



Roselle History Museum Newsletter

Official Publication of the Roselle Historical Foundation

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LEWIS AND CLARK ARE COMING TO ROSELLE APRIL 18, 2009



The Roselle History Museum is pleased to present *The Amazing Adventures of Lewis and Clark* for its annual historical evening on April 18, 2009 in the Trinity Lutheran Family Life Center. Face-to-Face Productions, a Chicago-based company specializing in musical theatrical productions based on historical and literary figures, has produced this original musical based on the 1804 expedition of Meriwether Lewis and William Clark. Join us as we follow these adventurers as they struggle up the Missouri River and down the Columbia River. Sit in as Lewis and Clark hold council with numerous Native American tribes. Put on your hiking boots and join the expedition over the Rocky Mountains. Be a part of history as the Corps of Discovery reach their ultimate destination, the Pacific Ocean.

Our evening begins with a wine and cheese reception at 7:30 p.m. with the program beginning at 8:00 p.m. Cookies and coffee will be served following the program. Advance tickets are \$12 and can be purchased at the Roselle Village Hall, 31 S. Prospect Street, or the History Museum's Office, 39 E. Elm Street. Tickets purchased at the door the night of the program will be \$15. Students ages 6 – 12 are admitted free.

The Trinity Life Center is located at 405 S. Rush Street in Roselle. Bring the family out for an enjoyable evening of history and music.

GREAT BOOKS ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE ROSELLE HISTORY MUSEUM

Cherished Recipes is a unique 440-recipe cookbook comprised of favorite dishes of many current and former residents. It features 9 categories of recipes as well as personal stories and household hints.

Remembering Roselle is a new pictorial history of the village. It contains 129 pages with 200 pictures that will take you on an historical trip through Roselle. It is great for browsing and sharing with friends. See what our town was like in the “old days”.

Copies of either book are available at the Village Hall or the Museum office at 39 E. Elm Street. The price is \$20. Check our website, www.rosellehistory.com for more details.

From the archives

Roselle Products Help Build U.S. Depository For Gold In Kentucky

“Millwork manufactured in Roselle by the Roselle Millwork and Lumber Company was used in the construction of the United States Bullion Depository in Fort Knox, Ky. which is nearing completion. J.E. Wickman head of the Roselle concern states that his company also did the painting.

The blue prints in the office of the company at Roselle give a vivid description of bullion depository at Fort Knox where the federal government will store all the U.S. gold.

Other contracts of the company for which millwork manufactured in Roselle was supplied are the federal office building in

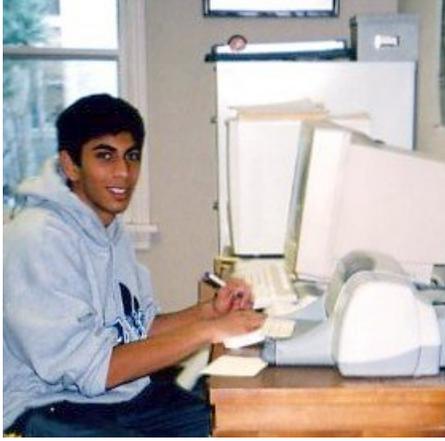
San Francisco and post offices in St. Louis, Detroit, Phoenix, Atlanta, Boston, La Grange, Fort Dearborn and others.

Most jobs are \$50,000 and up. The company still has a large number of state contracts to fill.

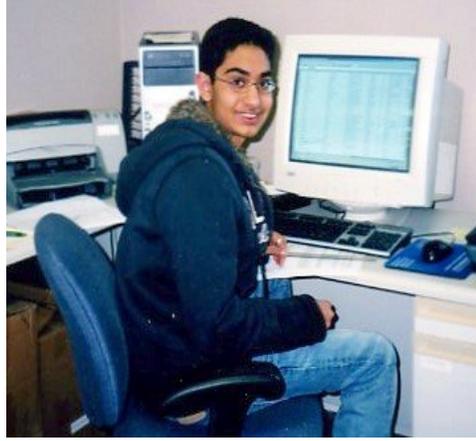
Normally 50 men are employed at the Roselle plant and 25 to 50 men at the various job sites.”

This newspaper article published in the Du Page County Register in 1933 goes on to describe the dimensions and materials used to build the above and below ground vaults.

TWO NEW STUDENT VOLUNTEERS



TAPAS PATEL



JAY GOSALI

We have two new volunteers at the History Museum. They are both juniors at Lake Park High School. They are at the museum for an hour on most Sunday afternoons. I asked them each to write a short biography so we could get to know them better.

Tapas Patel Hi, my name is Tapas Patel. As a student, I am very hard working. If there is something I do not understand I give it special attention to make sure that I do understand it. As a result I have been able to maintain straight “A”s though all of my high school semesters and have a 5.08 GPA and am ranked within the top 5 per cent of my class.

Out of school I am part of the field and track team. I do the triple jump. In my freshman year I won third place at the Freshman Invite, and took second place at the Indoor Conference in my sophomore year. My longest jump is 38’2 ½”.

I also play basketball with the Trinity Church League. Our team has worked long and hard and as a result placed 5th out of 22 teams. I take an active role in my school and community.

Jay Gosalia- I attended Schaumburg Christian School for the majority of my elementary years. I received many awards including becoming state champion at the IACS Bible, Preaching, Academic, and Fine Arts Tournament in 2006. All throughout high school I have maintained a GPA of 5.0. In addition I have had perfect attendance at school since second grade.

At Lake Park I am a member of the Boy’s Gymnastics Team, Health Occupation Students of America (HOSA), Science club, and a member of the Science Club. This year I am competing at the varsity level at the Science Olympiad. I volunteer at the Roselle History Museum and the Roselle Public Library.

One of my goals in life is to become a dentist. I plan to attend the University of Chicago to pursue my career.

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SUMNER HOUSE FRONT DOOR GETS A FACE LIFT



Recently, Roselle History Museum member Glenn Spachman refinished the front door to the Museum's Sumner House. The door appears to date to the original construction of the house in 1878. It has an etched glass window approximately 22" x 39", with a woodland scene depicting a variety of animals and plants and a border of "angels".

The old paint on both sides of the door was professionally stripped. The firm that did the stripping reported that the original color of the exterior of the door was dark green and that the interior had a faux oak finish. The door is made of pine.

The door now has a red finish on the exterior to complement the blue and grey exterior of the Sumner House. The interior was stained and coated with modern polyurethane to complement the wooden oak floors of the original living room of the Sumner House.

We are still working on the replacement of the original lockset since we found that the interior components were broken. The old 1920's style knobs and back plates have been replaced with antique Victorian-era knobs and plates. We could tell from the shadow lines once the door had been stripped, that it originally had ornate Victorian back plates.

The next time you visit the Museum, please admire our "new" old front door and its beautiful etched glass. Also, as seen in the picture on the right, note the fancy embossed hinge plates that were covered with many layers of paint.

GROWING UP IN ROSELLE IN THE 30s

By Marge and Al Engel

Roselle's population was in the 500s surrounded by farms on all sides. The heart of town was Main Street with a drug store that had a soda fountain, and the U.S. Post Office in the back of the store. We had two food stores, the Royal Blue run by the Hitzemann family and the A&P store.

It was a different time. We could walk the entire town with our friends. There was no fear of being accosted by a criminal. Our parents did not have to caution us about talking to strangers and the word "drugs", meant something from the Drugstore. Roller-skates and bicycles were our transportation. Ice-skating on the streets in winter was common as traffic was rare.

The hangout was the Drugstore as the soda fountain was the attraction and you could get flavored cokes for a nickel. We had a carnival, church activities, limited playground equipment, fireman picnics, softball, marbles and played "kick the can".

We knew who lived in every house and they knew us. It was a great way to keep youngsters in line. This was mostly a German community. Beside the Lutheran school, I'm guessing half the kids went to the Public School on east Pine Street.

More detail will be in the next newsletter. If you have any remembrances while growing up here during any period, please call Marge Engel (630)529-9354.

HELP! We are looking for someone who would like to take on the responsibility of preparing this newsletter on a quarterly basis. This issue was created by a couple of old "amateurs" and someone who has more creative talent is sorely needed!

MEMBERSHIP

Please become a member and help support and preserve local history. Clip and mail to our address shown on the front page.

Yes, I'd like to help the Museum!

Here's my membership contribution to the Roselle History Museum for 2008

New Renewal Circle One: \$20 \$50 \$100 \$250 Other Amount \$ _____

Your Name _____

Your address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

E-mail _____

DAY TRIPS

The Roselle History Museum is planning to do some day trips this summer. Possible local destinations such as Naper Settlement, Chicago History Museum, Cantigny, or other Chicago points of interest.

We would either carpool from the museum or take the train.

If you are interested in this type of activity please call Marge Engel at (630)529-9354.

SUMNER HOUSE CHANGES

Like your own home. The museum needs freshening up from time to time both in appearance and in the case of a the museum also exhibits.

In addition to refinishing the front door, which is covered in another article, we have started updating the main time line room. The exhibit committee has taken down and packed up all the exhibits. Other volunteers have scraped, scrubbed off glue, patched, washed and painted the walls. The rug is gone to expose a nice hardwood floor. The exhibit committee is busy preparing an updated exhibit.

This room should be ready in about 4 weeks. Meanwhile the rest of the museum and the Richter house remain open for your enjoyment.

**ROSELLE HISTORY MUSEUM
39 E. ELM ST.
ROSELLE, IL 60172**