



The

Generation

Next

VOLUME 16 ISSUE 7

July/August 2021

Our Web Site is located at: www.lexingtonillinoisfort.org

318 West Main Street
Lexington, Illinois 61753
Email: thefortoflex@aol.com
Telephone: (309) 365-4591



Jean Lague's annual visit to Illinois to enjoy the family cabin at Lake Bloomington also brings her to THE FORT to catch up with old friends. She digs into our files for family genealogical research and helps us answer questions for other patrons. During her visit and to celebrate the reopening of THE FORT, on July 19th volunteers enjoyed a field trip to **Gridley's Telephone Museum** and a leisurely lunch at Chenoa Family Restaurant.



Gridley's Telephone Museum is a real treasure and we highly recommend it. Located on Center Street, it is part of the modern Gridley Library. Besides more than 100 years of telephone history and equipment, the actual 1920 Gridley Telephone office is set up and works as a "hands on" display where you can still get a call on a party line on an old wall telephone! Our volunteer Dee is also a volunteer there and she gives a fantastic tour with personal recollections and stories!

Our building on Main Street in Lexington is open to patrons again.

New Hours:

Wednesday, Friday and Saturday

from 9am—2pm

Lexington Genealogical and Historical Society is ready and available.

Reading our email daily, so send requests to thefortoflex@aol.com

RATS.—Farmers from all parts of the county inform us that their corn has been considerably damaged by rats. The rats dig below the stalks and eat the kernels. Mr. HEFNER, who resides in Money Creek township, killed more than two hundred rats a short time ago. He counted his victims until their number reached two hundred, when he stopped counting and continued killing. We learn that eleven hundred rats have been killed on JESSIE FUSK's farm, and CYRUS JONES informs us that his first day's work in the rat killing business was quite successful. He put one hundred and fifty huge fellows out of misery, and intends to favor many others with the same kind of treatment. When we saw him yesterday he was negotiating for a rat terrier. JACOB HUISER, who lives three miles north of Twin Grove, informs us that the rats have made a "dead set" at his corn, and that many of his neighbors are in about as bad a fix as himself. One of his cornfields, containing eight acres, has been fairly riddled by rats—some of which he thinks are nearly as large as yearling kittens. He says the entire field will not yield a dozen bushels. His rats are very tame:—they come from his corn fields in the day time, when they and the weather are dry, and drink out of wash tubs in front of his door. He was in the city yesterday for the purpose of laying in a stock of ammunition, with which he intends to slaughter the long-tailed animals that are growing fat at his expense. Considering everything connected with the case, we think his antipathy to rats is perfectly justifiable.

Since reopening in May our FORT volunteers have been busy helping with a wide variety of inquiries. Here's a sample of recent contacts.....

- | | |
|--|---|
| C. Dennyowitz - planning area visit | Mary Kolarits - Lurz/Gurr research |
| N E Wiseman -Bellew/Blue family | Mike Hammers -more family research |
| ML Norman - Charlotte Cox; little bird | LouAnn Jacobs -Hagerty/Hegerty on FAG |
| Bill Kemp -McLean Co Museum items | D Barekman -infant at Wiley Cem, Colfax |
| J Kennedy -Leroy Barnetts updates | L Winterland -Lex train incident in 1970s |
| MB Wright - story of Castle portrait | Erik Nielsen -need for scanner at FORT |
| Sara from BL Library -programs | Jan Dishon - Do you still recycle ink? Yes! |
| David Pollen—updates on research | C Williamson -Patton Cabin committee inf |
| Eldon Campbell - Archibald's info? | Elaine McKay- answering machine request |
| Gerald Lott -new hours of operation | Nancy J -East Gate Flooding issues |
| John Manning -shared resources | Evelyn Burdette - Caterpillar Matching Gift |
| Ruth Stewart -StateFarm Matching | Jean LaGue -Annual vacation/visit |
| K Winterland - Lawndale Cem sign | Marjorie Devore - continuing research |
| Judith Reeser -Wilson Fam research | C Wright-Badiian - plans area visit in fall |
| Jacki Gluck - Toby Davidson research | Lucy Kelley-rural property research |
| Barbara Graham - House research | Bob Clark -dues update; new kin connection |
| Joan Burm - Lawndale & Clark benefit | Faith Patton -College research project plan |
| Helen Bridgeman -infants in Waldo? | Don Shurr -new member; Ewing obits |
| Susan Doyle -new member; hours? | Brian Phelps-new member; |

These are just a few of the patrons we have heard from recently that help to show the variety of inquiries and questions that come our way. Don't hesitate to let us know if we can be of assistance.