



TIMELINE 2014

Peoria Historical Society Newsletter | July-August | Volume 20, Issue 4

Celebrating Our 80th Year



Irish Rhythms on the River

Join the Peoria Historical Society on Thursday, August 14th for an unforgettable evening of dinner and dancing aboard the Spirit of Peoria. Enjoy a cruise on the Illinois River while enjoying rousing, energetic performances by The Roundstone Buskers and Flynn's Irish Dancers.

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 and we are expecting a sold-out cruise, so order your tickets today!

For more information, or to reserve your tickets please contact the Peoria Historical Society

office at 309-674-1921. Tickets are also available at Kelleher's Irish Pub and Harp & Thistle.

Irish RHYTHMS ON THE RIVER

Cruise the Illinois River on the Spirit of Peoria

Date: Thursday, August 14, 2014
Time: Boarding Time: 5 p.m.
Departure Time: 6:30 p.m.
Return to Docks: 8:30 p.m.
Event concludes: 9 p.m.

Cost: \$35 includes dinner + cash bar

Location: Spirit of Peoria
100 Water Street

Entertainment by Roundstone Buskers

Peoria Historical Society
811 SW Washington St.
Peoria, IL 61602
309-674-1921
www.peoriahistoricalsociety.org

Happy Birthday, Miss Morron!

July is a month to celebrate not only the birth of our nation, but also that of Miss Jean Morron, educator, philanthropist, and

PHS benefactor. Please join us at Pettengill-Morrison House on July 6th from 1:00-4:00 p.m. as we celebrate the remarkable Miss Morron's 135th birthday. This is the perfect opportunity to view "The Fine Art of Hospitality," our exhibit of Victorian china, linens, and service memorabilia. And no party is complete without cake!

The summertime fun at P-M House continues on August 3rd with a good old-fashioned lawn party! There will be plenty of fun and activities for children of all ages. And did we mention ice cream?

P-M House is open from 1:00-4:00 p.m. the first Sunday of the month, or by appointment. Admission is \$7 for adults and \$3 for children. A \$10 same-day ticket is available for both Flanagan and Pettengill-Morrison Houses.

From The President

The 80th Annual Meeting of your Peoria Historical Society was held on Wednesday, May 7th in the Peoria Riverfront Museum auditorium. About sixty people attended the meeting and a presentation by Vickie Howell, great-great granddaughter of Josiah Fulton, one of the original seven American settlers to arrive at the site of Fort Clark along the shore of Lake Pimiteoui.

The Annual Meeting also recognized three retiring Trustees for their outstanding service and dedication. Greg Rastatter and Marianne Moll both served six years on the Board, and Laura Havran served for three years. These three individuals have provided a tremendous spirit of positive energy. We are also pleased and excited to welcome Beth Jensen, John Parks, and Suzanne Adcock to the Board.

All four of our current officers agreed to serve another year in their positions. That includes Jennifer Martin as Recording Secretary, Jim Carballido as Treasurer, Deborah Dougherty as Vice-President, and myself as President. I am extremely grateful to these three individuals for volunteering to continue to provide leadership and service to the Society. Elsewhere in this issue of the Timeline, you will find a chart which details the various committees that operate as a part of our governance structure. I encourage you to review this chart and consider joining a committee. The strength of the Society comes from the unique talents of our members, and your support and assistance would be extremely beneficial.

We continue the Society's 80th anniversary celebration with a listing of past presidents. Percival G. Rennick, the first president of the Society, studied both local and state history and was an expert on the life of President Abraham Lincoln. This year was the 50th Anniversary of the Rennick Art Show, named in his honor. As an engineer who was challenged to draw a straight line, I am amazed by the artistic talents of those who entered their artwork in this show.

I hope to see all of you on the Spirit of Peoria in August. The river is the reason why our community exists, and this is a wonderful way to recognize the importance of this unique natural resource. Make your reservations early to insure your chance of catching the Leprechaun with his pot of gold.

Have a wonderful summer,

Mark L. Johnson

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.- 12 p.m.
1 p.m.-4: 30p.m. Monday-Friday
Phone: 309.677.2822

STAFF

Walter C. Ruppman
Executive Director

Bob Killion
Curator of Collections, Technology

Judy Earls
Administrative Assistant

OFFICERS

Mark Johnson
President

Deborah Dougherty
Vice President

Jim Carballido
Treasurer

Jennifer C. Martin
Secretary/Timeline Editor

Russ Crawford
Past President

TRUSTEES

Suzie Adcock

Dean Cantu

Kathy Dallinger

Mary DuBois

Chuck Frey

Brent Goken

John Haverhals

Nick Hayward

Linda Herron

Beth Jensen

Kevin Kizer

Jon Neidy

Susan Bock (DAR)

John Parks

Stacy Peterson

Gerd Prewitt

Sid Paul Ruckriegel

Richard Schwebel

Steven Streight

Jeff Thomas

W. Eric Turner

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 \$7, Children 12 and under \$3.
\$20 minimum for tours



Distribution of Timeline courtesy of:

PNC BANK



LaHood 2014 de Tonti Recipient

The Historical Society Board of Trustees, in conjunction with the Institute for Principled Leadership in Public Service at Bradley University, is pleased to honor former U.S. Secretary of Transportation, the Honorable Ray LaHood, with the 2014 Henri de Tonti award for outstanding principled community leadership. An award ceremony will be held Saturday, September 20 at 7:00 p.m. in the Peoria Civic Center ballroom.

The de Tonti award is presented annually to a tri-county individual or business with a consideration of the following attributes:

- Community leadership based on a foundation of integrity and high ethical principles,
- Community leadership operating in a bipartisan and collaborative manner,
- Community leadership focused on finding solutions to critical issues,
- Community leadership dedicated to promoting the positive attributes of the area communities

- Community leadership committed to developing future principled public service leaders, and
- Community leadership devoted to promoting and advancing Peoria's historical heritage.

Following his graduation from Bradley University in 1971, Ray LaHood taught middle school social studies and has stated, "teaching kids . . . about the constitution and government" stirred his interest in politics. From 1982 until 1994, LaHood was the administrative assistant and ultimately the chief of staff to U.S. House minority leader, the Honorable Robert Michel. When Michel announced his retirement in 1994, LaHood ran for and won his seat in the House, representing Illinois's 18th congressional district for the next 14 years. Ray served on the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence and the House Appropriations Committee. In 2008, President-elect Barack Obama announced that he would nominate LaHood to be the next Transportation Secretary. LaHood served as the Transportation Secretary for four years during the first term of Obama's Presidency.

During LaHood's departing press conference as U.S. Secretary of Transportation, President Obama stated, "Ray LaHood is an outstanding public servant who is a role model for the bipartisan leadership America so desperately needs." In 2013, LaHood was named the first Honorary Senior Distinguished Fellow for the Institute for Principled Leadership in Public Service at his alma mater. In this position former Secretary LaHood participates in national public policy symposia and is a guest lecturer to Bradley students.

While there are many examples of the leadership LaHood has brought to the Tri-County area over his years of public service, we are specifically recognizing his leadership and creativity in the development of the Peoria Riverfront Museum project.

Please join us as we honor Ray LaHood, truly one of the area's distinguished leaders, at the Henri de Tonti award celebration on Saturday, September 20th. Reservations for individual tickets (\$150 per person) or tables of ten (\$1,500) may be made through the Peoria Historical Society website at www.peoriahistoricalsociety.org or by calling the Society office at 674-1921.



Rennick Winners Announced

The winners of the 50th Annual Rennick Art Show were honored during an artists' reception held May 17th in the Lower Level Gallery of the Peoria Public Library Main Branch.

Constance Andrews was awarded Best in Show for "Bringing Him to Life," an oil interpretation of Preston Jackson's creation of the Richard Pryor statue.

Also honored were:

First Place

"Peoria Riverscape"
Jack Ryan

Second Place

"Storm Across the Land"
Susan Carson

Third Place

"Cordage Building, Peoria"
Joshua Cox

Honorable Mentions

"Moonrise 'Water' Street" - Bob Drake

"Grandview Autumn" - David Gregory

"Picnic in the Park" - P.K. Bhosale

"Snow Path" - Sue Marx

"We Are All One" - Myra Branch

"Honey Time" - Mary Hildebrand

"Was Here" - Emma Long

"High Street Giant Oak Tree" - Margie Schwebel

"November 17, 2013 Tornado" - Margie Schwebel

"Under the Cedar Street Bridge" - Todd Snyder

Attendees were treated to a gallery walk with judge Maryruth Ginn and refreshments supplied by PHS Board members and volunteers.

The Peoria Historical Society would like to thank Margie Schwebel for her years of dedication planning and organizing the Rennick Show to make it a continuing success.

Annual Meeting

The 80th annual meeting of the Peoria Historical Society was held Wednesday, May 7 at 7:00 p.m. in the Peoria Riverfront Museum auditorium. The guest speaker was Mrs. Vickie Howell, great-great granddaughter of Josiah

Fulton, one of the first seven settlers to arrive at the abandoned site of Fort Clark in 1819 to begin the modern settlement of Peoria. Mrs. Howell provided personal anecdotes and excerpts from Josiah Fulton's diaries to describe the earliest days of Peoria's founding.

During the business meeting, PHS President Mark Johnson recognized outgoing trustees Laura Havran, Marianne Moll, and Greg Rastatter for their years of dedicated service and welcomed new trustees Suzie Adcock, Beth Jensen, and John Parks.

The Board also recognized the following organizations and individuals for their commitment to preserving Peoria's history:

Volunteer of the Year

Chris Coulter

Guardian Award

Barbara Drake

Historic Preservation Award

Peoria Public Library, Lincoln Branch

Centenarian Award

Ideal Troy Cleaners

Ito Hall

P.J. Hoerr



State Honors Betty Friedan Committee

On Saturday, April 26, the Illinois State Historical Society presented more than forty awards honoring the work of historians, museums, historical societies, and individuals who have advanced the study and preservation of Illinois history. The presentations were made at the Society's Annual Awards Luncheon and 115th Annual Meeting, held at the Illinois Executive Mansion in Springfield.

Among the honorees was the Betty Friedan Hometown Tribute Committee, recognized with an award for Superior Achievement for "It Changed Us! A Hometown Celebration of the 50th Anniversary of *The Feminine Mystique*, by Betty Friedan"

This special project—nominated by the Peoria Historical Society—honored Betty Friedan, a native Peorian, "hometown Illinois girl," and a moving force in changing the world of consciousness and action for women and men. The Hometown Tribute Committee used the 50th anniversary of the

Barbara Drake and the Betty Friedan Hometown Tribute Project Committee receive an award of "Superior Achievement" from Illinois State Historical Society President Russell Lewis and Vice President Elaine Egdorf at the Executive Mansion in Springfield.

publication of Friedan's book, *The Feminine Mystique*, to promote better understanding of Friedan in her birthplace and beyond. The event attracted several hundred people and allowed for women in attendance to present testimonials about how her book affected their lives. These testimonials are now being archived and posted on the Betty Friedan Hometown Tribute website.

Summer at Flanagan

The Judge John C. Flanagan House Museum welcomed the return of sunshine and warmer weather with "In the Good Old Summertime," a tribute to the season featuring vintage swimwear, Edwardian lawn dresses, photographs, tools, sports, and other river life memorabilia.

Flanagan House is open from 1:00 -4:00 p.m. July 6 and August 3, or by appointment. Admission is \$7 for adults and \$3 for children. A

\$10 combination ticket is available when touring both Flanagan and Pettengill-Morrison Houses on the same day.

Looking for a special way to celebrate Independence Day? Join PHS at Flanagan House on July 4th starting at 6:00 p.m. Bring a picnic basket and enjoy expansive river views while you await the city fireworks. Admission is \$5 for adults and \$3 for children. Tours of the home will be given at a discounted holiday rate of only \$5 for adults. Popcorn, soda, and bottled water will be available for \$1. Seating is limited, so bring your lawn chair or blanket early to reserve your seat!

Afternoon Tea at P-M House

Join the Peoria Historical Society at Pettengill-Morrison House on Sunday, September 21 from 2:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m. for an afternoon of aristocratic luxury and elegance .

Nibble tea-time delicacies as our "Downstairs" staff provides unmatched service Edwardian-style. Tickets are \$35 each. For more information, or to purchase tickets, contact the office at 674-1921.



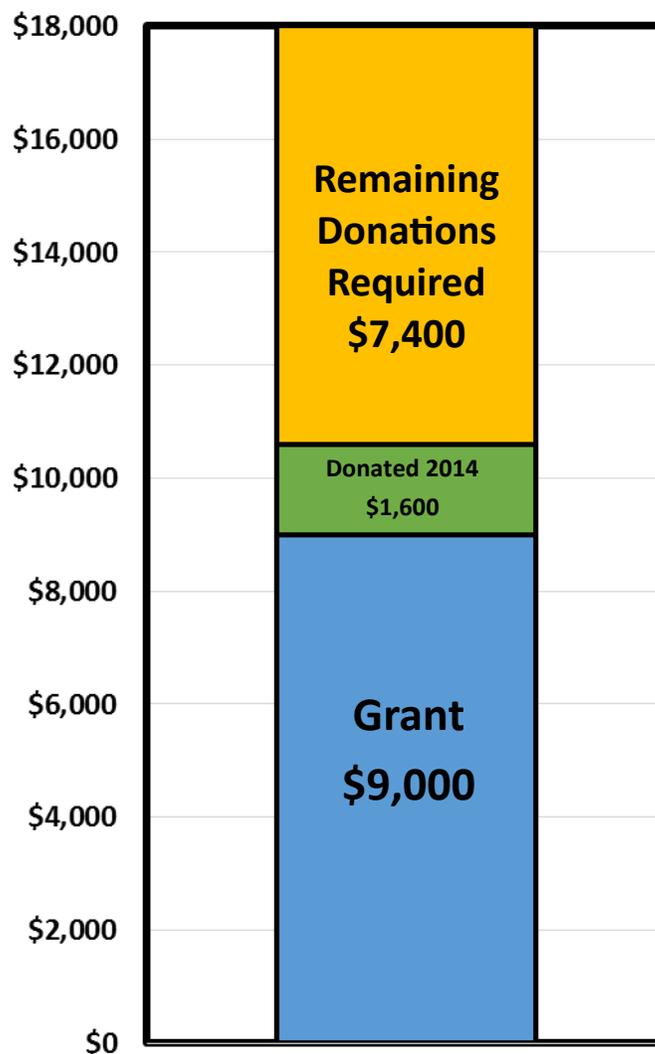
Flanagan AC Campaign Progresses

The Historical Society's primary capital fund drive for 2014 is focused on the installation of an air conditioning system in Flanagan House. The air conditioning unit would not only allow for the comfort of guests and organizations who visit the home, but also protect and preserve the museum's temperature-sensitive artifacts. This necessary upgrade is estimated to cost approximately \$18,000.

A grant has been identified which would fund half of this cost if PHS can raise the remaining half of the funds, or a total of \$9,000.

So far this year, PHS has received three donations totaling \$1,600 toward this capital fund campaign. \$7,400 is still needed to make this project a reality.

Please help us continue to preserve these unique pieces of Peoria history and donate to this most critical capital fund drive. Thank you for your support.



Flanagan A/C Cost

2014 Trolley Tour Schedule

Our 1 1/2 hour tours depart from either Kelleher's Irish Pub or Harp & Thistle. Tickets are \$15.00 per person. Passengers pay the CityLink 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!

Roll Out the Barrel Tour-From 1850 to Prohibition, the volume of whiskey distilled, aged, bottled and shipped made Peoria the whiskey capital. The distilleries, several large breweries, and extensive stockyards here also created the second largest grain market in the country. Travel through the earliest sections of Downtown and Peoria's Warehouse District to discover facts about distilling in Peoria.

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?

2014 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 Harp & Thistle	Grandview Drive & Springdale Cemetery	River City	Grandview Drive & Springdale Cemetery	River City	Grandview Drive & Springdale Cemetery
Saturday 10:30am Kelleher's Irish	Abraham Lincoln & The Civil War	Naughty to Nice	Naughty to Nice	Abraham Lincoln & The Civil War	Haunted Peoria
Saturday 1:00pm Kelleher's Irish Pub	Naughty to Nice	Roll Out the Barrel	Roll Out the Barrel	Haunted Peoria	Haunted Peoria

The Newsletter of the
Peoria Historical Society

611 SW Washington
Peoria, Illinois 61602

Phone: 309-674-1921
Fax: 309-674-1882
Website: <http://www.peoriahistoricalsociety.org>
And on Facebook

Non-profit Organization

U.S. Postage Paid

Permit # 745

Peoria, IL 61602



The Peoria Historical Society is proud to name the Honorable Ray LaHood as recipient of the 2014 Henri de Tonti Award for Principled Leadership. For more about LaHood and the 2014 de Tonti Celebration, please turn to page 3.

TIMELINE

