

EAGLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

January 2019



EHS has changed internet providers and has a **new email address:**

curator@eaglehistoricalsociety.org

NEW EXHIBIT

Eagle/Palmyra Gr. 4 Students' Art Display
Jan. 26—Feb. 16

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See Pg. 8 for 1956 *Freeman* photo of same Crib set up on our arbor this past December.

ARTIFACT DONATIONS:

The following is a partial list of items donated. Thanks to the following donors:

Phil Hall—Photo of the Eagle Methodist Church Choir

Karen Matters—Two Photos of Ken Mealy

Sue Rockteacher—Seven-piece, almost-life-size Nativity scene

UPCOMING EHS EVENTS

- Jan. 27 Eagle Elementary School Art Exhibit/Reception 12-1:30 p.m.
Exhibit Open Jan. 26—Feb. 16
- April 2 Election Day Bake Sale and Community Outreach
- May (TBA) "Sidney P. Kline: My Life and the American Civil War"
- 5/29-6/15 Military Mascots Exhibit, on loan from Wisconsin Veterans Museum
- June 1 Veterans Recognition Program @ 1 p.m.
- July 14 Ice Cream Social @ 1 p.m./PE Band Concert @ 2 p.m.
- July (Date to be announced) Village Walk
- August (Date to be announced) Village Walk
- Sept. 17 (Tuesday) Annual Meeting and Open House @ 6 p.m.
- Oct. 26 Pumpkin Party @ EHS Museum

EHS Board

President

Jeff Nowicki, 2020

Vice-President

Eloise Hall, 2019

Secretary

Ryan Hajewski, 2020

Treasurer

Pat Hawes, 2019

Financial Officer

Donald Ledrowski

Board Members

2019

Brian Breber
Jessie Chamberlain
Ryan Hajewski
Jeff Nowicki
Art Peavy

2020

JoAnn Gilbert
Diana Hall
Eloise Hall
Gina Neist
Mike Rice

2021

Pat Hawes
Peter Jones
Don Ledrowski
Richard Moeller
Carolyn Rosprim

Curator

Elaine Ledrowski
594-3301

Newsletter Editors

Art & Carrie Peavy
594-5454

Webmaster

Mike Rice

Facebook

Elaine Ledrowski

EHS Museum

262-594-8961

OPEN

Fridays and Saturdays
9 am to noon
Wednesdays, 3-6 pm

Website:

curator@eaglehistoricalsociety.org

Facebook: Like us at
Eagle Historical Society

SENIORS \$8.00

Annette Baker
 Yvonne Beranek
 JoAnne Bryce
 Paul Chalmers
 Dorothy Fisher
 Jim & Phyllis Fisher
 Rosanne (Carter) Frame
 James & Diane Frisch
 JoAnn Gilbert
 Vernetta Heare
 Susan Hunt
 Jim Johnson
 Roger Johnson
 Claire Josten
 Mary Ann Marquardt
 John K. Nygren
 Gay Semanko
 Toulia Sievers
 Jean Steinhoff
 Vonda Williams

INDIVIDUAL \$10.00

Allen County Library
 Scott A. Bovee
 Jean Bowey
 Kathleen Chapman
 Alli Chase
 Fred Gier
 Charles & Beverly Howard
 Marie Jones
 Doris M. Kienast
 Peter Loerke
 Cal Magnan
 Karen Matters
 Sally McKenzie
 Rose Raiter
 Jean Richardson
 Ruth Ann Rolfe
 Ed Stephan
 May Jo Walbrandt
 Betty Weimer

FAMILY \$15.00

Dexter & Marlys Badinger
 Nick & Becky Beitz
 Jim & Cindy Berg
 Richard & Geraldine Bergmann
 Lucy & Brian Breber
 Mark & Julie Dexter
 David Enright
 Gordon & Karen Erickson
 Gertrude Fredenberg
 Jim & Michele Grotjan
 Pat & Rob Hawes
 Maria & David Hinnens
 Roger & Dana Houk
 Ken & Ellie Hyland
 Richard & Gretchen Jones
 Mark & Anne Jung
 Mike & Karen Kennedy
 Doug & Natalie Kornmeyer
 William & Claudette Krestan
 Don Kruse
 Bruce & Gisele Laine
 Alan Ledrowski/Scarlet Parris
 Dave & Julie Ledrowski
 John & Tammy McCormack
 Robert & Janet McCue
 Matt & Ellen Mecca
 Jim & Gina Neist
 Ken, Mal & Jeff Olson
 Harley & Kathy Peterson
 Jim & Kathy Pila
 Shari Sasso
 Gregg & Sue Scheff
 Tom & Bonnie Sherman
 Doug & Mary Sievers
 Tom & Terri Sorensen
 Steve & Linda Steinhoff
 Bob & Cindy Steinke
 Dick & Kathy Thayer
 Bob & Pat Walters
 Cynthia Zawada

SUSTAINING \$25.00

Bill & Jackie Adams
 Adduci & Lewis
 Debra & Timothy Angers
 Richard Baker
 Vickie Baker
 Mike & Mary Beitz
 Carol Calkins
 Arn & Jessica Chamberlain
 Cheryl Chapman
 Rosanne Day
 Darla & Don Enright
 John M. Feltes
 Phil & Barbara Hall
 Richard & Sally Harthun
 Amy Kinorian
 Bill & Lee Anne Madsen
 Shirley Matters
 Robert & Charlotte Miller
 Richard & Nada Moeller
 Nancy & Gary Payne
 Art & Carrie Peavy
 Jerry & Kay Perkins
 Conrad Potrykus
 Wayne & Jan Radabaugh
 Mike & Joanne Rice
 Carolyn & Gerry Rosprim
 Brian & Elaine Rudy
 Mike & Ann Sadler
 Beverly Spurrell
 Richard Spurrell
 Bill & Jean Thiele
 Carol Tritz
 Thomas & Jean Weedman

SPONSOR \$50.00

Russ & Pat Chapman
 Roger & Valerie Cole
 Don & Elaine Ledrowski
 Don & Dottie Murphy
 Jeffery Nowicki
 William Orchard
 James Pasterski
 Larry & Diane Wilkinson

If you have any corrections or additions to membership, please contact

Don Ledrowski at **262-594-3301** or **don@ledrowski.com**.

PATRON \$100.00

Dorothy Clark
 Ryan Dulde, Eagle Dental
 Ellen & Roy Gregg
 Heckel Tool & Mfg. Corp.
 Barbara Hegwood
 John & Julie Mann
 Bruce Moffatt
 Stephan Muth
 Edith Niederer
 Gregg & Jackie Priatko
 Donald Sierpinski
 Dan & Debbie West

BENEFACTOR \$200.00 & UP

Tom Day
 Eloise & Diana Hall

Thanks to all who renewed
 their membership in a timely
 fashion.

HONORARY MEMBERS

Alice Bongard
 Bea Delaney
 Elmer Kilian
 Bernice Sadenwasser
 Dorothy Kau
 Harold Hinkley

**Early Member Renewal
Winners:**

**Cindy & Jim Berg
 James Pasterski
 Mary Jo Walbrandt**

Prize: A brick to honor a loved
 one to be placed in our patio.

MEMORIAL CONTRIBUTION for Bill Kane from Carol Tritz

EHS CELEBRATES 30 YEARS

EHS is celebrating its 30th anniversary this year. A recent donation of letters written by Don Ross (charter EHS board member) to his three daughters offers a glimpse of life in Eagle (or "the Swamp") in the 1980s and early 1990s. Space does not allow us to share the entire collection, but we hope you enjoy the following excerpts of letters by this very talented wordsmith and artist which follow the EHS charter members list.

EAGLE ~~AREA~~ HISTORICAL SOCIETY**CHARTER MEMBERS**

Baker, Richard & Annette

Bock, Paul & Michelle

Bowey, Jean

Breidenbach, Mickey

Fanshaw, Donna

Finney, Robert & Mabel

Folsom, Cathryn

Hall, Diana & Eloise

Herriges, Dean & Riene Wells

Hinkley, Harold & Mary Lou

Isleb, Art & Betty

Isleb, John & Kerry

Jolliffe, Irma

Jolliffe, Ronald & Jean

Mealy, Jerome

Mealy, Kenneth & Helen

Menendez, Tremar & Joan

Mueller, Milton

Raduechel, Elaine

Ralph

Ritchey, Charlene

Ross, Donald

Schroeder, Dorothy M.

Shortell, Robert

Shropshire, Thomas

Thomas, Mabel

Thuemling, Tim & Diane

Werner, Betty

Wilton, Don & Pat

December, 1989

LETTERS FROM THE SWAMP

Still--Eagle, Wis
April 16, 79

Well, here it is, the day after Easter (10:00 AM) and I am finally getting back to this letter. That is one thing about being retired--there is no urgency to accomplish anything--at least in my case. It seems the axiom is "never do today what you can put off until tomorrow."

Saturday, Sam and I went up to Eagle to buy goodies and to slurp up a few brandies--the trip was a success as we accomplished both objectives, in fact the brandy slurping part was so outstanding that when I went home I forgot to take the two bags of groceries which I had brought into Augies. I missed them immediately upon arriving home and was just getting ready to go back for them when one of the fellows from Eagle drove up with them--which was nice. On Saturday I also received your very nice card of the 13th.

Editor's Comment: We like to think of Eagle today in much the same way. If we still had a grocery store and someone left bags behind, there would likely be someone who would try to return those groceries to their owner.

I have not been in Eagle since driving you to the bus last Monday, however I heard the following on Milwaukee's Channel Twelve TV last night: The day after you left (Tuesday) the Eagle Bank was held up again., for the third time this year and the fourth time since last August. The same 58 year old man committed all four holdups but this time he was caught and is now in jail. A former Milwaukee area resident now living in Los Angeles, he would fly into Milwaukee, rent a car, drive to Eagle and rob the bank, return the car to the rental agency and then catch his return flight to Los Angeles. This morning I will drive into Eagle and learn all the details from Maddie and Frank Mich.

The enclosed check is for your birthday--so, a happy and belated August 23rd. I had intended to make it out while you were here but forgot--don't spend it all on Ozzie, although I suppose a little cat litter would be in order!



THIS IS A HUGE
LEMON CHIFFON
BIRTHDAY CAKE

Love
Dad



THIS IS SOMEONE
WAITING TO KNOCK THE CAKE OVER!

October 8, 1981

Crime strikes Eagle! Several weeks ago, on a below zero Saturday night, the Eagle Womens Horseshoe League held their annual dinner dance at the catholic school in Eagle. The party is held in the downstairs gym with the guests leaving their wraps in an upstairs classroom. When the people started to leave it was discovered that over twenty good winter coats had been stolen--turns out that it was not a joke as nothing has been recovered yet. Shades of Sherlock Holmes, can you imagine the "Case of the Missing Scarf?" Mar. 2, 1982

You asked about Eagle and the "Someplace." I really don't go into Eagle more than once a week and only stop at the Someplace every two or three weeks--their clientele has changed drastically to teen agers, blaring Juke Box, etc; --its just out of my league. I would rather stay home and watch TV or listen to some good music on the radio. I guess we should also realize that although Augies crowd has become younger, I have become seven years older since arriving in Eagle (which has undoubtedly made me even nastier then ever.)

A " three months leave of absence " thats really something--even bank presidents don't rate that well. I hope it will allow you to accomplish the things you want to do. I have enclosed a small check to help you get started towards Wisconsin --after you get here, I will contribute some additional loot to help pay for your trip. Sam and I look forward to seeing you-- I guarantee you will feel right at home as I have no intention of doing another big trailer clean-up project before you get here.

Love

Dad

Alias: Dare Devil Don

June 1, 1985



Apr. 17, 1986

According to an old Potawatomi Indian legend the woods surrounding the trailer park are inhabited by a race of nasty little creatures called "Squishies." They are about the size of a small cherry tomato, have bats wings instead of arms, sharp claws and fangs, long pointed ears, green hair and whiskers and smell like rotten eggs. Fortunately they only make their appearance once in every 175 years and then for just a three day period.



A " SQUISHY " shown actual size

A new organization in Eagle! A local Eagle Township and Village Historical Society is being organized through the Eagle Public Library. The first meeting was held July 22ND. Eleven people attended of which I was one. There are many more who are interested but the librarian who is

Aug. 2, 1989

heading it up wants to keep the group small until we can establish general objectives and procedures. I suggested that we serve BOOZE and COOKIES at the meetings, however this seemed to fall upon deaf ears. Actually it was very interesting. The next meeting will be on August 19.

On the Sixth of February the officers and committee chairmen of the Eagle Historical (hysterical) Society met at the home of the President. The Pres lives in one of the big, old, white, frame houses on Eagles Main Street. The house has been completely renovated and furnished with antiques --it was like stepping back into the year of 1880. Of the ten members present I was the only male, fortunately I had remembered to comb my hair and put on both of my shoes before going uptown. After the meeting tea, coffee and cookies were served--as you can see, I have become quite a social lion. In any event I must admit that I enjoyed the meeting and that it was quite a change from watching " the regulars " at Augies or Sasso's slurp down their beer and booze.

Your loveable father drinking tea at the meeting while conversing with one of his many admirers.

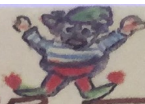


March 1, 1990

SHORTHAND TRIVIA:

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— THE SWAMP —  
 MONDAY - NOV - 12 - 90



← HE SMELLS THE  
 CROCK POT AND JUST  
 CAME IN FROM THE  
 WOODS - THE FIRST ELF  
 THIS YEAR.

Dear Jan,

A bright, sunshine filled morning but on the chilly side so I hauled out the "crock pot" and hove a tasty batch of beef ~~stew~~ stew cooking --really smells good--takes about six hours of slow cooking to finish

Last Saturday (NOV 10<sup>TH</sup>) was the FIRST annual meeting of the hysterical society--Thought I had better attend as I had missed the two previous



meetings, plus in their mailed out announcement of the meeting it was mentioned that I as one of the committee chairman would report on what progress we had made in locating historical spots (which was news to me as I have been interested primarily in the geography of the area and there are no other members of my so called committee except me). In any event on my way up to the meeting I thought of a few items I could mention in a four or five minute talk -- which I delivered with my usual brilliance, charm, modesty and wit. This being the annual meeting the entertainment committee really splurged; cookies donuts, cake, hot dogs and hard cider. The meeting was fun although once again I was the only male present pretty much submerged in a crowd of 27 elderly females.

## UNCOVERING AMERICA

In partnership with the National Gallery of Art in Washington, DC as part of their program "Uncovering America," the 4th grade students from Eagle and Palmyra Elementary will have their artwork on display at Eagle Museum, 217 Main Street Eagle, WI. The exhibit titled "My History" will feature the stories representing each student's cultural heritage. The students interviewed relatives and then created a narrative collage inspired by the stories they were told. Please join us for a reception on January 27th. 12:00 1:30. Light refreshments will be served. For more information contact Beth Dobberstein at [bdobberstein@peasd.org](mailto:bdobberstein@peasd.org)

## Riley, Patty F.

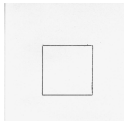
June 19, 1929–Sept. 14, 2018

### OBITUARY



Patty Riley, Age 89, peacefully passed away on Friday, September 14, 2018, surrounded by family at Angels Grace in Janesville, WI. Patty lived most of her life in Milwaukee, WI, but retired with her husband Marshall and spent the next 40 years in the Village of Eagle. She loved Eagle and its quiet, small town feeling. She and her husband beautifully landscaped their property and up until recently she tended to her flower gardens, trees and bird feeders daily. She prided herself on staying fit by exercising and keeping up her appearance. Patty was an avid reader and supported the Alice Baker Memorial Library as a frequent patron and volunteer book seller for many years. Again, up until her medical challenges became too great one could always count on Patty to bake up something special for the Eagle Historical Society Bake sales. Her neighbors looked forward to their turn as a recipient of one of her famous blueberry or raspberry pies. She also loved cats and made sure any stray cats were kept warm in the winter by supplying them with blankets, a hot water bottle, and warm milk to see them through. She enjoyed eating out at the Hen House and rarely deviated from her usual order. Patty was a very loving, generous, and kind person. Her last years were not so easy, but her strong character, daily prayers and concern for others saw her through those tough times. She was the best neighbor anyone would ever want to have, a true cheerleader for Eagle, and is very deeply missed by all who knew her. A private celebration of her life was held in Madison, WI, on October 14, 2018, honoring Patty's wishes.

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



**Election Day**  
**Bake Sale**  
**April 2**

Who is in this 1956 photo? Please give us a call. We'd love to hear from you!

