PRESIDENT’S CORNER,  Mark Truax

The quality of the services we provide is always a top priority. This includes taking care of our volunteers’ needs. I am excited to announce that we have been able to lease a new copier for the Historical Society. This may not seem like a big deal to most, but it is a key investment work we accomplish in our research center.

The new copier will allow our volunteers to copy documents up to 11x17. Prior to this multiple copies of a document were made and taped together. This puts a lot of extra work on our volunteers. It also affects the quality of document.

Our Research Center is a unique corner stone of what we do. Volunteers spend hours scanning and copying documents for our Home Files and Community Files. These copies are sorted then filed away. This new copier will make a better quality copy for archival purposes. If you have ever stopped by to do research on your home or community group, you would see the importance of this.

I hope everyone in town gets a chance to see their House File. You can make an appointment anytime or come during our open hours.

2020-2021 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Mark Truax, President
Katherine Padgett, Vice President
Sarah Parkes, Executive Director
Sandra Strauss, Treasurer
Becca Rymsza, Secretary

BOARD MEMBERS
Beth Augustine Judy Burns Sara Carpenter Ellie Carroll Dan Malloy Cynthia Urbain Jim Peterson
Lauren Robinson Kate Rymsza Nancy Fisher Skog Maryann Sward Ed Thoele Tom Veeseer Mary Novak Piette
AT THE VIAL HOUSE
GHOST WALK-- Based on the Book by Edgar Lee Masters,
A Newly Adapted Stage version by Felicia Pfluger

On October 26th, experience an exploration through the his-
toric Vial House encountering spirits from another era. A once-
banned book, brought to the stage, takes place in Illinois in 1915.
Ghosts rise from their graves to come alive on stage. The veneer
is stripped away from polite society to show the darker side of
small-town living as well as the courage and strength of the deceased resi-
dents of Oak Hill Cemetery. Freed from the epitaphs on their tombstones,
this one evening, they confide their secret truths with us. … Inspired by
the Spoon River Anthologies, ghostly spectres will share their stories from
beyond the grave.

Audience is limited to 40 and will move through the spaces throughout the
Vial House in groups of 10. Light refreshments will be served. You must be
vaccinated and be "masked" to attend. Register at lagrangehistory.org

PHOTO OP AND FALL FAMILY FUN!

Leaves are changing color, there’s a crispness to the au-
tumn air, and we’re ready to celebrate the fall season!

On October 23rd we’re excited to partner with Whisper
Me Home to bring you a fabulous fall backdrop for some
great picture taking! Ten minute sessions are available for
taking your own photos between 10:00 am – 3:00 pm (we
will take them for you if you want your whole group in the
photo) and must be booked in advance on our website.
Enjoy additional fun on the lawn with face painting, chil-
dren’s games, cider and snacks. Join us for our first annual
Fall Celebration! (Rain date on October 24th). Register at
lagrangehistory.org.

EMPLOYER MATCHING GIFTS

Does your employer provide matching gifts? Corporate matching gifts are a type of philanthropy in which
companies financially match donations that their employees make to nonprofit organizations. When an em-
ployee makes a donation, they’ll request the matching gift from their employer, who then makes their own
donation. The La Grange Area Historical Society qualifies as a nonprofit organization. If you choose to make a
donation through your company with matching gifts, we will provide you with a free Premium Membership
for one year! However, you will need to inform us when this happens, so we can see who it is from. Typically,
only the corporation name is on the donation. Thank you for your consideration.
OUR VIRTUAL HOME & HISTORY TOUR WAS A GREAT SUCCESS

A Big Thank You our Board Member, Katherine Padgett whose passion, motivation and expertise has helped bring this fabulous tour to all of you. We are very honored that Katherine has also recently accepted the position of Vice-President of the La Grange Area Historical Society.

WE are thrilled that we surpassed our registration from 2020 Home and History Tour! We would wholeheartedly like to thank the following people and businesses for their sponsorship!

SHANNON KUTCHEK, COMPASS SMOTHERS GROUP
KATHY BIER, COMPASS SMOTHERS GROUP

Grizz Pest Management, Inc
Kama Bistro
DeSitter Flooring
Tates Ice Cream

SOCIAL DISTANCE WITH SANTA

In the past years, we have been grateful to have had over 400 visitors to our Christmas Open House and Photo With Santa opportunity on the first Saturday in December.

However, once again in 2021, we do not feel it prudent to have our annual Holiday Open House. However to help keeping with our Christmas traditions, we are happy to announce that we will once again offer “Socially Distanced” photos with Santa. For safety, reservations and masks will be required. To accommodate everyone interested in these photos, we will offer reservations online. Check our website for dates and times.

We are also decorating the Vial House for Christmas and will be open on as usual Wednesdays from 9:30 am to 12 pm. Please don’t forget on our "on-line" gift shop. We continue to have interesting and fun gifts for every Christmas stocking! www.lagrangehistory.com

CAROL NORLING'S VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS ORNAMENTS

Carol Norling, a long time former resident of La Grange recently bequeathed her exquisite hand made Victorian Christmas Ornament collection to the La Grange Area Historical Society. Carol began painting with oils at age 5. She designed Marshall Field windows in the 1960s and has exhibited her paintings in many galleries and shows.

As the story goes, because Queen Victoria’s husband Albert was German, most of the real Victorian ornaments in the 1800’s were from Germany. In order to achieve a historic duplication of these ornaments, Carol thought it paramount to order most of the materials she used to make the ornaments from Germany. The materials were actually made on the same machines that produced the materials for the original Victorian ornaments and they are made in the original style. Carol spent over 1400 hours making hundreds of reproduction ornaments. Over the many years that Carol was a resident of La Grange, she has donated over 480 items to the La Grange Area Historical Society not including the Victorian Ornaments. We have been very grateful. We hope to display these ornaments for your viewing pleasure soon.

SPECIAL REQUEST! SANTA NEEDS TIN CANS!

In order for Santa to talk safely with the children visiting the Vial House, we are in need of your empty TIN CANS. Please save your fruit, veggie and soup cans and drop them off at the Vial House’s front porch in a container we will provide for you. Santa will be all smiles with your help. And we do want to keep Santa smiling!
COMING THIS FALL

• PHOTO OP & FALL FAMILY FUN!  10/23  10:00-3:00
• GHOST WALK          10/26  6:30 - 9:00

• SOCIAL DISTANCE PHOTOS WITH SANTA -
  By Appointment - Check our website to register

• REMINDER TO CHRISTMAS SHOP ON-LINE AT OUR GIFT
  SHOP. Fun gifts for every stocking!

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT US ON OUR
WEBSITE lagrangehistory.org or call us at
708-482-4248.