



Look Into the Past
To Discover the Future

February 2023
Volume 16
Issue 1

The Historian -- Keeping the Public Informed

Current Board Members

Gary Ecklund, President
Helen Davis,, Vice President
Jean Klock, Treasurer
Becky Lamont, Secretary
Lindakay Ebel
Linda Fett
Lori Finkle
Valerie Norris
Denny Rehn

Volunteers Needed

Workshop every Monday from
1:00 – 3:00 p.m. at the building,
309 South Fifth Street
Join us!

Kirkland Public Library with the award of a
DCCF Impact Grant
and the Kirkland Historical Society present



Al Capone and the 1933 World's Fair is a historical look at Chicago during the darkest days of the Great Depression-the story of Chicago fighting the hold that organized crime had on the city to be able to put on the 1933 World's Fair. Author William Elliott Hazelgrove provides the exciting and sprawling history behind the 1933 World's Fair, the last of the golden age. He reveals the story of the six millionaire businessmen, dubbed The Secret Six, who beat Al Capone at his own game, ending the gangster era as prohibition was repealed. The story of an intriguing woman, Sally Rand, who embodied the World's Fair with her own rags to riches story and brought sex into the open. The story of Rufus and Charles Dawes, who gave the fair a theme and then found financing in the worst economic times the country had ever experienced. The story of the most corrupt mayor of Chicago, William Thompson, who owed his election to Al Capone; and the mayor who followed him, Anton Cermak, who was murdered months before the fair was opened by an assassin many said was hired by Al Capone. But most of all, it's a story about a city fighting for survival in the darkest of times; and a shining light of hope called A Century of Progress.

Sunday, February 19, 2023

2:00 p.m.

Kirkland Historical Society

309 South Fifth Street, Kirkland

All are welcome – join us for this interesting program.
Refreshments will be served.



Kirkland Historical Society, 309 South Fifth Street, Kirkland, IL 60146
kirklandhistoricalsociety.com
Also visit us on Facebook at Kirkland Historical Society

2023 Kirkland Historical Society Members

Aves	Jon
Bauer	Roger and Jean
Bauman	Beulah Ecklund
Bernhardy	Marvin and Wanda
Burgweger	Henry and Patricia
Byers	Carol
Conro	Nancy
Dach	Nancy R
Doherty II	Robert E
Dreska	Paul and Lisa
Drexler	Scott and Jodi
Ebel	Al and Lindakay
Elias	Margaret (Peggy)
Fett	Earl and Linda
Foshang	Karen A. Byers
Fruit	Curtis and Cynthia
Fruit	Charles & Joanne
Getts	Susann
Gustafson	Roger and Sandy
Hay	Clare
Heggemeier	Susan
Hill	Suzanne
Hoffman	Tom and Louise
Holtrop	Mary D.
Janowski	Judith
Johnson	Ron and Linda
Jones	Sally
Kavaney	Judi Smith
Kirkland Public Library	
Kishwaukee Valley Heritage Society	
Klock	Jean
Kunkel	John
Kuusisto	Irene
Lamont	Becky
Lamont	Gene
Lamont	Helen
Luepkes	Michael and Bonnie
Luther	Barbara
Lyon	John and Sandra
Maveus	Curt & Vicki
McCarthy	Betsy
Mendoza	Eloise Luepkes
Moore	Frank
Paulson	David
Pepper	Lori
Perkins (Thompson)	Patricia
Prindiville	Pat and Kathy
Quigley	Nova and George
Resource Bank	
Richardson	Beverly "Marcy"
Sanford	Elsie
Schmidt	Bernita
Stoff	Michael and Kathleen
Theobald	Lawrence & Barbara
Turner	Cheryl
Watson	William
Yates	June
Yates	Steven

Can't find your name on either list?

Help support Kirkland Historical Society by either renewing or joining today! Dues help to pay for events and supplies to make KHS a viable organization

Membership form is available on the next page and we'll have a membership table set up at our February 19th presentation to get you signed up.



LIFE MEMBERS	
Aves - 2015	Barry, Kris, Kelly
Aves - 2015	Allan, Ruth
Blake - 2023	John, Kay
Davis - 2021	Ed, Helen
Ecklund - 2017	Gary
Finkle - 2019	David, Lorene
Freeman - 2021	Kenny, Chris
Ledington - 2022	Gregory, Krista
Lucke - 2021	Roger, Cynthia
McKeever - 2018	George
Olson - 2023	John, Bridget
Peterson - 2020	Chuck, Donna
Quiram - 2021	James, Sandra
Schindler - 2015	Chuck, Chloe
Stuntz - 2017	Jim, Peggy
Williams - 2022	Arlington W & Carol J
Worden - 2022	Connie



2023 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP

Dues help pay for events and supplies needed to preserve the past

Individual	\$15
Family	\$20
Life (husband and wife).....	\$300
Organizations	\$30
Business	\$30

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

KIRKLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY
 PO Box 337
 309 South Fifth Street
 Kirkland, Illinois 60146

Help preserve Kirkland's past by donating your time and/or sharing: Kirkland historic items, photos, stories, articles, family trees, maps, abstracts, newspapers, etc.

Leave A Legacy

Please consider naming the Kirkland Historical Society in your will, trust, or as the beneficiary of an insurance Policy. The Kirkland Historical Society is a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization. When you include a gift to the Kirkland Historical Society in your estate plan, you ensure your support will help the Society to continue its work to benefit our community in the future. Kirkland Historical Society also has two DeKalb County Community Foundation endowment funds that support our work.



- February 19 Al Capone and the 1933 World's Fair
- March 8 Board of Trustees Meeting
- April History of the Methodist Church
 United Methodist Church, 300 South Street
- May 10 Board of Trustees Meeting
- June 14 Board of Trustees Meeting
- July 12 Board of Trustees Meeting
- July Annual Fundraiser
- August 9 Board of Trustees Meeting
- September Potluck, Presentation, Tour
 Denny Rehn's Farm Museum
- October 11 Board of Trustees Meeting
- November Annual Meeting
- December 13 Board of Trustees Meeting

Many thanks to all who contributed to the Building Fund that allows the Kirkland Historical Society to have their own home. Stop in and find your name on the donor tree.



CIMS Cemetery Software

Enclosed with this newsletter you will find an article written by Sandy Bruch detailing her quest to detail each burial plot in the three Franklin Township Cemeteries – Charter Oak, Hick’s Mill, and Maple. Many thanks to not only Sandy, who brought this project to fruition; but also the late Pat Brennan and Justin Newberry who worked on this project.

At the bottom of the insert explaining this process, there are QR Scan codes for each of the three cemeteries.



Give DeKalb County:

- Features a 24-hour online giving day on May 4, 2023.
- Invites mail-in donations April 20 – May 4, 2023.
- Boosts every dollar donated with the Bonus Pool.
- Is coordinated by the DeKalb County Nonprofit Partnership, a program of the DeKalb County Community Foundation.

The Kirkland Connection to the St. Valentine’s Day Massacre



Al Capone’s gang murdered seven members of George “Bugs” Moran’s Chicago North Side gang at 2122 North Clark Street on February 14, 1929. Two Thompson submachine guns were used.

Who was Frank Thompson, aka William McCarthy, aka Russell Thompson? Commonly referred to as Machine Gun Thompson as he helped develop the Thompson Machine Gun.

A Kirkland resident for many years (corner of Third and Prospect) he married Kirkland girl “Nettie” Vera Stenner (301 Main Street). In 1927 he shot holes in his in-laws house to get back at his wife. She lived in county jail for safety and they later reconciled.

It is said that in 1929 Thompson Machine Guns were stored in Kirkland at 109 South Sixth Street. A gun runner purchased ten guns and sold them to gangsters. In 1929 the DeKalb County Grand Jury indicted with intent to commit murder.

Frank was a dealer in sporting goods, sold cemetery supplies, and also sold vacuum cleaners in the Rockford area.

Please refer to handout that will be available at our February 19th presentation for additional information and pictures.