



Parkman Historical Society Presents:

Guest speaker Kaarlo Pollari on the history of

Parkman High School



Kaarlo Pollari presented the history of the Parkman Elementary and High School. As a Parkman student from 1st grade through 12th, and a lifetime resident of the Township, he has seen many changes to the school. Kaarlo entered first grade in 1937 and found his 12 years very enjoyable. He continued to Hiram College and became a part of the Parkman Board of Education after.

Some facts about the Parkman High School:

In 1806, Joseph Noyes, a Yale graduate immigrated to Ohio and reportedly taught the students of the very first school ever built in Parkman. This one room log building structure was just east of the square probably where the Gazebo now stands.

In 1817, A Masonic Lodge was formed in Parkman and began construction of a large framed building designed as a school and place for religious worship. School was taught by a Mr. Alfred Phillips. Students came from Middlefield, Farmington, and Nelson to this school up to 1875 when sub districts were developed. The total annual budget then for the school was \$1500.

In 1890, the first graduating class graduated with 5 students.

In 1891, Music was added to the curriculum for Parkman.

In 1896, school was extended two weeks due to measles.

In 1907, a formal rule disallowed ball playing of any kind on school property.

In 1910, the high school library opened and fire escapes and alarms were installed.

In 1911, the state passed a law referred to as the 1% law. This limited the school levies and put a heavy burden on schools to find alternative funding.

In 1926, the annual salary of a teacher (Cleo Grace) was \$1200 and the superintendant (M.H. Norton) was \$1800.

In 1929, the total budget was \$23, 700 but dropped in the 1930's due to the Great Depression.

In 1931, the budget was \$19, 000 and in 1933 it was \$16,000.