



# Northwest Chicago Historical Society

Your Neighborhood Historical Society

Newsletter July 2012

Number XVI

The Early Masons of Chicago's Northwest Side • Hubert W. Butler  
William P. Gray • Lyman A. Budlong • Andrew Dunning • Fred Esdohr  
Henry Esdohr • David B. Fonda • George Dunlap • John H. Dymond

This issue of the Northwest Chicago Historical Society newsletter is dedicated to the history of Masons in our local area. Not only are we preparing for the centennial celebration of the Jefferson Masonic Temple building on Gale Street, we continue to pay homage to the lives of those who formed the roots of our local community. Civic-minded individuals built the northwest side, and many of them were part of the Masonic tradition. The men from these organizations were crucial in the establishment of three local neighborhoods (Dunning, Budlong Woods, & Norwood Park), inspired the naming of two Chicago Public Schools (William P. Gray School and Lyman A. Budlong School), and one even has his signature appearing on some U.S. currency (Fred H. Esdohr).

Since January, we have had hosted or co-hosted over 15 local historical events and discussions. The History of Craft Beer in Chicago, History of Chicago's O'Hare Airport, and The Building of the Kennedy Expressway were just a few of our popular events. We continue to promote events for other historical organizations online, in the newspaper, and in our newsletters. Most of these events are free, and it is easy to join our "meetup" site so that you can be alerted about these events before they happen. If you have a local historic event and you would like us to help you promote it, please contact us. Look to the inside cover for the complete contact and website information.

We hope to see you at our next event. - *Frank Suerth*

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Greater Independence Park Neighborhood Association



## THE GREATER INDEPENDENCE PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Civic-minded individuals who believe that a unified community that faces modern challenges can affect real, lasting change formed the Greater Independence Park Neighborhood Association (GIPNA).

### MISSION STATEMENT

The Greater Independence Park Neighborhood Association (GIPNA) is dedicated to maintaining and enhancing the quality of life in the Independence Park community by involving, informing, and encouraging people to participate in matters relating to the community, and by protecting the historical, social, cultural, and architectural character of the neighborhood.

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**Mission Statement:**

As the Northwest Chicago Historical Society, our mission is to educate others about the history of the Northwest neighborhoods of Chicago. We will accomplish this through discussion at meetings, public tours and events, and dissemination of historical documents and photos through publications. Additionally, we desire to collaborate with others in the community to continue to maintain and preserve the history of our collective neighborhoods. By linking the past with the present and the future, we will provide awareness and create appreciation for our place in Chicago's and Illinois' history.

# The Northwest Chicago Historical Society

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# Letters

*Letters may have been edited for clarity and space*

Once again I must commend those responsible for the Society's newsletters. They are fascinating and beautifully presented. I can appreciate the time and effort that goes into such a production. Even the full page ad for a Lake Geneva hotel looks elegant. Thank you.

Dottie Bobzin - Huntley, IL

I enjoyed reading your July 2011 newsletter. Thanks for including the photos and information about the Polish Museum of America. I have been a member of the PMA and a volunteer there for a numbers of years and I know PMA will appreciate your sharing this information with your members.

I assume you are aware that this building is also the headquarters of the Polish Genealogical Society of America (PGSA) which is a separate non-profit organization. PGSA is the oldest (founded in 1978) and largest (approx. 2000 members with some in every state) of the PGS groups. It publishes an award-winning quarterly journal, Rodziny, as well as a number of books and CDs. The Society meets 4 times a year--usually in the PRCUA Social hall and has an annual Fall conference. PGSA volunteers are also available on Wednesday morning in the PMA library to assist those who are doing Polish family research and the Society also has helpful databases and information on its website, [www.pgsa.org](http://www.pgsa.org) All of these activities are aimed at fulfilling the Society's mission.

I look forward to future issues of your newsletter.

Rosalie Lindberg – Park Ridge, IL  
Past President,  
Polish Genealogical Society of America

I am trying to get a picture of my house when it was first built. According to the neighbors (who have been here for 50+ years) it was across the street and was moved to create Foster & Austin Park. Do you have any photos like that?

Sara Walsh - Jefferson Park

According to the Chicago Park District, the property was owned by the Board of Education and in 1965 the Park District began leasing the property for a park. There is no information on when the houses were moved but this was quite common to move houses that were in the way of a new park.

You could try to Google "Historic Aerials". There are many old aerials available online and you may find one showing the houses on the Austin-Foster Playlot Park. - NWCHS



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# Letters

*Letters may have been edited for clarity and space*

In your July 2010 newsletter I found your article about Charles Wilson and his association with St. Patrick's and his siblings, one of which Frank, is my great-grandfather. I so very much appreciate seeing the photo's! Thank you!

Lisa Roemer - Frankfort, Illinois

My father was a barber at the Wolke & Kotler department store somewhere around the year 1930. There was a company promotional photo taken of the barbershop with all the barbers lined up behind their chairs. My father was one on these barbers. We used to have a copy of this photo, but some how over the years it has disappeared. Do you by chance have this or any other Wolke & Kotler barbershop photos in your archives? If so would it be possible to obtain a copy of them? I appreciate any help you can provide. Regards,

Don Catalano – Roscoe Village

*We do not have a copy of the photo and have no idea where one can be found. You may have had the last copy. If you find it, we would love to have a scan of it and share the photo with everyone. That way it would never be lost again. - NWCHS*



**Neighborhood businessmen Marshall Wolke on left with Bernard Molay standing at the intersection of Lawrence and Milwaukee Avenues. The Wolke & Kotler department store is shown in the background (1974).**  
*Photo Courtesy of Frank Suerth*

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4:30pm

*Sunday Masses*  
8:00am - 9:30am - 11:15am

*Monday-Saturday Morning Mass*  
7:30am

*Wednesday, School Mass*  
8:15am During the School Year  
*Holy Day Masses*  
As Announced

*Rosary M-F after the 7:30am Mass*

*Novena To Our Lady of Perpetual Help*  
Tuesday 7:00pm  
in the Upper Church

*1st Friday Adoration*  
Upper Church 8:00am-5:00pm  
*1st Saturday Devotion*  
Lower Church 10:00am-3:30pm

*Holy Hour Devotion*  
First Sunday of month after the 11:15am Mass

Our warmest welcome to all who celebrate with us, whether visitors, neighbors, long-time residents, or newly arrived in the Neighborhood.

Our parish family extends an invitation to all to join us as we celebrate the Sunday Eucharistic at the Lord's Table.

Our Lady of Victory offers a diverse group of ministries and organizations to fill the varied interests of our 2,500 individual members.

Our Lady of Victory School is open to all regardless of religious affiliation. Our emphasis is, of course, in the Roman Catholic Tradition. This award winning school has room for 500 students from Pre-K through 8th Grade.

Our Lady of Victory also supports a vital Religious Education Center for all ages. From three and four year-olds to seniors, we have a Religious Education for all.

Leisure time organizations are the heartbeat of Our Lady of Victory, from Scouting for boys and girls of all ages, sport activities, to our Mothers' Club, Parish Men's Club, Teen Club and including our very active Music Ministry with Chamber Choirs, Adult, Teen and special Choirs.

We welcome you to join with us in our celebration of God's Word.

Reverend Robert Fedek, *Pastor*

# Letters

My late grandfather, George L. Hunt, owned and operated a successful factory in the Mayfair area for many years - which my family continued to operate until it finally closed in 2005. The old factory, at 4117 N. Kilpatrick Ave., was later razed... I wrote a book about my grandfather, published in 2007 - and it was honored with an award by the Illinois Historical Society in 2008.

I thought that you might be interested to know that my book - *Back From The Ashes: Uncovering the Lost History of G. L. Hunt and the Falcon Pipe* is now available as a Kindle eBook at Amazon.com.

Updated and expanded for 2012, my ebook includes 88 total pictures with 58 in color and 30 in B&W. The book can be quickly and easily accessed and read with the Kindle or Kindle Cloud - also using a Free Kindle App for iPad, iPod Touch, iPhone, Blackberry, Android Devices, Windows Phones and even direct to a PC or MAC. And *Back From The Ashes* eBook is only USD \$2.99.

Here is the link to Amazon.com - and there is a free sample that can be viewed and even downloaded free, too...

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Thank you kindly -  
K. A. Worth, Author - Grayslake, IL

*This book exemplifies how our lost factories and businesses should be documented before their history is gone forever. Thanks Kathy for doing such a superb job. - NWCHS*



**Front entrance to G. L. Hunt's Falcon Pipe factory and Hunt Screw & Mfg. Co. at 4117 N. Kilpatrick Avenue in Chicago. The building was demolished a few years ago.**

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## The Early Masons of Chicago's Northwest Side

*By Frank Suerth*

Many of our country's founding fathers were Masons. People like Benjamin Franklin, Paul Revere, John Hancock, and George Washington played key roles in the formation of our nation. Many debates over the direction that our young government should take were actually held in Masonic Lodges. Therefore, it should come as no surprise to anyone that Masons were much involved in starting and maintaining Jefferson Township before it became part of Chicago.

At one time, the Board of Trustees for the Village of Jefferson consisted of: A. Dunning, Theodore Schultz, W. C. Hazelton, L. A. Budlong, and W. P. Gray. With the exception of William C. Hazelton, all were known Masons. Often, these civic mind men were large landowners, businessman and politicians. They were some of them most prominent and influential people in our community. In the following pages, we will highlight some of their accomplishments.



The Jefferson Masonic Temple shown in 1913 when it was built. The house at the left was used as a Police Station before the new station was constructed. This Masonic Temple, at 5418 W. Gale Street, is the oldest building in Chicago dedicated solely to the preservation of Freemasonry and Masonic Tenants.

*Photo Courtesy of Gail Weber*

## William P. Gray

William P. Gray and his wife, Catherine, originally from Fort Covington, New York, purchased a 200-acre farm at Laramie Avenue near Irving Park Road in 1844. They had seven children, but three died in the diphtheria epidemic of 1872.

Although William was listed as a farmer in the census, he was also very active in local politics. In 1850, he was one of the original organizers of Jefferson Township. He served the township as the first President of the Board of Supervisors, Commissioner of Highways, Drainage Commissioner and Justice of the Peace. When the village of Jefferson was organized in 1870, he served as Trustee and Village President.

In 1868, William P. Gray was a Master Mason and responsible for the safety of lodge property and delivery of the property to the Providence Lodge # 711. By 1872, William assisted in the formation of a new lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons in small village of Jefferson, Illinois.

The Gray farm was sold in 1888 and William and his second wife Louisa moved to a house on Milwaukee Avenue near Carmen Avenue. 79-year-old William Gray died on November 11, 1900. The Gray School at 3720 N. Laramie, built in 1911, is named after him and was constructed across the street from the location of Gray's farm. When the school was built, William's youngest son Herbert Gray presented a gift of \$500 in his father's name to the school's principal. The money was donated to the school's library facilities.



**The William P. Gray School**

## JEFFERSON MASONIC TEMPLE

Celebrating 100 Years of Service with our Jefferson Park Neighbors  
Saturdays: August 4<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> — Sunday: August 12<sup>th</sup>



The Men and Women of Jefferson Masonic Temple invite you to join us as we celebrate 150 years of Freemasonry in Jefferson Park when we open the doors of our 100 year old building, at 5418 W Gale Street, Chicago, to the public and celebrate our Centenary.



- Learn about the history & founding of Jefferson Park  
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## Hubert W. Butler

Hubert W. Butler was the first of three sons born in Chicago in 1868 to Eugene (b. 1843) and Sarah (b. 1846) Butler. His parents became residents of Chicago shortly after the Civil War. Hubert's father worked as an executive for McCormick Harvester Company for a salary of \$50,000. With careful investments and real estate acquisition, Eugene's worth had climbed to \$2.5 million. One property he erected in the loop was known as the Butler Building.

Hubert and his wife, Alice, lived at the northwest corner of what are now Giddings Street and Long Avenues in a back apartment of the Jefferson Park Club House. The Jefferson Park Club House was one of the early meeting places in Jefferson for the Masons.

He graduated from the Yale Law School in 1888, but he devoted most of his life to real-estate development in Chicago and its suburbs. He was Alderman for the old 27th ward (Jefferson Park area) around the 1900's. Butler was a member of the first city committee that considered the construction of a subway system in Chicago.

In 1925, Hubert built a \$45,000 home on one of his real-estate developments at Glencoe, Illinois. In 1929, he built a new \$75,000 home on his Skokie development near Winnetka, Illinois.

Hubert died on October 27, 1943, at the age of seventy-five.



JEFFERSON PARK CLUB HOUSE.

Hubert W. Butler owned the Jefferson Park Club House along with the surround one acre of land. It was located at what is now the northwest corner of Giddings Street and Long Avenue. He called the club house his "White Elephant" and at one time considered selling raffle tickets to dispose of the property. In 1906, he remodeled the structure into a boarding house. The Masons held their meeting at the Club House from 1901 to 1906. Alderman Butler, a Mason himself, charged \$100.00 a year for rent. Besides the Masons, political meetings and neighborhood groups like the Altrui Club used the Club House for events.

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## Andrew Dunning

Andrew Dunning was born in Illinois in August of 1839. He and his wife Mary, who was also born in Illinois, had three children: David born about 1873, Geraldine born in March 1878 and William born in July 1878.

After the Civil War, Andrew Dunning purchased 120 acres south of Irving Park Road in the Chicago neighborhood that was named after this landowner. The Dunning family lived on Normandy Avenue somewhere south of Irving Park Road. In the 1870 Census his occupation is listed as "fruit tree keeper", in the 1880 Census it is "farmer", and in the 1900 Census it is "real estate".

As one of the original members of Providence Lodge, Andrew Dunning was Senior Warden. In 1885, he was a trustee for the school board in Jefferson. By 1897, he was President of the entire Cook County Agricultural & Horticultural Society. After that, he commanded the Chicago Veteran Association. Mr. Dunning was instrumental in securing proper burials and burial sites for veterans.

He died on September 1st 1907 and is buried in Roseland Cemetery.



Andrew Dunning 1839 - 1907



The Dunning Fire Department

*Photos Courtesy of Frank Suerth*



Looking east down Irving Park Road. The Dunning Post Office is shown on the right. The Dunning post office has since been renamed after former state Rep. Roger P. McAuliffe. Buildings are still being built using the Dunning name. In the last year a new Dunning Library was erected at 7455 W. Cornelia Avenue in Chicago.



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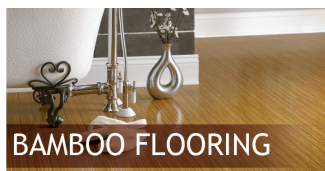
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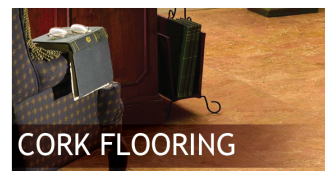
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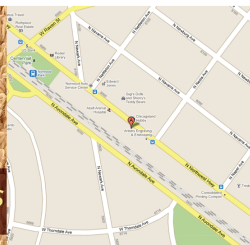
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## Lyman A. Budlong *L. A. Budlong*

Lyman Arnold Budlong was born in Providence, Rhode Island, on December 22, 1829, to Joseph Stone Budlong and Mary Ann Arnold. Lyman married Louise L. Newton in what is now Chicago and they had 5 children. Mr. Budlong is listed in the census as a “farmer” but is best known for his pickle company. The Budlong Pickle Company first sold its pickles at a store on Foster and Lincoln Avenues and at the South Water Market.

Budlong lived on Foster Avenue just west of Western Avenue in an area now called Budlong Woods. This was the area where most of his farm was located; east of the Sanitation Canal; south of Bryn Mawr; west of Western; north of Foster. His pickle company soon expanded to three states.

Lyman A. Budlong was a Master Mason and a founding member of the Wiley M. Egan Lodge No. 593 in 1868. He was Worshipful Master and charter member of the Providence Lodge No. 711 in 1873 and is credited for naming Providence Lodge. Budlong was also President of the Village of Jefferson in the late 1880's.

On November 6, 1909, in Chicago, Illinois, Lyman A. Budlong died. His final resting place is near his farm in Rose Hill Cemetery.



Lyman A. Budlong Elementary School pennant. The school is located at 2701 W. Foster Avenue. Photo of a historic pickle bottle from the Budlong Pickle Company and an 1888 Budlong Bros. Letterhead from the South Water Street location.



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## Henry Esdohr

Henry Esdohr was born February 13, 1852, near Hanover in Germany. His parents were Heinrich Esdohr and Sophie M. Ehsmann. In 1866, 14-year-old Henry Esdohr and his 12-year-old brother Herman made the long journey to America all by themselves. Although they never saw their family again, Henry and Herman remained close and never lived more than two blocks from each other. As boys, they first worked on a farm near what is now O'Hare Airport. As older teens, they settled in the Town of Jefferson.

In 1874, Henry established the first retail liquor store in Jefferson Park in 1874. Four years later, on February 28, 1878, Henry married Kate Lauer from Wheeling, Illinois.

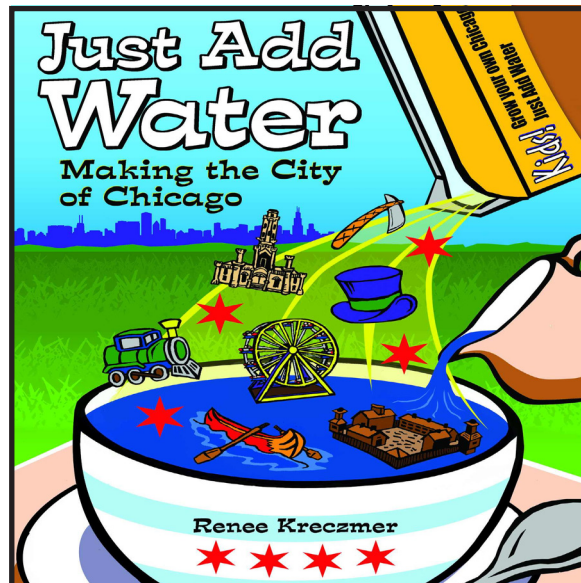
By 1880, Henry Esdohr was both Postmaster for Jefferson Park and Treasurer of the School Board for the first township high school in the state. The high school was located in the Jefferson town hall at Irving Park Road and Milwaukee Avenue. In 1881, he was elected as City Clerk of the Town of Jefferson. Henry Esdohr started a business with Henry Wulff, selling agricultural equipment and sewing machines.

Most local residents obtained their water at the pump on the Esdohr Farm. Henry's well was deeper than other nearby wells—deep enough to catch the flow of water that runs underground all the way from Lake Superior. People came from far away to get the pure and clear water from this well, which was in operation until 1895.

Henry served as the Knight Templar for the Masons and died on November 8, 1914. At that time, he was living at 5425 Higgins. He was buried at Union Ridge Cemetery but his body was later moved to the Acacia Park mausoleum. For more information on Henry Esdohr see: (January 2005 Newsletter – The Henry Esdohr Story and July 2006 Newsletter – The Henry Esdohr House).



The Henry Esdohr House. Henry lived in this house for over 40 years. At the time he owned this farmhouse it was located at 5425 Higgins Ave. just east of where the Jefferson Park field house now stands. It was moved sometime after his death where it still stands as a landmark on the west side of Long Ave., just north of Lawrence Avenue on park property. The Esdohr House was also the site of the first Jefferson Park branch library.



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## Lafayette Hopkins

In 1845, Brockman Hopkins purchased 134 acres of land for farming approximately ten miles north-west of the original town of Chicago. He built a home in the area, at what is now approximately 5728 West Higgins Avenue. Hopkins was active in the community, holding many offices in the Town of Jefferson. His roles included Supervisor (five years), Constable (five years), Justice of the Peace (five years), and Tax Collector (four years.)

Hopkins married Sara Bremen, and they bore five children – Albert, George, Charles, Lafayette, and Kate. The three older boys served in the 72nd Illinois Volunteer Infantry in the Civil war; Albert was killed in the siege at Vicksburg. Local newspapers indicated that Brockman eventually committed suicide in his home.

Their son Lafayette, who would eventually own his boyhood homestead, was most likely born in the home on Higgins Avenue. Lafayette married Ella R. Bouroughs (from Washington D.C.) in Chicago on November 8, 1899. At the time, he was 49 years old and his bride was 17. Over the course of their marriage, they never had any children.

Lafayette Hopkins passed away on February 5, 1931.



The Hopkins homestead at 5758 W. Higgins Avenue as it looked in 1939. Built in 1845, it was said to be the oldest house still standing in Jefferson Park in 1939.

## The Hopkins House

Before Lafayette Hopkins died, he told his wife to never sell their home at 5758 West Higgins. However, Ella did not keep her promise and she sold the house a year later for approximately \$7,000. This was the beginning of a string of unusual happenings.

William Lambert, owner of a gas station across the street (5765 Higgins Avenue) was the new owner of the home. Several months later, regretting her decision, Ella wanted to buy back the homestead. She offered \$9,000 to Lambert, but he refused the offer. Mrs. Hopkins sent him three letters: two letters asking him to reconsider, and one letter telling him that the house was her late husband's ancestral home and his spirit would roam in it forever. She also indicated that the curse of a dead man would rest on any stranger who lived within the walls and would strike death once every year. Lambert still declined her offer.

On February 7, 1932, William Lambert's gas station was bombed. Ella Hopkins and her doctor, Leslie Ofner, were arrested on conspiracy to bomb a gas station. At the trial, Mrs. Hopkins indicated that William Lambert and his brother had come to her home with some wine and gotten her drunk. Once she was intoxicated, he talked her into selling the house. Ella also testified that she told her doctor about Lambert refusing to sell back the house and asked him if there was something he could do to persuade Lambert to change his mind. Dr. Ofner said he "knew some people", and Ella thought the doctor was going to get someone to give William Lambert a punch in the nose. After five hours, twelve ghost believing jury members, found Ella Hopkins not guilty.

"A living hell" is how Ella described her life after selling the Hopkins homestead. Nightly visits from the spirits of both her late husband Lafayette and her father-in-law, Brockman, would appear and demand that she "get back the homestead"

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## David B. Fonda

David Bartholomew Fonda was born on November 6, 1834, in Watervliet, New York. He married Clarinda Lowell, who was also from in New York, on March 5, 1855. In 1860, they moved to Lakeview, Illinois, and in 1865 they moved on to the town of Jefferson. The couple had one daughter, Carrie.

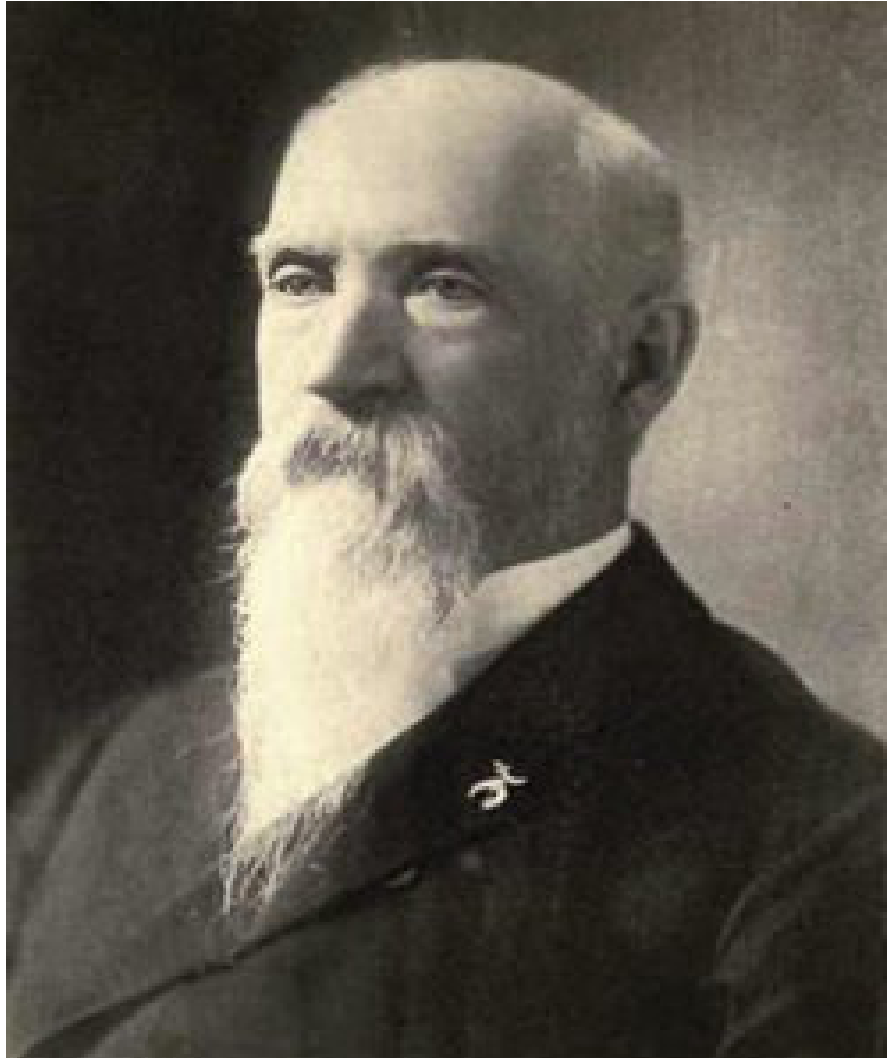
David was a gifted speaker and writer, and he was the owner of “Dr. Fonda’s Medicines”, a drug store in Jefferson. He was also a railroad agent, teacher, physician, and hospital administrator.

On August 7, 1862, he enlisted as a Private in Company C, 89th Regiment Illinois Infantry in the Civil War. He quickly became a full Sergeant, working as a war surgeon. He mustered out in 1863.

In 1867, Dr. Fonda was appointed Cook County Physician, a position he held until 1871. From 1874 to 1877, he was president of the Board of Trustees for Jefferson Township. Additionally, he was elected Health Officer and a member of the School Board for the Jefferson Township.

Dr. David Fonda was a founding member of the Wiley M. Egan Lodge No. 593, A. F. and A. M. in 1868 in which he was Worshipful Master.

Dr. David Fonda died on June 20, 1903 and is buried in Rose Hill Cemetery.



David Bartholomew Fonda 1834 - 1903



The Queen Anne style building on the right is 4705 N. Milwaukee Avenue and was the home of Dr. David B. Fonda. It was designed by architect Otto Kaiser sometime in the late 1890’s. Dr. Fonda died in his house on June 20, 1903. This photo was taking in 1913 when the Kirchhoffs owned the building. The Kirchhoffs were also Masons and Eastern Star members. While the other houses shown in this photo are gone, this house is still standing.

*Photo Courtesy of Gail Weber*

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## Fred H. Esdohr

Fred Henry Esdohr was born on November 28, 1881, in what is now Jefferson Park. Fred's parents were Herman Esdohr and Dora Hertel. Herman Esdohr was a founding member of Jefferson Masonic Association in 1906, and his son Fred eventually became a member of the Board of Trustees in 1911. He served on the committee for the Gale Street building from start to completion.

On June 30, 1904, Fred Esdohr married Alice M. Dunning. They had two daughters, Alice and Grace. They lived at 4736 N. London in Jefferson Park until the early 1920's, when they moved to Norwood Park. Fred Esdohr was President of both the Jefferson National Bank and the Norwood Park Trust and Savings.

On March 25, 1935, Fred Esdohr died. He is buried in Union Ridge Cemetery, not far from his parents.



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### The Jefferson Park National Bank



The Jefferson Park National Bank was the first bank in Jefferson Park. The bank obtained a national charter as opposed to a state charter. The standards were higher for a national charter, which enabled the bank to actually issue currency in accordance with the U. S. Treasury regulations. The bank was chartered on October 5, 1911 and their charter number 10108 appears on the left and right side of this bill. Their name, The Jefferson Park National Bank of Chicago Illinois is also shown. On the lower right side of the bill you can see the signature of the bank president Fred Esdohr. The Jefferson Park National Bank was located at the southwest corner of Milwaukee & Lawrence and closed its doors for the last time on June 28, 1932. The Hoyne Bank now occupies their building.

## George Dunlap

George Dunlap was born in Lorraine, New York, on November 2, 1825. His parents were William Dunlap and Margaret Lane and his family came to America before the Revolution. The Dunlap family moved to Illinois when George was only 11 years old, and they settled on a farm in what now is Skokie, Illinois.

In 1851, George Dunlap married Emily Almeda Pierce, daughter of one of the pioneer citizens of Cook County. They had six children, Clermont, Hattie, Clifton, Alice, Jessie and Myra. They all lived on Circle Avenue in Norwood Park.

George was elected Supervisor, School director and Justice of the Peace. In 1864, he was Deputy Sheriff and later served as assistant United States Assessor in the Internal Revenue Department. He served as a member of the Twenty-ninth General Assembly. In the 1870's, he was a partner in a real estate business, Dunlap & Swift, until his retirement in 1884.

George Dunlap was first to call Norwood Park "Norwood". The Township was organized in 1870 and the "Park" was added in 1874. He was also a founding member and Junior Warden of the Wiley M. Egan Lodge # 593 of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons in 1868.

## John H. Dymond

John H. Dymond, named after his grandfather, was born in Jefferson Township on July 13, 1862. His parents were Edwin Dymond and Mary Ann Osborne, originally from Exeter, England. They settled in Jefferson, and were said to have known each other since childhood. Edwin and Mary were two of the best-known residents of Jefferson Township. They lived at 4315 N. Milwaukee Avenue and farmed the land. Edwin assisted in the organization of the first village board, and served for a number of terms as Village Treasurer and member of the School Board.

John Dymond married Mary L. Brown on May 15, 1890 and they had three children; Arthur E. Dymond born February 14 1891, Eleanor Dymond born May 1896, and Katherine M. Dymond born July 35, 1892. Katherine died in childhood on October 4, 1893.

Listed as a "bookkeeper" in the Census, John and his family lived at 4413 N. Milwaukee. He also owned the whole block across the street from his residence, the block on the west side of Milwaukee Avenue from Montrose Avenue to Agatite Avenue.

John H. Dymond, Worshipful Master of the Providence Lodge in 1906, was elected as first president of the Jefferson Masonic Association.

In retirement, John and his family moved to Park Ridge, Illinois where he died on February 25, 1930. He is buried in Union Ridge Cemetery.

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