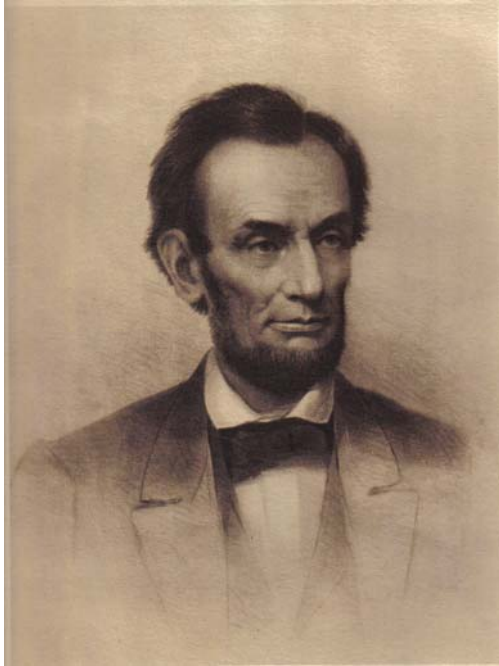


# The Informer

Newsletter of the Dundee Township Historical Society

March 2009



**2009 SEASON OPENING DAY**  
SUNDAY, MARCH 8<sup>TH</sup> 2pm

**“THE WIT AND WISDOM  
OF  
ABRAHAM LINCOLN”**

A gentleman called upon President Lincoln before the fall of Richmond and solicited a pass for that place. “I should be very happy to oblige you,” said the President, “if my passes were respected; but the fact is, I have, within the past two years given passes to two hundred and fifty thousand men to go to Richmond and not one has got there yet.\*

The museum will open for the 2009 season on Sunday, March 8 at 2:00p.m. In honor of the 200th anniversary of Abraham Lincoln's birth a special program will be featured.

Lincoln was probably the most quoted president in American history. His eloquent words and stories have come down to us through the ages. Join us as we delve into "The Wit and Wisdom of Abraham Lincoln". We will share his thoughts regarding faith, politics, war, slavery, his fellow man, the presidency and his love of country.

Guests are invited to come in period costume.

**There is no fee for this program. Donations are greatly appreciated.**

\* from *Lincoln's Stories and Speeches*, 1894



## **NORTH ROOM DISPLAYS**

A new display in the north museum room will feature pictures and memorabilia of the businesses that one time graced the intersection of Main and First streets in West Dundee.

The cross roads have seen many changes over the last century and only 2 of the 4 original corner buildings remain.

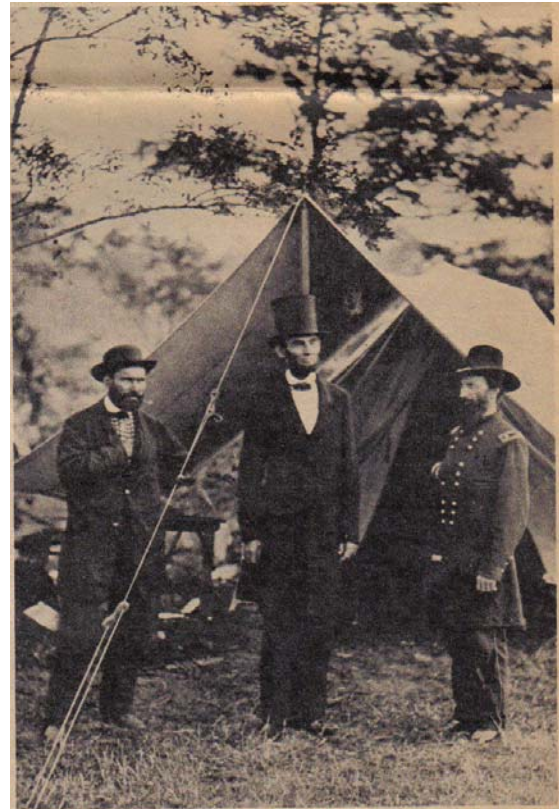
A second new display highlights the Old Depot on River Street in East Dundee. The centerpiece of the display is the original depot sign which was recently donated by Mrs. Bonnie McConnell.

The story of the depot is told in pictures showing what an important and busy center of activity the railroad depot was.

## **SOUTH ROOM EXHIBITS**

Permanent displays in the south museum room include a history of Native Americans that inhabited the valley before the white man; the coming of the first settlers and items carried across the prairie; items manufactured at local businesses, the journey on the Underground Railroad; dolls and toys from years past and artifacts from the Civil War.

Among the collection is a well known photo of President Abraham Lincoln, Allan Pinkerton and General John McClelland similar to this one from the Library of Congress.



## **GIFT SHOP**

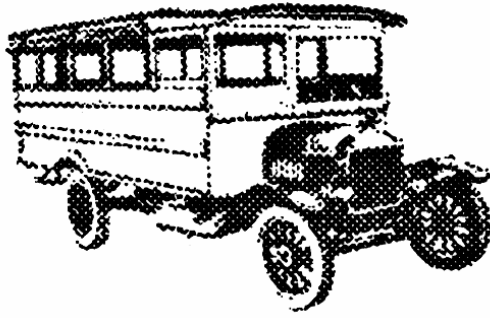
The gift shop sells local maps from several years past, books including *Dundee Township 1835-1985*, *Dundee Township Moments Frozen in Time*, *Saving America's Treasures*, *Santa's Village* and more.

Haeger bricks with certificates of authenticity, Haeger commemorative bowls, postcards, note cards, bookmarks, paper dolls and cross stitch kits of local landmarks.

There are American flags, pins, zipper pulls and a variety of other unique gifts



## DUNDEE TOWNSHIP ENTERS THE CIVIL WAR



### HISTORIC BUS TOUR

APRIL 19<sup>TH</sup> 1:00 and 2:30 pm

Learn about the role that our area played during the Civil War. Hear the stories of past residents and their experiences of the time.

Tickets will be available at Family Pride Cleaners after the 1st of April and at the museum the day of the event at a cost of \$7.00.

For more information call 847-428-6996.

### ANNUAL MEETING AND PROGRAM

The Annual Meeting is scheduled for 2 to 4 p.m. on Sunday, May 3rd.

Following a brief business meeting with elections there will be a special presentation by Linda Eder of the Kane County Genealogical Society,

#### **“The Schroeder Cemetery”.**



An acre of land that was once known as the Schroeder Cemetery is located on Highway 72, west of Randall Road. The eastern lot line of the cemetery abuts Dundee Middle School. About three dozen oaks and a pair of hawks share this peaceful cemetery.

### SLATE OF OFFICERS

The following is the slate of candidates to be presented for this year’s election at the Annual Meeting.

President Marge Edwards

President Elect

Past President Kristie Benedik

Secretary Colette McDonough

Director Einar Graff

Director Jack Wendt

### CONTINUING BOARD MEMBERS

Treasurer Gene Lamp

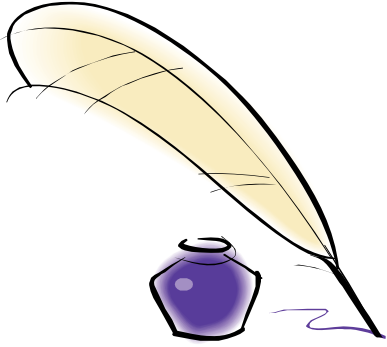
Directors Cindy Gorski

Sue Roeser

Dave Culligan

Faye Williams

Greg Ryant



I read an article recently titled “Why Lincoln Matters” by Michael Beschloss. He summarized why Abraham Lincoln was one of the best if not the best President of the United States. Lincoln’s humble beginning to becoming President is a “Rags to riches” story. But not just that. His leadership through a time of great crisis in this country was by far a test of his abilities, talents, intelligence, emotions, reasoning, and moral character. We can only guess how he would have led the nation through his second presidential term if John Wilkes Booth’s assassination scheme had failed.

We can also only guess what our country would be like if George Washington had not accepted the nomination for President. If someone else had been our leader would we have won the Revolutionary War? Would we have survived our independence if he were not followed in office by other great men such as Thomas Jefferson, John Adams and more?

There were throughout the last 230 plus years other presidents who stood above others and then there were some that did not. All have contributed to our history as a nation making good decisions or not so good ones.

To understand why we are the nation that we are is to understand our history. To understand why we are the community that we are is to understand our local history.

As an historical society we strive to bring history alive and to teach not only “Why Lincoln Matters” but why HISTORY MATTERS.

*Kristie Benedik*  
*President 2008/2009*  
*(847) 428-0932*  
*kbenedik@sbcglobal.net*



## **EMAIL OR SNAIL MAIL**

Save the postman some steps, save a tree, and save our society some \$ by requesting email notices. Let us know simply by emailing your request to us at [dths@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dths@sbcglobal.net)

If you still prefer USPS mail, do nothing and we will continue to send things to you in that manner.

## **WEBSITE UPDATE**

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

Our website has some exciting changes going on. There are more photographs along with some format changes. Pages from the Dundee Hawkeye newspaper, dating 1890 to 1916, have been added along with some advertisements from the past. If you place your cursor over them, they will enlarge for easier reading. Watch for more changes and upgrading to our site. Suggestions welcome.

## **SCHROEDER CEMETERY LAND RECENTLY PURCHASED BY DEVELOPER**

The Dundee Township Historical Society Board has been approached by two members of the Kane County Genealogical Society who have begun extensive research on the Schroeder Cemetery. They are soliciting the assistance of the Board in trying to find descendants of the early pioneers who may be buried there. Some of these names might be familiar to you: Albro Gilbert (for whom the town of Gilberts is named), David Mason, Stanley Sherman, Moses Wanzer, and Whiting Hull (Hall), among others.

A search for the cemetery deed in the Kane County Recorder's office produced a rather detailed document naming 21 men who purchased the property from the original owners, Isaac and Sarah George, and assigned specific plots to each of the men. Because the Georges reserved three lots for themselves, 22 families were ultimately connected to this pioneer cemetery.

It is our fervent hope that once descendants are located people in positions of authority will find this cemetery worthy of protection and preservation. If you are interested in helping with these efforts to find some of the living descendants of these early Dundee pioneers, feel free to contact Colette McDonough, at 847.426.1984.



## **GARAGE SALE**

The annual museum garage sale is already in the works. A number of items have been donated for the sale, BUT, in order to make it a success we need your help. Keep us in mind when you do your spring cleaning. Any glass, china, household items, small furniture, antiques etc. will be appreciated. (No clothing please). A date has not been scheduled and will be determined by the amount of donations. Better items may be sold on e-bay in an effort to get a higher price.

## **HISTORY QUIZ**

1. What was Allan Pinkerton's profession when he lived in Dundee?
2. Who delivered the news of the firing on Fort Sumter to Dundee ?
3. Who was the youngest colonel in the Army of the West ?
4. What is the G.A.R. ?
5. In what regiment did most of the Dundee men serve in the Civil War ?
6. What Dundee resident attended Lincoln's inauguration ?
7. Where was a farewell party held for the Civil War volunteers ?
8. Where is the first Civil War monument that was erected in Kane County ?
9. What early Dundee resident wrote for the abolitionist paper, the "Freesoiler" ?
10. Whose Civil War diary is on exhibit in the museum ?

Answers can be found in the book "Dundee Township 1835 - 1985.

1. pg. 83
2. pg. 101
3. pg. 102
4. pg. 103
5. pg. 101
6. pg. 20
7. pg. 101
8. pg. 104
9. pg. 31
10. visit the museum and find out

If you do not have a copy of this history book, it is available at the museum gift shop at the reasonable cost of \$20.00.

Proceeds benefit the historical society museum.





## Welcome New Members

Chloe Leith  
Jackie Kieltyka  
Sandra Peterson  
Ann Wells

## IMPORTANT DATES

### March

8

Opening Day  
The Wit and Wisdom of  
Abraham Lincoln

### April

19

Bus Tour  
Dundee Township Enters  
the Civil War

### May

4

Annual Meeting and Program  
The Schroeder Cemetery

## Dundee Township Historical Society

**Kristie Benedik**  
President

**Marge Edwards**  
President Elect

**Colette McDonough**  
Secretary

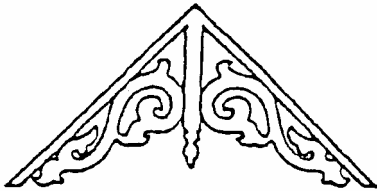
**Gene Lamp**  
Treasurer

**Dave Culligan**  
Past President

**Faye Williams, Greg Ryant,  
Marge Edwards, Einar Graff,  
Jack Wendt, Sue Roeser, Cindy Gorski**  
Board of Directors

### Committees:

<b>Newsletter</b>	Marge Edwards Kristie Benedik Jack Wendt
<b>Historic Sites Library Museum</b>	Jack & Nancy Wendt
<b>Membership Docents</b>	Faye Williams Jack & Nancy Wendt
<b>Buildings &amp; Grounds Programs</b>	Jack Wendt Marge Edwards



Dundee Township  
Historical Society  
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West Dundee IL 60118