



# Edgewater Scrapbook

"Notes from the Past, News from the Present"

Vol. XVII, No. 2

Summer 2006

## Roy E. Knauer, Edgewater Glen Builder

If you own a home in the 1200 or 1300 block of Glenlake, there is a good chance that it was built by Roy Edmund Knauer.

In the seven year period beginning in 1905 and ending in 1911, Roy Knauer built some 36 homes, all but six on Glenlake east of Glenwood. [He built two on Hood and four on Norwood.] Mr. Knauer was apparently almost unique as a builder of Edgewater homes. Unlike other builders of Edgewater homes, such as J.L. Cochran, W.H. Cairnduff, and the Kransz family, he was not a subdivider. Rather, he was someone who bought land from a subdivider and then built homes on the land to sell. He did not buy all the land at one time, either. He bought some lots, built houses on them, sold some of them, then bought more lots and repeated the process - and did so several times. On Glenlake, he bought, built and sold on the north side of the street before turning to the south side. Also, almost alone among the builders of Edgewater houses, he actually lived in one of his Edgewater houses, and did so for over a decade. [The other major builder, Niels Buck, also lived in Edgewater but he lived in a house he designed for himself; J.L. Cochran lived in one of his creations, but only for a year.] The City Directories show Roy Knauer living at 1239 Glenlake from 1911 to at least

1923. The 1930 census shows him having moved to Kenilworth and living at 166 Abingdon Avenue.

Interesting, but also discouraging, he apparently did not use an architect for any of his homes. None is listed on any of his permits. His first ad in the Chicago Tribune was in 1907. It was a simple classified which read:

FOR SALE - EDGEWATER  
NEW, MODERN 8 ROOM HOUSES,  
\$5000, EASY TERMS.  
SEE THEM TODAY  
ROY E. KNAUER  
2937 EVANSTON AVE

Dozens like it followed it in the months and years afterwards.

His first Edgewater real estate office was at what is today 6140 Broadway, at the southwest corner of Hood. [The building no longer exists.] The 1923 directory shows his office at 6168 Broadway. [That building also no longer exists]. By 1928, when he was no longer an Edgewater resident, he had moved his office to 2344 Devon in Rogers Park, where it remained.

Roy Knauer was born September 23, 1883, the only son and

*(Continued on page 4)*

## The Edgewater Historical Society

presents

### 18th Annual Home Tour In Edgewater Glen



Sunday  
September 17, 2006  
Noon until 4:00 p.m.

Tour begins at  
The Granville Avenue  
United Methodist Church  
1307 W. Granville Avenue

Donation \$20. Refreshments provided.



## From the President

Greetings, subscribers and members and those who will be. Last month, I talked about the beauty of our garden. Then I sent in to the Illinois Association of Museums to apply for an award for this EHS project and for its main workers, Sandra Remis and Elisabeth Szegho. It is a beautiful place that came about because of hard work and an admirable grant from the City of Chicago's Green-corps. Go back to the **Fall 2005** issue to read about it in the article by Sandee titled *Flower Power*.

If you have not been inside the museum in a while, please do attend to see the beautiful exhibit of "Postcards from Edgewater." Then, drop around back and see our new kitchen that is ready for parties and events. Then, open the kitchen door and walk out into the peaceful garden setting. This will be the location for our first party to honor our volunteers in August. This will become a regular event, we hope. Sandra Remis has given her time to host the event. Watch for your invitation.

This year was an experiment in how we brought in more and more speakers on a monthly basis, instead of only at General Meetings several times a year. I like the idea and also like seeing an audience visit the museum in larger numbers. The way people gather in this space and come to know it and the exhibits, makes our museum blossom - somewhat like the garden.

On July 25th, will have **Ray Hanania**, humorist, author of "Arabs of Chicagoland" and award-winning journalist. What he had to say was important for all of us to hear.

Now comes the important event our the **Fall Home Tour on Sunday, September 17, 2006**. We are happy to be returning to the

area known as **Edgewater Glen**. This area runs from Granville to Norwood and from Broadway to Clark. It is a beautiful area to walk in. As before, it will be from **noon to 4 p.m.** and start at the charming **Granville Avenue United Methodist Church**.

Later in September, on Tuesday the 26th, **Professor Ann Durkin Keating** will discuss her "Encyclopedia of Chicago." Bring your Chicago questions for Professor Keating to the Museum on Tuesday, September 26th, at 7 p.m.

Be aware that we have a very special October program planned for you. On Saturday, October 21st at 10 a.m., **Bob Remer** is presenting a discussion and display of his map collection. He will show his maps that not only tell us how to get around, but also tell us a lot about how we live, how we are organized, our dreams, how we think about ourselves and our history. He has invited Robert Holland, author of "Chicago In Maps" and also George and Mary Ritzlin to discuss what we can learn from maps. Some gems and topical areas include: a French map from 1781; a surveyor's map from 1845 showing the missing South Branch of the Chicago River; maps on lakefront plans and many more. You will be enlightened plus it is a terrific example of collecting and education in Edgewater. Some of these gems will remain on exhibit for a while in the EHS Museum. We hope this will spur more collectors and historians to want to show their collections and have the neighborhood see them.

A week after that, on October 28th at 2 p.m., we will have the return of the "Those were the days Radio Players" in a comedy and a Lone Ranger program that has real meaning to Edgewater. The famous lawman was played by one of our former residents - **Clayton Moore**, who lived in Edgewater and went to school here, graduating from Senn High School before going to New York to work as a model - and then **The**

**Lone Ranger!** We will show some pictures and perform some stories that will bring you back to those days of yesteryear. The Lone Ranger Rides Again!

November is open so we can create the 2007 Calendar, but on Saturday, December 2nd at 2 p.m., another hour of Old Time Radio comedy will help to make your winter season more palatable.

Trust me, there is something for everyone and we have it for you every month. Join us and get the latest information and help us choose the type of speakers you would like to see here. This is your own local museum and we want this to reflect the community it represents. The best way to join, if you haven't already, is by using the membership form on page 11 in this newsletter. We are still the "Best Bargain in Edgewater."

Betty Mayian

### Edgewater and Chicago Maps

dating from as early as 1781 will be on display at **Edgewater Historical Society and Museum** from October 7, 2006 to October 29, 2006

#### Special events:

**October 7th 1-4 p.m.**  
**Opening reception**

This is the best time to see the exhibit.

**October 21st at 10 a.m.**

Special guest speakers:

Robert Remer, historian and collector  
Robert Holland, author of "Chicago in Maps"  
George and Mary Ritzlin of Ritzlin Maps

# A Postcard from Edgewater

Postcards are a favorite way to communicate when people travel to places far away. In a few well chosen phrases, the sender tells how things are going and reminds the recipient that they are away. In Edgewater, the most popular postcards of this type are those printed for the Edgewater Beach Hotel, which stood on the 5300 block of Sheridan from 1916 to 1970.

Some other Edgewater postcards were printed to advertise special places like restaurants and motels in hopes of reaching more customers. Still others were printed to show large important buildings like churches and schools and apartment buildings.

At the Edgewater Historical Society Museum, we have a display of some of the many postcards sent from Edgewater to places around the country. Because these cards often end up in drawers and become parts of estate sales, they are bought up by collectors and then sold to other collectors. The museum is a

collector of Edgewater postcards.

For the enjoyment of our many summer visitors, we have put some of our postcard images on display. The exhibit is set up so that you can see the enlarged image and the back side together. On the back side, you can see the message and, in some cases, the postmark and some information about the printing of the card.

Did you know that there is a museum in the Chicago area dedicated to the postcard? The Lake County Museum holds the Curt Teich Postcard Archives. The Curt Teich Company operated in Chicago from 1898 to 1978. The company was the world's largest printer of view and advertising cards. The Lake County Museum can be reached by calling 847-968-3381 or send an email to [teicharchives@co.lake.il.us](mailto:teicharchives@co.lake.il.us)

Postcards were first introduced by photographers who took photos of families and places often going door to door. The photo that was produced was made to be mailed although many families kept them. Some photographers like R.E. Jackson (see the Spring 2001 Edgewater Scrapbook) took pictures of neighborhood streets and businesses. All the early photo

cards were printed in black and white.

Prior to color photography, the first colored postcards were hand colored. The earliest cards looked like black and white photos with just a hint of color in the sky and ground. Gradually, the artwork became more elaborate when the companies producing cards decided that the photos had some unwanted details. Areas of the photos were airbrushed in order to eliminate trash on the street or unsightly areas. Even the grass was made to look perfect. All this changed, of course, with the invention of colored film.

As for the messages sent on cards prior to 1907, no message was allowed on the address side of a postcard, so the photos were made smaller in order to allow for space on the border for messages. Once the post office rules were changed, there was a lot more room to send those important messages like "Having a great time!" and "Wish you were here." Speaking of the post office, there is a photo card of Edgewater's own post office in 1908. Stop by and see it. The exhibit will be up through September.

Kathy Gemperle

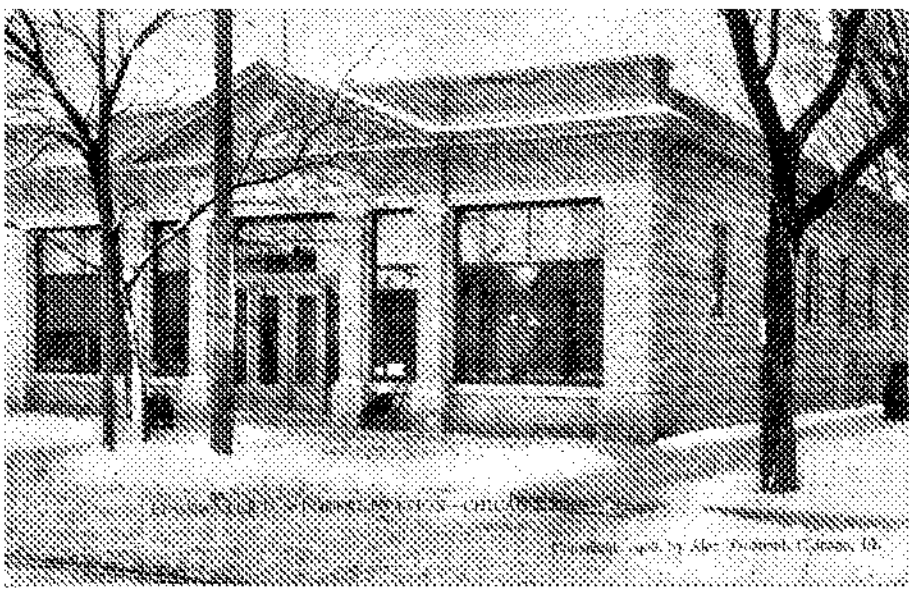
## POSTCARD

Hello, Edgewater,

*Can you believe that this is our beautiful post office in 1908? It's a rare postcard from the old days. Notice the strollers with children left in front and the snow on the ground. It's hard to believe this same NE corner of Broadway and Catalpa now has a three story building and that we do not have a post office. It's almost one hundred years later.*

*I just love postcards.*

Kathy



## Roy E. Knauer

(Continued from page 1)

second child of Edmund and Mary Simon Troost Knauer. His father, who was listed as one of the incorporators of the Grand Central Elevated Railway Company [which never realized its aims] and who was also involved in real estate, died in the last half of 1894 or the first half of 1895, when Roy was only 11 or 12. He lived with his mother at 2919 N. Clark [old number 1474] for several years. He was only 23 when he purchased his first lots and built his first houses. Three years later he married Eleanor Lange. They had three sons [Roy E. Jr., Robert and Warren], and one daughter. He died on August 16, 1943, in Evanston hospital.

In one of those "it's a small world" events, his paternal uncle Bruno, who was in real estate partnership with his father, married Marguerite Weber of Rosehill. Marguerite's brother Bernard married Mary Kransz of the pioneer Kransz family that later developed the west half of Edgewater Glen. In a second "it's a small world" event, Roy's cousin [Bruno's son] Bernard [born 1875] built a house at the north east corner of Paulina and Thome in 1900 and then later moved to 1315 Norwood, a house that interestingly was not built by Roy. They lived just a block from each other.

Roy's namesake son also went on to establish a career in real estate. Like his father, Roy Jr. was very involved in professional real estate organizations. He died in 2001 at the age of 89, thus bringing to a close three generations in the Chicago area real estate market. The only survivors listed in his obituary were a niece or nephew. Either he and his wife had no children or they did but their children predeceased them. A trustee led the funeral arrangements.

Few early Edgewater home builders built as many homes in

such a small area as Roy E. Knauer, Sr.; the only others were S.E. Gross, who built most of the homes on Highland Avenue, Niels Buck, who built 36 cottages in the area of Bryn Mawr, Ravenswood, Olive and Hermitage and, of course, the B.F. Weber Co, the Weber-Kransz Company and members of the Kransz family that built many of the homes on Granville, Hood, Glenlake and Norwood west of Glenwood.

Edgewater Glen is unique among Edgewater neighborhoods in having a significant number of its homes built by two major home builders.

The following is a list of homes built by Roy E. Knauer:

- Glenlake - north side: 1218, 1224, 1308, 1310, 1314, 1318, 1334 and 1336
- Glenlake - south side: 1219, 1225, 1229, 1233, 1235, 1239, 1241, 1245, 1249, 1253, 1265, 1303, 1305, 1309, 1311, 1315, 1319, 1321, 1325, 1333 or 1337, 1349 and 1353
- Hood - 1306, 1310, 1314 and 1329
- Norwood - 1253 and 1343

LeRoy Blommaert

## The First Edgewater Glen Teardown

In June or July 2006, the Edgewater Glen neighborhood experienced its first modern tear down. The house at 1229 Norwood was demolished. It was one of Edgewater Glen's oldest houses, having been built in 1901 for Theodore Schuerman. Interesting, it was valued by the Cook County Assessor at \$70,495. Using the formula of the market value being 10 times the assessor's valuation, that would have made it a \$700,000 house in today's market. Is this a portent of things to come?



### The Edgewater Home Tour Collection

Take an armchair tour of your neighborhood.

The collection includes 21 books featuring more than 100 homes and churches in the seven neighborhoods of Edgewater.

Buy this valuable collection for only \$40.00 while supplies last.

Available at the museum or call and leave a message.



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This list of monetary donors to our Building Fund will eventually be memorialized on a plaque. That plaque will be created similar to the page shown and will be a permanent display in our museum. Please notify us if you see any errors. Thank you, one and all.

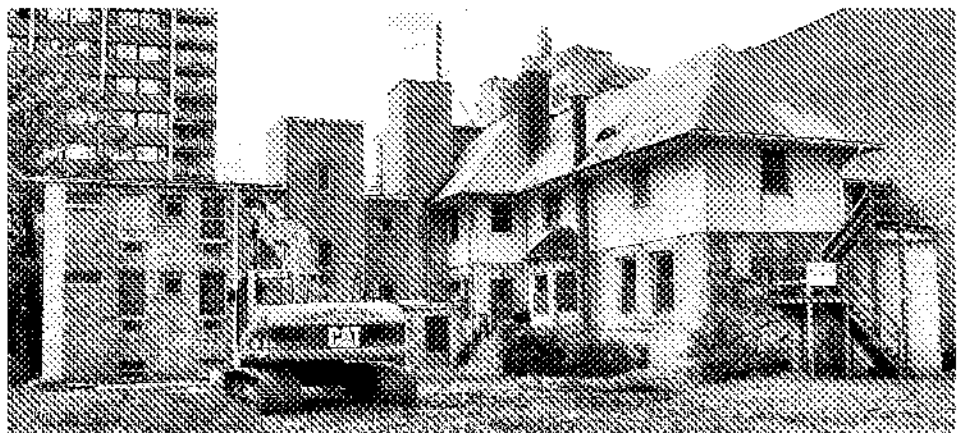
## Behind the Façade: the Last Silsbee House

The Sovereign Nursing Home at 6159 N. Kenmore. From the front it looks like a home among the 4+1 apartment buildings along the block - 3 stories, yellow brick, and 1960s modern; but look behind it from the alley and it is apparent that it is also a house - or more accurately the rear portion of a house.



When EHS member and realtor Susan Darnall called me to tell me that the property had been purchased by a developer that she knew, I was intrigued. Even though it had been a nursing home for 50 years, there was a chance - a slim chance to be sure - that there was something of the original house left - some molding and a few doors perhaps, or maybe even a fireplace mantel and a hutch and a staircase. Why not wish for it all! Would it be possible to go inside? She said she would ask. And the answer came back "sure"; and so, one March morning, Susan and I and EHS member Mark Palermo along, with architect and Silsbee historian Chris Payne, were let in by its new owner, James Ronan.

Before that happened, though, I did a little research on the house [actually, a lot!]. Why I didn't do it earlier? I don't know. I can't explain it. What I found surprised and very much pleased me. The house was one of the four earliest houses in North Edgewater - all built on Kenmore for Edgewater's founding father, John L. Cochran, at the same time. The permits were issued October 8, 1890. This house [block 10, lot 27] was on its own



permit. The other three houses were on a separate permit and there was also a separate permit for the construction of a depot at North Edgewater [now Granville] issued on the same date. Since it has been established that Cochran's first architect, Joseph L. Silsbee, designed the depot and two of the other three houses, one can conclude beyond a reasonable doubt that Silsbee also designed this house. There is a reference in the October 11, 1890 issue of *The Economist* to four houses to be designed by Silsbee for Cochran. Cochran sold the house and lot relatively quickly - in January 1891 - to Richard L. Duvall. This was presumably before the house was finished. The Duvall family lived in the house from 1891 until sometime in late 1899 or early 1900.

To back track: When we entered the building, we did not know what to expect, though our anticipation and excitement were high. We found no grand staircase; the only staircase was in the rear and may well have been the servants but it was obviously not the original. We found no front parlors either; they must have been removed when the house was converted to nursing home use and the brick addition added to the front. However, to our amazement and delight, the dining room was intact and included a built-in hutch, a fireplace, a set of bookcases on either side of the fireplace and full wood wainscoting along the walls. Remarkably,

though the dining room had been used as a patients' bedroom, it had survived without change or damage. Even the four glass bookcase doors were intact. Only the finish had been changed - painted a light blue.

I asked the owner, Jim Ronan, whether he would be willing to donate the dining room items to the Edgewater Historical Society. He said "sure." And so began an interesting though stressful journey. Immediately, I was faced with two questions: how would we get the items out and where we would put them once we got them. And then there was the nagging question: would the Society's Board be as enthusiastic as I was.

The first question was how would we get them out. There were basically only two options: (1) try to do it ourselves as volunteers and (2) hire someone to do it for us. Since neither I nor those who might volunteer had any experience in this area, and since if we tried to learn in doing, we might well - and probably would - damage the items in the process of removing them. That didn't seem to be a very good option. Hence, the only alternative was to hire someone. But who? I asked EHS member and architect/renovator Thom Greene for advice. He suggested I talk with Matt Stern, with whom we had already contracted to do work on the museum's kitchen. This I did immediately and, after talking

(Continued on page 7)

## Behind the Façade (Continued from page 6)

with him for less than five minutes, I became convinced that he was the man for the job - he had done similar work, had the proper tools, exuded a quiet confidence that he could do the job and do it well and was an Edgewater resident with an appreciation for quality workmanship and Edgewater's history. It wouldn't be just a "job" for him.

The second hurdle was overcome when the Board approved, by an email vote, an expenditure for the removal costs. Next came the problem of scheduling the removal. After some initial difficulties, we finally decided upon April 6 as "R" day. Susan Darnall had arranged with Jim Ronan to pick up the keys the day before. I spent most of the day with Matt as he skillfully removed all the pieces. It looked so easy when he was doing it. In less than five hours, it was all taken down. Interestingly, there were pieces of wallpaper behind the bookcases and wainscoting, suggesting that perhaps at least these pieces might have been added later. But then again, maybe not. My efforts to secure the use of a truck for free had not been successful, so I had to rent one. As it turned out this was just as well. We would need it far longer than we thought.

During the day, I had helped Matt by removing nails from the wood pieces. He showed me how to do it without damaging the wood. Susan came back in the afternoon and EHS member Tom Murphy joined us. A parking space opened up right in front, and Susan persuaded us to move the truck into it. It was a wise move. We loaded the truck with the wainscoting and the various pieces of wood that surrounded the big pieces as well as the glass doors to the bookcases. The big pieces - the hutch and the fireplace mantle - were just too big and heavy for us to move by ourselves.

Matt suggested that we postpone that operation until the next day when he would be able to get help. Fortunately for us, Matt had previously retained some men to do some work for him. They could help Matt move the big stuff in the morning. Susan suggested that we lock the truck and just leave it there overnight - which is what we did.

Early next morning, we joined Matt and his helpers. Within short order they carefully loaded the big pieces onto the truck and made them secure. We were ready to roll. But where to? EHS member Marsha Holland had agreed to temporarily store one of the items in the back of her garage, but it was clear that both the hutch and the fireplace surround were too large to fit. Only the bookcases would fit. I had not been able to secure another site in the short time available, and so the decision was made to store both the hutch and fireplace at the museum. There was no alternative. And so I drove the truck very slowly to the museum. After the pieces were unloaded, I drove to Marsha's, walked over to Matt's place and he came and unloaded the bookcases (minus glass doors) and placed them in the back of Marsha's garage. From there it was to my place where Tom Murphy helped me unload the wainscoting and various [and plentiful] wood trim

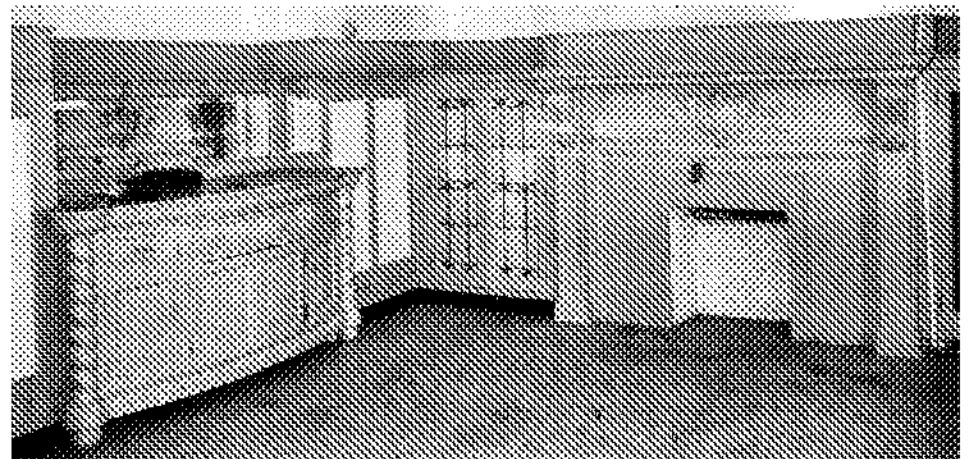
pieces into my garage. The final step was to return the rental truck and take CTA home. It had been a long day and I was exhausted, even though most of the heavy lifting had been done by others.

No decision has yet been made as to the ultimate disposition of the salvaged items; there is some sentiment to keep one of the items and sell the others. In the interim, they may be seen at the museum. They look more impressive in person than in the photographs. [Don't we all!]

Demolition began Monday, June 19, and was concluded, at least for the house, by Friday. I had mixed feelings. On the one hand, one of Edgewater's oldest houses, the oldest in Cochran's Edgewater, a very substantial house and the last surviving house designed by Cochran's first architect Joseph L. Silsbee, was no more. But, on the other hand, we had been able to inspect the house before it was torn down and remove all the items that were worth salvaging. In addition - and probably most compelling - there would have been no basis for trying to save it; it's front half had been demolished over 50 years ago. What remained was only half a house.

*Note: Come to the Museum to see the mantelpiece and buffet.*

LeRoy Blommaert



*Original dining room of the home at 6159 N. Kenmore*

# News from the Front: Committee Communiqués

## HISTORIC SITES

Co-Chairs: Thom Greene and Leroy Blommaert



The committee reviewed and prepared a list of important buildings on Broadway as part of an effort to control development where some historic buildings might be threatened. One of those building which is on the city landmarks survey is the building at Foster and Broadway known as the Moreland building. Apparently the developer for that site has changed his mind. Other buildings that are considered important include a group of buildings related to the era when Broadway had many car dealerships. One of these is the Broadway Bank building. Of special interest are the buildings at the Broadway, Bryn Mawr, Ridge intersection which are some of the oldest commercial building.

In a later newsletter we will publish our research.

## PROGRAM

Linda Komosa, Chair



We've had a busy schedule this year with monthly guest lecturers. There are still many more scheduled. Don't miss the special Maps exhibit in October which will be curated by Bob Remer and Kathy Gemperle. There will be a lecture and discussion on Saturday, October 21, at 10 a.m. We look forward to seeing you there.

## BOARD DEVELOPMENT

Wally Bradford, Chair



There are a few open positions on the Board of Directors. We are looking for representatives from all the areas of Edgewater. Currently we need someone from West Andersonville and WEAR and north Edgewater. Our meetings are monthly and you are asked to volunteer at the museum for about four afternoons a year

## MEMBERSHIP

Co-chairs: Betty Mayian and Marie Morrisette



Thanks to Leroy Blommaert and Gere McCormick for their work in our June membership campaign. Our membership funds help to keep the museum open and provide the resources for our exhibits and the newsletter. See the back page for the membership statistics. We are close to the 300 mark. Perhaps a few more will join in August.

## FINANCE

Robert Remer, Chair



The committee met jointly with the Collections committee in order to determine the allocation of resources to organize and record our collections. We are pleased that the kitchen is completed and looking beautiful. It's nice to have another project completed so that we can make

better use of the museum. Thanks to our many volunteers who help out each weekend and keep the museum running and available for all.

Special thanks to Teddy Duskey for reviewing and organizing our financial files at the museum.

## COLLECTIONS

Larry Calhoun, Chair



The committee has had a meeting with Allison Heller and is proceeding with a plan to get the collections in order

The volunteers continue to meet and go over the collections in order to create labels. The clipping file is getting large and we could use more help. Give a call to the museum and leave your name and say you are interested in collections. I will call back and let you know the meeting dates.

**Collections meeting August 12 at 9 a.m.**

## COMMUNICATIONS

Kathy Gemperle, Chair



The newsletter will be sent out again after the Home Tour which is in Edgewater Glen this year.

We welcome any writing you may have to offer about our community. Your recollections are important to us and we hope to find more of them. We are also looking for specific memories about grocery stores so tell us more about shopping and home delivery in the good old days.

*(Continued on page 9)*



# Collectibles Corner



The EHS appreciates the contributions made to date of money and items of historic value.

Lloyd Chatham: creamer from the Edgewater Hospital

Dawn Wyman: booklet on various topics crafts book, Civic directory and recreation survey report

Betty and Ara Mayian: Digital Camera

Anonymous: photo of Andrew Norman Architect

James Ronan: Buffet and mantel from J. Lyman Silsbee designed home on Kenmore

Betty Mayian: two photos of the Lone Ranger, pitcher from the Edgewater Hospital, 1940 EBH bus schedule

Sandra Perez: Film of Jane Middleton Dance Studio on Clark Street

David and Diane Aitken: poster from Edgewater singers concert at Berger Park

Mrs. Emel Singer: artifacts in memory of Ed Gron from his years as a firefighter. These will be displayed in a case in the museum.

# Retirements in June 2006

The Edgewater community has bid farewell to two men who have contributed to the development of our community and its citizens. The first retirement is Father Bill Kenneally of St. Gertrude's Parish on Glenwood at Granville. The second retirement is Mr. Roy Malone, the assistant principal of Peirce School on Bryn Mawr. Both have served our community with great dedication and strong leadership and both will be missed.

On June 3, 2006, the parish of St. Gertrude bid a fond farewell to Father William Kenneally who had been pastor for the last 22 years. The celebration included a wonderful dinner and then entertainment by many parish organizations. Over 400 people attended the event. Many held up fans that had a picture of Father Bill and the words "I'm a fan of Bill's."

Father Bill has been a longtime member of the Edgewater Historical Society. He answered the call for the establishment of an historical society in 1988. Through the years, Father Bill has supported many community activities. His years of service were outlined in articles in both the Chicago Tribune and the Chicago Sun-Times where he has often been quoted in matters related to the church. But little was said about his unique contribution to Edgewater. He was an active member of the Edgewater Community Religious Association, which was founded in 1960 as a way for community churches to work together in caring for the whole community of Edgewater. Their active support and work with the Edgewater Community Council to support "Care For Real" as a food pantry for the needy has been

*(Continued on page 10)*

## Acquisitions

Reported by Mark Harding

- Postcard of the Edgewater Beach Hotel
- Masonic Pin from the collection of Edgewater Beach Hotel Chef Arnold Shercliffe
- 1931 Yearbook of Mundelein College, *The Tower*
- 1947 magazine "Where to eat and sleep in Chicagoland"
- Photograph printed in sepia tone of a room at the EBH

### Committee Communiqués

*(Continued from page 8)*

### FUNDRAISING

Betty Mayian, Chair



We are happy to be returning to Edgewater Glen for our Fall Home Tour and it will be fun, as usual. It will also be an unusually large tour, with this year's homes and the wonderfully charming Granville Avenue United Methodist Church as the starting point for the tour. The date is Sunday, September 17th - come to the event from noon to 4 p.m. The homes will close at 5 p.m. We could use more docents to help out at the event so, if you are curious about being one, let me know by sending an email to [info@EdgewaterHistory.org](mailto:info@EdgewaterHistory.org)

**Fundraising committee will meet Aug. 19 at the museum at 10 a.m.**

### PROPERTY

Tom Murphy, Chair



We are pleased to announce that the work in the kitchen is complete thanks to Thom Greene and to our contractor, Matt Stern. The space is beautiful and useful now.

We will be offering the space for rental for events. It is not large but could probably hold about 35 people seated for a meal. More work needs to be done in marketing.

Looking ahead, we have a need to store some of our display cases in order to make the main hall, Stetson hall, more useable.

The garden looks great even in the heat and we are looking forward to the Garden party later this month.

Want to help out at the museum? Just give us a call.

## Retirements

(Continued from page 9)

important.

Because of Father Bills commitment to the community, he often spoke of it as having a "sense of place," a neighborhood feeling. About history, he said "When people live in a house they get a sense of history, but it is a little vague and limited. When they get the bigger picture of history and begin to care about the story of the place, the community of people over the years then they begin to care about the history and the stories passed on to each generation." "Edgewater is an active community with people who are learning to work together. This working together is what's important."



Father Bill will be retiring to live in the Beverly community and will help out in a parish there.

On June 12, 2006, the Helen C. Peirce School of International studies declared Mr. Malone Day. The day honoring their Assistant Principal began with an all school assembly in the school yard. All the students and many of the parents and former Peirce School Principal Janice Rosales were there to thank Mr. Malone for his 33 years of service. He began at the school as a teacher and then moved up to assistant principal. The job usually includes dealing with discipline and student affairs. Mr. Malone went a step further by

teaching the students the values of commitment to their school and their community. He created a pledge that the students and teachers learn. In reading this pledge, the values of the school community are clearly stated. "I will make education my number one priority. I will be the best that I can be to help us achieve our highest level. I will be honest and fair. I will set a good example for myself and others. I will treat all people with respect and dignity. I will come to school on time and be prepared I will help solve challenges without arguing or fighting I will treat my school and home with care and pride. I will make a contribution to our school, our community, our country and our world. I will believe in myself."

Next, the school choir lead by Brooke Tippet Thompson, sang a song, "You are my hero." Each class presented Mr. Leroy Malone with a gift. Following the assembly the students went to class and the parents were invited to a special reception in the cafeteria.

The reception, presented by the Parent Advisory Council, was to unveil two additional panels to the mosaic already installed on the cafeteria wall. They were covered in paper and all were waiting to see what these women had accomplished under the direction of Mirtes Zwiczynski, who had done the original work. The PAC wanted to further the goals set

forth in the Peirce School pledge with visual reminders of the commitment to the character traits of the pledge. Mr. Malone was asked to stand at the front for the unveiling. When the works were uncovered one of them showed Mr. Malone handing a young student a set of panther eyes which he used to hand to students



when he found them "doing good." Mr. Malone was surprised by the picture and went closer to see if it was really himself. He spoke to the group and thanked everyone.

In the crowd were parents of current students and some former students of Mr. Malone whose own children attend Peirce School Mr. Malone has shown us over 33 years of service to our community what real leadership means.



Peirce Advisory Council members gather preceding the unveiling of the mural

# Edgewater Teaser

Our previous teaser was:

(4) In August and September 1890, the Chicago Evening Post ran a contest to decide by ballot which was the nicest Chicago suburb. All the eligible suburbs were listed by number, a ballot was printed daily, and readers were encouraged to participate. There was apparently no restriction on the number of times one could vote. Question: How many votes did Edgewater get? And which suburb got the most votes?

**Answer:** The total number of ballots cast was 118,400. And Edgewater got - ready for this - 20 votes. The suburb with the most votes was Franklin Park with 35,992, followed in second place not far behind by Grossdale [modern day Brookfield], with 32,248 votes. Together these two suburbs got 68,240 votes or 57.6 percent of the total cast. Obviously

there was an organized effort in these two communities to get out the vote. The numbers fell off drastically after that. Edgewater's neighbors did better than Edgewater though: Rogers Park got 421 and Argyle Park got 743.

What is the explanation for Edgewater's poor showing? One fact has to be the population at the time. There were only about 100 houses in Cochran's and Cairnduff's Edgewater - combined - by the end of 1890. What other houses existed to the west - and there were few - were not considered by their residents to be in Edgewater. That identification would come later. Another explanation may well have been a sense of aloofness of its residents. They were mostly wealthy and successful and busy and had other things on their minds than to engage in a contest promoting their new community. Obviously, Cochran did not campaign for votes.

## New Teaser(s):

(5) Our latest teaser deals with condominiums and we have several questions:

- a. What was the first Edgewater building built as a condominium?
- b. What was the first Edgewater building converted to condos from rental?
- c. What was the first condo conversion west of Sheridan?
- d. What was first building west of Sheridan Road built as condo?
- e. What Edgewater building has the greatest number of condo units?
- f. What building type has been most converted to condos?
- g. How many buildings have been built as condos and how many have been converted to condo.
- h. And how many residential condo units does Edgewater have?

### Edgewater Historical Society - 2006 Membership Application

I would like to support the Edgewater Historical Society by becoming a member for 2006.

#### Type of Annual Membership (Check One):

- Individual \$20\*       Senior (over 65) \$10
- Family \$30\*       Business Org. \$75
- Patron \$100       Lifetime \$1000
- Community Organization (Not for Profit) \$25

(\* fee assistance is available upon written application)

Museum donation: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to:

**Edgewater Historical Society**

Mail the completed form with your check to:

**Elizabeth Mayian  
6033 N. Sheridan Road #36K  
Chicago, IL 60660**

For further information, call: (773) 506-4849

I am interested in learning more about the following committees and activities:

- Fundraising     Membership     Historic Sites
- Collections     Program         Property
- Finance         Bd. Development     Communications

Special activities:

- Garden Committee       Museum Volunteer
- Exhibit Committee       Research Volunteer

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: (        ) \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Date paid (office use only):**        /        /

The Edgewater Historical Society is an Illinois not-for-profit corporation. Donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law for 501(c)(3) organizations.

# Hear Ye! Hear Ye! Public Notice

This newsletter is published by the **Edgewater Historical Society**, a not-for-profit organization founded in 1988 and affiliated with the Edgewater Community Council.

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**We Welcome Guest  
Columnists At Any Time**



## For the Family Tree

Membership to date for 2006:

Individual	66
Family	60
Senior	94
Patron	8
Business	26
Lifetime	4
Non-Profit	1
Others	14
====	
Total	273

Thanks for your support and encouragement.

If you have not yet sent in your renewal, please remember to do so soon. We count on your support to keep the museum open.

Visit our Website at:  
[www.EdgewaterHistory.org](http://www.EdgewaterHistory.org)

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