

Lockport Area Genealogical & Historical Society

3rd Year, Volume 3, No.1

MAY 2002



Executive Board

"Preserving the Past
is our Present
to the Future"

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Librarian

Ruth Waldvogel

Genealogist

Jacqueline Munch

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Judith Richardson

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Membership Dues and Special

Events Tickets:

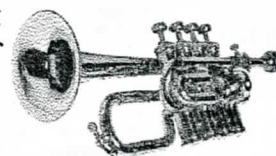
Bonnie Packley, treasurer

1016 Maitland Drive

Lockport, IL 60441

Message from the President

Time was when the Lockport - Joliet area was the marching band center of our region. In 1962, the Lockport area peaked, for in that year the band represented the State of Illinois at Mason City, Iowa, in the "Music Man Band" competition.



Everyone associated with the local schools knew about the contest, because the band that would compete was made up of students from Kelvin Grove, Ludwig-Walsh, Chaney-Monge, Taft, St. Dennis, Fairmont, and Homer.

For years after winning, the high school band was referred to as the "Music Man Band."

My Aunt Lillian Caneva will recall the story of the "Music Man Band" and her connection with it at our May 25th meeting.

If you have any old photos of the grade school bands or the high school band, please bring them for the Share & Tell session of our meeting.

—Dr. Reno G. Caneva, DPM

THE FIRST PERMANENT SETTLER



A. Runyon
(DECEASED)
LOCKPORT, ILL.

IN OCTOBER OF 1830 Armstead Runyon and his family settled in what became Lockport, IL.

One of Runyon's daughters, Mrs. Charles Boyer, shared her family history for the *History of Will County, Illinois* (1878). The book retells her story:

"... her father brought his family and hired men to the place and lived in a tent until he got his cabin ready to move into. Mrs. Boyer remembers very distinctly how the prairie wolves used to come round that tent, and render the night hideous with their blood-curdling howls."

Pioneers named their new towns after themselves: Runyontown, Gooding's Grove— or after the towns in New York, where most of them were from: **Lockport**, Morris, Seneca, and Utica.

The Foundation of Our Heritage

The State of Illinois promised to build a canal to complete an all-water route connecting New Orleans, Chicago and New York City. When the Illinois & Michigan Canal opened in 1848, towns along its 100-mile route began to prosper. The produce of the prairie farmers flowed east, and manufactured goods returned to the towns in the canal corridor.

Lockport's Legacy

As the headquarters for the I & M Canal, Lockport has earned a significant place in our local, state, and national history. Today the town hosts thousands of residents and out-of-towners, who hike the canal trail, visit the museums, and seek out their family histories.

The Lockport Area Genealogical & Historical Society
is pleased to contribute to our ongoing heritage.

Welcome New Members



Steve Potter of Plainfield, Jack Brassal of Romeoville, Richard and Joyce Ramos of Lockport.

In Memoriam

Our prayers are with the family and friends of Lucille Dehm, who passed away in February and Gladys Fox, who passed away in April.

NEWS You Can Use !



Chasing Your Tale—genealogy tips

By Jacqueline Munch, genealogist

Highlights of Our April 27th Meeting

"Tips and Tricks" from Brother Joseph Martin

1. Always try to locate "primary records" - those records made as close to the event as possible.
2. Use library resources - area libraries suggested: Lockport, Joliet, Shorewood, and Wheaton. Genealogy and local history collections. Search online catalogues on the internet.
Make use of interlibrary loan, which gives you access to libraries in other parts of the state and nation. Genealogy books, magazines and CD's. City directories - many published yearly, showing address, names of those in the household and sometimes other valuable information. Old newspapers on microfilm.
3. Bookstores Recommended book: *Finding Your Roots* by Westin. Magazines: *Family Chronicle*, *Heritage Quest*, *Genealogical Helper* and *Family Tree Magazine*.
4. Ask others for help: librarians, genealogical societies, volunteers on genealogy web sites.
5. Research trips - organize before leaving. Review materials already collected. Write down objectives. Call ahead for days and hours buildings are open, such as, libraries, societies, churches, cemetery offices, and court houses. Make motel reservations.
6. Document sources for all information you find.

OUR FAMILY HISTORY COLLECTION IS GROWING!

THANKS to the following people who made donations recently.

Doris Krohn, New Lenox: Krohn/ Krohnberg/ Wegner. Barbara Little, Pekin: Noakes / Knox/ Woollett/ Newkirk/ oskey. Beryl Strong: Mokena: Strong/ chmidtke/ Wood/ Haltermann. Paul Burandt, Lockport: Burandt/ Pryor/ Purtle/Koppert/ Krutz/ Orendach. Reno Caneva, Lockport and Iva Gillett Sproat: Gillett/ Mills/ Carman/ Poor/ Gougar/ Dwight. Mabel Fracaro Hrpcha, Lockport: Fracaro/ Rigoni/ Pesavento/ Rodeghiero/ Bortoli/ Carli.

FAMILY INFORMATION SOUGHT

Doris Krohn and Barbara Little would like to correspond with anyone who has information about their families.

If you can help, contact LAGHS or Jacquie Munch at 815-838-3795 or jlmunch@earthlink.net

QUERY

Does anyone know where Five-Mile Grove was located?

Watch for the LAGHS convertible
in the Old Canal Days Parade!

Welcome New Members

Marjorie Kurpatis of Lockport, Barbara Little of Pekin, Catherine Passas of New Lenox, and the National Trust for Historic Preservation / Gaylord Building, Lockport.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Help at the Booth: OLD CANAL DAYS— Call Gordon, 838.7427.

Obituaries, research and **Oral History** interviewers — call Georgene, 838.1862. **Newsletter:** plan, computer entry, write articles, copy and prepare mailing— call Char, 353.5662.

JULY MEETING & PROGRAM

The July meeting will be held at the Homer Town Hall. Share & Tell will focus on Yankee Settlement.

The "Yankees" from New York, New England, and Ohio settled in what became Homer Township and Lockport Township. Details in next month's newsletter.

NEWS You Can Use !



Chasing Your Tale—genealogy tips

By Jacqueline Munch
GENEALOGIST

Forty members and guests enjoyed an exceptional talk at our April meeting, *Tips and Tricks for Genealogy Research*, presented by Brother Martin.

Joseph F. Martin is a De La Salle Christian Brother at Lewis University near Joliet.



Author, educator and public speaker, he has been researching his family history since 1970 and

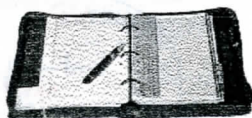
maintains an enviable collection of dead relatives. His articles have appeared in Everton's Genealogical Helper and online with Ancestry Daily News.

Next month this column will include some of Brother Martin's genealogy tips. For information on preserving your family tree with LAGHS, Contact me at: 838-3795 or jilmunch@earthlink.net

Election—

Save the Date

June 22nd



The election of the Executive Board will be held at the annual meeting at the Gladys Fox Museum at 8:30 a.m.. The slate of officers is as follows:

President:	Dr. Reno G. Caneva
Vice President:	Gordon McCluskey
Secretary:	Charlene Giardina
Treasurer:	Bonita Packley
Librarian:	Ruth Waldvogel
Genealogist:	Jacqueline Munch
Historian:	Georgene Bankroff
Directors:	Richard Cronholm Erwin Klopstein VACANCY, VACANCY

If you would like to serve as a Director, please call J.R. Lowery at (815) 838.4279.

SHELVES NEEDED

for The House in the Park

We are looking for bookshelves for our rooms at *The House in the Park*.

The dimensions should be 11-12" deep X approximately 6 ft high

Please call Jacquie Munch at 815.838.3795 if you have shelves to donate to LAGHS.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

to serve on committees

Programs: plan programs, set up-take down at special events— call Gordon, 838.7427.

Obituaries, research — call Georgene, 838.1862.

Newsletter: plan, computer entry, write articles, copy and prepare mailing— call Char, 353.5662.

Upcoming LAGHS Meetings

Membership Meeting May 25 8:30 am
Gladys Fox Museum, corner of 9th & Washington
PROGRAM: "The Music Man Band"

Board Meeting May 11 8:30 am
"The House in the Park" in Dellwood Park

ANNUAL MEETING – June 22
Gladys Fox Museum, 8:30 am
ELECTION of the Executive Board

Historic Preservation Week

Annual Clean Sweep
May 11, 8:30 am - 11:30 am
Individuals and groups clean up the historic district.
Free picnic lunch.

Candlelight Tour & Reception
7:00 pm- 9:30 pm
\$10 in advance or \$12 at the door
Heritage Hall social gathering,
door prizes, town tour.

Call Main Street, Lockport Inc. at 834.0700

Lockport Area Genealogical & Historical Society
c/o Bonnie Packley, treasurer
1016 Maitland Drive
Lockport, IL 60441
(815) 838. 9388

