



Oak Leaf

A Publication of the AFFTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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Insert: 4th of July Breakfast flyer

Springtime Happenings!

Attendees of the 2021 *Café du Matin Morning Coffee* were fascinated to learn about *Eliza Haycraft*, St. Louis' notorious Victorian madam. Society member and guest speaker *Edna Dieterle*, who generously donated her time, is also actively involved with Bellefontaine Cemetery, where Eliza is buried without a headstone. The Ladies of Oakland contributed \$100 to kickstart a campaign to raise money for a headstone, with attendees donating an additional \$171. Edna made note of the interesting coincidence that Eliza died in 1871. Thirty-five guests attended the coffee, and the Ladies of Oakland realized an overall profit of \$575.03. Thank you so much to Morning Coffee Committee members *Pam Danklef* (Chair), *Rosie Miller*, *Barb Cook* and *Dot Huebener* who donated the food and organized the event. Also, many thanks to helpers *Lucy Johnson* and *Mary Jane Autry*, to *Jacqueline Brown* for creating the program, and to *Chris Turdo*, *Dianne Isbell*, and *Jacqueline* and *Nancy Brown* for taking photos.



Guest Speaker *Edna Dieterle* in period dress.



Café du Matin committee members *Pam Danklef*, *Rosie Miller* and *Dot Huebener* take a break in the kitchen.



The Easter Bunny and a little one dressed in her springtime finest exchange a socially distanced "high five."

This year, the 25th *Annual Bunny Hutch* was especially well received as 542 attendees took advantage of this festive and safe way to come out of hibernation and shake off the winter doldrums. Excited youngsters were thrilled as they hunted for treat-filled Easter eggs, pet a real "live" bunny and posed for photos with the Easter Bunny. Storytime, a craft corner and a treat rounded out the fun-filled day of outdoor springtime activities. After expenses, the Bunny Hutch netted \$3,162.07, while the Craft Ladies netted \$638.25, for an overall event profit of \$3,800.32. Many thanks to all our dedicated volunteers - especially to *Tracy Coleman* who donated the plastic eggs, to *Joan Komlos* and *Becky Cox* who donated the small gifts that filled the eggs, and to *Charlie Brown* who donated the candy.



We hope that you and your loved ones have been staying safe and healthy throughout this difficult year. We can all take heart that vaccines are becoming more readily available and that things are slowly starting to get back to "normal." AHS is scheduled to resume many activities by the end of April, and luncheons by June, but please be aware that we will continue to follow official recommendations regarding masking, social distancing, gathering size limitations and food service protocols. We will attempt to notify members of any necessary event cancellations or modifications through our website, mass e-mails and social media. Please visit us at www.oaklandhousemuseum.org and watch our Facebook page for updates. In the meantime, let's welcome spring as we continue to stay safe and be well.

AHS Membership Meetings

Spring - Sunday, April 25, 2021

Meeting Only - 1:30-3:30 p.m.

(NOTE: No pot luck or program due to COVID-19)

Fall - Sunday, October 24, 2021

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

Pot Luck Luncheon - Bring your favorite dish.
(drinks and desserts provided)

Program: To Be Announced

Open Houses for 2021

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

April 18 ~ May 16 ~ June 20

July 18 ~ August 15 ~ September 19

2021 Open Luncheons

Tuesday, June 8

Tuesday, September 14

Thursday, July 22

Thursday, October 14

Friday, August 13

Tuesday, November 9

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 ~ Sunday, July 4, 2021 ~ 10:00 a.m - 1:00 p.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



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

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

**Your financial support
is greatly appreciated!**



Many Thanks to deSmet Level Donors:

Francois Barry Jerriann Blassie Jeanette Bumb
Barnes & Donna Bradshaw Darryl & Alison Eaves

Special Thanks to Barnett Level Donors:

Bert & Liz Barry John & Diane Heath
Christy Franchot James

Extra-Special Thanks to Chopin Level Donors:

Don & Joan Harbaugh
Jean McDaniel Florence Rice

Super-Special Thanks to Faris Level Donors:

Oliver Chrisler & Lynda Brady



Save the Date!
Ladies of Oakland
Annual Afternoon Tea
Program: Tea with Dianne -
History, Customs & Etiquette
Featuring Dianne Isbell

Thursday, September 30

1:00 - 3:30 p.m.

\$36.00 per person

Details in the July Oak Leaf

Ladies of Oakland Meetings

The Ladies of Oakland meet at 1:00 p.m. on the third Tuesday, from April through November. COVID restrictions prevent us from serving food at the first two meetings, but the Salad Luncheon is scheduled for June, and refreshments will be served at the remaining meetings. There is always an interesting speaker or other entertainment as well, so mark your calendar and plan to attend.

April 20, 2021 - 1:00 p.m.

John Remelius III - "Susan Blow"

May 18, 2021 - 1:00 p.m.

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

June 15, 2021 - 12:00 noon

Salad Luncheon (note earlier time)
Bring your favorite salad or finger food
Bert Barry - "Benoist History"

July 20, 2021 - 1:00 p.m.

Ellen Mays - "Beginning Genealogy"

August 17, 2021 - 1:00 p.m.

Barnes Bradshaw - "Henry Shaw"

September 21, 2021 - 1:00 p.m.

Mike Truax - "1904 World's Fair"

October 19, 2021 - 1:00 p.m.

Don Marsh - "Coming of Age, Liver Spots & All"

November 16, 2021 - 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 2021 winner of the \$1000 Affton Historical Society Ladies of Oakland Scholarship is **Frances Miklovic**. Frances, who will graduate from Affton High School in May, is the daughter of Joshua and Mary Miklovic. She plans to attend either Truman State University or Benedictine College in the fall to study English Education and Business.

Congratulations, Frances!
Best Wishes in your future academic pursuits!

??? History Question ???

History Question for January:

Who owned the Oakland House between the years of 1872 and 1887?

Answer: The Oakland House was owned by all of the children of Louis and Sarah Benoist.

History Question for April:

Who owned the Oakland House between the years of 1887 and 1890?

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



The eighth annual **Give STL Day** will take place **Thursday, May 6th** 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 6th, but early donations can be made anytime from April 5 through May 5.** 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 6th to contribute.** Especially in these difficult times, this is an easy and effective way to support the Society – and the entire St. Louis region.

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 throughout the Affton community.



Executive Board

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Mary Jane Austry
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Tracy Coleman
Recording Secretary

Darryl Eaves
Corresponding Secretary

Nancy Harmon
President
Ladies of Oakland

2021 Board of Directors

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Rosie Miller
Event Coordinator

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Oak Leaf Editor

*The Board meets at
Oakland House at 7:00 p.m.
on the 2nd Thursday
of each month from
January through November.*

Members are welcome!



Please check your personal information in the *2021 AHS Membership & Ladies of Oakland Book* to make sure that it is complete and correct.

For any additions or corrections,
 Contact: Pam Danklef at (314) 842-0149,
 (314) 503-6401 or 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.

When contacting Pam Danklef at (314) 842-0149, (314) 503-6401 or 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.

Shutterbugs **Dianne Isbell** and **Jacqueline Brown** provided photos for this issue.
Thank You!



Membership Updates - Please welcome these new members and add their contact info to your Directory:

BRADSHAW, Barnes & Donna 314-605-1857
 6403 Darlow Drive, St. Louis, MO 63123
 Stlouishistory@aol.com

COLE, John & Cheryl 314-775-6499
 4523 Minnesota Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63111

LAKE, Stephanie 314-960-3919
 2900 Louisiana Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63118
 S11526@mail.umsl.edu

McCLURE, Rachel 314-229-2087
 5539 Grant Place, St. Louis, MO 63116
 rachelbock25@gmail.com

And please make the following changes to your Directory:

BENOIST, Caron & Peter (Pete)
 Add 2nd phone # for Peter 314-852-6551

CHRISLER, Oliver & BRADY, Lynda
 Add phone number to listing 314-740-2591

HALL, Phyllis (new address)
 36 Oak Shadow Avenue, Kimberling City, MO 65686

MINNEMAN, Marie (new address)
 1029 Joanna Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63122

AFFTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY - 2021 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES

AHS Annual Membership runs from January 1 through December 31 of each year. If your address label is **YELLOW**, your 2021 dues have not been paid. To continue to receive *The Oak Leaf*, you must pay your 2021 dues. Use the form below to **RENEW TODAY!**

If you have questions about membership status, contact Pam at (314) 503-6401, (314) 842-0149 or jpdanklef@aol.com.

Date _____ Amount Enclosed \$ _____ CHECK CASH
(circle one)

New Member? Yes No Renewing Member? Yes No

Any changes in membership information? Yes No

PLEASE PRINT -

Name _____ E-mail address _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____ Phone Publication Preference (circle one)
 HOME CELL BOTH

Memberships Available:

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual \$20 | <input type="checkbox"/> George I. Barnett Level \$51 - \$100 | <input type="checkbox"/> Clemence Benoist Faris Level \$501 - \$1,000 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Couple \$35 | <input type="checkbox"/> Kate Chopin Level \$101 - \$150 | <input type="checkbox"/> Sarah Wilson Benoist Level \$1,001 - \$2,500 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Father de Smet Level \$36 - \$50 | <input type="checkbox"/> Robert Brookings Level \$151 - \$500 | <input type="checkbox"/> Louis Auguste Benoist Level \$2,501 + |



To keep up to date with Oakland House Museum Happenings,
be sure to visit us at: www.oaklandhousemuseum.org