

A Century of Beautiful Brides

What better way to usher in the season of renewed hope and life than with a celebration of joy and romance? Flanagan House will present “A Century of Beautiful Brides” during April, May, and June. The display features striking bridal fashions representing over one hundred years of romantic fashions, including Gibson Girl elegance and Titanic-era silhouettes, flapper styles from the Roaring 20’s, Silver Screen glamour, all the way through mod 1960’s minis and the natural lines of the 1970’s.

The collection also includes wedding photos, jewelry, cake toppers and other bridal memorabilia.

The exhibit opens April 7, and will be available for viewing May 5 and June 2 from 1:00 p.m.—4:00 p.m. Admission is \$7.00 for adults and \$3.00 for children.

The Flanagan House Museum is located at 942 NE Glen Oak.



49th Annual Rennick Juried Art Show Accepting Submissions April 26



The 49th Annual Rennick Juried Art Show kicks off in April. This year, submissions are expanded to include pottery, sculpture, glass, digital photography, and fiber art, in addition to watercolor, photographs, oil, pen and ink, colored pencil, chalk, mixed media, and acrylic.

The entry fee for the first piece of art is \$15.00 and \$10.00 for each additional piece. The First Place winner will receive \$300. Second and Third Place will receive ribbons. Entries will be accepted at the Peoria

Public Library Main Branch on Friday, April 26 between 10:00 am and 5:30 pm.

Artwork will be available for viewing between the hours 9:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. May 1-31. Admission is free. An artists’ reception will be held on May 11 from 1:00 p.m.—3:00 p.m.

For more information, or to obtain an entry form, visit www.peoriahistoricalsociety.org, www.peoriapubliclibrary.org, or contact Marjorie Schwebel at 309-672-2363.

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and on Facebook

adminphs@peoriahistoricalsociety.org

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: 309.674.1920.

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 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Spring is right around the corner. The new tulips will soon be blooming in front of Flanagan House, bringing with them a renewed sense of growth and energy. At the Peoria Historical Society, we are excited by the many ongoing updates currently underway at both our historic homes. The kitchen and pantry at Pettengill-Morrison House are ready for a fresh coat of paint, and students from Illinois Central College's PCCEO construction training program have offered to assist with repairs on the roof and carport. Flanagan House will be closed during the month of March to allow for continued repairs to the kitchen. We would like to thank our generous donors who have allowed for the upkeep and revitalization of our historic homes. We would also like to recognize the businesses who have donated their time and talents to these projects, including:

- P&W Lumber for providing lumber to repair the P-M House porch
- Good Earth Landscaping for free lawn service and tree removal
- Van Buskirk Tree Service for free stump removal
- Maluko Restoration for free tuckpointing of the Flanagan porch and
- The Home Depot provided a gift card toward the purchase of more efficient lighting at Pettengill-Morrison House

While 2013 is still young, the Peoria Historical Society has already been part of wonderful programming. On February 7, we welcomed Dr. Michael Wiant, executive director of the Illinois State Museum at Dickson Mounds to our first general membership meeting of the year. Dr. Wiant discussed the history of Native American settlements around Lake Peoria, from the earliest Ice Age inhabitants to the last vestiges of Potawatomi settlements of the 19th century. PHS was also proud to be a part of the 50th Anniversary celebration of Betty Friedan's *The Feminine Mystique*, presented in conjunction with the Peoria Riverfront Museum. The partnership between PHS and the Peoria Riverfront Museum was further recognized on February 22 with a reception honoring the artists in the *Ciao and Friends* exhibit, and those who contributed the Duryea Trap and Courthouse Clock. We are grateful for the Riverfront Museum's continued support as we both continue to preserve Peoria's remarkable history.

As we move forward into springtime, our calendar is packed with a number of events certain to educate, excite, and entertain. Plans for this year's highly popular trolley tours are already underway. Our first guide meeting was February 18, and we are looking forward to working with a knowledgeable, enthusiastic group. Flanagan House will reopen April 7 with a celebration of "A Century of Beautiful Brides," while Pettengill-Morrison House will share Jean Morrison's adventures in "Miss Morrison's Travels." After a few years' hiatus, the Peoria Historical Society will once again participate in the Moss Avenue Sale.

We encourage all members to attend the annual meeting Wednesday, May 8 from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Professor Ann Durkin Keating will discuss Peoria Indian agent Thomas Forsythe and Potawatomi Indian Chief Black Partridge and their roles in the Battle of Fort Dearborn. Her book, *Rising Up from Indian Country—the Battle of Fort Dearborn and the Birth of Chicago* is the first selection in the newly established PHS book group.

We appreciate your continued support and hope you will join us on one of the many exciting opportunities available in 2013.

Walter C. Ruppman, Executive Director

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PNC BANK

PHS Helps Honor Proctor Pink Ladies

Linda Herron of the Peoria Historical Society was asked to create a display marking the 125th anniversary of the Proctor Service Auxiliary. Originally, the “Pink Ladies” served homemade soup and provided companionship to hospital patients. Today, they serve up smiles to both patients and guests as greeters and in the snack and gift shops.

The display is located above the revolving door at the hospital’s main entrance.



PHS to hold Yard Sale at Pettengill-Morrison during Moss Avenue Sale!

A couple of years ago, PHS participated in the Moss Avenue Sale in June by holding a yard sale on the front lawn of the Pettengill-Morrison House. The sale generated some revenue to the Society as well as bringing people onto the house property where they may be enticed to tour the home. The Trustees have decided to sponsor such an event again in 2013. The co-ordinator for the event will be Beth Johnson, wife of PHS Vice-President Mark Johnson.

To ensure a successful sale, we are asking PHS members to donate their used household merchandise to the Society. We will accept almost anything except clothing, computer associated items, and TV's. It would be greatly appreciated if you would mark your items with a price before dropping them off at the P-M house. Drop-offs of merchandise at the P-M house are scheduled for the first Friday and Sunday of March, April, May and June, Friday mornings from 10am until noon on March 1, April 5, May 3 or June 7 and Sunday afternoons from 1pm until 3pm on March 3, April 7, May 5 and June 2.

Volunteers will also be needed to help set up the sale as well as work during the sale. Please contact Beth Johnson at 264-6119 to discuss volunteer possibilities. We will be advertising our sale as: ***The Oldest and Most Interesting Stuff for Sale in Peoria - sponsored by the Peoria Historical Society***

Miss Morrison's Travels

Join us at the Pettengill-Morrison House this spring as we explore the adventures of teacher, philanthropist, and civic leader Jean Morrison. The exhibit will highlight Miss Morrison's travels in New York, Boston, Paris, London, and other European cities. Memorabilia will include Miss Morrison's trunks, books, postcards, souvenirs, and travel garments. The event opens April 7, and continues through the month of June. Museum hours are 1:00 p.m.—4:00 p.m. the first Saturday of the month or by appointment. Admission is \$7 for adults and \$3 for children. Visit www.peoriahistoricalsociety.org for details or call 309-674-1921.

Cinco de Mayo Party at Flanagan House!

Join us for a festive "Girls' Day Out" on Sunday, May 5th from 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Flanagan House Museum. Enjoy sweet and savory treats, as well as Mexican Wedding cakes. Try on colorful vintage hats and accessories from the 1950's and 60's and strike a pose in Flanagan House's scenic river-view backyard. Musical entertainment, special displays, a tour of the museum and much more. A perfect way to celebrate spring with mothers, daughters, granddaughters, friends and other special ladies in your life. Admission is \$15.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children 4-12. Advance registration, please 309-674-1921.

Fredericksburg: In the Heart of the Civil War

The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at Bradley University and the Peoria Historical Society cordially invite you to participate in a new Civil War learning experience. Join veteran travelers Bernie Drake and Sue Manley September 3 - 11, 2013 as we learn about the Battle of Fredericksburg, the Battle of Chancellorsville, and the Battles of the Wilderness and Spotsylvania Courthouse. Our tour will include stops in at the National Museum of the United States Air Force and William Tecumseh Sherman's birthplace in Ohio; the Woodrow Wilson Presidential birthplace and library in West Virginia; and other historic sites along the route. As is customary with all of our trips, we'll enjoy our meals in interesting restaurants that you won't find at home, and a portion of your trip fee supports the Peoria Historical Society! Peoria Charter Coach will provide our transportation.

Visit our website at <http://www.bradley.edu/academic/continue/public/fredericksburg/> or contact Debbie Devine or Sue Manley at 309-677-2820 for more information. Spaces fill up quickly, so make your reservation today!

Other Notables:

*PHS past president Marilyn Leyland will present a program entitled Underground History: Peoria Area Coal Mining on March 7 at 7 p.m. at ICC -North. The session is part of ICC's Adult Community Programs, No. **CPLEC41121**. Pre-registration is available online at <http://campusce.icc.edu/acp/Course/Course.aspx?c=1076> or by calling 690-6900. The fee is \$12.

*In celebration of Women's History Month, poet and writer Laura Madeline Wiseman will read from her work *Unclose the Door*, about early Illinois suffragist, writer and lecturer Matilda Fletcher at noon on March 25 in the Wyckoff Room of Bradley's Cullom-Davis Library. Admission is free.

*Look for the history issue of InterBusinessIssues, arriving in mid-May!

Book Group Dates

PHS Board Trustees Deborah Dougherty and Mark Johnson are announcing the formation of a PHS Book Study Group. The group will meet every other month to discuss books with a focus on Illinois, Midwestern, and American history. Members will select a book at each meeting and then discuss at the following meeting. The meetings will be held in the Lakeview Room of the Peoria Public Library Lakeview Branch (1137 West Lake Avenue).

The first book for discussion is entitled, "Rising Up from Indian Country - The Battle of Fort Dearborn and the Birth of Chicago" by Ann Durkin Keating.

The book group will meet on the following Wednesdays, from 4 until 5 p.m. at the Lakeview Room at the Lakeview Branch Library.

March 20

May 29

July 31

Sept. 18

Nov. 20



Flanagan House Museum warmed up February with “Vintage Valentines,” a display of Valentine lingerie, cards, candy boxes, and other memorabilia celebrating the month of romance. Thank you to all the members , contributors, and volunteers who made the event a success.



David Rogers, Marilyn Leyland, Gerd Prewett, and Laura Havran with one of the Valentine displays. David and Marilyn contributed many Valentines from their



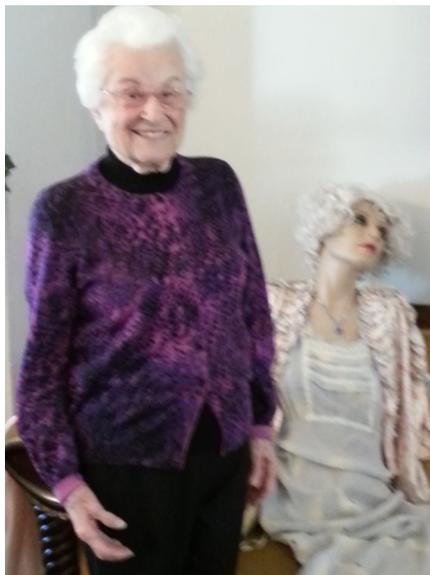
A small sample of the hundreds of Valentines on display at Flanagan House



Volunteer Nikki Depauw, dressed in her lovely 1860’s costume, enjoyed showing guests some of the hundreds of antique Valentines on display.



Marilyn Leyland shares the history of Flanagan House with visiting Cub Scouts.



Longtime volunteer and past DAR Regent Georgiana Haynes poses with one of the models.



A coy beauty models antique lingerie.

The Newsletter of the
Peoria Historical Society

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website: <http://www.peoriahistoricalsociety.org>
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Peoria, IL

1934



This gown from 1915 is featured during “A Century of Beautiful Brides,” opening April 7 at Flanagan House.

Timeline

