



SUGAR GROVE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Founded 1984

Newsletter Fall 2020

259 Main St.—P.O. Box 102

Sugar Grove, IL 60554

Email: sugargrovehistory@att.net

www.sugargrovehistory.org

Open Tuesdays 1 to 4 pm or by appointment

The Sugar Grove Historical Society is very excited to announce we have received a grant from Kane County and the Grand Victoria Riverboat Fund to help us digitize our archives. We are so fortunate that Sean Liu, through Troop 41 in Sugar Grove, has chosen to help us with this huge endeavor as his Eagle Scout Project. Many thanks to Sean, the Liu family and the team of volunteers! We also want to thank Tim Wilson for all his work with our website. This will be a wonderful gift to everyone in our community.



We will be drawing the winning ticket for this beautiful 86" x 103" sunflower quilt made by Vickie Frantz on December 7th. If you would like to purchase tickets please visit our website at www.wacots.org/sghistory/store.html or mail a check to the Sugar Grove Historical Society PO Box 102 Sugar Grove, IL 60554. One ticket is \$5 or 5 tickets for \$20. Good Luck!



Many thanks to the fine folks at the Sugar Grove Ace Hardware for helping us get the word out about the quilt raffle. We truly appreciate this local business for their commitment to this community. Thanks Mark and Dennis!



This star flag was made by Agnes and Esther Lind. Each star represents a Sugar Grove serviceman from WWII. The four gold stars are for those who died in service to their country. These four gold stars are for:

- Noel Winkle
- Warren Dugan
- Roy Fisher
- Bill Hohmann

Brackett Homestead

In August, the Society was invited by Thomas Beiler, a cousin of the deceased Sandra "Sandy" Brackett (1939-2019) to examine contents of the Brackett homestead at Dugan and Wheeler Roads. A delegation consisting of Sue Jacobson, Lori McCaffrey, Dave Frantz and Rick Johnson toured the home prior to Mr. Beiler's return to his home in California. Mr. Beiler graciously gifted items from Ms. Brackett's collection to the Society. Thank you to the Bracketts and Mr. Beiler.

Seasons of Sugar Grove Township

Summer

Humidity clings to skin like cellophane
as sunset outlines clouds in crimson.
Corn rustles with the sound of taffeta
while heat lightening flares just after dark,
Fireflies flicker in our Mason jars
before we set them free.

Autumn

Silken threads from milkweed pods go airborne
against a kaleidoscope of hardwood orange and reds;
in muffled flight, a great horned owl hunts mice.
Black walnuts on the sidewalk near the
Methodist Church chatter under our roller skates.

Winter

Icicles shatter with the sound of broken crystal while
Collie dog waits with frozen breath to come inside;
wind batters storm doors and sashes.
Wet fingers stick tight to knobs and flagpoles.
Drifted snow on Prairie Road is too deep for school.

Spring

Water drips from eaves in early thaw;
sugar maples slowly put on green as
silver-leaf poplars pull on kid gloves.
Meadowlarks on the phone line tune up their flutes.
I find Calico's kittens safely hidden in our tool shed.

Mary Judd Pneuman
(A few memories of the farm
and village – 1940's)



HISTORY OF KANE COUNTY

Kane County occupies a territory of 540 square miles, extending from MeHenry on the north to Kendall on the south, and bounded on the east by Cook and DuPage Counties and on the west by DeKalb. It originally comprised thirty-six townships, eighteen of which are now embraced in DeKalb and three in Kendall, while one of the others has been divided since the township organization, leaving sixteen within its present area. It contains sixteen cities, villages and hamlets, many of the most extensive manufactures in the State, about 105 miles of railroad in successful operation, and has few equals among the counties of the entire country in the variety and extent of resources. Its chief source of wealth, however is its rich prairie soil, drained by the beautiful Fox River, which traverses its entire range of townships from both to south, and by several smaller streams and tributaries, the most important of which are Big Rock, Blackberry, Mill, Ferson's, Tyler's and Kishwaukee Creeks. Something less than one-fourth of its area is covered with woodland; and its timber, when the county was new, was of a superior quality, including black walnut, hickory and many varieties of oak, which are still common in its groves. Its geological deposits which appear to the view are limestone. All exposure of rock are, with one slight exception, along the banks of the river. At any point along the valley, a removal of a few feet of soil discloses this rock, which, at Batavia and vicinity, appears as an excellent building stone. Flag-stone, of any required surface or thickness, may there be obtained, which is usually of a buff or reddish yellow hue. An artesian well, bored at the C,B&Q car shops, in Aurora, disclosed, first 30 feet of alluvial deposit, followed successively by 108 feet belonging to the Niagara limestone group, 165 feet of Cincinnati group, 232 feet to the Galena and Trenton deposits, and finally, by 158 feet of the buff and reddish-yellow sandstone. But few fossils have ever been unearthed in the county, and of these few, the remains of a mastodon found near Aurora and now preserved in Jennings Seminary, are the most important. Peat is extensively ranged over portions of the surface of the northern townships, especially Rutland and Hampshire, and in many sections a fine quality of brick-clay is obtained, from which brick very similar to the celebrated Milwaukee brick is manufactured. Water is found in nearly every part of the county by sinking wells ten to fifteen feet below the surface.

As will be inferred from the above statement, the general nature of the surface is level or slightly rolling, there being but few hills worthy of the name in the entire county. In summer, the traveler standing upon the slight elevations along the river bank, may behold for miles the rolling table lands stretching far away toward the rising or setting sun, like cultivated gardens, broken only by the occasional groves, the frequent farm houses, with their clustering barns, the tall poplars around them or the well-built fences and green hedges.

Having thus briefly noticed the boundaries, the topography and the geological features of the country, we hasten to detail, at greater length, its *settlement*.

Excerpt from:

The Past and Present of Kane County, Illinois

1878

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Supporting	\$50	_____
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P.O. BOX 102
SUGAR GROVE, IL 60554**

THANK YOU!!!

Memorials

Marlene Shields on behalf of Daniel R. Shields, John E. Shields, Jr. and Irma Shields Norton

Joe & Marcia Miles on behalf of Frances Sauer Porter, Phyllis & Leigh Sauer, Jr. and Verna & Leigh Sauer, Sr.

Honoring

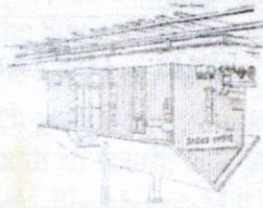
Donations in honor of Ruth Frantz were made by Ken & Jane Laurie, Mary Ann White and Sue Jacobson.

Donations

Liz Chalberg, Kathy Walz, Bill Lye, Victoria Haas, Bill Wulff, Rick Johnson, Sue Jacobson

Supporting Memberships

Ted & Norrain Phelps, Ken & Mary Kriegbaum, Jack Shouba



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