



# Long Grove Times



Long Grove Historical Society's Quarterly Newsletter

September 2013

## Trivially Speaking...

Ever see one of those old movies where somebody decides to leave this world by sticking their head in a gas oven? Never heard of anyone actually doing that? Would it really kill you? The answer to this morbid mystery lies in the fact that the natural gas we have today is a whole lot less poisonous than the coal gas used in the early 1900's. What does this have to do with Long Grove? One of Long Grove's most prominent residents met his demise via this gas – see this issue's feature story for more details.

# AUCTION

The Long Grove Historical Society will hold a benefit auction on **September 12, at the Long Grove Village Tavern, 7:00pm.** Bid on antiques, golf packages, services, and other items. This years auctioneers are Chip Ulrich and Ron Bernardi from Sunset Foods.



## PROGRAM

The November meeting of the Long Grove Historical Society will be **November 3, 2:00pm.**

Richard Lindberg is our guest speaker from the Lake County Museum. Plan to attend this meeting at The Reed Turner Woodland, Old McHenry Road, Long Grove.

## Mark Your Calendars

- **Thursday, Sep 12th, 7pm**  
Auction at Village Tavern
- **Friday, Oct 25th, 7pm**  
Ghost Walk
- **Sunday, Nov 3rd, 2pm**  
Lake County Museum Prog.  
at Reed Turner Woodlands
- **Wednesday, Dec 4th, Noon**  
High Tea at Gerri's Tea Parlor

The HISTORICAL BOOK CLUB will be meeting again on **Monday, September 30th, noon** at Biaggi's in Deer Park for lunch and to discuss "The Chaperone", by Laura Moriarty. It's the tale of 1920's Chaperone in New York City. Even if you've not attended before, feel free to show up and join in with our book club. Lunch is "Dutch Treat".



# 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 Margie Federer, LGHS Membership, 4423 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.

### 2013/2014 Board

- Barbara English, President
- Aaron Underwood, Vice President
- Diane Trickey, Treasurer
- Myra Buettner, Recording Secretary
- Laurie Borawski, Past President
- Darlene Raynor, Publicity
- Bob Borg, Buildings & Maintenance
- Margie Federer, Membership
- Kathy Carlson, Outreach/Archer School Pgm
- Kathy Wiberg, Programs/Ways & Means
- Tina Mall, Curator
- Marie Borg, Ways & Means/Programs
- At large—
- Lee Bassett, Georgia Cawley, Gerri Campbell

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 Country-side 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 Farm-house", 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 Pictures...**our "historical hayride" during Heritage Days, prepping for the upcoming auction, and Long Grove's own George Quentin.



# QUENTIN'S CURSE

It's fall - the time of year I let my hair down a bit and claim some editorial license to indulge in macabre storytelling. This year, I submit for your approval, the inappropriately lighthearted tale of the unusual demise of the Quentins... may God rest their souls.

Carl Gottlieb Edward Quentin was born in central Germany in 1813. He was known as Charles (you'd think with three names to choose from he could have found something to his liking, but apparently not...). His future wife, Anna Maria Wehner, was born 1820 in Alsace. Like others from these parts of Germany, they found their way to Long Grove in the early 1840's, where they were married and raised a family of six boys and two girls.

I know what you're thinking – do these Quentin's have something to do with Quentin Road or, if you're really old, Quentin's Corners? Why yes they do – son number two, **Wilhelm Quentin**, ran the general store, which he called a Variety Store, at the corner of Northwest Highway and the “road that didn't have a name”. Locals apparently got tired of referring to it as that road over there by Quentins place, and started referring to it as Quintin Road. And that intersection became known as Quenten's Corners, and around 1900 it had become a bustling little village, not unlike the Long Grove crossroads – aside from Wilhelm's Variety Store, there was a creamery, a blacksmith shop, and even a hotel. Now, before you write to me and point out all the typos in how I am spelling the families name... I'm just trying to be historically accurate. You see, there were three or four versions of how the road and village was spelled on maps and signs of the area, and this persisted into the 1950's, until people in the area got so fed up they petitioned the county to get it all fixed back to a unified QUENTIN.

The youngest son, son #6, **George Julius Heinrich Quentin**, who simply went by the name of George was born in 1863. George stayed put in Long Grove when he came of age, and opened his own Creamery in the Village – the Long Grove Creamery. George built a home near the crossroads – what we now call the Red Oaks building. He eventually opened a second Creamery in Gilmer. He became active in local politics and was elected to the top office in Lake County – Chairman of the Lake County Board. He also operated the first gas station in Libertyville and a Moving Picture Theater in Chicago.

Not all of the family stayed in this area. Son #3, Carl Herman Fredrick Quentin , ...wait for it... known as Charles..., married a fellow Alsatian Long Grove gal, Barbara Spect, and they moved to Minnesota, where they had a son, **Edward G. Quentin**. Their stay was brief and they soon relocated back to Long Grove. Unfortunately both Charles and Barbara passed away shortly thereafter and Edward was raised an orphan by his uncle, Son #5, Edward Christoph Quentin.

In my ongoing research of this family, unusual obituaries kept cropping up. In my ever zealous quest for historical accuracy, I shall adopt yesteryear's practice of naming things associated with this family with the Quentin name itself. Flip the page for a few snippets of obituaries, which comprise evidence of what shall now be known as...

# QUENTIN'S CURSE

June 1915 - George Quentin, prominent business and political man of Lake County, committed suicide last Friday by turning on gas. His body was found in the half filled bath tub by neighbors who smelled the escaping gas. He was a candidate for county treasurer, but was defeated. He recently sold all his businesses and purchased a moving picture theater near West Madison and 42<sup>nd</sup> street in Chicago. A short note to his wife bidding her good bye was written but gave no motive for his committing such an act. He was considered well-to-do and Mrs. Quentin stated he was prospering in his new business.

1916 - Wilhelm Quentin, of Quentin Corners, took his life Wednesday afternoon of last week, by firing a bullet through his brain in the barn on the premises, and his lifeless body was found a short time afterwards by his aged wife. The verdict of the coroner's jury Thursday morning was that the victim shot himself with melancholy, the inquest being held at Lake Zurich.

1902 - Edward G. Quentin died in Chicago early Saturday morning, May 31, while hurrying to catch a North Clark street car, he fell in a man hole which had been left open. The manhole was three feet long and nearly a foot wide and Quentin fell headlong when he struck its edge. A compressed-air car, approaching at a rapid rate, struck him. His head and shoulders were ground beneath one of the front wheels and his feet were wedged beneath the others. The car stopped and passengers, employees and other persons who soon assembled, went to the man's assistance. Slight moans gave evidence that he was still alive, but the motorman feared to back up the car lest he should mangle Quentin more. Neither were the spectators and trainmen with their combined strength able to raise up the heavy car to release him. The wrecking wagon was over a half hour in arriving and when they lifted the car by jack screws, the man was dead.

The original immigrants Charles and Anna met their demise in the 1880's and are buried in the Long Grove Cemetery, as is manhole diving Edward. How did Charles and Anna pass? How about Edward's parents? I'm afraid to dig any deeper... perhaps more in a future issue when I've summoned the courage to continue...

# Pay Your Dues

It's that time of year—time to join up again for another year of membership. 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. If you have any special interests, skills, or talents, be sure to let us know that as well.

Please complete the form below, cut along the dotted line, enclose a check made payable to Long Grove Historical Society, and mail back to:

Long Grove Historical Society  
C/O Margie Federer  
4423 RFD  
Long Grove, IL 60047

- \$30 Individual Membership
- \$100 Sustaining Membership
- \$\_\_\_\_\_ Other Membership
- \$50 Family Membership
- \$500 Patron Membership

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

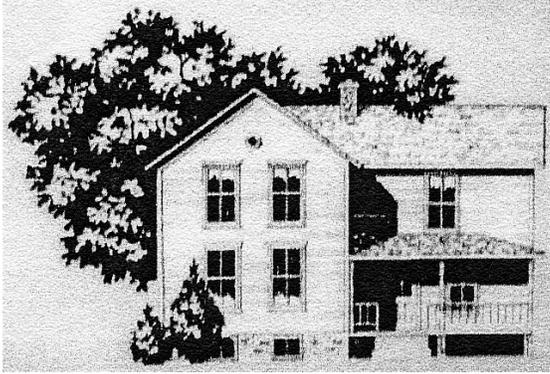
Thank You For Your Support!

## MEMBERSHIP—PASS IT ON!

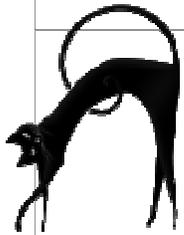
Here's an idea—renew your membership by simply dropping a check in the mail to us with the above details. Then... enjoy this newsletter and note all the upcoming events in your calendar. Then... (here comes the big idea...) pass this newsletter along to a friend with the suggestion they also join up. Tell them they'll be amazed at the variety of fun and educational programs this little volunteer group in this tiny crossroads village puts on every year.

Summon up your most persuasive speaking style and apply slight twist to their elbow joint. The community really does appreciate each and every resident that makes a contribution to saving and enjoying our local history.





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# Ghost Walk

The Long Grove Historical Society is having a Ghost Walk on Friday, October 25, 2013 at 7pm. Come and meet some former residents of the village. It will be a haunting good evening. Check our Facebook page:

[www.facebook.com/lghist](http://www.facebook.com/lghist)

for more details as the date approaches.

