



Roselle History Museum Newsletter

Official Publication of the Roselle Historical Foundation

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EDUCATIONAL CHRISTMAS GIFT

How about a *Remembering Roselle* picture history book or a great *Cherished Recipe* Cookbook ???

Call the museum and pick one up soon.

FUTURE EVENTS

Save the date of April 9, 2011 when the History Museum will host its annual Historical evening. It will feature a presentation on the *Wright Brothers*.

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Inside....•*Roselle Police Department Firsts*

• *Please renew your membership!*

The annual **Christmas Open House** will be held on Sunday December 5, 2010 from 2-4 PM at the museum.

The theme this year will feature *Christmas in Olde England*. Refreshments including traditional English cookies will be served.



Traditional Christmas Cake



Christmas Pudding

Pictured above are two traditional Christmas desserts. **English Christmas Cake** is a very rich fruit cake which is soaked with brandy or whiskey. a few spoons full at a time, every few days for weeks. Just before Christmas it is wrapped in a rolled layer of marzipan and topped with a layer of rolled white icing. Then the whole thing is wrapped in a red ribbon and topped with a holiday motif.

Christmas Pudding with Custard Sauce is another traditional dessert. It has fruit in it similar to a fruit cake, but it is not baked, it is a boiled 3-4 hours with brandy added on top as well as in the cake. Some of the ingredients include currants, sultanas (white grapes), raisins, grated beef suet, almonds and apples. It is served warm and flamed at the table with brandy. As it is served, the slices are topped with custard sauce.

Many of our Christmas traditions originated in England. Some of them are Advent calendars, Advent wreaths, Christmas stockings, candy canes, and Christmas cards. We hope to see you at the Open house.

ROSELLE POLICE DEPARTMENT "FIRSTS"

By Kathy Schabelski



Rosell Hough, for whom the village is named, had to appoint himself the village's first Deputy Marshall. Hough ran a flax mill in the 1870's and many of the employees were ex-convicts and "ruffians" from Chicago. Some of these men were so difficult to handle that Hough had to have himself appointed Deputy Marshall to keep them under control. Hough was quite a "gun" and his ability was respected by everyone. The house he built to house the employees, was known as the "Beehive (Pictured above). Because of the "bees", Roselle gained a reputation comparable to the wild west and it was often referred to as "Raise Hell" until the flax mill was closed.

Roselle's first bank robbery occurred on the morning of December 4, 1925 at the Roselle State Bank. The robbers got cashier A.F. Pottratz's attention with shotguns and pistols and locked him in a safe, along with teller Clara Becker and assistant teller Edwin Gieseke, escaping with \$5,500.00. A vice president of the bank, Elmer Franzen, saw the robbers leaving and attempted to chase them down in his car, but soon lost them as the robbers headed to Chicago. They were later arrested by the Chicago police.

In the early 1930's, Roselle's first police station was in a building on the corner of Roselle and Irving Park Roads. It shared space with the Village Hall. The only furniture the police station had was a desk. Jul's Nielson was the Chief of Police and Fire Patrol. He was paid \$112 a month and used his own car.

Phyllis McGill was Roselle's first auxiliary police-

woman. She was appointed by Police Chief Robert Greve in 1970 because "we needed a policewoman on the force to be able to act officially in situations involving woman prisoners." Prior to gaining the official title of auxiliary policewoman, McGill had worked in the police department as a part time clerk and aided patrolmen in investigations involving female prisoners. Greve wanted to create the position because McGill's duties were identical to a policewoman's at that time. Before he could do so, however, the village board had to approve an ordinance creating the position of policewoman. The first woman to complete a basic training course to become a Roselle police officer was Joann Krien in 1977.

Police Chief George Pieper was one of the first police officers in the Chicago area to make use of a dog in police work. While Star, a German shepherd, had no official duties, she was Pieper's constant companion on patrol beginning in 1962. Pieper explained that "whenever I have to go out to a house, Star will go in first...then she comes back to let me know everything is all right. If I went into the basement, whoever might be down there would see my feet and be able to take aim. With a dog, if he shoots, then I know he is there; if he doesn't, then he's stupid. If she doesn't come back...then I know something is wrong." Also, "if I stop you when you're driving, she'll lean out of the car window waiting to make sure that all is right. If anything seems to go wrong, she'll jump out right away and be at my side."

The first "official" police dog, Rocco, was the one-dog canine unit added to the police department in 1989. This trained German shepherd assisted the police department in one of the biggest drug busts in DuPage County history in 1992. When police entered a home to investigate a reported assault, police saw what appeared to be cocaine. After obtaining a search warrant, Rocco was brought in and helped police find fifty-eight pounds of cocaine in the home and garage. Tragically, Rocco was killed in the line of duty by a drunk driver in 1995.

ROSELLE HISTORY MUSEUM WEBSITE

Learn more about the museum and, also read this newsletter in color at www.rosellehistory.com

Dear friend of the Roselle History Museum

It's that time of the year again. Normally we send out a separate mailing asking you to renew your membership so that we can continue to provide our services to the Roselle community. In an effort to keep operating costs down, we are making this request direct to our readership. We know that some of you have already contributed for 2011 and we sincerely thank you for that support. To those who haven't, we ask that you consider continuing or beginning to help us.

Your cash donations help in many other ways. Your financial support helps to keep the doors open and the exhibits maintained and updated. It helps us to purchase artifacts of interest and of course equipment needed to run our operations. Our small cadre of volunteers work tirelessly to make the museum interesting for visitors. Did you know that 80% of our visitors are school children, scout troops and parents who bring their children here to learn more about our history in DuPage County?

If you haven't visited us in a while, please stop by and take a look. We are open every Sunday between 2 and 4 PM. We can also accommodate larger groups at almost anytime with some advance notice.

Please help. There is a membership application on the back page. Kindly fill it out and send it to us while it's fresh in your mind!

Thank you in advance,

Roselle History Museum

LOCAL VIGNETTE.....

In the early 1900's, Tillie Meyer Fiene was growing up on a farm located on Lake Street. She wrote down some of her memories about daily life on that farm. Here is one recollection: entitled..... "Gypsies."

"I remember, as a very young girl, when some gypsies came around. One time it was at threshing time. Mother was in the barn milking and the men were not home. Our dog started to bark when the horses with their covered wagons came. I ran to the barn and told my mother. She rounded us children up and we went into the house, locked the door and stayed in 'till they were gone. They camped about a half mile away. They stole oats and chickens, and of course always had baskets and other things to sell. We lived close to the road and we always depended on good dogs. They were afraid of dogs."

Note: This family has donated many articles and photos from their farm, to the Roselle History Museum.

MEMBERSHIP

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Your membership is even more important now.....With the economic slow down, many towns including Roselle, have had to make difficult decisions as to how their limited funds are spent. The village owns and maintains our property but the inside maintenance and other operating costs are the responsibility of the Museum. The village had reduced their financial support of the museum by 50% for 2010. Hopefully some of these funds might be restored in 2011. Please become a member and help support and preserve and educate people about local history. Your generous help is appreciated.

Yes, I'd like to help the Museum! Here's my membership contribution for 2011

Mail to: Roselle History Museum, 39 E. Elm St. Roselle, IL 60172

New *Renewal* *Circle One:* \$25 \$50 \$100 \$250 *Other Amount*_____

*Name*_____

*Address*_____

*City*_____ *State* _____ *Zip* _____ *Phone*_____

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

VOLUNTEERS: We are always looking for people who are interested in helping preserve the history of our village and the surrounding area. Do you enjoy working on displays, gathering historical evidence, researching photographs or just puttering around cutting news articles for our archives? We can also use people who are handy with tools to do miscellaneous repairs and modifications or, assist with building displays, floats, etc. There are no fixed hours and your compensation is the good feeling you get when you have helped us complete an important project

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