



**THANK YOU HALLY FOR  
DRAWING THE WINNERS!**



**CONGRATULATIONS!!!!  
CROSTOWN RAFFLE WINNERS:  
DON & SANDY WALL**



**GAS CARD PRIZE WINNER:  
SHANNON DUGHETTI**

We thank all of our members who participated in the Crosstown Raffle this year. We appreciate your support.

**NEW PROPOSED AMENDMENT  
TO LAHS BY-LAWS (See attached)**

# Cornerstone

Lemont Area Historical Society  
306 Lemont Street Lemont IL 60439

[lemonthistorical@gmail.com](mailto:lemonthistorical@gmail.com)

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

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

**May 27<sup>th</sup> GEN MEM MEET:7pm.  
(NO PROGRAM)**

**June 13 & 14: TAG DAYS NEED  
VOLUNTTERS!!1 2 HR. SHIFTS  
9AM-5PM. JEWEL OR CHIPAIN'S**

**July 12:HERITAGE FEST:  
HISTORIC PHOTO BOOTH,  
BINGO, SPLIT THE POT  
STARTS, AT 4PM.**

**July 22 – GEN. MEM. MEET 7PM  
(NO PROGRAM)**

## **ATTENTION:**

**JUNE 20 (RAINDATE JUNE 27)  
DINNER MEETING + CAR SHOW  
AT WHITE FENCE FARM**

**\$35 INC. DINNER + DONATION  
TO LAHS**

**RESERVATIONS FOR DINNER  
NOW BEING TAKEN**

**(SEE FLYER ENCLOSED FOR  
MORE DETAILS)**

## **QUARRYMEN GAMES**

**SPONSORED BY LAHS**

**CHEER OUR TEAM TO**

**VICTORY!!**

**BOTH GAMES AT COVINGTON**

**KNOLLS PARK 127<sup>th</sup> STREET**

**MAY 17-12:30**

**MAY 31- 1PM.**



## Summer Dinner Meeting and Car Show

**Come and hear about** the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Dodge automobile and the Ford Model T mass production with raise in wages. Also a fund raising event for the Lemont Area Historical Society and the museum, which needs restoration!

**At** White Fence Farm north parking lot for cars and a private dining room for the dinner **Friday evening June 20<sup>th</sup>** starting at 4 p.m. with dinner at 6 p.m. Rain date of **Friday evening June 27<sup>th</sup>** and same time. For all people interested in history and car lovers. Lemont Classic Car Club supplying cars and some history. Introduction by the society historians.

\$35 per person for dinner including drink, desert, tax, and tip. Choose chicken, fish or shrimp dinners. \$10 donation included to support the historical society.

**Special Attractions:** Old Model T and Model A Ford cars in running condition, possibly a Stanley Steamer car along with early Dodge cars. Souvenir buttons of old cars available. Many old classic cars restored in running condition.

**Contact:** [lemonthistorical@gmail.com](mailto:lemonthistorical@gmail.com), phone: (630) 257-2972  
**Reservations are recommended. (lemonthistorical.org)**

## PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO BY-LAWS

Proposed at May 7, 2014 LAHS Board Meeting by Life Member, Gail August

Published in May, 2014 Newsletter

By-Laws may be amended at any regular meeting by a two-thirds vote of those voting, provided notice was given at the previous meeting, or they may be amended at a special meeting called for that purpose. All proposed amendments shall be submitted in writing.

**Proposed Amendment #1: Article VI: Executive Board, Section #4 -Term, Part B. Directors**

**Current Wording:** A Director shall serve for 3 years or until a successor is elected. A Director shall serve for more than 2 consecutive terms and shall not be eligible for election as a Director until the lapse of 1 year.

**New Wording:** A Director shall serve for three years or until a successor is elected. **A Director shall serve for not more than 8 consecutive elected years which includes full and partial elected terms and shall not be eligible for election as a Director until the lapse of 1 year.**

**Proposed Amendment #2: Article VI: Executive Board, Section #4 – Term, Part C. Partial Term**

**Current Wording:** The time a person has served filling a vacancy by appointment shall not be counted in term limitations.

**New Wording:** The time a person has served filling a vacancy by appointment shall not be counted in term limitations. **The time a person serves filling a partial term by election will count in term limitations.**

**President's Message. .**



**Pres. Sue, Pat & Rose at "The Vault Program"**

March 15, 2014

Dear Members,

My intention was to start this letter out with speaking about what a beautiful Spring we were having. However, since I had to wear my gloves again today, I will skip that and ask that we all pray for some warm weather soon! It has been a really long winter and we could all use a break!

The Board and I would like to thank everyone for supporting our Super Bowl and Crosstown Classic Raffles. As we all experienced high heating bills and excessive snow shoveling – proceeds from the raffles helped us get through the brutal winter.

Also, we would like to thank you for supporting our winter programs at Tom's Place and The Vault. Despite the frigid weather in January – it was standing room only at Tom's. We would like to thank Milan Laketa for allowing us to hold our program there as well as giving us his history. We would also like to thank Pat O'Brien, Dale Boe and Alex & Judy Wojciechowski for coming out on such a nasty night to talk about their historic hangouts.

In March we were grateful to the Salamani brothers for allowing us to hold our Historic Heists Program at The Vault and Rachel of Image Icon for letting us use her video

simulation of the bank robbery that took place there in 1929. Also, a special thank you to Chief Shaughnessy for taking time out of his very busy schedule and agreeing to talk about Lemont's more recent heists.

**We want to inform you that this year our July dinner meeting is going to be in June at White Fence Farm in a joint venture with the Lemont Classic Car Club. We will have general meetings in May and July without programs.**

The Lemont Quarrymen were victorious in their first season game against the Chicago Salmon on May 4!!! They will be playing the Milwaukee Juneaus on May 17<sup>th</sup> at 12:30 and the Deep River Grinders on May 31<sup>st</sup> at 1:00 at 127<sup>th</sup> & Covington Knolls Drive. Let's show some ginger and support them!! All spectators, cranks, bugs and charming deadheads are welcome to watch or participate in all of the games.

Also, we are calling all artists, antique and collectible dealers, and crafters to participate as vendors in our Street Fair on September 20<sup>th</sup>. If you know anyone that is interested, please have them contact me at [smokeyrow@sbcglobal.net](mailto:smokeyrow@sbcglobal.net) or 630-888-5259, or they pick up a registration form from Susan at the Church.

The Board and I wish you and your families all the very best for a fun and safe summer!

Best regards, Sue

**Note: If you have any photos of the Quarrymen Baseball Games please forward to us at our email address: [lemontahs@gmail.com](mailto:lemontahs@gmail.com)**

**We would like to post them on our website and our Facebook page. Thank you.**

## Genealogy Corner



By Barb Bannon

### Preservation, Please!

May is preservation month, and since we now seem to be a throwaway society, I am hopeful this month will help nudge us into an alternate manner of thinking. To respect our ancestors is to respect also, what they have thoughtfully handed down to us. As a Family History enthusiast, I am usually thinking along the lines of “I hope someone saved that...so I can find it” and “What should I save that would be of interest to someone else?”

The family historians care most for genealogical data, along with it's sources. It is important to select carefully what you choose to save. Unfortunately, you cannot save everything, that would put you on track to become a hoarder, but you can make educated decisions about what you keep from the depths of the local landfill. Save those family items that contain information that is unique, significant and best summarizes an event.

Paper treasures tucked away in closets, drawers, basements and attics are candidates for preservation. These things have been saved because someone felt that they meant something, that they told a story about someone's life, or family or friends. These photographs, diaries, bibles, letters, school papers, or legal documents frequently have meaning only to family members and those should be held precious but occasionally some are of general interest and those should be shared with the entire community.

On a large scale, there are organizations that work to support the preservation of America's historic buildings, neighborhoods and heritage through programs and resources that provide help to local preservationists. We can help their efforts by

supporting any preservation projects within our community.

On a smaller scale, when un-cluttering if you find an item of local historical significance, ask yourself if this is something you can care for or if it may be better cared for in a museum. Do you have the time and space to preserve the item for as long as possible without changing its character? If you decide to donate it to a museum, consider getting an appraisal so you have an accurate idea of its monetary value.

**“It has been said that, at its best, preservation engages the past in a conversation with the present over a mutual concern for the future.” William J. Murtagh**




### Connecting Branches

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

**Gail Sullivan - researching John & Catherine Sullivan**  
**Marie Ainsworth - researching Edwin Walker 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](mailto:lemontahs@sbcglobal.net)

A big thank you goes out to Mary Boza/Oberhart for donating the many photographs from her research of the Boza, Zygmán, Wolski & Maday families. Way to go Mary, sharing is one way to help preserve your photos for future generations.

**Mailbox**  If you have a general genealogy question please send it via regular mail or email to [lahsgenes2@yahoo.com](mailto:lahsgenes2@yahoo.com) with “Genealogy Corner Mailbox” in the subject and we will do our best to have the answer in the next newsletter.



## **SOCIETY NEWS**

*By Susan Donahue*

### **DID YOU KNOW?**

Quite a few people who visit the museum are surprised that we have 4 murals in Lemont, even those who live here.

The 4 murals are the: one at the Post Office as part of the WPA Project; the Bicentennial Mural on Stephen Street (rather the most obvious); the Rudy Kling Mural by the Front Street Lofts; and, the Lemont Massacre Mural on Lockport Street near Legion Park and the train station.

We are fortunate to have such talented artists as Charles Turzak, Carly Yasko, and now the Lemont Art Commission feel so strongly about our Lemont history to create these works of art at different time periods for all of us to enjoy and treasure.

Check them out if you haven't already done so.

### **TOUR CANCELLED**

In a previous article I had tooted the fact that with cooperation from the Jacob Henry Mansion in Joliet we would be having a bus tour from WI. of some of our historic churches.

Unfortunately, we were notified that the tour had been cancelled due to lack of interest. Needless to say it was disappointing to all concerned. They do not know what they are missing.

The rep from the Jacob Henry and our Tour Coordinator, Gail August, were, however, glad to have this chance to connect and are looking forward to other opportunities to work together and this is definitely a positive that came out of this situation.

### **CHRISTENING**

On May 4<sup>th</sup> we had a Baptism. In a first we had both mother and daughter receive this sacrament separately.

Little Evelyn Rose was not a happy camper as she made her feelings known quite vocally to everyone that somehow this was not going to be her favorite experience of her life. She somehow sensed that the water was going to be cold, which her mom confirmed.

#### **Mom, Baby, Dad, & Godparents**



**“ADPORABLE – EVELYN ROSE”**



**QUARRYMEN BASEBALL GAME  
2014**



**MARCH PROGRAM  
"THE VAULT"**





## *STEPPING BACK IN TIME*

*By Susan Donahue*

We had the treat of holding a very interesting, informative and entertaining program at “**THE VAULT**” in March. As I was looking for some tidbit to put into the newsletter I happened upon the front page news of **January 8, 1948**. These are excerpts as they may become future programs – don’t want to give too much away. Both in the same edition.

### **\$700 IN TAVERN HOLD-UP**

As Frank Riolo, owner of Riolo’s Cocktail Lounge, at Main & Lemont Streets, was checking on his day’s receipts in his place of business at 1:10am. on Monday, a bandit armed with a large pistol entered and robbed him of between \$550 and \$700.

Riolo was alone in the lounge at the time, and was behind the bar at the cash register when the man walked in through the side door, Police Chief Joseph S. Pociask said. Keeping his victim covered with the gun, the bandit demanded the box in which the money was placed. Chief Pociask said that Riolo surrendered this and the bandit then ordered the victim to turn over his wallet. Riolo, also complied with this order, but appealed to the man not to take his wallet saying it contained valuable papers that would be difficult to replace. The gunman removed the money and placed the billfold on the bar.

His footsteps on leaving the place sounded like he had started up Lemont Street hill and slipped at the side of the building, Riolo said. Chief Pociask reported there were fresh footsteps in the snow just outside the door, but here were so many footprints up the hill that he was unable to pick up and follow the trail.

### **FRONT DOOR LOCKED**

The lounge had been closed for the night, a short time before the holdup, and the front

door had been locked, Riolo told police he believed the side door had also been locked, but apparently some employee had forgotten to turn the latch, or that it had been accidentally left opened.

Was he ever caught? Is there more to this story?

### **BLESCH-WELTER STORE ENTERED BY BURGLARS**

#### **Thieves Break Side Window of Local Store and Escape With Small Loot**

Breaking a window that opens on the driveway at the side of the building burglars several nights ago gained entrance to the Blesch and Welter, Inc. at 102 – 106 Stephen Street.

Owners of the company said that no money was obtained by the thief, who escaped with a small amount of stock.

The burglary appears to be the work of an amateur. As he climbed out the window, the thief apparently kicked the receiver off the telephone.

An alert operator on duty at the local exchange of Illinois Bell Telephone CO, noticed the signal flash when the receiver went off the hook and notified Chief of Police Pociask and Arthur Blesch, one of the store owners.

They went to the place of business and launched an immediate search for the burglar, who had disappeared. No trace could be found.

Sidenote: What struck me was that the telephone operator was so diligent and quick to respond. These stories gave me a feeling of small town Lemont of that time and I hope it does for you too. It meant connections were more personal.

Sadly, I think relying on modern tech we distance ourselves and are losing something in the process. The tradeoff does not balance. sd.



**Lemont Area Historical Society Museum**

*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,  
Carol Garibay, Richard Homerding, Daniel Mitchell,  
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, Grant Writing

**Human & Financial Resources**

Richard Homerding, Fundraising

**Exhibits:** Richard Lee

**Program:** Gary Roy, Susan Roy

**Tours:** Gail August

**Membership:**Susan Donahue

**Wedding Committee:**Carol Garibay, Susan Donahue

**Building & Maintenance:**Bill Uznanski, Richard Lee, Richard Homerding, John Quinn

**Web Master:** Paul Froehle

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

**Lemont Area Historical Society  
Membership Form**

**Student \$10.00 -----**  
**Senior Citizen:\$10.00 -----**  
**Individual: \$15.00 -----**  
**Family: \$25.00 -----**  
**Corporate:\$50.00 -----**  
**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**

The Cornerstone is a 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 issues. Issues are mailed or emailed to 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 contacted by writing to the Lemont Area Historical Society, 306 Lemont St, 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.