



Sumner House

Roselle History Museum Newsletter

Official Publication of the Roselle Historical Foundation
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Fall 2018

JOAN BEAUPREZ

Passes the Baton



After 40 years of dedicated service, Joan Beauprez is retiring from her administrative duties at the Roselle History Museum in October; she will no longer direct the day-to-day operations of the museum. Instead, she'll limit her activities to doing research and chairing

the Exhibit Committee—as a volunteer.

Initially, Joan was the museum's historian, but over the years, she has taken on a myriad of additional responsibilities. She became a part-time contracted employee in 1998, committed to ten hours per week, per the contract, but she devoted the major part of her days and weeks to volunteering.

When asked what brought her to the Roselle Historical Society that first day in 1978, Joan referred to what she told journalist Threse Bonnan in a 1986 interview: *"Roselle is not my hometown. I'm originally from Chicago . . . But Roselle is the hometown of my four children. I became involved in the Roselle Historical Society because I felt it was important for my children to know something about the roots of the town they grew up in, the people and events that make Roselle unique."*

The Roselle Historical Society was established in 1977, and Joan joined in 1978—as soon as she heard of its
(continued on page 4)



Celebrating 30 Years

Come One, Come All!

Sunday, September 23

To commemorate the 30th anniversary of the opening of the Sumner House Museum, a special celebration is set for Sunday, Sept. 23, from 2-4 p.m. Y'all come!

Second Room Transformed

"Roselle, My Home Town"



The former Children's Room is now called *Roselle, My Home Town*. The space, designed to continue the Timeline found in the main room, brings Roselle's history up to the 2000s.

Left: Walter Lotz sets up an "assemblage" of Roselle curiosities ("found art") created by Al Engel—a must-see.

Right: Joyce Kuhlmann displays treasures from more recent Roselle history, including Harris Bank's Hubert the Lion.



Lest We Forget...

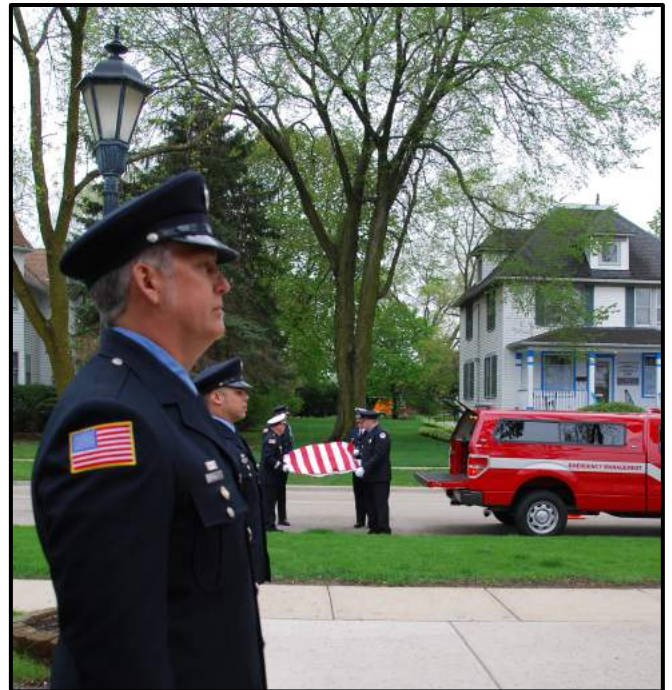
It happened 17 years ago: a series of four coordinated terrorist attacks by the Islamic terrorist group al-Qaeda against the United States, killing 2,996 people, and injuring over 6,000 others. Additional people died of 9/11-related cancer and respiratory diseases in the months and years following the attacks. It was the single deadliest incident for firefighters, who lost 343 of their ranks, and law enforcement officers, who lost 72. Infrastructure and property damage amounted to \$10 billion dollars.

Back home, in April 2016, the Roselle Fire Department, with the assistance of the Roselle Foreign Fire Insurance Board, created a memorial around a significant piece of battered metal to honor those who were lost in the tragic and historic events on “9/11,” 2001.

A plaque at the display reads, “This memorial is dedicated to the first responders who continued with their rescue efforts even as the Towers were falling around them, and to the civilians who lost their lives in this attack on American soil.

“This crumpled piece of exterior cladding was recovered from Ground Zero at the World Trade Center and was donated by the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey.”

Here, thanks to the Roselle Fire Department, you can see the delivery of the “cladding” to the dedicated glassed-in space at the Fire Dept. lobby at Prospect Street and Maple Avenue.



Roselle firemen form an honor guard and salute as the precious piece of metal arrives covered with the American Flag.



Firemen
Unveiling the
Relic (left) and
Placing it
in the
Display Case
(below)



FOLDING THE FLAG

THANK YOU to the Roselle Fire Department for this dramatic reminder of another infamous day in our history. Think about it, juniors and seniors in high school were infants when our world (and theirs), as we knew it, changed forever.



What's Being Taught About 9/11?

Lessons from a Flight 93 Victim

Commander Dan Shanower of Naperville was among nearly 3,000 others who perished in the September 11 terrorist attacks. In an article that appeared in the *Daily Herald* on Sept. 11, 2016, Dan Shanower's mother, Pat, responded to reporter Marie Wilson's questions about the attacks.

In response to one of the questions, "*What should be taught in schools about September 11?*" Pat referred to an essay her son wrote in 1997 about the deaths of four shipmates 10 years earlier: "Freedom isn't free," that many people over the years have given their lives to preserve things that we take for granted. Young people should realize that along with the privileges and the rights we have, comes great responsibility. There are many ways to serve as well as going into the military. I would want them to know that this (terrorist attack) was really caused by those who were seeking to destroy our way of life, and therefore we all have the responsibility to serve to keep the privileges that we have. *(permission to print granted by the Daily Herald)*

Memorial for Flight 93

Will be Ready for 17th Anniversary

The remaining wreckage of United Flight 93 will be returned this year to the Pennsylvania memorial marking where it crashed in the 9/11 terrorist attacks. The wreckage—stored in shipping containers—will be buried

in a restricted area of the park that's accessible only to loved ones of the victims, said Flight 93 National Memorial Superintendent Stephen Clark.



"Now that we are nearing the completion of the major design components of the memorial, we are ready to return the remaining wreckage to this hallowed ground," Clark said in June 2018.

The final phase of the memorial, the Tower of Voices (pictured), is a 93-foot-tall musical instrument that holds 40 wind chimes, representing the 40 passengers and crew. It will be completed in time for the 17th anniversary of the attacks.

"If we learn nothing else from this tragedy, we learn that life is short and there is no time for hate." — *Sandy Dahl*, wife of Flight 93 pilot Jason Dahl

Joan Beauprez – Cont'd from Page 1

existence. She said the priority at that time was to create a record of the Village's history, develop a collection of artifacts and oral histories, and provide a landmark-status plaque for the oldest buildings in town. One of those buildings is the Lynfred Winery. Joan served as the RHS president from 1984 to 1987.

In 1987, the Society became the Roselle Historical Foundation, established through the vision and efforts of then mayor Sandra Birdsall. The Sumner House at 102 S. Prospect was purchased with the intention of transforming the family home into a museum.

Joan was impressed with the number of volunteers who committed to making the dream become a reality. She played an active role in the transformation: researching, planning, and designing. The museum opened with great fanfare on September 25, 1988. Hundreds of visitors came to the grand opening.

Joan knows a lot of things because she's seen a lot of things. She watched the Museum Campus grow from the one building to the present three.

In 1990, when the coach house, originally located on the Hattendorf house property (now Harris Bank), was moved to 39 E. Elm Street and became the Museum Office, Joan was on the spot with her camera to record this historical moment.

In 1996, the Richter family home was moved from Prospect St. (the northernmost portion of the Village Hall property today) to the rear of the museum, making it the third building on the Museum Campus.

The opening of the Richter House was a source of tremendous pride for Joan and her co-volunteers who turned it into a typical, modest 1920s home. The Illinois State Historical Society gave the project special recognition as seen in a framed document at the office.

When the museum needed a logo, Joan took a photo of the building and quickly did an ink sketch of it, and, Voilà! The museum had its logo.



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Joan organized two invitational art gallery exhibits, *Connections I* (1998) and *Connections II* (2000). Many local artists and Roselle school children participated.

Doing research is one of Joan's favorite pursuits. In recent years she has done in-depth research on Rosell Hough and his wife, Ann Jennett Elliott, and their families. The project took Joan to many historical places throughout Illinois, including Lincoln, where she located Hough's tomb, farm, and more of his history. In 2012, Lynette Eldredge (Hough's wife's great grand-niece) contacted the museum through its Facebook page, and Joan has been in close touch with her since then, gathering and sharing more Hough-Elliott family history. For more on this fascinating chain of events, go to www.rosellehistory.com, click on *newsletter*, and go to the *Summer 2013* and *Spring 2014* issues, "From the Archives" by Joan Beauprez.

High on Joan's list of satisfying experiences has been collaborating with others to create exhibits at the museum, the Richter House, Roselle Public Library, and the Village Hall.

As a member of the Roselle Quilt Group, Joan participated in the Community Quilt Square Project by creating a square that represents the Roselle Village Hall.



Another one of Joan's rewarding experiences was assisting author Jill Gross in 2008 with "Remembering Roselle," a new and different history book that "takes you into the past through pictures and narrative" (*permission to print quote granted by Jill Gross*). Joan pored through the museum's photo archives, selected pictures, and shared the histories connected with each of them.

Among her accomplishments over the years are her contributions to many of the museum's successful events and activities: the *Cherished Recipes* cookbook, the Historical House Walks, the RHM Newsletter, the museum's Rose Parade Float, the MuseumFest, the historical field trips, and the Flags for Roselle program.

When asked if there is an individual who made a lasting impression on her during her years in this work, Joan

said that so many individuals have made an impression on her she can't name them all in this limited space. However, Al Engel's kind leadership, original ideas, artistic gifts, and strong dedication have made a lasting impression on her since the Foundation was established.

Over the years, Joan has enjoyed a mutual-admiration-society-type of working relationship with Joe Devlin, the museum's former executive director. Joe commended Joan recently on her "organizational skills, knowledge of village history, and her unquestioned dedication."



Reflecting on the aspects of the work she has enjoyed most, Joan said, ". . . working with so many volunteers, each of whom brings his or her own particular talents to the group effort to keep the Roselle History Museum alive and well; helping people with family and house histories; and tours with school children. (The children) appreciate what they see, and they bring their families back to the museum."

As she anticipates a much slower pace, Joan reflects on the many strengths that have brought the museum to where it is today: the support of five mayors, many village trustees and staff; the involvement of the entire community in programs and fund raisers; and the dedication of an active, talented core group of members.



Joan graduated from Blue Island High School, earned an Associate of Arts (AA) degree in English from Carlinville's Blackburn College and a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree (BFA) from Elmhurst College. She

participated in many workshops, took numerous classes at Western and Northern Illinois universities, the College of DuPage, and the Chicago Art Institute.

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Joan has taught art at the high school and junior high levels, and classes for the Roselle Park District and the Contemporary Art Center in Arlington Heights. She also taught preschool at the Roselle United Methodist Church for 27 years and was instrumental in starting the preschool religious education program at St. Walter's Church.



Joan was born on Chicago's north side. Before moving to Roselle in 1964, she lived in Palos Hills, "the Big City," the "boondocks," two downstate university towns, in Germany as an army wife, a small town, a tiny farm town, and now a suburb called a village.

Much of Joan's support and encouragement come from her family: husband, Bob, a retired teacher of English; their four children, Lee, Lynne, Kara, and Nicole; and four grandchildren.



"When I retire from the museum," Joan says, "I will revisit a poetry book that I have partially finished and put aside for now. Next, I will look back into my families' genealogy to continue the quest to find our ancestral backgrounds. Most of all, I want to continue abstract paintings and creating artists' books to exhibit in local shows and galleries.

"I still visit museums and historic sites, as I did when I was a young girl living in Chicago. I took buses by myself or with a girlfriend to such treasured sites as the Chicago Historical Society, Field Museum, and Chicago Public Library (now the Cultural Center). It was a thrill, as an adult, to return to the Cultural Center to exhibit my artwork in two shows there!"

Volunteer Nancy Behnke says it all...

Dear Joan – You have made such a difference at the Roselle Museum with your optimism, enthusiasm, and confidence. Somehow, you were able to make our work easy and something we could all get excited about. You have laughed at my stories, showed confidence in me, and taught me many things. I appreciate all you did for the museum and for me. You will be missed, but not forgotten. Joan, congratulations on your retirement. Take that positive attitude and beautiful smile with you into the next chapter of your life. It's going to be great! My best always, Nancy

Joan Beauprez's colleagues at the museum extend best wishes and a huge "thank you" to this extraordinary contributor to society.

Back to School - in 1955

Roselle Public School Enrolls 325 PUPILS

Tom Walters, who lived in Roselle from 1950 until 1970 and now lives in California, came upon a newspaper article while doing some research about the good old days at District 12. He shares it here with our readers.

"The Roselle Public school completed its annual fall registration early this week enrolling 325 children. Although having to operate on a reduced schedule in some grades, school did open with a complete and well-trained staff.



"Mrs. Dorothy Smalley conducts both classes of the kindergarten while Mrs. Jessie Prescher and Miss Carmella Phelan share the first grade classes between them. Mrs. Marjorie Mayhew and Mrs. Grace Wheeler conduct the classes for second graders while Mrs. Anne Hamilton and Mrs. Marian Loeper instruct the students in the third grades. Mrs. Evelyn Johnson and Ralph Loeper conduct classes in the fourth grade classrooms while Mrs. Helen Mathews teaches fifth grade, Mrs. Alice Coxine sixth grade, and Mr. Max Weber eighth grade. Dr. C F. Nagro is music director for the Roselle public school, and Thomas H. Mayhew is the principal.

"Students in the first, second, and third grades are having to attend split shifts from 8 a.m. to 12 noon, and 12 to 4 p.m. but have teachers overlapping so that for portions of the day there are two teachers in the classroom."

Tom recognized some familiar names in the article, particularly his first-grade teacher, Miss Carmella Phelan. He said, "Dorothy Smalley was my kindergarten teacher, and Marjorie Mayhew was both my second and fifth grade teacher. Her husband, Thomas Mayhew, was the principal. And, of course, many Roselle residents remember Dr. C.F. Nagro, the music director."

(Ed. note: Today, 700 students are enrolled in District 12. Permission to print the article granted by the Daily Herald)

Flags for Roselle

When You Want Something Done . . .



Of course, you ask the busiest person you know. What needed to be done? Create a website, establish a pay-online system, produce instructional videos, lead students in the flag building, and, if that's not enough, organize installation teams made up of students and other volunteers. So, the busiest person we knew was Dominic Manola.

Manola is the Assistant Principal for Instructional Innovation and Activities at Lake Park High School. His positive approach ("We can do this; it's what we do") is how it all gets done. Dominic has gone above and beyond last year and this year to make the Flags for Roselle program the success it is.

About 50 students and other volunteers followed their assigned routes, equipped with their flags, poles, rebar, maps, templates, mallets, gloves, and goggles, and installed 244 American flags in front yards and at businesses in all corners of town—in one hour—on Memorial Day, Flag Day, and Independence Day. At dusk, they removed the flags and returned them to the Fire Dept. for storage—all in about an hour. And, they had fun doing it. Much like Dr. Kristen Langner (Langner Eye Care) and her husband, Kevin Westlock (below).



Something New Only on Patriot Day, September 11:

The American Legion recommended adding black ribbons to the flags to honor the first responders and others who died on "9/11." Bonnie Rimer and her girl scouts are making the ribbons as a sewing project.

THANK YOU to the Roselle Fire Department, Lake Park students, American Legion, Girl and Boy Scouts, Roselle History Museum, and the Village of Roselle! KUDOS!



The Garden Walk



The History Museum was the step-off location for the Roselle Garden Club's Garden Walk on June 30. About 140 people toured five (5) backyard gardens, plus the Learning Garden at Spring Hills School and the new IMPACT Garden at Roselle Middle School. And they did it in 90+ degree weather.

(Left) Garden Club members gathered for a photo op: Front: Patricia Rummelhart, Valerie DellaPenna, Bonnie Rimer, Deanna Stuart, Joyce Kuhlmann; Middle: Lin Drogos, Renee Pouloupoulos, Kathy Bowman; Back: Barb Steffens, Jessica Kight, Sue Floetl, Lesley Carrion, and Katie Kilbridge

(Below) Just a few of the beautiful Roselle gardens they came upon.



(1)



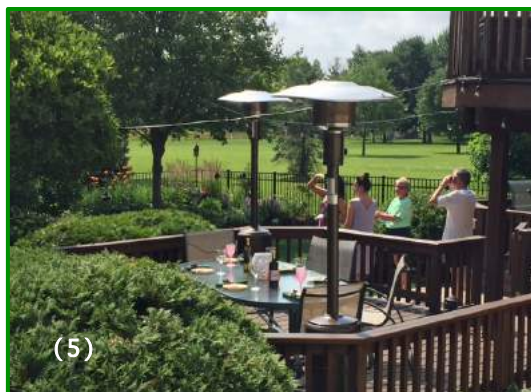
(2)



(3)



(4)



(5)



(6)

(1) Shady English Garden owned by Dr. Kevin Novak; (2 & 3) Water feature and astilbe are in Tom & Kathy Bowman's garden; (4) Birdhouse hand painted by Joyce Kuhlmann; (5) Deck view is the yard of Ray & Lesley Carrion; and (6) Impact Garden at Roselle Middle School



Members Board Rose Parade Float



Celebrating 30 Years

The Rose Parade was a perfect time to celebrate 30 years of bringing Roselle's history to its people. RHM members pictured: Frank Zielinski, Float Comm. Chair; Joan Beauprez, Historian; Ray Hitzemann, President; Walter Lotz, (foreground) Board Member.

Right: David Zielinski



TANK AND THE BEEZ

Concert on the Porch
Encore



We're gonna love you like nobody's loved you come rain or come shine! Brian & Beth (Malouf) Blankenship came back on June 10 for another Concert on the Porch. Rain stopped just long enough for the duo to perform their repertoire of American favorites to the delight of the audience.

The position of Museum Manager is open. For more information, call the Museum Office (630-351-5300) or email rosellehistory@sbcglobal.net.



What Else is New?



Next chance to create your very own objet d'arte:



Sip & Paint FRIDAY, AUG 17

Museum Office, 7-10 p.m. Register now: \$40
Call 630-351-5300 – Paulina Engel, Instructor

JILL & DON GROSS are the big winners in the *Daily Herald's* Get Your Summer On backyard makeover contest! Yes, the museum's own history book author, Jill Gross, along with her husband and two sons, will soon be looking out on a whole new back yard.

"We still cannot believe we are the winners!" Jill said.



AREA MUSEUMS SHARESHOP: Fifteen (15) representatives from 8 different local historical groups, including Roselle, met on July 17 at the Schaumburg Township Library; Jane Rozek was host. A lively exchange of information and ideas on fundraising, exhibits, and upcoming events took place. The next quarterly shareshop will be in October in Bloomingdale.



GLOW STICK sales brought in \$860 during the 4th of July Fireworks at Lake Park's West Campus. This sale is a major fund raiser for the museum and made successful each year through the efforts of volunteers like Paulette Lotz.



Christmas Open House
Sunday, Dec. 2
2-4 p.m.

Holiday Cookies
Prizes – Music



ROSELLE HISTORY MUSEUM
39 E ELM STREET
ROSELLE IL 60172



Fall 2018

Sept 11 Flags for Roselle – Patriot Day
Sept 23 Museum's 30th Anniversary Celebration
Nov 11 Flags for Roselle – Veterans Day
Dec 2 Christmas Open House

Mission Statement

To maintain and enhance a historically accurate museum with primary focus on Roselle and surrounding areas

To collect local facts and artifacts of today that will be our village history and pride tomorrow

To provide a dynamic historical and educational resource for our residents and visitors

Board of Directors

Ray Hitzemann, President
Glenn Spachman, VP/Treas
Ruth Bagel, Secretary
Milan Bagel * Hank Kvintus
Walter Lotz * Tom Piorkowski
Frank Zielinski

Historian: Joan Beauprez

Museum Hours

Sundays 2-4 p.m.
Other times by appointment

Newsletter Deadlines

Feb 1, May 1
Aug 1, Nov 1

Editor: Kay Cahill
kaycahill@comcast.net

General Meetings are held on the 2nd Saturday, 10-11:30 a.m. at the Museum Office, 39 E. Elm. Everyone is welcome.

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Mail to: Roselle History Museum, 39 E. Elm St., Roselle, IL 60172

Name _____ Phone _____
Address _____ City/State/Zip _____
Email Address _____ Send RHM Newsletter via email (Y/N) _____

_____ New Member Circle one: \$30 \$50* \$100 \$250 Other \$ _____

_____ Renewal

_____ *My contribution is at least \$50. Please send me a free copy of the *Remembering Roselle* history book.

I am interested in helping in one of the areas of the Foundation's work. Circle one:

Computer/Clerical * Exhibits * Parade Float * Research * Single Event * Buildings/Grounds

The Roselle Historical Foundation is a 501(c)(3) corporation. Your contribution may be fully tax deductible.

Fall 2018