



The Chapel Bell

Presented by the Maple Street Chapel Preservation Society, Inc.
Volume 11, Issue No. 1 Winter, 2010

**YOU ARE INVITED
TO JOIN IN FESTIVITIES COMMEMORATING
THE 140TH
ANNIVERSARY
OF LOMBARD'S NATIONAL REGISTRY TREASURE,
THE MAPLE STREET
CHAPEL**

April 16th 2010.....

Hosting the events will be Lombard Village President William Mueller

5:00 to 7:00pm....a Special Reception will be held in the Maple Street Chapel's historic **Reade Room** where the village's first free library was founded by Josiah Reade.

7:00pm...Step back in time and enjoy a delightful dinner in the Multitorium Room next door, where you will be joined by the "Col. William and Helen Plum" (Bill and Eileen Mueller), and "Josiah and Christie Reade" (Tom and Shirley Scott) with Special Events and Proclamation presentation.



The Maple Street Chapel is a part of Lombard's living history. Its preservation is about the people who appreciate the character of their world. The Maple Street Preservation Society believes strongly in progress through preserving who we are while creating a future to pass to generations to come.

Maple Street Chapel's Celebration Schedule, 2010

Mid March Town Hall Meeting chaired by Village President Mueller

April 16, Friday, Reade Room Anniversary Dinner
(For reservations call Tom Scott, 630-627-0171)

Month of May, See our display at Helen Plum Library

May 16, Sunday, Lombard Lilac Parade. See our Float.

May 23, Sunday, Worship Service, "140 Years of Service"
(Public Invited)

Editor's note: Further details in the next issue.

Docent Chapel Tour Calendar

2:00 to 4:00PM

February 21, 2010

March 21, 2010

April 18, 2010

June 20, 2010

Docent Committee

Barbara Barta

Joan Richardson

Kenneth Bohl

Doris Schertz

Betty Meyer

Tom Scott

Helga Wilk

We invite you to join us in this endeavor. If you are interested in being trained as a docent, call 630-627-0171

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

Contact personnel @ 630-627-0171

Tom Scott, President

Ken Bohl, Facilities Chair, and Producer,
American Concerts

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Doris Schertz, Grants Chair

Joan Richardson, Docent Chair

James Cassell, Grants Co-Chair

Chapel Bell Editor and Publisher: Jeanie McCoy 630 627-237

DuPage Community Foundation Fall Grant

Pictured left to right; Maple Street Chapel Preservation Society President Tom Scott, Director of Grants Doris Schertz, Financial Manager Marlyn Meyer accepting a 2009 Fall Grant from the DuPage Community Foundation Trustee and Grant Committee Chair, Jean Morrissey.



Photo; courtesy of the DuPage Community Foundation

Lombard's Maple Street Chapel Preservation Society was one of 27 not-for-profit organizations in DuPage County to receive a grant from the 2009 Fall Grant Cycle of The DuPage Community Foundation. The \$5,650 grant will help underwrite continued restoration of the 140 year old Maple Street Chapel, built in 1870. Grant funds will be used to continue restoration of the Reade Room which is accessed through the Chapel's rear doors. The Reade Room was Lombard's first library from 1873 to 1928

Early resident and church member Josiah T. Reade started Lombard's library by bringing books to the Chapel in a peach basket from his home next door after the 1871 Chicago Fire when many families were wiped out of their belongings. His collection of 271 books in 1873 grew to more than 6,000 by 1928, when the library moved across the street to become Helen Plum Library. The Reade Room is now a museum for artifacts from that era and the early church.



“Name That Relic”

We’re introducing a new occasional periodic feature that I’ll call “Name That Relic”. Most of the things that will be presented have been seen in a *Lombard Ken* column in the past, but now it’s your turn to figure these oddities out.

The first item was discovered in the basement - the crawl space to be exact - hanging from the ceiling. It was under the west side of the sanctuary under what used to be the back of the choir loft (which we have now made into a storage closet).



This puzzle is to figure out where this picture was taken. It was taken inside the chapel, but most of you have not seen it nor are likely to ever do so.

“Name That Relic” Solutions

The first was part of the bellows of the pipe organ. Not the *original* pipe organ, but the one that was donated in 1920 and built into the Chapel. Before there was an electric pump, there were foot pedals in the area behind the choir loft for pumping air into the pipe organ. Later on, this was replaced by an electric motor and pump. Of course, thanks to Tom & Shirley Scott and the Rogers organ they donated in 2001, this pump is no longer used. But anyway, the duct from that pump is the one you see in the other picture running through the area of the bellows and turning to go up. The original air pipe started there and ran up to the room in the attic where the organ’s pipes are located.



the electric motor and pump

The second picture is a view of the attic above the sanctuary. The beams forming X’s are actually 6” x 12” wood beams, and the roof rafters above them are 2x12s. You might not have imagined that there is such a large attic space above the ceiling (about a 12’ height in the middle), but consider how nearly flat the ceiling is compared to the steepness of the roof on the outside, and it makes sense. Access to this attic space is a trap door in the ceiling above the northwest part of the chapel, just after you enter the 2nd double-doors. Once you are up there, there is a built-in ladder taking you up the tall arched ceiling of the narthex. Barely visible in the background is one of the former chimneys from when there was a pot-belly stove at the front of the sanctuary. It no longer exists in the visible space of the sanctuary, nor does it pass through the roof, but the brick structure in the attic was never removed.

The DuPage Community Foundation Grant Continued from Page 3

As the building aged, doors have sagged out of alignment; the chicken wire book shelves fell; cabinet doors gaped open; drawers stuck; door knobs and locks no longer matched; floors were scuffed; rugs were threadbare and winter's chill winds seeped through the cracks. Thanks to the support of The DuPage Community Foundation, the original wooden walls and floors of both the sanctuary and back room have been refinished; and closets, shelving and cabinets were rebuilt and repaired for storing and displaying artifacts. However, the restoration work continues.

During 2010, this \$5,650 grant will be used to repair two antique benches with reversible spindle backs for two-way seating; build a roof over the back entry; panel the bell rope closet; install lighting over rare Washington Irving and Bret Harte book collections; realign doors and install new latch sets, locks and a hydraulic door closer. With more than 1,000 visitors annually, the door on Main Street is often ajar, which invites theft, vandalism and unnecessary fire alarms.

Since 1870, when Maple Street Chapel was founded (as the First Church of Lombard), it has served the Village in many ways. In its early years it summoned the Fire Brigade, served as a place for Village board meetings, also as the first movie house until the DuPage theater was built and continues to serve the Village..

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In Honor of Gifts....

Tom & Shirley Scott

James & Susanne Cassell

Betty Vance

Richard & Susan Varno

Katelyn Hatfields's Birthday

James & Susanne Cassell

NOTE 2010 Maple Street Chapel Calendars are on sale for \$15 at the Lombard Historical Society and at the First Church of Lombard, Main & Maple Streets. For information, contact Thomas Scott, president, Maple Street Chapel Preservation Society, 630-627-0171.

For more information regarding Maple Street programs, concerts and how to purchase tickets, become a Friend of the Chapel, or plan a chapel wedding, visit www.maplestreetchapel.org

Meet More Endowment Donors

Steeple Club

Dr. Paul & Pam Meyer
Tom & Shirley Scott

Bell Ringer

George & Gwen Vandon

Meet More Friends of the Maple Street Chapel*

Bell Ringer

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Marie Holle
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Morgan & Carol Meyer
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John Rowley

Basic Membership

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Virginia Dahlgren

Basic Membership

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George & Marilyn Lange
Marlyn & Betty Meyer
Nondi Orazi/Terry Walsh
Jane Stiemann
Hazelle Richardson
Carole Robinson
Alan & Vicki Webb

Memorial Gifts

For Winona Hinckley Cosner

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Staff: Crystal Lake Library

For Roy Wiegand

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Bruce Ingstrup
Audrey Jaroscak

For Roy Wiegand

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Anna Kong
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Marlyn & Betty Meyer
Drs. Morgan & Carol Meyer
Norman Meyer
Walter & Betty Radtke
Glen & Louise Shannon
Candace Stack
Evelyn Sterns
Robert Stein
Eugene Wind
James & Laura Zorn

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Editor's Note: any omissions or errors will be addressed in the next issue.

*Yearly memberships

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 _____

Basic "Friends" Membership \$25 - \$99

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Colonel Plum's Partners \$5,000 - \$9,999

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NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

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Lombard, Illinois 60148