

Message From The President

We need a few more people to sit at the museum in September and October. Please volunteer two hours of your time on a Sunday afternoon. Contact Linda Reading at the museum or sign up at the next meeting Wednesday, September 24th.

Hope to see you at the next meeting September 24th

Joan Wiener, President

Dear Members and Friends:

Summer is almost over and we wonder how it went by so fast. Fall is around the corner and we can look forward to the beautiful colors and the cool crisp air.

The meeting of August 27th was very good and the program presented by the Cycling Sisters was excellent. Evie Weber and her sister Norma not only told us about what they experienced along the seven week 2,100 mile trip from Alabama to Canada but also about the history of the underground railroad. It was very interesting. Twenty four people attended including eleven guests, several from outside the community. I want to thank those members who brought the refreshments, help set up and cleaned up after the meeting. October will bring us another interesting program about Mexico and Central America you have never seen. This is presented by one of our own Wheeling resident Mr. Len Afremow.

Our business meeting was short due to the program but we did discuss a few topics. Boy Scout Christopher Erdoss and his troop will start cleaning the farm implements in the Carriage House the first weekend in September. He is working towards his Eagle Scout badge. The members also decided to have an ornament made this year for Lollipop Lane that will be available in December. Our website is also coming along but Terry would like more ideas from the membership as to what you would like to see. Please let us know and check it out.

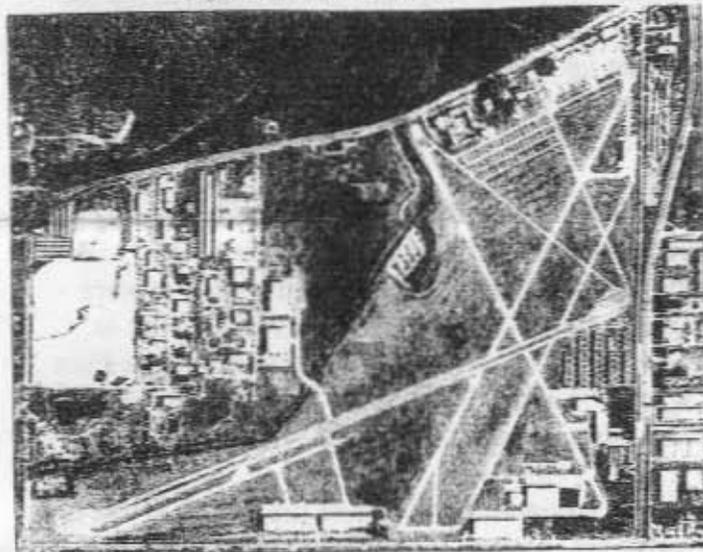
www.wheelinghistoricalsociety.com

A Bit of History



Pal-Waukee Airport Shows Its Flying Colors Through Its History

Taken from the Wheeling Herald Feb. 2, 1994
By Jennifer Andrew



An aerial photograph of Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport.

Pal-Waukee Municipal Airport offers a key into American history. As the country changed, so did the airport.

Flying began with a Wheeling resident named Charles D. Balling. He and a friend from flight school, Les Rodda, purchased a Lincoln Paige 3 seater plane. Charles flew passengers out of a field they rented from Frank Haber located at Deerfield Road and Milwaukee Ave. (Which is now the Pekara subdivision.)

They called it Wheeling Airport. However, their Business soon ended when while taking a friend up for a lesson the plane crashed and was totaled. Luckily, no one was hurt.

In 1926, Wynn Bradford began the development of Pal-Waukee Airport along Palatine Road and about 200 feet west of Milwaukee Ave. The field was owned by Frank and Pete Barchard. Bradford stayed there for two years as a flight instructor and then he went to American Airlines.

According to Marshall Balling, Charles brother, it was a very popular thing in the late '20s and early '30s to line up along Palatine Road and Milwaukee Ave. to watch the planes take-off and land. Also at that time, many people took their first plane ride at Pal-Waukee for only a few dollars with one of the professional pilots.

In 1933, during the Century of Progress Exposition, a Goodyear blimp was kept at Pal-Waukee for the duration of the World's fair. People would be brought up from Miegs field downtown to see it. The hanger was located across from where the 94th Aero Squadron Restaurant is located today.

During the World War-II years, a flight training program walled Civilian Pilot Training (CPT) was happening. During this time, many women were learning to fly. Esther Noffke, a former pilot at Pal-Waukee airport, was a Woman Air Force Pilot (WASP) during 1944 and 1945. When the WASPs were deactivated, she came to Wheeling.

Owen Jones was the owner of the airport at the time Noffke was a pilot. In 1946, he sold it to Parks Aircraft of East St. Louis. The airport was then sold again in 1953 to George Priester.

At this time, technology was advancing rapidly at Pal-Waukee. They erected 70 individual T-hangers, they put in a center field runway which was later

converted to a taxi-way after they put in the dual runway system. Along with the land changes came new planes. Businesses such as the Wrigley Company and King Korn Stamp Company kept their DC-3s and B-25s at Pal-Waukee.

As the Sixties came along so did the Lear Jet, many new motels in the Wheeling Area and a new control tower for the airport.

In 1986, the City of Prospect Heights and the Village of Wheeling purchased the airport.



THE END.

How Old is Grampa???

One evening a grandson was talking to his Grandfather about current events. The grandson asked his grandfather what he thought about the shootings at schools, the computer age, and things in general. The Grandfather replied, "Well, let me think a minute, I was born before: television, penicillin, polio shots, frozen foods, Xerox, contact lenses, Frisbees and the pill.

There were no: credit cards, laser beams or ball point pens. Man had not invented: pantyhose, air conditioners, dishwashers and clothes dryers and the clothes were hung out to dry in the fresh air and man hadn't yet walked on the moon.

Your grandmother and I got married first, ...then lived together. Every family had a father and a mother. Until I was 25, I called every man older than me "Sir". After I turned 25, I still called policemen and every man with a title, "Sir."

**How Old is Grampa? Keep guessing
Continued next time.....!!!!!!**

CHRONOLOGY

Jack London school opened. Wheeling Park District was created in 1959, 1960, 1961?

St. Joseph's parochial school was built. Wheeling Public Library District was established, taking in 10 square miles in 1955, 1957, 1959, 1960?

Wheeling High School opened. Library moved from Union Hotel location to former Welflin store on S. Milwaukee Ave. Cameo Terrace North was constructed in 1960, 1963, 1965, 1967?

Population was 7,169, an increase of 683 percent from 1950 to 1960. Rickett's restaurant replaces Tony Blum's. Volunteer firemen were paid \$1 per call in 1958, 1960, 1961, 1962?

The population was 9,627. Last service held in the old Presbyterian Church. The Park District opened an ice rink at Chamber Park in 1962, 1964, 1966?

ANSWERS: 1961, 1959, 1963, 1960, 1961, 1961

NATURAL HIGHS

HAVING SOMEONE PLAY WITH YOUR HAIR

SWEET DREAMS

HOT CHOCOLATE

ROAD TRIPS WITH FRIENDS

SWINGING ON SWINGS

MAKING EYE CONTACT WITH A CUTE STRANGER

MAKING CHOCOLATE CHIP COOKIES

HAVING YOUR FRIENDS SEND YOU HOMEMADE COOKIES.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

SEPT. 18th .. Board Meeting

SEPT. 24th .. Regular Meeting

GETTING OLD IS HILARIOUS

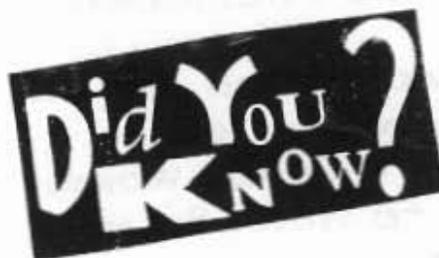
OLD FRIENDS

Two elderly ladies had been friends for many decades over the years, they had shared all kinds of activities and adventures. Lately, their activities had been limited to meeting a few times a week to play cards.

One day, they were playing cards when one looked at the other and said, "Now don't get mad at me... I know we've been friends for a long time ...but I just can't think of your name! I thought and thought, but I can't remember it. Please tell me what your name is."

Her friend glared at her. For at least three minutes she just stared and glared at her. Finally she said, "How soon do you need to know?"

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If a statue in the park of a person on a horse has both front legs in the air, the person died in battle.
If the horse has one front leg in the air, the person died as a result of wounds received in battle.
If the horse has all four legs on the ground, the person died of natural causes.

Only two people signed the Declaration of Independence on July 4th....John Hancock and Charles Thomson. Most of the rest signed on August 2, but the last signature wasn't added until 5 years later.

Half of all Americans live within 50 miles of their birth place.

Most boat owners name their boats. The most popular boat name requested is "OBSESSION".

If you were to spell out numbers, You have to go to one thousand until you would find the letter "A"

A Look Back In Time

TRIVIA...WHEELING HERALD

June 2, 1985

**COMMENTS MADE IN THE
YEAR 1955
THAT'S ONLY 52 YEARS
AGO!**

**"DID YOU SEE WHERE SOME
BASEBALL PLAYER JUST SIGNED
A CONTRACT FOR \$75,000 A
YEAR JUST TO PLAY BALL? IT
WOULDN'T SURPRISE ME IF
SOMEDAY THEY'LL BE MAKING
MORE THAN THE PRESIDENT."**

**"IT'S TOO BAD THINGS ARE SO
TOUGH NOWADAYS. I SEE
WHERE A FEW MARRIED WOMEN
ARE HAVING TO WORK TO MAKE
ENDS MEET."**

**"IT WON'T BE LONG BEFORE
YOUNG COUPLES ARE GOING
TO HAVE TO HIRE SOMEONE
TO WATCH THEIR KIDS SO
THEY CAN BOTH WORK."**

**"MARRIAGE DOESN'T MEAN A
THING ANY MORE, THOSE
HOLLYWOOD STARS SEEM TO
BE GETTING DIVORCED AT THE
DROP OF A HAT."**

**"I'M AFRAID THE VOLKSWAGEN
CAR IS GOING TO OPEN THE
DOOR TO A WHOLE LOT OF FOREIGN
BUSINESS."**

FOOD FOR THOUGHT The Public Servant's Lament

If I express myself on a subject, I'm trying to run things. If I'm silent, I'm dumb or have no interest.

If I'm always at my office, why don't I get out and learn what's going on. If I'm out when they call, why am I not ending to business.

If I'm not at home at night, I'm out carousing. If I'm home, I'm neglecting important outside contacts and activities.

If I don't agree with persons, I'm bullheaded. If I do agree, well, that's what I'm paid for.

If I give someone a short answer, I'm too big for my bridges." If I attempt to explain the pros and cons of an issue, I'm a know-it-all and long winded.

If I don't do what I'm requested, I'm a darn poor official. If I do agree, well, that's what I'm paid for.

If I'm well-dressed, I think I'm a big shot. If I'm not, I'm a poor representative of my office.

—Unknown

HOUSEHOLD HINTS



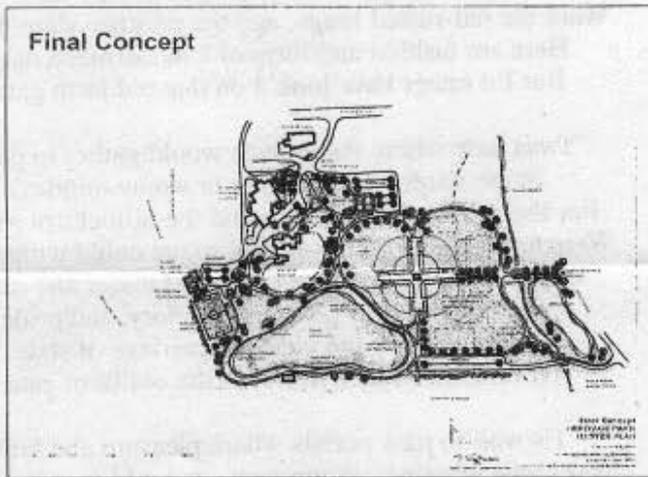
Get Rid of Ants....Put small piles of cornmeal where you see ants. The ants will take it home, they can't digest it so it kills them. It may take a week or so, especially if it rains, but it works and you don't have the worry about pets or small children being harmed.!



One trouble with the world is that so many people who stand up vigorously for their rights, fall down miserably on their duties.

from Patti's desk:

Got a hot news flash. "This is HISTORY in the making. The Wheeling Park District has a master plan for Heritage Park. This has been a long time in the making. The final concept presentation from the staff and the Advisory Committee was voted upon and approved September 2, 2008.



HERITAGE PARK MASTER PLAN COMPONENTS:

Passive Recreation Heritage Lake, Bridges, Pathways, Shelters, Open Lawn Areas and Natural Area/Detention along Buffalo Creek.

Active Recreation Ball field Complex, Engineered Soccer Field, Basketball, Soccer Fields and Playground

Operational Main Entry Feature, Parking. (Approx 800 cars). Pavilion, Detention, Wolf Rd Drive, Pedestrian entrance aligned with Highland Drive, Bandshell, Parks Building, Screening along south and west edge of park.

If this all comes about, it will be a beautiful park made with the young and old in mind.

I have personally watched this park grow from it's inception in 1961. Many changes have been made over the years. It started with a bunch of people who felt this town should have a park district and so the story goes.

It was pretty sparse for a long time since monies were short and the park district did the best it could. There was the Superintendent, Secretary and three part time maintenance personnel. (one teacher and two kids) who took care of the building and grounds.

As time went on the boards and staff grew. With more monies available, more programs were put in place and it all happened in the (now maintenance building on Wolf Road.)

Since that time, many more neighborhood parks have been established and with the new Recreation Building, many more personnel have been hired.

I could go on and on but in my personal opinion (which I have witnessed many changes in the boards), I feel this is the best ever. They look to the residents of this town for their input and follow through with their wishes which benefit not just a few but anyone and everyone who is interested in the park system.

I am now in my seventies and hope I will be here to see this all happen...and I believe it will.



MUSEUM UPDATE

VOLUNTEERS are needed! Sept. 7 & 14-Linda, Sept. 21-Marilyn, Sept 28-Joan and Barb. Oct. 5, 12, & 19th are still open. Please sign up.

I would like to thank all who have donated pop tops for Mark Twain School. Over time many pounds have been gathered. We received them not only from area residents but from California and other states. This program helps provide children with cancer and leukemia to go to camp and provides them with the opportunity to experience typical summer activities which may not be available to them due to the conditions of their illness.

Bev is updating the 2002 Village album with news clippings which is a big project and Donna Vallas has a list of names to interview for some history in the 1950s.

Linda Reading



**Cook's
Kitchen**

Tropical Carrot Cake

FROSTING:

- 1 package (8 ounces) cream cheese, softened
- 4 to 4-1/2 cups confectioners' sugar
- 1 to 2 tablespoons whipping cream
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract

- 3 eggs
- 3/4 cup vegetable oil
- 3/4 cup buttermilk
- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 2 cups sugar
- 2 teaspoons baking soda
- 2 teaspoons ground cinnamon
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 2 teaspoons vanilla extract
- 2 cups finely shredded carrots
- 1 cup raisins
- 1 can (8 ounces) crushed pineapple, undrained
- 1 cup chopped walnuts
- 1 cup flaked coconut

In a large mixing bowl, beat eggs, oil and buttermilk. Combine flour, sugar, baking soda, cinnamon and salt; add to egg mixture and mix well. Stir in vanilla, carrots, raisins, pineapple, walnuts and coconut; mix well. Pour into a greased 13-in. x 9-in. x 2-in. baking pan. Bake at 350° for 45-50 minutes or until cake tests done. Cool. Combine frosting ingredients in a mixing bowl; beat until smooth. Frost cake. Yield: 12-16 servings.

Curator's Report

Julie Volrecht (Ahlstrand) is requesting any information on the Ahlstrand Marine Company building owned and operated by her parents 1976-1983 at 136 South Milwaukee Ave. We believe it was located where Scotties Texaco Station was. If anyone has any information, please let me know.

Upon request, I have taken pictures of the Stryker and Wendling family gravestones and sent them to their relation Marlene Carey.

Received a request for information on the history from Mr. Warfield regarding the area around Riverside Plaza and the houses or businesses there were previously there. What was the artist studio name and the pizza place?

Mr. Brandon wanted to know how he could see what Wheeling looked like years ago. I sent him an invitation to visit the museum on a Sunday. We have two books on the History of Wheeling.

Edie Clark requested information on the Haben Family as Jack Haben was her first cousin and Elisabeth Port had adopted her mother. This Request was sent to Lorraine Haben.

Linda Reading, Curator



Poet's Corner

The Old Farm Gate

Where, where is the gate that once used to divide
The elm-shaded lane from the dusty roadside?

I like not this barrier gayly bedight,
With its glittering latch and its trellis of white.

It is seemly, I own, yet, oh dearer by far,
Were the red-rusted hinge, and the weather-warp'd bar,
Here are fashion and form of a modernized date,
But I'd rather have look'd on that old farm gate.

'Twas here where the urchins would gather to play,

In the shadows of twilight or sunny midday;
For the stream running nigh and the hillocks of sand,
Were temptations no dirt-loving rogue could withstand.

But to swing on the gate rails, to clamber and ride,

Was the utmost of pleasure, of glory, and pride;

And the car of the victor or carriage of state
Never carried such hearts as the old farm gate.

'Tis well to pass portals where pleasure and fame

May come winging our moments and gilding our name;

But, give me the joy and the freshness of mind;

When away on some sport—the old gate slamm'd behind—

I've listened to music, but none that could speak

In such tones to my heart as the teeth-setting creak

That broke on my ear when the night had worn late,

And the dear ones came home through the old farm gate.

Oh! fair is the barrier taking its place,

But it darkens a picture my soul longs to trace.

I sigh to behold the rough staple and hasp,

And the rails that my growing hands scarcely could clasp

Oh! how strangely the warm spirit grudges to part

With the commonest relic once linked to the heart;

And the brightest of fortune, the kindest fate,

Would not banish my love for the old farm gate.

—Eliza Cook



**To all of our Friends
and Members who
have been ill or in
the hospital:**

We wish you all health and
Happiness and hope you are
Well or on the road to
Recovery.