

THE LINCOLN PARK HISTORICAL SOCIETY & MUSEUM

NEWSLETTER

November, December 2013, January 2014
1335 Southfield Rd, Lincoln Park, MI 48146

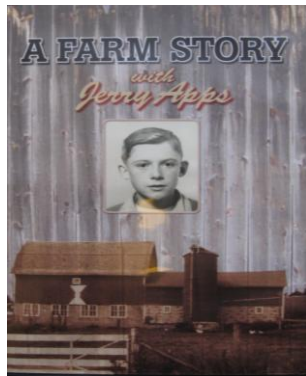
Editors: Jeff Day, Muriel Lobb
313-386-3137; lpmuseum@gmail.com

CURRENT EXHIBIT –

On View in our Main Exhibit case until Mid-November is a collection of farm tools from local farms of families who were early settlers in this area, including the LeBlanc, Goodell, Keppen, Schonfeld, Raupp, Quandt, and Montie families. Come by before the holidays and take this unique look into our rural past.

UPCOMING DATES

NOVEMBER 6th,
Wednesday, 7:00 p.m.
General Meeting: video presentation, “A Farm Story with Jerry Apps”, as shown on PBS; the video is presented in conjunction with our current exhibit of early Lincoln Park farm tools.



VETERANS DAY, Monday NOVEMBER 11 at 11:00a.m. Annual Veterans Day Commemoration & Bell Ringing Ceremony on the museum lawn. All area veterans are invited to attend. A short reception with light refreshments will follow inside the museum.

NOVEMBER 30, Saturday, 5:30pm The 2nd Annual City Tree Lighting Ceremony, at City Hall, with indoor reception and caroling following at the Museum.

DECEMBER 15, Sunday 2PM-5PM – LP Historical Society's Annual Holiday Open House, a festive atmosphere of decorations, entertainment and refreshments.

“Simpler Times” by Don Wallace – we have more of Don's books about growing up in Lincoln Park in our gift shop. Stop in to pick one up - a great Christmas gift for your favorite Lincoln Parker, at only \$10.00. Don will be with us for a reception and book signing after the first of the year; check our February 2014 newsletter for an update.

After closing for January, the museum will reopen in February with a special exhibit on the Clemente family and their decades-long restaurant business. Opening in the early 1930s as a billiard hall,



Clemente's became a beloved LP institution for nearly 80 years. The family is loaning us materials for a display that will remain up through the month of February. In conjunction, a reception for the Clementes will be held at the museum on **Saturday, February 15, 2014 at 1:00 P.M.** We are also preparing an oral history video presentation on the family's long Lincoln Park association. Our thanks to historical commissioner Joe Turinsky for helping to arrange this special affair.

FROM MURIEL'S DESK:

Another Halloween...another birthday! I have seen too many Halloweens now to appreciate pumpkins and goblins. Joseph Griggs stepped into the museum in September, and by the end of October, four construction problems were solved: the pole lights were burning and “in sync”, the clock tower lights were replaced, the loosened floor tile (an area 10' by 4') on the lower level was reset, and the back cement steps were replaced. Joseph is also lining up more tasks for spring. We thank the Southgate Lions Club for covering the cost of supplies for the floor project. This is a good time to say “Thank You” to the city for giving us two of the large cement planter boxes at each side of our “new” steps, and to thank the Garden Club for keeping our planters filled and watered for 22 years – that's a lot of water! We had a visit from the museum's first curator Jack Hinske in October also. He might be able to solve one of our video tape problems he said. The last two years we have kept our operating budget to \$17,000, including heat and utilities. When the city could no longer fund us this year, the Downtown Development Authority offered to fund half of that amount for one year. So the society will then furnish the rest. We are feeling the pinch a bit now, but must plan for the future. We have a jewel of a museum, and so grateful for the friends who keep it so.

CONGRATULATIONS!!

Our Lincoln Park High School football team the **Railsplitters** made history on October 4 when they celebrated their first win after a record 66 consecutive losses, the longest stretch in Michigan high school football history. If you were there to watch the team play that night, when they triumphed over Kennedy HS of Taylor by a score of 34 to 20, you know what a rapturous celebration took place on the field. The MTV cable series **“Wait 'Til Next Year”** which centers on the team's struggles to end their years-long losing streak, began filming two years ago at a time when the Railsplitters had suffered just 43 losses. The reality series will make its long anticipated premiere on MTV on Friday, November 1 at 8:00 P.M. Check your cable listings for the correct channel – and check the MTV website for more information:
http://www.mtv.com/shows/wait_till_next_year/series.jhtml



NEW MEMBERS

We welcome our newest member **Donna Breeding**, who happens to be the Lincoln Park City Clerk. Welcome to the fold, Donna, we are glad to have your support!

MEMBERSHIPS The Historical Society's Annual membership renewals were payable in August; those members who still need to renew will receive a reminder insert with this newsletter. Please remit your payment to keep your membership in good standing. If you don't find an insert, you are all set for another year. Thanks again so much to every one of our members for your continued support.

VOLUNTEERS This is a plea for volunteers who can assist with a number of different activities and chores at the museum. If you or someone you know has any time to give - and would love to give that time to the museum - please contact curator Jeff Day at 313-386-3137. We will be happy to put you to work!

OUR APOLOGIES to *Historical Society Treasurer Mary Meyer* for omitting her name and office title from last month's newsletter. *Mary is one of our most devoted officers and hardest workers. We are very grateful for her service – and apologize to Mary for our negligence.*

Lincoln Park Historical Society Board 2013-14

President	Jim Nelson
Vice President	Dolores Walker
Secretary	Mary Cibor
Corr. Secretary & Membership Chair	Alyce Riggs
Treasurer	Mary Meyer
Trustee	Grace Agnello
Trustee	Bea Partridge
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From time to time, as space allows, we like to promote some upcoming events of general interest taking place at other local historical venues -

The EDMUND FITZGERALD Memorial Ceremony, will be held on Sunday, November 10, at 6:00 P.M. at Belanger Park in River Rouge.

As a way of commemorating the anniversary of the tragic assassination of President Kennedy 50 years ago this month, we include a special insert with recollections by Lincoln Parkers of that fateful day. The trauma that engulfed the nation and brought it to a halt those last days of November of 1963 is etched clearly in our collective memories.

The Lincoln Park Historical Society continues its quarterly newsletter publications with this November 2013 issue. We are delivering newsletters via email as much as possible. If you'd like to receive newsletters and special announcements via email, please send your email address to lpmuseum@gmail.com.

Web site: www.lphistorical.org

The Museum's regular hours are 1:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M. on Wednesdays, Thursdays & Saturdays.

The Museum will be closed for the month of January.

FRANK RATHBUN

We recently received a donation of books and other materials from the family of **Frank Rathbun** who passed away a few years ago. Frank was one of the first organizers of the historical society in 1954. For many years he wrote for the Mellus Newspaper; some of his noted columns featured the histories of early downriver families. He later moved with his family to Virginia when he worked for Congressman William Ford in D.C. Among the significant books added to our library are "From Bull Run to Appomattox, Michigan's Role in the Civil War"; "Settling the Great Lakes Frontier, Immigration to Michigan 1837 to 1924" and "Focus on Michigan Women, 1701-1977". We are grateful to the Rathbun family for their very kind donations.

VETERANS DAY Commemoration & Bell Ringing ceremony
Monday, November 11 at 11:00 A.M.
On the Museum Lawn



2ND ANNUAL CITY TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 30 AT 5:30 P.M.
CITY HALL & MUSEUM
Sponsored by the DDA

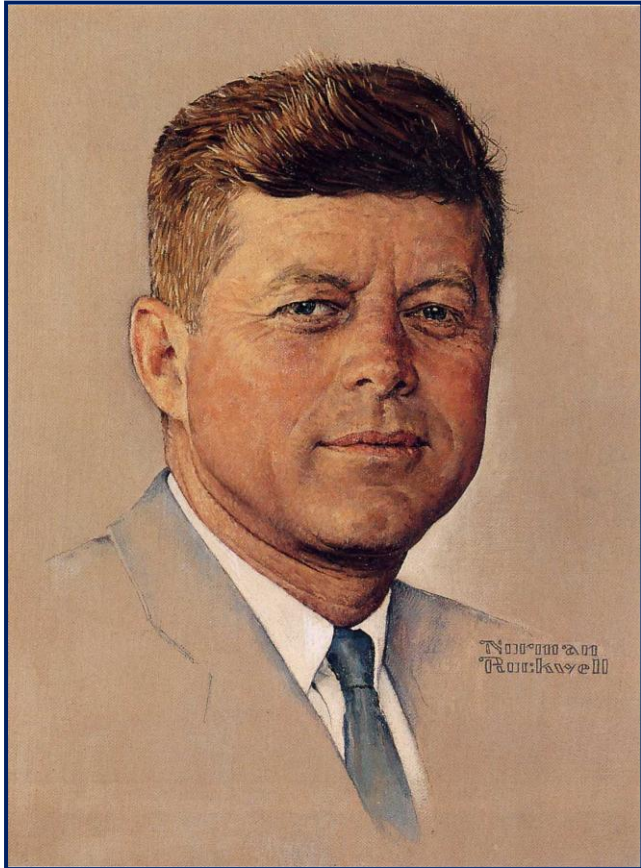


THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY & MUSEUM
ANNUAL HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15TH
2PM – 5PM

Please note that our email address has changed to lpmuseum@gmail.com. Web site address: www.lphistorical.org

Lincoln Park REMEMBERS Four Days in November 50 YEARS LATER

The 50th Anniversary of the Assassination of President Kennedy November 22, 1963



Norman Rockwell's portrait of John F. Kennedy, 1960

"I was doing a building job in Grosse Pointe and driving a beat up pickup, it did not have a great radio. I had a transistor radio that I hung from the rear view mirror, as I drove it would swing back and forth and the vocal would break up. I heard something about a shooting, but I thought they were talking about Vietnam and what was going on there. A short time later I was working on an addition at a Ford dealership in Dearborn. As I walked into the building, the men were crying. I asked what was going on, and was told that President Kennedy had been shot. I was shocked and sad. It was a sad day for our country."

Joe Turinsky
Lincoln Park Historical Commission

"I was shopping with my daughter at Sears in Lincoln Park. It was early afternoon. We were on the second floor looking at clothes for school, when suddenly the store became very quiet, like someone turned off the 'sound of people'. The only sound you could hear was the escalator going round and round with people standing back to back coming up and going to the television area, crying silently. Since I didn't want to frighten my daughter by going where the people were all standing, I asked a cashier, "Why is everyone watching televisions?" She said "President Kennedy was shot and died." I was in shock and disbelief, and sick to my stomach. My body was shaking. I had to get myself calmed down enough to drive home and turn on our television without getting into an accident. To this day the memory is a video I can play anytime, without commercials."

Lucille Stroh
Historical Society President Emeritus



John ("John-John") F. Kennedy, Jr.

"On the day John F. Kennedy was assassinated, I was watching "Another World" on TV, while feeding my baby Cathy at the time of my soap opera. When the news broke in and I heard the terrible thing that happened to our president, I cried and cried. To this day I am much saddened by this tragedy and loss to our country, and to the Kennedy family. His presidency was the loveliest, truly the Camelot years. Every November 22nd I think of that time and the hurt remains still. We lost a man who loved his country and its people. Giving his life in that way is heart wrenching."

Barbara Krisko
Historical Society Member

"I was five years old and in the morning kindergarten class at Mixer Elementary being taught by Miss Denoff at the time of the shooting. We were told what had happened and didn't understand much of it other than Miss Denoff was crying. My friends and I walked the three blocks home in a somber/quiet mood. The next few days had that hushed feeling about it - like everyone was in shock. The news seemed to be always on the television the next couple of days as my parents were glued to the set. The lasting image that still sticks with me is John-John saluting his father's coffin."

Tom Karnes
Lincoln Park Police Chief (retired)
Lincoln Park Historical Commission

"In the fall of 1963, I was a 10th-grader at Lincoln Park High School. An average school week typically consisted of attending classes, doing homework, cheering on your varsity team, flirting with the opposite sex, and looking forward to the next school dance. For the most part, a carefree and innocent time. However, on November 22 - a chilly Friday afternoon - an event occurred that would forever shatter that innocence. I can still vividly recall walking from Spanish class to my next class when, over the PA system, a voice somberly announced: "President Kennedy has been shot". Collective gasps rang out and cries of "Oh no!" and "What?" echoed throughout the hallways. It was a surreal moment in time. "President Kennedy has been shot" reverberated around the world. It chipped away part of our innocence and would become one of our nation's greatest tragedies. It's hard to believe it's been 50 years since that fateful day."

Patricia Diaz Krause
Mayor, City of Lincoln Park

