

LANSING HISTORICAL SOCIETY

From the President . . . Tony DeLaurentis

Another summer has come and gone, and I hope that it was a healthy, relaxing summer for you, and you were able to fit in some fun activities.

I also hope that you had time to visit our wonderful "Bride Through The Decades" display in our Museum. Barb Dust was in her creative mode again as she added a new feature to the "Brides" display. A wonderful collection of wedding pictures of LHS members and community members added a new touch to the display. Thank you to Barb for always coming up with new ideas to keep our museum displays unique and interesting.

Thank you to the many volunteers who faithfully acted as guides all summer and to those who spent countless hours setting up and then taking down the displays at the museum. Once again, without the members who donate their time to keep our museum active, we would not be able to offer the many opportunities to our community to keep Lansing history alive and well

Thank you to Paul Schultz for once again providing us with a walking tour of the history of Lansing. There are more and more people taking advantage of this wonderful program. Thank you also to Mayor Patty for again providing the participants with a personal tour of the Lansing Municipal Center.

There are many opportunities ahead for you to enjoy the activities that our Lansing Historical Society offers our members. We look forward to the great programs that Barb Dust and Dan Bovino have put together for us to enjoy. Make sure to visit the museum to see the variety of displays that are there. You will be glad you did.

Tony

2018 ~ 2019

Officers

Tony DeLaurentis, President
Dan Bovino, Vice President
Phyllis Drewno, Treasurer
Marilyn Kooy, Secretary

Directors

Bill Benne
Gloria Biondi
Sharon Murphy

Advisor ~ Paul Schultz

Museum Curator - Barb Dust

Committee Chairmen

Marilyn Kooy ~Membership
Richard Dust ~ Historian
Barb Dust/Dan Bovino ~ Programs

ATTENTION! MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Sept. 24 ~ General Meeting

Oct. 22 ~ General Meeting

Nov. 26 ~ Festival of Lights



Newsletter Publisher and Editor

Toni DeLaurentis
Newsletter Committee
Marilyn Kooy
Jen Saia
Marti Benne

Barb Dust ~ Museum Curator

"Brides through the Decades" has once again been our summer exhibit at the museum. It always changes, as new gowns are donated every year, adding to the rich history conveyed by the wedding trends. This year the display is especially beautiful, thanks to the efforts of Vanessa Nesbit and Charmayne Biddings.

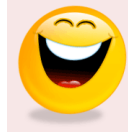
A new addition this year is the collection of wedding photos of our members as well as other community people. The goal has been to unite the community in the good will that is universally felt toward young couples just starting out in life. The display contains photos of ancestors' weddings as well as recent ones.

One can trace the family lineage through three generations in some cases! We plan to keep this project going for a while, even after we put away the gowns, so please send in your wedding photos. We'll make a copy and give the original right back!

Barb



"Wedding Wall"



Just for laughs . . .

Did you hear about the guy
who fell onto an upholstery
machine?

Now he is fully recovered.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

September

1 Jake Gourley	2 Jim Kijewski
4 Kent McCarthy	11 Betty Beenes
21 Daniel Cuthbert	27 Steve Kasper
28 Joyce Mulder	24 Bill Crescent

October

4 Betty Tobin	5 Jo Ann Goebel
17 Sandy Schultz	18 Robin Scheldberg
19 Debbie Albrecht	25 Phyllis Drewno
25 William Vlasek	31 Carla Fielder

November

15 Maxine Kolarczyk	19 Bob Piekarski
20 Charmayne Biddings	22 Jackie Protsman
24 George Dommer	24 Jack Hoekstra
25 Maryann Hill	

December

8 Maureen Grady Perovich	9 Elaine Humbert
17 Jan Bockel	18 Patty Eidam
18 Toni DeLaurentis	19 Judy Cheek
25 Butch Kooy	25 Paul Schultz
29 Jennifer Saia	



WEDDING WALL

A picture does not do the "Wedding Wall" justice, so if you haven't made it to the museum yet to view it, it's not too late. You can see the "Brides Through The Decades" display, including the "Wedding Wall" through September.



Bud Eidam retired with 42 years of service (1975-2017) to our community as a Lansing part-time police officer. Bud's 42 years of service makes him the longest employee of the Village. He was honored with a plaque for his commitment, dedication, and loyalty to the Police Department.

Paul Schultz will be receiving the Sustained Excellence Award to honor Paul's 15 years of service to the Cook County South Master Gardeners. Paul will be awarded this honor from the University of Illinois at their convention in Springfield in September.

Jim and JoAnn Kijewski celebrating their 59th wedding anniversary. Jim and JoAnn met their three daughters in Paris, France for 2 days in July. They then spent a few more days there and then visited Normandy for two days. They returned to Paris for several more days and had a wonderful time celebrating their anniversary.

Naomi Guhl became a proud grandmother to Naomi's son, Matt, and daughter-in-law, Alice's, first child. Avery was born July 2 in Manhattan, New York. Naomi was thrilled to be able to see her new granddaughter when she visited Matt and Alice later in July.

Butch and Marilyn Kooy will be celebrating a very special anniversary this year. They will be celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary on October 12.



WHO'S AT THE HELM?

The following is a short biography of our Officers and Museum Curator.



President ~ Tony DeLaurentis

Tony has spent his entire life living in Lansing, except for the two years he served in the Army, (one of the two years spent in Viet Nam). He attended Coolidge School and T. F. South where his grandson is now a junior. He is married to Toni and they have three daughters and seven grandchildren. They are eagerly awaiting their first great grandchild in January. He worked for Nalco Chemical Company in Chicago and Bedford Park in the Maintenance Department for 30 years.

Tony is currently serving as a Lansing Trustee. He became politically active over 30 years ago by first serving on many different Village committees. He is very involved with the Historical Society and has served as a board member, Vice President, and President.

He feels that the Historical Society and the museum have grown to be a very important part of the Lansing community.



Vice President ~ Dan Bovino

Dan Bovino has lived in Lansing for the past 45 years. He is a retired conductor and worked on the I. C. for 41 years. His hobbies include photography, hiking, bicycling, and geology (rock collecting). He is married to Susan Bovino and they have four children, Adam, Michael, Mario, and Danielle and a grandson, Devin.

Susan and Dan are involved in the Lansing Beautification Committee. He is currently serving as the vice president of the Lansing Historical Society after serving on its Executive Board.



Treasurer ~ Phyllis Drewno

Phyllis Drewno is a life member of the Lansing Historical Society and currently its treasurer. She was married for 48 years to John F. Drewno (deceased) and has three daughters and two grandsons.

She is also an adult volunteer with the GSGCNWI as a historian, Recognition Committee member and secretary for Service Unit 636-Lansing. She is on the board of directors for the South Suburban Genealogy Society and does Pullman Research and Greeters. Phyllis also volunteers at several other historical and genealogical societies.

She worked for Sears for 20 years and Girl Scouts Calumet Council for 10 years. She is also a member of St. John Church in Glenwood and St. Ann Church in Lansing.



Secretary ~ Marilyn Kooy

Marilyn Vierk Kooy has lived in Lansing all of her life. She attended St. John's Lutheran School and T.F. North High School in Calumet City.

She worked about 13 years at the Lansing Building & Loan Association whose name then changed to Lansing Savings and Loan Association. She held the office of Secretary-Treasurer for several years and that is where she met her husband, Lyle "Butch" Kooy.

They were married in 1968 and will be celebrating their 50 year anniversary this year. Marilyn and Butch have three daughters, Kristine (Robb) Wilkens, Karen (Al) Phillips, and Kathy (Ryan) Shone and eight grandchildren.

Marilyn has been with the Historical Society for 19 years and has been LHS Director, secretary, treasurer, Membership Chairman and is currently secretary again.

Museum Curator ~ Barb Dust



Barb has been a resident of Lansing most of her life arriving in Lansing in 1955 with her parents, Rich and Stella Tereba who were also active in LHS. She married Rich Dust in 1969, and they have three daughters and five grandchildren.

Barb taught first grade at Nathan Hale School, and now she regards the historical museum as her new classroom. She has been LHS Museum Curator since 2013 following in the footsteps of Jen Saia, Therese Lisenfelt, Betty Humphrey, and Julia Gault, all talented and dedicated women who did a great job. She loves working with museum volunteers to create displays that educate the community.

Barb represents our LHS in a variety of regional organizations like the Calumet Heritage Partnership that work to preserve history in the south suburbs.

Barb and Rich enjoy traveling. Their most recent trip was to the Galapagos Islands. They saw frigate birds, penguins, white tipped sharks marine iguanas and much more. They also got to stand on the equator when they toured Quito. It was an incredible trip, but, according to Barb, "There is no place like home".

LANSING HISTORICAL SOCIETY BANQUET

On May 21, we held our annual LHS Banquet at Knights of Columbus Hall. In addition to great food, we were entertained by a trio of music instructors from Lansing's Visible Music College. (See picture below)

As door prizes, we gave away many beautiful flower baskets, donated by our members.

We also held a 50-50 raffle and a Cubs ticket raffle. If you missed out on the fun this year, consider attending next May.



Our Sympathy . . .

Our sympathy to the Wilkening family on the passing of Sandra Wilkening, wife of Jack Wilkening. Sandra passed away May 25. Sandra worked as an instructor in the visually impaired department at School City of Hammond. Along with the Historical Society, Sandra also volunteered her time at organizations such as Friendship Club International and Camp Quality. Sandra will be missed.



"Walk on Ridge Road"

The "Walk on Ridge Road", facilitated by Paul Schultz, was a big success again this year. Once again there was the added attraction of touring the Lansing Municipal Center with Mayor Patty Eidam as tour guide. Participants enjoyed learning about Lansing history through all the photos that

"THE INCREDIBLE WESTWARD MOVEMENT"

On August 27th our first program of the year took place at the Lansing Library. Normally our programs do not begin until September, but this year we were treated early to another musical play by the District 158 Summer School "Time Travelers" program taught by teacher Mary DiGrispino. Students, from second through eighth grade from Oak Glen, Coolidge, and Reavis schools participated in the program. Mary DiGrispino's, students gave a wonderful performance that was enjoyed by all who attended.



Good Neighbor Day Parade

"Celebrating Lansing's 125th Anniversary From 1893 to 2018 and Everything In Between" was the theme of

Lansing's Good Neighbor Day Parade, and the Historical Society chose to tell the story of Lansing's beginning on our float. Jan Bockel, a descendant of the Busack family, provided a great photo of the

Busack Building, where the vote to incorporate happened. Paul Schultz's son was able to enlarge the photo to a size large enough to be seen on the float. Jen Saia volunteered to embroider the sign on her machine on fabric that evoked old time sepia tones. Jan and Jen put in hours working on the float, aided by Dan Bovino, Paul Schultz, Sharon Murphy, Barb and Rich Dust and Jan's son Dave. On the day of the parade, Dan Bovino dressed as Henry Lansing, Bob Eenigenburg portrayed his ancestor, Gerrit Eenigenburg and Matthew DiGrispino took the role of "Bohemian Joe" Sorna. The three interacted with the crowd as they represented the three towns, Lansing, Oak Glen and Bernice, that joined in 1893 to become the town we know as Lansing today. Many thanks to Jen and Jan and all who helped create a great presence in the parade!



BAKELESS BAKE SALE

Thank you to all who donated to our annual Bakeless Bake Sale. Our total donations were \$1090





Lansing Historical Society
Post Office Box 1776
Lansing, IL 60438



MUSEUM HOURS

Monday 6:00 ~ 8:00 p.m.

(Except 4th Monday of the month)

Wednesday 3:00 ~ 5:00 p.m.

Saturday 10:00 ~ 1:00 p.m.

*Remember: Good news is the best kind
of news. Please share yours with us.
Just call Toni (708-895-0993) or
email news to tdelaurentis@comcast.net*

*Next newsletter will be mailed out in January.
I want to thank everyone who
contributed articles and ideas to the
newsletter.
Toni DeLaurentis*



PLAN ON ATTENDING OUR INFORMATIVE PROGRAMS!