

EAGLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

April 2019



EHS has changed internet providers and has a **new email address:**
curator@eaglehistoricalsociety.org

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Senior \$8.00

Sharon Bashaw
Jeanne Guldenaar

Individual \$10.00

Barbara Conley
Frank Kraukunas

Family \$15.00

Eduardo Alarcon

Duane & Shirley Brewer
Matt & Catrina Leppard

Sustaining \$25.00

Bryan & Joanna Manning

Sponsor \$50.00

Martina & Al Wegner

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*Check out Eagle Historical
Society on Facebook.
Please like and share to add
more friends.*

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

Senior \$8.00

Arlene Schmielau
Mae Ruth Dahms

Individual \$10.00

Robert Chapman
Stephanie Kalnes

Family \$15.00

Julie Ehlans
Lee & Lynn Greenberg
Lori Kettner
Martin & Vera Murk
Ellie & Bob Winzenreid
Ralph & Marion (Welch-Heinisch)
Clark

Sustaining \$25.00

James & Diane Sillman

Sponsor \$50.00

Citizens Bank

Patron \$100.00

Peter Jones

Benefactor

Eagle Business Association

EHS Board

President

Jeff Nowicki, 2020

Vice-President

Eloise Hall, 2021

Secretary

Art Peavy, 2020

Treasurer

Pat Hawes, 2021

Financial Officer

Donald Ledrowski

Board Members

2020

JoAnn Gilbert
Diana Hall
Eloise Hall
Gina Neist
Mike Rice

2021

Pat Hawes
Peter Jones
Don Ledrowski
Richard Moeller
Carolyn Rosprim

2022

Brian Breber
Jim Fronsee
Jeff Nowicki
Art Peavy

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

ELECTION BAKE SALE

A big thank you to all bakers, customers, and set-up / clean-up crew for a very successful bake sale. EHS truly appreciates all of the effort put into each and every bake sale.



ARTIFACT DONATIONS:

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

Oaklief, Patricia—Book, *In Her Own Words*



Spring is finally here (I hope). The museum grounds are one of the beautiful spots in the Village. The board members have set a tentative date of **April 27 at 10:00** to do a yard cleanup. Bring a rake and gloves and come to help. Are you looking for a volunteer opportunity? Adopt a flowerbed at the Museum. EHS will supply the flowers and you can set your own time to weed and water as needed. Call Elaine at 262-594-8961 if you have any questions.

EHS CELEBRATES 30 YEARS

On July 15, 1989 a group of people dedicated to preserving the history of Eagle met on the back steps of what was then the library. Interest and membership spread by word of mouth and membership grew.

The first of several annual holiday tours of homes was held on December 12, 1992. Tickets to the events could be purchased for \$4 each, and proceeds were used to obtain additional local artifacts. Raffle tickets were available for 50 cents each or 3 for a dollar. The well-attended, walking tours ended at the Town/Village Hall with a drawing at 4:30 pm.

When the library moved into its new building at 820 E. Main Street in 1994, the Eagle Historical Society acquired its new and current home (the Partridge-Zipprich home).

EHS became affiliated with the Wisconsin State Historical Society.

SHORTHAND TRIVIA (January 2019 issue)

Question: How many charter members did the Eagle Historical Society have in Dec. of 1989?

Answer: 28.



Thank you, Peter Jones, for the new sidewalk! It looks wonderful.

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

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



Eagle Historical Society 3rd Annual Veterans Memorial **Saturday, June 1, 2019**



The Eagle Historical Society invites all members of the community to our 3rd Annual Veterans Memorial Recognition Program and Reception. The event is at the Memorial area at the Historical Society in Eagle, WI.

Come view our memorial honoring all past, present and future who serve or have served in the armed forces. This year we are asking Veterans who served from the end of the Vietnam Conflict to Present, to register so proper recognition can be given. The program will have a guest speaker, Lt.COL(R) Scott Rutter, along with refreshments.



Veterans please register on EHS Website or stop in at EHS on Main Street to pick up a registration form.

Registration forms are available on www.eaglehistoricalsociety.org or email curator@eaglehistoricalsociety.org for more information.

PATIO PROGRAM

Join us on the Patio on
Sunday, May 26, at 2:00 pm.

“Romance and Roses”
Popular music from the home
front from 1860 to 1918.

Presented by Ed Pierce and
the Harmony Cornet Band

Bring a lawn chair and
welcome in the holiday
weekend with stories, music,
and neighbors!



Eagle Historical Society

Annual Spring Membership Meeting



Sidney P. Kline



Union Soldier from Eagle Wisconsin



For more info: 262-594-8961

Date: Wednesday May 1, 2019

Time: 6:45 pm

Eagle Municipal Building

820 E. Main Street

Meet Pvt. Sidney P. Kline as portrayed by EHS Member Mike Rice, in the presentation "***Sidney P. Kline; My Life and the American Civil War.***"

Sidney Kline talks about life in Eagle and his experiences in the American Civil War. Join us for this interesting presentation. This event is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be served.

The Eagle Telephone Company was organized in 1902 and provided day and night service. It conducted its business above the Bank of Eagle until it was destroyed by fire, in the space now occupied by Rustix, and for a time the exchange was run from 125 Main Street. From about the 1940s the cobblestone building (now Ultimate Image) at 205 Grove Street was its home.

Shirley Matters worked at that location in the late 1950s. She recalls using a board with plugs and having to plug into the phone number the customers were calling. There was a bed available for night operators to rest in, but if the board would light up they would need to get up and answer it. She has many fond memories of her job. People were very nice to her. It could be difficult to know when you could transfer a call as they were not allowed to listen in to see if they were still talking. Margie Smart was the chief operator and in charge of bookkeeping so that bills were recorded correctly. Cash or check payments were accepted by the phone company.

Calls for emergencies such as a fire would get plugged into the fire station and the siren would go off. Shirley did not get many emergency calls, but other operators did. In 1919 teenager Louise Breidenbach, a new employee, was awakened in the early hours by the noise of robbers breaking into the bank below the telephone office. They had cut the wires from the telephone company office to the pole across the street but were unaware that there were wires from the back of the building. She was able to call the bank president who notified the marshall of the robbery in progress. After a gun battle and chase the robbers escaped without robbing the vault. In 1931 operator Luella Anderson was carried from the burning telephone building after being awakened by smoke but only after notifying Palmyra and Mukwonago by switchboard of the fire. The fire had started in Sasso's saloon and spread to the Eagle Bank and Telephone Company above the bank. Operators took their jobs seriously and were very dedicated.

Do you remember sharing a party line and have stories to share? Why not stop in the museum to see a renovated switchboard?



Eagle Operators (front from left) Rita Eiring, Margaret Smart, Florence Amann; (back from left) Shirley Matters, Betty Enright and Irene Shearer. Taken from EHS Archives July 1961.

EAGLE

RAINBOW BEAUTY SHOP
 Located across the street from Walter & Co.
 Helene Curtis Modifiers and Cold Waving
 Open Friday evenings by appointment—Saturday until 6 o'clock
DORIS FREIDEL, Prop.—For appointment Phone Palmyra 171

Hansen, Arne, Jr., R. 2, electrician	427
Hansen, Arne, Sr., R. 2	658
Hansen, Rolland, R. 2	81
Harbert, G. E., Mukwonago R. 1	421
Harter, Edwin, R. 1	237
Hartung, Ervin, res.	731
Healey and Schalk Tavern	681
Hengen, Ervin, res.	415
Hintz, Harry, Mukwonago R. 1	776
Hinge, Ernest, Mukwonago R. 1	585
Hofft, Clarence, R. 1	92
Holt, Orley, cottage, R. 2	646
Holzappel, Kenneth, Mukwonago R. 1	634
Hamberger, Walter, R. 1	236
Hough, Henry F., res.	275
Honk, George, res.	256
Howard, Dr. Allen M., dentist	Waukesha 5361
Hoyt, Emerson R. 2	81
Hyland, John, res.	271

I. G. A. Store 721

Johnson, Norman, R. 1	192
Joliffe, Robert, R. 2	37
Jones, Dean, res.	267
Jones, Harrison, Mukwonago R. 1	77
Jones, Howard, R. 2	54
Jones, Willard, R. 1	148
Juedes, Arthur, res.	305
Juedes, Jerome, res.	303

Please remember to limit local conversation to 5 minutes. Your neighbor may be waiting to use his telephone.

OBITUARIES

Betts, LaVern P. Gerbig

June 23, 1927-Dec. 13, 2018

LaVern Betts, age 91, beloved wife of the late Donald, passed away on December 13, 2018. She was the daughter of the late Clarence and Myrtle (Borck) Gerbig.

Survivors include sons Bob of Andover, Minn., and Tom (Jackie) of East Troy; daughter, Nancy (Dick) Powell of Florence, S.C.; 10 grandchildren; 19 great grandchildren; and one brother, Clarence (Lorraine) Gerbig of Duplainville.

In addition to her husband, she was preceded in death by an infant son, her parents and one brother.

Funeral services were held on Sun., Dec. 16, at 2 pm at Hasse Lockwood & Associates Funeral Home, 103 W. Eagle St., Eagle. Visitation was on Sunday from 12 pm until the time of the service at the funeral home. Burial followed at Oak Ridge Cemetery in Eagle.

Memorial expressions of sympathy to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 1936 Emery St., East Troy, WI 53120 were suggested.

Haase-Lockwood & Associates Funeral Homes and Crematory of Eagle assisted the family, (262) 594-2442. For the online guest registry, please go to www.haaselockwoodfhs.com.

Bovee, Lesley Lynda

May 15, 1959 - Feb. 19, 2019



Lesley L. Bovee, 59, of Eagle, WI passed away on Tuesday, February 19, 2019 at Angels Grace Hospice Center with her loving family by her side.

Lesley was born on May 15, 1959 in Wauwatosa, WI, the daughter of Willard and Evelyn (Krueger) Kurth. She spent her childhood in Wauwatosa, WI and graduated from Wauwatosa West High

School. Lesley worked in retail for the majority of her working career. She married the love of her life, Scott Bovee on June 13, 1998 at Cedar Ridge in Waukesha. Lesley was a lover of animals. Caring for and spending time with her animals, especially cats, was one of the great joys of her life. For leisure, she loved to spend time up in Northern Wisconsin. Above all else, Lesley loved her family. She spoiled her two grandchildren. They were the light of her life. She was an excellent wife, mother, and grandmother, and will be dearly missed by the many she touched.

Lesley is survived by: her loving husband Scott Bovee; her loving son, Nick (April) Thompson; 2 grandchildren, Kayla and Kaitlyn Thompson; her sister, Sandra Kurth; and a brother-in-law Steven (Linda Leszynski) Bovee. She is preceded in death by: her parents and her brother, Steven Kurth.

The family would like to extend a special thanks to Angels Grace Hospice Center for the loving care they provided Lesley. They would also like to express their heartfelt gratitude to Dr. Christopher Hake, Dr. Bambi Weyers and the Staff of ProHealth Care for the excellent medical care they provided Lesley.

In lieu of flowers, memorials to a charity of one's choice appreciated. A Funeral Service to honor Lesley's life was held at 12 Noon on Sat., March 2, 2019 at the Gibson Family Funeral Home, 103 W. Eagle St. Eagle WI, 53119 with the Rev. Larry Myers presiding. Visitation was held from 9 am until the time of service at the funeral home. Lesley was laid to rest following the service in Pinelawn Memorial Park in Milwaukee.

OBITUARY**Riddle, Jane***Aug. 8, 1923–Feb. 21, 2019*

Jane Riddle, 95, of Oconomowoc passed away peacefully with her family by her side on February 21, 2019 at Shorehaven.

Jane was born on August 8, 1923 in Woodstock, Illinois, the daughter of Leo and Matie (Siegmeier) Nehring. The Nehring family moved to Watertown when she was in elementary school. She graduated from Watertown High School in 1942 and was a member of Immanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church of Watertown. Following graduation Jane was employed by the U.S. Treasury Department in Chicago, Illinois. She returned to Watertown at the end of the WWII and was employed at First Wisconsin Bank and Kellerman Insurance in Watertown. She had been employed by Household International for 35 years and worked at the Watertown

office throughout most of her career before retiring in 1979. Jane married Leon Burdick in 1945 and they had one daughter, Nancy Jane, deceased. She married Richard (Dick) Riddle of Watertown on February 1, 1969 in Crystal Lake, Illinois. She and her husband lived in Eagle, Wisconsin, for 30 years before moving to Oconomowoc in 2009. Jane loved Big Band music, Frank Sinatra, Sammy Davis Jr., and other recording artists from the 40's era. She loved cooking and collecting cookbooks and was a collector of decorative angel objects. Jane was an avid reader and liked to solve crossword puzzles. She enjoyed visiting her family and friends and spending time in Florida in her later years.

Jane is survived by her husband Dick; Brother Ken (Sandy) Nehring of Whitewater; two stepdaughters, Vicki (Charles) Johnson of Sycamore, IL; Nicki (Gene) Sturchio of Maryville, TN; five step grandchildren, Suzanne (Brad) Cessna of Maple Park, IL; Candace Reynolds of Sycamore, IL; Kenna Broyles of Maryville, TN; Savanna Broyles of Maryville, TN, and Garet Ramos of Arizona; Niece Sally (Don) Pope of Whitewater, Nephew Dr. Scott Nehring of Woodburn, OR; great Niece Dr. Emilee Nehring of Woodburn, OR; great Nephew Brett (Liz) Nehring of Woodburn, OR; Abby Nehring and Kenley Pope of Whitewater. Jane is also survived by a number of other relatives and friends.

A memorial service for Jane was held at the Pederson-Nowatka Funeral Home in Watertown at 2:00 pm on Sunday, March 3, 2019 with Rev. Nick Slater of Shorehaven presiding. A visitation was held at the funeral home from 1:30 pm until the time of service. Burial at Oak Hill Cemetery will be held at a later date.

Editorial Comment: Jane was one of five ladies who met nearly daily in Eagle to share coffee and friendship for about a quarter of a century. See *Coffee Friends* article in EHS October 2004 issue, p. 7.

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



UPCOMING EHS EVENTS

- May 1 Annual Membership Meeting and “Sidney P. Kline: My Life and the American Civil War” 6:45 pm**
- May 26 Patio Program, Romance and Roses, presented by Ed Pierce and the Harmony Cornet Band @ 2 pm**
- 5/29-6/15 Military Mascots Exhibit, on loan from Wisconsin Veterans Museum**
- Jun 1 Veterans Recognition Program @ 1 pm**
- Jul 14 Ice Cream Social @ 1 pm/PE Band Concert @ 2 pm**
- Jul (Date to be announced) Village Walk**
- Aug 10 National Night Out in the Village Park**
- Aug (Date to be announced) Village Walk**
- Sep 17 (Tuesday) Open House @ 6 pm**
- Oct 26 Pumpkin Party @ EHS Museum**