

FLAGG TOWNSHIP MUSEUM *Rochelle, Illinois*

Rochelle's Place for History

Special Interest Articles:

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2023—170 Years of Memories



Celebrating Rochelle 1853 to 2023

It all started before 1853 but became official when Lane's Village was laid out by R.P. Lane and other investors and then incorporated in 1861.

Fast forward to 2023, 170 years later, and let's celebrate Rochelle by viewing historic photos and artifacts, sharing our memories, and Saving Our Stories.

It is a goal of the museum to capture at least 10 stories in 2023 that will become a part of Rochelle's historic records at the museum.

What kind of stories? Your stories—whether they are historic or current.

A list of questions can be put together just for you and we'll make it official with a Waiver.

How, What, or Why Questions to ponder

Where and when were you born?

Where did your ancestors come from?

Where did you grow up?

What is your favorite childhood memory?

What games did you play as a child? What toys did you have?

What is your education? Why did you choose what you did?

What brought you to Rochelle?

What are your memories of serving in the military?

How did you learn your trade?

What is your current job? What is your dream job?

What historic events have had an impact on your life? On your community?

Sample Questions to Conduct An Oral History Interview

Please tell me your name, your birthday, your relationship, and where we are.

What was the happiest moment of your life?

Who was the most important person in your life? Can you tell me about him or her?

What are the most important lessons you've learned in life?

What was your childhood like?

Can you tell me your name, your age, and who you are?

How long have you lived here?

How has it changed over these years?

What was it like when you first moved here?

What do you miss most about the way it used to be?

Who are some of the great characters from here?

Do you remember any great stories or legends about our town?

Where did you grow up?

What was it like?

What was your education?

What were your parents like?

Do you have any siblings? What were they like growing up?

Did you have a nickname? How'd you get it?

What were your best friends? What were they like?

Did you play school?

What would you do for fun?

How would your classmates remember you?

Are you still friends with anyone from that time in your life?

What are your best memories of grade school/high school?

How did you meet your husband/wife?

How has being a parent changed you?

What do you do for a living?

What did you want to be when you grew up?

What lessons have you learned in life?

If you could do anything now, what would you do? Why?

What were your favorite relatives?

Do you remember any of the stories they used to tell you?

What are the classic family stories? Jokes? Songs?

Were you in the military?

How did war change you?

What lessons did you learn from that time in your life?

Is there anything you wanted to talk about that we didn't get to?

Oral History Waiver

I, _____

do give to the Flagg Township Historical Society and Museum for scholarly and educational purposes as determined by the Staff and Board of Directors an interview(s) recorded on _____

as an unrestricted gift and transfer to the Flagg Township Historical Society and Museum legal title and all literary property rights including copyright.

This gift does not preclude any use which I/we, the undersigned, wish to make of the information in the recording of myself/ourselves.

Date: _____

Interviewer: _____

Interviewee: _____

Accepted by: _____ Director, Flagg Township Museum

Thank you for your support.

Board of Directors

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

Board Members

Steve Frank, Curator
David Guest
Matt Hagemann
Gary Mason
Steve O'Connor

Jenny Thompson, City
Jackee Ohlinger, Park District

Jan Devore, Director

Our first memory of 2023



The oldest and the youngest members of the Rochelle VFW Bert Cote & Aubrey Headon

When Aubrey Headon donated one of her race uniform shirts to the museum, it was an inspiration to recognize her for her amazing accomplishments.

Both she and her twin have overcome many obstacles. It was Aubrey who chose to run even after the family had been told she probably would not walk or talk. She has since won many medals in countless competitions. A poster recognizing her athletic accomplishments was unveiled at an event on January 8th and now hangs in the museum.

Coming soon...

Getting down to business, a new exhibit on the second floor will feature photos, artifacts, and information about business in Rochelle.

Thumb through the list of businesses that have come and gone, where they were located and the years of their operation. It's fascinating!

Ghosts of Rochelle will be on exhibit in the museum during Heritage Festival this year. Kim Ekes will be displaying her then and now combination photos that you don't want to miss.

2022– There's no place like home!



Looking back at our year-end data, our admissions reached over 1,100 with about 250 children who visited Santa early in December.

We are grateful to everyone who visited the museum and those who attended a program via ZOOM or in-person.



Thank you!

We are grateful to our presenters who worked with us for a great year of programs. Some are recognized here.

Tom McDermott, Sherrie Taylor, Arlyn Van Dyke, and Ruth Carter for presenting interesting and informative programs during our Chautauqua series in March.

Steve Frank for officially turning on the Iron Fountain and to the **city employees** who actually turn on the water!

Sally Sawicki for Cemetery Walks in May and November, held virtually and in-person. Her research is extensive!

Hub City Cruisers for coming out again in their fabulous cars during Cut the Square.

The **Founders of the Festival** who rode our float in the Heritage Festival Parade...**Naomi Baldwin, Don Forrest, Roxanne Charnock, Fred Horner, Steve Frank, Nedra Knapp, and David Roinas**. We won the Grand Marshall Award!

And for participating in the Creston Booster Days Parade **Logan Frye, Dylan Isham, and Wendy Isham** where we recognized First Responders.

Fran Volz for constructing the cupola for the Flagg Center School Bell and for sharing his work during the reception. Visitors can now ring the bell!

Sally Sawicki and Mary Erdman for Decorating the Museum and also **Bobbie Colbert** making our holiday trees look stunning.

Santa and Mrs. Claus for visiting with so many children. Special help also from our elves and volunteers.



Recently added ...2022

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

Recent Acquisitions

The museum is grateful to the following donors for artifacts donated to the museum in 2022.

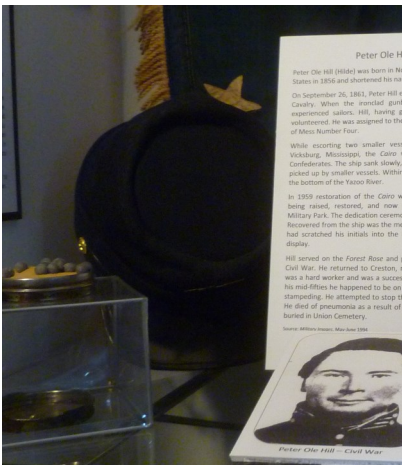
Renee Anders, Anonymous, Michael Arreguin/ALM Fine Cabinetry, Connie Avery, Gretchen Bain, Naomi Baldwin, Robert Barger, Brad & Bev Beach, Leroy Bloommaert, Laura Bunger, Paul Charbonneau, Bobbie Colbert, Vicki Snyder Chura/RTHS, Karen Collier, City of Rochelle, Jane DeGoller, DeKalb County History Center, Michelle Doss, Sandra Dower, Estate of John O'Brien, Family of John T. Carroll, Steve Frank/VCCCT, Mark Griffith, Edwin Harrison, Aubrey Headon, Dennis Hewitt,

Matthew King, Sandy Kudelka, John Kyler, W. B. Lambert, Barbara Dach Luther, Tom McDermott, Tom McDermott/City Council, McIlvoy Family, Diane McNeilly, Barbara Baker Manning, Randy Martin/City of Rochelle, William Maxey, Jim May, Midway Village Museum, Sarah Moroney, Ann O'Brien, Kathy Olson, Cecil Plourde, Marilyn Quitno/Hintzsche Family, R. Ripentropp, Vicky & Larry ripentropp, Chuck Roberts, Sally Sawicki, Mike Seaworth, Donna L. Shaw, Josh Smardo, Bill Stocking, Janet Stocking, Rhonda Threlkheld, Lynn VanVickle, Don Vogeler, Fran Volz, Fred Warning/VFW, Chad Winterland, Michelle Zunnerain

James Dawson, Civil War



Photographed by
A.N. Pierce,
Lane, Ogle Co., Ill.



In the Cabinet of Curiosities
2022



In the Cabinet of Curiosities
2023

The Cabinet of Curiosities

In 2022 the Cabinet of Curiosities highlighted *"No place like home"*

At Home in the Kitchen—A Woman's Place?

Away From Home—Serving in the Military

Coming Home—RTHS Class Reunions

Home: Then & Now

At Home in Rochelle—Historic Homes

At Home at the North Pole

In 2023 we have started the year with *"170 Years of Memories."*

These exhibits change regularly and will feature topics such as...

Notable Rochelle Women

Strike up the band

In the good old summertime

Let's go back to school

Harvesting our memories

Remembering the holidays

Please contact the museum if you have artifacts you are willing to lend or information to share about any of these topics. The museum is able to scan photos and documents for our use and return original documents to the lender.

Museum Resource: History Trunks

These resources are available for check-out from the museum and can be used to add to school lessons or be an activity for the family to learn more about any of these topics.

Happy Birthday, Illinois

Hispanic Crafts

Hispanic Heritage

Native Americans & Early Settlers

Playground Games & Victorian Etiquette

Quill Pen Workshop

Turn of the Century Life & School

Stop in the museum
to take a look!

FLAGG TOWNSHIP MUSEUM

518 Fourth Avenue

Rochelle IL 61068

PHONE:

(815) 562-3040

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.

Special Thanks

To the City—Once again the city came to our rescue and re-installed our flag pole and flag. The pole had snapped off quite unexpectedly during one of those very windy days in November.

Board member Steve O'Connor was again able to fashion a sleeve—not an easy project—that slipped over the bottom stem of the flagpole and the city brought their lift truck and slipped the top half of the pole onto the sleeve and rehung the flag. *The city workers are fantastic!*

Thanks also to Tom McDermott, museum board member and city council member, for making the request to the city. We are so grateful for everyone's help.

Museum Events 2023

In the works...

February 4: Annual Meeting, 10 am, Members are welcome!

March 27-30: Chautauqua 7 pm, Speakers to be announced

April 9: Closed for Easter

May: The Iron Fountain Opening, Date TBD

May 21 & 22: Railroad Days Activities

June: Cut the Square, Date TBD

August Heritage Festival:
Ghosts of Rochelle Art Exhibit

October 21: Campfire Memories at the Ken Wise Railfan Park

November: Veteran's Day Event, Date TBD

November 25: Decorate the Museum

December 1: Santa at the Museum, 4-7 pm

December: Holiday House Walk, Date TBD