



WSHS

WESTERN SPRINGS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

September, 2008

The Ekdahl House Museum Project Update

A lot has been happening on Tuesday mornings at Snackers Café! This is when the Ekdahl House Museum Project Committee meets to discuss the renovation and outdoor museum plans for the former “Spaghetti Bowl” building.

The small, rectangular, one and one half story, front gabled house was built in 1887 by Swedish immigrant, August Ekdahl, a year after the Village was incorporated. Amazingly, after all these years, the house is still in good condition! Before it could be relocated, it had to be evaluated by structural engineers to make sure that it could physically make the move. The site on Wolf Road was excavated and wood chips were put around the trees to prevent root damage during relocation and renovation. Village and county permits were obtained and on May 18th, the house was moved by Hyatt Movers to a site just north of the WS Fire Department.

MAY

May was a very busy month. The old, yellow aluminum siding was removed and the house was moved to the site and then moved again onto a new foundation which was built by Woodland Construction. Three colors of paint were discovered underneath the aluminum siding (cream, sage green, white). Fortunately, the siding helped to preserve the original wood clapboard. This type of wood clapboard was popular from 1850 – 1890 in Central Illinois and to the North.

JUNE

Much planning and research regarding window style, siding, lighting, and landscaping took place in June. There was waterproofing applied to the foundation and a service call from Orkin. Both of these procedures help to prevent water and insect damage to the new wood. Visits were made to Bronswood cemetery, and local churches to gain additional information on the Ekdahl family.

JULY

In July the work and volunteer efforts continued. A new electric service was installed. The old plaster ceiling was removed to expose the wood beams for a backdrop for the new lighting system to be installed in the museum. The chain link fence was removed and the Boy Scouts from Troop 216 helped us to clean up the site.



Ekdahl House Watercolor by Peggy Taylor. This image was graciously donated by Peggy to the Ekdahl Museum. Note cards with this image are available at the Western Springs Historical Society Tower Museum, Saturdays from 10:00-12:00.



President's Letter

Greetings,

I hope everyone has had a wonderful summer. As you will see in this issue, the WSHS has been very busy this summer working on the restoration of the Ekdahl House Museum as well as raising funds by selling bricks and planning a fun vintage Bingo Night fundraiser. The community support for the museum has been wonderful and am happy to report that we are half way to reaching our \$60,000 goal thanks to the support of our members, village residents and businesses in town.

OFFICERS

*Kimberly Knake,
President*

*David Barritt,
Vice President*

*Alison Venchuck
Secretary*

TRUSTEES

*Elizabeth Arts
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Susan Cardamone
Pete Caris
Alan Gornick
Jim Havlat
Paul Karas
Mike Marcotte
Patty Ptacek
Harry Philips
Leslie Walters
Carol Young
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Laura Zender*

OTHER CHAIRS

*Betty Howard
Janet Helin
Rus Nelson*

Newsletter
David Walters

With that good news, comes some sad news to report. Clifford Lundin, one of our oldest residents and biggest WSHS supporters passed away this summer at the age of 94. Clifford Lundin's father, Albert an early settler of Western Springs came from Sweden in 1905 looking for better living conditions and started Lundin Builders. Clifford Lundin was born in 1914 and later took over the family business and began Lundin Roofing. His son Bruce now runs the company. Clifford's other son; Rodger Lundin who now resides in Washington State came to the WSHS archives while in town, to do some research on his family's history. I had an opportunity to ask him why his father was so generous to the WSHS. He replied. "My dad loved Western Springs and loved his family. It was his legacy to keep both of them strong". Clifford Lundin's Planned Donations and Memorial Requests have continued to keep his legacy and his love of Western Springs alive. We will miss him and are happy to have his children now involved in the WSHS. To learn more about Clifford Lundin, check out the "Share your Memory" on our website and read first hand some of Clifford's stories.



Bruce Lundin, Clifford Lundin, and Terry Lundin-Benchley visiting the WSHS Archives in 2007.

Capturing your family history is a great activity to do with your children, especially now, as we start to move indoors. You can download a Grandparents questionnaire from our website for your children to use with their grandparent's. A guaranteed fun afternoon for all!!

Again, thank you for all your support and we hope to see you October 4th for Bingo Night and at the Ekdahl House Museum opening during the Christmas Walk. Don't forget to Buy-a-Brick!!

Welcome New 2008 WSHS Members

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|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Roger Lundin – Life | Mike & Meg Medema – Family | Garwin Dawley – Individual |
| Trent & Shauna Lambright – Life | Win & Linda Murray – Family | Victoria Gonja – Individual |
| Mark & Patty Ptacek – Patron | Robert & Jean Ptacek – Family | Kristine Hansen – Individual |
| Scott & Sandy Tausk – Patron | Gail Potter – Family | Connie Krumwiede – Individual |
| Maureen Russell – Sustaining | Kathy & Steve Strnic – Family | James M. Tilden – Individual |
| Adriane Pucci-Ciszek & Frank | Craig & Susan Welbourne – | Mary Torgler - Individual |
| Ciszek – Family | Family | |
| Tara & Rich Bulger – Family | Bob & Janice Zeman – Family | |

Continued from pg. 1

AUG. August was an exciting month. The house was power washed. New Pella windows that replicate the original (1887) windows were installed. New clapboard that matched the original was installed as well. The house was then painted with Benjamin Moore's new latex paint called Aura. This paint is eco-friendly, has premium coating properties, superior coverage, and has a lifetime warranty. It utilizes advanced technology with color lock to ensure that the color lasts year after year. The paint was donated by Benjamin Moore and the Village True Value Hardware store. The color, Windham Cream from the Historical Collection, was selected as it is a match to one of the original paint colors which was unveiled under the aluminum siding.

SEPT. September will get us one step closer to the completed project. A new front door will be installed. This door is reminiscent of the doors of the 1890's and typical for a commercial building.

OCT. Things should really pick up in October. Bricks from the "Buy a Brick" fundraiser will be installed along with patching and new wall finishes in the interior. The deadline to order your brick is October 1st.

NOV. In November the final touches will be made to prepare for the December grand opening of the Ekdahl House Museum which is planned for the 2008 Christmas Walk.

DEC. December will be a month of celebration as all of our hard work will finally pay off. The grand opening of the Ekdahl Museum will take place during the annual Christmas Walk on December 6, 2008 from 3-5pm.

We are grateful to Jim Rosentreter of Woodland Construction for his role as our General Contractor. Dan Ruzic of Chicago Project Management and Elizabeth Trail, Architect, also helped to guide us through the initial design and relocation phase.

The Historical Society appreciates your patience during the renovation of the house. Thanks go to our Village officials, businesses, Historical Society Trustees and to the community for all your efforts and support that have made this project successful.

Be sure to take a walk past the Ekdahl House!

Please contact Elizabeth Arts for any additional information at 708.246.9230 or elizarts@comcast.net. You can also visit www.westernspringshistory.org.

Ekdahl House Museum Committee Members

Chairman:

Elizabeth Arts

Building and Grounds:

Jim Havlat, Paul Karas, Carole Cosimano

Community Outreach:

Pete Caris, Char Blessman

Education:

Carol Young

Grants:

Allyson Zak

Museum Operations:

Mike Marcotte, Chris Tobin

Calendar of Events

Vintage Bingo Night

Saturday, October 4th
Village Club, 7:30-11:00

Haunted Water Tower

Friday October 10th
Join us for our first "Haunted Water Tower" during the WS Fall Festival.

Preservation Awards

Tuesday October 21st
Harris Bank

Christmas in the Village Holiday Market

Saturday, November 1st
Village Club, 10:00-5:00
Please come and enjoy a wonderful Holiday Market filled with the Midwest's finest in Antiques, Holiday items for your home, gifts, and unique one of a kind artist goods by designers.

Ekdahl Museum Grand Opening Western Springs Christmas Walk

Saturday, December 6
3:00-5:00 PM

History of Saint Valentines Day and Wine Tasting

Saturday, February, 14
Hillgrove Wine Cellars
Sample wines from around the world in the intimate setting of Hillgrove Wine Cellars.

Spring House Walk

Sunday, May 17, 2009
Get your walking shoes ready and join us for the Western Springs House Walk benefiting the WSHS. Come and view some of the loveliest homes in our Village! Hope to see you there!"

Ekdahl House Museum Donations	<p><u>Bronze Heritage Benefactor \$1,000 and up</u> John and Janet Helin The Ptacek- Striglos Family Dr. and Mrs. Ted Walters Sam's Club David and Elizabeth Arts Clifford and Eileen Lundin Rodger Lundin</p> <p><u>Sponsor \$500.00</u> David and Leslie Walters Jane C. Wolfe Harriet Potenza The Knake Family The Community Bank of Western Springs</p>	<p><u>Friend \$250.00</u> The Kozak Family Clever Girl Betty Howard</p> <p><u>Neighbors \$249.00 and under</u> Spring Rock Questers John E. Linden Carol Cosimano The Madell Family Thomas Stack Vicki and Fred Sandburg The McKeag family Vermon Jantz William Koehl Harold Paul Jan McDemed Coterie Club of Western Springs Vintage Cottage Gurrie and Alice Rhoads</p>	<p>Mary Ann & Jim Wilson The Competitive Foot Margie Hatter Mark and Linda Hussey The Roy Benedek Trust Charles Macke David Simpson & Holly Klotz Helen Nassos George and Nancy Sutherland Albert and Mary Fischer WS Lodge 1136 Pat and Julie Kelly Michael and Karen Marcotte Elizabeth Wirtz The Heyer Family The Perkins Family Peter & Linda Arts Jim & Kate Arts Mooney Tony & Margaret Arts Fantasia</p>
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Ekdahl House Museum Donors of Services	<p>John J. Lynch, Village President and Village Trustees Jim Rosentreter, Woodland Construction Western Springs Historical Society, Trustees Christopher Everett, Everett Builders</p> <p>Archivists, Western Springs Historical Society James J. Benes and Associates, Inc. Boy Scout Troop #216 Christopher B. Burke Engineering, Ltd. Carole Cosimano Lt. Dayhoff, WS Police Department Pat Donley Ryan Gough, Allied Waste Services Craig Harris Nancy Pegram Hyatt Movers Margaret Arts Fantasia Linda Johnson, Western Springs Village Hardware Gary Klein, Engineer Gary Lynch Orkin Inc. Kate Arts Mooney Benjamin Moore and Co.</p>	<p>Danny Parrott, Hillgrove Wine Cellars Mark Placek, Placek Builders Pella Windows Tommy Romano, Events By Tommy R's Patty Romanow, Spaghetti Bowl Restaurant Daniel G. Quinn, Attorney Dan Ruzic, Chicago Project Management Ken Sitkowski, Bannerville Smithsonian National Postal Museum Elizabeth Stoner, Architect Peggy Taylor The Doings Chris Tobin Elizabeth Trail, Architect Village of Hinsdale Village of Western Springs Western Springs Business Association Western Springs Fire Association Western Springs Fire Department Western Springs Police Department Woodland Construction Woodland Electric Bob Young</p>
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WSHS Donations	<p>Helen Nassos Grace Lutheran Women's Club Gail Potter in honor of Byron and Lydia Potter (grandparents) and Richard and Martha Potter (parents) Jan & Bill McDermid in memory of Ernie Pegram Carol Young in memory of Ernie Pegram Raju & Lisa Patel – Matching funds donation from Bank of America Alice & Gurrie Rhoads in memory of Clifford H. Lundin Roger C. Lundin in memory of Clifford H. Lundin Clifford & Eileen Lundin Bruce & Ethlyn Yount and Milt & Jeanette Fanta in honor of Wayne & Lorelie Kennedy Corabel L. DeWitt John & Pamela Wilson Carol Young in memory of Lynn Rowells Kimberly & Walt Knake in memory of Ernie Pegram Bob & Lu Burns in memory of our neighbor Cliff & Eileen Lundin</p>
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Buy-A-Brick Order Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Brick Size: *(please circle)* 4"x 8" @ \$100 8" x 8" @ \$200

Engraving: 4" x 8" bricks can have 3 lines of 13 space text and 8" x 8" bricks can have 6 lines of 13 space text. All engraving will be filled with epoxy.

Font Style: *(please circle one)*

Upper Case Only

Upper & Lower Case

Engraving Requested: *(Please fill out only first 3 lines for 4" x 8" bricks)*

Type of Payment: *(please circle)* Cash Check Credit Card

Please make checks payable to **WSHS**

Credit Card

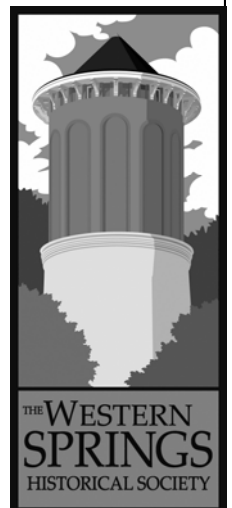
Number: _____

Type of Card: Visa MasterCard

Expiration Date: *(Month/Year)* _____ Security Code: _____

Note: Your donation is tax deductible. You will receive a letter of acknowledgement and receipt of purchase.

Western Springs Historical Society
P.O. Box 139 Western Springs, IL 60558





**WESTERN
SPRINGS**
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

916 Hillgrove Ave.
Western Springs
708.246.9230
westernspringshistory.org

The Tower Museum &
Children's Museum
Located in the historic
Water Tower in Western
Springs

Museum Hours:
Saturdays
10AM - 12 PM

Volunteers/Docents
welcome
Call 246.9230

Archives and Workshop
Grand Avenue
Community Center
Second Floor

Open to the Public
Tuesdays 9 AM—Noon

Volunteers needed to
catalog donated items and
articles. Contact Betty
Howard at 708.246.9230

Western Springs Historical Society
P.O. Box 139
Western Springs, IL 60558

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LOCAL POSTAL PATRON

B VINTAGE BINGO O

We are throwing a Bingo Party!

Please join us at the WS Village Club.

Saturday, October 4th

7:30pm to 11:00pm

(games start @ 8:00)

\$50.00 per person

Includes: Bingo Cards,
Snacks and 2 Drinks.



Live Auction!

Casual Attire!

Limited Seating!

Your odds of winning are excellent!

Tickets can be purchased at Vintage Cottage and the Tower
Museum. See www.westernspringshistory.org for more details.

Help support the Ekdahl House Museum renovation.