



Lake Villa Historical Society's Vintage Views

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President's Letter

Happy New Year!



The Historical Society ended 2022 with the return of our Breakfast with Santa fundraiser at the Lehmann Mansion. This was the first fundraiser we have been able to have since 2019.

Many thanks to our volunteers, the Lake Villa Township Lions Club, the Lehmann Mansion, the Village of Lake Villa, and all our placemat sponsors for helping with such a great event. We served over 700 people and were able to raise \$6,854 to help support the Lake Villa Historical Society.

Membership renewal letters were sent out in November. If you haven't renewed yet, there is a renewal form available on our website. The membership fees help fund our quarterly newsletter, programs, and building maintenance.

Membership meetings and programs will be held every other month in 2023 beginning in February. There are some very interesting programs planned that you won't want to miss. The yearly plan is:
February 21: Jordan Debbink-Lesniak: The History of Allendale
April 18: Judy Bock: Lake Villa Hotel Artifacts
June 20: Marie Roth: Flag Program
August 15: John Rouse: Barns of Lake County
October: Cemetery Walk
December 3: Breakfast with Santa

See details for events that are coming soon later in this newsletter. Meeting details will also be included on the website www.lakevillahistory.org and on our Facebook page.

Do you have fond memories and/or historical photos of the Lake Villa area? We would love for you to share them with us. Send your contact information to lvhs@lake-villa.org or visit our volunteers at the Historical Society museum at 223 Lake Avenue on a Thursday afternoon, or leave a message at 847-265-8266.

Wishing you a very happy, healthy, and history filled New Year!

Best Regards,
Lori Heitman, President

Breakfast with Santa 2022



Coming Events

February 21, 2023

7pm at the Historical Society Museum, 223
Lake St.



Learn the history of Lake Villa landmark, Allendale Association, from Director of Development, Jordan Debbink-Lesniak. Jordan will discuss the beginnings of Allendale Farm, over 125 years

ago, as well as the future goals of this long-standing center.

April 18, 2023

7pm at Lake Villa District Library, 140 N. Munn Rd. Well-known Lake Villa teacher, Judy Bock, will share her former classes' dig discoveries on the site of the Lake Villa Hotel, which today is Cedar Village. Ernst Lehmann's renowned hotel tragically burned to the ground in 1915 in a spectacular fire. Mrs. Bock's class of budding archaeologists were able to unearth some treasures from this tragedy.

Membership Update

Just A Reminder:

To those of you have not renewed your membership to LVHS for 2023, it's time!! If you need a form, please contact the Historical Society's office or print a form from Facebook.

Thank you to those who included donations to the Lake Villa Historical Society along with your memberships for a total of \$750 so far!!

Since our member drive in 2022 we have 24 new memberships.

Sadly, we have lost six members during the past year: Jay Cribb, Pat Dewar, Rosemary Larsen, Rosella McCarthy, Bill Richards and June Venturi.

Our Sympathy

Sympathy is extended to the family and friends of three LVHS members.

Pat Dewar, 79, passed away unexpectedly at home on December 23,



2022. Pat was appointed to the position of Village Clerk for the Village of Lake Villa in 1981 and served two elected terms until 1993, when she continued to work in the Village Hall office

for several years. Pat spent most of her life on Cedar Avenue as she and her husband raised their family in the same house that she grew up in.

June Venturi passed away on December 6, 2022 after a full life at 90 years of age. June worked well into her 80s in a career that included waitressing at the Drake Hotel and George Diamonds Country Club, employment agency, party caterer, then as a realtor. June's positive attitude was contagious.



Rosemary G. Larsen (nee Slazes) was born in



1929 and raised in Lake Villa, IL. Rosemary was a dental hygienist in Antioch and a lifetime member of St. Peter Church. She was a member of the Lake Villa Ladies VFW

Auxiliary as well as the Lake Villa Historical Society.

History on the Table

The following recipes can be found in the 1957 Lake Villa P.T.A. Cookbook. Please note that these are reproduced as they were printed in the cookbook.

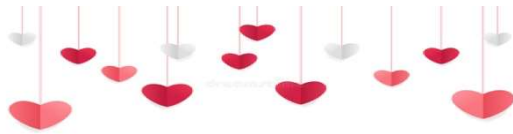
Let's try this on a cold winter's day:

Veal and Noodle Platter

Submitted by Mrs. Philip Wagner

1 pkg. wide noodles	1/2 c. flour
1 to 2 c. Sliced onions	2 tsp. salt
1/2 c. Butter	1/4 tsp. pepper
1 1/2 lbs. ground veal	1 can tomatoes

Boil noodles in salted water until tender; drain.
Fry onions for 5 minutes in butter; add veal and cook for 5 minutes longer. Add flour, pepper and salt; blend. Add tomatoes, cooking until texture thickens, stirring frequently. Simmer for 15 minutes longer, stirring occasionally.



And for a Valentine's Day treat:

Sweetheart Salad

Submitted by Mrs. Winsor Dalgaard

2 c. Crushed pineapple, drained
1/2 c. Cold water
1/2 c. Sugar
20 maraschino cherries
Juice of 1/2 lemon
2 T. Cherry juice
1 1/2 pkg. plain gelatin
1/2 pt whipping cream
1 pkg. cream cheese

Soften gelatin in cold water. Heat pineapple with sugar to boiling point; add gelatin; stir until dissolved; add lemon juice. Cool. Mash cream cheese and mix with pineapple mixture. Chill until slightly thickened; fold in whipped cream. Mold and chill.

??? Do the cherries go on top??

New Member and Volunteer

The newest LVHS member in 2023 is Carla Podrasky of Antioch. Already excited about volunteering for LVHS, Carla has worked with other community history museums and has many interests that will be a great asset to our organization. Welcome!

Recent Donations

Many thanks to the following people who have made monetary donations or have donated items of historical significance to Lake Villa:

- Tom & Kim Hucker and family for their donation in memory of Benjamin J. Cribb, Jr.
- Barb and Dan Venturi for their donation in memory of Mildred Lentine
- Keith Church for donating a table and chairs previously located in the home of Otto Lehmann
- Tom Kron for scouting memorabilia
- Brian Buehlman for a set of 1901 music books and case
- Robert Samuelson for Atwell family history
- Linda Fassbinder for Hook family history

amazonsmile
You shop. Amazon gives.

On February 20th, Amazon will discontinue it's Smile fundraising program. This was a small, but nice and helpful source of funds for Lake Villa Historical Society while we were enrolled. We will receive a final additional check equivalent to three months of what was earned in 2022. We are grateful to Amazon and to all our friends who shopped using the Smile program.

A Page from the Past Lake Villa's St. Patrick's Day Parade



2023 marks the 30th anniversary of the Lake Villa St. Patrick's Day parade on March 11! The brainchild of then-resident, Maurice Hartnett, the first

parade was held on March 13, 1993 following a year of planning, negotiating and fundraising. Maurice explains, "On March 17, 1992, I was with friends at George's Cedar Inn. I thought, why don't we have a St. Patrick's Day parade here in beautiful downtown Lake Villa? Then I said, next year we will have one. Everyone laughed!"

After meeting with then-Mayor, Joyce Frayer, the police and fire departments, and George Petersen from Cedar Inn, Maurice found that everyone was in favor of his idea. Planning began to determine the parade route, staging area, participants and signage. Maurice continues, "I had raffle tickets printed to generate money to pay for the bagpipers and corned beef. I found horses and Irish dancers. I also had three farm tractors and plenty of friends that wanted to drive them. The parade was a huge success!"

The parade ended across from George's Cedar Inn (today Galati's), where everyone enjoyed Guinness beer, corned beef & cabbage. But according to Maurice, "For our second year, we realized we couldn't accommodate everyone at the Cedar Inn, so we decided to move to the VFW, ending the parade in their parking lot. We also had 20 bagpipers that marched in the

parade and then played at the VFW." Maurice was the Grand Marshal of the event for several years before moving to Wisconsin.

The Village of Lake Villa took over the organization of the parade in the year 2000. When looking for a chef to feed the masses, then-Public Works Director, Glenn McCollum, told Mayor Frank Loffredo, "I can do it!". This began a 22-year run as Head Chef, cooking an average of 300 pounds of corned beef, cabbage, carrots and potatoes each year. Glenn had a dedicated and hard-working team of volunteers who happily gave their time to bring this event to life each year. Village employees, elected officials, friends and neighbors worked together serving hundreds of meals. Food was also prepared for the Lake Villa Township Senior Luncheon traditionally held the Friday before the parade. In 2021, due to Covid-19, truckloads of meals were packaged and delivered to local senior nursing homes and residences. Betty Burns, and later Becky Coia, Kim Hucker and Stacy Michael took over the running of the parade.

This year, the famous St. Patrick's Day Parade will continue, but the Village-sponsored corned beef dinner at the VFW is no more. For many years, the Historical Society proudly displayed its Lehmann Mansion replica in the parade, made by Chris & Julie Adrianson, Lori & Glen Heitman & Alyce Brownlee. This year, look for Robert Frank in his '67 Chevy Impala SS passing out flyers of upcoming LVHS events. Thank you, Maurice Hartnett, for dreaming up such a fun and long-standing event for the residents of Lake Villa, a day when everyone is truly Irish.

Erin Go Bragh!



From Our Collection

Dorothy Volkert, a resident of our area for most of her adult life, passed away in January of 2022 at the age of 98. Thanks to the generosity of her daughters Becky Volkert and Sarah Davis, the Lake Villa Historical Society has added over 100 items to our collection.



“Born and raised in Port Huron, Michigan, Dorothy Volkert entered the Grace Hospital School of Nursing in February 1942, two months after Pearl Harbor. The day after graduation,

she enlisted in the Army Nurse Corps. After basic training, she served on the U.S. Army Hospital Ship, Charles Stafford, caring for wounded World War II soldiers returning to U.S. hospitals. Dorothy crossed both Pacific and Atlantic oceans a total of 16 times. Following her service, Dorothy got married, raised three children, and stayed active as a volunteer in her church and community.”



“Dorothy had a passion for all things antique and nothing made her happier than giving a starter collection to anyone she could convert. She loved the thrill of a garage sale “find.” Her car seemed programmed to pull over at all garage sale signs. She was known for giving quirky gifts that she had collected throughout the year and pulled out from under her bed on Christmas Eve.”

This passion for antiques included a wide variety of interesting items giving us a glimpse of life in bygone years. This included several broad categories such as Lake Villa business promotions, household “appliances”, cooking utensils, baby items, toys, fashion and grooming accessories. As a nurse and community health advocate, she had a passion for medical devices,

or her “medical quackery collection” as her daughter Becky called it.

We will be featuring many of these items in displays at the museum and in future issues of Vintage Views. Here is a sample to get started.



Small clipboard from Williamson-Brownlee Grocery & Market
Grand Avenue
Phone Lake Villa 3841

Early "hearing aid" used during Victorian era, especially by veterans of the Civil War many of whom suffered hearing loss on the battlefield.



This is a foot-operated dental bellows. The bellows were used to power flames in soldering metal to make bridge work and crowns.

This collection of cherry-pitters ranges from single to double and plunge action to cranked.



We look forward to sharing more of Dorothy's treasures in coming issues and in the museum.



Time Machine

by Kim McCollum

This is the first Time Machine column. In it, Kim McCollum will select a year in history and give a glimpse into life during that time.

Destination: Winter 1993

- In Lake Villa, zoning was just approved for a new limited industrial development on the south end of Park Avenue & Rt. 83. The Village plans to extend Park Avenue, curving East to intersect with Rt. 83.
- Officials at Antioch Community High School are studying the escalating enrollment and deciding what to do. Discussions are planned about the possibility of building a new school at Polley Field, Deep Lake & Grass Lake Rds.
- Upcoming elections prove to be interesting... Three candidates will run for Lake Villa Township Supervisor; incumbent Supervisor, Sue Hanson, seeking reelection; Highway Commissioner Jim Semmerling looking to switch offices; and current Lake Villa Mayor Joyce Frayer. Frank Loffredo and James Carter are running for a term as Mayor.
**Spoiler Alert! Frank Loffredo will easily win this election, kicking off a 24-year run, the longest in Lake Villa mayoral history.*
- The movie, **Groundhog Day**, starring Bill Murray, was released in February of 1993. The beloved movie, now a classic, was partially filmed in nearby Woodstock.

Cub Scouts Explore History



Cub scouts Jon Wells, Brendan and Austin Marshall from Pack 88 paid a visit to the museum on January 24th. The scouts attend B.J. Hooper School and have their regular meetings at Lake Villa United Methodist Church.

Sue Cribb and Peggy Bogenschutz represented LVHS as they shared some of Lake Villa's history including why there are so many lakes, early schools, the Lehmann family and the importance of train service in the development of the Village. The scouts were given challenges to complete by exploring various exhibits. The program ended by looking at some ways school children have contributed to preserving history.

Meeting these scouts was a wonderful experience. Hopefully they enjoyed their time at the museum while also learning some of the history of our community.

Congratulations Madeline Paldo

Madeline was born December 6, 1922 and has made Lake Villa her home since 1963. In honor



of her 100th birthday, wearing a crown and birthday sash, she was presented with a plaque. It read in part, "Now therefore be it proclaimed that James McDonald, Mayor of the Village of Lake Villa and on the behalf of the Village Trustees and the citizens of Lake Villa, honor Madeline Paldo for her long life and prosperity and wish her many more!!"

History of the telephone in Lake Villa

By the end of 2025, traditional landline telephones, using 100-year-old technology, will be switched to VoIP (Voice over Internet Protocol). This means you'll no longer be able to make phone calls via landline without an internet connection. Only about 29% of American homes still have a landline today, but among homeowners aged 75 and older, over 75% have landlines in their homes. How quickly "POTS" lines, that's "plain old telephone service", have become obsolete. Let's see how it all started...

The earliest record of telephone service in Lake Villa comes from the General Supervisor's annual report for 1898, which says:

"This popular village is a trading and transportation center having a large territory including many smaller resorts in the lake region west of Waukegan. Upon effecting a satisfactory sale of coupon tickets and contracting with several merchants and hotel keepers for exchange telephones, a new pole line was constructed from Fox Lake eastward to Lake Villa, then northward to Antioch. The exchange was put in operation July 13, 1898, in the office of the Hotel Lowry. "

By December 31, 1898, there were seven telephones in the exchange. By the end of 1901, 24 telephones were served by the exchange, and by 1905, there were 39. In 1907, the Fred Hamlin residence could be reached by asking the Operator to dial 3-1-4. Dial 3-0-1 to reach the Augusta Lehmann residence on Antioch Road (Rt. 83), and dialing 3-5-3 would connect you to the Lake Villa Village Hall and Fire Engine House. Pictured is Hilda Tweed Nader operating the switchboard in 1924.



During the next ten years, service more than tripled. At the end of 1915, there were 127 phones, and by 1925, 229 telephones were served by the LA-ke villa exchange.



New telephone users were carefully instructed in the operation of their device; *"To place a call, give two quick turns of the crank, take the receiver from the hook and listen for the operator. Upon her call for 'Number please?'*

give exchange name and number of the subscriber wanted and the operator will repeat them to avoid mistakes. Remain with the receiver at your ear until an answer is received. If the desired line is busy, operator will say 'Line is busy, please call again'. This means that the line is in use. "

By 1938, telephone numbers had slightly changed. For example, dialing LA-112-W would connect you with the John Cribb residence, Joe Nader could be reached at LA-156-J, and dialing LA-103-W would connect you with the managers residence at the Otto Lehmann Chesney Farms estate. Looking for your husband? Try the Elmer Wolff Tavern at LA-22. Many names in the 1938 phone directory are still prominent names in Lake Villa today; Paddock, Schneider, Weber, Volkert, Vos, Wagner, Bock, Hertel, Haley & Bartlett.

In 1939, direct dialing became available in Lake Villa, thus eliminating the need for an operator to complete a call. Local calls began with LV6. In 1955, this was replaced with EL6, and in 1967, the numbers 356 replaced letters forever. In the 1990's, as demand grew, additional prefixes of 265 and 245 were added. Lake Villa has long been home to phone company maintenance and construction garages, housing the installation, repair, cable splicing and fiberoptic crews. These crews have adapted and changed with each phase of new technology. What will telephones in Lake Villa be like in the next 100 years?

Museum Hours

Lake Villa Historical Society is open every **Thursday afternoon from 1:30 – 4:30pm.** Volunteers are present to help with answering questions, doing research, accepting donations and showing artifacts and files from our collection. Stop by to spend time in the museum or just to chat about Lake Villa's history. Are you unable to come during those hours? Contact us and we will gladly open at other times!

Contact Us

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E mail: LVHS@lake-villa.org

On the internet: www.lakevillahistory.org

On FaceBook: Lake Villa Historical Society

Check the website to read this newsletter in full color!