



Sumner House

# Roselle History Museum Newsletter

Official Publication of the Roselle Historical Foundation  
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Spring 2022

## *A New Dawn – A New Year – A New Century* *Roselle 1922-2022*



Photo by Jim McDermott (See p. 7)

### *Special Events for Centennial Year*

***Your History Museum staff and volunteers have planned several special events to celebrate Roselle's Centennial Year. Mark your calendar!***

- 1) Antiques Appraisal – Saturday, June 16, Museum Campus***
- 2) Old Settlers Picnic – Saturday, July 18, Museum Campus***
- 3) Cemetery Walk – September 24, Trinity Cemetery on Irving Park Road***

*For updates, visit: <https://www.rosellehistory.org>  
<https://www.facebook.com/rosellehistorymuseum>*



## Growth and Progress Solid Leadership for 100 Years



*Without continual growth  
and progress, such words  
as improvement,  
achievement, and success  
have no meaning.*

*Benj. Franklin*

Seventeen mayors and thirteen clerks have served the Village of Roselle since its incorporation on October 7, 1922. Many of the names on these lists will be familiar to readers; you may know (or have known) some of the people personally.

These thirty individuals have given of their time, talent, and energy to make Roselle the Village where “Tradition Meets Tomorrow.” These dedicated citizens, all of whom have shared their sense of the future, have also demonstrated a profound respect for the past—for the proud history of this town.

Some of these leaders are still living in and around town and would welcome a high-five, a pat on the back, a brief email, or a tribute on Facebook to let them know they’re doing a good job.

“I slept and dreamt that life was happiness.  
I awoke and saw that life was service.  
I served and found that in service  
happiness is found.”  
(Tagore)

### *Some Thoughts on Leadership*

“Leadership is not about titles, positions, or flowcharts. It is about one life influencing another.” (John Maxwell)

“If your actions create a legacy that inspires others to dream more, learn more, do more, and become more, then you are an excellent leader.” (Dolly Parton)

“To handle yourself, use your head; to handle others, use your heart.” (Eleanor Roosevelt)

“Management is doing things right; leadership is doing the right things.” (Peter Drucker)

#### MAYORS

Herman C. Thiemann	1922-1927
Claude A. Peterson	1927-1933
John G. Schellenberg	1933-1945
Wallace H. Womeldorf	1945-1949
Nick W. Lies	1949-1953
George P. Tews	1953-1955
Albert W. Jordan	1955-1957
Peter J. Erickson	1957-1959
Albert W. Jordan	1959-1965
William J. Florence	1965-1967
Robert W. Frantz	1967-1973
Joseph L. Devlin	1973-1981
Sandra J. Birdsall	1981-1988
James L. Rak	1988-1993
Gayle A. Smolinski	1993-2017
Andrew J. Maglio	2017-2021
David Pileski	2021-



#### VILLAGE CLERKS

Earl H. Crandall	1922-1927
E. Herman Troyke	1927-1937
Clarence C. Schmoldt	1937-1945
Martin A. Niemann	1945-1945
Iva B. Young	1945-1949
Edward E. Brewer	1949-1951
Iva B. Young	1951-1953
Earl H. Crandall	1953-1957
Mildred A. Winkler	1957-1973
Ruby R. Karner	1973-1981
Diana Koekenberg	1981-1983
Harriett M. Ward	1983-1987
Linda J. McDermott	1987-2009
Patricia E. Burns	2009-



# More Than a Century of Roselle's Events Occurred in Spring

by Philip Sullivan, Lake Park High School



Philip Sullivan  
at the  
Rock of Roselle

(For this Spring issue of the Newsletter, LPHS sophomore Philip Sullivan created a timeline of major events that have taken place in Roselle in the spring seasons throughout its history.)

Before Bloomingdale was incorporated in 1889, it was known under two halves: Roselle to the north and Bloomingdale to

the south. Both would split village services—including library books and firefighters—evenly.

Rosell Hough (pronounced *Huff*) is a name notable to Roselle's history. He was influential in business and brought the first rail service here. "Old newspaper clippings state that the Chicago & Pacific (R.R.) named the northern Bloomingdale Township station stop *Roselle*, after its first president. It may be that the railroad, when printing the first rain schedule, misspelled Hough's first name or feminized it and thus gave our town the Roselle spelling we know today. . . ." (*Etched in Time*)

The Village of Roselle has changed a lot, not only in style and function but in population. The number of Roselle residents has grown from around 225 in 1922 to around 22,897 in April 2020. Here's a look at how Roselle has made changes over the past 188 years, particularly during the spring seasons.

**March 11, 1833:** The Meacham Brothers first settle Bloomingdale Township and become neighbors with Pottawatomie Native Americans.

**April 2, 1850:** First town meeting of the Bloomingdale Township is held.

**April 23, 1862:** Rosell Hough resigns from duty in the Civil War.

**April 1877:** Roselle's first public school is completed. Construction began on December 20, 1876.

**March 8, 1892:** Rosell dies in Chicago at 73 years old.

**March 1903:** The first Roselle State Bank opens.

**Spring 1906:** The Fire Department (created separately from Bloomingdale in the Autumn of 1905) gets its own constitution and bylaws.

**May 10, 1943:** First meeting of the Library Board is held.

**April 30, 1955:** The Rural Fire Protection District is formed.

**Spring 1957:** Firehouse #1 is completed.

**Spring 1981:** Construction begins on the Roselle Public Library at its current location, Elm Ct. and Park St.

**March 22, 1987:** The Roselle Historical Foundation is created to administer the newly-purchased history museum.

**April 22, 1990:** The current Fire Department Headquarters is dedicated.

**April 19, 2001:** Then-mayor Gayle Smolinski and other government members travel to Bochnia, Poland; Roselle and Bochnia soon become Sister Cities.

**May 1, 2004:** Miracle Field, designed for anyone to be able to play baseball, is dedicated.

**March 20, 2017:** The Rock of Roselle's Facebook page is created, where the rock is described as the "Best Thing to Happen in Roselle." (See photo at left and check it out on the internet. It's at 1326 W. Lake St.)

**March 2020:** The COVID-19 pandemic forces the closure of many businesses and schools.

**April 2021:** At age 29, David Pileski is elected Roselle's youngest mayor (to date).

While this timeline looks at the season of Spring in Roselle, there are events from other seasons worth noting. One important date is **October 7, 2022**, which marks Roselle's Centennial—100 years since its incorporation (not settlement). Spring Hills Elementary school opened in **February 1962**, and Roselle Middle School opened in **1970**. Lake Park High School's East Campus opened in **September 1956**, and its West Campus opened in **Autumn of 1975**.



(Resources: For more detail on the events listed in this article, visit the following: *Etched in Time: A History of the Village of Roselle, Illinois* by Jill Gross; <http://www.roselle.il.us/791/HISTORY>; <http://www.roselle.il.us/202/A-Brief-History-of-Roselle>; <https://wgntv.com/news/trending/rock-of-roselle-causes-damage-and-laughter-among-drivers/amp/>; <https://rosellesistercities.org/history/>; <https://roselle.il.us/707/About-Roselle>; <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/rosellevillageillinois/PST045219>; and the Miracle Field dedication plaque)

## Mark Boroughf Reflects on P+'s 45 Years

A number of businesses in town have stood the test of time and continue to provide—not only services—but valuable histories and heartwarming stories. Printing Plus of Roselle, Inc., is one of those businesses.

Before it was Printing Plus, it was a Texaco service station, specializing in vintage Volkswagen Beetles. “P+” was opened in 1977 by Mark Boroughf’s parents, Ray & Carmen. Mark is a second-generation

owner, having purchased the business from the senior Boroughfs when they retired in 2001.

During the past 45 years, a number of other businesses have come and gone in the commercial strip known as the Printing Plus Center at 205 E. Irving Park Road, but “P+” remains its anchor.

How does one decide to go into the printing business? “There wasn’t a ‘quick printer’ open at the time, and there was a need to accommodate the growing population . . .,” said Mark.

Mark worked at Printing Plus through his Lake Park High School years and during his two years at College of DuPage, where he received an associate degree. Then he transferred to Loyola University Chicago to complete the bachelor’s degree, returning to work in the family business “temporarily,” but he discovered he “liked the family environment.”

Although the business doubled in size 30 years ago, the machines get smaller and faster. Keeping up with the latest technology—a priority—makes it possible for “P+” to provide a myriad of services; i.e., offset printing (mechanical press); digital printing (electronic devices);

large-format (oversize devices); and brokered specialty printing. Among their countless services, “P+” does wedding invitations, annual reports, post cards, business forms, and mailings; and sells promotional items (see

photograph below). Printing Plus also prints this newsletter (see page 7).

Eyeing the future, Mark looks forward to keeping up with and adapting to the technology changes that are sure to come in the quick print market, and to

moving into the future with the same enthusiasm and helpful spirit he has exuded all these years.

Mark is proud of his hard-working staff (see photo), which is made up of full- and part-time employees, Rick Reyna (34 years); Jeanine Jahaske (10+ years); Ashley Martinez (6 mos.); and Lee Schaidle (6 mos.). Those recently retired after 15-20 years include Cara Steetz, Dan Wigg, and Carol Davis.

Printing Plus takes an active role in the community by lending strong support to various local organizations, such as the Roselle Chamber of Commerce, the Bloomingdale Chamber of Commerce, as well as the Flags for Roselle Program, the Roselle History Museum, local churches, and non-profits.

Mark’s family is an important part of his personal and business life. His parents live in the area as do two of his three siblings and their families. He boasts “lots of cousins” as well as his “chosen family of friends.”



*Left: The articles displayed on the back wall show some of the promotional work “P+” does. The poster on the left offers a birdseye view of Printing Plus’ versatility.*

L-R: Rick – Jeanine – Mark – Ashley – Lee

# Volunteering Also Good for Volunteers

by Bonnie Jean Feldkamp

(First distributed by Creators Syndicate. Permission to print granted by Daily Herald columnist Bonnie Jean Feldkamp.)

As a kid, I would go to work with my stepmom, who worked at the Museum of Natural History. I volunteered wherever anyone needed me. I assisted with children's programming, answered the phone, and even got to hold the resident rainbow boa constrictor for visitors to see. It was fun, I made friends, and it also gave me confidence, new skills, and a sense of purpose before I was old enough to be gainfully employed.

Volunteering sounds purely altruistic, but it also provides benefits for the person who is volunteering. As an adult, I serve on boards and help with events and workshops in my community. I also require that my children volunteer. My children have done everything from mucking stalls at an equestrian therapy stable and reshelving books at the library to taking leadership roles in student ambassador programs and managing the school's spirit wear and supplies store. And yes, they've tagged along with me to work and helped me when needed as well.

It turns out this family example of valuing volunteerism is common. Mark Snyder, PhD., a McKnight Presidential Chair in Psychology and Director of the Center for the Study of the Individual and Society in Minnesota, studies volunteering. People who volunteer tend to come from households that value helping others. Snyder says, "Generational volunteering is the key and leading by example is important." Around 60 million people in America volunteer in some capacity each year.

In this time of COVID-19, you'd think that volunteering would lag due to access restrictions and lockdowns. But Snyder says that hasn't been the case. "Even in communities where people must stay at home, people are finding ways to volunteer online."

I wanted my kids to help their community, but I also wanted them to volunteer for practical reasons. I thought if they started as good volunteers, then they'd not only be good humans, but also good employees. There's also some science to the idea of helping oneself by helping others. Snyder's research showed that those who volunteer long-term don't stay for altruistic reasons

alone; they keep going back because they see the benefits in their own lives.

Volunteering contributes to a sense of well-being; it helps alleviate stress and it adds confidence to know you're able to help. "It's a win-win," says Snyder, "The world is better off and so is the individual."

Snyder's research showed that lifelong volunteers stick with it because of the community bonds that volunteering creates both for the volunteer and because of them. Social scientists see an uptick in

volunteering when a crisis happens, but many stay with it once the crisis is over because they see that volunteering makes society a better place. It solidifies the bonds of concern, and their communities grow stronger because of it.

"It appears that volunteering builds community ties and, in turn, community ties promote volunteering," Snyder says. Even better, Snyder says new data is emerging that shows that older volunteers' health actually improves. Volunteers are survivors, they help in the face of adversity, and they know how to persevere.

Volunteering makes us stronger both individually and as a society, and there's no better time to get involved in your community than right now.

## What Can YOU do to Make a Difference?

Are you ready to "make society a better place" and help your history museum grow stronger?

To volunteer, or for more information about volunteering, send an email to Leslie Drewitz, Museum Manager:  
([museummanager@rosellehistory.org](mailto:museummanager@rosellehistory.org))

*Thank  
you!*

The Museum is open to visitors every Sunday, 2-4 pm. In addition, visits may be set up by appointment on Wednesday through Saturday 10 am-2 pm.



# Flags For Roselle

## Proceeds Go to Local Groups

*Submitted by Maryann Grygiel & Eric Shutes*

The 2021 FFR program gave back \$15,000 to five local groups to continue their commitments to the community: American Legion Post 1084, Lake Park High School Educational Foundation, Roselle History Museum, and the Boy Scout and Girl Scout programs. Each of the organizations received \$3,000!



Maryann Grygiel, Boy Scout Troop 408 Committee Chair and District Advancement Chair, reports that Flags for Roselle funds greatly assisted local scouts in fulfilling their mission and participating in annual activities, campouts, and special events while supporting the community in the following ways:



Prepared and attached PVC poles to American Flags in preparation for the 2021 Flags for Roselle season • Collected over 500 lbs. of plastic as part of an environmental stewardship and sustainability initiative • Restored and enhanced an early childhood educational garden • Constructed and installed planter boxes, with repurposed materials, at the Army Trail Nature Center • Volunteered and supported community organizations during Taste of Roselle and Roselle Winterfest events • Helped the Roselle American Legion Post 1084 with Flag

Retirement ceremonies • Assisted with Officer Kotlewski's Homecoming celebration • Aided Trinity Lutheran Church Roselle with the daylong 2021 Community Clinic event • Supported a community beautification project that involved the installation of spring flower bulbs at the Metra station and other locations with the Roselle Garden Club and Village officials • Assisted the Roselle Lions Club with placing luminaries throughout the community.

## Look What I Found From 50 Years Ago!

"I caught this key chain and medallion in front of the 'Big Wheel' bike shop on Main Street in 1972. It was tossed from a parade float during the Village of Roselle's 50th anniversary celebration. I added my dad's key to our 1971 Country Squire station wagon (which he purchased at Roselle Ford) to the chain. This relic has been packed away with old treasures all these years." (Gavin Barclay)

Side 1 reads, "Ford" on the key; the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary logo is on the medallion. Side 2: "Family of Fine Cars" on the key and "Village of Roses" on the medallion.



Randy Yockey, owner of Yockey's Friendly Ford in Roselle, brings us up-to-date:

"Fifty years ago, we went to the pump and filled our vehicles with leaded fuel; vehicles had no emissions testing, nor did they have any fuel economy.

"Today, 50 years later, you now can purchase an all-electric vehicle with zero emissions, and a simple charge will put you back on the road for up to 300 miles. Additionally, you can use your all-electric vehicle for an alternate power source during a power failure. The resilience of our country has certainly progressed rapidly in just 50 years."

## The Liberty Bell

*There was a time when you could touch it*



Back in 1970—when the Barclay family visited Philadelphia—Gavin, Ellen, and Kelly (above) were permitted—actually encouraged—to touch the Liberty Bell. Yes, all visitors could do that then; it was a photo op. Things changed, though, in 1976 due to the anticipation of enormous numbers of visitors expected during the Bicentennial Year.

The Bell was moved to a glass-and-steel pavilion about 200 yards from its old home at Independence Hall. Then, in 2003, it was moved to the larger Liberty Bell



Center adjacent to the pavilion, where today it is viewed from a distance. (See Independence Hall in background.)



Since Roselle's German Committee was established two years ago, it has been

searching for a sister city. On November 7, 2021, upon the signing of a Letter of Intent with the Laatzen (Germany) International Friendship Committee to become a Friendship City, that dream became a reality.

The Committee will participate in various Roselle Centennial events in 2022 as part of its commitment to the Village to promote the town's German heritage. The German Committee gathers monthly for a Stammtisch "regulars table" to socialize, speak/learn German, and enjoy a "bier" together. To learn more about the committee, visit Roselle Sister Cities German Committee on Facebook. (*Thanks to Sara Bruno for this information.*)



## What Else is New!



Thanks to **Jim McDermott** of Roselle who took the photo on Page 1. "It was taken at sunrise in August during the hot spell," Jim shared. "The time was around 6:30 a.m. I was riding my bike, cutting through Meacham Grove Forest Preserve, when I noticed the sunrise. I had to stop and take a photo with my smart phone (Moto-E). The lake, over which it is viewed, is called Maple Lake." (*This photo also appeared in the Daily Herald earlier this year.*)

## From Your Editor

**THANK YOU  
ALL  
VERY MUCH**

Thanks to **you**, our readers, for your continued faithful support.

This is to let you know I will no longer be serving as newsletter editor; this is my final issue. I assure you it has been a joy for me to compile, edit, and write the stories of the people and places in our town. I've been blessed with two opportunities to do that: 2004-2008 and 2016-2022. I will always hold the History Museum close to my heart. Many thanks . . .

To my "**proofers**," for sharing your knowledge of our beautiful language and your grammar and punctuation skills. **Joan and Bob Beauprez, Peggie Jones, Kara McAuliffe, Tom Piorkowski, and Keri Soukup**, with your help, we've maintained a level of professionalism that makes me proud. I hope you know how valuable your "extra set of eyes" is to the newsletter.

To all our **guest contributors**, for sending us interesting and educational history and human interest stories.

To **Eric Shutes, Maryann Grygiel, and their Boy Scout Troop 408** for faithfully delivering the newsletters each quarter to our local businesses.

To **Jim & Donna Benson**, for setting a standard for the newsletter in 1995, and continuing to do so thru 2003.

To all the **Rosellians** (you know who you are) for allowing us into your homes, businesses, and organizations and permitting us to share your stories.

To **Mark Boroughf**, who has printed the newsletter for over 25 years, for sharing tips and sending much encouragement along with them.

To **Jim Baumann**, Daily Herald Executive Editor, for critiquing the newsletter and sharing many wonderful journalistic suggestions.

To **my family**, for your interest in Roselle's history and sharing your ideas, stories, and photos.

Sincerely, Kay Cahill



Spring 2022



*"Optimism is the faith that leads to achievement."*  
*(Helen Keller)*

**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/Treasurer: Glenn Spachman

Secretary:

Members: Joan Beauprez,  
Lee Beauprez, John Binneboese,  
Tim Grasso, Walter Lotz

Museum Mgr: Leslie Drewitz  
Marketing Mgr: Keri Soukup  
Village Board Liaisons:  
Wayne Domke, Tom Piorkowski

**General Meetings**

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

**Museum Hours**

Sundays: 2-4 pm  
Wednesday through Saturday: 10 am - 2 pm  
by appt

**Newsletter Deadlines**

Jan 15 – April 15 – July 15 – Oct 15  
Editor: Kay Cahill  
kaycahill@comcast.net

**CONTRIBUTION FORM**

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

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Circle one:      \$30      \$50\*      \$100      \$250      Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**TWO NEW WAYS TO SEND YOUR CONTRIBUTION VIA PAYPAL**

- 1) Scan the QR Code at the right to donate
- 2) Go to <https://tinyurl.com/PayPalRHM>



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