke, Ed Main, Bob Buerger and Al Feinberg volunteered to serve on a Bicentennial Committee which is being initiated by the Village of Wheeling. I want to thank these members for volunteering to participate in these activities, and I hope that all our members will volunteer for various projects throughout the coming year.

Willie Franta and Betty Barrie volunteered to chair the Potluck Dinner. Bob Buerger has been appointed auctioneer for the Auction, and Sam Dattilo has agreed to help.

Frank Schnaitmann

THE CURATOR SAYS:

EXHIBITS

We have moved our Pal-Waukee Airport exhibit up to March. In the meantime, our Valentine exhibit is now in progress. It will run through March 1. We have on display 80 Valentines which were given Miss Adele Richman in the late 20s by her students at Wheeling School. She began teaching at Wheeling School in 1925, the year the school, now named Walt Whitman, was built. We also have a Valentine loaned by Marshall Balling, which was given to his second cousin, Miss Sauer of Long Grove, in 1900. Also on display are Valentines from 1920 which were donated to the Historical Museum by Barb McIntyre. Make it a point to stop by the museum to see this lovely exhibit. Many thanks to Betty, Marshall and Barb. The Museum is open Sundays from 1 to 5 p.m. and Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 to 1 p.m. Volunteers are always welcome.

MUSEUM VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

| | | |
|---------|---|-----------------------|
| Feb. 22 | - | Betty Barrie |
| Mar. 1 | - | McIntyres |
| 8 | - | Feinbergs or Altieris |
| 15 | - | Feinbergs or Altieris |
| 22 | - | Buergers |
| 29 | - | Dattilos |

Exhibits (continued)

Our Pal-Waukee Exhibit will begin in March and continue through April. The opening is tentatively scheduled for sometime over the March 7-8 weekend. We will let you know as soon as possible.

On January 12 we were visited by Cub Scout Pack 247, Den 3, from Field School. Eight or ten Scouts came with their leader, Sue Gallagher, to see the Museum exhibits. Marshall Balling showed them around and told them stories of old Wheeling, while Betty Barrie demonstrated the old switchboard and gave a talk on the early telephone system in Wheeling. Many thanks to Betty and Marshall who are always willing to give tours, and do a beautiful job, I might add.



RECENT MUSEUM ACQUISITIONS

Donations:

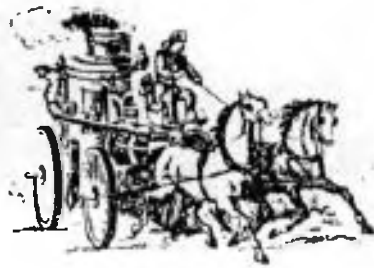
Selmar Lietzau, Aptakisic--Milk can name plate which reads "Wm. Hutfilz, Wheeling."

Bob Buerger, Wheeling--1949 photo of Wheeling's Cardinals softball team.

Don Pielin, Wheeling--Three pair of goggles worn by WW II soldiers.

On Loan:

Skip Tubbs, Wheeling--Milk can name plate which reads "H. Boehmer, Wheeling."



THE FIREMAN'S BALL

In the Wheeling Independent of Mar. 10, 1960, Joan Heuer told of the Volunteer Fire Department in 1897.

"Then, as now, the Fire Department held an annual affair. However, instead of a dance, the big day was a Fourth of July Picnic . . . The purchase of floor wax in 1903 indicates that there was dancing at this open-air wingding. The bill for four musicians adds to the evidence." We know from Adeline Schneider that the picnics and dancing were held at Brown's Grove on South Milwaukee Ave.

In the Wheeling Independent of Dec. 26, 1956, an article tells of the 60th Annual Fireman's Benefit Dance to be held Jan. 19, 1957, in the Wheeling School gymnasium with sandwiches, refreshments and door prizes. Music was by Art Paul and his SophistiCats. Donation was \$1.00 per ticket.

On Feb. 28, 1987, the Wheeling Firemen will present their 90th annual dance at Chevy Chase Country Club. There will be two live bands which will start playing at 8 p.m. Tickets at \$4.00 each include a chance for a door prize. As members of the Wheeling Historical Society, it would seem fitting and fun to attend as a body and support this historical event. Let's try for a couple of tables. (Please call the Ed. at 537-3497 if you are interested.)

NOW THEY TELL US!

We continue to find stories of Old Wheeling that we wish had turned up in time to be used in the history book.



Going over some documents in the Museum recently, we came upon a handwritten letter for the Wheeling Historical Society in care of Mildred Utpadel. It was from Ervin Redlinger of Oak Park and dated Oct. 23, 1968. The former Redlinger farm is now the Wheeling Sale Barn complex and the farmhouse is the Gazebo restaurant.

"Dear Friend:

In regard to the early life of Wheeling, I will start with the mail carrier. This man, a Civil War veteran, returned from the war in the fall and worked for my father, husking corn. Guess for what? Six cents a day and board--unbelievable! The country was poor, so were the settlers.

"This man, by the name of Glousie, was appointed mail carrier and also was a shoemaker by trade. His daily travel was to walk carrying the mail sack to Wheeling Depot then returning with mail in a sack for the town of Wheeling. He also walked a mile each to Sanders Road, then north to a grocery store owned by Bubert, who operated the Post Office known as North Northfield. This was his daily route, rain or shine.

"Wheeling had two doctors, Dr. Moffit and Dr. Rice, two blacksmith shops, William Metz and Riswick, a wagon maker, Louis Fischer, a hardware store by Fassbender and Arnold established 1880, a brewery owned and operated by Periolat, and a milk and cheese factory built by Henry Boehmer and operated by him for many years. Christ Stryker owned a covered wagon and traveled the countryside selling groceries

and meat from the wagon. Wheeling had a veterinarian, Dr. Schneider, a harnessmaker, Reinhold Schneider who also repaired bicycles when bicycles became the mode of travel. Huntzinger owned a grocery store and sold it to John Schminke. The red brick building, a landmark in Wheeling, was also a grocery store owned by Sigwalt and later operated by Bollenbach and finally by Ed Welflin.

"Mr. Mors owned a tavern and roominghouse and also was a dealer in horses. The Methodists established a church for a number of years and when they closed the doors the building was purchased by Boehm, who owned the Union Hotel, and this building was used for a dance hall for many years.

"Milwaukee Ave. was just a graded street through town with ditches on either side. Wheeling had no water or sewer system. The village officials finally decided to purchase a water pump for fire protection for the residents of Wheeling. This pump was mounted on four wheels and was pulled about by hand. However, it required six men to operate, three on either side. Wheeling was fortunate, no fire or threat of fire for many years. In order to test this pump, the village built a four-walled makeshift house north of the cemetery and set fire to this building. Where they got the water, I do not know. I was not that fortunate to see this building burn. On a special occasion I saw six men parading on Milwaukee Ave. through town, two pulling this pump, the other men walking on

either side. I knew all six men at that time. One I remember, his name was Kaiser who owned and operated the meat market building for many years. The village was not without a Marshall, this office was held by Henry Hipp.

At one time the gossip I heard in town was this fact, that Jacob Schwingel, a resident of Wheeling, was the only registered Democrat voter in town. One fall the men gathered in town to stage a parade for President of the United States. Every parader was given a kerosene torch with wood handle attached, about the length of an ordinary broom handle, a cap and a red cape worn over the shoulders. This flaming torch was carried by the men, slightly above their heads, a great sight as they paraded through town.

"I forgot to mention the cold storage industry operated by Balling, which was established in the later years. Also in the early years of Wheeling, Welflins operated a tavern for many years until Mr. Welflin retired. I hope some family saved the kerosene torch, cap and red cape which would be a great antique gift for your Society. I saved the one we had for many years and never had occasion to use it. I left it on the farm when we moved from the farm 18 years ago. This is the way I saw Wheeling in the early days. Your friend, Ervin."

BOOK REPORT

The last of its 240 pages have been set in type, and "Wheeling Through the Years" is almost ready to go to the printer. Meanwhile we are putting together a few sample copies, with pages printed by copy machine, for the guidance of our Finance Committee.



Airport Exhibit
March-April

PERSONALS

We are sorry to report that Vern Staples passed away Feb. 10 after a long illness. He was noted for his work with the Boy Scouts, serving as Scouting Coordinator for the Wheeling Presbyterian Church, Eagles Coordinator for the North Star District, B.S.A. and for starting a handicapped program in this area.

Because of her unstinting volunteer work at our Historical Museum, Sandy Altieri was named Lerner Life Newspaper's Citizen of the Month last April. She is therefore a nominee for Citizen of the Year in the contest this spring. Belated congratulations!

Frank Schnaitmann had a brief visit in Lutheran General Hospital early this month. It was an historic event because it was his first experience as a hospital patient since his birth at St. Francis Hospital some years ago.

Bob McIntyre has been invited to judge historical papers presented by high school students for the Chicago Metro History Fair on Mar. 20 at Oakton College.

Their tasks are to obtain a sponsor to finance the first printing, to determine the sales price of the book, and to explore the possibility of its use in the schools. Members of the Committee are Ed Main, Chairman, Nick Fanella, Dolly Hein and Barbara Rasmussen. We look forward to working with them.
The Editors

Valentine cards of the late 1920s on display

2/12/87

Every once in a while you pull out that old scrapbook and look back on the letters and ticket stubs and cards received in days gone by. This month, Adele Richman is sharing some of her scrapbook with the citizens of Wheeling as she lets her Valentines be displayed at the Wheeling Historical Museum.

Lisa Schab

Wheeling



Richman is sharing cards received from her students at Wheeling School in the late 1920's. The exhibit will be available for viewing during regular museum hours: 1 to 5 p.m. Sunday, 10 to 1 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays, now through March 1. The Wheeling Historical Museum is located at Chamber Park, 251 N. Wolf Road, in Wheeling.

For more information, call the museum at 537-3119 during business hours, or 537-5110 anytime.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

'20s Valentines on display

2/13/87

Valentines received in the 1920s by Miss Adele Richman, former teacher at Wheeling school, will be on display at the Wheeling historical museum through March 1. Richman received the valentines from her students at that time. The exhibit at Chamber Park, 251 N. Wolf Road, is sponsored by the Wheeling Historical Society. The museum is open from 1 to 5 p.m. on

VALENTINES OF YESTERYEAR. Valentines received by Adele Richman, teacher at Wheeling School, from her students in the late 20s are now on display at the Wheeling Historical Museum, Chamber Park, 251 N. Wolf Rd. The valentine exhibit will run through March 1. For more information, call the museum at 537-3119 during business hours or 537-5110 anytime. The exhibit is sponsored by the Wheeling Historical Society.

Valentines from '20s on display

2/14/87

Valentines received in the 1920s by Adele Richman, former teacher at Wheeling school, will be on display at the Wheeling historical museum through March 1. Richman received the valentines from her students at that time. The exhibit at Chamber Park, 251 N. Wolf Road, is sponsored by the Wheeling Historical Society. The museum is open from 1 to 5 p.m. on Sundays and from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Valentine Exhibit - February





NEIGHBORS

Be my Valentine

Valentine's Day conjures up images from yesteryear among the old and the very young. At the Wheeling Historical Museum this week, residents can take a look back at what Valentine cards were like as far back as 1900. The cards feature artwork and intricate designs that have long since been passed over for glossy reproductions that can be cranked out by the thousands. The display is open to the public all week. For more information call 537-3119.

Staff photos by Kathy Tray



This messenger bearing a Valentine's greeting is one of the 1920s-era cards on display at the Wheeling Historical Museum this week.



'Happy Valentine's Day' — circa 1920.



Long-time Wheeling resident Bettie Barrie displays a Valentine she gave her teacher in 1927. In the background is a photo of Barrie's class at the old Wheeling School.



This three-dimensional card is more than 80 years old.

No 08839

Name _____
Address _____
Phone _____

Wheeling Firemen Present
90th ANNUAL
SWEETHEART'S BALL

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 28th, 1987

At CHEVY CHASE COUNTRY CLUB
(North of Wheeling)

2 Live Bands

Dan Hayes Orchestra and
Haymarket Riot

1st Prize \$500.00 TREASURY BOND

REFRESHMENTS - 8:00 P.M. TILL 1:00 A.M.

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Society Table at
Sweetheart's Ball - Feb. 28



Schnaitmann's & Matt Immitter



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Margaret & Barb Forke



McIntyre's

Pot luck dinner - February meeting





Parks to use museum tax for museums 2/20/87

The Wheeling Park District has agreed to stop using some of the museum tax it collects to pay for utilities at the Chamber Church Community Center.

Instead, the tax money will be used solely for upkeep of the village's four designated museums: the church and museum at Chamber of Commerce Park, the Lorraine Lark

Chapel library, and St. Joan's House at Childerley Park.

Wheeling Historical Society members opposed use of museum taxes for the church because a museum is defined as a building in which artifacts are preserved and shown. Preschool park programs are being held in the building and it is not used for

historical purposes, historical society member Robert L. McIntyre said.

He said that for at least the last two years, \$6,887 in museum tax revenue has been budgeted for heat and electric bills.

About \$95,000 is collected annually from the museum tax levy.

Wheeling Park Director Karop T.

Bavougian said the building will be supported with corporate and recreation funds in the 1987 budget now being drafted.

"We hope to use it as a museum in the future, but for now we need it to house programs," said park board President Anthony Abruscato. "There is no other space."

History society seeks funds to restore barn

BY C.L. WALLER
and LIZ RUSSELL
Daily Herald staff writers

The **Wheeling Historical Society** is hopeful that Wheeling park officials will give the group enough money to turn a barn into a carriage house, a barn that otherwise would have been demolished as part of the village's downtown redevelopment project.

The barn would be moved to Chamber of Commerce Park, 251 N. Wolf Rd. near the museum and the Church Community Center.

Historical Society member Robert L. McIntyre said within a week he plans to get permission from the Village of Wheeling to use the barn behind Doetsch and Associates, 268 E. Dundee Road.

The barn is currently used for storage by an antique dealer, but with its three sets of double doors it would be idea to store and display carriages, McIntyre said.

Horse-drawn carriages have been donated to the **historical society** for

display, but park commissioners and society members have been haggling over construction of a carriage house for two years.

The park district is the controlling body over the **historical society**.

Commissioner Julia Robberson and park board President Anthony Abruscato said the park board will consider the addition of a carriage house to the Chamber of Commerce Park property at 251 N. Wolf Road.

Robberson said the park board could not make a commitment to the project until preliminary cost figures were submitted by an architect.

The barn is located on a piece of property that is being redeveloped into a shopping center and would be torn down by the village if the society didn't take it, McIntyre said.

Obtaining the building depends on the sale or condemnation of the property, he said.

Estimated costs of moving and refurbishing the barn is unknown, although McIntyre said two years ago he estimated the costs at \$7,000.

Wheeling will mark Constitution's 200th

BY B.R. DONEY
Daily Herald correspondent

The village of Wheeling will celebrate the 200th anniversary of the signing of the United States Constitution this summer, with events leading up to a big celebration on Sept. 17, the actual signing day.

At least 10 local organizations have agreed to participate, said David R. Kowal, Wheeling administrative assistant and chairman of the bicentennial committee.

The newly-formed Wheeling Bicentennial Committee has big plans.

Among the events, the committee will try to get Wheeling named an official Bicentennial community, an honor bestowed by the National Commission on the Bicentennial of the United States Constitution.

"This is a long process," Kowal said, "and it could take up to a month and a half."

The main task will be getting as much support for the group as possible.

Earlier this month, Kowal sent out 22 letters seeking support from some of Wheeling's local organizations.

Ten groups responded favorably.

They are the **Wheeling Historical Society**, the Indian Trails Public Library District, Wheeling High School, the Wheeling Jaycees, Wheeling Township Elementary District 21, the Wheeling Rotary Club, Amvets Post 66, Naval Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps, the Wheeling Masonic Lodge and the Wheeling Area Chamber of Commerce.

Each organization will supply at least one representative to the committee who will help plan the celebration.

Suggested ideas include involvement in this summer's Familyfest and taking part in Wheeling's Fourth of July parade.

Other events will take place in September, the actual anniversary of the Constitution's signing.

"We have a lot of plans," Kowal said, "but nothing is carved in stone. To pull this off, we are going to need some good support. I've tried to get as broad a base as possible. Success of this group, and its plans, depends on all the facets of our community getting involved."



Photo by Tim Boyle

Lorraine Haben looks at an antique doll and carriage on display at the Wheeling Historical Museum in Chamber Park while Betty Barrie demonstrates the use of an old telephone switchboard also on display. The two exhibits are two of many at the museum, which is lovingly maintained by the Wheeling Historical Society.

2/26/87

Society brings back the past

BY MARIE LUTZ
Staff Writer

Wheeling Historical Society volunteers make local history live.

They do it through their members, often repositories of colorful memories; their activities, such as the pending publication of an oral history of the village; and the facilities they operate, including the historical museum located in Chamber Park.

The society, in existence since 1967, consists of 90 or so people, with maybe 25 of them active in the organization.

Among the membership is Betty Barrie, secretary of the group and a lifelong resident of Wheeling. Barrie, 68, served as Wheeling's chief telephone operator from 1937 to 1958. (Her mother, Edna Taylor, was an operator from 1926 to 1950.) Barrie demonstrates the use of the switchboard now on display at the Historical Museum and is available to present programs on the history of the telephone in Wheeling to school children and Scout groups.

The first switchboards required a caller to talk to the operator in order to place a call, said Barrie, who prepared the telephone exhibit for the Historical Museum. Also, she said, the telephone operator

Barn eyed for carriage display

WHEELING — The Historical Society is hoping to use an old barn to display horse-drawn carriages and perhaps antique autos at Chamber Park.

A carriage house is part of Historical Society plans to create an historic village at Chamber Park 251 N. Wolf Road. Currently at the park is the Historical Museum and old Community Church, built in 1865. Besides adding a carriage house to the park, the society would eventually like to add a house furnished in the period of

the 1890s.

The barn the society is eyeing for a carriage house is currently located on the north side of Dundee Road west of Milwaukee Ave. It is on a site slated to be redeveloped with a shopping center. Part of the shopping center plans involves having the village purchase and demolish structures on the site that are not to be incorporated into the new project.

Historical Society members are hoping that instead of demolish-

Please turn to page 3

once had charge of the fire alarm and the noon whistle and had to know where to reach the village's only policeman.

While Barrie's expertise is the telephone, Sam Dattilo, 74, knows all about antique cars. A member of the board of directors of the society and a member of the group since it started, Dattilo, who owns his own prize antique auto, has the contacts that enables him to provide other such vehicles for exhibits and parades.

Explaining why he is active in the Historical Society, Dattilo said, "I like these old things and old artifacts, and I like people. I like to be around people, and I like to help people out. I am civic minded."

Lorraine Haben, 63, who joined the society a year ago, has lived in the village all her life. Haben's father and grandfather before him owned a butcher shop on Milwaukee Avenue. Her father also served as Wheeling's mayor from 1935 to 1945.

Chairman of the Lark/Childerley Chappel, Haben said the Childerley property once belonged to her mother-in-law.

Also members of the society are Sandy and Tony Altieri, who joined three years ago. Sandy is an antique collector and her husband is a Civil War buff.

Tony, a Wheeling trustee, has been elected volunteer curator of the museum by society members.

Since the Historical Society started managing the Historical Museum about 1½ years ago (it was run by a Park District curator for a few years) the organization has attempted to revitalize the facility, which is open Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and Sunday from 1-5 p.m.

As part of its program, the group has a special exhibit every two or three months. A Valentine's exhibit, for instance, displays Valentine's Day cards given to Adele Richman in 1927, 1928 and 1929 by her pupils at the Wheeling School.

And on March 8 a special Palwaukee Airport exhibit will begin.

The museum is not the only project undertaken by the Historical Society. A new undertaking is getting plaques for the older building in town to inform people just how

Please turn to page 3

Society eyes barn

Continued from page 1

ing the barn after it is purchased, the village will donate the building or sell it to the society for a nominal sum.

The society then hopes to move the structure to Chamber Park.

Having a carriage house at the park would require Park Board approval.

Bob McIntyre, member of the Historical Society, said that Historical Society representatives and the Park District Board liaison committee held a meeting last week at which using the barn as a carriage house at Chamber Park was discussed.

"They have not 100 percent committed themselves to it, but it seems likely they will," McIntyre said.

The Historical Society has wanted to have a carriage house since Jack Thompson, owner of the Four Winds Farm on Lake-Cook Road near Sanders Road, donated several carriages. Currently Thompson is storing the carriages.

McIntyre said the barn could

house three to five carriages and maybe one antique car. He said a loft area could be used to store some of the carriages and thus permit a rotating display.

The barn is currently used for storage by an antiques dealer.

The past

Continued from page 1

old they are and what they were once used for.

Also, Bob and Barb McIntyre are currently writing an oral history of Wheeling that will include many pictures along with people's remembrances. The book will start with the first settler to the area in 1833.

Haben is one of those who helped with the book by tracing her family tree back through the years and finding pictures for the McIntyres to use.

It is people like Haben, people who have an enthusiasm for and interest in Wheeling history, who keep the Historical Society vibrant and alive.

Apology 4/16/87

I'd like to extend my sincere apologies to Barbara and Bob McIntyre of the Wheeling Historical Society, for an error printed in this column on Sunday, March 8. In that column I identified Barb Hansen as a spokesperson for the historical society and quoted her with regard to the Society's new book. This should have been Barb McIntyre, who, with her husband has put in untold hours of work on this project. Barb Hansen is the coordinator for the Senior Center Pavilion in Wheeling. My apologies to both women, and thanks to Lorraine Haben for pointing out the mistake to me.

I base my fashion taste on what doesn't itch. —Gilda Radner.

Wheeling's fame as a village of fine food and restaurants was confirmed March 12th when Jean Banchet and his Le Francais restaurant were featured on the national TV show, "The Rich and Famous - 1987 World's Best." Interior and exterior shots of the Wheeling restaurant were shown, and Mr. Banchet was seen as award winner in a chef's competition in Paris.

Historical Society puts finishing touch on book

3/8/87

Lisa Schab
Wheeling



The Wheeling Historical Society is happily putting the finishing touches on its book of the history of Wheeling, which has been in the works for the last couple of years.

"Happily" because the project is near completion, but unfortunately, while the book goes to press, interesting stories keep turning up which now are too late on the scene to be included in the publication. Records are being kept of these additional stories, according to Barb Hansen of Historical Society.

"If we've got it down in printed form," says Hansen, "even if it's not in the book, the next generation will at least have something."

A handwritten letter found in museum documents was written by Ervin Redlinger, whose farm sat on the site of what is now the Wheeling Sale Barn complex, and whose farmhouse is now The Gazebo Restaurant.

Among other things, he writes about the "old days" in Wheeling:

"I will start with the mail carrier. This man, a Civil War veteran, returned from the war in the fall and worked for my father, husking corn. Guess for what? Six cents a day and board — unbelievable!" (Minimum wage was obviously a little lower in those days.)

Redlinger also tells about the fire prevention program used in Wheeling at the time. This was a few years before smoke detectors hit the market.

"Milwaukee Avenue was just a graded street through town with ditches on either side. Wheeling had no water or sewer system. The village officials finally decided to purchase a water pump for fire protection for the residents of Wheeling. This pump was mounted on four wheels and was pulled about by hand. However, it required six men to operate, three on either side. Wheeling was fortunate, no fire or threat of fire for many years. In order to test this pump, the village built a four-walled makeshift house north of the cemetery and set fire to this

building. Where they got the water, I do not know. I was not that fortunate to see this building burn. On a special occasion I saw six men parading on Milwaukee Avenue through the town, two pulling this pump, the other men walking on either side."

As our Wheeling Fourth of July Committee shapes up its plans for this year's Independence Day parade, they might want to give some thought to parade entries of yesterday in Wheeling. Of course, bands and floats and pompon girls are fun, but how about kerosene torches? (Or wouldn't our modern day fire department like that idea very much?)

Redlinger writes:

"At one time the gossip I heard in town was that Jacob Schwingel, a resident of Wheeling, was the only registered Democrat voter in town. One fall the men gathered in town to stage a parade for the president of the United States. Every parader was given a kerosene torch with wood handle attached, about the length of a broom handle, and a cap and a red cape worn over the shoulders. This flaming torch was carried by the men, slightly above their heads, a great sight as they paraded through town..."

So, the times have changed slightly. This spring you should be able to get a hold of your own copy of "Wheeling Through the Years," the historical account of our village. For more information on this publication, contact Bob or Barb McIntyre at 537-3497.

"This is the coin of your life. It is the only coin you have, and only you can determine how it will be spent. Be careful lest you let other people spend it for you." (Carl Sandburg)

Society member hunts for coins

Collector's love of rare coins is easy to detect

BY SHERRY BOEMMEL 3/5/87
Daily Herald Correspondent

Skip Tubbs still is looking for a cache of gold, but in the meantime he is content using a metal detector to scour the Wheeling area for antique coins.

"I'm a coin collector," said the 34-year-old Wheeling resident. "My dream still centers around finding a gold piece. It makes no difference if it's a \$5 gold piece or a \$20 double eagle, I just want to find a gold piece."

"I've never owned one," he said. "I could buy one, but it wouldn't be the same as putting three miles on my feet."

While he's dreaming of gold, Tubbs spends his winters looking for interesting places to search with his detector. He scans old and current newspapers at the library and even checks a collection of old aerial photos compiled by the Wheeling Historical Society, which he uses to locate the former sites of buildings.

A member of the historical society, Tubbs donates his finds to the group.

"Researching is great," said Tubbs of this aspect of detecting. "It's like Captain Kidd's map."

He visits the forest preserves with a camera and son Ross, 5, his fellow detective and "digger man." The forest preserves are favorite hunting spots because the ground is undisturbed at old building sites, Tubbs said.

He's been known to search for sites

Skip Tubbs at a glance

Age: 34
Hometown: Wheeling
Hobby: Using a metal detector, a collector of antique coins
Why: "I'm a coin collector. My dream still center around finding a gold piece. It makes no difference if it's a \$5 gold piece or a \$20 double eagle. I just want to find a gold piece."

when the temperature drops to well below zero, like when he unsuccessfully hunted the site of Clyborn Park, an amusement park once located on the Des Plaines River. He got the tip from a long-time village resident.

"I've got the disease bad," Tubbs said. "I stuff my boots with newspaper and I've got so many layers of clothes on, I walk like a mummy."

He and Ross were out this year at what the elder Tubbs described as a promising site on Dundee Road, where a house and a vegetable stand once stood. Tubbs said an old walkway and a street where the stand

See COINS on Page 3



Coin collector Skip Tubbs and his son, Ross, search for old coins.

Daily Herald Photo/Jon Kline

COINS: his passion is seeking them

Continued from Page 1

was located were promising sites for coins.

In the warmer months, Tubbs sometimes practices his hobby at a nearby park, but it is the old sites that interest him most. He likes old coins and he enjoys imagining what was happening to the person who lost them — before he wonders if it's part of a cache.

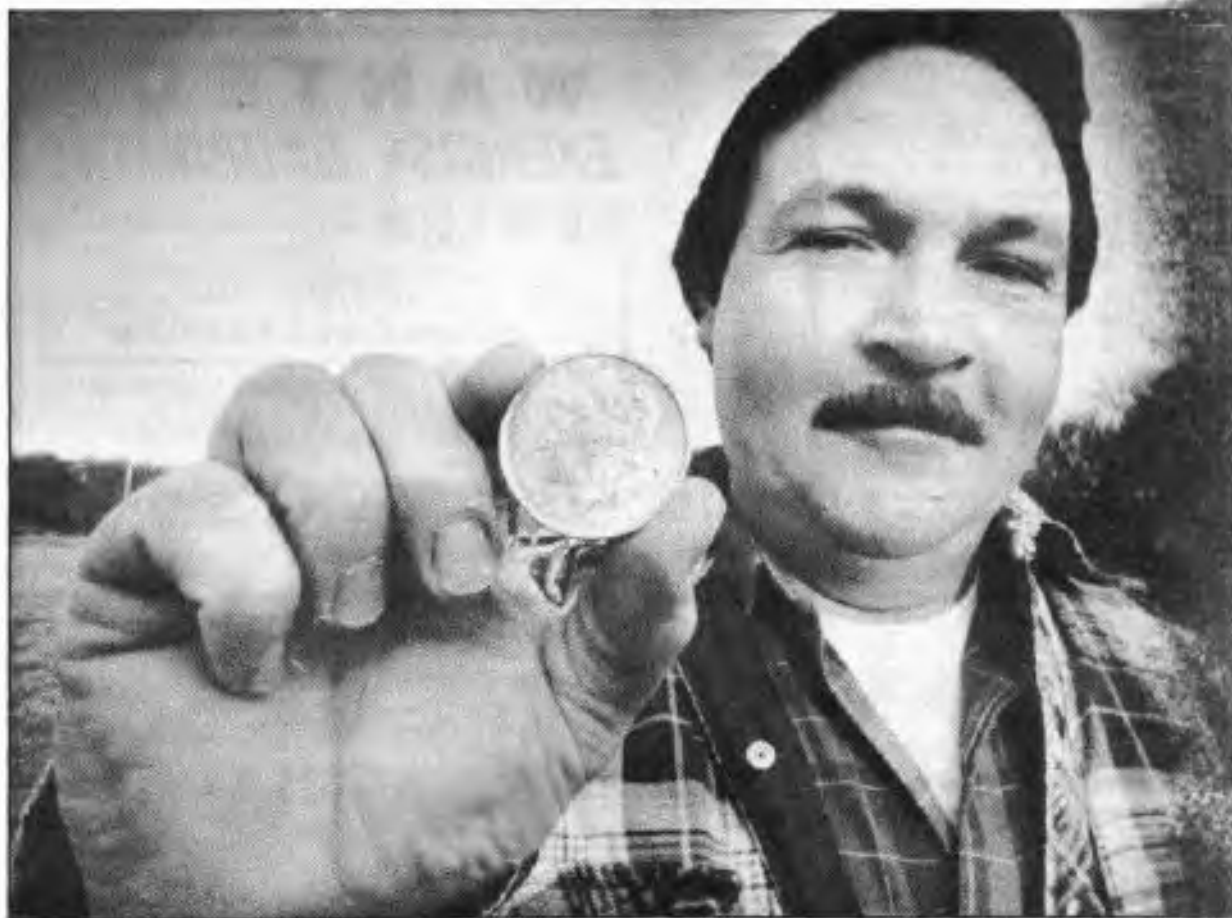
"The first thing I think of is the person who lost it," he said. "What was he doing when he lost it — sitting at a picnic, tossing it?"

He is particularly moved by lost jewelry. He has found many rings — especially in flower gardens — watches and other jewelry. Though he has yet to find an owner, he saves the identifiable pieces and watches lost and found ads.

"I think how much they must have searched on their hands and knees and never did find them in the tall grass and weeds," Tubbs said. "Then someone like me with a detector comes along 80 years later and finds it."

Great finds do come along, however, including 1922 dog tags, political campaign tokens, old bottles and broken silver picture frames.

He sells some of the other things for scrap, but Tubbs keeps the coins. He found a lot at one home site that



Coin collector Skip Tubbs shows off one of his favorite finds, an 1887 silver dollar.

Daily Herald Photo/Jon Kline

he worked for months.

"I have never found so many coins in one concentrated place," Tubbs said. "It was unbelievable. I hunted that site for three months without getting skunked any one day."

Two of the prizes in his collection are an 1865 three-cent piece found in

the local forest preserve and a 1920 Standing Liberty quarter.

Though most of his detecting has been in the immediate area, Tubbs, who works for the Wheeling Public Works Department, is ready for some exotic adventure. He and a fellow "detective" would like to ex-

plore an Illinois ghost town and some old farm towns in Wisconsin and Michigan.

"Most people spend money to get money," Tubbs said of other collectors. "To me it's too boring. More of a challenge to find it."

Palwaukee Airport Exhibit - Mar.-Apr.-May

Historical exhibit

3/5/89

The Wheeling Historical Society announces that their new exhibit will open next week at the Wheeling Historical Museum. It sounds interesting. It might pique your curiosity. If you're familiar with the Historical Museum, you know that it's located in a rather small building at Chamber Park, 251 N. Wolf in Wheeling. Well, the press release specifically says, "our new exhibit, Pal-Waukee Airport."

(I've seen Pal-waukee Airport. . they may not realize it yet, but they will soon enough. That airport simply is not going to fit into the Historical Museum.)

You can view the new exhibit during regular museum hours: from 1 to 5 p.m. Sundays, and from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays. For more information, call 537-5110.

Pal-Waukee preview at Historical Museum

The Wheeling Historical Society will hold a preview of its Pal-Waukee Airport exhibit from 2-5 p.m. Sunday, March 8, at the Wheeling Historical Museum, Chamber Park, 251 N. Wolf Road.

Those present at the event will include members of the Priester family and Esther Noffke, former owners of the airport, along with some of the Airport Commission members.

Pal-Waukee preview exhibit slated

Aviation enthusiasts are invited to attend a preview Sunday of the Pal-Waukee Airport exhibit at the Wheeling Historical Museum in Chamber of Commerce Park, 251 N. Wolf Road. A variety of photos and other memorabilia showing the airport's history will be on display from 2 to 5 p.m. Former airport owner George Priester and family, Priester Aviation administrative assistant Esther Noffke and a few of the Pal-Waukee Airport commissioners will be on hand.



PAL-WAUKEE AIRPORT

Wheeling/Prospect Heights

PAL-WAUKEE AIRPORT

Pal-Waukee Airport was founded in 1925. Originally known as Gauthier's Flying Field, it contained 40 acres of grassy open area. By 1933, the airport property totaled 91 acres and several buildings had been erected. These included Hangar 1 and the two buildings now housing the Hangar Restaurant, Priester Aviation offices, the flight school lounge, and the charter divisions. A hangar for the Goodyear Blimp was on the airport property from 1933 until it was demolished in 1946. The Goodyear Blimp was based there through the duration of the Chicago World's Fair.

Priester Aviation Service purchased the airport in 1953. At that time, the airport covered 109 acres, had four sand and gravel runways, 70 T-hangars and 62 based aircraft. The first runway was paved in 1954 and additional runway construction and paving occurred in 1955 and 1959. The airport assumed its present configuration in 1965 when the 5,000 foot Runway 16-34 was constructed.

Other improvements were made through the 1960's and 1970's including the construction of the air traffic control tower in 1967, and the installation of an Instrument Landing System on Runway 16-34.

On December 30, 1986, the airport officially shifted from private to public ownership, thus becoming Palwaukee Municipal Airport. The Village of Wheeling and the City of Prospect Heights are now the joint owners of the nation's largest reliever airport. Palwaukee is the home base to aviation departments of over 140 companies. In addition, there are over 430 aircraft occupying hangar and tie-down space.

The Wheeling Historical Society wishes to thank George J. Priester, Chairman of the Board, and Charles Priester, President, of George J. Priester Aviation Service, Inc. for making this exhibit possible.

LIFE IN WHEELING

Pal-Waukee exhibition taking off at museum

BY SANDY ALTIERI 3/12/87

■ This Sunday marks the start of the special "Pal-Waukee Airport" exhibit at the Wheeling Historical Society Museum, Chamber Park, 251 N. Wolf Road. The exhibit consists of photographs



ALTIERI

that tell the story of the airport from its beginning to the present time.

There are many serial views showing Wheeling's growth through the years. Artifacts, including a 1947 Ercoupe propeller, a wicker pilot's seat such as the one used by Charles Lindbergh, and a brass aviation lamp are also on display.

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The exhibit will run through April during museum hours, 1 to 5 p.m. Sundays, and 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays.

—0—
FOR ALL OF YOU aviation buffs, there is a new exhibit on display at the Wheeling Historical Society Museum. Palwaukee Airport has a long and colorful history beginning in 1925 when it consisted of only 40 acres and was called "Guthier's Flying Field." The George Priester family purchased the field in 1953 and had their collection of airport memorabilia brought over to the museum so everyone can see another part of Wheeling history. Some of the items on display are the old pots which served as runway lights, a wicker pilot seat, and old photographs.
—0—



Pal-Waukee Airport Exhibit Opening - Mar. 8



The Wheeling Historical Society cordially invites you
to attend the preview of our new exhibit

PAL-WAUKEE AIRPORT

DATE: Sunday, March 8, 1987

TIME: 2 pm to 5 pm

PLACE: Wheeling Historical Museum
Chamber Park
251 N. Wolf Road
Wheeling, IL

(One block north of Dundee Road)

Join us and become acquainted with Pal-Waukee Airport's long and colorful history. You will have an opportunity to meet the Priester family, Esther Noffke, and some of the present Airport Commissioners. Refreshments will be served.

For further information, please call 537-5110

Short hop into past of airport

BY SHERRY BOEMMEL
Daily Herald Correspondent

4/2/87

Charles Balling is 81, but he still can remember when the first airplane flew into Pal-Waukee Airport.

It was back in 1925, and the airstrip was known as Gauthier's Flying Field, an open field of mostly grass.

"They put up a tent on the corner," he said. "A Swallow (airplane) dealership operated there."

Much has changed since then; today Pal-Waukee has grown to meet the needs of the jet age.

And the story of that growth is the subject of an exhibit, which runs through April, at the Wheeling Historical Museum, 251 N. Wolf Road.

A long-time Wheeling resident, Balling said he learned to fly and to be a mechanic in 1927, mostly because the then-fledgling airport fueled his interest in aviation.

"I think that did a lot to influence me," he said.

Balling worked as a mechanic during the war years (1940-46) at Pal-Waukee. He is still an authorized Federal Aviation Administration inspector for mechanics.

Rudy Horcher is considerably younger than Balling, but he, too, was a mechanic there about the same time — 1946 and 1947. Another of the nine Horcher children, Edward, was also bitten by the bug and became a corporate pilot.

A wooden propeller from the 1947 Ercoupe plane built by Rudy Horcher and his wife Barbara is part of the exhibit. Flight suits and a flight jacket from 1942-43 also mark that period.

Though there is an aerial photo of the airport in 1927, much of the exhibit deals with the years George Priester owned Pal-Waukee. He bought the 109 acres from Parks Aviation in 1953 after opening a flight school there in 1945.

Under Priester's direction, the airport expanded to 257 acres. The runways were paved and expanded for jets, new hangars were built and services were added. Two more hangars now are under construction.

"You can't stand still," Priester said. "If you need it, you have to try to provide it. That's what made Pal-Waukee what it is today."

See AIRPORT on Page 3



George Priester shows 1934 wedding photo of him and his late wife, Veta, standing next to a plane at Pal-Waukee Airport. The picture is on display at the Wheeling Historical Museum.

Daily Herald Photo/Gilbert Boucher

Pal-Waukee Airport: a look back

1925: The airport opens as Gauthier's Flying Field, a 40-acre grassy field.

1933: Goodyear builds a hangar to house its blimp during the 1933 Century of Progress World's Fair. It remains standing about 10 years.

1953: The airport, which has grown to 109 acres, has sand and gravel runways and is home base for 62 aircraft, is sold to George Priester.

1965: Pal-Waukee enters the jet age with a 5,000-foot runway for jet traffic. Priester forecasts increases in corporate jet use, which now dominate the airport. About 400 aircraft, which represent most Fortune 500 companies, are based at Pal-Waukee.

1967: The Federal Aviation Administration installs equipment and provides personnel for a control tower, one of about three operating in private airports across the nation. It now operates between 6 a.m. and 9 p.m. and supervises between 275,000 to 325,000 flights a year during those hours.

1986: The airport is sold to the communities of Wheeling and Prospect Heights and begins operations as a public airport. It serves as the prime reliever for O'Hare airport traffic. Services continue much as before under the Priester family.

AIRPORT: An exhibit's look back at Pal-Waukee's climb

Continued from Page 1

Pal-Waukee is the main reliever airport for O'Hare International Airport. It serves primarily corporate aircraft — most of the Fortune 500 companies, Priester said. Between 275,000 and 325,000 aircraft a year are served during the 15 hours a day the tower is operating, Priester's administrative assistant Esther Noffke said.

There is a charter service, a flight school, aircraft sales and fuel and maintenance service. Various Priester companies continue to offer the same services as before the airport was sold to the communities of Wheeling and Prospect Heights in December 1986.

The exhibit features family pictures depicting a small measure of George Priester's life in aviation since he flew solo in 1927.

Priester and his late wife, Veta, are shown on their wedding day in 1934 wearing flight helmets and standing in front of a plane.

There are photographs of the Priester daughters, both commercial pilots, and their families in front of aircraft. Priester's son Charlie, also a commercial pilot and chief execu-

Museum exhibit through April 25

The Pal-Waukee Airport exhibit will appear through April 25 at the Wheeling Historical Museum.

Regular hours at the museum in Chamber Park, 251 N. Wolf Road, are Sundays from 1 to 5 p.m. and Tuesdays and Thursdays 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. There is no admission charge.

Appointments for group visits may be arranged by calling 537-5110 or 537-3119 during museum hours.

tive officer at Pal-Waukee, and his family are there, too.

Noffke said rising property values and taxes killed nearby airports like Sky Harbor and Chicagoland. And that's why Pal-Waukee will become a public airport. Taxes were high and Priester said he was told he was crazy to run an airport on such valuable ground.

"We almost had to sell it," Priester said, adding that even though Pal-Waukee did \$26 million in business, he was lucky to be able pay its bills.

WHEELING HISTORICAL SOCIETY

P.O. BOX 3

Wheeling, IL 60090

Museum Phone: 537-3119

The Pal-Waukee Airport Exhibit opened on Sunday, March 8. The exhibit will continue through the end of April. The Museum is open from 1 - 5 p.m. on Sundays and from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays.





Girl Scout Exhibit

To commemorate
75th anniversary
of Girl Scouts

HISTORICAL MUSEUM. To commemorate the 75th anniversary of the Girl Scouts, the Wheeling Historical Museum located in Chamber Park, 251 N. Wolf Rd., has on display memorabilia dating back to the beginning of girl scouting in Wheeling when Lucille Schneider started the first troop in the 1920's. Also on display is a special Palwaukee Airport exhibit. Exhibits can be viewed from 1 to 5 p.m. Sundays and 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays. Tours for small groups are conducted anytime by appointment. For more information, call 537-3119 during museum hours or 537-5110 anytime.

Museum display ^{3/24/87}

To commemorate the 75th anniversary of the Girl Scouts of America, the Wheeling Historical Society has memorabilia on display dating back to the beginning of Girl Scouting in Wheeling when Lucille Schneider started the first troop in the 1920's.

The display may be viewed at the Wheeling Historical Museum during regular museum hours, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and 1 to 5 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. Groups are also welcome at any time by appointment. The Wheeling Historical Museum is located at 251 N. Wolf Road in Chamber Park, in Wheeling.

For more information, please call 537-3119 during museum hours, or 537-5110 anytime.

"Hard work never killed anybody, but why take a chance?" —Charlie McCarthy

3119187

■ Congratulations to the Girl Scouts on their 75th anniversary. Since socialite Juliette Low founded the Girl Scouts in 1912, the Scouts have seen many changes. The organization was formed to educate young girls in the basics of homemaking, camping and other outdoor activities. Today, an expanded program includes training in computers, health education, programs on drug abuse, choosing a career, human sexuality, and the adjustments of being home alone while parents are at work. To commemorate the anniversary, the Wheeling Historical Society has on display memorabilia dating back to the beginning of Girl Scouting in Wheeling, when Lucille Schneider started the first troop in the 1920's. The display can be seen at the Wheeling Historical Museum, Chamber Park, 251 N. Wolf Road, from 1 to 5 p.m. Sundays and 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays. Groups are welcome any time by appointment. For more information, please call 537-3119 during museum hours or 537-5110 at any time.

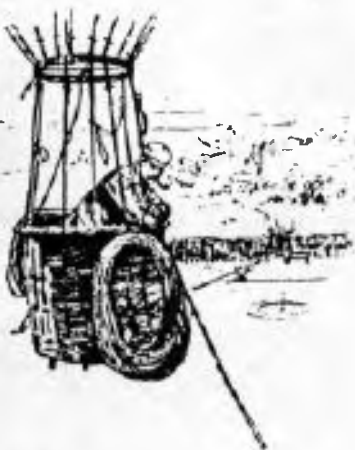


P.O. Box 3
Wheeling IL 60090
Museum phone: 537-3119

Vol. 1, No. 9 Mar. 1987
Editor: Barb McIntyre
Phone: 537-3497

Wheeling Historical Society

NEWSLETTER



THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER -

Dear Members:

Those of you who were unable to attend our Pot Luck Dinner and White Elephant

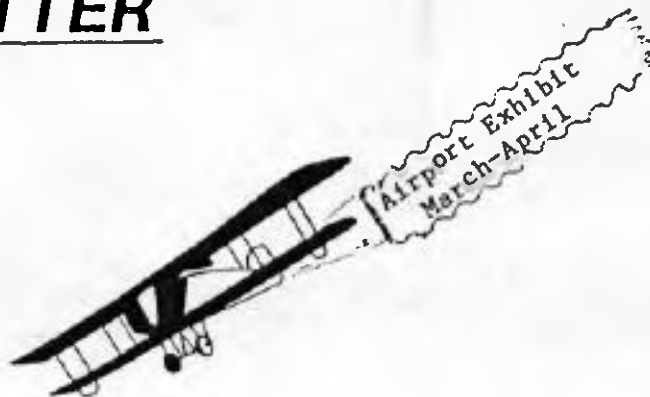
Sale really missed out on a delicious dinner and a good time. Everyone seemed to enjoy the catered dinner. At our short business meeting I appointed Eleanor Buerger, Barb McIntyre and Lonnie Schnaitmann to the Nominating Committee. Remember, the election is in April and the Installation Banquet in May.

The Society voted to have a float in the 4th of July parade. We will be asking for your help in building the float. On March 8 we had the opening of the Pal-Waukee Airport Exhibit at the Museum and it was well attended. If you didn't make it for the opening, plan on stopping by to see the exhibit. It is well worth the time, and will be on display through April. I hope to see all of you at our next meeting which is on March 25th.

Historically Yours,
Frank Schnaitmann

RESTAURANT ROW

Wheeling's fame as a village of fine food and restaurants was confirmed March 12 when Jean Banchet and his Le Francais restaurant were featured on the national TV show, "The Rich and the Famous - 1987 World's Best." Interior and exterior shots of the Wheeling restaurant were shown, and Mr. Banchet was seen as award winner in a chef's competition in Paris.



THE CURATOR'S REPORT

Our Pal-Waukee Airport Exhibit opened on Sunday, March 8. It was a beautiful day, and about 100 people attended. The opening was sort of a reunion for many old-timers who had flown out of Pal-Waukee over the years. The exhibit will continue through the end of April. The Museum is open from 1 to 5 p.m. on Sundays and from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Donations:

Chief Bernie Koeppen--Wheeling Fireman's helmet.
Lorraine Haben--Sewing needles from World's Fair.
Virginia Haben--Kitchen tongs from Welflin's store.
Merle Willis (thru Myla Lange)--two photos, one post card.
Virginia Ley--Tintype of the Peter Haben family.
Don Pielin--WWII field manual, set of firing tables.
Marshall Balling--Village of Wheeling sample ballot.

On Loan:

Rudy Horcher--Navy flight book, two maps, assorted photos.
Sonny Bradigan--Two flight helmets, parachute bag, jacket, flight suit.

Tony Altieri, Curator



GIRL SCOUTS IN WHEELING

Did you know that a former Girl Scout camp still exists within the boundaries of Wheeling? The buildings are there--the Denoyer home, the log Girl Scout building, a partially demolished barn and the out-buildings. They are not accessible, but the 100 acre Denoyer farm never was. Now the farm is mostly covered by the Chelsea Cove housing development and the new Kingsport Commons.

However, down Denoyer Trail, past Kingsport, four and a half acres of the old farm still are held by Mrs. Denoyer's brother, Oliver Bilhorn, and visitors are discouraged by a warning sign to keep out. Past vandalism is the reason for a caretaker living on the grounds.

Back in 1935 the log house with its fabulous stone fireplace was built with 100 year old logs and wood from the 1933-34 Chicago World's Fair. Spring and fall, it was the center for Girl Scout camping lead by Mrs. Denoyer, assisted by Lucile Schneider.

Xenia Denoyer got her start in Scouting in 1918 in Chicago and became acquainted with Juliette Low, the founder of Girl Scouts, in 1924. She staked out the first units at Juniper Knoll, Chicago's Girl Scout camp at Elkhorn, Wis. It was here that she met Lucile Schneider who was attending a training session, and convinced her to change her Girl Reserves unit into Girl Scout Troop No. 1 of Wheeling. Mrs. Denoyer was an active leader and inspiration to Girl Scouts in Wheeling for 29 years.

It is now 75 years since Juliette Low founded the Girl Scout movement in Savannah, Ga., borrowing the idea from her friend, Lord Baden Powell, who founded the Boy Scouts in this country. On March 12 local troops celebrated and on April 25 there will be a parade down Michigan Ave. in Chicago to mark the event. We noted that Jane Haeger of Wheeling received the 1987 Denoyer Award for Excellence, given to individuals who best represent the adult Girl Scout volunteer in their communities.

GIRL SCOUT DISPLAY:

To commemorate the 75th anniversary of the Girl Scouts, the Museum has on display memorabilia dating back to the start of Girl Scouting in Wheeling. Groups are welcome anytime by appointment, as well as during Museum hours on Sundays, Tuesdays and Thursdays.

BOOK REPORT

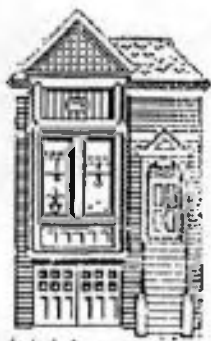
After a three-year gestation period, our history book is almost ready to emerge. Now, as any mother knows, is the hardest part--the waiting! Waiting to hear if the book qualifies for Library of Congress listing, waiting for financing, waiting for the cover design, waiting for word whether our baby might grow up to be a textbook. When this labor is over and we have a definite delivery date, you, our fellow members, authors and publishers, will be the first to know!

Bob Allison, whose first-hand account of Yankee farm life in this area was so important to our history, passed away March 4. He joins John Forke, Ida V. O'Reilly and Lucile Schneider, who all made great contributions to "Wheeling Through the Years" but didn't live to see the book completed.



THIS OLD HOUSE

Ours is not the only Historical Society trying to save some buildings of the past for future generations to study and enjoy. From newsletters and newspapers we have learned recently that:



The Banta House restoration in the Arlington Heights Historical complex is partially completed and the building is open to the public. The 1908 house is owned by the Village of Arlington Heights, but interior restoration and furnishings are the responsibility of the Historical Society.

The Village of Roselle has purchased an historic house for \$130,000, to be used by the Chamber of Commerce, the Historical Society, and the "Keep Roselle Clean Committee."

A three story pre-Chicago fire building in the city was moved two blocks to an historic district near Polk and Oakley Sts. last November.

In 1984, the Victorian 1887 Haupt-Yehl house was donated to the Morton Grove Historical Society for an historical museum. Through the efforts of the Society, the Morton Grove Park District, and the Village of Morton Grove, the house was moved to its present site in Harrer Park. It can be done--with cooperation.

(From the Rogers Park Historical Society Newsletter, Vol 1, No. 3):

"Instead of being razed, some of the old houses were moved to new sites. This involved the use of horse-propelled capstans that were set up in front of the house and moved two to four feet at a time as the horse marched around in a circle.

"It would often take a week to move a house one block on the street. There were no overhead wires as extend today, and very few cars and trucks. And no one was worried about a thing.--Norm Coughlin"

RESEARCHING YOUR ILLINOIS HOUSE (1820-1920) is a 12-page guide on how to compile the history of a house. Cost is \$1 from the Illinois Historic Preservation Services, Old State Capitol, Springfield IL 62701. (Thanks to the N.W. Suburban Council of Genealogists.)

CALENDAR

- March 25 7:30 p.m., Wheeling Historical Society meeting, Community Church, Chamber Park.
- April 2 7:30 p.m., "Residential Architecture in Illinois," Robert Parker Coffin, Henderson Room, Arlington Heights Library.
- 15 Antique American Show, Mr. Peter's Banquet Hall, Rand & Central Rds., Mt. Prospect Historical Society.
- 18 7:30 p.m. Rolf Erickson of Northwestern U speaks on "Norwegians in Chicago" at meeting of Northwest Suburban Genealogists, Mt. Prospect Library.
- 22 7:30 p.m., talk on "Trolleys" by Ken Spengler, Palatine Historical Society, phone 991-6460 for information.

NEW MEMBERS

Please welcome and add to your membership list:

Jim and Sue Gallagher 459-1561
157 Mockingbird Lane, Wheeling

Dolores Kazak 541-4752
343 Maureen Drive, Wheeling

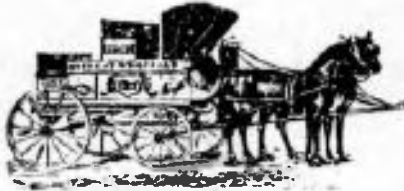
Peggy Cargill Mara 537-5441
250 S. Park Ave., Wheeling

Adeline Sigwalt 478-5567
3510 N. Ridgeway, Chicago IL 60618

NOW THEY TELL US!

We continue to find stories of Old Wheeling that we wish had turned up in time to be used in the Society's history book.

Ervin Redlinger's story last month awakened memories in Adeline Schneider, Elsie Hiller and Ethel Wieder. Phone lines were kept busy as they pooled their information. It was Ethel who pointed out that the mail carrier's name was spelled Kloze. Adeline remembered him teaching German to her and her young classmates in the Presbyterian Sunday School. Elsie said Mr. Kloze's home was where Hein's Pub is now and that his daughter was Mrs. McKinney who had two sons named Milton and Frank.



Ethel corrected Ervin's memory of the Stryker who sold groceries and meat from his covered wagon. His name was Ben, not Christ.

In regard to Jacob Schwingel, who was rumored to be a Democrat (!), they also remembered that he was alleged to sing in the Presbyterian Church choir on Sunday morning and then spend the rest of the day singing up a storm in the taverns along Milwaukee Ave.

Ethel remembered that when a death occurred in town, the church bell tolled the age of the deceased. It rang last for Jean Utpadel.

Another character brought to Elsie's mind was William Buckley, a leather worker who repaired shoes. Because his legs were amputated, he rode in a homemade cart and his customers brought their shoes out to him to be fixed.

Thanks for the memories, friends!

FEBRUARY MEETING MINUTES

There was only a momentary lull in the festivities of the annual Pot Luck Dinner and Auction when President Frank Schnaitmann called the meeting to order to conduct the business of the Society. He announced his appointment of the 1987 Nominating Committee, which consists of Eleanor Buerger, Barbara McIntyre and Lonnie Schnaitmann. They are to present a slate of officers for the election, to be held at the April meeting, and nominations from the floor will also be in order.

Recent activities of the Liaison Committee and the Society's book publishing project were reported by the Secretary. The Liaison Committee is working on plans to move the Sicks' barn to Chamber Park, to house carriages donated to the Society by Jack Thompson, as a phase of our "historic village" development. Curator Tony Altieri confirmed that the building will become available as the Crossroads portion of the village's TIF program moves forward.

"Wheeling Through the Years," the Society's oral history of our Village, is ready for the printer and a Marketing Committee is working on plans for pricing it and financing the project with the aid of a sponsor. Members are Dolly Hein and Barbara Rasmussen, with Ed Main as Chairman.

The business meeting may have set some sort of record--it was just 12 minutes from Pledge of Allegiance to Adjournment.

Robert L. McIntyre, Secretary

MARCH MUSEUM SCHEDULE

Mar. 22--Buergers
Mar. 28--Dattilos

Your help in keeping the Museum open on Sundays is greatly appreciated. Thank you. Phone 537-5110 to reserve your time to serve as host or hostess for our Society.

LIFE IN WHEELING

Author delves into history of Wheeling

BY SANDY ALTIERI 4/16/87

Joan Pound of Mount Prospect will be the guest speaker at the April 22 meeting of the Wheeling Historical Society.

Pound, who recently published "Records Left Behind, Wheeling, Illinois," will present a program on "Getting Started in Genealogy." She will also elaborate on her method in researching her book, which was written from information gathered from early Wheeling and Wheeling Township records, church records, and rubbings from cemetery tombstones.



ALTIERI

The program will begin at 7:30 p.m. at the Community Church in Chamber Park, 251 N. Wolf Road. The public, as always, is welcome. For further information, please call Barb McIntyre at 537-3497.

WEDNESDAY

The Wheeling Historical Society will meet at 7:30 p.m. at the Community Church in Chamber Park, 251 N. Wolf Road. Genealogist Joan Pond will discuss her search of the first settlers in Wheeling Township and provide instructions on tracing our ancestors.



Joan Pound speaker at Society meeting - Apr. 22

NEIL meeting - May 9



Marilyn Peterson, Palatine, shows Union Cases

SANDY ALTIERI has been elected to serve as chairman of public relations on the North Eastern Illinois Historical Council (NEIL). NEIL is a non-profit organization collection, preservation and dissemination of historical data and resources to the general public.

P.O. Box 3
Wheeling IL 60090
Museum phone: 537-3119

1, No. 10 Apr. 1987
Editor: Barb McIntyre
Phone: 537-3497

Wheeling Historical Society

NEWSLETTER



THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER -

Dear Members:

At our April 22 meeting, Genealogist Joan Pound will reveal her search for first settlers of Wheeling Township, particularly around our Wheeling Village area. She has researched our cemetery, taking rubbings of old headstones which appear illegible. She has translated the first records of the Presbyterian Church, which were in German. This should be of great interest to our second and third generation Wheeling members and not to be missed.

For those of us latecomers not so fortunate as to have roots here, Mrs. Pound will give brief, basic instruction on tracing our ancestors. Luckily we have Carol Schiffman's Genealogy Unlimited shop located nearby at 789 S. Buffalo Grove Rd. She carries all the forms necessary for recording families and making family trees.

No one can lose, so please join us Wednesday, April 22, at 7:30 p.m. at the Community Church in Chamber Park and start a new and productive hobby.

Refreshments will follow, and then on to the election of officers. The nominating committee's slate is as follows:

Vice President - Dolly Hein
Recording Secretary - Eleanor Buerger
Treasurer - Robert McIntyre
Two Directors - Barbarar Forke
and Barbara Rasmussen
Additional nominations will be taken from the floor.

Historically Yours,
Frank Schnaitmann

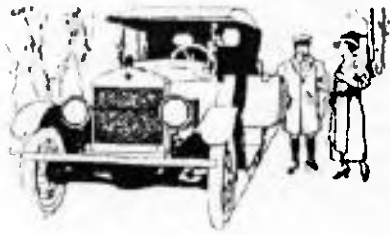
WHEELING Through the Years

Our book is at the Whitehall printers in Wheeling as we "go to press" with this issue of the Newsletter.

We now have answers to most of the questions raised in our last report. Financial angels who will help pay production and printing costs are: Billy & Co., Cole Taylor Bank/Main, First National Bank of Wheeling, MFC Mortgage Company, and Wheeling Chamber of Commerce. We had to go out of town for the cover design--Yuji Kobayashi, art director for a loop ad agency, donated his time and talent to produce a truly outstanding cover.

Sunday, June 7, has been selected as the date of a Publication Party for Society members, the authors and their invited guests, and the press. President Schnaitmann will present complimentary copies of the book to the authors, and the rest of us can purchase them at \$7.95. The Indian Trails Library has made its Board Room available to us for this event, which will be from 2 to 5 p.m., and the Library will be presented with a copy of the book. We are asking the authors to stay as long as convenient, to autograph copies sold there.

After June 7, copies of "Wheeling Through the Years" may be purchased at the Museum during its regular hours of 1-5 on Sundays and 10-1 on Tuesdays and Thursdays, at the Chamber of Commerce office, 52 S. Milwaukee Ave., and at Billy & Co. in the former Union Hotel. Books also will be available at the Old Settlers' Picnic in Chamber Park on July 4.--Ed



NOW THEY TELL US!

"Mafia Princess" by Antoinette Giancana and Thomas Kenner, Wm. Morrow & Co., Publisher, 1984

In a review March 9 at the Pavilion, Pat Walsdorf introduced us to this book which gives additional material on the late Villa Venice where our history left off. We feel the book was rather badly written, but we have to trust Ms. Giancana's memory if not her spelling. She says:

"The Villa Venice was a deteriorating, rundown restaurant-nightspot until Sam (her father) took it over from Alfred (Papa) Bouchay. It was located on Milwaukee Ave. in a somewhat rural community northwest of Chicago.

"FBI documents show that the owners of record were Alfred and James Meo, both friends of my father. In 1960, Sam put the Meo brothers in charge of the Villa Venice to handle private parties and weddings. In 1961, according to FBI records, another paper transaction took place and Leonard A. (Leo) Olsen became the new owner and president along with Richard Bernas who Sam really put in charge of the remodeling.

"Sam and his underlings had thought ahead. They arranged what amounted to a bus service to a nearby mob casino known as 'The Quonset Hut,' a structure two blocks north of the Villa Venice near the Flamingo Hotel on River Rd. and Milwaukee Ave.

"An FBI report dated Dec. 14, 1962, states bluntly what I had known all along from Sam . . . that Sam Giancana is definitely the owner of the Villa Venice and has spent many hours overseeing the remodeling operation of the Villa Venice during the past several weeks. Giancana is referred to at the Villa Venice as 'Mr. Flood.'

"The Villa Venice has undergone extensive remodeling during the past several months and is scheduled for a gala reopening on or about Oct. 31, 1962 and the new Villa Venice will feature as its opening star attraction, Eddie Fisher. Following Fisher will be such notables as Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin, Sammy Davis, Jr., Jimmy Durante and others of equal stature in the entertainment field."

To bring this information up to date, we should add that Allgauer's now occupies the site of the former Villa Venice and Buy Low-Liquors occupies the quonset hut. Ed



MUSEUM MEMOS

ON LOAN

Betty Barrie: Girl Scout books, pins, handmade card from scout troop in 1959.

Richard Arispe: Royal Baking Powder can.

DONATIONS

Adeline Schneider: Umbrella, hand decorated by her sister, Lucile, to aid in teaching her Girl Scout troop astronomy.

Marshall Balling: WWI uniform, overseas cap and eating utensils used by Willard Hanks.

REMINDER: Work Day Saturday, April 25, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Altieri house, 36 Laurel Trail, Wheeling (Dundee Rd. to Laurel Trail, 1 block west of Schoenbeck, turn left, and 1/2 block on right hand side.) Finish assembling cook books, clean Reeb artifacts, and record.

Anthony Altieri, Curator



THESE OLD HOUSES

In June of 1978 a Wheeling Landmarks Committee, headed by Trustee Robert Ross, toured Milwaukee Ave. to determine Wheeling's oldest buildings in order to present the Village with a report. Ross hoped the report would convince trustees to adopt a local ordinance to help preserve historical landmarks. Marshall Balling had the task of giving the Board as complete a history of each building as he was able to compile. At this time the Bartholomew Plan was being considered, which included not only the existing historic museum park but also a "historic commercial village" east of Whitman school, where old houses could be moved and used as retail establishments.

Among the buildings Marshall mentioned saving and capable of being moved were the Martin Kuffer house and barn, the Arnold house, Grewe house and Schneider house. He also recommended that "the Sicks barn may be more likely to be preserved if located to a more central area, i.e. Chamber Park." The current T.I.F. plan so far has no such preservation area.

May 10-16 is "Historic Preservation Week," sponsored by the National Trust for Historic Preservation to promote awareness and preservation of historic landmarks for future generations to enjoy." Cleaning up the Reeb artifacts at the Altieri garage will give our Society a head start. However, we have to have a place to display these and other artifacts so, in our opinion, we need to move and save at least two more buildings at Chamber Park. With cooperation from the Village and Park boards, minimum preservation could become a reality in Wheeling.--Ed

LARK/CHILDERLEY CHAPEL

Lorraine Haben is looking for persons to host the chapel, which will be open on Sunday afternoons from Memorial Day until Labor Day. Please call her at 537-0654 and volunteer.

CALENDAR

- April Airport exhibit continues for the month, at the Museum.
- 22 - Wheeling Historical Society meeting, 7:30 p.m., program on genealogy.
- 25 - Workday at Altferis' garage, 36 Laurel Trail.
- May 9 - NEIL MEETING, 9:30 a.m. at Schaumburg Historical Society.
- 10-16 - Historic Preservation Week, sponsored by National Trust for Historic Preservation.
- 27 - Wheeling Historical Society Installation Banquet, Chevy Chase Country Club, 6:00 p.m.
- 30 - Niles Historical Society Spring Fest, Open House, 8970 Milwaukee Ave., Niles.

INSTALLATION BANQUET FOR NEW OFFICERS

Don't forget the Installation Banquet on May 27 at 6:00 p.m. in the Wayside Room at Chevy Chase Country Club. The cost will be \$7 per person for "chicken and ribs, all you can eat."

Entertainment will be provided by Craig's barber shop quartet. We will also have door prizes and raffles. You will receive invitations and RSVPs are a must!

Hope to see everyone there -
Lonnie Schnaitmann
Chairperson





"The object of this Society shall be the discovery, preservation and dissemination of knowledge about the Wheeling Community."

NEW MEMBERS

Please welcome and add to your membership list:

Guadolupi Cantu, 166 W. Pope, Prairie View IL 60069 459-0149

Dan Tinen, 130 Laurel Ct., Wheeling IL 60090 459-9830

CONDOLENCES

Our sincere sympathy to the family of John Welch--his wife, Sharon, and parents-in-law, Ed and Alberta Klocke.

Also to Ellie and Syke Horcher on the loss of Ellie's father this past month.

PARTY PIZZAS

We are still drooling over the party pizzas Adrienne Broda made for the Wassail Bowl in December. She has kindly given us the recipe:

| | |
|--------------------------|---------------|
| 1 lb. pork sausage | 1 t. basil |
| 1 lb. ground beef | 1 t. oregano |
| 1 lb Velveeta | 1/4 t. garlic |
| 1 - 2 T. parsley | powder |
| 1 loaf small party bread | |

Break up sausage and beef and brown well together. Drain off all fat. Cut up cheese and add--let melt in hot meat. Stir in herbs and mix well. Mound mixture on rye, freeze on baking sheet and store in freezer. Before serving, heat in 350 F oven at least 10 minutes

"THIS BOOKISH INCLINATION" is the title of a new book about the history of the Arlington Heights Library from its earliest days. Margery Frisbie, an Arlington Heights activist and writer, has had several books published previously. This history was sponsored by the Friends of the Library, who also put on an autographing party at A. H. Library on April 5. This hard cover book sells for \$10.



"Hands on Chicago" by Kenan Heise is the first book purchased by the Society in an effort to again establish a library of local histories. The first half of the book consists of "historical trivia" arranged by alphabet with a running chronology. The second half is a description of 77 Chicago neighborhoods. This paperback is published by Bonus Books and is priced at \$7.95.

The subject of books leads us again to the Indian Trails Library, and we would like to thank Muriel Lischett for permission to use the display case there for the month of June. Our history book will be the centerpiece, with appropriate articles from the Museum's Restaurant Row exhibit surrounding it.

Work day at Altieri's - Apr. 25



sorting



cleaning



taking a break



eating



cataloging



Wheeling Historical Society
NEWSLETTER



THE PRESIDENT'S
LETTER -


Dear Members:

At our April meeting we had some 38 members and guests in attendance. Mrs. Joan Pound gave a program on genealogy which proved to be both interesting and worthwhile. Afterward, we had refreshments and then continued on with our meeting and elections. By unanimous vote, the following were elected to office: Dolly Hein, Vice Pres.; Bob McIntyre, Treas., Bob Buerger, Sr., Recording Sec.; Barb Forke and Barb Rasmussen, Directors. I would like to extend my personal thanks to these fine individuals and I'm sure with their help we will have another successful year. The membership will have the opportunity to extend their congratulations and show their appreciation by being present at the Installation Banquet on May 27th, when they will be officially sworn in. Even though May 27th is our last meeting until September, let's all stay active in the Society during the summer. Remember, the Society is still committed to play host and hostess at the Museum and Chapel on Sundays, and we have the Old Settlers' Picnic and the float in the 4th of July parade.

I'm sure the Society would like to join with me in thanking Bob and Barb McIntyre for their unselfish devotion to make sure that "Wheeling Through the Years" got completed and ready for publication. All proceeds from the sale of the book go to the Historical Society to carry on our projects. The June 7 publication party caps their efforts.

Historically Yours,
Frank Schnaitmann, Pres.

THE CURATOR SAYS:



The Village of Wheeling issued a proclamation observing Historic Preservation Week, May 10 to May 16. We thought this would be an appropriate time to introduce the Historical Society's "Walking Tour of the Milwaukee Avenue Historical District." We have planned a walk to highlight the historically significant buildings. The tour, which is 1-1/2 miles in length, begins at the Museum and ends at the Crab House restaurant. A special thanks to Marshall Baling, Elsie Hiller and Betty Barrie for their assistance in preparing the tour booklet.

DONATIONS

Village of Wheeling, from the Lindquist property: Wooden swivel desk chair, glass door knob, enamel coffee pot, meat grinder.
Jack Haben: Edison Anniversary Book
Elsie Hiller: Three photographs
Joan Pound: Data and maps of Wheeling Cemetery

Thanks to the above for their contributions to our Museum collection.

APRIL 25 WORK DAY

Nine members attended the Work Day at Altieri's: Dorothy Flentge, Elsie Hiller, Bernie and Emma Nathan, Bob and Barb McIntyre, Frank and Lonnie Schnaitmann and Lorraine Haben.

Thanks to these members, the cookbooks are all assembled and about half the Reeb artifacts are cleaned and cataloged. The help was very much appreciated.
Tony Altieri, Curator

PERSONALS



If a prize were awarded to the persons coming the longest distance to our Installation Banquet, we feel sure it would go to Shirley and Ed Mueller, who were first to make reservations. They leave Golden, CO May 14, making a stop en route in Arkansas and arriving here in time for the May 27th event.

Our sympathy to the family of Lloyd Kelm, an outstanding citizen of Wheeling. His account of early days in the Fire Dept. appears in our book, "Wheeling Through the Years."

Many thanks to Willie Franta who donated the black and white TV for the Museum and to Dolly Hein who has promised one for the Chapel.

Roger Rockenbach of Cable, WI, copied 58 pictures of Wheeling which belong to him and his sister, Ruth, and his wife sent them on to Lorraine Haben for our historical files. She promises another roll with copies of Frank Utpadel's pictures. Roger sent along the 35mm negatives so copies can be made. We are grateful for all and, as usual, wish we had them earlier.

News from the Northwest Suburban Genealogists reports that since May 1, Illinois vital records will cost \$5 more. All birth and death certificates or adoption records will increase to \$15 from \$10. If Joan Pound aroused your interest in genealogy, this issue of "News from the Northwest" has a great deal of record material and can be seen in the Museum office where it is posted.



WE NEED
YOU

If you are a member who has not been actively involved in the Historical Society projects such as the potluck dinner and auction, Lolliopop Lane, the 4th of July float for the parade or the Old Settlers' Picnic; if you have never attended a Society meeting and are able bodied, you are just the person we want. You now have the opportunity to become involved by hosting Sunday afternoons at the Museum in Chamber Park or the Lark Chapel, in Childerley Park. If there are enough volunteers, this should only involve one Sunday a year. Sandy Altieri (537-5110) for the Museum or Lorraine Haben (537-0654) for the Chapel will be glad to give you a a short course on features to explain to visitors. You won't miss any ball games because both buildings will have TV sets plugged in.

Volunteer now and get the date and location you want before the draft!

--Ed.



EXHIBITS

Our summer exhibit in the Museum will begin June 7. We will have fashions from each decade from 1900 through the 1940s on display. During the summer months we have many children coming to the museum and they like exhibits on the lighter side. The Pal-Waukee exhibit will remain a few more weeks and then

in September there will be a special exhibit commemorating the Bicentennial of the Constitution.

Tony Altieri

JULY 4TH -- OLD SETTLERS' PICNIC

On July 4th we will celebrate the 211th birthday of the Declaration of Independence, the 200th anniversary year of the signing of the Constitution, and the fourth Wheeling Old Settlers' Picnic.

Festivities will begin around noon, at the conclusion of the parade (in which we will have a float). As last year, each family is asked to bring some item of food to share for the pot-luck picnic. Beverages will be provided. Co-chairpersons are genuine born and bred old settlers of Wheeling: Betty Taylor Barrie, Dorothy Balling Flentge and Lorraine Schmidt Haben.

Each year our list of contacts grows longer, but if you know of anyone not notified, please extend an invitation. As usual, the picnic will be in Chamber Park, 251 N. Wolf Rd., in the area of the Community Church and Gazebo.



MINUTES

Meeting of April 22, 1987

The meeting was opened by President Frank Schnaitmann at 7:40 p.m. After the Pledge of Allegiance, Marshall Balling introduced the speaker of the evening, Genealogist Joan Pound. Mrs. Pound described the procedures for tracing a family tree and then told of her experiences in exploring Wheeling Cemetery and records of the Presbyterian Church for genealogical data. Her search resulted in a book that makes this wealth of information available to all.

After an intermission for refreshments, the meeting was again called to order and the minutes of the March meeting were approved. Members present were: Sandy Altieri, Marshall Balling, Betty Barrie, Adrienne Broda, Jan Broda, Eleanor Buerger, Robert H. Buerger, Sr., Irene Dattilo, Sam Dattilo, Dorothy Flentge, Barbara Forke, Margaret Forke, Willie Franta, Lorraine Haben, Elsie Miller, Matt Irmiter, Ed Main, Barb McIntyre, Bob McIntyre, Barbara Rasmussen, and Clare Rudolph. Guests were Adeline Kruse and Joe and Joan Pound of Mt. Prospect and Shirley McConnell of Wheeling.

The Curator's Report was presented by Sandy Altieri, who asked for volunteer hosts and hostesses for the museum, told of a need for clothing of the turn-of-the-century period, and reminded members of an April 25 work session.

Dolly Hein presented the Treasurer's Report for the period from March 25 to date:

| | |
|--|-----------------|
| Checking Account Balance, March 25, 1987 | \$ 335.62 |
| Deposits: | |
| Dues received | 36.00 |
| Cookbooks and Note Paper | 36.00 |
| Donations from Book Sponsors | <u>1300.00</u> |
| Total deposits | 1,372.00 |
| Disbursements: | |
| Irene Dattilo, for stamps | 4.40 |
| Sandy Altieri, for stamps | 11.00 |
| Bob McIntyre, Newsletter paper, stamps, etc. | 38.24 |
| Whitehall Company, advance payment on printing | <u>1,200.00</u> |
| Total disbursements | 1,253.64 |
| Checking Account Balance, April 22, 1987 | \$ 453.98 |
| Savings Account (unchanged from last report) | \$ 7,875.16 |

Her report was approved on a motion by Ed Main, seconded by Bob Buerger.

Betty Barrie, Corresponding Secretary, read several letters and Lonnie Schnaitmann, Installation Banquet Chairman, reminded members that advance registrations are required for that event on May 27.

Ed Main, Chairman of the Book Finance and Marketing Committee reported that "Wheeling Through the Years" had gone to the printer, with production costs covered by five sponsors--Billy & Company, Cole Taylor Bank/Main, First National Bank of Wheeling, MFC Mortgage Corp., and the Wheeling Area Chamber of Commerce & Industry.

Eleanor Buerger, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, reported the following slate of officers: Vice-President, Dolly Hein; Corresponding Secretary, Betty Barrie; Recording Secretary (1 year) Robert H. Buerger; Treasurer, Robert McIntyre; and Directors, Barbara Forke and Barbara Rasmussen. Officers are to serve 2-year terms except as noted, and the By-Laws of the Society provide that an individual may not serve more than two consecutive terms in the same office.

Lorraine Haben announced that the Lark/Childerley Chapel will be open from 1 to 5 on Sundays from May 30 to Labor Day. She told of plans to place two large pots of flowers in front of the Chapel, and the expenditure was approved on a motion by Ed Main, seconded by Lorraine. In another action members approved the expenditure of up to \$150 for two black-and-white television sets, to be used at the Museum and the Chapel in an effort to make the tasks of host and hostess more enjoyable on days when few visitors appear. The motion by Lonnie Schnaitmann, seconded by Barb McIntyre, was passed with the understanding that donated sets would be solicited before new ones were bought. Representatives reported no news from the Liaison Committee or the Constitution Bicentennial Committee.

President Schnaitmann appointed Betty Barrie to serve as Chairman of the Old Settlers Picnic, with Dorothy Flentge and Lorraine Haben as co-chairmen. He also appointed Tony Altieri, Marshall Balling, Bob Buerger and Sam Dattilo to serve on the 4th of July Parade Float Committee. The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Robert L. McIntyre, Secretary

Wheeling park board won't be expanded until 1989

BY C. L. WALLER
Daily Herald Staff Writer 4/16/87

People interested in seeking one of two new positions on the Wheeling park board don't have to rush out to round up support, because they won't be elected for two years.

Park commissioners recently approved expanding the board from five to seven members based on a resolution presented by commissioner James Gallagher. Gallagher put the idea on paper after it was sug-

gested by the board-appointed citizen's advisory group.

The Illinois park code says that if a board is expanded, the new members will be chosen at the next election. Application of the rule in Wheeling means there will be four board positions open in 1989, two of which now belong to Anthony Abruscato and Julia Robberson.

With the expansion, park board members could be assigned to various committees and specialize in aspects of the district, Gallagher said.

"The board (now) does everything as a whole or it doesn't do anything. There will be two new people on the board no matter what," he said.

The ideal situation would be to have one person from the Wheeling Historical Society and one person from the citizen's committee, called the Capital Needs Reassessment Advisory Committee, Gallagher said.

The board does not have any members who live near Heritage Park or south of Hintz Road. Three

of the commissioners live in the Dunhurst subdivision.

Park officials do not expect additional members to cost the district much more money.

"We'll drink a few more cups of coffee and a few more cokes (at meetings)," Gallagher said.

Board members usually attend a national convention each year.

Last year three park commissioners traveled to the four-day convention in Anaheim, Cal., at a cost of \$1,253.

Park development concerns board

BY ED FELKER
Daily Herald Correspondent 5/12/87

Developing present park sites and reviewing personnel policies are issues that Wheeling Park District board President Anthony Abruscato says the board should study in the coming year.

Abruscato was re-elected to a third term as board president and Commissioner James Gallagher was selected vice-president.

Gallagher was elected to the board in April after filling a vacancy for two years.

Commissioner Edward Klocke voted against Abruscato and Gallagher, but declined to say why. The

other commissioners, Julia Robberson and Donald Lark, were absent.

Abruscato said his plans for the coming year include instituting an annual review of the board's personnel policy, and "possibly redefining the roles of the committees of the board."

He added that he wanted to continue strengthening the board's relationships with the Wheeling Historical Society and the Capital Needs Reassessment Advisory Committee.

Abruscato said the park district should develop the land it already has.

"We're getting on track and we need to continue to build on what

we've learned and build upon what we've done," he said.

He pointed to the Valley Stream tot lot, which will get \$17,000 in playground equipment. Development of the Last Four Acre Park is starting, with three architects competing for the job expected to be interviewed within two weeks.

Abruscato asked park district Manager Karop Bavougian to begin preparing a park conditions report for the board. Maintenance and the safety of the equipment in the parks are to be the main focus of the review, Abruscato said.

"I want to make sure everything is as it should be as we start to begin the summer," he said.

Board committee assignments also were made. Julia Robberson will chair the building and grounds committee with member Donald Lark. Other assignments were: finance committee, James Gallagher, chairman, Julia Robberson, member; programs and facilities committee, Edward Klocke, chairman, James Gallagher, member; intergovernmental and community relations committee, Donald Lark, chairman, Edward Klocke, member.

Abruscato also appointed Gallagher as liaison to the Capital Needs Reassessment Advisory Committee and reappointed Lark, Robberson and himself for another year as liaisons to the Wheeling Historical Society.

CITIZEN OF THE YEAR AWARDS LUNCHEON



Handing a certificate of appreciation to Citizen of the Month Sandy Altieri of Wheeling is staff writer Ruth Bohan. Altieri spends hours at the Wheeling Historical Society museum, preparing exhibits, conducting tours, engaging in research and editing the society's newsletter.



Bob Collins speaking at Lerner Luncheon

"Wheeling Through The Years" published!!

Their three year's work covers the 153-year history of Wheeling

By C. L. WALLER
Daily Herald Staff Writer

4/17/87

On the cover stands the Union Hotel complete with boys standing in knickers and white shirts near high-wheel bicycles.

And as the history of Wheeling unravels inside, the reader learns that the hotel, built in 1856, was destroyed by fire in 1925 and rebuilt in brick the following year. The brick is still standing and painted white, but it contains Billy and Company Restaurant, part of Wheeling's restaurant row.

The hotel is just one facet of a book spanning 153 years which will be on sale in June by the Wheeling Historical Society. After June 7, 1,000 books will be available and proceeds will go toward the society.

Bob and Barb McIntyre volunteered to edit the book, which differs

from other historical publications because it is comprised mostly of taped conversations with long-time residents in the village.

There are 47 authors in the 240-page book that comes full circle, beginning with 1833 and George Strong, the first settler in Wheeling, and ending with the purchase of Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport, a portion of which was settled by Strong, Barb McIntyre said.

It took the McIntyres three years to edit and interview the authors. Some information was taken from conversations Wheeling historian Marshall Balling had with residents in 1974 and newspaper clippings offered some information, she said.

Several authors contributed to the book, but never saw it published. Otto Orłowski Sr., Victor Haben, Bob Allison, John Forke, Lucille Schneider, Ida V. O'Reilly and Irwin Plagge

were such authors, Mrs. McIntyre said.

The book goes from history of the Des Plaines River and schools to homesteading to farms to Old Milwaukee Avenue, incorporation and airplanes. That is followed by the formation of Restaurant Row and Prohibition, and then suburbanization which included the construction of Dunhurst subdivision in 1955 and the airport.

The McIntyres grew up in the city and moved to Wheeling to retire, but with all the time they have spent with the book, they feel like natives. McIntyre said she identifies so much with the old buildings in Wheeling. "You would think I was one of the original settlers."

The couple volunteered for the book after seeing an advertisement, placed by former Wheeling Historical Museum curator Al Fantl.

Stuff and Such Around the Village

Sign Code Review

The Sign Code Board of Appeals (Zoning Board of Appeals) has designated the 4th Tuesday of each month for workshop sessions until their review activity of the Sign Code is completed. For further information, call the Community Development Department, 459-2620.

Village Trustees

Congratulations to the following newly elected Wheeling trustees: Tony Altieri, James Whittington and Judy Abruscato. Congratulations to Chamber member, Jordan Shifrin (Kovitz, Shifrin, Ley, Waitzman, Smoller & Glink), on his election to the Buffalo Grove Village Board.

Wheeling Historical Society

The Wheeling Historical Society will host an 'Autograph Party' on Sunday, June 7, from 2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. at the Indian Trails Library to mark the publication of *Wheeling Through the Years*. The Palwaukee Airport exhibit at the Historical Museum located at Chamber Park (251 N. Wolf Rd.) has been extended through the month of May. The museum is open on Sunday, 1 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. and Tuesday and Thursday from 10 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Wheeling - Bicentennial Community

Wheeling was recently designated as a Bicentennial Community for its plans to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the U.S. Constitution. Wheeling is one of 734 communities nationwide to take part in the program.



Laurels to Bob and Barb McIntyre for the hundreds of volunteer hours they spent editing a book about the history of Wheeling. The 240-page book, which spans 153 years of Wheeling's history,

includes the work of 47 authors and starts in 1833 with George Strong, the first settler in the village, and concludes with the purchase of Pal-Waukee Airport. It differs from most other history books because it is a composed mostly of taped conversations with long-time village residents. It also includes information from conversations Wheeling historian Marshall Balling had with residents in 1974 and also from newspaper clippings. The McIntyres worked for three years editing and interviewing the authors. The book will be sold by the Wheeling Historical Society starting in June.

WHEELING HISTORY. The Village of Wheeling issued a proclamation observing National Historic Preservation Week, May 10-16. This is a time for Wheeling residents to learn more about the village's history by visiting the local museum located in Chamber Park, 251 N. Wolf Rd. Special exhibits are planned throughout the year, and the Pal-Waukee Airport exhibit has been extended through the month of May. Members of the Wheeling Historical Society serve as guides during museum hours, 1 to 5 p.m. Sundays and 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays. For further information, call 537-3119 during museum hours or 537-5110 anytime.

LIFE IN WHEELING

History Week wheels out Wheeling tradition

BY SANDY ALTIERI 5/7/87

The village of Wheeling issued a proclamation observing National Historic Preservation Week May 10 to May 16. This is a time for Wheeling residents to learn more about the village's rich history by visiting the local museum.



ALTIERI

The museum, located in Chamber Park, 251 N. Wolf Road, was the original Village Hall built in 1895 at a cost of \$553.26. It was located on Milwaukee Avenue under the water tower until the Historical Society had it moved to its present location. The museum has many permanent exhibits including the first fire pumper purchased in 1904, photographs and memorabilia from Wheeling's early restaurants, the Schneider family exhibit, and an "old school" exhibit featuring an old-fashioned school desk where children may sit and look through textbooks from the early 1900s.

There are special exhibits throughout the year. The Palwaukee Airport exhibit has been extended through the month of May, as it has proven to be extremely popular. This exhibit consists of memorabilia from the airport and numerous photographs including aerial views of the Wheeling area.

For those who enjoy a nice long walk in the summertime, the Wheeling Historical Society has made available a listing of the historically significant buildings in Wheeling. Did you know that John's Shoe Repair on Milwaukee Avenue was Wheeling's first funeral home or that Zack's Carpeting was Wheeling's first garage?

To learn more about Wheeling's rich and colorful history, stop in at the museum to browse and pick up your Walking Tour booklet. Members of the Wheeling Historical Society serve as guides during museum hours, Sundays 1 to 5 p.m., and Tuesdays and Thursdays 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. For further information call 537-3119 during museum hours or 537-5110 anytime.

Walking Tour of Wheeling introduced

Walk into history in Wheeling

By C. L. WALLER 5/6/87
Daily Herald Staff Writer

The transformation of Wheeling's first funeral home into John's Shoe Repair at 67 S. Milwaukee Ave. is one of the historical oddities on tap for visitors who take a walking tour of the village.

Beginning Sunday, the Wheeling Historical Society is providing tour booklets for history buffs, particularly those interested in Milwaukee Avenue history.

And because of increased interest in walking, the society decided to list historically significant buildings in Wheeling as a walking tour guide, society member Sandy Altieri said.

Those who are ambitious walkers might want to venture east on Dundee to the Balling family's farm store or west on Dundee Road to the Wheeling Cemetery, Altieri said.

Interested persons can pick up booklets at the Wheeling Historical Museum, in Chamber of Commerce Park, 251 N. Wolf Road, from 1 to 5 p.m. Sundays and from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Society members will be available at those times to also provide tours of the museum.

The museum was the original village hall in Wheeling, built in 1895 for \$553.26. It was located on Milwaukee Avenue and Center Street until the society moved it to the park.

Childerley Chapel in Childerley Park, 506 McHenry Road, will open for public tours on Memorial Day weekend and remain open for tours through Labor Day. Historical society members will be available to give tours of the chapel during its regular hours from 1 to 5 p.m. on Sundays.

Special week brings local history tribute

It's over. That wild and wonderful week of tribute to: Historic Preservation.

For those of you who weren't aware, May 10 through 16 was Historic Preservation Week, sponsored by the National Trust for Historic Preservation to promote awareness and preservation of historic landmarks for future generations to enjoy.

As a kind of closing ceremony, it seems only fitting to review some of our own history from right here in Wheeling, and to honor those people in the community who have been working on "Wheeling Through the Years," the historical account of our village.

The Wheeling Historical Society is responsible for the bulk of this project, which will be available for purchase after June 7 of this year. In addition, Billy & Co. Restaurant, Cole Taylor Bank/Main First National Bank of Wheeling, MFC Mortgage Company, and the Wheeling Chamber of Commerce, have all helped to foot the production and printing costs.

Some interesting stories which came in too late to go to press are highlighted here:

Did you know, for instance, that "Way Back When" Wheeling had two doctors, Dr. Moffit and Dr. Rice; two blacksmiths, William Metz and Mr. Riswick; a wagon maker, Louis Fischer; a hardware store by Messrs. Fassbender and Arnold which was established in 1880; a brewery owned and operated by Mr. Periolat; and a milk and cheese factory built by Mr. Boehmer and operated by him for many years? It looks like things have just blossomed from there...

And, the Wheeling Historical Society tells us that a former Girl Scout camp still exists within the boundaries of Wheeling.

The buildings are there — the Denoyer home, the log Girl Scout building, a partially demolished barn and the out-buildings. They



Lisa Schab
Wheeling

are not accessible, but the 100 acre Denoyer farm never was. Now the farm is mostly covered by the Chelsea Cove housing development and the new Kingsport Commons.

Reportedly, Xenia Denoyer, who had met Lucille Schneider — early Wheeling resident — at a Scout training session in Elkhorn, Wisconsin, was convinced by her to change her Girl Reserves unit into Girl Scout Troop No. 1 of Wheeling.

Denoyer remained active as a leader in Wheeling for 29 years. Jean Haeger of Wheeling recently received the 1987 Denoyer Award for Excellence, given to a person who "best represents the adult Girl Scout volunteer" in the community.

In memories brought to light by Adeline Schneider, Elsie Hiller and Ethel Wieder, we learn about Jacob Schwinger. This man, rumored to be a Democrat, was alleged to have sung in the Presbyterian Church choir on Sunday mornings, and then spend the rest of the day singing up a storm in the taverns along Milwaukee Avenue.

Wieder remembered that when a death occurred in town, the church bell tolled the age of the deceased. It last rang for Jean Utpadel.

Another citizen remembered was William Buckley, a leather worker who repaired shoes. Because his legs were amputated, he rode in a homemade cart and his customers brought their shoes out to him to be fixed.

"Political history is far too criminal a subject to be a fit thing to teach children." — W.H. Auden

NEIGHBORS

SPINNING WHEEL

By Beverly Spadafora

FOR THOSE OF YOU who would enjoy learning more about Wheeling history, the Wheeling Historical Society recently completed a Walking Tour Booklet. Sandy and Anthony Altieri constructed the booklet to aid groups as well as private citizens in learning more about the community. The tour starts out at Chamber Park at the Museum (the original Village Hall), continues north on Wolf Rd. to Strong St., onto Milwaukee Ave. and ends at Bob Chinn's Crabhouse (Hartmann House Restaurant until 1955). Anyone interested in obtaining a copy of the Walking Tour Booklet can pick one up at the Historical Society Museum.

Tour Booklet

Wheeling Historical Society

WALKING TOUR OF THE MILWAUKEE AVENUE

HISTORICAL DISTRICT

1987

The Wheeling Historical Society has prepared this walking tour to highlight the historically significant buildings in the Milwaukee Ave. area. The tour is 1 1/2 miles in length, starting at the museum and ending at the Crabhouse.

Start at Chamber Park:

The museum is the original Village Hall which was built in 1894 on S. Milwaukee Ave. under the water tower.

The church at the east end of the park was built in 1865 on Dundee Rd. just west of Milwaukee Ave.

Both of these buildings were moved to their present location by the Historical Society.

Now go north on Wolf Rd. to Strong St. Turn right on Strong and head east.

This section was known as the Zelosky subdivision. William Zelosky owned the land, subdivided it, and sold lots in 1926-27. Then came the Depression, times were bad. Many of the people were forced to build houses of cardboard, garages, or at best, sub-standard houses.

Southeast corner of 3rd. and Strong -
Gieske house

This house was originally at the corner of Dundee Rd. and Wille Ave. It was moved here to make room for the shopping center. He was a veterinarian.

Northeast corner of 1st. and Strong -
Utpadel house

This house was originally on Dundee Rd. and was moved to make room for McDonalds. The Utpadel family ran the quarry and produced the cement blocks which were used to build many of the buildings in town.

Turn right on Milwaukee Ave. and head south. This section, between Strong St. and Dundee Rd., was known as Muetzeberg Hill.

On the east side of Milwaukee Ave:

231 Wiest house (1900-1910)

219 Johnson house (1910-1920)

199 Royal Blue Store (1930's)
(now Acme Heating)

145 Periolat house (1850's)
(now Kiddie Kollege)

George Periolat, who married Emma Schneider, lived here with his family until he became wealthy working at the Crane Plumbing Co. and moved to a mansion in Chicago. Dr. J. George Schneider, Wheeling Township's first veterinarian, then moved here with his family. The Periolat's later moved back here to spend their last days, enlarging and remodeling the house at that time.

133 Schneider house (1840's)

Dr. Schneider's son, Reinhold, who owned a saddlery, lived here with his wife and two daughter's Adeline and Lucile. The girls, who never married, lived here together -- Adeline, now in her 90's, still resides in the house.

119 Wolf house (1840's)

109 Meyer house (1910-1920)
(now Drum Center)

John Meyer was a retired farmer and during World War I, grew garlic in what is now Don Roth's parking lot.

61 Schminke house (1860-80)
(now Don Roth's)

The Schminke family ran the General Store, located where the Masonic Hall now stands, in the 1880's.

Turn left on Dundee Rd. going east to the river.

On the north side of Dundee Rd:

444 Wheeling Farm Store (1939)
This was the original site of Boehmer's Creamery, which was destroyed by fire in the 20's. The original Wheeling Farm Store, owned by the Balling family, was located across the street just east of the river. (The foundation still remains) When the Forest Preserve District took over the land, the frame building was torn down and this one was built. They sold poultry, eggs, vegetables, and homemade apple cider for many years.

450 Welflin house (1893)
(behind the Wheeling Farm Store)
The Welflin and Balling families, who were related through marriage, lived in this two-flat. The Welflin's owned the General Store from 1918 to the 1960's. This house was also moved from the south side of Dundee Rd. east of the river to its present location.

Both buildings are still occupied by the Balling family.

Return to Milwaukee Ave. and turn left, going south.

On the west side of Milwaukee Ave:

4 Wheeling State Bank (1927)
(now Highwood Appliances)
The bank, originally across the street on the southeast corner, moved to this new building because of need for expansion. There was also a Drug Store on the 1st. floor and the Telephone Exchange on the 2nd. floor.

On the east side of Milwaukee Ave:

- 47 Forke house (1915)
(now Law Office - Ronald Urkovich)
- 61 Forke Garage (1920's)
(now Zack's Carpeting)
This building replaced the original garage, Wheeling's first, which was destroyed by fire. It was run by Frank Forke.
- 67 Wheeling Funeral Home (1920's)
(now John's Shoe Repair)
This building replaced the original funeral home, Wheeling's first, which was also destroyed by fire. It was owned by Frank Forke, who was also an Undertaker.
- 115 Schmidt Meat Market (1918)
(now Progressive Office Equipment)
The butcher, Hans Schmidt, was Wheeling's Village President from 1935 to 1945.

On the west side of Milwaukee Ave:

- 124 Union Hotel (1925)
(now Billy and Company)
This building replaced the original Union Hotel and Hall, built in 1877, which was destroyed by fire.
- 150 Bollenbach house (1880's)
They owned a General Store from the late 1880's to the 1930's.
- 160 Sigwalt house (1880's)
Mr. Sigwalt was the Postmaster and was a partner with Christ Bollenbach in the store which was located immediately south of Two Doves.

On the east side of Milwaukee Ave:

- 203 Wheeling Hospital (opened 1927)
(directly south of Kolssak's)
This was originally Dr. Larson's office
which he turned into a hospital.
- 213 Krueger house
Mr. Krueger owned a Blacksmith Shop just
south of the house.

On the west side of Milwaukee Ave:

- 224 Arnold house (1850-1870)
(now Trailer Sales Office)
Jacob Arnold worked as a Tinsmith with
his brother-in-law, William Fassbender.
- 248 Kuffer house and barn (1840's)
He was a Beer Distributor with his
business in a building just north of the
house.
- 260 Pieper Garage (1928)
(now Harrison Supply)
August Pieper built this garage to
replace his Blacksmith Shop at a time
when automobiles were becoming popular.
The garage was run by his son, Walter.
- 270 Pieper house (1840's)
This house is still owned and occupied
by the Pieper family. The design of the
cornices represents Greek Revival
architecture.
- 290 Grewe house (1865)
This house was always a rental until the
Grewe's bought it as a retirement home.
They previously owned a farm on the
present site of Wheeling Nursery.

Cross Mors Ave.

- 372 Mors house (1840's)
The Mors family, who farmed the land
behind the house, also owned a tavern
further north on Milwaukee Ave. This
house is said to have been built around
a log cabin.
- 400 Graf house
(now J, R. Wilke, Inc. Custom Builder)
Wheeling's first Telephone Exchange was
operated out of this house from 1901 to
1927 by Augusta Schwingel Graf.

On the east side of Milwaukee Ave:

- 393 Hartmann House Restaurant (1917)
(now Bob Chinn's Crabhouse)
This restaurant was owned by the
Hartmann family until 1955. The
original ornate, mahogany bar is still
in use today.

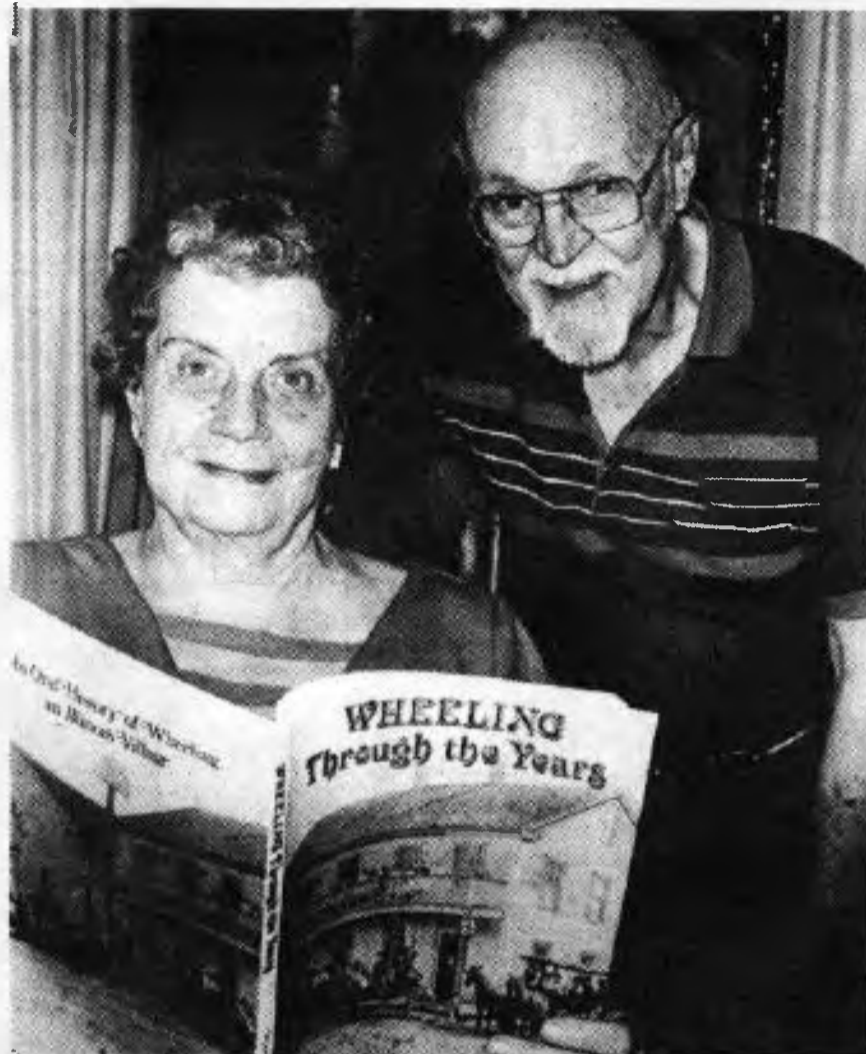
We hope you enjoyed your tour and learned a
little more about Wheeling's history. You
might wish to visit the Wheeling Cemetery
where many of Wheeling's old settlers are
buried. The cemetery, which is located on
the south side of Dundee Rd. just east of
Wolf Rd., is open daily from 9:00 a.m. to
3:00 p.m.

May, 1987

Compiled by Barb McIntyre

Wheeling Countryside

Thursday, May 28, 1987



Wheeling residents Barbara and Robert McIntyre have just finished editing an oral history of the village. (Staff photo by Kathy Tray)

New book portrays Wheeling's early years

"My earliest recollection of Wheeling is that when we went to town we used a horse and buggy. I went to Sunday school at the Wheeling Presbyterian Church with a horse and buggy and Milwaukee Ave. was all gravel road..."

— Bob Allison

"Wheeling was mostly a farming community, although in town you had your general store where you could buy almost anything. There were a couple of meat markets. Hans Schmidt was a butcher when I was growing up on Milwaukee Ave. and I remember we used to have our cow and when it had a calf we would take the calf up there and he would butcher it..."

— Betty Barrie

By Susan White

Personal recollections like these do more than document history in the just-published "Wheeling Through the Years," they tell readers what it was really like in Wheeling from 1833 through 1986.

Edited by the husband and wife team of Barbara and Robert McIntyre, the oral history represents years of research and hours of taped interviews with residents who remember the old days in Wheeling.

The McIntyres, who worked as editors before retiring in 1978, responded in 1983 to a plea from the Wheeling Historical Society for volunteers to help with the massive task of putting together a history book about the village.

"We thought there would be more volunteers, a bigger organization working on the project," Barbara said, but after a year of research and "spinning their wheels" the couple decided it was time to get things going and they took on the project themselves.

WORKING IN THEIR home, Barbara transcribed more than 30 tapes, while her husband fed all the information into a borrowed computer. They originally had planned to use the computer only as a tool to file the interview dialogue that was categorized by subject so it could be retrieved and edited when it came time to put together the actual chapters for the book.

In the end, they were able to do all of the typesetting on the computer, producing camera ready pages for the printer. After seeing a mock-up of the book, several local businesses and the Wheeling Area Chamber of Commerce added their support to the project by covering the cost of printing the finished product: 1,000 copies that are being kept under wraps until a June 7 publication party at the Indian Trails Library, 355 Schoenbeck Road.

"The publication party will be like a graduation for us, a celebration," Barbara said. Thinking back over the four years it took to complete the project, the McIntyres said there were surprisingly few hurdles on the way to the book's completion.

"It really has gone smoothly, aside from the fact that it seemed like it would never end," Barbara joked. But as the two talk about the book and the people they met along the way, it's obvious the project was a labor of love.

WHILE THE MCINTYRES have only lived in Wheeling for nine years, they have developed strong community ties through the book. "I have been living in the past so much with all of this, I feel like I was a native. I feel very protective about the old buildings that they want to tear down now," Barbara said.

Those community feelings are part of the basis for the book. "History binds a community together," said Robert. "If the members of a community have a common knowledge of their history it pulls them together. It's good for people to know more about their roots, especially since people are more mobile today."

His wife agreed that it's important to let future generations know the history of their community. This is especially true in villages like Wheeling that are in a state of constant change — with old buildings being torn down and new developments replacing them, she said.

The timing of the book was critical. "We were doing it now before the old

Continued

Early years—

Continued

people are gone. Their grandparents were the founders of this community and they are the only ones left who have heard the stories first hand," Barbara said.

THOSE STORIES, IN their original form, are what give life to "Wheeling Through the Years."

"History seems more real to the reader if it's in the words of the people who lived it," Robert said.

The book opens not with a lengthy description of Wheeling's first residents, but with the words of Lucile Schneider, the granddaughter of George J. Schneider, Wheeling's first veterinarian.

"There were two gateposts in front of Grampa's house. Before we had regular lights, we kids used to sit on the top of those posts in the evening and wait for the lamplighter to come. The village marshal — he served as a lamplighter. We didn't have electricity yet. He had a torch and a little wooden ladder."

"**WE TRIED TO** keep it as faithful as possible to the tapes. I transcribed over 30 tapes, which is six hours of work for every one hour of tape," Barbara said.

After each chapter was completed, copies were sent to everyone who was represented in that chapter and they had a chance to correct any errors, Barbara explained.

Robert said the folksy tone of the book was one of his favorite elements of the project. The words of Ethel Wieder illustrate his point: "I'll tell you in those days it was different than it is today. From the time I was about 17 or 18 every Saturday night we had dances in town. No matter where you went, you knew everybody. Even when you went to Glenview. It isn't like that today."

Folksy doesn't necessarily preclude a little scandal. Some of the book's best moments are resident's memories of the prohibition days and Wheeling's role as the area watering hole.

FORMER POLICE CHIEF Police Chief Marvin O. Horcher's, known as "Syke," remembered, "At the time I started with the police department there were about 350 people in Wheeling, and maybe 19 or 20 taverns. Almost all of the fine North Shore towns were dry.

"They just wouldn't tolerate alcohol or demon rum in their borders. So on weekends, Wheeling became the watering hole for the fine people who wouldn't allow such beverages in their towns. Two or three good tavern brawls per weekend were not uncommon."

"We didn't intentionally leave anything out," Barbara said. "The book sounds like people are sitting around a table talking; it's friendly."

Reflecting on the project, Barbara said the effort was somewhat like a working on a jigsaw puzzle — looking for the right pieces to put together the whole picture. Although the puzzle is finally complete, the McIntyres' interest in their town will continue as they both plan on remaining active members of the historical society. The money from the sale of the book will go back to the Wheeling Historical Society to help with restoration projects.

"The money from 1,000 copies at \$7.95 each will not in itself move buildings, but it will help," Barbara said. The book will hopefully generate more interest in the historical society, bringing more members together to work for the preservation of their town, she said.

After the publication party, the book will be available at Billy & Company restaurant, Cole Taylor Bank, The First National Bank of Wheeling, MFC Mortgage and the Wheeling Area Chamber of Commerce, all of whom helped sponsor the book.

Book takes readers on walk through history

Bob and Barbara McIntyre have a lot of numbers in their lives. They have a phone number, a house number, social security numbers, insurance policy numbers, license numbers, bank account numbers, serial numbers and probably credit card numbers.

They have more numbers than they know what to do with and, yet, today they're celebrating the addition of another number in their lives. A very important number. One they've worked hard for, and have been waiting for, for a long time.

What is it? It's Library of Congress Catalog Number 87-10386, ISSN 0-9618659-0-3.

Those are the numbers on the inside title page of *Wheeling Through the Years*, a book which they've been working on for the last several years; the book which you've read little bits and snatches about in this column, and the book which is finally completed, in print, and available for sale in our village.

Wheeling Through the Years, I hope, was worth the wait for the McIntyres. It is a beautifully put together and simply and personally told account of the history of Wheeling, Ill.

The entire book is written in narrative style, letting the reader sit in on conversations and reminiscences of what life was like here in some much earlier times.

The comfortably matched stories and pictures present a pleasant walk through the years and events which preceded our present days in Wheeling. It's more personal than any history book you've ever read before, because you can look out of your window and actually see where the dirt roads used to be, where the horse-drawn station wagon used to travel, acting as a school bus for the local children.

You are a part of this book because you are its future. You are what comes after the last page has been read; it is your past.

"There are two gateposts in front of Grandpa's house," narrates Lucile Schneider as the book opens. "Before we had regular lights, we kids used to sit on

Lisa Schab

Wheeling



top of those posts in the evening and wait for the lamplighter to come. The village marshal — he served as lamplighter. We didn't have electricity yet. He had a torch and a little wooden ladder. Henry Hipp was the marshal and one of his duties was to light all these lamps.

"There was no sidewalk. The lamp just made a little light, you know, for the roadway, and Grandpa wanted a little light for his entry. We stayed on the posts, and when the lamplighter came along he was carrying his lantern and his torch on one side and his ladder on the other. We loved to watch him put the torch up and light the flame."

Now, tell me you can't look out of your front window at dusk tonight and squint your eyes a little bit and see that lamplighter coming down the street. If you can't, you'd better try, or you're missing something. And then let your kids try, because that lamplighter is a part of the days that they'll never even really be able to understand.

Wheeling Through the Years is a realistic and important look at our past that stirs the sentiments and rouses fantasies of simpler times just enough to keep us smiling and reading on.

A publication party is taking place from 2 to 5 p.m., today, at the Indian Trails Library, after which, the book will be available for purchase at the following locations: Billy and Company Restaurant, Cole Taylor Bank, The First National Bank of Wheeling, MFC Mortgage, and the Wheeling Area Chamber of Commerce, all of whom helped sponsor the book.

"A good book is the precious life-blood of a master spirit, embalmed and treasured up on purpose to a life beyond life." (John Milton)

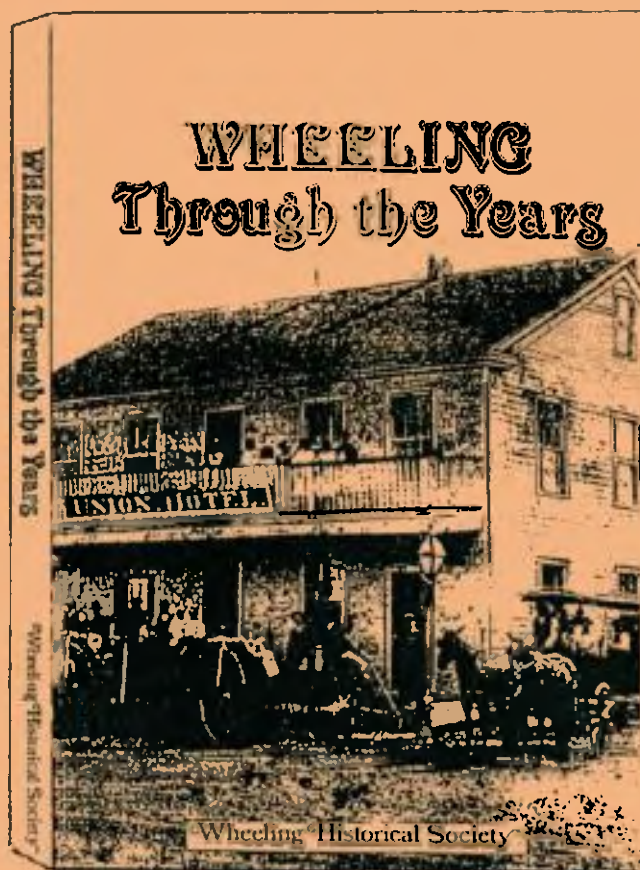
Wheeling
Historical
Society

cordially invites you
to a

*Publication
Party*

Sunday June Seventh
Two to Five p.m.

Indian Trails Library
355 Schoenbeck Road



Oral History of an Illinois Village

Autographs

Refreshments

Wheeling Through the Years

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The Wheeling
Historical Society

Library of Congress
Catalog No. 87-10386
ISSN 0-9618659-0-3
Paperback, \$7.95



Wheeling's history

Syke Horcher (left), a writer, along with Barbara and Bob McIntyre, editors, look through the book "Wheeling Through the Years," which has just been pub-

Photo by Tom Bartholomew

lished by the Wheeling Historical Society. The book is an oral history of Wheeling, related by Wheeling residents.



Indian Trails Library



Adeline Schneider - Bernice Schuler



Marshall Balling



John Koppau - Syke Horcher Hope Mclothlin



Shirley Koeppen



Sr. Mary Therese Martinez



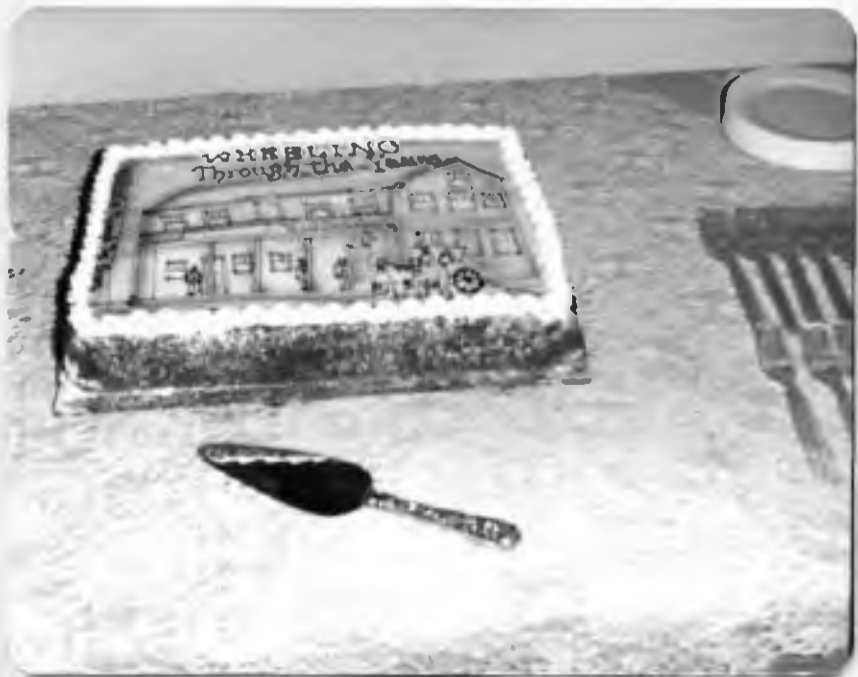
Bernice Schuler, June Orbuski



Barbara Forke - Irene Dattilo



B. and B. McIntyre



'Wheeling Through the Years'

History book contains remembrances of founding families

BY MARIE LUTZ
Staff Writer

WHEELING — At the beginning of the century, Wheeling had no electricity along Milwaukee Avenue so a big event for some children in the small community was waiting for the lamp lighter to come along in the evening.

Carrying a lantern and torch along with a wooden ladder, the lamp lighter would stop at each post along the gravel road, put up the torch and light the flame.

This is one of the memories recounted by Lucile Schneider, born in 1897, who is one of the many Wheeling residents interviewed for the book "Wheeling Through the Years," edited by Barbara and Robert McIntyre for the Wheeling Historical Society.

The McIntyres worked on this oral history for three years, mainly using tapes recorded either by themselves or others. But while their subject is the past, the McIntyres utilized the most up-to-date technology to produce the book: the computer.

Robert McIntyre selected from notes his wife transcribed from the tapes and put them into the computer, using the instrument to file everything according to topic and speaker.

This made it easier to organize the history according to topics such as "Reflections on the (Des Plaines) River" or "The German Farmers."

The McIntyres are well qualified to have undertaken a task of this sort. For 17 years before she retired in 1978 Barbara McIntyre was editorial secretary of the PSA Journal (an organ of the Photographic Society of America), which was edited by her husband during that period of time.

The oral history of Wheeling that the McIntyres have helped produce offers many glimpses into life as it was once lived.

The people interviewed picture

the Des Plaines as clean and fresh, the center of a large play area where children could swim in the summer and ice skate in the winter.

But despite the rural atmosphere traffic jams came early to the small village. Lorraine Haben, for instance, who grew up in the '20s and '30s, remembers that when she was a child there was bumper to bumper traffic along Milwaukee Avenue on summer weekends.

The residents also recall the problems of the depression. Syke Horcher, who later became police

chief, tells about the trouble he got into while trying to earn some money at the Arlington Country Club by finding and selling lost golf balls.

The young entrepreneur wound up one day with \$6.40, but instead of being proud, his father insisted he must have stolen the money and dragged his son to the country club to see the manager.

Horcher's father couldn't believe his son could come home with \$6.40 when people were earning \$1 a day.

"The sad part that was not understood," Horcher said, "was

that when you have a depression those with money get super-rich, you know? And those who have little end up with nothing."

Residents also recall Childerley, part of which is now owned by the Wheeling Park District, but which was once used as a place to house widows and their children.

The late Edna Ragusin Wilkins, in a journal she kept, tells of her life at Childerley from 1935 to 1939 when her mother, a widow with nine children, moved there from Chicago.

Although she concludes that few people are as lucky as she was to have lived at Childerley, Wilkins wrote that her first impression of "the farm" was one of despair.

"Adapted to city life, I had little desire for the quiet of the country," Wilkins wrote. "The day we drove into the grounds I was sick with despondency. I asked my mother how much time we would have to spend there.

"Just about four years, Sis," she answered. This was just to quiet me, I knew, but her prediction proved correct for that is the time we did stay."

Other anecdotes are told by John Forke, who remembers Edward Larson, a doctor who "made his own pills and everything else."

"In 1941 I came down with pneumonia and he took care of me for three months," Forke said.

"Highland Park had the closest hospital until Dr. Larson opened his on Milwaukee Avenue. It was a small place. I think he had three or four nurses at that time, and I think he had twelve beds or so. He was a good doctor. He saved my life."

Because of the effort of volunteers and the sponsorship of five local businesses, "Wheeling Through the Years" was produced at little cost to the Historical Society. All profits from the sale of the work go to benefit the organization.

The book can be obtained through the Wheeling Historical Society for \$7.95.

19th-century resident recalls life on the farm

In "Wheeling Through The Years," residents recount their experiences growing up and living in the village. In this excerpt from the book, Irwin Plagge, in a 1974 interview, tells of some of the perils of farming. Plagge grew up in North Northfield, just across the river from Wheeling.

"I was born in the worst snowstorm of the winter. It was a blizzard, in fact, and nobody could get through on the roads. Our farm was in North Northfield, and my father had to take the horses and the farm sled and drive to Wheeling and get Dr. Benz, the only doctor we had at that time, and bring him out to the farm. The storm was so bad he couldn't get back home until the next day, so we kept him all night. That was the day before Thanksgiving in 1891.

"Farmers who drove to the Chicago market with their produce had to be careful. There were always a lot of crooks there, watching. They would follow the farmers at night time and try to rob them of the money that they

made from their produce.

"Not only that, but they used to come out and steal the live animals, the smaller ones like chickens. They'd clean out the whole henhouse.

"Of course another interesting thing which very few people will tell you about is the wild hogs that we had. See, every immigrant brought with him some domestic animals like cows, pigs and chickens, so they had something to start with. But at first they had no fences and nothing to keep them in and these pigs finally would run away into the woods and live on the acorns. And of course eventually they would never come back home any more, so they grew up wild.

"In order to get them, the farmers would have to go out and shoot them. Not only that, but they were very ferocious and people had to be careful about going through the woods because often they started a stampede and would attack. Anything that got in their way, the wild pigs would grab and eat."

LIFE IN WHEELING

Old Settler's picnic to spin stories of yore

BY SANDY ALTIERI

On July 4th, the Wheeling Historical Society is sponsoring the fourth annual Old Settler's Picnic at noon in Chamber Park, 251 N. Wolf Road. All Wheeling "old settlers" are invited to attend, with each family bringing a salad or meat dish to share.



ALTIERI

Annual picnics were common in this area many years ago. It was one of the big social events of the year with group pictures taken and speeches given. It was a chance for the residents, most of whom were farmers, to get together and discuss the previous year's happenings. Following in this tradition, guests are invited to get up and speak of "old times in Wheeling" if they wish.

There will be a sing-a-long with music provided by Isabelle Stevenson at the piano. For more information, please call Betty Taylor Barrie at 537-0327, Lorraine Schmidt Haben at 537-0654, or Dorothy Balling Flentge at 259-0309.

Would you like to get a feeling of what it was like living in Wheeling just after the turn of the century when life was a lot simpler? Then the Wheeling Historical Society's recently published book "Wheeling Through the Years" is for you. It is an oral history taken from the interviews of nearly 50 people, many of whom have lived in Wheeling since childhood.

In the words of Lorraine Schmidt Haben "From Thanksgiving on, the river was frozen and we could skate. You could skate from the dam all the way up to Half Day — as we got older, of course. But again the older kids took care of the younger ones. Daddy, being a butcher, every once in a while when he felt real generous would come down with a bunch of hot dogs and buns. We would have a big bonfire right near the wall where the old brewery used to be."

Relating one of the Halloween pranks in the 20s and 30s is Oscar Laurance: "I'd better not talk about Halloween! I could still be thrown in jail yet. Earl Johnson and my brother and I were al-

ways followed real close by the police on Halloween. This time we had somebody else driving my Model T Ford. I can remember taking a big milk sign from along the highway and nailing it right across the front door of the Village Hall. First we took some chickens and put them in there, so you can imagine what happened."

As you read the book, you feel as though you are sitting around the kitchen table with the narrators as they reminisce. The book takes you from Wheeling's beginning, through suburbanization in the 50s, up to the present.

"Wheeling Through the Years," which made its debut at a Publication Party June 7 at the Indiana Trails Library, is on sale for \$7.95 at the Historical Museum and the Wheeling Chamber of Commerce office. For further information, please call Editors Bob and Barb McIntyre at 537-3497.

Some local trivia to keep for lazy days

You're sitting around the grill with the neighbors and some beers, the kids are busy trying to chase to dog into the wading pool, you get into a discussion about Wheeling trivia, and you're at a stalemate about one certain fact.

Wait! You remember that you've got the evidence taped to your refrigerator door. You run into the house and pull off the top of this column which you taped up there right after reading it. (In summer we have more time to do these things.) And... here's your answer.

Lisa Schab

Wheeling



Cost of Pet Licenses: \$5 per year per animal.

There. Feel better? Armed with this information you'll have a great shot at winning the last medium-rare hamburger on any Sunday afternoon in the yard.

Summers past

Wonder what people ever did on summer days in Wheeling before the days of packaged buns and pop top cans? According to our village history book, "Wheeling Through the Years," the Des Plaines River was a popular spot for villagers when the weather got very warm.

"Of course Dam No. 2, down near Des Plaines, was a swimming mecca. People came from all over. They had two lifeguards where maybe Wheeling had only one.

Les Galitz and Harold Utpadel were the lifeguards at Wheeling Dam No. 1, and even if we didn't want to swim, we wanted to go to see Les Galitz or Harold Utpadel. I don't know that they saved anybody, but they were down there.

There was a lot of stuff to do. There were diving boards and all that kind of stuff, and they had a merry-go-round and pony rides." (Dorothy Flentge)

"I never expected to see the day when girls would get sunburned in the places they do today." — Will Rogers

Wheeling, Illinois Facts You Can't Afford to Miss

- Population: 26,000
Date of Incorporation: 1894
Form of Government: Village.
President and six trustees at-large; appointed manager.
Median Family Income: \$26,301
Geographics: 8.12 square miles; served by four major highways
Major Thoroughfares: Milwaukee Avenue and Dundee Road
State Representatives: Bernard Pedersen (54th) and Grace Mary Stern (58th)
U.S. Congressman: John Porter (10th)
Budget: Approximately \$15,200,000
Employees:
Fire Department — 38 sworn, 41 total
Police Department — 37 sworn, 59 total
Public Works Department: 32
School Districts: Elementary Districts 23 and 21
High School: District 214
Junior College: William Rainey Harper...
Water Supply: Combination of wells and Lake Michigan
... And, one fact you most certainly can't live through any neighborhood barbecue without:

SPINNING WHEEL



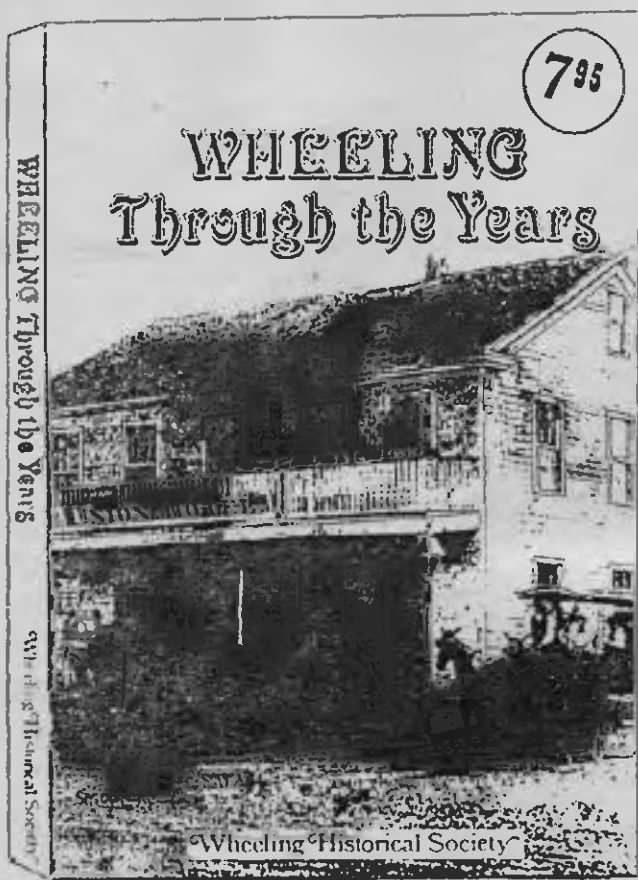
Editor's note: Welcome, please, Barbara McIntyre as our new Wheeling Countryside neighborhood columnist. She and her husband, Bob, are well known to many of you perhaps through their involvement in Whippletree Homeowners Association and the Wheeling Historical Society. Having "retired" to Wheeling nine years ago from Chicago, Barbara is accustomed to editorial assignments. She formerly assisted her husband who was editor of the Photographic Society of America Journal and she most recently edited the oral history of Wheeling which is available through the Historical Society. The McIntyres have two daughters and four grandchildren.

THE CHICAGO SUNDAY Tribune referred to it as a "literary event;" the Sunday Chicago Sun-Times listed it as an autographing party and we immodestly call it Wheeling's first publication party. The celebration on June 7th launched the Wheeling Historical Society's oral history book, "Wheeling Through the Years." When 17 of the authors got together at one table to sign autographs and were surrounded by friends and relatives, the noise level at the Indian Trails Library reached a new high. While librarians held

their ears, 118 purchased copies of the book were autographed by: Charles Balling, Marshall Balling, Betty Taylor Barrie, Vivian Finkelstein, Dorothy Balling Flentge, Lorraine Schmidt Haben, Rudy Horcher, Syke Horcher, Shirley Koeppen, Oscar Laurance, Sister Therese Mary Martinez, Hope McGlothlin, June Grandt Orlowski, Adeline Schneider (who added "age 96" to her signature), Bernice Koeppen Schuler, Edwin Weidner and Ethel Fassbender Wieder. Village President, Shella Schultz, had to be out of town and regretted being unable to sign her section of the book, but offered to autograph copies after the party. She can generally be found in the circulation department of the Indian Trails Library or in her office at the Village Hall.

Included in the 125 additional guests were Eugenia Chapman, our former representative in the state legislature and our current representative in the 58th legislative district, The Hon. Grace Mary Stern. And this isn't even an election year! They came as friends of the Historical Society and moral supporters of "Wheeling Through the Years." Copies of the book may now be purchased at the Wheeling Historical Museum in Chamber Park on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m. and on Sundays from 1 until 5 p.m. They will also be available at the Chamber of Commerce office at 52 S. Milwaukee Av. and Billy and Company restaurant. A picture of the original Union Hotel (now Billy and Company) forms the front and back covers of the book.

July 4, 1987



Wheeling
Historical
Society

fourth annual
Old Settlers Picnic
July 4, 1987



DAILY HERALD: "It is a beautifully put together and simply and personally told account of the history of Wheeling, Ill."--Lisa Schab

WHEELING COUNTRYSIDE: "Personal recollections like these do more than document history in the just published 'Wheeling Through the Years.' They tell the readers what it was really like in Wheeling from 1833 through 1986"--Susan White

WHEELING LIFE: "The oral history of Wheeling... offers many glimpses of life as it once was lived."--Marie Lutz

CRAIN'S CHICAGO BUSINESS: "I think the book reads extremely well..."--Dan Miller, Editor

12:00 - 1:30 Registrations and Lunch

2:00 - What would you add to "Wheeling Through the Years?"--Impromptu recollections of horse and buggy days, led by Dorothy Flentge.

Followed by a sing-a-long accompanied by Isabelle Stevenson

Old Settlers



Elsie Hiller



Otto Orlovski



Marshall Balling



Rudy Horcher



Adeline Schneider