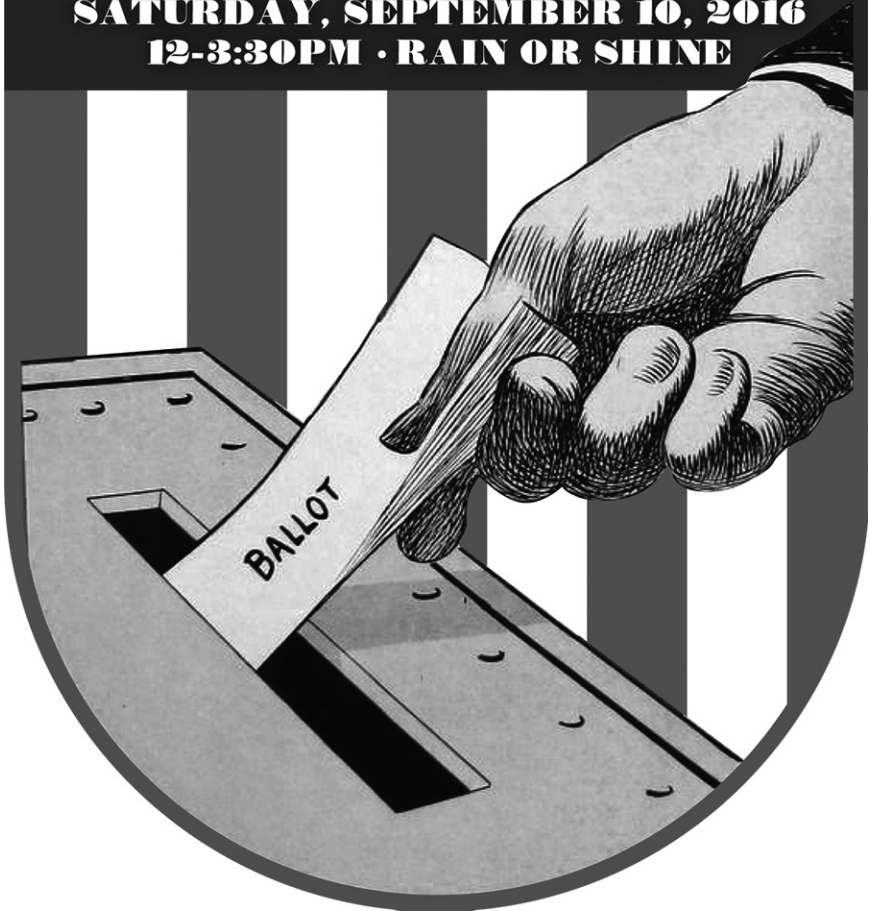


**22nd Annual  
OAKWOOD CEMETERY WALK**

**THE VOTERS CHOICE**

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2016  
12-3:30PM · RAIN OR SHINE**



**Fall 2016**

Newsletter of the Waukegan Historical Society

# Calendar of Events

## September

### September 10

Oakwood Cemetery Walk (see page 7)  
*Waukegan Historical Society is a sponsor*

## October

### October 1

Guided History Walk  
Ray Bradbury's "Green Town" (see page 5)

### October 16

Historical Society Fall Program  
"Show & Tell" (see page 4)

### October 28 & 29

Guided History Walk  
Haunted Waukegan (see page 5)

## November

### November 12

Guided History Walk  
Remembering Our Veterans (see page 5)

## President's Letter

### Harry E. Came

Summer in Waukegan is almost over and everyone is looking forward to two fall events that are always well attended; the Cemetery Walk on Saturday, September 10, from 12-5 PM and our popular "Show and Tell" event on Sunday, October 16 at 3 PM. The Cemetery Walk theme this year is "The Voter's Choice: Waukegan Votes That Mattered". Go to our website at [www.waukeganhistorical.org](http://www.waukeganhistorical.org) to see the details of buying tickets and when and where to meet the shuttle buses. The Show and Tell event is so popular that we have decided to schedule it for every fall. Held at the Jane Addams Center in Bowen Park at 3:00 PM; just bring along something interesting from your personal collections and share the stories with everyone or just attend and enjoy objects brought by

someone else. We get very positive feedback on this event and it always surprises me what people bring in to share.

Fundraising for the Museum addition has been very successful so far this year. The matching fund offer that ended in June actually raised far more than the projected \$20,000 and the Board has authorized another matching offer which will begin this fall to double all donations by the end of the year up to \$25,000. Give \$1,000 and the Building Fund will actually receive \$2,000. Remember that donations are totally tax deductible.

The Tour of Homes this year lucked out again with good weather so that about 300 guests could enjoy three beautiful homes and gardens as well as St. Anastasia School and Church and, as always, the Museum and Library. We would like to sincerely thank all the volunteer room watchers, cashiers, and even the traffic wardens that helped with crossing Sheridan Road. We would especially like to thank the homeowners who graciously opened their homes to throngs of interested guests. It is always a very positive event for the Society and the City of Waukegan.

I would also like to thank all of the committee members of the Historical Society for all their hard work through the year: The Tour Committee that works to organize that annual event, the Library, Museum, Program, Finance, Museum Addition, Education, Publication, Historic Sites, and Waukegan Images Committees that work to keep the Society moving forward with our Mission Statement. If you would be interested in volunteering for one of the committees, please contact Ty Rohrer at the Museum.

2016 Tour of Homes



## WHS Board

### Officers

#### President

Harry E. Came

#### Vice President

Josh Bill

#### Treasurer

Dennis Moio

#### Secretary

Gail Dever

### Directors

Patrick Cosgrove

Matt Crabb

Ellen Frew

Mary Goljenboom

Chris Lanning

Vicki Mattson

Jim Maguire

Doug Stiles

## Program

# Show & Tell

Sunday, October 16

3:00 pm

Jane Addams Center

95 Jack Benny Drive in Bowen Park

Back by popular demand is the Waukegan Historical Society's fall program titled "Show and Tell." Last fall we brought back this program after it had been dormant for over 10 years and it created many memorable memories.

This fun program is dependent on "you" for being successful. Please bring something special from your own personal collections to show off and talk about. Items can be Waukegan related or just something that is interesting.

This free program is open to Waukegan Historical Society members as well as the general public. We encourage you to invite new friends to come and enjoy Waukegan's history.

# New "Special Events Only" Exhibit

**Bryan Escobar-Arts and History Specialist**

During the Waukegan Park District's Independence Day Parade/Festival this year we featured an outdoor exhibit titled "Pieces of the Past: Revisiting Old Downtown." There were many people who came by to look at the various artifacts of buildings and structures that are no longer standing, but played a role in Waukegan's history. They had the opportunity to read about the history of the structures and see old photographs. We also had tools from the shed next to the museum on display for the public. Our goal is to expand this exhibit and use feedback to continue telling more stories for the community.

# Upcoming Guided History Walks

Pre-register for walking tours at [waukeganparks.org](http://waukeganparks.org), call the Jack Benny Center for the Arts at 847-360-4740 or visit the Jack Benny Center at 39 Jack Benny Drive in Bowen Park. Details about each walk can be found at [waukeganhistorical.org](http://waukeganhistorical.org).

## Ray Bradbury's "Green Town"

Saturday, October 1 at 10 AM

Starts at Ray Bradbury Park-41 North Park Avenue

## Haunted Waukegan

Friday, October 28 at 6 PM

Saturday, October 29 at 6 PM

Starts at the Douglas House in Upton Park-732 N. Genesee Street

## Remembering Our Veterans

Saturday, October 12 at 10am

Starts at Lilac Cottage-1911 N. Sheridan Road in Bowen Park with a shuttle van taking participants to Oakwood Cemetery

Outdoor exhibit "Pieces of the Past"



## Tour of Homes Recap

The 48<sup>th</sup> Annual Tour of Homes was presented by the Historical Society on June 26, 2016 with over 300 guests attending the event. This is our largest fund raising event every year and has allowed the Society to accomplish so much over the years.

This year we were lucky to have convinced homeowners of three beautiful homes to open their doors to our visitors. The comments were especially positive this year perhaps because all three of the homes were in the same neighborhood and could be visited on foot. Two beautiful homes at 936 and 945 N. Sheridan Road were directly across from each other and 924 North County was only a block away. At 945 N. Sheridan visitors could see a home that was once a farmhouse with a barn and is situated at the top of the bluff overlooking the Lake. At 936 N. Sheridan the grand brick home has recently added a huge garden, water garden, and coach house that was once part of the property and had been sold off many years ago. Guests were amazed to “discover” the amazing additions hidden behind the home. At 924 N. County guests were treated to a beautiful four square Craftsman style home filled with Mission or Craftsman styled furniture that perfectly complimented the period of the house. The homeowners have worked for many years to restore this very comfortable home.

In addition to the homes open for the Tour; we were also lucky enough to have St. Anastasia Church and School open for the afternoon. This year the School and Church are celebrating their 100th anniversary and our attendees were able to walk the halls of the School and tour the magnificent Church.

The History Museum and the Raymond Library were also open to our guests and many people took advantage of this to talk to our volunteers and begin researching their own homes.

The success or failure of this event depends greatly on the weather and this year it looked as if

we were going to get rain all afternoon. However, someone was looking out for us and it remained clear and warm all afternoon. We look forward to 2017 and another great turnout for the Annual Tour of Homes.

## 22nd Annual Oakwood Cemetery Walk

**Saturday, September 10**  
**12:00-5:00 pm**

The theme of this year’s Oakwood Cemetery Walk is “The Voters Choice.” Unique stories have been chosen for this year and they include: the vote that moved the County Seat from Burlington to Little Fort, Henry Hutchinson elected mayor while not even in town, the nasty mayoral battle of 1909, women voting for the first time in 1913, vote for prohibition, vote to change the name from Little Fort to Waukegan, Treaty of Chicago, vote to get “Waukegan out of the Mud,” and the “Brothers of the Brush” vote in the 1959 Waukegan Centennial Celebration. Participants will also hear other unique Waukegan stories as well as the history of the City of Waukegan’s Oakwood Cemetery.

The Cemetery Walk is sponsored by the Waukegan Park District, Waukegan Historical Society and the City of Waukegan. The Oakwood Cemetery Walk is an annual “living history” event that showcases the rich history of Waukegan through costumed actors portraying local historical figures with connections to the cemetery and Waukegan, Illinois.

Advance tickets can be purchased at the Jack Benny Center for the Arts (39 Jack Benny Drive in Bowen Park), the Belvidere Recreation Center (412 S. Lewis Avenue in Belvidere Park), the Field House Sports, Fitness and Aquatics Center at Hinkston Park (800 Baldwin Avenue) and online at [www.waukeganparks.org](http://www.waukeganparks.org).

Tickets: \$3 in advance, \$5 on the day of the Walk. *Limited tickets available.*

Tickets can be purchased at Lilac Cottage (cash or check only) starting at 11 a.m. on the day of the event.

Start at Lilac Cottage in Bowen Park (1911 N. Sheridan Road) with buses taking participants to and from Oakwood Cemetery.

Bus departure times:  
12:00 p.m.  
12:30 p.m.  
1:30 p.m.  
2:00 p.m.  
3:15 p.m.

Your cemetery walk experience should be approximately 2 hours in length.

Last bus returns to Lilac Cottage at approximately 5:00 pm.

Public parking is not permitted at the cemetery during the event.

The last tour starts at 3:30 pm.

The Cemetery Walk will include unpaved walkways and uneven ground.

## Historical Happenings

# Waukegan's Firsts

### Ed Link

Two of Waukegan's early citizens were men of great achievement.

Daniel O. Dickinson (1816 – 1869) was born in New York and came to Illinois in 1837. Initially he was a businessman with many endeavors. He built a store at State (Sheridan) and Washington. The upper level was known as Dickinson Hall, where Abraham Lincoln attempted to speak during his visit to Waukegan. The building was destroyed by fire December 13, 1866.

Daniel was in the storage, forwarding and commission business along the lakefront. He constructed a pier for lake shipping and later built a warehouse



Daniel .O. Dickinson

there. The latter created a public spectacle when a wall gave way and tons of grain spilled out. He later had Dickinson Mills and Flour Shop below the bluff on Washington Street. He was involved with the development of the Michigan and Mississippi and Waukegan and Antioch Railroads, though neither operation was ever built.

After amassing great wealth, Daniel lost everything while involved in grain speculation.

On August 3, 1843 ten people met at his home and formed the First Congregational Church. They worshipped at his home and at Dickinson Hall until their church was built in 1845.

Daniel also was involved in politics. He served as County Treasurer 1843-45 and Lake County

Commissioner 1845-46. He was Little Fort postmaster 1842-45 and again 1849-53. In 1849 Daniel was elected the first Village President and served a term of one year.

Elisha P. Ferry (1825 – 1895) was also successful although he spent most of his career in politics. Born in Michigan he became a lawyer and moved to Little Fort in 1846. Like Daniel Dickinson he served as Village President 1856 – 59. When Waukegan was incorporated Elisha was elected its first mayor and served the then normal term of one year. He was involved in several public positions. Waukegan postmaster, Illinois state bank commissioner, presidential elector (twice), and member of the Illinois constitutional convention are just some of them. During the Civil War he was the assistant adjutant general on Gov. Yates' staff.

For the Abraham Lincoln visit cited above, Elisha served as host and provided his home for the night.

In 1869 he was appointed surveyor general of Washington Territory and re-located there. Three years later he was appointed the first governor of Washington Territory. When the territory gained statehood Elisha Ferry was elected its first governor.

Even with all this, he worked as a banker for a time.



Elisha P. Ferry

# Education Outreach Goes Back to School

**Josh Bill**

In the coming days, the sound of school buses, as well as the sight of schoolchildren, will become part of our regular morning and afternoon routines again. Teachers and students alike share both an excitement and angst as the fall approaches. For nearly a decade, Museum Supervisor Ty Rohrer has been finding ways to make the phrase “back to school” one of enthusiasm for students, instead of words of dread. I wanted to take an opportunity to share with the membership how Ty has improved the quality of local-history instruction in our schools.

Several times a week, Ty can be spotted in one of our schools working with students on a number of different programs. He offers over twenty programs about Waukegan history, and has worked with schools to put together a year-long curriculum on local history as well. Third grade teacher, Rachelle Mendez of Glen Flora Elementary School, says that Ty’s programs “bring history to life... help[ing] students to connect their city with other topics throughout the year.”

In addition to his 118 school programs last year, Ty and the exceptional library staff spend hundreds of weekend and evening hours helping Waukegan High School students research their Chicago Metro History Fair topics. This has been an immeasurable help to my own students and me.

We all know just how much Ty does for the Historical Society in general, but as students prepare for a new school year, I felt the time was right to thank Ty and the society for informing the next generation about our city’s history.

For a complete list of our Education Outreach offerings, please visit [waukeganhistorical.org](http://waukeganhistorical.org) or call Ty at 847-336-1859.

2015-16 (Fiscal Year)  
Education Outreach

12 Community Programs Presented  
118 School Programs Presented  
20 Waukegan Guided Walking Tours

Total reached:  
754 Adults  
4,538 Students

# Museum Supervisor’s Report

**Ty Rohrer**

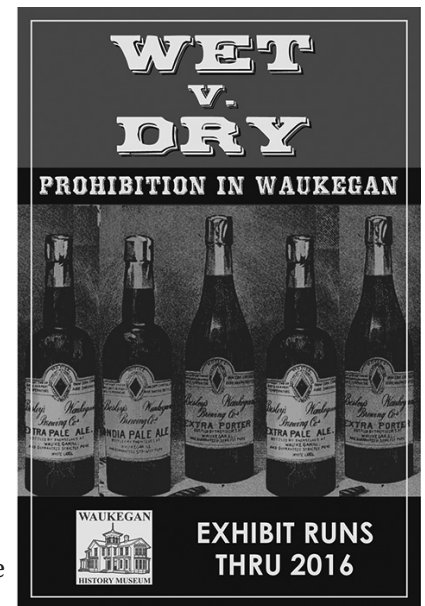
On display through the rest of the year is the exhibit “Wet V. Dry: Prohibition in Waukegan.” This exhibit looks at the years leading up to local prohibition which was passed in Waukegan 4 years before the national act. Of special interest in the exhibit is the connection to the Temperance movement which had its first organized efforts in Little Fort (Waukegan) in 1845 as well as the impact of Women’s Suffrage on prohibition. A unique artifact on display for the exhibit is a bottle of the last beer brewed locally at the Waukegan Brewing Company (formerly the Besley Brewery) in 1916.

As we remember our veterans in November, please keep the Waukegan Historical Society in mind as a repository for your loved ones histories. Of great interest would be letters and correspondence. These types of materials help to provide intimate details of life as a soldier. The original letters are always preferred, but we accept copied and scanned documents also. The important thing is to share the stories with Historical Society and Museum to ensure that future generations will be able to experience them.

On a less serious note, we would also like to hear your Waukegan ghost stories. This fall will be the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of our Haunted Waukegan guided walk and we are always looking for new stories to include. Our guided walks are always evolving and changing so they are never the same twice.

We hope to see you this fall at the Oakwood Cemetery Walk, on a guided walk, or for a tour of the museum.

2015-16 (Fiscal Year)  
1,451 Museum Visitors  
824 Research Library Visitors



# Building Addition Update— We Met Our Match!

*Preserving the past—Preparing for the future*

In our last newsletter we reported the very encouraging preliminary results from our challenge grant where two long-time supporters of the Society had pledged \$10,000.00 to match dollar for dollar all donations received between April 1<sup>st</sup> and June 30<sup>th</sup>. Because of your continued generous support, we are excited to report that we have met the match and then some. A total of \$15,177.00 was received during the grant period; and in recognition of going over the top, the grant donors have each contributed an additional \$1,000.00, bringing the total raised with the grant to \$27,117.00!

While these recent contributions add significantly to our overall fund raising effort, we still need to raise an additional \$50,000.00 to reach our year-end goal of \$200,000.00. To this end, another matching grant is in the works for this fall, so please consider taking this opportunity to help make this important project to “preserve our past and prepare for the future” a reality.

## **Up to \$50.00**

Janet Young  
Ann Richter  
Tom Bartlett  
Martha Sherer  
Roger and Harriet Dart – in memory of Florence Ford Dart  
Charles Lange  
Kathleen Koppelman  
Theodore and Lynn Heitmann  
Beverly Bogdala – in memory of Hank Bogdala  
Patricia Hentosh – in memory of Betty Hentosh  
Pat Mallory – in memory of Jack Mallory

## **\$51.00 to \$100.00**

Ann Rippel  
Laurie Donohue  
Ellen Frew  
Frank and Linda Cisek  
Mary Clare Jakes and Phil Carrigan  
Diana Dretske  
Joan Alders – in memory of V. Biner  
Sara Griffin – in memory of Walt Griffin  
Charlotte Callahan Wozniak  
Mary and John Neff  
Douglas and Marianela Peterson  
Oliver and Jane Hager

## **\$101.00 to \$500.00**

Randy Bowcott  
Peter and Joyce Ludovic – in memory of Anthony and Angela Knutel  
Elaine Eagon – in memory of Paul H. Eagon  
Gregory Alloian  
Yvonne Martin  
Chandra Sefton – in memory of the Simpson, Webb and Broch families  
Robert and Rita Barnett  
Robert and Michelle Crombie  
Dorothy Buddenhagen – in memory of Betty and George Hughes  
Georgia “Dody” Dretske – in memory of Wally Dretske  
Diane Verratti  
Margaret Martin  
David Fletcher  
Joel Graber  
Stephen and Susan Rohrer – in honor of Ty Rohrer  
Richard and Joyce Riddle  
Caroline Dudkowski  
Gail Dever – in memory of Thomas Dever  
Anonymous – in memory of Harry Emmelheinz  
Anonymous – in honor of Harry Came

## **\$501.00 to \$1,000.00**

Rosita Villareal  
Claudia Grace – in honor of Elizabeth Alleman  
Patricia Miltimore – in honor of the Miltimore family  
Rebecca and Quentin Schwarz – in memory of Adelaide Schwarz  
and in honor of Quentin and Becky Schwarz

## **\$1,000 to \$10,000**

Anonymous donor #1  
Anonymous donor #2

# From the Research Library

We need your assistance. Please let us know if you recognize this parade downtown. The parade is heading east on Washington Street. If you have an idea, please call or email our librarian Beverly Millard (see page 15).



## Find Us on Facebook!

Like the "Waukegan History Museum" on Facebook!

## Thank You!

### New Members

Leif Forre  
Kathy Hanson

### New Life Members

Alice and Bernard Winter  
Josh and Ali Bill

## Join Us!

NAME(S) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_

STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

### MEMBERSHIP

Senior (age 60+)	\$10.00
Student	\$10.00
Individual	\$15.00
Family	\$30.00
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.

### Waukegan Historical Society

Founded in 1968, the Society collects, preserves, interprets, and exhibits significant materials about the history of the Waukegan area. The Society, in cooperation with the Waukegan Park District, operates the History Museum and Raymond Library and publishes this quarterly newsletter.

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

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

[www.waukeganhistorical.org](http://www.waukeganhistorical.org)

### Waukegan History Museum in Bowen Park

1917 N. Sheridan Road  
Museum Supervisor: Ty Rohrer  
847-336-1859  
museum@waukeganhistorical.org  
Tuesday, Thursday: 10am - 4pm  
Saturday: 1pm-4pm

### John L. Raymond Research Library

1911 N. Sheridan Road  
Librarian: Beverly Millard  
847-360-4772  
library@waukeganhistorical.org  
Wednesday, Thursday, Friday  
10am - 2:30pm





**WAUKEGAN**  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

1917 N. Sheridan Rd, Waukegan, IL 60087