

You Need To Buy Three Clues

by Lynne Belluscio

Actually you need three clues - one is to remember to become a member of the Historical Society. If you aren't a member, now's the time to take the leap and help us keep the school programs going, help us keep LeRoy House open, and keep the Jell-O Gallery open.

In many ways, LeRoy is unique because it has so much history. There's the Underground Railroad, the Barn Quilt Trail, the Historic LeRoy House, the story of Jell-O, the pioneer in women's education - Ingham University, not to forget Keeney's stringless bean. Members of the Historical Society receive a quarterly newsletter with historic articles, as well as free admission to the museums. Members also receive a museum shop discount and a couple of free passes that they can give to friends and family.

The next clue that you need is the date of the next bus trip -- April 14 through the 17. Leaving on Monday, with accommodations in Fredericksburg, Virginia. Tuesday and Wednesday the group will have the opportunity to go to Mount Vernon, tour Arlington Cemetery, have a guided tour of the Capitol, including a visit with Henry Clay, and a guided tour of the restoration work being done on the Capitol dome.

A fun packed two days. Details are being worked out in the next few days. Since local schools will be on Easter recess, I am trying to include a reduced "student" rate for those people who might want to take children or grandchildren on the trip. If you are interested, e-mail me at jellodirecto@frontiernet.net or call me at 768-7433.

The third clue, is the date of the annual Dinner Auction - Saturday, March 1st. In fact you'll need several clues, because Miss Scarlet, Professor Plum, Mrs. Peacock and Colonel Mustard are arriving for dinner and one of them has committed murder!!! There will be a cash bar from 5 pm until 6 pm followed by dinner, which features "Scrabble Soup," "Cribbage Salad" and "Game" (actually porterhouse steak and salmon).

The dinner auction theme is

based on the new exhibit that will open in May - - "Let's Play." Right now I'm writing information about parlor games for the next newsletter. This includes the history behind Tiddley Winks, Sorry, Monopoly, Uncle Wiggley, Chinese Checkers, and of course Clue.

A Englishman by the name of Anthony Pratt, designed Clue in 1944 and applied for a patent. The game was originally called "Murder" and was invented as a new game to play during the War during lengthy stays in air raid shelters in underground bunkers. Pratt and his wife sold "Murder" to Waddingtons in Leeds, England and the name was changed to "Cluedo." (The name was coined as a combination of clue and "ludo" which is the latin word for "I play.") The patent for Cluedo was granted in 1947, and it went into production in 1949 at the same time Parker Brothers in North America published it as "Clue."

Through the years there have been some changes. The original English game included the weapons: axe, bomb, syringe, poison, shillelagh and fireplace poker. Today the weapons include: the rope, the candlestick, the lead pipe, the wrench, the knife and the revolver. (Is it politically correct today to play Clue, I wonder? There's a lot of murder programs on TV, but do we let our kids play Clue? Just a random thought ...).

In North America there were eight unique editions published: 1949; 1955/60; 1960/63; 1972; 1986; 1992; 1996 and 2002. This last summer, David MacKenzie brought in some things from

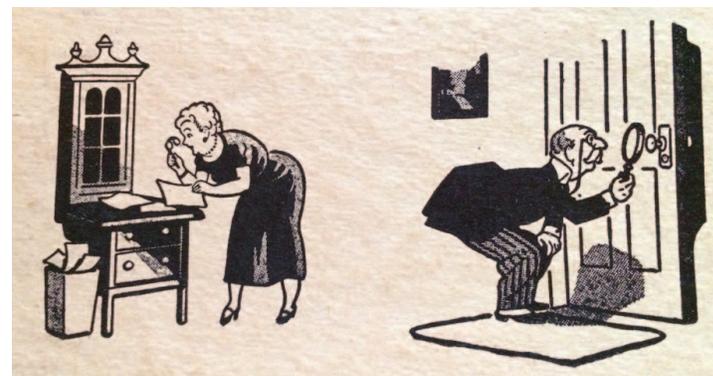


his mother's house, including a never-used Clue game. I'm not too sure of the edition, but it has all the pieces and cards. The rope is plastic, so that gave me a "clue."

Somewhere at home, I might be able to find our copy of Clue. I think the rope is a real piece of rope and I'm thinking it might be

the 1955- 1960 edition. I noticed that in 1991, there was "Clue: The Great Museum Caper." I'll have to try and find that on e-bay. Might be appropriate for the collection. I know that Lego has a set for a museum heist.

Well, there are your three clues: Membership; Bus Trip; and the Dinner Auction.



<p>NAME _____</p> <p>ADDRESS _____</p> <p>_____</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Please make checks payable to the "LeRoy Historical Society"</p> <p style="text-align: center;">MAIL TO: LeRoy Historical Society 23 East Main Street, PO Box 176 Le Roy, NY 14482-0176</p>	<p>ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES Jan. 1, 20 ____ - Dec. 31, 20 ____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Family30.00</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Individual or Sen. Cit.....20.00</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining50.00</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Supporting..... 100.00</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Life (Individual).....350.00</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Enclosed is an additional contribution of: _____</p> 
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