

WASHINGTON
Historical Society
PO Box 54, Washington, IL
(309) 444-4793



**WEDDING DRESSES
THROUGH THE DECADES:
PAGE 2**



**CELEBRITY VISITOR TO
WHS: PAGE 4**



**SHARE THE GIFT OF
WASHINGTON THIS
SEASON: PAGE 8**

HERITAGE HERALD

www.washingtonilhs.com

December 2023

CHRISTMAS HOUSE TOUR – DECEMBER 12

Please join us for our popular annual Christmas House Tour! This year's tour will be held on Tuesday, December 12 from 1-4 and 6-9 p.m. The following locations will be decorated in all their holiday finery and open for tours this year. Locations include:

1309 Hampton Road

1016 Greenbrier Lane

309 Pine Ridge Dr.

9 Hunters Way

Washington Presbyterian Church

Washington Historical Society

St. Mark's will have a live nativity scene on the 12th as well as a live petting "zoo" and inside display of nativity sets all during 4 to 6 p.m. The Historical Society will be a festive resting spot with refreshments to relax and talk about the amazing decorations that you have seen on the tour. In addition, this year, we will feature Kathy Mattus's collection of holiday Lego sets.

We are excited to present four homes this year that represent four different Washington neighborhoods: Devonshire, Firethorn, Westlake, and the South Hillcrest area. The Presbyterian Church and the nativity scene at St. Mark's are, of course, in the historic blocks near the square. In addition, this year we are excited to display Kathy Mattus's Winter Lego collection at the Historical Society during the Tour. Kathy raised her children in Washington and has been a science teacher at Washington Middle School for many years. She



started her Winter Lego collection 13 years ago thinking it would be something fun to do as a family. Her collection has grown from simple 2-dimensional, 40-50 piece holiday figures like snowmen and Santa Clauses to complex 3-dimensional buildings with over 1,500 pieces. Her collection currently includes all 15 winter sets and many smaller holiday sets. Friends and family have gathered around tables starting as early as the week of Thanksgiving to help assemble all the sets in time for Christmas. Yes – she takes apart and rebuilds the sets every year! Kathy's favorite two sets are the Winter Village Fire Station with a hockey rink and the Winter Holiday Train and Station which has a remote control.

This is a "can't miss" event! Tickets are available for \$20 before the event at Kimpling's Ace, Step Back in Time, and Homespun, and via PayPal on the Historical Society website www.washingtonilhs.com. Tickets will be available for \$25 at the Historical Society on the day of the event. Paper tickets are required to enter the homes, so tickets purchased online via PayPal will need to be picked up at the Historical Society on the 12th before beginning the tour.



BE A PART OF THIS YEAR'S CHRISTMAS HOUSE TOUR

The Christmas House Tour is the only fundraiser that the Historical Society holds each year. It's also....fun! Wouldn't you like to help us with this year's event? We could use help in the following areas:

Ticket Takers: We always need people willing to sit at the houses and take tickets as people arrive.

Cookie Bakers: Please provide 2-3 dozen cookies (preferably festive holiday cookies) to be served as refreshments at the Historical Society during the event.

Refreshment Helpers: Sign up for a 2-hour window to help with refreshments at the Society: plating cookies, replenishing beverages, tidying up, etc.

If you are willing to help, please contact Sue Freeberg at (309) 360-8391.

WEDDING DRESSES THROUGH THE DECADES

After the success of last year's special winter display of quilts, we are again planning a special exhibit that will be at the Historical Society this winter – **Wedding Dresses Through the Decades**. The dresses will be on display beginning January 18 and will stay up through March 30. In conjunction with the wedding dress display, we will also have three programs that cover all things wedding dresses, love, and wedding traditions.

To accommodate what we hope will be the many people who wish to see our wedding dress display, the Society will be open during this exhibit at the following times: **Tuesdays and Thursdays: 10:00 – 1:00, Saturdays: 10:00 – 1:30**

There will be a suggested donation of \$5 / person to help defray the costs of this special exhibit.

THE PROGRAMS

Saturday, January 20, 1:30 p.m. - Wedding Traditions Through the Years

Longtime children's librarian at the Washington District Library, Mary Penn, will present this carefully researched program about wedding traditions: How did they start? Why do we hold on to some wedding traditions that date back many years, while other traditions have faded away? This is sure to be a fun and informative program!

Thursday, February 15, 7:00 p.m. - Love Stories

We need YOU for this interactive, Valentine's themed program! Love Stories will feature our members and friends telling their own love stories: how you met your sweetheart, interesting stories or events that have happened during your relationship, interesting stories from your wedding, etc. Each speaker will be given about five minutes to tell their story. This program will have a moderator to help keep the conversation flowing but will otherwise feature YOU and YOUR stories. To sign up to be a featured speaker for this program, please contact Melissa at washingtonilhs@gmail.com or 773-425-0499.

Friday, April 12, 7:00 p.m. - Fashion Show – Wedding Dresses Through the Decades

This will be fun! This fashion show will feature all kinds of dresses worn in a wedding: bridal gowns / dresses / suits, bridesmaid dresses, flower girl dresses, and even dresses worn by the mother-of-the-bride. The show will be at St. Mark's Lutheran Church. Tickets are \$25 each and with tables of 8, you can grab your friends and family and fill an entire table so that you can really make an evening of it. Wedding-themed refreshments will be served. Longtime Historical Society members Joan Ruppman and Jeanette Pritchard are planning this fashion show so you know it will be a wonderful event!

LEND US YOUR DRESS:

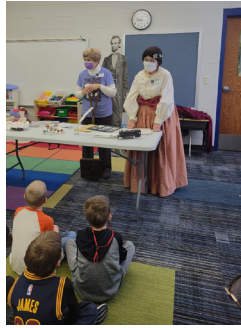
Yes! We would love to display your dress at our exhibit. Loaned dresses may be used for our exhibit or possibly for the fashion show on April 12. Of course, wedding dresses haven't always been white and satiny. If you have a multi-piece suit or non-white dress that was used as the bride's wedding attire, we are particularly interested in those, as well.

When you come in with your dress, we will ask if you have a preference for whether the dress will be displayed in the exhibit or worn for the show. We will also ask for information about the dress, such as: a description of its physical appearance, the approximate size of the dress, who made it, where it was purchased, flowers carried, the date and location of the wedding, and other details such as traditions followed, music used, etc. We would also love to display any accessories you might have that go along with the dress, such as shoes, a purse, the veil, or even a photograph of the bride wearing the dress. The display will ONLY feature wedding dresses or suits worn by the bride along with any accessories that we have that go with it; however, the fashion show will feature wedding dresses as well as bridesmaid dresses, mother-of-the-bride dresses, and flower girl dresses.

To lend us your dress for the program, please bring it to the Historical Society during the following times: January 9, 11, or 13 from 10am - noon

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR TRUNKS AND TRAVELS

The Historical Society's Trunks and Travels program provides a tremendous outreach into our local schools. During the 2022-2023 school year, our Trunks and Travels volunteers made 45 presentations to 1st through 4th grade classes at St. Patrick's School, Central Primary School, Central Intermediate School, and Lincoln Grade School. Our volunteers present the stories of Washington's past using artifacts and engaging stories. We have eight volunteers who are, frankly, amazing! They devote their time to this program and introduce our youngest students to Washington's history, but they need help! Do you enjoy kids? Have a flair for historical reenactment or storytelling? If you've said yes to any of those questions, you are perfect for Trunks and Travels! To get more information or to volunteer for the program, please contact our Trunks and Travels administrator, Sarah Butler, at sjbutler719@hotmail.com.



Speaking of Sarah Butler, the Historical Society wants to give her a big shout-out for all she does to make this program work. We would not have success connecting with schools, teachers, and presenters without her precise and consistent volunteerism. Sarah is a gem who makes this program happen. Thank you, Sarah!

AUTUMN FEST FUN



We had so much fun giving walking tours during Autumn Fest on the Square on September 23. Those who came were treated to an interactive walking tour around the square and a presentation back at the Historical Society. Big thanks to Dr. Tom Gross, Nick Talon, and Alivia Archdale who gave the tours, and to high school students Trevor Heil and Nate Alonso who represented the Historical Society out on the square with temporary tattoos for the kids and various other fun giveaways.

ROOTS AWARD



*Tim Allshouse with some of his old Washington friends.
From left: Jen and Jim Tallman,
Dr. Allshouse and
Connie and John Stromberger*

Thanks again, to this year's Roots recipient, Dr. Tim Allshouse, who is a wonderful representative of Washington! Tim's program on September 10 was fun and entertaining (the videos of his bands – wow!!), and inspired all of us in attendance to be our best selves and to make connections with others so that we can all lift each other up. Tim reminded us to celebrate and appreciate our wonderful Washington community. What a great message! Tim, you are truly one of Washington's best!

CONTINUED WORK ON OUR BUILDING

There is rarely a dull moment at the Historical Society! This fall we completed work on our building in conjunction with the demolition and construction next door. We had contractors repair our brick foundation that had been damaged during the demolition next door. We also had our exterior bricks sealed while they were exposed. Both of those projects needed to be completed before construction begins on the new building. Sealing the bricks will help protect our building from encroaching moisture and should help protect and preserve the building for decades to come.

Future exterior work on our building will include moving our HVAC and electrical equipment on the outside of our building to make way for the new construction next door, and covering / sealing the windows on the east side of our building that will soon be blocked by the new building.

By the time you receive this newsletter, we are hopeful that work will have begun to paint and spruce up our portion of the main level of our building. The Historical Society intends to use this area for additional display space. We hope its easy access to the public (right when you walk in) will encourage more people to pop in to learn a little something about Washington's history.

The additional display area on the main floor will free up one of the display rooms upstairs so that we can convert it into a research library. Research books and pamphlets will be stored here so that they can be easily accessed by those coming in to do research. In addition, we are thrilled to report that the Historical Society will soon be a Family Search Affiliate Library. This means that members of the public will be able to come to our facility to use Ancestry.com and FamilySearch.com to do genealogy research...for free! Once this fabulous amenity is up and running in our new research room, we will certainly hold more programs and events to help get people started.

CELEBRITY VISITOR TO HISTORICAL SOCIETY



On Sunday, September 24, the Historical Society was treated to a visit by a local celebrity: Rick Walker and his brother Dennis. As Washington residents of a certain age recall, Rick was once Ricky Walker, the 10-year-old boy who won a rocket through a cereal box contest that ran in the summer of 1953.

If you were around for Ricky Walker Day in Washington on January 12, 1954, you certainly remember the occasion! If you weren't there, the following article, written by John Stromberger and available anytime on the Historical Society's "Washington Rewind" page on our website, explains that exciting time in Rick Walker's and Washington's history:

"Ricky Walker Day" is arguably the most exciting event in the town's history. National celebrities were on our square, Life Magazine did a spread on the occasion, there were newsreels made of the day's events, schools were dismissed for the students to attend. All because one boy entered a contest about a television show.

Ricky Walker was a fifth grader and attended St. Patrick's School. He watched a television show called "Space Patrol," which aired from 1950-1955 on Saturdays. "Space Patrol" was sponsored by Ralston Purina, and the company had constructed a rocket called the "Ralston Rocket" for promotional purposes to travel around the country and do appearances at grocery stores. In 1953 the promotional run for the rocket had ended and the company came up with a creative promotion to get rid of it.

On September 19, 1953, the "NAME THAT PLANET" contest was announced on an episode of the show. The planet, referred to as "Planet X" on the show, had become a relatively new part of the storyline. The prize for the contest was billed simply as a "Rocket Club House." Weekly promotions continued until December 1 when the contest ended.

Ricky Walker was not a huge fan of the show, at least not more so than other

shows, he just liked entering contests. He submitted only one entry to the contest, at the last minute.

A few weeks after the ending of the contest the family got a letter from "Space Patrol" saying a private investigator was going to come to the house. What followed over the next week was several visits from Ralston representatives, basically checking the family out to make sure they were suitable for what was about to come. At one of those final visits, they revealed to the Walkers that Ricky had won the grand prize, the Ralston Rocket. Included in the prize was a full-size tractor-trailer to pull the rocket, a new bicycle, and many other prizes. To present Ricky his prize would be the star of the show "Captain Don," actor Don Jacobsmeyer.

The presentation was to take place on the square on Tuesday, January 12, 1954. The Washington High School band performed, and schools let students out of school early to watch. The Ralston Rocket rolled into town at 3:15 p.m. and parked on the south end of the square.

The next Saturday, January 16, the rocket was to return to the square so people could tour the inside. The event was set up as a fundraiser, raising \$436 for the March of Dimes. Mayor Earl Zimmerman proclaimed the 16th "Ricky Walker Day"

in Washington and many businesses had space-themed specials for their customers.

Life Magazine sent famous photographer Yale Joel, known as "the photographer of the impossible," to capture the festivities. Joel was one of twenty media photographers there that day. The Ricky Walker feature appeared in the January 25, 1954, issue of Life Magazine, with Diane Sinclair on the cover.

After receiving the Rocket, Walker was somewhat discouraged with the fact that the internal furnishings were not space-themed at all. It was a camper. Beds, cupboards, etc. The rocket functioned as a clubhouse for Ricky and his friends for a few months, but the novelty quickly faded, and the Walkers were left with an unsightly behemoth in their driveway.

In the summer of 1954, the Walkers leased the rocket to a traveling carnival from Wichita, Kansas. By 1955 the rocket had been permanently sold to other interested parties and by 1956 the Walkers had moved to Michigan.

Diehard fans of the show tried to keep track of the Ralston Rocket's whereabouts, and in 1979 had located it in Quincy, Illinois. By 1985 it was in New York state, where it was eventually dismantled and sold for scrap, thus putting an end to the Rocket and our story.

There is a fabulous video of the rocket and the events of Ricky Walker Day on YouTube. You can find it by going to YouTube.com and searching for "Space Patrol Rocket Ship News Coverage" or by typing in: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IBwWzmTIEG4&t=911s>. Trust us: you want to watch this video, especially the last 4 minutes!

FROM THE ARCHIVES

FROM THE TAZEVELL COUNTY REPORTER— DECEMBER 1953

Quartet From TP&W Crew Have Too Jubilant Holiday

Now in the Tazewell County jail at Pekin are four members of the T.P.&W. railroad maintenance crew, who were apprehended at noon last Saturday, November 28, by local authorities on a warrant signed by a fellow worker, Walter Strauch. The quartet, apparently Thanksgiving holiday celebrating, were brought from the bunk car on a siding near the Comet Oil company on West Jefferson Street and placed in jail at the Washington City building. Two of the men, Wesley M. Blake and Edward L. Bates, were taken to Pekin to await a hearing held there Monday before Justice of the Peace Frank Werscheid, at which time they both were fined \$25 and costs on charges of disorderly conduct. A hearing was held Saturday afternoon before Justice Werscheid for the other two laborers, John A. Chandler and Jackson Taylor. Chandler were fined on two counts, \$20 and costs for disorderly conduct and \$25 and costs for not having a driver's license. Taylor was assessed a fine of \$20 and costs on a disorderly conduct charge.

Gets Record 279 Score

Achieving the distinction of rolling a game score of 279, highest ever in Washington for a lady, Miss Patt Hett, 709 Spring Street, member of the Menz Grocery team in the Wednesday night ladies' league, not only paced her team to a wide victory Tuesday night of last week, November 24, but also had the local alleys buzzing with acclaim and made the evening news broadcast from Peoria. In addition, she achieved a series score of 599 to give all the Washington women bowling enthusiasts something to "shoot at." In her 279 games, she missed rolling a perfect score by not having strikes in the first and last frames. Miss Hett has been a bowling fan ever since her high school days, when her father, the late Henry Hett, operated the alleys at the present Uptown Bowl site on North main Street.

Give City's Square Final 'Yule Touch'

Completed last Friday, December 18, was the final touches of the City square's Christmas decorations with members of the Central Illinois Light company crew putting "Rudolph, the Red-Nosed Reindeer" on the light poles on the outer square. These novel decorations, contributed by Washington firms, along with the Nativity scene and lights, installed by the Jaycees, have given the center of the City a Yule display that has received much acclaim and will be an appropriate background for the Community Sing scheduled for 7:30 p.m. this Saturday, December 19.

Is Now Home on Leave After 2 Years Seabee Service in Japan. Midway Next

Arriving during the Thanksgiving holidays for a surprise visit here, was Petty Officer, Third Class, Gene Davies, son of Mr. and Mrs. Guy Lucas, 200 Monroe Street, who has just finished a two and on-half year assignment in Japan and expects to now serve in the Seabees on the island of Midway. Chief Davies left Tokyo by plane Sunday, November 22, and flew to Anchorage Alaska and then on to Travis Air Force Base, near Sacramento, Calif. From there he traveled to Chicago by train arriving in time to catch the Santa Fe "doodlebug" and arrive home Thanksgiving evening. He is to report December 24 to Treasure Island, Calif, for assignment to Midway Island, where he will serve as an operator of heavy equipment and in automotive transportation. Chief Davies entered the service on October 20, 1950, having completed his high schooling here, and reported for boot training at Great Lakes Naval Training Center. He then was assigned to Japan, serving at three bases to the south and southwest of Tokyo where he also operated heavy equipment and was in automotive transportation. In his more than three years of service, he has been home on only one other occasion, in June 1951 when he completed his course at Port Hueneme and was given a four-day leave.

Capacity Crowd at P.T.A. Christmas Program Last Night

Washington Community High school gymnasium was filled to the capacity last evening, December 9, when the grade pupils and high school students presented the annual Christmas program at the meeting of the Washington Parent Teachers' association. Miss Joyce Walker, grade school music head, presented pupils representing grades in a skit "Searching for the Christmas Spirit" with all groups singing Christmas music selections. Miss Frances Whittaker, high school music head, presented the high school band and featured instrumental specialties, including the newly organized "Mellowtones" headed by Dick Baries, who played popular selections and are attempting to organize a six-piece dance orchestra for engagements. The band also gave a clever presentation to introduce the sale of candy to those present, the funds to be used to purchase risers for the high school choruses.

Sportsmen Plan Fox Hunt Sunday in New Area

Kennel Lake Sportsmen's Club will sponsor a fox hunt next Sunday, December 6, with assembly at 12:30 at the club house, southwest of Washington. It is hoped there will be a hundred in attendance as they wish to hunt territory northwest of Morton.

This is rough country and the farmers report numerous foxes as there has never been a fox drive in this area. Master of the Hunt will be Rudolph Behrends and captains are Henry Schuck, Robert Behrends, Emmanuel Ackerman, Crandall Huser, Louie Schuck, and Clarence Schuck. Last Sunday's hunt was rained out and the hunters spent the afternoon playing pinochle in the club house.

YEAR END WRAP UP

THANK YOU, Members, for your ongoing support of the Historical Society. While you may not get a fancy membership card or admission to a world-class museum with your membership, you DO get the satisfaction of knowing that your financial support truly sustains the Society. Your membership makes it possible for the organization to do all the things we do to preserve Washington's history, educate people about Washington's history, and contribute to the cultural life in our community. In 2023, we have already or will:

- ◆ Honored Washington native Dr. Tim Allshouse with this year's Roots Award and hosted a program where he shared stories about his career (and wonderful videos of his band!) and the influence that growing up in Washington has had on his life;
- ◆ Visited 45 classrooms, or approximately 613 kids, with our Trunks and Travels programs that teaches young people about Washington history;
- ◆ Hosted our annual meeting for around 60 attendees with a program by Robert D. Sampson about the early days of baseball in Illinois;
- ◆ Hosted our annual Christmas House Tour featuring four beautiful Washington homes, Washington Presbyterian Church, and the Historical Society, all dressed up for Christmas;
- ◆ Hosted a wonderful program by English professor Jennifer Sears about the POW camp that was in Washington during WWII;
- ◆ Held educational walking tours in conjunction with Autumn Fest on the square;
- ◆ Continued to do work on the exterior of our building as necessitated by the demolition and construction work next door;
- ◆ Continue to support the amazing Seward Johnson sculpture, "Return Visit," right here in Washington;
- ◆ Welcomed numerous people to our building to do research or to see our displays;
- ◆ Rented out our gorgeous new room to various groups for their use, including the Civil War Dance Society for dance practice, the Town and Country Gardeners and local P.E.O. for their meetings, and various wedding and baby showers;
- ◆ Sold flowers on May Day to help make the day a bit brighter for many in our community.
- ◆ Posted hundreds of old pictures on our Facebook page for community members past and present to enjoy.

With your help, we did all these things and more in 2023, and we look forward to continuing our great work in 2024. Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

WHS WELCOMED MRS. REISER'S JOURNALISM CLASS FROM WACOH



The Historical Society was thrilled to welcome Washington High School teacher Mrs. Reiser and her journalism class to our building on October 12. The students were preparing to research and write a paper about a person, place, or event in Washington's history. Their reports will be turned into a book that will be published for the upcoming Bicentennial Celebration in 2025. Our own Dr. Tom Gross led the students on a walking tour around Washington's square to give them background information that they could consider when deciding on a research topic. He also provided the class with a lovely lunch back at the Society. We can't wait to read the students' finished papers!

BOOK TALK – "THE AMERICAN BANKER IN PARIS: THE REMARKABLE TRUE STORY OF LITTLE KNOWN NELSON DEAN JAY"

The Washington Historical Society is pleased to present a book talk and book signing for this wonderful book on Saturday, January 13 at 11:00 a.m. at our building on the square. The "American Banker in Paris" is a wonderful new nonfiction book written by longtime Historical Society member Karl Taylor and his writing partner William Engelbrecht. "The American Banker in Paris" tells the story of Nelson Dean Jay, an unknown banker who lived in Paris during the 1920s and 1930s. He was a friend of Ernest Hemingway, Coco Chanel and Gertrude Stein, and his bank was the only American bank to remain open in occupied Paris during the war. Dean Jay also was a member of the welcoming party for Charles Lindbergh when he made his first transatlantic flight but later suggested to Lindbergh that he consider his views carefully. Some of his contemporaries wondered if Jay was a spy; he likely was not, but everyone from presidents to popes to dictators sought his advice. Romance, intrigue, war – this story has it all!

Please come join author William Engelbrecht and actress Helen Engelbrecht on January 13 for what will be a wonderfully informative and entertaining conversation about the life and times of Nelson Dean Jay.

YOUR HISTORY MATTERS, TOO!

Yes, your history is important! We are asking members to share their remembrances of Washington. Responses will be compiled and shared in the next newsletter and archived to help future historians learn about OUR time in Washington.

*If you were at the Ricky Walker Day on the square, we'd love to hear from you!
What are your recollections of this momentous occasion in Washington's history?*

*Please return your remembrance to the Historical Society at P.O. Box 54, Washington, IL 61571
or via email to washingtonilhs@gmail.com*

ASK THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY:

I've Always Wondered About...The First Christmas Celebration on the Square. When did we start doing that?

The Christmas season on the Square has been special for a long time, but is there a beginning; a seminal moment we can point to and ask, "THIS is when it began?" Yes. December 23, 1914.

At an early December meeting of the Commercial Club, the subject was brought up to erect a municipal Christmas tree in the center of the square. Municipal Christmas trees were gaining in popularity, but only in the largest cities. Washington, fresh off the elimination of alcohol a few years prior, completely changed the attitude of the town. With the city's subsequent push for growth, expansion, and credibility, the club saw this as an opportunity to "keep up with the Joneses."

A committee was formed out of the Commercial Club, and meetings with the Ministerial Association followed to plan the big event.

Executive Committee: John Wrenn, Benjamin Streid, Calvin Brady

Committee for securing the tree: John Wrenn, Dan Minch, Emmanuel Garber

Committee for lighting the tree: George Stimson, Harley Kingsbury

Elizabeth Reyburn was in charge of the Christmas carols to be sung by the children.

After scouring the area for the perfect tree, a 30-foot evergreen was selected from the Danforth property southwest of the city. It was reported that several wagons and teams



were required to move the tree to the square on Saturday, December 19.

The tree was erected on the west side of the center of the square with tinsel and ornaments from top to bottom, and 500 colored electrical lights adorned it. In addition, a star with sixty lights topped the large tree. It was tested on December 22 and described as "scrumptious and grand."

On Wednesday December 23, the children met at the home of Elizabeth Reyburn and marched to the square for the program. The children circled the tree and sang Christmas carols to the enjoyment of the large crowd.

After the children sang, the Myers' Band performed multiple songs followed by scripture readings by Reverend Miller and a short sermon from Reverend Trower.

The tree stayed illuminated each night from the 23rd through the end of the year.

Christmas celebrations have continued on the square since that inaugural event in 1914. The decorations have evolved, but the community sing remains a consistent piece.

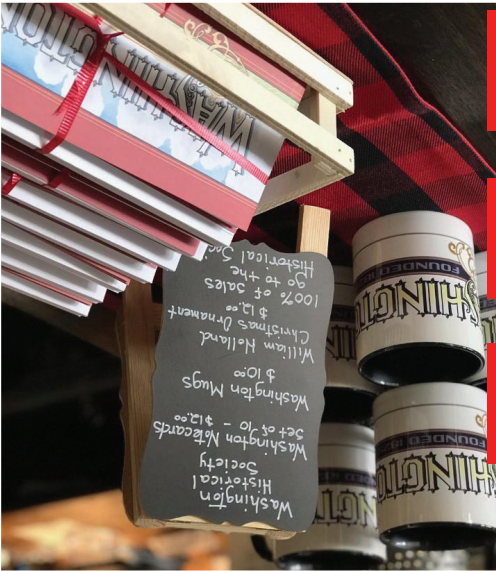
SHARE THE GIFT OF WASHINGTON THIS SEASON

The Washington Historical Society has beautiful notecards, Christmas ornaments, and mugs that each feature parts of the 2020 or the 2021 mural. These items are available at Define the Home or can be ordered by contacting the WHS at washingtonilhs@gmail.com. All proceeds benefit the Washington Historical Society.

MUGS
\$10

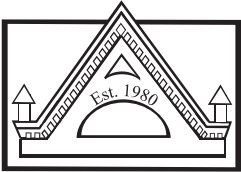
**PACK OF 10
NOTECARDS**
\$12

**CHRISTMAS
ORNAMENTS**
\$12



REMEMBER THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY IN YOUR YEAR END DISTRIBUTIONS

The Washington Historical Society is a 501(c)(3) that is eligible to receive Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCD) from your IRA. If you are an IRA owner aged 70 ½ or over, you can transfer up to \$100,000 to charity tax-free each year through QCDs. These transfers are an easy way to give to charity before the end of the year. If you are at least 72 years old, QCDs count toward your IRA's required minimum distribution for the year. Talk to your IRA trustee to learn more about making Qualified Charitable Distributions. We at the Historical Society are always grateful to our generous supporters.



WASHINGTON
Historical Society

PO Box 54
Washington, IL 61571
(309) 444-4793

