

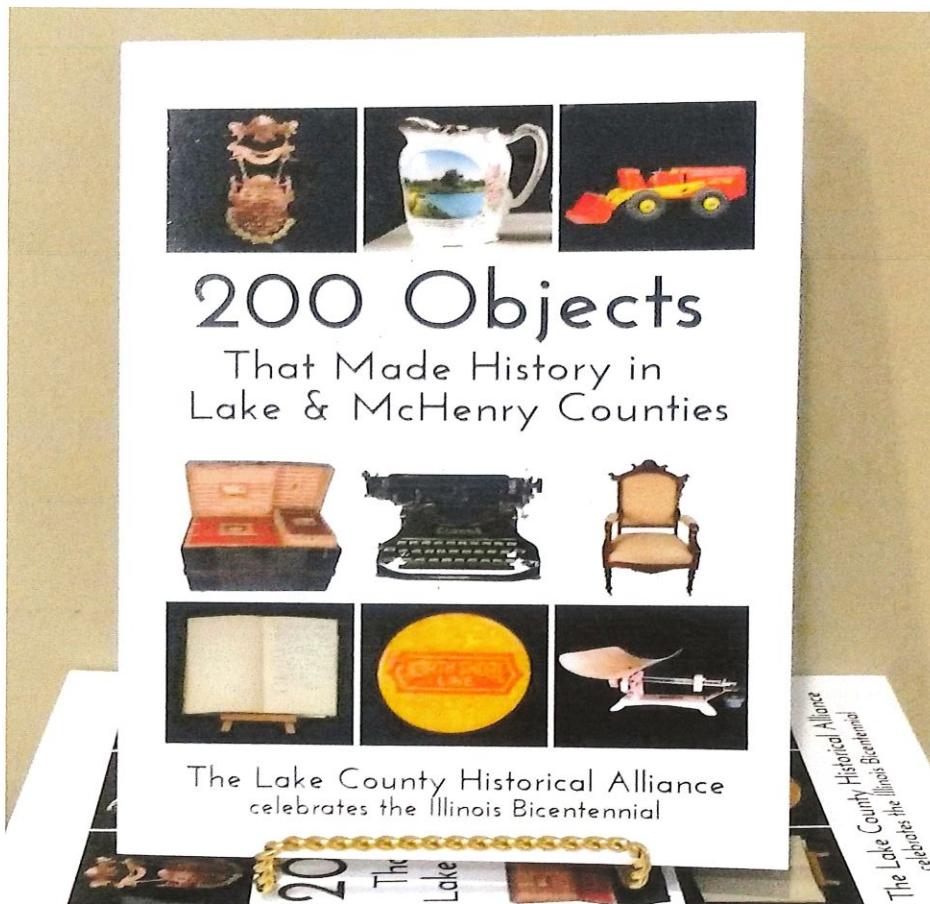


Vol. 10 No. 4

HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF ISLAND LAKE NEWSLETTER *WINTER 2017-2018*

HAPPY 200TH ANNIVERSARY STATE OF ILLINOIS

On December 3, 1818 Illinois became the 21st State in the Union. The catalyst for the settlement of non-natives to northeastern Illinois began with the opening of the Erie Canal in 1825, initiating the nation's first great westward migration.



200 Objects That Made History in Lake & McHenry Counties

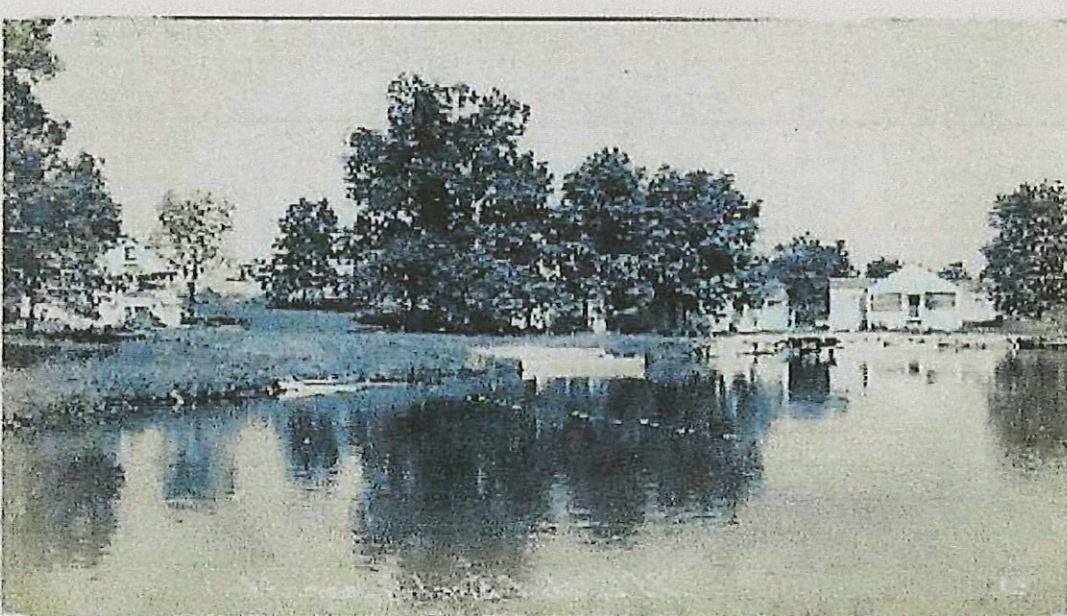
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The Historical Society of Island Lake is proud to announce its participation in the new Illinois Bicentennial publication titled “200 Objects That Made History in Lake & McHenry Counties.” The book is a collaborative effort of the Lake County Historical Alliance, which consists of 23 historical societies and history museums. The book tells the story of Lake and McHenry Counties by showcasing historical objects found in the collections of the member institutions of the Historical Alliance. Stunning photographs along with their stories take the reader on a unique historical journey. We have contributed several articles about Island Lake History to the booklet. Here’s a few of them.



Cottages on Island Lake

Island Lake - Island Lake Historical Society

Island Lake was developed in 1929, when a group of residents bought land from the Dowell, Smith, Burnett and Darrell families. The land contained a gravel pit and Mutton Creek, and the families dammed the creek and created the lake. In the late 1930s, the Horowitz brothers began developing the lake lots with summer cottages, and in 1938 the Island Lake Property Owners Association was formed. The housing shortage after WWII attracted many Chicago area residents, and the Village was incorporated in 1952.

On April 11, 1965, a tornado hit the village. A child was killed and the village sustained considerable property damage. In 1980, an 800 acre property annexation of Fox River Shores made the Village grow to twice its original size. Several subsequent annexations greatly increased the size of the Village, to the current population of over 9,000.



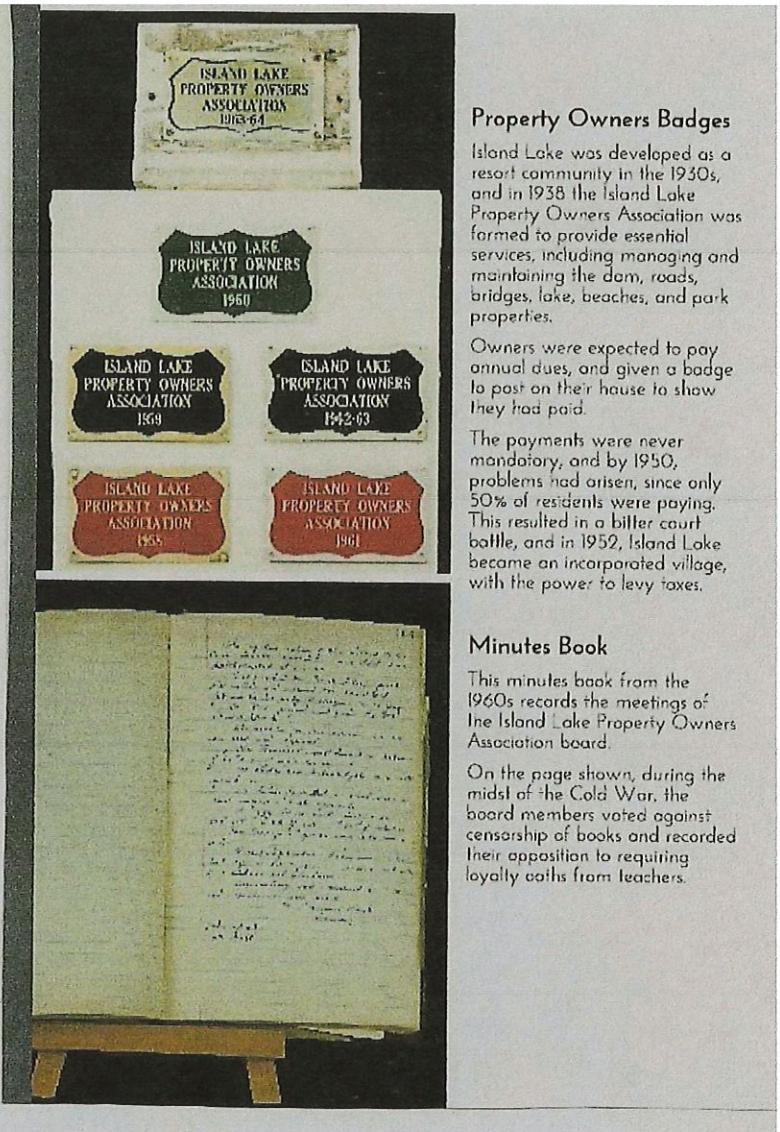
Scene at Beach, Island Lake, 1948

This postcard shows residents enjoying the lake, and notes that Island Lake is "near Wauconda." It would be four more years before the community incorporated into the Village of Island Lake.



Four Oaks Island at Sunset, ca. 1930s

This early postcard shows Island Lake before much of the early development occurred, since the shores of the lake show very few houses in this photo. This postcard was sold at Carr's Sweat Shop on Main Street in Wauconda during the 1930s.



Property Owners Badges

Island Lake was developed as a resort community in the 1930s, and in 1938 the Island Lake Property Owners Association was formed to provide essential services, including managing and maintaining the dam, roads, bridges, lake, beaches, and park properties.

Owners were expected to pay annual dues, and given a badge to post on their house to show they had paid.

The payments were never mandatory, and by 1950, problems had arisen, since only 50% of residents were paying. This resulted in a bitter court battle, and in 1952, Island Lake became an incorporated village, with the power to levy taxes.

Minutes Book

This minutes book from the 1960s records the meetings of the Island Lake Property Owners Association board.

On the page shown, during the midst of the Cold War, the board members voted against censorship of books and recorded their opposition to requiring loyalty oaths from teachers.

200 objects to help celebrate 200 years of the State of Illinois! Reading through this book, it is amazing to see the different types of objects that have been collected and preserved. A truly unique and fun way to learn some new and old stories about our local history. Copies of the book may be purchased for \$15 at Historical Society meetings and programs and at the Village Hall.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWS

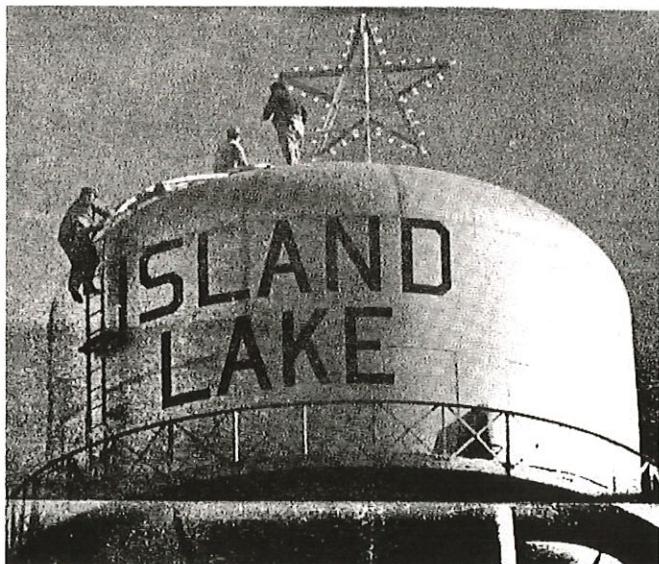
FALL PROGRAM



On Saturday, October 21, 2017 our fall program “The Good Old Days in Island Lake,” showcased some of the objects and pictures we have obtained from the early days of Island Lake. It was quite a success, with visitors from near and far. Many pictures and posters were on display; books of newspaper articles and old photos were especially popular. Many of our members shared their old-time Island Lake memories: Cressly Anderson and Jenny Monday on growing up in Island Lake; Elizabeth Willard-Gorsline shared her memories of school days in the building which is now the Village Hall; Sam Cicero on the fun of boating on the lake; and Barbara Dale on running the 4-H Club in Island Lake, which was particularly interesting. (See more about Barb’s 4-H Club in our “Facebook Feed”).

SAVE THE STAR: *by Jenny Monday*

Being one of the docents on the HSIL boat tours, I thought to commission one of my friends to embroider a tee shirt with “Townie Love” (the ‘o’ in love with a heart) to wear while doing my docent tours. At the next meeting our President, Connie Mascillino, advised that there was going to be a ‘Save the Star’ program at the Village to fix up the star on the old water tower with new lights and some much needed TLC. So I thought I would change the ‘o’ in ‘Love’ from a heart to a little star with a stem.



I purchased and brought a few prototype shirts to the next meeting. Everyone loved them so I ordered more of the shirts in gray (the water tower color) with pink lettering. I also ordered some with charcoal lettering on the gray (appears some men won't wear pink...hmmm). So, we decided to sell the shirts for \$15, and a portion of the proceeds will go to rehabbing the star for 2018 and to plaque our beloved water tower. Who doesn't love our water tower star?



The shirts are unisex gray cotton tees with either pink or charcoal lettering of 'Island Lake HSIL Townie Love.' Sizes from XS-5XL.

If you wish to help us with our joint program - by purchasing a T-shirt, you can contact me at Monday7@comcast.net or visit the Village office, which has some in stock, or you can put in your order/pay there in the office. Once we get a minimum order we can expect about 2-3 weeks for delivery to the Village Hall.



FACEBOOK FEED

During our "Good Old Days" event in October, HSIL member and lifelong Island-Laker, Barbara Dale, shared her memories about the 4-H Club in Island Lake.

"Our 4H experiences helped shape our ability to become good citizens and active members of our community. We had fun while learning to make the best, better," said Barb.



The 4-H Club in Island Lake was established in the spring of 1950 by Barb's mother, Cele Deuerling & Faye Nelson and Phyllis Glysing to further the education of the girls in the community. Barb remembers "*Lake County held a 4-H public speaking contest each year...and we were invited to compete at the Illinois State Fair competition in Springfield. We were awarded blue ribbons at State which was a big compliment to us. We participated in the County 4-H Fun Festival where each club did a skit in the variety show. We won the festival with our skit "Le Nouveau Mode de Paree" which was a fashion show with hilarious costumes.*" Barb also played the steel guitar during the show. "*We had many members who received County and State Outstanding Member certificates. One member received the highest state project honor for flower arranging. She received a gold watch presented at the annual farm bureau meeting by Mrs. Charles Walgreen.*"

Barb then took over leadership of the Island Lake 4-H Club in 1962 and was a 4-H leader until the mid 1980s. By the way, Barb herself is a part of Island Lake history. She was at home with her mom hemming a dress for Easter when their house on Ridge Road was struck by the 1965 Palm Sunday tornado. Thankfully, everyone was OK and the house was repaired in 3 months.

Comments:

Sara Nebgen Ribar This is fabulous! Lucky enough to be a part of 4-H and I loved the meetings/projects at your house!

Jennifer Nebgen-Monday Great article! Barb (the Ultimate Townie) gave a great lecture at the Good Old Days and held a captive audience! Nice job

Kelley Dale Marshall Thanks for sharing this. My Mom was excited about her speech. I still cant sew very good but got a Blue Ribbon on my one and only skirt. I still enter projects at our County Fair in SW KS in open class. My grandchildren do too! Carrying on the tradition.

Elizabeth Willard Gorsline That's awesome Kelley, those were great memories for me.

Nancy Janek Very nice article, thanks Barb for all you have done to promote the 4H Club.

Beverly A. Amaro Those were good times in 4H with all you girls and your mom. Great memories of the fair, bicentennial parade and Christmas caroling.

UPCOMING EVENTS

We are planning a Spring program, and are working on obtaining and showing some old motion pictures of Island Lake. With some movies, and a huge display from our collection, this should be a fun time. Watch for updates in our next newsletter, and check our Facebook page for the latest details.

Our successful Island Lake Historical Society calendar for the year 2018, featuring our beautiful lake, is almost sold out. You can bet we will be doing one for 2019.

PICTURES FROM THE PAST



It was about this time in 1973, when the lighthouse sunk in Eastway lagoon, and some lucky Island Lake Property Owners ticket purchaser won some big bucks! (Well, it seemed like it then.) This event was used as a fundraiser for several years until the lighthouse finally fell apart. How many of you remember guessing when the ice would melt? Weather was a little more predictable in those days!

MEETING DATES

The Historical Society of Island Lake normally meets on the first Monday of the month. Upcoming meetings are scheduled for March 5, April 2 and May 7, 2018 at 7:00 P.M. at the Island Lake Village Hall. Please come and join us if you can. Many times we have some items from our archives to review.

CONTACTS

Have a picture or idea you'd like to share? Or an Island Lake memory you'd like to hear more about? Contact President Connie Mascillino at 847-526-5049 or @ mccm46@att.net, or Editor Dona Willard at 847-526-3408, or @ donawillard@comcast.net., or message us on Facebook.



MEMBERSHIP

Welcome to four new members: Jack and Nancy Schaal, long-time Island Lake residents; Janice Shambo, another well-known Island Lake name, and Eileen Kinney. Approximately half of our members have renewed for 2018, and if you have paid your renewal, we thank you. We continue to keep our dues at a nominal rate to encourage membership and depend upon our loyal members to renew promptly. The cost is the same modest amount again this year, and only \$5.00 for seniors. We know you will want to keep on receiving our quarterly newsletter of old-time memories. If you haven't already done so, please mail in the attached form with your check.

**HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF ISLAND LAKE
ANNUAL DUES for 2018**

YES, I would like to renew my membership and continue to support the
Historical Society of Island Lake!!!

Regular Membership\$10.00/year
Family Membership (husband, wife & minor children)....\$15.00/year
Senior Membership (65 years or better) \$5.00/year

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP: _____

TELEPHONE: _____ **MOBILE:** _____

E-MAIL: _____

Historical Society of Island Lake, a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit corporation

**Please return to Historical Society of Island Lake
3706 Lakeview Drive, Island Lake, Illinois 60042**