

FROM THE PRESIDENT

The Society has been evolving ever since its conception in 1985. Now in its 27th year, the organization has many required components which allow the organization to succeed and move forward. My extreme thanks go out to our Volunteers, our Partners, our Members, our Annual Fund donors, the generous 1962 & 1967 Rich East Class Reunion visitors, school age visitors, as well as our New Corporate Sponsors. **You ALL make the Park Forest Historical Society a continued success. YOU are helping us **Save & Preserve our Unique History. Thank you all!****

This year, **we have a very special opportunity to Double All Contributions Made to us.** It is imperative that we increase our membership and base of support. **PLEASE JOIN NOW** to help us take advantage of this match of membership dues, sponsorships, donations, Museum fees and Annual Fund contributions, up to \$5,000, through a generous **\$5,000 Matching Grant from the Village of Park Forest.** The Village supports the Society in many ways. On behalf of the PFHS Board, thank you Mayor John Ostenburg, Village Manager, Tom Mick, and each Village Board member, for this much appreciated opportunity.

- On the reverse side of this page please find a list of those who have contributed to the Society. **Each of YOU, makes it possible for the Society to continue its Mission, which has several facets:**
- **History Programs, free to the public,** in September, November, February, and June like the history of the Holiday Theatre from the 1950s Grand Opening to the present. **Our next free program is Sunday, September 23, 2012, from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. in the Village Hall Board Room. The program will include free give-a-ways, refreshments, and will tell the history of the 1950s Park Forest House Museum over its first 14 years. If you sign up for or renew your Membership September 23, you will receive your choice of one free gift only at this meeting! The program will be preceded by the Society's Annual Meeting, and election of Board members.**
- **Park Forest Archive Office.** Donations to our Annual Fund Drive, and assistance from the Park Forest Public Library, made it possible in January to move the archive out of remote storage, and open the **Park Forest Archive Office in St. Mary's Catholic School, 227 Monee Road.** In June we held an Open House. **The Archive is now accessible to the public, Friday 10-12, or by appointment.**
- **Our annual Hall of Fame Induction each spring,** honors those who have contributed to our community over a long period of time. Besides the 130+ individuals inducted to date, the Society has recognized Aunt Martha's, and Tall Grass Arts Association.
- **1950s Park Forest House Museum** remains open to the public, in spite of many challenges. In June 2011 our landlord required us to gradually increase our scheduled hours from two to ten per week. **We have successfully met this challenge, but need more volunteers to continue.** In June 2012, our lease jumped from \$315 to \$534 per month. We have begun searching for a new museum location. Suggestions are welcome.

Help us win our \$5,000 match by being sure to become, or by continuing to be a patron through your Membership, or by becoming a Partner or Corporate Sponsor. Thank you.

Michael Gans, President

Park Forest Historical Society, est. 1985

Website: parkforesthstory.org "Like" us on Facebook 1950s Park Forest House Museum, & Park Forest Historical Society

Historical Society Members

BENEFACTOR

James B. Klutznick

CONTRIBUTOR

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Thomas Taradash
Shanti Thayil
Alfred Van Horn III
Johanna Weiskopf
Claudia Zekas

Annual Fund Contributors

\$200-\$400

E. Gail Crompton
Steven L. Kroll
Terry J. Medhurst
Rich East Class of 1960

\$100-\$200

Patsy and Bob Graves
Philip Kurjan
Myrtle C. Martin
Thomas C. Mick
Judith K-Lohr-Mike Safcik
Jane Steinmetz
Claire Zaret

\$20-\$100

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Our Partners and Corporate Sponsors

PARTNERS

Celebration Ministries
Central Park Apartments
Environmental Cleansing Corp.
Park Forest Public Library
St. Mary's Catholic Church
Village of Park Forest

NEW CORPORATE SPONSORS

Park Forest Auto Service
Park Forest 7-Eleven
Hallet Movers
Tower Cleaners
State Farm Insurance
(Mike Jordan, agent)
Trophies & Awards Plus

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Vie-President Gretchen Falk
Secretary Jerry Shnay
Treasurer Jim Silvia
Archivist Jane Nicoll

Board members

Suzanne Brown **Vivian Purnell**
Therese Goodrich **Sally Wallach**
Myrtle Martin

We held a successful Open House for the Archive Office on June 24, 2012 at St. Mary's.

Thanks to all who helped and to those who attended. I gave a program on the history of the archival collection. Attendees viewed society exhibits and photos of the history of the collection and of the move from PODS storage to St. Mary's, then got to tour the Archive Office in small groups.

Those of you who noticed the heat and humidity in the Archive Office can celebrate with PFHS in the gift of a window air-conditioner from the Park Forest Public Library Board, which will help preserve all parts of the collection. Thank you to the PFPL Board!!

Volunteers are beginning to work on the Archival Collection, or to express interest in doing so. John Snider and Bob Stock from Rich East Class of 1965 continue to scan, with John having donated talent and

supplies to reconnect our computer to the wired Internet. Cait Phipps continues to volunteer. We have gained a new, enthusiastic volunteer in Kirk Wheeler, who has experience in scanning and computers, and is familiar with 3/4" Umatic tapes used by Cable companies. The collection has enough of those to consider digitizing. Kirk comes with fresh energy and ideas. We need "shots in the arm" from new ideas and approaches to saving our history. New resident, Kymbria Young helped us out while she was home from college by typing a list of photographs into an Excel document. A few more folks are waiting for training and assignments.

In My Own Little Corner by Jane Nicoll

We thank everyone who is stepping forward to help and hope more of you will.

We are still desperately seeking more tour guides for the museum. This work is being carried on far too few shoulders right now. If you have time, even once a month or once every couple of months, please call us to be trained so we can all share in keeping the museum open. If you are proud of Park Forest and its past, or would like to learn more about it--then share what you have learned, call us. This is an easy, fun experience.

On Sunday, September 23 at 2:30 p.m., as our Annual Meeting program, I will be giving a talk and slide show on the history of the 1950s Park Forest House Museum. September will be the 14th Anniversary of the Museum. The Society Board once again faces the hard decision of whether we can continue to maintain the Museum at all in light of the increased rent (we jumped from \$315 to \$534 this June) and the difficulty in getting volunteers to help show it. Join us to celebrate its past and to hear some of the options the Board is facing.

Have you visited the Museum lately or have you been absent since the first Open House in September 1998? We keep hearing from people who saw it back in its first year and think they know what is there now. We have changed locations, furnishings, added toys, dolls, and clothes. Did you realize we change decorations for seasons and decorate extensively for Christmas and Valentines Day? Have you ever come when we put up Halloween decorations? We are sharing many more memories with you than we could in 1998, or 2001, or 2005. Come see and bring some friends with you to share the experience!

Just as important--are you a member of the Park Forest Historical Society? We need numbers and dollars. We need numbers to show that this community and former residents of the community support what we are doing to preserve Park Forest history.

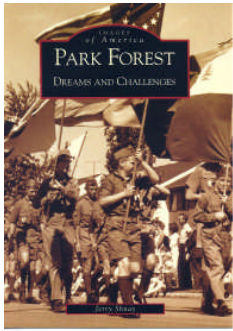
And we need dollars to do it! Your continuing membership each year helps us so much.

Be sure to read our membership appeal. This year a matching grant from the Village of Park Forest for \$5000 means your membership now will count for double.

Please join now!

In addition to the option of mailing in your membership, on our website at www.parkforesthistor.org, you can join via PayPal. Be sure to put a message to us that it is "for Membership". Be sure to "Like" us on Facebook at "1950s Park Forest House Museum" and "Park Forest Historical Society."

Park Forest Book on Sale



Get your copy of "Park Forest: Dreams and Challenges" before the price changes.

Although the publisher has increased the retail price of the book to \$22, the Park Forest Historical Society is offering the book at \$20 (please add \$5 for mailing, if necessary) to all who become members of the Society or who renew their memberships before

October 1, 2012

The book, written by long-time Park Forest resident Jerry Shnay, covers the history of the Village through its first half-century and is illustrated with more than 200 photographs and drawings.

ORDER FORM PARK FOREST:

DREAMS AND CHALLENGES

Please send me ____ copy(s) of the book.

Clip and attach this form with your membership dues for 2012-2013.

Price per book: \$20 (Please add \$5 for shipping and handling if needed)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State _____

Zip _____ Telephone _____

DEADLINE FOR ORDERS IS SEPT. 30

New in our Museum Shop! Also available online via PayPal!

Park Forest Plaza and Holiday Theatre.

Print by Annabelle Gould, 1966. 11" x 14"

This vibrant print depicting one of the most treasured memories of growing up in Park Forest is from an original watercolor originally donated to the Village of Park Forest by Sue Gould, the daughter of artist Annabelle Gould.

Price \$15. Shipping and handling is \$6.

This print is available at the Museum for purchase or through the Society website.

The Village has allowed us to make the print. Through September 21, the original print is on display at the Museum.



Membership Benefits

Your membership in the Park Forest Historical Society entitles you to one free tour of the House Museum and advance notice of all programs including the annual Park Forest Hall of Fame induction ceremony.

Your membership also supports Society efforts to inform the public of the history of Park Forest through the Local History and Archive collection and the 1950s House Museum.

ANNUAL MEETING AND PROGRAM

The annual meeting of the Park Forest Historical Society will be held on Sunday, September 23 at 2:30 p.m. in Village Hall. A special program on the history of the 1950s Park Forest House Museum will take place.

Current members attending can vote on board members whose three-year terms expire this year as well as new appointees to the Board.