

EAGLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY **NEWSLETTER**

January 2007

Eagle, Wisconsin

EHS Board

President Jeff Nowicki, 2007

Vice-President Irma Jolliffe,2007

Secretary Bea Marquardt,2008

> Treasurer Pat Wilton, 2009

Members Jerry Baker, 2009 Julie Dexter, 2007 Mark Dexter,2007 Diana Hall,2008 Pat Hawes, 2008 Barbara Jatczak.2009 Donald Ledrowski,2009 Margo Morner, 2007 Welthy Mueller, 2009 Bernice Nowicki, 2008

> John Vymetal-Taylor,2008

Curator

Elaine Ledrowski 594-3301

Newsletter Editor

Jean Cisler 495-4637

EHS museum/ library 594-8961 open Fridays and Saturdays. 9 am to noon Wednesdays, 5-7 pm Website: eaglehs.org

EHS News

We Welcome these New Members:

Paul Kramer Ann & Mike Sadler Maxine Strickler Pat & Luanne Ervin

Membership

Thanks to everyone who returned their membership renewals in a timely fashion. The following people won an Eagle Sweatshirt : Bill Krestan, Peter Jones, Dick Thayer, Jean Cisler, Mary Lou Hinkley and Tim Tate.

Sustaining, \$25-\$49:

Bill & Jackie Adams, Sue Baumann George & Arlene Baumhardt J. Marty Bovee. Jean Bowey David & Mary Cass Eagle Centre House (Riene Wells & Dean Herriges) Bill & Jan Grotjan, Fred Gier, Eloise & Diana Hall, Harold & Mary Lou Hinkley, Barbara Jatczak, Bill & Ann Krestan, David & Beth Kruse, Don & Elaine Ledrowski, Jackie Lewis & Dick Adduci, Marzion Homes & Realty (Mark & Wendy Marzion) Peggy Moots, Violet Orchard James Paterski, Jerry & Nancy Payne Art & Carrie Peavy, Conrad Potrykus Richard & Jane Riddle, Brian & Elaine Rudy. Rosann Sasso Toula & Kim Sievers.Bill & Jean Thiele.Eris Thurston Larry & Diane Wilkinson

\$50.00 Sponsor Membership

Russ & Pat Chapman Chase Bank (Eagle Office) Citizens Bank of Mukwonago (Eagle

Office) Mary (Polly) Cramer Eagle Spring Pub (Jim & Diane Olive) Heckel Tool & Mfg. Corp.(Jerry & Lori Heckel) Frank & Pat Latona Jeff & Bea Nowicki Chet & Patricia Poetsch Sarah Rosenkranz Lois Zenner

\$100.00 Patron Membership

Dorothy Clark Paul & Sandra Fisher Richard and Marjorie Friedman Robert & Barbara Hegwood Arthur & Betty Isleb Ras & Donna Kalnes Don & Dotie Murphy Kathryn Ruby Tim & Diane Thuemling

Memorials

Elaine Potrykus \$65.00

. An engraved plate will be added to the plague for Elaine. A plate is added when \$50.00 or more is donated per person.

IN THIS ISSUE		
Another Honored Member	Page 2	
<u>Calendar</u>	Page 3	
I Remember by Jerry Baker	<u>Pages 4,5</u>	
Obituaries, Donna Kalnes, Elaine Potrykus, Jos. Von Rueden	<u>Page 6,7</u>	
Looking ahead	Page 7	
Upcoming Events	Page 8	

Another Honored Member

Congratulations to EHS member Tom Varrelmann who was honored by the Mukwonago Chief as one of the "5 WHO GIVE." Tom was nominated for his volunteer work at the Alice Baker Library. He provides repair service for items at the library, fixing books, video tape, cassettes, C-D's, and DVD's. You can find him at the library two or three days a week working behind the scenes. And so the Golden Bookworm goes to Tom on a job well done for a most worthy cause!

Thanks to our Donors

The following generously gave items for the EHS Holiday raffle and we thank you so much:

Blooms in Bloom, Eagle Brittingham & Hixon Co., Eagle Broadlands Golf Club, North Prairie Back Street Deli, Eagle Chapman's BP, Eagle Culver's, Mukwonago Coyote Canyon Grille, Eagle Double D's Pub & Eatery, Mukwonago Eagle Centre House, Eagle Eagle Headquarters, Eagle Eagle Springs Golf Resort, Eagle Eagle Springs Pub, Eagle Eagle Wine & Spirits, Eagle 3 D Florist, Mukwonago Fork in the Road, Mukwonago The Garden Mart, Mukwonago Johnson Bank, Mukwonago Knucklehead Pub, Eagle House in the Woods Auction Gallery, Eagle Pick & Save, Mukwonago Pyramax Bank, Mukwonago Market Square, Mukwonago McDonald's, Mukwonago Morning Dove, Eagle Murphy's Septic System., Eagle New House of Design, Palmyra Old World Wisconsin, Eagle Palmyra Tru Value, Palmyra Sheppard's Carpeting & Flooring, Palmyra Steven Steinhoff, Eagle



Tom Varrelmann, busy at work in the library

Photo courtesy of the Mukwonago Chief

Paul Backland, State Farm Ins., Mukwonago Christine Sullivan, East Troy Wal-Mart, Mukwonago Debra Stevens, Avon Dist., Mukwonago Dick & Jane Riddle, Eagle Carol Lake, Eagle

The Three Gems of Eagle

Mark your calendar for March 14th when you will have an opportunity to learn about the three Gems of Eagle. Eagle is fortunate in that we have a Gem of a Library and a Gem of an Historical Society Museum. The third Gem will be the opening of a new exhibit centered around the reproduction of the famous Eagle Diamond which disappeared in the 1960's. Alice Baker Library and the Eagle Historical Society will hold back to back open houses from 5:00-8:00 P.M.. The focus will be on local history.

The Necessary Room

The toilet in the museum bathroom was old enough to be part of an exhibit. New member Mike Sadler of Sadler Plumbing replaced it at cost and donated his labor .Thank you Mike. If you have any plumbing problems in your home give Mike a call.

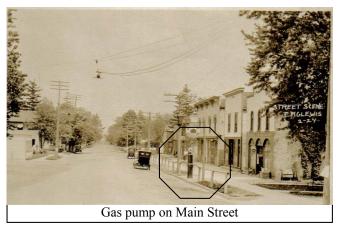
EAGLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC. 2007 CALENDAR OF EVENTS				
DATE	BOARD MEETING	NEWSLETTER	EVENTS	
January 13	10:00 A.M.			
January 31		Mail Date		
February 17	10:00 A.M.			
March 13	6:30 P.M.			
March 14			3 Gems of Eagle EHS Museum Open House 5- 6:30 p.m.	
April 3			Election Day Bake Sale	
April 17	6:30 P.M			
April 30		Mail Date		
May 15	6:30 P.M.			
June 9			Golf Outing Eagle springs golf course	
June 17	6:30 P.M.			
June 22-24			Kettle Moraine Days	
July 8			Band Concert/Ice Cream Social, Village Park, 2 P.M.	
July 17	6:30 P.M.			
July 31		Mail Date		
August 19			Wine & Cheese Reception Ehs museum 1-4p.m.	
August 21	6:30 P.M.			
September 18	6:30 P.M.			
October 16	6:30 P.M.			
October 31		Mail Date		
November 6			Election Day Bake Sale	
November 17	11:00 A.M.			
December 8			Holiday Raffle, 9-3, Drawings at 3:15 P.M.	
December	No Board Meeting.			

I REMEMBER

Windmills and Wood Stoves: Growing up in the 1920's

By Jerry Baker

My parents and my uncle owned the I.G.A. store in Eagle (later known as Krestan's). They sold everything from groceries to clothing and shoes. Cookies came in five pound boxes with a glass cover so people could buy as many as they wanted. Flour and sugar came in barrels.



They owned a ton-and-a-half Model T Ford truck. Two or three times a week trips were taken to Milwaukee to bring back supplies. They sold gas from a gas pump in front of the store. There was a railing in front and along-side of the store for customers to tie their horses to while they shopped.

There were approximately 25 cars in the village between 1928 - 1930. Most of the cars were Model T Fords. Most of the houses had barns for horses.

The homes had an outside toilet and every house had an outside well with a hand pump used for getting the water. Most homes had a couple of stoves. Wood and coal were used to heat the homes. Washing machines were run by hand. The water was heated in a copper boiler on top of the stove. To agitate you had to push the handle back and forth. You then had to run the clothes through a ringer which you also turned by hand. After ringing the clothes, you put them in a wash tub. The wash tub was also used for taking baths.

There were a few radios at this time. Radios were powered by a couple of batteries. We had telephones, but to dial a number we had to ring the telephone operator and she would ring the number you wanted.

The first train to come to Eagle came from Chi-

cago. It stopped to fill it's boiler with water and then continued on to Minneapolis. Passenger trains carrying people and mail came to Eagle. They had a mail clerk on board who sorted the mail. The mail would be dropped off on a four wheel cart that the depot agent would have waiting for him. He would also pick up the packages and bundled mail. The post office would come by and pick up the mail.

Twelve different trains would travel through Eagle regularly, some west bound and some east bound. They included Milwaukee to Madison, Eagle to Elkhorn, and Mineral Point to Milwaukee.

There were big freight trains carrying supplies. They had feed for the Eagle Mill, coal and lumber for the lumber companies, and gas and oil for Chapman tanks (which were close to the tracks).

Next to the tracks was a corral where farmers would bring in their livestock for shipping to the Milwaukee stockyards.

When the freight train would stop for awhile, they filled the water tank and the crew would eat at the restaurant which was next to Sherman's store.

A pickle company had big round tanks for pickling. Cucumbers were put into a brine and allowed to pickle. They were then shipped out by train.

There was also a creamery where farmers would bring in their milk in ten gallon cans.

We had two milkmen who delivered milk in the village. They drove a small truck and the milk came in glass bottles. Their names were Harold Pardee and Charles Cruver.

Del Stubbs was our rural carrier. In winter he would put skis on the front of his car to help him get through the deep snow.

The store and the houses had ice boxes. Mr. Wambold was the ice man who delivered the ice. With an open-backed scale, he weighed and cut the ice before delivering it. He would give pieces of ice to the kids.

There were two barber shops in town. They each had a red and white striped barber pole which turned continually in front of their shops.

The kids enjoyed going to Mr. Belling's meat market. It had sawdust on the floor and a circular track that held the butchered pigs.

Across the street from the store was a bandstand. We used to play games here. They also held band concerts and occasionally showed a free movie.

I remember watching people at the mill unloading the freight cars, farmers with their horse and wagons taking their milk cans to the creamery, and the people delivering coal with their faces black with soot.

Eagle had two car dealers in town. There were five businesses that sold gas and oil. Our old gas pump had a crank that pushed the gas up into the red globe that was on top of the pump. Once filled you would then let the gas empty out of the globe and into whatever you were filling.

There was a drug store in town. For five cents you could buy an ice cream cone, a candy bar, a soda pop, or Smith Brothers cough drops. There were also one cent candy bars.

In 1928 Eagle School burned down. The lower grades had school at the Methodist church and the upper grades went to the Catholic church.

My family moved out of the store in March, 1929. We moved our belongings with horses and bobsled to a farm about three and a half miles outside of Eagle.

We had a windmill on the farm that pumped water for the livestock. We used a hand pump to get our own water.

My dad sold wood to the store, bank and homes in Eagle. We used a wagon in good weather and a bob-sled in the snow. When I was older I drove the bob-sled to deliver the wood and take feed to the mill to have ground and mixed.

While my parents would go shopping in Eagle, I would deliver eggs to people around town.

When we first moved to the farm, we didn't have electricity. We used lamps in the house and lanterns in the barn. Three years later we got electricity. It was like a whole new world.

In 1940, we drilled a new well by the house, put running water in, and made the pantry into a bathroom. We ran the water line to the milk house and barn. All the digging for the water line was done by manpower.



Smart's Garage, 1917



Bandstand, circa 1942



Sign at lower right reads; Autoists Headquarters-Information Bureau

Obviously, Eagle was far ahead of it's time.

Photos from EHS archives

Obituary



Elaine Potrykus 1935-2007

Potrykus, Elaine (Nee Hillegas), age 71 of Eagle, WI passed away peacefully on January 2, 007 surrounded by her family. She was born August 2, 1935 to Alfred and Louise (Nee Horn) Hillegas. After graduating from Pius XI High School, she attended Mt. Mary College and Layton School of Art. She was a visual display manager for Petrie's Store Corporation until her retirement in 1989. She and her husband moved to Eagle in 1996.

She was involved with music for much of her life, having started a folk choir at Holy Cross Church in Milwaukee. She played the guitar and sang. Her children and husband were also part of the choir. She was a member of the Pilgrim People Singers for eight years.

She sang in the choir at St. Theresa's Church where she was a member..

Elaine is survived by her loving husband, Conrad, of 48 years: her children Scott (Beth) Potrykus of Franklin, Pam (Jim) Nejedio of Delafield and Kari (Garrett) Hoyt of Mukwonago; grandchildren Evan, Alex, Ethan, and Griffen Potrykus, Caitlin and J.T. Nejedio and T.J., Joey and Kati McCormick. Elaine is further survived by other relatives and many friends. She was preceded in death by her parents, Alfred and Louise Hillegas.

Mass of Christian Burial was held Saturday January 6, 2007 at St. Theresa's Church, Fr. Dennis Ackeret officiating. Interment was at St. Theresa's Cemetery.



Obituary



Kalnes, Donna M. (nee Simondet) age 72 of Eagle, WI passed away peacefully after a battle with cancer on Friday January 12, 2007 at Waukesha Memorial Hospital. She was born January 24, 1934 in Redwood Falls, MN to Oscar and Alma (nee Castle) Simondet. Donna graduated from Luther College in Decorah, IA and attended the University of Wisconsin Madison and Whitewater where she obtained a Masters Degree in Administration. She married Rasmus Kalnes in Redwood Falls, MN on August 21, 1954. She was a longtime member of St. John Lutheran Church in North Prairie, was a retired teacher and Principal of Eagle Elementary School, Past-President of AWSA- Association of Wisconsin School Administrators, National Principal of the Year in 1991, Wisconsin Mother of the Year, 1980, a recipient of the Luther College Distinguished Service Award and honored by three U.S. Presidents for her work in Education.

Donna is survived by her loving husband Rasmus of Eagle, WI., her beloved children, Stephanie of Eagle, WI and Eric of Huntington Beach, CA., daughter-in-law Leslie and two grandchildren Anna and Erik of Batavia, IL., sister Carolyn (Bob) Laufenburger of Redwood Falls, MN, brother Norman (Ginny) Simondet of Mound, MN. Further survived by many loving relatives and friends. Donna was preceded in death by her son, David, her parents, and brothers Walter and Douglas.

The funeral was held on, Wednesday January 17th, 2007 at St. John Lutheran Church, 312 N. Main St., North Prairie, WI with Pastor Brady Finnern officiating. Interment followed at Oak Grove Cemetery in Eagle.

Obituary



Joseph "Joe" H. Von Rueden, died Nov. 9, 2006, at his home in Camarillo, California at the age of 85.

He was born Oct. 4, 1921, in Eagle, Wis. Joe married Marie (Kau) on June 11, 1947. He and his wife farmed the area that he had lived in most of his life, occupying the Von Rueden house, still standing just off of Hwy. 59.(Fall 06 Newsletter)

He moved to Camarillo, California in 1963. Drawing on his experience of caring for the land, he began working for the California school system as a groundskeeper. Joe always liked to keep busy and he worked there for twenty years until his retirement in 1983.

He is survived by his wife; four children, John (wife Marji), Robert (wife Cheri), Charles (wife Judy), and Mary Jo Sather; six grandchildren, Dawn Zeek (husband Greg), Carri Sabatucci (husband Don), and Gary, Chris, Patrick, and Victoria Sather; six great-grandchildren, Brandon, Jason, Donovan, and Elizabeth Zeek, and Kevin and Jimmie Sabatucci; sisters, Betty (husband George) Kau and Dorothy (whose husband, Alvin, is deceased) Kau; and 12 nieces and nephews.

The family is planning a memorial service in Eagle in late spring at which time they will return his ashes to St. Theresa's Cemetery.

Looking Ahead

EHS is trying something new for 2007. A golf outing is being planned at the Eagle Springs Golf Course, sponsored by the Historical Society. Watch for more details in the next newsletter and mark your calendar for June 9th.



CALLING ALL CRAFTERS

Its not too soon to be thinking of the 2007 Holiday raffle, especially if you have a home craft that you would like to donate. Whatever your talent, be it needlework, artwork or woodworking or ??, now is the time to begin planning and working on your project. The Eagle Historical Society appreciates any and all donations to the raffle, one of their main fund raisers.

Save those Santa Christmas Cards!

Don't know what to do with your old Christmas cards, but you hate to throw them away? Why not recycle them? The EHS is looking for cards with Santa on them to prepare an album of the changing face of Santa Claus. Bring them into the museum or call or give them to Elaine Ledrowski.

Eagle Historical Society, Inc. 217 Main Street P.O. Box 454 Eagle, WI 53119-0454

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Three Gems of Eagle March 14th Open House EHS Museum 5-6:30 p.m. Library 6:30-8:00 p.m.



Election Day Bake Sale April 3rd

