



The Informer

Newsletter of the Dundee Township Historical Society

March 2018

2018 SEASON OPENING PROGRAM

Wings of War



WWI ace Eddie Rickenbacker. Photo from the National Museum of the United States Air Force

The museum will kick off the 2018 season on Sunday, March 11th at 2:00 pm with a special program, titled "WINGS OF WAR", presented by Don Alesi, local WWI historian.

Don will relate the story of aviation and the American pilots who risked their lives in the skies over Europe during the "Great War". America was not well prepared for war at the time. There were no trained pilots and an Airforce was not in operation in the American military. WWI would see the end of trench warfare on the ground and the beginning of a new kind of warfare in the clouds.

There is no admission charge but donations graciously accepted.

EXHIBITS

The Saga of a Haeger Vase

In 1914 David Haeger decided to change the focus of the business he had purchased in 1871. For those first 43 years the brick yards produced bricks and drainage tiles.

The new focus led to the production of simple flower pots and vases. This first vase was designated "Adam" and was soon followed by "Eve". To come upon an original now of either would be a real find.

To celebrate the 125th anniversary of the founding of the business, the Haeger Pottery produced a reproduction of "Adam" and "Eve".

This "Adam" on exhibit at our museum will travel to Springfield, Illinois, sometime this Spring. At the Governor's Mansion an exhibit will be mounted to display examples of Illinois arts and crafts as a part of the celebration of the 200th anniversary of our statehood. Along with "Adam" will be the iconic Black Panther and other Haeger Pottery pieces from the Haeger-Estes family.

Meanwhile our Haeger Exhibit continues through December 2018. We have another "Adam" to replace the one going to Springfield.

If you haven't visited the Museum to see the Haeger Exhibit, please do so on Wednesdays or Sundays, 2:00 – 4:00 pm.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY ILLINOIS

Illinois celebrates its 200th anniversary of statehood this year. Illinois became a state on December 3, 1818.

Fur trappers had travelled up and down the Rivers of Illinois for decades before Illinois became a territory in 1809.

Ninian Edwards was appointed by President James Madison to be governor of the territory and would serve until October, 1818.

Once the fertile soil and the access to water became known, pioneers began to settle the territory. By 1817 the population had grown to over 50,000 people. It would achieve full statehood in December of the following year.

Today the population of Illinois has reached over twelve and one half million.



Ninian Edwards
Governor of Illinois Territory
March 1, 1809 -October 6, 1818
Governor of State of Illinois
December 6, 1826-December 6, 1830

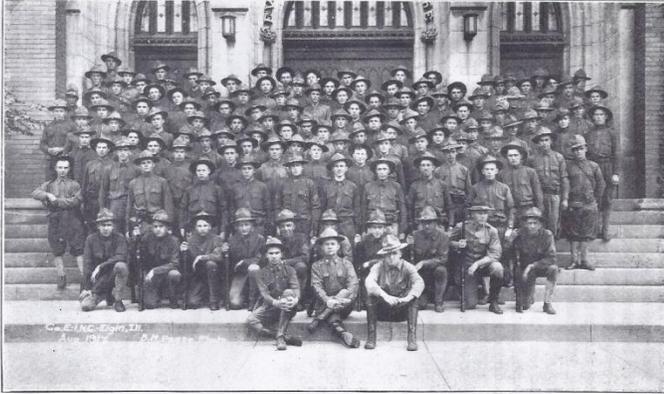
A PERSONAL NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT (Marge)

WWI has always been an important part of history to me. It is not just because American forces played such a major role in the struggle in Europe one hundred years ago, and not just because so many local men went "over there" and took part in the fight for liberty.

It is because my dad was one of those men. He was a member of the Illinois National Guard, 3rd Regiment, 129th United States Infantry. He was sent to France in 1918, along with so many other young men from Elgin, Dundee, Carpentersville, Algonquin and the surrounding area. They joined with other members of Company E and marched into battle. Together they fought the enemy, they fought the fear, the "cooties, the mud, the mustard gas, the attacks from ground and sky, and they witnessed their friends die in front of them on the field of battle. It is understandable that he did not talk about it much.

The stories I have in my mind and heart come from my seven brothers and from the little green book, "Hard Tack and Bullets". I have read the book more than once and have shed tears over the realization that my dad, that quiet, proud little man, suffered the horrors of war, side by side, with the men who would become his friends for life.

They are all gone now. Hopefully, they are all remembered with pride, as my dad, my hero, Corporal Willam. J. Kleiser, is remembered.



Members of Company E, before their departure for Camp Logan, Texas

HELP FILL IN THE GAPS

On July 12, 1973, a fire at the National Personnel Records Center (NPRC) in St. Louis, Missouri destroyed approximately 16-18 million Official Military Personnel Files.

The records affected:

Branch	Personnel and Period Affected	Estimated Loss
Army	Personnel discharged November 1, 1912 to January 1, 1960	80%
Air Force	Personnel discharged September 25, 1947 to January 1, 1964 (with names alphabetically after Hubbard, James E.)	75%

There were no duplicate copies nor were there microfilm copies. A complete list of the lost records is not available. Since the fire, the NPRC has collected numerous records (referred to as Auxiliary Records) to reconstruct basic service information. However there are still many gaps and missing records. There is a concerted effort to help fill in those gaps.

The Dundee Township Historical Society is committed to join in the effort and is working to collect copies of any records our residents may wish to share about their family member or ancestor.

Perhaps you have a photo of Grandpa or Great Grandpa in his military uniform, or maybe Grandma was a WWI or WWII nurse, discharge records, letters to home, family history stories – no record is too small.

THANK YOU

Thank you to all of those who remembered the historical society in their end of the calendar year and memorial donations.

Thank you to the VFW Post 2298 Ladies Auxiliary for their donation to assist in our continued military history research.

Thanks to our many volunteers whose kindness and dedication is most appreciated for their hours serving as museum curators, museum and library docents, program writers, coordinators, historical portrayals, guides and more

SAVE THE DATE

Annual Meeting and Program 2:00 p.m. on Sunday May 7th. Program to be announced.



Welcome New Members

Recent new members to our
historical society

Julie & Gary Edwards Family

Life Member
JoLynn Siefert

IMPORTANT DATES

March
11 Museum Opens for 2018 Sundays & Wednesdays 2-4pm Opening Day Program 2pm
May
6 Annual Meeting and Program 2pm
August
TBA Garage Sale

Dundee Township Historical Society

Marge Edwards
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Open Position
President Elect
Colette McDonough
Secretary
Sue Roeser
Treasurer
Marge Edwards
Past President

**Faye Williams, Greg Ryant,
Connie Kaschub, Jim Prow, Jack Wendt,
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Library	Open Position
Museum	Jack & Nancy Wendt
Membership	Faye Williams
Docents	Jack Wendt
Land & Buildings	Jack Wendt
Website	Kristie Benedik
Programs	Marge Edwards



Dundee Township
Historical Society
426 Highland Ave
West Dundee IL 60118