



“CROSTOWN CLASSIC TICKET RAFFLE”

DRAWING FRIDAY, MAY 11

**RAFFLE TICKETS \$5 OR 5 FOR \$20.00
GET IN ON THE RAFFLE!!!!
WIN TWO PREMIUM TICKETS & PARKING
FOR EACH GAME
Cubs/Sox at Wrigley Field
May 18-One Game**

**Sox/Cubs at U.S. Cellular Field
June 20 One Game**

If you haven't sent in your raffle tickets already please do so as you can see we are getting close to the drawing and we would hate for any of you to miss out on a chance for the prize. Also there will be a drawing for those who purchased more than 5 tickets of a \$50 gas card prize.

The winner will have an enjoyable, fun time and by selling tickets we will be helping preserve Lemont's history and our beloved museum – a win – win situation

**We also will have raffle tickets on sale at:
Toms Place 110 Stephen Street
Smokey Row 112 Stephen Street
LAHS Museum**

QUARRYMEN BASEBALL RETURNS!!!!

Home Games: June 24, July 21, August 18
Good old fashioned fun for the whole family. Circle these dates on your calendar and join us

ANNOUNCING NEW HIKING/WALKING TOURS

Starting first Monday in May – weather permitting, new hiking/walking tours – groups of four or more of Waterfall Glen West. Article in this newsletter by Richard Lee.

More Info on www.lemonthistorical.org/tours

Cornerstone

Lemont Area Historical Society
306 Lemont Street Lemont IL 60439

lemontahs@sbcglobal.net

www.lemonthistorical.org

May 2012 Newsletter

May 11 evening Civil War Picnic 6:30pm. & Baseball Raffle at 7pm. & Gen Mem. Meet
May 12 Volunteering Quarrymen game
June – Girl Scout Exhibit Debuts
June 2 – 8am. Quarry Tours – Meet at KA STEEL PARKING LOT
June 6 Volunteering Classic Car Show
June 15 & 16 Volunteers Needed Tag Days

FRIDAY, MAY 11

Lemont Historical Society Plans Civil War Baseball Picnic 6:30PM.

Join us on Friday, May 11 at 6:30 p.m. at the Old Stone Church, 306 Lemont Street for our annual Civil War era picnic in our back yard. We'll be serving up picnic fare and beverages for the enjoyment of our guests along with the music of the era. This year, the Quarrymen Vintage baseball team sponsored by the Society, will cue our visitors on Civil War era base ball, a gentlemen's game much different than the game we know today. We'll learn the rules of the game, cheers, and nicknames from the Civil War era. Admission fee: \$7.00 adults; \$3.00 children 10 years and younger.

RAFFLE DRAWING 7PM.

At 7:00 p.m., the Society will announce the lucky winner of the 2012 Crosstown Classic baseball ticket raffle who will receive 2 premium seats and parking for games in Wrigley Field on May 18 and Cellular Field on June 20.

For more information, please call the Historical Society Museum at (630) 257-2972 or www.lemonthistorical.org.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:



Pres. Susan Roy at Cellular Field 5/1/12

Dear Members,

Hope you are all doing well and enjoying our really crazy Spring weather!

In anticipation of our Crosstown Classic raffle, Gary and I went to check out the seats at Cellular Field last night. We can assure you, the winner will not be disappointed!!! Don't forget the **drawing** will be **Friday, May 11th** at our **Civil War Picnic**. The picnic will be in our backyard at the Old Stone Church (unless it rains like it did last year and then it will be inside). And to keep with our baseball theme, a few of our Quarrymen "Artists" will also be there to "whip the onion" for an interpretation of Baseball of the 1850s! We also have a delicious supper picnic planned. The picnic starts at 6:30 and the raffle drawing will be held during dessert. Please join us for a delightful evening! If you haven't had a chance to buy your raffle tickets yet, you have until the evening of May 11 to do so.

Also, please don't forget our **Trail Day on June 2nd**. Richard and the other guides always go out of their way to make it an enjoyable experience!

We will also be needing volunteers for **Tag Days** in June. If you are interested, and we really need your help, please call Susan or myself to sign up.

Please keep July 24 open for our Annual Dinner Meeting. That will be full of surprises!

Take care and hope to see all of you on **Friday May 11th**.

Best regards

Sue

Lemont Area Historical Society

In the Old Stone Church at

306 Lemont Street Lemont, IL 60439

630-257-2972

www.lemonthistorical.org

Museum Hours

10 am to 2 pm Tuesday, Friday

10 am to 1 pm Saturday

1 to 4 pm Sunday

Library Committee

Meets 10 am to 12 noon on Wednesday.

Visits by appointment only.

The main floor of the museum is available for weddings, meetings, and events.

Board of Directors

President Susan Roy

1st Vice President Rose Yates

2nd Vice President Richard Lee

Secretary Susan Donahue

Treasurer Gary Roy

Board Members

Barbara Bannon, John Bushman,

Carol Garibay, Richard Homerding, Doris Peterman,

Wm. Uznanski

Committees:

Strategic Planning

Gary Roy, Susan Roy

Resource Center

Carol Garibay

Collections, Library, Genealogy,

Oral Histories, Photographs

Community Outreach

Rose Yates

Publicity, Historic Sites

Human & Financial Resources

Fund Raising- Richard Homerding, Grant Writing

Exhibits

Richard Lee

Program

Gary Roy, Susan Roy

Sunday Volunteers

Doris Peterman

Tours

Gail August

Membership

Susan Donahue

Wedding Committee

Joanne Pick, Carol Garibay, Susan Donahue

Building & Maintenance

Bill Uznanski, Richard Lee, John Bushman, Richard Homerding

Web Master

Paul Froehle

Society members are encouraged to participate in Committees and Subcommittees.

Genealogy Corner



By Barb Bannon

The Memory Lane Census

The 1940 U.S. census was released on April 2nd and it has been one of the most searched census years ever. The release of this treasure-trove of information provides discoveries and builds enthusiasm in family history research that lasts. This popular census managed to crash the National Archives website days after its release and Ancestry.com experienced a 175% spike in traffic the day they began rolling out the data.

Genealogists and history detectives are still digging into the records weeks after the release; finding more answers to questions and also running into more puzzling information. Be careful not to use census information as gospel truth until you verify with other records. I was surprised to find both my mother and father with their families but recorded with incorrect first names, most likely the enumerator just heard the names incorrectly.

Even non genealogists find fascination in the bits of odd information from days gone by. For those not looking for a particular person, the records can also reveal a great deal about the history of your home and neighborhood. I was surprised to find that a middle aged couple was renting the second floor of the home we now live in, furthermore there were quite a number of rentals. In the eleven "single family" homes on either side of our street, there were nine rental units.

Homes were valued from \$3000 to \$7000 and wages for 52 weeks of work ranged from \$660 for a watchman to \$3600 for a telephone company engineer. All but two residents were not only born in the US but were born in Illinois, quite a change from previous census.

Some of the occupations may sound unusual to us today as you don't hear of a blacksmith or riveter these days.

Others were superintendent for WPA projects, teacher, hotel manager, engineer, interior decorator, postal clerk, telephone operator, carpenter, salesman for a flour mill, grocery clerk, railroad watchman, truck driver, machinist, tailor as well as a stone quarry screener.

While some may see the census as boring, the family historian sees it as priceless knowledge to piece together the family story. Since people are living longer than ever this census provides a unique opportunity for those counted in the 1940 census to sit down with us today. It can help fill in lost memories when family members may have been too young to remember or provide a launching point for more stories from Mom and Dad.

Looking at the census with relatives from that era initiates questions that can open up a conversation between generations while they are still here to take a stroll down memory lane.

Questions asked in the 1940 Census included those we would expect about location, names, ages, home ownership, value, place of birth, marital status, education, etc., but one of many unexpected question was their residence on April 1, 1935 which is like a census within a census.

There were also some questions that give a better snapshot of the lifestyle in 1940. Employment questions were asked of everyone 14 years and older a few of which were:

Did they work in private or non - emergency government work? Did they work on public emergency work (Works Progress Administration or Civilian Conservation Core)? There are many other employment questions about number of weeks, hours and salary etc. There were fewer questions being asked about immigration and naturalization, only 5% of the population was now being asked about the birthplace of parents.

In the near future the records will be easier to search, but for now they are not indexed. Ancestry.com and other genealogical websites are working on making a state by state name search possible. Nevada and Delaware, having the lowest populations at the time, are currently searchable. Ancestry is offering access to the records for free until 2013.

Take a few minutes to peek into the world of 1940.



Mailbox

If you have a general genealogy question please send it via regular mail or email to lahsgenes2@yahoo.com with "Genealogy Corner Mailbox" in the subject and we will do our best to have the answer in the next newsletter.

Question: How can I locate an ancestor in the 1940 census without an index?

Answer: There are too many pages to just browse through in hopes of finding someone. Until an index is available you will need an address and an (ED) enumeration district. Addresses may be found using city directories, WWII draft registrations and immigration records. With the address the enumeration district can be found using the Unified 1940 Census ED Finder at, <http://stevemorse.org/census/unified.html> If you have a 1930 ED this tool will help you convert it to a 1940 ED. This info will help narrow down the number of census pages you need to look through.



Connecting Branches

We have been made aware of the following people doing family research:

John Dystrup - Researching George W. Alderman & Augustus S. Alderman

Judith Wilkovich - Researching James & Margaret Murphy family

If you are doing research and would like to contact these or other genealogists, please let us know by leaving a message at the Museum 630-257-2972 or by e-mail to lemontahs@sbcglobal.net



NEW GIRL SCOUT EXHIBIT

As all of you probably already know the Girl Scouts of America are celebrating their 100th Anniversary. We will have exhibit items from the Girl Scouts and are included in their passbook as a destination in June. We acknowledge and congratulate the Girl Scouts and look forward to the new exhibit coming in.

NEW LEMONT AREA HISTORICAL SIGN

We are happy to announce that thanks to Laser Sketch we will be putting up a new sign acknowledging our name in the near future. It has been in the works for some time. I am sure all of you have seen our old sign as it became worn over the years. In appreciation there will be a Life Membership given on May 11 to the Laser Sketch founder.

MUSEUM GROUNDS



Friendship Garden Club needs help with our museum garden – pulling weeds, etc. Call the museum if you can help at all and we will give your contact info to them. Thanks in advance.

ANNOUNCING NEW WALKING TOURS



Beginning of the new trail going east from Lemont Road along the RR tracks

In an attempt to develop more tourism and network with the Lemont Outdoors organization, we are developing more hikes and tours around Lemont. **One of the new hikes, Waterfall Glen West (WFGW) will begin offering a weekly tour on Monday mornings with tour guides to lead this new tour that starts off Lemont Road and 101st St.**

Groups of four or more can go with either Rich Lee or Wally Kos for **\$5 per person** and optional breakfast before or after the walk. **It will be added to the walk trails on June 2, Saturday morning at 8 a.m., along with the Heritage Quarries tour.**

More information is available on our website: www.lemonthistorical.org/tours along with photos and historical features.

We're hoping to generate \$1000 this year with tours to support the work of the society. Contact the museum for reservations and assignment of tour guides.

Rich Lee

Note: Other group tours available are the museum and downtown walking tours. Please call the museum if your group is interested for more detailed information, as our Tour Coordinator for these type of tours, Gail August, will be more than happy to schedule it. Charge is involved.



SOCIETY NEWS

By Susan Donahue

TOUR:

The Questrian group from Downers Grove were very charming and seemed to thoroughly enjoy the museum tour provided. They were all quite impressed with the artifacts and how they were displayed. I think many times because of Lemont's size we are underrated. Nice to give a new, better impression.

OAKWOOD SCHOOL:

We have always encouraged school groups to come into the museum but because of budget cuts, etc. the schools no longer avail themselves of our museum or walking tours.

Recently we received a request from a teacher at Oakwood School to come in and give a presentation to first graders. Needless to say it was a no brainer. Reaching out to the future generations to promote a love of our history is something we take as a sacred trust.

They had certain perimeters they were concentrating on. Yes, I have to admit it was a little of a challenge to figure out what small artifacts within our museum I could take with me to show that would also lend itself to the subject matter outlined by the teacher.

I arrived at the school somewhat before 12:30 and it was obvious by my reception that the whole school knew I (we) were coming. I was escorted by one of the teachers to the classroom – thankfully, since I am sure her short cut would never had even occurred to me – I might still be wondering the halls – anyway, the students were eager. They settled down and really listened intently – I had put together an album of photos to illustrate the dress, etc. of the past fitting the criteria. The artifacts seemed to intrigue them – an old school book, a school bell, an ink well and fountain pen, a fossil, shoe form to name a few. They asked some very thoughtful questions: “Where did they buy art supplies? “Why in pictures does it show children of different ages in the same classroom?”

After my presentation I was given a thank you signed by all of the students. The teacher asked me

(us) back next year. Left with a really good feeling as you can imagine.

MEMBERSHIP:

We are always grateful for our members and for their diligence in renewing. Here are those who are now members in good standing: Gloria Abboud, Gail Ahrens, Jack Ahrens, John & Barb Bannon Fam, George & Dianne Butkovich Fam, Charlene Counter, Susan Donahue, Greg Forzley Fam, Arthur Garibay, Carol Garibay, Rosarita Hennebry, Frank Iwan, Nancy Iwan, Richard Homerding Fam, Wm. Kerns Fam, Frances Klappa, Donald Knuth, Georgia Knuth, Walter Kos Fam, James Madsen, Syneta Olson, Doris Peterman, John Quinn, Charlene Smollen, Ronald Stapleton Fam, Wm. Uznanski, Laura Wolowiec and Dan & Bonnie Zolecki Fam.

WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS: Corine Botkin, Matt Sahlin

CONGRATULATIONS!!!!

We would like to congratulate Thomas Janik for being honored and awarded his Eagle Scout badge. The ceremony took place at the Lemont United Methodist Church on April 28.

If you are not aware of it Thomas selected a very daunting task of painting and reorganizing our LAHS Museum kitchen. He enlisted his Scout leader, fellow scouts, and his parents, along with other adults to undertake and complete the project. Our LAHS representative, Joanne Pick, who helped with the aid of fellow member Ron Strle, should also be commended for their follow through on this project. It was as an older member might call it a “Fibber McGee’s Kitchen.”

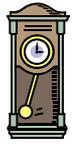
All of us were very impressed by this young man and his dedication to the task at hand and how well organized and committed everyone was to make it happen.

Color us grateful as many Eagle scout projects through the years have renewed, fixed, improved the museum, our beloved second home.

VISITORS TO MUSEUM:

Recently we had visitors from Canada and people who were staying at one of our local B & B, the Singer Mansion. They were having a family reunion and were in from San Diego, CA. They were curious about Horace Singer, the first owner of the home. They remarked about the topography of our

land and the misconception of all of Illinois having flat terrain. They appreciated our quaint town.



STEPPING BACK IN TIME

By Susan Donahue

I happened across a front page of “**The Lemont,**” **June 10, 1965.** If you have learned anything about the Society and our newsletter is that we often have reprinted articles on the Civil War. A subject close and dear to our hearts as we continue to maintain the museum and former recruiting station for the Union Army. It was a copy of the discharge papers of Charles Freehauf from service in the Civil War.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

Know ye, that Charles Freehauf, private of Captain Cornelius E. Claner, Company(E) 8 Regiment of Illinois Calvary VOLUNTEERS who was enrolled on the Twenty – Second day of September one thousand eight hundred and sixty-four to serve one year or during the war, is hereby DISCHARGED from the service of the United States this twenty – first day of June 1865 at Washington, D.C. in compliance with No. 83 AW May 8, 1863. (No objection in his being enlisted is known to exist.)

Said Charles Freehauf was born in Prussia in the State 2, of 23 years of age, 5 feet 7 inches high, Fair complexion, Grey eyes, Dark hair, and by occupation when enrolled a Blacksmith. Given at Washington, D.C. this Twenty- first day of June, 1865.

Exerts from “Lemont and the Civil War” material compiled by Sonia Kallick.

“Much of the pro-war sentiment in Lemont centered on the newly built Methodist Church (LAHS Museum). In fact the first wedding held in the building between Mattie Jones and John Wells saw the groom off to the war right after the ceremony. The Methodist Church was a center for recruiting as the congregation was a hot bed of abolitionists. Whatever the politics, Lemont supplied many men for the effort. As late as 1864 when the county was disappointed and tired of the war, Lemont was given a quota of 33 men and she sent into battle 293. The total number who served from Lemont

during the four years of war is not clear, but careful estimates place the number well above 800.



CIVIL WAR MEMORIAL



WWII VETERAN MEMORIAL



ON MEMORIAL DAY & ALWAYS

Let us stop and be grateful for what we have and how much sacrifice has been given not only by those who fought and yes, sometimes paid the

ultimate price, but the families who share their precious ones, never knowing whether they would

come back injured, or come back at all. (sd, editor)

CHAMBER EXPO:

We were able to participate in the 2012 Lemont Chamber Expo on April 28 thanks to sharing a table with Inn at Smokey Row, Susan & Gary Roy owners.

We saw some familiar faces and got to meet new people as well. It was run from 9:30am to 1pm. at the Lemont Park District Core and, of course, we also got to sell our raffle tickets and other LAHS merchandize.

It is a way to make ourselves visible to the public and toot our horn. Sometimes it is hard to believe that anyone hasn't heard of us since we are quite often in the newspaper but it just means we need to double our efforts and get a louder sounding horn.

LEMONT COMMUNITY EXPO 2012



Left to right: Pres. Susan Roy, 1st Vice Pres. Rose Yates, and Treasurer Gary Roy



Hearing elephants with upturned trunks bring luck I rushed to “Mr. Blue,” as I fondly called him, to bring success to our Crosstown Classic Rivalry Raffle/Fundraiser (truthfully I just wanted to get a hug from a cute, well dressed blue elephant – but that is just between you and me -sd)

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!



“Rocko & His Family

BAPTISM:

We had at the “Old Stone Church” a baptism in April. The mom really likes our chapel and in fact all her three children have been baptized here. Their family members live in Downers Grove but this family lives in Indiana.

Yes, we got to be introduced to little “Rocko”. He joins his two other brothers, who seemed pleased to have him aboard.

I obtained permission to take pictures as we always do and also to put the pixs on our website. I figured I would share them with you as well.

**INTRODUCING LITTLE “ROCKO”
APRIL 22, 2012**



**Parents, Minister, Godparents holding little
“Rocko”**

The Cornerstone newsletter of the Lemont Area Historical Society, a not for profit organization as set forth by the provisions of the State of Illinois. *Cornerstone* is published six times a year with a circulation of 200 to 300 issues. Issues are mailed to all members of the Lemont Area Historical Society. Complimentary copies are available. Publication offices for *Cornerstone* are located at 306 Lemont Street, Lemont, IL 60439. The editor may be contact or writing to the Lemont Area Historical Society, P.O. Box 126, Lemont, IL 60439, or leaving a message at the museum at 630-257-2972. Contributions to the newsletter are welcome, although acceptance of copy does not imply that the article will be published. We reserve the right to edit and rewrite to comply with our style. For information about membership in the Lemont Area Historical Society and memorials see the membership application elsewhere in the newsletter.

**ATHENS MARBLE CLUB MEMBERS
VILLAGE OF LEMONT
LEMONT TOWNSHIP
LEMONT PARK DISTRICT**

Lemont Area Historical Society Membership

**LEMONT AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
MEMBERSHIP FORM**

Student

Senior Citizen:\$10.00 -----

Individual: \$15.00 -----

Family: \$25.00 -----

Corporate:\$50.00 -----

Life Member:\$200-----

Old Quarry Club:\$250.00 -----

Friends of Keepataw:\$500.00 -----

Athens Marble Club:\$1,000.00 -----

Additional Donation _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Mail to:

LAHS

306 Lemont Street

Lemont, IL 60439