



# Oak Leaf

A Publication of the AFFTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

VOL. XLIV NO. 2

April 2020



## In this issue...

### Springtime Happenings!

- 2020 Café du Matin
- Website Launch
- Upcoming Meetings and Events
- 4<sup>th</sup> of July Breakfast
- Save the Date: Afternoon Tea
- Members Only Luncheon
- Ladies of Oakland Meetings
- Give StL Day
- History Question
- Thank You, Donors!
- Movie Premiere Update
- Oakland Memorial
- Food Pantry Donations
- Directory Updates
- Membership Notes

Insert: 4<sup>th</sup> of July Breakfast flyer

## Springtime Happenings!

Attendees of the 2020 *Café du Matin* Morning Coffee learned all about “Chatalaines, Locketts and an Orb.” Many thanks to those members who donated refreshments, as well as to **Nancy Herndon-Ulrich** for not charging for her informative and entertaining program. Fifty-one guests attended, and the Ladies of Oakland realized an event profit of \$850. Thank you so much to Morning Coffee Committee Chair **Pam Danklef** and committee members **Rosie Miller**, **Barb Cook**, **Dot Huebener**, and **Nancy Herndon-Ulrich**.

In the spring we celebrate all things new, so there was no better time for the debut of the **new Oakland House Museum website**. Thanks so much to developer **Jacqueline Brown** who gave the site a fresh, new look and launched it in March (see masthead below). Be sure to check it out!



Unfortunately, the ongoing COVID-19 outbreak necessitated the cancellation of Affton Historical Society’s 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Bunny Hutch. We all look forward to better times to come soon - for our members, community and country.



During these unprecedented and difficult times, we hope that you and your loved ones are staying safe and healthy. In order to be in compliance with necessary social distancing requirements that we hope will mitigate the effects of COVID-19 on our community, the Affton Historical Society has chosen to close the house to the public and cancel events through the end of April. Using guidance from state and local officials, and keeping everyone's safety in mind, we will reassess the situation at the end of April to determine if and when to re-open and resume normal activities. We will attempt to notify members of further cancellations for May and beyond through our website, mass e-mails and social media. Please visit us at [www.oaklandhousemuseum.org](http://www.oaklandhousemuseum.org) and watch our Facebook page for updates.

*In the meantime, please be well... and remember that we're all in this together.*

### AHS Membership Meeting & Pot Luck Luncheon

*Please Note: Due to the COVID-19 outbreak, the Spring Membership Meeting scheduled for April 26, 2020 has been CANCELED.*

Please mark your calendar for the

#### Fall Membership Meeting Sunday, October 25, 2020

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

Program: **John Murphy** as 18<sup>th</sup> Century Barber Surgeon Joseph LaBollé

### Open Houses for 2020

Beautiful Oakland House Museum will be open to the public on the following Sundays from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Free to members \$8.00 for the general public

**May 17 ~ June 21 ~ July 19**

**August 16 ~ September 20**

### 2020 Open Luncheons

**April 28 - CANCELED**

**May 7 - CANCELED**

**Tuesday, June 9**

**Thursday, July 23**

**Thursday, August 13**

**Tuesday, September 29**

**Friday, October 9**

**Tuesday, November 10**

These luncheons are open to everyone and provide a wonderful opportunity to meet up with friends, celebrate a special event or just treat yourself. The menu varies with the season and includes salad, entree, dessert and coffee or tea.

Oakland House tours, given by a docent in period dress, are at 11:00 a.m., followed by lunch, which is served at noon. The cost is \$20.00 per person and includes the tour. Please make your reservations 2 weeks in advance by calling:

**Dot Huebener** at (314) 300-8213.

Private Luncheons can be booked for groups of 15-56.  
Call Dot at (314) 300-8213 to reserve  
a date for your next gathering.

### BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND:

#### AHS Independence Day Breakfast Buffet ~ Saturday, July 4, 2020 ~ 8:00 - 11:00 a.m.

For only \$20.00 per person (\$8.00 for children 10 and under) you will receive



**A Delicious Homemade Country Style Breakfast Buffet**

**Patriotic Music ~ Tours of Oakland House ~ 50/50 Raffle**

**Entertainment: Dr. Dan the Pancake Man**



Please return the enclosed Reservation Form with your RSVP & payment by **Wednesday, July 1** to:

Affton Historical Society, Box 28855, St. Louis, MO 63123 For information, contact: Charlie Brown 314-873-3248



#### *Save the Date!* **Ladies of Oakland Annual Afternoon Tea**

**Thursday, September 24  
1:00 - 3:30 p.m.**

**\$35.00 per person**

**Program: TBD**

**Details in the July Oak Leaf**

### AHS Members Only Luncheon

**Thursday, May 14, 2020**

**12:00 p.m. Cost: \$10.00**

This special luncheon is exclusively for Historical Society members who have paid their 2020 dues. After-lunch entertainment will feature

**Betsy Burnette-Belanger** as **Mae West**.

For reservations or more information, call

**Lucy Johnson** at (314) 843-6346 or

**Pat Arrendell** at (314) 353-2096.

## Ladies of Oakland Meetings

The Ladies of Oakland meet at 1:00 p.m. on the third Tuesday, from April through November. Refreshments are served, and there is always an interesting speaker or other entertainment.

**April 21 - CANCELED**

**May 19, 2020 - 1:00 p.m.**

Ethel Cobb - "Mrs. O'Leary: Did the Cow Do It?"

**June 16, 2020 - 12:00 noon**

Salad Luncheon (note earlier time)

Bring your favorite salad or finger food

Robert Mueller - "Tall Bertha"

**July 21, 2020 - 1:00 p.m.**

Larry Franke - "Begging Genealogy"

**August 18, 2020 - 1:00 p.m.**

Barnes Bradshaw - "Henry Shaw"

**September 15, 2020 - 1:00 p.m.**

Mike Truax - "1904 World's Fair"

**October 20, 2020 - 1:00 p.m.**

Entertainment - TBD

**November 17, 2020 - 1:00 p.m.**

Barbara Kay as Virginia Minor

"Women's Suffrage"

Fun for everyone! Hope to see you there!  
Nancy Harmon, President, Ladies of Oakland



The seventh annual *Give STL Day* will take place **Thursday, May 7<sup>th</sup>** from midnight to midnight. Sponsored by the St. Louis

Community Foundation, *Give STL Day* is a 24-hour online giving event to benefit local nonprofits, and thus the whole community. **The main giving event is scheduled for May 7<sup>th</sup>, but early donations can be made anytime from April 6 through May 6.** Imagine the impact we can have when the St. Louis region comes together in support of local nonprofit organizations.

Again this year, the Affton Historical Society will be listed as a registered nonprofit organization for *Give STL Day*. Please show your support for AHS, as well as for other community nonprofits, by going to ***GiveSTLDay.org* from now until May 7<sup>th</sup> to contribute.** Especially in these difficult times, this is an easy and effective way to support the Society – and the entire St. Louis region.



## Executive Board

**Charlie Brown**  
*President*

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

**Mary Jane Autry**  
*Treasurer*

**Becky Cox**  
*Recording Secretary*

**Darryl Eaves**  
*Corresponding Secretary*

**Nancy Harmon**  
*President*  
*Ladies of Oakland*

## 2020 Board of Directors

**Jeri Akiki**

**Bert Barry**

**Shirley Brinker**

**Ingrid Giddings**

**A. Charles Hiemenz III**

**Mary Kirschman**

**Joan Komlos**

**Steve Slayden**

**Phillip Tafra**

**Pam Danklef**

*Membership Chair*

**Rosie Miller**

*Event Coordinator*

**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!**



**Jacqueline Brown & Nancy Brown** provided photos for this issue.  
**Thank You!**



In February, **Tracy Coleman, Jacqueline Brown** and **Nancy Herndon-Ulrich** (L-R) attended a workshop at Sappington House to learn about digitizing our archives. Thank you, ladies, for your efforts to keep our valuable treasures safe and secure!

## ??? History Question ???

*History Question for January:*

The children of Howard August and Agnes (Foy) Benoist were:

Louis Lannan Benoist (b. Dec 1, 1897), Elizabeth Christy Benoist (b. Nov 27, 1899)

Marie Agnes Benoist (b. 1906), Sara Miriam Richards (b. June 24, 1911)

and Howard Benoist (b. May 26, 1915). In what years did they die?

*Answer:* Louis Lannan Benoist (d. Mar 1, 1965),

Elizabeth Christy Benoist (d. Aug 3, 1984), Marie Agnes Benoist (d. Dec 9, 1968)

Sara Miriam Richards (d. Aug 3, 1976) and Howard Benoist (d. Dec 26, 1991).

*History Question for April:*

This month's question centers around Louis Auguste & Sarah Elizabeth Wilson Benoist's

oldest son Henry Augustus Benoist (b. 1851) and his wife Mary Ellen (Carton) Benoist (b. ???)

In what years did they die?

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



Your financial support  
is greatly appreciated!



Many Thanks to deSmet Level Donors:

Evelyn Chrisler Josh & Rhonda Kottemann

Special Thanks to Barnett Level Donor:

Elizabeth Igleheart Gregory & Elizabeth Savel

Extra-Special Thanks to Chopin Level Donor:

Miriam deOlloqui Turner

Super-Special Thanks to Brookings Level Donor:

Libby Benoist Claypool

Extra-Super-Special Thanks to Faris Level Donor:

Edna Beezley

Extra-Super-Duper-Special Thanks to Sarah Wilson Benoist Level Donor:

Sidney Guller



The COVID-19 pandemic made it necessary for Shift Films to postpone the premiere of *Lemp's Last Wright*, the feature length documentary that was filmed at Oakland House Museum in 2019. The new date, time and venue are:

**Thursday, July 23, 2020 7:00pm - 11:30pm**  
**Chase Park Plaza Cinemas**  
**212 Kingshighway Blvd.**  
**St. Louis, MO 63108**

**Oakland Memorial**

A contribution in memory of *Peter Benoist*  
was received from *Abigail Lambert*.



**Food Pantry Donations Needed!**

Every month, the Ladies of Oakland collect food to donate to the Affton Christian Food Pantry. Please consider bringing a donation to every Ladies meeting to help families in need in our community.



*To keep up to date with Oakland House Museum Happenings,*  
**be sure to visit us at: [www.oaklandhousemuseum.org](http://www.oaklandhousemuseum.org)**

**Membership Updates**

Please welcome these new or returning members and add their contact information to your Membership Directory:

**CHESNUTT, Sarah** . . . . . (already listed)

**IGLEHEART, Elizabeth** . . . . . **314-991-6062**  
1 McKnight Place #378, St. Louis, MO 63124  
bettyigleheart@aol.com

**REMELIUS III, John & Kristina** . . . . . **314-406-7933**  
800 Franklin Street, Alton, IL 62002  
jhremo3@gmail.com

And please make the following changes to your Directory:

*New Address or New Phone Number:*

**BRINGER, Shirley**  
2868 Fox Meadows Lane, Arnold, MO 63010

**LAVEZZI, Dorothy**  
12335 W. Bend #164, St. Louis, MO 63128

**SCHIEBER, Doris** . . . . . **314-716-2489**

*Spelling Correction and Additional Phone Number:*

**SCHONEMAN, Lee & Tanya** . . . . . **314-249-1033**  
(only one "n") (Tanya's phone)  
64 McClure, Arnold, MO 63010

**Add Lee's phone** . . . . . **314-287-0959**

**Reminder:** If your address label is **YELLOW**, your 2020 dues have not been paid. To continue to receive *The Oak Leaf*, you must pay your 2020 dues. If you have questions about membership status, contact Pam at (314) 842-0149, (314) 503-6401 or [jpdanklef@aol.com](mailto:jpdanklef@aol.com).

Please check your personal information in the *2020 AHS Membership & Ladies of Oakland Book* to make sure that it is complete and correct.

For any additions or corrections, contact: Pam Danklef (314) 842-0149, (314) 503-6401 or [jpdanklef@aol.com](mailto:jpdanklef@aol.com)

**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) 842-0149, (314) 503-6401 or [jpdanklef@aol.com](mailto:jpdanklef@aol.com).

**IMPORTANT:**

When contacting Pam Danklef at (314) 842-0149, (314) 503-6401 or [jpdanklef@aol.com](mailto:jpdanklef@aol.com) with a **new address**, please 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, Cardinal Ritter, etc.) where you receive a new phone number.