



**CORNERSTONE NEWSLETTER**

**NOTICE OF BY LAW CHANGE**  
**Recommended by Board to be**  
**voted at Nov 27 Gen. Meeting**

Article VI- Executive Board Sect. 1 –  
Composition

The Executive Board is comprised of  
five officers and **six** directors elected  
by the membership.

The proposed change increases by two  
(2) the number of Directors  
Sect 1 - Composition

The Executive Board is comprised of  
five officers and **eight** directors elected  
by the membership.

**ELECTION 2012:Board of Directors:**

**Barbara Bannon – 1 Year**

**John Bushman – 2 Year**

**Doris Peterman – 3Year**

We would like to thank Carol Garibay,  
Joy DeGuggia, and John Quinn for  
serving as Nominating Committee  
Members and submitting the above  
mentioned names.

**BENEFIT FOR HEIDI DUPONT**

**NOV 17 FROM 7-11PM.**

**LOCKPORT AMER. LEGION**

**15052 ARCHER 7-11PM.**

**DONATION -\$25**

A benefit is being held for Heidi Dupont,  
daughter of members Barb & Rich Lee  
recently diagnosed with MS, to cover  
medical costs. Dinner and live  
entertainment provided.

Lemont Historical Society  
306 Lemont Street Lemont IL 60439  
[lemontahs@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lemontahs@sbcglobal.net)  
[www.lemonthistorical.org](http://www.lemonthistorical.org)

**Nov-Dec 2012 Newsletter**  
**Nov 27 – Gen Membership Meet 7pm.**  
**Election 2012**  
**Titanic Exhibit & Program**  
**December 2 – 1:30-4 Christmas**  
**Choral Program & Photo with Santa**

**Opening Night - Titanic Exhibit**  
**November 27 - 7:00 p.m.**

Join us on November 27 after a brief  
business meeting for the premier of a  
new exhibit in commemoration of  
the 100th anniversary of the sinking of  
the Titanic.

David Bart of the Antique Wireless  
Association will recount the events of  
April 14 and 15, 1912 in the worst  
disaster in maritime history, the sinking  
of the "unsinkable" luxury liner, the  
RMS Titanic. The presentation will  
focus on the critical role of radio  
communication during the event and  
acquaint the audience with radio  
operators Jack Phillips and Harold Bride,  
crew members aboard the Titanic. The  
monumental impact of radio  
communication both during and  
following the disaster will be explored.  
Please join us for this fascinating look  
into history and a "tasting" of the final  
meal served on the Titanic.



**“LAHS OPEN HOUSE & HOMEMADE COOKIE SALE”**

**DECEMBER 2, 2012**

**1:30-4 PM.**

**ST. PATRICK CHOIR & ST. ALPHONSUS CHOIR**

**PERFORM**

**SANTA WILL BE THERE**

**ALSO**

**CALLING ALL LAHS BAKERS!!!!!!**

**SANTA IS NEED OF YOUR**

**HOMEMADE COOKIES – 2 DOZ OR MORE**

**CUTE, SMALL COOKIES**

**DROPOFF DATES:**

**NOVERMBER 30:10AM-2PM.**

**DECEMBER 1: 8AM-11AM.**

**Cookie Packers also needed on Sat Morning**

## **President's Message. .**



Who is this handsome couple?

Dear Members,

In the spirit of the season of Thanksgiving, I would like to personally thank you all for your support this year. Whether you supplied baked goods for an event, volunteered your time and muscle, or just showed up to enjoy, we appreciate the time and effort that you took to support the Historical Society. It is the support of the members that keeps us going!

On November 27, we will be celebrating the opening of our 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Titanic Disaster Exhibit with a program after the General Meeting and election. Along with a short program, we will be commemorating with a tasting of the last meal on the Titanic. We sure hope you all can make it.

Our final and most glorious event of the year – our Holiday Open House – will be held on December 2 from 1:30 to 4:00 p.m. Besides the angelic voices of the St. Pat's and St. Alphonsus' choirs, we will be visited by Jolly Old St. Nick again this year! And of course, don't forget the cookie sale. Please join us for an afternoon of beautiful music and fun!

Also, and most important, I would like to wish all of you and your families the very best for a Happy Thanksgiving and Blessed Christmas! Best regards,  
Sue

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, 306 Lemont Street,, Lemont, IL 60439, or leaving a message at the museum at 630-257-2972.

## **Lemont Area Historical Society**

*In the Old Stone Church at*

306 Lemont Street Lemont, IL 60439

630-257-2972

[www.lemonthistorical.org](http://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



*Genealogy Corner*  
*By Barb Bannon*

**The Case of the  
Old Photo**



For about thirty years or more I have been investigating my family history. Initially I did not call it genealogy, to me it was just finding out about relatives that I had not been fortunate enough to meet personally. While looking at photos that I had never seen before, I would be introduced to the ancestor in the photo during a story about the event captured by the picture.

Genealogy though is not only about people. Just look around the house and there, in almost everything you see, are historical memories. A picture, piece of furniture or a book are all reminders of a person, place or an event that has shaped our lives and created a warm memory. Some bring thoughts of people or places that we have only heard about but never met.

One of the important aspects of using older photographs in your research is that they may help you pinpoint family members at a specific time or place. Usually a photograph is from where we gather most of our memories. Take time to not only study the person but to also check closely into the background of these pictures. Look for the style of clothing they are wearing, vehicles in the photo, advertising signs and anything that can establish a date or location. Furniture and lighting fixtures can have a very distinctive style. Look at these items closely to help with gathering as

much information from photos as possible.

I have gathered a lot of information from photos in the past, both for my own family history and for research I have done for the Historical Society. A few of the research requests we receive have been accompanied by photos of individuals with identities, to be added to our collection.

One request we received recently also included photos with identities but the question was where was the photo taken. Researching family history requires being part detective. We have been stumped by this photo and could use some help.

The clues:

We know that the girl in the photo, Irma McCool, was born 1925 and we have been told that the photo was taken about 1927 in their neighborhood. The boy in the photo is a neighbor. By closely checking the photo we can see by the pumps in front of the building across the street that it is a gas station made from stone. The clothing, the pumps and also the lighting look correct for the period. Also the tall diamond shaped sign looks like it could possibly been a Sunoco gas sign. The landscape looks very flat and with the location of the street and sidewalk it may have been on a corner with other residences in the background. Since the family only lived in Lemont from about 1924 to about 1928 they will not show up in a federal census.

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](mailto:lemontahs@sbcglobal.net)



**Mailbox**



Do you know where a stone gas station was located?

Did you know the Mc Cool family, where they lived or recognize the neighbor boy in the photo? Or can you find any other clues in this photo? This one has been a real puzzler any help would be appreciated. on this photo?

**Identify your photos so your history is not forgotten !**

## LUMC History Committee Report 2012

By Richard H. Lee, Chairperson

This year has been short on activities after we celebrated our 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary last year in October. Two members of the committee have resigned, Bob Norfleet and Erik Anderson. Bob has poor health and Erik appears to have moved on.

It has come to my attention that the Illinois State Historical Society is looking for churches that are 150 years old or more for its Sesquicentennial Church Awards Program and I think we should apply. We will need, however proof of our founding, such as an Official Charter Grant or documentation from the District. With this we can supply photos to highlight our history and maybe some of our founders like Mr. Brown (which we have). They would like minutes of early church board meetings but I know of no such documents.

There are two other churches older than ours so maybe we should contact them and see if they have the appropriate history documentation and cooperate.

The Illinois History Conference, which I attended this year has a session about "Biographical Sketches" that might be an opportunity to present a presentation on our own Rev. J. Franklin Clancy, the man who shut down "Smokey Row"





## **SOCIETY NEWS**

*By Susan Donahue*

### **IN SYMPATHY**

We wish to express our deepest sympathy to Charlene Counter and her family on the recent loss of her brother, Robert Weck. He was one of the mainstays of St. Matthews Evan. Lutheran Church helping whenever and wherever possible. He will be sorely missed by all who knew and loved him.

### **MEMBERSHIP**

We welcome new members Pat and Chris Camalliere to our LAHS Family!

### **GET WELL WISHES**

We would like to send get well wishes to fellow Board Member Carol Garibay and hope that her recovery will be complete and she will return to good health.

We also send out good wishes to Joanne Pick and Art Garibay.

### **“HAPPY 50<sup>TH</sup> WEDDING ANNIVERSARY !!!”**



We wish to congratulate Marge & Dieter Michaelson on their 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary. May both of you have many more happy years together.

### **WEDDINGS:**

As we come close to the end of the year with one more wedding to take place on December 22, I thought it would be interesting to look back. Often people are curious about our chapel rental. We are very modestly priced at \$350.

I am sure you have heard the term, “Bridezilla” and yes we have had a few that might be called that, but normally it is just fluky things that happen. Like the bride’s mother handing me the Unity Candle on the wedding day and discovering that there is NO wick. A beautiful and expensive wedding dress that the bridal shop for whatever reason ended up putting it in a garbage bag.

Popular colors for bridesmaids dresses this year were: royal blue, black, red, raspberry, and plum.

Little children who are flower girls and ring - bearers are precious. Some refuse to go down the aisle at all with big tears rolling down their cheeks. Flower girls who won’t drop petals because in their minds the flowers are theirs and don’t try to take them. One little boy was adorable, couldn’t wait to walk down the aisle – 3 yrs. old – I said, “It’s show time” and I put my both thumbs up and he turned to his dad and said, “Dad, its show time,” and proudly walked down the aisle, face beaming.



Wedding Car



***STEPPING BACK IN TIME***  
***By Susan Donahue***

**Continued Post Office Construction:  
March 18, 1937, The Lemonter**

Postal employees were looking over a section of one of the steel doors which will be used to separate compartments of the building – thin sheets of metal pressed into proper shape and filled with installation of cork and paper board; casement stone, terra cotta structure cornices and base walls.

Cement floor on first floor completed and side walls started. Walls are 12 inches thick, as is the basement floor built on bedrock.

**March 25, 1937, The Lemonter  
LEMONTERS LAY  
CORNERSTONE OF POST OFFICE**

“It will endure as long as the stone of Lemont on which it rests,” said new Postmaster Shafransky who placed within a little tin box current issues of local newspapers, copy of a telephone book, list of industrial employees of local plants, a story of Lemont written by himself containing a brief history for future generations, the names of local office holders and leading industries and the name of businesses.

**April 1, 1937, the Lemonter**

A federal project maybe sought leveling the surface and construction of sidewalks leading to the new Post Office. Government will, of course, lay a sidewalk in front of Post Office, but completion of sidewalks along one side of street at least to Post Office needed

**April 16, 1937, the Lemonter**  
Building appears to be ready for roofing. A number of workmen are busy in basement laying floor tiling side wall construction and partitions. An interesting galley way for postal inspectors to watch employees without them knowing it. A huge cement and steel vault in the rear appears as it would not be blasted open.

**April 23, 1937, the Lemonter**  
As soon as roof is installed the windows and casings and then interior will be completed rapidly and deco follows for comfortable rest and toilet rooms in basement.

**May 6, 1937, the Lemonter**  
Anticipated completion and occupancy of the new federal building by June 20, orders were advanced this week for new furniture and final installation of electric fixtures ready to install on June 16.

Thirty different firms supplying the furniture and fixtures, Shafransky checked each shipment. As soon as skylight is completed and new windows, which are now being installed, and placed and new doors hung. New skylight and chimney is installed and the roof is completed. All outside construction upon the building proper is about done. Lawn being graded, curbing along south side of building driveway is placed along side.

**Contin. Next issue Post Office completed.**

**Lemont Area Historical Society Membership**

**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**

ATHENS MARBLE CLUB MEMBERS  
VILLAGE OF LEMONT  
LEMONT TOWNSHIP  
LEMONT PARK DISTRICT  
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

