

# Eagle Historical Society NEWSLETTER



Vol. 7 Issue 1

Winter/Spring 1996

## PRESIDENT'S PANORAMA

By Diane Thuemling

Welcome Historical Society members. Our Society has undergone a lot of growth and changes since our first meeting on July 15, 1989. We have a very hard working core group that I would like to praise for their constant support, time, talent and ideas they have given the Eagle Historical Society since it's conception. THANK YOU VERY MUCH!

Since the Alice Baker Library moved to its new location, we have occupied their former building at 217 W. Main Street. Our dream is becoming a reality. The name of our building will be: Eagle Historical Society Research Library and Museum. The goal is to have background information collected, cataloged, and available for sharing with the public. The museum will display donated items and collections pertinent to the history of Eagle. The Board of Directors has elected Elaine Raduechal as the Museum's Curator.

Recently our constitution and by-laws were reviewed and updated. Some changes were made so it would be easier for more people to get involved in the Society. Committees have been organized to allow everyone the freedom to help where their interests exist and their schedule allows. By contacting the chairperson, you will be invited to a meeting (planned around the

members' schedules), to share ideas and to participate in the operation of that particular committee. Take a minute to look over the committee list and give that chairperson a call now. You won't know what you're missing until you do.

We are a not-for-profit organization, run totally by volunteer enthusiasm. We would like your continued support. If you enjoy history and want to preserve Eagle's heritage, then volunteer for one event or one committee or one hour of time at the museum each month. Bake a delicacy for our fundraiser, donate something for our White Elephant Sale or buy flowers for your garden from us. Sit in on a Board or Committee meeting, attend one of our many programs or donate artifacts to our Society's collection. Tell someone else about our wonderful organization and ask them to join.

If any of this interests you and you would like more information, call me or Elaine or any Board member. We are very committed to the history of Eagle.

## BOARD MEMBERS

President - Diane Thuemling  
Vice President - Sue Wambold  
Secretary - Charlene Ritchey  
Treasurer - Pat Wilton  
Jerry Baker (1996)  
Mabel Finney (1997)  
Betty Isleb (1997)  
Irma Jolliffe (1998)  
Ed Mueller (1998)

Irma Jolliffe visits with people in the area and tape records their stories. Would you like to assist her? Would you like her to stop by and record your stories.

The Historical Research Committee is chaired by the President and members include the Curator and all Society members. We collect artifacts and information and aid the Curator in the maintenance of the museum.

#### HISTORICAL RESEARCH

By Irma Jolliff

Harold Chapman

Harold Chapman was born in the Town of Troy, Walworth County, November 18, 1897.

His first job was working as a bookkeeper for Smart Auto Company located where the Amoco Station is located now.

In 1918 he was drafted into the army.

In 1919 he married Ruby Rockteacher. Her father Fred Rockteacher, built their home located next to the gas station.

They would attend dances in Eagle hall. Some of the dances of the time were waltzes, circle two steps, and square dances. They have three girls.

There was a big mill in Eagle and barley was shipped in from the Dakota's. Barley was polished and sent to the breweries in Milwaukee. Eagle had coal sheds and a stockyard. The buyers would purchase the cattle and hogs and put them in the yards. Once a week they were shipped to Milwaukee.

These are some of the things that Harold remembers about the early days of Eagle.

Eagle Historical Society  
217 W. Main Street  
P.O. Box 54  
Eagle, WI 53119

## EAGLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

This is our first newsletter of 1996 and we would like to take this opportunity to inform you about the Eagle Historical Society. Our Society researches historical events about Eagle's past to its present time. Share with us your old photos, family genealogies, stories of the "good old days," newspaper clippings, plat maps or any artifacts you have. To preserve the past for our future generations is our goal. If you enjoy getting involved in fun activities please join us. We welcome new members.

On Friday, April 12th and Monday, May 6th our meetings are at 1 p.m. and will be held at the Eagle Historical Society Research Library and Museum (217 W. Main Street, Eagle). Please note our meeting dates, times and locations are different this year. We are hoping this will enable more people to come and join our meetings and programs.

Our membership fees are as follows: Individual \$10.00 - Family \$15.00 - Senior Citizens (65 & over) \$8.00 per year. Membership year is from January 1st to December 31st. Dues are payable on or before our January meeting (membership fee can be tax deductible). You will receive several newsletters throughout the year, this will keep you informed about our events, fund-raisers and meetings. As members you also receive discounts on items sold at our museum, events, and fund-raisers. Looking forward to seeing you soon!

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March 9 - 2:00 p.m.  
Eagle Municipal Building  
The Hinkley House - Now  
and Then

March 19 - 8:00 a.m. to  
8:00 p.m. Election Bake Sale  
and Flower Orders at Eagle  
Municipal Building.

May 10 & 11 - White Elephant  
and Bake Sale at Eagle Muni-  
cipal Building. Friday, 8:00  
a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Saturday,  
8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

July 14 - Eagle Village Park  
Ice Cream Social and Band  
Concert

## MEETINGS

All Board meetings will be  
held at the Eagle Historical  
Society Research Library and  
Museum.

March 9th - 1:00 p.m.  
April 12 - 1:00 p.m.  
May 6 - 1:00 p.m.  
June 4 - 6:30 p.m.

You are welcome to attend any  
Board meeting, they are open  
to everyone.

## I REMEMBER . . .

as a child, the big  
toboggan slide that had been  
built at Paradise Springs near  
the ponds, between the hotel  
and the road. I was too young  
to be allowed to go down this  
wonderful slide; does anyone  
else remember it?

Don Wilton

Readers are urged to submit "I  
REMEMBER" thoughts to: Betty  
Isleb

## CURATOR'S CORNER

By Elaine Raduechel

At present we have set the following days and times for the museum to be open to the public: Monday evenings, 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., Wednesday afternoons, 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. and Friday mornings, 9:30 a.m. to 12 noon. This schedule takes effect Monday, March 11th. If you are able to volunteer for one of those times periods each week, or once a month we'd appreciate it very much. Please call the museum - 594-8961 - during museum hours or me at 594-2676 to sign up or answer any questions you may have. Thank you!

During the times scheduled there will be projects and household tasks for you to do along with answering the phone and helping museum visitors.

For now our display cases are full and we have the Mueller Family Heirlooms Exhibit set up that is on loan from Edward and Welthy Mueller. This will be displayed through the end of the year.

As you enter the museum you will see the reception area desk that was donated in February, 1995 by Jerry Tranchita. We appreciate his generosity and thank him so much.

Stop in and see what the Society has on display, sign up to volunteer a certain time or put your name on the sub list, and check out the items available for a donation. We have sweatshirts, tee shirts, maps and postcards available.

We have a wish list started and it will be posted on the

bulletin board as you enter the museum. I will mention a few items now and from time to time add to the list in future newsletters.

WISH LIST FOR MUSEUM: 2 office chairs, file cabinets, card tables, metal shelves, large and small display cases, word processor, typewriters, file folders and various things an office would need. THANK YOU!

## 1939 VILLAGE ELECTION

The following newspaper article was copied from Jean Bowey's scrapbook. It appeared in a 1939 Eagle Quill Newspaper.

### Village Election

Village and Judicial election held at the Opera Hall April 4, 1939. Election officers sworn in by the Village Clerk. Polls opened at 9:00 A. M. and closed at 5:30 P. M.

The whole number of votes cast for President were 204 of which H. M. Loibl received 131.

The whole number of votes cast for Trustee, 2 year term, were 555 of which A. A. Belling received 165, Mabel Watrous 157, and Richard Williams 155.

The whole number of votes cast for Trustee one year term to fill vacancy, were 201 of which Mary Sportell received 76 being a majority of votes among 3 candidates.

The whole number of votes cast for Clerk were 203 of which John B. Skidmore received 121.

The whole number of votes cast for Treasurer were 203 of which Frank J. Agathen received 140.

The whole number of votes cast for Constable were 16 of which Everett Amann received 13.

The whole number of votes cast for Justice of Peace were 133 of which John H. Aplin received 133.

The whole number of votes cast for Supervisor were 209 of which Millard B. Markham received 109.

We hereby certify that the foregoing statement is true and correct in all respects.

Jerome Mealy, Susan Belling, Harold Pardee, Inspectors of election  
Laura Schmidt, Myron Peardon,  
Clerks of election.



## OPPORTUNITIES FOR MEMBERS

\* Join a committee: Finance (Betty Isleb), Program (Elaine Raduechel), Membership (Sue Wambold), Newsletter (Linda Hett), Events/Fundraising (Diane Thuemling), Hospitality (Welthy Mueller), Historical Research (Diane Thuemling). More information on committees will follow.

\* Share genealogical and historical information from your family (copies of research, diaries, abstracts, and photographs).

\* Bake cookies, pies, cake or bread for one of our fundraisers in March or May.

\* Order your flowering summer plants at our flower sale March 19th. We will have many varieties of annuals available in baskets or flats.

\* Help design, get approval for and erect a sign for the front of our building.

**PROGRAM COMMITTEE** - This committee is responsible for planning programs to be presented at any meeting of the Society and for the publicity for such meetings.

The programs for the 1996 year will include the following:

March 9th 2:00 p.m. Eagle Municipal Building, The Hinkley House - Now and Then by Kari Ludke (wife of the great grandnephew of Ahira Hinkley). She will share generations of photographs, letters, newspaper articles and artifacts that were handed down to her. She would also enjoy hearing your stories and

memories about the Cobblestone House and the Hinkley family. Join us for an exciting hour as we travel back in time.

July 14th Eagle Village Park Ice Cream Social and Band Concert. We will be enjoying the Palmyra/Eagle Community Band again this year. Last year they put on a splendid show along with their music. Their band is blessed with many talented performers. Mark this afternoon on your calendar now, you won't want to miss it. During the concert our Society will be offering ice cream sundaes, pie and cake for a donation.

The Traveling Exhibit and Sequi Scroll will be part of this program.

More programs will be offered this year and will be highlighted in future newsletters. The public is encouraged to attend these events, so share this information with your friends and family.

Society members are asked to join this committee and help with one or all of the programs. This committee usually meets on Wednesday afternoons prior to the program to organize it and once after the program to evaluate it.

**MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE** - Our objective this year is to pursue avenues of membership increase and inform everyone that Eagle has a Historical Society. We will set up a prospective member table at each Society program and event. Meetings will be held as needed. The chairperson will give a report at the monthly board meetings.

**EVENTS/FUNDRAISERS** - Our first fundraiser will be a Flower Sale. We will offer a variety of annuals in hanging baskets or flats. We have convenient order forms for you to make your selection. We will take orders from March 9th until March 19th. The flowers will be available for pick up on May 9th and 10th so think about a gift for Mother's Day. Order forms are available at the Eagle Historical Society Research Library and Museum and from Board members. The forms will also be available at the Municipal Building during our Election Bake Sale.

Which brings me to our next event. On March 19th, 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. we will have a Bake Sale at the Eagle Municipal Building. Come and vote, then take home some donuts for breakfast, bread for lunch or a pie for dinner.

In May we will hold our annual White Elephant/Bake Sale. The set up time will be May 9th all day and the sale will be May 10th from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. and May 11th from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

This Committee plans fundraisers and events for the year. Each event has its own chair and recruits volunteers from the membership to aid when necessary. The Committee gets Board approval for events and a budget and fundraising goal for the year. Reports are presented to the Board, ongoing and final, for each event. This Committee meets when necessary, to facilitate the event.

**HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE** - works with program and events committees in order to provide refreshments, etc. We recruit

volunteers from the membership as needed. If you enjoy baking, this is your committee. Also telephone calling is involved, so this is the perfect spot for someone who wants to help from their own home, during their own schedule.

**NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE** - all members participate in this effort. We will mail issues in February, May and October. Any member can write an article to be presented for publishing. All committee chairpeople will inform us of upcoming celebrations and report on the progress of completed projects. The curator and President will have some space to inform you of the overall operation of the Society. So, write down something you remember about Eagle and the good-old-days and share it with us. Also, stuffing and addressing envelopes is another "at home" job.

**HISTORICAL RESEARCH COMMITTEE** - Every single person has a story to be told, and that story has great historical significance. You may or may not think that so, but decades from now, children will be asking these questions: Who lived in this house before me?; Was there a hotel and railroad in Eagle?; Where did the people go when they were sick? Will they be able to find the answers? Share with us the knowledge of your past and present so we can preserve it for our future. Write down your "stories" or remembrances and mail them to us.