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# The Chapel Bell

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Presented by the Maple Street Chapel Preservation Society, Inc.  
Volume 16, Issue No. 3 Summer, 2015

## Fire Sprinklers' Fund-Raising Banquet

by Ken Bohl, Facilities Director

A fund-raising banquet will be held on Saturday, September 26<sup>th</sup>. There will be a wine tasting in the Chapel at 5:00 p.m., and dinner will be held at 6:00 p.m. Dinner will be provided by Fred Palma of Rose Palma Catering. Lombard's very own astronaut Dan Tani will be present to tell his experiences about the two space shuttle missions in which he participated and a month that he spent on the International Space Station. Astronaut Tani will also share his memories of growing up in the First Church of Lombard family and his love for the Chapel. The price will be \$75.00 per person or \$550.00 per table (8 people reserving as a group). You may reserve your seat now by mailing the enclosed insert with your check.

We have shifted into high gear in our efforts to work toward our goal.

- In addition to the banquet, we conducted another fundraiser at Lombard's Ale Fest.
- We have begun to move ahead with the selection process of the contractors.

Ale Fest was a street festival held in downtown Lombard on June 13<sup>th</sup>, for the sampling of beers. Over 100 unique beers from craft breweries were available. The event afforded the Chapel members the opportunity to sell raffle tickets for the fire sprinkler system fundraiser. Ken Bruzek, Charles Richardson, Doris Schertz, Tom Scott, and JoAnn Richardson sold "Split the pot" raffle tickets from a tent and walking through the crowd. \$1,000 worth of tickets were sold, and a lucky winner received half of that amount, the remaining \$500 going to the fire sprinkler fund.

It has been a difficult process to find contractors who install fire sprinkler systems. This effort was greatly aided by a feature article in the Daily Herald. We have contacted a total of seven contractors, two of whom felt unable to do a project of this scope. The emphasis is not on comparing prices submitted by the five bidding contractors but rather the focus is on their designs and then selecting the best design. We are anticipating a high level of expert support from the Lombard Fire Department. Considerations include selecting a system that would successfully extinguish a fire, but also that the system will be durable and require minimal maintenance.

(continued on page 2)

**Continued from page 1 - Fire Sprinklers Fundraising Banquet**

The placement and quantity of sprinklers is critical to ensure that the system will suppress a fire.

There are many design details that determine the durability and maintenance level of the system. We started out knowing nothing about the subject, but with each contractor bid we are gathering more information. For example, many systems are installed with light-weight pipe known as "schedule 10". But there are many cases where the system rusted out and the pipes had to be replaced. Upgrading to "schedule 40" pipe would add about \$5,000 to the installation price, but the high cost of re-piping and possible water damage from a leak make the light-weight pipe a poor investment in the long run.

We are anxious to install this system to ensure the long-term safety of our precious Chapel.

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**The Chapel Bell is a newsletter presented by the Maple Street Chapel Preservation Society, Inc., published quarterly in Lombard, Illinois 60148**

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# You Won't Even Notice (We hope)!

by Ken Bohl, Facilities Director

The north side of the Chapel (the front, facing Maple Street) has ground sloping down to a cement wall. For years this has created problems:

- In heavy rain, the wood chip mulch washed out onto the sidewalk.
- In winter, water flowed out and formed ice on the sidewalk.

The typical solution would be to redirect the water flow to another area, or to have some kind of dry well to collect the water. Neither of these options were possible because the area is surrounded by the concrete wall and the stairs. The only really good solution would be to route the water under the sidewalk onto the parkway, which would be quite costly. Furthermore, we do not have the right to intrude into the parkway.



So we did the next-best thing and buried a perforated pipe along the top of the sloped area, distributing the water across the 50' width.

Alan Webb and Ken Bohl installed the pipe, preserving the existing landscaping as much as possible. The finishing touch was that Kevin Lattner restored the beauty of the plantings and mulch.

# Interesting Details About the Chapel: Stove Heat

by Ken Bohl, Facilities Chairman

You may know that the Chapel was originally heated by pot-bellied stoves. I don't know much about the Chapel stoves' diet and fitness level, but we do know that it was heated by at least three stoves, whatever their style.

This is our most historic picture of the Chapel. We don't have the exact date of the picture, but it certainly dates back to somewhere close to 1870. One very subtle detail is that it has not one, but three chimneys, one for each stove. Today the brickwork of the three unused chimneys still remains in the Chapel attic which extends from the floor of the attic to the underside of the roof.



The stoves were a key reason that the ends of the pews were numbered. The desirable location was to be located about halfway between the cold drafty windows and the hot stoves. Therefore an annual auction was held to assign seats.

The stoves that were used have not appeared in any of our historic photos of the interior, so we have no way to determine the style of the Chapel stoves.



Fancier, ornate stoves used chrome and glass to enhance their appearance. These tended to be used in elegant homes.





It's just a guess, but it seems more likely that the stoves in the Chapel were plainer than the ones on the previous page. The stove on the left is a pot-bellied design, and the one on the right is a straight cylindrical design.



Initially many stoves burned wood, but it is more likely that the Chapel stoves burned coal. In the early 19<sup>th</sup> century wood was the locally-grown fuel option. However, once the Galena and Chicago Union Railroad line (predecessor of the Chicago & North Western) was built through Lombard in 1849, carloads of the much better fuel coal were widely available. Since the Chapel was built in 1870 it stands to reason that the Chapel stoves were most likely fueled with coal.

The stove pictured to the right is currently located in the blacksmith shop of Naper Settlement, and has been put back into use to warm the shop on cold days. There are interesting details in the design. The rate at which the wood or coal burns is directly proportional to the amount of fresh air that enters the stove. Regulating the amount of air is basically operating a thermostat, however, there is a trade-off in the amount of air allowed into the stove. If a stove was heating your house, you might *like* to have it going full-blast to warm your bedroom, but warming the house at the maximum rate is not worth having to get up every couple hours to add more fuel. So you would have had to base the burn rate on how often you were willing to get up. Note in the picture that there are two round air inlets on the stove. One is located in the middle of the main door, and the other is the rectangular door at the bottom. The primary purposes of these doors were to put wood or coal in, and to clean out ash. The round air inlet openings in each of these doors unscrews to open and to let air in. For maximum heat level, the door at the bottom can be left open.



You may think of the radiators, and imagine the first coal-fired boiler as “old-fashioned” but the introduction of a centralized heat source distributing the hot water heat to the most desirable locations was a major breakthrough in comfort, which we can appreciate today.



# Gifting Opportunities

As we have stated in the past, this is *not* a fund-raising effort. Since we receive cash gifts (memorials, tax refunds, special events), this article presents various gifting needs for the restoration of the Chapel's furniture. Your gifts are greatly appreciated and provide pleasure to everyone who visits the Chapel.

## Recently Completed:

*Bavarian chairs* - All five have been completed.

The *four Plum chairs* around a table in the Reade room have been glued and repaired only. These are made of solid cherry and have a hand-made quality to them.



## Chair/Furniture Restoration Needed:

Although the necessary repairs have been done, the four Plum chairs would look much better with a refinishing at \$100.00 per chair.



## Chair/Furniture Restoration Also Needed:

Table in the Reade Room - \$500

This is a beautiful mahogany table. It looks really bad with white patches, but the table is basically in very good condition. The price is for a complete stripping, gluing, and refinishing.

School chairs - We had five of them fixed up a few years ago. They are all frequently used. We have 20 more that could be done at \$85 each.

**If you prefer to contribute to a larger project, then the fire sprinkler system fundraiser is another opportunity.**

## Meet More Endowment Donors

Carole Robinson      Robert Hallam

## Meet More Friends of the Maple Street Chapel\*

### Basic Membership

Cary Bussema  
David & Gladys Cunningham  
John Egan  
Larry Gage  
Robert & Darlene Galgan  
Barbara Jirsa  
Lombard Dairy Queen, Karyn Kanthack  
Claire Loudon  
Matthew Marzullo  
Marilyn McNeil

### Basic Membership

Betty Meyer  
John Morrice  
Margaret Neely  
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Don Barg  
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Paul Plass  
Georgie & Marilyn Seagraves  
Doris & Dave Schertz  
Suzanne & Jeffrey Sichz  
Mark Weiting

### Chapel Steward

Glen & Muriel Seegers

### In Honor of

Jean Pinella from the Reese Family

### Special Gifts

Tom Scott for gift of canopy

### Memorial Gifts

For Fred & Shirley Porter

### Fire Sprinkler Fund

Annette Baldwin  
Linda Bohl, (Aetna  
Foundation match)  
Jim & Susanne Cassell

Janet Derber  
Pamela Horne  
R. J. Kralicek

George Nason  
Jeffrey & Suzanne Sichz  
Ruth Stiemann

# THE DOCENTS' VOICE

by Joann Richardson, Docent Chairperson

## "Historical Information About the Narthex"

"Welcome to the Maple Street Chapel"



In 1915 the Village found it necessary to pave the dirt roads and put in sidewalks. As a result, this made the area a speedway for the "horseless carriages" in town and entering the Chapel from the north entrance was dangerous. For the safety of the parishioners, the "Women's Union" of the Church raised the funds necessary for relocating the doors. The project encompassed creating two new entrances, one on the east and one on the west. The photograph to the left shows the two sets of doors that were facing north.

The plain glass windows you are able to see today took the place of the original north doors. Located in the middle between these windows are three stained glass windows depicting an "Open Bible" (on the left), the "Eye of God" (in the center), and a "Dove of Peace" (on the right).



(Continued on page 8)

Continued from page 8 - The Docents' Voice



Of particular interest, located on the North wall and scratched in the wood is the name of a local early settler in Lombard, Vernon Peck, who signed his name and dated it November 26, 1896. This was discovered by Betty Meyer, when the walls of the Chapel were being cleaned in 2003.

The bell closet is on the north wall near the stairs to the east door. The bell was used to summon people to church, alert the volunteer fire department and to announce meetings. The bell is housed in an open belfry. In 1870 the bell was made in West Troy, New York by the Meneely Bell Foundry.



The loft of the Chapel is reached through a panel opening in the ceiling just inside the West doors. One can reach the attic level by means of a wooden ladder leading up the arch that you see over this Narthex. The ladder extends to an access door which allows one to climb up into the belfry. In the early days this Steeple could be seen as far away as Bloomingdale. Despite new construction, with today's night lighting the Steeple is still visible up and down Main Street of Lombard.

The Octagon table served as the pulpit/lectern located originally near the altar. There is a photo in the Reade room which shows its early use. It was recently refinished, covered with leather and a sheet of glass placed on top for protection.

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The current Docent's committee welcomes you to come in for a tour the 3rd Sunday of August, September and October from 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM. The Chapel is closed from November through February.

**Current Docents Committee:**

Ken Bohl	Ken Bruzek	Jan Kreichel	Claire Loudon
Betty Meyer	Doris Schertz	Joann Richardson	Tom Scott

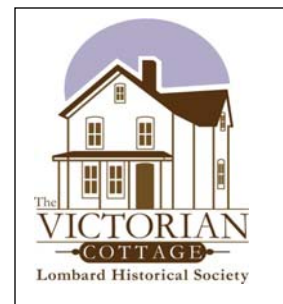
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**Trivia answer from the Spring edition:** No running water for personal use.  
**Trivia:** Do you know the approximate height of the Steeple?



# LHS Museum News

[www.lombardhistory.org](http://www.lombardhistory.org)



## Upcoming Programs

**Ice Cream Social** Sunday, August 23, 1-3pm.  
Celebrate the end of summer, Victorian-style. Join us for an ice cream social on the grounds at the Victorian Cottage Museum (23 W Maple Street). There will be live music, games, children's activities, and of course ice cream! Activities will all be free but tickets will be sold at a small charge for the ice cream and sundae toppings.

**Picnic At The Peck.** Sunday, September 27, 12-3pm at the Sheldon Peck Homestead. In the spirit of Sheldon and Harriet Peck, who welcomed all to their home, we are hosting Picnic at the Peck. Guests are encouraged to bring a blanket and lunch for picnicking – we'll supply cookies and lemonade. At 2pm there will be a short presentation and unveiling of the American Association for State and Local History Michael Kammen Award. LHS has been named as the inaugural Kammen Award winner for the new permanent exhibit "Footsteps to Freedom" which examines the origins of slavery in the United States, the abolitionist movement, and Peck's involvement in the Underground Railroad.

**Cemetery Walk** Sunday, October 25 12pm-2pm at the Lombard Cemetery on Main Street. Join us for a walk through the cemetery and hear the life stories of some of Lombard's past residents. \$3 per person; LHS Members are free.

## August Hours

**Carriage House/Victorian Cottage:**  
Wednesdays 1pm-6pm, Fridays 1pm-4pm, Sundays 12pm-3pm.

**Archive Hours:**  
Tuesdays & Thursdays, 10am-3pm by appointment only.  
Please call (630-629-1885).

**Sheldon Peck Homestead:**  
Tuesdays and Thursdays 1-4pm;  
Sundays 12pm-3pm.

## Sept/Oct Hours

**Carriage House/Victorian Cottage:**  
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Fridays 1pm-4pm.

**Archive Hours:**  
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Please call (630-629-1885).

**Sheldon Peck Homestead:**  
Tuesdays and Thursdays 1-4pm;  
Sundays 12pm-3pm.

*For more information, please see [www.lombardhistory.org](http://www.lombardhistory.org) or call us at 630-629-1885.*

# Why is your membership important to the Maple Street Chapel Preservation Society?

By Doris Schertz, Membership Vice President

The Maple Street Chapel Preservation Society was created to preserve the Maple Street Chapel for future generations. The Chapel is on the Federal Registry of Historical Places and is open to the public for tours and special events. Over the years the Chapel has been a venue for weddings, commemorative occasions, anniversaries, and funeral services.

The Society also publishes a newsletter, The Chapel Bell, every winter, spring, summer and fall. Through this publication the Chapel Society board and committee members contribute articles to keep members informed of the Chapel's activities and listing our new "Friends." Many of the articles include the maintenance and repairs that are needed, completed projects, interesting historical information about the Chapel, upcoming programs, fundraising for large scale preservation projects. We are currently conducting various fundraisers to obtain a much needed fire sprinkler system. Once our editor has compiled the news, needs, articles, photographs, activities and lists of new "Friends", it then goes to The Inkwell Store in Lombard for printing. Approximately 250 copies are mailed each quarter.

In order to keep the Chapel as a historical landmark in Lombard and open to the public, it is of great importance to strive to increase the membership. Annual membership gifts at various levels provide funds for ongoing expenses. Larger gifts can be earmarked for the Endowment Fund, and the earnings from these financial investments provide funds for the continued preservation needs of the Chapel. Special gifts can be allocated for outright purchases or repairs, and can be dedicated in memory or recognition of a person, event or commemorative time.

We want EVERYONE who cares about the Maple Street Chapel to have the opportunity to be able to read The Chapel Bell newsletter. You can purchase a basic "Friends" membership for a minimum of \$25.00 per person and have the letter sent to a friend, or relative or anyone you know who would like to receive our wonderful newsletter.

Please make your membership check payable to: Maple Street Chapel Preservation Society, Inc. (MSCPSI).

P.S. Dedicated in May 1870, the month of May 2015 is Maple Street Chapel's 145<sup>th</sup> year.

**Maple Street Chapel Preservation Society**  
**220 So. Main Street**  
**Lombard, Illinois 60148**

Join the Friends of the Maple Street Chapel Society Today!

Please check the box below to direct your enclosed donation.

Please make your check payable to the Maple Street Chapel Preservation Society, Inc.

- Friends of the Maple Street Chapel. Annual memberships. Money is used for ongoing Chapel expenses.
- Endowment Fund. Money is invested and earnings provide for preservation of the Chapel
- Special Gifts. Specifically for \_\_\_\_\_

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Basic "Friends" Membership \$25 - \$99 | <input type="checkbox"/> Board & Batten Society \$3,000 - \$4,999  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bell Ringer \$100 - \$499              | <input type="checkbox"/> Colonel Plum's Partners \$5,000 - \$9,999 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chapel Steward \$500 - \$999           | <input type="checkbox"/> The Reade Circle \$10,000 - \$24,999      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Steeple Club \$1,000 - \$2,999         | <input type="checkbox"/> Pinnacle Society \$25,000 +               |

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