

Lockport Area Genealogical & Historical Society

1st Year, Volume I, No. 2

SEPTEMBER., 2001



OFFICERS

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From the President

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE 175th First-Settler's Anniversary Book, 1830 -2005

The ongoing effort of our society is to share the heritage of past and present generations, beginning with Armstead Runyon, the first permanent settler in what became Lockport.

Hundreds of pioneers created a unique culture, here, in our stretch of the Des Plaines River Valley. We want to recount those stories; however,

We Need **YOU** to Share Your Stories!

The documents, photos, special celebrations, and oral histories you share with LAGHS are essential to building an archive and publishing the 175th Anniversary Book.

Through word and witness we will leave a record of our lives for our children, who will in time carry on our efforts to preserve our past.

We look forward to receiving your genealogies and family histories.

—Dr. Reno G. Caneva

MEETING DATES

September 8

Board Meeting
(Officers/Directors)

Gaylord Building

8:30 AM

September 29

Monthly Membership

Meeting will be the

FIRST ANNUAL

INSTALLATION

DINNER

! The Doctor is In !

~ OPEN HOUSE ~

100th BIRTHDAY

Dr. JACK ROBERTS

Delivered 2,000 babies

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 14

2 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

VFW IN LOCKPORT

MUSIC, FUN, FOOD!

Bring Your Smile and a

Card. No gifts, please.

INSIDE

Share & Tell

Down Memory Lane

LETTERS & LA-U-GHS

READ ALL ABOUT IT!

CommunityEvents

__Membership__

1st Annual

Installation Dinner

"Preserving the Past is our Present to the Future"

Guest Speakers

Nancy Bruce Crilly July, Membership Meeting

Nancy Bruce Crilly, president of the Will / Grundy Genealogical Society, shared a bit of her family history. Her talk triumphed over the construction noise just outside the Gladys Fox Museum. Nancy has traced her family tree back to the 18th Century.

Her immigrant great-grandfather worked on the I&M Canal Lock in Marseilles and owned several stone quarries. In 1852, her great-great-grandfather died of cholera along with many others in the area. Likely buried in a mass grave, a marker memorializes him in the Lockport Cemetery.

LAGHS has persuaded Nancy to write a narrative of her family lineage and of her contribution to genealogy and our local history (see "Cemeteries" article).

We can't wait to read about Nancy's maternal side of the family and Captain Sisson, an 1830s Runyontown settler.

David Krivickas August, Membership Meeting

David Krivickas has spent every one of the 25 years of his life as a resident of Homer Township. Curious about history in his own back yard, David has explored many square miles over the years in search of the remnants of times gone by.

Researching documentation to support his discoveries consumes most of his free time; however, he finds time for a related interest—living history! David portrays Civil War Captain William Freebly. He'll be part of the guided tours this September 8th & 9th at 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. at Dellwood Park's Civil War Days.

David has persuaded the officials of Homer Glen and the township to recognize Gooding's Grove pioneer settlement and William Gooding, Chief Engineer of the I&M Canal. Two commemorative plaques will be placed in the not-too-distant future.

HOT OFF THE PRESS!

Cemeteries of Will County Illinois, NO. 5 Compiled by Nancy Bruce Crilly

Noted genealogist, Nancy Bruce Crilly has single-handedly compiled an exhaustive inventory of monuments, markers, historical information, an every-name index, maps, and illustrations of the Lockport Cemetery.

The publication is 195 pages, soft-cover, 8-1/2 x 11 inches. This is an invaluable resource for researching family history. There is a special introductory offer before Sept. 13 for \$20. The cost thereafter is \$23 plus \$3 for shipping and handling and \$1 for each additional book. Mail your check to:

Will / Grundy Genealogical Society, PO Box 24, Wilmington IL 60481-0024.

Cemetery Inventories Compiled and Published by Society Members:

Bohemian Braidwood Cemetery Oakwood Cemetery, Wilmington
Wilmington Old Catholic Cemetery Barnet Cemetery, Homer

Share & Tell

“The Heart of All of the Monthly Meetings “

Members bring their memories and memorabilia—photographs, letters, maps, and a wide assortment of documents. Some donate items to LAGHS; these are the start of our archival collection. LAGHS will do our best to record all the memories related at our meetings.

Historic House & Brunch Meeting— August 25, 2001

❄ ❄ ❄ **STORMY WEATHER PRECIPITATES MEMORIES** ❄ ❄ ❄

Stormy weather precipitated a light-hearted squall about where the best sledding was.

Jim Bankroff said that on the iciest days he and his buddies started their sled ride near 6th & Jefferson, then followed Milne Creek west along 7th St., then south at Washington St, (down by “the gully”) for nearly 3 blocks. ❄ ❄ ❄

Judy Richardson remembered with glee that Munson’s Hill between 18th & 19th on Hamilton sped the sleds to the bottom of the fastest, steepest slope, where the ride threatened to end up in the creek. ❄ ❄ ❄

Mary Ann Murray told us that some of the boys transported the local music teacher by sled down to State Street from 10th & Washington so she could take the Bluebird Bus to Marshall Field’s in Chicago! ❄ ❄ ❄



Members chat and feast on brunch under Chuck Hull’s Covered Bridge.

THUNDER AND LIGHTENING PUNCTUATE SHARE & TELL AT AUGUST 25 MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Crash, Boom! Bam! Sheltered by a covered bridge, members stood up, and in their strongest voices competed with the pouring rain, thunder, and lightening. We laughed at each other's stories. We must have laughed away the rain, too;

the sky cleared just as our bountiful brunch arrived.



**Photo courtesy of LAGHS member, Judith Richardson
Society Members gather outside the Gooding Mansion after a tour of the home. Pictured are Chuck and Beverly Hull, Connie Piazza, Charlene Giardina, Carol Giardina, Loretta Ziesemer, Nancy Bruce Crilly, and Irwin Klopstein.**

**OUR GRACIOUS HOSTS were Charles and Beverly Hull,
owners of the home built by William Gooding,
Chief Engineer of the I & M Canal.
Charlie, a most gentle canine, also played host.**

**The brunch was prepared by Billy's Catering.
We enjoyed American cheese omelettes, scrambled eggs,
cubed sauteed potatoes, sausage links, ham slices, mixed fruit,
bagels, sweet rolls, orange juice and coffee.**



Down Memory Lane

Do you remember?

Candy cigarettes
Pea shooters
Lincoln Logs

Party Lines
Studebakers

Green Stamps
The Fuller Brush Man
45 RPM Records

The cream on top of the milk.

Letters

Dear LAGHS,

*I belong to the Barrington Historical Society.
My family has ties to Lockport. I will contact
you to plan a visit to meet you and to tour your
historic district.*

—George VanHagen (Visited the Gaylord Bldg.)


& LA-U-GHS

Dear LA-U-GHS,

*I remember when I fell out of bed when the
Raue & Bentley grocery store exploded and
blew the roof off!*

—Jacquie Munch (circa 1941)

Does anyone else remember this?



SEND your
Letters & Laughs
to LAGHS

Lockport's Cultural Campus

Gaylord Building

I & M Canal Exhibits

Civilian Conservation Corps

Murals: Great Walls of Joliet

Tues. 10AM-6PM; Sun. 12PM-6PM

Norton Building

Illinois State Museum

Lockport Gallery

Chicago Painting 1895-1945

For info: (815) 838.7400

DINNER LECTURE SERIES

For Info: (815) 588.1100

Will County Historical Society

I&M CANAL MUSEUM

Open daily, costumed guides, 1- 4:30PM

PIONEER SETTLEMENT

Open sunrise-sunset May-Sept.

CRAFTS FESTIVAL Oct. 7, 12PM-5PM

For info: (815) 838.5080

Gaylord Donnelley Canal Trail

"Bike & Brake for History"

Guided Bike Tour—Saturday, September 15

For info: (815) 838.4830

Main Street Lockport, Inc. invites you to join us and help: Beautify our historic downtown and attract new businesses and visitors. For information, call: (815) 834.0700 .

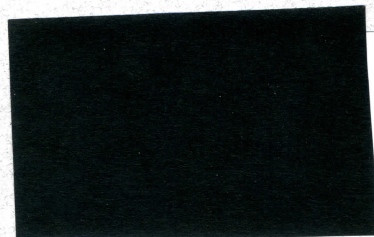
Lockport Township Park District

Civil War Days—Dellwood Park—Living History Camp Tours— Sept. 8 & 9 Opens at 9AM

Gladys Fox Museum—Special Exhibits & Programs—Year Around

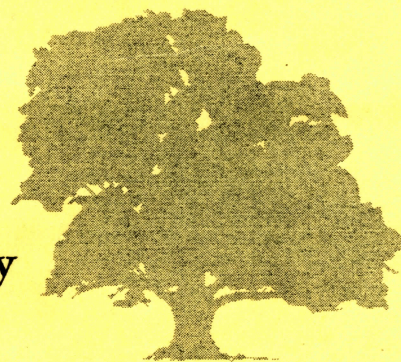
For info: (815) 838.1183

Lockport Area Genealogical & Historical Society
c/o Bonnie Packley
1016 Maitland Drive
Lockport, IL 60441





Lockport Area Genealogical & Historical Society



Members & Their Guests
are invited
to the First Annual

BOARD MEMBERS' INSTALLATION DINNER

Saturday, Sept. 29, 2001

Gladys Fox Museum 6 PM

Dr. Robert Sterling
will speak about Dellwood Park.

Members— bring your memories and memorabilia about Dellwood.

\$10 per person

RSVP by September 16th

Mail your reservations to:
LAGHS, c/o of Bonnie Packley
1016 Maitland Drive
Lockport, IL 60441

For information, call Bonnie at (815) 838.9388