

# EAGLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Spring 2002

Eagle, Wisconsin

## EHS Board

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Jeff Nowicki

*Vice-President*

Irma Jolliffe

*Secretary*

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Jean Bowey

Donald Ledrowski

Bea Marquardt

Margo Morner

Edward Mueller

Welthy Mueller

Jerry Neary

Bernice Nowicki

Diane Thuemling

Eris Thurston

*Curator*

Elaine Ledrowski

**Newsletter Editor**

Darlene Landmann

## EHS News

### Membership

Welcome to new members Louis Marino, D.D.S.; Violet Orchard (sustaining); and Albert & Elaine Schmidt. Thank you to the following, who renewed their memberships:

#### Patrons (\$100 and over)

Ras & Donna Kalnes; Russ & Jill Steinhart, and Walter & Lois Zenner

#### Sponsors (\$50-\$99)

Dorothy Clark, Theresa Denio, Richard & Marjorie Friedman, Robert & Barbara Hegwood, Harold & Mary Hinkley, Arthur & Betty Isleb, Roy & Terry Leonhardt, Don & Dorothy Murphy, Bernice & Jeff Nowicki, Chet & Pat Poetsch, and Tim & Diane Thuemling.

#### Sustaining Members (\$25-\$49)

Richard & Anne Baker, Joseph L. Cunningham, John Eiring, Paul & Sandra Fisher, Richard & Sally Harthun, Tom & Patricia Heller, Allen Howard, Jerome & Barbara Jatczak, Clifford & Janet Jensen, Donald & Elaine Ledrowski, Peggy Moots, James & Joan Pasterski, Brian & Elaine Rudy, Carl & Lynne Seitz, and Larry & Diane Wilkinson.

### Bake Sale

The February bake sale was very successful, especially considering the smaller turnout for voting this time. Thank you to everyone who supported this fund-raiser! There were enough items donated to keep the sale going into the evening; the few items left over were donated to the food pantry as usual.

### Tee-shirts

That same day we started selling our new tee-shirts. They feature a gold-accented eagle design on a white,

gray, or black shirt. Shirts are still available at the museum in sizes S, M, L and XL; prices are \$13.00 for members and \$16.00 for non-members. (Sorry, we have no children's sizes.)

### Plant/Rummage Sale

EHS will hold a combination rummage and plant sale in the municipal building on May 10 and 11 beginning at 9:00 a.m. Any donations—plants or other items—may be dropped off at the museum during open hours, or at the municipal building during setup on May 9 at 6:30 p.m.

### Website Update

The EHS website is now located at [www.eaglewi.org/EHS](http://www.eaglewi.org/EHS) and is linked to the state historical society. Webmistress Margo Morner has made a lot of information and many photos available at the site, which is current.

### Communication

Please check the label on your copy of this issue: a star indicates that you have renewed your dues for 2002. Did you remember to renew?

If you have an e-mail address, please share it with us by contacting us at: [curator@eaglewi.org](mailto:curator@eaglewi.org). •

**Someone dropped off at the Don & Pat Wilton home a tombstone found in a barn. It reads:**

**"In memory of John**

**Son of John & Ellen Coats**

**Died June 17 1842**

**Aged 30 years 8 months and 12 days."**

**If you know where it was found or anything about the Coats family, please let us know.**

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## Eagle Historical Society, Inc. Year 2002 Calendar of Events

DATE	BOARD MEETING	NEWSLETTER	EVENTS
May 10-11			Rummage/Plant Sale
May 21	6:30 p.m.		
June 18	6:30 p.m.		
June 21-23			Kettle Moraine Days
July 14			Band Concert/Ice Cream Social, Village Park, 2 p.m.
July 16	6:30 p.m.		
July 31		Mail Date	
August ? (to be announced)			Wine & Cheese Reception at EHS Museum
August 20	6:30 p.m.		
September 7			Cemetery Walk
September 17	6:30 p.m.		
October 15	6:30 p.m.		
October 31		Mail Date	
November 5			Election Day Bake Sale
November 16	11:00 a.m.		
November 23			Holiday Raffle
December 21	11:00 A.M.		

### Eagle Historical Society Minutes for Board of Directors Annual Meeting, dated March 16, 2002

Members present: Jeff Nowicki, President; Bea Nowicki; Edward Mueller; Welthy Mueller; Don Ledrowski; Margo Morner; Darlene Landmann; Pat Wilton, Treasurer; Bea Marquardt; Irma Jolliffe, Vice-President; Eris Thurston; Elaine Ledrowski, Curator; Diane Thuemling; Jerry Baker.

The meeting was called to order by President Jeff Nowicki at 11:02 A.M. on March 15, 2002 in the Eagle Historical Museum.

In the absence of Secretary Flo Neary, the February minutes were read by Don Ledrowski. Don informed us of a change to the minutes. They should have included the following names of members who were approved to the board for another three-year term: Ed Mueller and Margo Morner. The change was made and the minutes were approved as changed with a motion by Margo and second by Pat.

The treasurer's report was read by Pat Wilton. The board approved the treasurer's report on an Irma/Jerry motion.

### Committee Reports

#### Membership - Don Ledrowski

We currently have 254 active, paid memberships on the books. We also have an additional 25 complimentary memberships. These are given to local businesses, other historical societies and libraries.

Letters will be sent to members who have not yet renewed for the current year.

Don suggested having a contest later this year (maybe in October) to attract new members. Current members could get five new people to join and they would get a complimentary membership for next year. There was some discussion and the idea was put on hold until later in the year.

#### Finance - Don Ledrowski

The finances are in order. The books have been audited internally. A budget was set for this year.

#### Events & Fundraising - Welthy Mueller

The fundraising went well last year and we will continue with the same fundraisers this year.

There will be an Election Bake Sale on April 2 at the Eagle Municipal Building. We will begin at 7:00 A.M. when the doors open for the polls. Information must be printed in the local newspapers. We should call members to ask for baked goods. Welthy shared a telephone list of members with several board members; each will call all the people on their list. People should come the day before at 5:00 P.M. to set up and bring baked goods. We need a new coffee pot; Diane will purchase one before the bake sale. We should update our signs. Jeff will construct a standing wooden sign and Diane will paint and letter it to be used at the bake sale. The back side could be painted to be used for another fundraising event.

#### Newsletter - Darlene Landmann

The newsletter will be mailed in April, it will feature cemeteries. The newsletters have been very well received and Darlene was praised for her effort.

#### Curator - Elaine Ledrowski

We received a letter from Old World WI asking us to rent a booth during an open house event they are having on June 2. The cost would be \$150.00, and there were many questions, such as not being able to solicit new members nor sell any memorabilia. We could not see any advantage to this and asked Elaine not to respond to the request.

The Circus train is stopping in Eagle on July 7th this year. Do we want to set up a table and sell tee-shirts and memberships? Bea M. will check with Chief Putnam to see if we can have permission and Diane will consider running the booth.

More plastic sleeves are needed for the postcards. Elaine was given permission to purchase some.

Holy cards and memorial cards were organized by Bea Marquardt. The shelves have been set up in the basement and things are being moved downstairs for storage. Welthy and Eris are boxing up items not being dis-

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*(Continued from page 3)*

played.

Web site - Margo Morner

The web site is up and working. It includes information about the society and officers, photographs, the current newsletter, an application for membership, and the constitution and by-laws. There is a \$14.99 monthly fee to the web carrier that will need to be reimbursed to Margo on a monthly basis. And there was a setup cost of \$66.97 that should also be reimbursed to Margo. Pat was directed to pay these amounts.

The board members were asked to bring up any new business at this time.

Don would like a committee to review the constitution and by-laws and recommend any changes to the board. A committee of Don, Elaine and Diane will meet at 8 A.M. on Tuesday, March 26th.

Elaine announced that the new tee-shirts will be ready for pickup about April 1st. The colors are white, gray and black and the eagle design (same as sweatshirts) will be repeated in this shirt. What should we charge for the shirts? Discussion followed and it was suggested we sell them at a slight increase over last year; \$13.00 to members and \$16.00 to non-members.

Prior to this board meeting the Cemetery Walk committee met. Elaine presented the following information that resulted from their meeting. The Cemetery Walk will be on September 7, 2002. There will be a cost of \$5.00 per person, \$10.00 for a family, and children will be free. The event will last three hours and will include five cemeteries in the area. Participation will be limited to 100-125 total people. The Oak Grove cemetery will be the site of a memorial service. Monument art will be at St. Theresa's new cemetery. The North Prairie cemetery will have a descendant of the Hinkley family (great-grandson) do a reenactment. There will be a circuit rider at old St. Theresa's cemetery. A lone soldier will be located at the Oak Ridge cemetery. This is a joint fundraiser with Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (see brochure) and we will divide any proceeds 50/50. Margo and Darlene will advertise. John and Mary will work on cemetery art. Pat and Bea M. will contact cemeteries for permission. Pat, Irma and Bea M. will host the reception after the event. This committee's next meeting is May 11, 2002 at 9 A.M. at the Museum, any interested person may attend.

Diane brought up the scheduled date for this year's raffle. She suggested changing it to the Saturday before Thanksgiving, because of all the area craft sales and influx of people into Eagle during that weekend. There was discussion and it was decided to try the new date this year. The raffle will be held on November 23, 2002. Darlene will change this information in the newsletter and Margo will change it on the web page.

A member contacted Elaine and asked if there were any service that her son could perform at our building. Irma suggested yard work. Jeff will call the member. Also, Pat suggested we remove the Christmas flag on the building. Jeff said he would come back with his ladder today and do that. Welthy said the pine boughs should remain around the flowers a little longer.

The next meeting will be at the Museum on April 16th at 6:30 P.M. Jeff reminded everyone of the time and day change. The meeting was adjourned at 12:08 P.M. on a Pat/Don motion. Approved.

Respectfully submitted, Diane Thuemling (acting secretary)

**IN MEMORIAM**

**Marie Donahue**

**Mary L. Smart**

## Eagle Cemeteries (continued from last issue)

From information from Don Jones, Jim Pasterski, the *Eagle Quill*, Pat Wilton, and Research Guide no. 11, Waukesha County Historical Museum: Grave Sites by Terry Biwer Becker (1988)

The first Eagle cemetery was located near the present Sprague Road. Ahira Hinkley had agreed to let some of his neighbors bury people on what he thought was a far corner of his property. The graves were later found to be on the property of Ebenezer Thomas, who had an adjoining farm. The cemetery was established sometime after 1836 but before 1844. Sometimes the graves were not marked. After the official cemetery of Oak Grove was established in 1844, there were still burials at the first cemetery.

When Waukesha County rerouted County NNN, now Sprague Road, construction went through the graveyard. Workers dug up graves that were in the way and reburied the dead on the side. There are no longer any stones marking the graves.



Oak Grove Cemetery

Photo by Margo Morner

### Oak Grove Cemetery

This cemetery, located on the west side of Hwy 67 about 1 mile south of the village (at the entrance to Old World Wisconsin), was established in 1844. At times in its history it has been known as a Presbyterian cemetery and Potter's Field. (At least one person named Potter is buried there....) Civil War participants buried there include: Philip Bovee, John Adam Draper, Merrit Draper, William Harrison, Henry James, George M. Logan, and Joseph B. Titus. Dr. Peter Grems, the first veterinary doctor in the Wisconsin Territory, also lies there.

"Again there has been a generous response to call for funds for Grove Cemetery, the old cemetery that is one of Eagle's historical landmarks and whose organization was perfected by articles of incorporation in 1853. The names attached to the old record are Albert Vedder, chairman; Alexander Winne, secretary; Francis Draper, Isaac Severance, John C. Snover, John James, William C. Cook, Ferrand Bigelow, Sidney Vedder, Jacob Way, William Phelan, David Jaycox, Daniel Bronson.

Following the first meeting held at the Milwaukee & Mississippi Railroad hotel there are noted the following persons who are active in directing the affairs of the cemetery up to 1867, P.V. Bovee, Charles Bronson, D.G. Snover, Dr. Salisbury, F. G. Parks, John Hage. It is a fitting tribute to these early pioneers that their descendants, and other public spirited people, have been so willing to fence the cemetery and have it cleaned up...

The words of appreciation in the letters that were received give assurance that Eagle has a strong place in the hearts of many of its former boys and girls, now far from their childhood home, but whose sentiments are deep for the last resting place of loved ones who have passed on." (*Eagle Quill*, Nov. 10, 1922)

In time the cemetery was surrounded by state property and, there being no room for expansion, it had to be abandoned for lack of burial sites. The last burial there took place in 1967. The Town of Eagle is responsible for the cemetery. •

## Oak Ridge Cemetery

This active cemetery is located on the west side of Hwy 67. It was originally entirely in the Village of Eagle, but has expanded into the town in recent years.

It is believed that a group of women in the village collected money door-to-door to buy a piece of land to be used for this cemetery. Land was purchased from the estate of Thomas W. Pittman, who died in 1882. A survey was conducted in 1884; the Oak Ridge Cemetery Association, which administers the cemetery, still has the survey in its possession. The association was established in 1893.



Oak Ridge Cemetery

*Photo by Roy Leonhardt*

The articles of incorporation read as follows:

"Eagle Wisconsin, Oct 7, 1893

Meeting of citizens to form a Cemetery Association.. The following named persons assembled at the Opera House in the Village of Eagle, Waukesha Co Wisconsin.

W.E. Mayhew, C.E. Lins, Albert Williams, Samuel Hage, Otto Lewandoske, Geo W. Blackburn, J.A. Lins, W.W. Perry. On motion W.E. Mayhew was elected chairman, and W.W. Perry, Secretary and Treasurer.

On motion, Resolved that the corporate name be and is hereby the Oak Ridge Cemetery Association of Eagle Wisconsin.

On motion Resolved, that we elect three trustees.. The first one elected to be for three years, the second for two years, and the third for one year.

...On motion, resolved our annual meeting shall be held on the first Saturday in October in each year at 7:30 P.M."

Records of burials prior to 1910 were lost long ago. Dates for burials prior to 1910 were ascertained by Mabel Thomas, either by checking the

tombstone or getting oral information. Transcriptions from the tombstones to the year 1947 are kept at the Waukesha County Historical Museum.

The association held a special meeting in the 1920s to authorize the president and secretary to prosecute a claim for the issue of duplicate U.S. bonds "in lieu of those stolen from the Bank of Eagle on Sept 29th, 1921...registered...in the name of...OAK RIDGE CEMETERY ASSC."

With the number of available gravesites steadily decreasing, the association had been considering the purchase of additional land since 1950. In 1964 it was agreed to purchase an adjacent 66-foot frontage lot from Matt Kau and then have all of the cemetery property surveyed.

The minutes of the 1999 meeting show that an additional purchase of 3 acres from the Harold Chapman estate had been made—1.27 acres in the town, and .73 in the village. The purchase had been authorized in 1997.

The current officers of the association are: President, Don Jones; Secretary, Pat Hawes ; and Trustees, Robert Hawes, Peter Jones, and Jack Rolfe. •



Jericho Cemetery

Photo by Roy Leonhardt

### Jericho Cemetery

This cemetery is located on the east side of Hwy E, about 1/4 mile south of Hwy NN.

The earliest known graves are from 1839; the cemetery was established in 1866. In 1867 William and Mary Wilton sold a half acre of land to the Jericho Cemetery Association.

Transcriptions from the tombstones for the years 1839-1938 are kept at the Waukesha County Historical Museum. •

### Did you identify the winter issue mystery house?



241 Eagle Street

Photo by Roy Leonhardt

(In the winter issue, the mystery photo was incorrectly attributed to Pat Wilton, when in fact it was supplied by Bill Thiele.) In 1889 the house passed from John Ott to Francis Ott. In 1899 William E. Mayhew purchased it from Francis. Mary Mayhew sold the house to John Breidenbach in 1920. In 1956 it was purchased by Don and Lorraine Emmer, who in turn passed it on to Edward and Emelie Emmer. In 1969, after Edward's death, the house was sold to William and Anne Krestan. William and Mary Seifert bought the house in 1992 and sold it in 1999 to David and Lynnette Carpenter, the present owners.

### The House

Who slept here  
before I came,  
who lived  
in this room,  
how did it look,  
was it  
the same?  
Was there a girl  
who danced  
and sang,  
A dinner bell  
that chimed or rang,  
And did anyone  
ever stand  
right here  
as I do now?  
...the house was new  
was theirs  
was different then,  
and yet it is  
the same again,  
and was  
and will  
and must always be,  
and now  
the house  
belongs to me.

From Thurston House by Danielle Steel

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

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

## Cemetery Walk

September 7, Eagle Area

Individual: \$5, Family: \$10

Sponsored by Eagle Historical Society &  
Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

