

church by the Club members to show their appreciation.

In 1923, with the assistance of Dr. Murrell, a diphtheria immunizations were sponsored by the Club. A dental clinic, with the assistance of Dr. Parks, was also sponsored that year. In 1937, smallpox vaccinations were sponsored and immunizations and vaccinations were sponsored again in 1941

Over a period of years cheer baskets were sent to shut-ins of the community at Christmas time. One year 32 of them were sent.

In 1934, an Art and Literature Department was organized with the hope of promoting interest in subjects not taken by the Club. Its purpose was primarily for personal improvement.

In 1939, the Club had a ladies' chorus. Many trips were made to distant meetings and to other club meetings by the chorus. It performed for five years or more and was directed by Mrs. Faye Yard.

In September of 1939, the first flower show was held at our regular meeting with the Garden Committee in charge. These shows continued to be held in the fall for many years. They changed considerably from the first show during the years they were held.

In 1941, the president continued in office for a second term and a vice-president only was elected. The By-laws were changed to read that the vice-president would step up to the presidency. This only lasted for a short time.

In 1943, 84 Christmas boxes were sent to service men stationed in the states and overseas. That same year an Honor Roll plaque was placed in the Club lot with the names of all men from Richland Grove Township that served during the Second World War. A dedication ceremony was held in the lot. The plaque had to be enlarged in 1944.

Our Silver Anniversary was celebrated in 1945, at the June meeting. A bridal revue had musical numbers by the chorus in their colonial costumes was the program.

The 1951 year books listed 100 members. That year, in October, a Silver Tea and guest day was held. We were entertained by the Rock Island Woman's Club with an outstanding program, "American Music". This was also the year that we had our last combined family night Christmas party. Since then, the Christmas parties have been held at our regular Club meeting.

In January, 1957, a Past Presidents' club was organized with 13 past presidents joining. They met 4 times a year and worked on many worthwhile projects.

The Club has donated to 18 State Federation projects, as well as local and other worthwhile causes. We

have helped with the Blood Bank, and made special donations to the East Moline State Hospital, and the girls' home and the boys' home that are sponsored by the State Federation.

In 1960, membership was down to 53 and has been slowly dropping ever since. At that time 3 charter members still belonged to the Club. There were 25 past presidents still living, 13 of which were still club members.

May 13, 1960, we held a tea and guest day to celebrate our fortieth anniversary. This was the first year that we entertained the boys from Arrowhead Ranch at our Christmas party along with children of our members.

In 1965, at our 45th anniversary party, we honored the three Charter members that were still active in our Club.

A Sherrard Junior Woman's Club was organized by our president Dorothy Cameron with the help of District President, Mrs. P.E. Ashwood. This club started the local library and organized a kindergarten for this area, as there was no kindergarten in our schools at that time. Our Club helped with these projects and supported many of their other projects. The Junior Club celebrated their 25th anniversary in 1984 and has since dis-banded.

In 1968, the Club applied to the State of Illinois to become a Corporation as a general not-for-profit organization and was granted that status.

On May 19, 1970, we had a Golden Anniversary celebration at the Presbyterian Church. The Past Presidents Club was hostess for the day. Three Charter members in attendance were honored. One Charter member and another club member received 50 year pins for their 50 years of service to the Club. Scrolls were received from the State President, Mrs. P.E.



Charter members receiving pins. Left to right, Mrs. Robert Frew Sr., Hannah Quantance, Hazel Helson, Mrs. Herbert Dochterman.

Ashwood, and from the District President, Mrs. Russell Flory. Seventy-five people attended the affair.

In 1973, the Club year was shortened to 9 meetings a year instead of the former 10 a year.

In 1971, Club member Thelma Klingbiel asked for permission to place a flag pole in the Club lot. Permission was granted and the pole was installed along with a U.S. flag to fly. In 1980, we celebrated another milestone, 60 years of Club work, at our October meeting. At that time Mabel Frew was honored for her 60 years of continuous Charter membership. Stella Anderson was recognized for almost 60 years of membership and Doris Hanson for 53 years. District President, Mrs. Helen Hill presented us with a 60 year scroll.

Again in 1985, we celebrated an anniversary at our June luncheon at the Swedona Lutheran Church. The minutes of the first Club meeting were read. We were joined by three past presidents and a number of guests. The Junior Club presented us with a clock that is kept by each Club President during her year in office.

In 1987, the Club offered the Club lot to the Village of Sherrard, with the stipulation that it remain a park and not be sold for commercial use. The Village Board accepted the lot as stipulated and it is now maintained by the Village as a park.

The pavilion in the park was erected by the Sherrard Volunteer Fireman in 19 .

A Certificate of Award for 70 years of community and national service was received from the I.F.W.C. in November, 1990.

The programs at our meetings have been varied; talks, slides and movies, health, safety, exchange students, cooking, music, and on and on. In 1962, we incorporated bus tours into our programs and have visited many places of interest.

For many years our meetings have been at the Presbyterian and Lutheran Churches in alternate years.

Because of our small membership (only 16 members) we are not as active as we were in earlier years, but we still raise funds and make collections of clothes, books, toiletries, and other items to donate to and support many projects. Some of these projects are; conservation, food pantry, many health programs, Namequa Lodge, American Indians, March of Dimes, Care, Salvation Army, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Brownies, foreign aid, nursing homes, families whose homes have burned, the local ambulance, and letter writing to our legislators. Through the years we have received many citations for our efforts.

At last years (1995) June Luncheon 50 year membership pins were presented to two members, Lorraine Spengler and Dorothy Cameron.

Since 1936, we have managed the Bergstone Cemetery Fund. Interest from this fund is used to place flowers on Bergstone family graves.

On October, 1995, we celebrated our 75th anniversary by having a tea at the Presbyterian Church. Guests were present and former members of Woman's Clubs from Alexis, Viola, and Reynolds. District President, Gloria Kundert, presented Corene Claeys with a 50 year pin. Jean Cooper presented musical selections and Karen Anderson presented a program, "Whats' An Apron?".

At the present all of our Club records and properties are kept at the Sherrard Library. They are accessible to any interested party whenever the library is open.

Compiled by Margie Mueller & Thelma Klingbiel.

Sherrard Community Library District

In the fall of 1975, the Sherrard Junior Woman's Club first expressed an interest in starting a community library. A committee was formed to investigate the possibility and sufficient interest was expressed. The library project was organized and started in 1976. The name chosen at the time was the "Sherrard Community Library". Money was raised with donations from community organizations and individuals as well as from club fund raisers. Hundreds of books were donated by area residents and several thousand more were received from the Western Illinois Library System(WILS). A contract was signed with WILS in

The Sherrard Junior Woman's Club

cordially invites you to attend

the Grand Opening of

the Sherrard Community Library

on Saturday, December fourth

Nineteen hundred seventy-six

from nine a.m. to twelve noon

Congressman Tom Railsback

will greet library patrons

and other friends of the library

at nine a.m.

We hope you will participate



Dedication of Library, December 24, 1976.
Congressman Thomas Railsback, Karen Beshears, project chairman.

early fall of 1976, to receive a rotating collection of books and other library services. The library system staff provided invaluable help in starting the library. The library was to be located in the former bank building on the corner of 3rd Street and 3rd Avenue in the village of Sherrard. This building currently houses Benny's Pizza. A grand opening was set for December 4, 1976.

At its opening the library's membership fees were set at \$2.50 for a family membership and \$1.00 for a senior citizen membership. The library was run by a chairperson appointed by the Junior Women's Club. The library chairperson at this time was Karen Beshears. The library was staffed by volunteers from the community for 31 hours per week. It was decided that the library would serve all of the existing Unit #200 School District. The money needed to operate the library was raised solely through membership fees, donations and fund raisers.

In 1978, it was decided that the library would try for tax-supported district status. As a district library, it would be able to levy for a portion of the property taxes collected in the district. The library would no longer have to rely on memberships, donations and fund raisers to operate. There would now be money to expand its services. To achieve district status a referendum was presented to area voters at a special election on October 21, 1978. At this time the referendum was defeated.

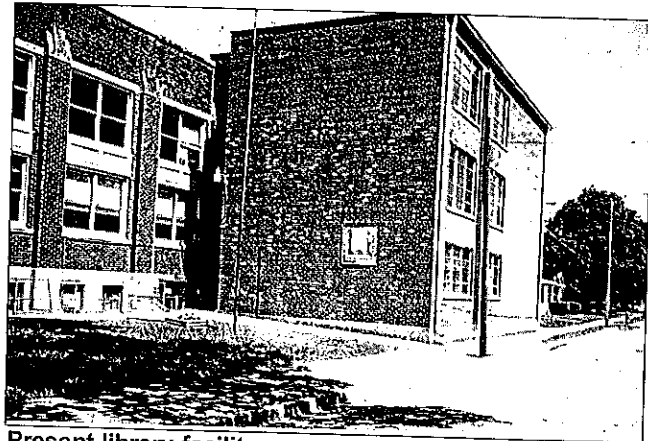
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the library. Serving on this first board were Babe Duty, Cerie Hajostek, Chris Myers, Margie Mueller, Ron Parker, Bev Pearson, Peggy Swank, Tom Swegle and Judy Wassenhove. The first board of directors applied for a state incorporation charter, drafted a constitution and hired a part-time administrator to oversee library operations. Sylvia Swegle was hired on March 1, 1979, as the first library administrator.

The organization received its incorporation charter and officially became the Sherrard Community Library Association with its first meeting on January 24, 1980. At this time, the membership dues were \$10 for a family and \$5 for a senior citizen membership. The library was still relying on membership dues, donations and fund raisers to keep operating.

On and off for the next several years the possibility of again trying for tax-supported district status was discussed by the board of directors. Finally, in November of 1985, the question was again presented to area voters. This time, however, the question was presented only to the voters in the village of Sherrard. The referendum passed and the Sherrard Community Library District was officially formed on January 1, 1986. The library board of trustees at this time was Sylvia Swegle(president), Susanne Pasdach(vice president), Donna Gresch(secretary), Brad Ward(treasurer), Donna Clark, Delbert Icenogle and Fern Swanson. On December 1, 1985, Phyllis LaDue was hired as the full-time library administrator.

In March of 1986, the board of trustees decided to annex the remaining portions of the school district into the library district. At that time, the trustees decided not to include the Rural Township portion of the school district in the referendum. Another library was attempting to annex this territory and the board of trustees did not wish to create any conflicts. This referendum was successful. In September of the same year the library moved to its new location in the old high school building located on 5th Avenue in



Present library facility.



Dedication of Library, December 24, 1976. Congressman Thomas Railsback, Karen Beshears, project chairman.

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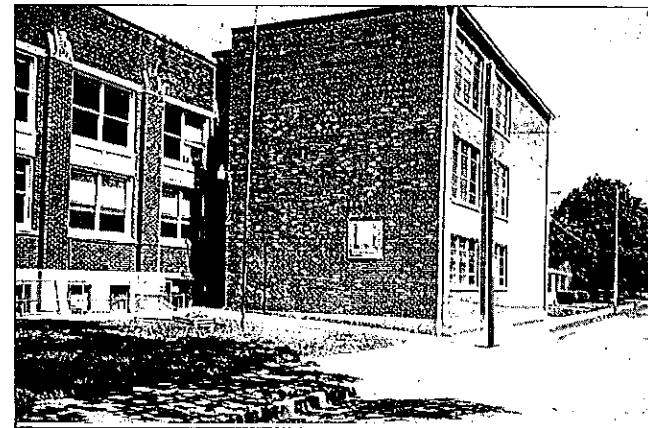
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Present library facility.

Sherrard. The library nearly doubled the space of its previous location.

In 1987, the library board unsuccessfully attempted to annex the Rural Township portion of the school district into the library district. The referendum was defeated by three votes at the November election.

In 1989, the library added many new services. Through LSCA grants from the Illinois State Library, a computer with software and a fax machine were purchased and made available to the public. The library expanded its existing space by adding another room to be used as a community room. The library stack area was expanded and a reading/studying area was added. The board also renewed its efforts to annex the remaining portion of the former school district into the library district. It received a Project PLUS grant from the Illinois State Library. With this grant, money was received to promote the library's services to residents of Rural Township at no charge. This time it passed and the library district served all of the Unit # 200 school district as it existed before it annexed Winola.

With the beginning of the new decade, the library continued to grow and offer additional services. More computers were purchased giving access to ILLINET Online and the Resource Sharing Alliance, both computer databases with access to thousands of titles. Books on tape and videos were added to the collection. The library's services were also expanded by offering painting classes, babysitter training sessions, summer reading programs and story hours. By 1995, the library had a collection of almost 10,000 titles, operating two library stations in the grade school libraries of Matherville and Coyne Center. It had yearly operating budget of approximately \$60,000 and employed 6 people. In June of 1995, Karen Marple was hired to replace Phyllis LaDue as the library administrator. The library board at the present time consists of: Sylvia Swegle (president), Bev Pearson (vice-president), Kathy Breitenstein (secretary), Cindy Sanders (treasurer), Frank Monfeli, Winona Shields and Mary Sims.

Author: Phyllis Ladue

Fraternal Organizations

In Sherrard's early years there were four major lodges; Modern Woodmen, Royal Neighbors, Knights of Pythias and Odd Fellows. The Modern Woodmen appears to be the oldest lodge. It was chartered on

FRIDAY JULY 3, 1903.

R. N. OF A. DEGREE TEAM.



In the above picture, the faces of the officers and degree team of the Sherrard Royal Neighbors will be recognized. They have won many honors for their efficient initiatory work, and can be said to be one of the best drilled teams in these parts. They are shown here in the lodge regular

September 10, 1895, and called the Sherrard Camp. B.C. Wood organized Camp 3200 with 30 charter members. The first officers were: A.J. Bloomberg, clerk; William Schaarman, venerable consul and D.S. Evans, banker. The Camp was dissolved on June 10, 1959. Its 13 members were transferred to Camp 3147 in Preemption, Illinois.

The New Hope Lodge Number 536 of The Knights of the Pythias was chartered on the 14th of February, 1896, with 53 charter members. The exact date of the demise of the lodge in Sherrard is unclear, however they were still active in 1934. When the Sherrard Lodge gave up its charter the members transferred to the Saint George Lodge of Moline, Illinois. These members received paid up membership in exchange for forty acres of land the Sherrard Lodge owned in Oklahoma. Saint George received \$800.00 for the property, but had to pay 10% lawyer fees on the transaction. The Sherrard Lodge had first offered the Milan Lodge the same arrangement, however it was turned down by Milan.

Royal Neighbors Sherrard Camp Number 290 was chartered in 1896. In 1900, the Camp had 36 members. The recorder at that time was May Shannon. The Camp consolidated with the Rose Leaf Camp of Aledo, Illinois in 1984. At that time the principal officers were Shirley Zwicker and Doris Hansen. At the