

Volume 19, Issue 4

July-August

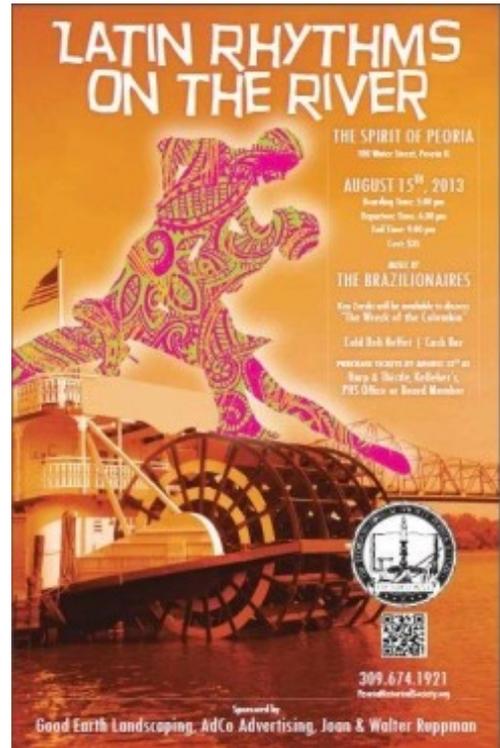
The Newsletter of the Peoria Historical Society

## Latin Rhythms on the River

Join the Peoria Historical Society on August 15th for an unforgettable evening of dinner and dancing aboard the *Spirit of Peoria*. Enjoy a cruise down the Illinois River while listening to the sultry summer sounds of local Latin band, *The Brazilionaires*. Author Ken Zurski will also be on hand to discuss his book, *The Wreck of the Columbia: A Broken Boat, a Town's Sorrow, & the End of the Steamboat Era on the Illinois River*. Copies will be available for purchase and signing. Mr. Zurski's book will also be a featured selection of the PHS Book Club, so don't miss this extraordinary opportunity to learn more about Central Illinois history.

Boarding begins at 5:00 p.m. and the cruise departs at 6:30 p.m. from 100 N.E. Water Street. Tickets are \$35 per person and include both a cold deli buffet and the cruise ticket. A cash bar will also be available. Spaces are limited, so order your tickets today!

For more information, or to reserve your tickets for this educational and entertaining evening, please contact the Peoria Historical Society office at 309-674-1921. Tickets are also available at both Kelleher's Irish Pub and Harp & Thistle.



## De Tonti Dinner Scheduled for September 21st

The Peoria Historical Society in collaboration with the Institute for Principled Leadership in Public Service at Bradley University is proud to honor individuals and corporations who demonstrate outstanding leadership within our community. Please join us for this year's Henri de Tonti Celebration as we present the de Tonti Award to State Senator Dave Koehler. The evening begins at 6:00 p.m. in the ballroom of the newly renovated Peoria Marriott Pere Marquette. Musical entertainment will be provided by central Illinois jazz band John Miller and the Romaniacs. Dinner will be provided; a cash bar will be available. Tickets are \$150 per person or \$1500 for a table of ten. Corporate and individual level sponsorships are available. Please call the Peoria Historical Society office at 309-674-1921 by September 13th to reserve your seats.



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**Peoria Historical Society**

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and on Facebook

**Special Collections Center**

Bradley University Library  
Bradley Avenue at Glenwood  
Office hours: 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., 1:00 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  
Tours by appointment. Cost: Adults \$7, Children 12 and under \$3.

**Pettengill-Morrison House Museum**

1212 W. Moss Avenue  
Peoria, IL 61606 Phone: 309.674.1921.  
Tours by appointment. Cost: Adults \$7, Children 12 and under \$3. \$20 minimum for tours.

**From the President, Mark L. Johnson**

I am honored to have the opportunity to serve as the President of the Historical Society. In the five years that I've served as a Trustee, the Board has worked diligently to create a new dynamic and engaging spirit for the organization. I'm very excited to welcome the five new Trustees to the Board and incorporate their talents and skills into the many activities that the Society supports.

The Board of Trustees is actively working on planning details for the second annual Henri de Tonti Celebration to be held at the renovated Peoria Marriott Pere Marquette ballroom on Saturday, September 21. The Society, in partnership with the Institute for Principled Leadership at Bradley University, is pleased to announce that Illinois State Senator Dave Koehler will be this year's recipient of the Henri de Tonti Award for Outstanding Principled Community Leadership. Last year, the nominating committee worked diligently to establish a very thorough criteria for this award as follows:

The recipient shall demonstrate Outstanding Principled Community Leadership;

- a) based on a foundation of integrity and high ethical principles,
- b) operating in a bipartisan and collaborative manner,
- c) focused on finding solutions to critical issues,
- d) dedicated to promoting the positive attributes of the area communities
- e) committed to developing future principled public service leaders
- f) devoted to promoting and advancing Peoria's historical heritage.

Last year Caterpillar Inc. and their employees were honored as the inaugural recipient of the Henri de Tonti Award based on over 100 years of providing principled community leadership throughout the Tri-County area. We believe that the selection of Senator Koehler as the recipient of the second Henri de Tonti Award will help establish the high standards and reputation of this award throughout the Tri-County region. We hope you'll join us at the celebration. There could be no more fitting site for the presentation of an award named after the original founding father of the first settlement at Peoria than the historic Peoria Marriott Pere Marquette Hotel.

The Marriott staff at the renovated Pere Marquette are looking forward to the de Tonti Award Celebration as an opportunity to showcase the hotel to the Tri-County Community. Please make your reservations early. Senator Koehler has helped so many organizations and individuals through-out the area that we expect tables to fill up quickly for the event.

*Distribution of Timeline courtesy of:*

**PNC BANK**

## Haverhals Named “Volunteer of the Year”

The Peoria Historical Society was proud to present John Haverhals with this year’s “Volunteer of the Year” Award at our annual meeting. As chairman of the Historical Homes committee, John is instrumental in organizing, overseeing, and implementing the upkeep and repairs on both Flanagan and Pettengill-Morrison Houses. John worked with other volunteers to complete the painting and improvements to both house kitchens. John also mentored construction students from ICC’s PCCEO (Peoria Citizens Committee for Economic Opportunity, Inc.) program to complete the roofing repairs at P-M House. John was director of the math department's actuarial science program and university ombudsman at Bradley University. Thank you, John, for all your hard work and dedication to the Peoria community!



## Celebrate Independence Day with PHS!



Join us at Flanagan House Museum on July 4th for an evening of fun, friends, and fireworks as you enjoy the view from the bluffs overlooking the Illinois River. Bring your lawn chairs and blankets for a picnic on our expansive lawn. The festivities begin at 6:00 p.m., and fireworks are expected to start at approximately 9:30 p.m. Admission is \$5 for adults and \$3 for children. Seating is limited to the first 200 guests, so come early to reserve your space. Picnic baskets are allowed and the House will be open for tours from 6:00-8:00 p.m. at a reduced cost

of \$5 for adults. Children are free. Soda, water, popcorn, and novelties will be available for \$1 each. The John C. Flanagan House Museum is located at 942 NE Glen Oak Avenue in Peoria, Illinois. For more information, contact the Peoria Historical Society office at 674-1921.

## Peoria Historical Society Awarded CAP Funds

The Peoria Historical Society (PHS) is the recipient of a \$7,190 allocation from the Conservation Assessment Program (CAP) to pay the fees to hire two professionals to complete assessments of the Society’s collections and historic structures. The assessments will be conducted on-site in August. The conservation assessor will examine the current collections and conditions affecting exhibits, storage, and care. The preservation assessor will evaluate the architectural features of the historic structures owned by the Society – the John C. Flanagan and Pettengill-Morrison House Museums. Additional expenses (travel, lodging, and meals) will be paid by PHS. Barry Baughman of River Forest, IL will assess the Collections and Anne McGuire of Evanston, IL will assess the houses. CAP is a program funded through a cooperative agreement between Heritage Preservation and the Institute of Museum and Library Sciences.

## PHS Annual Meeting held Wednesday, May 8th

The Society's 2013 Annual Meeting was held at the North Branch Library on May 8th. Guest Speaker Ann Durkin Keating, history professor at North Central College and author of *Rising Up from Indian Country: The Battle of Fort Dearborn and the Birth of Chicago* gave an enlightening talk on two subjects from the Peoria area, Potawatomi Chief Black Partridge and the trader and Indian agent, Thomas Forsyth, and their roles in the Battle of Fort Dearborn. The Peoria Historical Society's annual meeting followed Professor Keating's presentation. During the meeting, Executive Director Walter Ruppman presented the Volunteer of the Year and Centenarian awards. The Preservation Award was presented to Ken and Ann Coulter. Past President and Nominating Committee Chair Sid Ruckriegel presented the slate of nominees for officers and trustees of the Board of Directors. The Peoria Historical Society is proud to welcome the following new members to our board:

**Mary Dubois** is a retired nurse with over thirty years experience.

**Dr. Dean Cantu** is a professor and the Chairperson of the Department of Teacher Education at Bradley University.

**Jon Neidy** is the Associate Director of Continuing Education and the Director of Summer and Interim Sessions at Bradley University.

**Councilman Eric Turner** has served as Councilman at large for Peoria since 1995.

**Brent Goken** is a Professor of Communication and Public Relations from Illinois Central College.

We would also like to express our sincerest gratitude to outgoing board members **Bill Ordaz** and **Matt LaHood** for the gifts of their time and talent. Thank you for your service to our community.

## PHS Book Club to Explore Lincoln's *Rise to Greatness*

The Book Club recently discussed *Citizens of London* by Lynne Olson, the story of three Americans who stood with Britain during its darkest, finest hour in the early days of World War II. Focusing on newsman Edward R. Murrow, millionaire Averell Harriman, and ambassador John Gilbert Winant *Citizens of London* describes their influence in forging the Anglo-American Alliance and blocking Hitler's European advance.

The book club's next selection is David Von Drehle's *Rise to Greatness: Abraham Lincoln and America's Most Perilous Year*. Join PHS President Mark Johnson and Vice-President Deborah Dougherty as they explore one of the darkest years in our country's history. Learn how Abraham Lincoln's leadership and determination preserved the union despite overwhelming odds in favor of the Confederacy.

We will also read Ken Zurski's *The Wreck of the Columbia: A Broken Boat, a Town's Sorrow, & the End of the Steamboat Era on the Illinois River*. Join us for our river cruise "Latin Rhythms on the River" for an opportunity to meet the author and gain further insight on this tragic milestone in Illinois River history.

The next book club meeting will be on Wednesday, July 31st at 4:00 pm in the Lakeview Room of the Lakeview Branch of the Peoria Public Library. Please bring a friend. For further information about the PHS Book Club, please contact Mark Johnson (264-3156 or johnsm2@comcast.net) or Deborah Dougherty (212-8175 or deborah.dougherty@icc.edu).

## Rennick Juried Art Show Winners Announced



The winners of the 49th annual Rennick Juried Art Show were honored during an artists' reception on May 11th at the Peoria Public Library.

**RENNICK AWARD:** Mary Hildebrand (oil) "RED ROSES WITH PEARS"

**1st PLACE:** Todd Snyder (oil) "FACTORY TWILIGHT"

**2nd PLACE:** Carmen Sanchez-Lorente (mixed media) "MIDWEST STUDIO 11"

**3rd PLACE:** Jeff Burton (photography) "PEORIA, ILLINOIS"

### HONORABLE MENTION:

Steve Wilson (photography) "CHAPEL AT ELKHART"

Jack Ryan (watercolor) "ELEVATOR AT GIBSON CITY"

Rose Sullivan (watercolor and colored pencil) "CARDINAL STATE BIRD AND CARDINAL FEMALE" (pair)

Cheryl Madura (scratch art) "SLUMS AT CINDER POINT"

Robert Drake (photography) "AFTER THE HARVEST"

Joanne Richardson (oil) "ILLINOIS FARM WIFE"

Donna Nerstad (fiber) "SONG OF THE NEEDLE"

A big thank you to Margie Schwebel (a longtime PHS member, artist, and patron of the Arts) for all the time, effort and sponsorship of the Rennick Juried Art Show. Margie is the driving force behind the annual art show and it wouldn't happen without all her hard work. Other board members who played a key role are Stacy Peterson from the Peoria Public Library (and PPL staff,) Laura Havran and Gerd Prewett. Next year the Society will host the 50th Annual Rennick Juried Art Show and looks forward to an even larger show. It's not too early to start working on your entries.

### Other Notables

- \* Members of the Native American Fellowship at Dayspring UMC in East Peoria will be at the Washington District Main Library at 380 N Wilmor Road, Thursday, July 11, at 6:00pm to present a one hour program highlighting traditional Native American music and handicrafts. Families are welcome! Admission is free. For more information, please call 309-444-2241.
- \* Miss Morron's World Travels continues for First Sunday of the Month Open House on August 4 and September 2 from 1:00-4:00 p.m. as well as for private tours at the Pettengill-Morrison House Museum. Visit [www.peoriahistoricalsociety.org](http://www.peoriahistoricalsociety.org) and click on News for more information, or call 309-674-1921 to schedule a private tour.
- \* The Chillicothe Historical Society opened a new permanent exhibit "Johnston McCulley: Master Storyteller" featuring memorabilia honoring the creator of *Zorro*. The exhibit is open every Sunday, Saturday, and Wednesday from 1:00-4:00 p.m. through the end of August. For more information, please contact the Chillicothe Historical Society at 309-274-9076.

## Moss Avenue Sale Raises \$3000 for PHS



A huge thank you to all the members of the Society who assisted with the events at the PM House connected with the Moss Avenue Sale, especially to everyone who donated merchandise to the Sale held on the front lawn. Without your donations, the Sale would not have occurred. Many members assisted with setup on Friday evening and throughout the day on Saturday and then with teardown after the Sale. Sale day was a beautiful day and brought out very nice crowds of people. In addition to the yard sale, the members of the PHS Marketing Committee manned an information table on the front lawn. Over 100 people toured the House during the day and the House volunteers sold merchandise from the House Gift Shop on the front porch. In total the event raised just about \$3,000 for the Society. Again, a very sincere thanks to everyone that assisted with the event. We still have an old cast iron bathtub for sale, if anyone is interested just call the PHS office at 674-1921.

Beth Johnson

## PHS Honors Centenarians

The Peoria Historical Society was pleased to honor the following organizations during our 2013 Annual Meeting with our Centenarian Award:

**Apostolic Christian**

**Skylines Eureka Printing and Stationary**

**Fauber Farm**

**Kriegsman Transfer**

**Federal Warehouse Co.**

**Rotary Club of Peoria**

**Tazewell County Farm Bureau**

This award recognizes businesses and organizations celebrating their 100th anniversaries. Congratulations to all our recipients for a century of service and dedication to the Peoria area! If you know of other groups that should be recognized in the future, please contact Bob Killion at the Peoria Historical Society: 674-1921 or [rkillion@peoriahistoricalsociety.org](mailto:rkillion@peoriahistoricalsociety.org).

## Volunteers Needed!

The Peoria Historical Society is looking for volunteers to assist with digitization of their collections (training provided); house museum guides or caretakers, Trolley or Peoria area tour guides, writers, photographers, event planners, and much more. Contact the PHS office at 309-674-1921 or visit [www.peoriahistoricalsociety.org](http://www.peoriahistoricalsociety.org).

## 2013 Trolley Tours

Our 1 1/2 hour tours depart from either Kelleher's Irish Pub or Harp & Thistle. Tickets are \$11.00 per person. Passengers pay the CitiLink driver \$1.00 upon entering the trolley or bus. Seniors 65 or older ride the trolley free with proof of age and a regular ticket purchase. Space is limited and reservations are recommended. Advanced payment is required for groups of 10 or more. Call the PHS office at 309-674-1921, Kelleher's at 673-6000, or Harp & Thistle at 688-5668 to book your tour!

**Old Peoria and the Judge Tour**-Travel through the earliest sections of downtown and on to Peoria's Northside. Discover facts about Peoria's founding father, French explorer Henri de Tonti. During this tour you will see a unique sculptor's bungalow and hear the story of Peoria's Joe Kennedy connection. Also included is a short tour of the 1837 Flanagan House Museum, the former home of Judge John C. Flanagan.

**Naughty to Nice Tour**-Follow Peoria's history from the naughty—the 20's, the gambling, the gangsters—to the nice—Peoria's now FOUR All-America City awards. This trolley tour traces triumphs through time from the 1920's to the present; stories of the city's gangster era, including the site of Peoria's most notorious crime scene — The Bernie Shelton murder. Also, discover why Peoria has been honored four times with the prestigious "All-America City" award.

**River City Tour**-The Native Americans, the French, the whiskey and earthmoving capital of the world, the grand mansions and Grandview Drive – The River City Tour has it all. Beginning in Peoria Heights, the tour proceeds down Grandview Drive, through the Averyville area to downtown Peoria, then on to High Street and Moss Avenue, before circling back down to Glen Oak Avenue on the return to the Heights. Admire stately homes and enjoy the renowned grand view of the Illinois River.

**Grandview Drive & Springdale Cemetery Tour**-View the elegant homes of past and present prosperous merchants, landowners, and professionals. See the Illinois River from the best vantage point in Peoria. Then tour Springdale Cemetery, the oldest chartered cemetery in the state of Illinois. Hervey Lightner designed this 270-acre tree-studded cemetery with miles of twisting roads in 1855. You will appreciate the serene park-like setting and hear about Peoria's founding fathers and mothers. A must see!

**Abraham Lincoln & the Civil War Tour**-Follow Lincoln in Peoria and learn about Camp Peoria and Camp Lyon. This tour tells the story of Lincoln's visits to Peoria, the Civil War troops, and the camps where they trained. See the markers where the camps once stood. Visit Springdale Cemetery and see the final resting place of many of the Civil War veterans. The tour will pass the GAR Hall, built in 1909, and hear the story of Joseph Greenhut, a Whiskey Baron who provided much of the Hall's funding.

**Haunted Peoria Tour**-Explore the dark site of Peoria as we venture where strange sightings and events have been reported. Discover the stories behind the ghostly appearances that have startled and puzzled Peorians through the years. Learn about the Lady in White, the Legend of Nee-Nee-Wah, the Curse of Old Lady Gray, and more. What will you see in Haunted Peoria?

### 2013 Peoria History Tour Schedule

Tour Information	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct
Thursday 10:30am Harp & Thistle	River City	Grandview Drive & Springdale Cemetery	River City	Grandview Drive & Springdale Cemetery	River City
Friday 10:30am Kelleher's Irish Pub	Old Peoria & Judge	Naughty to Nice	Abraham Lincoln & The Civil War	Naughty to Nice	Abraham Lincoln & The Civil War
Saturday 10:30am Harp & Thistle	Grandview Drive & Springdale Cemetery	River City	Grandview Drive & Springdale Cemetery	River City	Grandview Drive & Springdale Cemetery
Saturday 1:00pm Kelleher's Irish Pub	Naughty to Nice	Haunted Peoria	Haunted Peoria	Haunted Peoria	Haunted Peoria

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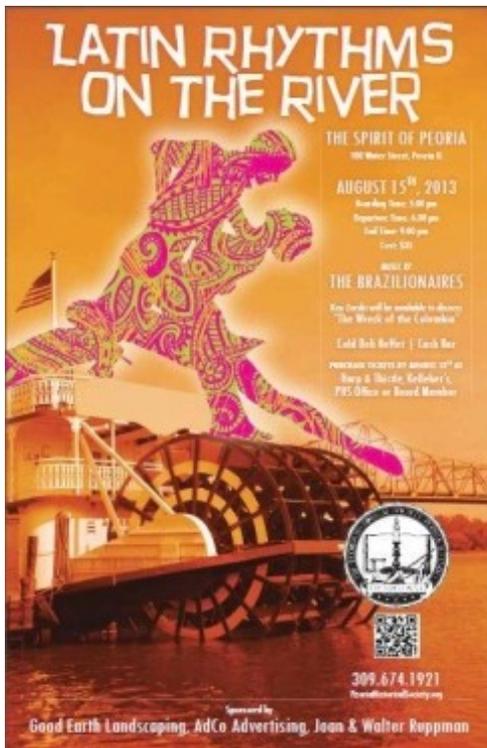
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Peoria, IL



Celebrate summer August 15th with an evening cruise on the Illinois River!

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# Timeline

