



5529 South Lake Park Avenue + Chicago, IL 60637 + 773-493-1893

September, 2010

Dear Friend of Hyde Park History:

We would like to share with you the modernization of a highly treasured initiative of the Hyde Park Historical Society, the Oral History Project. The goal of the project is to produce high quality interviews of noted Hyde Parkers, accessible to both a scholarly and a general audience from the Society's Archives that are stored in the Special Collections Research Center at the Regenstein Library, as well as online. A range of programming, publications, and postings to the Society's website will be outcomes of this project. We hope you will want to contribute to the success of this important program.

Over the last 30 years the Society has been ahead of the curve in the current popularity of oral history, having produced over 35 audio tapes and transcriptions of oral histories (Leon Despres, Earl Dickerson, William Keck, Barbara Krell, Robert Picken, Bruce Sagan, and Stephanie Breslauer among others) and some 15 tapes that have not yet been transcribed or digitized. What is holding us back from moving forward is a lack of funds for a more updated approach.

The Oral History Committee is currently seeking start-up funding of \$7,000 for training interviewers, for transcribing and digitizing audio recordings, and for the purchase of electronic equipment to capture new interviews and fully utilize the audio-visual aspects of the oral histories.

Won't you help us put this worthy project into high gear? Already the Hyde Park Bank and several individuals have generously donated some seed money. If you would like to participate in this interesting Hyde Park project, we encourage you to send a donation to the Hyde Park Historical Society – Oral History Project. Your contribution will make a significant difference to the ongoing vitality of this endeavor.

We thank you in advance for your generosity in contributing to this community-wide project and to the Hyde Park Historical Society.

Sincerely,

Kathy Huff and Lala Rodgers, Co-chairs

Rita McCarthy, Carol Bradford, Bert Benade, Oral History Committee

Michal Safar, Archivist

Donation Form for the Hyde Park Historical Society Oral History Project

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Please make your checks payable to: **HPHS Oral History Project**

_____ \$30 _____ \$50 _____ \$75 _____ \$100 _____ \$150 _____ \$200 _____ Other

Send to: Kathy Huff, HPHS Oral History Committee, c/o 5607 S. Kenwood Ave., Chicago, Illinois 60637-1760

Credit card payment may be made via:

www.hydeparkhistory.org/paypal.html

Please indicate Oral History Project on your donation.

Your gift is tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.