

Long Grove Times

Long Grove Historical Society's Quarterly Newsletter

June 2010

Trivially Speaking...

Long Grove was the setting for a celebrity wedding in 1970's... do you remember who the star was? Best known for her role as Jeannie in the TV cult classic "I Dream of Jeannie", Barbara Eden and Chuck Fegert were married in Long Grove in 1977. Chuck was an executive for the Chicago Sun-Times and the two met while Barbara was doing a show at the Palmer House in downtown Chicago. Why Long Grove? Nobody seems to remember for sure, but they did own a farm in northern Lake County, and speculation is that the couple simply found Long Grove a charming setting for their nuptials. The first season of "I Dream of Jeannie," filmed in 1965, was the last TV series filmed in Black and White. The last episode of the show was broadcast in 1970, though it lives on forever in syndication.

Fireside Chat II

It's baaaaaaaaack... join us for our second "Fireside Chat" on Friday evening, June 11

7:30pm at Reed Turner Woodland. This popular free program features a few long time residents and their tales of old Long Grove. This installment presents "old timers" Bob Borg, Bill Peterson, and Dick Ullrich.

By the way, that's not Bob, Bill, or Dick in the picture... this picture is taken from our recently published book, *In Retrospect... Stories of Early Long Grove and Lake County, Illinois*. It just seemed to fit the mood of the event—three distinguished Long Grove gentlemen, passing the time in good conversation. See our website—LongGroveHistory.org for more information about the book (including how you can purchase your very own copy).



SAVE THE DATE For Barbara Rinella!

Mark Your Calendars

- Friday, June 11, 7:30pm, Fireside Chat at Reed Turner
- Monday, July 12 at 10am, Garden Walk at the herb garden.
- Monday, Sept. 27 at 9am, Barbara Rinella Book Dramatization and Breakfast

Our annual book dramatization by Barbara Rinella is scheduled for Monday, September 27th at 9am. The book this year will be—*American Lion, Andrew Jackson in the White House*, by Jon Meacham. The event, to be held at the Arboretum in Buffalo Grove, will also include a buffet breakfast. Stay tuned for ticket information in our next newsletter or online at LongGroveHistory.org

All About Us...



The Long Grove Historical Society is a 501C3 non-profit organization whose purpose is to preserve and disseminate the history of the Long Grove area. Annual membership is available for a donation of \$30 (individual), \$50 (family), or \$100 (sustaining). Members receive our quarterly newsletter as well as access to a variety of events held throughout the year. To become a member, send your donation to Georgia Cawley, LGHS Membership, 4509 RFD, Long Grove, IL 60047, along with your name, address, telephone number, email. If you have any special interests, skills or things you'd be interested in volunteering to help out with, be sure to let us know that as well.

2009 2011 Board

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The Society was formed in March, 1974, to accept the Drexler Tavern building as a gift. A joint project with the Village Board made possible the relocation of the tavern to a site behind the current Kildeer Countryside School. Today we know the building not as Drexler Tavern, but simply as Village Hall. Two additional structures have also been relocated to this area—one of the area's one room schoolhouses, Archer School, and a mid-1800's barn, Ruth Barn. The school and the barn form the core of the program we run each year for our local schools, so that our children can experience first hand what life used to be like in Long Grove. Last, but not least, a mid-1800's farm house was relocated to an area bordering the southwest corner of the Stemple Parking lot. "The Farmhouse", as we refer to it, houses our archives, a meeting room, and several restored "period" rooms that we open occasionally for tours. In addition to maintaining the above properties and our educational programs, we actively acquire items of local historic interest for our archives and conduct a variety of historical programs for current residents. We receive no tax dollars and exist solely from your contributions and our own fundraising efforts.

Thank you for your support!

Historical Society News.. The new book is now available! To celebrate, we hosted a book launch party in April at the Long Grove Café. Here's a few snaps of the event:



LEE BASSETT PROVIDED ENTERTAINMENT



BOOK COMMITTEE MEMBERS BARBARA ENGLISH & TINA MALL



KATHY WIBERG AND STEVE BERG LOOK ON AS TONY BERG SHARES A STORY ABOUT AUTHOR GWEN BERG.

Our new book is called *In Retrospect... Stories of Early Long Grove and Lake County, Illinois*. See the LongGroveHistory.org website for "order by mail" instructions, or you can purchase a copy locally at either the Long Grove Information Center (634-0888) or at the Trillium shop (883-8867).



Check out our historical herb garden on Monday, July 12. It is one of several area gardens featured on the Garden Club's annual garden walk. A box lunch is included.

Contact Sue of the Long Grove Kildeer Garden Club at 634-2374 to make your reservation for the walk.

Out and About

Back in the Day...

One of the more interesting pictures we restored for our new book was taken in a saloon in Prairie View. While there seemed to be no shortage of Saloons in the Long Grove area over the years, they apparently haven't always been universally popular with the locals. Here's an excerpt from a 1918 Chicago Tribune article:

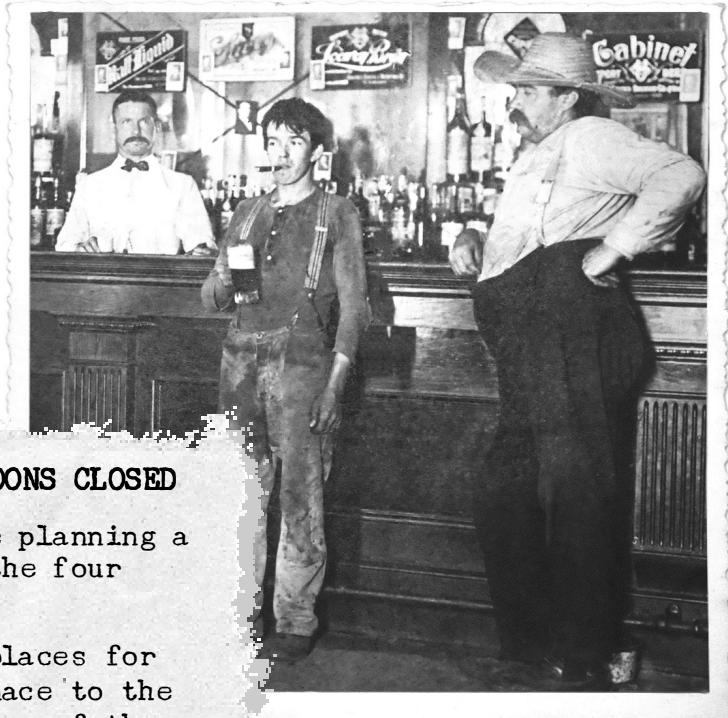
LOYAL CITIZENS WANT HALF DAY SALOONS CLOSED

Loyal citizens of Lake County are planning a campaign to put out of business the four saloons at Half Day.

"The citizens are against these places for patriotic reasons. They are a menace to the welfare of the soldiers and sailors of the north shore and the government, we believe, will act if the local authorities refuse to end the nuisances," reports Rev. Thomas Quayle, head of the Lake County Law and Order League. "There have been repeated instances of sailors and soldiers as well as young girls being sold intoxicants in several of the places."

The commandant of Fort Sheridan reports that fifty eight of his men have become intoxicated from liquor sold in the Half Day saloons. He views it as "excessively unpatriotic" for the saloons to be allowed to remain open.

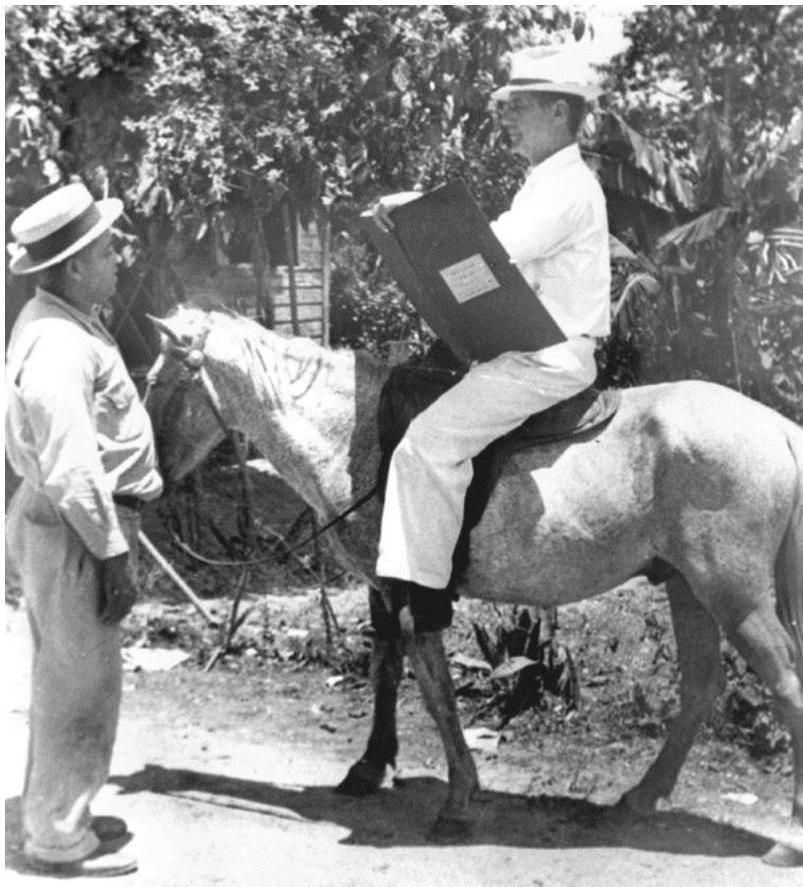
It is reported that agents of the government's anti-vice group, the Fosdick Commission, are keeping the Half Day establishments under surveillance and that a new report is expected soon.



From our archives, comes this description by someone who lived in the area at the time:

"Early in the 1900's the saloons at Half Day catered to Chicago's first motorists, who enjoyed the adventure of early automobile trips into the countryside. Later though, they became more scandalous and no lady would set foot in there, unless she was fetching her man out."

Family History Corner



Heckinshiler, Herche, Herne, Hesika, Hessback, Isler, Kift, Keough, Klink, Knedler, Leopold, Litchfield, Meyer, Navelly, Pahlman, Reese, Ruth, Sauer, Sigwalt, Sly, Snyder, Storm, Ulrich, Vanderbocker, Wehrenbert, Weicand, Wendling, Wiand, Wickersham, Wigham, and Wisekup. The average age of the man of the house was 47.

You may notice the spelling on some of those names as being a bit off – that was typical as census takers were left to their own talents (or lack thereof) in how to translate what they were being told onto paper. Often they didn't speak the same language as the household. To make matters worse, the educated people of the household weren't always home when the census taker called, so they got what information they could from whoever was home – teenagers were no more dependable than they are now.

In thinking about that “official history,” you might ponder the names above and wonder... “hey, where are the Gridleys?”. They were, in fact, still living in Long Grove, but they took their mail at Half Day. Back then, it was up to each family to set up an account with a post office, and the Gridleys apparently decided to continue using the Half Day post office when Long Grove’s post office was created.

The official histories of Long Grove tout the original settlers as being from Alsace-Lorraine – an area that sits on the border between France and Germany. Do we find evidence of that?

It's a census year! Perhaps it might be fun to go back 140 years and take a look at the 1870 census of the area? Have you responded to the 2010 census yet? If so, it was probably a questionnaire that you received in the mail and returned via the mail. In 1870, that wasn't an option – all the census data was collected in person by “census takers”. These folks would visit each and every household and received compensation to the tune of 2 cents for every person they enumerated, plus 10 cents for every farm, plus 10 cents for every business, and 15 cents for every mile they travelled to accomplish all this.

Since one of the questions asked of people in 1870 was which post office they used, and since Long Grove had a post office at that time, it's pretty straight forward to identify the “Long Grovers” in the census. There were just over 50 households listed. Family names included: Archer, Arnold, Barbaras, Bergaman, Bloomingdale, Bopp, Burlingback, Clingman, Ellis, Foltz, Giss, Hans,

Page No. 11 } Inquiries numbered 7, 16, and 17 are not to be asked in respect to infants. Inquiries numbered 11, 12, 15, 16, 17, 19, and 20 are to be answered (if any) merely by an affirmative mark, as /.

SCHEDULE 1.—Inhabitants in Neenah, in the County of Lake, State of Wisconsin, enumerated by me on the 16th day of Aug, 1870. 676
Post Office: Long Grove *Ansel B. Coon, Asst Marshal.*

We sure do – 80 percent of the households listed claim their birthplace as either France or Germany. The other 20 percent were primarily from the eastern US – Pennsylvania, New York and Vermont.

More than 90 percent of these households were farmers. Exceptions were: a merchant – Chris Sauer, a carpenter- Christian Wendling, a blacksmith – Theodore Keough, and last but not least, a woman saloon keeper – Barbary Arnold.

Looking through names, you probably recognize a few of them as being “famous” – Archer, Hans, Isler, Pahlman, Ruth, Sauer, Sigwalt, Wickersham – their stories are reasonably well known and can be found in the “official” history books. Fame isn’t always fair, of course... so we thought it would be fun to pick of few of the “lesser knows” from this list and do a bit of quick genealogy research to see what their stories were:

Samuel Clingman – Samuel would eventually move west from Long Grove and settle in Oakdale, Nebraska, where together with a son, he would found a newspaper – “Oakdale Sentinel”, which was published from the 1880’s all the way into the 1950’s.

Harrison Knedler – In the 1860’s, the Knedler family built and ran a grist mill (made flour by grinding grain) in Prairie View. Harrison’s sons would run that mill until the 1940’s.

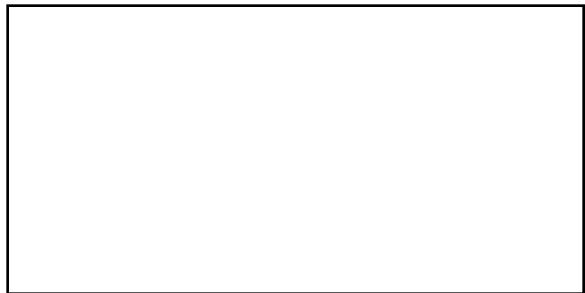
Frederick Reese – In May of 1942, one of Frederick’s daughters, sat down and wrote of what she knew of her origins...

THE REESE FAMILY WAS FROM NORTHERN GERMANY AND WERE A TALL MUSCULAR PEOPLE. I’M NOT SURE THEY HAD ANY FRENCH IN THEM, BUT THEY USED MANY FRENCH WORDS – THE CHILDREN COUNTED IN FRENCH. ALSO, SOME OF THE REESSES LOOKED TOO FINE GRAIN FOR REAL GERMANS. IN 1852, HEINRICH (FREDERICK’S FATHER), CAME ACROSS THE OCEAN. IT WAS A 6 WEEK VOYAGE. HE BROUGHT HIS 4 HUSKY SONS AND THEY BOUGHT A FARM FROM A “YANKEE” WHO HAD BEEN UNABLE TO MAKE THE FARM PROFITABLE. THERE WAS NO LAZINESS IN THE REESSES, AND THEY APPRECIATED AND LOVED THE SPIRIT OF FREEDOM AND DEMOCRACY, THE AMERICAN SPIRIT WHICH IS NOW IN CONTENTION AGAINST THE SLAVISH SPIRIT OF THE AXIS IN EUROPE AND JAPAN.

And, no, we don’t have a story to share about that saloon keeper, Barbary Arnold. We’ll let your imagination fill in the blanks on that one.



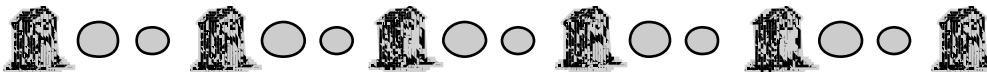
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OLDE PHRASES...



This issue's phrase for exploration is "dead ringer" - as in Joe's a "dead ringer" for his dad... meaning an exact duplicate or of identical appearance. Some mistakenly believe this phrase originates from days gone by when people were buried with a string attached to a bell on the surface. The bell could be rung by the deceased to let the world know they were not, in fact, deceased. Anyway... the phrase "dead ringer" has nothing to do with premature burial of the dead. Rather, the phrase originated in the late 1800's, when less than scrupulous horse racers would slyly substitute in a professional, proven horse for an unknown one just prior to a race.



Follow Up...

A few newsletters back, we remarked that our Society's Archer School Outhouse was the only Long Grove outhouse that was known to be still standing... well... we found another one! We were contacted by an estate in Buffalo Grove soliciting our interest in acquiring an old barn that was moved from Long Grove onto a Buffalo Grove farm in the 1960's. Turns out they not only moved a barn, but also moved an outhouse along with it. So while it's a Long Grove outhouse, it's actually located now in Buffalo Grove. For those keeping score, that means we in Long Grove are currently tied with Buffalo Grove in the outhouse competition at one facility apiece. We will claim the tie breaker on this, though, since their outhouse was originally from Long Grove anyway. Ever wondered why outhouses have two seats? After all, it's not as if you typically bring along a friend whenever nature calls... If you look closely, you'll notice that the holes are different sizes. There was a larger hole for the adults and there was a smaller hole for the children. Most children learned very early not to sit on the bigger hole...