

# MESSENGER

April 2024  
Volume XXXVIII

## **New Faces At The Glen Ellyn Historical Society**

**By Jeffrey Anderson, Executive Director**

Hello everyone!

There have been a lot of changes at the Glen Ellyn Historical Society (GEHS) over the last year. We would like to thank outgoing board members Mark Lukas, Maria Bakalis, and Sally MacDonald. In addition to board members stepping down, the GEHS suffered a great loss with the passing of longtime board member Jim Manak, who will be greatly missed. The board welcomed new board members Jane Rio, Hal Hothan, Tim Loftus, Nancy Sternik and Kirk Burger. The board elected Dan Anderson president, and Hal Hothan treasurer. Maureen Shekleton will continue as vice-president and Mark Pfefferman will continue as secretary.

The beginning of 2023 was a difficult time as the GEHS lost both its Executive Director and Assistant Director. We are very thankful to Kathy Becker, Manager of Stacy's Corners Store, who allowed us to keep the GEHS History Center open while the board conducted a search for a new Executive Director. The GEHS is happy to announce their search for a new Executive Director resulted in the selection of Jeffrey Anderson as the new Executive Director. Jeffrey joins the GEHS after spending 18 years at Cantigny Park in Wheaton in various museum roles at the McCormick House Museum and the First Division Museum. The GEHS is also happy to have Brandon Trupp take over the role of Assistant Director. Brandon joins us after working at Naper Settlement as an educator and he brings with him a wealth of knowledge of collections care earned at other local area museums.

Along with the new faces, we have some changes happening in both Stacy's Tavern and the History Center. We are excited to be adding a buttry at the tavern that should be finished this spring. We also have a new temporary exhibit on display at the History Center, "Glen Ellyn in Stitches." The exhibit consists of nine quilts made and used by Glen Ellyn residents between 1840-2000. We invite you to come visit this beautiful exhibit that will be up through August.

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*The Messenger is a publication of the Glen Ellyn Historical Society.*

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800 North Main Street, Glen Ellyn, IL 60137 - 630-469-1867  
www.glenellynhistory.org - director@gehs.org

# New Temporary Exhibit: Glen Ellyn In Stitches

By Brandon Trupp, Assistant Director

The Glen Ellyn Historical Society would like to invite the public to a new temporary exhibit, "Glen Ellyn In Stitches," located inside the History Center. The exhibit features quilts of different styles from 1840-2000 that have a strong connection to the Glen Ellyn area or its residents.

The idea for a quilt exhibit came about when the GEHS received a donation from the Grace Lutheran Church of a sesquicentennial quilt created in 1984 by members of the Glen Ellyn senior center. This quilt was made in honor of Glen Ellyn's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary, and includes hand embroidered renderings of Glen Ellyn's past based on photographs from Lee Hesterman's personal collection. Hesterman was a local historian and member of the GEHS. The June 27, 1984, issue of the Glen Ellyn News included a picture of the quilt being presented to former Village President Michael Formento. The quilt was hung up in the Civic Center Council Chamber for a number of years before it was given to Grace Lutheran Church. I am sure there are many long-time Glen Ellyn residents who have fond memories of the sesquicentennial celebrations. Perhaps some of you even remember seeing it on display in the Civic Center.

The rest of the exhibit features eight other quilts that are a part of the GEHS's collection. There were over 25 quilts to choose from, but the ones that are on display were chosen based on their condition and the information that was provided or found through research. Some of the quilts have important historic ties to founding families of Glen Ellyn, while others belonged to Glen Ellyn residents and have interesting stories about who made them, or how they came into possession of them. This quilt exhibit will be on display now through the end of August.



## Pick Up The Phone, History Is Calling

By Jeffrey Anderson, Executive Director

The Glen Ellyn Historical Society recently received a call from Kathleen “Kathy” Mary Fell Baird of Colorado, who wanted to donate items related to her father, Edward Fell. After a few lovely conversations, it became clear that not only did her father play a historically significant role in Glen Ellyn’s history, but also how much Kathy cherishes her memories of her father.

Edward Fell was born on May 19, 1901, in Lytham Lancs, England, and worked as a linotype operator before moving to Chicago in July 1923, with a letter of recommendation from the Rev. John Sinker (which Kathy donated to the GEHS). Edward worked at R.H. Donnelly Company for a short time before deciding to move to Glen Ellyn, where he worked for the Glen Ellyn News for the next 41 years before retiring as their superintendent in 1966. Edward was very active in the Glen Ellyn community as a member of the Masons. He was politically active, winning election as Glen Ellyn Constable before being appointed Glen Ellyn Police Magistrate in 1954 and 1957, (certificates Kathy donated to the GEHS). As Magistrate, Edward oversaw small criminal cases, including a case where he fined a young man for speeding, unaware that young man was his future son-in-law.

Edward married Dorothy Anna Bolms of Glen Ellyn on August 24, 1926 (Kathy donated their marriage certificate to the GEHS). Dorothy worked for over 20 years for the Illinois Bell Phone Company, including during WWII and was fondly referred to as Rosie the Riveter. Together they had two daughters, Kathy and Mary Ellen Fell Marocchi of Wheaton, who passed away on June 26, 2018.

When I asked Kathy of her experiences growing up in Glen Ellyn, she said, “Growing up in Glen Ellyn was wonderful!” Kathy recalled that her family lived in a home on Anthony Street, the Arcadia Apartments, and in a home on Smith Street. Kathy graduated from Glenbard High School, (now Glenbard West), before working with her mother at the Illinois Bell Phone Company until 1957, when she moved to Westminster, Colorado, where she currently resides.

When her parents retired in 1966, they decided to move to Colorado, as well. Edward Fell passed away on July 23, 1981, and Dorothy Fell passed away on September 12, 2000. During my conversations with Kathy about her father, one of her stories struck a chord with me. When her dad would take her fishing, he would tell her that she couldn’t talk otherwise it would scare away the fish. As she grew older, she realized it was just a myth and just a way for her father to keep her quiet.

The Glen Ellyn Historical Society is honored to be entrusted by Kathy with these documents that we will preserve for generations to come.

July 25. 23  
Dear Brother  
May I commend to your care  
a young parsonage to Edward Henry  
Fell who is going to Chicago to try  
his fortune in America  
He has been closely connected with  
our Church and has been  
secretary of the Boys' Athletic Club.  
I would be so pleased if you could  
help him to get into touch with  
friends who may be a help to him.  
He is keen intelligent & has been  
a regular member of the Church here  
via correspondence.  
Thanking you  
Yours faithfully  
Abraham Lincoln



## UPCOMING PROGRAMS

**Saturday, May 11th at 2 p.m.**

**Leslie Goddard as Lilly Pulitzer**

In the 1960s, she changed fashion with her carefree shift dresses in whimsical, bold patterns. But who was Lilly Pulitzer? In this new portrayal, historian Leslie Goddard brings to life the entrepreneur and fashion designer who launched a design revolution. Learn what inspired this free-spirited young socialite to start a line of light-weight tropical dresses and how they became synonymous with resort living.

\$10 adults, \$8 members and students.

**Friday, May 17th at 7 p.m.**

**On The Trail Of The Ancient Ones by Terry Poppleton**

Join Terry as he takes us on a journey to another place and another time. The place is the Four Corners region of the U.S. and the time is a thousand years ago. On this journey we will visit such storied places as Chaco Canyon, Mesa Verde, and Hovenweep. Discover how this remarkable culture flourished, changed, and survived in the challenging environment of the American Southwest.

\$5 adults, \$3 members and students.

**Saturday May 25th at 2 p.m.**

**Saving Lake Ellyn: The 14-Year Odyssey to Save Lake Ellyn**

Join us as local resident and historian Ron Aubrey shares with us the story of how Lake Ellyn was saved from development after the Glen Ellyn Hotel fire of 1906. In 1907, the Glen Ellyn Hotel & Springs Co. attempted to turn Lake Ellyn Park into residential lakefront homes by announcing "We are placing Lake Glen Ellyn on the market." Come learn more about the 14-year odyssey, including many dramatic twists and turns, that ultimately resulted in saving our beloved Lake Ellyn.

\$5 adults, \$3 members and students.

**Saturday, June 1st from 10-3 p.m.**

**9th Annual Auto Festival**

The 9th Annual Glen Ellyn Vintage Auto Fest is Saturday, June 1, from 10-3 p.m. The location is Historic Stacy's Corners, 800 N. Main Street, Glen Ellyn. Great vintage vehicles are on display near Stacy's Tavern Museum. Grab a bite to eat from Heavenly Hot Dogs between 11-2 p.m. A free talk on historic autos will be given in the Glen Ellyn History Center. Stacy's Tavern Museum will be open to tour and Stacy's Corner Store will be open. Free Event - call 630-469-1867 and check [www.director@gehs.org](http://www.director@gehs.org).

## UPCOMING PROGRAMS

### **Historic Game Night - War Games**

**Friday, June 14th 5-8 p.m.**

Like board games? Bring your family, bring your friends, or leave them all behind and make new ones at the Glen Ellyn Historical Society's Historic Game Night event! We will have a brief presentation about the evolution of war board games before we welcome people to try a number of different games at the History Center. The Historical Society will have a number of different games available for people to play at this **FREE** event.

### **Vintage and Antique Market: A GEHS Fundraiser**

**Thursday Through Saturday June 20th - 22th 10-5 p.m.**

**(Items may be donated June 18 - 19, 10-4 p.m.)**

The Historical Society will have a fundraising selling vintage and antique items that have been donated to us for this purpose. The sale will be held in the Anderson Multi-Purpose Room at the History Center, 800 N. Main St. Come check out all the unique finds! Would you like to contribute to the sale? Vintage and antique items in good condition may be brought to the History Center June 18 - 19th from 10-4 p.m. Remaining items that are left after the end of the sale will either be retained by the Historical Society for future sale or be donated to local charities. Small items like jewelry and collectibles will be accepted for sale prior to the 18th, but furniture and large items will need to be brought on the 18-19th. Questions? Contact Jeffrey Anderson at [director@gehs.org](mailto:director@gehs.org) or 630-469-1867.

### **Cordelia Harvey "Angel in a Blue Bonnet"**

**Saturday June 29th 2 p.m.**

Join us as Jessica Michna portrays Cordelia Harvey, "Angel in a Blue Bonnet." Cordelia Perine Harvey came to Wisconsin as a young girl. Trained as a school mistress, she met and married Louis Harvey, who would rise to the governorship of Wisconsin. Cordelia's life unraveled when she was widowed after fewer than three months in the Governor's Mansion. Her husband's tragic drowning left Cordelia rudderless and without purpose. She set aside her grief to become the healing angel of a nation wracked by civil war. Her meetings with President Lincoln culminating in the building of three hospitals in Wisconsin, the basis for the VA system of today.

\$10 Adults; \$8 GEHS members and students

### **Leslie Goddard presents "Chicago's Sweet Candy History"**

**Saturday July 13th 2 p.m.**

The Glen Ellyn Historical Society is happy to have Leslie Goddard return to give her presentation on Chicago's Sweet Candy History. For most of its history, Chicago produced one-third of the nation's candy. You probably know some of the candies made or invented here: Snickers and Milky Way bars, Wrigley's gum, Cracker Jack, Baby Ruth and Butterfinger, Tootsie Rolles, Frango Mints. Learn the history of these tasty treats and explore what made Chicago such an ideal location for candymakers. Find out why immigrants played a critical role in confectionery history, discover how Baby Ruth and Milk Dud got their names, and take a fun "candy quiz." It's delicious fun!

\$10 Adults; \$8 GEHS members and students

## UPCOMING EVENTS CONTINUED

### **Historic Game Night — Mystery Games**

**Friday, July 19th 5-8 p.m.**

Like board games? Bring your family, bring your friends, or leave them all behind and make new ones at the Glen Ellyn Historical Society's Historic Game Night event! We will have a brief presentation about the evolution of mystery board games before we welcome people to try a number of different games at the History Center. The Historical Society will have a number of different games available for people to play at this **FREE** event.

### **Members only program: Genealogy Class "The Fab Five & More"**

**Thursday, August 1st 7 - 8 p.m.**

The Historical Society invites its members to attend this members-only program that will cover how to use some of the most popular genealogy websites. Dan Jungclas, The Ancestry Guy, will cover tips and tricks in how you can better use Ancestry, FamilySearch, FindMyPast, Fold3, and My Heritage. This program is **FREE**, but only available to active members of the Glen Ellyn Historical Society. Not a member? Not a problem! Become a member today!

### **City of Big Songs: Tunes about Chicago and the Stories Behind the Music**

**Saturday, August 10th 2 p.m.**

Join us as we welcome Clarence Goodman, who will present a multimedia performance showcasing Chicago and how the city has inspired an incredible array of songs. From prohibition to the weather, the subjects have been wide-ranging, weird, and wonderful!  
\$10 Adults; \$8 GEHS members, \$5 students

### **Historic Game Night — Speed Jigsaw Puzzles**

**Friday, August 16th 5-8 p.m.**

Like board games? Bring your family, bring your friends, or leave them all behind and make new ones at the Glen Ellyn Historical Society's Historic Game Night event! We are excited to offer an opportunity for people to team up and race against the clock, and each other in completing a jigsaw puzzle. This event has limited space available so please sign up and reserve your spot today. You are welcome to sign up a group or as single participant and we will find you new friends to jigsaw with. We will have awards for some of the fastest teams. For any questions or to register for the event, please call 630-469-1867 or email Director@gehs.org.

### **Pioneer Day at Stacy's Tavern Museum**

**Sunday, September 29th 1 -4:30 p.m.**

Come see what life was like for the early settlers of Glen Ellyn, on the same spot where early residents lived! Try your hand at 1840's life. There will be live farm animals, music, craft-making for kids, candle making, corn shelling, apple peeling, pioneer games and toys; learn how to rope a bed, do laundry 1840's style, experience 1840's school in an outdoor classroom, make rope, tour the Tavern, and much, much more! This years Pioneer Day will be **FREE** of charge thanks to a generous donation from the Glen Ellyn Bank and Trust, which is sponsoring the event!



# *In Memorium*



*Remembering our members  
and volunteers  
who are missed but never forgotten –*

**Jim Manak**  
**Mary Gower**  
**Marilyn Hoffman**  
**Kay Andersen**  
**Louis Hoornbeek**

## **Book Group Discussions**

All listings are on our website calendar of events at [www.gehs.org/calendar-of-events.html](http://www.gehs.org/calendar-of-events.html). Everyone welcome! Meetings are held at 10 a.m. at the History Center.

Thurs. May 2nd - The Irregulars

Thurs. July 11th - Fever in the Heartland

Thurs. Sept 5th - Edith: The Rogue Rockefeller McCormick

Thurs. Nov 7th - The Hello Girls: America's First Women Soldiers

&

Grace Banker and Her Hello Girls Answer the Call

GLEN ELLYN  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

## **Board of Directors**

**Dan Anderson**  
President

**Maureen Shekleton**  
Vice President

**Mark Pfefferman**  
Secretary

**Hal Hothan**  
Treasurer

## **Directors**

**Dan Anderson**  
**Maureen Shekleton**

**Mark Pfefferman**

**Hal Hothan**

**Lee Marks**

**Jean Jeske**

**Leland Livingston**

**Tim Loftus**

**Jane Rio**

**Nancy Sternik**

**Kirk Burger**

## **Staff**

**Jeffrey Anderson**  
*Executive Director*  
[director@gehs.org](mailto:director@gehs.org)

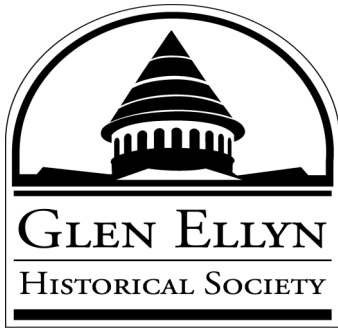
**Brandon Trupp**  
*Assistant Director*  
[info@gehs.org](mailto:info@gehs.org)

**Kathy Becker**  
*Store Manager*

**Stacy's Tavern Museum is open for tours by appointment  
Tuesday through Saturday from 10-4 p.m.**

**Email [director@gehs.org](mailto:director@gehs.org) or call 630-469-1867 to schedule.**

**Closed holiday weekends.**



800 N. Main Street  
Glen Ellyn, IL 60137

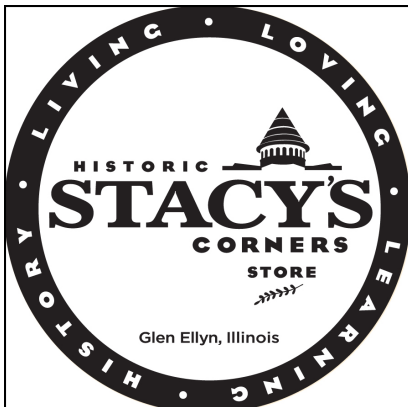
*givingdupageday.org*  
MAY 1 - MAY 3



### Giving DuPage Days

For 3 days, an entire county will come together to send a resounding message of HOPE to our local nonprofit community. Community organizations have stepped up to serve our residents during the many challenges of the past year. Now, it's our honor to support their work!

We're inviting everyone to join us for Giving DuPage Days, an online fundraiser, with a goal to raise over \$350,000 for 120+ local nonprofit organizations serving DuPage County. From **May 1-3**, we will connect individuals, families, businesses, schools, community & faith groups to celebrate and create awareness for participating charities. Everyone is welcome and donors of all ages can participate!. Use the QR code to link to the website or go to <https://www.givingdupageday.org/organizations/glen-ellyn-historical-society-f4964978-acef-4c51-ac27-9c8db6072500>.



### STACY'S CORNERS STORE

800 North Main St. - Glen Ellyn

630-469-1867 [store@gehs.org](mailto:store@gehs.org) [www.glenellynhistory.org](http://www.glenellynhistory.org)

*Open Tuesday - Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.*

*You can shop in the store, by phone or by appointment.*

Sales benefit the Glen Ellyn Historical Society