

H CANTON AREA HERITAGE CENTER

Newsletter

Since 2015

Volume 2, Issue 2

April - May - June 2019

The Chair's Corner



My first column was in April of 2018. We've come a long way in the 12 months since. In eight short months, we were able to successfully open, and over 500 visitors have toured our facility. New items for current and future displays are coming in regularly.

This newsletter currently is mailed to 200-plus individuals and businesses, including current members, donors, in-kind supporters & community partners.

It is my firm opinion that for CAHC to be viable, a renewing membership of 400-500 is required. It is imperative that we reach this level by 9/1/19. This does not include corporate grants, gifts, etc. Remember, as a taxpayer, you may take advantage of our 501 (c)3 tax deductible status.

A strong membership base allows for more work accomplished, leadership development, financial stability, etc. Volunteers are always needed and welcome to serve in several ways.

Featured Exhibit is **Cook Industries: Start of the Cook Medical Company**. Bill and Gayle Cook set up at the *International Radiological Society* in Chicago, 1963, and now their first products booth is replicated at the museum. Come see!

There are opportunities for you, your family and friends to help staff the Center during our open hours, help change out exhibits and encourage others to check us out!

We're looking for persons to help locate artifacts and flesh out descriptions for the following topics:

- ◆ MINING COMPANIES
- ◆ RAILROADS
- ◆ ENTERTAINMENT VENUES
- ◆ AUTOMOTIVE SALES-SERVICE

BE A PART OF OUR MISSION AND SUCCESS!

Those persons who are waiting to see if we succeed will be surprised by all that's going on in the Center. Those of you who join NOW will share in our success as we move toward the end-goal of being a self-sustaining organization.

We have a limited reprinting of the book, *Legacy: Parlin, Orendorff, and Ingersoll Families*, available for a donation of \$20.00.

Also at the Center are books *On the Corner of Union and Prairie* and *Plowboys to Little Giants*. Local authors are Brooks Carver, Mike Walters, and Roy Hopper.

I am challenging all readers, current members or not, to join and sign-up two (2) members per month for the next four months. When they join, challenge them to do the same!

Work the numbers...see how many we could have by summer's end. Join us in our Membership Challenge, won't you?

*There's a membership form on page 4 for your use. We look forward to hearing from you.

Joe (J.D.) Stone, Chairman



We thank Helping Hands Resale Shoppe, which recently donated weekly proceeds to us. Thanks to Eric Duffield, Mngr., for his support!

Special points of interest:

- FOLLOW OUR PROGRESS IN THIS QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER
- MEET MOVERS AND SHAKERS, THEN AND NOW
- LEARN INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT OUR COMMUNITY
- DISCOVER HOW TO DONATE OR LOAN ITEMS TO THE HERITAGE CENTER

Inside this issue

YEARBOOKS, HISTORICAL RECORDS	2
FAREWELL, OH HIGH SCHOOL	2
MEET MARY LOU KUCHAN, ACQUISITIONS REGISTRAR	2
MEET ERIKA DAVIS, SOCIAL MEDIA MANAGER	3
CUB SCOUTS VISIT	3
2019 MEMBERSHIP FORM	4
MEMORIES OF BYGONE DAYS...	4



Congratulations, graduates!



Newsletter

School Yearbooks, Historical Records

Laura Anderson, Canton's Yearbook Adviser, tells the yearbook staff to consider their writing a part of the historical record.

Ms. Anderson explains, "As far as the yearbooks being historical records, we can go to the 1953 yearbook and see the current high school being built. The theme for that year was 'building.' Dividers had titles like, 'builders of posterity,' 'builders of heritage,' 'builders of minds.' In 1954, a spread covered the dedication of the building."

Happening today? "My staff is currently deep in creating spreads, editing, and photo taking to complete the book. I have a great group of students dedicated to making the best book possible. We start every year determining our theme, adding

graphics and color schemes to fit. Then the rest of the year is focused on the content of the book. I am trying to get the students to understand that we have to find the story, because it won't come to us. There are really great things happening at the high school. It's our job to document these things and bring them to light." **Laura Anderson,**
INCubatorEDU & MobileMakerEDU Teacher



PS: Ms. Anderson reminds us there are older *Cantonians* for sale. Contact her with year(s) you're interested in, laura.anderson@cantonusd.org.

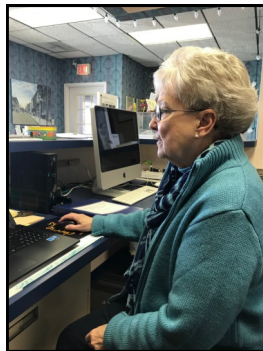
Meet Mary Lou Kuchan, Acquisitions Registrar

My involvement with the Heritage Center came as a result of an invitation from Jack and Mary Pollitt to become a part of the acquisitions committee. The committee, which is chaired by Mike Walters, is in charge of receiving and cataloging all donations and loans coming into the center. The system to register all these items is a program used by the state museums.

People can be assured their items are both safe and secure at the Heritage Center. Being part of this group has really whetted

my interest in and learning more about the Canton area's history. I hope visitors to the Center will enjoy the collections on display and decide to become part of the group of volunteers working for the Center.

In addition to the Heritage Center, I volunteer with the St. Mary's Food Pantry. My husband Bill and I have been volunteers for many years in the Meals on Wheels program. Both our grandsons, Stephen and Will, have become part of this effort during school vacations.



Mary Lou checking records.

When I retired from the office of the Regional Superintendent of Schools, I began studying gardening through the University of Illinois Master Gardener program and recently completed my 20th year with the group. Through that program one of the projects I've helped with is planting at the Veterans' Memorial. I still kill my share of plants, but it is a learning process. My hobbies include sewing and knitting. I'm a member of Chapter LY P.E.O. and Altruistic Club. I'm also a fan of the Canton Little Giants!

Mary Lou Kuchan,
Registrar
Acquisitions Committee

A Farewell

Farewell, Oh High School, with your smiles and tears,

Farewell, Oh High School, with your happy years,

Four years of our life we have lived together,

Smiled and made merry and loved one another.

Studied but little, -- though at times quite intense

When the verbs and the nouns were writ without sense.

Yet we hope we are better for wisdom gained

And but little for worse for the knowledge feined;

And we leave you, Oh High School, with smiles

We go, but to live, not to conquer the world

With a flying diploma in the breeze unfurled.

We go, and with smiles, in the battle of life

Without drums or horns or the shrill piping life.

We go, and with love for the work we're to do,

To leave our impress on the work when we're through.

We hope but to win, though we know we may lose,

But the path to the heights is the path we will choose.

We shall live to do good and live to do right,
And thus, in the battle of life we shall fight.

So we bid you farewell, no more to come back
To learn of the knowledge and wisdom we lack.

We bid you farewell for the happy times past,
Your name we will honor and love to the last.

-- Paul Alonzo Dudley

Appearing in first *Cantonian* yearbook, 1912

Acquisitions Procedures

Person offering artifact will receive a Temporary Deposit Receipt Form, certifying ownership and intent to donate or loan.

Committee will research item(s) and recommend action to Executive Board. Decisions are based on meeting Center's scope of collections, condition of item, non-duplication, available space (and more).

With approval, owner of artifact will receive, sign and submit "Deed of Gift" or "Loan Agreement."

Questions? Please contact **Mike Walters, Chair**
309-338-6272; walters.michael@hotmail.com

Meet Erika Davis, Social Media Manager

Erika manages our Facebook page. Popular among her historical series are NFL players from Fulton Co., the Underground Railroad, and local Women of Achievement. "Like us."

There are two different versions one could give on how it came about that I volunteer at the Canton Area Heritage Center. The geek children's writer in me wants to tell the story of how I was a time traveler sifting through wormholes in space. I want to say that I adventured to the area of Fulton County back and forth through time the same way a hummingbird flits through flowers. I would talk about the changing landscape, how the river cut through the land, the pioneers and natives working out the soil. I would talk about the rise and fall of the communities, the movers, the shakers, and history makers. I would talk about what it was like in a mine shaft, or healing the sick. I would tell stories of the best fishing holes, summers filled with root beer floats, and parades. I would weep when recalling the burials of young ones due to influenza, and the mighty storms that washed away homes.

All the things I had done and seen, I would return to the present and share.

I am not a time traveler, well, not in the sense one would think. Born in Canton to Lydia Davis and Patrick Davis, my dad and mom met when he was stationed in Germany. He promised to send for her when he returned to the states, and in 1975 they married. I was a coal miner's daughter and the oldest sister of three girls. We grew up in Ellisville with the river a block and a half away. We made mud pies and bird's nests with grass clippings, and rode bikes all over--4.8 miles, to be exact, to a friends house in the country. We joined Modern Woodmen of America and painted fire hydrants; we had homecoming parades; slept in tents in the backyard; and walked up to Mt. Pisgah to see the Native Americans with their teepees every Scenic Drive. I would borrow a Nancy Drew book, from the smallest library in Illinois, and sneak down the stairs to listen to the adults visit and tell stories. I grew up with two big phrases I used with my family, "Hey, Dad," and "Remember when...."

When I heard of the museum opening, I knew I wanted to be a part of it. There is so much for people to learn from history.

I get to explore and see items from 100 years ago that I didn't know existed. I read stories from those who lived and died here. Working in the museum is like stepping into a breathing timepiece. Being in a museum, no matter your age, your mind travels to a place and a time, all but forgotten. That is what I love about museums. Exploring history, a quest for knowledge and culture, where I am from, are all things that motivate me to be a better human being today. I guess you could say, the museum has made me a time traveler after all.

**Erika Davis, Social Media Manager/
Programs Committee**



Erika Davis (lf.) with Cheryl Bielema at a recent event. Both are on our Programs Committee.

Cub Scouts Visit

We were pleased to host Canton's Cub Scout Pack 124 recently. We enjoyed showing and telling the scouts and their families about our shared history. Board members Phil Gregory and Jim Morgan led the tour; parents and scouts completed a History Scavenger Hunt. Thank you, Ben Williams, Scout Master, and Quin Mayhew, Asst. Scout Master, for including us in your programs.



Preserving our history...

2019 MEMBERSHIP FORM

Mailing address:

209 East Chestnut Street
Suite 2
Canton, Illinois 61520

Phone: 309-647-2242
Fax: 309-647-2712
Email: cahcpo19@att.net

First location is 111 South Main
Street, Canton, Illinois 61520

Please complete the form below and return with a check to become, or renew as, a member of the Heritage Center. Thanks in advance for your investment and for your willingness to be a part of honoring our area's rich and vibrant history.

High School Students/ Seniors (age 65+) - \$15

Individuals - \$20

Family - \$35

Community Organization - \$50

Business/Commercial - \$100

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ ZIP: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Check the appropriate category:

☐ Student/Senior - \$15 ☐ Individual - \$20 ☐ Family - \$35

☐ Community Organization - \$50. Name: _____

☐ Business/Commercial - \$100. Name: _____

☐ Donation amount: _____

Quarterly newsletter preference: ☐ Postal mail to address above/ ☐ Email to me at email above

Make check payable to Canton Area Heritage Center. Mail to **Canton Area Heritage Center,
209 East Chestnut, Suite 2, Canton, Illinois 61520**

Thank you!

We're on the Web:

[www.cantonillinois.org/
heritagecenter](http://www.cantonillinois.org/heritagecenter)



Find us on:
facebook®

MEMORIES OF BYGONE DAYS AND PLACES

The Heritage Center reception area contains a number of early streetscapes around the square in Canton. Visitors enjoy reminiscing about their favorite shops, restaurants, and the places they would go.

We learned Mary and Jack Pollitt's first date was at the Southern Barbeque.

Les Goyen (pictured) points out the Capitol Theatre and nearby Cardosi's where he'd head every Saturday afternoon for a movie, snacks and ice cream cone. He recounted the prices he paid with the \$1.00 allowance he received from his grandfather.

Movie ticket: \$.15

Hot dog: \$.15

Popcorn: \$.10

Pop: \$.10

Ice cream cone: \$.05 (1 scoop) or \$.10 (2 scoops)

At Cardosi's, if you found a slip of paper marked "Free," rolled up in the bottom of the cone, you got a free one!



"Come in and reminisce with us! We love hearing your stories."