

The Historian

Preserving & Promoting Neighborhood History

Volume 31, No. 3
Fall 2015

Board of Directors
Bi-Monthly Meetings

October 26
December 28

All meetings are held bi-monthly on the last Monday of each even-numbered month at 7 p.m. at the Society, 7363 N. Greenview Avenue and are open to all

In This Issue

Collector's Corner August 2015
page 2

Glenwood Arts District
Walking Tour
page 2

From the President's Desk
page 3

Volunteer Profile: Rachel Boyle
page 4

Walter Burley and Marion
Mahony Griffin's Vision for
Canberra, Capital of Australia
page 5

Don Erickson and the
Birdcage Apartments
page 6

Crossing the Invisible
Dotted Lines
page 6

Our Former Office Manager,
Kim Brown
page 8

Speaker Draws Largest Crowd in
Recent Memory
page 9

Clark Street: Then and Now
page 10

RPWRHS joins the Celebrate
Clark Street World Music
Festival for their 10th
anniversary which was 'historic'
page 10



Our new home at 7363 N. Greenview Avenue.



We're almost moved in at this point.

RPWRHS moves to 7363 N. Greenview Avenue in Jarvis Square!

By Kay McSpadden

Though we had many happy years at our Morse Avenue location, we found that we needed to move to a more permanent home so that we can execute new strategic goals and manage our organizational growth. We found such a space at 7363 N. Greenview Avenue and plan to be here for many, many years.

On Moving Day, dozens of volunteers helped us move from our former office at 1447 W. Morse Avenue to Jarvis Square at 7363 N. Greenview Avenue.

As we moved into our new home the weekend of August 29-30, we were honored to be welcomed to Jarvis Square by being invited to participate in the annual summer street festival Rogers Park 2, which benefits the Youth Empowerment Performance Project. We had a wonderful afternoon meeting and talking with so many of our new neighbors, musicians, artists, political and business leaders in the community.

We sold some of our books on Rogers Park and Chicago's Far North Side, recruited new volunteers, and promoted our forthcoming House Walk tour on September 13th.

This year's House Walk includes several homes near Jarvis Square and Touhy Park in northeast Rogers Park. This area was initially developed around 1878, when Rogers Park was incorporated as a village, and was annexed to the city of Chicago in 1893. Many of the houses on the tour are in the area immediately south and west of the Jarvis station, an area once known as the F.W. Dolands Subdivision. On the east end of the tour, we have a 1908 house designed by noted architect Walter Burley Griffin, husband of Marian Mahony Griffin. Historical walk-bys include murals, the Frank Lloyd Wright-designed Emil Bach House, and other neighborhood landmarks. □

Rogers Park /
West Ridge
Historical Society

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Collectors Corner August 2015

By Kay McSpadden

We were very pleased to accept the generous offer of a large group of images, documents, and memorabilia of The Honorable Bernard L. Stone, the Alderman of the 50th Ward (West Ridge) from 1973 to 2011, who died at age 87 on 12/22/2014.

Our thanks are extended to his son, Jay Stone and daughter, Ilana Stone for their assistance in securing and preserving this valuable archive for use of future researchers. In addition to his staunch advocacy for his community constituents, his long and influential tenure in the City Council encompassed many significant events in Chicago's political and social history. He also maintained an important presence on the global stage, including hosting many foreign leaders and made an important visit to China, which are documented by the images in this collection.

West Ridge native and recent California transplant, Ellen Mott-Jablonski, graciously

forwarded us an archive of memorabilia from her school days at Leander Stone School and Senn High School, including several Stone school newspapers from the mid-1950s.

We thank our Society friends and Rogers Park community leaders, Brian and Sue Kozin, the owners of No Exit Café and Gallery for the donation of the archives of their coffeehouse, including the business records, menus, artwork and files on the many performers who graced their stage. While they no longer live in Rogers Park, they say a virtual "Hi" to all those that shared their magical space.

We were delighted to receive the unexpected donation of a trove of 306 photographs, and numerous route maps and timetables representing the CTA and Metra Rail lines from Mr. Eamon A. Rago. These were well documented and will added to our digital archives. □

Glenwood Arts District Walking Tour

On Sunday, August 23, 2015 we held a walking tour Cobblestone Crossroads: Arts & Community in the Glenwood Avenue Arts District. Kristin Jacobsen, a M.A. student from Loyola University's history program, lead tour participants through the thriving arts district that has brought new life to Rogers Park. Attendees met outside of Common Cup, 1501 W. Morse Avenue The tours ran approximately 90 minutes and took place rain or shine.

From the President's Desk



Ken Walchak

Dear Readers,

We have a new home! As part of our ongoing efforts to be good stewards of your money, we have been looking for a new home that is less expensive to maintain. I am happy to report, that after a long search, we are almost settled in to our new headquarters at 7633 N. Greenview. We will be located right next door to our very generous landlord, Rogers Park Vintage Management, and across the street from the office of our alderman Joe Moore, in the hip Jarvis Square neighborhood. Steps from the Jarvis Red Line stop, I think you will be surprised at how cool our new space is, and how nice the neighborhood is.

I want to take this opportunity to thank the boatload of volunteers who helped us move, and are continuing to help us get settled in our new surroundings. Without you, this already difficult job would have been impossible. I only wish we had among our members a massage therapist.

In the midst of all the moving commotion, I am proud to report that our Society

programming has continued apace. Our annual housewalk, which by coincidence was in our new neighborhood, was a great success. Tons of people had the opportunity to walk by and through some terrific homes. A huge shout out to everyone who contributed to making this annual event a great success.

The last evening library talk, was a smashing success, with a near riot erupting among the standing room only crowd. Our guest speaker Richard Reeder is ready for round two, at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, October 13, at the Northtown Branch Public Library, 6435 N. California Ave. The subject this time will be the Jewish community in West Ridge. Please check out our website for details.

Our office manager, Kim Brown, has left us to work on a presidential campaign. She has been replaced by a longtime volunteer Stephanie Barto. Please join us in welcoming her.

I want to encourage you to stop in and visit our new home. We are as always, looking for volunteers, and new members. Of course, as I never cease to remind you, we need contributors. But it is not only your dollars that we are after. We want your energy, your smarts, your time, and your dollars, so we can continue the work we do of bringing the history of our communities of Rogers Park, and West Ridge to life.

Help us make that happen!

Ken

Do you receive our *Cabbagehead*?

Your society sends out an electronic newsletter frequently. It contains news of events that were announced AFTER the previous *Historian* newsletter was mailed and will occur BEFORE the next issue of the *Historian* is published. It's our way of getting the word out to our membership about things they otherwise might not learn about.

Send us your e-mail address to insure that you're on the distribution list. Just send us an e-mail at info@rpwrhs.org with the subject "Cabbagehead".

Membership as of October 1, 2015

Welcome New Members

Individual

Lynn Fiscelli
John P Wencel
William Siavelis
Andrew Edeker

Premium

Audra Lewicki

Senior Household

Art & Eva Strobeck
Bob & Judy Kucera
Mark Marcus
Neil Drit
Dan Dooley

Senior

Harriet Russell
Jeffrey L Wien

Annual Member

Dana Bergeron
Lauren Boegen
Ann Manikas
Amy Coty
Nancy Syburg

Annual Student Member

Griffin Hardy

Annual Senior Member

Ron Kolman

continued on page 4

Membership as of
October 1, 2015

Thanks for Renewing

Individual

Janet Lastovica
Marilyn Rohn
Richard Reeder

Household

John Kane
Lisa DiChiera
Angela Forfia

Senior

James Schwegel
Linda Henderson
Harvey Choldin
Patricia Duff
Loretta Polish
Helen Carlock
Ken Kopper
Michael Pack

Senior Household
Sanford Goldman

Volunteer Profile: Rachel Boyle

By Kay McSpadden

For the past three years the Rogers Park/ West Ridge Historical Society has benefited from a collaboration with students in Loyola University's graduate program in Public History. Students in the Public History Lab, Master's and Ph.D. candidates, look to our society for opportunities to gain some practical experience by working with a neighborhood historical society. In return, the society gains the benefit of their academic and professional approach to history. Projects these students have helped us with include strategic planning, organizing our collection, website design and publicity, and outreach through social media. In this issue of *The Historian*, we would like to feature one of these students, Rachel Boyle.

Rachel has taken on many responsibilities as head of our Community Outreach Team. She has helped with the development of a revised membership policy and campaign. We have also been the beneficiary of her technology expertise. Dealing with technology requires patience, persistence, and a tolerance for frustration. Rachel has shown herself to possess all three of these qualities.

Below are her responses to some questions about her academic career and her work with the society.

Tell us about the Public History Lab.

Public History Lab is a student-driven initiative that offers students in the history program at Loyola University Chicago opportunities to apply their professional skills and knowledge for the benefit of local cultural institutions.

People are sometimes puzzled by the term "public history." Could you explain briefly what public history is?

Public History takes place wherever the public encounters or creates history, whether at a museum, historical society, national park, or on the internet.



This issue's Volunteer Profile is about Rachel Boyle.

Many students major in history as undergraduates but then choose a different field for their graduate work. You studied history as an undergraduate and have pursued this field in graduate school as well. What has attracted you to the field of history?

I found the study of history to be challenging and intriguing throughout high school and college. At the same time, I loved working with the public through various volunteer and employment opportunities. Loyola offered an opportunity to pursue both of those interests with their dual U.S. and Public History degree.

What interests you most about history?

How peoples' individual stories interconnect to create broader social structures that can either exploit or empower entire populations.

Just what is history anyway? And what is its value? In the Q & A at one of our library programs, someone said that history is the preservation of the past. Do you agree? Why do we study history? How do we decide what is worth preserving?

I would define history as the stories we tell ourselves to make sense of our place in the world and inform our actions. In that sense, history is only valuable if it is relevant to contemporary needs. While preserving the past is important for creating a historical record, I would argue that preservation alone should not

be the primary purpose of history. Applying historical knowledge to our present-day concerns in a rigorous and ethical way constitutes the core value of history.

History majors are an endangered species these days. Are you planning to spend your life waiting on tables? Seriously, what sort of career do you look forward to?

Is there even such a thing as a stable career? At this point, I am open to postsecondary teaching or working at a public history site. On the other hand, spending so much time in academia has left me antsy to work with the public in a more meaningful way that more directly addresses urgent contemporary inequalities and oppression.

You're currently working on your Ph.D. dissertation. What is your topic? What interests you about this topic?

I am researching the criminalization of women in Chicago from 1870 to 1920 to understand which women and acts were identified as criminal and why. I argue that criminal justice reformers attempted to control people based on their race, class, and gender performance as part of a broader struggle over political and economic power. My dissertation is an attempt to better understand the roots of criminal injustice that continue to plague our city and nation.

What point are you at in your research? What has been the highlight of your education?

I am currently ABD (All But Dissertation) and hope to wrap it

up in the next year or two. The opportunity to be a part of the strong and supportive graduate student community at Loyola has been the highlight of my graduate experience.

What other interests do you have besides history?

I enjoy game nights with friends and going for a run whenever I get the chance.

Talk about your work as a volunteer for RP/WRHS.

I'm the team leader of Community Relations. The mission of our team is to document the society's interactions with the community and introduce the society to underserved audiences. Most recently, that has meant configuring a constituent management system called CiviCRM to help consolidate and streamline aspects of our work at RP/WRHS, including mailings, membership, and hopefully volunteering and event registration in the near future. The goal with CiviCRM is to have our multi-faceted interactions with our constituents documented in one place. I also work with the media team on website development.

What has been the benefit of volunteering for you?

It's been a great opportunity to develop my digital skills. Technical problem-solving and back-end configuration of CiviCRM and the website have been both terrifying and satisfying. More than that, it's been great to get out of my dissertation bubble and work with the wonderful people of RP/WRHS. □

Walter Burley and Marion Mahony Griffin's Vision for Canberra, Capital of Australia

By Kay McSpadden

On Wednesday, May 13, 2015, at 6:30 p.m. at the Rogers Park Library for a lecture by Professor Christopher Vernon who presented an illustrated talk on "Walter Burley and Marion Mahony Griffin's Vision for Canberra, Capital of Australia." The talk was co-sponsored by the library and the Rogers Park/West Ridge Historical Society.

Professor Vernon's presentation focused on the Griffins' work designing and building Canberra and Marion Mahony Griffin's role in obtaining the commission and on the project. Professor Vernon is an Associate Professor in the School of Architecture, Landscape and Visual Arts of the University of Western Australia. He has written extensively about the Griffins' work in Australia and India. He has researched the career of Marion Mahony Griffin and her time living in Rogers Park in the home at 1946 W. Estes Avenue. His recent book is *Graceland*

Cemetery: A Design History, published in 2012. Professor Vernon was in Chicago to attend the dedication of Marion Mahony Griffin Beach Park, Jarvis Avenue and Lake Michigan in Rogers Park, which took place on Saturday, May 9, 2015. While here, he also spoke about the Griffins at the well-known Cliff Dwellers Club in downtown Chicago. □



Kay McSpadden welcomes attendees to the presentation by Christopher Vernon.



Christopher Vernon speaking about Marion Mahony Griffin.

Don Erickson and “the Birdcage” Apartments

by Dave Richert



Architect Don Erickson designed the Bird Cage apartment building at 6901 N.

The apartment building at 6901 N. Ridge (at Farwell), nicknamed “the birdcage”, was designed by noted architect Don Erickson (1929-2006). Erickson’s design incorporates thin vertical black metal elements reminiscent of bird cage wires against a creamy rough stone structure. The building stands out in a neighborhood of watered down **Georgian Revival** buildings. The cream rough-stone curved flagstone

and curtained wall gives the corner apartments a view of open space. The architect also used the slope of **Ridge Boulevard** to develop a variety of apartments types to the north of the main pavilion. The courtyard originally had a reflecting fishpond.

Erickson was born in Chicago on August 29, 1929. While his full name was Edward Donald Erickson, by Swedish tradition males are called by their middle name, and Donald was shortened to Don. He graduated from Proviso East High School in Maywood, Illinois in 1947 and studied architecture at the University of Illinois at Navy Pier. He was fascinated with the work of Frank Lloyd Wright and was accepted as a student at Wright’s Taliesin West where he studied from 1948-1951. He then established his own practice in the Chicago area. He designed many custom homes in the northern suburbs including his most famous project, the **Indian Lakes Resort** in **Bloomington**.

In the 1970s Erickson taught at and helped establish a design program at Northern Illinois University in DeKalb, Illinois. In 1988 he was a co-founder of the Association of Licensed Architects. He died on October 24, 2006 after a long battle with multiple myeloma and is buried in White Cemetery in Barrington, Illinois. □

Crossing the Invisible Dotted Lines

by Hank Morris

Dotted lines appear on maps to make it easy to define or delineate one something from another. But in real life, they’re not there for us to see. This makes most of us unaware that we’re crossing one or more of them.

Let’s take crossing Howard Street. For our purposes, it doesn’t matter if you cross from the south side (Chicago) to the north side (Evanston) or from north to south. And, this discussion applies only to that part of Howard Street west of the CTA Red Line tracks to the North Shore Channel. Not east of the CTA Red Line tracks.

The most obvious invisible dotted line is in the middle of the street. The north side is the City of Evanston and the south side is the City of Chicago.

Less obvious is the fact that the Evanston east-west street numbering system is opposite of the one used in Chicago. In Chicago, the east-west street’s addresses are even on the north

side of the street and odd on the south side. Evanston is the opposite. This results in the fact that there simply are no even-numbered addresses anywhere along the stretch of Howard that we’re discussing.

In a similar vein, the actual street numbers are not in sync either. For instance, Evanston’s numbering system assigns Asbury Avenue as 1300 W. This street in Chicago is Western Avenue, which is 2400 W. Dodge Avenue in Evanston is 1900 W. whereas California Avenue in Chicago is 2800 W.

The distance between Evanston’s streets is less than that in Chicago. In Evanston the streets Dodge and Asbury are 6 blocks apart (1900 – 1300 = 600). In Chicago, there are four blocks between California and Western (2800 – 2400 = 400). So, it’s no wonder that the street addresses do not sync.

If you examine the detailed map of Evanston which is available on line at <http://cityofevanston.org/maps/pdfs/>

[CityPlanimetricMap7200.pdf](#), you'll note that there are only 8 streets that continue directly across Howard Street without any offset.

(Evanston Street/Chicago Street)

1. Custer Avenue/Damen Avenue;
2. Ridge Avenue/Ridge Boulevard;
3. Asbury Avenue/Western Avenue;
4. Ashland Avenue/Maplewood Avenue;
5. Florence Avenue/Rockwell Street;
6. Dodge Avenue/California Avenue;
7. Grey Avenue/Francisco Avenue; and
8. Hartrey Avenue/Sacramento Avenue.

On the Chicago side, Howard Street has a total of 19 intersections with north-south Chicago streets. Evanston has 12 such intersections. Take away the 8 cross streets, above, and you find that 11 streets do not directly cross Howard Street from either municipality to the other.

Evanston draws its water from Lake Michigan, and has its own water treatment plant at 555 Lincoln Street. Chicago also draws its water from Lake Michigan and has its own water treatment facilities. Take a drink of water on one side of Howard, then cross the invisible dotted line, and take a drink of water on that side of the dotted line. This results in you taking a drink from two different water supplies.

Chicago Area Code 773 has the overlay area code, 872. Evanston Area Code 847 has the overlay area code 224. Here again, crossing Howard means change. This time, you travel from two different area codes to two other area codes.

While ComEd supplies electricity to both cities, each city is on its own grid for billing purposes. At night it's easy to see that each city also has its own street light system.

Natural Gas customers who have not subscribed to alternative energy suppliers in either community get their natural gas from separate suppliers too. Nicor Gas for Evanston, Peoples Energy for Chicago.

Even the sewer systems are not connected to each other. Evanston and Chicago each have and maintain their own combined sewer systems. But, both cities are connected to TARP (Tunnel And Reservoir Project) for flood control. Politically, each municipality has its own government. Evanston's Mayor is Elizabeth B. Tisdahl while Chicago's Mayor is Rahm Emmanuel.

Both cities have Wards. So it's no surprise that the Wards bordering Howard Street each have their own Aldermen.

Evanston's 8th Ward (Alderman Ann Rainey) runs the whole length of Howard as described earlier. On the Chicago side, the 49th Ward (Alderman Joe Moore) runs from the Red Line tracks west to Western Avenue and the 50th Ward (Alderman Debra Silverstein) starts at Western Avenue and runs west to the City Limits, Kedzie Avenue.

ZIP Codes change too just by walking across the street. Evanston's Zip Code at Howard Street is 60202. Whereas in Chicago the ZIP Codes along Howard Street are 60626 from the Red Line tracks to Ridge Boulevard and 60645 from Ridge Boulevard to Kedzie Avenue.

The Chicago side of Howard lies in State Senatorial District 8 from the North Shore Channel east to Western Avenue. The Evanston side of Howard from the North Shore Channel to the Red Line tracks plus the Chicago side of Howard east of Western Avenue are in State Senatorial District 9.

The Chicago side of Howard lies in State Representative District 16 from the North Shore Channel east to Western Avenue. The Evanston side of Howard from the North Shore Channel to the Red Line tracks plus the Chicago side of Howard east of Western Avenue are in State Representative District 14.

The Evanston Police Department Beat 71 runs along Howard from the North Shore Channel eastward to Asbury Avenue. Evanston's Beat 78 runs eastward from there to the Howard 'L'. On the Chicago side, Chicago Police Department Beat 2411 runs eastward from Kedzie Avenue to Ridge Boulevard. Beat 2424 runs eastward from there to the Metra tracks. Finally, Chicago's Beat 2422 continues east to the Red Line. Note: the police radios for each city use different frequencies, making it mandatory for bordering units to be able to monitor the other city's radios. Likewise, the fire departments on both sides of Howard have to monitor each other's fire radios.

Even the fire hydrants are different; requiring that the bordering fire equipment carry hydrant adapters so they can help each other during disasters.

Both sides of Howard lie within Congressional District 9. This seems to be the only instance where both sides of Howard are the same.

The differences between the north and south sides of Howard are so numerous that if the invisible dotted lines were real physical objects, there probably wouldn't be enough room to allow anyone to cross the street in the first place. □

Our Former Office Manager, Kim Brown

By Kay McSpadden



Our former Office Manager Kim Brown.

Kim was born and raised in Iowa, attended the University of Iowa in Iowa City where she majored in Journalism and Creative Writing and moved to Chicago in 1988 to complete her Bachelor of Arts in Fiction Writing at Columbia College. She worked in a variety of fields such as technical journalism, doing purchasing and web support for an electronics distributor and more recently entered the world of politics and non-profit work.

Rogers Park became her home in 1999 and it wasn't until 2010 when the Glenwood Sunday Market was launched that Kim started to volunteer in the community. At the same

time, she managed a charity garden over in the Ravenswood neighborhood where she worked. They donated food from the garden to the local food pantry as well as having fundraisers to donate to them.

From there, Kim served as a Neighborhood Team Leader in Rogers Park for President Obama's re-election campaign in 2012. Following that victory, she founded the Rogers Park chapter of Organizing for Action, the last incarnation of President Obama's historic grassroots organization. A few months later Kim became a Chapter Lead for OFA Chicago North and worked on campaigns to reduce gun violence, on climate change, immigration reform, marriage equality, and on raising the minimum wage.

Last summer, Kim was hired by Governor Quinn's re-election campaign as the Field Organizer for the far north side of Chicago and northern suburbs which included Uptown, Edgewater, Ravenswood, Lincoln Square, Albany Park, Rogers Park, Evanston, and New Trier.

In the recent municipal elections, she worked on Alderman Joe Moore's campaign and volunteered for Jesus Chuy Garcia's campaign team here in Rogers Park. Her next political campaign will be volunteering for Bernie Sanders with a team here in Rogers Park as they make calls into Iowa to build support for the first caucus.

Kim said she is thrilled to be working for the Rogers Park West Ridge Historical Society. As a fan and writer of classic and historical fiction, it is very exciting to have this opportunity. She is impressed by the knowledge and commitment of the talented volunteers who have built this wonderful organization.

Kim hopes that she can contribute to the growth of the Society and engage our diverse community as we both educate about our rich history and as we create new stories.

Kim left the Society to work full-time on the Bernie Sanders campaign. □



Richard Reeder, surrounded on three sides by the “full-house” audience, takes a question. In his talk he discussed when and why Jews came to Rogers Park, the institutions they established, and when and why they left.

Speaker Draws Largest Crowd in Recent Memory

By Colleen Sen and Kay McSpadden

An overflow audience came to hear a talk by local author and educator Richard Reeder on the history of the Jewish Community of Rogers Park. The talk took place at the Rogers Park Library, 6907 N. Clark Street, on Wednesday, August 12. A popular speaker and a topic of high interest combined to draw well-over one hundred people, the largest audience ever to attend one of the Historical Society’s bimonthly programs at local libraries.

Mr. Reeder interspersed his personal memories with information about the sociology, history, and politics of the neighborhood. In a pattern common to the Jewish community, his own family moved from Lawndale to Albany Park and then to Rogers Park. Jews were attracted by the large apartments available in the neighborhood. By 1940, Rogers Park was home to some 30,000 Jews, making the neighborhood about fifty percent Jewish. Young Jewish people predominated in local public schools. In 1951, ninety percent of the last names in the Sullivan High School yearbook were Jewish.

The community established several synagogues, most Traditional or Conservative, a Jewish Community Center, and many businesses, including the famous Ashkenaz Restaurant and Delicatessen at 1432 W. Morse Avenue, which closed in 1976. In effect, for more than thirty years, beginning around 1940, the predominant culture of Rogers Park was Jewish.

The Irish political establishment along the way opened up opportunities for Jews to hold political office, leading to the election of Paul Wigoda as 49th Ward Alderman and Esther Saperstein, elected four times to the Illinois State Legislature.

By the early 1970s, most of the Rogers Park Jewish population had left the apartments of Rogers Park to buy single-family homes in West Ridge or the northern suburbs, mainly Skokie.

About Richard Reeder:

Today a branch of the Ashkenaz family runs Max and Benny’s Restaurant in Northbrook, where Richard manages events.

Richard moderates the [Cliff Dwellers Book Club](#) and he created and coordinates the Chicago Jewish Authors Literary Series at [Max and Benny’s Restaurant](#). Richard is also on the board of the [Chicago Literary Hall of Fame](#). He is the author of *Chicago Sketches* and has his own blog at [aliteraryreeder.wordpress.com](#). Richard’s presentation at the Cliff Dwellers was the first in a series of events in observation of the 100th birthday of [Saul Bellow](#) earlier this year and he spoke on “Saul Bellow’s Jewish Roots” at the [Chicago Jewish Historical Society](#). This fall he will also teach a course on [James Joyce’s Ulysses](#) in Oakton College’s Emeritus Program. □

Clark Street: Then and Now

By Kay McSpadden

On Saturday, June 20, 2015 we held our “Clark Street: Then and Now” event which included a presentation and walking tour.

The presentation was scheduled for 1:00 p.m. at the Rogers Park Public Library.

Neighborhood-history expert Glenna Eaves delivered a presentation about the history of Clark Street from Morse to Greenleaf Avenues. She entertained participants with a rich history of the people and businesses that have served and sustained the community for over 100 years. This presentation was open to the public.

The Walking Tour was scheduled for 2:00 p.m., and left from the Rogers Park Public Library.

Ms. Eaves led the walking tour for registered attendees after the presentation. (Walking tour attendees had to register in advance.) Space was limited. The walking tour spanned Clark Street between Morse and Greenleaf Avenues and took approximately one hour.

For more photos, [Click Here](#)

RPWRHS joins the Celebrate Clark Street World Music Festival for their 10th anniversary which was ‘historic’

By Kay McSpadden

Sometimes a volunteer gig doesn’t turn out as expected. Rob Case and Stephanie Barto found that out when they volunteered for the first shift at our booth at the Clark Street World Music Festival on Saturday, July 18, 2015. Around 4 p.m., a wind, rain, and thunderstorm came up. Rob got soaking wet saving the tent from blowing away; he managed to save his “historical” hat, however, one of several on loan for the occasion from Lost Eras Antiques and Costume Shop on Howard St., thanks to Kim Brown our Volunteer Coordinator. Stephanie tried to save merchandise and took photos of the melee. A few items blew away, including a large framed photo of Devon and Western in the early 20th century and the clipboard with email addresses of potential members. T-shirts and some books got soaked.

Square for the second shift.

Rob’s assessment of the storm: “This is why I love Chicago-the drama!”

For more photos, [Click Here](#)

Summer Damra, a Northside Prep senior volunteering during her summer vacation, and I showed up for the late afternoon shift and wound up helping to take the booth down and ferry the soaked merchandise back to the Society’s office. Ken Walchak, our president, whose tent was on loan to us, came to take it down a day early and then came back early Sunday morning to put it up again. Better weather on Sunday made for a more successful day. Kim volunteered her time to staff the booth all day, dressed as a 1920’s flapper, and managed to sell the damaged books and t-shirts for a reduced price. I assisted for the first shift and Kim’s friend Anne Crowe of Jarvis



Robert Case and Stephanie Barto, our photography experts managing the RPWRHS booth at Celebrate Clark Street World Music Festival on Saturday, July 18, 2015 before the powerful storm hit (photo by Kim Brown)



Rob Case helps fair attendee by pointing her in the right direction.

The Rogers Park / West Ridge Historical Society Store

Your purchases help to support the Society's mission. We have a wide selection of books and other merchandise available for sale at the museum. Below are four of our items.

You may order by phone, mail, in our store, or from our website. **Please note, for orders in Illinois, we must charge 9.75% sales tax.** For orders to be shipped, please include \$6 shipping and handling per delivery address.



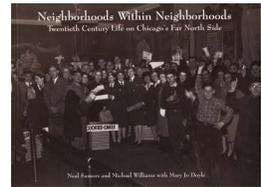
Ceramic "Birches" Mug
 Nonmembers: \$4
 Members: \$3.25



Canvas Tote Bag
 Nonmembers: \$12
 Members: \$9.45



Chicago's Far North Side
 Nonmembers: \$25
 Members: \$20



Neighborhoods within Neighborhoods
 Nonmembers: \$25
 Members: \$20

Ship to

NAME _____ PHONE _____ EMAIL _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____

CREDIT CARD TYPE MC VISA DISCOVER AmEx

CREDIT CARD NUMBER _____ BACK _____ EXPIRATION _____

QTY	ITEM	PRICE	S&H (\$6)	TAX	TOTAL
TOTAL ORDER:					

**Been in the "hood" a while?
Know somebody who has?**

The Rogers Park/West Ridge Historical Society is conducting an ongoing oral history project. We are collecting the memories of those individuals who remember what life was like in Rogers Park and West Ridge "way back when."

Oral histories are a wonderful way to learn more about our neighborhoods before all the complexities of "modern life" settled in.

Memories are precious, whether they're yours, a friend's or a relative's. Help preserve our community's past through oral history today.

You can reach the **Rogers Park/West Ridge Historical Society** to arrange an interview at **773-764-4078** or e-mail us at **info@rpwrhs.org**.

Do you have photos of Rogers Park or West Ridge?

Our Photo Archives and Cataloging Project is charged with the preservation of our photo collection. In it, we have literally thousands of photographs that have been donated to the Society to be preserved for future generations and today's researchers.

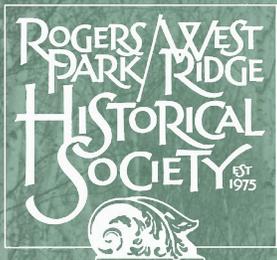
It's one of our most valuable resources. Why not add your old photos to our collection? We will scan them and put them in the Photo Archives. Future generations and today's researchers will thank you for your efforts.

We can scan slides, negatives, prints, whatever. While we would prefer to preserve the originals, we're not greedy. If you want them back, we will honor your request.

It would be most helpful if you could provide notes as to what is being shown in the photographs. We've never met Aunt Martha. Please tell us who is who. Neighborhoods change. Please tell us where the photo was taken and when. **Your photos can be from any time period, that means even the 2000s.**

For more information, contact the Society's offices.

Rogers Park/West Ridge Historical Society
7363 N. Greenview Avenue, Chicago IL 60626-3481
Call **773-764-4078** or e-mail us at **info@rpwrhs.org**



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I would like to volunteer at the Society