



Rochelle's Place for History

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2023—170 Years of Memories

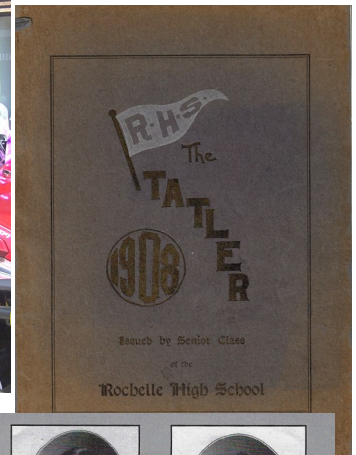
Heritage Festival Parade

The museum participated in the parade with a "float" recognizing the 1908 Rochelle High School students who established the very first high school newsletter...George Simons, Arthur Guest, Arthur Tigan, and Bernard Baker.

Very special thanks to David Guest, son of Arthur Guest, who represented his father and even wore his father's high school "beanie" during the parade.'

Thanks also to Brent Ohlinger for the use of his vehicle and Matt Hagemann for driving. It was a scorcher of a day!

In 1958 George Simons wrote a letter describing the origin of the "Tatler."



He stated, "Vivid is the day in 1907 when on the north yard of the school, I outlined the plan to a group of classmates. ...so Art

Guest and I boarded the old 'Sterling' passenger (train) for Sycamore where we picked up considerable information."

And the rest is history!

Getting down to business...

Board of Directors

Janet Stocking, President
Terry Dickow, Vice-President
Arlyn Van Dyke, Treasurer
Bobbie Colbert, Recording Secretary

Board Members

Steve Frank, Curator
David Guest
Matt Hagemann
Tom McDermott, Historian
Steve O'Connor
Currently available

Jenny Thompson, City
Jackee Ohlinger, Park District

Jan Devore, Director

New Exhibit

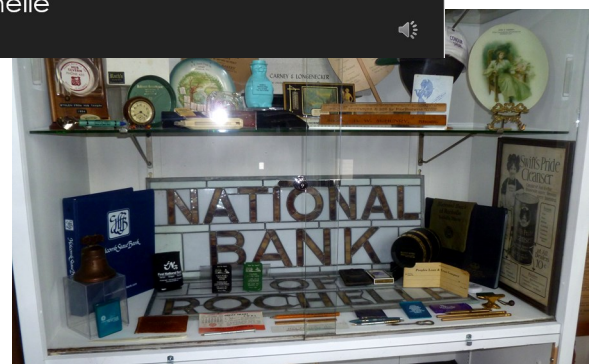
It's taken a while but the first chapter of our "**Getting down to business in Rochelle**" exhibit is up and running on our newly installed smart tv on the second floor. This first chapter includes businesses in Rochelle from the 1850s to 1868. The next chapter will be from 1869 to 1875. There's a lot of history behind the businesses of Rochelle!

In addition, business artifacts are on display also. While the museum's collection includes many more business artifacts, our display space is limited. Come see what is in and on the cabinet and on the wall as well.

Our thanks to the Rochelle Area Community Foundation and to the museum board for funding this project.

Getting down to business

in Rochelle



Recent Acquisitions

...acquisition is defined as the discovery, preliminary evaluation, taking physical and legal custody of, and acknowledging receipt of materials and objects.

Thank you!

Donations of artifacts received at the museum recently have come from these gracious donors...

Gretchen Bain, Russell Bennet, Dale Bergeson & RTHS (Tom McDermott), Joyce Brake (Theresa Tippy), Jim & Laura Bunger, Margaret Carney, City of Rochelle, Sue Engebretson, Mary Erdman, Diane Charnock Fischer, Mark Griffith, Deena Cipolla Guptil, Ron Harms, Cass Headon, John Howard, Daniel Ihnen, Martha Klubertanz, Barbara Manning, Lisa & Gary Mason, Ann O'Brien, Ogle County Historical Society & Matt Hagemann, Quinn's Jewelry Store, Sally Sawicki, Dave Schabacker, Jill Schwartz, Vicki Snyder-Chura, Bill Stocking, Janet Stocking, VFW Post 3878, Dana Williams, and Betty Wilmarth.

Thank you, everyone.

An interesting story...

The museum took a phone call on June 8th from a young man who had two very old photo albums.

Two things make this donation interesting. The young man worked at a landfill and had found them when they had been discarded. He wanted to know if we were interested and had contacted the museum because many of the photos were done by Rochelle photographers and because of a handwritten note telling us they were vintage photographs of the Rogde & Risetter families.

The second interesting thing...he drove to Rochelle on his motorcycle from Monmouth, Illinois, to bring us the albums!

Thank you, Justin Lundberg, for your dedication to history.



The Rogde Sisters

The family album belonged to Elsie Rogde Risetter. These are pictures of both Risetter and Rogde ancestors. The picture I find fascinating is the one of the Rogde Sisters. Three of them - Margaret, Elsie, Eliza, Mary and Caroline. Elsie was Helmut's mother. Mary was Edson Beck's mother. Margaret was Robert Jacobson's mother. Elsie was Bertrude's mother. Mary Beck made all the dresses. Bertrude was named after her Great Grandmother - Bertrude Risetter. Len Rietter's wife.

From slate & stylus to computer & calculators...

On exhibit through October



Back to school today is very different from what it was in the early days. Computers take the place of slates and calculators do all the figuring. Gone also is that beautiful copperplate script along with cursive writing too!

Thanks to Rochelle School District 231 for the loan of a Chromebook and a gym suit.

Things certainly have changed!



There is a difference...

Armed Forces Day Memorial Day Veterans Day

Armed Forces Day is held on the third Saturday in May. It honors those who are serving.

Memorial Day is held on the last Monday of May. It remembers those who have died while serving.

Veterans Day is held on the 11th day of November. It honors those who served.

As we approach November and Veterans Day, who are among those who served?

We recognize James J. Patterson who enlisted in the fall of 1861 in Company H of the 46th Illinois Volunteer Infantry.

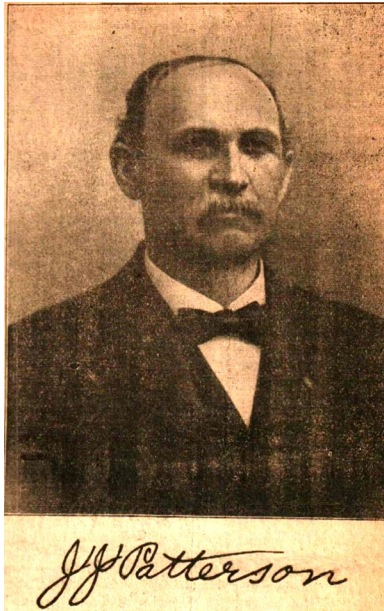
He was made Corporal in December and mustered into three years service in Springfield. He fought with his regiment at Fort Donaldson, Shiloh, the Siege of Vicksburg, Jackson, Spanish Fort, and Fort Blakely according to his 1911 obituary. He reenlisted in 1864 and was mustered out on February 4, 1866.

On February 3, 1864, Patterson married Eunice Carpenter and together they had four sons and three daughters. At the time of his death he was survived by Josiah A., Milo G., Addie J. (wife of E.R. Taylor), Mattie S., and Mina. Son Daniel B. had died in infancy and William E. had passed at the age of 21.

Patterson was a loyal member of the Grand Army of the Republic, serving as Post Commander of Rochelle Post Number 546 G.A.R.

Son Milo was also a veteran, having served in the Spanish-American War and World War I. He passed away in 1940 while living in Detroit according to his obituary.

While the name Patterson is familiar to many in Rochelle due to the long-time lumber business of J.H. Patterson that was established in 1917, James J. Patterson is probably not related.



Thanks to ...

The VFW for alerting us to our somewhat tattered flag...

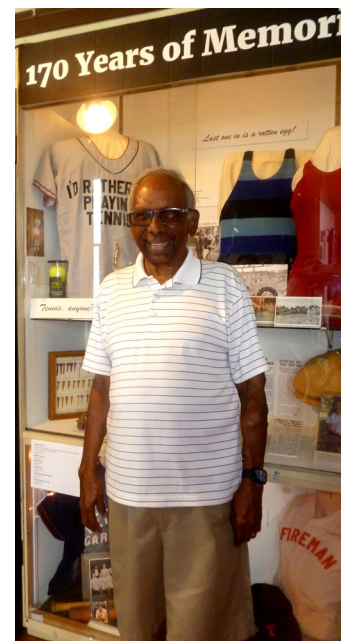
Board member Tom McDermott for taking down and putting up a new flag...

Jackee Ohlinger for a new flag...

Board members Tom McDermott and Matt Hagemann for climbing the ladder and readjusting the solar light...what a project!

Esther and Dr. John Prabhakar for visiting twice recently and bringing in new visitors. Dr. Prabhakar posed for the museum since it is his "scrub shirt" that was on display earlier this summer.

Donors who gave to the museum **in memory of Bill Stocking**. Bill used to come in and share his many memories of Rochelle.



FLAGG TOWNSHIP MUSEUM

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Rochelle IL 61068

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E-MAIL:

hubhistory@gmail.com

Museum Hours

Thursday – Sunday
11 am to 4 pm

*Group tours available by
appointment*

www.flaggtownshipmuseumrochelle.org

Like us on Facebook

[https://www.facebook.com/
RochelleFlaggTownshipMuseum](https://www.facebook.com/RochelleFlaggTownshipMuseum)

About Our Organization...

The Mission of the Flagg Township Historical Society and Museum is to stimulate interest in Flagg Township history through education, research, collection and preservation of information for the benefit of the public of today and in the future.

Request a Presentation...

Contact the museum to request a presentation to your club, organization, or school by museum personnel. Presentations support the museum's mission to stimulate interest in Flagg Township history.

Conduct Research at the Museum...

Research Rochelle, the computer research station funded by the Rochelle Area Community Foundation is available for anyone to do research.

The museum's digital archives contains over 35,000 items. These historic items are easily searched.

www.ancestry.com is also available for anyone to use for family research and the extended membership includes access to www.newspapers.com, online newspapers, and www.fold3.com, the military database.



Museum Events

In the works...

October 14: Hay Day & "S'Mores at the Museum" 1-4 pm. Check out our hay bale too!

November 12: Veteran's Day Mini-Reenactment and "Guns Today" Presentation

November 25: Rochelle Chamber Holiday Hunt & Decorate the Museum, 11 am—4 pm

December 1: Bonfire, S'Mores & Santa at the Museum, 5-7 pm

January 20: Snow Day at the Museum, 11 am—4 pm

