

Niles Historical Society

8970 N. Milwaukee Ave., Niles, IL 60714
 Phone/Fax: (847) 390-0160

Internet Contact: rmb@vniles.com
 On Facebook! Niles Historical Society and Museum

Hours: Mon / Wed / Fri. 10:30a.-3:00p
 Free Admission & Tours Available

Our Guest Speaker for April Roberta Randall in “The Power of Glamour”

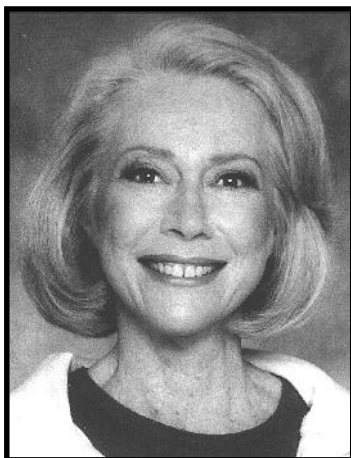
It is a real pleasure to again present Roberta Randall in her “One Woman Theater” of famous acting legends in “**The Power of Glamour**”

It evokes a unique Hollywood era and five of the goddesses— Joan Crawford, Greta Garbo, Katherine Hepburn, Tallulah Bankhead and Marlene Dietrich - who enchanted the world and left their legacy.

Join us in a fun afternoon
2:00 p.m. on Sunday, April 24, 2016.

Her presentation will be at the Niles Historical and Cultural Center, 8970 Milwaukee Ave., Niles. Doors open at 1:00 p.m. Admission is free. Refreshments will be served afterwards. You are welcome to tour the Center after the performance and see three floors of amazing artifacts.

For more information, please call (847) 390-0160 or check the marquee next to the Museum entrance.



The Community Establishments donate Food to help raise money for a College Education Fund

Last month a college student held a dinner fundraiser at the Niles Historical Society to raise money for the Sid Feldman Foundation. Through the support of our great community businesses listed below, the foundation is grateful.



Niles Pantry



Volunteers pictured above with the host are:
 Jim and Laverne Kozak, Julia and Tony Guarnaccio

For more information on reserving our facility for your event, please feel free to contact us.

Niles Sister Cities

Niles' first Sister City was established with Pisa, Italy in 1991 which was then followed by Nafplion, Greece in 1994, Leixlip, Ireland in 1999, and Limanowa, Poland in 2005. Recently, Niles hosted ten exchange students from Pisa. On March 19, at the Niles Family Fitness Center, A Taste of the Sister Cities is planned.

Pisa, Italy



The origin of the name Pisa remains a mystery, but the city's founders comprised of the Greeks, Etruscans, and Ligurians. Pisa, being located on the coast of the Ligurian Sea, established a prominent maritime presence. Pisa was a prosperous municipality for centuries due to their water ways which provided easy transportation, defense, and trade. In 1360, they built the renowned Leaning Tower of Pisa.



Nafplion, Greece

Nafplion is located in Peloponnese, Greece, and was inhabited by Ancient Greeks. The oldest part of town is known as the Acronauplia, the ancient city. Nafplion was the first capital of Greece under King Otto, a Bavarian Prince, but was eventually moved to Athens in 1839. Nafplion is home of the Palamidi Castle standing over 700 feet above sea level and takes 999 steps to climb.

Leixlip, Ireland



Leixlip was the battleground of the Battle of Confehy. Leixlip at the time was part of Leinster, under the rule of King Augaire mac Ailella, who attempted to protect the kingdom from the Vikings. Leixlip's population today is 15,452 and it is the fourth largest town in Kildare. Since 1990 a yearly festival takes place that includes "The Arrival of the Vikings" theme that includes a reenactment of that time.



Limanowa, Poland

The first mention of the town Limanowa, was in 1496, when the estate belonged to the *szlachta*, a noble class. In 1520, the estate was passed down to the Achacy Jordan, who formed a judiciary. Limanowa eventually became an official township in 1565 and under the King Zygmunt August, had the privilege of not paying taxes for a period of thirty years; this created the town to grow significantly. Today, Limanowa has a population of 15,132, and even has the Roman Szumilas Stadium for their local club soccer team.

Memory Loss

With age, memory starts to fail. “It is well established that as we age, we begin to show deficits in autobiographical memory [episodic and semantic memory]. These deficits are even more pronounced in individuals with dementia” (Miles, Fischer-Mogensen, Nielsen, Hermansen, Berntsen, 1075). Exposing Seniors or those facing memory loss to reminiscences of the past will enable them to draw cognitive connections of their own, improving memory. It is vital to stay connected with one’s past in order to understand the continuity of an individual’s life as that is how one establishes their own self-identity.

In Denmark, a study was conducted to determine if those suffering from dementia could improve their memory by immersing them in a 20th century living arrangement made possible by the Old Town Museum. Twelve participants who all suffered from dementia aged seventy-six to ninety-two were placed in two different sessions, the Old Town setting (experimental condition) and a modern activity center (control everyday setting). Through interviews, the participants were asked to recall what they remembered from the sessions. “The participants had more memories in Old Town than in the control condition” (Miles, Fischer-Mogensen, Nielsen, Hermansen, Berntsen, 1078). The results were impressive, ten out of twelve participants described more autobiographical memories of Old Town opposed to the control condition, eleven out of twelve participants experienced more details in Old Town rather than the control condition, and eleven out of twelve participants spontaneously remembered more events from Old Town than the control condition. It is important to note, the interviewer did not probe the participants to comment more on Old Town, but remained neutral.

Participants clearly responded strongly to the artifacts and environment that mimicked their childhood and young adulthood memories. “The Old Town condition showed more memories recalled,

more autobiographical memories, more internal (episodic) and external details” (Miles, Fischer-Mogensen, Nielsen, Hermansen, Berntsen, 1079). One example was when a woman was shown a modern phone in the control room and she inquired about borrowing the phone. At Old Town, when the same woman saw an old phone on display she began to go on about how she was an operator at a telephone exchange. Her memory continued to grow as she then commented on how she once connected an emergency call to the fire department about a house burning, where she later found out it was her in-law’s house that caught fire.

Recently, the Niles Historical Society hosted a group of individuals suffering from memory failure and gave them a tour. One individual suffering from dementia expressed how she remembered her dad using some of the items we have on display. At the museum, we have one floor dedicated as a recreated early twentieth century apartment.

There are many other interesting artifacts and displays throughout the museum. Please feel free to visit us for a tour.



The Annual Bakeless Bake Sale

The Niles Historical Society is hosting their Bakeless Bake Sale. We know that many of you have busy schedules and do not have the time to bake, so instead we ask for a kind donation. Proceeds go towards necessary expenses the museum incurs throughout the year. In addition, the museum still needs to purchase equipment to help preserve our artifacts. A donation from you will allow us to provide to residents and non-residents alike the opportunity to view exhibits and have access to Niles' rich history.

Please talk about our fundraiser among family, friends, and local merchants. We depend solely on donations.

A Bakeless Bake Sale is on the Way

In these busy days you don't have to bake...pies or cookies or even a cake.
You'd be surprised if you counted the cost... of material, heat and the time that you lost.

Baking for fund-raising is extra work... yet a duty no one wants to shirk.

So, here's a plan that's truly grand... and we feel sure you will understand.

In an envelope, please put the price... you'd pay for a pie or cake or something nice.

We hope you'll give with a generous heart...

And without a fuss or bother, you've done your part.

Bakeless Bake Sale - Niles Historical & Cultural Center

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____

Thank you for your donation of: \$ _____

Please make checks payable to the Niles Historical Society and mail to 8970
Milwaukee Avenue, Niles, Illinois 60714

St. Matthew's Cemetery

The Niles Historical Society recently discovered that there is a discrepancy as to who owns St. Matthew's Cemetery. We are very interested in finding out more information regarding the history and origin of the cemetery. If you know anything or know of someone who has knowledge on St. Matthew's Cemetery, please contact us. Below is a brief summary from Mr. Wilken:

"My name is Daniel Wilken and I am the contact person for St. Matthew's Cemetery listed at Cook County and I also take care of the grass cutting when time permits. St. Matthew's is defined as an abandoned cemetery according to state law. Also, there have been taxes levied against St. Matthew's since no one has filed tax exempt on the cemetery. I have been working with the Village of Niles and Cook County to resolve the tax issue and hopefully get St. Matthew's under a 501c3 charitable organization to raise funds for restoration and perpetual care of St. Matthew's.

The property of St. Matthews Cemetery was purchased in 1856 by Conrad Geweke, John Marquardt and John Ritter from William and Margret White for the sum of \$250.00 for use as the German Lutheran Church of Maine and Niles. The Cemetery is the site of the first Church in that area according to several accounts."

St. Matthews Lutheran Cemetery, 8522 Shermer [Telegraph] Road, Niles Illinois [circa 1945]



January - February 2016

The Historical Society would like to thank new members and renewed members for your pledges for the upcoming year. The Society could not function without your support.

Thank you!

Renewed Members

K. Lee
N. Rog
C. Zalinski

*Michael Crisci
Interim Membership Chair*



Niles Historical Society Chairpersons and Staff

<i>Accessions</i>	Doris Gottschalk
<i>Bldg. & Grounds</i>	Jim Kozak
<i>Docent</i>	Arlene Twardowski
<i>Membership</i>	Michael Crisci
<i>Social Events</i>	LaVerne Kozak
<i>Historian</i>	Tom Ferraro
<i>Admin. Asst.</i>	
<i>Village of Niles</i>	Michael Crisci
<i>Temporary</i>	
<i>Admin. Asst.</i>	Robert Bjorklund

Officers and Board of Directors

Julia Guarnaccio, President
Doris Gottschalk

LaVerne Kozak, Secretary
Jim Kozak

Tony Guarnaccio, Treasurer
Arlene Twardowski

Niles Historical Society

8970 N. Milwaukee Avenue
Niles, Illinois 60714-1737



03-04.2016

Save the Date!

Roberta Randall, actress
The Power of Glamour
2:00 p.m. on Sunday, April 24, 2016

Free admission—Doors open at 1 p.m.



MAKE SURE YOU



LIKE US ON FACEBOOK!

WE INVITE YOU TO BECOME A MEMBER OF THE NILES HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Please indicate your type of membership:

<input type="checkbox"/> Business 2	\$400.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Business 1	\$75.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor	\$1,000.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual Life Member ❖	\$200.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Patron ♦	\$60.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Institutional ♦	\$40.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Family ♦	\$25.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Contributor ♦	\$25.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual ♦	\$15.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Senior Citizen, 62 ♦	\$10.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Student ♦	\$5.00

♦ = Denotes Annual Membership

❖ = Denotes One Time Contribution

Name: _____
(Please PRINT)

Corporation: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: (_____) _____

Email: _____

Date: ____/____/____

New Renewal

Amount: _____ cash chk # _____ date _____

Membership dues & contributions are deductible on Federal Income Taxes to the extent allowable by law (501C—3 status, non-profit org.)

Mail Checks to:

Niles Historical Society
c/o Membership
8970 N. Milwaukee Ave
Niles, IL. 60714

For benefits of each level, please contact the Museum (847) 390-0160, or visit www.vniles.com

We appreciate and thank you for your support to maintain the history of the Village of Niles!