

FALL / WINTER 2022

The Ruthmere Record

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302 E. BEARDSLEY AVE. ELKHART, IN 46514

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THE DEPUTY FAMILY FOR POSTERITY

By WILLIAM A. FIRSTENBERGER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Ruthmere, Elkhart and the world lost a great champion and friend on July 4, 2022, Mary Pat Deputy. Beloved wife of the eldest Deputy brother, Board member Bob Deputy, Mary Pat (better known as “MP”) treated Ruthmere as if she had grown up here herself. On the back of the family thank you cards used since Mary Pat’s passing, you will find the stunning family portrait of Bob and Mary Pat’s extended family with Ruthmere mansion as the backdrop, along with the salutation “Forever in our hearts...” Indeed, Ruthmere was forever in Mary Pat’s heart, and she will forever remain in ours.

It was MP who helped coordinate the first “big funding dinner” in the summer of 2012 that built awareness of Ruthmere’s need for significant community support, and it was my first real chance to see a seasoned pro in action. Gail Martin wisely advised me, “Stay out of MP’s way, and she will make great things happen for Ruthmere,” and boy, was Gail ever right! Mary Pat was on top of every detail from the invitation list to menu selections to seating chart. The only thing she left for Art Decio to do was select the wine, which he generously donated from his personal cellar. That night taught me a lifetime’s worth of special event knowledge, and she even introduced me to a future Ruthmere Champion and Board member Teri Stout, at whose table MP had placed me. Incidentally, Teri recently rotated off the Ruthmere Board, but not before she had left her own indelible positive mark on Ruthmere through a series of spectacular events— “One Night at Ruthmere”— essentially taking MP’s model event and putting it on steroids. What a daisy chain of good fortune was started in 2012!

One thing I’ve learned, when it comes to family, the Deputys know how to rally. On the last week of August the surviving Deputy brothers rallied to big brother Bob’s side to spend some quality time and share in both happy memories and in grief. (cont’d page 4)



Bob and Mary Pat Deputy



Bob, Dick, Tom, Larry, & Peter Deputy with a photo of the Deputy family at Ruthmere, including their late parents, Sherrill & Helen, and brother, Bill.



The Deputy Brothers sit and recount stories about their time living at Ruthmere.

They came from all corners of the country here to Elkhart, and moreover, they gave Ruthmere the ultimate gift of an afternoon's worth of collective memories. The Ruthmere staff sat down with brothers Bob, Tom, Dick, Larry and Peter (and late brother Bill attending spiritus) in the Ruthmere game room for a private, recorded group interview for the sake of posterity. The staff had gathered the questions, and I, as director, had the privilege of leading the discussion. Larry's son Reid Deputy, serving as "Activities Director" for the week, was on hand to ensure that Ruthmere got all the "good stories" he had witnessed hearing from his father and uncles.

They did not disappoint. And while *The Ruthmere Record* is not the best publication to share some of these wild, whimsical, sobering, heartfelt, and hilarious stories that were preserved on August 28, 2022, we have a new spectacular publication project ready for this winter. Our hope and intention is to transcribe this two-hour group interview and make it publically available so that future generations can learn about what it was like growing up with Ruthmere as your home.

Here's a tease that we believe MP would approve. Straight from the recording, Bob Deputy said it well, "What I learned (from living at Ruthmere) is that life is a lot of work. There is nothing easy."

PIANO COMPETITION PLAYS TO A FULL HOUSE

BY MARK DODDINGTON,
MEMBERSHIP/CONCERT COORDINATOR

With the sponsorship support of Doug and Sharon Beardsley, Ruthmere presented the Fifth Annual Robert Buchanan Beardsley Memorial Piano Competition. Six of America's most gifted young musicians vied for a \$1,000.00 grand prize and the opportunity to play the opening night of our 2022 Fall Concert Series.

Drawn from all over the world, this year's competitors represented a new high in quality. Taking top honors was Chi Hoi "Jimmy" Cheung, whose selections of Beethoven, Prokofiev and Albéniz proved a winning combination. Cheung, a native of Hong Kong, is currently pursuing a Doctorate in Musical Arts at the University of Cincinnati College Conservatory of Music in Ohio.

Chi-Yunh "Jacqueline" Hsiao, a native of Taiwan and a previous Beardsley competitor, earned Second Place, a check for \$300.00. Rounding out the top three was another previous finalist, Chenyu Wang from China. He took home a check for \$200.00.

The other competitors included three first-timers at Ruthmere: Hans Chan from Connecticut, Tumaini Sango from Michigan, and Fuka Somatomo from Japan. At 17, Somatomo is the youngest Beardsley competitor to date. Indeed, this year has seen some of the youngest pianists yet to perform at Ruthmere.

All six pianists gave striking performances, and all may look to be invited to perform at Ruthmere in the coming years. Judging this year's competition were Dr. Franklin Lary from Illinois Wesleyan University, and Drs. Luke and Mary Rose Norell from Goshen College.

Cheung will perform again at Ruthmere on Thursday, October 13, opening this year's Fall Concert Series. On Thursday, October 27, we will welcome back two-time Beardsley finalist Ariadne Antipa. In addition to the traditional Black Friday concert by Nicholas Roth on November 25, we are also proud to offer a return engagement from jazz/ragtime pianists Jeff Barnhart and Bob Milne on Thursday, November 10. All concerts begin at 7:00. Doors open at 6:30.

Tickets for the Fall Concerts are \$25.00 for Ruthmere members, or \$40.00 for non-members. They may be purchased directly through Ruthmere at (574) 264-0330, or www.Ruthmere.org. Tickets are sold on a first-come-first-served basis and tend to sell out quickly. Don't miss out!



Jimmy Cheung, 1st place winner, shakes hands with the judges at the Robert B. Beardsley Piano Competition.

2022 FALL CONCERT SERIES LINEUP



**Chi Hoi "Jimmy"
Cheung**
October 13

Sponsor:
James Rieckhoff

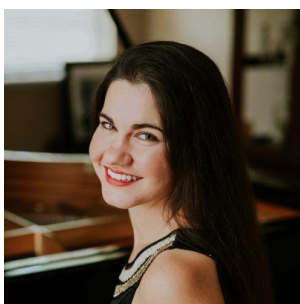


**Jeff Barnhart & Bob
Milne**
November 10

Sponsor:
Ruthmere Concert
Fund

Ariadne Antipa
October 27

Sponsor:
Marie Smith



Nicholas Roth
November 25

Sponsor:
Terry Trimmer



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The Late Robert B. Beardsley

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Phyllis & Gordon Hostetler
Dena Phillips
Janet Evanega
Brenda & Michael Tudor

BETTING ON A BRIGHT FUTURE

By WILLIAM A. FIRSTENBERGER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Serendipity. Some don't believe in it, but for me it's a way of life. One day as Executive Director I'm preparing for the Robert Beardsley Piano Prize Competition (see page 4), and then in an instant I'm handed an *Elkhart Truth* front page article showing a 150-year-old historic wheelbarrow coming up for auction in less than 15 hours in Shipshewana that's going to turn my life upside down—IF I can get the approval to acquire it! Whoa, calm down. I'm getting anxious again just thinking about it.

The *Truth* story merely lit the fuse. In it I learned that this unique object (the wheelbarrow) was the remnant of a friendly bar bet in 1872 between A.E. Faber and saloon keeper Douglas S. Beardsley (no relation to the living Douglas W. Beardsley who is the sponsor to the aforementioned Beardsley Piano Prize—ARE YOU KIDDING ME?!). The bet—who would win the November 5, 1872 presidential election? Would it be Liberal Republican/Democratic candidate Horace Greeley backed by Faber or the Republican candidate and incumbent U.S. Grant backed by Beardsley? The loser was to transport the winner via a custom-made wheelbarrow (yes THAT wheelbarrow made by Elkhart cabinetmaker J.W. Iler) on a November 20th trek from Elkhart to Goshen. The pre-election news story of the bet “went viral” as they say in the media biz today, and the local 1872 newspapers in both Elkhart and Goshen seemed to be every bit as interested in the bet as they were the election. This 2022 *Truth* story was going just as viral here at Ruthmere.

When Grant won the election in a landslide, Beardsley won the bet, and the hype continued. Incidentally, Greeley died on November 29th of the same month of the election, thus, Grant's victory further saved the country from the constitutional crisis of placing VP candidate Benjamin Gratz Brown into the president-elect role before inauguration. The Faber-Beardsley pair started out from Elkhart on the prescribed November 20th, but did not arrive at the Goshen County Courthouse until November 22nd —the trip took 2 days, pretty good when considering the roads back then. Now that's a friendly bar bet and a level of commitment from a different era of politics for ya! Let's move forward to 2022.

The fuse burns closer—“How high can/should I bid on this item?” I tossed and turned trying to sleep that night. We museum directors have limits. I see this item as an important facet of the Beardsley family story—not the Beardsleys who were long established in the region, but extended family members from across the country who wanted to join in the success of the family name and all that it had produced in Elkhart.



A photo of the 1872 wheelbarrow featured in the Elkhart Truth article about the auction.



The Beardsley Carriage House

At 8:34am the day of the auction, an email of salvation arrives, “Whatever it costs, I’ll get it for Ruthmere. Keep this between us. I’ll explain later. Board member, Karen Cittadine.” Another Board member suggests that I go to the auction incognito to help keep the selling price down. Holy cow, now I’m on a personal secret mission in covert garb! I decide to wear a cheap graphic T-shirt and big straw hat.

Explosion! I bid with passion and confidence at Chupp Auctions in Shipshewana, and win the item! A small flock of people wearing different kinds of straw hats approach me wanting to know who I am and what I plan to do with the wheelbarrow—I now understand better why the price was driven up so high. These Shipshewana auction-goers LOVE history! My Board President and Treasurer want to know the price, but I can’t tell them WHY I spent more than twice what they authorized me to bid. Ah, I relax, the Cittadine ace is up my sleeve. Two days later Karen reveals that her donation of the purchase price is being used to honor the memory of her husband Jack’s late cousins, the Brigants. Marge and Danny Brigant were former owners and purveyors of the Green Lantern Café (some would say Saloon) on South Main Street, in Elkhart, and very likely a geographic pinpoint on the route traveled by Faber and Beardsley 150 years ago. Saloons were (and are) important places after all.

The circle is complete, collateral damage from the blast avoided, and the first museum object slated for the future Beardsley Carriage House is safely in our hands. What will tomorrow bring? More serendipity, I hope.

NEW STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK - UPDATED MISSION AND VISION

By WILLIAM A. FIRSTENBERGER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Given the transformative change of events brought about by the successful conclusion in 2021 of the Ruthmere Champions campaign which raised \$10 million in sustaining funding, it seemed both appropriate and necessary that the Ruthmere Board immediately begin the hard work of reviewing and updating our mission, vision and strategic plan. We hired the Dorothy A. Johnson Center for Philanthropy associated with Grand Valley State University to assist and guide our process.

Beginning in December of 2021, through a series of stakeholder interviews, staff and board dialog discussions, and a roll-your-sleeves-up, soul-searching Strategy Team retreat, we collectively have hammered out the strategic framework for a useful guiding document now and for at least the next decade to come. With the leading words from our Board President Ed Beardsley, “let’s be bold, responsible and concise,” the new Mission and Vision statements speak for themselves:

Mission Statement

The Ruthmere Foundation engages and inspires the community through the exploration of history, the arts, architecture, and the entrepreneurial impact in Elkhart, Indiana.

Vision Statement

Every person within our reach recognizes that Elkhart’s history, as seen in the Ruthmere experience and entrepreneurial story, belongs to them.

Throughout this process we drew upon inspiration from our Founder Robert B. Beardsley asking ourselves regularly, “What would Robert think?” We hope and trust that he is pleased.

RUTHMERE MEMBERS

RUTHMERE CHAMPIONS

The Ruthmere Champions campaign for sustainability has successfully concluded.

Thank you to all of our individual Champions and Champion Teams!



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\$10,000

Joan Beardsley Norris

\$5,000

Doug & Sharon Beardsley
Jack & Karen Cittadine
Doug & Sharon Grant
Raymond & Teri Stout

\$2,500

Robert Deputy
George & Cathy Freese
Connie Fulmer
Dorinda Miles Smith

\$1,000

Richard & Linda Armstrong
Tom & Dottie Arnold
Steve & Julie Bachman
Stuart & Paula Barb
Richard & Kathleen Collins
Alene Culver
Peter & Lisa Deputy
Libby & Tom Eisele
Tom & Sara Elkin
John & Gwen Gildea
Brian & Lauri Smith
Terry Trimmer
Jeff & Phid Wells

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Bail Home Services & Construction
1st Source Bank
Gibson Insurance
Greater Elkhart Chamber of
Commerce
Indiana Trust Wealth Management
THK Law, LLP
Tutu School Elkhart

Business Honor Roll

Chantel Miller Storytelling LLC
Elkhart Public Library
InterCambio Express
Nappanee Public Library
Patricia Tokar Canton, CPA PC
St. Joseph Co. Public Library
Jillian Woolsey
Laura Yoder

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Tom Deputy
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Bronze Patrons

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Marty Weber
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Ann Wroblewski
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*Thank you for your continued support
of Ruthmere Campus!*

*If an update is required, please contact
Membership Coordinator Mark
Doddington at (574) 264-0330 (ext.
107) or mdoddington@ruthmere.org.*



BOOK CLUB SUCCESS & GROWTH

BY LOIS TOMASZEWSKI, PROGRAM COORDINATOR

Like the books that line a bibliophile's shelf, the Ruthmere Book Club continues to grow. A second meeting of history-centered readers has been added to the schedule, allowing more flexibility and greater access to this program which will be entering its fourth year in February.

The Ruthmere Book Club has met in the afternoon on the third Thursday of the month since its inception in February of 2020. During that time other people in the community have expressed an interest in attending but were unable to do so because of daytime commitments. This prompted the addition of an evening meeting, which began in September and will continue to meet at 6 p.m. on the fourth Monday of the month.

The blending of fiction and non-fiction selections is popular among readers. Conversation about the monthly reading selection often turns into lively discussions of topics related to the book, as well as members' experiences and perspectives. This year, the book club has read books by several Indiana authors, and learned about diversified historical perspectives, like those found in the biography of Madam C.J. Walker and a novel written by Amy Tan.



Book club members engage in a discussion at the Havilah Beardsley House.



Ruthmere's Book Club Members

In 2022, the Ruthmere Book Club was one of 33 locations across the state to receive a grant to participate in the One State/One Story program. Funding and a cache of 30 books were provided to the book club to host a community book discussion and two other programs. This year's book was *World of Wonders: In Praise of Fireflies, Whale Sharks and Other Astonishments* by Aimee Nezhukumatathil. Although the book did not specifically relate to history, the public programs hosted by the book club were an exploration of the Indigenous People's history in Michiana.

The Ruthmere Book Club is open to the community and no fee is required to attend the meetings or participate in the readings. This has brought people to Ruthmere campus who may not be regular visitors.

As the book club heads toward the end of the year, members will soon be selecting the slate of titles for next year. Suggestions are welcomed and encouraged. What will make the list for 2023? Stay tuned.

Contact Lois Tomaszewski at ltomaszewski@ruthmere.org if you are interested in joining the Ruthmere Book Club!

A SUMMER TO REMEMBER

EXHIBITS...

Our Special Summer Exhibit, See You in the Funny Papers: Iconic Cartoons and Comics, brought the "Peanuts" to us all the way from the Charles M. Schulz Museum & Research Center in California.



...COLLECTIONS...

With the help of former Ruthmere resident Bob Deputy and his daughter, Cathy O'Connor, we managed to open the safe in A.R.'s bedroom for the first time in at least 50 years!



...AND PROGRAMS



The White Rabbit, Mad Hatter, Alice, and Queen of Hearts hosted a Wonderland Tea Party.

Carolyn Bonanno, Communications Coordinator, painted faces at our Ice Cream Social.



The Cool Change Band rocked out at our popular Coffee on the Piazza series - one of many talented performers for the summer events.

RUTHMERE MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN UKRAINE

By WILLIAM A. FIRSTENBERGER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The finale concert on June 2, 2022, was astutely planned by the Ruthmere Concert Committee, and generously underwritten by the Honorable James Rieckhoff shortly before fate turned the world upside down in Ukraine. Our pianist Liana Paniyeva was a returning artist to Ruthmere, having wowed the audience at her first Ruthmere concert in October of 2017. She was the perfect selection to anchor our new Spring Concert Series for 2022. We knew that Liana had graduated from the Donetsk School of Music in the Donbas region of Ukraine, but what we did not know before the world turned its attention to this region was that her family remains there still, and that she had not seen them in person since coming to the United States in 2011 seeking professional opportunity for her artistic talents. Our little concert acquired a global perspective.

Liana and her family with whom she maintains regular communication are strong proponents of a sovereign, independent Ukraine, and the invasion by Russia came as no surprise to her, nor did the courageous Ukrainian response. The world was finally catching up to political difficulties that she has known and endured for many years.



Liana Paniyeva performing at her concert on June 2nd.



In the course of reviewing and revising Ruthmere’s mission and vision statements as part of our Strategic Plan Review (see page 7), the Ruthmere Board rededicated the organization to being relevant to our audiences on both a local and global scale when appropriate.

This seemed like a moment to fulfill that latter ambition. After consultation with Ms. Paniyeva and a thorough search of Ukraine assistance charities, we selected the Ukraine Heritage Response Fund managed by the World Monuments Fund as our charity partner. For the month leading up to Liana’s performance Ruthmere accepted special donations from the public that we committed to give to this fund.

At Liana’s concert, we offered attendees a Ukrainian Culture theme from the kitchens at Hotel Elkhart with custom hors d’oeuvres of Chicken Kiev Crostini and Eggs Olivier. Liana’s performance matched the passion of the evening and gave everyone in attendance an unforgettable Ruthmere experience that blended aesthetic beauty with global tragedy. The final collective gift of \$1,380 to the World Monuments Fund was made June 14, 2022 on behalf of Ruthmere Museum, Liana Paniyeva and the Greater Elkhart Community.

WMF’s Associate Director of Giving Brian Keliher shared, “...everyone at WMF is so touched by your museum community coming together to support our Ukraine Heritage Response Fund in honor of Liana Paniyeva. Our VP of Communications, Judith Walker, is interested in connecting with her counterpart at the Ruthmere Museum to talk about ways we can highlight this gift in our social media and other platforms...”

Philanthropy is contagious.

RUTHMERE VOLUNTEER VOICES – WE NEED YOUR VOICE!

BY CAROLYN BONANNO,
COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR

The voices of our docents here at Ruthmere are voices that bring the Beardsley family stories and Ruthmere history to the public. Without their voices and commitment to our vision, our efforts would be futile. Recently, we interviewed four of our docents for our volunteer video. We wanted to capture their passion, interests, and reasons for volunteering for Ruthmere.

Ann Wroblewski came many years ago with a group of fifth grade girls. She had driven by Ruthmere often but never visited. She was impressed by the tremendous Edwardian-era collection. Her favorite part of volunteering is meeting new people from many different places.

Steve Barton had always enjoyed visiting house museums but has always felt a little too introverted to volunteer. However, he and his wife, Jean, visited Ruthmere several times and he thought to himself, "I can do this; I can tell visitors about the history of the Beardsley family."



Steve Barton driving Ruthmere's 1916 Milburn Electric.



(Left) Cathy Ellsworth points to picture of Havilah Beardsley in period attire. (Top) Ann Wroblewski sits in A.R.'s Library for a Downton Abbey event. (Bottom) Marty Weber stands on the Game Room steps in Tea Team uniform.

Cathy Ellsworth loves refurbished vintage houses, especially from the Victorian era. Her favorite room is Elizabeth's bedroom. Volunteering at Ruthmere is her way of giving back to the community.

Marty Weber came through with a friend 10 years ago, and her friend said, "When you retire, you need to volunteer here." Marty is now retired and here she is! She so appreciates the beauty of Ruthmere.

Now you have heard from four of our volunteer voices at Ruthmere. Can you hear your voice amongst them? Take a tour or attend our events. We need your voice. Many opportunities are available not just as a tour docent, but also as a garden, tea, or other event volunteer - explore what fits your own personality. Call Carolyn at 574-264-0330 ext. 101 if you are interested in exploring our volunteer options.

A MERRY MOUSLEY CHRISTMAS

By ANDREA HUTSLAR, OUTREACH CURATOR

This year, Christmas is for the mice.

Don't be too alarmed - the mice in question are well-behaved and well-dressed. Lady Libbie and Lord Bertie Mousley, the stars of our children's book, *The Mousleys at Ruthmere*, are debuting another new story that will serve as the focus of this year's Christmas decorations at Ruthmere.

In the past, our Christmas decorations have always made the house worth a visit in the snowy season. We have tapped into local talent for the past few Christmas themes to put on particularly stunning displays that make it worth coming back season after season. However, last year's "Hollywood Holiday" tours expanded our reach to new visitors who might have never visited Ruthmere before, inviting families to reminisce on the film favorites they remember from Christmases past. We hope to continue this engagement with families in 2022 by offering a child-friendly theme accompanying the gorgeous Edwardian Christmas decor that Ruthmere patrons have come to expect.

A Merry Mousley Christmas, the sequel to *The Mousleys at Ruthmere*, will feature a new story about Beatrice Mousley, the smart and sassy niece of Libbie and Bertie. Beatrice is



Beatrice Mousley contemplates gifts for her aunt and uncle based on Ruthmere treasures.



A Mousley tea party in Elizabeth's drawing room.

based on the real-life Beatrice Beardsley, who was a favorite niece of her real-life aunt and uncle, Albert and Elizabeth. In this new book, her mouse equivalent is on the hunt for the perfect gifts for her generous aunt and uncle, as well as the funds to pay for them. She is soon met with the harsh reality that a mouse doesn't have a snowball's chance of making money in the human world... but maybe an expensive gift isn't always the best gift after all.

Along with the typical Ruthmere holiday charm, we will also feature themes, silhouettes, and interactives from the story of *A Merry Mousley Christmas*. It seems that the Mousleys are here to stay, and they're making themselves nice and cozy at Ruthmere during the winter months.



An uncolored sketch for A Merry Mousley Christmas featuring the Mousley Christmas party in A.R.'s library.

MOTOR OIL MEMORIES

By JOY OLSEN, COLLECTIONS MANAGER

I would venture to say that most women do not enjoy a smelly old garage, let alone get nostalgic at the odor of motor oil, but to me, it gives me warm feelings, taking me back to my childhood.

My father was a "Jack of all trades." He could do any work and could figure out how to build, rebuild and work on any part of a house, from the floor up. He also was my mechanic. Just by explaining the sound my car was making, Dad would know what to do to repair it. He was an amazing man.

I remember as a kid, Sunday afternoons at my great-grandmother's house, all relatives would assemble for dinner and the men folk would then move to the musty old garage behind her home. Ahh, dirt floors, clapboard siding, and the smell of old grease and motor oil. The guys would be cranking on one of their cars or trucks. All were quite old - the autos, not the men. The men ranged in age from 17 to the 70s in age. That was how the guys worked: they passed their knowledge of "how to" to the next generation by all joining in on a project. I would try to join as a young girl, standing on my tip toes, trying to see over into the engine, but would just get shooed away, or sent to fetch more iced tea for the guys. But I loved the atmosphere and the smells. Ahhh, there's just nothing like that smell in an old wooden musty garage! I bet that started my love for old cars and trucks. Strange, but true. I love and miss those days of the camaraderie of the gentlemen of my childhood, while they "cranked" on an old automobile.

I love all cars in general but have a soft spot for old and original condition. The autos don't need to be in "showroom" condition, but it doesn't hurt! A favorite pastime of my husband and me is to join and walk a good Cruise In rally. A really great one is every Thursday evening at Das Dutchman Essenhaus in nearby Middlebury, IN. We cruise in our two cars, a 2000 Camaro and a 1988 Jaguar, and open the hoods and then walk. It's so fun to chat with other gearheads and hear their stories of the long (or

short) journey with their beloved auto. (Oh, and maybe get a whiff of that alluring old motor oil I referred to!)

So, this brings me to my most important point: I am so proud to be in charge of caring for the antique autos in Ruthmere's collection: the 1916 Milburn Electric, a 1917 Cadillac, and the oldest of the group, a 1912 Pratt Forty. That one was locally made right here in Elkhart. It's wonderful to have that in our collection.

It's been slowly coming on, but restoration was needed on the Pratt and I brought it up to the Collections Committee of Ruthmere. I wanted to call in one of the best automobile restoration groups in the country, LaVine Restorations, Inc. I proceeded to bring in the LaVine group of Nappanee, IN. Not only did they handle the Pratt with precision and care, but they even donated the complete work! Wait, what? Wow! I was blown away by their generous gesture for the museum. Now that's a class act! We at Ruthmere want to again thank the LaVine group for their kindness. The Pratt is once again stunning!

Stop in to Ruthmere and take time to view one of my favorite parts of the collection, the cars! We recently rearranged the vehicles to their original spots within the garage, as per the late Robert Beardsley's vision. The garage is wonderful and clean, but sometimes I do smell a hint of the old motor oil, and that is fine with me!



The Pratt, Cadillac, and Milburn Electric in Ruthmere's Garage

RUTHMERE IS SUPPORTED BY ITS MEMBERSHIP, PRIVATE DONATIONS, PLANNED GIFTS, AND LEGACIES.

CELEBRATE AUTUMN & WINTER WITH TEA

By JOY OLSEN, COLLECTIONS MANAGER

The colorful changing of leaves, the many choices of pumpkins, and nice, refreshing, cooler temperatures announce the oncoming event of autumn, making something within us desire comforting foods and warm and flavorful teas - especially those with spices and other seasonal flavors. Our Tuesday Teas @ 2 this year were designed with the offerings of cinnamon and pumpkin spice. It's time to celebrate the upcoming fall season!



But then something happened: England lost their beloved Queen Elizabeth II. I felt we needed to honor and observe her passing, so in a mild way, we changed our seasonal teas by adding another element to the many fall flavors - strawberry! Sounds strange, I

know, but from the time Queen Elizabeth was a tiny girl to the week that she passed, she enjoyed a strawberry jam sandwich with her afternoon tea. Our amazing tea food pastry chef, Doni Watson of D's Nutz Donuts & Pastry,

has added a different strawberry treat every week to our already wonderful menu.

Also coming up on October 16th is our ever-popular Witches' Brew Tea. This tea will see the return of last year's witchy guest, Minerva (portrayed by Marybeth Saunders).

Following that tea, registration is scheduled to open for our Tea with Mrs. Claus on December 4th, featuring Susan South as Mrs. Claus.

So when life gets too hectic and you need to slow down just a bit, think of joining one of Ruthmere's teas. Whether it's one of our famous high teas, or one of our slower-paced Tuesday Teas @ 2, dust off your favorite teacup and come join us for tea!



Marybeth Saunders as Minerva, with friend Johann Skullbastian Bachbone



Susan South as Mrs. Claus