

EAGLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Volume 7, Issue 3

Summer 2000

EHS News

Plant Sale

By Welthy Mueller

EHS had a profitable plant sale during the Eagle Community Rummage Sale, although the weather did not cooperate. It drizzled on Friday and was cold; Saturday was not much better.

We had quite a few plants, but sold them all by noon on Saturday. We could have sold more plants, if we'd had them.

In the fall, we take in plants and extra soil for the winter. Towards spring we take slips, root them and plant them in pots, using the soil. We hope that other members will help us out with their extra plants for the sale next year. ♦

New Museum Hours

Fridays, 9 a.m. to noon
Saturdays, 9 a.m. to noon

Curator's Corner

By Elaine Ledrowski

Have you noticed the recent changes at the museum? The building has been painted and new trees and shrubs have been planted in memory of Helen Johnson, through the efforts of her sons, Jim and Jerry Johnson. There are also many changes inside the museum. Jeff Nowicki built partition/display frames. A laundry exhibit features an electric wringer washing machine donated by Jerry and Eileen Juedes. Many items featured in a dairy farm exhibit are on loan from Pat and Don Wilton, with other items donated by Bea Marquardt and Edward and Welthy Mueller. A Prairie breaker plow on loan from the Helen Johnson family is the main attraction in a farm tool exhibit.

The children's corner includes an antique cradle/crib donated by Ken and Jerry Mealy. Visit the museum to see these changes.

Jean Bowey donated over 800 miscellaneous key chains. Her children started this collection in the 1960's and Jean added to it throughout the years, including categories of animals, letters of the alphabet, numbers, guns, fishing items, etc. Part of this collection will be on display in the future.

Additional donations were received from Richard Baker, Mabel Finney, Jerry Baker, Pat Monroe, Darlene Landmann, Donna Kalnes, Bea Nowicki, Jack Hopkins, Ruth Ann Mueller, Clara Burton, Mary Japp, Luella Bowey, Fred Smart, Irma Jolliffe, and Ruth Raduchel. Mary Smart donated a monitor.

Wish List

computer scanner

dehumidifier

volunteer to install light to illuminate museum flag ♦

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Fakirs' Gazette Matrimonial Column



Looking for something to do?

Pat Monroe's grandmother started a state bird quilt many years ago. We have 25 squares, which need to be embroidered. They will then be sewed together to make a wall hanging for the museum.

If you're interested in working on this project, call Elaine at 594-3301.

Pioneer Eagle

From History of Waukesha County – 1880, pp. 736-7

The first religious service is said to have been held at Dr. Bigelow's, when an itinerant Presbyterian preached to a small audience.

The Methodist Episcopal Church was the first church that held regular services and had a Sunday school. The nucleus of the present church first held services at the house of Mr. Cross, and Rev. Mr. Halsey is said to have been the preacher. Afterward, services were held at different times, here and there, in the settlers' houses, until the erection of the schoolhouse of District No. 1, in 1841, after which time the Methodists held their services in this schoolhouse and others, until the establishment of the church at Eagle Center. It is told of one of the early ministers, a Mr. Moulthrop, from Canada, a very able preacher, that he made application to Messrs. Long and Crow for a picket fence around his yard, and carpet for his floor. They were very indignant at the demand, and replied: 'We have no carpets nor picket fences, and if you preach for us you can't have any either.' He didn't—at least, not in Eagle.

John James and Miss Francis, George Robinson and Ann Archer, were the first couples married here, and Henry Hinkley, the first Justice appointed by the Territorial Governor, performed the ceremonies.

The 'in-fair' held at Andrew Scofield's, in Eagleville, in honor of the marriage of his adopted son, will be well remembered by the oldest inhabitants. On that occasion, in the autumn of 1841, nearly all of the inhabitants within a radius of six miles were invited and were present, and were entertained with all the jolly old-time hospitality. Rachael Scofield and Andrew, her husband (a Quaker), did nothing by halves; and, Rachael being a most excellent cook, it may be easily believed that there was fun and feasting without stint. Here the young couple sat in a corner bolt upright, with their backs against the logs, and maintained the dignity of the occasion, and received the compliments and respects of their many friends who came to see them off on the journey of life. Nowadays, the bride is not often found cooking and serving her own marriage refreshments. ♦

Eagle United Methodist Church

by Carol Boyden

Methodism has had a presence in Eagle since the late 1830s. It was then that Methodist preachers fanned across the sparsely settled Wisconsin territory bringing the word of God on horseback. These circuit riders, as they were called, traveled over poor and unmarked roads in all kinds of weather. They moved from settlement to settlement, stopping to preach wherever they could gather a crowd. They held meetings in homes, schools, and even barns. Nice days would find them leading worship under the trees. The lack of a formal church setting did not dampen their enthusiasm. All that they needed—a Bible, a hymnal, and perhaps a copy

of John Wesley's sermons—they carried in their saddlebags. These men in their broad brimmed, flat crowned felt hats and plain black clothes dedicated their lives to help Christians maintain their faith and to bring the gospel news to those who had yet to hear.

By 1845, the settlement at Eagle had grown. One of the newcomers was John Hage, a lay preacher from England. He and his wife settled on a farm near Eagle and John began preaching in schoolhouses at Eagleville, Palestine, and Jericho. By 1860 the schoolhouse (just east of present-day Ally's) was abandoned and Hage bought it to use as a permanent church. He preached there for several years, eventually selling the building to the congregation.

This served until the 1870s, when the faithful decided to build a new church. Thomas and Sarah Pittman deeded the lot on Main Street for this purpose, and the church was built in 1871. The sanctuary remains basically unchanged: the walls have been renovated. In 1914 the Ladies Aid decided the wood chunk stoves in the corners had to go. They were willing to pay for a new furnace. All the men had to do was provide the basement for its location. The basement was dug and the furnace installed. It was only then that the ladies discovered they were short of the needed funds. A bank loan was secured and payments were still being made in 1917.

In 1951, church members decided to purchase a parsonage to house their pastor and his family. The Thomas Pittman house on the southeast corner of Grove and Eagle Streets was selected. The house was later sold during a time when the Eagle parish was yoked with that in North Prairie. (The pastor lived in North Prairie, and the Eagle parsonage was not needed.)

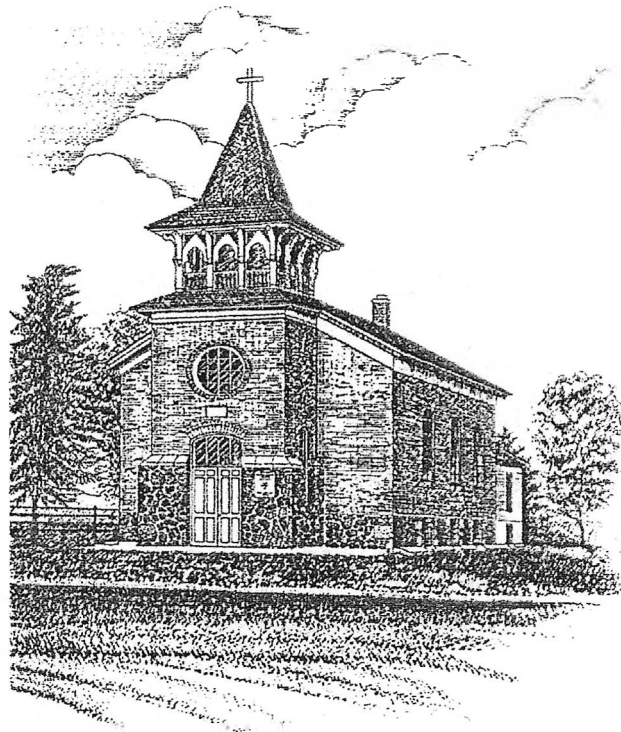
In 1957 an education wing was added to the back of the original church. This provided more Sunday school space, a larger fellowship hall, bathrooms, and in time, a larger, more efficient kitchen for church dinners. It is hard to believe that dinners were once served on wooden boards stretched across the pews in the sanctuary, or that food was heated on an oil stove in the back of this same room. The horse sheds and outhouses are gone. There is a paved parking area where ice cream socials were held in the past.

A favorite hymn reads, "The church is not a building, the church is not a steeple, the church is not a resting place, the church is a people." ♦



Siloam United Methodist Church, 1850-2000

By Luella Bowey



Siloam United Methodist Church

One hundred fifty years ago on March 7, 1850 a handful of faithful immigrants from Britain, by way of Quebec, Canada, saw the need for a church to house the growing community of staunch Bible Christians who had been meeting in homes for years. The first record of Siloam (W104 County CI, Palmyra) was written by quill pen by David Crerar verbatim: "At a meeting of the Trustees of the Society and Congregation called Bible Christians held at the home of Henry Stacey, the following persons were present, William Jolliffe, Charles Box, Richard Sleep, H. Stacey. Voted H. Stacey, Chairman David Crerar, Secretary, and Richard Sleep, Treasurer. On motion we adjourn sine die. H. Stacey, Chairman David Crerar, Secretary. Dated Palmyra, Wisconsin March 7, 1850"

On March 15, 1850 3,971 feet of lumber was delivered at \$7/thousand feet. Richard Sleep, having worked 6 days at 50 cents/day did the first work. On January 3, 1851 the Siloam Chapel (station house) was finished—but not until the Trustees had given their personal joint note for \$50.00 at 12% interest for the remaining debt. The first missionary "horseback minister" was William Hooper, and Joe Haige was second.

In 1852 G. Hooper offered a half-acre on which to build a house for the use of the minister on the Station. A frame house 18 X 22, 13 ft. high with a boarded basement 12 x 18 ft. was erected. Both church and house were painted bright yellow, as was the church fence. In August 1860 a kitchen and bedroom were added to the Circuit House to eliminate the expense of moving Pastor's furniture.

The congregation were connected to the Bible Christian Society, Canadian Conference, because of their affiliation to the mother country, most being of Cornish and Welsh descent. On June 6, 1884 they withdrew from the Bible Christians and united with the Methodist Episcopal Church of USA. Appointments for the Circuit at that time were Siloam, Zion, Ottawa, Punck (Pleasant Valley) McKey's, Rome, and Johnson's. Of these only Siloam and Pleasant Valley Churches remain.

When the old church was outgrown, it was decided to build a new chapel "at or as near the Rainous Schoolhouse as possible," not to exceed \$1,000.00. Begun in 1867 and completed in 1870, it stands diagonally across from where the "Station House" stood. Monmouth Purdy was contractor, Hannibal Tower, the mason. A parsonage was built in 1893

to replace the "Circuit House." In 1948 the "Upper Room" addition was built, giving the church new Sunday school rooms upstairs and a new kitchen and furnace room in the basement. The old shed behind the Church was torn down and a parking area was added. This was done under the leadership of R. Dean Swift, a returned missionary. During the same postwar period, Pastor Don Francis remodeled the sanctuary, putting in three arches and building an altar. An arched ceiling and work in the vestibule completed the renovation for the 100th church anniversary in 1950.

The Palmyra Circuit ceased in 1925 and Siloam became part of the Hebron Circuit. It remained a part of that circuit off and on until 1996, when the Hebron Circuit was dissolved. Each of the Churches—Hebron, North Prairie, and Palmyra—became a separate entity, with Don Enright assigned at Siloam. During the period from 1971 to 1974 a larger parish, known as the United Parish of the Disciples, was tried. At the end of this period the three circuits returned to their former arrangements. In 1999 Siloam was transferred from Capital District to Milwaukee Metro-South. Rev. Thomas Garnhart is district superintendent. Siloam has been a part of the student teaching system since 1952-3 and supports student pastors, who serve during their ministerial study. At present Bill Busch serves as a student pastor quarter-time at Siloam and half-time at Eagle. ♦

Wedding Toast

May the wine you hold bring you joy untold, make your loaf of bread longer.

May you know no hunger. Keep thy jar of salt so want is kept at a halt,
the silver coin above the door so you pay less and bring in more.

-Submitted by Welthy Mueller

Matrimonial Recipe

Be careful in your selection. Do not choose too young, and take only such as have been reared in a good atmosphere. When once decided upon and selected, let that part remain forever settled and give your entire attention to preparation for domestic use.

Some insist upon keeping them in pickle, while others are constantly getting them into hot water. This only makes them sour, hard, and sometimes bitter.

Even poor varieties may be made sweet, tender, and good by garnishing them with patience, well sweetened with smiles, and flavored with kisses to taste. Then wrap them in a mantle of charity, keep warm with a steady fire of domestic devotion and serve with peaches and cream.

When thus prepared, they will keep for years.

-From the San Francisco Chronicle in the 1930s, submitted by Welthy Mueller

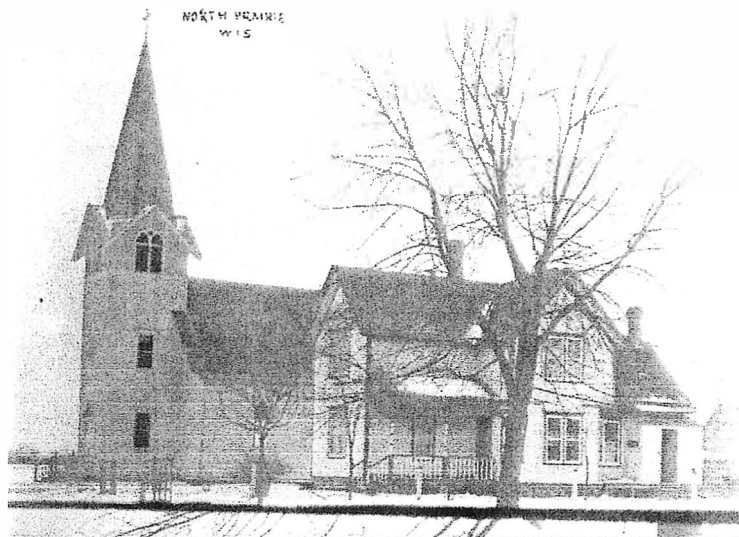


IN MEMORIAM

Katharine Howard Bovee - Evangeline Stocks

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

Rev. Fred Schumann, then pastor at Waterford, began conducting services at North Prairie in 1886. During his tenure the group was formally organized and the first church built. (However, services had been conducted since 1857, when Pastor Hubert of Milwaukee preached and taught in private homes for 6 to 8 families. He was followed in 1879 by Pastor J. Prager and in 1884 by Pastor Stute. The February 3, 1880 first communion recorded included members of the Dable, Graever, Gruenwald, Haas, Hahn, Hasse, Heintz, Kipp, Linde, Mueller, Schorm, Sherman, Stahl, Wachendorf, and Wilton families.) At a meeting held April 24, 1887, the constitution was adopted. The church was dedicated on September 11. With some changes, this building served until 1966, when the present building was dedicated.



August E. Winter became pastor in 1889. A resolution to build a Christian day school passed during his tenure, in 1897. The new school was in operation until 1938; the building was removed in 1967.

The fall of 1899 brought Pastor Otto Hitzeroth. On September 30, 1900 it was resolved to join the Missouri Synod. Also that year, money was set aside to build the parsonage at 308 North Main Street. This was sold and moved to Fairview Avenue in July of 1974. The present parsonage was completed across the street from the old one in 1969.

In 1912 St. John's welcomed Pastor Albert Menkens from Iowa. Services and youth instruction were conducted only in the German language until 1913, when a few English services were offered as a trial. In 1916 purchase of 25 English hymnals was approved. War produced strong anti-German sentiment, and on August 28, 1918, the pastor was called to appear before the Council of Defense in Genesee and asked to close the school. It was resolved on August 30th to keep the school open, but make more use of the American language in school, to conduct services in English on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month, and conduct half of the Communion services in English.

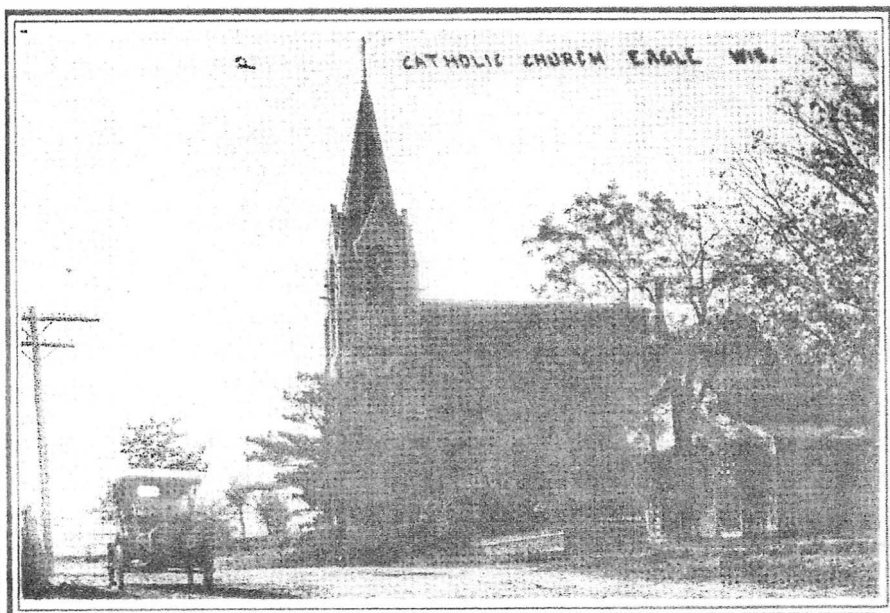
Pastor Carl G. Winter of Iowa was called in 1920. By resolution in 1921 meetings were to be recorded in English and Sunday school was to be held in English. It was the custom then for men to sit on one side of the church and women and children on the other, It was said that Frank Miller changed that when he sat by his new bride, Lizzie. Pastor Winter retired in 1958. He was succeeded in 1959 by Pastor Henry Naumann, in 1966 by Pastor William Lewis of Iowa, followed by Pastor Marvin Hoyer in 1970, Pastor Lester Dumer in 1972, and Pastor Daniel Gartzke in 1984. That year a resolution gave women the right to vote at congregational meetings. Pastor Mark Geffaler was installed in 1999.

The house and property to the south of the church were purchased in 1971 for use by the Sunday school and vacation Bible school classes. This building was burned down on May 1, 1982. In 1981 a Christian education unit was built; the school closed in 1984 due to hard times and rapid turnover of teaching staff. The rooms were used as Sunday school classrooms, and 3 were leased to the overcrowded Mukwonago School District. ♦

-From centennial history committee material

St. Theresa Catholic Church

y Mariangela Pledl



In January, 1865, Dine Obrine and Mary Ann McCabe were married at St. Theresa's. Theirs is the first recorded marriage.

We tend to think that years ago people married in their teens. In the case of St. Theresa's, most of the men were in their late twenties and thirties, and the women were in their early to mid-twenties. Then as now, young people usually waited for marriage until they had a financial start in life.

In the early years a large number of parish members were farm families. Marriages usually took place in fall and winter months, when farm work was less

demanding. Except in unusual situations (pregnancy or the young man going off to war), Catholics were not allowed to marry during the seasons of Lent and Advent. An "old-timer" observed that he thought early spring was the best time for a farm lad to marry. His new wife could plant and tend a garden, help with haying, and "put up" enough fruits and vegetables to see them through the winter. The young man who married in fall had to feed his new wife for almost a year on the last year's crop!

Traditionally, a Catholic marriage is celebrated during Mass with the couple and their family and friends receiving Holy Communion. Before the 1960s this required a "fast," with no food or drink taken after midnight. For this reason, Catholic marriages were usually scheduled on a Saturday morning at a 10:00 or 11:00 Mass. It was not unusual for someone in the wedding party to feel faint or experience weakness—marriage is a big step to take on an empty stomach. This was especially difficult for young men who had been up since 5:00 doing farm chores.

Those morning marriages also made for a long day for the bride and groom, who usually invited family and friends to a wedding dance in the evening. The bride's parents had the added expense of providing dinner and supper for visiting family members and close friends. In the early years much of the partying following the wedding took place at the home of the bride, weather permitting. However, by the 1930s the wedding dinner and dance were often held in St. Theresa's church hall or in halls located in Genesee Depot or North Prairie.

The church's rules regarding fasting before receiving Holy Communion were relaxed in the 1960s. Since then, most couples have been married at an afternoon Mass.

In the 1970s, concerned about the increasing number of marriages ending in divorce, all Catholic parishes in Wisconsin adopted guidelines for couples preparing for marriage. They are expected to contact the pastor at least six months before the wedding so that serious marriage preparations may take place. At a series of meetings, couples discuss the major issues that lead to failure in marriage, in order that they may reach an understanding in these areas before they marry.

during the past 135 years, as our area has changed from farms and villages to towns and suburbs, marriage customs have changed. What changes will this century bring? ♦

Breidenbach – Kremer Wedding

On Thursday at St. Theresa church Michael Frederick Breidenbach and Laura Elizabeth Kremer were united in the bonds of matrimony by Rev. Father Maasen, priest in charge. The ceremony took place at 9:30 A.M. The bride was gowned in white satin trimmed with chiffon and carried white chrysanthemums. Katie, Rose and Mary Kremer, sisters, acted as bridesmaids and Frank, George, and Bernhardt Breidenbach, brothers, acted as best men. Little Agnes Tuohy served as flower girl. Immediately after the ceremony a reception was given at the Breidenbach home and a wedding dinner was served. In the afternoon games and music were the order and all concluded with a dance in which the guests participated. Vonrueden brothers' orchestra furnished the music. The groom is the eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. August F. Breidenbach, early residents of Eagle. The bride is a daughter of Mrs. Mary Boos Kremer, whose former home was near Dousman. The young couple have many friends in and around Eagle as is evidenced by the large attendance and the many and valuable wedding presents given them. We wish them much happiness in their new life. Below we publish a list of presents:

Mr. August F. Breidenbach, bedroom suite and pictures; Mrs. Mary Kremer, rug, \$5.00; Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Biwers, center table; Mr. and Mrs. Gus Grabow, knives and forks; Mr. and Mrs. Michael Kremer, two rugs; Frank Bernhort and George Breidenbach, clock; Katie, Mary and Rose Kremer, set dining chairs; Martin and Albert Breidenbach, rug; Frank Kremer, rug; George, Willie and Viola Kremer, broom, mirror, lamp; Frederick Kremer, sad irons; Alie Shearer, \$2.00; Mr. and Mrs. Kremer, fruit plate; Wm. Boos, Sr., \$10.00; Wm. Boos, Jr., \$5.00; Mr. and Mrs. Just, \$10.00; Ida and Annie Kruse, picture; Rose and Barbara Biwer, lunch cloth; Herman Piper and George Hahler, table spoons; Mr. and Mrs. F. Koenig, fruit spoon; Mr. and Mrs. M. Koenig, table cloth; Mr. and Mrs. Ed Fakler, lunch cloth; Mrs. Frances Lins, table cloth; Mr. and Mrs. John Koenig, spoons; Frank Buell, willow rocker; Mr. and Mrs. Ed Machold and family, sad irons, tea and coffee pot, tea kettle; Henry M. and Lena Loibl, table cloth; Josephine Breidenbach, fruit dish; Mr. and Mrs. B. A. Breidenbach, chairs; John and Christian Steinhoff, rug; John Vonrueden, cake knife; Mrs. Caroline Fisher and daughter Eva, rocker; Mary Vonrueden and family, arm chair; Joseph Stute, rug; George and John Vonrueden, tea spoons; Joseph Vonrueden, table cloth; Mr. and Mrs. F. M. Perry, sad irons; Mr. and Mrs. A. Perry, washing utensils; Maggie Adler, corner brackets; Frank Reinhard, \$2.00; John Breidenbach, rug; Mr. and Mrs. Edmund Lins, jardiniere stand; Mr. and Mrs. George Sawyer, picture; Mr. and Mrs. W. G. McGill, sauce dishes; Mr. and Mrs. I.L. Grosse, knives and forks; Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Tuohy, towels; Amanda Seefeld, corner chair; Frank Schmidt and family, paper holder; Frank Vonrueden and family and John Arndofer(sic), rocker; Mr. and Mrs. J. Agathen, spoons; Frank Arndofer and family, rocker; Mr. and Mrs. Nate Whettam, center table; Frank Stute, bed-

and Mrs. Otto Kruse, spoons; Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Bischel, rocker; Miss Culver, spoons; Dr. J. J. Keithly, spoons; Paul Longley, creamer; Royal Longley, cake plate; Charles Koehler, fruit dish; Frank and Hattie Ludwig, lamp; Ferdinand Gramling, \$1.00; George Peardon, water set; Leon Peardon, meat fork; Gus Gates, fruit plate; Mr. and Mrs. John Whettam, center table; John Schmidt, picture; Jessie Piper, picture; Carrie Whettam, picture; Theresa Schmidt, jardiniere; James Allpress, tea spoons.

- *Eagle Quill*, October 26, 1906

Pardee - Weston

On January 14, Donald W. Pardee, proprietor of the Eagle Elevator, and Miss Florence Weston, a leading society young lady of Eagle, gained the march on the Priscillas by taking the early train to Milwaukee and there in the presence of Harold J. and Emily Pardee, brother and sister, and Mr. and Mrs. Hiram Way, were joined in the holy bonds of matrimony before the dinner hour. Rev. Ralph of the Mukwonago Congregational church performed the ceremony. They returned home Sunday night and were met at the depot by a committee with bells and on Monday night they were serenaded by the Priscilla club. The evening was pleasantly spent with cards and games and refreshments were served. The young couple start out in life with the best prospects for success and we all join in wishing them all the blessings that health and happiness can afford.

- *Eagle Quill*, January 22, 1909

Matrimonial Column

I wish to correspond with a view to matrimony. She must be handsome, accomplished, rich and not afraid to work. I will not interfere with her business in any way.

FRANK F--.

Young man with gorgeous golden hair, variegated complexion, desires a life companion. She must be young, beautiful and able to earn good wages. No objection to English or Norwegian descent. Address, RICHARD.

Wealthy bachelor, handsome, good tempered with irreproachable habits, desires to correspond with a young lady who is not too swift and would be willing to live with Paw and Maw.

CHOLLY.

Look here girls! The following list of eligibles is now offered to the world at large, as a last resort:

Martin Duffin	Dick Erwin	Art Bishop
Buel Houghton	Fred Lawton	
Frank Fisher	Chas. Bromley	
Henry Taylor	John Conley	
Ralph Bartholf	Will Swallow	

- *Fakirs' Gazette*, La Grange, Feb. 15, 1907

You're Invited!

Open House

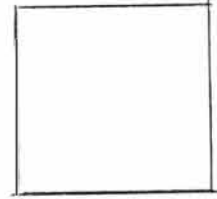
EAGLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM

**217 Main Street
Friday August 4th
6:00 - 8:30 P.M.**

- * Meet Other Society Members**
- * See The New Museum Exhibits**
- * Snacks, Wine & Punch Will Be Served**

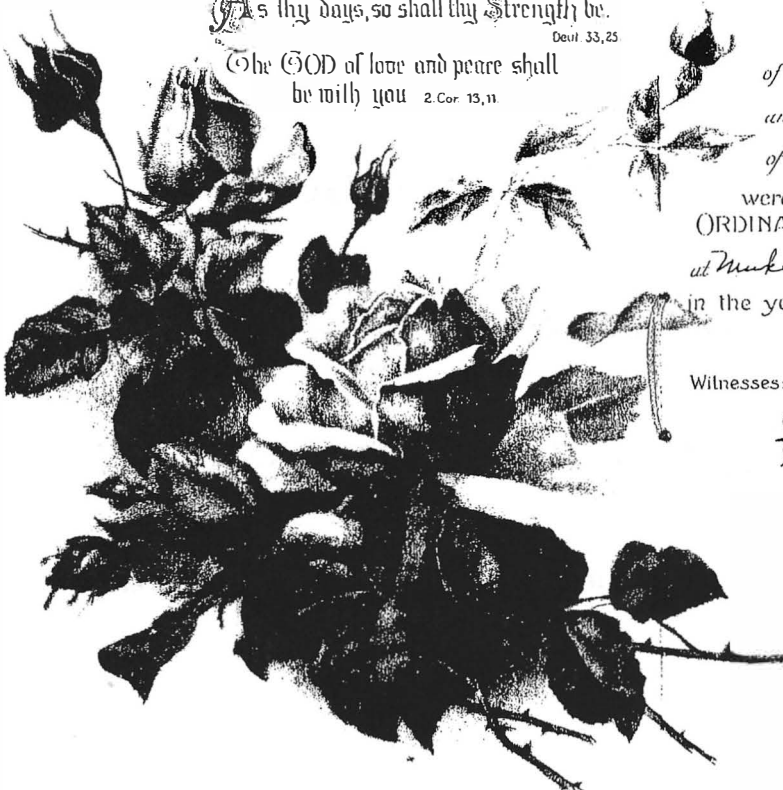
To help us plan, please RSVP by calling Irma Jolliffe at 594-2386, Pat Wilton at 594-2294 or Elaine Ledrowski at 594-3301

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



ADDRESS-CORRECTION REQUESTED

As thy days, so shall thy Strength be.
Deut. 33, 25
The GOD of love and peace shall
be with you 2 Cor. 13, 11



This CERTIFIES that

Robert Walter Jalliffe
of Eagle
and Emma Ann Vollmer
of Mukwonago

were united in MARRIAGE according to the
ORDINANCE of GOD and LAWS of the State of W. is .
at Mukwonago on the 28th day of December
in the year of our LORD 1935

A. H. Maaske
Pastor

Witnesses:

Gordon Vollmer
Margaret Jalliffe

'Tis HE who clasps the marriage band,
And fits the spousal ring,
Then leaves ye kneeling, hand in hand,
Out of His stores to bring
The choicest gifts, before you spread,
Of an all-bounteous King.