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## 'Trace' Contest A Memory

by Jean Van Rensselaar.

The "Trace This Place" contest is over, but not without leaving behind some fond memories. In the six months the contest lasted, 26 historic photographs were published.

They included everything from a funeral procession at Mount Emblem Cemetery to a 1952 Little League Baseball team.

One of the greatest disappointments is that Frank Kolar Sr. never won. Although most of his entries were incorrect, they made enjoyable reading.

An example from the week that the photo of the T.E. Wilder Family was published:

"It reminds me of a photo taken of the Wizzard family in front of their home just before the tornado struck Elmhurst back around 1895. It contains Mr. and Mrs. with their daughter, Dorothy...

"Soon after the picture was taken, the tornado whisked the entire group and house off to some unknown place and stories began to spread that they landed in a place of fantasy. ..."

There were only two pictures that stumped readers.

The most frequent winner was Ray Steben with 10 first place entries.

Following is a list of the contest winners:

Ruth Lorenz, Ray Steben, William Moeck, Susan F. McCoyd, Charles F. Radtke, Lois Ann Parent, Nicholas C. Chipain, Bessie Apostolas, Mary Anton, Helen Poulos, Anna Poulos, Dr. Russell Thiems, Jack Bright, William J. Keimel Jr., Mrs. Walter Hild, Lucille Franzen and Ernest C. Wilbur Jr.

Thanks to everyone who spent their time and effort to participate in the contest. And thanks to Cliff Stasi, who suggested the contest as a way to spur interest, during Elmhurst's sesquicentennial, in the city's historic roots.

The winner of the final (Aug. 15): "Trace This Place" contest is Ray Steben.

Special thanks to other entrants Richard B. Murphy, Florence Mueller, Charles Radtke, Norman Sather, Susan McCoyd and Mr. Steben's wife, Emily.

Steben's entry reads as follows:

"The photo published Aug.

15 in the Elmhurst Press is an aerial photo of York High School during 1938, bounded by Elm Park Avenue on the north, Berkeley Avenue on the west and the original track and football field on the south.

"In May 1918, York High School was still only on paper.

"The students of Dist. 88, all 134 of them, were attending classes in the basement of the Community House of Christ Church in Elmhurst, now the first Congregational Church.

"On May 11, 1918, Elmhurst-Villa Park voters elected five board members: William Weller, president; Ira Stone, secretary; George Miller, Roscoe Little and Dr. E.W. Marquardt.

"Dist. 88 rose literally out of the ashes of a fire. High school students had been educated in a building that stood on the site of the present Hawthorne School.

"In 1917, a fire destroyed this building and the above mentioned board was elected and they selected the Lathrop farm, the present site of York.

"At the time, the area was farmland, bordered on the north by the Elmhurst Golf Club, on the south by the rutted and dusty St. Charles Road, and on the west by a swamp. York began classes in the fall of 1920.

YORK HIGH SCHOOL

Tim. Bryers

The Elmhurst Press

The photo published Aug. 15 in the Elmhurst Press is an aerial photo of York High School during 1938, bounded by Elm Park Ave. on the north, Berkley Ave. on the west and the original track and football field on the south. In May 1918 York High School was still only on paper, Willowbrook and Addison Trails were four decades in the future. The students of District 88 all 134 of them were attending classes in the basement of the Community House of Christ Church in Elmhurst now the First Congregational Church. On May 11, 1918 Elmhurst-Villa Park voters elected five board members, Wm. Weller, Pres. Ira Stone, Sec. George Miller, Roscoe Little and Dr. E. W. Marquardt. District 88 rose literally out of the ashes of a fire. High School students had been educated in a building that stood on the site of the present Hawthorne School. In 1917 a fire destroyed this building and the above mentioned board was elected and they selected the Lathrop farm, the present site of York, at that time the area was farmland, bordered on the north by the Elmhurst Golf Club, on the south by the rutted and dusty St. Charles Rd. and on the west by a swamp. York began classes in the fall of 1920. J. H. Crann was the first principal at a salary of \$2,200.00 a year. There were 20 rooms, 2 gyms. and a swimming pool. The pool was closed in 1932 due to a polio outbreak and cost cutting, with 116 students attending from Elmhurst, Villa Park and part of Lombard and Addison. As Elmhurst extended into Addison Township, the school was not entirely a York Township school hence "Community" in the name. After eleven major additions it was crowded and Willowbrook High School was built in Villa Park in 1956. In 1972 the schools were separated and Elmhurst Community Unit District 205 took over direction of York High School.

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