



251 North Wolf Road • Wheeling, Illinois 60090

# WHEELING HISTORICAL SOCIETY

SEPTEMBER 2011

## Wheeling Public Library Opens House in 1958

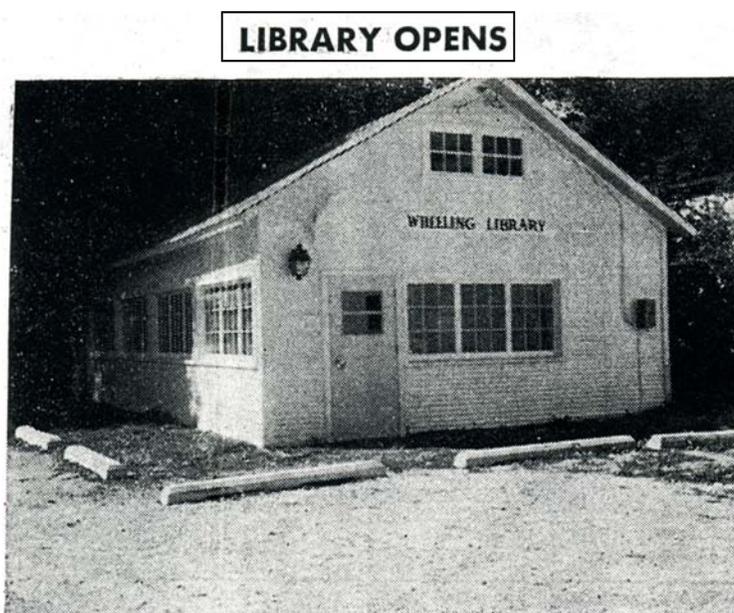
Until 1958 Wheeling had been a community without a library. Both Buffalo Grove and Wheeling were tiny villages just beginning to expand in the post-war building boom, and suffering growing pains as people from Chicago and older suburbs began flocking to the northwest.

For a short time in the past, there had been a small lending library, which was no longer in existence.

Wheeling residents were forced to drive a minimum of 10 miles to the nearest libraries, where non-resident borrowers were required to pay a \$5 yearly fee for each library card issued.

A group of people became interested in the formation of an official public library, and with the help of volunteers from several service organizations, and headed by the Wheeling Junior Women's Club, donations for money and books were solicited.

In 1956 the Wheeling Junior Women's club began corresponding with Illinois library



**LIBRARY OPENS**

The new community library will open its doors to booklovers young and old Saturday morning to accept applications for library cards. The transformed building is located in the rear of the Union Hotel parking lot.

officials, to demonstrate the need for a public library. In February of 1958 the State felt that the suburban growth warranted the operation of a library. The Wheeling Public Library opened officially on Saturday, October 4, 1958, with an open house that attracted

approximately 100 guests. The hours were Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday evenings from 7 to 9 p.m., Wednesday from 3 to 5 p.m., and Saturday, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

*(Continued on page 3)*

### General Meeting

**Wednesday  
September 28  
at  
7:00 p.m.**

### Baseball in the Movies

Celebrate a great all-American pastime with a collection of clips from classic baseball films. Enjoy scenes from "Take Me Out to the Ballgame" - "Pride of the Yankees" - Abbott and Costello's "Who's On First" and many more! Presented by Steven Frenzel.

**WHEELING  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY**

Located in the  
Wheeling Park District's  
Chamber Park  
251 Wolf Road  
Wheeling, Illinois 60090

**Museum Hours**

April through October  
Sunday 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

**2010–2011**

**OFFICERS**

**President**

Joan Wiener

**Vice President**

Bill Hein

**Treasurer**

Marilyn Chromy

**Secretary**

Christine Brady

**DIRECTORS**

Barbara Forke

Elaine Simpson

Becky Vogel



**Curators**

Patti Steilen, Curator  
Donna Vallas, Assistant

**Web Site**

Terry Steilen

**Newsletter Editor**

Donna Vallas



**Wheeling Park District  
Liaison**

Cheri Klumpp  
Commissioner



**Message from the President**



**Dear Members and Friends,**

Hope all of you are ready for fall. I am looking forward to the trees changing colors, but not too fast. Summer has really gone by fast as it always does. At the last meeting we changed the inscription for the Library Brick (for the Indian Trails Library's Reading Garden) to "Looking Forward and Glancing Back." That will be displayed when the Library finishes the project.

We have an ad in the Daily Herald with the Park District 50th Anniversary. It will advertise the Museum and the publicize the September 28th meeting featuring, "Baseball in the Movies," presented by Steven Frenzel. The ad should be in the September 21 Daily Herald.

Lollipop Lane is just around the corner and we are ordering the new ornament for this year and getting out the donor letter. Mark these dates on your calendar: December 3 to December 11, 2011.

Welcome back to Bev Rossmann at the museum. She is doing well with her new hip.

The next board meeting is September 21, and the regular meeting is September 28. Hope to see you then.

**Historically Yours,**

**Joan Wiener, President**

**Curator's Report**

We had an informative meeting in August about the various businesses that we could recall located in the village. Marilyn found information she hadn't known about before.

We are using a booth at Camp I Am Me on September 10 to help get people interested in the Wheeling Historical Society. It is at the Market Square Restaurant parking lot. We're hoping to generate some interest in joining and visiting the museum.

We are happy to have Bev and Patti back from surgery and vacation, respectively.

We had another visit from Michael Anthony to follow up on the museum since their visit in March.

**Patti Steilen  
Curator**



*A view of our museum's kitchen*

## Things to do and Places to go

**Park Ridge Historical Society**, on Saturday, October 1, 2011, the Annual 'Spirits of Old Park Ridge' Event: The traditional tour of the Town of Maine Cemetery in Park Ridge. Tours depart from the cemetery gatehouse located just inside the main gate off Touhy Avenue. Starts at 10 a.m. with the last group departing around 2 p.m. Adults: \$10; High School Age and Under: \$5; Family Admission: \$20.

Visit **The Raupp Museum** for A Civil War Exhibit, "No Easy Choices", running through November 23, 2011. Museum is at 901 Dunham Lane in Buffalo Grove. Free admission. Mon-Thurs, 11-4:30; Sunday: 1-4 p.m.; Friday & Saturday: closed.

**Dollinger Family Farm** in Channahon, Illinois: 16th Anniversary Civil War Days Reenactment on October 15-16, 2011. Over 500 re-enactors participate in this event. Visit with President Lincoln, see live horses, booming cannons, and more. Most events are free; the battle is \$5 for adults, \$3 for children. For more info: 815-467-4698 or dollingerfarms.com.

**Northbrook Historical Society** celebrates Happy 110th Birthday Northbrook Open House, on Sunday, November 13, lower level, from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Northbrook History Museum, 1776 Walters Avenue. In 1901, Northbrook was officially declared a village; before that, the community was known as Shermerville.

**N.E.I.L.** / North Eastern Illinois Historical Council's last meeting of the year will be on November 12, hosted by the Schaumburg Township Historical Society.

**Palatine Historical Society**, October 19, 2011, at 7 p.m., presents Dave Hammer with "Stories and More Stories," gleaned from his extensive research of Paddock Publication newspapers. The Palatine Public Library, 700 N. Court, in the children's reading room.



## State Approves Wheeling Library



**WHEELING LIBRARY WORKERS** were last week assisted in their efforts at cataloging and classifying the several thousand books now on hand. Help came from Miss Alma Lundeen, institutional consultant for the Illinois state

library, who also helped set up a numbered decimal system for ready reference. Pictured here are (l. to r.) Mrs. Ray Burlington, Miss Lundeen, and Mrs. Wallace Lischett.

*(Continued from page 1)*

The library was housed in a 20 x 30 foot frame building at the back of the Union Hotel at 122 South Milwaukee Avenue.

A selection of more than 5500 books were ready for check out on October 11. All of the books were catalogued and classified by the Wheeling Junior Women's Club and volunteers, with the assistance of a consultant from the Illinois State Library in Springfield.

The library continued to function with donations and volunteer help.

The resulting demonstration of services led to a successful referendum in March of 1959 to establish the Wheeling Public Library District, covering a 10-square-mile area, including Wheeling and Buffalo Grove.

One month before the library opened, an editorial from the Independent stated, "With the start of a new library in Wheeling we will have easy access to a wide variety of good books. We have no excuses now for replacing the flicker of a television screen with some interesting pages at least one night a week."

The 1000th library card was issued in November of 1959.

In 1963, the library had outgrown its small building in back of the hotel. As the volunteers prepared to move, the Union Hotel donated back all the money the library had paid as rent, which went to buy book shelves and furniture. ★

6 ELE—GEN Classified Telephone Directory of Arlington Heights, Palatine, Mt. Prospect and Wheeling

**Electric Repair Service**  
 Dreyer Electric Co  
 4 N Dunton av. Arlington Hgts-706  
 (See our display adv on page facing  
 Inside Front Cover)  
**MT PROSPECT ELECTRICAL CONST CO**  
 12 W Busse av. Mt Prospect-1051

**Elevators—Grain**  
 See Grain Elevators

**Farm Bureaus**  
 Gardeners Supply Inc 6 S Vall av. Arlington Hgts-441

**Farm Equipment**  
 See Agricultural Implements

**Feed Stores**  
**ARLINGTON HEIGHTS ROLLER MILL**  
 Flour, Poultry and Dairy Feeds  
 Poultry Equipment  
 Custom Grinding  
 112 Wing av. .... Arlington Heights-11

**GARDENER'S SUPPLY INC**  
 Cook County Farm  
 Bureau Cooperating  
 Garden and Field Seeds  
 Fertilizer - Insecticides  
 Farm Bureau Poultry Feeds  
 6 S Vall av. .... Arlington Heights-441

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**For the Hard of Hearing**

A special telephone has been developed by the Bell System for the aid of those with impaired hearing.

Installed in the home or office, it amplifies the volume of sound, making it possible, in many instances, for those who experience difficulty in hearing to hear more easily.

Our Business Office will gladly give further information

ILLINOIS  
 BELL TELEPHONE  
 COMPANY



**Fireworks**

**GORDON FIREWORKS COMPANY**  
 Everything in Fireworks - Campaign Torches,  
 etc. Big Value Assortments From \$5.00  
 Up, Delivered. Write For Catalogue.  
 190 N State st Chicago, Ill. Randolph-0340

**Florists—Retail**

Arlington Gardens  
 710 E Northwest hwy. Arlington Hgts-325  
 Busse Fred W 303 E Evergrn. . . Mt Prospect-1095  
 Curren John Wheeling twp. . Arlington Hgts-7012-M  
 Deering Aug Rand rd. .... Mt Prospect-835  
 Thon-Boettcher Floral Prod Co  
 Elgin-Evanston rd. Arlington Hgts-7031-J

**Flour**

Arlington Heights Roller Mill  
 112 Wing. Arlington Hgts-11  
 Kleppinger Dax Co 47 Slade. .... Palatine-133

**Food Products**

See Grocers—Retail

**Frigidaire Electric Refrigerators**

For list of dealers look on "R"  
 pages under Refrigerators—  
 Electric

**Fruits—Retail**

Paul's Fruit Store  
 6 W Campbell av. Arlington Hgts-602

**Funeral Directors**

Lauterburg & Oehler 25 E Davis. Arlington Hgts-23  
 (See our display adv on Outside Back Cover  
 of Arlington Heights Directory)

**Furniture Dealers—Retail**

Studtmann Bros 1 S Vall av. . Arlington Hgts-206

**Garages—Public**

Brehm Edw McHenry rd. .... Wheeling-66-J-1  
 Henning's Garage 42 W Chicago av. Palatine-98  
 Horcher A G Evergrn av. .... Arlington Hgts-236  
 Johnson's Garage Milwaukee av. .... Wheeling-36  
 Kruse's Garage 108 N Brockway. . . Palatine-68  
 Kurz Auto Service 141 W Wilson. . . Palatine-232  
 Lee's Triangle Garage Milwaukee av. . Wheeling-14  
 Pieper Walter G Milwaukee av. .... Wheeling-3  
 Rand Rd Service Sta Rand rd. Arlington Hgts-473-J  
 Sparks Garage  
 506 E Northwest hwy. Arlington Hgts-1491

**Gasoline Filling Stations**

See Automobile Service Stations

**General Electric Refrigerators**

For list of dealers look on "R"  
 pages under Refrigerators—  
 Electric

TELEPHONE PALATINE 40  
 Savings Accounts Checking Accounts  
**STATE BANK of PALATINE** PALATINE ILLINOIS  
 Capital, Surplus and Undivided Profits \$130,000  
 LOANS SAFETY DEPOSIT BOXES Securities of All Kinds for Sale

**PALATINE**  
 ARLINGTON HEIGHTS  
 MOUNT PROSPECT - WHEELING

**TELEPHONE  
 DIRECTORY**

 **JANUARY, 1933**

Before Starting on a Journey — make your hotel reservations by Long Distance telephone. This will avoid disappointment and inconvenience.  
 ILLINOIS BELL TELEPHONE CO.

Cover of the 1933 telephone directory

**So now you know!**

Did you ever wonder why quarters, dimes, and half dollars have grooves on the edges, while pennies and nickels do not?

The dollar, half-dollar, quarter, and dime denominations were originally produced from gold and silver. The grooved edges were eventually incorporated into the design to prevent counterfeiting, for example, shaving off the edges in an attempt to recover the precious metals.

The penny and nickel are considered "minor" coins and have never contained precious metals.

Currently, none of the coins produced for circulation contain precious metals. But the continued use of grooved edges on current coins of larger denominations is useful to the visually impaired, because they are easily identifiable by touch. ☆



Here's a single page from the January 1933 telephone directory. This phone book provides details of a farming community life. Other business headings include:

**Agricultural Implements** (Henry Schoppe at 57 W Chicago); **Coal—Retail** (Wheeling Coal & Lumber Co); **Grain Elevators** (Arlington Elevator & Coal Co on Northwest Hwy); **Ice Cream Parlors** (Fred Utpadel on Milwaukee ave); **Ice Dealers** (Wm Lauterburg on State rd); **Poultry** (Wheeling Farms on Dundee rd); **Stables** (John Garlisch on Higgins rd); **Vegetables** (Sunnybrook Farm on Milwaukee ave). There's also a listing under **Barbecue Stands**: Blue Bird Barbecue, Palatine twp, Palatine-251.