

EAGLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

October 2012

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Corrections

We were not using a diving rod on Career day. Not quite sure what that would be. But a divining rod was used to demonstrate how water was found. Our apologies to Richard Baker for the misspelling of his name.



Barbara Hegwood cutting the ribbon opening the Hegwood/Kalnes Patio
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Welcome to these New-Members

Ralph and Marion Heinisch Clark

Donors

Eagle Spring Yacht Club \$150.00
Harold(Red) Hinkley \$35.00
GE Foundation(Nancy Sadler) \$27.35

Many Thanks to the Following who have donated artifacts, photos, newspaper articles, family history and yearbooks:

Jean Bowey
Marion Heinisch-Clark
Carol Calkins
Virginia Dudzek
Mabel Finney
Pat Hawes
Ellie and Diana Hall
Stephanie Kalnes
Bea Marquardt
Shirley Matters
Martin Murk
Jeff Nowicki
Louise Reich
Rosann Sasso
Mike Rice
Doris Smith

EHS Board

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Jeff Nowicki, 2013

Vice-President

Barbara Jatczak, 2015

Secretary

Bea Marquardt, 2014

Treasurer

Pat Hawes, 2015

Financial Officer

Donald Ledrowski, 2015

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Jean Bowey, 2013

Jessie Chamberlain, 2013

Jean Cisler, 2014

Mark Dexter, 2013

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Diana Hall, 2014

Eloise Hall, 2014

Richard Moeller, 2015

Carolyn Rosprim, 2015

Mike Rice, 2014

Curator

Elaine Ledrowski
594-3301

Newsletter Editor

Jean Cisler
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Webmaster

Mike Rice

EHS
museum/ library
594-8961
open
Fridays and Saturdays,
9 am to noon
Wednesdays, 3-6 pm
Website: eaglehistoricalsociety.org

THANK YOU RECEPTION AND OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE PATIO AND MEMORIAL GARDENS

Barbara Hegwood cut the ribbon to officially open the Hegwood/Kalnes Patio, while approximately 40 invited guests looked on at the Thank You Reception held on September 12th.. All of the guests had been instrumental in completing the project which was planned for a number of years.

It started when Stephanie Kalnes came to the museum to tell the curator that the Hegwoods had some bricks they were willing to donate to the Historical Society. "Some" bricks turned out to be 3000. Unable to find anyone with a skid loader, Don Ledrowski and President Jeff Nowicki moved them, a few trailer loads at a time. Barbara and Robert Hegwood also hired Kathy O'Neill to install the Patio in memory of their good friends Donna and Ras Kalnes. It was very fitting to remember Donna and Ras because they played an important part in the history of Eagle. Ras took part in village politics. Donna was Mother of the Year, and a much loved teacher and principal in Eagle.

Many other people were involved in completing the Memorial Gardens by donating money and doing the actual planting and caring for the gardens. This has made the gardens the most beautiful site on Main Street.

Thank You to the following:

Robert and Barbara Hegwood for the Patio in Memory of
Ras & Donna Kalnes

For Input with Design & Construction

*Stephanie Kalnes – Great Lakes Design , Kathy O’Niell – Mariposa Landscape Design & Construction
John Koehler – Sign Painter— Tim Kienast – TLK Construction,
Jeff Nowicki-Arbor, Trellis & Front Porch Construction*

For Monetary Donations from Businesses

Citizen Bank of Mukwonago Eagle Branch – Dress Down Day, Eagle Springs Yacht Club

For Monetary Donations for Trees, Shrubs & Flowers

*Sue Baumann , Bea Delany, Don & Darla Enright, Richard Friedman, Diane & Ellie Hall,
Harold (Red) Hinkley, Don & Elaine Ledrowski, Nancy Manschot, Shirley Matters, Pat Monroe Family ,
James Pasterski*

For Planning & Planting the Memorial Gardens

Jessie Chamberlain, Susan Clark, Ellie Hall, Nancy Manschot, Terri Sorensen, Sandy Schwartz

For Adopting Gardens

Susan Clark, Ellie & Diana Hall, Claire Josten, Nancy Manschot, Ann Sadler, Sandy Schwartz, Linda Viegut

PUMPKIN PARTY

Join in the fun in the Village of Eagle on Saturday, October 27 from 12:00 until 4:00. Activities will be held in many different places. Bring food for the Eagle community Food Pantry and pick up a coupon book to find the location of all the different activities. A visit to the Historical Society is a must. Take a Grave Yard Stroll and participate in a Scavenger Hunt while meeting and talking to Friendly Spirits who need your help to move on. Completing the hunt and collecting mementoes from the Spirits will make you eligible to draw for prizes. Don't miss out on the fun.



The Owl's Club

Jean Cisler



The Eagle Historical Society has as its mission the collection of articles and artifacts of an historical nature and to preserve the genealogy of Eagle residents. They do this by careful research coupled with the sincere effort to find the truth.

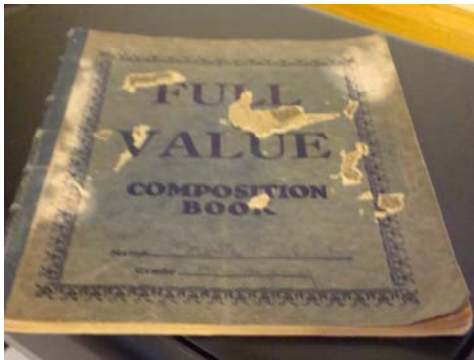
But sometimes, something just falls in their lap, so to speak. Such a thing happened in July when a friend brought in a well weathered composition book with the minutes of the Owl's Club from 1942 to 1949.

The Owl's Club previously had only been a whisper, a rumor. Was it real and why was it called the Owl's club?

The Owl's Club was very real and judging from the minutes, these women kept their minds sharp and wise as an owl. Their roll calls were answered by quotes from Shakespeare, poetry, words to live by, quotes from Geo. Washington.

How can we call ourselves the Owl's Club if we adjourn earlier than 11 p.m."

Their meetings started at 8 p.m and went on for several hours, so they were night owls as well. (Sorry, couldn't resist that.) Actually in the minutes one of the ladies observed, "How can we call ourselves the Owl's Club if we adjourn earlier than 11 p.m."



Someone would read a chapter or two from a novel. They then played different games, according to what the hostess had planned.

They always ended with an "attractive lunch" or "delicious dessert", usually unnamed. A few were listed such as Flapper pie*, Orange chiffon pie, pear cider and the "tallest angel food cake seen in Eagle." They went to great lengths to observe the holidays, such as having Cherry Pie to honor George Wash-

ington's birthday. At Thanksgiving time they had Pumpkin pie but had to wait until the cream was beaten. Santa visited them at Christmas with a gift for all. On St. Patrick's day, everything was done in green from tablecloth, dishes and the entire menu up to and including Green River to drink.** Valentine's day produced heart shaped sandwiches.

It is unknown when they finally disbanded. The composition book ends abruptly in 1949, with no indication that this was their last meeting.

*The Flapper pie is described as a lovely, cooked egg custard filling poured into a graham cracker crust, topped with almond-flavored meringue and sprinkled with graham cracker crumbs.

** Green River was a soft drink of the day. The drink was developed in 1919 by the Schoenhofen Brewery of Chicago as a non-alcoholic product for the Prohibition era. It was popular as a soda fountain syrup, trailing only Coca-Cola in popularity throughout the Midwest. However, after Prohibition ended in 1933 the Schoenhofen Brewery made Green River a second priority to alcoholic drinks. The Brewery then closed in 1950.

THE AUTHORS OF PALMYRA-EAGLE

Featuring **Mike Rice** *Jean Cisler*

The Palmyra Eagle area has birthed an amazing number of authors for the small villages that they are. The newest published author is Mike Rice of Eagle who has just come out with his book about area soldiers who went off to fight in the Civil War, based in large part on the letters sent home from Co.A 24th Wisconsin Infantry. Mike did much of the research for his book on the Internet and Ancestry.com where he found descendants to fill in some empty places. But that was hardly the full extent of his research, as he says in his own words ; “ An author can’t just write about history though, without walking in the shadow of those battlefields where history took place. The author must validate their writing by placing themselves at that same place and time, to catch a vision; i.e. recreate the scene, breathe the air, and touch the earth where such incredible carnage and sacrifice took place. I did that by visiting the battlefields where our men fought, and felt profoundly unworthy that I could so casually tread those same steps in the comfort of my air-conditioned auto, and comfortably stand at that place, without experiencing the fear, terror, and utter slaughter that consecrated that very ground 150 years earlier.”



With that dedication to his work, we have a book that brings the incredible horror of Civil War into our homes, into our lives.

In July 1862, the city of Milwaukee was raising a new fighting regiment to represent Wisconsin and the call was sent for a great meeting to be held July 31st. Men from Milwaukee and the surrounding counties headed to Milwaukee to enlist. It was a day of grand pomp and celebration as bands played, and Governor Edward Solomon delivered an opening speech imploring volunteers to join their gallant comrades. By August 18th, nearly 1,000 men had enlisted for a three year term of service, and the new 24th Wisconsin Infantry regiment was founded. Lieut. Arthur MacArthur Jr. was an inexperienced seventeen year old in 1862 but became the hero of the regiment by 1863. His son, WWII Gen. Douglas MacArthur considered him the greatest general in American history.

Mike Rice’s book “Letters Home – Co. A 24th Wisconsin Infantry” follows the regiment through its many Civil war battles, primarily using fourteen letters home from Eagle Wisconsin soldiers Pvt. Sidney P. Kline and Pvt. George M. Logan. Through the letters, one gets a peek at their thoughts of home, family, the war, and soldiering in general. In addition, there are letters from two other Eagle boys in Company A, Cpl. Silas Parsons and his cousin Sgt. William Sherman, who provide detailed accounts of two great historic Civil War battles; Stones River and Chickamauga. The letters provide the framework for this book, and history fills in the colorful and difficult details of a soldier’s life in war.

The book is available at [http://www.amazon.com/Letters-Home-Co A-24th Wisconsin– Infantry](http://www.amazon.com/Letters-Home-Co-A-24th-Wisconsin-Infantry), It can also be purchased at the Eagle Historical Society Museum.

3 minute YouTube video at

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jdSoePLVHcA>

“If you don’t have time to do it right, when will you have time to do it over?”

The Green Thing



Checking out at the store, the young cashier suggested to the older woman that she should bring her own shopping bags because plastic bags weren't good for the environment.

The woman apologized and explained, "We didn't have this green thing back in my earlier days."

The cashier responded, "That's our problem today. Your generation did not care enough to save our environment for future generations."

She was right -- our generation didn't have the green thing in its day. Back then, we returned milk bottles, pop bottles, and beer bottles to the store. The store sent them back to the plant to be washed and sterilized and refilled, so it could use the same bottles over and over. So they really were recycled. We refilled writing pens with ink

instead of buying a new pen, and we replaced the razor blades in a razor instead of throwing away the whole razor just because the blade got dull. But we didn't have the green thing back in our day.

We walked up stairs, because we didn't have an escalator in every shop and office building. We walked to the grocery store and didn't climb into a 300-horsepower machine every time we had to go two blocks. But she was right. We didn't have the green thing in our day.

Back then, we washed the baby's diapers because we didn't have the throw-away kind. We dried clothes on a line, not in an energy gobbling machine burning up 220 volts -- wind and solar power really did dry our clothes back in our early days.

Kids got hand-me-down clothes from their brothers or sisters, not always brand-new clothing. But that young lady is right. We didn't have the green thing back in our day.

Back then, we had one TV, or radio, in the house -- not a TV in every room. And the TV had a small screen the size of a handkerchief, not a screen the size of the county of Waukesha. In the kitchen, we blended and stirred by hand because we didn't have electric machines to do everything for us. When we packaged a fragile item to send in the mail, we used wadded up old newspapers to cushion it, not Styrofoam or plastic bubble wrap. Back then, we didn't fire up an engine and burn gas just to cut the lawn. We used a push mower that ran on human power. We exercised by working so we didn't need to go to a health club to run on treadmills that operate on electricity.

But she's right. We didn't have the green thing back then.

We drank water from a fountain or a tap when we were thirsty instead of demanding a plastic bottle flown in from another country. We accepted that a lot of food was seasonal and didn't expect to have it by flying it thousands of air miles around the world. We actually cooked food that didn't come out of a packet, tin or plastic wrap and we could even wash our own vegetables and chop our own salad. But we didn't have the green thing back then.

Back then, people took the bus, and kids rode their bikes to school or walked instead of turning their mothers into a 24-hour taxi service. We had one electrical outlet in a room, not an entire bank of sockets to power a dozen appliances. And we didn't need a computerized gadget to receive a signal beamed from satellites 2,000 miles out in space in order to find the nearest pizza place.



But we didn't have the green thing back then.

The Little Free Library

Jean Cisler

There is a small house on Main Street in Eagle. It sits in front of the Eagle Museum. In addition to being an interesting and unique building, it has a very real purpose. Born of the dream and desire of a Wisconsin man to honor the memory of his mother and her love of reading, he began by building one little house in 2009, stocked it with books and a sign that said : Take a book, return a book. Closer to home, a Palmyra man and retired school teacher, Jim Demler answered his own desire to see books in the hands of everyone and began building the little libraries. He started in May of this year and soon had completed four of the libraries which he donated to KM State Forest Headquarters. They wanted to place them near campsites located around Eagle and Palmyra; Paul Sandgren of the KM Headquarters was instrumental in securing one of the libraries for the Eagle Historical Society where it proudly stands. Jeff Nowicki, president of the Historical Society, altered the original Little Library to mirror The Historical Society building. The Palmyra Historical Society has donated books to the little library about local history. The Eagle Historical Society will also be adding books.



Naomi Ledrowski (left) and Jeff Nowicki

The total mission of the Little Free Library is:

To promote literacy and the love of reading by building free book exchanges worldwide.

To build a sense of community as we share skills, creativity, and wisdom across generations

To build more than 2,510 libraries around the world - more than Andrew Carnegie!



Paul Sandgren of KM State Forest Headquarters

What started as one house now has grown to houses in 40 states and 20 countries, including Africa. Starting in 2010, Ghana, Africa now has 10 little libraries in place. Houses are made of many designs sometimes using

material found in unique places, such as the house built of four milk cases, making four compartments for the books. Other designs include one made from a doll house and some that are two stories high. The design of the libraries is limited only by people's imaginations.

The exact number of little libraries worldwide is unknown but what is known is that their numbers are growing daily. To find out the scope of the project, Google littlefreelibraries.org.

“To acquire the habit of reading is to construct for yourself a refuge from almost all of the miseries of life.”

W. Somerset Maugham



Barbara Sekula and Tom Stanley from the Palmyra Historical Society offer books to Elaine Ledrowski of EHS for the Little Library.

OBITUARY

Sarah E. Rosenkranz

Oct. 11, 1930 - Aug. 7, 2012

Sarah E. Rosenkranz (nee Haslam), a lifelong resident of Mukwonago, found peace at home surrounded by her family Tuesday, Aug. 7, 2012, at the age of 81. Sarah was born in East Troy on Oct. 11, 1930, the loving daughter of Preston S. and Leona A. (nee Welbes) Haslam.



On May 6, 1972, Sarah was united in marriage to the late Dr. Wilbur 'Bill' Rosenkranz. She was the loving sister of Maxine (Howard) Strickler, Leon (Dorothy) Haslam and the late LaVerne (the late James) Brewer and the stepmother of John (Pam) and James (Victoria) Rosenkranz. She is further survived by many loving nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Visitation was held on Saturday, Aug. 11, at the Mukwonago United Church of Christ, S93-W30740 Highway NN, Mukwonago, WI 53149, with Rev. Teresa Howell officiating. The funeral service was held at noon. Interment followed at Oak Knoll Cemetery. Memorials in Sarah's name may be directed to her church.

Sarah was a truly devoted aunt, loving her nieces, nephews and their children as though they were her own. She enjoyed the Brewers and Packers, especially during winning seasons, but doing for others was her greatest joy.

Schmidt & Bartelt Funeral and Cremation Services in Mukwonago served the family.

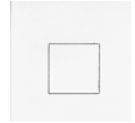


When you are young & foolish - speed & flash may seem a good thing!

When you get older & smarter - *comfort & dull is not such a bad thing!*

We older folks understand this one, it's called S.O.S. *Slower, Older and Smarter...*

Youth is wasted on the young. George Bernard Shaw



**Pumpkin Party
October 27th**



**The Old time Band Concert and Ice Cream Social in the Park-
It Never Grows Old**

Jean Cisler

A week-long patch of three digit scorching weather did not bode well for the Sunday concert and ice cream social in the Eagle park on July 8th, 2012, a local favorite. How many people would come out in this weather when they had mostly stayed indoors during the week? But as Sunday dawned, it soon became apparent that the sunshine would be out, but the humidity was down and a nice breeze wafted through the pavilion in the park.

They came ...and continued to come. Soon the pavilion was filled and many visitors spilled out onto the lawn under a shade tree. The concert had the usual mixture of band concert music with an emphasis on the swing, Big Band, and 40's music. And the wonderful marches set people to clapping along.

The Kettle Moraine Blues group, led by Jim Neist, played their special brand of music. The jazz combo consists of Jim Neist on the trumpet, Gina Neist on the clarinet, Debbie Gilbert on piano, Nancy Pierce on Drums, Jim Nelson on Tuba, Ellie Hawes on Tenor Sax and Todd Kienitz on trombone. Some of the music heard at the concert will be included on a CD that the band is making this fall. Watch for it.

The ladies from the EHS served more than 200 people cake and ice cream.