

# The Ruthmere Record

THE RUTHMERE FOUNDATION, INC. • 302 E. BEARDSLEY AVENUE • ELKHART, INDIANA 46514

SPRING/SUMMER 2012

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### *President*

Robert B. Beardsley

### *Vice-President & Treasurer*

George E. Freese

### *Secretary*

Dorinda Miles Smith

### *Assistant Treasurer*

Susan C.S. Edwards

Arthur J. Decio

Robert Deputy

Charles A. Loving

Alice A. Martin

Joan Beardsley Norris

Edward Beardsley

James A. Bridenstine

## MUSEUM STAFF:

### *Executive Director*

William A. Firstenberger

### *Assistant Director*

Robert D. Edel

### *Accounting Manager*

Bob Frey

### *Communications Director*

Laura Lerch Horst

### *Development*

Gail Martin

### *Curator*

Jennifer Johns

### *Wedding Coordinator*

Annette Kozak

### *Collections Manager*

Joy Olsen

### *Master Gardener*

Bree Herring

### *Campus Coordinator*

Carla Riley

### *Buildings & Grounds Manager*

Ron Wolschlager

### *Assistant Curator/Social Media*

Abbey Huff



## RUTHMERE LAUNCHES CREEK HOUSE CENTER

By WILLIAM A. FIRSTENBERGER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Ruthmere Foundation, Inc., is pleased to announce the opening of its new rental facility, Creek House Center. As part of the Ruthmere Museums Campus along with Ruthmere Mansion and Havilah Beardsley House, Creek House Center combines local history with the picturesque natural beauty of two acres nestled along Christiana Creek.

The Creek House property originally served two generations of Beardsley owners as the stables and carriage house for Ruthmere Mansion. The property was sold by the Beardsley family to the C. Arthur Thompson family who, by 1942, converted and expanded the original stables into a lovely five-bedroom home overlooking the creek. Creek House was reacquired by Ruthmere in the 1970s and served as a Director's residence until 2010.

Located just one block north of Ruthmere at 920 Grove Street, Creek House Center offers a unique setting as an urban retreat for daytime business meetings, special occasions, or overnight group lodging for up to ten people.

A public open house at Creek House Center will be held on Earth Day, Sunday, April 22nd, from 1-3pm. Tours of the Center will be available in addition to Earth-friendly kids' crafts, an archaeology "show and tell" from the IUSB Anthropology Department, a student art display by Concord South Side Elementary and a creekside kayak demonstration by the Christiana Creek Coalition. Light refreshments will be provided.

Plan your next gathering or special occasion at Creek House Center, where history meets sophisticated comfort.





*An Experience in History, Art & Architecture*

**Renew your membership for 2012!**

Please complete this form and mail or fax to:  
**Ruthmere Museums Campus Membership**  
302 E. Beardsley Avenue, Elkhart, IN 46514  
Phone: (574)264-0330 Fax: (574)266-0474

- Individual - \$50     Family - \$75     Patron - \$100
- Bronze Patron - \$250     Silver Patron - \$500
- Gold Patron - \$1,000     Rose Gold Patron - \$2,500
- Platinum Patron - \$5,000
- Diamond Patron - \$10,000

Name(s) as you would like to be listed in publications \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Business Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

Total enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(payable to Ruthmere Museum)

Please charge \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to my credit card  
 VISA     MC     Discover

Account number \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature (required for credit card) \_\_\_\_\_

This is a gift membership for:

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Memorial: In Memory of : \_\_\_\_\_  
Memorials are available anytime at Ruthmere.

Matching gift form enclosed. Membership contributions to Ruthmere Museums Campus may be matched by your employer. Ask if your company participates in the matching gift program.

Additional donation enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Ruthmere Museums Campus  
 Havilah Beardsley House Project  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_

## RUTHMERE MEMBERSHIP

Your investment in membership helps ensure that there is a place in Elkhart where history, art and culture remain relevant in today's modern world. Ruthmere and the Havilah Beardsley House, important Elkhart landmarks, stand as a reminder of community roots and serve as a connection between our past and our future. Thank you for your continued support!

All membership levels include an unlimited number of visits to **Ruthmere Mansion** and **Havilah Beardsley House** throughout the year, access to the *Ruthmere Record*, advanced program information and member discounts on services and events.

### Levels & Benefits

- Individual - \$50** - Admit 2 free per visit
- Family - \$75** - Admit 4 free per visit
- Patron - \$100** - Admit 6 free per visit and recognition in the Ruthmere Record
- Bronze Patron - \$250** - Patron level benefits, and free tickets to the Spring Lecture Series
- Silver Patron - \$500** - Patron level benefits, and free tickets to the Fall Concert Series

**The Louis Comfort Tiffany Leadership Circle** is a special membership level that provides the benefits of the Patron membership, tickets to both the Spring Lecture Series and the Fall Concert Series and invitations to all other special events. Recognition is offered at four membership levels: **\$1,000 Gold Patron**, **\$2,500 Rose Gold Patron**, **\$5,000 Platinum Patron** and **\$10,000 Diamond Patron**.

## THE FRONT PORCH . . .

By LAURA LERCH HORST, COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR

Imagine a front porch where neighbors stop in to tell you the latest news, to ask how you are, to share photos of their families and to keep in touch. It seems like days gone by.

All is not lost. There is a new 'front porch' at Ruthmere. It is available to you through technology. You can hear and see the latest happenings at the Ruthmere Museums Campus on our Facebook page.

Our new Facebook page is similar to a 'party line' telephone, or a front porch in a small town and a great place to share information and connect.

We have photos and videos on our Facebook page of some of the work that has been going on during our closed months. Take your time, relax and read about the interesting exhibits and programs that your membership and donations help to support. Share your life with us, and share Ruthmere with your friends.

If you aren't on Facebook, but would like to get our e-newsletter, send an email to [info@ruthmere.org](mailto:info@ruthmere.org) and we'll be happy to add you to our growing list.

The 2012 season is brimming with many culturally enriching experiences at Ruthmere, Havilah Beardsley House and Creek House Center.

Please help us grow the community by inviting your friends and family to join you for tours, programs and special events. Thank you again for your support.



*Ruthmere's mission is to inspire the imagination and promote excellence in fine arts, architecture, and historic preservation and to advocate life-long learning and the entrepreneurial spirit.*

## ROBERT RECALLS. . .

By ROBERT B. BEARDSLEY, PRESIDENT, BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### A Tale of Two Beds (Part I)

In 1904 when Hub and Helen Beardsley started building their house at 226 East Beardsley Avenue, which was always known as “226,” there was a lot of planning to do, including relocating a farmhouse which was already located on the property. Grandfather Hub first remodeled that farmhouse in its new location in 1918, which today stands at 829 Grove Street. That is where Hub’s mother Martha lived until she died in 1918, the year of the Great Influenza Epidemic. In 1929 my parents, Midge and Walter, moved to 829 Grove Street as newlyweds and loved the house so much that they tried to have it moved to Greenleaf Boulevard. But it could not be moved, so instead, they built their beautiful Neo-Georgian house that my mother named “Hubble House” in honor of her father-in-law, Andrew Hubble Beardsley.

Like Ruthmere across the street, “226” was built to last. In the Colonial Revival style, it had a full basement and three floors with an orange-red tile roof. Four 40-foot wooden columns with Corinthian capitals supported a large pediment over the front porch and a “Truman Balcony” off the second floor where we kids used to roller skate. My guess is that “226” was at least one-third bigger than Ruthmere and nothing about it was at all French.

The top floor was bright and cheerful because of its skylight. This area of the house was designed for the help. Here, two “girls” lived, each with their own small bedroom. They shared a bathroom with a footed tub and a pull chain toilet. The simple furnishings of the third floor service quarters probably came from a Sears and Roebuck Catalog. Their white painted-iron single beds with iron springs are long lost.

In furnishing her new house, Grandmother turned to Grand Rapids, Michigan, then the furniture manufacturing center



*226 East Beardsley Avenue, now the location of the parking lot between Ruthmere and the First Presbyterian Church.*

of the country. She went for quality in all things, as she always did. These two single beds were 40” x 80” and as singles go, were generous by today’s standards. They stood 28 inches off the floor. The head and footboards and the four matching 60-inch bedposts with carved pineapple finials, solid mahogany of course, made a person take notice when entering the guest room. They were always dressed with pleated white bed skirts and Martha Washington bedspreads. The heavy carved pineapple finials fitted loosely making them easily removable. As kids, we would take them off and use them as war clubs or secret weapons as backup protection from would-be intruders.

These beds were assigned to a sunny corner room with a south east exposure overlooking Ruthmere’s front yard. Matching mahogany dressers, slip-covered easy chairs, a small drop leaf sewing table between the beds and some lamps completed the room. It stayed unchanged for almost 60 years. In these beds my other grandparents slept in the late summer of 1929 when they first came to Elkhart

by train from New York to meet their prospective in-laws and the bridegroom. By all accounts it went well, although some say Hub had a slight problem understanding Mabel because of her English accent.

Other favorite relations who slept in those beds included Lillian Burwell, grandmother’s niece from Minneapolis, who in later years looked after my grandmother Helen in California and ran her household. Long after Aunt Lil had grown quite stout – although her legs remained very thin – she continued to wear dark blue shirtwaist dresses with an ever-lengthening red belt and bright red high-heeled shoes – a veritable barrel on toothpicks, I once unkindly said out of earshot. She wore a pince-nez with a long black ribbon. Her hair was always a mass of sausage curls, and bright red lipstick accented her cupid’s bow lips. Wherever she went she hummed or sang “tra-tra-la.” She was only a few years younger than grandmother, so being grandmother’s “niece” always seemed a little odd. At Helen Beardsley’s funeral as we were

*continued on next page*

*Robert Recalls . . .  
continued from page 3*

sitting in the front room with the casket 10' away and the service about to begin, Lil turned to me and murmured, "Well, I guess I'll be next." It was not long.

Uncle Charlie got "226" in 1946 when Grandmother moved permanently to California. Uncle Charlie swapped his house at 920 West Beardsley for "226" and its furnishings. Grandmother then sold his house and moved to California. When Uncle Charlie Beardsley died in 1961 and the contents of "226" were offered to the family, Aunt Lillian, his widow, took me aside and said: "Bob, I think you should have these beds. They are really beautiful." What a good idea, I said, and they have now been with me almost 50 years, here, there, and everywhere.



*The 'Beardsley beds' are safely back in Elkhart after a lifetime of adventures.*

*The Tale of Two Beds will be continued in the 2012 Fall/Winter issue of the Ruthmere Record.*

## WON'T YOU 'LIKE' US?

BY ABBEY HUFF, ASSISTANT CURATOR

Social media. Those two small words are becoming increasingly more important to businesses and organizations of all types. Social media is a fun, casual way to reach out to those interested in the day-to-day, or even hourly, happenings of your company.

In the past year, Ruthmere incorporated various social media outlets, including Facebook, Twitter, YouTube and the i-Spy Elkhart cell phone tour. Each of these enables our community of "followers" and "friends" to stay updated on Ruthmere Museums Campus' daily operations.

Currently, there are 49 interactive stops on the i-Spy Elkhart cell phone tour. To date, 5,586 visitors have used the cell phone tour. This free service directs the caller through information about various sites that are significant to Ruthmere and Elkhart.

Tour tracks include *Ruthmere Gardens & Grounds*, *Beardsley Historic District*, *Elkhart Band Instrument Industrial Buildings*, and *E. Hill Turnock Residences & Public Buildings*. Interested in one of the tracks? Give it a try! Dial 574-584-7007 and follow the instructions – or log onto [Ruthmere.org](http://Ruthmere.org) and download the mobile web version; iPhone users, download the OnCell app and search 'Ruthmere.'

While you are online, "Like" Ruthmere Museum on Facebook and "Follow" @RuthmereMuseum on Twitter to see up-to-date photos, videos, and information.



## GARDENS AND GROUNDS I-SPY TOUR

While you wait for your guided tour of Ruthmere enjoy the new Gardens & Grounds i-Spy tour, which includes various statuary, gardens, and structures – such as the garage and greenhouse – that are located on the Ruthmere grounds. The phone tour is an interactive way to learn more about a specific garden and the flowers it contains, as well as the background on Edwardian landscape history. Garden enthusiasts will enjoy using their smart phone to view photos and text of each stop as well. While walking Ruthmere's blooming grounds, look for small plaques with the Ruthmere "R" to find the stop number. Simply dial 574-584-7007, and enjoy the tour and lovely grounds!

# CONSIDER ENDOWMENT GIFTS TO RUTHMERE THROUGH THE ELKHART COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

By GEORGE E. FREESE

The Ruthmere Foundation appreciates donors who make gifts to support the annual expenses of Ruthmere Mansion and the restoration in progress at Havilah Beardsley House. Gifts that support current expenses are growing; and we need them more every year.

On the other hand, some donors have longer term objectives, desiring to help endow these facilities and remove some of the burden from future generations. This will guarantee that the beauty of the art, architecture, history, music and other cultural events that we enjoy now will continue.

The good news for donors is that a dedicated Ruthmere Fund exists under the management of the Elkhart County

Community Foundation (ECCF). Donating to this fund by lifetime gifts or legacy gifts ensures that the gift is used in perpetuity. The Ruthmere Fund has had in excess of \$120,000 invested and from that, over \$5,000 in annual earnings can be used to help The Ruthmere Foundation's budget which exceeds \$400,000 per year.

The ECCF has grown to roughly \$45 million dollars, dedicated to a variety of charitable projects throughout the county. With its overall size, it is able to command more effective investment tools and employ more sophisticated bookkeeping methods than if donors with more modest asset levels tried to do the same.

In addition, the efficiencies of size allow for better trained staff with up-

to-date information to assist donors and charities like Ruthmere to find better ways to accomplish their respective giving and funding goals.

The Ruthmere Foundation has its own investment assets, which we sometimes call an endowment, where the principal is used as needed. For an endowment where the principal is required to be retained, the ECCF Ruthmere Fund is a very effective and easy way to make the gift.

It is important to the Ruthmere Foundation that donors make contributions in ways that match their own objectives - present or future. Contact us or the Elkhart County Community Foundation. We can help!



## BANNER YEAR FOR ATTENDANCE AT RUTHMERE MUSEUMS CAMPUS

By BOB EDEL, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Attendance at the Ruthmere Foundation facilities exceeded all expectations in 2011.

The opening of the service quarters at Ruthmere and the opening of the restored rooms at Havilah Beardsley House highlighted the year. New programs including the archaeology project on the Havilah Beardsley House grounds, the i-Spy Elkhart cell phone tours, and the 12 Days of Christmas Holiday tours provided new and exciting programs for the community. Visitor totals set new records across the board.

Participation in Ruthmere's annual programs continued to be at record levels throughout the year as well. Ruthmere supporters reveled in the Lecture Series, Piano Concert Series, the annual Ice Cream Social, and the Children's Summer Garden Party.

Outstanding musicians and entertaining speakers provided a variety of programs that interested our membership and drew many new participants to our programs in 2011. A steady flow of Quilt Gardens enthusiasts enjoyed Ruthmere's Prairie Rose Design garden inspired by the stained glass windows in the foyer.



This year, 2012, promises to be another exciting year at Ruthmere Museums Campus. The addition of Creek House as a rental facility for daily and overnight events, a new design for the Quilt Garden along the Heritage Trail and new programs will continue to draw the community to this special location in Elkhart.

## NEW AT HAVILAH BEARDSLEY HOUSE: DISCOVER HISTORIC ELKHART SERIES

---

Ruthmere and Indiana Landmarks have partnered to launch a new regular program series at Havilah Beardsley House focused on historic preservation, artifact conservation and cultural heritage awareness. For 2012, the new **Discover Historic Elkhart Series** will include traveling exhibits and special lectures/discussions.

The first exhibit, *Endangered Heritage*, is a collections care exhibit set to open on May 6. The exhibit contains information about the need for good collections stewardship and provide examples of the dangers to objects in collections.

Second in the series, *Local Treasure: Indiana's WPA Post Office Murals*, will open June 16, featuring elaborate and colorful murals installed in the post offices of numerous Hoosier communities during the 1930s and the histories of some of the 36 murals that are still in existence today.

*A Perfect Likeness: Care and Identification of Family Photographs* opens on July 20. Visitors learn how to care for family photos in this exhibit which showcases the identification and treatment of the most common early photographic processes.

The exhibits are available for viewing Tues. - Sun. 1-3pm in the Dining Room Gallery and are included in the Havilah Beardsley House tour.

The first lecture will be held at 6pm May 1 at the Havilah Beardsley House featuring Jeff Harris, Director of Local History Services at the Indiana Historical Society. He will discuss the thought process behind the new exhibit, *Endangered Heritage*, and will also include a sneak peek at the exhibit before it opens to the public.

The second lecture, on July 3, "What is Style?" will feature Todd Zeiger, Director of the Northern Regional Office of Indiana Landmarks. This program will encourage participants to bring photos of local architectural features for identification and discussion.

Admission for the **Discover Historic Elkhart Series** lecture presentations are \$10 per event (\$5 for members) at the door and include light refreshments.



## SUMMER FUN SERIES EVENTS AT RUTHMERE

Ruthmere's **Summer Fun Series** sponsored by **1st Source Bank** brings back two program favorites as well as new special evening tours.

The **Children's Summer Garden Party** on July 14 will focus on the theme of "Sherlock Holmes visits Ruthmere" offering a variety of activities and presentations that will unlock the mysteries of Elkhart's most famous mansion.

Cool off in style at the annual **Old Fashioned Ice Cream Social** on Sunday, August 5. Enjoy ice cream sundaes and listen to the sweet harmonies of the "Chain Gang Barbershop Quartet" as you stroll through Ruthmere's gardens.

New for 2012, special evening guided tours of Ruthmere Mansion will be available the fourth Thursday of each month at 6pm & 7:30pm, May through August. Space is limited and reservations are suggested.

## RUTHMERE SPRING & SUMMER PROGRAMS

*A new exciting slate of programs is planned for the Spring & Summer of 2012 at the Ruthmere Museums Campus.*

---

The season kicks off on April 1 (no foolin') with the re-opening of Ruthmere on a **NIBCO Free Family Sunday** – no admission charged on the first Sunday of each month April through November. Havilah Beardsley House joins the Free Family Sunday program May through October. Free admission is also offered to mothers on **Mother's Day** and fathers on **Father's Day**.

The **Spring Culture Series** features two classical music recitals by Goshen College senior music students, Lisa Horst (piano) and Elspeth Stalter (violin) and two engaging lectures by University of Notre Dame faculty, Dr. Marc Simon Rodriguez (History) and Dr. David Campbell (Political Science). Details on page 12.

Ruthmere Museums Campus will again offer our popular **Patriotic Series**, honoring those who have served our country and every American who proudly displays our nation's colors. Souvenir U.S. flags will be presented to visitors free of charge on patriotic holidays (see calendar for program dates).

The popular **Coffee on the Piazza** program at Ruthmere is getting a serious injection of caffeine this summer! Every Saturday from Memorial Day weekend to Labor Day weekend, we will be serving Starbucks coffee on Ruthmere's front porch from 9:30am to 1pm with live local musical talent taking the stage for free outdoor acoustic performances from 11:30am - 1pm. Come see the best and brightest musical talent in Michiana on summer Saturdays at Ruthmere.



## DIGGING THE PAST: THE PHARAOH OF ELKHART?

By JENNIFER JOHNS, CURATOR

Over the past few years, Havilah Beardsley House has seen many changes. The restoration to bring the house back to its original appearance is an ongoing project, but through paint reveals and crawling into attic spaces to see structural details, the pieces of the puzzle are falling into place. There's more to this story than just the structure of the house itself. Valuable information can be found in the ground beneath our feet. What story does it have to tell?

Last August, Dr. Jay VanderVeen of Indiana University of South Bend offered an urban archaeology field school program to the public at the Havilah Beardsley House. Participants got a small glimpse of

how life was in the late 1800s through the early 1900s by examining and sifting through the layers of soil on the west side of the house. Some of the artifacts found include broken pottery, brick fragments, glass and nails, a 1-cent piece, a fragment of a thimble and a small bead of an Egyptian pharaoh's mask circa 1925. (see above)

From May 15 - June 8, Indiana University of South Bend will be back for a second archaeology field school. Although consisting mainly of IUSB students, the public is also invited to participate. Visitors at the Havilah Beardsley House will be able to stop by and observe the archaeology program. "IU South Bend is the 'people's' university in north central Indiana. We are making great efforts to engage with the local community. Developing a closer link between the public institutions of Elkhart and St. Joseph counties and the students and faculty of our campus will enhance the University's capacity to extend the boundaries of learning," says Dr. VanderVeen.

It is important to consider the changes on the landscape when interpreting past lifestyles. By studying the archaeological remains on the property, we will be able to tell a more complete story of the founder of Elkhart and the families who resided at the Havilah Beardsley House after him.

A limited number of archaeology volunteer opportunities are available this year. For more information, call Ruthmere Curator Jennifer Johns at 574-264-0330 ext. 104.



## PATRIOTIC GARDEN AT RUTHMERE

By BREE HERRING, MASTER GARDENER

In 2012 Ruthmere will again be a Blue Star Museum. The Blue Star Museums program is a partnership with the National Endowment for the Arts that offers free admission to all active duty military personnel, National Guard and reserve military personnel and their families from Memorial Day through Labor Day.

Additionally, Ruthmere will show its patriotism this year with a special red, white and blue garden. Patriotic gardens and Victory gardens have been historical ways people have shown support for our country.

While most people plan to decorate only for the patriotic holidays, Ruthmere will honor our country with our red, white and blue garden all summer long!

Come see the patriotic garden and continue an American tradition!



*North/South Cross section drawing of the Havilah Beardsley House*

## THROUGH THE CEILING AT HAVILAH BEARDSLEY HOUSE

By WILLIAM A. FIRSTENBERGER

The Havilah Beardsley House project continues to march forward with exciting new developments. Through the generous support of the Rim Institute, Ruthmere was able to hire Kil Architecture to perform an architectural review and interpretive report. The house is slowly giving up its secrets, everything from hidden stairways to raised ceilings.

The drawing above by Kil Architecture depicts the north-south cross section of the Havilah Beardsley House.

“We at Kil Architecture and Planning are very excited to be developing the ‘Preservation Plan’ for the Havilah Beardsley House,” says Gregory Kil.

“The architecture of the the residence has morphed over the years to reflect the changes in design style and material. Making sense of this puzzle is the challenge set before us. Unique to this project, the staff at Ruthmere have a clear vision to incorporate our study in their interpretive programs and tours. It is a working laboratory.”

In 2012, visitors to Havilah Beardsley House will be treated to the newly restored Robert and Peggy Weed Dining Room Gallery, the site for a series of traveling exhibits scheduled to be on display this summer. The first exhibit opening in May, *Endangered Heritage* from the Indiana

Historical Society, a new exhibit, will be making its inaugural public debut at the Havilah Beardsley House. (see page 6)

Perhaps what visitors will appreciate the most will not be anything to see, but rather what they will feel—museum grade air quality. Through a grant from the Elkhart County Community Foundation and a host of local matching donors, a state-of-the-art environmental control system has been installed which will maintain a constant temperature and humidity. More than just a creature comfort, this environment will pave the way for Havilah Beardsley House as a venue site for world class traveling exhibits.



# THE Havilah Beardsley HOUSE

## FOUNDERS' CIRCLE

Robert B. Beardsley  
Arthur J. Decio  
Robert & Mary Pat Deputy  
Alice A. & Rex Martin  
Joan Beardsley Norris

## FURNISHINGS DONORS

Tom & Sara Elkin  
Jack & Karen Cittadine  
Rev. George Minnix  
Family of  
John E. & Marguerite W. Calvert  
Jeffrey S. & Debbie Beardsley  
in memory of Edward H. Beardsley  
James E. Calvert

## DINING ROOM GALLERY

Robert & Peggy Weed

## ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL SYSTEM

Elkhart County Community Foundation  
Fire Fly Trust  
Craig & Connie Fulmer  
George & Kathy Freese  
James & Patricia Brotherson

## ARCHITECTURAL & PRESERVATION PLAN

Rim Institute

## CONTRIBUTORS

Anonymous  
Craig & Connie Fulmer  
Arthur J. Decio  
George & Kathy Freese  
James & Patricia Brotherson  
Dorinda Miles Smith  
Jack & Karen Cittadine  
Laurel Spencer Forsythe  
Darlene Adkins  
Frances Couquillard  
Barbara Boss  
Stuart & Paula Barb  
Linne & Rachel Dose  
Steve & Joan Malm  
Robert & Gail Martin  
Mary Z. Williams  
Marilyn Ronk  
Ken & Charlotte Stuff  
Bill & Lori Firstenberger  
Eric Leedy

## MARILOU RITCHIE MEMORIAL

Beth Nellist  
Harold & Jane Atkins  
Carol Emens  
George & Kathy Freese  
Elkhart Dalia Club  
Robert Edel  
Robert & Karin Frey  
Laura & Randy Horst  
Richard & Heidi Noser  
Jim & Judy Stringfellow  
Marilyn Ronk  
Phyllis Warrick  
Don & Lynn Beech  
Larry & Suzanne Cadieux  
Darlene Mathis Eddy  
Charles & Phyllis Gordon  
Alice & Norman Hessert  
Milton & Marilou Sherrard  
Robert & Sally Wegnerowski  
Mary Z. Williams  
Richard Kemper  
Margaret Saul



*Doug Kline of American Home Improvements, Inc., and Executive Director Bill Firstenberger examine the revealed service stairway leading to the Robert and Peggy Weed Dining Room Gallery.*

*If you would like to make a contribution to the Havilah Beardsley House Project, please contact Gail Martin at Ruthmere.*

## LOUIS COMFORT TIFFANY LEADERSHIP CIRCLE MEMBERS

---

### \$10,000 DIAMOND

Fire Fly Trust  
Rim Institute

### \$5,000 PLATINUM

Arthur J. Decio  
Bill Deputy Foundation  
Lawrence & Sherrod Deputy  
Peter & Lisa Deputy  
Richard Deputy  
Robert & Mary Pat Deputy  
Sherrill S. & Helen A. Deputy  
Tom & Peggy Deputy  
Alice A. & Rex Martin  
NIBCO  
Joan Beardsley Norris  
First Source Bank

### \$2,500 ROSE GOLD PATRON

Robert B. Beardsley  
Dorinda Miles Smith  
Key Bank

### \$1,000 GOLD PATRON

Thomas & Lois Dusthimer  
George & Kathy Freese  
Craig & Connie Fulmer  
Peggy Weed

## RUTHMERE MEMBERSHIP

---

### \$500 SILVER PATRON

Darlene Adkins  
William & Katie Bissell  
Chupp's Piano Service  
Jack & Karen Cittadine  
Thomas & Dorothy Corson  
Philip & Jeannette Lux  
James & Sidney Rieckhoff

### \$250 BRONZE PATRON

Thomas & Dorothy Arnold  
Stuart & Paula Barb  
Jim & Lois Bare  
Edward & Mary Jo Beardsley  
Barbara Borneman  
Bill & Lori Firstenberger  
Laura Funk  
Charles & Annick Loving  
Robert & Gail Martin  
Kirk & Sue Root

### \$100 PATRON

William & Jan Atwood  
Stephen & Jean Barton  
Thomas & Liz Borger  
Brian & Jeannelle Brady  
Jim & Sheila Bridenstine  
Jan Cawley  
Mr. & Mrs. William Cloar  
Doloris Cogan  
Linne & Rachel Dose  
Robert D. Edel  
Steven & Carol Eldridge  
Carol Emens  
Donald & Judy Findlay

Robert & Karin Frey  
John & Gwen Gildea  
Charles & Phyllis Gordon  
Charles & Jan Grodnik  
HIMCO  
Terry & Lu Hoogenboom  
Laura & Randy Horst  
Brian James  
Kimlee Jones  
Dean & Judy Kelly  
Celia & Charlie Kirk  
Annette Kozak  
Leedy Architects

David T. & Susan Lehman  
Janice Lohman  
William & Claire Luther  
George & Arlene Mark  
Alex & Barbara McArthur  
James & Ann McNamee  
Douglas & Karen Mick  
Clifford & Jean Murray  
Bonnie & Phil Penn  
Rusty & Anita Ritchie  
Rev. Willard & Alice Roth  
Jim & LaRayne Siegmann  
David & Nancy Smith

Patricia Smith  
Jon & Carol Smoker  
Mary Lou Stackhouse  
Doris Stevens  
Jim & Judy Stringfellow  
Ken & Charlotte Stuff  
Linda Unger  
Marla & Blake Unger  
Don & Sidney Walter  
Scott & Kim Welch  
Marilyn & John Werner  
Betty Wiley  
Ron & Phyllis Wolschlager  
Arthur & Suzanne Wyatt  
Paul Yoder

*Thank you for your continued support of the Ruthmere Foundation. Please contact us if an update is required.*

## RUTHMERE MANSION AND HAVILAH BEARDSLEY HOUSE GUIDED TOURS

The tour season for 2012 at the Ruthmere Museums Campus opens in April.

Guided tours of Ruthmere, the 1910 lavishly decorated historic home of Albert and Elizabeth Beardsley, will be offered Tuesday through Saturday on the hour from 10am to 3pm and Sundays from 1pm to 3pm. Regular admission is \$10 adults, \$4 students and children under 5 are admitted free with an adult.

Havilah Beardsley House, home of Elkhart's founder, will be open for guided tours May 6 through October 7, Tuesdays through Sundays on the hour from 1pm to 3pm. Regular admission is \$5 adults, \$2 students and children under 5 are admitted free with an adult.

Members are admitted free at both locations (see page 2 for member benefit information).

Ruthmere Mansion will be open for evening guided tours at 6pm & 7:30pm the fourth Thursday of the month, May through August. Reservations recommended.

Help us make the 2012 season a success by joining us for a tour. Bring your family and friends for an experience in history, art and culture this season.

For more information call 574-264-0330 or visit [www.Ruthmere.org](http://www.Ruthmere.org).

## 2012 SPRING/SUMMER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### APRIL

- 1: Ruthmere Mansion Opening Day for 2012
- 1: NIBCO Free Family Sunday 1-4pm
- 6: Culture Series - Piano Concert by Lisa Horst - 6pm Ruthmere Game Room
- 8: Closed for Easter holiday
- 20: Culture Series - Lecture by Marc Rodriguez - 6 pm Ruthmere Game Room
- 22: Earth Day event at Creek House Center - 1-3 pm
- 27: Culture Series - Violin Concert by Elspeth Stalter - 6pm Ruthmere Game Room

### MAY

- 1: Discover Historic Elkhart Series, Jeff Harris - 6pm Havilah Beardsley House
- 6: Havilah Beardsley House Opening Day
- 6: NIBCO Free Family Sunday 1-4pm
- 6: *Endangered Heritage* Exhibit at Havilah Beardsley House through June 14
- 13: Mother's Day
- 18: Culture Series - Lecture by David Campbell - 6pm Ruthmere Game Room
- 22: Archaeology Field School at Havilah Beardsley House - Tue. - Fri. (continues through June 8)
- 24: 4th Thursday at Ruthmere, evening guided tours at 6pm & 7:30pm - sponsored by 1st Source Bank
- 26: Starbucks Coffee On The Piazza 9:30am - 1pm (acoustic music starting at 11:30am) (continues every Saturday through September 1)
- 27: Memorial Day observed\* (closed Monday) - Blue Star Museums Program begins

### JUNE

- 3: NIBCO Free Family Sunday 1-4pm
- 8: Archeology Field School at Havilah Beardsley House closing day
- 14: Flag Day\*
- 15: *Local Treasures* Exhibit at Havilah Beardsley House through July 16
- 17: Father's Day
- 2, 9, 16, - Starbucks Coffee On The Piazza - Saturdays 9:30am - 1pm
- 23& 30: (acoustic music starting at 11:30am)
- 28: 4th Thursday at Ruthmere, evening guided tours at 6pm & 7:30pm - sponsored by 1st Source Bank

### JULY

- 1: NIBCO Free Family Sunday 1-4pm, Independence Day\* observed
- 3: Discover Historic Elkhart Series, Todd Zeiger - 6pm Havilah Beardsley House
- 4: Closed for Independence Day holiday
- 14: Children's Summer Garden Party sponsored by 1st Source Bank, 1 - 3pm
- 20: Indiana Landmarks Exhibit 'Perfect Likeness' at Havilah Beardsley House through August 29
- 7, 14, 21, - Starbucks Coffee On The Piazza - Saturdays 9:30am - 1pm
- & 28: (acoustic music starting at 11:30am)
- 26: 4th Thursday at Ruthmere, evening guided tours at 6pm & 7:30pm - sponsored by 1st Source Bank

### AUGUST

- 5: Old Fashioned Ice Cream Social sponsored by 1st Source Bank, 1-4pm
- 5: NIBCO Free Family Sunday 1-4pm p
- 4, 11, 18, - Starbucks Coffee On The Piazza - Saturdays 9:30am - 1pm
- & 25: (acoustic music starting at 11:30am)
- 23: 4th Thursday at Ruthmere, evening guided tours at 6pm & 7:30pm - sponsored by 1st Source Bank

\* Patriotic Series Program

Please check [Ruthmere.org](http://Ruthmere.org) for up to date event details.

Please note the Ruthmere Museums Campus locations are closed on Mondays

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- 1: Ruthmere Launches Creek House Center
- 2: The Front Porch
- 3: Robert Recalls
- 4: Social Media/i-Spy Elkhart Tour
- 5: Endowment Gifts through the ECCF
- 5: Banner Attendance Year
- 6: Spring & Summer Programs
- 7: Digging The Past
- 8-9: Havilah Beardsley House
- 10: Membership
- 11: Calendar of Events

*Ruthmere*  
An Experience in History, Art & Architecture  
THE RUTHMERE FOUNDATION, INC.  
302 EAST BEARDSLEY AVENUE  
ELKHART, INDIANA 46514  
574.264.0330  
WWW.RUTHMERE.ORG

Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
Elkhart, IN  
Permit No. 145

# Spring Culture Series

*Ruthmere has expanded our programs this spring to include music. Two classical music concerts by Goshen College senior music majors as well as two engaging lectures by Notre Dame University professors will be offered this year.*

**Friday, April 6th** - Goshen College senior music education major Lisa Horst, pianist, will perform pieces by Scarlatti, Beethoven, Barber and Dvorak.

**Friday, April 20th** - Assistant Professor of History at the University of Notre Dame, Dr. Marc Simon Rodriguez

will present '*Latino Mural Cityscapes: A Reflection on Public Art, History and Community in Chicago after World War II.*'

**Friday, April 27th** - Goshen College senior music major Elspeth Stalter, violinist, will perform pieces by Hindemith, Dvorak, Grieg and Massenet.

**Friday, May 18th** - Associate Professor of Political Science Dr. David Campbell will present '*Will the 2012 Election Be a Matter of Faith? The Past, Present and Future of Religion in American Politics.*'

All programs will be held at 6pm in the Game Room at Ruthmere followed by light refreshments and time to meet the presenters and enjoy the evening with friends. Tickets are \$10 per program. Ruthmere members can purchase a series pass for \$15 which includes all 4 events or individual program tickets for \$5. Seating is limited, so call early to make reservations. 574-264-0330 ext. 101.

*We look forward to seeing you at our Spring Culture Series events!*

