



LAKE FOREST  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY  
LAKE BLUFF

# The Heritage Timepiece

## Annual Meeting

Join us for our Annual Meeting on Sunday April 26, 2009 at 2:00 pm. Local historian Lisa Holton will present a program based on her new book *For Members Only: A History and Guide to Chicago's Oldest Private Clubs*. In her book, the author details how there would not have been a Burnham Plan or a World's Columbian Exposition without the support of the city's private social clubs. Ms. Holton will talk about the clubs that flourished in the era of Louis Sullivan and Marshall Field and how the leaders of Chicago shaped the city behind mahogany doors.

Lisa Holton began her career as a business writer at the *Chicago Sun-Times* and today writes about business history and other topics at her own firm, The Lisa Company. A prolific corporate writer, ghostwriter, and author, *For Members Only* is her eleventh book. A light reception will follow the program.

The meeting will take place at the dramatic House of the Four Winds, designed by Howard Van Doren Shaw in 1909 and one of the architect's favorites. In fact, a bust of Shaw on display in the home was a gift of the architect's daughter, noted artist Sylvia Shaw Judson. The Moorish-style gardens are by acclaimed garden designer Rose Standish Nichols, author of the groundbreaking 1902 book *English Pleasure Gardens*. Craig Bergman restored the gardens in 2001.

The program will be preceded by a brief annual meeting in which members present will elect officers and new members to the Board of Directors. However, the program is open to all. For a copy of the slate, please call the Historical Society at 847-234-5253.



### The Lake Forest - Lake Bluff Historical Society Annual Meeting

Free program -  
open to the public.

Sunday, April 26, 2009  
2:00 pm

House of the Four Winds  
81 West Laurel  
Lake Forest  
Parking on Laurel Avenue



From the

## Director's Desk



One of our local officials commented to me that in times of economic downturn, it is important that we invest in what we already have and make what we have better. This philosophy could not be truer for the Historical Society. Following up on our 2007 Strategic Plan, we are looking

at ways to make our current museum building better and find the spaces needed for a dynamic organization with an expanding collection and growing list of services. The bottom line is that we have outgrown our space in its current configuration. We need better spaces to store the collection, host programs and groups, welcome schoolchildren, work with researchers, and to display more stories and artifacts. As a member of the Joad family in *The Grapes of Wrath* commented on leaving their possessions behind, "How will we know it's us without our past?" The Historical Society is here to make sure we will never have to ponder this point.

You also feel the same way about the need to invest in our heritage. Our annual appeal in November and December was a success, despite the fact that charitable giving is way down with the current economic situation. We had a number of new donors who contributed this past winter. Of those who had made a previous donation, almost all were made at the same or higher level than the prior year. On this same note, I hope you will renew your membership when you receive our letter in a few weeks. Much of what museums do is behind the scenes and our activities (research, collections care, exhibits) are not fee-based. Donor support, through both our annual appeal and membership, is critical to our success. Every member counts.

I would like to welcome our outstanding new curator, Laurie Stein. Please stop by to say hello and share your stories. She is a wonderful addition to the local cultural community.

*Janice C. Hack*

## Meet our New Curator



The Historical Society would like to welcome a new addition to our staff. Laurie Stein took over as Curator at the beginning of January, and immediately threw herself into learning about golf for the upcoming exhibition. Laurie originally hails from East Lansing,

Michigan, but has been living in the Chicago area for nearly a year. She attended Oberlin College in Ohio, where she studied History and English. There she was introduced to museum work through an internship at the Oberlin Heritage Center. The graduate program in Historical Administration at Eastern Illinois University drew her to Illinois; she will receive her master's degree this May. Recently she completed an internship in the Publications Department at the Chicago History Museum, and also continues to work part-time at the Robert R. McCormick Museum in Wheaton. Laurie has enjoyed delving into the stories of Lake Forest and Lake Bluff and is eager to continue to discover and document their history. She appreciates the warm welcome of Historical Society members and volunteers, and looks forward to meeting everyone.

### Welcome New Members

Ms. Lisa Hilgenberg

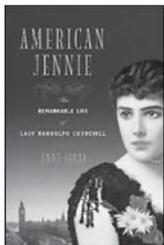
Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Lynch  
Lynch Construction Corp.

## Artisan Guild

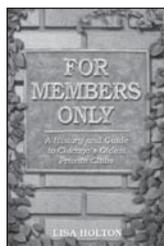
The Historical Society was the lucky beneficiary of the December show of the Lake Forest-Lake Bluff Artisan Guild. Guild members donated a portion of the proceeds from their sales and prepared a unique and overflowing basket of crafts which was raffled off. Special thanks go to Sande Noble, Nancy Meiling and Robin Mueller. The donation of nearly \$2,000 is greatly appreciated. Don't miss the next Artisan Guild show, benefiting Mother's Trust Foundation, for those unique gifts for Mother's Day and graduations. The show takes place on Wednesday, April 22nd from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm and Thursday, April 23rd from 9:00 am to 10:00 pm at the Gorton Community Center. New this show is a caricature artist.

## Mark Your Calendar

### APRIL



A Royal Visit and Barbara Rinella  
Reading of *American Jennie:  
The Remarkable Life of  
Lady Randolph Churchill*  
Tuesday, April 7, 2009  
10:00 a.m.  
Glen Rowan House  
500 N. Sheridan, Lake Forest  
\$20 for members, \$25 for non-members  
Call 847-234-5253 or  
visit [www.lflbhistory.org](http://www.lflbhistory.org) for tickets



*A History and Guide to  
Chicago's Oldest Private Clubs*  
Annual Meeting, open to the public  
Sunday, April 26, 2009  
2:00 pm  
House of the Four Winds  
81 West Laurel, Lake Forest

### MAY



*Hole in One:  
The Lore and Lure of Golf*  
Members' Exhibit Preview  
Saturday, May 2, 2009  
3:00 to 5:00 pm  
Lake Forest-Lake Bluff  
Historical Society  
361 East Westminster, Lake Forest

### JUNE



**Save the Date!**  
SATURDAY, JUNE 27, 2009  
TOUR THE LASKER ESTATE!  
The ultimate gentleman's farm.  
Learn about Albert Lasker, tour his

magnificent estate with buildings designed by noted architect David Adler and walk the remains of his nationally acclaimed private golf course.

### Spotlight on Volunteers

Volunteers are key to the success of the Historical Society. The Program Committee comes up with all the great ideas for lectures and events and then plans and publicizes these activities. The members do everything from locating venues and speakers, to writing articles for the newsletter and program handouts. Among the programs are the Annual Meeting held each April or May and a fall fundraiser. Co-chaired by Katie Hale and Coni Carfagno, the committee also includes Kathy Govas, Cathy McKechney, Lynn Taylor, Kay Weston, Laura Henderson, Lori Baker, Mindy Bourne and Jan Kerrigan. If you have ideas for programs, or just like to be part of the action, consider volunteering for this committee. Please contact the Historical Society for more information.

*We would be history without our volunteers!*

## COLLECTIONS CORNER

By Laurie Stein, Curator

In the past month we have embarked on an exciting partnership with Lake Forest College that promises to be an annual enterprise. The idea was born, believe it or not, on the morning commute: Janice Hack and Dr. Holly Swyers, a professor in the Sociology and Anthropology department, ride the same train.

The partnership began from a convergence in the needs of the Historical Society and Dr. Swyers' class curriculum. Her students needed hands-on, practical experience in research methods and documentation. The Historical Society, always eager to get more people involved in documenting our community's history, needed some assistance with research for the upcoming exhibit "Hole in One: The Lore and Lure of Golf."

The Historical Society combined forces with Dr. Swyers' Qualitative Methods class to conduct oral history interviews with local residents involved in the topic of golf. In early February, the students utilized their in-class training to venture out into the community and gather stories from these residents. Both interviewers and interviewees did a wonderful job! The transcripts from these interviews are now a part of the Historical Society's collection, and will inform our golf exhibition.

The second phase was an exciting collaboration with Dr. Swyers' archaeology class. One of the golf courses featured in "Hole in One" is no longer visible to the naked eye...unless you know where (and how) to look. The Mill Road Farm golf course, an extraordinarily difficult 18-hole private course built on advertising mogul Albert Lasker's estate in the 1920s, was abandoned in the 1940s and covered with a subdivision of homes in the 1950s. Using investigative and mapping techniques learned in class, the archaeology students helped us turn back the clock and uncover golf greens and tees right in someone's backyard. The process began the last week of February with an introduction to Albert Lasker and his estate, via an in-class presentation by staff Janice Hack and Laurie Stein, and then a bus tour given by Historical Society board members Pauline Mohr and Coni Carfagno. The students then spent a weekend pacing around the neighborhood and mapping out the location of original greens and holes. Their final product will be featured in "Hole in One," which will open May 2<sup>nd</sup>.

We want to thank everyone who has made this partnership such a success! Pauline Mohr, Coni Carfagno, Mike Conklin, Tim Christie, Liz Libby, and Peter Coutant all deserve special mention. And of course we appreciate the hard work and assistance of the Lake Forest College students, the oral history interviewees, and the homeowners on the former Lasker estate. Last but not least, Dr. Swyers has been a joy to work with and we look forward to collaborating in future years.

# Hole in One

## *The Historical Society Premieres an Exhibit on Golf*

The history of golf in Lake Forest and Lake Bluff will be presented in the exhibit *Hole in One: The Lore and Lure of Golf*. The exhibit opens with a members' preview on Saturday, May 2, 2009 from 3:00 to 5:00 pm.

The exhibit shares the story of Rose Farwell Chatfield-Taylor and her husband Hobart Chatfield-Taylor whose friendship with Charles Blair MacDonald set the stage for the introduction of the game of golf in the Chicago area. Mr. Chatfield-Taylor was instrumental in the founding of the Onwentsia Club which impacted the community's growth as a summer destination. The exhibit will feature all the local golf courses, both club-based and public, and will have special features on interesting people everyone will want to know about.

Be sure to stop by to find the answers to the following:

Which club rented out its facilities to servicemen during WWII?

Which course employed men to brush the dew off the greens each morning with a bamboo pole?

Which course was used as a landing field for planes delivering mail?

Who did F. Scott Fitzgerald base his character Jordan Baker from *The Great Gatsby* on?

The exhibit is open on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 1:00 to 4:00 pm. The exhibit is also open on Sundays until Memorial Day and after Labor Day. For more information, please contact the Historical Society at 847-234-5253.

### LAKE FOREST-LAKE BLUFF HISTORICAL SOCIETY BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2008-2009

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Executive Director: Janice C. Hack  
Curator: Laurie Stein

*Hole in One: The Lore and Lure of Golf*  
Members Preview  
Saturday, May 2, 2009  
3:00 to 5:00 pm



Advertising mogul Albert Lasker's estate, Mill Road Farm, featured a private 18-hole golf course complete with all the amenities, including the caddyshack pictured here. Lasker would occasionally ask Onwentsia and other area clubs to send him extra caddies if he was entertaining a large golfing party.

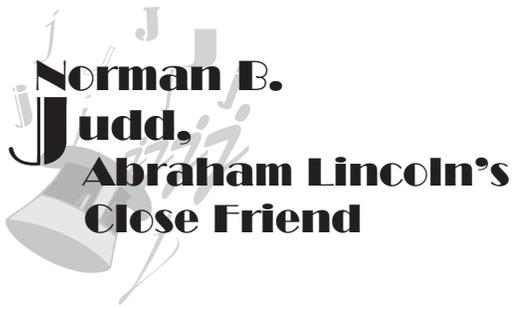


Rose Farwell Chatfield-Taylor was one of the founding mothers of golf in Lake Forest. Her father's estate, Fairlawn, served as the site of the area's first makeshift course. Rose herself was an avid golfer, finishing second in the first Women's Western Amateur in 1901.



The second golf course in Lake Forest was located on the Leander McCormick farm (near the current intersection of Green Bay and Onwentsia roads). This nine-hole course utilized a deserted chicken coop as its one-chamber locker room.

# Alphabet Stories



Norman B. Judd was a close friend of Abraham Lincoln's and actually helped Lincoln win the Republican nomination for President in 1860. In addition, his ties to Lake Forest are important. He frequently visited his brother-in-law Gilbert Rossiter, (Judd's wife Adeline was the sister of Gilbert Rossiter) and through politics and business connections he was friends of C.B. Farwell and D.R. Holt, to name a couple of prominent Lake Foresters. According to Arthur Miller, archivist at Lake Forest College, the Judds may have lived in Lake Forest from time to time staying with the Rossiters.

There is some controversy whether Abraham Lincoln was ever entertained in Lake Forest after giving a speech in Waukegan on April 2, 1860, and Norman Judd is part of this story. Judd, as Chairman of the Illinois Republican Committee, accompanied Lincoln by train to that speech. The Edward Arpee history of Lake Forest states that Lincoln came to the Rossiter house after the speech, (which is currently located just east of Gorton Community Center,) and so far it can't be proven one way or another. The Rossiter house was originally located on Deerpath road, near Triangle Park and was so close to the train station it is logical they might have stopped for a visit.

Waukegan takes credit for the honor of housing Lincoln that evening. In fact, the Lake County Historical Society has placed a plaque on the house which stands on the corner of County and Julian Streets. Whether or not Judd brought Lincoln to the Rossiter house on April 2, Norman Judd was a powerful and active figure in Illinois and Lake County politics and instrumental in the election of Abraham Lincoln at the 1860 Republican convention. He was an influential politician who helped organize the Republican Party in Illinois.



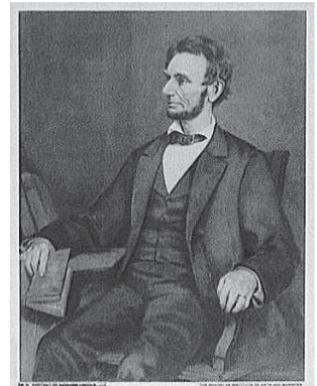
Judd moved to Chicago from New York in 1836 and developed his reputation as an expert on railroad affairs. He was elected City Attorney for Chicago from 1837-1839, then a small town, and from there he progressed to County Attorney. His political career blossomed while serving in the Illinois Senate from 1844 to 1860 and during this period he befriended Abraham Lincoln. In 1844, he married Adeline Rossiter and they had three children.

Judd's ties to Lincoln deepened with the formation of the state Republican Party. As Chairman of the Republican State Committee, Judd was instrumental in getting the 1860 Republican National Convention sited in Chicago. Lincoln was not considered a serious presidential candidate at the time so this was viewed as a "neutral" site. As a prominent railroad lawyer, Judd convinced the railroads to provide a "cheap excursion rate from all parts of the State to the convention". This allowed a mass of Lincoln's supporters to come to the convention. Judd also got the Chicago Press & Tribune (which covered the northern part of the state) to write a resounding editorial on behalf of Lincoln's candidacy. Not surprisingly, Judd had the honor of placing Lincoln's name in nomination for President of the United States at the convention.

When President-elect Lincoln started his journey by train from Springfield to Washington for his inaugural, Judd was among a handful of close friends who accompanied him. Judd played a key role in getting the President-elect's itinerary changed in order to foil an expected assassination attempt in Baltimore. Judd had to convince Lincoln to heed the serious warning from Pinkerton detectives. He urged him to change his itinerary and as a result Lincoln safely slipped into Washington at night by train from Philadelphia.

Lincoln initially had Judd's name on his list for a Cabinet position, however, Mary Lincoln and Lincoln's campaign manager opposed the idea. As a consolation, he offered Judd a ministry post in Berlin where he served until 1865.

In 1866, Judd was elected to the U.S. Congress from the Chicago and northern counties district. He was re-elected in 1868. After leaving Congress, Mr. Judd was appointed Collector of Customs in Chicago where he served until his death in 1878. Many of his prominent friends from Lake Forest attended his funeral. He died impoverished after investing heavily in Colorado silver mines and as a result of the Panic of 1873. Judd's widow came back to live with the Rossiters in Lake Forest, and she subsequently donated his papers to Lake Forest College, so it is clear that the Judds felt close ties to the Lake Forest community.





LAKE FOREST  
**HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY**  
LAKE BLUFF

Non-Profit Organization  
U. S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Permit No. 160  
Lake Forest, IL

Annual Meeting  
Sunday, April 26th

361 East Westminster  
Lake Forest, Illinois 60045  
Phone: (847)234-5253  
Fax: (847)234-5236  
[www.lfbhistory.org](http://www.lfbhistory.org)

#### *Museum Hours*

Tuesday–Wednesday–Thursday–Sunday  
1:00 p.m.–4:00 p.m.

Closed Sundays Memorial Day through Labor Day



## *A Royal Visit*

Tuesday April 7, 2009 10:00 am  
Glen Rowan House, 500 North Sheridan Road

Lake Forest's Royal Connections  
Presentation and Exhibit

Followed by

Barbara Rinella reading from

“American Jennie: The Remarkable Life of Lady Randolph Churchill”

Lake Forest has entertained princes, princesses and the Duke and Duchess of Windsor. Several local ladies have even married into royalty. This program will give an overview of our royal past and be the perfect lead-in to Barbara Rinella performing from the recently released book by author Anne Sebba- a frank account of the tempestuous life of Jennie Churchill.

*Following a three-day romance, Brooklyn born Jennie Jerome married into British aristocracy in 1874. As Lady Randolph Churchill, she became the most talked about and controversial American woman in London society, mother to the most famous British statesman of the century. Jennie was a concert pianist, magazine founder and editor, playwright and dynamic a behind-the-scenes political force. Her son Winston described her as having “the wine of life in her veins.”*

Barbara Rinella defines herself as an “academic entertainer.” She is well known for her engaging interpretations of historical best sellers.

The program location is Glen Rowan House, on the campus of Lake Forest College. Howard Van Doren Shaw designed the historic house for Clifford and Alice Reid Barnes in 1908. It is a fine example of Arts and Crafts architecture.

Tickets are \$20 for members and \$25 for non-members and can be purchased by calling the Historical Society at 847-234-5253 or by visiting [www.lfbhistory.org](http://www.lfbhistory.org).