

# Roselle History Museum

## Winter 2022 Newsletter

Official publication of the Roselle Historical Foundation  
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*Year in Review*

## RHM Events of 2022 !



It's been a busy and exciting year for the Roselle History Museum! We have had several successful events that have brought the people of Roselle together to eat, drink and enjoy our town and all it has to offer. We also took part in several events sponsored by the Village and look forward to the annual Winter Fest coming up on Dec 3!



Antiques Appraisal - June



Settlers Picnic-July



Cemetery Tour—Sept



Halloween Hunt-Oct



*From the Archives*  
*By Joan Beauprez*

**Happy Birthday, Museum!**

35 years ago, the Roselle History Museum opened to the public. On September 25, 1988, a ceremonial ribbon was cut by Mayor Sandra Birdsall. Docents in period costumes led the visitors into the Sumner House for tours. To add to the festivities, a blue grass band entertained the crowds from the front porch.

The Grand Opening coincided with other village activities, such as tours of the police station, library, village hall, and the groundbreaking ceremony for a new fire station. Prospect street was closed off and a food tent was set up in the parking lot serving free hotdogs, chips, and pop.

Tour buses left from the library to take people around the village. It was a great day to open the museum with hundreds of people enjoying the Sunday in town.

The old house at 102 S. Prospect became a museum when the Village of Roselle purchased it for \$130,000 from Dan and Mary Thomas in 1987.

This led to the formation of the Roselle Historical Foundation whose mission would be to raise money and attract members and visitors to help establish the Museum we have today.



  
Sumner House



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*From the Museum Manager's Desk*

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What a year we have had! Roselle's Centennial year was a GREAT success! I was thankful to be a part of the Centennial Committee and the Roselle History Museum was proud to present so many wonderful activities in support of this momentous occasion. Our closing event will be Winterfest, on December 3<sup>rd</sup> and we hope we see you there.

The Antiques Appraisal, the Settlers Picnic and the Halloween Hunt were so much fun that we have decided to bring them back next year as scheduled events! We are also looking into hosting an Easter Egg Hunt in the Spring! Roselle loves a lively time, and we hope to keep the memories coming, with more events for our Family Programming into next year. Remember, you decide our programming! We are always looking for fresh idea's and YOU are the key. So please contact us, at the email or phone number below, if you have any suggestions for family fun at the museum campus.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all our sponsors for their wonderful support this year:

Leonard Auctions (Carrie and Janet); Tank and the Beez; Old Salem Café; Pollyanna Brewery; Roselle Park District; Bloomingdale Park District; Woodman's Markets; Italian Pizza Kitchen; Granny's Restaurant; All Things Woof and Meow Too, Juice and Berry; Brunch Café; Jason Nelson (keyboards extraordinaire!); Lettuce Entertain You; Dunkin Donuts; LaCampana; Doctor Dogs; Dino's Restaurant; Texas Roadhouse; Outback Steakhouse; Raising Cane's; Jameson's Char House; and Villaggio! Thank you so much for all your support. Please patronize these places of business – they truly love this community!

Contact Leslie Drewitz, Museum Manager (630) 351-5300 or [museummanager@rosellehistory.org](mailto:museummanager@rosellehistory.org) for suggestions, updates, or questions.

*Stay well and stay curious!*

*Leslie*

*Leslie Drewitz, Museum Manager*



🔍 **Happy Birthday Roselle!** 🔍



The year-long celebration of Roselle's 100th birthday hit a milestone event on October 7, 2022: the actual incorporation day of Roselle back in 1922. Flags for Roselle started off the morning by deploying 100 flags down Prospect Street in honor of Roselle's Centennial.

Later, local artist S. Michael Re unveiled his sculpture "The Railroad Comes to Roselle" at Village Hall. Re's artwork choice reflects a pivotal moment in Roselle's history: Roselle's first train station, the St. Paul Depot, was built in 1873 (prior to Roselle being incorporated in 1922) on the south side of the tracks on Main Street between Prospect Street and Park Street. Re thanked the RHM's Archivist Joan Beauprez for her knowledge and assistance with the history behind the sculpture. Re's sculpture can be viewed directly outside Village Hall, on the right-hand side of the main entrance.



Roselle's 100th Birthday Party continued with a cupcake reception inside. Rebecca's Cakes and Lattes crafted and frosted nearly 200 cupcakes into a beautiful work of art for guests to enjoy. From start to finish, October 7, 2022



was a day that will go down in Roselle's history! Fear not, the Centennial Celebration isn't over yet! Several more events are planned through the end of the year. A dinner dance is planned

by Roselle Sister Cities. Also be on the lookout for Main Street Merchants' next Progressive Dinner on December 6. These dinners feature food and drinks from local restaurants and businesses like Italian Pizza Kitchen, Juice and Berry, 8000 Miles, Chocolate Inspirations, and more.

*Keri Soukop*  
*Marketing Manager*



*Subscriptions  
Begin Soon!*

Flags for Roselle is gearing up for its fourth year! Subscriptions for the 2023 season will open on December 1, 2022. Flags for Roselle is a community-wide display of patriotism that also directly benefits our community. For a subscription of \$50, residents and/or businesses will receive a flag placed in their yard 5 times a year (Memorial Day, Flag Day, Fourth of July, Patriot's Day, and Veteran's Day), installed by local volunteers that will remain up for the duration of the flag holiday. Proceeds are donated to Roselle organizations: Lake Park High School, Roselle History Museum, Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, American Legion, and the Lions Club. Join us today to support our community! Visit [flagsforroselle.weebly.com](https://flagsforroselle.weebly.com) for more information on how to sign up.

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### **Volunteer Opportunities**

Have you ever wondered about Roselle history? Are you community-minded and thinking of a way to get involved? Do you have the gift of gab? Do you like helping to plan events? Have you thought about donating your time to our office? Then this message is for you!

The Roselle History Museum has multiple volunteer opportunities for all ages, and we are waiting for your call!

We are in need of:

Museum Docents (we will train you!)

General Office Help

Event Planners (we would LOVE your ideas)

Help with the newly created, "Friends of the Museum"

To inquire, please call (630) 351-5300 and leave a message. We would love to hear from you!



1. Who was the first mayor of Roselle?
2. What was the population of Roselle when it was first incorporated?





The Vice Presidency of the United States is a rather odd office. In practical terms, per the duties assigned to it by the Constitution, it is unimportant on a day-to-day basis. Its only day-to-day function is to preside over the Senate and cast tie-breaking votes. Even this is limited as vice presidents are not allowed to participate in the debate. The holders of the office play such a small role in the day-to-day operations of the government that it has not been uncommon for them to just leave Washington for extended periods during their terms. Richard Mentor Johnson, who served under Martin Van Buren from 1837-1841, went home to Kentucky to open a tavern during his term. Even when they are attending to their duties, they have generally not found them to be onerous. While serving as the second vice president, Thomas Jefferson wrote to his friend Elbridge Gerry on May 13, 1797, that he felt relief at having been elected vice president instead of president since “[t]he second office of this government is honorable & easy, the first is but a splendid misery.”

Aside from the vice president’s role in the Senate, its only other constitutional role is to ensure a smooth transfer of power in case the presidency is ever vacated outside of the normal means. As Franklin Roosevelt’s first vice president, John Nance Garner, put it, the vice president is essentially “the spare tire on the automobile of government.” In other words, it is an office in which the main duty of its holder is to not have other duties, thus making them available at a moment’s notice. Generally, those who have become vice president have been successful people who are used to action and power. Suddenly, they are expected to sit around and wait since, as Woodrow Wilson wrote during his career in academia prior to entering politics, their main importance “consists in the fact [they] may cease to be Vice-President.”

While many vice presidents have expressed frustration with this situation, many have also found humor in their new circumstances. Few vice presidents have found more humor in their situations, however, than Thomas Riley Marshall. Having spent eight years as Wilson’s

vice president, he famously summed up the frustration many vice presidents have felt towards their lack of an official role in a series of humorous quips. During his inaugural address before the Senate, he said he was using the speech as an opportunity to speak before he entered “upon a four years’ silence.” Shortly before his inauguration he spoke at a meeting of his old fraternity where he told them a story about a father who had two sons. One son went into politics and became vice president and the other went off to sea and drowned. Marshall ended the story by claiming that “The poor father died of a broken heart – he never heard of either one thereafter.” He also commented on day-to-day aspects of being the vice president, such as when he noted that his office was extremely small and open to visitors. Regarding this situation, he quipped that “I don’t see that this room differs much from a monkey cage, except that the visitors do not offer me peanuts.”

On a more serious note, regarding the vice president’s role in the administration, Marshall also indicated: Since the days of John Adams there has been a dread and a fear that some Vice President of the United States would break loose and raise hell and Maria with the administration. Everything that can be done, therefore, is done to furnish him with some innocuous occupation. They seek to put him where he can do no harm. During Wilson’s convalescence from a major stroke, he made a comment that succinctly describes the role of the vice president when he said that “[t]he standing joke of the country is that the only business of the Vice President is to ring the White House bell every morning and ask what is the state of health of the president.” At the end of his two terms, he succinctly summed up the frustration that he, and many other holders of this office, felt when he sent Calvin Coolidge a telegram that read “Please accept my sincere sympathy” upon the latter’s nomination as the 1920 Republican vice presidential candidate. While often humorous, Marshall’s comments on the vice presidency present what is in many ways an accurate picture of their role and image. Despite this perception, its role in succession is an important one and one that has been called on in times of crisis on nine separate occasions.

*By Tom Piorkowski*

*“Winter is the time for comfort, for good food and warmth,  
for the touch of a friendly hand,  
and for a talk beside the fire:*

*it is time for home”*

*— Edith Sitwell*





## *A Big Thank You!*

Glenn Spachman has been the Roselle History Museum's vice/president and treasurer for over 25 years. He has lived in Roselle since 1981 with his wife Sue and their two children.

Before coming to the Museum, Glenn served as a Village administrator for several different municipalities and has over 30 years of experience in local government. Glenn was also treasurer for three other non-profit organizations including a Rotary Club.

In addition to being treasurer he has worked on many projects at the museum and is also very active on almost all special events. He serves as a docent when necessary and believes that the museum is a real asset to the community.

Recently Glenn has stepped down from the treasurer position but will remain the vice president as these two board positions have now been split.

Glenn is passing the reins to Jeff Engel, a current Museum board member who will take over as Treasurer. We want to say a big **Thank You** to Glenn for all his years of service as Treasurer and look forward to his continuing involvement in Museum events. Also, we wish Jeff much success in his new endeavor!

Jeff Engel and Glenn Spachman



## *Trivia Answers !!*

1. The first mayor of Roselle was Herman C. Thiemann and he served from 1922-1927.
2. The population of Roselle when it was first incorporated was 225.

Our current mayor, David Pileski, is the 17th mayor of Roselle. The population currently is approx. 23,000.

## *Looking Back.....*



Taste of Roselle, circa 1990. Farm machinery demonstration on the museum campus.



Taste of Roselle, circa 1980's



The 1997 Rose Parade. The Roselle Historical Foundation's entry in the parade is mounted on a truck from the 1920s.

Rose Parade, 1988. Jim Birdsall (left), President of the Foundation, oversaw the acquisition of the Sumner House at 102 South Prospect to serve as the Foundation's museum.



Our mayor David Pileski, sporting his new hairdo. Mayor Pileski followed through with his promise to dye his hair pink if the Roselle Police Assn. met their goal in the Breast Cancer Fundraiser, which they did!

**WAY TO GO!**



# Roselle History Museum Newsletter

39 E. Elm St

Roselle, IL 60172

Newsletter generously  
sponsored by



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*Together we'll shape the future*

Life moves fast. As much as you can,  
learn from your history,  
you have to move forward." – **Eddie Vedder**



**Sumner 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 part of 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  
Vice President: Glenn Spachman  
Treasurer: Jeff Engel

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

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 am – 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: Janice Wood  
editor@rosellehistory.org

#### **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.

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



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