

Building Fund

Hurrah! We are on our way! The Kirkland Historical Society is moving forward in our quest to purchase the Olson Funeral and Cremation Services - Quiram Kirkland Chapel. We are still seeking help from our members and supporters. The building will cost \$100,000. We realize the poor timing with COVID-19, causing lost business and jobs, but we feel this is a golden opportunity not to be lost. We would sincerely like to thank our present donors and we welcome and appreciate everyone's participation in helping to achieve a permanent home for Kirkland's history, family histories and treasures.



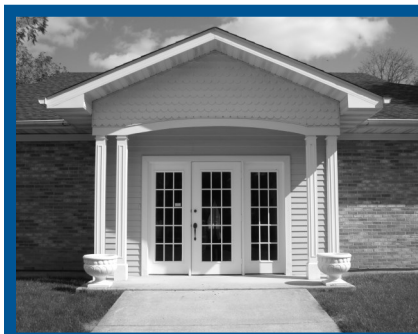
\$50,000

\$29,520



Add a **copper leaf**: \$250 to \$499 **Silver leaf**: \$500 to \$999
Gold leaf: \$1000 to 4999 **Rock under tree**: \$5000 and up

**A Golden
Opportunity
To Preserve
Kirkland's
History**



**Thank You For
Helping To
Save The
Village's
Treasures**



"The Adventures of John James Audubon" by Brian "Fox" Ellis is tentatively planned for Sunday afternoon in the park April 18, 2021.



Program:
"Life Through the Lens of Kodak"
by Robert Lindsey as George Eastman (possibly in Feb.)

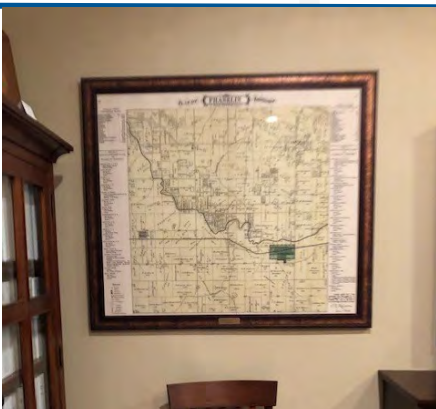


Programs presented by KHS and Kirkland Public Library

The Chicken House By David Yates

We had a chicken house full of laying hens that produced eggs. I had to get the eggs in a basket. My mother would wash and clean the eggs. She put them in an egg crate that carried 12 or 24 dozen eggs. Then we would take them to the store. The grocer would buy or trade eggs for groceries.

At one time we all wanted to go to the circus and had no money. So, Dad went to the chicken house and picked out hens that were old and didn't produce. So we put the chickens in a crate and took them to Esmond, Illinois and sold them. Now we had money to spend at the circus.



The enlarged plat maps of Franklin Township in 1892 and the Village of Kirkland in 1892 were donated by Michael Luepkes and are wonderful additions to KHS. Thank you Michael!





Allan Aves

KHS's Tribute to Allan Aves (1931-2020)

On April 13, 2020, Allan Aves passed away. He was a good man, farmer, neighbor and friend. Being the first president of Kirkland Historical Society was among his many achievements. Allan and his wife, Ruth, were always great supporters of KHS.

Jim and I moved to Kirkland in 1989. Allan and Ruth were nearby neighbors and became good friends, from antique hunting to Jim and Allan going to 4 o'clock coffee. It was not long until Allan, in learning of my interest in history, would say to me, "I wish you would get interested in working on Kirkland history."

After writing a play for my hometown "Neoga" in 2006 for their sesquicentennial, I thought I should write one for Kirkland's quasiquicentennial in 2007. A talk with Allan helped set up a committee. Connie Worden also assisted in the project. Our Kirkland Bank provided some needed funds. The two-night show was a big success and we ended up with left-over funds. The play's treasurer Joann Behnke called and said the bank required a name for the fund. I said, "How about Historical Society?" She said, "Yes, Kirkland Historical Society!" At that moment, KHS had its beginning!

In October of 2007, I called Allan, Ruth, and a number of other people to set up a board. Allan immediately volunteered. Scott Drexler, Becky Lamont, Helen Davis, Eric Sester, Judy Nelson (soon to be replaced for health reasons by Judi Gontko) agreed and we began. Allan became KHS's first president. A Kirkland native, leader, and someone who always did the difficult tasks, Allan had our society off to a great start.

The Kirkland Public Library gave us space in their "bank vault" for our (then) few items. Allan, Ruth, Jim and I looked for a home for KHS with little success. Then, in 2009, a happy moment happened when Scott Olson of Olson Funeral and Cremation Services called and offered to share space with us at their Kirkland site in exchange for us displaying Kirkland items and providing some help and care of the facility. Allan and Ruth provided needed funds for some display cases and other items. The Library also donated many old Kirkland items to be preserved and displayed. KHS visitors comment on the many interesting displays and the amount of information available. One said, "This is a gold mine here!" Collection, preservation, and learning continue.

Allan Aves retired as president in 2014 after serving for seven years. He remained a great supporter of the Kirkland Historical Society. KHS is grateful for Allan's contributions.

Peggy Stuntz, President, April 13, 2020



Tom in 1983

Thomas R. Williams (1965-2020)

Tom Williams, son of John A. "Dick" and Jeanette Williams, was a 1983 graduate of Hiawatha High School where he was Senior Class President, Homecoming King and active in sports. Tom received his Bachelor's and Master's degrees from the University of Illinois, plus his Doctorate from Iowa State. He worked as a research plant breeder before his retirement. His interests included antiquing and fishing. Tom served on the Board of the Kirkland Historical Society from November 9, 2008 to May 16, 2012.

Kirkland Revisited.....

*In an effort to retrieve our past, the fishing net of KHS has been cast
into the sea of history where we strive to greet and meet our ancestry.*

*Our goal is to reclaim all parts of our hundred year history
to discover our ancestors so that we can say, they are just like me.*

*Nothing will halt us in our quest for stories yet untold
or quench our thirst for facts and information new and old.*

*Knowledge, history and lessons from the past are worth more than gold
therefore we will continue our search till the mysteries of the past unfold.*

*Although we are recent to the town, like new babes in the woods,
we know what needs to get done and we will deliver the goods.*

*What a privilege to stand on the ground where our relatives stood,
it makes us steadfast and resolved to say, we could and we should.*

*The tasks become easy when you know it's the right thing to do
as the untold stories of the past are unending so we constantly pursue.*

*And now you see, it is an honor to unearth these treasures of the past,
the people, the land, it's in our hearts for the die has been cast.*

Judith Gontko

Building Fund

All winning Silent Auction bids received will go to the Building Fund to purchase the funeral home. Your generous support will help KHS to have a permanent home.



Silent Auction

To bid, call 815-751-5122 and leave a message giving your name, phone #, item and bid. You will be called if someone outbids you. Bidding closes on Sunday, October 25 at 5:00 pm.

1. Barn Photograph by Mildred Banks, donated by Lori Ferb Pepper

Photo 12 x 18 plus frame & matting (not shown) 1st Place at Boone County Fair



From the Mildred M. Banks Collection courtesy of the Boone County Museum of History, Belvidere, IL.
Minimum bid: \$200



2. Past and Present of DeKalb County, Illinois 1907 by Lewis M. Gross

2 volume set (slight damage: one paragraph marked out with original words replaced; several pages loose)

Minimum bid: \$150 for set

Items may be viewed at KHS Chapel. Pick up items you won at Chapel or you pay for shipping.

3. Baseball Quilt size: 42" x 58"

Donated by Basketcases Unlimited Inc. Minimum bid: \$150



4. Pine Needle Basket

size: 4.5" x 6"

Donated by

Judi Gontko

Minimum bid: \$75



5. Patriotic Quilt

Size: 70" x 77"

Donated by

Mary Jean Lane

Minimum bid: \$250