



Message From The President

Dear Members and Friends:

May is here already. Time passes much too fast, but I am glad it's warmer, the trees and grass are green and the flowers are blooming. The museum is open every Sunday except holidays from April to October from 2 to 4 pm., and we have several new displays. We are also open on Thursday mornings from 9-12 noon if you have anything you would like to donate to the museum.

The election of officers was held at the meeting of April 28th and the following people were elected. President, Joan Wiener; Director, Becky Vogal and Director, Barbara Forke. The board for the 2010-2011 fiscal year is as follows:

President.....Joan Wiener
Vice President...Bill Hein
Treasurer..Marilyn Chromy
Secretary..Charlie Vallas
Director...Patti Hancock
Director... Barbara Forke
Director...Becky Vogal

Curators: Pat Steilan, Donna Vallas
Historian..Shirley McConnell
Newsletter Editor: Donna Vallas

As most of you know May is our Annual Banquet and Installation Dinner. This again will be held at Chevy Chase in the Devonshire Room and there will be entertainment by singer Sam Magdal who gives tribute to Frank Sinatra. Hope to see you there.

At the April meeting Terry and Pat Steilan gave a presentation of pictures of Terry's mother who was a vaudeville dancer in the 1930's with her best friend and they called themselves the Trevor Sisters. What great pictures and it was very interesting.

We also covered in the meeting the purchasing of a couple of small lapel microphones for the recorders when we do the interviews. A budget of \$300.00 was approved for the Annual Dinner and it was presented and agreed upon the cost would be \$30.00/person as last year.

The next Board meeting will be held on May 20th at 7:30 p.m. and no regular meeting will be scheduled for the night of the dinner. Invitations and announcements will be sent out soon. Hope to see you all at the dinner.

Historically yours,
Joan Wiener, President.



MUSEUM UPDATE

On Sunday April 18th, we had a busy day at the museum. There were 7 guests. Among them was Pete Peterson who generously donated a peanut butter jar from Lurch's Food Products formerly of Wheeling. His donation was appreciated.

We are hoping to continue our interview process hopefully starting with Bill Hein. He has a wealth of information about Wheeling particularly during the 1960's through the 1990's. Anyone wanting to be interviewed can call the museum at 847 537-3119 and leave a message, otherwise we are at the museum on Thursday mornings from 9 a.m. to 12 noon.

Another exhibit has been changed which displays night ware and apparel which was worn by women in the 1800's. Patti is still in the process of working on the display.

Beverly is working on obituaries and Marilyn is doing some research and deleting some of the obsolete material in the files to make more room for the future.

Linda Reading passed on information regarding Arliene Wright who passed away. She was in the military in WWII. There is a picture of her and her husband who also served in the service during WWII. which appeared in the military exhibit and is still on display.

50 AND OVER Ain't It The Truth!

- Q: Is it common for 50+ year olds to have problems with short term memory storage?**
A: Storing memory is not the problem Retrieving it is a problem.
- Q: As people age, do they sleep more Soundly?**
A: Yes, but usually in the afternoon.
- Q: Where do 50+ year olds look for fashionable glasses?**
A: Their foreheads.
- Q: What is the most common remark made by 50+ year olds when they enter antique stores?**
A: I remember these!
- Q: What is the most frequent thought when going from one room to another?**
A: "What did I come here for?"

WHY SOME MEN HAVE DOGS AND NOT WIVES:



**The later you are,
The more excited
your dogs are to
see you.**

**Dogs like it if
You leave a lot
Of things on the
Floor.**



**A dog's parents
Never visit.**



**Dogs agree that
You have to raise
Your voice to get
Your point across.
across**



**You never have to
Wait for a dog:
They're ready to
go 24 hours a
Day.**



A Bit of History



WHEELING

Back in the 1800's a group of Inns marked the halfway point on the road from Milwaukee to Chicago. They were noted for their fine food and lodging. Their patrons were weary travelers in need of rest and refreshment after the day-long journey from Chicago.

In 1895, the residents of this "halfway" point incorporated to become the Village of Wheeling. The handful of residents thriving primarily on the stop-over trade plus several farmers built themselves a quite adequate little community.

The fine eating establishments located 30 miles from Chicago changed, but little, between 1895 and 1951, when there were some 600 residents in the town. Of course there were gas stations instead of stables; and the restaurants no longer provided lodgings; but the atmosphere remained the same.

The growth pattern of Wheeling was slower than that of other suburbs within a 30-mile radius of Chicago, primarily because of the lack of transportation. The nearest commuter train was 7 miles away.

In 1955 an enterprising builder purchased a huge tract of land on the western border of Wheeling. He built moderately priced homes which sold well, for the 1956 census showed 3426 people residing in the village. The development called Dunhurst Heights, was separated from the existing town by the distance of a mile.

The village was completely unprepared for such an influx of homeowners. Their school was sufficient for the children in "Old Wheeling" but there was no accommodation for the hundreds of small children now living within the school district. The first residents of Dunhurst Heights still comment on the coldness of the reception given the newcomers by "Old Wheeling". The frigid reception was attributed to the fact that "Old Wheeling" resented the change wrought by Dunhurst - the change in taxes - the change in atmosphere.

Before Wheeling could even absorb or adjust to Dunhurst Heights, another builder descended upon the village with the subdivision of Meadowbrook located midway between "Old Wheeling" and Dunhurst. There too the houses were moderately priced and evidently sold well, for the 1957 census showed 5417 residents of Wheeling. With both subdivisions continuing their building programs and other small builders coming in with a few homes, the population sprang up to 6462 in 1958, with an official 1960 estimate of over 7000 people.

To maintain pace with the expansion, the School District imposed maximum taxation.

Dunhurst, Meadowbrook and Old Wheeling formed a triangle of the power base type with residents of each working for improvements in their own area. Homeowners' organizations sprang up, backing candidates for political parties and school boards, "to insure their area was not neglected or cheated."
THERE WAS NO COMMUNITY OF WHEELING.

Up until 1955 the residents felt no special need for park areas or planned recreation. The few people to use such facilities would get together to set up a tennis court or smooth out a baseball diamond. Back in 1943, a few residents got together to try their hand at a library. People gave their cast off books which were stacked in a room of the school and promptly forgotten. So, **THERE WAS NO PARK IN WHEELING. THERE WAS NO LIBRARY.**

When the first builder entered town, Wheeling was a babe, innocent in the ways of subdivisions, and knew little about planning for future development. So the town grew and grew, and with it grew the problems—water, sewerage disposal, streets, etc. There was little time to think about the facilities the influx of young and prolific homeowners would require.

There were organizations, though. There were organizations for the people of "Old Wheeling", and, as the population grew, there were church organizations, there were the homeowners' organizations, and there were organizations set up on a community-wide basis, made up mostly of "newcomers." The Wheeling Junior Woman's Club was one of these latter type organizations.

Promptly within the group, all definitions of boundaries were forgotten and the women worked together for Wheeling. But all was not so rosy elsewhere competition and antagonism presided.

Thus was Wheeling at the conclusion of 1957; a Town divided physically and philosophically.

REMEMBER THIS!

Don't sweat the petty things, and don't pet the sweaty things.

One Tequila, two Tequila, Three Tequila, floor.

One nice thing about egotists: They don't talk about other people.

To be intoxicated is to feel sophisticated but not be able to say it.

Never underestimated the power of stupid people in large groups.

Age is a very high price to pay for maturity.

Procrastination is the art of keeping up with yesterday.

Women like silent men, they think they're listening.

Men are from earth, women are from earth, Deal with it.

Give a man a fish and he will eat for a day. Teach him how to fish, and he will sit in a boat and drink beer all day.



TODAYS CHUCKLE

A certain businessman, who understands this principle well, recently had occasion to employ it with his daughter at college. The girl had not replied to her mother's letters in several weeks and the mother was worried. She expressed her concern to the father. He was sympathetic, but gently chided her for not applying the proper psychology.

He then proceeded to tell his wife that he would get an answer by return mail, without even asking the daughter to write. He wrote the letter, filled with idle chatter, news from home, etc.; then casually added that he was enclosing a check. He neglected, however, to actually enclose the check.

Back came a letter from the girl in short order, thanking him for the money, but pointing out that he must have forgotten to enclose it.

RULES FOR THIS DIET

If you eat something and no-one sees you eat it, it has no calories.

If you drink a diet soda with a candy bar, the calories in the candy bar are cancelled out by the diet soda.

When you eat with someone else, calories don't Count if you don't eat more than they do.

Food used for medicinal purposes NEVER count, such as hot chocolate, brandy toast and Sara Lee Cheese-cake.

If you fatten up everyone else around you, you look thinner.

Movie related foods do not have additional calories. Because they are part of the entire entertainment Package and not part of one's personal fuel, such As Milk Duds, Buttered Popcorn, Junior Mints, Red Hots, and Tootsie Rolls.



Dear Members and Friends:

Just to let you know the newsletter is now being handed over to a very competent person that being Donna Vallas. I have served you since 1995 and it's time to turn this over to a very bright and young person with lots of energy My energy is slowly pooping out. Its been fun and I know you will enjoy the new editor of the Historical Society Newsletter. Thanks for being kind in your remarks in the past and you can look to the future of being well informed by Donna.

It's been a pleasure

Patti Hancock



"The object of this Society shall be the Discovery, preservation And dissemination of Knowledge about the Community of Wheeling"



The Daffodils

I wandered lonely as a cloud
That floats on high o'er vales and hills,
When all at once I saw a crowd.
A host of golden daffodils;
Beside the lake, beneath the trees,
Fluttering and dancing in the breeze.

Continuous as the stars that shine
And twinkle on the Milky Way,
They stretched in never-ending line
Along the margin of a bay:
Ten thousand saw I at a glance
Tossing their heads in sprightly dance.

The waves beside them danced, but they
Out-did the sparkling waves in glee:
A poet could not but be gay,
In such a jocund company;
I gazed—and gazed --- but little thought
What wealth the show to me had brought.

For oft, when on my couch I lie
In vacant or in pensive mood,
They flash upon that inward eye
Which is the bliss of solitude;
And then my heart with pleasure fills,
And dances with the daffodils.

--William Wordsworth



COMING EVENTS

MAY 20, 2010
Board Meeting
7:30 p.m.

MAY 26, 2010
Installation Dinner
Chevy Chase
Cocktails 6:30 p.m.

Wheeling Historical Society

invites you to join us for our

Annual Dinner for the Installation of Officers and Awards

Wednesday, May 26, 2010

Chevy Chase Country Club - Devonshire Room - 1000 North Milwaukee Avenue, Wheeling, Illinois

Cocktails 6:00 p.m. * Dinner 7:00 p.m.

Followed by the installation of officers and awards

Menu

Cream of Tomato Basil Soup
Tossed Salad with Dressing
Fresh Sliced Bread and Butter
Chicken Marsala
Garlic Whipped Potatoes
Chef's Seasonal Vegetables
Peaches Melba
Coffee or Tea

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Entertainment with singer Sam Magdal - a tribute to Frank Sinatra

RSVP by Saturday, May 22, 2010

For Reservations, please call Joan Wiener at 847-229-0151

Please note: once reservations are made, they must be paid for.

\$30.00 per person includes Dinner and Show. Cash bar.