

## Greetings from the Heritage Foundation President

By Mike Baker, President, Elmhurst Heritage Foundation

As summer moves into fall, we hope you have been able to stop by the museum or enjoy the reception held for the premiere of the Elmhurst History Museum's current exhibit, *Chicago Rink Rats: The Golden Age of Roller Skating*. Everyone enjoyed skating on the pop-up rink in the museum's backyard and getting an early look at the first exhibit developed by Executive Director *Dave Oberg* and Curator *Dan Bartlett*. Make sure to see this original exhibit before it closes on November 4, 2018.

November will bring another exciting new exhibit to the museum created by the Elmhurst History Museum staff. Based on a nostalgic collection of memorabilia from the movie *It's a Wonderful Life*, the exhibit will premiere November 15, so watch for information coming soon about the sneak preview for our members and donors. Sponsored by Lakeside Bank, this new exhibit will feature rare collectibles, stories of the movie's actors and actresses, and a free screening of the film at the York Theatre. You won't want to miss this exhibit!

After we toast Elmhurst at the Craft Beer Fest on September 15, watch for our Annual Fund Drive kicking off late in October. We are grateful for the role all our members and donors have played in sharing the history of our town and we hope for your continued support. Your generosity provides for museum exhibits, upcoming programs, and activities, offering something for everyone. Thank you!



*These young skaters were excited to try out the outdoor skating rink at the Rink Rats exhibit opening event. Below: The gallery was filled with members and guests eager to see the new exhibit.*



## Elmhurst Heritage Foundation Membership Update

By Ellen Braun and Darlene VanMeir, EHF Board Members

**Rink Rats Opening Night:** More than 350 enthusiastic fans of roller skating attended the July 13th opening of the latest EHM exhibit, *Chicago Rink Rats: The Golden Age of Roller Skating*. EHF members and guests were invited to a preview of the exhibit and heard a presentation by Tom Russo, the author of the *Chicago Rink Rats* book and a consultant for the development of the exhibit. An outdoor skating rink took over the museum's backyard for those who wished to show off their skating skills, and School of Rock provided a burst of musical energy. Many visitors to the exhibit shared their memories of experiences they had skating at The Elm Rink, which was located on Roosevelt Road. The exhibit has been well received by media and has been drawing visitors from throughout Chicagoland. *Chicago Rink Rats* continues through November 4.

**Welcome to Dan Bartlett:** The Elmhurst History Museum welcomed a new curator of exhibits, *Dan Bartlett* (pictured at right), to the staff earlier this year. Dan has experience at several museums, most recently at the Beloit College Logan Museum of Anthropology where he was the curator of exhibits and adjunct professor of Museum Studies. Dan said he loves to tell stories through exhibits. He started work in April just in time to design and produce the *Rink Rats* exhibit. A warm welcome to Dan!



**Huzzah for the Return of Vintage Baseball:** A Vintage Baseball game using 19th-century rules took place on the Elmhurst College mall on June 24. Teams of local residents representing the North and South sides of the city showed off their batting and fielding skills in a high-scoring contest. Museum director Dave Oberg was the umpire and led the fans and players through the rules of the 1860s. The Vintage Baseball fans shouted "huzzah" each time the bell was rung for scoring a run, and considerable banter evolved between the teams. Overall, the game was enjoyed by spectators and players alike, and based on the enthusiastic reception it received, the museum is considering bringing this back as an annual event. *Pictured at right:* EHF President Mike "Boots" Baker tips his hat to the crowd at the Vintage Baseball Game.

**Ruth Strand Poster Contest:** The annual Ruth Strand Poster contest, sponsored by the Elmhurst Heritage Foundation and the Elmhurst History Museum, challenged second grade students to depict and describe a scene from Elmhurst history. The contest honors Ruth Strand, the long-time director of the Elmhurst Public Library and a founding member of what is now the Elmhurst History Museum. This year, there were 350 entries from ten Elmhurst schools. Following are the top winners: 1st Place – *Daniella Miulli*, Hawthorne School (drawing pictured lower right); 2nd Place – *Gabby Cantrell*, Immaculate Conception; 3rd Place (tie) – *Gavin Stotts*, Field School; and 3rd Place (tie) – *Lucy Beal*, Hawthorne School. Honorable Mentions: *Aviana Heckenbach*, Fischer; *Clare O'Shaughnessy*, Visitation; *Hanna George*, Lincoln; *John Teevens*, Emerson; *Julia Cizek*, Jackson; *Katie Knable*, Immaculate Conception; *Olivia Auvil*, Edison; *Renata Torres*, Field; *Samantha Drolett*, Jefferson; and *Sophie Hummel*, Hawthorne.

The winners were honored on May 23 at a reception at the Elmhurst History Museum, where they received gift bags from the Elmhurst Heritage Foundation. They rode on a City of Elmhurst vehicle in the Elmhurst Memorial Day Parade on May 28 and were introduced at the City Council meeting on June 5. Schools with ten or more participants received a \$100 grant to support their school's library. The Foundation congratulates and thanks the 2018 Ruth Strand Poster Contest participants and their teachers for sharing their creative posters about Elmhurst history with our community.

### Elmhurst Heritage Foundation 2018 Board of Directors:

Mike Baker, *President*  
Michael LoCicero, *Vice President*  
Val Stewart, *Secretary*  
Rob Butler, *Treasurer*  
Peggy Babyar  
Jean B. Baker  
Ellen Braun  
John DeVries  
Gene Evans  
Peter Griffin  
Randy Irion  
Cathy Jordan  
Margaret Franson Pruter  
Robert Rasho  
Cathy Siegerdt  
Joyce Slone  
Tom Tyler  
Darlene VanMeir

The mission of the Elmhurst Heritage Foundation is to stimulate broad-based support for local history, the Elmhurst History Museum, and the Churchville Schoolhouse through advocacy, education, and fundraising.



## 2018 Elmhurst Craft Beer Fest: Save the Date for September 15

By Cathy Jordan, 2018 Elmhurst Craft Beer Fest Chair

The Elmhurst Heritage Foundation will once again host the **4th Annual Elmhurst Craft Beer Fest** on the museum grounds on **September 15, 2018**. The funds generated from this event support the educational programs and exhibits for the Elmhurst History Museum and historic Churchville Schoolhouse. In addition, we will be showcasing the Elmhurst community, Elmhurst City Centre and the exhibits *Chicago Rink Rats: The Golden Age of Roller Skating* and the national award-winning exhibit, *By All Accounts: The Story of Elmhurst*.

This year's fest promises to be the biggest, best Craft Beer Fest to date with more than 100 special beers and ciders offered by 50+ craft brewers from the Chicagoland area as well as around the country. There will be live music on the lawn, and Barbecue Jim's food truck will be on hand with a variety of tasty food selections.



**Ticket information:** Early Entry is from noon to 1 p.m. and General Admission is from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Early Bird ticket prices are available through September 8, and this year we are offering discounted prices for Elmhurst Heritage Foundation Members. Note that discounts will not be available on the day of the event, so please be sure to take advantage of this opportunity to save. For details on tickets and the event, please visit the event website at [www.elmhurstcraftbeerfest.com](http://www.elmhurstcraftbeerfest.com). Guests must be 21+.

We are proud to announce that **Pints** is the event sponsor for the 2018 Craft Beer Fest this year. Be sure to check out our event page on Facebook (Elmhurst Craft Beer Fest) to see all the fun events that are happening from now until the Fest at Pints—like us on Facebook for the latest information!

Please join us to help bring this fantastic event to the community. If you'd like to volunteer, be a sponsor, or if you have any questions, please contact us at 630-530-3325. See you all at the Craft Beer Fest on September 15th--cheers!

## What will **YOUR** legacy be?

If it includes charitable giving, it could be fulfilled through an estate gift to the Elmhurst Heritage Foundation's **Legacy Circle**, supporting the **Elmhurst History Museum** and the **Churchville Schoolhouse**. The Legacy Circle recognizes individuals who provide special assistance through...bequests...life insurance... trusts, and other estate gifts.

To talk about **YOUR** legacy and the **Legacy Circle**... call Dave Oberg, Elmhurst History Museum Director, at 630-833-1457 or visit: [www.elmhurstheritagefoundation.org](http://www.elmhurstheritagefoundation.org)



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## EHM Exhibit News



*Elm Skate Rink, 1980s, EHM Collection*

### **Chicago Rink Rats: The Golden Age of Roller Skating Through November 4, 2018**

In the wake of the Great Depression and into the 1960s, roller skating rose to be the number one participatory sport in America with nearly 5,000 roller rinks and 18 million skaters—and Chicago was at the center of it all. Take a nostalgic trip to the glory days of roller skating to learn about the “rink rats”—the regulars at the legendary skating venues that sprang up across the region with names like The Elm, Arcadia, Riverview, Lombard, The Savoy, and more. See Gloria Nord’s skating costume, and skating gear and clothing from locals who skated area rinks. Inspired by the book by author and rink rat, Tom Russo.

### **Hometown Holiday: It’s a Wonderful Life in Elmhurst November 16, 2018-January 6, 2019**

Frank Capra’s “It’s A Wonderful Life” captured American hearts with its depiction of George Bailey and his struggles in the



small town of Bedford Falls. Experience the nostalgia and sentiment of this classic film through a private collection from Richard Goodson of rare memorabilia including vintage movie posters, photographs, collectibles, and more. Additional seasonal objects from EHM’s collection will be on display, including handmade Christmas ornaments from Dresden, Germany and original prints by former Elmhurst resident Lee Sturges, a well-known American artist and etcher. *Sponsored by Lakeside Bank.*

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### — SEPTEMBER —

#### **All Quiet on the Western Front**

**Thursday, Sept. 6  
6:30 p.m. FREE!**

Book Discussion @ EHM  
Register: Call 630-530-6879

#### **Rollerspeak & Pop-Up Exhibit with James Turner**

**Sunday, Sept. 23  
2 p.m. Members: FREE!**  
EHM Education Center  
Register: Call 630-530-6879

### — OCTOBER —

#### **Heritage Day at Churchville School- house & Fischer Farm Saturday, Oct. 13**

**11 a.m.-3 p.m. FREE at  
Schoolhouse, Fee at Farm**  
Conrad Fischer Singers, square  
dancing to live music by Muddy  
Creek band, and lots more.

#### **Haunted History Saturday, Oct. 20 6 p.m. \$25**

At Churchville Schoolhouse,  
Cemetery and Fischer Farm  
Register: Call Bensenville Park  
District at 630-766-7015

### — NOVEMBER —

#### **Veteran’s Day Event: Rj Lindsey as General Charles Dawes Sunday, November 11**

**2 p.m. Members: FREE!**  
Lindsey brings the WWI general  
to life in 1st person presentation  
Register online or call 630-530-6879

#### **Jolly Old St. Nick Concert Friday, November 30 6:30 p.m. FREE!**

German carols by Damenchor  
and Mannerchor and an ap-  
pearance by St. Nick himself!  
At Yorkfield Presbyterian Church

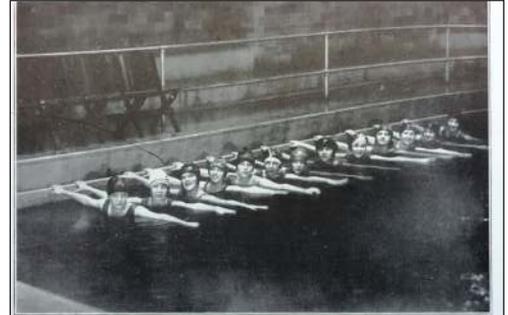
### — DECEMBER —

#### **Leslie Goddard: Making of a Holiday Classic Sunday, Dec. 2**

**2 p.m. Members: FREE!  
Non-Members \$5**  
Register online or call 630-530-6879

# From the Collection

*By Gene Evans, EHF Board Member*



*Come on in --- The Water's Fine*

#### SWIMMING

Guided by Mr. Brooks, the instructor, the girls made great advancement in swimming. New strokes were learned and new forms of diving.

On Tuesdays and Thursdays the mermaids splashed merrily in the pool!

A representative swimming team was selected by Mr. Brooks from the classes. They are as follows:

Helen Williston	Winifred Smith
Hazel Stevens	Edith Pillatt
Ethel Bosworth	Esther Keimel
Thelma Therkildson	Eunice Willis
Pauline Kneisel	Gerda Brodt
Bernadine Stone	Margaret Franzen
Lucille Strand	

A recent addition to the Museum collection happened quite by happenstance. While researching the history of York Community High School, I examined a 1922 York High Yearbook at the Elmhurst Public Library. I discovered a photograph inside the yearbook (pictured above) that turned out to be the original photograph of the 1922 York High School Girls Swim Team. It was the same image reproduced that year in the yearbook. A very interesting find!

This was the second yearbook produced by York, since the first class started at the present York location in September, 1920. There were 9 faculty members and around 130 students. The number of students in each grade fluctuated due to the demands of work and farming.

Swimming was one of two sports available to the girls, the other being basket ball (yes, two words). Boys could compete in swimming, basket ball, football, and baseball. A swimming pool was part of the original 1920 building, one of only a few high school pools in the Midwest.

The Elmhurst History Museum collection contains York yearbooks from the first year through recent years. The Museum can now suitably catalog, archive, and preserve this photograph. We wish to thank the Elmhurst Public Library for sharing this gracious gift.

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[www.elmhurstheritagefoundation.org](http://www.elmhurstheritagefoundation.org)