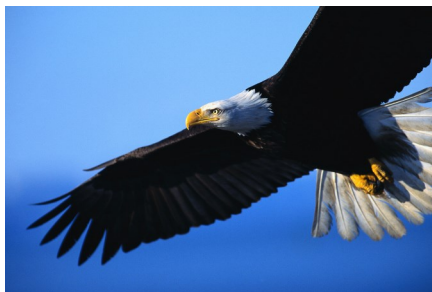


EAGLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

January 2014

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Welcome to New Member

June Steinke

EHS Board

President

Jeff Nowicki, 2016

Vice-President

Barbara Jatczak, 2015

Secretary

Ryan Hajewski, 2016

Treasurer

Pat Hawes, 2015

Financial Officer

Donald Ledrowski, 2015

Members

Jean Bowey, 2016

Jessie Chamberlain,
2016

Jean Cisler, 2014

Mark Dexter, 2016

Diana Hall, 2014

Eloise Hall, 2014

Bea Marquardt, 2014

Richard Moeller, 2015

Carolyn Rosprim, 2015

Mike Rice, 2014

Curator

Elaine Ledrowski
594-3301

Newsletter Editors

Art & Carrie Peavy
594-5454

Webmaster

Mike Rice

Kids, Kids and More Kids

Between October 26th and November 14th EHS volunteers interacted with more than 300 kids. 200 kids and as many adults attended the Sixth Annual Pumpkin Party on Saturday, October 26th. Unfortunately, Grandma Jean, our resident witch was unable to attend. The children made a get well card for her, and the following is her response to them.

Why do they call it a pumpkin party? I didn't see any pumpkins around. When they hauled me to the witch hospital, we went past the butcher shop and that awful man asked me if I had any bones to donate. What I told him, my mother would have washed my mouth out with soap for a month.

Miss Nancy gave me a beautiful bunch of dead flowers-unfortunately, they were over dead and littered the ambo wagon. She also gave me a jar of smelly stuff that when Mr. Skunk got a whiff of it, we haven't seen him in three weeks.

Mr. Don offered me a spider ring, but I said, "No thanks. I only wear the real thing...a genuine black widow."

Miss Barb sent me some dirt cakes. It was so light and fluffy that it flew out the window before I could mix it with sour milk.

Thanks, Elmer. You were quite delightful but really your dress was only fifty years old. I have one that is ninety-five with a few more flaws, plus safety pins.

Mr. Jeff was running around with his tool box. I must tell him that the modern way is to use duct tape and throw it out in ten years. Then get a new whatever to fix and remember the "Good Ole Days." That's why we are here. It hurts my sarcastic soul.

I must say Miss Elaine did a good job. Where she gets her ideas I don't know. I'll have to look into her background. Maybe she was related to Einstein, Socrates or that place that had that mad scientist.

My hospital room was nice, but why it had bars on the window I don't know. And the nurse always locked the door.

(continued on Page 2)

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

So thank you all of my little friends who sent me get well cards. I really missed you all, but I learned my lesson. I fell out of the tree because I hadn't put on my safety belt when I was getting on my broom. I had a special broom this year...with a front headlight, back brake lights, a new horn and, of course, my new safety belt. You all would love my horn. It sounds like a cross between a duck, owl and train. O, so nice and loud! I scared myself when I first blew it. Goodbye now. I'm flying south for the winter, but I did check on you just before Christmas breakfast with Santa. Be good and wear your safety belts.

Grandma Jean WITCH EXTRAORDINAIRE! (a/k/a Jean Bowey)

P.S. Oh yes, little one. All of the bad witches are back in the cemetery. I knew there was a reason for tombstones. "TO KEEP GHOSTS IN"



Monday, October 27th

Scout Pack 59 under the direction of EHS member Natalie Kornmeyer visited the museum to earn a badge. The program began with all of the boys and parents being introduced to the musical history of Eagle. They joined in playing various percussion instruments along with our 1880s player piano. The boys were divided into two groups. Barbara Jatzak worked with the group upstairs. They used the MYSTERY BOX and had to identify objects by only using touch. The second group had a tour of the museum and then used photos to search for artifacts. After a period of time, the groups changed places to experience both programs.

Friday, November 1st

Mrs. Mueller and Mrs. Loader's third grade classes from Eagle Elementary School walked to the museum where they participated in four different activities.

Village Walk

Diana Hall, Elmer Kilian and I worked together on this activity. Diana Hall presented the history of the Methodist Church including many items of interest such as the fact that the basement had been dug by hand. When she mentioned that they used work horses to help haul the dirt out, some of the students shared that they had never heard of work horses. The children also asked questions about some of the pictures in the church. Mr. Kilian, present owner of Dr. Fitzgerald's former hospital and home explained the history, the layout of the building, many interesting facts about the doctor and even displayed artifacts that he had uncovered in his garden. *Nancy Manschot*

Outdoor Games

Eloise Hall and I were in charge of the games for the children. They played drop the clothespins in the milk bottle (some had never seen the old-fashioned clothespins)! They held a relay race carrying eggs on a spoon and had a contest to see who could lift a wooden block with a ring on a string - using only the ring, no hands. They had lots of fun and learned that children in the "olden days" didn't need X-Box at all, but could still have fun using things that they found around the house.

Pat Hawes

Rocks and Pottery

Barbara Jatzak displayed and discussed different types of rocks found in the Eagle area and had the children try to identify items that had been found in the museum yard with a metal detector.

Museum Tour

The children were introduced to author Jean Cisler who had just completed her second children's book. They asked questions about writing and publishing books. The children were given a quick museum tour and then were able to go on a scavenger hunt using photos to find artifacts. They could either share information about the artifact or inquire as to its use.

Elaine Ledrowski

Rolling Hills School Tools of the Trade

We were invited to Rolling Hills Elementary School On November 14th, 2013, by fourth grade teacher and EHS member Mrs. Gina Neist to do a presentation on Eagle in the Past. The three 4th grade classes each had several seniors from Linden Ridge with them. Mrs. Neist has an ongoing intergenerational project with her students and the seniors. The students reviewed "Tools of the Trades" from the past and matched the tools to the trades. All seemed to enjoy the activities, were very interested in our presentation and were a delight to work with.

Carolyn Rosprim and Jean Bowey

An Introduction to Archeology

A lively discussion was held regarding the usage and history of arrowheads/points. Students were very interested in the artifacts as well as the display of pottery shards. They had an opportunity to discuss and attempt to put the pottery together after sorting according to color, shape and design. *Barbara Jatzak* Many things uncovered by Mr. Schott with a metal detector in the east yard at EHS captivated the children (i.e., coins, jar covers, toy truck and a compact to name just a few). We also had a selection of stones, fossils, mica, granite and a geode. *Nancy Manschot*

The Story of the Eagle Diamond

A pretty little yellow stone was found in Eagle in 1876, was sold for one dollar and was the center of two court cases as well as the subject of many newspaper articles and a book.

The children participated in a court case acting as judge, lawyers and jurors to see who the rightful owner of the diamond should be. All three classes felt that Mrs. Wood should get her diamond back, but unfortunately that did not happen.

Elaine Ledrowski

MEMBERSHIP

Senior \$8.00

Lavern Betts
 Evelyn Brenton
 Paul Chalmers
 Terry & Hazel Connors
 Elaine Cook
 Mae Ruth Dahms
 Beatrice Eggleston
 Mabel Finney
 Rosanne (Carter) Frame
 James Garity
 JoAnn Gilbert
 James Johnson
 Jerry Johnson
 Roger & Carol Johnson
 Paul Kramer
 Kathleen Last
 Bea Mar-
 quardt
 Robert & Janet McCue
 Marge Plainse
 Roy Raduechel
 Patty Riley
 Ruth Ann Rolfe
 June Steinke
 Betty Weimer
 Vonda Williams
 Richard Wilton

Individual \$10.00

Allen County Library
 Pat Arnold
 Edward Baker
 Robert Baker
 Vickie Baker
 Yvonne Beranek
 Scott Bovee
 Jean Bowey
 Joanne Bryce
 Kathleen Chapman
 Rosanne Day
 Theresa Denio
 Mark Finney
 Fred Gier
 Sandy Hanson
 Ty Howard
 Marie Jones
 Mark Jung
 Karen Matters
 Robert Monroe
 Florence Pape
 Rose Raiter
 Gay Semanko
 Ed Stephan
 Ann Trupke

Family \$15.00

Debra & Tim Angers
 Richard & Annette Baker
 Brian & Lucy Breber
 Ralph & Marion (Heinich) Clark
 Robert & Joyce Curran
 Mark & Julie Dexter
 Gordon & Karen Erickson
 John & Pamela Feltes
 Lee & Lynn Greenberg
 Ryan & Danielle Hajewski

Richard & Sally Harthun
 Martin Holzman
 Ken & Ellie Hyland
 Michael & Karen Kennedy
 Lore & Werner Kettner
 Frank & Pat Latona
 Edward & Suzanne Mack
 Bill & Leeann Madsen
 Mal & Ken Olson
 Carl & Wilma Pettis

Robert & Ellie Rewald
 Carolyn & Gerald Rosprim
 Michael & Ann Sadler
 Sharie Sasso Family
 Tom & Terri Sorensen
 Steve & Linda Steinhoff
 Jim & Phyllis Steinke
 Richard & Kathleen Thayer
 Don & Pat Wilton
 Steve & Wanda Wilton
 Peter & Ann Ziegler

Sustaining \$25.00

Bill & Jackie Adams
 Jean Cisler
 Stewart & Carol Calkins
 Arn & Jessica Chamberlain
 Bill & Jan Grotjan
 Rob & Pat Hawes
 Heckel Tool & Die
 (Gerald & Lorie Heckel)
 Barbara Jatczak
 Ann & Bill Krestan
 Adduci & Lewis
 Richard & Nada Moeller
 Martin & Vera Murk
 Frank Nardine
 Jim & Gina Neist
 William Orchard
 Gary & Nancy Payne
 Art & Carrie Peavy
 Jerry & Kay Perkins
 Conrad Potrykus
 Gregg & Jackie Priatko
 Brian & Elaine Rudy
 Toula & Kim Sievers
 James Sillman
 Bill & Jean Thiele
 Bill & Judi Zell

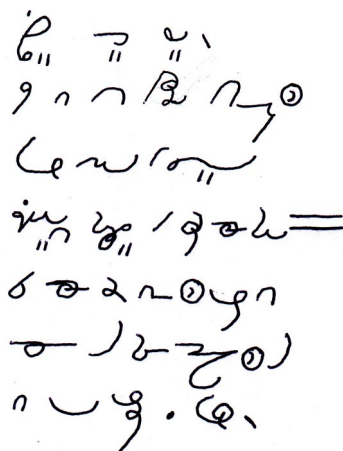
Any corrections or additions to membership, contact Don Ledrowski at 262-594-3301 or dledrowski@wi.rr.com.

\$50.00 Sponsor

Russ & Pat Chapman
 Dorothy Clark
 Roger & Valerie Cole
 Mary (Polly) Cramer
 Vernetta Heare
 Don & Elaine Ledrowski
 Jeffery Nowicki
 James Pasterski
 Rosann Sasso
 Eris Thurston

Are you fluent in Gregg Shorthand?

In 1888, John Robert Gregg invented a form of stenography which based the alphabet on elliptical figures with intersecting lines. This form of communication, called Gregg shorthand, was taught in schools for decades to prospective secretaries and became very popular in the United States as an expedient way for executives to dictate their thoughts. Over time, shorthand has been replaced by devices such as dictating machines and personal computers in the business and reporting worlds. Can you read the following?


\$100 Patron

Tom Day
 Paul & Sandra Fisher
 Richard & Marjorie Friedman
 Eloise & Diana Hall
 Robert & Barb Hegwood
 John & Julie Mann
 Donald & Dottie Murphy
 (Murphy Septic System)
 Sharon Royston
 Russ & Jill Steinhart
 (Eagle's Headquarters)
 Tim & Diane Thuemling
 United Way (Anonymous Donor)
 Eagle Yacht Club \$150

Winners of the book, TREASURE IN THE GRAVEL-The Story of the Eagle Diamond, by John & Mary Vymetal-Taylor in the Early Bird Renewal Drawing:

Rosanne Day
 Rosanne (Carter) Frame
 Ryan & Danielle Hajewski
 Mike & Ann Sadler
 Jill Steinhart

Artifact Donations:

Darla Enright—Copies of photos
 Mabel Finney—Telephone books
 Dorthy Fisher—Photos
 Pat Hess—Two Abstracts
 Marcie & Jerry Mills—Book & Scrapbook
 Judith Rozinski-Player Piano Rolls

Letters Home Co. A 24th Wisconsin Infantry

By Mike Rice

My wife and I arrived at the Chickamauga Battlefield on September 20, 2013, to honor those who fought there 150 years earlier. It was a clear, sunny morning as we walked up a shaded path toward the Lytle monument. A light breeze provided welcome relief from the heat of this ninety degree morning, causing the grass to sway in lovely rhythmic motions across the open field below. This pastoral scene was far different than that witnessed by our 24th Wisconsin Infantry boys from Eagle 150 years earlier.



The night before the main battle of September 20, 1863, a cold front moved in, dropping the temperature into the 20's, something the men weren't used to, since only days earlier, they marched and sweat heavily in the hot southern sun. This morning though, a cold dense fog covered the area and the acrid smoke from yesterday's battle still hung in the air. The battle started early when the rebel forces of General Bragg charged the union forces of General Rosecrans. The battle raged all morning without success until confusion caused a break in the union line and rebel troops attacked

in a ferocious charge that sent union troops into retreat. General William Haines Lytle was the 3rd Division 1st Brigade General, who was commander of five Regiments including the 24th Wisconsin Infantry. Stationed on the far right of the union line, Lytle's Brigade was called to close the gap at about 11 a.m., which they did with all haste. General Lytle rode before the men exhorting them to "Stand firm boys, stand like iron." The Brigade formed into regiments with the 24th Wisconsin taking the lead and charged the hill where the rebels were entrenched, driving them out. The field below looked like a scene from hell itself, with wave after wave of rebel soldiers advancing on their position. Covered nearly chest high in fog and smoke, thousands of confederate soldiers charged forward toward the union line. Eagle boy Silas Parsons was the first Wisconsin soldier killed as he stood his ground and fired valiantly into the enemy onslaught. Eagle boy George Logan was mortally wounded, shot in the hip and lower abdomen. Fellow Eagle soldier Len Hinkley and another man loaded Logan on a stretcher and transported him to a field hospital. In the midst of the fray, General Lytle was shot several times as he rallied his men, and he fell dead at the top of the hill at about noon. The union line quickly broke as they were overrun by the confederates, and by the end of the day, the union army retreated back to Chattanooga Tennessee, leaving a victory for confederate General Bragg. There were over 16,000 casualties from that battle, including 105 from the 24th Wisconsin Infantry.



A monument was erected in 1894 to honor General Lytle, and over the years, pieces of the monu-

ment were removed by visitors as souvenirs until only the base of the monument remained. A committee formed several years ago to restore the monument to its original condition and this day, September 20, 2013, was the grand unveiling. The National Park Service, local dignitaries, members of the General Lytle Camp of the Sons of Union Veterans from Cincinnati, Ohio, and hundreds of members of the public participated in the rededication ceremony at Lytle Hill.

My wife and I were honored to be there, remembering our boys from Eagle were among the many who shed their blood that this Union might be preserved.



More information is found in Letters Home Co. A 24th Wisconsin Infantry written about the people in this article by EHS board member *Mike Rice*. Copies are available for purchase at the EHS Museum at a cost of \$24.95 each.

OBITUARY

John L. 'Jake' 'Jack' Rolfe

May 12, 1933 – Oct. 26, 2013



John L. "Jake" or "Jack" Rolfe, 80, of Eagle, passed away peacefully at Arbor View Communities in Pewaukee on Saturday, Oct. 26, 2013. Jack was born on May 12, 1933, the son of the late Wilber and Myrtle Rolfe. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army and belonged to the American Legion Post 535 for 55 years, where he served as past commander. He was a member of the Eagle Volunteer Fire Department for 40 years, serving as the department chief for 12 of those years. Jack was a member of the Eagle United Methodist Church and also served as a trustee for the Oak Ridge Cemetery Association.

He was the beloved husband of Ruth Anne of Eagle; dear father of Steven (Barbara) Rolfe of Mukwonago and Sandra (Gary) Rockteacher of North Prairie; cherished grandfather of Dan (Jacky) Rolfe, Brian (Nichole) Rockteacher, Kevin (Jessica) Rockteacher and Becky (Kevin Schmidt) Rockteacher; and great-grandfather of Hailey, Nathan, Jaxson, Lilly, Makayla, Emma, Taylor, Olivia and Ava. Jack was loved and will be remembered by other relatives and many dear friends.

He will be deeply missed by many who could always count on him for being there whenever they needed him.

Visitation was held from 11 a.m. until the 1 p.m. funeral service Wednesday, Oct. 30, at Eagle United Methodist Church, 305 E. Main St., Eagle, with the Rev. Lawrence Turner officiating. Burial followed at Oak Ridge Cemetery in Eagle. Those planning an expression of sympathy may wish to consider memorials to the Eagle United Methodist Church (address above) or Oak Ridge Cemetery Association, 408 Elkhorn Road, Eagle. Haase-Lockwood & Associates Funeral Homes and Crematory of Eagle assisted the family, 594-2442. For the online guest registry, please go to www.haaselockwoodfhs.com.

OBITUARY

Mark A. Finney

Oct. 17, 1952 – Dec. 30, 2013



Mark A. Finney, 61, of Eagle, passed away peacefully Monday, Dec. 30, 2013, at Aurora Medical Center in Summit.

Mark was born Oct. 17, 1952, in Waukesha, the son of Robert and Mabel (nee Stephan) Finney. He attended Eagle grade school and graduated from Mukwonago Union High School, where he was very active in band. His further education included CNA certification and cosmetology school. He was married to Ann Smale on Feb. 14, 1976.

Mark served his country in the United States Navy from 1970 to 1974 as a member of the Navy band. He re-enlisted from 1986 to 1988, serving in the Mediterranean.

He was co-owner of beauty salons in Eagle and Whitewater. He portrayed a blacksmith at Old World Wisconsin in Eagle. Mark was most recently employed by SPX in Waukesha for about 18 years.

In all facets of life, Mark was a man of honesty and integrity. He was an avid Packers fan. He enjoyed singing in his church choirs, hunting and fishing with cousins and friends and spending time with his dog, Jake. Mark had a wonderful sense of humor, always quick with the one-line “zingers.” He will be dearly missed by many.

Mark is survived by his sons, James (Alexa) of Sturgeon Bay and Michael of Ripon; mother, Mabel Finney of Eagle; and sister, Gay Semanko (Michael Michela) of Bloomington, Ill. He is further survived by his grandchildren, Banin, Aislin, Gavin and Marley; niece, Alissa Semanko; and a nephew, Tristan Michela. In addition, aunts, uncles, cousins and many friends mourn his loss.

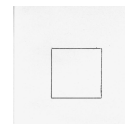
Mark was preceded in death by his father, Robert Finney.

A celebration of life was held at noon Saturday, Jan. 4, at Eagle United Methodist Church, 305 E. Main St., Eagle, with the Rev. Lawrence Turner officiating. Visitation was on Saturday from 10 a.m. until the time of service at the church. Private burial was at Highland Memorial Park in New Berlin.



Mark's family would like to extend a special thank you to the staff at Aurora Hospital and VNA Hospice for their loving care of Mark, and concern and support given to the family. In lieu of flowers, memorials in Mark's name may be sent to Kettle Moraine Community Church of North Prairie, Eagle United Methodist Church, Palmyra Methodist Church or a charity of the donor's choice. Haase-Lockwood & Associates Funeral Homes and Crematory of Eagle assisted the family, 594-2442. For the online guest registry, please go to www.haaselockwoodfhs.com.

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



**Pictured at right:
Melissa and Nathan
Duncan enjoying
An Old-Fashioned
Christmas at Eagle
Historical Society
Museum on Friday,
December 13th,
from 6:30—9 p.m.
Local piano and
viola students were
part of the
evening's enter-
tainment.**

*Photo taken by
Carolyn Rosprim.*

