



Grayslake Historical Society

164 HAWLEY STREET ♦ P.O. BOX 185 ♦ GRAYSLAKE, ILLINOIS 60030-0185 ♦ 847-223-7663

UPDATE

February 2012

Village Municipal History Museum
164 Hawley Street
Grayslake, Illinois
Hours: Wednesday - Saturday 12:00 to 4:00
Tours by appointment

Grayslake Historical Society
164 Hawley Street
phone: 847-223-7663
www.grayslakehistory.org
e-mail: ChaRenehan@aol.com

WE HAVE BEEN BUSY

The Grayslake Historical Society is a very busy, vibrant organization. The following documents some of its activities between August 1 and December 31, 2011.

The Yopps, Kenny and Patty, drove the Society's 1954 Grayslake fire truck in Grayslake's annual Summer Days parade on the evening of Friday, August 20. Members of the Pearson family rode on top of the vehicle while Charlotte Renehan and Dave Oberg followed on foot.

Program chair Terry Norton introduced the September 14 program of the Society. Retired Grayslake Police Chief Larry Herzog gave an informative, entertaining program which highlighted his tenure in Grayslake. The Society was represented in Grayslake Central High School's Homecoming parade by costumed walkers Dave and Charlotte. Boy Scout Troop 73 met at the Museum and toured the galleries on September 29.

The largest crowd ever attended the Society's annual Cemetery Walk on Sunday, October 2. Once again Mariah Forvor welcomed the audience. Civil War veteran Chauncey Morse, portrayed by Shawn Vogel, led the crowd to the various gravesites. Tim Holst as Dighton Granger told about the Illinois 96th Volunteer Regiment. Actress Amy Edwards was Rhoda Battershall Rich, who read the letter telling of her husband's death at Lookout Mountain. Frank Drummond, portrayed by James Hassett, was hired to take the place of a draftee but never served. John T. Morrill returned from the war to become a businessman in Grayslake. He was portrayed by Daniel Graham, Jr. Virginia Fitzgerald was cast as Eveline Gray Houghton Barron, who recalled the Barron family's connection to the village. Eveline's sister-in-law Mary Barron Ellis was played by Krista Holst. Her husband, John, survived the Civil War but died before he was fifty. Young Charles Hendee died of disease in the war. His story was told by actor Alan Muelleggen. The event was sponsored by Strang Funeral Chapel and Crematorium with flowers furnished by Entwined.

A large crowd attended Terry Norton's October 12 program on trains. It was complimented with outstanding train images. Third graders from Woodview School walked to the Museum on October 14. A Girl Scout reminisce session was held on

October 15. Terry and Joyce Norton gave a den of Tiger Scouts a Museum tour on October 16 while Kristin Pearson led a tour for Girl Scouts on the 26th. A den of Tiger Scouts came to the Museum on October 27. Society Board Members Lori Baumgarten and Kristin handed out candy and souvenirs to the numerous Halloween Trick or Treaters on October 29.

Grayslake North High School student Matthew Teubert explained his award winning project, "Behind the Bomb" at the November Society program. His teacher, Emily Weiss, gave information on the History Fair. The farm reminisce program on November 12 was attended by persons who were raised on farms, visited relatives on farms and even those who are still actively farming. Pictures and tools were brought to "Show and Tell".

The opening of "It's a Wonderful Life" was truly a grand opening on November 25. The Society furnished artifacts to help to compare and contrast Bedford Falls to Grayslake. Society members served refreshments and welcomed guests. After a very successful month, the exhibit closed on December 30. The Society thanks Richard Goodson for sharing his vast collection of movie memorabilia and Director Dave Oberg for organizing the exhibit. Society board members Connie Dunbar, Kathi Starzec and Charlotte worked with Dave.

On December 3 a den of Tiger Scouts came to the Museum and were given a tour by Kristin. The Society's annual Holiday Open House was held on December 11. Visitors were treated to carols sung by members of Grayslake North High School choir. Santa with Mrs Claus in the Society's vintage sleigh passed out candy and listened to children's wishes. Families made a link to add to the chain on the Museum's tree. Hot chocolate was enjoyed by all.

In addition to the above, Director Dave led small group tours and made arrangements for the Heritage Center and Museum to host reenactors and musicians. The quilt exhibit in the Upper Gallery was replaced by a map exhibit. The maps came from the Society's vast collection.

WE WILL BE BUSIER

The Society now looks forward to 2012 and another busy year. We hope you will mark your calendars and join in some, if not all, of the following events.

Wednesday, February 8 - Historical Society Program - Dan Moran from the Waukegan News Sun will discuss local newspapers.- 7:30 PM - Community Room - Public invited - Free

Saturday, February 11 - Historical Society Reminisce Session - Topic: Lakeview School/Grayslake Grade School - 10:00 AM - Community Room. - Public invited - Free

Saturday, February 18 - Heritage Center Program - Civil War Surgeon General William Hammond - 2:00 PM - Community Room - Public invited - Donations appreciated

Wednesday, March 14 - Historical Society Program - Van Hook will talk about his mother's family, the Van Zandts, who have a pioneer connection to the Grayslake area; selection of two board members, recognition of volunteers - 7:30 PM - Community Room - Public invited - Free

Saturday, March 31 - Heritage Center Program - Titanic Survivor Violet Jessop - 2:00 PM - Community Room - Public invited - Donations appreciated

Wednesday, April 11 - Historical Society Program - Dr. Goshgarian: His Practice and His Family - 7:30 PM - Community Room - Public invited - Free

Saturday, April 14 - Historical Society Reminisce Session - Topic: Disasters of the Greater Grayslake Area - 10:00 AM - Community Room - Public invited

Sunday, April 22 - The Museum will be open during the Lion's Club pancake breakfast in the Fire Station.

Wednesday, May 9 - Historical Society Program - Frank Sullivan, Jr. will tell about the Sullivan Company which made cabinets in its factory on Pine Street - 7:30 PM - Community Room - Public invited - Free

Sunday, August 19 - 1850s Baseball Game

Sunday, September 30 - Grayslake Cemetery Walk

Follow the Society, Heritage Center and Museum on Facebook; Patch.com; www.grayslakehistory.org; in the Village of Grayslake newsletter and in the local newspapers to learn more about these events and others.

VOLUNTEERS

The 2011 volunteers of the Grayslake Historical Society and Museum will receive Certificates of Appreciation at the March meeting of the Society. Please review this list and let the Society Board know if a name is missing. Then join the Society in telling the volunteers, "Thank You".

The volunteers are: Lori Baumgartner, Marno Benande, Lois Bondy, Chris Brenner, Philip Bruno, Laurel Casey, Doris Craig, Gayle Cinke, Evonne D'Agostino, Henry deGroh, Darlene Dorfler, Terese Douglass, Connie Dunbar, Adam Eiden, Amy & Christian Edwards, Bill Eiserman, Karen Ellis, Virginia Fitzgerald, Kitty Flary, Marie Frandsen, Rich Gaddis, Daniel Graham Jr., Grayslake Fire Protection District, Grayslake Merchants & Athletics 1850's Baseball Teams, Grayslake North High School Choir, Grayslake Public Works, Grayslake Village Hall Staff, Marion Grinnell, Charlie Groth, Judy Haga, James Hassett, Easton Hochstein, Codi, Krista & Tim Holst, Nancy & Dick Johannson, Joanne & Dick Lawrence, Penne Lawrence, Cynthia Lee, Bill Leider, Linda Lowes, Callie McCune, Vivian Miller, Karl Molek, Alan Muelleggen, Tracey Nielsen, Dave Oberg, Laurietta Parsh, Scott, Kristin, Shawn, Corey & Katie Pearson, Kim Pruitt, Nancy Reed, Charlotte & Linda Renehan, Charlene Rockenbach, Ron Roselli, Santa & Mrs. Claus, Ethan Schoenborn, Kathi & Nate Starzec, Dave Strang, Matthew Teubert, Karen & Lou Thoms, Jane Tiffany-Hansen, Tracey & Paul Nielsen, Joyce & Terry Norton, Linda Petersen, Shirleyann Russell, Shawn Vogel, Pat Wackerlin, Emily Weiss, Westlake Christian Academy Students, Patty & Ken Yopp.

PAGE FROM THE PAST

The following article is from the January 13, 1916 issue of the *Grayslake Times*.

Horse Races Prove To Be Entertaining

Four Good Runners entered in Pace -- Hanson the Winner

Running Race Was Good

Three Hundred People Gather to See

First Race of the Season

More to come

Last Saturday afternoon at 1:30 the streets of Grayslake looked as though the Libertyville fair had moved here and the day was the banner Thursday of the fair. Farmers from far and wide drove in to see the horse races that were scheduled to come off on the speedway that afternoon. Neighboring villages were also very well represented.

The race was billed as a two out of three event but by mutual agreement the drivers decided to make it three best out of five heats and most of the horses made a fine showing for the first event of the season. In the first race, Lou Lusk drove the Hanson pacer and decided the race in three heats. This horse had not been on the course before but worked like a veteran as did the driver. He took his place on the starting line and when the word was given he "let lose" with head down and legs stretched out he finished the three-eighths of a mile without a break. Many favorable expressions of the horse were heard and it is likely that he will develop considerable more speed than was shown last Saturday.

Dollie S. owned by George Sheldon and driven by George Cleveland of Round Lake, made a mark which would indicate that she is developing speed as she took second place, two out three heats.

Cleveland is an experienced horseman and drove the horse according to his best judgment and there is a likelihood that she can develop more speed if necessary. In the tabulated report is shown that she came in last in the first heat but this was due to a misunderstanding between the starter and the driver. Last year Babe S. was her superior but in this event Babe S. was defeated.

Babe S. owned and driven by Dell Smith came third in the race and displayed signs of uncertain footing on the icy course. There is no question but that she has more speed than shown last Saturday and it is likely that this will be proven before the season is over.

Zombro Direct, a trotter, owned and driven by George Brandstetter, did not show in good form. This being a young horse and his first trial at racing perhaps is the cause of his showing. He withdrew after the second heat on about of trouble with one wheel of the cart.

In the running race there were two horses entered. Minnie B. owned by Albert Behning and ridden by Jimmy Catalano was an easy winner. She is of the Gratton variety and their representation is established all over this end of the state.

Cricket D. owned by Ed Diebolt showed good action but was outclassed by its opponent. This race was two out of three heats. Following is the order in which they crossed the tape:

Pace		
1st Heat	2nd Heat	3rd Heat
Fred H.	Fred H.	Fred H.
Babe S.	Dollie S.	Dollie S.
Zombro Direct	Babe S.	Babe S.
Dollie S.	Zombro Direct	
Running Race		
Minnie B. 1st	Cricket D. 2nd.	

Editor's notes: The population of Grayslake in 1920 was 736. Albert Behning became known as "Peg" Behning and later raced at Maywood Park. Jimmy Catalano was Grayslake's only casualty of World War One. Grayslake's American Legion Post was formerly known as James Catalano American Legion Post 659.

A MEMORY

The following was written in 1998 by Al Peterson who graduated from Grayslake Community High School in 1998. He is married to Peggy Kellogg, whose father was Roy Kellogg, a Grayslake barber in the 1940s and 50s.

"In early 1944 I moved to Round Lake Park to live with my sister and her family. I was immediately placed in the seventh grade in Hainesville school, which was something of a shock to a young Chicago boy who knew little of life in the boondocks.

At that time there were two school buildings side-by-side in Hainesville. One was a rather new brick structure which now, I understand, serves as the town hall of Hainesville. The other structure was a very old wooden one room building, which is where I attended class. There were three grades in that one room; fourth, seventh and eighth and only one teacher. For the life of me I cannot remember the name of that saintly woman who was performing what would now be considered a miracle of teaching three separate grades at one time.

Our school building had no running water or central heat. When we found it necessary to use the washroom it was necessary to be excused and walk to the other building. At recess the boys played a form of basketball with two backboards behind the school building, or football and softball, depending on the season, in an adjoining field. A little bit later it was discovered that the adjoining field was actually a peat bog when it caught fire and burned until it became a swamp. There was no gymnasium. Our arch enemy was Grayslake and our team (if you could call it that) would play softball against them. It seems that we always won, but maybe not. At least, we always wanted to win because Grayslake was the enemy

Our teacher would divide her time among the three classes. All classes would participate in musical endeavors together.

Sometimes at lunch we would walk to a nearby gas station-general store run by Mr. Whipper. One feature of his little place was the various coins he had for sale, but we were more interested in penny candy or maybe a nickel bottle of coke.

The autumn of 1944 was a revision of class locations and we ended up in the brick building sharing our room with seventh grade only and the same saintly teacher. We would eventually graduate from the building in the spring of 1945 shortly before World War II ended. Our class of 123 included Jim Burke who would become Grayslake High football captain in his senior year, and Glenn Schalk, who is a current Grayslake resident. Our graduation speaker was the Lake County superintendent of schools and our graduation song was "Trees",

I believe that we were a pretty good bunch of kids. Well, sometimes we would play "chicken" on the railroad track behind the school...and one day the engineer stopped the train after seeing a kid on the tracks. The next day a state trooper came to school and questioned us. We were scared to death, but no one squealed on Dick (Slag) Smith who actually stopped the train. Incidentally, we may have made history since that is probably the only time a train stopped in Hainesville.

Certainly times were different. We didn't know what drugs were. Yes, we sometimes would bring a gun to school...but that was if we were going hunting right after school. The gun was placed in a closet until school was over. Also, no buses. We all walked to school just like in the old story, many miles through towering snow drifts. Well, maybe not "many miles".

The year following graduation we were bussed to Fox Lake to attend Grant High School. And then, we became members of the first classes to start the Grayslake Community High School. That's right, Grayslake was no longer our enemy, we were Grayslake.

And then, maybe in the late 40s, that old school building was moved to Round Lake Park where it became a community center. After that I just don't know, but if it still exists someplace it might be haunted by ghosts of Hainesville's past and most certainly that of a young woman teaching three grades in the same room.

At least that's the way I remember all of this. I wonder if the others saw it the same way."

DONATIONS

The Grayslake Historical Society wishes to thank the following people for adding to its collections between August 1, 2011 and December 31, 2011. Grayslake Central High School - 2011 yearbook, 2011 football poster; Deborah Surroz Weber - Naval uniform of Edward Surroz with wedding picture; Nancy Plotz Reed - Congressional Record page, newspaper clippings, Ernie A Plotz, Postmaster nameplates; Adam Eiden - 2011 Grayslake scenes on flash drive, Grayslake National Bank license plate holders; Pat & Ken Yopp - Clemens' Paint Store yardstick; Mark E. Shiel - Lake County Savings & Loan metal calendar; Grayslake Police Department - Department photo, badge, decal, newspaper articles; Larry Herzog - recognition plaque, business cards, badges, dedication napkins, newspaper articles; Kitty Flary - Pratser pot holder; Chris Brenner - book "The Land of Lakes & Rivers"; Tom Meskel - Superintendent Rouse business card; Village of Grayslake - various maps from 1960, 1961, 1963, 1967; Cynthia Lee - cosmetic bag with hair accessories.

The Grayslake Historical Society's mission includes collecting, preserving, educating and displaying. These goals could not be achieved without monetary help. This help comes in a variety of ways. Since August 1 the following monetary donations were recorded. Brick pavers in the courtyard were purchased by Penne Lawrence and David Strang. The estate of Ursula Hildebrandt gave a large boost to our treasury. Many people gave money in memory of a Society member or friend. They include Emily Bergmann, Connie Dunbar, Mary Fuchs, Lorelee Guenther, Deborah Larson, Dan & Phyllis Lauer, Dick & Joanne Lawrence, Charlotte Renehan, Doug & Bonnie Rockenbach, and Ken & Pat Yopp. Niles Badgerow, Susan Epker and Sue Redler Decker gave money to the Society for specific projects. Contributions for use of the community room are shared with the Village of Grayslake to offset maintenance costs. Community room users included Grayslake Rehabilitation HC. Dan & Tabitha Lyon, and Manor Lake Corporation. A donation in honor of Mike and Karen Ellis was shared with the Village as is the Museum donation jar.

In-kind donations were received from Rockenbach Chevrolet, Ron Roselli, Charlene Rockenbach, the Scott Pearson Family, Terry & Joyce Norton, Kathi Starzec, Dave Oberg, Lori Baumgartner, Joanne Lawrence, Charlotte Renehan, Penne Lawrence, Pat & Ken Yopp,

The Grayslake Historical Society is appreciative of all donations.

WITH SYMPATHY

The Society and community of Grayslake have recently lost some devoted friends. Memorials have been established for Charles Lucas, William H. Schroeder and

Jeanette Perkins. Contributions to their memorials may be sent to the Society at P. O. Box 185, Grayslake, Illinois 60030.

STATISTICS and MEMBERSHIP

The Grayslake Village Municipal History Museum is open sixteen hours a week: Wednesday through Saturday noon to 4:00 PM. Hours are extended during Farmers Market, pancake breakfasts and other downtown events. In 2011 over 2800 people came to tour the galleries. This number does not include attendance at Society programs, the cemetery walk, etc.

The Society ended 2011 with 287 members. To maintain or exceed this number, non-lifetime members need to renew their membership. Your membership status is noted on the address label of this newsletter. Help the Society save time and money by renewing without a reminder.

----- clip here -----

Membership Form
GRAYSLAKE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Name _____
Street _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____ E-mail _____

Indicate quantity of
memberships desired

Individual Annual Membership	\$ 10.00	_____
Individual Annual Senior (65 years and over) Membership	\$ 5.00	_____
Student Annual Membership	\$ 3.00	_____
Individual Life Membership	\$ 250.00	_____
Couple Life Membership	\$ 400.00	_____
Annual Business Membership	\$ 50.00	_____
Please accept my additional donation		_____

Total dollar amount enclosed _____

Make check payable to: **Grayslake Historical Society**
Mail to: Membership Chair
Grayslake Historical Society
P. O. Box 185
Grayslake, Illinois 60030-0073

To receive a membership card, enclose a SAS envelope.
The membership year is March 1 to February 28.

EXHIBITS

The exhibit *Cookies, Camping and Community; The Girl Scout Story* officially opened on Saturday, January 28. However, members of the Lake McHenry County Historical Alliance met at the Heritage Center and Museum on Wednesday, January 25 and had a sneak preview. The meeting was hosted by the Grayslake Historical Society. The alliance members learned the 100 year history of Girl Scouts in America. The exhibit has items and photos from area residents who were part of the history locally. It is dedicated to Catherine Trowbridge, who founded Girl Scouts in Grayslake in the 1930s. The exhibit will run through Summer Days.

The map exhibit in the upper gallery has attracted much attention. There is a surveyor's map from the 1840s, an Avon Township map from 1851, a Lake County map from 1873 and several more.

In mid-May the map exhibit will be replaced by an art exhibit featuring the works of Charles O. Longabaugh and Willadene Nicholas. Longabaugh, who was born in Grayslake, was an internationally known artist of his time. Nicholas was a poet in addition to doing water colors. The Grayslake Library has examples of her work on permanent display.

"Saving the past for the future"

Grayslake Historical Society
164 HAWLEY STREET + P.O. BOX 185
GRAYSLAKE, ILLINOIS 60030-0185

