



Roselle History Museum Newsletter

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50th ANNIVERSARY OF THE ROSELLE MUSIC STORE

THE ROSELLE GARDEN CLUB VISITS OUR MUSEUM



Left to right Ruth Bagel, Cindy Petranoff, Colleen Wisnewski, Linda Wrightwood, Pat Murphy, Denise Murphy and Debra Le Doux.

The Roselle History Museum was visited by the Roselle Garden Club. Six members of the newly formed Garden Club enjoyed a memorial garden and museum tour led by docents Ruth Bagel and Joan Beauprez one warm Saturday morning in July. The visitors were appreciative of the garden designs, flowers, and ornaments. Volunteers from the club helped with the plantings around the campus this year. Especially pretty are the two urns in front of the Summer House Museum.

The club was formed in April 2008 and is affiliated with the Roselle Park District and is a member of the Garden Club of Illinois. They currently have over 20 members. Their mission is to offer area gardeners the opportunity to gain knowledge and share their expertise regarding the cultivation of garden and landscape designs. Members strive to beautify their environment and encourage an appreciation in the natural world by working with community groups.

Roselle has a long history of garden clubs going back to at least 1938. In the museum archives we have a small booklet with the names of past presidents from 1938 to 1972. The title of the booklet is "Nature Redecorates Four times a Year". If anyone has information about what happened to the garden club after 1972 we would like to know.



Roselle Music is celebrating 50 years of doing business in Roselle making it one of the oldest active businesses. Lyle Gillman started with a teaching studio in 1959 on the first floor on an old house where the Marathon station is at Irving Park and Bokelman St. A year later he moved across the street to a store in the little strip mall and larger location and started carrying picks, strings, small amps and some guitars.

Lyle always liked music as a kid and after high school he went to the Chicago Musical College (now part of Roosevelt University). Then he went on to graduate school and earned a masters degree in musicology.

In 1969 he built a new store at its current location at 217 E. Irving Park Road. In 1970 he expanded his store and added more lines of musical instruments. Once again he expanded the store in 1972 to a total of 15,000 square feet.

He believes that if a music store is to reach its full profit potential it must attract "new business" from the ranks of young people who don't already play an instrument. To accomplish this feat you have to promote an image of your store as "an exciting place".

Over the years he has held over 40 advertised clinics per year. He also believed community involvement in the local music and entertainment scene is a necessity.

In the late 80's and early 90's Roselle Music was one of the most successful music stores in the Chicago area providing the highest quality in musical education to over 300 students as well as providing a complete line of musical instruments and supplies for sale.

In the 1960's when Chicago became a hotbed for young musical talent, Roselle Music became a musical Mecca. Legendary rock star Ted Nugent bought his first Gibson Byrdland guitar from Lyle. Many other musical legends including Jimmy Sohns and the Shadows of Knight (famous for the hit song "Gloria), rockers of the Kind (well known for their '80s hit record "Loved by You") and Buddy Rich were frequent customers.

In 1994 Lyle Gillman retired and sold the store to Paul Chadwick who ran it for 5 years and then sold it to 2 employees. During this time the store was down sized several times cutting down on the types of musical instruments it sold and serviced but still continued to give music lessons.

On June 9, 2006 the store closed and on June 10, 2006 it re-opened as Roselle School of Music owned by Jim Fanizzo who was an instructor at the store since 1979. Currently the Roselle school of Music has 200 students with 19 instructors. It sells guitars and accessories as well as doing repairs and renting musical instruments to students

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REMEMBERING THE ROSELLE AREA



Following is a letter the Roselle History Museum received from a former resident of Roselle.

Dear Sir;

Please find enclosed a picture of the first grade class of 1936. I am standing on the left in the back row.

We lived at that time one block north of Roselle Bank in a two-story house on the southwest corner, on the first floor.

The first memories of life was in the "beehive" on the front first floor. Bill and Nadine Ross lived in the rear. If I remember correctly I started 1st grade living in a house on Roselle Road two houses south of Walnut Street. This is also where my sister was born 2/9/35. I also remember living in a house on the southwest corner diagonal from the German School. Three things happened here:

- 1- My sister put her right hand on a hot oven door and burnt it pretty bad. She has been left handed ever since. She was one year old.
- 2- There was a huge snowstorm on 1936? And Frank Wind took me to see a snowplow that was stuck on Roselle road near the Chicken Hatchery Road and my face was frozen.
- 3- I burned my finger on a stovetop toaster and lost my nail. The nail grew back deformed and still is.

From the house SW of the bank we moved to Bloomingdale where we stayed until 1942 when my family bought a farm in Ridgeway, WI. I am surprised of how many things I remember about Roselle when I was so young.

I was born in a house on Army Trail road near Swift road. The house is now an office for a Nursery Co. My father was Frederick Adolf son of Wilhelm who had a farm at Lake Street and Medinah Road. My grandfather came from Mark Johe, NW of Hanover, Germany. My Grandfather married Johanna Bunge Wide a widow. The farm included some 6-acre plots of woods that were purchased to build Medinah Country Club. I started caddying there when I was 7 or 8 years old. I have a caddy badge from 1943 when I came down from Wisconsin for a vacation.

I am sorry I wrote so much, but hope it will add to the history of the area.

Sincerely, Gerald F. Rosenwinkel

From Helen Hardison, Columbia, TN.....

“While reading the ”Mountain Spirit” a publication of the Christian Appalachian Project I ran across a poem that reminded so much of my carefree childhood days that I got permission to share with you “.

REMEMBERING THE PAST

When the skies were so blue, and the swing went up high,
I thought maybe someday, I would just like to fly!
The mulberry trees so big and tall,
Pick-eat-or soon they may fall!

Hopscotch, running fishing in the creek,
Old friends, new friends there we all meet.
Baby chicks, newborn calves, and the smell of fresh mowed hay.
God’s nature made us glad that He gave us such a beautiful day!

Laughter, playing in the noonday sun,
But we all would play softball before the end of day was done.
Fireflies and story time in the moonlight so bright,
A wonderful time to take a stroll on such a starry night.

Memories, many memories, of days now gone by,
no one can erase them
Or stop the tears in my eyes.
We were carefree, happy, barefoot and what’s more-
The older we get-*The more memories we store!*

If you have a favorite poem about the past that you have written or read that you would like to share please send it to us.

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A bit of history.... The P-38 CAN OPENER



This photo is close to actual size! The upper left section folds under when not in use.

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© Remember to check our website www.rosellehistory.com for more information about the museum.

For those of us who did not serve in the military, we always think of a fighter plane when we hear the term P-38. There was also another military item called the P-38. It was a can opener developed in the summer of 1942 by the World War II era Subsistence research Laboratory in Chicago. The can opener was specially designed to open canned rations by US soldiers during World War II. |It has proven to be an invaluable tool for American Soldiers during WW II, Korea and Vietnam.

The P-38 has often been called “The Army’s best invention.” It was named the P-38 because its developers found it took 38 punctures to open a C-Ration can. The soldiers called it a “GI Can Opener” and “John Wayne”.

Today, the P-38 has become one of the most invaluable tools a sportsman, camper or backpacker can possess. It is one of those tools you never want to be without. It’s a must for survival kits. Not only is it a can opener, but it also has many other uses as a knife, screwdriver, scraping tool etc. This durable tool never needs sharpening and won’t rust or break.

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ROSELLE HISTORY MUSEUM HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE



Our annual Christmas open house will be held December 6th from 2-4 pm. Come and join us for refreshments, home made cookies and to see the exhibit changes that have been made in the Sumner House Museum. The theme this year will be Christmas in Italy. If you have any suggestions, or items that can be used for decorations please let us know..... Thank you.

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Yes, I'd like to help the Museum!

Here's my membership contribution to the Roselle Historical Foundation for 2009

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

Your Name _____

Your Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____ E-mail _____

The Roselle Historical Foundation is a 501-c (3) corporation, and your contribution may be fully tax deductible

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39 E. ELM ST.
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