



# Oak Leaf

A Publication of the AFFTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

VOL. XLV NO. 3

July 2021



## In this issue...

- July 4<sup>th</sup> Breakfast Buffet
- Fall Membership Meeting
- Open Houses for 2021
- 2021 Open Luncheons
- Ladies of Oakland Meetings
- Food Pantry Donations Needed
- Annual Afternoon Tea
- Thank You for Your Support
- History Question
- Spring & Summertime Happenings
- Movie Premiere Update
- Santa House - Sign Up Early!
- Bits & Pieces - Give STL Day
- Amazon Smile
- Welcome New Members
- Directory Additions & Changes
- Membership Notes & Form

Insert:  
Afternoon Tea flyer

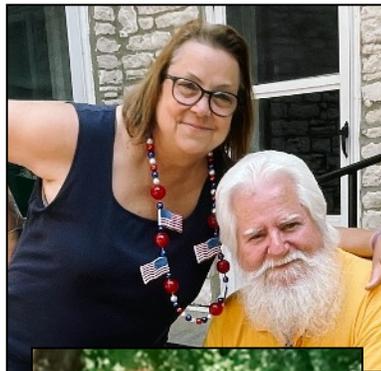
Many thanks to  
"Shutterbugs"  
Nancy Brown &  
Jacqueline Brown  
who provided photos  
for this issue.



## 4<sup>th</sup> of July festivities go off with a BANG!

After months of staying home, Oakland supporters and friends came out in force to celebrate our nation's independence with a patriotic breakfast. The festive July 4<sup>th</sup> gathering of 152 enjoyed a delicious and bountiful buffet of bacon, eggs, hash browns, fresh fruit and pastries.

Guests tapped their feet to lively bluegrass music performed by **Alex Bardon, Denny Brown** and **Joe Mendel**. The 50/50 Raffle profited of \$273.00. Those monies, combined with brisk ticket sale income, resulted in an overall, after-expense event profit of \$827.11.



*Thanks so much to our wonderful volunteers! Another successful 4<sup>th</sup> of July Breakfast has gone off with a BANG - and we couldn't have done it without all of you!*



## AHS Fall Membership Meeting

*Sunday, October 24, 2021*

*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. Meats and drinks are provided - and rumor has it that there will be ribs and chicken.

The slate of Executive Board Officers and Directors for 2022 will be presented for approval. The program topic is to be determined.

## Open Houses for 2021

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

*August 15 ~ September 19*

Free to members \$8.00 for the general public

## 2021 Open Luncheons

*Friday, August 13*

*Tuesday, September 14*

*Thursday, October 14*

*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.

**Please note:** Private Luncheons can be booked for groups of 15-56. Call Dot Huebener at (314) 300-8213 to reserve a date for your next group get-together.



## Ladies of Oakland Meetings

The Ladies of Oakland meet at 1:00 p.m. on the third Tuesday of the month. Refreshments are served, and there's always an interesting speaker or other entertainment.

Mark your calendars! You won't want to miss any of these events:

*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! Bring a friend!**

Nancy Harmon, President, Ladies of Oakland



**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.



*We hope you'll join us for our  
Ladies of Oakland Annual Afternoon Tea*

*"Tea with Dianne"*

*Thursday, September 30*

*1:00 - 3:30 p.m.*

*\$36.00 per person*



Reservations are required and limited.

"First come, first served" - No Reserved Seats

The program will feature **Dianne Isbell** speaking on  
**"History, Customs & Etiquette"**

Dianne is an award-winning hat designer and a featured milliner for the Kentucky Derby, so there's no better time to dress up and don your finest hat.

Hat Contest - "Wear a Hat... Win a Prize"

**Return the enclosed form today to reserve your spot!**

**Your membership support  
is greatly appreciated!**



**A "Special Thank You" to Chopin Level Donor**

Suzan Slater

**??? History Question ???**

*April History Question:*

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

*Answer:* Between 1887 and 1890, the Oakland House was owned by Theodore & Mary Hunt Benoist.

*History Question for July:*

Who owned the Oakland House between the years of 1890 and 1893?

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

## Spring & Summer Happenings

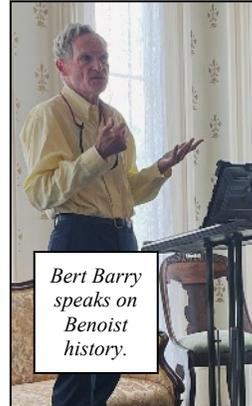
With the winter thaw, the folks at Oakland House Museum came out of hibernation just in time to get ready for a busy season of spring and summertime events. As usual, loyal Spring Yard Clean-Up volunteers worked diligently to spruce up and beautify the gardens and grounds.

Oakland opened its doors as one of 25 sites to participate in the *Historic Saint Louis* annual event, "Landscapes of Summertime Past." June saw the resumption of luncheons and other special events, as well as the kick-off to a full season of wedding and shower bookings.



The Ladies of Oakland meetings focused on our Benoist history in June and on genealogy in July. Coincidentally, to go along with the theme of family roots and history, we were treated to a visit from members of the Chicago French Heritage Society.

After such a long period of inactivity, it's so nice that it's back to business as usual for Oakland House Museum and the Affton Historical Society.



### **Lemp's Last Wright Premiere Update:**

Shift Films has announced new premiere dates and times, as well as a new venue. The long-awaited film will now be shown:  
**Nov 4 @ 6:00 pm - Nov 7 @ 10:30 pm**  
**Gas Light Theater**  
**360 North Boyle Avenue, 63108**

The film is sold out, but if you previously purchased tickets, Shift Films has been reaching out by phone or e-mail with information on how to select new tickets. If you were not contacted, or if you have questions about your tickets, contact Shift Films at (314) 730-0290.



Please Note: Parking at the Gas Light Theater is limited, so attendees may want to consider carpooling. Also, the West End Grill is right next door, so why not make a night of it and do dinner and a show?

### **SANTA HOUSE VOLUNTEERS - SIGN UP EARLY!**

It's never too early to be thinking about Christmas. Volunteers are needed each day of the 2021 Santa House to act as Santa's helper, cookie baker, Mrs. Claus, line control worker, and more. Workers are needed on...

**Weekends: December 4 & 5 and 11 & 12 - 11:00am-3:00pm**

**Weekdays: December 8, 9 & 10 - 9:00am-1:00pm**

Take a look at your calendars before they become too busy and make a commitment to assist with this special event. We need your help to make this a fun time for kids and adults!

To sign up, or for more information, contact Joan Komlos at joankomlos@sbcglobal.net or 314-496-6225.



### **Executive Board**

**Charlie Brown**  
*President*

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

**Mary Jane Autry**  
*Treasurer*

**Tracy Coleman**  
*Recording Secretary*

**Darryl Eaves**  
*Corresponding Secretary*

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

### **2021 Board of Directors**

**Bert Barry**  
**Barnes Bradshaw**  
**Shirley Brinker**  
**Becky Cox**  
**Ingrid Giddings**  
**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!**

VISIT OUR WEBSITE:

**[www.OAKLANDHOUSEMUSEUM.org](http://www.OAKLANDHOUSEMUSEUM.org)**



# Bits & Pieces



St. Louis is truly a generous community!

There is no greater evidence of this fact than the recent outpouring of support for local non-profits shown on the seventh annual **Give STL Day**. The May 6<sup>th</sup> event generated almost \$4.5 million in the form of 35,521 individual gifts to 1,077 deserving non-profit organizations. The **Affton Historical Society** participated again this year and profited **\$527.89**. Many thanks to the donors who remembered AHS in their charitable giving plans. Watch for the next **Give STL Day** in May 2022.



If you're already making purchases at Amazon.com, why not direct a portion of your purchase to be donated 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**.



### Membership Notes:

Please contact Membership Chair Pam Danklef at (314) 842-0149, (314) 503-6401 or [jpdanklef@aol.com](mailto:jpdanklef@aol.com) if:

- you are not receiving monthly e-mail updates on "Oakland House Museum Happenings"
- your membership information is incorrect or incomplete

AHS Annual Membership runs from January 1 through December 31 of each year. Haven't yet paid for 2021? It's never too late. Use the form below to **RENEW TODAY!**

## Membership Directory Updates

Please welcome the following new members and add their contact information to your 2021 Membership Directory:

**LANDHOLT, Doug & Joan** . . . . . **314-265-6788 (c)**  
5812 Delor Street, St. Louis, MO 63109  
[joan.landholt@gmail.com](mailto:joan.landholt@gmail.com)

**McGRATH, Michael & Kathleen** . . . **314-638-2830 (h)**  
4236 Fatima Drive, St. Louis, MO 63123  
[mmcg.08@gmail.com](mailto:mmcg.08@gmail.com)  
[beepmcg@gmail.com](mailto:beepmcg@gmail.com)

**MOROVITZ, Steve & Mary Ann** . . . . . **314-849-2364**  
10211 Gregory Court, St. Louis, MO 63128  
[maryannmorovitz@hotmail.com](mailto:maryannmorovitz@hotmail.com)

**WILLIAMS, Joe & KAYUSA, Kim**  
. . . . . **239-849-6680 (c)**  
5708 Potomac Street, St. Louis, MO 63139  
[k.kayusa@gmail.com](mailto:k.kayusa@gmail.com)

**YAEGER, Sharon** . . . . . **314-550-8884 (c)**  
4339 Sunridge, St. Louis, MO 63124  
[syaeg@aol.com](mailto:syaeg@aol.com)

**ZINGRICH, Ron & Sandy** . . . . . **314-894-8975 (h)**  
. . . . . **314-560-1221 (c)**  
4851 Melissa Jo Lane, St. Louis, MO 63128  
[sandyzingrich@gmail.com](mailto:sandyzingrich@gmail.com)

And please make the following changes or updates:

**BEEZLEY, Edna** (new address)  
509 E. Lockwood, St. Louis, MO 63119

**SCHAMBERG, Carol** (correct cell #) . . . **314-591-9238**

**AUTRY, Mary Jane** (new phone #) . . . . . **314-578-9158**

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

CHECK CASH  
(circle one)

Please mail this form with  
your check made payable to:

New Member?  Yes  No Renewing Member?  Yes  No

Any changes in membership information?  Yes  No

Affton Historical Society  
P.O. Box 28855, Affton, MO 63123

PLEASE PRINT -

Name \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Publication Preference (circle one)

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone \_\_\_\_\_ 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 +        |