

# The Oak Leaf

A Publication of the AFFTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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October 2019



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\* Return under separate cover \*

Membership check payable to AHS  
and mailed to P.O. Box 28855.

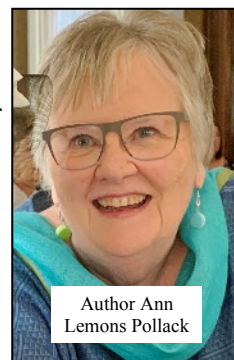
Raffle check payable to  
Ladies of Oakland and  
mailed to Jackie Thurmond.



## Awesome Autumn Happenings

### September was an exciting time at Oakland, with two festive events taking center stage...

On September 26<sup>th</sup>, the Ladies of Oakland hosted their Annual Afternoon Tea, set in the 1950's "Oakland House Tea Room." To go along with the tea room theme, homemade delicacies were served by "waitresses" wearing tea aprons over black and white attire. Guest speaker **Ann Lemons Pollack** presented her book **Lost Restaurants of St. Louis**. Her interesting and fact-filled program was very well received and stimulated a lot of conversation.



Author Ann Lemons Pollack

The sold-out event realized an overall profit of \$1,902.46. Much of the food, as well as table gifts and decorating supplies, were donated by committee members. Thanks so much! This special event would not have been possible without the hard work and dedication of many people. Thank you to Tea Committee members **Pam Danklef** (Chair), **Rosie Miller**, **Nancy Herndon**, **Dot Huebener**, **Barb Cook** and **Sheila Savka**, as well as to Servers **Marilyn Hammon**, **Mary Jane Autry**, **Sheila Savka** and **Jean McDaniel**.



Benoist descendants admire the special Faris chalices.

On September 27-29, Benoist family members from far and wide descended upon Saint Louis for **La Réunion de la Famille Benoist** (The Benoist Family Reunion). The busy weekend's main event was Sunday afternoon's gathering on the grounds of **Oakland House Museum**. It featured mansion tours, a festive picnic and a special mass.

Attendees wore color-coded, commemorative t-shirts to differentiate between the branches of the family tree. Jewel-encrusted chalices, given in 1923 to **The Rev. Monsignor Charleville Benoist Faris** by his mother, **Marie Clemence Benoist Faris**, were used to celebrate the special family mass. Congratulations and best wishes to the many Benoist descendants who gathered to celebrate their proud heritage. They truly represent **une famille extraordinaire!**



Register at: [pics.memoriesareforever.com/benoist](http://pics.memoriesareforever.com/benoist) in order to view, download & purchase professional photos.

## AHS Fall Membership Meeting

*Sunday, October 27, 2019*

*Luncheon 12:30 p.m. Meeting 1:30-3:30 p.m.*

Bring your favorite side dish and enjoy the company of other members of the Affton Historical Society for a pot luck luncheon with meeting to follow. *Drinks and desserts provided.* We will hold elections for the 2020 Executive Board, and nominations can be taken from the floor. The program will be a portrayal of 18<sup>th</sup> Century Barber Surgeon *Joseph LaBollé* by local history buff *John Murphy*. Not for the squeamish, the presentation includes many authentic medical and surgical instruments of the day.

## Ladies of Oakland Meeting

*Tuesday, November 19, 2019 - 1:00 p.m.*

Please join us for the last meeting of the year. We will install officers for 2020, and the program will feature *Suzanne Corbett* speaking about "The History of Candy Companies in St. Louis."

## Last Open Luncheon of the Year

*Thursday, November 7, 2019*

There's only one open luncheon date left in 2019. This luncheon is open to everyone and provides a lovely opportunity to meet up with friends for a special day out or to just treat yourself.

House tours are at 11:00 a.m., followed by lunch, which is served at noon. The cost is \$18.00 per person. Reservations in advance are necessary. Call *Dot Huebener* at (314) 300-8213.

## Fall Lawn Clean-Up Day

*Saturday, October 26, 2019*

Volunteers are needed to spruce up the Oakland House grounds during our Fall Lawn Clean-Up Day. We will start at 9:00 a.m. and will end around 4:00 p.m. Come when you can and stay as long as you'd like. Lunch will be provided. Please bring your own rake, yard equipment and gardening gloves.



## HO! HO! HO! Santa Claus is coming to Oakland!

Mark your calendars for the 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Affton Historical Society Santa House!

### Weekdays - Reservations are needed

Call Joyce Rich (314) 843-7530

Hours: 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Wednesday, December 11 - Friday, December 13

### Weekends - NO reservations needed

Hours: 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Saturday, December 7 & Sunday, December 8

Saturday, December 14 & Sunday, December 15

For the little ones, each visit includes:

Story Time and Puppet Show

Visit with Santa in the Victorian parlor

A home-baked cookie from Mrs. Claus

Remember to bring your cameras and,

no matter what your age...

"be good for goodness sake!"

Craft items for sale

\$4.00 per person - cash, check, or cards on Square

Information: (314) 873-3248

Weekday reservations: (314) 843-7530

## Santa House Volunteers Needed

- Interested in being a Puppeteer or Story Lady? Contact Lucy Johnson at (314) 843-6346.
- We need folks to act as Santa's helpers, cookie bakers, Mrs. Claus or with various other fun jobs. Contact Joyce Rich at (314) 843-7530.
- Think you'd make a great Santa? Contact Charlie Brown at (314) 873-3248.

## Holiday Decorating Help Needed

Help us "deck the halls" of Oakland for the holidays!

*Saturday, November 23, 2019*

We'll start at 9:00 a.m. and stop when finished, usually around 4:00 p.m.

Lunch will be served. Questions?

Call Nancy Herndon-Ulrich (314) 814-4983

## Ladies of Oakland Christmas Raffle

Use the enclosed tickets for a chance to win:

(1) \$100.00 (2) Cozy Fleece Throw

(3) Christmas Sled Decoration

Donation: \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00

Drawing: December 15, 2019

## Santa's coming to town... in style!

For his arrival to Oakland, the man in red will be swapping out his reindeer for an Affton firetruck. Don't miss Santa's grand entrance at **10:30 a.m.** on **Saturday, December 7 & Saturday, December 14**. Many thanks to our friends at the Affton Fire Protection District for arranging these special big rig arrivals!



## Annual Members' Christmas Party

*Saturday, December 21, 2019*

*1:30 p.m.-3:30 p.m.*

Why not take a break from the holiday hustle and bustle, and join us for the Annual Members' Christmas Party?

Come share good food & drink with your fellow Society members in the festive splendor of Oakland.

Free to all members.

For non-member guests, there is a \$5 charge.

Call Dot Huebener at (314) 300-8213 for guest reservations.





## Documentary filming takes place at Oakland Lemp's Last Wright to premiere in March 2020

In July, *Oakland House Museum* was transformed into a movie set for the filming of *Lemp's Last Wright*. The feature length documentary focuses on "the debate about the untimely death of *Elsa Lemp*" which "has baffled historians and writers... for a century." The film will premiere at *The Tivoli* on **March 19, 2020** - 100 years after her death. Plan to attend to "be the first to discover what really happened on that fateful day... decide for yourself... was it Suicide or Murder?"



### *Lemp's Last Wright*

Premiering at *The Tivoli* • **March 19, 2020** (Times TBD)

Tickets on sale at *ShiftFilms.net* • \$10 or \$15 for VIP

Go the Oakland House Museum's Facebook page to RSVP to the event or to watch the teaser trailer.



### *Affton Historical Society* 2019 Executive Board

**Charlie Brown**  
*President*

**Nancy Herndon-Ulrich**  
*Vice President*

**Rosie Miller**  
*Treasurer*

**Becky Cox**  
*Recording Secretary*

**Mary Kirschman**  
*Corresponding Secretary*

**Lucy Johnson**  
*President*  
*Ladies of Oakland*

### 2019 Board of Directors

**Jeri Akiki**  
**Bert Barry**  
**Darryl Eaves**  
**Ingrid Giddings**  
**A. Charles Hiemenz III**  
**Dot Huebener**  
**Joan Komlos**  
**Phillip Tafra**

**Pam Danklef**  
*Membership Chair*

**Mary Kirschman**  
*Publicity Chair*

**Patti Behlmann**  
*Oak Leaf Editor*

*The Board meets at Oakland House at 7:00 p.m. on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month from January through November. Members are welcome!*

### ??? History Question ???

The following are the children born to John Francis and Helen Amanda Benoist Carton: Benoist Carton (b. 1878), Leo deSmet Carton (b. 1882), and William Joseph Carton (b.1891).

In what years did they die?

**Answers:** Benoist Carton died in 1958, Leo deSmet Carton died in 1951 and William Joseph Carton died in 1961.

### July History Question:

### History Questions for October:

Howard August Benoist (b. March 6, 1867), the youngest son of Louis & Sarah Benoist, married Agnes Foy (b. June 9, 1872) on November 11, 1896.

In what years did Howard & Agnes die?

*If you think you know the answer, contact Charlie Brown at (314) 873-3248 or bbcboakland@gmail.com*

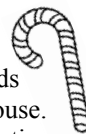
**Reminder: Food Pantry Donations Needed!** At their monthly meetings, the Ladies of Oakland collect food to donate to the Affton Food Pantry. Please consider bringing a donation to every Ladies meeting to help families in need in our community.



*Photos for this issue were provided by "shutterbugs" Jacqueline Brown, Abigail Lambert, Dianne Isbell & Shift Films.*

### Thanks for the Christmas Cards

Thank you for all the Christmas cards that have been donated for Santa House. At this time, we no longer need donations as we have enough to last for several years.



### Café du Matin - Morning Coffee

**Saturday, March 7, 2020 10:00 a.m.**

Details in the January *Oak Leaf*

### Annual Afternoon Tea

**Thursday, September 24, 2020**

Details in the July *Oak Leaf*

### Save the Dates for **2020**



### Calendar Meeting

This meeting is to set the dates for the 2020 Event Calendar.

**Monday, January 6, 2020 10:00 a.m.**





✂-----✂  
 ✂ Please **WELCOME** the following **NEW MEMBERS** and add their contact information to your directory:  
**ADDISON, Katie & MOELLER, Paul** . . . 314-706-0767  
 3622 Watson Road, #A, St. Louis, MO 63109  
 paulmoeller@yahoo.com  
**CHRISLER, Kevin & Karen Hench** . . . . . 240-687-1900  
 10825 Game Preserve Road, Gaitherburg, MD 20879  
 khc393@gmail.com  
**DEMIERRE, Mary** . . . . . 314-351-5548  
 8207 Villaton Drive, St. Louis, MO 63123  
 pitadgs@aol.com  
**DOWNEY, Mary Ann** . . . . . 314-631-2305  
 9120 Damson Drive, St. Louis, MO 63123  
**HOLTON, James & Ann** . . . . . 314-991-0813  
 750 Oakbrook Lane, St. Louis, MO 63132  
 annholton@sbcglobal.net  
**RING, Mary Rosalie** . . . . . 314-750-3932  
 17200 Rose Lake, Warrenton, MO 63383  
 rosiering@ymail.com  
**RING, Paul & Barbara** . . . . . 314-540-4043  
 18930 Model Realty Road, Wildwood, MO 63069  
**TROSKY, David & Darlene** . . . . . 314-849-3818  
 4943 Marchwood Drive, St. Louis, MO 63128  
 dtros@hotmail.com  
 Please make the following changes  
 to your 2019 Membership Directory  
**CHASNOFF, Nina** . . . . . nlchasnoff@gmail.com  
**JACKO, Elaine** . . . . . 314-200-9809  
**EVANS, Janet**  
 103 Coil Road, Fenton, MO 63026  
**FLEMING, Marilyn**  
 12501 Village Circle Drive #128, St. Louis, MO 63127  
**PRUETZEL, Virginia** . . . . . 636-529-1750  
 182 Ameren Way #544, Ballwin, MO 63021  
 ✂ **SCHIEBER, Doris**  
 21 N. Old Orchard, St. Louis, MO 63119  
 -----✂

**REMINDER:** 2019 memberships expire on December 31, and dues are considered delinquent after January 31. Memberships must be renewed February 1 in order to be included in the 2020 Membership Directory, so... **use the enclosed form to renew your membership TODAY!**

**Your financial support is greatly appreciated!**  
**Many Thanks to deSmet Level Donors:**  
 Peter & Caron Benoist • Mary Demierre  
 Alvera Kriegshauser • Mary Rosalie Ring  
 Paul & Barbara Ring  
**Special Thanks to Barnett Level Donors:**  
 James & Ann Holton  
**Extra-Special Thanks to Faris Level Donors:**  
 Elliot & Linda Benoist

 Many thanks to **Marge Pundmann** for making a special donation to Oakland House Musuem.

 **In Memoriam**   
 Our sympathy, thoughts and prayers go to the families & friends of the following members who recently passed away.  
**Barbara Booth • O. Morton Clifford**  
**Virgil Vonder Haar • Shirley Meloy** (sister of Freda Jacks)  
 They will be missed.

**Barbara Brown**, Past President of the Ladies of Oakland and longtime AHS member, passed away in June.  
**The Ladies of Oakland** recently gave a donation to **Affton Historical Society** in Barb's memory.  
**Thank You, Ladies**

**PLEASE NOTE:**  
 If your membership information is incorrect or incomplete, please contact Pam Danklef at (314) 503-6401, (314) 842-0149 or jpdanklef@aol.com

**IMPORTANT:**  
 When contacting Pam Danklef at (314) 503-6401, (314) 842-0149 or jpdanklef@aol.com with a **new address**, be sure to include your **new phone number** as well. This is especially true for those of you who move to retirement communities (Laclede Groves, Bethesda, Cardinal Ritter, etc.) where you receive a new phone number.

**Members with e-mail addresses:** If you have an e-mail address and are not receiving monthly e-mail updates on "Oakland House Museum Happenings," please contact Pam Danklef at (314) 503-6401, (314) 842-0149 or jpdanklef@aol.com.

**Shopping Reminders:**



If you do your Christmas shopping on Amazon.com, remember to direct a portion of your purchase to AHS. It's easy. Just sign on at **smile.amazon.com** and register to make Affton Historical Society your charity of choice. Then, every time you shop, be sure to sign in through **smile.amazon.com**. Amazon will donate 0.5% of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to AHS. AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you already know, with the same products, prices and service - but with the added benefit of helping charitable organizations. Support AHS by starting your online shopping at **smile.amazon.com**.



Be sure to sign up for the eScrip Program at Schnucks. Affton Historical Society receives a percentage of your purchase every time you shop.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE:  
[www.OAKLANDHOUSEMUSEUM.org](http://www.OAKLANDHOUSEMUSEUM.org)

