

# Carondelet Historical Society

## ***THE BULLETIN***

*The Second Voice of the Carondelet Historical Society*

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### HOW TO CONTACT US:

6303 Michigan, St. Louis, MO 63111

Telephone: (314) 481-6303

E-mail: [carondelethistoricalsociety@yahoo.com](mailto:carondelethistoricalsociety@yahoo.com)

Web-Site [www.carondelethistory.org](http://www.carondelethistory.org)

Facebook Carondelet Historical Society

Twitter: @carondelethis

### WHAT'S NEW?

What has happened at the Carondelet Historical Society since June?

- The 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Bathroom has been remodeled, with a new storage closet added.
- The rusty metal brackets that were on the front of the building have been removed.
- The brick area on the south side of the building near the roof has been tuck-pointed and cleaned.
- Plaster work in all areas of the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor has been completed and small holes in the Kindergarten Room ceiling have been repaired.
- We have added many books to the Tom Weil Collection (see page 6 for a list).

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### UPCOMING SPEAKERS & PROGRAMS

**Dec. 13th:** Open House featuring the Queens of Swing

**Feb. 7th:** The Dred Scott Case, Sandra Dannehold

**Mar. 6th:** "A Most Unsettled State: First-person Accounts of St. Louis During the Civil War," NiNi Harris

**Apr. 10th:** "Little Cabins: Slave Dwelling Architecture in Missouri's Little Dixie," Gary Gene Fuenfhausen

## **Ron Bolte: An Appreciation**

by Tom Weil, September 2015

From my first encounter with Ron Bolte at the Carondelet Historical Society about four years ago it was apparent to me that he was an unusually devoted and effective volunteer leader for the society. His enthusiasm for Carondelet and its history impressed and inspired many who knew him. Ron's dedication and service greatly enhanced the organization, whose success and current well-being owes so much to his efforts over many years.

As a serious student of Carondelet, Ron wrote a number of monographs on various aspects of the area's past. His deep and abiding interest in local history, books and scholarship was admirable. Ron's vision, values, energy and sense of priorities sparked the financing for and construction of the Bouchein Library, an addition which greatly expanded the Society's space and enhanced its cultural contribution to the community.

His deep attachment to Carondelet and the Society which preserves much of the area's history evidenced Ron's strong sense of place and the past. These interests represent a praiseworthy example of that characteristic Midwestern trait—to remain connected to your heritage habitat where deep roots bind you to place.

Over the few years I knew Ron I gained a great respect for him. My dealings with him to arrange my gift to CHS of some 600 books to establish the Tom Weil St. Louis Collection were efficient, pleasant and productive. Ron was always direct, decisive, reasonable and responsive. Thanks to his understanding of the issues the projects entailed, the process advanced in a smooth and swift way. Working with such a competent, knowledgeable and dedicated non-profit executive was gratifying.

Ron represented the highest and best kind of non-profit volunteer. Seriously dedicated to the Society's mission and welfare, Ron focused not only on the curatorial function but was also involved on all phases of CHS—from the cultural and intellectual to hands-on labor to repair and rehab the venerable and vulnerable building, which he worked on with loving care. For him, the time-haunted halls of the old school house—as much as the library and its books—offered pages from the past.

Ron's strong interest in preserving the past at CHS will stand for generations to come as his generous gift to the future.

## VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers are the heart of the Carondelet Historical Society.

The following individuals are dedicated volunteers of the Carondelet Historical Society, helping to further its mission of perpetuating the history of the Carondelet area. We are always looking for more volunteers; if you have time, we'd love your help!

Ken Bolte  
David Bouchein  
Jodi Broussard  
Cameron Crawford  
Grace Fernandez  
Rich Fernandez  
Bob Fox  
Kim Dopplick Gutknecht  
Oscar Harper  
NiNi Harris  
Diane Hogan  
Mary O'Niel Ludwig  
Jerry Martin  
Susie McClimans  
Tony Mendoza  
Bee Parsons  
Lou Perkins  
Emma Prince  
John Remelius  
J.R. Remelius  
Kristina Remelius  
Mary Ann Simon  
Nick Stanford  
Nick Traub  
Ross Wagner

## INVESTMENT FUND

The Carondelet Historical Society was founded in 1967 by active citizens and civic leaders who shared a common interest in perpetuating the heritage of their remarkable community. In 2013, the CHS Board of Directors, recognizing its duty to provide permanent income, initiated the CHS Investment Fund. The Fund consists of donations and bequests which are invested in debt and equity securities with interest, dividend income and capital appreciation used to sustain and support the Carondelet Historical Society.

Annual support has been the lifeblood of CHS. Each year we rely on your gifts and membership dues to help meet our goals. But have you ever thought about what will happen when you are gone? Without special measures, your support will die with you, and the loyalty you have shown CHS over the years will cease to exist.

The gift of a simple bequest in your will is one of the best ways to ensure the long-term future of the Carondelet Historical Society. A bequest is a gift that is made through your will or trust and can establish your wishes today without relinquishing needed assets during your lifetime.

We invite you to become a member of The Legacy Circle and join our generous benefactors, past and present who have included CHS in their estate planning. The Carondelet Historical Society will continue to restore the Des Peres School building and to present the heritage of Carondelet to future generations.

## LOOKING FOR SOMETHING TO DO?

### VISIT THE BOUCHEIN LIBRARY!

Why not visit the Carondelet Historical Society's Frederick W. Bouchein Library and spend a few hours looking through scores of interesting articles and books concerning the history of Carondelet? Maybe you can spend an hour or two scanning file drawers loaded with plat books that show street and house layouts of the neighborhood. You might even find the location of grandfather's first house—which could lead you to find a photo of it in the Society's extensive collection of visual media.

Want more information about Susan Blow and the Kindergarten? Search our extensive collection of books and other materials associated with her and the early Kindergarten movement.

Don't know exactly where your deceased relatives lived? We have St. Louis City directories (from 1870 through recent years), as well as probate records that might lead to discovering a long-lost relative's address or occupation.

Perhaps you are just interested in Carondelet history. We have *many* books and articles on the history of our community, divided according to topic and period. For example, we have dozens of resources about Carondelet during the Civil War. Want information on Carondelet industry? You'll find that here, as well.

Looking for some personal history. We have subject index books that will guide you to names and topics you might be researching. We have over one hundred genealogical binders pertaining to individual families. There are files on ethnic groups, as well as tons of data on churches, schools and local organizations. One special area of interest is Cleveland High School; the Bouchein Library has copies of every *Beacon* (Cleveland's yearbook) from 1916 through 1984, Cleveland staff and alumni directories, and copies of *Orange and Blue* from 1921 through the 1980s.

We also have several special collections of books and texts, such as the Tom Weil Collection. The Weil Collection is an ever-expanding repository of texts pertaining to the history of Carondelet, St. Louis, Missouri, the Midwest and the United States. See page 6 of this *Bulletin* for a partial list of recent additions to the Weil Collection.

Can't spend an entire day here? Members can take advantage of our "lending library" and borrow books for free.

We can't be sure what might pique your interest, but our visitors are often surprised at what they find! Join us some Wed., Fri. or Sat. from 10-2 or a Sunday from noon-3 and explore the possibilities.

## How People Traveled to the Midwest in 1837

*Taken from Illinois in 1837, in the Tom Weil Collection.*

Individuals who wish to travel through the interior of Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, & Missouri, will find that the most convenient, sure, economical, and independent mode, is on horseback. Their expenses will be from seventy-five cents to one dollar a day.

Stage fare is usually 6 cts, a mile, in the west. Meals, at stage-houses, 37 1/2 cts.

Steamboat Fare, including Meals,  
 From Pittsburg to Cincinnati,.....\$10  
 From Cincinnati to Louisville,..... 4  
 From Louisville to St. Louis,..... 12

A *deck* Passage, as it is called may be rated as follows

From Pittsburg to Cincinnati,.....\$3  
 From Cincinnati to Louisville,..... 1  
 From Louisville to St. Louis,..... 4

Deck passengers furnish their own provision and bedding. They could eat with the boat-hands for 25 cents a meal.

The following is from an advertisement of the Leech's line from Philadelphia (meals not included)

TO	MILES	DAYS	FARE
Pittsburg .....	400.....	6 1/2 .....	\$6.00
Cincinnati.....	900.....	8 1/2.....	8.50
Louisville.....	1050.....	9 1/2.....	9.00
Nashville.....	1650.....	13 1/2.....	13.00
St. Louis.....	1750.....	14.....	13.00

Cabin Passengers on Packet-boats

Pittsburg .....	400.....	5.....	\$7.00
Cincinnati.....	900.....	8.....	17.00
Louisville.....	1050.....	9.....	19.00
Nashville.....	1650.....	13.....	27.00
St. Louis.....	1750.....	13.....	27.00s:

The deck for such passengers is usually in the midship, forward of the engines and is protected from the weather. Passengers furnish their own provisions and bedding. They often take their meals at the Cabin-table, with the boat hands, and pay twenty-five cents a meal.

## NEW BOOKS PURCHASED SINCE MARCH 2015

### From the Tom Weil Library Fund

*Bloody Bill Anderson*

*The Colored Aristocracy of St. Louis*

*St. Louis, From Village to Metropolis: Essays From the Missouri Historical Review*

*St. Louis Casa Loma Ballroom*

*French Roots in the Illinois Country*

*We Kept 'Em Flying*

*Hazel Lee Looks at Jefferson County*

*Kaskaskia Under the French Rule*

*The Bourgeois Frontier*

*Gangs of St. Louis*

*St. Louis Advertising*

*Catholic St. Louis: A Pictorial History*

*Ghosts of Jefferson Barracks: History & Hauntings of Old St. Louis*

*The Steamboat Bertrand and Missouri River Commerce*

*Burying the Dead but Not the Past: Ladies's Memorial Associations and the Lost Cause*

*River World: Wildlife of the Mississippi*

*Mapping Decline: St. Louis and the Fate of the American City*

*Memoir of the Rev. Elijah P. Lovejoy*

*Col. Long's Report to Estillville Convention*

*Speech of Hon. Henry T. Blow*

*History of St. Louis County, Missouri*

*St. Louis: The Fourth City, 1763 to 1909*

*Yankee Warhorse: A Biography of Major General Peter Osterhaus*

*Groping Toward Democracy: African American Social Welfare Reform in St. Louis*

*The Great Heart of the Republic: St. Louis and the Cultural Civil War*

*Hoosiers and Scrubby Dutch: St. Louis's South Side*

*St. Louis Landmarks and Historic Districts*

*On Slavery's Border: Missouri's Small Slaveholding Households*

*Lions of the West: Heroes and Villains of Westward Expansion*

*Walt Whitman's America: A Cultural Biography*

*100 Things to Do in St. Louis Before You Die*

*Illinois in 1837*

*From Pittsburgh to the Rocky Mountains: Major Stephen Long's Expedition*

6 *The Golden Lane: How Missouri Women Gained the Vote and Changed History*

## WALL OF HONOR

The Carondelet Historical Society's "Wall of Honor" was created in 2000 from an initial collection that included 170 photos of men from the Carondelet area that served in the military during WWII. The photos were originally in the windows of the John Turner Service Station, which was located at Michigan and Ivory.

There are currently 1,198 photos on the Wall of Honor, and the number grows every month. We are in process of adding another section to accommodate additional photos.

The photos are of residents of the Carondelet and South St. Louis area. We welcome photos of local residents that have served in any branch of the United States military. We ask that you furnish a picture (any size) and fill out a form detailing your (or a friend's or relative's) military service. There is no cost to add your picture to the Carondelet Historical Society Wall of Honor.

Answers to Arithmetic questions on Page 8.

1. 4 minutes, 38 seconds after 1 pm
2. 20 days.
3. Father is 55 his son is 15 year old.
4. 12 children
5. 5 days idle
6. Hound takes 60 leaps to catch the hare

## NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to our new members since June 2015:

Jodi Broussard  
Thomas Calhoun  
Carol Ann Clifton  
Robert Fox  
Barbara Francisco  
Michael Francisco  
Rosemarie Garcia  
Joan Goodson  
James Gruchala  
J. K. Leasing Co., Inc.  
Leonard Koch  
Sharon Koch  
L. K. Leasing Co., Inc.  
Michael McCraw  
Dick Nieman  
Sandy Nieman  
Mr. B. Franklin Rassieur, Jr.  
Mrs. B. Franklin Rassieur, Jr.  
Kim Readmond  
Rachel Torres  
Lisa Wallace

## DECEASED MEMBERS

We have lost these members since June 2015:

Ron Bolte  
Harriet Fehlmann  
Martha Matoushek  
Albert Repple  
Joseph Schmittgens, Jr.  
Marie Simon  
Kay Stanford  
Annie Ward  
Warren Ziegler

### 1880's Arithmetic

These problems are taken from several 1880's schoolbooks in the Bouchein Library collection.

How well will you do? Remember, no calculators, no computers: just pencil, paper, and your brain.

1. At 12 noon in St. Louis, whose longitude is  $90^{\circ} 12' 17''$ , what is the time in New York whose long. is  $73^{\circ} 59' 9''$ ?
2. If a man and his wife can drink a keg of beer in 12 days, and when he is away, it last his wife 30 days, in what time can the man drink it alone?
3. A father is 40 years older than his son; the son's age is  $\frac{3}{11}$  of the father's age. What is the age of each?
4. A father, who had as many sons as daughters, divided \$18 among them, giving to each daughter \$2, and to each son \$1. How many children had he?
5. A man agreed to pay a laborer \$2 for every day he worked; and the laborer, for every day he was idle, was to forfeit \$1. At the expiration of 20 days, the laborer received \$25. How many days was he idle?
6. A hare is 10 leaps before a hound, and takes 4 leaps while the hound takes 3, but 2 of the hound's leaps equals 3 of the hare's. How many leaps must the hound take to catch the hare?

### WHAT IS THE CARONDELET HISTORICAL SOCIETY?

The Carondelet Historical Society is a 501 (c)(3), not-for-profit organization incorporated in the state of Missouri. It is governed by a 12-member Board of Directors elected to three-year terms by the general membership at its annual meeting. The Board meets monthly to transact the business of the organization according to its By-Laws.

We do not receive money from the federal, state, or St. Louis City government.

We do not have any paid employees.

We operate on membership dues, donations, fundraising activities, and bequests.

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

John Remelius, President

David Bouchein, Vice President

Richard Fernandez, Treasurer

Bob Fox

Esley Hamilton

Dorothy Krehbiel

Mary Lopinot

Jerry Martin

John Remelius III

Mary Seematter

Norman Woldow

Mary Ann Simon, Executive Secretary

*See page 7 for answers*