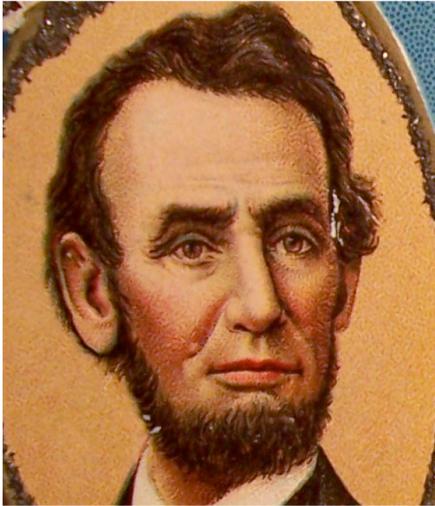


Flagg Creek Heritage Society Newsletter

Spring 2009



Calendar of Events

Tuesday, March 17th 7:00 p.m. Pleasant Dale Park District Recreation Center, 7425 Wolf Road, Burr Ridge.
“An Evening with Mr. and Mrs. Lincoln”
DVD documentary play about Abraham and Mary Todd Lincoln.

Tuesday, April 21st. 6:30 p.m. Pleasant Dale Park District Rec Center, Chicken Dinner, Annual Meeting & Election of Officers and showing of the FCHS Powerpoint presentation made to the Lyons Township Board of Trustees. Read on for details.

Saturday, May 23rd 10:00 a.m. - noon. Visit to the historic Portage Site made famous by explorers Joliet and Marquette . Docent Jeff Carter will speak and lead the tour.

Saturday, July 4th - Pleasant Dale Park District Independence Day celebration . FCHS Museum and Robert Vial House open 4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Plus FCHS annual Corn Roast, 4:00 - ‘til end of fireworks.

Saturday, August 8th, 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. Pleasant Dale Park Rec Center, Antique appraisals by Rex Newell. Register in advance.

March Program to Feature the Lincolns

Max and Donna Daniels will be featured in a one-act play, on DVD, entitled “An Evening with Mr. and Mrs. Lincoln”, set in the Civil War era, on Tuesday, March 17th, 7:00 p.m. (note time) at the Pleasant Dale Park District Recreation Center, 7425 South Wolf Road.

On display will be an original photograph of Lincoln, and the copy of another pose which was owned by the Robert Vial family. Also on view, a post card honoring Lincoln’s 100th birthday, part of which is shown above. Refreshments will be served. Invite friends and Lincoln enthusiasts to attend.

Chicken Dinner, Annual Meeting, Review of FCHS Past and Future April 21st

Mark your calendar for this important Tuesday evening, 6:30 p.m. at the Pleasant Dale Park Rec. Center. The traditional chicken and “sides” buffet will be followed by the Election of Officers and a showing of the recently created grant presentation shown to the Lyons Township Board.

For the dinner, please bring a side dish or
(continued next page)

Dinner (cont.)

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dessert to share, and \$3.00 per person for the chicken. Beverages and table service will be provided.

The program will feature an exciting illustrated PowerPoint presentation of the history of FCHS and its' significant contributions to the area. Produced by Jerry Welch and Caroline Goldthorpe, the program is a fresh perspective on the important role FCHS may play in the future of the Flagg Creek communities.

If you can't get to the dinner, don't miss the program, starting about 7:30 p.m..

Out and About in May

Possibly you're among many who always meant to visit the Portage Site where Marquette and Joliet and their expedition unloaded their canoes, lifted their gear and moved through the swampy terrain between two rivers. On Saturday, May 23rd from 10:00 a.m. until noon, you'll have an opportunity to visit the area where the explorers conceived of a canal to ease the transit. Their idea came to fruition in the 1830's and 40's with I & M Canal.

Portage Site docent, Jeff Carter, will talk about the importance of the canal in the early settlement and commerce of Chicagoland. The site is located on the west side of Harlem Avenue, between I 55 and 47th Street. You will see a large image of the explorers, made in weathered steel, in the parking area. Car-pooling will be available on a limited basis. Call Linda at (708)246-3615 about arrangements. In case of rain, the tour will have to be cancelled--if in doubt, check with Linda.

News Roundup

The Museum Development Committee is currently meeting with Grantseekers, the fund-raising consultants, to finalize grant requests for Phase 1 of the new museum. This phase will include such items as site preparation and installation of utility lines.

Lists of grant-making organizations have been compiled and matched with our project. The first mailings will go out in a few weeks. Some donations from interested individuals have already been received. Our very first dollar is framed and hanging on the wall of the present museum.

**

Charlie Petrasek has installed new book shelves in the second floor library of the Robert Vial House. Many books, magazines and reference materials are now attractively accessible to visitors.

**

Volunteer opportunities are available for:
Indexing real estate listings of the 1950's and 60's (easy data entry on computer).

Photographing artifacts.

Staffing the museum and Vial House
2:00-4:00 p.m. the first Sunday afternoon
from April - October.

A few hours can be a big help ! Call Alice at (708) 839-9616.

News (cont.)

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If you missed our last antique appraisal, Rex Newell will return to examine your treasures on Saturday, August 8th at the Pleasant Dale Park District building, 7425 Wolf Road, from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m.. There is a limit of one (1) item per person at a fee of \$5.00, and advance registration is required by calling Alice at (708) 839-9616. We are limited to a total of 40 appraisals for the day.

**

FCFS member and museum professional, Caroline Goldthorpe, will be designing and implementing a new exhibit for the museum this year. Caroline teaches at Northwestern University. She has produced major exhibitions at museums in London, New York and elsewhere. We are fortunate to have her expertise and advice on upgrading the presentation of our collection, and increasing attendance at the museum and the Robert Vial House.

**

In connection with Abraham Lincoln's year-long birthday celebration, several events will take place within easy driving distance.

At the Gaylord building, 200 West 8th St. in Lockport --"Abraham Lincoln and the I & M Canal". Exhibit hours Tuesday - Saturday 11a.m - 5:00 p.m., Sunday noon - 5:00 p.m. This runs to the end of the year.

Also at the Gaylord "Abraham Lincoln: Self-made in America", exhibit opening August 28th 6:00 -8:00p.m. and runs thru September 18th, 2009 at the same daytime hours as those listed above.

Stanley A. Johnson

The untimely passing of Stan Johnson on December 1st, 2008 was a loss not only for his family and friends, but also for the many organizations, associates and volunteers who shared Stan's passion in the preservation and appreciation of our region and its' history.

During his career as a chemist and consultant at Argonne National Laboratory, Stan helped develop an award-winning device to measure air quality. Among many other interests, he was chairman of the Illinois and Michigan Canal National Heritage Civic Center Authority for many years. As Coordinator of the Santa Fe Prairie, he fostered preservation of a little known area of rare native prairie in Hodgkins.

One of Stan's most visible accomplishments was the "River Runs Thru It" Rendezvous, a celebration of area history in the fur-trade era, which he chaired for 20 years, bringing education and entertainment to school groups and thousands of visitors.

Stan was an early supporter of FCFS. He was involved in the preparations for saving and moving the Robert Vial House to its' present location. He led the ribbon-cutting when the house was dedicated in 1989. Having served as president and board member of the Society, he was ready also to raise a tent, carry a load, or promote an idea, all skills central to our mission and accomplishments.

At the time of his death, Stan was chairman of the Museum Development Committee, serving with vigor and enthusiasm toward yet another enrichment for our communities. His leadership will be sorely missed. Our condolences to his wife, Eileen, his son, Scot, daughter, Laura and his extended family.

IN MEMORIAM

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**Remember to check the
FCHS website:
[www.FlaggCreekHeritage Society.com](http://www.FlaggCreekHeritageSociety.com)**

Happy Summer to All!

Flagg Creek Heritage Society
7425 Wolf Road
Burr Ridge, IL 60527