



THE SPIRIT

Preserving the life of America's unique community

A publication of
the
Park Forest
Historical
Society

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Show and Tell Your Stories! February 28, 2016



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**Be sure to join us Sunday, February 28, 2016
2:30 p.m. to "Show and Tell **Your** Stories!"**

Come tell your own stories and/or bring something to show from your Park Forest life. Open to the general public. This meeting will be held in **St. Mary's Catholic Church, Ryan Hall, Park Forest, IL 60466.**

After the program, we will open the museum so you can tour the exhibit, "Step Back into a 1950s Valentines Day."

Antique Valentine Exhibit, 1880-1950.



Interested in helping preserve

Park Forest History?

We are looking for new board members. Contact Jane Nicoll, 708-481-4252, or via email on the website, parkforesthistor.org.

Connect with the Society

On Twitter:

@1950smuseum
@parkforesthistor

On Facebook:

-1950s Park Forest House Museum
-Park Forest Historical Society

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1950s Park Forest House Museum

PARK FOREST HALL OF FAME 2016

Awards Ceremony and Reception

Honoring

THE PARK FOREST HALL OF FAME 2016 INDUCTEES

**DON DEMARCO
MARY AND LARRY LUBERTOZZI
KATHY MCDONOUGH
MICHAEL MCNAMARA
HERBERT AND PATRICIA TIEDER
GRANDE PRAIRIE SINGERS**

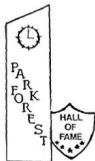
The ceremony will take place

Sunday, April 10, 2016

3:00 p.m.

Freedom Hall

410 Lakewood Boulevard



Please join us on this happy occasion.

Official invitations will be mailed soon.

Congratulations to our future Class of 2016!

In My Own Little Corner

By Jane Nicoll

The 1950s Park Forest House Museum: The museum is now open Wednesday and Saturday 1-3:30 p.m., in St. Mary's Catholic Church, 227 Monee Road, Park Forest, IL 60466. It can be open by appointment. Contact me at 708-481-4252, or Mike Gans, at 708-305-3308.

Exhibit: "Step Back into a 1950s Valentines Day," February 3– March 5, 2016. This year the exhibit includes a very **special display of Antique Valentines dating from 1880 up to 1950**, and Valentines decorative items through the decades. Jim St. Ledger of Chicago Heights donated his wife's collection to the Society a few years ago.

Karen Blackful has designed this lovely display for us.

Volunteers: We **must** have more volunteers to be docents/tour guides at the museum in order to maintain these hours!! Please be trained to volunteer, and help us stay open in this new location.

We need a Volunteer Coordinator to schedule docents. Thanks to Vivian Purnell for covering this for at least two months. She had this job for a few years, earlier. Someone else is needed!

Board Service: The Society is looking for Board members. **We must have more active volunteers serving on the board in order to keep operating. We need new blood, and more hands to be able to serve our mission.** Currently, the board meets 2nd Tuesdays, 7 p.m., usually in Park Forest Village Hall. If you are interested in applying to be a board member, contact me.

The Society will not continue much longer with so little involvement!

Active Volunteers and Members: In order to remain in operation as a Society, we must have more **Active Volunteers** and **more Members**. Too few volunteers are doing too many jobs.

Many things can not be done because there simply are not enough people to carry out projects.

Notice we have not had our 30th Anniversary event? We have a great plan. It would be a fundraiser.

We can't get it off the ground. In January we passed our 31st Anniversary.

Speaking of Membership—Did you remember to sign up to be a member or to renew?

You can opt to join via PayPal on the website or print out and mail in your form. **Just Join!!**

Archive: We've had an increase in questions, about genealogy, where people lived, and requests from publishers for photographs. A student from Oberlin in Ohio, seeking an article on Ilse Daniels' trip to Bavaria as a post-Holocaust reconciliation, was directed to the article's author, Harriet Marcus Gross in Texas, met with Ilse's daughter, Linda, as well as being sent the article by GSU staff.

Progress documenting the collection continues, which means we will be trying to post more lists of what we own on our website. One volunteer is nearly finished listing a more than 1600 item collection of photographs of Park Forest events, public buildings and the shopping center taken since 1980. A high school-age volunteer had numbered all the items.

Thank you to the Park Forest Public Library for committing to donate \$1350 for half the annual rent. About half of the collection still belongs to the Library.

The Local History File Cabinets will be moved to the museum in early April, 2016, to be updated and expanded. **Park Forest newspaper microfilm** has been transferred from the Park Forest Public Library to Governors State University Library. We are all working together to get people articles they need.

President's Message: We THANK YOU for Joining or donating! We apologize for lateness of newsletters. Just one more symptom of too few members involved in volunteering.

Suburban Churches Modernism and Community in Postwar America

by Gretchen Buggeln, Phyllis and Richard Duesenberg Chair in Christianity and the Arts at Valparaiso University **includes 37 pages on Park Forest Churches. Researched in the Archive and contains collection photos.**

Gretchen will be our program June 26, 2016, 2:30 p.m. at Village Hall, 350 Victory Drive. She will sell and sign her books. The Archive has a copy. PFPL has two circulating copies. We hope to have some available for sale in the Museum Store, later. Jane Nicoll has a list of topics, and a PDF of the index page for Park Forest. Includes a nice acknowledgement of Jane.



THE SUBURBAN CHURCH
MODERNISM AND COMMUNITY
IN POSTWAR AMERICA



GRETCHEN BUGGELN