

The Ruthmere Record

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

SPRING/SUMMER 2013

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IF YOU LISTEN.... THESE WALLS DO TALK

By WILLIAM A. FIRSTENBERGER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Mr. Russell, my Jimtown High School U.S. History teacher used to say, “I’d rather be lucky than good.” While the notion appealed immensely and the one-liner was always good for a laugh, in fact I was a good kid at heart. So even when I fired this arrow during my college years trying to sound cool, too often I felt that no one bought my line—and in truth, they probably didn’t.

Fast forward 24 years and I finally had the opportunity to live out the epigram. Early last autumn in 2012, September 17th about 3pm to be precise, I was at the Havilah Beardsley House working with our painting contractor Paul Yoder investigating the original color palette of the home’s exterior. This major exterior restoration effort funded by Arthur J. Decio and Patricia George Decio has the city talking about our famous local landmark like never before, so taking a methodical approach and doing the job right are unyielding standards.

I was looking for a smooth patch of brick, someplace that had been protected from the worst of the weather over the years yet accessible to expose the full range of earliest paint layers. On the northeast side of the dining room I found what I was looking for, and I immediately began working with some light sand paper to reveal the hidden layers of paint colors.

Not more than a couple of light sweeps with fine sand paper, and I started to see what looked like faintly legible letters, no, it was cursive writing, and a name specifically, “Carrie!” Then followed... “Beardsley?”.... or was it “Davenport?” I couldn’t quite make it out. I kept working and fetched a damp cloth to make the words appear brighter. Stepping back I soon realized that there was a whole host of barely visible scribbles on this section of wall, and I knew I needed help.



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Your memberships and donations help 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, remind us of community roots and serve as a connection between our past and our future. Thanks for your support!

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

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ROBERT RECALLS. . .

By ROBERT B. BEARDSLEY, PRESIDENT, BOARD OF DIRECTORS

THE FALLEN CARYATID

Ruthmere has long been home to a number of important Auguste Rodin sculptures, four in bronze and one in limestone, "The Fallen Caryatid," about which I write today. My father, Walter, donated it to Ruthmere in 1978. His acquisition of it was an adventure and provided some amateur sleuthing for me, and who wouldn't enjoy that? A caryatid is a supporting column sculptured in the form of a woman.



By 1970 my father Walter was well launched into his collection of modern art and was a prized customer of The Charles Feingarten Galleries of Los Angeles and Chicago. Chuck operated on flattery and salesmanship that was entertaining to the collector so long as "Caveat Emptor" was kept in mind, and it was in the forefront of mine. The first trouble to my skeptical mind was a small bronze bust of Alexandre Dumas that arrived late 1967 at Dad's office at Miles Laboratories, Inc., me sitting in his front office. It did not look right, it was not, so Chuck took it back, his face covered with egg, but that was by no means the last of him.

His next offering was one of Rodin's 11 known pieces of limestone sculpture, "The Fallen Caryatid." It was commissioned

in 1894 by a French woman, Berthe Dumon, and was to be part of her monster sepulcher, one of the four supporting legs or feet. The projected end product was monumental to imagine given Rodin's massive works. For reasons unknown it was never finished, the piece passing to her daughter who sold it in 1969 to Feingarten then operating out of Los Angeles. Chuck offered it first, of course, to Walter, with a flurry of supporting documentation and photographs. Walter asked my opinion. At the time I was restoring Ruthmere and therefore knew all about art and this sure was that. Well, in view of the Dumas caper, I wondered what the Auguste Rodin Museum in Paris might have to say about it? Good idea. Go boy, go.

Walter was collecting and I was traveling, trying to see the world. I have since given up seeing all of it, but that spring at my own expense and alone I boarded the brand new QE2 superliner in New York for Southampton, my destination the Rodin Museum in Paris, my mission to check out the "The Fallen Caryatid," all 2,000 lbs. of it sitting in Dad's office. On board I soon met Jonathan Hawkins, Administrative Assistant to Charles Englehard, one of the world's richest men back then, and I imagine today would stack up well against Donald Trump and Bill Gates. He was traveling with his quiet, pleasant wife Jane. Englehard had interests in gold as well as Coca Cola. That is he owned gold mines and drank Coke, something like 24 bottles a day, to his doctor's horror. He did not smoke or drink, of course. Jane, a walking display case of expensive jewelry, doted on Jonathan who spoke fluent French. The year before Jonathan had represented Mr. Englehard in a private audience with Emperor Halie Selassie of Ethiopia in Addis Ababa. That was a story out of the Arabian Nights, all about some really big jewelry, leopards on leashes, and Nubian guards. The Emperor bedazzling in gold, tiny, quiet and speaking perfect Oxford English arrived silently half an hour late through a small door in the audience chamber to welcome his humble visitor. The setting, if I may use a word that doesn't have much meaning anymore, was "awesome," Jonathan said.

He agreed to go with me to Paris for a few days, my mission to talk to somebody at the Rodin Museum and who better than Madame Goldscheider, its somewhat infamous longtime Director. She got the job in 1940 right after the Germans occupied Paris and was still there in 1970. In the art world she was regarded as a political appointee without academic credentials. But she headed this world-famous museum, now known as the Hotel Biron, a beautiful town house and garden where Rodin lived and the site of his death in 1917. An earlier owner of this little palace for whatever reason gutted most of its rooms. Today, stripped of their grandeur and painted white, L'Hotel Biron provides a dramatic background for perhaps more than 100 pieces of the Master's work. The garden, all parterres and color, is decorated here and there with his sculpture and to me is as interesting as the house. I had written ahead to Madame in perfect French requesting an interview, thank you Jonathan, and was on my way up the curved marble staircase to Madame's second floor office when a lady I presumed to be

ROBERT RECALLS . . .

continued from page 3

her secretary, met me half way down. Wasting no time on pleasantries, and she certainly was not pleasant herself, haughty and unsmiling, she declared: “We know nothing of this piece.” Without adieu, hello, boo, or goodbye she turned around and walked back up the stairs. That certainly took the wind out of my sails. But was all that trouble for nothing? Madame was dead wrong. By the way, Madame Cecile Goldscheider was finally ousted in 1973. An academic obstructionist, she refused interviews with scholars and denied them access to the museum’s archives. After all, it was her museum, she persisted in thinking, but they finally got rid of her. She was not helpful to me in any case.

Meanwhile Dad had connected with world-famous Rodin authority Dr. Albert E. Elsen, former Professor of Art History

at Stanford University, who knew quite a bit about the piece and declared it to be genuine! That was the authentication we needed. Feingarten was back in good graces, and the purchase was made. In fact Walter bought two more Rodin pieces from dear Chuck, more about which later. At first, we improvised a plywood stand for “The Fallen Caryatid” that for years we dressed up as best we could with red velvet. About 1995, while living in Portugal, I asked our Elkhart architect and friend Eric Leedy to design a proper base for it. I took his detailed drawings to the same Portuguese sculptor who made the white marble Guardian Angel sculpture in the North Garden at Ruthmere. It took a year. There were many visits to his studio to get everything right, and I think we did. The “fondo” in rose marble is now in our upstairs landing under the stained glass skylight along with two bronzes by the same artist. I call it The Rodin Gallery. “The Fallen Caryatid” at last has found its permanent location in our museum and certainly is the centerpiece of our collection.

IF YOU LISTEN.... THESE WALLS DO TALK

continued from page 1

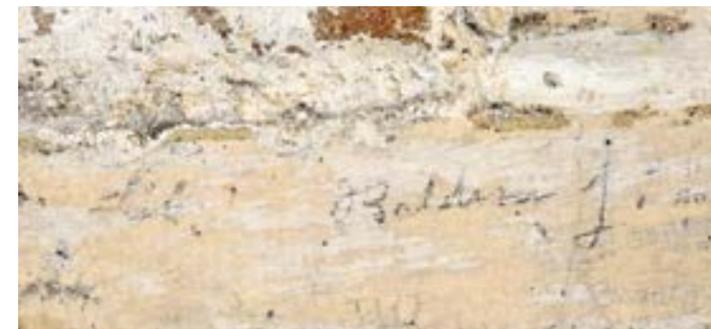
I called our Collections Manager Joy Olsen at Ruthmere, “Hey, Joy, was there ever a Carrie Beardsley?” “Why do you want to know?” was the curt reply, so I explained my discovery. “I’ll be right th...” Click, the phone went silent.

A couple of minutes later Joy arrived in a rush, and we proceeded to find over half a dozen signatures, a few arithmetic problems and two cartoon-like drawings, all appearing to be inscribed by a slate pencil written directly on the fired surface of the brick, beneath the first application of paint. That would date these writings to pre-1874 by our best guess, and the two of us history junkies were like kids in a candy store. One of the writings even appeared at first glance to say “Lib Baldwin Likes...” and then the trail went cold.

Excited but frustrated, we resolved to call it a day since it was near quitting time, and we both had other things to do. But Joy just couldn’t let it go, and 15 minutes later an email arrived in my

inbox, “Writings on the wall....Consider this, the sketches were done by A.R. New in town at age 14, hangin’ around with his cousins, the Davenport boys and sweet on Libby Baldwin... OMGosh, I think we have something BIG!”

Big indeed. Had I unwittingly uncovered an 1860s version of



teenage puppy love graffiti? We knew precious little about Albert’s youth and the forces that sparked his love for Elizabeth Baldwin, and here was an intact firsthand account of an emotional pledge written for posterity on Havilah and Rachel Beardsley’s house--THE house of THE first family of Elkhart.

In the days that followed, we took things very slowly and documented every last sketch and scribble. Alas, like a long-buried archaeological feature, once exposed, the 1860s graffiti we soon realized was made vulnerable to the elements. So we digitally replicated the inscriptions, which will soon be part of a new exhibit on the mysteries of the Havilah Beardsley House, and sealed the original inscriptions outside under a protective coating that will preserve them for future generations to study.

Life is full of discoveries waiting to happen. Some happen by intent while others by chance. What if we hadn’t looked in an obscure place for a mundane purpose—a paint color match? What if I had picked a different brick on which to rub? While the search for understanding keeps our senses primed, in the end Mr. Russell was right, sometimes it’s just better to be lucky. Then again, sometimes being lucky IS really good.

COLLECTIONS IOI

By JENNIFER JOHNS

Everyone has heard the phrase “if these walls could talk.” For a house museum, that phrase could also apply to the items in the collection. Ruthmere has been actively collecting since 1968, that’s over 40 years’ worth of historical record-keeping. From how these pieces came to the museum, to the chain of ownership, to where they are currently located in the house, tracking an artifact’s every move is important. Every object, no matter its size or value, needs to be measured, photographed, and have a detailed description written. The cataloging process is not complete until a unique cataloging number is physically written on each object. All this information is entered into museum collections management software that allows us to keep an enormous amount of information at the click of a mouse. Scholarly research is greatly enhanced with this software for both the public and museum staff. This ability to easily and fully document the historical and physical characteristics of artifacts allows these items to communicate in a more meaningful and profound way.

Take for example Ruthmere’s latest acquisitions, a wonderful bronze bust of Walter R. Beardsley donated by Barbara Bonfigli and the Rodin bronze “Fugit Amour” from the estate of Dorris Carr Bonfigli. These items are currently being processed with our collections procedure outlined above, but look for these spectacular pieces to make their first public appearance on exhibit during the summer of 2013.



Bust sculpture of Walter R. Beardsley.

COFFEE, MUSIC AND MORE

By ABBEY HUFF, ASSISTANT CURATOR



Coffee on the Piazza sponsored by KeyBank is back in full swing at Ruthmere every Saturday morning, Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend. We invite you to sip a complimentary cup of Starbucks coffee, view the gardens, chat

alongside old and new friends, and enjoy acoustic music by local talent. Piping hot Starbucks coffee is served from 9:30am – noon, with musicians playing 10:30am – noon. A drawing will be held every week for a pre-paid KeyBank cashcard.

We have a great line up of musicians this year, including returning guest artists John Kennedy & Chris O’Brien of Kennedy’s Kitchen, Ivory West, Adrienne Frailey, and American Folk group Old Clay Fields. For the 2013 season, watch for several newcomers to Coffee on the Piazza, such as Mike Reeb, Lukas Simpson of Goldmine Pickers, and Joshua Barton. In addition, Ruthmere will host an extension of the Elkhart Jazz Festival on June 22. The musicians play a wide range of instruments including guitar, banjo, fiddle, harmonica, keyboard, and much more. Bring family, friends, neighbors, co-workers – all ages are welcome.

For a full list of musicians to perform this summer, please visit the Calendar on our website, or Ruthmere Museum’s Facebook page where you can preview each upcoming artist throughout the week leading up to their performance.

RUTHMERE CELEBRATES DOWNTON ABBEY

By GAIL MARTIN, DEVELOPMENT

What happens when you link Ruthmere and the PBS hit series Downton Abbey? A first class event, a match made in heaven, or in Elkhart, as it turns out. This was an event that Ruthmere could not possibly pass up. Both storied institutions come to life in the same time period: 1910 into the 20's. So what better way to spend a cold afternoon in February than at Ruthmere?



The staff was behind the event, after a little coaxing. Joy Olsen and Gail Martin led the charge, and a charge it was. What should we offer? What could we expect as a turnout? Plans were made--a tea at 5:00 with all the accompaniments: small tea sandwiches, chocolate cookies, berried scones with apricot jam and lemon curd, mounds of strawberries and, of course, tea...pots of it brewed by Ruthmere's temporary Mr. Carson--Bob Martin.

Bill Firstenberger greeted guests at the front door serving simultaneously as butler and Lord Grantham while Bob "Bates" Edel served a glass of wine to those so inclined. The tea was poured with elan by "Ruthmere's Abbey" (Abbey Huff) and "Lady Joselynn" (Joy

Olsen), attired in costumes of the period. Dennis Olsen welcomed guests with his piano melodies from the 20's, "If you were the only girl in the world..." and much more. Others took on multiple roles depending on the task at hand. Gail Martin swung between her roles of Mrs. Hughes, Mrs. Patmore and Countess Cora--a role also cheerfully portrayed by Joy during tea time.

Next, commentary by Drs. Gabrielle Robinson, Professor Emeritus of Literature, IU South Bend and Mike Keen, Professor of Sociology and Director of the Center of Future Sustainability. Gabrielle commented on the history and manners of the times and Mike discussed how tea became an English tradition and was a must to sustain the energy of the staff. Lively discussion followed with questions from the audience and the session concluded with a rollicking rendition of the 1920s jazz hit "Low Down Papa" on Ruthmere's famous Choralcello.

Over 85 people signed up for the fun afternoon--such an unexpected response that Ruthmere added another tea at 3:00. To our delight, many visitors arrived decked to the nines in dresses from the 20's, men in day suits of the period, tuxedos, a Scotsman in a kilt and Lady Sybil in her First World War nurses' uniform from which dangled scissors and thermometers.

So what's next? What would you say to a summer tea on the lawn? Everyone dressed in white and a practice cricket demonstration? Wait and see.

SEASONS CHANGE AT RUTHMERE

By RON WOLSCHLAGER, BUILDINGS & GROUNDS MANAGER

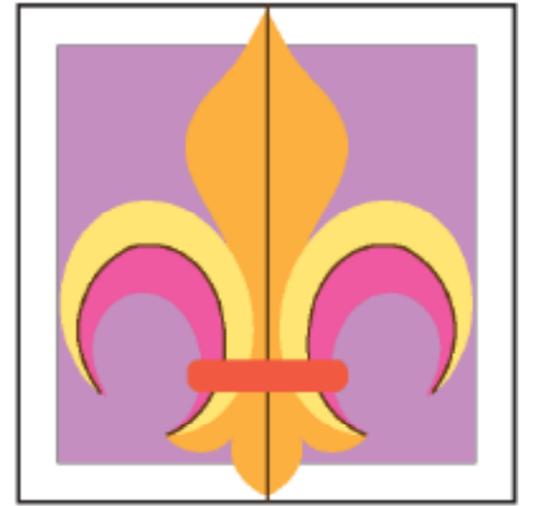
Winter at Ruthmere is always fun. Keeping an eye on our properties, in the crisp air, is a challenge at times. Early this winter we had a piney squirrel that had taken up residence in Havilah Beardsley House. A check around the outside of house revealed no visible entry points. We purchased a live trap, lacing it with peanuts and bird seed, and strategically place it near a wall inside the house. The next day there he was, looking a little angry at us from inside the cage. A trip to a vacant lot away from people seemed safe. Released to run, the little guy righted himself and was on his way. We have not seen him back, but with all points secure, we are ready for the next invader.

The snow blower was out on first big snow. New gasoline and a jolt from the starter awoke it from its cool slumber. A pass down the drive and everything was fine with snow flying in a gentle arc away from me. The trip back with the wind



from the other direction was not as pleasant. The flying snow was now covering me with its frosty whiteness. With a quick sweep across my glasses I could see again and had the machine coursing its way through the heavy snow. I was so glad the blower was working well and an hour later the job was done. Wow, I thought, it is great to have power equipment, and I would have missed all this had I been home sitting in my easy chair.

Soon spring will arrive. Do I detect longer days? A few bulbs have started to sprout and buds seem to be swelling. We have turned our thoughts to starting seeds in the green house. It's a miracle--they are sprouting! Thoughts of spring are filling our minds with images of nature's green landscape, flowers and the smell of the warming earth. April 2nd we will be open to the public, then soon after, planting our Quilt Garden with a stunning new design for 2013. So do the days seem to be going a little faster now? You know that the new pace will not keep us from enjoying them any less.



Ruthmere's 2013 Quilt Garden Design.

AND THEY LIVED HAPPILY AFTER

By JOY OLSEN, COLLECTIONS MANAGER

Birds singing, the fountain bubbling, and a harp playing...ah, yes, you can feel the excitement. There is going to be a wedding here today! Maybe the 100 white chairs and the decorated arch give it away, but it feels like a fairytale. It is so beautiful.

Our wedding garden is listed in Elkhart County's top places to hold

a wedding ceremony. We have a setting unlike any other in the area - private, sweet, and historic. Ruthmere is the place to build a memory that lasts a lifetime.

We have had brides arriving to the ceremony by horse drawn carriage, vintage autos, limousines, and this season will be a first for us...a thundering, beautiful Harley. Yep, a motorcycle, and we can't wait!

Call today and "ask for Joy" if you are planning a wedding - we still have great dates available. Start your journey together here and become a part of Ruthmere's history.



FIELD TRIP INITIATIVE

By JENNIFER JOHNS, CURATOR

Abraham Lincoln once said "we cannot escape history." As history lovers, we know how true that is. Learning Elkhart history is part of the curriculum for Elkhart third graders and what better way to learn than to visit the historic sites in person. This is being made possible through The Elkhart Community Schools Field Trip Initiative funded by INOVA Federal Credit Union and the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians. The program will kick off the week of April 9. Over the course of nine days in April and May, almost 1,000 students will tour the Ruthmere Museums Campus for free. Being able to step back in time and see how the prominent families of Elkhart lived and how they made their mark on the community is priceless. Having school-age children as one of our biggest advocates is one way Ruthmere demonstrates the positive impact we have upon our communitiy.



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NEW PROJECTS FOR 2013 AT RUTHMERE

By WILLIAM A. FIRSTENBERGER

As if restoring the Havilah Beardsley House, opening Creek House Center and building exciting new programs was not enough, we have some serious “bricks and mortar” to consider at Ruthmere for 2013. Through generous grants from the Elkhart County Community Foundation and the Rim Institute, we will soon begin work on restoring Ruthmere’s greenhouse to its original glory. The greenhouse has always been an incredibly important feature of the Ruthmere property (for more on the greenhouse see Ruthmere Record, Spring/Summer, 2011), but in recent years it has begun to show its age, and for several years we have not allowed the public to enter this space. All that is about to change, and the greenhouse will again be an intricate part of the house tour experience.

In a similar vein, the perimeter wall is an unsung architectural feature of the Ruthmere property that makes it unique. The wall not only defines the original property boundaries, it also ties the physical structure in a neat little bow. While no records exist on the precise cost it took to build Ruthmere mansion, we do know that the perimeter wall cost \$10,000 in 1910 dollars! It will take more than that today to keep the limestone firmly fixed, bricks tuckpointed and mortar joints mended, but it is absolutely necessary if we are to maintain Ruthmere in its intended appearance.

But Ruthmere isn’t just bricks and mortar, it’s also wood, paint, glass and even rubberized roofing. Several of these features too are in the early stages of needing routine maintenance repair, and an ounce of prevention is worth more than a pound of cure in these cases, so we look to have these areas addressed in 2013 as well.

These undertakings will be methodical, painstaking restoration projects requiring more financial support than either our normal maintenance budget or funds from current grants will complete. If you would like to help support one or more of these vital projects to keep Ruthmere the shining jewel of Elkhart, please call and ask to speak with our Executive Director Bill Firstenberger.



VOLUNTEERS - THE CORNERSTONE OF RUTHMERE



Another winter season has passed and the 2013 tour season is at our doorstep. Without our dedicated volunteers, we wouldn’t be able to produce the quality tours for which Ruthmere is known. Volunteers help in many aspects of the museum. Giving tours, greeting guests, scanning photographs or planting flowers are just a few examples of what our volunteers do for us. Are you or do you know someone who loves history or gardening and would be interested in volunteering? We are always looking for new faces to join our museum family. Please contact Jennifer Johns at 574-264-0330 or email jjohns@ruthmere.org for more information.

Thank you for your continued support of the
Ruthmere Foundation.

Please contact us if an update is required.

NEW PARTNERSHIP WITH WELLFIELD BOTANIC GARDENS

Ruthmere Museums Campus has forged a new discount admissions partnership with our cultural neighbor Wellfield Botanic Gardens. Same-day non-member visitors will receive discounted admissions from both organizations encouraging greater attendance for out-of-town and first-time visitors. Ruthmere, Havilah Beardsley House and Wellfield Gardens form a strong “cultural triangle” on the north bank of the St. Joseph River that are all within easy walking distance of each other. Park once—see all three!



CREEK HOUSE CENTER AVAILABLE FOR RENTAL

By BOB EDEL, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR



The oldest part of this historic property once served as Ruthmere’s stables. In 1942 it was sold and converted into a five bedroom house in by the C. Arthur Thompson family. Shortly after Robert Beardsley opened Ruthmere to the public as a house museum, he purchased Creek House for use as the residence of the Executive Director. It served that purpose until 2010.

Over the past two years Creek House Center, located at 920 Grove Street, has undergone a transformation. The house has been upgraded and converted into a rental facility for receptions, parties, reunions, showers, meetings, and even overnight lodging for groups of up to ten people. The park-like setting is a perfect backdrop for your special event.

Contact Ruthmere Assistant Director Bob Edel or Campus Coordinator Carla Riley for further information and availability.

ANNUAL FUND DRIVE A SUCCESS!

During the autumn of 2012 we launched Ruthmere’s first ever Annual Fund Drive to support our public programs and exhibits. The Annual Fund represents an opportunity for the public (both Ruthmere members and non-members) to make a separate year-end tax deductible gift. We set a modest goal for our first year of \$10,000. The public responded with a total of \$19,590! Thank you so very much to the Annual Fund participants listed to the right.



TUNNELS AT HAVILAH BEARDSLEY HOUSE?

Were there tunnels at the Havilah Beardsley House? If so what was the purpose? We hear these questions on a weekly basis from visitors, and answers have been hard to come by. The stories handed down over time speak of a tunnel from the house out to the bank of the St. Joseph River, and another between the Havilah Beardsley House and the long forgotten Benjamin and Sarah (Beardsley) Davenport house which used to rest on the northeast corner of Beardsley Avenue and Main Street. Were the tunnels (if they truly existed) used as part of the Underground Railroad network for escaped slaves making their way north to freedom? Did the tunnels again play a role of secrecy during the era of Prohibition of the 1920s?

An eager public wants to know the answers, and who can blame them! Over a decade of historical research and two seasons of archaeological investigations have yielded little material on this elusive subject. Past owners of the home have tried herculean efforts in vain to discover any tunnel entrance from inside the basement.

If only we had eyes to look through the ground. Enter the University of Notre Dame Anthropology Department, who will be sending over a team in June with its “ground penetrating radar” equipment to scan the entire Havilah Beardsley House site. The results should provide conclusive proof if the stories are pure folklore or if indeed we have something remarkable beneath our feet that needs further investigation. Stay tuned.



Investigation to determine if tunnels existed to Davenport House.

2012 ANNUAL FUND DONORS

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WHAT'S HAPPENING?

Ruthmere Museums Campus is open, and we are excited to host several exciting events this summer!

Free Family Sunday is the first Sunday of each month, April – November. Ruthmere opens its doors free of charge between 1 and 4pm, and during the months of May – October, the Havilah Beardsley House will also be part of the Free Family Sunday program. Free Family Sunday is sponsored by the **Rex and Alice A. Martin Foundation**.

May 26 – September 1, Ruthmere will again be a proud participant in the national **Blue Star Museums** program. Free admission is extended to all active duty service men and women and their families. Each visitor will also receive a free American flag with their tour on the follow days: May 27, June 14, July 5, September 11, November 5, and November 11.

The **Discover Historic Elkhart Series** will focus the next several months specifically on the restoration process at the Havilah Beardsley House. May 7 will feature **IUSB Professor Dr. James VanderVeen**, discussing the archaeological finds at the site over the past two years. July 9 features **Doug Johnson of Johnson Masonry Inc.**, who has restored the masonry components both at the Havilah Beardsley House and other local landmarks. **Paul Yoder of LP's Custom Painting** will discuss the restoration of painted surfaces on September 10. Admission for the Discover Historic Elkhart Series presentations are \$10 per event (\$5 for members or Ruthmere or Indiana Landmarks) at the door and include light refreshments. All programs begin at 6:30pm, doors open at 6pm.

The **Summer Fun Series**, sponsored by **1st Source Bank**, begins with **Mother's Day**, Sunday, May 12. We invite all Mothers to tour Ruthmere and/or Havilah Beardsley House free of charge. Likewise, Fathers can tour both locations free of charge on **Father's Day**, Sunday, June 16. Ruthmere's Annual **Children's Summer Garden Party** will take place Saturday, July 13, from 1-3pm. Children and families of all ages are welcome to enjoy the gardens, craft activities, and sweet treats. The Garden Party is free of charge. **The Old Fashioned Ice Cream Social** will be held on Sunday, August 4, as part of Free Family Sunday. Enjoy a sundae, the sunshine, and a tour of Ruthmere or the Havilah Beardsley House.

Keep an eye out for **Croquet on the Front Lawn, Downton Abbey** style! :)



RUTHMERE MANSION AND HAVILAH BEARDSLEY HOUSE GUIDED TOURS



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

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

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

Wednesday is Senior Discount Day. Seniors 65 and older receive admission to Ruthmere Mansion for \$7 on Wednesdays.

Bring your family and friends for an experience in history, art and culture through a guided tour, program or special event.

*For more information call:
574-264-0330
or visit www.Ruthmere.org.*

2013 SPRING/SUMMER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- APRIL** 2 Ruthmere Reopens for the 2013 Season
>^+5 Spring Culture Series - Jim Carpenter, Michiana Master Gardeners, Heirloom Vegetable Gardens @ 6pm
*7 Free Family Sunday 1-4pm (Ruthmere Only)
>^+19 Spring Culture Series - Jim Carpenter, Michiana Master Gardeners, Backyard Maple Syrup Making & Mushrooms of Indiana @ 6pm
- MAY** >^+3 Spring Culture Series - Richard Raymond Alasko, Sculptures of William Ordway Partridge @ Special Time; 6:30pm
*5 Free Family Sunday 1-4pm
5 Havilah Beardsley House Reopens for the 2013 Season
>+7 Discover Historic Elkhart Series @ 6:30pm Havilah Beardsley House, Jay VanderVeen
>^+10 Spring Culture Series - Dr. Laurel Thomas, St. Mary's College Department of Music, Songs of Flowers and Spring @ 6pm
12 Mother's Day (Free Admission for mothers)
*25 Coffee on the Piazza 9:30am - 12pm with guest Mike Reeb
*26 Blue Star Museums through September 1, 2013 - Receive free flag with each tour
27 Memorial Day Observed (Ruthmere & Havilah Beardsley House closed)
- JUNE** *1 Coffee on the Piazza 9:30am - 12pm with guest Don Savoie
*2 Free Family Sunday 1-4pm
*8 Coffee on the Piazza 9:30am - 12pm with guests John Kennedy & Christine O'Brien
14 Flag Day - Receive free flag with each tour
*15 Coffee on the Piazza 9:30am - 12pm with guest Ivory West
16 Father's Day (Free Admission for Fathers)
*22 Coffee on the Piazza 9:30am - 12pm - Jazz Fest Guest Musicians
*29 Coffee on the Piazza 9:30am - 12pm with guest Peter Hochstedler
- JULY** 4 Ruthmere & Havilah Beardsley House closed for Independence Day
5 Independence Day Observed - Receive free flag with each tour
*6 Coffee on the Piazza 9:30am - 12pm with guest Lukas Simpson
*7 Free Family Sunday 1-4pm
>+9 Discover Historic Elkhart Series @ 6:30pm Havilah Beardsley House, Doug Johnson
*13 Coffee on the Piazza 9:30am - 12pm with guest Adrienne Frailey
*13 Children's Summer Garden Party 1-3pm
*20 Coffee on the Piazza 9:30am - 12pm with guest Bob Harke
*27 Coffee on the Piazza 9:30am - 12pm with guest John King
- AUGUST** *3 Coffee on the Piazza 9:30am - 12pm with guest Joshua Barton
*4 Free Family Sunday & Old Fashioned Ice Cream Social 1-4pm
*10 Coffee on the Piazza 9:30am - 12pm with guests Old Clay Fields
*17 Coffee on the Piazza 9:30am - 12pm
*24 Coffee on the Piazza 9:30am - 12pm with guest Dena Woods
*31 Coffee on the Piazza 9:30am - 12pm
- SEPT.** *1 Free Family Sunday 1-4pm
2 Closed for Labor Day
>+10 Discover Historic Elkhart Series @ 6:30pm Havilah Beardsley House, Paul Yoder
11 Patriot Day - Receive free flag with each tour
>+22 Ruthmere Tea Pot Exhibit through October 27, 2013
- * Free Event
 - + Member Discount Benefits
 - ^ Bronze Patron Benefits
 - ~ Silver Patron Benefits
 - > Louis Comfort Tiffany Benefits



OFF THE RECORD

Do you receive our electronic monthly newsletter? Ruthmere Off the Record is a snapshot of monthly events that includes photos, short stories, links, and special offers. Off the Record is a great way to stay informed about Ruthmere Museums Campus happenings – as they happen! If you would like to subscribe, please send a request to ahuff@ruthmere.org.

Please note the museums are closed on Mondays

Please check Ruthmere.org or our Facebook page for up-to-date event details

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- 1: If You Listen, These Walls Do Talk
- 2: i-Spy Tours & New Member Form
- 3: Robert Recalls
- 5: Collections 101
- 5: Coffee, Music and More
- 6: Ruthmere Celebrates Downton Abbey
- 7: Seasons Change at Ruthmere
- 7: Field Trip Initiative
- 8: Sponsors & Business Partners
- 9: Havilah Beardsley House
- 10: Membership
- 11: New Projects for 2013 at Ruthmere
- 12: Partnership with Wellfield Botanic Gardens
- 12: Creek House Center
- 13: Annual Fund Drive
- 14: What's Happening
- 15: Calendar of Events
- 16: Spring Culture Series

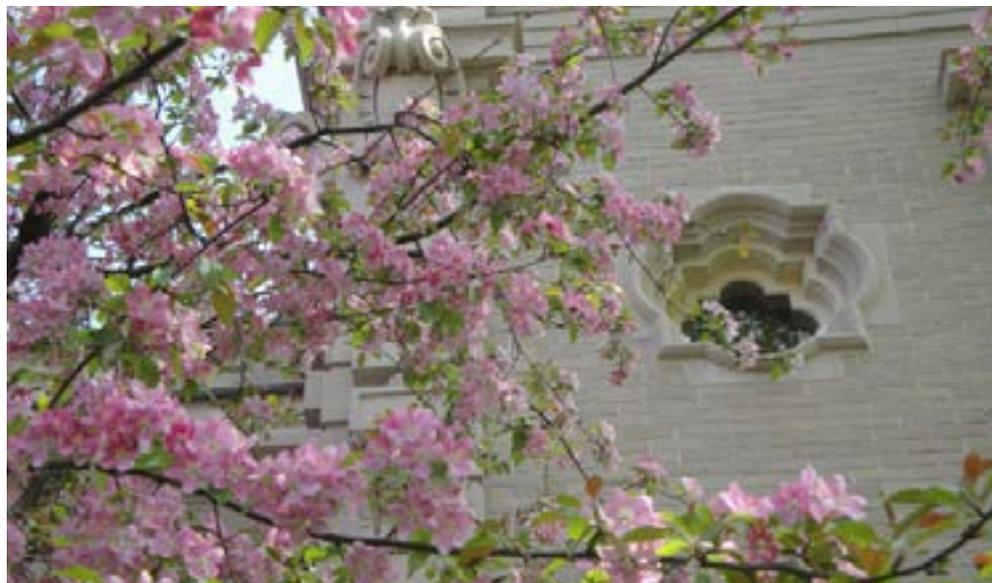
Ruthmere

An Organization of History, Art & Architecture
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SPRING CULTURE SERIES

Jim Carpenter from the Michiana Master Gardeners Association is our featured guest speaker for both Friday, April 5 and April 19. The April 5 presentation, 'Heirloom Vegetables and Seed Saving,' will explain many of the benefits and history of gardening with heirlooms, as well as the science and art of seed saving. On April 19, Carpenter will explore 'Backyard Maple Syrup Making' and describe various mushrooms found in Indiana.



Former President of the American Society Appraisers, Richard Raymond Alasko, will discuss sculptures of William Ordway Partridge on Friday, May 3. Ruthmere is privileged to own two sculptures by this noted American artist.

The Ruthmere Spring Culture Series will conclude on Friday, May 10, with a musical performance from St. Mary's College Department of Music Dr. Laurel Thomas. Her program is aptly entitled 'Songs of Flowers and Spring.'

Refreshments will be served following each performance. Audience members are invited to meet the guest speakers and visit with friends. Member ticket price is \$5 per program or \$15 for a series pass. Non-member price is \$10 per program. Bronze Patron level members and above are admitted free to the programs. Please call 574-264-0330 ext. 104 to reserve your seats.