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PHOTOS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST

Vintage Baseball is Back at Elmhurst College on June 23

ELMHURST, Ill. – Summon the “*strikers*” up to “the dish” and let the “*kranks*” hiss and boo! The Vintage Baseball Game is back for another exciting competition in Elmhurst on **Sunday, June 23 at 2:00 p.m.** with a fun game played by the wildly different rules of 1858.

For the second year in a row, the Elmhurst History Museum and the Elmhurst Heritage Foundation present the **Vintage Baseball Game** on the **Elmhurst College Mall at 190 S. Prospect Ave.** (in front of Hammerschmidt Chapel). Fans (known as “kranks”) will learn to cheer and jeer in fine Victorian fashion as two Elmhurst clubs play for their favor. The Elmhurst History Museum’s executive director, Dave Oberg, will lead the activities in the role of “barrister” (an umpire by today’s standards) and share the rules and slang with the audience. The roster includes a number of local Elmhurst community leaders, baseball enthusiasts, and elected officials.

“Vintage Baseball celebrates the history of America’s favorite pastime in a fun and interactive

way,” said Oberg. “Vintage Baseball honors the traditions and history of a sport that everyone knows so well, and allows participants and fans to learn the way the game was originally played in baseball’s early days. Last year we had nearly 300 guests in attendance and it was a wonderful afternoon, so we’re anticipating another great day at Elmhurst College.”

This event is FREE and open to the public, and tickets are not required. Guests are encouraged to bring a picnic basket and lawn chairs to enjoy a family-friendly game played by true sportsmen from an era of wooden bats and iron men. Free parking is available in the Elmhurst College parking lots.

Connect with baseball history and the Elmhurst community at the Vintage Baseball Game on Sunday, June 23 at Elmhurst College. For more information, go to the Elmhurst History Museum’s web site at www.elmhursthhistory.org or call (630) 833-1457.

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The Elmhurst History Museum is a department of the City of Elmhurst supported by the Elmhurst Heritage Foundation, a 501c3 non-profit organization. The Museum is located at 120 E. Park Ave. in downtown Elmhurst. General admission is free. For more information, call 630-833-1457 or visit our web site at www.elmhursthhistory.org.

CAPTION: *Elmhurst College Baseball Team, c. 1920s*

SIDEBAR: Examples of 19th-century Baseball Slang

Apple/Onion/Horsehide/Pill: The ball

Artist: Proficient ball player

Blooper/Banjo: A weak fly ball

Boodler: An ungentlemanly maneuver

Bound/Hop: Bounce

Bowler/Feeder/Hurler/Thrower/Twirler: Pitcher
Club Nine: Ball team
Kranks/Bugs/Rooters/Throng: Fans
Kranklets/Charming Deadheads: Female fans
Daisy cutter/Ant killer/Worm burner/Bug crusher: Sharp ground ball
Dandy: Cool
Dead or Hand Dead!: Player is out!
Dew drop/Foul tick: Foul ball
Dish: Home plate
Drop a duck egg on 'em: Hold them scoreless for the inning
Glad hand: Clapping
Go back to Hackensack!: An especially vicious taunt
Hit the apple out of the orchard/Lay the willow on that onion: Hit a home run!
Hurl that hoghide/Sling that orb/Whip that onion: Said to encourage the pitcher
Hurling/tossing/twirling: Pitching
Huzzah!: Hooray!
Juggle the spheroid: Play a game
Lead foot: A slow runner
Leg it: Run swiftly
Lobster: A villainous or hated player
Make your first: Get a single/get on base
Muckle: Power hitter
Muff/Duff: Error
Muffin: A poor player
Peach!: Said for an excellent play
Run, you icewagon!: Encouragement for a slow moving player
Show a little ginger!: Play harder!
Skyball/Skyer/Skyscraper: A high pop fly
Stinger: A hard hit ball
Stir your stumps!: Run fast!/Hustle!
Striker: Batter
Striker to the line!: Batter up!
Three hands dead/Side out: Three outs
Wasn't that a corker?: Said of a surprising play
Went down kicking like steers: Lost but played a good match