



Historical Society Newsletter

Thanksgiving

November 2014

Volume 23, Issue 6

WHEELING HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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

2011-2013

OFFICERS

President:

Bill Hein

Vice President:

Elaine Simpson

Treasurer:

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DIRECTORS

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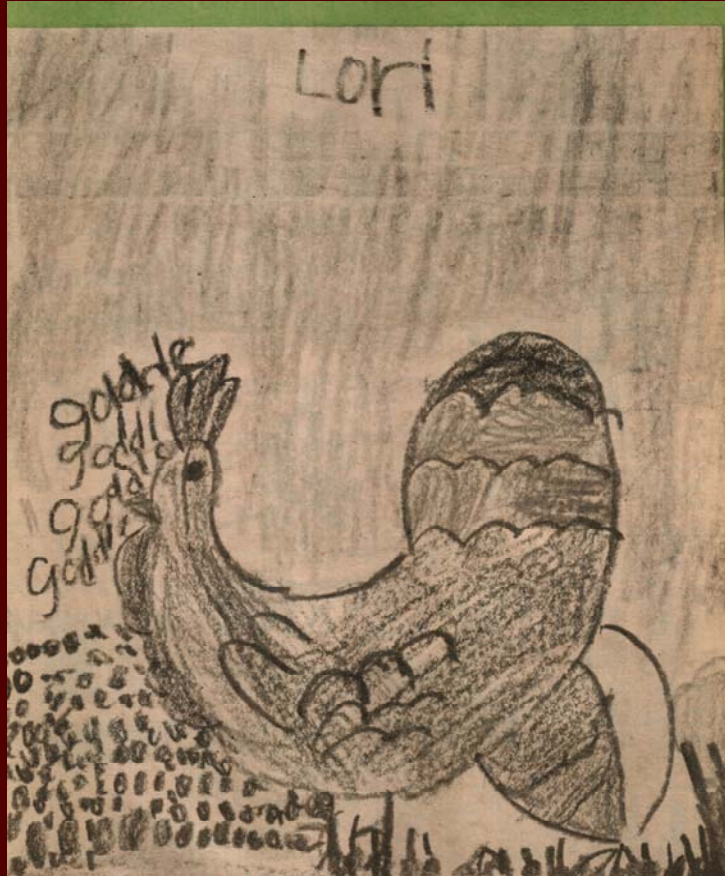
Wheeling Park District

Liaison

Undefined

Commissioner

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



Thanksgiving is a day of giving thanks for the blessing of the harvest and of the preceding year. Several other places around the world observe similar celebrations. It is celebrated on the fourth Thursday of November in the United States and on the second Monday of October in Canada. Thanksgiving has its historical roots in religious and cultural traditions, and has long been celebrated in a [secular](#) manner as well.



"The good news is, you'll be spending Thanksgiving with a large group of happy people."

Take a look at the earth. The earth is 8,000 miles in diameter and 25,000 miles in circumference at the equator. An apple represents the earth. Seventy-five percent of the earth's surface is covered by water. Cut a quarter section from the apple. The larger section is 3/4 of the apple. This represents the water covering the earth. The quarter section represents the land portion of the earth where humans, plants and animals live. Much of this land is not suitable to grow plants and food, such as deserts, highways, mountain tops, the poles and places where homes and industry are. That doesn't leave a lot of land for people and animals to share. We have to be diligent and take care of the earth by recycling and not wasting this beautiful planet.

Message From The President

A Special Holiday Message: A Special time is upon us!

As your President I want to say welcome! Thank you for being faithful members and new members. We welcome each one of you to our family.

This coming year is our 50th Anniversary and we are planning a Great year for the society. A special thanks to our partner the Wheeling Park District. A special thanks to the Village of Wheeling and The Indian Trails Library.

There have been many changes over the past year and many more to come. We will be doing some upgrades in our office so that our Thursday morning crew can continue to do the great jobs they have been doing to keep the Society running. Without these ladies I don't think the Society could function. So thank you ladies for your hard work and dedication.

We would also like to thank Terry for his hard work in putting the web site <http://WheelingHistoricalSociety.com> together.

This is your Society. Therefore, we welcome your input as to what you would like to see on the website and the newsletter. If you have any suggestions please feel free to contact us. In the coming year we are planning several events. Settlers Day Picnic Monday, Memorial Day at Chamber Park, Beer and Brat Fest also at Chamber Park September 20th on Sunday and Lollipop Lane in December 5th- 13th, 2015

Again, welcome and if there is anything that you would like to discuss with me please let me know.

Thank you for your continued support.

Happy Holiday

Bill Hein

President



The Curator's Corner — Patti Steilen



This month's focus has been on Lollipop Lane. Here is a picture of this year's ornament. We will have cookies for sale as usual, and this year we will be offering a 2015 Calendar, with many pictures, that will be celebrating our 50th. Anniversary, that will happen next year. Stay tuned for some of the special "historical" Beer and Brat Fest, old-time Settlers Day Picnic, and other historical events that we are planning for next year.

Happy Thanksgiving

Patti Steilen

UPCOMING EVENTS

- December 6th—14th LOLLIPOP LANE (see page 4)
 - No general meeting this month.
- January 21st Board Meeting No general meeting
- February 18 4p.m. Board Meeting
- February 25 White Elephant Dinner
- March 25 History of Wheeling Police Department



*Cook's
Kitchen*

COOKS CORNER

**Brownie and Berries
Dessert Pizza**



8 oz. white chocolate
1/3 cup canned pumpkin
2 oz. cream cheese at room temperature
1/4 tsp. ground cinnamon or pumpkin pie spice
2/3 cup finely ground Speculoos cookies or graham crackers

Line baking sheet with parchment paper. Melt 2 oz. chocolate. In bowl, mix pumpkin, cream cheese, cinnamon and melted white chocolate until combined. Stir in cookies; refrigerate 30 minutes. Roll mixture into 1" balls; place on baking sheet. Freeze at least 30 minutes before coating with white chocolate. Melt remaining 6 oz. white chocolate. Working with frozen balls one at a time, drop into chocolate. Using fork, scoop up ball and place back on baking sheet. Once all of the balls have been coated, freeze until chocolate hardens, about 10 minutes. Makes 20 truffles. Makes 16 servings.

New 2015 Calendar Sample

1965 **Calendar** 2015
Wheeling Historical Society



ON The Front Cover

Museum 30 foot", with two cells at the western end, 7 1/2 by 9 foot each." It served as a meeting place for the trustees, a police station and a court. A lean-to on one side, housed a hand pumper which was purchased by the Volunteer Fire Department in 1904. The pumper is now located at the Wheeling Village Fire Station. There is one abbreviated cell remaining and an addition has been added at the rear of the building and also The white frame building at the west end of Chamber Park, which serves as our Historical Museum, a basement. The latter serves as a working area and research center for the museum. Every inch of space upstairs is used for permanent and

There is one abbreviated cell remaining and an addition has been added at the rear of the building and also a basement. The latter serves as a working area and research center for the museum. Every inch of space upstairs is used for permanent and changing exhibits. This building was originally located at 84 South Milwaukee Avenue and was purchased by the Wheeling Park District and moved to its present location in 1978.

Wheeling Historical Society to the Rescue
In the summer of 1977 ...

A year ago, the future looked bleak for the Childerley Retreat Home site. Childerley, a 10-acre site at 506 Mc Henry Rd. was deteriorating as Wheeling Park District officials attempted to conclude lengthy negotiations with the owner, the Calvert Foundation of Chicago. Many of the historical buildings, including a chapel built in 1825, were crumbling from lack of maintenance.

TODAY, AFTER passage of a \$3.7 million bond referendum in March and hard work by officials of the Wheeling Park District and the Wheeling Historical Society, the prospects for Childerley and Chevy Chase have changed drastically. The park district recently completed purchase of both pieces of land and improvements are under way. Park employees are trimming trees, removing old fences and cleaning up the grounds at Childerley.

"We're also doing a thorough review of the buildings and making a checklist of items to be accomplished. We're trying to determine what needs to be done and if, in fact, we can do it ourselves," said Park Supt. David Phillips. Phillips said work on the buildings "is not something that will happen overnight," but that interior work will begin in the fall. "WE HOPE TO have everything completed by next spring. We're going to take one building at a time and there's a lot of work to be done," he said. The historical society will be working with park officials to restore the historical aspects of both Childerley and Chevy Chase. Shirley Koeppen, historical society member, said a fund has been set aside for several years for restoration of historical buildings at the Childerley site. Most of the funds were raised at the society's annual Brat and Beer Fest. "We always put money aside for the Childerley fund earmarked for restoration of the chapel and log cabin," she said. The Childerley Retreat House has been an important part of Wheeling's history for nearly 70 years. It has served as a country home, a haven for widows and orphans and a religious retreat since it was purchased by the Frank Little family in the early 1900s.

ONE OF SEVERAL historical buildings on the site is a small chapel, which is reputed to be one of the oldest buildings in Cook County. The structure, built in 1825, once served as a pig pen. Mrs. Koeppen said society funds also will be used to research the historical background of Chevy Chase as well as for remodeling of the historical society museum. The museum will be moved later from 84 S. Milwaukee Ave. to a site at Chamber Park, 131 N. Wolf Rd. While park officials and historical society members have accomplished a great deal in the past year, Mrs. Koeppen said there is still a need for funds. The historical society's Brat and Beer Fest will be Aug. 7 at Chevy Chase. The activities will begin at noon with music from a German band beginning at 4 p.m. Mrs. Koeppen said the fest is the society's only annual fund-raising event. Proceeds will go to projects including Childerley and Chevy Chase.

Carriage House

With a quick Snip of some utility lines, the Sicks carriage house was off and on its way to a new home. After sitting comfortably for the past 96 years on Dundee Road, just west of Milwaukee Avenue, the carriage house, which former resident John Sicks called just "a barn," was moved to the Wheeling Park District Park on Wolf Road. There, the nearly century old building will become a neighbor to the existing historical museum, formerly the first village hall, and the original Community Presbyterian Church, built 1865. Plans currently call for the building to be renovated to mirror the architecture of the late 1800's and early 1900's. (Countryside Staff photos by Bill Oakes)

The Old Church

The Park District acquired a Civil War-era church building in 1970 and moved it to the Chamber Park site. The building was remodeled to hold community meetings and recreational programs. In 1970, the Park District was able to purchase 8.35 acres of land on the former Skinner Farm property. As part of the acquisition plan, the parcel was subdivided. Three acres became Northside Park on Gendale Street. The rest was sold to School District 21 for a new school site.

Santa's Appointments

SANTA & MRS. CLAUS WILL BE AT:

LOLLIPOP LANE

December 6 To December 14

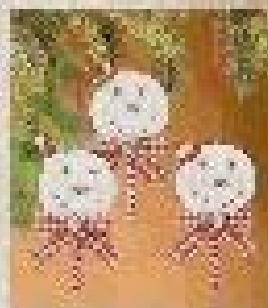
Monday - Friday 6:30 p. m. to 8:30 p. m.

Saturday & Sunday 2 p.m. To 5 p.m.

Chamber Park 251 N. Wolf RD.

Wheeling, IL

Special Limited Tree Ornaments



Baked Home Made Cookies