

LANSING HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Jan 2025



LANSING HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S
"HAUNTED HOUSE" ENTRY
TO FOX POINTE'S
SPOOKTACULAR SHOWDOWN

Paul Schultz

I hope everyone had a great Christmas and is enjoying a Happy New Year! Our Christmas Around the World exhibit is packed away for another year and now we are getting our museum back to normal. That doesn't mean we won't have more exhibits to showcase. There's always something worth seeing at the museum!

We have now started to remodel the museum's office. We are removing the glass around the office and installing cabinets which will give us much needed storage space. Dan Centracchio, a member of LHS, has offered his services for the project.

Our next program will be on February 24. The guest speaker is Dr. Amira Milicent Davis who will present a program on the people, artists, and institutions that created a new black identity in Chicago. It will be an interesting program. Hope to see you all there and don't forget to bring a friend!

With the frigid weather we are having, please take care and stay warm! I know that spring will be here soon—I received my first seed catalog this week!

The Festival of Lights, Christmas Around the World, has been going on at the Lansing Historical Museum since 1981. In the beginning, there were 9 trees representing the heritage of Lansing citizens. This year we are proud to say that our display has grown to include 30 countries. Our newest tree representing Haiti. Lansing resident, Valerie McDaniels, has a daughter-in-law who is from Haiti and comes to visit here in Lansing often. She and her cousin put together a beautiful tree in the colors of Haiti's flag and wrote about their unique holiday customs.

In addition to the trees, we were so pleased to show off the Santa and Mrs. Santa animatronic figures that once graced the windows of the Fashionette Shop, in honor of Jackie Protsman. Our "Mr. Fix-it" member, Dan Centracchio, restored the figures to working order along with the figures from the 1962 Santa House!

We had many visitors from Lansing and surrounding towns and many compliments about the beauty and information conveyed in the exhibits.

We could not have done it without the help of so many of our members and other community members who decorated trees and acted as guides. THANK YOU ALL!

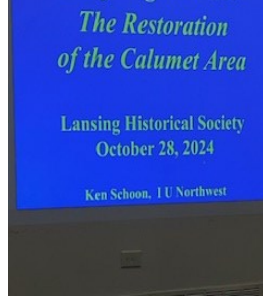
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| Feb. 24 | The Black Chicago Renaissance -Hosted by the Illinois Humanities Road Scholars Speakers Bureau 2025 - Amira Davis |
| March 24 | Historic Vote: Suffrage for Women in Illinois- Hosted by the Illinois Humanities Road Scholars Speakers Bureau 2025 - Jean Schultz Angel |
| April 28 | Collecting Family Oral Histories - Workshop
Linda Swisher & Grace Bazylewski |
| May 27 | Annual Banquet |

MUSEUM HOURS

The Lansing Historical Museum is open during most of the year on Mondays from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. and on Saturdays from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. We can always use new volunteers to cover these time slots. If you would like to help as a guide on a regular basis or as a substitute, please call Barb Dust, 312-969-0385. ANY TIME you can give will be greatly appreciated!

2024 – 2025 Officers

PRESIDENT:	Paul Schultz
VICE-PRESIDENT:	Dan Bovino
SECRETARY:	Sharon Murphy
TREASURER:	Phyllis Drewno
DIRECTORS:	Marti Benne Sue Bovino Mario Bovino
CURATOR:	Barb Dust



Ken Schoon gave a wonderful presentation “Shifting Sands: The Restoration of the Calumet Area” on Oct. 28.

LHS continues to be active in Lansing. We had participated in the Autumn Fest, Halloween’s Spooktacular Showdown and we decorated a tree for Christmas at Fox Pointe! A special thank you to all those who helped at any or all events! LHS depends on its members’ help so we may continue to be involved in community activities. Consider volunteering! You will meet some very nice people while helping out the Society.



Marti Benne, Toni DeLaurentis, Sue Bovino and Sharon Murphy man the LHS display during Autumn Fest. People stopped by and were asked to place a pin where their heritage started or where they were born.

As we start the new year for LHS, be on the lookout for the annual membership renewal forms. Your dues help us with the upkeep of the museum, pay the bills & put on the monthly programs. Your prompt response will be appreciated!

FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS

Lansing Historical Society did it again! We showcased 37 trees representing Lansing to Africa, Ireland to Ukraine, and many more! A special thanks to the teens from TF South Cultural Exploration Club who helped assemble the trees; and the TF South Choir who performed at the opening. Thank you to those members who came to decorate the trees and helped turn our museum into a Winter Wonderland! Once again, the Festival of Lights was a delightful way to bring the community together and to share the joy of the season. To view more pictures, visit Lansing Historical Society page on Facebook.



AFRICA

HAITI



POLAND,
CROATIA,
UKRAINE

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Lansing Historical Society meetings and programs are normally held the fourth Monday
of most months.

No meetings are scheduled in June, July and August.

We welcome new members! Invite your family, friends, neighbors, and coworkers to come see what
we're all about!

New Museum hours:

Mondays: 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Saturdays: 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Visits at other times can be arranged
by calling Barb Dust at 708-474-7497