



## Historical Society Newsletter

### SUMMER

June 2015      Volume 24, Issue 4

### WHEELING HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Located in the  
Wheeling Park  
District's  
Chamber Park  
251 Wolf Road  
Wheeling Illinois

#### 2014-2015

#### OFFICERS

*President:*

Bill Hein

*Vice President:*

Elaine Simpson

*Treasurer:*

Marilyn Chromy

*Secretary:*

Christine Brady

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Celeste Kuta

Terry Steilen

Joan Wiener

#### Curator

Patti Steilen

#### Web Site:

Terry Steilen

#### Newsletter Editor

Patti Steilen

#### Wheeling Park District

Liaison

Undefined

The Wheeling Historical Society and Museum celebrates the link between the past and the present. The museum is a cooperative effort of the Village of Wheeling, Wheeling Park District, Indian Trails Public Library.

## 2015 Memorial Day Parade

The weather cooperated for the parade, and there was a large turnout of residents for the parade. Unfortunately the picnic was rained out, but we had over 150 people visit the Museum, Carriage House, and Church. Here are some photos from the parade, just in case you missed it.



**Message From The President**



From the President's Desk.....June 2015

Thank you to all who made the Memorial Day Parade a success. The rain did not dampen the enthusiasm and turn out. A special thanks to Am vets Post 66 & the Village of Wheeling for all their help.

Don't forget the Bridal Show Sunday June 28 at Chamber Park.

The next 50th anniversary event is the Beer & Brat Fest Sunday September 20th 1-7pm at Chamber Park.

We need volunteers to help for this event. Call 847-650-8985.

Welcome New Members Jimmy Grass, Mike Barth, Mark & Vivian Smith.

Have a Great Summer  
Bill Hein

**The Curator's Corner — Patti Steilen**

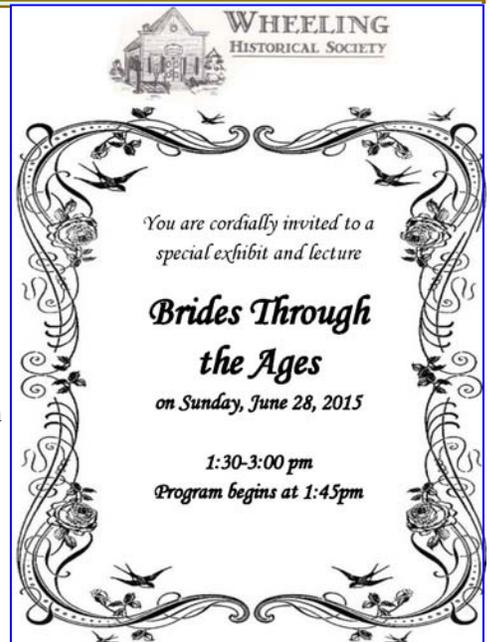


We're getting ready for the Brides Through the Ages event on June 28th. Erin Steilen will be sharing her expertise in making and maintaining dresses. She is employed by the Marriott Theatre making costumes and maintaining all the accessories the actors use. Thanks to all the families who have generously loaned or donated their wedding apparel. Wedding cake and punch and coffee will be offered for refreshment. We hope to have a big turn out for this event.

Marilyn and I attended the N.E.I.L. meeting on Saturday, June 13th at the Des Plaines Historical Society. The lecture was on cataloging articles and items. With more information on maintaining our museum we can keep the integrity of our history for a longer period of time and digitize all of the papers in the museum. They will be preserved without worry of the paper decaying.

The installation dinner was a great event. We had 45 guests and the raffles were a big success. Thanks to our members for all their hard work. With that in mind, we will be taking July off so there will be no meetings in that month. We will resume in August and our schedule will be in the next news letter.

Patti Steilen, Curator



Cal, a senior citizen and avid golfer, found himself with a few hours to spare one afternoon and figured if he hurried, he could get in 9 holes before dark.

Just as he was about to tee off, a young man approached the tee and asked if he could accompany Cal. Not being able to say no, Cal allowed the young man to join him, and suggested a friendly wager to make the game a bit more interesting, to which the younger man after noting Cal's apparent age, happily agreed

Finally, they reached the 9th fairway and surprisingly their scores were tied, but the young man found himself with a tough shot. There was a large pine tree directly between his ball and the green.

After the young man spent several minutes debating how to hit the shot, Cal innocently remarked, "You know, when I was your age I'd hit the ball right over that tree."

With that challenge placed before him, the youngster swung hard and hit the ball, which smacked solidly into the tree and dropped to the ground about one foot from where it had originally lay. Cal, grinned, took his shot onto the green and slyly remarked. **"Of course, when I was your age that pine tree was only 3 feet tall."**



# COOKS CORNER

## Ravolili PrimaVera



- 1 pkg. (13 oz.) frozen cheese ravioli
- 1 cup onion, chopped
- 1 lb. asparagus, tough ends trimmed, diagonally cut into 2-long pieces
- 1 pkt.(1.6oz.) garlic and herb sauce mix
- 1 1/2 cups milk
- 1 pt. cherry tomatoes halved

Cook *ravioli* according to package directions; drain and reserve. Meanwhile, in large nonstick skillet, heat *1 Tbs. oil* over medium heat. Add *onion*; cook, stirring occasionally, until just tender, 2 minutes.

Stir in *asparagus*; cook, stirring occasionally, until tender, 6-7 minutes. In bowl, whisk *sauce mix* into *milk*. Add to skillet; bring to boil, stirring constantly. Cook until thickened, about 3 minutes. Stir in ravioli and *tomatoes*; cook, stirring, until

If you are at all interested in Wheeling's past, we would like very much for you to join us in the preservation of our history and artifacts.

If you would like to become an active member of the Wheeling Historical Society, please fill out the application below and return to the Wheeling Historical Society.

### MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY, STATE, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

### TYPES OF MEMBERSHIP

- Life Membership ..... \$ 100.00
- Family Membership ..... 15.00
- Individual Membership ..... 10.00

Checks are made payable to Wheeling Historical Society  
 P.O. Box 3  
 Wheeling, Illinois 60090

Annual membership fees are due in the month of May.

\*\*\*\*\*

**It's time to renew your membership, if you have not already done so.**

**<==== Use this coupon, and mail it in to us.**



RAINBOW OF COLOR. "Posing with the bride, my mother, Ethel Blome Roedersheimer, November 21, 1940, were Mom's sister, Deloris (left) and my dad's sister, Martha," says Lois Dobradenka of Shelby, Michigan. "I've always thought that having multicolored bridesmaid dresses was unusual."

From Reminisce Magazine

The first couple to be shown in bed together on primetime TV were Fred and Wilma Flintstone.

In the 1400's a law was set forth that a man was not allowed to beat his wife with a stick no thicker than his thumb. Hence we have "the rule of thumb"

**From Our Archives: TELEPHONES IN WHEELING'S HISTORY 1901—1958**

The first telephone office in Wheeling was in the Augusta Graf home, she was a Schwingel. Her home was across from the Hartman House Restaurant. They had a switchboard which had a headset to hear but the operator had to talk into an instrument which stood in front of her, but hung



from the switchboard. There were only two subscribers, the Village Hall and the Fire Department. Things moved at a snails pace until March 1904, when the exchange was discontinued for lack of subscribers. Four years later it was put back into operation through the Arlington Heights office. In 1910 there were twenty eight subscribers, in 1915 there were fifty and in 1921 it rose to ninety two. In September 1923, operations were brought back to Wheeling, but just two years later subscribers dropped again to thirty. By 1930, 232 subscribers had phones. Then decreased to 206 due to the depression. At this time the office was in the new bank building. In 1941 there were 300 subscribers.

In 1928, the office moved to the new bank building on the Southwest corner of Milwaukee and Dundee. The entrance was on Dundee. The bank building also had a drug store, and Anderson Real Estate, the bank was in the corner, and the Barber Shop on the West side. On the second floor there were three apartments and also a dentist's office at the Milwaukee Ave. entrance.

This office was run by Pearl Burnham. She was a manager, receiving so much each month. If she needed help she had to pay. Betty Barrie started at 25¢ an hour. Edna Taylor worked nights when needed, as she also worked for Augusta Graf. Mrs. Burnham lived in the apartment. Only one operator at a time, there were two boards but few numbers on the second board. The phones had a crank on the side of the instrument, which had to be cranked to reach the operator.



it of-

The operator saw the number at the top and had to find it at the bottom, then answer "number please" with then a "thank you". The pay phones were Post-Pay - after Pre-Pay and no return, so they were not to put money in until the party they called answered, then the operator asked for the money, as the money could not be returned. The operator took Fire Calls and rang the siren, turning it off and on. Then answered the volunteer firemen and gave the information where it was. Wheeling did not have street numbers. Also blew the noon whistle at 12:00 and a curfew whistle at 9:00 P.M. Took the Police calls and located the police (one person only) very seldom were they in the Police Station.

The bills were paid at the telephone office and new phones which were single lines in town, if they wanted a single line out of town there WAS an added cost by 1/2 mile.

There were 2 party, 4 party and 8 party lines. J.M.R.W. on an eight party line, you pressed the J if it was J1 ring- one, and J2 for ring twice. Most of the out of town lines were 8 party lines. The board had no lights, so after you 'rang' a number you would have to go in on the line and say "waiting" if you heard no voices' you could disconnect.

Tickets were wrote out for out of town calls if they were tolls. Arlington Heights and Mt. Prospect were free. Tickets were timed and rated and sent to Chicago by mail each day. We got credit if we had them right each day. Pay phones were checked each month and five cents for their local calls were added. If the phone needed more nickels, the owner would be billed. We also had information numbers and had to be sure these were correct numbers and correct spelling so they could go to the press. In 1938 Mrs. Burnham left and Edna Taylor took over, the chief operator could work 24 hours. In January 1939, the new system was installed in the Southeast (of the bank) upstairs. Now there were lights and more phones and the operator did not need to go into the line if both lights were on, she could disconnect, also she could collect or return money from pay phones. The office also collect bills, etc. In 1939 the Telephone Company paid the operators and had a chief operator. The vavations were received and belonged to the union. Edna Taylor was chief operator until 1951, until she was 65.

Irene Jorgerson was chief operator for two years, and than Gladys Dunham was chief operator. until May 1958 when Wheeling went dial.

During World War II, we had black drapes which had to be closed at dark, sot there were no lights, also no one was allowed in. At first there were two boards and equipment behind the boards.

Name-----E-Mail-----Phone-----

ADDRESS-----

I would like to Contribute to the 50th anniversary fund.

{ } \$25.00    { } \$50.00    { } \$100.00

Make Checks Payable to: Wheeling Historical Society

Credit Card Card #----- Security Code----- Ex Date-----

mail to wheeling Historical Society PO Box 3, Wheeling, IL 60090



## I would like to Sponsor an event

\$500.00 Settlers Day Picnic May 25th 2015 Memorial Day Parade

\$500.00 Beer & Brat Fest September 20, 2015

\$500.00 Special Lollipop Lane Anniversary December 5, 2015

Special Offer All Three Events \$1000.00

All events are at Wheeling Park District Chamber Park. Home to Wheeling Historical Site.

Contact Bill Hein President 847-650-8985

Email bhein1402@att.net information



Limited edition "Wheeling Through the years" Book \$25.00 +SH 7.00 Wheeling Through the Years by Barbara McIntyre, Robert L. McIntyre, June 1987, Wheeling Historical Society edition, Paperback in English

Syke Horcher's Book "Wheeling's Wunder Years" \$25.00 + SH 7.00 The soft cover book Wheeling Through the Years an oral history of Wheeling, an Illinois village contains over 250 8x11 pages, ... CHIEF MARVIN O. HORCHER,

Special Offer Both Books \$40.00 save \$10.00 +\$7.00 SH.

Mail Check to Wheeling Historical Society PO Box 3, Wheeling, IL 60090 7-10 day shipping

50th Anniversary Society Calendar Full Color \$10.00

50th Anniversary Pictures From The Past CD \$10.00

Both Calendar & CD Special Price \$ 16.00

### Why should I be a member?

**Collective concern for our objective of local historical preservation is a potent force to induce government, corporate, and private involvement.**

**Without members, our organization ceases and conservation efforts die.**

### What do I get as a member?

As with most things in life, you get out what you put in. Members who take the role of passive support get satisfaction from enabling our work to continue. Members who take an active role find history comes alive.

### How can history come alive?

Local history is an ongoing process defined not by dates but by people's lives and accomplishments. You are living local history now. However, academic historians abandon local history to amateur groups like ours.

Membership Yearly \$ 10.00 per individual Family \$15.00 Life Time \$100.00. Name-----

Address-----City-----State-----

Zip----- Email address:-----

Mail to Wheeling Historical Society PO Box 3, Wheeling, IL 60090

***Wheeling Historical Society 1965- 2015***

***251 N. Wolf Road (Chamber Park) PO BOX 3\* Wheeling, IL 60090***



Dear Friends of the Society:

This year marks the 50th anniversary for the Society, and several events will celebrate the milestone.

This Year the Memorial Day Parade Featuring the Award winning Wheeling High School Marching Band will be held on Dundee Road starting at Milwaukee Ave. A Memorial Wreath will be placed at the southeast corner which has the flags of Americas Military forces. We are honoring all Military past & present. The parade will proceed west to Wolf Road and turn north to the Wheeling Park District's Chamber Park home of the Museum and Historical District. The Memorial Day Services by Post 66 Am Vets & Tony Alteri, Memorial Day Address by Village President Argiris will be held at the park followed by a Settlers Day Picnic. Bring your family Neighbors & Friends. Pack a picnic basket. Ice Cream Deserts will be provided by the Society. No Alcoholic beverages allowed in the park. The Parade will start Monday, May 25th at 11:00 A.M. There will also be tour and an open house for visitors to see the museum and its grounds. If you would like to participate in the parade contact Bill Hein 847-650-8985, Terry Steilen 847-537-7287, Marilyn Chromy 847-537-5714.

The second event will be the Beer & Brat Fest Sunday September 20<sup>th</sup> 2015 1-7 pm also at Chamber Park

The society will be grilling brats cooked in beer, dogs, potato salad and Kraut. Beer and beverages sold by society. No outside Food or beverages will be allowed.

A Germany style Band will provide the entertainment.

The last and most exciting event will be opening day of our Famous and one of Wheeling's longs running holiday event " LOLLIPOP LANE Saturday opening Day December 5, 2015, 2-5pm. Visit with Santa & Mrs. Claus. Special 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary tree ornaments along with homemade cookies will be available, free pictures with Santa courtesy of Bill Stasek Chevrolet. The museum, carriage house will be open with a special Christmas Holiday Program. All information will be posted on our website [www.wheelinghistoricalsociety.com](http://www.wheelinghistoricalsociety.com). Please make a financial contribution today to the Wheeling Historical Society. By doing so you are helping us keep your hometown memories alive.

Please choose from the donor options on the form attached. You can also donate via Pay Pal with a few clicks of your mouse through our web site, [www.wheelinghistoricalsociety.com](http://www.wheelinghistoricalsociety.com). Please call our special events director Joan Wiener at 847-650-0144. If you have questions or suggestions.

*Warmest regards from your friends on the Wheeling Historical Society Board of Directors.*

*Bill Hein president, Elaine Simpson v. president,*

*Chris Brady secretary, Marilyn Chromy treasurer, Joan Wiener director, Terry Steilin director/webmaster, Sue Korte director Patti Steilin Curator.*

1965



2015



50th Anniversary Calendar  
Wheeling Historical Society

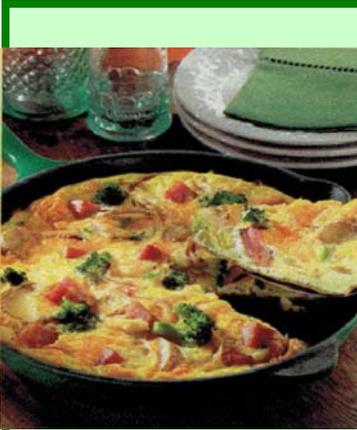




*Cook's  
Kitchen*

# COOKS CORNER

*Two Treats for a  
cold winter day!*



## Ham it up veggie frittata!

In an ovenproof skillet, cook diced potato and chopped onion in a little hot oil until tender. Lightly beat eggs with a pinch each of thyme, salt and pepper and add to skillet with thawed frozen broccoli florets (or your favorite veggies) and cubed cooked ham. Cook until just set around edges, then sprinkle with shredded cheese. Transfer skillet to preheated 400°F oven. Bake until set in center, 20-25 minutes.

## Garden Veggie Pie

Blend an undiluted can of your favorite condensed cream soup (like mushroom or celery) with 3 eggs, 1/2 cup milk, some grated Parmesan and a pinch of pepper and nutmeg. Stir in 2 cups drained thawed frozen vegetables and a handful of shredded cheese. Pour into a frozen 9 deep-dish pie shell: top with more cheese. Bake in a preheated 350°F oven for about 30 minutes.

# Messages Posted to our Web Site

<http://WheelingHistoricalSociety.com>

**Name:** Helen (Grabowicz) Taylor    **Entry:** 122    **Time:** Wed Jan 28, 2015 05:46am |    **City:** Gilbert, Arizona  
**Message:**

I am just finding this wonderful website. I recognize a few names here. I was born in Chicago, but my family moved to 244 W Wayne Pl when I was 6 weeks old. Went to Walt Whitman for kindergarten, then Mark Twain, Jack London and good 'ol WHS! Proud 4 year band member! Good times. Parents have long passed. My mom passed away in our house in 2006. Still visit the neighborhood when I go back "home"

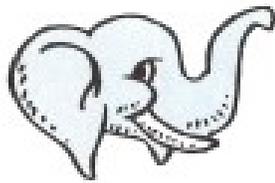
**Name:** Gary Bernstein    **Entry:** 119    **Time:** Tue Oct 28, 2014 10:51am    **City:** Schaumburg  
**Message:**

Just the other day I passed by my old home at 475 East Merle Lane, Wheeling and simply had to stop, get out of my car and just look at it. I went back into time when life was simpler and I was with my family of 5 all passed now except for me. I can't believe how small that area is. It was gigantic when I was a kid. My old home looks great. I'm happy I was part of Dunhurst early days.

**Name:** David Fjeldheim    **Entry:** 118    **Time:** Tue Oct 21, 2014 08:11am    **City:** Des Plaines, IL.  
**Message:**

I have so many wonderful memories of Wheeling. Our family bought a house in the Dunhurst subdivision, it was the 2nd house on the street. 583 W. Green Dr. in 1956 for \$15,000. I can tell you what was there in Wheeling and all the changes we saw. Yes all my childhood memories are all in Wheeling. David Fjeldheim

- Men can read smaller print than women can; women can hear better
- Coca Cola was originally green
- The state with the highest percentage of people that walk to work is Alaska
- It is impossible to lick your elbow



Get Rid Of The Winter Blues, Come  
To The Wheeling Historical Society  
Annual Dinner & White Elephant

When: Wednesday February 25, 2015

Where: Chamber Community Center

251 N. Wolf Road, Wheeling

Time: 6:00pm Meeting 6:30 pm

Dinner Auction to follow.

Price: \$12.00 per person

Reservations Call Marilyn Chromy

847-537-5714

Limited Seating Call NOW!!



**Auction!**

*Empty your basement & garage*



**Menu**

Chicken, Italian Beef, Pasta, Roasted  
Potatoes & Salad

Desserts by Society Members

**HAPPY VALENTINES DAY**



I grew up in Franklin Park, Illinois. My favorite years in school were 4th, 5th and 6th grades. I enjoyed creative writing, shelving books as a library page, reading Nancy Drew mysteries and biographies of famous women like Clara Barton, Florence Nightingale and Madame Curie. In high school I entertained audiences as a Lenore Sutton Dancer performing on the T.V. program "Bozo Circus."

#### OTHER INTERESTS

- gardening
- travel
- snow skiing, Pilates and golf

#### WHAT'S NEW?

Completed a children's middle grade biography--"Nellie Bly: Her Story In Headlines"

# Wheeling Historical Society

Presents

## Lynn Rymarz

## as Julia Childs:

# My Life in France

**Wednesday August 27, 2014 6:30 p.m.**

At the Old Community Church - In Chamber Park  
251 N. Wolf Road  
Wheeling, IL

**I hope you can join us as we explore how Julia Child discovered her passion for cooking French food in her late thirties after she married Paul Child and moved to Paris in 1948. Hear Julia's own words as she describes her love of French food and how she became determined to learn how to cook it. Follow her journey into the French culture, including her visits to the local markets and into her cooking classes at the Cordon Bleu. She will share her struggles and her successes, including her own cookbook "Mastering the Art of French Cooking," and her television show "The French Chef." She will tell you herself she never would have had any of this without meeting the love of her life, Paul Child.**

**Please  
 Tear  
 Off  
 This  
 Application  
 And  
 Give  
 It  
 To  
 A  
 Friend  
 (this one too!)**

If you are at all interested in Wheeling's past, we would like very much for you to join us in the preservation of our history and artifacts. If you would like to become an active member of the Wheeling Historical Society, please fill out the application below and return to the Wheeling Historical Society.

**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

\_\_\_\_\_  
 NAME

\_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS

\_\_\_\_\_  
 CITY, STATE, ZIP

\_\_\_\_\_  
 PHONE

\_\_\_\_\_  
 E-MAIL ADDRESS

**TYPES OF MEMBERSHIP**

Life Membership ..... \$ 100.00

Family Membership ..... 15.00

Individual Membership ..... 10.00

Checks are made payable to:

Wheeling Historical Society

P.O. Box 3

Wheeling, Illinois 60090

\*\*\*\*\*

Annual membership fees are due in the month of  
 May.

\*\*\*\*\*

*Wheeling Historical Society*

presents

*Lollipop Lane*

December 1- December 9 2012

Monday - Friday 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Saturday & Sunday 2:00p.m.-5:00p.m.



Chamber Park Community  
Center Church  
251 North Wolf Road  
Wheeling, IL



Have your picture taken  
with Santa Courtesy of Bill  
Stasek Chevrolet



*This Years Ornament  
Limited Edition*



Baked Home Made Cookies



**WHEELING  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY**

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Located in the  
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District's  
Chamber Park  
251 Wolf Road  
Wheeling, Illinois

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2011-2012

**OFFICERS**

President:  
Joan Wiener  
Vice President:  
Bill Hein  
Treasurer:  
Marilyn Chromy  
Secretary:  
Christine Brady

**DIRECTORS**

Barbara Forke  
Sue Korte  
Elaine Simpson

**Curator**

Patti Steilen

**Web Site**

Terry Steilen

**Newsletter Editor**

Patti Steilen

**Wheeling Park District  
Liaison**

Cheri Klumpp  
Commissioner

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2011-2013

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**2014-2015**

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Patti Steilen

**Wheeling Park District**

**Liaison**

Undefined



### The Curator's Corner — Patti Steilen



A huge thank you to all the volunteers who contributed time and energy to Lollipop Lane this year. It was a great success. Over 1500 people visited Santa. Once again we sold out of the ornament.. Hopefully we can order additional ornaments for next years event.

We are so grateful that Joan Wiener is making a successful recovery from her recent fall. She is home now and on the mend.

The cold winter weather has hampered our ambitions to clean the carriage house and museum, but hopefully we will get a break and be able to carry out these tasks.

We received a request for information on the Bell & Howell Company on Wolf Road. If you remember this company please contact me at 847-924-4473.