

NEWSLETTER
LINCOLN PARK HISTORICAL SOCIETY
MAY, JUNE, JULY 2010

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Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 1:00 P.M. - 5:00 P.M. or by appointment www.lphistorical.org

News of Upcoming Plans



Joseph Bondie homestead, at Fort Park & Champaign c. 1898

In the fall of 2010, the Lincoln Park museum will be installing its new exhibit on the **"Founding Families"** of Lincoln Park. The exhibit will focus on those farm families who settled in the Ecorse Township area during the 19th century. This settlement led to the first community being formed in this location and its civic development, and the establishment of Lincoln Park in 1921. Many of these names you will recognize from the early streets and schools: names like LeBlanc/LaBlanc (White), Montie, Bondie, Bouchard, Salliotte, Campau, Riopelle, Quandt, Goodell, Raupp, Cicotte, Drouillard, Labadie, Bourassa, Keppen, Eberts, among others.

If you, or anyone you know, may be related to one of the early families we would like you to contact us at the museum. The "Founding Families" exhibit will be an opportunity to learn more about our early local history. Further, it will serve as a fitting prelude to the approaching 90th anniversary of Lincoln Park, established as a village in June of 1911. We expect the exhibit to open by the end of September.

The Historical Society is formulating plans to coordinate with the city and other civic groups to observe **Lincoln Park's 90th anniversary** with an appropriate celebration in 2011.

In addition, we are currently working to update our website with expanded photo galleries and text, with possibly an added local history blog to share your memories. Feel free to share ideas with us at any time. - Jeff Day, Curator

LPHS News:

30th Annual Dinner on May 15

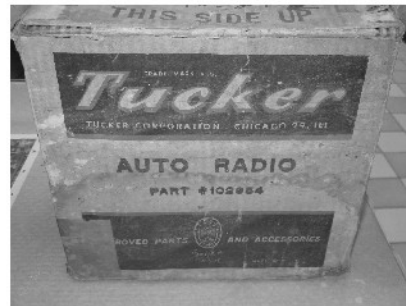
The LPHS's 30th annual dinner and officer installation will be held at the Lakes of Taylor Banquet Center on Saturday May 15 at 4:00 p.m. We enjoyed the hospitality and convenience of the location last year as well as our dinners, so we are looking forward to another nice afternoon. Our speaker will be Gerry Wykes, Curator of the Lake Erie Metropark Marsh Museum. If you remember, Gerry has talked to us before, and is recognized as a master storyteller. His topic this time is the story of Lewis Cass. There is still time to get in your reservation; we can always add a table.

We had a very well attended meeting in March for the Boy Scouts Centennial Exhibit, with local leaders speaking to us about the celebration, prior to our open house in April.

The general meeting's program in April about the Titanic was a lively one, received by a well-informed audience. Adding a striking visual element to the presentation by Titanic historian Father Gerard Bechard was a three-foot scale model of the ship, on loan to the museum by LP resident Charles Winton. The model was complete in every detail including people on the deck and the band that played as the ship sank. Two years of work went into creating his model according to Mr. Winton.

New Acquisitions

Recent gifts to the museum include items that came to us for the Boy Scout Exhibit. Thanks to Jim Wangbickler, Pat Morrison, Lucille Stroh, Lois Lyons, Garry Summers, and James Bademian. Items on loan for the exhibit have been returned to those generous to let us use them: David Oakley, Kay Hunt, Tom Karnes, Richard Lewandowski, Paul Koucher, Warren Blizzard and Jim Wangbickler.



Lincoln Park resident Barney Neil walked in one day with an **original Tucker car radio** in its original box from 1948 complete with parts and accessories. It had been stored in his family's garage. This is an extraordinary prize for our Preston Tucker collection.

We have added items to our "Armed Services Collection" with the gift from Joan Foucher of a **two-volume set of Training Manuals for the United States Navy, Photography Unit**, during World War II.

Thank you to Lindley Hogan for his **hand-made turkey caller**. Come by and see how it works!

The President's Message

In March your president went to the local history conference at the Dearborn Inn. In my first session I heard an architect from our area who said we are destroying our past and community history by tearing it down building by building. What defines us from our neighbors is each community's identity, its buildings and homes. By 2030, he said, more than one third of our small towns will be gone and rebuilt with new buildings that cost three times as much to heat and cool.

In the 1920s, homes were built for the local weather, with transom windows over doors for cool air flow and heat. We saved rain water to use in the garden. Technology can bring many advantages, but let's strive to keep our identity at the same time. Once history is erased it is gone forever. Amen!

- President Lucille Stroh

From Muriel's Desk:

Do you have a question about something or somebody who might be a part of early history of Lincoln Park? Let us know here at the museum and we will print the question and answer in our newsletter. If you know anyone who might have some facts about our early history that we should know, please let us know and we can make contact. Too much of our history is being lost as the generation of the 1920s and 30s are making the obituary lists.

We were pleased to have two young ladies from the Middle School spend some time helping us in March. Euriana Alvarez and Rebecca Webb of the National Junior Honor Society polished silver and helped new volunteer Edith Andrews dust the Country Kitchen artifacts.

I am pleased to report that the newspaper collection is now accessible by the public. Edith Andrews, who also volunteers at the city library, was able to give us some time and the project went much faster than expected - thanks to the upstairs help, and the downstairs help.

I was invited to speak to the 3rd and 4th grade students at Mixter School in March, and Jeff Day, our curator, will talk to the Rotary Club on May 6 about future museum plans.

It's official - Clemente's has been sold, and will be closed as of June 30. It is a major blow to the many devoted customers, as well as the bowling leagues who have made Clemente's a regular stop for their famous fish dinners and delicious pizza. So maybe it is time to write a note or card to them at **Clemente's Bar and Grille, 2230 Fort St., Lincoln Park, MI 48146**. Let them know how much the family run restaurant meant to your memories of Lincoln Park. With the additional closing of Chiarelli's Market in 2009, there is a hole in the heart of many that cannot be filled.

The museum will be on vacation from July 2 until the 13th. That's when we do windows, curtains, and floor refinishing, electrical, or whatever. If you have out of town guests who wish to see the museum

LPHS Membership

Membership Chair Grace Wangbickler tells us that we received a nice letter from recent member Dr. James F. Green of Fullerton, California. Dr. Green's father, James Green, was one of the first village councilmen of Lincoln Park in 1921. We also welcome Curtis Brown of Wyandotte as our newest member!

Boy Scout Centennial Open House on April 18



B

oy Scout exhibit main case



A.P. Troop 1051 at museum camp, 4/18

The BSA centennial celebration open house held on Sunday, April 18 was a great success, attended by many local scouts, families and the general public. The recognition ceremony featured a special appearance by the Great Lakes District's **A Century of Values (ACOV)** touring trailer which logged in over 45,000 miles in its year-long cross country good will tour, visiting troops in 48 states. The afternoon's speakers included Mayor Frank Vaslo and Police Chief Tom Karnes, a former Eagle Scout from troop 1380 who took a moment to pay special tribute to past scout leaders of Lincoln Park. Other special guests included the four scouts from area troops who are pictured in Bill Morrison's ACOV portrait mural.

We also owe a special word of thanks to the scouts from Allen Park Troop 1051 and their leader Erik Marlin. These exceptional scouts set up their model campsite, including campfire, kitchen tent and axe yard on the museum's lawn, and spent the night of the 17th in near freezing weather. That hot chocolate and pancakes sure tasted good the following morning! None of this would have happened without the participation of local scout leaders Jim Wangbickler, David Oakley, Kay Hunt and Al Keller, who did much of the coordinating of the event. Thank you, _____ thank you.

In Memoriam

We lost two of our life members, **Charles "Chuck" Jackson**, member #34, in February, and **Niles Schonfeld**, #43, in April. Both of these members have supported the museum since the early days of our first efforts to gather items and artifacts from Lincoln Park history.

A Memorial Recognition

On Sunday June 6, at 2:00 p.m. the society will observe the passing of members from over the past year with an honors ceremony and bell ringing on the museum lawn. A reception for the families and all members will be held inside the museum. We hope you can join us here.