



NEW EXHIBIT

The Photography of Dr. Julius Wineberg

see page 5

March 2006

Newsletter of the Waukegan Historical Society



President's Letter

by Bill Tyre

Inside

Page 4

Spring Programs

Page 5

New Exhibits

Pages 6-7

Historically Speaking

Pages 8-9

Collections Cameo

Pages 10-11

Recent Acquisitions

Page 16

Calendar

Page 18

Preservation Corner

Welcome to the newly redesigned newsletter of the Waukegan Historical Society! We are excited with the new look and hope you find it easier to read and more informative with added features on our collections and news from the Preservation Commission. We welcome your comments, so please feel free to send us an email at info@waukeganhistorical.org or call the museum at 847-336-1859. I wish to thank Board member Margaret Martin for her many hours of hard work to bring about our new look; it is deeply appreciated.

Our holiday open house was a huge success, with the museum filled to overflowing most of the afternoon. The children's choir and band, both from our own Waukegan schools, put on a wonderful performance, and brought many new faces into the museum. My thanks to everyone who volunteered their time to make this event successful and enjoyable for one and all.

I'm happy to announce that we have wonderful programs and exhibits coming this spring to the Society. Our April program will be a special encore presentation of Wayne Munn's fascinating Time Capsule Apartment, which has been given to standing room crowds on three occasions in the past. In May, following our annual business meeting, we



welcome Keith Turner who will speak about the continuing efforts to bring the *U.S.S. Conolly* to the Waukegan lakefront. Full details on these programs can be found on page 4.

Two new exhibits are featured this spring at the museum. The first will spotlight the beautiful architectural photography of Dr. Julius Wineberg who photographed many of Waukegan's most significant buildings in the late 1970s and donated the large collection of mounted black and white photos to the Society. Approximately thirty of his images will be on display. Our second exhibit will showcase items from the Society's wonderful collection of vintage hats, placed in the setting of a turn-of-the-century millinery shop. See page 5 for further information.

Planning for our annual Tour of Homes is well underway. We have four beautiful private homes featured this year, in addition to the Haines Museum and the First Baptist Church. Mark your calendar now for June 25 and invite your friends and family to share in this exciting event.

I look forward to seeing many you at our upcoming events and hope you will all have a chance to visit our new exhibits in the coming months. Additional up-to-date information on all of our activities is available on our website, waukeganhistorical.org.

WHS Board

Officers

President
William Tyre
Vice President
Gretta Dieck
Treasurer
Harry Came
Secretary
Ellen Frew
Past President
Sara Griffin

Directors

Betsy Alleman
Margaret Martin
Denyse Waters
Sean Wiedel

Spring Programs

Programs held at:

Dr. Lynn Schornick Theatre
39 Jack Benny Drive
Bowen Park
2:00pm



Sunday, April 9

Encore Presentation

Opening the Time Capsule Apartment

Explore the “Time Capsule Apartment” at 119 N. Genesee Street, sealed in 1939 and rediscovered in the autumn of 2003. Our guide will be photographer, historic researcher and mystery enthusiast Wayne Munn. Wayne spent several weeks documenting the baffling 4,500 square foot space that contained a large apartment and several businesses. Through the use of video and still images, you will tour the space, gaining insight into the building, the times and the family that owned it for over a century. This is Wayne’s fourth presentation on the subject and will include additional pictures and artifacts.

Sunday, May 21

Bringing the U.S.S. *Conolly* to Waukegan

Local resident Keith Turner, Director of Community Relations of the U.S.S. *Conolly* Museum and Memorial, will give a presentation on the ambitious plan to bring this decommissioned destroyer to Waukegan,



birth place of Admiral Richard L. Conolly. In addition to restoring and maintaining the *Conolly*, the Museum will collect

and display materials associated with Waukegan’s and Lake County’s naval and military history and serve as a 21st century, state-of-the-art attraction that will become an important family recreation and entertainment destination.

New Exhibits

Opening March 2006

The Photography of Dr. Julius Wineberg

Between 1976 and 1978, Dr. Julius Wineberg spent countless hours recording the architectural heritage of Waukegan for future generations. It was during this period that twenty-seven buildings were designated Bicentennial Landmarks and the Near North Historic District was listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Wineberg documented dozens of buildings, both residential and commercial, creating stunning black and white images that were artistic as well as documentary. This exhibit includes approximately thirty images from the Society's collection, ranging from stately homes in the historic district to prominent downtown buildings.

Cover photograph:

Dr. Vincent Price House
719 Grand Avenue

Opening April 2006

A Visit to the Millinery Shop

The Waukegan Historical Society possesses a large collection of vintage hats, ranging from late-Victorian examples with elaborate feathers and bows, to stylish cocktail hats of the 1940s. This exhibit will showcase some of the finest hats in the collection, along with pieces on loan from the Irving Park Historical Society in Chicago. The setting of the exhibit will be a recreation of an early 20th-century millinery shop, based on a vintage photograph in the Society's research collection. Information on local millinery shops and a small collection of men's and children's hats will be featured as well. In conjunction with the exhibit, our fall program will be an entertaining show entitled "Hats Off to Music" by talented singer and pianist Kirstin Synnestvedt.



What's in your Hat?

It's the right kind of hat for the hat is elastic, light and comfortable, and will wear well. We manufacture all styles of Men's Hats and will show right

Yeoman-Gray Co.

227 North Geneva Street

Historically Speaking

Fansteel? Pfanstiehl?

by Ed Link

Well, which name is it? Actually both, depending on what time period and what business is being discussed.

Carl Pfanstiehl, born in 1888 in Missouri to a family originally from Holland, studied at the Armour Institute of Technology in Chicago and showed considerable talent. Along with James M. Troxel, he began Pfanstiehl Electrical Laboratories in 1907. They manufactured coils for x-ray machines and later found success with products for automobile

ignition systems. They were so successful that space limitations forced a move to 2200 Sheridan Road, North Chicago in 1908.

In 1917 the company was reorganized as Pfanstiehl Company, Inc. and changed its name to Fansteel Products

Company on July 5, 1918. The latter move was likely caused by anti-German sentiment during World War I. The phonetic spelling of the name probably solved that problem, but created identity confusion in the future.

Carl Pfanstiehl left the company in 1919 to devote his time to research, but the name remained. Throughout the 1920s the company produced the Balkite Rectifier, named after Director of Research Clarence Balke. This product served as the power unit for radios of the time and directed Fansteel into the radio business for that decade. However, when radios began to use alternating current, there was no need for the rectifier and business plummeted.

Fansteel then reverted to its origin in metals, primarily tungsten and tantalum. They produced



Southeast side of the Fansteel Plant. North Chicago, c. 1923.

electronic parts for automobile and appliance manufacturers. They started Vascoloy-Ramet Corporation on Market Street in Waukegan, which evolved into VR/Wesson, and started carbide Fansteel Metallurgical Corporation in 1935.

1937 brought Fansteel some unwanted national prominence. A sit-down strike began on February 17 when 200 employees locked themselves in the buildings and prevented management or police from entering. The strike ended on February 26 but prompted lawsuits which went to the U.S. Supreme Court. Two years after the strike, the court ruled that sit-down strikes were illegal.

In 1990 the tantalum metal processing division was sold and manufacturing ended in North Chicago. At one point the company had employed 1,000 workers.

After Carl Pfanstiehl left the company, he founded Pfanstiehl Chemical Laboratories in the 1920s. He died in 1942.

In 1954, this company, then known as Pfanstiehl Chemical Company, Inc., split into two parts. The former metals division became Pfanstiehl Chemical Corp. and specialized in phonograph needles. It was acquired by L.K.G. Industries in 2001 and moved to Rockford.

The former chemical division became Pfanstiehl Laboratories and was taken over by the Ferro Corporation in 2000 and continues to operate in Waukegan today.



City Directory advertisement c. 1922 promoting Balkite Radio power units.



Advertisement promoting Pfanstiehl Chemical in 1942.

Collections Cameo

Three oil paintings hanging in the library of the Haines Museum depicting Hopi Indian life were done by a Waukegan native who achieved national fame as an artist in her lifetime.

Kate Thompson Cory was born on February 8, 1861 at 321 North Utica Street and attended Central School. She was the daughter of prominent news-



Mana with Ceremonial Robe. This portrait of a Hopi Indian woman was purchased from the Smithsonian Institution. The artist made a notation on the frame that it was exhibited in the Antonio Apache Indian Crafts Exhibition in Los Angeles, California.

paper editor James Cory. He was an outspoken abolitionist and employed freed African-American men and women in the family's Waukegan home. James' brother was a local doctor and entertained such figures as Abraham Lincoln and Ulysses S. Grant when they visited Waukegan. The family moved to New York about 1879, where Kate studied at the Arts Student League and the Cooper Union. Excelling in oils and photography, she decided to travel west and begin her work.

Kate Cory accomplished something that no other woman had done before. From 1905 to 1912, she lived in the Hopi villages on the Arizona mesas, achieving an intimacy and trust with the people that made her paintings and photographs an important and accurate record of Hopi life. Working in isolation, she developed her negatives in a primitive darkroom, using rainwater! She also painted numerous desert

landscapes, and her *Arizona Desert* was exhibited at the revolutionary 1913 New York Armory Show that introduced modern art to America.

Kate Cory died on June 12, 1958 and is considered one of the West's most famous artists. Her paintings can be found today in the Smithsonian Institu-



tion, the Arizona State Capitol Museum, the Sharlot Hall Museum in Prescott, Arizona, and of course here at the Haines Museum in Bowen Park.

The paintings in our collection were purchased by the Lake County Art League and shown in schools by an art teacher, Miss Connally. They were donated to the Waukegan Historical Society in 1971.

(photo credit: Vanessa Sanchez)

The Weaver. This painting shows a kneeling man weaving a wedding robe. Hopi men were responsible for the most important weaving.



Inside Kiva. This picture, depicting men spinning and weaving inside a kiva, was also purchased from the Smithsonian Institution.

Thank You!

New Life Members

Senator and Mrs. Terry Link

New Members

Raj and Rose Bhatt

Lucille Bruce

Vernon Dale

Mrs. Dorothie Dorband

Michael and Christine Kiel

June Stelter

Donations

Robert & Michelle Crombie

Recent Acquisitions

The Society thanks the following for their recent donations to our Museum and Library collections.

Jason Blair

WHS yearbooks 2003-2005

Mr. & Mrs. Hank Bogdala

Cancelled checks – L.E. Swank

Marilyn Cook

Military discharge card

Military dog tags

Military pins and ribbons

Maltese Cross pin

Decorated banner

Jeweled charm

Eagle motif buttons

Pipe cleaner

Ed Culver

Two photos – Lewis Crabtree horse drawn hearse

Dorothy Dolph

Four boxes of New England history and genealogy

Ela Township Historical Society

Sound recording – *Waukegan's Tribute To John Fitzgerald Kennedy and his "Profiles In Courage"*
Bowen Country Club commemorative plate

Fred Fortney

Swedish Glee Club history
Miscellaneous Christmas decorations

Glencoe Historical Society

Gas Company pamphlets – 1940s

Sara Griffin

Slides of Waukegan homes

Dr. Kathleen Kinderfather

Promotional ruler – West Insurance Agency

Charles Lange

Abstract of Title – 210 Sheridan Road
American Legion program 1974
Desk calendar – George Doyle Co.
Glass shard from 1911 power mill explosion
1995 News Sun
Police badge
Ladies cotton blouse
Girls dress

Rhonda Lear

Rooster napkin ring

Keith Newell

1860 Webster's Dictionary

Dennis Pankiewicz

Two bottles

Andrew Stimson

Ernie Krueger baseball bat

Dave Towner & Katherine Oldham

Genesee Street postcard

Bill Tyre

Sanborn fire insurance maps

Carol Clavey Wahl

Danish Society embosser

Brian Weeks

Basketball scorebook

Olga Wigoda

1933 North Chicago Tribune

Purchased Items

Waukegan desk scale and weights
Pfanstiehl radio brochure
Postcard – Kuhn house
Postcard – Peoples State Bank
Waukegan Speedway pennant



Proposed Change to Constitution and By-Laws

Annual Meeting

Sunday, May 21

2 p.m.

Schornick Theater

Bowen Park

Waukegan, IL

On the agenda:

Receipt of annual reports

Election of officers

Vote on proposed changes

to Constitution and

By-Laws

The following changes to the Constitution and By-Laws of the Waukegan Historical Society were approved by the Board of Directors on January 3, 2006, and will be presented to the membership for vote at the Annual Meeting of the Society on Sunday, May 21, 2006.

Constitution

Article IV – Annual Meeting

CURRENT: The Annual Meeting of the Society shall be held the third Thursday in April of each year.

PROPOSED: The Annual Meeting of the Society shall be held in May of each year.

Article VI – Election of Officers and Board of Directors, section (e)

CURRENT: All nominations of officers and directors shall be made in writing to the membership at least thirty days preceding the annual meeting.

PROPOSED: All nominations of officers and directors shall be presented to the membership at the April general meeting.

By-Laws

Article I – Membership, section (d) Annual dues

CURRENT: Annual dues shall be payable in advance of the beginning of the Annual Meeting and will be judged in arrears within thirty days after the Annual Meeting. Members in arrears more than six months after date of the Annual Meeting shall be dropped from membership.

PROPOSED: *Addition of following sentence* – New members joining the Society between November 1 and the Annual Meeting will be considered paid through the Annual Meeting of the following year.

Article II – Schedule and Quorum for Meetings and Members, section (a) Regular meetings

CURRENT: (1) Regular meetings of the Society shall be held monthly. (2) The Board of Directors shall meet every other month.

PROPOSED: (1) Regular meetings of the Society shall be held four times per year. (2) The Board of Directors shall meet monthly.

Article III – Duties of the Officers and Directors, section (b) Vice President

CURRENT: . . . The Vice President shall also act as chairman of the standing committee on membership.

PROPOSED: . . . The Vice President shall also act as chairman of the standing committee on membership and shall maintain the list of members. (*Delete “maintain a list of members” from section (c) Secretary.*)

Article III – Duties of the Officers and Directors, section (d) Treasurer

CURRENT: . . . Monies shall be paid out by numbered checks signed by the Treasurer and the President.

PROPOSED: *Addition of following sentence* – The Vice President shall be authorized to co-sign checks in the event that the Treasurer or President is unable to do so.

Article IV – Committees, section (e) Historical Sites

CURRENT: It shall be the responsibility of this committee for finding and establishing historical sites in the City of Waukegan. This shall include the validation of this site, marking the site and arranging for historical tours.

PROPOSED: It shall be the responsibility of this committee to work with the Historic Preservation Commission of the City of Waukegan in identifying and marking historic sites and structures within the City.

June 9 – 11, 2006

Bowen Park Civil War Encampment

Waukegan's first Civil War encampment will be staged in Bowen Park by Battery G, a Civil War reenactment group based in the Rockford area. In order to properly educate the public about the Civil War era, Battery G strives for authenticity in their impressions, uniforms, equipment and encampments.

Attendees will have the opportunity to view all aspects of a soldier's life, from the preparation of meals in camp to fighting a battle. Additional activities will include artillery demonstrations, a dress parade, and the opportunity for children and adults to "join" the troops and be put through drills. Full details will be available in the June newsletter and at waukeganhistorical.org.

Save the Date!

Annual Tour of Homes

Sunday, June 25, 2006, 1:00 – 5:00 pm

Mark your calendars now for our popular Tour of Homes, scheduled for the last Sunday in June. This year's Tour will include interior tours of four private residences, the First Baptist Church, and the Haines



The Charles Whitney house at 414 Julian Street will be featured on the 2006 Tour of Homes

House Museum with recently installed exhibits. The Tour is a wonderful opportunity for our City to showcase the best that Waukegan has to offer. Last year's tour attracted nearly 500 people, with almost half coming from outside of Waukegan. Consider inviting former residents, family members and friends and make it a group outing! Watch your mail in early May for complete tour information.

Presentations Available

The Society has developed a series of presentations on Waukegan history. If you know of a group or class that may be interested in having the Society give one of these presentations, please contact Brian Hora at the Haines Museum, 847-336-1859.

Adult Presentations:

Waukegan, a General History
Waukegan, North Chicago & the Movies
Dr. Vincent C. Price
The Jelly Belly Candy Company
History of the Genesee Theatre
Joseph Lamb & America's Westward Migration
U.S. Sugar Refinery
Bowen Park & The Haines Museum—History & Secrets

Children's Programs:

The Historic Mystery Trunk Program
The History of the Potawatomi
Dreamcatchers
Powwow Presentation
Bowen Park & The Haines Museum—History & Secrets

We can also tailor a presentation to your curriculum. See waukeganhistorical.org for full description of programs.

Craftspeople Sought

The Waukegan Park District is looking for individuals who possess skills in any old-time crafts to teach classes at the Bowen Heritage Circle. Tatting, for example, is a skill that is quickly disappearing and is in danger of being completely lost by future generations. If you, or someone you know, has a special skill to share, please contact Claudia Petrusky or Scott Piner at the Waukegan Park District at 847-360-4740.

Society Events

MARCH

	1	2	3	4	Museum Work Day 9am-12pm			
Board Meeting	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	Museum Work Day 9am-12pm
	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	
	26	27	28	29	30	31		

APRIL

								1	Museum Work Day 9am-12pm	
Board Meeting	2	3	4	5	6	7	8			
			9	10	11	12	13	14	15	Museum Work Day 9am-12pm
PROGRAM Time Capsule Apartment see page 4; 2pm	16	17	18	19	20	21	22			
	23/30	24	25	26	27	28	29			

MAY

Board Meeting	1	2	3	4	5	6	Museum Work Day 9am-12pm	
	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	Museum Work Day 9am-12pm
PROGRAM USS Connolly & Annual Meeting see page 4; 2pm	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	
	28	29	30	31				

Upcoming Events

June 9-11, 2006; Civil War Encampment, see page 14

June 25, 2006: Tour of Homes, see page 14

Area Events

Please contact the organization to confirm programs and for more information.

Waukegan Park District 847-360-4740

Bowen Park

March 17 – April 1

Bowen Park Theatre Company
Neil Simon's *Barefoot in the Park*

June 3, 11:00am – 3:00pm
Dandelion Wine Festival

Bowen Heritage Circle

March 7

East Care Native Plants

March 8, April 12, May 10
Open Knitting and Crochet

March 23

30-Day Gourmet Freezer Cooking

April 24

Poetry by the Fireplace

May 20

Feng Shui Decorating



Rooster napkin ring donated by
Rhonda Lear.

Historical Society of the Fort Hill Country

50th anniversary year open house
Every Saturday, 1:00-4:00pm
847-566-7743

Grayslake Municipal Historical Museum

Happy Birthday to Us! History of society
and museum.

March 8, 7:30pm
847-223-7663

Lake County Discovery Museum

New exhibit: Native American Art–
Designs for Life

Opens March 18
lakecountydiscoverymuseum.org
847-968-3381

Long Grove Historical Society

Antiques appraisal fair

April 8, 12:30pm
847-438-7656 or 847-566-5761

Warren Township Historical Society

Clothing of the Civil War era

March 7, 7:00pm
motherrudd@ameritech.net
847-263-9540

Zion Genealogical Society

Monthly meetings

Third Monday of each month, 7:00pm
ziongensoc@aol.com

Preservation Corner

news from the Waukegan Historic Preservation Commission

On January 3, 2006, the City Council unanimously voted to designate the property at 410 Hickory Street as a City of Waukegan landmark. This home is the third building in Waukegan to be designated, and was featured on the Society's Tour of Homes in 2004. The application was submitted by the property owners, Drs. Tom Barrett and Janine Goldstein.

The house, built in the vernacular or "farmhouse" style, was constructed about 1850 for John McKey. By 1890, it had been acquired by the William Smith

family. Smith's son Ashbel became a prominent lawyer and served as Illinois State's Attorney from 1920 to 1932. His sister Genevieve married Cyrus Blodgett, son of a two-term mayor of Waukegan, and she remained in the house until her death in 1954. It was acquired by Drs. Barrett and Goldstein in 1990, who have carefully maintained and restored the



The McKey-Smith House at 410 Hickory Street, recently designated a City of Waukegan landmark.

house. The original coach house, with hay loft and carriage doors, is a rare survivor of this type of 19th-century structure.

In other business, the City Council passed resolutions at their January 3 meeting, recognizing Waukegan's first two landmarks designated in October 2005. Dan Patch of Peterson & Patch Funeral Home accepted the resolution for the property at 408 N. Sheridan Road. Venancio Rivera, owner of the home at 701 Grand Avenue received his resolution at the January Commission meeting.

The Commission meets the second Wednesday of each month at 7:00pm in the conference room of the Department of Planning & Zoning, on the third floor of City Hall. All meetings are open to the public.

Join Us!

NAME(S) _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____

EMAIL _____

MEMBERSHIP

Senior (age 60+) & Student	\$7.00
Individual	\$15.00
Family	\$25.00
Patron, Organization	\$50.00
Life, Individual	\$100.00
Life, Couple	\$150.00
My additional gift	\$ _____

Make checks payable to
Waukegan Historical Society.

VOLUNTEER

Please contact me about volunteer opportunities.

Contact Us

Waukegan Historical Society

1917 N. Sheridan Road
Waukegan, IL 60087
847-336-1859
info@waukeganhistorical.org

Visit our website for more information
about events, exhibits, and our
extensive library.

www.waukeganhistorical.org

John L. Raymond Research Library

1911 N. Sheridan Road
Librarian: Beverly Millard
847-360-4772
library@waukeganhistorical.org

Haines House Museum

1917 N. Sheridan Road
Museum Supervisor: Brian Hora
847-336-1859
museum@waukeganhistorical.org
Call or check the web site for hours of operation.



1917 N. Sheridan Rd, Waukegan, IL 60087

Spring Program
**Opening the
Time Capsule
Apartment**

Schornick Theatre
39 Jack Benny Dr.
Bowen Park
Sunday, April 9
2:00pm
See page 4.



Our Apologies...
If we made a mistake on your
address label, please send us
any corrections. Regular mail
or email is best; see page 19.