Executive's Desk

May flew by. One new addition was beginning our “Tuesday Teaser Tours”. The Teaser Tours are short and meant to give you just a glimpse of different parts of the Mansion and its history. So far, you have seen my Welcoming greeting and Tricia highlighting the Savonarola chair in the Parlor. Each week we are planning on releasing one and there are many more interesting topics to follow. We encourage you to share these videos with your family and friends to also give them a hint for what awaits.

We want to invite everyone, if they haven’t already, to see this wonderful treasure the next time in LaSalle, Il. So many people visit the Mansion once, and then keep coming back again and again. Each time they visit, they discover something new about it!

Also, during the month of May, we hosted the IVCC performance of “Stepping Out” it was a wonderful time. Guests and staff enjoyed the music, dancing, and the talent of the performers. At the completion of the final performance, as guests were applauding a job well done, nature abruptly turned off the house lights along with the rest of the neighborhood. Nature gave the cast and crew a big “Mic drop” for a job well done! A 2.5 hour “Mic-drop”. Now that’s good!

The other thing that was to start in May was our 2021 Summer Sunset Concert Series. Everyone was excited and couldn’t wait for them to start. Our first one was supposed to be May 28th. Then weather happened. Instead of a typical end of May evening, it was cold, rainy and windy. We started our concert season by cancelling the first one. But there are many great ones to come. Check out our lineup on our website: https://hegelercarus.org/2021-summer-concerts/ and plan on joining us.
What's Exciting and New

For your on-line shopping on our website, we are adding 3 additional books for sale in our online gift shop. Two are published through Open Court, “Stranger Things and Philosophy” and “American Horror Story and Philosophy”. Plus, a history book about LaSalle called, “LaSalle and the Discovery of the Great West”. These are great books and, on the “must read” list of our Tour Director, Tricia Kelly.

From IVCC - Don Grant Zellmer

STEPPIN' OUT! BROADWAY UNDER THE STARS! was a resounding success in so many ways...the return of live theatre, live audiences, and beautiful weather. Our audiences loved the concert lawn setting, and our performers did, too. As soon as we closed, so many in the cast said, "let's do this again!" and I admit, the setting was perfect.

I'd like to thank Cindy and Tricia especially for being so easy to work with, and for the great hospitality afforded the cast and crew! We can't wait to come back and be a part of the mansion’s entertainment lineup!

Gerry Grossman

MARK YOUR CALENDARS for August 4th. If you love music, hilarity, and tunes you probably grew up with, then you will love Gerry Grossman.
Gerry Grossman: HUMAN JUKEBOX – RELOADED
is a fabulously entertaining one-man comedy
rock and roll show, featuring audience
involvement and a repertoire of thousands of
tunes. Grossman’s medleys of crowd requested
hits are woven around his hilarious comedy in a
performance that keeps audiences rocking with
music and rolling with laughter.

Each performance is a unique experience tailored
to audience involvement and requests. Gerry
boasts that he knows the A-side of any rock ‘n’
roll single nationally released between 1955 and
1970, so it’s up to you the audience to help
shape the show from his repertoire of thousands of songs... Shout out the
name of a favorite tune and marvel as Grossman weaves requests into a
medley of all-time great songs.

He has performed with a ‘who’s who’ of show business legends, including
John Denver, The Byrds, The Turtles, The Lovin’ Spoonful, Johnny Rivers,
Tammy Wynette, Albert Brooks, Richard Lewis, The Temptations, and many
more. Gerry’s performances at clubs corporate and private shows, casinos,
and all manner of venues continues to be a wonderfully fun, rock and roll
romp that will be a rocking time for all!
Edward Hegeler commissioned W.W. Boyington, the architect of Chicago’s famous Water Tower, to design the Mansion. Built in the Second Empire style, the Mansion is a grand presence in the Illinois Valley. The lavish 16,000-square-foot, seven-level home features a mansard roof, dormer windows, molded cornices, decorative brackets, and a tower crowned by a 30-foot cupola. The Mansion is a solid brick construction covered with a type of stucco that has been smoothed and tooled to resemble massive stone blocks. A horseshoe staircase lead guests to the main entrance of the home and to an elegant wrap-around porch that graces three sides of the residence, a full story above. Because zinc was readily available from the nearby Matthiessen & Hegeler Zinc Company, the metal was used throughout the Mansion. The flat roof, gutters and downspouts are zinc, which does not rust.

The Mansion sits on part of what was once a three-acre estate that featured extensive walking paths, a gazebo, a reflecting pond, flower gardens, a greenhouse, tennis courts, and a railroad trolley car.

William W. Boyington at twenty-three became a builder and secured a reputation as a reliable architect, who furnished designs for other builders as well as for himself. Boyington’s background reveals that he did not have any academic training nor had he been to Europe to study. His training was almost entirely of the practical nature.

Boyington moved to Chicago in the 1850’s. His early work in Chicago consisted of Church’s which he used different variations of the Gothic Style. Most were destroyed or damaged in the Chicago Fires on October 8 & 9, 1871.

Boyington was interested in establishing standards of improving architecture. When the Chicago Chapter of the American Institute of Architects was organized in 1869, Boyington was elected its first president, and served several additional terms. He had many prominent positions throughout his life. To mention one in particular, he was in the Committee of One Hundred, a group of prominent people who escorted Lincoln’s funeral train to Springfield.

The largest and most expensive of Boyington’s work was the Illinois State Penitentiary at Joliet completed around 1863 for a cost of approximately $600,000.

Boyington died on October 16, 1898, shortly before his eightieth birthday. His last work was the extensive remodeling of the Sherman House, in the spring of 1898. His work spanned forty-five years of Chicago’s growth, to which his contributions were quite numerous. Today, however, he is remembered for one work, and that is for the sentimental rather that architecture reasons: The Water Tower.
Special Thanks to our Platinum Sponsors - $1000

THE HOME DEPOT

a Lifetime of Smiles
Dr. Ed Monroe

TANGLED ROOTS BREWING COMPANY

Classic Hits 106

A Studstill STATION

103.9 WLP0

Starved Rock News-Talk-Rock

STAR UNION SPIRITS

PERU, ILLINOIS

St. Margaret’s Health

SMP Health System
Special Thanks to our Gold Sponsors - $750

AnCare Veterinary Hospital

MAZE LUMBER
HELPING WISE FOLKS BUILD
SINCE 1848
MAZELUMBER.COM

Special Thanks to our Silver Sponsors - $500

Starved Rock Country

Arlington Kaufman McChintock Steele Barry
ATTORNEYS AT LAW
EST. 1918

Central Bank
ILLINOIS
Our Central Focus is YOU

Eureka Savings Bank

Dimond Bros.
Insurance Since 1867