

**CROSTOWN RIVALRY 2nd
ANNUAL BASEBALL RAFFLE!!!!
DRAWING MAY 10, 2013, 6:30pm.
2 Premium Tickets
For Each Ball Park with Parking
(Winner not be Present)
TICKETS \$5 OR 5 FOR \$20
&
SELL 20 TICKETS AND YOUR
NAME WILL BE ENTERED INTO
A \$50 GAS CARD RAFFLE**

We are once again having the
“**Crosstown Baseball Raffle**” – now
doesn’t that make you think of spring.
There is nothing like fun at the old
ballpark – whether it is the White Sox or
the Cubs you are cheering on.

This really is a win/win situation. You
help support the LAHS and you get the
chance to win tickets to games. Each
member will receive 2 books.

Thanks also to “**Tom’s Place**” – “**Canal
Street Pub**” – “**Smokey Row**” -VFW
after St. Patrick’s parade for allowing us
once again to sell our tickets at their
businesses. At **LAHS Museum** too.

Cornerstone

Lemont Area Historical Society
306 Lemont Street Lemont IL 60439
lemontahs@sbcglobal.net
www.lemonthistorical.org

MARCH NEWSLETTER

**March 26: Gen. Mem. Meeting 7pm.
“History of Golf in Lemont”**

**May 10: Civil War Picnic” Crosstown
Classic Baseball Raffle” Drawing
6:30pm. Civil War Reenactment +
Quarrymen appearance**

**June 14 & 15: TAG DAYS – NEED
VOLUNTEERS!!**

**“HISTORY OF GOLF IN LEMONT”
MARCH 26 7PM.**

Did you ever wonder about the early
beginnings of our area golf courses?

We felt the story needed to be told so we
asked and are honored to present the
following speakers who will fill in those
missing pieces: Patricia Camalliere
“History Of Golf in Lemont”, Mike
McNulty, Gleneagles County Club, and
Nick Mokolke of Cog Hill.: Come join
us!!

**FRIENDLY REMINDER: MOST
MEMBERSHIPS ARE DUE IN
MARCH – WE WANT YOU IN OUR
LAHS FAMILY!! PLEASE RENEW!**

Get Your Ticket to Ride!



Cubs-Addison

The Battle of The Red Line

Sox-35th

Lemont Area Historical Society

2ND ANNUAL CROSSTOWN CLASSIC RAFFLE

Two Premium Tickets for Each Ball Park with Parking

Cubs at "The Cell" • Sox at Wrigley

Game Dates TBD

Drawing Held May 10th, 2013 at our Civil War Picnic at The Old Stone Church

Tickets \$5.00 each / 5 for \$20 Winner Need Not Be Present

President's Message..Best Regards, Sue



Dear Members, March 1, 2013

It is hard to believe that Saturday is the St. Patrick's Day Parade. The first two months of 2013 really flew by!

The Historical Society along with the Lemont Quarrymen will be lining up to march at Safety Village at 12:30. Hopefully, some of you will be able to join us.

Saturday is also the kick-off of our Crosstown Classic Fundraiser. You all will be receiving two raffle books this year. We are asking, if you are able, to please purchase one book for yourself and possibly selling the other book to other family members, friends or co-workers. If you sell the 20 tickets your name will be entered into a raffle for a \$50 gas card. The Historical Society is struggling financially, and any help you could give us would be greatly appreciated. The winners will be drawn at our Civil War Re-enactment and Picnic to be held Friday, May 10, at 6:30 p.m. I would like to thank John Quinn and Rick Homerding for all their efforts in making this raffle a success!

On March 26, after our General Membership Meeting, which begins at 7:00 p.m., we will be exploring the History of Golf in Lemont. Our Board Member, Pat Camalliere will be doing a presentation followed by guest speakers Mike McNulty of Glen Eagles and Nick Mokolke of Cog Hill. Please feel free to bring any photos or memorabilia that you may have relating to golfing in Lemont that you would like to share. We hope to see you all there.

This week Gary and I again had the pleasure of visiting the Abraham Lincoln Memorial Library and Museum in Springfield. It was even more moving the second time around. You should not pass up an opportunity to visit if you ever have the chance. Also, we will be going to start working on our John F. Kennedy Exhibit that will be opening in the fall. If you have any memorabilia that you would like to lend to the Museum for the Exhibit, or if you would like to participate in any way, please contact me (630.888.5259).

The Board and I wish you and your families all the very best for a very Happy and Blessed Easter!

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 ,Patricia Camalliere, John Bushman,
Carol Garibay, Richard Homerding, Doris Peterman,
John Quinn, 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

Building & Maintenance

Richard Lee, John Bushman, Wm. Uznanski

Webmaster : Paul Froehle

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. The *Cornerstone* is published six times a year.. Publication offices for Cornerstone are located at 306 Lemont Street, Lemont, IL 60439. Contributions to the newsletter are welcome, .but does not imply that the article will be published. We reserve the right to edit and rewrite.

Genealogy Corner



By Barb Bannon

Black Sheep, Villains & Harlots

Most of us want to believe that our ancestors were hard-working, honorable, salt-of-the-earth people. We want to be proud of them, to really like them, but Genealogy is one of the most unpredictable hobbies you will ever enjoy. When you start digging you never know what you're going to get! If we go back far enough, we all can discover a skeleton in the closet, horse thief, a felon or a woman of ill repute!

Researching a black sheep ancestor can be fascinating, but it can be difficult for both you and your family. Other members may know about the wrongdoings of your ancestor and may have chosen to keep quiet for one reason or another.

If you have a black sheep in your family tree, you are probably questioning some of the stories that have been handed down over the years. What is true and what has been embellished or covered up? Until you can discover interesting details about this skeleton, family members may want you to keep the closet door closed.

Be sure to back up the family stories with pertinent records; court dockets, wills, coroner's records, etc. Check for the details to confirm or disprove the stories. If an ancestor was living at the time of the 1880 Census, more information can be searched for in the "Defective, Dependent and Delinquent" schedule. If the ancestor was a criminal, you may find something in courthouse records, prison records and of course newspapers. In fact there may be more available about a black sheep ancestor than any other simply because their name surfaces more and that may reveal more

details about other members living at the same time.

If you do discover something unsavory in your family's history, be sensitive when sharing any information with others. What they did may impact those around them at the time and also for later generations. Was there a family member involved in bank robberies or a murder? Did someone run a bordello or was a family member an employee there? Consider what you publish may cause hard feelings or embarrassment. Try contacting those connected to the story and ask them if they would object to seeing it in print.

It's important to understand the time period during which our ancestors lived and explore the local histories to get an impression of the society at the time. Everyone lives through experiences differently, so it's good to take all of this into consideration.

Face it, bad things can happen to our ancestors and more often than not, those are the ancestors that are the most interesting characters in our family history!

"If you cannot get rid of the family skeleton, you may as well make it dance." George Bernard Shaw

Connecting Branches The Genealogy Committee has been made aware of the following new family names being researched:

Jerry Splant – researching Rose Splitt/Splant family

William Grabarek – researching Bromberek family

John Sutherland – researching Bremner & Michie families

GENALOGY CORNER CONTINUED

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



Mailbox

Question: I have hit a brick wall in trying to find where in Ireland my ancestors migrated from. I have naturalization documents, census records and ships passenger records but the only indication of origin is Ireland. Where can I go for more information?

Answer: I usually find dependable information from Dick Eastman who writes an online newsletter. He suggests the Irish Family History Foundation <http://www.rootsireland.ie/> which is a fee based site. Another is a free site GENUKI <http://www.genuki.org.uk/>

Good luck!

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

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

Lincoln History 2012

By Richard H. Lee

I attended the 2012 Illinois History Conference last October in Springfield and attended a session, "Lincoln as a Lawyer" that was well attended (standing room only). A few young people were in the audience, probably college students and Lincoln was described as a self-taught lawyer who had a successful practice.

He would take either side in a case, with absolute devotion to the Constitution and the Law. He had over 5000 cases, some with surviving records and there are about 400 citations of Lincoln cases with precedents. He didn't like to do research, preferring to do on-site investigations and interview witnesses. He was a modest man, not proud, and was eagerly sought as a defender but would serve poor clients. Never surprised, he was always successful but did represent a slaveholder in 1862 and frequently pardoned military deserters in the war as President.

In his quest for President in 1860, his nomination was headed by Judge David Davis and they focused on the states of IL, IN, WI, OH, PA, and NY, where many Germans and farmers lived. Southern states, Kansas and southern Illinois were dead set against him and he even failed to carry his home county in the election. His new party, the Republicans were a break from the old traditional party, the Whigs and his adversary Douglas.

After his death he was called a saint and a Savior, but I noticed this February 12, the news media virtually ignored his day and birthday. Many Lincoln books were for sale there and a couple caught my attention and were recommended by Lincoln scholars. "Lincoln's Ladder to the President" was one and the other was, "The Lincoln Murder Case" that described the atmosphere of Springfield.



SOCIETY NEWS

By Susan Donahue

FEBRUARY VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION EVENT

The Board of Directors was very pleased to see our volunteers – only regretting that there were not more that came. We do understand that other commitments held some back

We were treated to a very delicious Mardi Gras luncheon provided by Sue Roy, Rose Yates, and Barb Bannon It was an enjoyable afternoon with lively conversation and getting to catch up on how everyone is doing. Music played in the background – “The City of New Orleans” filled the chapel.

THANK YOU!

Freddie, our resident Teddy Bear, wishes to thank all who came to his birthday bash in January. He and his friends had a wonderful time made extra special by little Isabella, Violet and Jingles. He is still smiling, basking in the warmth of being treated so special.

GET WELL WISHES

We wish to extend best wishes to Joanne Pick, Charlene Counter, Arthur Garibay and Don Wall for a return to good health.

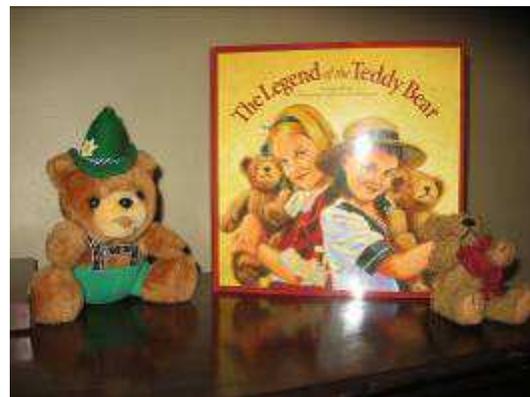
IN SYMPATHY

We wish to extend our deepest sympathy to Marge Michaelson and her family on the recent passing of the matriarch of their family, Mildred (Koch) Hennebry. Mrs. Hennebry lived to be 102 years old. She had a loving family to care for her.

MEMBERSHIPS:

We wish to welcome new members: Joan Capobiano and William Grabarrek to our LAHS Family. Both of them are interested in genealogy as they can trace their family to Lemont. Membership renewals: Rae Dyer, Jim & Pat Browne and Lance Winterlund Fam. Lemont Park District Athens Marble Club renewal.

TEDDY BEAR BASH 2013



Freddie makes new friends.



*STEPPING BACK IN
TIME*
By Susan Donahue

The Post Office Mural

The story of the Lemont Post Office would not be complete without mentioning the mural so proudly displayed in the lobby. I sometimes wonder if people really look at it or appreciate it. Sometimes we see things so often that they blend into the landscape. Do you know when or why or who created it? Let me fill in the blanks for you

THE LEMONTER, May 26, 1938:

Beautiful mural received here hanging in Federal Building depicts early canal scene. Completing one of the finest mural paintings ever in any public building of this region, Charles Turzak, talented Chicago artist, commissioned by the U.S. Treasury Dept. to create a mural depicting significant and historic events of this region and have it hang in the Lemont Post Office, has completed his work and visitors to the federal building are surprised and pleased with the subject and treatment.

The mural authorized by the federal government on October 21, 1937 now beautifully adorns the spacious lobby, hanging on the north wall, directly over the entrance of the Postmaster's office. (We no longer have a Postmaster in Lemont).

Proud of Painting

Postmaster E.J. Shafranski is very proud of the painting which was awarded to Lemont largely upon the insistence of Edward A. Kelly (Engineer who lived here during digging of Chicago & Sanitary Canal and married someone from Lemont), who has watched every phrase of the work until it was brought to Lemont and made a record for posterity.

Artist Turzak was happy not only in his choice of subject, but by his sympathetic treatment and real artistry in recalling a scene

of bygone days when water commerce on the old Illinois & Michigan Canal was an important part of the business life of this region.

Old Tow Boat Scene

It is a canal scene that might have been photographed right from the very canal banks in Lemont showing the rock bound stream with canal boats on it and a mule pulling another through a close passage, while a family seeking the west by water rests on the freighter and a deck hand protects another boat from injury as the mule power pulls the vessel slowly along.

All of the coloring is natural and the whole canvas realistic and pleasing. It is one of the few new post offices to receive such murals. The idea was selected only after artist Turzak, his wife, Postmaster Shafranski and others had toured the region and suggested some 7 subjects. The Treasury Dept. fortunately selecting the one most typical of Lemont.

Brief Background of Charles Turzak: Born in 1899 in Streeter, IL of Czechoslovakian immigrant parents. Won a cartoon contest sponsored by the Purina Company and first prize was entrance into the Art Institute of Chicago, which he attended over the fiery objections of his father

The WPA/FAP ushered in during the 1930's allowed him and many other artists to survive. The U.S. Treasury Dept. contacted him to do several murals in post offices and government buildings. "River and Canal Transportation" was redesigned for another **WPA Project done at Lemont, IL in 1937. (ONLY MURAL STILL IN EXISTANCE TODAY.)**

EDITORS NOTE: I found this last piece of information gleaned from Charles Turzak bio most interesting as you can imagine. It is both a matter of pride and concern as often the future of the post office on Stephen Street is discussed. A treasure in our midst must not be taken for granted. We should be aware and vigilant so that we can help preserve it if it is threatened. SD.

1938 POST OFFICE MURAL BY CHARLES TURZAK



VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION EVENT

Lemont Area Historical Society Membership

Student -----\$10.00
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

