

LANSING HISTORICAL SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2012

*From the President
Tony DeLaurentis*

I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. It was a wonderful Christmas for us celebrating with our children, their spouses, and five grandchildren.

The Festival of Lights was a big success again this year. As always Jennifer Saia and her "elves" did a wonderful job. Being a guide during December, I was able to meet many parents and children. I enjoyed answering their questions about the trees and Lansing's history.

A huge thank you to all the volunteers that came back to help take down the trees, and put everything back in place.

I have been working on identifying the Lansing businesses (past and present) that were or are located along Ridge Road.

Sadly, the last two months of the year saw the passing away of two of our members, Joanne Wolfe Jensen and Josephine Schoettle. They will be missed.

May 2012 be a year of good health, happiness, and peace for you and your loved ones.

Tony

Congratulations to Debbie Albrecht!

The Lansing Historical Society recognized, Lansing Library Director, Debbie Albrecht, with a lifetime membership award in the Historical Society. The lifetime membership was given to Debbie at the November 28th meeting. Debbie exemplifies organizations working together for the good of the community. Debbie has been a true friend of LHS, always helpful and supportive with any request made. Thank you, Debbie!

2011 - 2012

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HAPPY

NEW YEAR!



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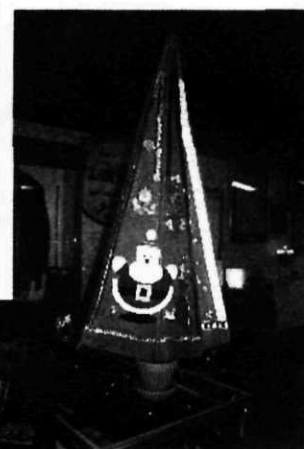
Jen's Journal

Once again, I have to thank the many people who helped set up our "Festival of Lights" display! We received many compliments, and I believe it was enjoyed by all who saw it! Thanks again to Carol Schaap and her Memorial Junior High School Choir for entertaining us and to Santa who graciously waited for the young ones to come visit him. The dessert table will be hard to improve on. Thank you also to all who donated treats.

An extra needed thank you to Vanessa Nesbit for her embellishing touches to the Felt Trees. Thank you for taking the extra time. Hugs to you!

Happy New Year to everyone, and we will see you in February.

Jen Saia, Curator



Maxine Olsen's
Nativity Collection

Another great
holiday season!



Memorial Junior High Choir

The following is an article that appeared in the LARC newsletter. We wanted to share it with our LHS members.

A Sincere Thank You

The Lansing Historical Society is not only preserving our past but offering kindness in the present. Jen Saia, Curator of the Historical Society, Jackie Ore, Secretary and unofficial assistant Curator for the Historical Society and Tony DeLaurentis, President of the Historical Society work together to help preserve the history of Lansing and keep that history alive. Once again, we received a call from Jen inviting our clients to join them at the Lansing Public Library for a luncheon compliments of the society. Treated with the highest level of respect, our men and women enjoy a wonderful lunch prepared just for them. Never setting a limit on how many participants are welcome they reach out in kindness to those we serve. In addition to the luncheon, LARC clients are invited to actively participate in their Christmas celebration as they are asked to provide Christmas decorations for one of the trees. The gift of acceptance is one that is often treasured above most others. The society offers this gift as they invite us to participate in this tradition. All of us here at LARC would like to thank them not simply for the luncheon but for reaching out to us in a manner that tells us we are a respected and important part of this community.

Greetings from the Vice President
Diane Roberts

Happy 2012! As I write this, we are being warned that the first snowstorm of the season is on its way. Snow aside, our family will be attending the Cubs Convention this weekend in Chicago, so spring is coming!

We had a nice turnout for the November 28th opening of the "Festival of Lights". The museum and the trees looked wonderful. Thanks again to Jen and her helpers. Santa paid an early visit and the Memorial Junior High Choir entertained us with songs of the season. Thanks to those who brought cookies and goodies. They were enjoyed by everyone.

Our first program of 2012 will feature an important part of Lansing, Trinity Lutheran Church. We are honored to have Trinity's current pastor, Rev. Paul Appold, as speaker for the evening. He will focus on Trinity's long history in our village. I have heard that Elliott Ness of the "Untouchables" fame was married at Trinity. Come to the February 27th program and learn more of the story of this Lansing church.

Calligraphy, the "art of beautiful writing," is the subject of our March 26th program as award winning local graphic artist and calligrapher, Julie Wildman, joins us. Well known in the Chicago area she has been teaching calligraphy since 2003 and has actively promoted the art of lettering through schools and community organizations. She will demonstrate examples of traditional and contemporary forms of calligraphy. Hopefully we may get a chance to try our "hand" at this!

On April 23rd, Ramon Arredondo and his wife, Tisha, will present "Maria's Journey," the story of Ramon's grandmother. Maria Perez entered into an arranged marriage at age 14 and left Mexico to come to the U.S. in the 1920's. She lived in a boxcar in Texas before settling in East Chicago, Indiana, where her husband worked in the steel mills. Her story is a reflection of 20th century America. Ramon and Trisha have written a book about Maria's experiences which will be available at the program.

I wrote earlier that spring is coming, but we still have some winter to get through. I thought I would pass along someplace to enjoy the winter - the Morton Arboretum in Lisle. You can drive through the 1700 acres to enjoy the winter landscapes and wildlife while there are a number of easy walks with paved paths. It's just a great place to enjoy no matter what the season. There is an admission fee but parking is free. Bundle up and enjoy!

Diane

WELCOME

The Lansing Historical Society is pleased to welcome Daniel Cuthbert as its newest member!

Josephine Schoettle

The Historical Society's most senior member passed away on December 11. Josephine was 101 years old, just 19 days shy of her 102nd birthday.. Here are some thoughts from Marilyn Kooy on Josephine...

"We all remember Josephine Schoettle. She was a long time member of the Lansing Historical Society and loved to attend our meetings and would apologize if she was unable to attend.

Josephine and her husband, Julius, operated "Flowers by Josephine" for almost 50 years and was a big part of Lansing's history.

She belonged to St. Ann's Church for about 70 years and was very active in many organizations of St. Ann's. She received from the Archdiocese of Chicago, in honor of her 85th birthday, a Special Apostolic Blessing from Pope John Paul II. She also received the Christifideles Award for Extraordinary Lay Ministry in the Life of the Church from Cardinal Francis George.

She developed many friendships over the years, and she will be greatly missed."

Our thoughts and prayers go out to her family.

LHS Charter Member Passes Away . . .

Joanne Wolfe Jensen passed away on November 17. Joanne was a founding member of LHS and was the Lansing Library Director for 30 years before she retired. She also served as president of the South Suburban Librarian Association for two terms.

Joanne also wrote and contributed to many professional publications. She will be missed, and we offer her family our sympathy and prayers.

Reminder

There is no LHS meeting in January. Make sure to mark your calendar for our February 27th meeting!

Annual dues (\$10.00) are due. Reminders will be mailed shortly.



HAPPY
NEW
YEAR

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Lansing Historical Society
Post Office 1776
Lansing, IL 60438

Lansing Historical Society Museum
Lower Level - Lansing Library
708-474-6160

OPEN

Monday- 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Wednesday - 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Saturday - 10:00 a.m. to noon

If you would like to volunteer to be a guide at our museum, please contact any society member. This duty requires just two hours a month!
We are also in need of substitute guides!