

# THE LINCOLN PARK HISTORICAL SOCIETY & MUSEUM

## NEWSLETTER

1335 Southfield Rd, Lincoln Park, MI 48146  
February, March, April 2011

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### UPCOMING : SOCIETY GENERAL MEETING

On Wednesday, March 2 at 7:00 p.m. our first meeting of the year will feature guest speaker **Leslie Lynch-Wilson**, who will speak on the work of the Lincoln Park Preservation Alliance, and its efforts to promote and preserve the architectural heritage of our community. You won't want to miss this informative presentation. Light refreshments will be served following.

**The Historical Society** continues its quarterly newsletter publication with this February 2011 issue. The museum's curator, Jeff Day, will also be periodically sending out an "electronic newsletter", which will deal specifically with the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Lincoln Park's founding. These e-letters will focus on matters related to the year 1921, the years leading up to its founding and the early years of Lincoln Park, and our community's pioneers in business, education, civic and religious life. If you'd like to ensure receiving a copy of these e-letters, send your email address to: [curator@lphistorical.org](mailto:curator@lphistorical.org). You are invited to contact us with any suggestions for topics on early LP that might be covered in one of these letters.

### MEMBERSHIP

We welcome new members **Don and Dolly Smith** of Grosse Ile. Also, we apologize for misspelling the name of our new member **Carole Woldridge** in the last newsletter.



### IN MEMORIAM

We are saddened to report those members we have lost this year

**Evelyn Lebo** in January; **Marvin Dokken** and **Herbert (Dwight) Morsen** in February.

*Note: Herb was employed for nearly thirty years at the old LP Post Office, now the museum's home, and had served as a postal supervisor before his retirement in 1981. We will miss these good friends.*

### FROM MURIEL'S DESK

So here we are in 2011! Greetings! December and January were all about weather. So far, February doesn't seem very friendly, in our area at least. We were all decked out for the Christmas Open House, and we celebrated in a blizzard. President Lucille, members Grace Wangbickler, Bea Partridge and volunteers Edith Andrews and Gay Nell Scobie put up the trees this year and hung dozens of holiday decorations. Robert French wore himself out climbing ladders. Our thanks to the members who donated seasoned ornaments from their storage lofts.

No meetings in January or February, so we re-hung the curtains and rearranged a few things in the museum. We are still getting used to that. We are still identifying and numbering our collections, an ongoing business.

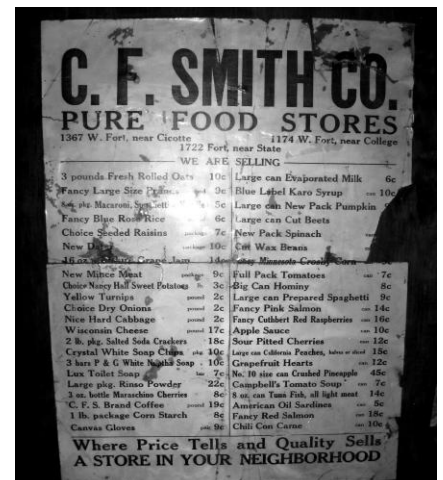
The society will be electing officers in April. If you have any desire to keep this organization strong in support of our jewel of a museum, please let one of us know. Lucille Stroh will not be keeping her position as president – her doctor is reeling her in. The country store will still be in her capable hands. By the way, we are in need of items to restock the store's shelves.

We want the membership to know that their support of the museum in response to the Annual Giving letter is appreciated. We still do not make any charge for visitation or programs, or stage money-raising events; our events are free, so voluntary gifts are doubly appreciated. The Annual Giving amount to date is \$2,090. Thank you.

An advertisement for  
C.F. Smith Food  
Stores three locations  
on Fort Street in the  
1930s.

*Gift from member  
Herbert Morsen*

For a closer look  
at the prices  
come visit !



## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

**It is** with sadness that I write this letter to you at this time. My health is not allowing me to serve as your president beyond my current term. I have made many friends through these last ten years or more of being associated with the LP Historical Museum, and I will still be involved and working in the museum, just in a different area. And I will hopefully see all of you at the meetings and special events.

Blessings of love and light,  
your President, Lucille Stroh

## Recent Acquisitions

Our friend **David Doss** keeps an eye open for Lincoln Park history items. One of his latest finds is a 4"x8" autograph book from a Goodell School student named **Kathleen Dorothy Tatchell**. Kathleen was 12 years old in 1935, the year she started to gather signatures. **Betty Rasey** was a schoolmate. (Betty became principal of Carr School.)



This 1959 photo came to us from the Fire Department archives, courtesy of **Chief James Lees**, who provided the caption

"Friday night, July 24, 1959. Sears Water Ball Fight – Lincoln Park Fire Department vs. River Rouge Fire Department. At least two-thirds of an estimated 4,000 spectators were soaked while watching the nocturnal game in the Sears Shopping Plaza parking lot. Chief Thomas C. Dickson can be seen clearly in the center of the picture wearing the white dress hat, in addition to members of the River Rouge FD on the left and Lincoln Park FD positioned on the right. The battle ended in a 1-1 deadlock after 50 minutes of intense water play, as part of the annual "Lincoln Park Days" celebration."

## LINCOLN PARK at 90 HERITAGE FESTIVAL

*Coming JUNE 24-26, 2011*

### **LINCOLN PARK PREPS FOR 90<sup>th</sup> BIRTHDAY!**

On June 28 of this year, Lincoln Park will celebrate its 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. The Village of LP was chartered on that date in 1921. Less than four years later the residents of LP would vote to become a city, one of the fastest growing communities in Michigan at the time.

A volunteer committee of representatives from LP organizations has been working together in preparation for a fun and memorable celebration to be held this summer. The festivities will center on the **weekend of June 24, 25 and 26.**

Plans include:

A celebration open house and carnival located at the civic center area near Southfield Road and Fort Street, one of the oldest intersections in the downriver area.

A LP schools-wide contest held for a logo design for the 90<sup>th</sup> Heritage Festival.

We expect that "open houses" will be scheduled at the Fire Station, Police Station, City Hall and Library, as well as the Historical Museum.

An exhibit at the museum will showcase LP and its civic leaders in the early 1920s, and our evolving relationship to Detroit and surrounding communities. Included in the exhibit will be a historic timeline showing LP's rapid growth.

A tentative schedule for the weekend follows:

Friday, June 24 evening – Opening Public Reception for the Museum exhibit on LP's founding.

Saturday, June 25 day time (also Cruisin' Downriver day): Open houses throughout the Civic Center area, vendors, food, and street entertainment

Saturday, June 25 evening: live entertainment at the Band Shell, Memorial Park

Sunday, June 26, Special Farmers Market activities during the day; a formal Commemoration and Recognition Ceremony at 4:00 p.m.

Please contact us at [curator@lphistorical.org](mailto:curator@lphistorical.org) for developing news or check the museum's website at [www.lphistorical.org](http://www.lphistorical.org)

### New Volunteers

A group of students from the High School's National Honor Society have begun doing some after-school volunteer service work at the museum. They are working with the curator on several projects including preparations for the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary exhibit; the digital archiving of our photographs and oral history records, with guidance from our volunteer tech advisor Don Daniels. We are very pleased to have these young folks with us.