



Look Into the Past  
To Discover the Future

April 2024  
Volume 17  
Issue 2

## The Historian -- Keeping the Public Informed

### Volunteers Needed

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

Join us!

Always things to do on  
Mondays between 1 and 3. If  
you can help out, we'll  
appreciate it.

- Help with exhibits
- Preserve newspaper articles
- Preserve collections and photographs
- Help with housekeeping
- Help with fundraising
- Help with keeping the grounds neat and weed free
- Proofreading the obituary information, family history and marriage information

We're looking for yearbooks from 1943 to 1949 to fill in our collection's gaps? If you have one to donate, we'd appreciate it!



Kirkland Historical Society invites you to their Sunday, April 14 program at Hiawatha High School Gym at 2pm. No admission fee—just come!



### **Come and Meet Local Star, Gene Lamont**

He will speak about starting his baseball career with Cub Scouts at the Kirkland park diamond and his trek through the "big leagues."

- Hiawatha High School 12 varsity letter athlete
- Led HHS 1964 football team to only Little 8 Conference Championship
- Inducted into Illinois High School Basketball Hall of Fame 2010
- Tiger catcher—drafted in 1965 above Johnny Bench, hit a home run 1<sup>st</sup> time up in majors Sept 7, 1970
- Major league coach for Pittsburgh Pirates, Boston Red Sox, Houston Astros, Detroit Tigers
- Major league manager
  - Chicago White Sox 1992-1995, AL Manager of the Year 1993
  - Pittsburgh Pirates 1997-2000.
- Special Assistant to Kansas City Royals General Manager 2018-2022

Kirkland Historical Society, 309 South Fifth Street, Kirkland, IL 60146  
kirklandhistoricalsociety.com

Also visit us on Facebook at Kirkland Historical Society



- Apr 14 2 pm General Meeting –  
Gene Lamont Reminisces
- May 8 Board of Trustees Meeting
- June 12 Board of Trustees Meeting
- July 10 Board of Trustees Meeting
- July 27 Fundraiser
- Aug 14 Board of Trustees Meeting
- Sept 8 2 pm General Meeting  
Haunted Kirkland
- Oct 9 Board of Trustees Meeting
- Nov 10 2 pm Annual Meeting  
Abraham Lincoln and Thanksgiving
- Dec 11 Board of Trustees Meeting
- Dec 14 2-5 pm Christmas Open House  
Entertainment from 3-4 pm  
5-7pm Franklin Township Park  
Christmas in Kirkland



**Support Kirkland Historical Society through GIVE DeKalb County**

Donors can give online from midnight to midnight on May 2, 2024, at [GiveDeKalbCounty.org](http://GiveDeKalbCounty.org)

Between April 18 and May 2, those who prefer to donate by check can print a donation form from the website and give by mail.

Give DeKalb County is coordinated by the DeKalb County Nonprofit Partnership, a program of the DeKalb County Community Foundation. The previous nine giving days raised over \$6.8 million through 38,651 donations combined.

A Bonus Pool of funds is being raised and each donation made during Give DeKalb County is boosted by a percentage of these funds. The Bonus Pool is made possible by the generous support of Community Partners.

**Informative and Enjoyable Presentation at our February Meeting**

Carolyn Law offered insight into several of the items on display at the Kirkland Historical Society including advertising items, Masonic memorabilia, Gene Lamont Baseball cards, Kirkland Office Fixture Mfg. Co. letter files, and a dispatcher phone from the Milwaukee Railroad.



Many thanks for the wonderful treats from Lindakay Ebel and Connie Worden

**Current Board Members**

- Gary Ecklund, President*
- Lindakay Ebel,, Vice President*
- Jean Klock, Co-Treasurer*
- Becky Lamont, Secretary*
- Linda Fett*
- Valerie Norris*
- Denny Rehn*
- Hazel West-Lemke, Co-Treasurer*
- Connie Worden*

## 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.

We will have a membership table at our April 14<sup>th</sup> presentation to get you signed up.

Members Currently Paid for 2024 Membership	
Last Name	First Name
Aves	Jon
Bauer	Roger and Jean
<u>Boettger</u>	Steve and Kelly
<u>Buzzell</u>	Paul
Byers	Carol
<u>Conro</u>	Nancy
Drexler	Scott and Jodi
<u>Ebel</u>	Al and <u>Lindakay</u>
<u>Ecklund</u>	Beulah and Rhonda
Fawcett	Cathy
Fett	Earl and Linda
<u>Foshang</u>	Karen A. Byers
<u>Getts</u>	Susann
<u>Gulotta</u>	Joseph and Joy
Gustafson	Roger and Sandy
Hay	Clare
<u>Holtrop</u>	Mary D.
Jones	Sally
<u>Kavaney</u>	Judi Smith
Kirkland Public Library	
<u>Kishwaukee Valley Heritage Society</u>	
Klock	Jean
Kunkel	John
Lamont	Becky
Lamont	Gene
Lamont	Helen
<u>Lorensen</u>	Bonnie L
Lyon	John and Sandra
<u>Maveus</u>	Curt & Vicki
McCarthy	Betsy
Michael	Nancy
Norris	Valerie L
Paulson	David
Pepper	Lori
Perkins (Thompson)	Patricia
<u>Prindiville</u>	Pat and Kathy
Quigley	Nova and George
Quinn	Jim
Rehn	Dennis and Deborah
Richardson	Beverly "Marcy"
Roach	Charlene
<u>Rothermel</u>	Suzanne ( <u>Menz</u> )
Sanderson	Joanne
Schmidt	Bernita
Sparrow	Guy and Joyce
Taylor	Paul and Barbara
Turner	Cheryl
Village of Kirkland	
Watson	William
Weeks	Bruce and Joan
Yates	June

LIFE MEMBERS	
Aves - 2015	Barry, Kris, Kelly
Aves - 2015	Ruth
Aves - 2023	Kevin and Karen
Banks - 2023	Donald
Blake - 2023	John and Kay
Davis - 2021	Ed and Helen
<u>Ecklund</u> - 2017	Gary
<u>Finkle</u> - 2019	David and Lorene
Freeman - 2021	Kenny and Chris
<u>Janowski</u> (Swanson) - 2023	Judie
<u>Ledington</u> - 2022	Gregory and Krista
<u>Lucke</u> - 2021	Roger and Cynthia
McKeever - 2018	George
Mendoza - 2024	Eloise <u>Luepkes</u>
<u>Menz</u> - 2024	Nancy K
Moon - 2023	John and Mary
Olson - 2023	John and Bridget
Peterson - 2020	Chuck
<u>Quiram</u> - 2021	James and Sandra
Schindler - 2015	Chloe
<u>Sester</u> - 2023	Mike and Sue
<u>Stuntz</u> - 2017	Jim and Peggy
<u>Tangerose</u> - 2023	Donna
Williams - 2022	Arlington W & Carol J
Worden - 2022	Larry and Connie





July 27, 2024



Save the Date

## Kirkland Historical Society/Chamber of Commerce Annual Fundraiser

Maple Hill Farm – Rancho El Unico

**Exploring Life on Ault Road**  
30911 Ault Road, Kirkland

5:00 p.m. Snacks and Farm Tour  
6:00 p.m. Dinner and Auction



Contact KHS at 815-570-9265  
or Jean 815-761-3100  
for registration forms

**SADDLE UP FOR A FUN TIME BENEFITTING TWO  
GREAT ORGANIZATIONS THAT SERVE OUR AREA**

### Memories of Kirkland

Gratitude!

First, may I say how honored, humbled and privileged I feel to have all the treasured memories of growing up in Kirkland! I truly feel blessed to have lived those decades (over which I had no control . . . just luck!) that have given me the fortune of smiling whenever I reminisce those recollections that have lasted a lifetime.

When I close my eyes, all those Kirkland decades float back to me! One of the most vivid, constant memory I have is one I thank the Kirkland Lions Club for providing and that is their dedication to flooding an area of the village park to form an ice skating rink for all we kiddos . . . and lots of our parents . . . to enjoy during the freezing months of winter. Oh, how I loved to walk to the park knowing that the transformer was just waiting for me to pull down the handle! The illumination it provided was not just for the ice pond, but it lit up the entire park! It was magic! No matter how frosty the weather, when those lights were on it drew a crowd! The banks of snow pushed from the pond, provided seating for we skaters, and we even had what now is called a “firepit” to warm us while we laced, and unlaced, our skates. Kudos to all who diligently worked to make that happen; and to all of us who were fortunate enough to be on the receiving end of the Lions Club’s generosity.

The love and devotion a small town provides is immeasurable. And it endures decades.

Submitted by Suzanne (Menz) Rothermel

*If you have memories of Kirkland that you would like to share,  
please send them to us at [Kirklandhs309@gmail.com](mailto:Kirklandhs309@gmail.com)*