



HISTORICAL PRESERVATION SOCIETY

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FALL 2022

Community ❖ Preservation ❖ History ❖ Education



**IT WILL TAKE
THE VILLAGE**

1834 Charter Members - 2000-2022

Train Depot building: Dave and Karen Armbrust

Those who pioneer the restoration and opening of the Historic Train Depot with their financial support.

\$100,00-\$200,000

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Corwith Hamill

\$40,000-\$50,000

Frank and Joyce Bauer
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\$10,000-\$20,000

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Sherry Reum
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Elk Grove Historical Society
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Dale Burton
Wendy (Dunham) Christian
Mary Chetwood
Kathi Meyer Clinton
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Michael and Lurene Filipiski
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Peggy Golnick
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Cheryl and Curtis Marschinke
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Glenna Southwell
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Terence Starai
Audry Troyer
Margo and Steven Wynkoop
Thomas and Marilyn Zawacki

Gifts up to \$99

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Paula Armstrong
Katherine Berna
The Bombard Family
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The Vintage Sportscar Club
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Larry Dieffenbach
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The Karp Family
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Elaine Thompson
Jennifer Berg-Wallish
A.C. Wawak
James and Priscilla Wenzel
Kyle Ziegler

Gifts Given in Memory of...

Corwith Hamill
William Jensen, III
Wayne Marschinke
Pat Schiltz

***Please help us correct any errors
and/or omissions at
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THE WHPS NEEDS THE FINANCIAL SUPPORT OF EVERYONE IN THE VILLAGE!



The next to last major project is the custom milling and installation of 3/4" bead board to replicate what was originally on the walls and ceiling of the Depot.

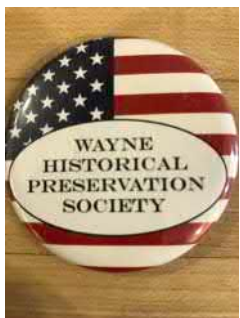
The estimate for labor and material comes to roughly \$130,000. With donations generated by this newsletter we are already halfway to our objective.



The goal is to complete the Depot restoration so that all of us can enjoy the treasures in the WHPS collection and the use of the building for events that build community.

**All gifts make a difference.
YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!**

Please consider a donation that will put us closer to getting this project done.



**SUPPORT THE DEPOT RESTORATION AND
BE A PARTNER
IN THE WORK OF THE WHPS**

Enclosed is my contribution of _____
(please make checks payable to WHPS)
mail to:
WHPS PO Box 724 Wayne, IL 60184
THANK YOU!

Name _____

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The Wayne Historical Preservation Society is a 501(c) 3, making your donation tax deductible to the extent permitted by law.



The big news for the Preservation Society, and by extension for everyone in Wayne, is the DuPage Authors exhibit at the DuPage County Historical Museum in Wheaton, where the WHPS was able to contribute information and memorabilia on our former resident and local author, Marguerite Henry.

Interestingly, our collection regarding the author was minimal. Research had been done in 2004 for her posthumous induction into the Fox Valley Arts Hall of Fame, efforts had been made to connect with the Misty Foundation in 2011, and several residents had donated books authored by Marguerite, but a comprehensive collection did not exist.

Enter Carrie Williams (nee Jenkins) who was Marguerite's next-door neighbor during the Henry residency in Wayne. From her present home in Colorado, Carrie sent donations to the WHPS Henry collection, and via the internet she sent photos of signed pages of books and letters from the author. Carrie has always had a special heart for Wayne and the WHPS.

The exhibit runs through March and is definitely worth your time to see. Please sign the guest book and let them know you come from Wayne!

Starting out as a Covid-time project, the WHPS quilt is turning into a treasure. The idea was initially proposed to a small group of "old" residents, most of whom have moved away.

During the lockdown, thirty women signed up to embroider penny squares with images of the Village. After a year and a half, all of them have been turned in, the pieces have been sewn together and are on a frame ready to be quilted.



Barbara Lyon, who also headed up the quilt made for the USA Bicentennial in 1976 at the Little Home Church is again contributing her expertise and time along with a small group of quilters to finish the job.

The plan is to hang the quilt in the Depot---did we mention that now is a good time to donate to finishing THAT project?





The WHPS has always been lucky to receive tips, information, useful items, and historical memorabilia from former and current Village residents. Sometimes these things come in a very roundabout way.



For example, a lead came from a Village resident who happened to see a set of Wayne dishes on display at the North Shore Railroad Museum in Duluth. His find led to many months of research into railroad china. A fascinating topic! According to the curator of the Museum, a woman from the National Association of Railroad Business Women made it her life's work to set up a railroad car with this particular china. Unfortunately, she left no documentation proving the china was used on the CN&W line, so the investigation continues!

You might remember last year, the WHPS had a WW II plaque restored. The Honor Roll, with the names of 84 Wayne servicemen, three with gold stars, had its first post-restoration showing at the Village Hall on November 11, 2021 to a small group of veterans from Wayne.

After reciting the pledge of allegiance, members of WHPS, the Village President and Clerk sat enthralled as three veterans talked of their experiences, one in Viet Nam and two in Afghanistan. Another one of our guests was the son of one of the servicemen on the plaque who generously gave WHPS copies of letters and records of his dad's time in World War II.

It was such an exceptional time that no one thought to take photographs!

This year, the event will be repeated, and a much longer list of veterans and descendants of veterans will be invited. Attendance is limited because of restrictions at Village Hall--another reason to look forward to the opening of the Depot!



There is no poem lovely as a tree....

Trees have been used along Army Trail, at the Old Town Hall, and now at the new Wayne Park to commemorate special people in Wayne.

On September 28th of this year we were able to celebrate the life of Pat Schiltz and her immeasurable contributions to our Village. Her husband, Jim Schiltz, who himself has given time and talent to the Depot restoration, along with daughters Laura and Marlise, graciously presided over an emotional ceremony where Pat was recognized for all she did.

Last year, the second year of a tree lighting event to celebrate Christmas in Wayne, was a highpoint of the holidays.

We are so lucky to have organizations that work together: The Little Home Church provided the choir and song sheets for us, the Community Association provided refreshments, resident Kelly Hadfield of Fox Valley Lighting lit the tree, and the WHPS got the tree donated and offered tours of the Depot.

This year promises to be even better! Join your neighbors at the Depot for the start of the Christmas holiday season on December 3 at 5 PM and be ready to sing!



In October the WHPS partnered with Lucas Shute of Wayne's Boy Scout Troop 99 as he organized the painting of the Old Town Hall for his Eagle Scout project. He and his troop also refreshed the paint on the benches that sit in front of the Depot.

WHPS has partnered with Troop 99 several times in the past 22 years to provide opportunities for scouts to earn their Eagle Scout status. The laying of the bricks in front of the Depot, the building of the benches in front of the

Depot, and several paintings of the Old Town Hall have benefited the residents of Wayne who have enjoyed the fruit of Troop 99's labor.

Thank you to Lucas and to Troop 99 for their investment in our community!



WHPS focus on.....

Tannisse Blatchford



Tannisse Blatchford was born Tannisse Twyman in 1922 and would have been 100 years old on October 20 this year. When she died in 2008, Wayne lost its most enthusiastic historian, passionate guardian of the significant architecture in the Village and zealous custodian of memorabilia and artifacts that represent our local story.

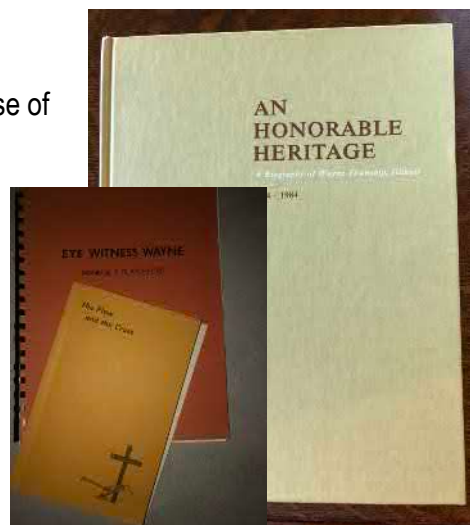
Tan grew up in Chicago and attended the Latin School K-12. She received her undergraduate degree from Pine Manor College in Massachusetts and her graduate degree from Northwestern in Education. She lived in Wayne for 51 years, teaching 5th grade at the McKinley School in Elgin and later Sunday School at the Little Home Church.

Her book "An Honorable Heritage, the Biography of Wayne Township, 1834-1984" published in 1984, covers not only the founding of Wayne by its earliest settler, the rise of the Dunham Percheron establishment, the arrival of the railroad, the organization of the Little Home Church and the creation of the Wayne School, but also covers the rich history of the surrounding Villages. Though now out of print, the book can probably be found in many Wayne homes and is quoted and referenced whenever the Village's past is mentioned.

Tannisse wrote two other books, much more specific to Wayne. "The Plow and the Cross, Biography of a Prairie Church" published in 1971, where she recounted the Little Home Church's founding in 1871 all the way to its centennial celebration 100 years later. "Eyewitness to Wayne: The Woman's Club of Wayne, 60 Years of Community Service, 1921-1981" where she describes how several women in Wayne got together in 1921 to found a "sorority" that would "do something for the betterment of the town". This Club was actually a continuation of a study club begun in 1912 by Mrs. Wirth Dunham who, according to Tannisse, was "probably searching for mental stimulation in the social scene, or an outlet for her innate leadership".

So much in the village has Tannisse's stamp on it. The two historic districts in the Village owe their position on the National Register of Historic Places primarily to Tannisse's leadership. She was the first chair of the Historic Sites Commission, which initially met in her house. She was instrumental in the planning and execution of the celebrations for the Wayne Sesquicentennial, the USA Bicentennial and Little Home Church anniversaries. She played a great part in the moving of the Old Town Hall from the east side of Rt. 59 to its present location across from the Post Office.

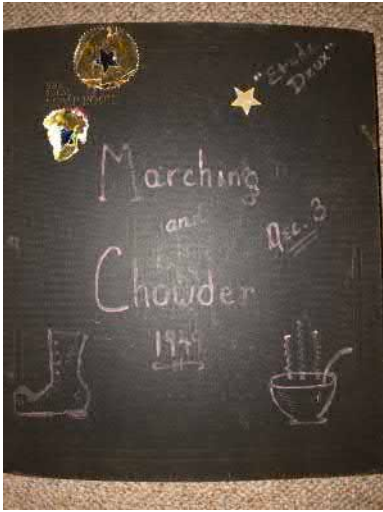
Thanks to the generosity of her sons, Pete and John, the Blatchford collection belongs to the Wayne Historical Preservation Society and is a large part of the overall WHPS holdings. We can only try to carry on her good work with her type of dedication. She was a very small person, but hers are big boots to fill!



Tom and Tannisse Blatchford at the USA Bicentennial celebration in Wayne 1976

From the Wayne Historical Preservation Society collection

Did you know?



Wayne has a history of using talent shows to raise money while having a lot of fun! In 1997, the entire Village took part in a pageant portraying Wayne's first settlers to celebrate our country's bicentennial. Many of these shows were well documented and some of the photographs have been donated to the Preservation Society. The Wayne DuPage Hunt relied on local talent to entertain and raise funds for our Conservancy.

One show in particular stands out as an event that typifies the Wayne spirit of fun for a purpose.

On November 27, 1948, the Marching and Chowder Society, founded by Thea Lindsay to aid German musicians after the devastation of World War II, presented an amateur night and cabaret called "The 49ers Party" at Dunham Woods Riding Club.

Thea, according to a newspaper article in the archives of the WHPS, was a subdebutant who "during her music

studies learned recently of the needs of many musicians and went home determined to send them aid. Her parents and their contemporaries responded immediately and plans for Saturday's party developed spontaneously".

Mrs. John (Dunham) Dole, granddaughter of Mark Dunham, living in the castle at the time, opened up scores of old trunks to provide costumes for the affair. She and her husband were reported as planning to participate in the show. Mrs. J. McWilliams Stone "whose singing voice is often enjoyed by her Wayne neighbors" was also to appear in the cabaret portion.

In a beautifully kept scrapbook, there are many pages dedicated to the planning of the event: receipts for expenses, lists of acts and actors, lighting prompts, then there are the photographs of the event itself: a barbershop quartet, a can-can line, people singing, laughing and having a wonderful time. It must have been great fun.



About halfway through this book of the fun event, there is a tremendous change of focus. Now the pages are dedicated to the handwritten notes, some in English, some in German, thanking Thea for her kindness and generosity, letters that list the contents of the CARE packages received because of her efforts putting together a talent show in far-off Wayne to help devastated German families after the war.

"...one individual writes to the other and kindles a bright and warm light of gratitude and happiness. Perhaps this light helps to build a bridge over the ocean and the limits of language, over which our most cordial thanks can reach you"reads the first letter Thea received.

The existing music school at the University of Freiburg, Germany, was built in 1946 under the appointment of the internationally renowned flutist and principal of the Berlin Philharmonic, Gustav Scheck. Mr. Scheck wrote a warm and heartfelt note thanking Thea for a CARE package his family received from hers.

The WHPS archives are full of treasures like this, just waiting to be available to the public. You can help make it possible.

FOR SALE

Please order at WHPS1834@yahoo.com

Wayne Notecards
6 Different Local Scenes for \$10
includes matching envelopes



Support WHPS!

All proceeds benefit The Wayne Historical Preservation Society




Pat Schiltz started our fundraising by creating these notecards with artwork by former Wayne resident, Allison Brashaw



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