

LOCKPORT AREA GENEALOGICAL & HISTORICAL SOCIETY

EXECUTIVE BOARD

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Erwin Klopstein, Steve Potter

Preserving the Past is our Present to the Future

We bring the people of the Lockport area together
to preserve and share
our family histories and
our local heritage.

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Newsletter

September 2002

Message from the President

August is the month that we hold our annual historic site tour. This year we were pleased to show off our new offices at the at *The House In The Park*, courtesy of the Lockport Township Park District. Fifty-six participants signed the guest list. Slide shows and park walking tours with Steve Potter and Erwin Klopstein were given. Members and guests included Sue Micklevitz, executive director of the LTPD, Dave Herman, director of recreation, and Max Woods, former director. We all enjoyed Krispy Kreme donuts, and other continental breakfast goodies. If you missed this program, let us know, and we can arrange a visit for you.

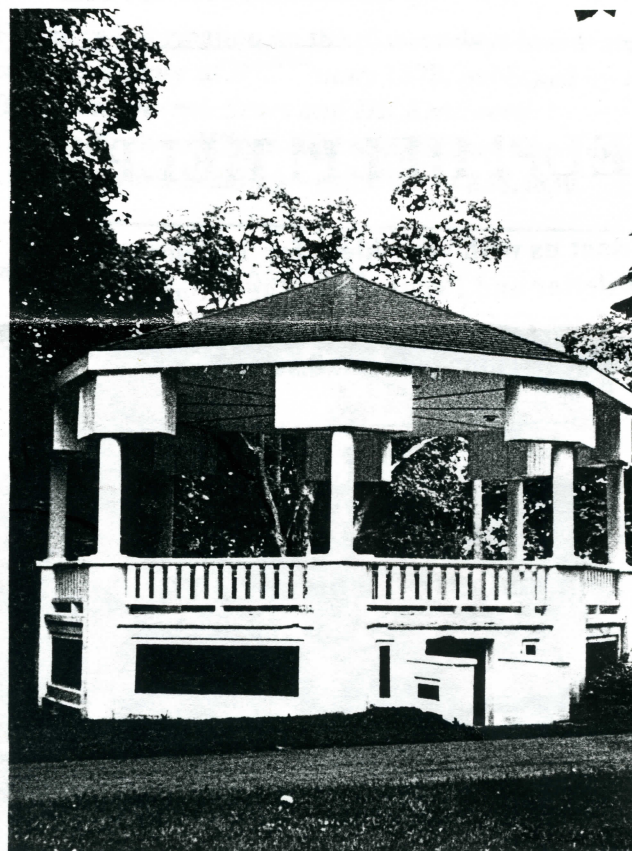
This month, we look forward to sharing space at the Voltz Field House with the Will County Historical Society during **Civil War Days**. LAGHS volunteers will set up displays featuring local history and past society events, sell historic reproduction postcards, and promote membership.

Also, LAGHS is proud to have initiated "A Tribute from the Heart: Remembering September 11, 2001." This program has been organized by several governmental and civic organizations. The program will be held at the Lockport Township High School East Auditorium on Wednesday, September 11 at 7:30 p.m. There will be a student chorus and a community chorus, a dramatization, and a keynote address by State Representative Brent Hassert. **Please join us.**

—Dr. Reno G. Caneva

DELLWOOD PARK TOUR

Annual Historic Site Tour— August 24th, 2002



The bandstand was restored by the Dellwood Foundation and dedicated at Civil War Days in 1999.

Guests searched their memories about the days when Dellwood was a famous amusement park. Remember the name bands who played here? Exactly where was the scenic railway? LAGHS researchers are investigating the park and *The House In The Park*. Erwin Klopstein will keep you updated on the work his research team is doing. During Civil War Days, an 1860s wedding is reenacted here.

**General Membership Meeting
Share & Tell
Sept. 28 at the Gladys Fox Museum**

We'll talk about the Fairmont, Sterling Park, Riverview and Dellwood Highlands subdivisions of Lockport Township.

You won't find any of these names on an address label, but they are geographical designations which are very familiar to many who have resided just south of Dellwood Park.

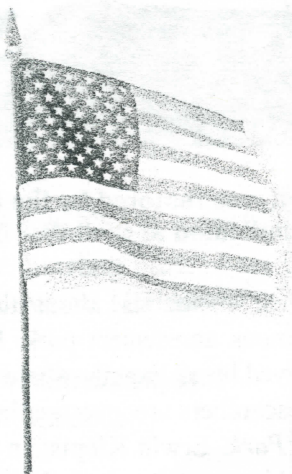
Bonnie Packley says, "It was a great place to grown up. It was a family community. Everybody knew everybody else, and we felt safe during those decades of the 40s, 50s, and 60s."

HELP! HELP! HELP!

Contact us with your ideas for articles in the Newsletter and Programs at the Monthly Meetings. Call Char at (815)353.5662
E-mail: cgiardina@dnrmail.state.il.us

Help welcome the public at:

**"A Tribute from the Heart:
Remembering September 11, 2001"
Call Bonnie at (815) 838.9388**



From the Treasurer's Desk

by Bonnie Packley

Welcome New Members

Lee & Nancy Nelson and Randall & Lorraine Young of Lockport.
Don & Marlene Vershay of Joliet.



Thank Your for Your Donation

Reno Caneva, Madolin Cannon, Kathryn Hemminger, Louise Morris, James & Helen Raue.

Lost & Found

The following items were left at *The House In The Park* on August 24th. Umbrella: black. Sunglasses: brown-black frames; dark lens; non-prescription

Membership Expiration

For you convenience, the expiration date of your membership is printed on the top line of your address label. Please call me with any corrections. Also, please pay your dues no sooner than a month before the date of expiration. Donations are welcome at any time.

New Membership Brochure

LAGHS launched our new membership brochure during Old Canal Days.

New Membership Opportunities

In August we added an insert to announce three new categories: Business, \$35; Non-profit / not-for-profit, \$35; and Individual Life, \$495.

We encourage all Lockport area businesses and organizations to participate in our society, whose aim it is to chronicle the ongoing history of our business and civic community.

The Individual Life membership is a very special category. You may enroll at this level in your name or in the name of a loved-one, perhaps a young person who in the future will become an active member. This special gift to our society will be invaluable to our many special monthly programs and projects which include the 175h Anniversary publication.

Chasing Your Tale— Genealogy News

by Genealogist Jacqueline Munch

I would like to tell you about an upcoming conference. It is nearby and a good opportunity for those who have never been to one before.

Fox Valley Genealogical Society's Fall Conference- Unlocking Ancestral Mysteries

Features Hank Z Jones as the speaker. It will be held on September 28, 2002, at Grace Methodist Church, 300 E. Gartner Rd. in Naperville. Presentations will include: When the Sources are Wrong, Tracing the Origins of Early 18th Century German Palatine Emigrants, Family Tradition: How to Separate Fact From Fantasy in Genealogical Research and How Psychic Roots became an "Unsolved Mystery." The cost is \$25 for members and \$30 for non-members and includes lunch. For more information, phone (630) 978-8444 or e-mail fvgs1@aol.com.

The society website has a registration form:
<http://members.aol.com/fvgs1/index.html>.

History Highlights— Dellwood

by Jacquie Munch

A Tale of Three Families

The first three owners of Dellwood— Lyman Hawley, William Gooding, and John Sears, all left the state of New York in the 1830s and joined the wave of emigrants venturing west. The Erie Canal opened in 1825, connecting the eastern seacoast with the Great Lakes, and by 1835 all Indians had removed from Illinois to their western reservations. Fertile land was available in Illinois for \$1.25 an acre, and rumors of the building of a canal brought even more people.

Erwin Klopstein's team is researching the history of what our society calls *The House In The Park*. We will document all that we can find on the ownership, architecture, and use of the house.

For more information on the pioneer days in our area, consult: *History of Will County 1878*, published by Le Baron and *Joseph Sears and His Kenilworth* by Colleen Browne Kilner. The sources may be perused at the Gaylord Building—call Char at 838.4830.

Guests on the front lawn at The House In The Park on August 24.



Lockport Area Genealogical & Historical Society

c/o Bonnie Packley
1016 Maitland Drive
Lockport, IL 60441



**Vintage
Postcards**

(reproductions)
~ Dellwood Park
~ Downtown Lockport
\$39.95 (each set of 12)



Inside

Genealogy & History
Membership News
Upcoming programs

**EXECUTIVE
BOARD MEETING**

September 14th 8:30 a.m.
at the
The House in the Park

Membership Meeting

September 28th 8:30 am

~
Gladys Fox Museum
corner of 9th & Hamilton

SHARE & TELL

“Fairmont-Sterling Park-
Riverview-Dellwood Highlands”

~
Bring your memories and
memorabilia!

~
Bring a guest!

***A Tribute
From the Heart—
Remembering
September 11***

~
WED. SEPT. 11, 2002

~
Lockport Township
High School
EAST CAMPUS
AUDITORIUM

~
7:30 PM

~
Cash or Non-perishable
food Donations to the
**LOCKPORT FISH FOOD
PANTRY**

**Lockport Township
Park District**

Visit the LTPD Web site for
information on programs for
children, adults, families, and
seniors.

www.lockportpark.org

How to Contact Us!

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