



# Winter 2025 Newsletter

Official publication of the  
Roselle Historical Foundation  
39 East Elm Street, Roselle, IL

60172-2026

(630-351-5300)

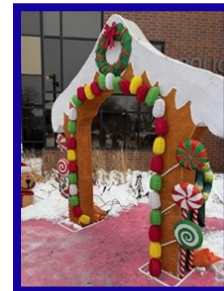
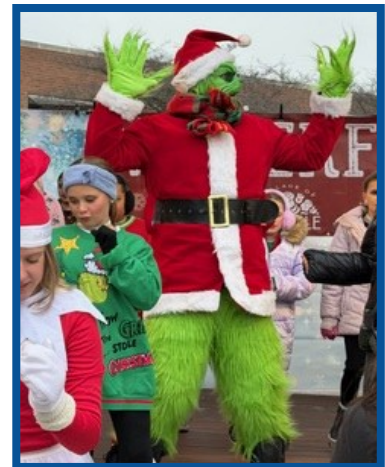
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Tree lighting, hot cocoa, Grinch, Santa, French Market, "iceless" skating, lots of food, music, dancing and fun!



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## Marketing Manager's Corner

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Another holiday season has arrived and we are feeling thankful and festive here at the museum. Wonderful and unique things have been happening in Roselle! Rosellians have shown their community spirit and generosity by donating en masse to the Roselle Community Food Pantry, which recently moved into their new home on Irving Park Road in the Amperage Electrical Supply complex. Residents honored the pantry's "November wish list" request for items that included oatmeal, penne pasta, and canned chili. The pantry also hosted a volunteer information session earlier in the month to welcome those eager to learn about and help with the pantry's mission. Adding to the spirit of volunteerism and generosity, local businesses and organizations like Itasca Bank & Trust, Rosa's Martial Arts, and Waterbury Elementary recently made monetary and/or food donations to the pantry.



Veteran's Day was celebrated strongly in Roselle this year. In addition to the veteran's banners installed around the downtown and Flags for Roselle's flag deployment, Mother Nature herself also put on a beautiful display with the appearance of Northern Lights around much of the northern part of the country. The photo at left, captured by Mayor David Pileski, showed the phenomenon in the sports fields at Lake Park West.



Finally, we are very thankful to have recently received a number of artifact donations from the local community. A longtime resident donated memorabilia from Vine Tastings, a wine bar and shop that was located at 123 Main St., current home of 1913 Restaurant. Another resident also donated several items originally belonging to her parents, including the ice crusher pictured to the left. This old-timey kitchen appliance fits right in with Mrs. Richter's kitchen! These wonderful items are a welcome addition to the museum and will be cared for in perpetuity.

*Keri Soukup, Marketing Mgr.*



"Snowflakes are  
Winter's butterflies"  
Author, Unknown



Thank you to Countryside Funeral  
Homes & Crematory for being our first  
business sponsor

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## How it all started.....

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The Roselle Historical Foundation traces its roots to a meeting of nine interested citizens held in January 1978. The Roselle History Museum Campus is comprised of three historic homes operated by the Roselle Historical Foundation.

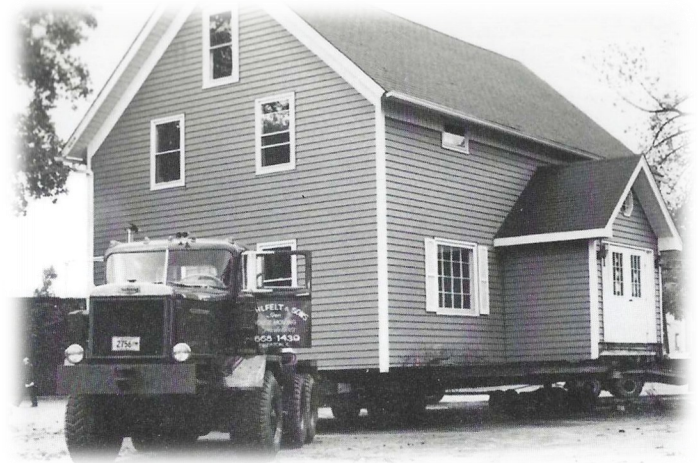
The **Sumner** House consists of exhibits relating to Roselle history. Henry Sumner's home located on the corner of Prospect and Elm opened to the public in 1988. Sumner was Roselle's first station-master. The Richter House has been fully restored to its 1920 heyday.



The **Richter** house was built in 1878 and purchased by the Richter family in the 1920's. It was moved in June 1996 from its original location at 27 S. Prospect to the museum campus at 102 S. Prospect. The house was restored using many of the family's original furniture and artifacts.



The **Coach** house was built in 1917, the house was moved from 118 East Irving Park Rd where it originally served as the coach house for the Hattendorf home. In the 1950's it was converted to office space and for over thirty years served the commercial loan dept for Harris Bank Roselle. In 1991, it was donated to the Roselle Historical Foundation and moved to its current location. The Coach House now serves as the Foundation's office.



# HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM ALL OF US AT THE ROSELLE HISTORY MUSEUM



Peace  
Joy  
Love

Come and visit our Museum store! We have nostalgic t-shirts, Books, and numerous assorted Roselle memorabilia



## A NEW FEATURE!

"Historical Buildings of Roselle" will be highlighted in the coming newsletters. If anyone has an idea of a building we should feature, please email information and any pictures to [editor@rosellehistory.org](mailto:editor@rosellehistory.org)

## Brady, Mahomes, and... Luckman

It is odd to think that once, a long time ago, in the 1940s. The NFL of the 1940s was very different than it is today. Plastic helmets, not the Chicago Bears had the best quarterback to mention facemasks, were still in the future. Anyone with even a passing familiarity with the Bears knows that they are notorious for having shoddy quarterbacks. Specialists were too, evidence of which can be seen in that Luckman also acted as the Bears punter. In no way is it more different than in how the passing game was handled, however. To be blunt, pass interference was not really considered a thing during this era of the game's development. This means that he was throwing to receivers who were often being mauled by defenders, and he still managed to set these records, outperforming his successors who have played under much friendlier rules.

Over the course of his career, which lasted from 1939 to 1950, he led a Bears dynasty, a phrase that itself will sound odd to modern ears. Winning four NFL titles running the new T-Formation offense, Luckman holds several NFL passing records to this day. 7.9% of the passes he threw in his career went for touchdowns, and in one season this total was as high as 13.9%. This was also the season he set the NFL record for touchdown passes in a single season with 28. This was in a 10 game season and his record would stand until 1959, after the NFL season had expanded to 12 games. He still shares the record for most touchdowns in a single game, with 7. Luckman represents an odd quirk of Chicago sports. Much like how it is odd to think of how the Cubs were a powerhouse dynasty in the first few decades of the National League in Major League Baseball, it is odd to think there was a time when the Bears were a feared passing powerhouse. Fans marveled as he pulled off feats no one thought possible, the Patrick Mahomes or Dan Marino of his era. Elected to the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 1965 as part of its third class of inductees, he remains the only quarterback who played the majority of their career with the Bears inducted into the Hall.

In that game, he threw for 443 yards, the first 400 yard passing game in NFL history. As the Bears are flirting with success with Caleb Williams, the latest in a long line of Bears first round quarterbacks, hope springs eternal that someone will finally supplant Luckman as the Bears greatest quarterback.

He was also a key member of the 1940 Bears team that defeated the Washington Redskins 73-0 in the NFL Championship game, still the most points scored by an NFL team in a single game and the largest margin of victory in an NFL game. Of course, we felt hope that Justin Fields, Mitch Trubisky, Rex Grossman, etc. would finally be the one to do it. At the very least, Bears fans can take some solace in knowing that we once had a four-ring quarterback who dominated the league. Few fanbases can say that. We just got it much earlier than the others.

This career is remarkable for many reasons, but two in particular stand out. One is that he still holds several Bears franchise records for quarterbacks. The second reason, and one closely related to the first, is that he did this

**By Tom Piorkowski**

# Roselle History Museum Newsletter

39 E. Elm St

Roselle, IL 60172

Newsletter generously  
sponsored by



**Itasca Bank & Trust Co.**

*Together we'll shape the future*

*“The quiet of a winter night brings peace to the soul.” – Unknown*

### 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

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Walter Lotz  
Janice Wood

### Friends of the Museum

Brian Elliott  
Andy Hernandez  
Judy Ibeling  
Anthony Johnson  
Phillip Sullivan

### 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

**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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