



Sumner House

Roselle History Museum Newsletter

Official Publication of the Roselle Historical Foundation
39 East Elm Street, Roselle, Illinois 60172-2026 (630-351-5300)
Email: museummanager@rosellehistory.org
Website: www.rosellehistory.org

Winter 2020



A Christmas Story



by Mrs. Claus

A Christmas Visit with Mrs. Claus

The traditional Christmas Open House needed to be canceled this year, but creative staff members came up with a new idea to celebrate the important holiday: a visit with Mrs. Claus – virtually. Instead of you coming to the Museum, the Museum will come to you!

Mrs. Claus will greet you in the Richter House kitchen where she will be baking cookies. She will read a Christmas poem written especially for this occasion by Lake Park alum, Dan Barclay. Then, she'll move to the living room where she will read a Christmas story.

No RSVP is necessary. All you need to do is visit the Museum's website: www.rosellehistory.org.

Coming to a Computer Near You in 2021 A New Year's Resolution

Another way the Museum is coming to you: The first New Year's resolution is to have virtual tours of the Sumner House Museum and the Richter House for you to view from the comfort of your own home. The tours will be "guided" by Museum staff and volunteers. Manager Leslie Drewitz is directing the production, and the videography for these tours and the Christmas Visit is being provided courtesy of Trinity Lutheran Church Roselle. Check out the Museum's Facebook page and website for updates.

Facebook.com/rosellehistorymuseum
Website: www.rosellehistory.org



Two New Members of the RHM Board



Wayne Domke

What was it about the Museum that convinced Wayne Domke to put his name in nomination for one of the available seats on the Board? He shared the following:

“My interest in the Roselle History Museum emanates from my deep love for

Roselle. Since purchasing a couple of older houses and researching their stories, I wanted to know more about other areas and how they developed.” Domke wants to help preserve today’s stories for the next generation.

“I see the museum today as an organization that is a safe deposit box for current history.”

“The future of the Museum is probably in younger hands. To that extent, I’d like to help recruit the next generation to get involved.” He’s willing to go to schools and other organizations to recruit for the Museum.

Wayne brings a wealth of experience to his new role on the RHM Board. His community service began in 1999 when he was encouraged by a friend at a block party to get involved. He requested consideration for a seat on Roselle’s Park District Board, was accepted, and went on to serve 11 years. In 2011, he was elected to the Roselle Village Board, where he continues to serve today.

Wayne’s service to the community includes membership in the Roselle Lions Club, St. Walter’s Alpha Group, the Sister Cities Committee, the Chicagoland Christian Sports Conference Board, and co-founding the Roselle Garden Club with Roberta Borrino.

In addition to his volunteer work, he has a business interest in town. He owns the building where his daughter operates the Roselle Fine Arts Academy on the second floor of “The Dohl House,” on Prospect Street.

“I retired from manufacturing in April 2016. My trade was initially in Tool & Die (Precision Machine Builder), and I received my Executive Master’s Degree in 1999. My management carried me to work in Aerospace and Machine Tool Production.”

Wayne and his wife of 41 years, Joan, have two children, 8 grandchildren, 2 great-grandchildren, and are looking forward to the third “great.”

“Roselle has been a blessing to our family as I’m sure to many others over the years.”



Tim Grasso

Why now? Why the Roselle History Museum? Tim Grasso is concerned that history doesn’t seem as important to people today as it once was. So, in his effort to change that, he sought one of the vacant seats on the RHM Board of Directors and was appointed in August.



“I love the tranquil feel of the Museum Campus and the history of the buildings that are on the property, as well as some of the historical homes in and around town.”

To inspire greater appreciation for history and envisioning the Museum’s future, Tim says, “I would like to see a greater interest from Roselle residents and the surrounding communities. I would like for the Museum to be open a few more hours in the week, especially on weekends—maybe add Saturday. I also would like to see a larger number of special events on the Museum Campus. Examples: cooking demonstrations using some of the utensils and recipes from early 1900s; live music; old-time storytelling; and maybe auctions or antique yard sales.”

Tim Grasso is a familiar face in Roselle, and he brings valuable business expertise to the table. “I can offer the Foundation and its Museum management experience and organizational skills that I have gained from running my own restaurant business. My first job was at the beloved Pizza Cottage, which was established in 1956.” In 1990, Tim purchased the restaurant from the original owner, Ken Neumann. As an employee and as an owner, Tim worked for Pizza Cottage for over 35 years.

Tim has been a faithful volunteer at Roselle’s various events for the past ten years: the Fourth of July events, Rose Parades, Taste of Roselle, etc. He also

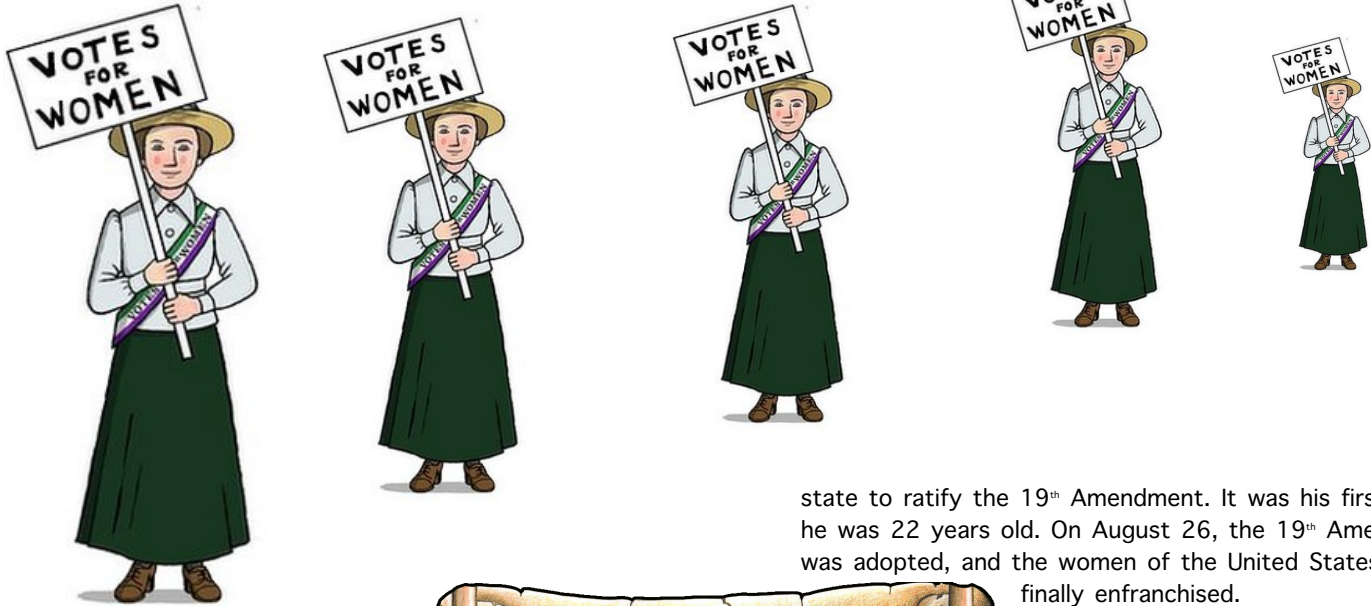
served on the Village Planning Commission TIF District from 2002 to 2007. Tim looks forward to being involved in the Museum’s growth and success for years to come.



Pizza Cottage picnic table
donated by Angel Turner (P. 7)



It's Been 100 Years



It was in 1848 (172 years ago) that Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Lucretia Mott, and others claimed on behalf of American women “. . . all the rights and privileges which belong to them as citizens.”

It's been 100 years since the 19th Amendment was ratified on August 26, 1920, but it took 51 years to get there. Fifty-one years that began with one small group of women, who were ready, willing, and able to share their ideas and their ambition to take the first steps to change their very world. That was in 1869, the beginning of the movement.

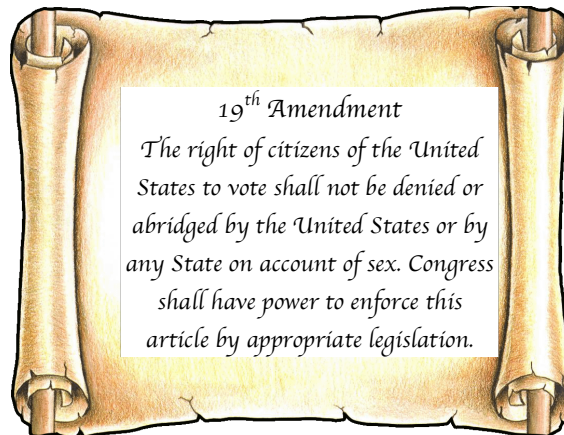
This group of women increased in numbers and drive, and began organizing protests, marching, approaching legislators, etc. Three years later, in 1872, Susan B. Anthony was arrested for voting illegally.

In 1888, the *International Council for Women* was founded and held its first meeting in Washington, D.C.

In January 1917, members of the National Woman's Party (the “Silent Suffragettes”) staged their first protest outside the White House. Alice Paul and 96 other suffragists were jailed for “obstructing traffic.” Women won the right to vote in North Dakota, Ohio, Indiana, Rhode Island, Nebraska, Michigan, New York, and Arkansas.

1920—100 YEARS AGO: Harry T. Burn, the youngest member of the Legislature, is best remembered for his deciding vote, making Tennessee the 36th and final

state to ratify the 19th Amendment. It was his first term; he was 22 years old. On August 26, the 19th Amendment was adopted, and the women of the United States were finally enfranchised.



(Harry T. Burn had originally intended to vote for the Amendment. After being pressured by party leaders and receiving misleading telegrams from his constituents telling him his district was overwhelmingly opposed to women's suffrage, he began to side with the anti-suffragists. However, a letter from his mother asking him to vote in favor of the amendment helped to change his mind: Febb Ensminger Burn had written a long

letter to her son, which he held in his coat pocket during the voting session on August 18, 1920. [Wikipedia])

The crusade for equality continues to be waged on many fronts. Women are still seeking political influence, better educational opportunities, health reform, job equity, and legal reform. The current demands echo those of the movement throughout its history.

MUSEUM'S EXHIBIT: A special exhibit on this important topic was originally planned for the Roselle History Museum in 2020, but has been postponed until 2021. Watch this newsletter, the Museum's Facebook page, and its website for updates. It's a “can't miss” event. Museum volunteers in authentic costumes will be on hand to bring to life the journey of the brave suffragettes.

(Sources: Leslie Drewitz, Museum Manager; Mary M. Huth, Department of Rare Books and Special Collections, University of Rochester Libraries, February 1995; the Women's Rights brochure produced by the Women's Rights National Historical Park, National Park Service, 1994, <http://www.rochester.edu/sba/suffrage-history/us-suffrage-movement-timeline-1792-to-present/>.)



Two Part-Time Openings at Museum Office

RHM is looking for a part-time Collections Cataloger and a part-time Marketing Manager. For details about these positions, check out the Museum's website and Facebook page in the coming weeks.

RHM website: www.rosellehistory.org

Facebook: [Facebook.com/rosellehistorymuseum](https://www.facebook.com/rosellehistorymuseum)

Flags for Roselle Getting Ready for 2021

The coronavirus pandemic closed down the FFR program for 2020; however, on Patriot Day, September 11, FFR Board members installed 50 flags at strategic locations throughout Roselle. Some of those installations were at the Veterans Memorial, the American Legion Hall, and Turner Park. It is expected that the program will be in full swing for 2021 starting on Memorial Day, May 31, and continuing on Flag Day, Independence Day, Patriot Day, and Veterans Day.



Residents and business owners may subscribe for the 2021 program at any time by sending a check for \$50 to Flags for Roselle, P.O. Box 72001, Roselle, IL 60172. Flags for Roselle is a 501(c)(3) corporation. Your contribution may be fully tax deductible. Questions? Send an email to flagsforroselle@gmail.com. Also visit the website: www.flagsforroselle.weebly.com.

Be Happy, Be Healthy Consider the 3 W's

Wear a mask

Wash your hands

Watch your distance



Together We Can Beat This!

Special Delivery from Heaven

November 1963

Written by Barbara Jones



From: John F. Kennedy
To: The Kennedy Family

Sorry I had to leave right away.
I look down and smile at you every day.
Little Patrick says to say "Hi."
I love you, I'm happy – so please don't cry.

And Caroline, I'd like to say
How proud Daddy was of you that day.
You stood like a lady and watched me go by.
You did just like Mommy – you tried not to cry.

Little John John, now that you're the big man,
Take care of Mommy the best that you can.
You were just like a soldier, that salute was so brave.
Thanks for the flag you put on my grave.

And Jackie, we had no time for goodbyes,
But I'm sure you could read the "Farewell" in my eyes.
Watch over our children and love them for me.
I'll treasure your love through eternity.

So please carry on as you did before
Till all of us meet on Heaven's bright shore.
Remember I love you, remember I care.
I'll always be with you though you don't see me there.

Love, Jack

(Barbara Jones, Published by Sam Fox Publishing Co., Inc. 1963)

World War II Words of Wisdom from a Couple of Wise Men

Dwight D. Eisenhower and Winston Churchill, both deep thinkers and great leaders, provided the world with some heart-wrenching concepts.

"The eyes of the world are upon you. The hopes and prayers of liberty-loving people everywhere march with you." (DDE)

"I have full confidence in your courage and devotion to duty and skill in battle. We will accept nothing less than full Victory! Good luck! And let us beseech the blessing of Almighty God upon this great and noble undertaking." (DDE)

"I no longer listen to what people say, I just watch what they do. Behavior never lies." (WC)

"Never in the field of human conflict was so much owed by so many to so few." (WC)

That Cause is Our Cause

by Tom Piorkowski

The Civil War is one of the defining moments of United States history. There are many who claim that to understand the U.S. and its people, one must understand the Civil War. It is seen by many as a quintessentially American event, and this makes sense to a large extent. Civil wars are wars fought within one nation, so that nation will have a greatest stake in its outcome. It is important to remember, however, that these internecine conflicts also have international dimensions and that their outcomes affect the fortunes of other nations and peoples. There are few civil wars in history in which that is truer than the American Civil War.

To understand the Civil War in its international context, it is important first to recreate the world in which it took place. When Abraham Lincoln ended the Gettysburg Address by declaring that the war was being fought to ensure “that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth,” he was not being melodramatic. This was a world in which the majority of the world’s population lived as subjects to a monarch and in which the republican form of the U.S. government was seen by many intellectuals as an experiment destined to fail. Not only that, but following decades of political turmoil in which European monarchies faced countless revolutions, the tide had seemed to turn in their favor following the failed revolutions of 1848.

This retrenchment had seemingly allowed monarchical government to reestablish its legitimacy in Europe. For supporters of monarchy and hereditary aristocracy, they believed that their form of government was the only one that provided stability and strength. To them, republics were inherently weak and unstable, and it was only a matter of time before any nation that attempted republicanism would falter and be forced to recognize the need for a monarch. The U.S. presented a problem for them, however, as it continued to survive decades after it should have fallen.

Against this backdrop, the outbreak of the Civil War in the U.S. seemed to be the proof that many had expected. Advocates of aristocracy and monarchy throughout Europe rejoiced as it seemed certain that the American government would fall and prove their predictions correct. There was another group of intellectuals in Europe who bemoaned the outbreak of the war and hoped that the U.S. would survive, however. These were the veterans of the failed revolutions from the previous decades and their growing body of

supporters who wished to see republicanism expanded throughout Europe, whether that be through the abolition of monarchies or even the expansion of constitutional monarchy. For them the American republic, with all its flaws, stood as proof for their own cause. As long as the American nation survived as a republic, this proved that a republican government could survive. As Edouard Laboulaye, a French university professor, said in 1864, “the cause of America is the cause of Liberty.”



For European republicans, the Civil War also presented another unique opportunity. Slavery had long stood as a black stain on the republican credentials of the U.S. as the nation retained the practice longer than many European monarchies. Long before the Union officially proclaimed abolition an official war aim, many republicans throughout Europe recognized this as the moment in which slavery in the U.S. would be abolished and they rallied to the cause of the Union as the cause of abolitionism and freedom. When Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation and made abolition an official war aim, these groups throughout Europe celebrated what this portended for the future of humanity as the experiment in republicanism had finally shed its most shameful practice.

Following the Union victory, monarchists and aristocrats in Europe quietly regretted the results while republicans rejoiced. Following his assassination, Lincoln became a martyr to the cause of republican government in Europe almost as much as he was in the U.S. Upon news of his death, U.S. legations were swamped with mourners and countless letters of condolence came from both high government officials and the humblest of citizens. One stirring eulogy came from the citizens of the town of Acireale, a small Sicilian fishing village, who wrote that Lincoln “was not yours only – he was also ours, because he was a brother whose great mind and fearless conscience guided a people to union, and courageously uprooted slavery.” As time went on, the republicans of the world were proven right. Just a century and a half later republican government has become expected, with even autocratic countries maintaining the pretense of republicanism, and monarchy has receded to little more than pomp and pageantry. While there are many factors that have contributed to this historical trend, the survival of the republican experiment in North America undoubtedly played a role.

(For Resources, see P. 7, “Further Reading”)

A Student's Perspective

by Jillian McAuliffe



Jillian McAuliffe

I am in my senior year of high school at Lake Park. With all of the events going on, such as the COVID-19 pandemic, the Black Lives Matter Movement, and also just trying to enjoy the summer as a suburban teenager, life feels like a dystopic novel.

Ask any of my peers about the last two days we were in school before lockdown, and I'll bet they say that it felt like the world was

ending. Our school continued on with online learning, but many kids struggled with this, as there was no real connection between teachers and students.

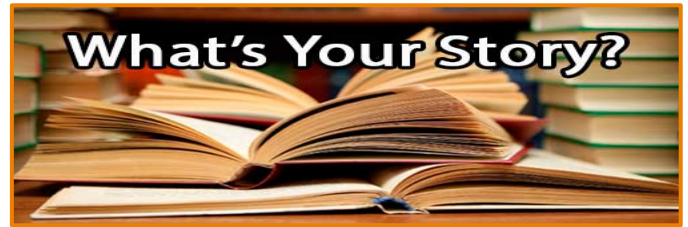
During quarantine, I fell into a lot of my hobbies such as baking, embroidering, reading, drawing, etc. The days all blurred together after a few weeks, and my mind was foggy just trying to think about what my normal routine was during that time.

In the beginning of June, things changed for most people. Since we didn't have to be isolated in our homes all day, lots of people just went on with their lives and pretended the coronavirus didn't exist. Although I tried to repress my anxieties and fears, it felt so weird wearing masks in public places and not being able to hug—let alone get even very close—to my friends and outside family members. Despite this, I was still able to attend Roselle's Black Lives Matter Protest alongside many others in the community. One man shared a poem he had written about feeling oppressed because of his race. Saying that it was overwhelmingly inspiring would be an understatement.

When school started, classrooms looked barren, and most kids sat for hours on end in their rooms staring at a laggy screen while teachers tried to explain a lesson. Not all aspects of online school are unpleasant, and it has gotten easier for teachers and students to have a successful class since we know how to work w/programs like Zoom, Google Meet, and other websites that provide online learning tools. Kids have also found they can work at their own pace, and teachers have been accommodating in situations where students are having trouble.



Overall, these last few months have been scary to navigate, but in these times we must be resilient, open to change, and most of all, hold hope in our hearts.



Everyone has a story. An Oral History Interview Project is planned for some time in 2021. The Museum has a few histories on file, and Museum Manager Leslie Drewitz wants to grow the archives. She plans to audiotape interviews with Rosellians who have lived in town ten years or more. Now is your chance to get your story and/or your family story recorded for posterity.

It's an opportunity for you to share your experiences growing up in Roselle, your school years, your working years, your family years, your business years. Tell about your holidays in Roselle, how you compare the old Roselle and the new Roselle. If you came to Roselle from another town or state, consider sharing that experience.

It's painless. Simply call or email the Museum Manager and add your name to the waiting list. Start making notes for yourself to help tell your story. Leslie Drewitz will contact as soon as it's safe to meet.

You may want to remain in your home (we'll come to you), or you may choose to come to the Museum Office for the taping. We'll have a set of stock questions (and a cup of coffee) that will help get the interview started and put you at ease. You may refer to notes or simply wing it. You may bring a family member or two with you.



We're here to help, but we can't help if you don't contact us. All you need to do is call the Museum Manager at 630-351-5300 or send an email to museummanager@rosellehistory.org. Have your questions answered. Hopefully, the interviews can begin in Spring 2021. Let's develop Roselle's archives into a resource that will be available to future generations.

Are you concerned about privacy? Maybe you'd prefer that your family story be held in the archives. That's great. Maybe you want your story to be shared with family members only. That's great, too. To ensure that everyone is comfortable with how the histories will be handled, Drewitz assures participants that your stories will be treated as confidentially as you desire. She has developed three tiers of privacy:

Level I:

Protected until your death

Level II:

Only family will be permitted to read it, until your death

Level III: Open to the public



In spite of COVID-19...



... and the halt-everything mode we were plunged into this past year, a number of important tasks have been accomplished, and some personnel changes have been made. Here's an overview of what's been happening at the Museum.

BOARD & STAFF CHANGES: Milan Bagel, a long-time member of the Foundation, submitted his resignation from his Board position (see story in next column) ♦ Four new Board members: Wayne Domke and Tim Grasso (read about them on page 2); and Lee Beauprez and John Binneboese (read about them in the next newsletter) ♦ The Board welcomed Keri Soukup to the Core Group; she serves on the newsletter's proofreading team ♦ In August 2019, Leslie Drewitz was contracted for the part-time position of Museum Manager, and ♦ in December, Megan Wozniak joined the contracted part-time staff as Marketing Manager.

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS: In addition to the picnic table set that was purchased earlier this year by the Museum, two more have been donated and set up on the Museum grounds. It's all part of Leslie Drewitz's plan to create a gathering place for social interaction. Rosellians have been using the new seating to relax and reflect, to rest on their walks, to have their lunch, and to meet friends.

Leslie established appropriate coronavirus protocols to disinfect everything in the Museum office, and she limited the number of people who entered to those who had essential business.



To freshen up the office, Mike Drewitz stripped and refinished the 12-foot-long conference table. A new computer was purchased, and a webmaster was contracted to upgrade the website.

In preparation for the Women and the Vote exhibit, Leslie purchased costumes mimicking the apparel worn by the suffragettes in 1920. The costumes will be worn by Museum volunteers when they host the exhibit next year.

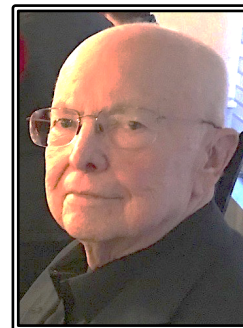
The Museum has so, so much potential. From its humble beginnings as the Roselle Historical Society charged with collecting, preserving, and sharing the community's history to a campus with three historic buildings, Roselle History Museum has made great strides. Yes, this pandemic has turned our world upside down, but it has not faltered the vision and mission of the organization. (Megan Wozniak)

People do not decide to become extraordinary. They decide to accomplish extraordinary things. (Explorer Sir Edmund Hillary)



What Else is New!

*Thank You,
Milan Bagel!*



For more than 20 years, Milan has served on the Board of Directors, and he has been an integral part of the Museum's Core Group for 25+ years. Since those early days, Milan has shared his many talents in technology, carpentry, etc. He served for many years as webmaster and membership chairman, and took on whatever tasks needed to be done, including many that were of the behind-the-scenes type. He will continue to serve with the Museum's Core Group, but no longer as a member of the Board.

Thank You for the Pizza Cottage Tables!

Two picnic table sets that were part of the Pizza Cottage's patio on Irving Park Road (where Jimmy John's stands today) have been donated by Angel Turner and Leslie and John Little. The nostalgic seating adds to the beauty and comfort of the Museum Campus. Thank you to Angel and the Littles for donating them, and to Lee Beauprez and Tim Grasso for setting them up where the community can enjoy them. (See photo on Page 2.)

Thank You, Paulette Lotz!

for playing Mrs. Claus for the Museum's virtual Christmas video, and for gracing Page 1 of the newsletter.

Further Reading: (from Page 5) *The Cause of All Nations: An International History of the American Civil War* by Don H. Doyle; *A World on Fire: Britain's Crucial Role in the American Civil War* by Amanda Foreman

Contact Us! Would you like to contact a Board officer or a staff member?

Joan Beauprez	archivist@rosellehistory.org
Leslie Drewitz	museummanager@rosellehistory.org
Raymond Hitzemann	president@rosellehistory.org
Tom Piorkowski	secretary@rosellehistory.org
Glenn Spachman	treasurer@rosellehistory.org



ROSELLE HISTORY MUSEUM NEWSLETTER
39 E ELM STREET
ROSELLE IL 60172



Winter 2020

*Illinois schoolchildren selected the Cardinal as the State Bird of Illinois.
It was made official in 1929 by the Illinois General Assembly.*

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 & Staff

President: Ray Hitzemann

VP/Treas: Glenn Spachman

Secretary: Tom Piorkowski

Members: Joan Beauprez,
Lee Beauprez, John Binneboese,
Wayne Domke, Tim Grasso,
Hank Kvintus, Walter Lotz

Museum Mgr: Leslie Drewitz

Marketing Mgr: Megan Wozniak

General Meetings

Second Saturday of the Month
10-11:30 a.m. – 39 E. Elm St.

Museum Hours

CLOSED temporarily
due to the COVID-19 Pandemic

Newsletter Deadlines

Feb 1 – May 1 – Aug 1 – Nov 1
Editor: Kay Cahill
editor@rosellehistory.org

MEMBERSHIP FORM

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

Name _____

Phone _____

Address _____

City _____

Email Address _____

State/Zip _____

_____ 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.

Winter 2020