

JANUARY 2023

Welcome to a New Year Filled with New Adventures

By Peggy Babyar, President, Elmhurst Heritage Foundation

A warm winter greeting to all of our Members and Donors and best wishes for a happy, healthy 2023. As the new year rolls out before us, there is much to be grateful for this past year and we have much to look forward to in 2023. Here are a just few examples:

Looking back to this past year, we had an amazing day and turnout once again for our Craft Beer Fest in September! The hard-working EHF committee knocked it out of the park with another fantastic fundraising event. Read more about it in the wrap-up on page three. In October, the Foundation held a special reception for the contributors who shared their stories in the current exhibit, *In Pursuit of Happiness: Immigrants in our Communities*. What a wonderful night meeting many of the participants and their families in this powerful, collaborative exhibit! In November, the Foundation hosted another reception for our Members, Donors and Exhibit Sponsors plus special guests from the Elmhurst Chamber of Commerce. More than 100 guests participated in this wonderful evening that celebrated the new exhibit. At the event, the Museum's Director, *Dave Oberg*, proudly presented Feze Roofing Company with the Elmhurst Heritage Foundation's Alben F. Bates, Jr. Award. See Dave Oberg's article on page two to learn more about this special honor. Congratulations and thank you to Feze Roofing for the continued support of our growing exhibit sponsorship program.

Looking ahead, we have a very special event in the works this spring, so mark your calendars for April 20, 2023 when the Foundation will celebrate our 15th anniversary at the Wilder Mansion in Elmhurst. This will be a complimentary evening for our supporters, so please make plans to be with us. At the event, we will unveil the beautifully restored portrait of Jane Barbour Bryan by internationally renowned artist G.P.A. Healy. The procurement of the painting and its restoration was funded by the Elmhurst Heritage Foundation. It will become a permanent installation in the *By All Accounts: The Story of Elmhurst* exhibit. Read more on page four in Curator Dan Lund's column, and watch for an invitation to the April 20th event coming soon.

As we embark on new adventures in support of the Elmhurst History Museum and the Churchville Schoolhouse, we are reminded that it is you — our Members, Donors and Corporate Sponsors — who provide the cornerstone for our work. Your support is vital to our success, and we are very grateful. Thank you joining us on this journey!

P.S.: If you've already contributed to the Elmhurst Heritage Foundation's Annual Appeal, thank you! And if you haven't yet done so and would like to support this annual fundraising campaign with a tax-deductible donation, it is continuing through January 2023 and we welcome your support.



Novella Ferrerri (top right) and her family joined us at the opening of the In Pursuit of Happiness exhibit.

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ELMHURST
HISTORY
MUSEUM

Senior Awards Honor Board Members and Volunteers

By Cathy Jordan, EHF Board Member

On November 10, 2022, the Elmhurst Senior Commission recognized nine individuals for their exceptional and outstanding volunteer service in the Elmhurst community at the annual Outstanding Senior Service Award Program. We are proud to report that three of the individuals honored by the Elmhurst Senior Commission are volunteers who support the Elmhurst History Museum and the Elmhurst Heritage Foundation. An Outstanding Senior Service Award was presented to *Michael*

LoCicero, a long-standing board member and past president, for his contributions and commitment to the Elmhurst Heritage Foundation. Former board member and past president *Val Stewart*, who recently retired from the Foundation, was also recognized for her dedication to the community through volunteerism and leadership in various roles on the Foundation. In addition, Elmhurst resident *Irmgard Olson* was also recognized by the Commission for providing excellent customer service to visitors at the Elmhurst History Museum in her role as a greeter. Congratulations to all of our amazing senior volunteers!



EHF Honors Feze Roofing with Bates Award

By Dave Oberg, Executive Director, Elmhurst History Museum

It was my distinct pleasure to present Jessica Fese from Feze Roofing with the Alben F. Bates, Jr. Award last November. The award is given to individuals or businesses which have made a significant and lasting contribution or impact on the Elmhurst History Museum or Elmhurst Heritage Foundation. It is named in honor of Elmhurst resident Alben F. “Pete” Bates, a long-time supporter of the Elmhurst Heritage Foundation and Elmhurst History Museum, as well as numerous causes in our community.

We presented the award in recognition of Feze Roofing’s steadfast support of the Foundation and Museum Platinum Level exhibit sponsors throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. Feze Roofing’s investment as an exhibit sponsor allowed us to pivot quickly during a period of great uncertainty, providing seamless services for our patrons through online programming, outdoor exhibits, walking tours, and finally a return to in-person programming and exhibits. Jessica Fese provided a delightful surprise that evening by presenting us with a \$5,000 check to start off 2023 as a Platinum Level exhibit sponsor.

In receiving this award, Feze Roofing joins distinguished company. Our most recent recipients include former Elmhurst Mayor Tom Marcucci, who led the charge to acquire and restore the historic Churchville One-Room Schoolhouse, and Kristi Blessing, owner of Pints-Elmhurst, who has served for the past seven years as the Event Sponsor for the Elmhurst Heritage Foundation’s Elmhurst Craft Beer Fest. Please join us in celebrating this milestone for Feze Roofing and we thank them for their ongoing support.



Director Dave Oberg presents Jennifer Fese of Feze Roofing with the Alben F. Bates, Jr. Award.

Elmhurst Heritage Foundation 2022 Board of Directors

Peggy Babyar, *President*

George Szczepaniak, *Vice President*

Jean B. Baker, *Secretary*

John DeVries, *Treasurer*

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Ami ElShareif

Cathy Jordan

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Yeena Yoo

Welcome to New Curator of Exhibits

The Elmhurst History Museum announced the appointment of *Sarah Cox* as Curator of Exhibits at the end of October. Sarah will lead the ongoing development of the Museum’s exhibits program. Sarah comes to the staff with a variety of museum experience and impressive credentials. We look forward to seeing Sarah’s exhibit design, research and installation skills on display starting with the Museum’s summer exhibit, *The Bicycle: Two Wheels to Adventure*, which will open in June. A warm welcome to Sarah Cox!

The 2022 Elmhurst Craft Beer Fest Serves Up Another Fantastic Event

By Cathy Jordan, EHF Board Member, Beer Fest Committee Chair

The Elmhurst Heritage Foundation hosted the Elmhurst Craft Beer Fest on September 17, 2022. The funds generated from this event benefit the educational programs and exhibits for the Elmhurst History Museum and Churchville Schoolhouse. In addition, we showcased the Elmhurst community & Elmhurst City Centre on another beautiful fall day.

The Craft Beer Fest Committee met in November and recommended to the EHF Board that the Foundation should present the 8th Elmhurst Craft Beer Fest. So unanimously, the 8th Craft Beer Fest is on the books and will be held on **September 16, 2023**. Be sure to save the date!

Here are some interesting numbers and fun facts from the 2022 Elmhurst Craft Beer Fest:

1077+ people attending the event. The number of tickets sold at the door the day of the Fest was approximately 222. We had 26 people on our planning committee. 53+ sponsors supported the Fest, 41 financially and 12 with in-kind donations. 48+ brewers enjoyed the fest with each bringing two or three samples of beer, seltzers or ciders. Over 100 + plus craft beers and a variety of seltzers and ciders were available for sampling. Rigo's Taco's were a hit with those looking to mix food with their samplings. Great music was provided by Petty Cash and Lake Effect.

97 surrounding communities in addition to Elmhurst attended the Fest. Within the 97 communities two were international, from Scotland and Canada, and four were from out of state representing Indiana, South Carolina, Michigan, and Minnesota. In addition, 112 volunteers supported the event, including Foundation Board members, spouses, students from Elmhurst College and residents. Again, this year we had a number of "Celebrity Volunteers" pitching in to help out from the City of Elmhurst and other elected officials including Aldermen, City Treasurer, a County Board Commissioner, and a candidate for DuPage County Board Chair.

We were fortunate to have past and new sponsors, brewers, and volunteers support us again this year. We want to thank the sponsors, volunteers, Foundation Board members, Museum staff, Elmhurst Police Department, and the City of Elmhurst for their support and promotion of this community event. When we all work together, we can achieve great things! Cheers!

A big thank you to all of the Beer Fest Planning Committee Members:

Cathy Jordan, Chair; Mike LoCicero, Joyce Slone, Randy Irion, Kristi Blessing, Ken Bartels, Diana Payne, John DeVries, Brian Bergheger, Dave Oberg, Peggy Babyar, Ellen Braun, Kelly Carpenter, Jake Meding, Rob Moskal, Jean Baker, Nora Baxtrom, Kevin Baxtrom, Ann Palumbo, Gail Wernette, Judith O'Sullivan, Andrea Pokefke, Nanden Satyanarayan, George Szczepaniak, Mike Baker, Yeena Yoo, Rob Butler.



Welcome to New Board Member Ami ElShareif

We are excited to welcome *Ami ElShareif* to the Elmhurst Heritage Foundation Board. Ami grew up in Elmhurst and attended Conrad Fischer Elementary School, Churchville Middle School, and York High School. After graduating from York, Ami attended the University of Wisconsin-Madison where she received degrees in Political Science and Legal Studies. Ami then attended the University of Wisconsin Law school and, upon graduating, moved to Minneapolis where she practiced Business and Healthcare Litigation at a large, national law firm for eight years. Following the birth of their daughter in 2020, Ami and her husband, Chapin, made the decision to move back to Elmhurst to be close to family. Ami now works as in-house litigation counsel for a healthcare company. When she's not busy working or corralling her two-year old daughter and nine-year old dog, Ami enjoys operating a kids' party planning business, traveling, and hosting events. We are delighted to welcome Ami to the Elmhurst Heritage Foundation!



Ami ElShareif

EHM Exhibit News



In Pursuit of Happiness: Immigrants in our Communities Continues through May 14, 2023

Be sure to stop by to see this poignant exhibit that shares the diverse personal stories and experiences of area immigrants and their descendants, including many local community members. Visitors will gain an understanding about DuPage County's growing diversity and challenges immigrants face as they shape an evolving identity in the U.S.

Sponsored by: Feze Roofing; Community Bank of Elmhurst; Superior Ambulance Service; Storino, Ramello & Durkin, Attorneys at Law; Michael V. LoCicero, Attorney at Law; Krietzelman Burton & Associates, and Rotary Club of Elmhurst.

COMING THIS SUMMER

The Bicycle: Two Wheels to Adventure June 9-Sept. 17, 2023



Explore the history of the “human-powered carriage” and how the bicycle redefined an era of newfound leisure and independence. Featured spotlight on Elmhurst adventurer and World's Most Travelled Man, J. Hart Rosdail, with tales from his record-setting journey across the globe on his trusted bicycle, Jacqueline. *Sponsored by: Feze Roofing & Lakeside Bank.*

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

— JANUARY —

Gallery Talk: In Pursuit of Happiness Exhibit

Jan. 15, 12PM

FREE to Members

Tour the *In Pursuit of Happiness* exhibit with exhibit consultant Sandy Denninger.

Register online at:
elmhursthistory.org

Lecture: How the World Arrived on Lake Michigan's Shores

Jan. 29, 2PM

FREE to Members

Register online at:
elmhursthistory.org

— FEBRUARY —

School's Out Day Camp

Feb. 20 9AM-3PM

\$40/child

Register online at:
elmhursthistory.org

Cultural Connections Through Coffee

Feb. 25, 1PM-3PM

\$10/person

At BrewPoint Craft Elmhurst

Register online at:
elmhursthistory.org

— MARCH —

SAVE THE DATE FOR A SPECIAL MUSICAL PERFORMANCE!

Chicago

Immigrant Orchestra

March 26, 2PM

**At Elmhurst University's
Hammerschmidt Chapel**

See the amazing world-class orchestra that represents rich cultures from around the world. Ticket info coming soon—watch our website for details.

Spring Break Activities for Families

Families are invited to join us at the Museum and Churchville Schoolhouse for programs during Spring Break week (March 27-31). See our Spring Calendar for details.

MORE INFO:
elmhursthistory.org

From the Collection

By Daniel Lund, EHM Curator of Collections



It's been a long road for our recently acquired painting of Jane Byrd Bryan, and the museum curatorial staff would like to offer an update on its restoration process (work in progress shown in photo above). As detailed in a previous newsletter, the Elmhurst History Museum, with generous assistance from the Elmhurst Heritage Foundation, acquired the painting of Bryan in May 2020.

Painted in 1859 by internationally renowned portrait artist G.P.A. Healy, the portrait as an artifact represents the intersection of three historical narratives that converge at this early point in Elmhurst history—the biography of Healy himself, the story of prominent Chicago statesman and Elmhurst resident Thomas Barbour Bryan, and the ongoing tale of Hill Cottage Tavern, which served as a residence for both Bryan and Healy and still stands today as Elmhurst's oldest building.

When the museum acquired the portrait, it was in rough shape. The frame had been removed and there were several tears in the canvas. It required extensive conservation in order to be exhibited. To that end, the museum worked with Parma Conservation and MCM Fine Framing, two Chicago firms that helped restore the painting to its former glory.

After two years of work and completion of a detailed restoration process, we will be ready to unveil the finished portrait in April 2023 at a special ceremony celebrating the 15th anniversary of the Elmhurst Heritage Foundation. It will then be installed in the museum's core exhibit, *By All Accounts: The Story of Elmhurst*, on the second floor of the Glos Mansion, along with interpretation of the Bryan and Healy story and a short documentary covering the restoration process. Watch for more news coming soon!