

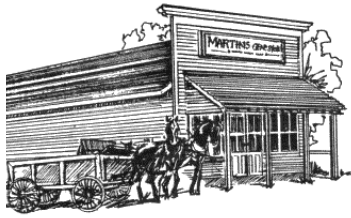
HISTORIC MILLBURN COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION, INC.

38757 N. U.S. Highway 45

Millburn of Old Mill Creek, IL 60046

www.hmca-il.org

September 2007 Newsletter



Fall Picnic

The Annual Fall Picnic will be held at Mildred Haisma's house on Saturday, September 22nd at 4:00 p.m. Please join us! Brats and lemonade will be provided. Please bring a dish to pass, along with a chair. You are welcome to bring other beverages. Mildred's address is 38735 N. US Highway 45. Cars may park in her backyard. The driveway is off of Millburn Road. We hope you will join us for our fall gathering.

Annual Fourth of July Celebration

Tim Smith's Annual Fourth of July Celebration was another huge success! We greatly appreciate Tim's continued generosity. We had a wonderful turnout. Everyone enjoyed the barbecue, fireworks, and festivities. There is no other community celebration like this one! We sincerely thank Tim Smith for hosting such a terrific community celebration and HMCA fundraiser!

Flagpole Dedicated

The HMCA purchased a bronze plaque which is being mounted on a rock at the base of the flagpole at the museum. The flagpole was donated by Tim Smith a few years ago. The plaque reads, "This flagpole is dedicated to Tim (Tempel) Smith in appreciation of his continued support of the H.M.C.A., Inc. and the surrounding community." We owe Tim a debt of gratitude for all he does for the historical society and the Village of Old Mill Creek. This small token of our appreciation will be displayed in perpetuity.

Fundraising or Activity Ideas

Do you have any suggestions for future activities or fundraisers? We are making plans for 2008 and would like to know what types

of events you would support. Some of the ideas we have brainstormed so far include a fall barn dance, more guest speakers, an antique appraisal day, eBay sales for a % of sale price, a summer field trip to the Chicago Historical Society, or a Chicago Architecture Foundation tour. If you have any other suggestions, please let us know!

Millburn Cemetery Fence

Donations made to the H.M.C.A. at the July 4th fundraiser help us continue the restoration of the Millburn Cemetery fence and remaining gate. Two gates have been restored so far. The gates and fence were built by the Franklin P. Smith Company in Chicago in 1912 with generous donation from the George Smith and William Mason families. Franklin P. Smith also designed similar fences at Gorton School in Lake Forest, Lake Forest Cemetery, and other estates in Lake Forest.

The Millburn Cemetery Association has plans to extend the fence along Millburn Road to the east and to replace the existing fence with an exact replica made of powdercoated steel, which should be better able to withstand the salt from plows during the winter. The HMCA hopes to be able to restore enough sections of the existing historic fence to use in an area of the cemetery in some way as a memorial to the history of the fence and the donors. The slate-roofed, brick well house and "2-seater" outhouse also need to be restored and preserved at some point. It would be a shame to let them continue to deteriorate! We continue to accept donations for this project!

Thank You, Dorothy Berthold!

The HMCA Board accepted – with deep regrets – the resignation of Chairperson Dorothy Berthold. Dorothy's dedication, efforts, and tireless energy over the years on behalf of the HMCA are greatly appreciated. Join us in thanking her for her years of service!

Current Projects

We have embarked upon two new exciting and worthwhile projects! We are in the process of "reading" the cemetery and collecting oral histories:

Reading the Cemetery

We are taking digital photos of all of the headstones in Millburn Cemetery and databasing the information engraved on them. We hope to have the photos and information accessible on the Internet sometime next year for genealogists and relatives near and far. Visit the East Fox Lake Cemetery website to see what type of information will be available when our project is completed!
<http://www.lvd.org/Reference/cemeteries/eastfoxlake/EFoxLake.htm>

Oral Histories

We are looking for people who have lived in the area for a long time (or who have family members who lived here) and are willing to talk about what it was like to live here or share stories about the area that have been told to you by a parents or relative. If this applies to you or someone you know, please call Laurie Dolan at 847-336-1086. We know there are a lot of great stories and memories out there. We would like to record them to preserve for future generations!

Research Corner

A book about the history of the Village of Old Mill Creek and Millburn is in the works. Two members have spent the past two years researching to find new information and old photographs of the community and the people who call(ed) it home. More great old photos depicting life in Millburn/Old Mill Creek are needed so that our local history is preserved and documented for future generations. Let us know if you have any great old photographs of people or places in the community. We need photographs that illustrate the agricultural heritage and daily life in the community. Gurnee/Warren Township, Antioch, Lake Villa, and the Chain of Lakes all have new local history books for sale. Now it's our turn to highlight our community's local history. Be part of our history. Dig out those photo albums!

From the Archives

from the *Chicago Tribune* **6 January 1966**

"Old Mill Creek Boasts Pistol-Packing Mamas"

"If a housewife in Old Mill Creek catches a fellow looking sideways at her silverware, she might just blow his head off with her trusty six-shooter.

Most housewives there have taken up pistoling because of a rash of burglaries in and around the village. Old Mill Creek, which has a population of 150 people, 240 horses, and not one mercantile enterprise, is located on the northwest corner of the Tri-State tollway and Town Line Road.

The women have been learning the art of straight but safe shooting from a peace-loving young fellow named Jeff Serdar, the town's Chief of Police.

Each week, Serdar and a few of his deputies meet 15 to 20 housewives in the village hall for lessons on how to shoot and handle .22 and .38 caliber revolvers and automatics safely..."

Local History

Jennifer Andrew and Shirley Paddock are compiling the village history for publication. They are in need of photographs, which they can scan, and you can keep the original. If you have any photos that show what Millburn or the surrounding area was like in days gone by, please call Jennifer at 847-845-8683.

Volunteers Needed!

We rely on volunteer shopkeepers to keep Martin's General Store Museum open to the public. Please consider volunteering an afternoon of your time one Sunday from 12:30 - 4:00 p.m. It's an easy job!

NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY!

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Shirley Paddock
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Inquiries Call Jennifer Andrew at 847-845-8683.

