



TIMELINE 2017

Peoria Historical Society Newsletter | March-April | Volume 23, Issue 2

“to preserve, share and celebrate the stories of the Peoria area”

Peoria Women’s Club Saluting Women Leaders

Women’s History Month, observed in March, celebrates the women who’ve contributed not only to history but also to contemporary society. In years past, several locally produced books, including *Women of Peoria 1620-1920* and *Peoria Women Artists*, both by Channy Lyons, *The Women of Flanagan House* by Gloria LaHood, and Dr. Victoria Hineman Loberg’s 2016 book *Dr. Anna Swain Adams, 1840-1887* have focused on women who’ve made an impact on Peoria.

The Peoria Women’s Club, one of the oldest in the country, has been highlighting some of its leading founders. At its February meeting the Club spotlighted founding members Clara Parsons Bourland, Lucie Brotherson Tyng, and Anna Swain Adams, M.D.

Founded in January 1886, the Club remains one of the oldest in the United States and the only one with its own distinguished 1893 hall,



complete with parlors, dining room, kitchen and second-floor theater at 301 NE Madison St. (at Fayette). Its mission remains: to provide the opportunity for and full support of education, cultural growth, current civic concerns and



Clara Parsons Bourland: 1st President, PWC

public affairs to its members and to the community.

Clara Parsons Bourland had long been known as a strong leader in Peoria. Her husband, widower Benjamin L.T. Bourland, was a leading banker and real estate developer. Her civic activities included the Ladies Art Society, Peoria Scientific Association, and numerous health and welfare organizations. As Peoria Women’s Club president, she served for 25 years, a “guiding spirit” of “indomitable will, energy and courage.” The Club sold \$10 shares and raised \$25,000 for construction of their building.

Lucie Brotherson Tyng’s father Peter R.K. Brotherson had served as Peoria mayor; her mother led patriotic efforts to honor Civil War veterans, including the erection

and dedication of Soldier’s Hill at Springdale. Lucie and her sister Martha Brotherson Reynolds (who married into a branch of Miss Jean Morron’s family) led the temperance movement here. In 1895, at a time when women could vote only for members of the Board of School Inspectors, Lucie was elected to that early Peoria school board. At the time of her death in 1905, she was serving as its treasurer. No wonder that her memory was honored by naming a school. Opened in 1915 on Peoria’s south side, it closed in 2009.

At the time of the Women’s Club founding, Dr. Adams had been in Peoria for 11 years. In 1875 she became the first female member of the Peoria Medical Society and involved in various activities. Shortly after serving as one of the founders of the Women’s Club, however, Dr. Adams left Peoria for Florida. There she died less than two years later. Whether she left Peoria for warmer climes due to illness is subject to speculation. In any case, Dr. Loberg’s book provides a strongly researched little biography of this path breaking woman.

Peoria Women’s Club: one of several Peoria groups keeping history alive ... and continuing to inspire into the future.



From the President

Now that we have entered a new year, the Executive Committee along with the rest of the Board of Trustees is set to focus on identifying a permanent Executive Director for our organization. As mentioned in the previous Timeline, Zach Oyler was named as our interim Executive Director and is doing a wonderful job learning the position in order to lead the Historical Society. The office has also benefitted tremendously from our experienced Office Manager, Judy Earleson, through this transition. She has done the challenging job of keeping the daily operations churning. Zach, a previous Board Trustee, has relinquished his trustee position while he serves in the ED capacity. I can say the Board feels confident on the way we are moving forward, and I hope all of you members feel that same way as well.

A couple areas of collaboration that we are working on with other organizations are worth noting. As mentioned in our last timeline, the PHS has collaborated with both the Central Illinois Landmarks Foundation and the Wheels of Time Museum to restore and preserve a LeTourneau steel home. The story and details of this project were laid out in an article by Mark Johnson in our last Timeline. The public announcement of the LeTourneau home by the three collaborative groups was made in a press release early in January. We encourage our members to support this worthwhile project. We have also collaborated with the Caterpillar Visitors Center who celebrated Black History Month with a special exhibit during February. We had loaned some special pieces in our collection to the exhibit including our Lincoln banner. Dating from the 1860 campaign, the hand-painted silk banner supporting Lincoln's election was presented by the Ladies of Peoria to the Wide Awakes, a paramilitary organization affiliated with the Republican Party. The reverse of the banner carries that inscription. A video, also part of the exhibit, includes photos from the PHS collection of Co. K, a unit of African Americans from Peoria that served in the Spanish American War and WWI as part of the 8th Infantry Regiment of the Illinois National Guard and was led by African American officers. This exhibit should be wrapping up as this Timeline gets published, so I hope you were able to attend and help promote our history and collection.

Jim Carballido

PHS President 2016-17

"So much of our future lies in preserving our past." - Peter Westbrook

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Peoria Historical Society

611 SW Washington Street
Peoria, IL 61602

Office Hours: 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Tuesday—Friday

Phone: 309.674.1921 Fax: 309.674.1882

adminphs@peoriahistoricalsociety.org

www.PeoriaHistoricalSociety.org

Find us on Facebook

Special Collections Center

Bradley University Library
Bradley Avenue at Glenwood

Office Hours: 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Monday-Friday

Phone: 309.677.2822

John C. Flanagan House Museum

942 NE Glen Oak Avenue
Peoria, IL 61603
Phone: 309.674.1921

Pettengill-Morrison House Museum

1212 W. Moss Avenue
Peoria, IL 61606
Phone: 309.674.1921

Tours by appointment.

Cost: Adults \$10, Children 6 to 12 \$3.00
\$20 minimum for tours

Distribution of Timeline courtesy of:



PNC Bank

Bradley University Exhibit on Area History

The following is being shared with us through the generosity of Bradley's Cullom-Davis Library.

A Community on the Prairie: Bishop Hill, Illinois

A traveling exhibit about the
Bishop Hill Colony

Cullom-Davis Library

January 19—March 15

The Bishop Hill Colony was a religious communal colony founded in Henry County, Illinois, near Kewanee by Erik Jansson, the leader of a Swedish pietistic sect.

Born in 1808 on a grain farm in Sweden, Jansson became devoutly religious after what he believed was a miraculous cure for his rheumatism. His beliefs came increasingly radical and soon conflicted with the catechism of the Lutheran Church of Sweden and he was arrested several times by the authorities for burning the works of Luther and others in public and encouraging his followers to do the same. From 1844, he claimed to be a true prophet speaking the word of God. After repeated brushes with the law in Sweden, and having outraged members of the Church of Sweden, he departed for the United States in 1846, condemning his homeland to eternal damnation and taking 1,200—1,500 followers with him.

Once in America, Jansson intended to establish a "New Jerusalem" centered on his religious beliefs which he told his followers would soon spread across the world. Many of those first colonists died from disease on the arduous journey to the site in western Illinois Jansson had named Bishop Hill. Although many more died during the first



Corn Planting, Bishop Hill by Olof Krans

winter, others continued to arrive from Sweden. The villagers lived as a collective religious colony for 15 years, from 1846 to 1861, tilling the soil, tending their animals, and building their settlement with bricks that they made by hand. Everything was owned by everyone and no one had more possessions than another. Work in the colony was highly rigorous and regimented. It wasn't uncommon to see hundreds of people working together in the fields or large groups of laborers engaged in other tasks. Some local pioneers were amazed by their lifestyle and the relative success that it generated.



Harvesting, Bishop Hill by Olof Krans

But the idyllic life in rural Illinois was not to last. John Root, a Swedish immigrant who had married Jansson's cousin, Charlotta Louisa Root, had become disaffected with the commune and wanted to leave Bishop Hill, but the other colonists prevented him from taking his family along. On May 13, 1850, while Root and Jansson were dealing with unrelated legal matters at the courthouse in nearby Cambridge, Illinois, Root shot and killed Jansson. John Root was convicted of manslaughter, but was released after serving just one year in prison.

The Colony survived for only 15

years but left a lasting legacy in immigration history. By 1930, 20% of all Swedish people in the world lived in the U.S. Immigration experts agree that much of this Swedish exodus to Illinois and the United States can be traced to the impact of the Bishop Hill Colony. Because of Bishop Hill's importance to Swedish migration, not only is it a state historic site, but Bishop Hill is also a National Historic Landmark.

New Members Welcome:

PHS would like to extend a warm greeting to those who have become new members since our last printing. It is a pleasure to have you as a part of our community.

Larry Ware
David Cox
Tim Coles
John Losby
Patrick Scherer
Patti Buckles
Dan Losby & Ann Viger
Keith Folken & Raluca Gudry
Collier Scalzitti-Sanders

**Do you shop
on Amazon.com?
Then you could be
helping the Historical
Society!**

With Smile.Amazon.com, Amazon will donate 0.5% of your eligible purchases to the charitable organization of your choice.

Just sign in at Smile.Amazon.com and choose the Peoria Historical Society. There's no cost to you and it's an easy way to support the PHS.

**Sign in at
Smile.Amazon.com!**

Flanagan House news!

With the coming of spring, we are delighted to offer several new exhibits at Flanagan. Last summer, I was contacted by a TV newscaster living in Steamboat Springs, CO, Shannon

Luthy Lukens. As the family's "keeper" of a very stunning group of her Peoria Luthy family ancestors'

antique clothing, she wanted to return these great items to the city where they could be seen and appreciated. A mannequin display of these outstanding garments will be shown now through May.



As a "heads up" for June, we are doing our second 'June Bride' exhibit. Our last wedding exhibition was an overwhelming success, with women from the community lending their ancestor's wedding dresses and portraits for our exhibit. If you would want to show your family wedding portraits or gowns, call the office and let us know.

We have added a large educational display of vintage U.S. flags and related memorabilia to our new military room. Rare 21-, 34-, and 39-

star flags are in the collection. Early flags were handmade and it was no mean feat to hand stitch all those stars!



This US flag pre-dates the Civil War

The West Point cadet and later uniforms worn by Peoria General



Gen. Wayne H Downing

Wayne H. Downing, as well as Civil War, WWI and WWII uniforms and related items have proved very popular with visitors and are on permanent display. Flanagan offers a great variety of vintage technology: educational for kids and adults alike.

Flanagan's tulips and daffodils will soon be popping up - with our many perennials soon to follow. Keep us in mind as a gorgeous venue for garden weddings, birthdays, graduation parties,

family reunions and for indoor and outdoor portrait photography.

We are open by chance or appointment, and along with Pettengill-Morrison House, will now be open on Thursday afternoons. What a great afternoon outing! Bring your lunch, if you like, and relax on our back porch enjoying the view of the city. See you soon!

Linda Herron, House Chair

PHS Curator



Robert Killion, PHS Curator

We wanted to inform you that our long time curator, Bob Killion, has resigned from the Peoria Historical Society. Bob had been our Manager of Collections and Technology for the past ten years and had been a champion of preserving Peoria's past. Over the years, he led the acquisition of many significant artifacts and documented thousands of items in our collection. He played a significant role in our organization and had a passion for researching our local history. Bob will certainly be missed and we will always be indebted for his years of dedicated service. He has taken a position with an automotive supplier in the southern part of Illinois. We wish Bob all the best in his new position.

Upscale Your Shopping!

The Spring Upscale Porch Sale at Pettengill-Morrison House Museum will be held on June 3rd, 9:00 to 1:00 and June 4th, 1:00 to 4:00. On June 4th, that will coincide with the First Sunday Open House at the P-M House. Tours will also be given on Saturday, June 3rd, during the sale with tour prices of \$10.00 for adults and \$3.00 for ages 6 to 12.

Please join us for a fun shopping experience on the front porch and continue into the Butler's Pantry Vintage Gift Shoppe in the kitchen. Laundered linens, jewelry, fine china, glassware, silver, Roseville Pottery plus many other unique finds are waiting for you!

rare glass walking cane and much more!



Glass walking cane

Bring your friends for a tour or just come to shop. You'll never know what you will find!



Peoria Leisy Brewery pitcher and mugs

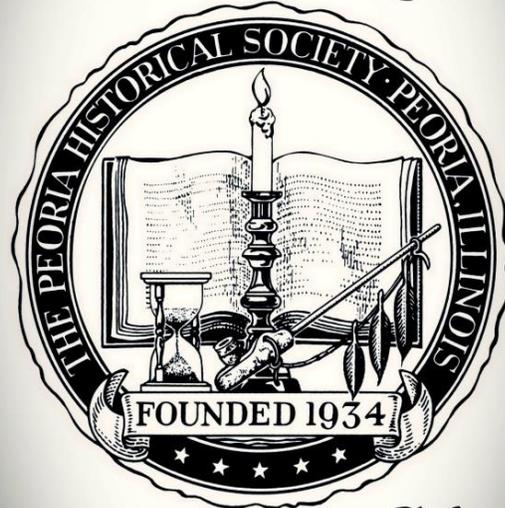


All of the items are donated with the proceeds benefitting the PHS including the preservation of our two historic homes.

Thursday Tours & Gift Shop at P-M House

Pettengill-Morrison House Museum is happy to announce that we will be open for tours every Thursday from 10 to 2. The Butler's Pantry Vintage Gift Shoppe will also be open at that time. The gift shop is able to operate with the generous donations from PHS members and friends. We feature a variety of unique items plus colored glass dinnerware in pink and green, milk glass, pottery pitchers, vintage Peoria Leisy Brewery pitcher and mugs, laundered linens, jewelry, a

Don't Throw Away History



Preserve, Share & Celebrate

History Tour Guides Needed

If you have an interest in history and like to meet new people, you are just the person we are looking for! Additional guides for the history bus tours are needed for the upcoming season. Tours run from June to end of October on Friday and Saturday. There are six different tours, but only three run at a given time. One new tour is currently being developed as well. Guides schedule the tours they wish to do during the season based on their plans and availability. Tours last approximately 1 ½ hours each. We provide the script for new guides and also have new guides ride along with trained guides giving the tour. If you are interested or just want to learn more about it, call Beth Johnson at 264-6119.

Moss Avenue Sale

June seems like it's far away now, but we need to begin gathering items for the annual yard sale held in June. We accept gently used household items and some furniture. Items do not have to be vintage or antique, although we will gladly accept those items too! Electrical appliances, TV's, and clothing are not accepted. We will pick up from you or arrange a time for you to drop items off at Pettengill-Morrison House. Items can be dropped off on Thursdays at Pettengill between 10 and 2. Now is the perfect time to clean out those cupboards and closets and donate to PHS. We furnish a receipt for tax purposes as well. Call Beth at 264-6119 to make arrangements.

New Faces at P-M House

Pettengill-Morrison House Museum is pleased to welcome 4 new volunteers!

Edie Brereton is a retired French teacher and graciously helped us with our French themed Christmas tour. She even baked a *Buche de Noel* to complete our French menu.

Sheila Valentine Brewster volunteered in the '70's and 80's with her mother, Harriet Valentine. They hosted luncheons to raise money for the house and also helped with the gift shop.

Patty Armstrong worked at the Illinois Antique Center for 20 years.

Charlotte "Patti" Buckles moved back to Illinois from California last year. She was a Special Education teacher.

We have a passion and commitment to Pettengill-Morrison House Museum and look forward to carrying on the mission.

P-M House is Grateful for Help

Pettengill-Morrison House would like to thank Doris Rock of the Peoria Garden Club and the club itself for helping us decorate for Christmas and the Holiday Home Tour. They have assisted year after year and not only do they decorate but they also come back to dismantle the decorations. They always do a beautiful job and we couldn't do it without them!

We also wish to express our gratitude to our Virtual Intern, Jenna Krukowski. A 2016 Bradley graduate, she volunteered at P-M



Jenna Krukowski & Mary Hamm, Co-Chair of Pettengill-Morrison House

before relocating to St. Louis to attend grad school. She is also involved at the Campbell House Museum in that city. She has been an enthusiastic supporter of PHS and continues to funnel ideas to us. She was a docent during the Holiday Home Tour and produced a wonderful virtual Christmas card. To view this card, go to Facebook, Pettengill-Morrison House Museum. It is a must see!



"Can I skip your classes if I promise to watch the History Channel when I grow up?"

YOU ARE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS HISTORICAL SHOW
SPONSORED BY THE PEORIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY IN
COLLABORATION WITH THE PEORIA PUBLIC LIBRARY

53rd ANNUAL RENNICK JUDGED ART SHOW
May 4 to May 30, 2017

Peoria Public Main Library - 107 NE Monroe Street Lower Level 1 Gallery

Monday, May 1st - Enter Artwork - 10:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Wednesday, May 4th - Exhibit Opens
Saturday, May 6th - Artist Reception - 2-4 p.m. Lower Level Gallery 1
Tuesday, May 31st - Pick Up Artwork - 10 a.m.- 2 p.m.

Artists may submit oil, watercolor, pen & ink, pastels, colored pencils, charcoal, mixed media, acrylic, photography, pottery, fiber art, print-making, porcelain, or sculpture. Your piece must depict a scene that is within 100 mile radius of the tri-county area. All artwork must be an original completed in the last two years & ready for hanging or on display in the enclosed cases at the library.

AWARDS AND RIBBONS: Winners will be notified by phone.
BEST OF SHOW - \$300 SECOND PLACE - \$50
FIRST PLACE - \$50 THIRD PLACE - \$50
HONORABLE MENTIONS WILL RECEIVE - RIBBONS

ENTRY FEE:

NON-REFUNDABLE ENTRY FEES ARE: \$15.00 FOR ONE ENTRY
\$10.00 FOR EACH ADDITIONAL PIECE OF ART - LIMIT OF FIVE

You may preregister - send your check payable to Peoria Historical Society - 611 SW Washington Street, Peoria, IL. 61602 -OR- you may bring your check/cash on the day of entry, May 1st, 10:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Your participation is greatly appreciated!

Marjorie Schwebel
Chairperson
(309) 672-2363

Membership Matters!

Pass along your passion for history and consider becoming a Peoria Historical Society **Membership Sponsor**. Someone you know has the same interest in “preserving, sharing and celebrating the stories of the Peoria area”. Your gift of membership not only helps further the PHS mission, but encourages others to do the same. Please use the form below or go online to peoriahistoricalsociety.org for a printable membership form and add a note that you’re sponsoring the new member when you submit the form. And thanks for your continued support.

Membership Matters!

Become a PHS Membership Sponsor!



Yes, I would like to sponsor a one year membership to the Peoria Historical Society.

New Member Information

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Sponsor Information

Credit Card # (Visa or Mastercard) _____

Expiration _____ Security Code _____ Membership level \$35 ___ \$60 ___ \$100 ___

Your name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

If paying by check, make payable to the Peoria Historical Society

Please mail this completed form to the
Peoria Historical Society
611 SW Washington St., Peoria, IL 61602

Thank you! The new Member will receive a special “Welcome-to-PHS note in your name.

MEMBERSHIP

March 18, 2017



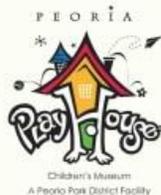
March 19, 2017

WEEKEND

Are you a member of Peoria Historical Society, Peoria PlayHouse Children's Museum, Peoria Riverfront Museum, Peoria Zoo, or Wildlife Prairie Park? Enjoy a weekend of free general admission* to all five of these Peoria-area attractions when you present your membership card and photo ID during the weekend of March 18-19, 2017.

For more information, visit our websites or Facebook pages. Remember, you must present your photo ID and membership card(s). For replacement cards, please contact your facility by February 20th!

* Charges may apply for additional experiences.



**The Newsletter of the
Peoria Historical Society**

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Peoria, Illinois 61602

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Fax: 309-674-1882
Website: <http://www.peoriahistoricalsociety.org>
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Do you recognize this nearby historic site?
Read inside to learn more about the history
and beginnings of Bishop Hill.

