



EAGLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

January 2004

Eagle, Wisconsin

EHS Board

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594-3430

EHS

museum/ library
594-8961

open

Fridays and Saturdays,
9 am to noon

Website: eaglehs.org

EHS News

Membership

EHS membership now stands at 252. Did you know that the cost of dues has not risen since the EHS began in 1990? Membership is still a bargain.

New Members: David Gunkel, David & Beth Kruse, James Manchot, Florence Pape and Robert & Ellie Reweld. Welcome! Former members Tim & Beth Conrad rejoined this year. Welcome back!

Many thanks to those who joined at higher levels:

Sustaining, \$25-\$49: Richard & Annette Baker, Sue Bauman, George & Arlene Baumhardt, Marty Bovee, David & Mary Cass, John Eiring, Fred Gier, David & Cheryle Gunkel, Harold & Mary Lou Hinkley, Cliff & Janet Jensen, Meryl Kelsey, Robert & Carol Kwiatkowski, Donald & Elaine Ledrowski, Violet M. Orchard, Florence Pape, James & Joan Pasterski, Conrad & Elaine Potrykus, Eloise Richards, Richard & Jane Riddle, Brian & Elaine Rudy, Carl & Lynne Seitz, John & Mary Vymetal Taylor, Bill & Jean Thiele and Larry & Diane Wilkinson.

Sponsor, \$50-\$99: Dorothy Clark, Mary E. "Polly" Cramer, Sandra & Paul Fisher, Robert & Barbara Hegwood, Tom & Patricia Heller, Arthur & Betty Isleb, Jeff & Bernice Nowicki, Chet & Pat Poetsch and Ken & Ann Skidmore.

Patron, \$100 and over: Richard & Marjorie Friedman, Ras & Donna Kalnes, Don & Dottie Murphy, Russ & Jill Steinhart, Tim & Diane Thuemling and Walter & Lois Zenner.

Donations

We thank the following for donations

received: Bob Baker, Irma Jolliffe, Daniel Kruse, Welthy Mueller, Dottie Murphy, Bev Nelson, Dave Rockteacher, Toula and Kim Sievers and Pat Wilton.

We wish to express special thanks to attorney Steven Steinhoff for kindly drawing up a 25-year museum lease at no cost. The EHS is fortunate in having members with so much expertise and such generous natures. Which brings to mind Frank Latona, who continues to repair woodworking, and Arlene Baumhardt, who organized files. Speaking of generous natures, a request for tree ornaments appeared in the fall issue, and many were received. Among the donors were: Viola Adams, Welthy Mueller, Dottie Murphy, Bea Nowicki, Eloise Richards, Toula & Kim Sievers, Marilyn Wilms and Pat Wilton.

Plans to exhibit the ornaments on the museum tree in December were abandoned, however, due to a furnishing windfall. The large office complex of Whyte, Hirschboeck & Dudek was refurbished and Stephanie Kalnes was able to obtain permission for the former furnishings to be moved to Eagle. On Tuesday, November 18, a caravan of pickups followed a borrowed semi-trailer unit through pouring rain to the former Schuster building at 4th and Garfield in Milwaukee. (This is now a Coakley-Mayflower warehouse.) Using the loading dock, Doug and Darlene Landmann, Don and Elaine Ledrowski, Jeff Nowicki, Conrad Potrykus, Mary Vymetal Taylor and

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nonmembers were able to load desks, conference tables, bookcases, chairs, and file and storage cabinets. John and Mary Vymetal Taylor provided submarine sandwiches for lunch. The semi was left in the municipal parking lot overnight; the following day, items were distributed among government offices, fire department, library, school, EHS and churches. The museum had to be closed during the holidays until the furniture could be moved to the basement or upstairs. Mark Dexter, Danny Steinhart, Tim Thuemling and Don Wilton helped with this. We now have loads of work surfaces and storage, plus upholstered chairs—no more folding metal chairs. Thank you so much, Stephanie! This couldn't have come at a better time, as Ron and Lisa Lund, owners of Toepfer Security Corporation and the Coyote Canyon Saloon and Grille, donated a security system, which is now installed. In the past, we had concerns about security, and even had to pass up offers of items to display. EHS is very grateful for this donation. And the ornaments will be displayed on the museum tree this year.

Open House/Art Exhibit

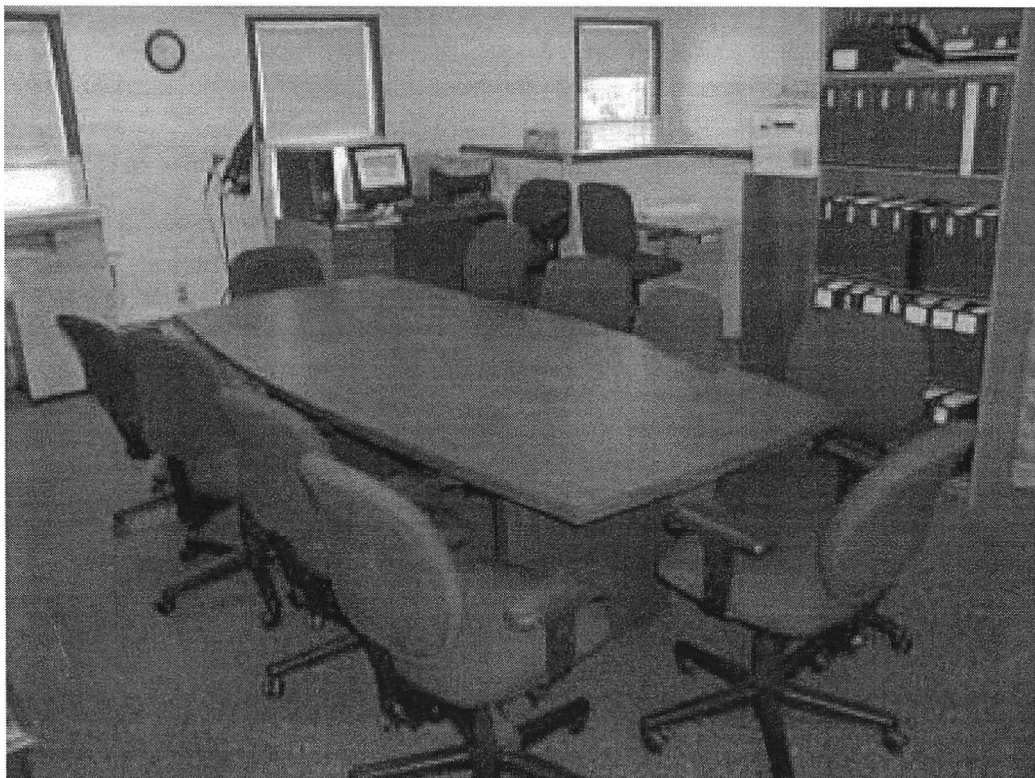
On September 23 students from Mrs. Schmidt's Art 4 class took a field trip to the museum to see the art exhibit. Amanda Schwarz wrote the following in

the Fall issue of the Panther Press:

"Ever since I enrolled in art classes, I have enjoyed looking at different types of art work and also learning about the artists who created them. Most of the time I have overlooked nature paintings and have seen nothing too special about them. That was true until recently when Art 4 took a field trip to the Eagle Historical Society. An artist by the name of Martin R. Murk showed my class some of the detail he used in painting flowers, animals and beautiful scenery. It was interesting to see how he made things look real."

Mr Murk won the Federal Duck Stamp competition in 1977. After finding his true talent he went on to win the 1979 Trout Stamp and the 1989 Wisconsin Inland Trout Stamp. He has also won Artist of the Year awards for several different organizations. The list of exhibits he has had is huge, not only in Wisconsin, but all over the country.

The interesting thing about Mr. Murk is that his studio isn't far from Eagle and he welcomes everyone to come see it. Call 495-4361 if you are interested. [Mr. and Mrs. Murk have donated several of his prints to be used as prizes for Project Graduation the past several years.]



Did you know that the museum has archives? The research and staff part of the museum, which is located on the second floor, is now more comfortable and has more working areas and shelf space. As an added bonus, the Eagle Historical Society will now be providing hot coffee on Saturday mornings. So whether you are looking for a specific piece of information, want to browse the files or are "just in the neighborhood" and are curious, feel free to drop in. The staff will be happy to provide you with information and/or hot coffee.

Holiday Raffle

The holiday raffle was held on Dec. 6, and was a big success, due to the many donors, both businesses and individuals. Donations ranged from a chest of tools to Dept 56 Victorian figurines; we made \$665.00. Members put in a lot of time and work—special thanks go to Irma Jolliffe for collecting the items donated! I would like to say thank you to one and all. For the first time, the society included a 50/50 cash raffle in this event. Mark Jung of Milwaukee and EHS each received \$195.00. We will have this year's raffle on December 4.

—Pat Wilton

Shirt Drawing

Names of those who had paid their 2004 EHS dues as of the first of the year were entered in a drawing for five free t-shirts. The drawing was held during the January board meeting; winners were: Luella Bowey, Beth & Tim Conrad, Arn & Jessica Chamberlain, Cris Peters and Marshall & Pat Riley.

Newsletter Archived

EHS was approached by the Allen County Public Library to provide its newsletters for archiving. Some members may not be aware that the library maintains PERSI (periodical source index), the largest and most widely used subject index of local history periodicals written in English. The collection dates from about 1800. People all over the world look up names of people and places in this huge collection. Now Eagle information is going into the database, and it is gratifying to know that it is stored and accessible on such a well-known site. The main office and Whitewater area resource center of the Wisconsin State Historical Society also collect our newsletters. We are fortunate to have a website which provides the newsletter in electronic form. Webmistress Margo Morner gives this site the contemporary appearance and utility so important in attracting users, especially those younger than 55.

Bake Sale/Shirt Sale

We will hold an election bake sale on February 17. Since a large voter turnout is anticipated, a large amount of bakery is needed. Welthy Mueller (594-2316) and her committee will be calling to see who can donate goods. Thank you in advance to all who can contribute baked goods.

EHS will also have new black sweatshirts and t-shirts with an Eagle logo on sale during the bake sale.

Due to the increasing exposure of the newsletter to those outside of Eagle, we have decided to include obituaries for deceased members instead of just a mention. No disrespect to anyone who did not have one included in the past is intended.

Obituary



Leona M. Babcock

May 18, 1914-Dec. 21, 2003

Leona M. Babcock, "Grandma B," 89, formerly of Eagle, died Sunday, Dec. 21, 2003 at St. Mary's Hospital in Racine.

She was born May 8, 1914 in Sussex to Frank and Edith (nee Rose) Hall.

She was a retired maintenance worker at Carroll College.

She is survived by her children, Jerry (Joyce) Babcock of Racine, Emery (Lois) Babcock of Stevens Point, Fran Hyland of Charleston, S.C. and Nancy (Thomas) Nicholson of Racine. She is further survived by 19 grandchildren; 23 great-grandchildren; one brother, Emery (Luella) Hall of St. Petersburg, Fla.; one sister, Morilla Poepel of Waukesha; nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

She was preceded in death by her husband, James; and two daughters, Edith Behling and Ethel Miller.

Funeral services were held at 7pm, Friday, December 26, at Mealy's Funeral Home in Eagle. The Rev. Bill Busch officiated at the burial at Oak Ridge Cemetery in Eagle. Visitation was from 4pm until the time of service at the funeral home.

If desired, memorials can be made to the Eagle Historical Society, 217 Main St., Eagle, or to the Eagle United Methodist Church women's group, 305 E. Main Street.

EAGLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY INC. 2004 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

DATE	BOARD MEETING	NEWSLETTER	EVENTS
January 17	11:00 A.M.		
January 31		Mail Date	
February 17			Bake Sale
February 21	11:00 A.M. Slate of Officers		
March 20	11:00 A.M. Annual Meeting/Election		
April 6			Bake Sale
April 20	6:30 P.M.		
April 30		Mail Date	
May 07-08			Plant/Rummage Sale
May 18	6:30 P.M.		
June 15	6:30 P.M.		
June 25-27			Kettle Moraine Days
July 11			Band Concert/Ice Cream Social, Village Park, 2 P.M.
July 20	6:30 P.M.		
July 31		Mail Date	
August 15			Reception at EHS Museum, 1-4 P.M.
August 17	6:30 P.M.		
September 21	6:30 P.M.		
October 19	6:30 P.M.		
October 30		Mail Date	
November 2			Bake Sale
November 20	11:00 A.M.		
December 4			Holiday Raffle 9-4, Drawings at 4:15 P.M.
December 18	11:00 A.M.		

Oral Histories

Irma Jolliffe has worked collecting many oral histories, which the society is in the process of transcribing. She wrote the following account in the year 1990:

Joan and I interviewed 20-some folks. Last November we called on James Bovee and his wife, Fern. He served on the town board from 1933-1973. They told of the Masonic dances held at the hall. Bovee got his first car—a Model T Ford—in 1912.

Doc J.J. Fitzgerald came to Eagle in 1895 and within a few years the home became a hospital. The doctor himself left the area in 1953.

We met with Eliza Chapman Meredith in December. She is 97 years old and was a school teacher many years. She went to Whitewater Normal School in 1912 to obtain a teaching diploma. At that time it was a six-week course. Our next visit was to see Harold Chapman, another old-timer—at one time owner of the Standard station. He also told us of the dances at the Masonic Hall, where he met his wife, Ruby. He tells of the bank robbery in 1920. The railroad brought development to the village. Chapman recalls many times in the 20's the cars would be filled with polished barley for the Milwaukee breweries. He says there used to be a stockyard behind the present village hall. Farmers would bring their hogs and cattle there for shipment to the Milwaukee yards.

Harry Smart was the first to introduce the automobile to the village. His business was located where the present Chapman service station stands.

Last January we called on Martin Rockteacher. He was born in 1906 in their home (where Betty Werner now lives). Martin's wage was 60 cents an hour, 10-hour days and 6-day weeks. He worked for Waukesha County.

In January an article was published on the Wilton family. The Wilton name has been in the Town of Eagle for 150 years.

Kettle Moraine Antiques is where we interviewed Mary Ledicker-Berglund. Mary did lab work with the North Prairie Pet Milk Plant, also known as Morey's, Brookhill, Hawthorne Melody and Wern Farms.

In April we called on the Eagle cobbler, Carol (pronounced Karl) Thurston, owner of Thurston's Shoe Repair shop. While in service in Australia, he kept the troops in army boots.

Since 1916, there has been a person named Mealy in the funeral business in Eagle, said the third generation, Jerry Mealy. His grandfather Jerome was the first to live in the house on Grove Street, which has been remodeled during the years to its present state of home business. Years ago, everything was done in the home.

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Lorraine Borre from Palmyra gave us the auto-graph album of Ida J. Murdock from 1884.

Louise Breidenbach-Hyland was very interesting. She was a telephone operator working at the time the Eagle bank was robbed (Sept. 28, 1924).

In August we visited Beulah Silvernail-Bayer, now living at the Virginia Nursing Home. She was born 2 miles out of Eagle, near the Palestine School. She was also a teacher.

Clara Schmid Burton was born in 1896 in the house on Main Street that her father and his brother-in-law built the previous year. She also tells of the Masonic dances and everyone went.

Katherine Bovee Howard was born in 1897 on the farm her grandparents put up in the 1840's in the rural part of the village (with a population then of nearly 100). Both ladies now live at Avalon Manor, Waukesha. Bovee's husband was a dentist at the Diamond Hotel, known now as Sasso's. She was a teacher. She gave us the records of the Open Door Club, ladies that met in the 1900's.

We finally got a date with Mike Sasso in August. He is a living source of information for the area; he's often called "Mr. Eagle."

In October we visited Mary Sasso Crossewaite. She was 2 years old when her parents bought the Pall Mall Tavern in Eagle (now Someplace) in 1926.

Orvin Benson, the dog trainer on Hwy 67, told us so many things, filled a tape on both sides. His story hasn't been printed yet.

Dick Schroeder's article was in the Nov. 1 paper. He tells of the importance of the railroad (Milwaukee Road) to Eagle. We had the "Bobby Line"; this was the spur track that went from Eagle's main line to Elkhorn. He showed us nice things he made in his house. He is giving us an old set of encyclopedias that we will be picking up.

The cobblestone house on Hwy 59 outside of Eagle also has history. Mabel Pardee Thomas' great-grandfather Ahira Hinkley built this home in 1848—the year Wisconsin became a state. The stones were brought from Pretty Lake and they were put through a hole in a board so they would have the same size.

We also met with Arthur Stocks, the fellow that all the women in Eagle call if in trouble with their electric problems. He worked for Waukesha County also.

Edward and Welthy Mueller have been 4-H leaders since 1953—37 years. He also was with the ASC office in Waukesha. He told us of the stage coach trail north on Hwy 67. We are going to look at it, because you can still see where it went. (That would be on Wilton Road.)

Childhood Memories of Eagle

By Bea Juedes Marquardt & Betty Juedes Weimer

We moved to Eagle on April 01, 1938 from Menomonee Falls. Our parents, Arthur and Lillian (Kemmer) Juedes, bought a 276-acre farm, part in the Village (population: 392) and part in the Town of Eagle. At that time, South Grove Street was our lane, which was located up to Archie Chapman's house at the Chapman filling station. The lane was known as "Lover's Lane" at the beginning of the 1900s. We had a large barn, now torn down, and a herd of 50 to 60 cattle plus horses, pigs, chickens, etc. Our mother used to sell her eggs to Sherman's Store. People also came and bought milk from us in buckets.

The road which now is known as South Street was gravel to what is now Hwy. LO. There were 3 grocery stores in the village plus Belling's Butcher Shop, a bank, 2 doctors (Dr. Fitzgerald and Dr. Schmidt), 3 filling stations, 2 taverns, a train depot, telephone offices and a small jail.

We went to school in the red brick building on Hwy 67 which now is apartments. School ran from 9:00am till noon and 1:00 to 4:00pm, with half-hour recesses in the morning and afternoon. When we were in school, we each took turns riding the pony down to the hilly woods to bring the cattle back along the road to get watered during our one-hour noon break. When the cattle were done, the one who had already eaten lunch would ride the pony and take them back. Two of the teachers rented rooms in the Ed Whettam home, located across from where the Hen House now stands. The school had 8 grades plus 2 years of high school. Every October we had a "magazine party." The pupils would sell subscriptions and then we would have a Halloween Party at school. We also had a "pet day"—everyone would bring their pet to school. It was held outside, naturally. We brought our pony, Fritz, which our father bought us a few years earlier. He came from the circus and was the "light of our lives."

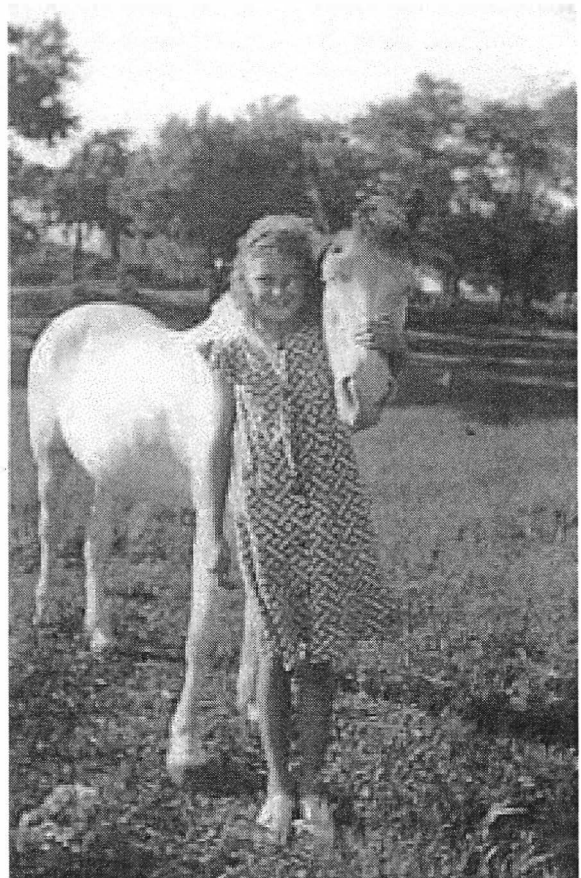
Fritz was never tied and had the run of the farm. More than once we had to leave school and get him because he'd be walking down Main Street.

At that time, the streets in Eagle weren't officially named. Eagle Street was known as Back Street and Maple Street was known as Railroad Street. We used to sled ride down the hill in front of Mealy's Funeral Home. The village would put wooden "horses" on each side of the street so the cars would have to stop. Needless to say, there was hardly any traffic on the road. The children from the village also went sled riding in our hilly woods (where the Eagle Centre Bed and Breakfast is now located on Hwy 67). At that time our woods was still known as Fairbrothers, after a former owner.

Donkey baseball was played up at the school. When the men batted the ball, they would get on a donkey and ride to first base, etc. Sometimes the donkey wouldn't move.

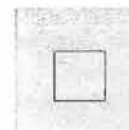
We also had free movies in the village square where the grandstand used to be.

The village of Eagle at that time was a peaceful, quiet, pretty little village that could have been a Norman Rockwell painting. We'll always treasure our "childhood days" in little Eagle.



Bea Juedes and Fritz

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



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Election Bake Sale

When you go to cast your vote,
don't forget the delicious assortment of
baked goods available in the building.

Date: February 17
Time: 7 a.m. until
the food is gone

Sponsored by the
Eagle Historical Society
In the municipal building
Contact person: Welthy Mueller
594-2316

