

3/93

WHEELING HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER MARCH 1993

The Wheeling Historical Society Pot-Luck and Auction Meeting was a huge success. There were 55 members and friends gathered for good food (catered by our local Brown's Chicken) and lots of colorful jellos and, of course, many tempting desserts. A **big** thank you to all you gals and guys who donated the jello and desserts and the items for our auction. Lonnie and her committee did an outstanding job. THANK YOU.

Bob Buerger, Sam Dattilo and Lorraine Haben made the auction entertaining and a financial success. Clare's strawberry-rhubarb jam again was a big seller. Willie Franta won the 50-50 raffle. Next year, hopefully this event will be even more fun.

President Schnaitmann made mention of the fact that at our March Meeting we will be voting on the acceptance of changing the positions of Secretary and Corresponding Secretary into one position, that being Secretary. The elected Secretary will then handle the duties of both offices.

Our condolences go out to Barbara LaHay on the death of her husband Arthur and to Otto Orłowski on the death of his wife June Grandt Orłowski. June was a long time member of our Society. President Schnaitmann stated that in the February Newsletter it was inadvertently omitted that condolences go to the Lark Family on the loss of their father, Don Lark who was also a long time member of the Society and also a long time Park Commissioner.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lorraine Haben
Secretary

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

As mentioned in the brief Minutes of the February Meeting, we will be voting on making the necessary change to combine the offices of Secretary and Corresponding Secretary into one office.

Those members present at the March meeting will vote on this change and if accepted will go into affect immediately.

I have appointed Bert Harris, Grace Kostrzewski and Lonnie Schnaitmann to the Nominating Committee. They will be preparing a slate to run for office at our April meeting. They will announce the candidates at the March meeting. Remember, nominations can also be taken from the floor.

I would personally like to thank Lonnie and her committee for the fine job they did on the Pot-Luck and Auction. I think we all had a good time as usual. The auction team also did a great job and auctioned off some one of a kind heirlooms. Some of the items were so precious that they were beyond description. Like Bob Buerger said, he bought something one year and has it sitting in his house and still doesn't know what it is. It was really good to see so many people in attendance. In order for this organization to be successful we have to enjoy what we're

HISTORICAL SOCIETY BOARD

Frank Schnaltmann	President	659-1788
Dolly Hein	Vice-President	537-2315
Ken Kostrzewski	Treasurer	659-3856
Lorraine Haben	Appointed Secretary	537-0651
Betty Barrie	Curator	537-0327
Barbara Forke	Director	537-0398
Pert Harris	Director	657-0161
Sue Knippen	Director	659-3561

Historical Society meeting is held on the 4th Wednesday of each month from September through May with the exception of December when no meeting is held due to Lollipop Lane. The May meeting is our Installation Banquet. Our April meeting is our election meeting. Our annual dues are due in May of each year for the following year. They can be paid at the Installation Banquet or no later than our September meeting.

FEBRUARY

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		

APRIL

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

March 1993

SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT

First Quarter 1-31 Full Moon 8 Last Quarter 15 New Moon 23	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			

SOCIETY BOARD MEETING

St. Patrick's Day

7:30PM HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEETING

Spring Begins



THE ORIGINAL GRANNY'S WAFFLE & PANCAKE HOUSE

Breakfast • Lunch • Dinner

831 W. Dundee Rd. Wheeling, IL 60090

(708) 541-0230 • Carry-Outs

Original village hall houses Wheeling's past

By Mark Mandernach

At first glance, the intersection of Dundee Road and Wolf Road in Wheeling appears to be just another example of suburban sprawl. The gas stations, video stores and strip malls don't really distinguish the area from any other.

But just around the corner, at 251 N. Wolf Road, is the Wheeling Historical Museum, where visitors can retreat in time to see what life was like in Wheeling at the turn of the century and earlier. Wheeling's roots date back to its first settlers in 1833.

"Believe me when I say that Wheeling has changed very much over the years," said museum curator Betty Barrie, who moved to Wheeling when she was 2 years old in 1921. "We've gone from being a farm town where people grew their own vegetables to a full-fledged suburb of Chicago. At the museum we try to show people what life used to be like around here."

The white frame building at the west end of Chamber Park, which now houses the museum, was the original village hall. It was built in 1895 at a cost of \$553.26, which included two jail cells. It also was a meeting place for village trustees, a police station and a courthouse, which explains the jails. It was moved from 84 S. Milwaukee Ave. to its current location in 1978.

One highlight of the museum is the many framed black-and-white photos. Wheeling family doctor Henry A. Benz's Old English home, Earl Johnson's Wheeling Filling Station on Milwaukee Avenue, Aug Pieper's Blacksmith & Horseshoe Shop, and Fassbender's Ice Cream Store at the corner of Milwaukee Avenue and Dundee Road are all preserved through photos. Two miniature displays illustrate "Doctor's House Call" and "General Store."

A menu from the old Hartmann House Restaurant on Milwaukee Avenue brags about an "Extra thick T-bone steak" for a whopping \$2.

"Wheeling has always been known for its fine restaurants," Barrie said. "Going back to the 1920s and 1930s, people would come to Wheeling restaurants from Chicago and the North Shore. Of course, that tradition still exists today."

A speed limit sign from 1904 warns operators of motorized vehicles in Wheeling that they risk fines of \$5 to \$100 if they exceed the 12 mph speed limit. And the limit drops to 4 mph when turning corners. Other

memorabilia includes an Improved New Goodrich foot-pedal sewing machine, an antique switchboard once used by Wheeling telephone operators, old-time phones and items from local fighting men, including World War I and II uniforms and other artifacts.

There are also a number of antique school desks and classroom photos, like Mrs. Holt's Wheeling School class from 1910. And a list of rules and regulations from 1872 illustrates how times have changed in 120 years.

A teacher's duties back then included, among other things, cleaning the chimney and hauling water. Male teachers were allowed one evening each week for courting purposes, but getting a shave in the barber shop "gives good reason to suspect his worth, intention, integrity and honesty." And a teacher who "performs without fault for five years will be given a raise of 25 cents per week."

Along with the regular displays, there are rotating exhibits, depending on the time of year. February means "Valentine's Day Memories" and June is "Wheeling Weddings."

"We try to keep things fresh. People who visit us often appreciate that," Barrie said. "We're always looking for ideas for rotating local exhibits, in case anyone has any suggestions."

And local archives are available, including old village documents, newspaper clippings and postcards, and photos of Wheeling homes and businesses, for residents interested in local history or charting their family tree.

There are two other historical structures at Chamber Park. Sicks Carriage House, which was built in 1892, houses an antique Wheeling fire engine and a variety of agricultural implements. It's open some Sundays, depending on the availability of volunteer help. And the original Wheeling Presbyterian Church, which was erected in 1865, is used for Wheeling Park District pre-school classes, historical society meetings and other events.

Wheeling Historical Museum meetings are held the fourth Wednesday of the month in September, October, November, January, March and April. A potluck supper and auction is held each February, and the annual banquet is in May. Yearly museum events are "Lollipop Lane" for children in December and the "Old Settlers' Picnic" every July.

The Wheeling Historical Museum, 251 N. Wolf Rd., Wheeling, 708-537-3119, is open Sundays from 2 to 4 p.m. Call 708-537-0327 for more information.



Flock illustration

John & Mary Ann Potogowski
1313 Kyeon Ct.
Wilkes, Illinois 60090

Wilkes Historical Society
P. O. Box 3
Wilkes, Illinois 60090

WHEELING HISTORICAL SOCIETY
AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER :

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE :

ROLL CALL :

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS :

SECRETARY'S REPORT :

TREASURER'S REPORT :

CURATOR'S REPORT :

OLD BUSINESS :

- 1 - Pot Luck Dinner & Auction
- 2 - Nominating Committee
- 3 - Amendment to Constitution
4. ~~4~~ [#] Book Sale - 4-24-93

NEW BUSINESS :

- 1 - Fourth of July Parade. CAR & FLOTTA
- 2 - Old Settlers' Picnic
- 3 - Installation Banquet 5-26-93
4. Lions' Breakfast 4-4-93 10:30AM

POT OF GOLD :

MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT :

REFRESHMENTS :

Friday
Deaf at
Church
7:30

Public Relations

doing.

I'm looking forward to another successful year and I'm sure that those officers you elect at the April Meeting will be just as dedicated as were those who will be leaving the Board. Don't forget our March meeting is Wednesday, March 24, 1993 at 7:30 P.M.. Come and socialize with the other members. It's always good to see our members in attendance.

Historically yours,

Frank Schnaitmann
President

Graham Streussel Coffee Cake

350 Degree Oven
13 X 9 pan greased
1 box yellow cake mix (18+ oz. size)

1½ cups Graham Cracker Crumbs
¾ cup chopped nuts (optional)
¾ cup Brown Sugar
1½ tsp. cinnamon
⅔ cup oleo - melted

Method - Mix streussel and set aside.

Prepare cake mix per directions on box. Pour ½ of batter into prepared pan. Sprinkle ½ of streussel mix over batter. Spread remaining batter over the portion in the pan. Top with remaining streussel mix.

Bake 35 to 40 minutes.

When cool top with powdered sugar glaze. 1 cup powdered sugar, 1 tsp. vanilla. Warm water to mix.

Shirley McConnell