



251 North Wolf Road • Wheeling, Illinois 60090

# WHEELING HISTORICAL SOCIETY

JULY 2010

## Remembering... The Wheeling Farm Store

The Wheeling Farm Store on the south side of Dundee Road just east of the river was built by Charles F. Balling. He sold vegetables, cider, eggs, and dressed poultry to people from the Wheeling area and the North Shore suburbs.

Marshall Balling told how his father, “had a dream of building a cold storage warehouse on the banks of the river and he made a study of this and found you could get ice from the river in the winter time and store it in your building. Then you could use it for cold refrigeration all summer long, so you could buy produce when it was plentiful, and meat and vegetables.”

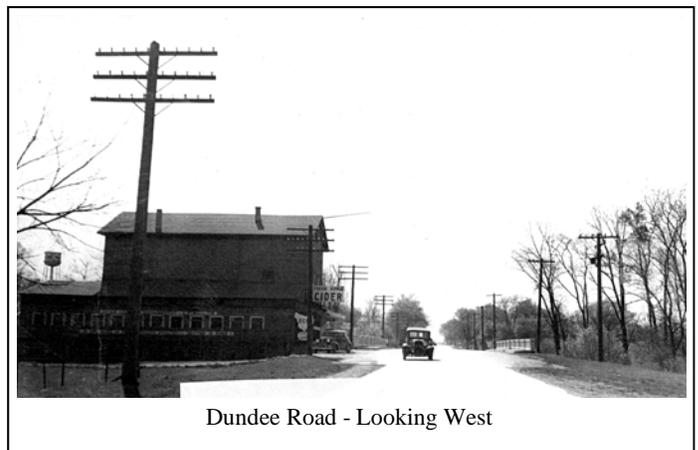
He goes on to explain that he built quite a building, and he had a dam put in south of the brewery. In winter they’d hire a crew to cut ice and fill his ice house and those of all the taverns. “That was the only way they could cool their beer and pop and stuff. So he began his operation by buying produce and when people discovered it, they wanted to buy it fresh.

So they bought it before he could really put it into cold storage. People from all along the north shore used to come over here to buy fresh eggs and chickens, ducks, geese, and turkeys at Thanksgiving. And he never did any cold storage business!”

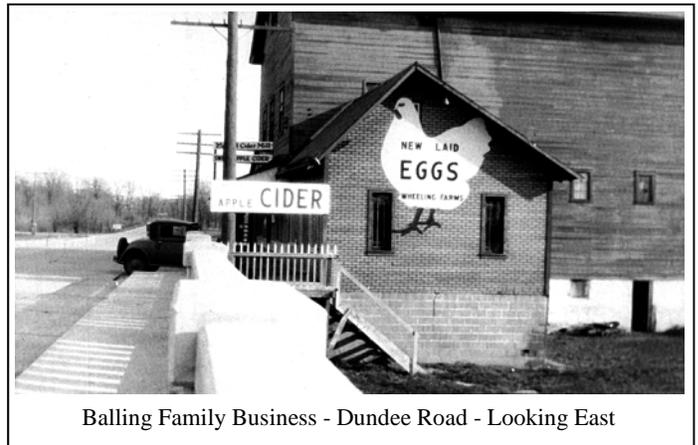
The property eventually was taken over by the Forest Preserve District of Cook County, Illinois. ❧



Wheeling Farm Store - 1935



Dundee Road - Looking West



Balling Family Business - Dundee Road - Looking East

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

**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.

**Meeting Dates**  
Board meetings are on  
the 3rd Thursday  
of the month  
General meetings are on  
the 4th Wednesday  
of the month.

**Board meeting:**  
**Thursday,**  
**July 22**  
**at 7:30 p.m.**

**General meeting:**  
**Wednesday,**  
**July 28,**  
**at 7:00 p.m.**  
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## Message from the President

**Dear Members and Friends,**

Here we are in July and time is passing by quickly.

In the month of June we had a record turnout at the Museum. The Wheeling Park District had Fiesta Del Sole on June 27th. Bill, Dolly, and I came to open the Museum and Carriage House for Becky Vogel and to help her if she needed us. As it turned out Donna and Charles Vallas also showed up.

We all stayed because people kept coming in and we counted at least 65 people who went through the Museum and the Carriage House. Thank you to all for your help. Everyone found it interesting and they were glad they stopped in to see it.

We cancelled the meeting on June 23 just a couple of hours before it was to start. The weather warnings from the fire department and on the news made it sound like a good idea. I felt that it wasn't worth risking people getting caught in a bad storm.

For July we have a program. Lori Hazelwood, a Streets/Forestry Superintendent for the Village of Wheeling, is giving a talk on the history of the plants and trees in the Wheeling area. We hope all will attend if you can. The next Board meeting is Thursday, July 22, at 7:30 p.m. and the General meeting with the program is Wednesday, July 28, at 7:00 p.m.

In August we are having a program presented by David Leider who wrote a book on the Wisconsin Central in Illinois. So let all your friends who are train buffs know about this program. The date is Wednesday, August 25, at 7:00 p.m.

Hope all of you are having a good summer. See you at the next meeting. Bring a friend.

**Historically Yours,**

**Joan Wiener, President**



## Wednesday, July 28 Meeting and Program:

A Historical Look at Native Plants and Landscaping

Please join us at our meeting on Wednesday, July 28, at 7:00 p.m. We welcome Lori Hazelwood who will be our guest speaker. Lori is a certified arborist and currently holds the position of Streets/Forestry Superintendent for the Village of Wheeling. She has been with the village for nearly 7 years.

Prior to her employment at the Village she owned her own full service tree care business for 16 years in the North Shore. Lori will speak about our native plants and landscaping. ☺

Help us preserve our memories of Wheeling. If you'd like to share a story of your life in this community, even if it's just a few paragraphs, we'd love to talk with you.

You can send us a letter to:  
Wheeling Historical Society, PO Box 3,  
Wheeling IL 60090; or you may email us:  
curator@wheelinghistoricalsociety.com. ☺



Visit our website at [www.WheelingHistoricalSociety.com](http://www.WheelingHistoricalSociety.com)

## Curator's Report

Patti, Joan, and Bev are continuing their work at the museum, cataloging and organizing. Joan and Donna attended a N.E.I.L. meeting in June at the Palatine Historical Society's Clayson House Museum.

The speaker was Bruce Moffat, the author of *Forty Feet Below: The Story of Chicago's Freight Tunnels*. These tunnels were in the early 1900s. If you remember the floods in downtown Chicago about 1992, you'll recall that a piling was driven through a freight tunnel, which caused flooding in basements of those downtown buildings. Bruce Moffat told the story of how those freight tunnels came to be.

Regarding inquiries and research: we've had an inquiry about the history of the Old Court Inn on Milwaukee Avenue. And on Sunday, July 18, we were happy to visit with Carol and Guy Marsh, who were looking for some information. Carol is the daughter of Edward Bellmore of Wheeling.

We welcome a new member, Bill Kiddle, to the Wheeling Historical Society.

Sunday, June 27, was an exceptionally busy day—we counted approximately 67 visitors. Most were Wheeling residents, but some came from Skokie, Des Plaines, Vernon Hills, Plainfield, and Montgomery, Illinois.

**Donna Vallas**  
Assistant Curator

## Pardon our "oops"

Sharon was misidentified in this photo, printed in the June 2010 issue. Here is the corrected caption.



Sharon Schomer and Barb Weder



## Things to do and Places to go...

**Stadtmitte** ~ Stadtmitte is German for "downtown." Join the Mount Prospect Historical Society on Friday, July 30, between 5:30 and 9:30 p.m. for a "History Crawl" that will tour historic downtown restaurants, watering holes, shops and buildings. Tickets are \$15, available at the event. There will be food, drink, and giveaways all night. Call 847-392-9006 or go to [www.mtphist.org](http://www.mtphist.org).

The **Chicago Executive Airport**, formerly known to us as Palwaukee Airport, is holding an Open House on Saturday, July 24, 2010. The hours are from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and admission is free. Food, exhibits, Warbirds, WWII Bombers will be on display. ☺

## Wheeling FARM STAND MARKET

~ Every Tuesday ~  
**June 29 to October 26,**  
**Noon to 6 p.m.**

**Wheeling Park District**  
**333 West Dundee Road**



### LOCALLY GROWN FRUITS and VEGETABLES

Certified Organic including  
Cheeses, Breads, Pickles, Jams,  
Honey, Flowers, Apple Cider,  
Pies, Fudge, and More!

Vendors include The Cheese People, Cheri's Organics, Dawgs on the Run, Here's the Scoop, Horcher Farms, Kuston Kreations, Olives '4' You, Tasty Vending Company/Rotary Wheeling, Wa-Pa-Ghetti's Pizza, Necessity Baking Company, and More!

**South East Corner of Northgate Parkway  
& Dundee Road (Route 68)**

[www.wheelingfarmstand.com](http://www.wheelingfarmstand.com)



## Cook's Kitchen



### Candy Stripe Parfait

Prepare (1) 3 oz. package of Jell-O, any fruit flavor, as directed on the package. Chill until very thick.

Meanwhile, prepare (1) envelope of Dream Whip Whipped Topping Mix as directed on package.

Then layer gelatin and prepared whipped topping in a slender glass, ending with the topping. Chill until serving time—at least 2 hours. Makes about 4 cups, or 6-8 servings. ☺

### Preservation Tip of the Month

#### ♦ Caring for Photographs ♦

Photographs capture not only happy memories but our family histories as well. Often they are the first thing that we think of saving during a disaster such as fire or flood. But it does not necessarily take an act of nature to damage photographs.

Many times our own negligence causes the damage. Incorrect storage and display of the items can lead to fading and deterioration over time. The greatest threat is exposure to direct sunlight. To reduce the threat of overexposure, always frame your photographs with glass or Plexiglas that has a layer of UV protection. Select walls or tabletops that are not in direct sunlight to display your photos.

Photos in albums that date from the late 1960s through the 1980s may suffer damage because the paper and adhesives used were highly acidic. Albums that were used a century ago are more archivally sound. They usually contained cotton rag paper and used photo corners for attachment. There are numerous companies that provide archival albums, storage boxes, paper, and framing materials.

By Becky Shipper, Genealogy Gems: News from the Fort Wayne Library; No. 76, June 30, 2010

## We Hope You're Back in Bloom...



Leo Chromy  
Lorraine Haben  
Kim Pecka  
Bill Simpson



## ...Take Care and Get Well Soon

## Household Tips



- Feeling tired in the afternoon? Put down the caffeinated soda and pick up a cucumber. Cucumbers are a good source of B-vitamins and carbohydrates that can provide a quick pick-me-up lasting for hours.
- Tired of your bathroom mirror fogging up after a shower? Try rubbing a cucumber slice along the mirror. It will eliminate the fog and provide a soothing, spa-like fragrance.
- Looking to fight off that afternoon or evening snacking binge? Cucumbers have been used for centuries by European trappers, traders, and explorers, for quick meals to thwart starvation.
- Out of WD-40 and need to fix a squeaky hinge? Take a cucumber slice and rub it along the problem hinge: the squeak is gone!
- Looking for a "green" way to clean your faucets, sinks, or stainless steel? Take a slice of cucumber and rub it on the surface you want to clean. Not only will it remove years of tarnish and bring back the shine, but it won't leave streaks and won't harm your fingers while you clean. ☺