

EAGLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

Oct 2024



This climbing prairie rose was planted by Janet Evans and Scott Bovee in memory of our dedicated former financial officer, Don Ledrowski, who had envisioned roses gracing this side of the museum someday.

Photos above & below by Art Peavy.



A snapshot of our pollinator garden captured at its peak displays it happily flourishing from this summer's steady doses of rainfall—a stark contrast to last year's drought.

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WELCOME NEW MEMBERS:

- Senior \$8
Heidi Thessin
- Individual (\$10)
Barb Day Pinekenstein
- Family (\$15)
Tim & Jennifer Deuster
- Sponsor (\$50-\$99)
Kathy & Alan Werth

MEMBERSHIP DONATIONS

- Individual (\$10)
Jim Steinke
- Family (\$15)
Deb & Bernie Gilbert
- Sponsor (\$50-\$99)
Don Enright
Dorothy Murphy

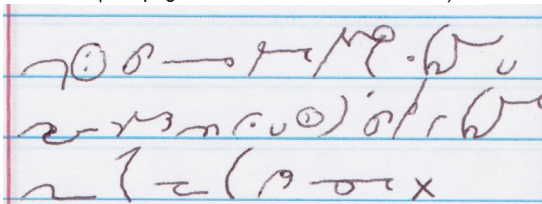
CASH DONATION

Eagle Spring Yacht Club \$300

Membership renewal letters will be sent out in December. The number on your mailing label shows the year that your membership remains active. So, if you see 2024 after your name, check your mail for a letter from EHS asking you to renew.

SHORTHAND TRIVIA

(See pages 2 & 6 for translation/answer.)



EHS BOARD

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Jeff Nowicki, 2026

VICE-PRESIDENT
Eloise Hall, 2025

SECRETARY
Art Peavy, 2026

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262-594-3301

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Art & Carrie Peavy

WEBMASTER
Mike Rice

FACEBOOK
Elaine Ledrowski

EHS MUSEUM
262-594-8961

OPEN HOURS:
Wednesdays: 9 am-Noon
Fridays: 9 am-Noon
Saturdays: 9 am-Noon

WEBSITE:
www.eaglehistoricalsociety.org

FACEBOOK: Like us at
Eagle Historical Society

ICE CREAM SOCIAL AND P/E COMMUNITY BAND CONCERT

by Carrie Peavy



We had great weather and a nice crowd for the band concert and ice cream social. Memories of our childhoods were relived while enjoying musical selections performed by the Palmyra/Eagle Community Band under the direction of bandmaster Jim Neist. Jeff Nowicki kept the ice cream line moving along as our bakery committee ladies kept three sets of watchful eyes on the quantity and variety of cake slices available for our visitors. *Photo left & below by Mike Rice.*



Gib Hoefakker (assisted by his granddaughter) proudly stood at attention and saluted the flag while the band played “The Star-Spangled Banner” (as he did when serving our country in the US Navy). Thank you for your service, Gib!

Photo at left by Anne Jung.

(continued from page 1)

SHORTHAND TRIVIA TRANSLATION:

Question: How many terms describing a bundle of corn stalks can you think of, and how did the bundles come to be known by these names?

(continued on page 6)

PUMPKIN PARTY

Join us for the 16th annual EBA Pumpkin Party on Saturday, October 26. Stop in and see us for fun, games, and treats from 2:00–4:00 pm.



BAKE SALE



Be sure to visit our EHS Bake Sale table before/after or before **and** after the voting booth on Tuesday, Nov. 5. Many homemade goods await you!

DIGITAL PHOTO ALBUM

We are excited to offer access to hundreds of old photos on our up-and-running digital photo album located in our Vernetta Heare Conference Room. This was made possible by the team efforts of Jeff Nowicki, Carolyn Rosprim, Mike Rice, and the late Don Ledrowski who spent hundreds of hours scanning, cropping, identifying, and cataloging these photos over the years. Stop in to try it out. You may find yourself, a family member, or friend yet to be identified.

by Sandra Shorr

My mission statement is simply this.....

The Eagle Cemetery Preservation Association's mission is to collaborate with the Town of Eagle to commemorate its heritage by contributing to the restoration and preservation of its historic cemeteries. These are the final resting places of many of its earliest settlers and contributors to the development and formation of the present day municipality.

My natural curiosity and passion for preserving and restoring local history and seeing a need while working in Oak Grove Cemetery three years ago sparked an idea that has led to the formation of a non-profit organization, the Eagle Cemetery Preservation



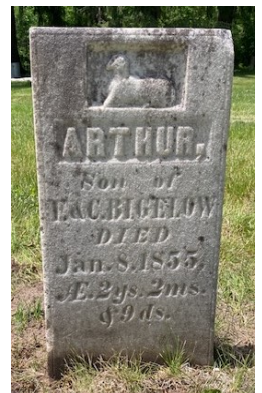
Association. After acquiring the needed permission from the Town of Eagle Board to allow me to do the restorations, which I deeply appreciate, I formed the NPO, had trifold informational pamphlets made, and started a banking account and Facebook site and now file annual IRS and WI Dept. of Financial Institutions reports. Oak Grove had no sign to designate its location, so I commissioned a local fabricator to make a historically correct wrought iron sign, and it was

installed. Cutting down buckthorn and other overgrown vegetation was accomplished with the help of some local scout troops. Lastly, simply finding and marking fallen fragments or partially buried headstones and footstones was done.

These last two years have included an educational process where I have traveled to watch and participate in restoration workshops. I have watched many tutorials given by renowned educators in this field. Many have acquired their expertise at national cemeteries including Arlington National Cemetery. There is a "process" to restoring a fragmented headstone and proper steps need to be taken. It is important to me that this be accomplished, being as historically accurate as possible. I make my own mortar but do use epoxy. Epoxy is the new "pin" method. Many headstones are so old (150 years +) and "sugared", they would not withstand drilling into them. I keep a written journal of each project as well as take before, during, and after pictures. I have made new headstone bases and have learned how many variations of headstones exist!



The most interesting part of this project is when I get the time to delve into some of the history of these people. This cemetery holds many family members of the original pioneers to Eagle from the 1837 to 1839 era. It has farmers and entrepreneurs establishing the beginning of Eagle Centre! I am astonished at how many children are buried here, some with family members but many alone or with one sibling.



Unchecked diseases, accidents, and families moving on have left their young loved ones to rest with us in Eagle.

(Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 3)

Among this summer's projects, has been the restoration and preservation of three prominent pioneer families in Eagle.

James Family The original James members, Henry and Mary, farmers, settled in Eagle approximately 1850. Their plots are positioned midway on the north perimeter of the property, and a son's family is located by a monument near Hwy. 67. Their significance to Eagle and this cemetery, is that son John, who was a farmer and wagon maker in Eagle, sold one and one-half acres of their property to the Grove Cemetery Association for \$10.00 in 1853.



Bovee Family It appears Matthias Bovee and wife came to Eagle around 1843. It is written that the Bovees acquired thousands of acres of land. Here in Eagle, history includes marriages to the Spragues and Pittmans who platted out Eagle. Relatives included Marvin Bovee who abolished capital punishment in WI. Many Bovee family members have help shape Eagle, WI, and the USA. Oak Grove Cemetery is honored to have Bovee family members, where their grave sites have been restored, repositioned, and preserved.

Betts Family Legend has it Jonathan Betts, along with Francis Draper and their first two children, settled in Eagle around 1837. Jonathan lived with the Drapers in a log cabin for a few years, until he acquired parcels of land, accumulating 160 acres to farm, build a home, marry Lucina and begin his own family. He was known for his team of oxen. Many family members remain in Eagle and the surrounding area.



Lastly, a huge undertaking to restore the Mead monument, the largest in Oak Grove, is underway!

Resupplying all the materials to accomplish this restoration is ongoing. The products I use are safe and effective on the headstones as well as environmentally safe.

Please feel free to visit us on FB or at eagle.cp.association@gmail.com for more information including ways that you can help.



EHS OPEN HOUSE EVENT— SUCCESS

by Kathy Werth



Photo albums organized by category.

A combination of splendid weather, live music, tasty appetizers and refreshments resulted in a successful Eagle Historical Society Open House event on Sunday, August 18, 2024.

This was my first EHS event, and I was impressed by the number of visitors who attended, the detailed historical exhibits and photo albums displayed throughout the museum, and the new computer resource center anyone can use to research historical details.

Stepping outside to the patio, I was greeted by several EHS volunteers and then the live music performed by Kettle Moraine Blues under the leadership of Jim Neist. Thank you for performing beautifully for our visitors.

As an Eagle newcomer, I am quickly learning that the sharing of food and beverages is a great way to meet our volunteers and visitors. The appetizer and dessert table was filled with wonderful items—a nice treat on a great day.

It was obvious to me that the EHS board and volunteers have invested time, creativity and care into creating exhibits and delivering artifacts and information as it relates to life in Eagle. During my next visit, I plan to spend more time on each exhibit. I encourage you to visit the museum and absorb the diverse history EHS has to offer.



Back Row: Food Committee: Pat Hawes, Diana Hall, Ellie Hall. Foreground: Marlys Badinger and Bonnie Sherman. Photos by Anne Jung.

ARTIFACT DONATIONS

This is a partial list of items donated. Thanks to the following donors:

- | | |
|---|---|
| Scott Bovee—Copies of wedding photos | Julie Mann—Copies of wedding photos |
| Roger Cole—Two photos of Eagle | Art & Carrie Peavy—Copies of wedding photos |
| Janet Evans—Order of Eastern Star memorabilia,
photos and book | Barb Day Pinekenstein—Photos, albums, newspaper
articles |
| Steve Gulgowski—Copies of wedding photos | Carolyn Rosprim—Copies of wedding photos |

If the Eagle Historical Society has provided you with meaningful information about the place we think of as home, please consider including the EHS in your will (estate?). Naming EHS as a donation recipient in your will or obituary is an easy way to help ensure the continuation of the important work done to preserve our history and heritage. If you have questions or want to know more, please contact Elaine at the Eagle Historical Society at 262-594-8961. EHS is a nonprofit corporation organized under the Internal Revenue Code 501 (c) (3). All membership fees and donations are tax exempt.

as told by Gilbert 'Gib' Hoefakker, Jr. and transcribed by Art and Carrie Peavy

Looking back, it is likely that growing up in Muskegon near the shores of Lake Michigan greatly influenced my love of water and the outdoors. One of my fondest memories is of fly fishing on trout streams.

In 1950, my buddy and I had intended to attend college together. He received a scholarship; I did not. I decided to follow in the footsteps of my paternal uncles and join the US Navy. Since I was still in high school, I remained in the Reserves until I graduated and went on active duty in January 1952 in Pensacola, FL, aboard the USS Gilliss 13 performing mine sweeping (hunting for undetonated bombs dropped in the ocean during WWII) along the US eastern coastal waters.

For about three years, I was assigned to the USS Roberts DE 749 as a I Class Electricians Mate. I went to electrical school in Little Creek, VA, and have used those skills my whole life. I also learned Morse Code and became a ham radio operator.

The most repetitious, yet necessary, task I performed was aboard the USS Sagamore where I spent about a year laying cable from Cape Canaveral to the equator while pulling a sea going tug. My travels took me to ports of Spain, Portugal, Cuba, the Caribbean, Nova Scotia, Dominion Republic, and Haiti. I attended a few bull fights.

My honorable discharge came in January of 1957 as an E6 after meeting my future wife Ruth and deciding to marry. We would enjoy 63 happy years together raising a family in Minnesota and Waukesha.

The GI Bill allowed me to obtain a doctorate degree in theology. I taught Christian theology, philosophy, and bioethics at Oak Hills Christian College in Bemidji, MN, (much preferring teaching over serving on committees) and still maintain contact with some of my former students. Bemidji State University accepted the bioethics curriculum I developed for use by our students for the ethics portion of their nursing studies. I served as the associate pastor at Waukesha Bible Church for 25 years with Bill Brigs, who was one of the more memorable people I have met during my lifetime. I could talk to him about anything, and he helped me build my first canoe.

Past hobbies include: playing trumpet in the Bemidji Community Band, duck hunting, and teaching my grandchildren how to fish. My buddy and I also enjoyed skiing on some of the best cross country trails in the area (the Ice Age Trail) early in the morning after my wife left for work as a nurse at Children's Hospital.

My days are quieter now spent with family, keeping the local library staff busy finding me more reading material to satisfy my voracious appetite, reflecting on good memories, and meeting up with my buddies for lunch.

I never saw combat. I am just an ordinary man who has been extraordinarily blessed by God.

Photos are from Gib's personal collection.



(continued from pages 1-2)

SHORTHAND TRIVIA ANSWER:

A bundle of corn stalks is called: a shock, stook, or stack. The purpose of a stook [or 'stooking'] is to dry the un-threshed grain for a period of days to weeks before threshing to achieve a moisture level low enough for storage and cure it while protecting it from vermin. Farmers used to manually cut sheaves of grain, tie them in bundles, and stack them against one another vertically to form a "shock" so that they could air dry. In the era before combine harvesters and powered grain driers, stooking was necessary to dry the grain using corn knives, sickles, scythes, or mechanical reaper-binders. Today, most of the shocks we see in our area are prepared for decorative purposes in the fall.

Abridged answer retrieved from <https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Stook&oldid=1223399424>

Enright, Darla M.*November 21, 1937—July 15, 2024*

Darla M. Enright, formerly Darla M. Morateck, 86, of Whitewater, WI and previously of Mukwonago, WI passed away on Monday, July 15, 2024 at Hearthstone of Whitewater. She has left this world to be with her savior in the room of the house he has prepared for her.

Darla was born on November 21, 1937 in Evansville, WI the daughter of Robert and Wilva (Croake) Albright. She grew up in the Evansville area and after graduating high school she continued her schooling at Milton College. Darla was a talented singer and majored in Music Performance. Darla was united in marriage to George Morateck and God blessed their union with two children, Michael and Michele. George and Darla would go on to enjoy many years of marriage together until his passing in 1997. Darla later married Don Enright and the two would go on to make many wonderful memories together. They greatly enjoyed traveling and spending time with family among many other activities. Darla had a sweet and kind disposition. She was warm and outgoing and a friend to all she met. Her lifetime was a journey in which she blessed her students and those she met with a grace that was unique and special. Darla worked as a kindergarten teacher for more than 30 years and positively affected the lives of the students and teachers she taught to and with. She taught in Mukwonago and North Prairie until she retired. She was an active member of Highview Evangelical Presbyterian Church of Dousman and her faith was very important to her. Darla was also passionate about performing as a singer in local choirs, musical theater and church. She was in a number of productions with the Mukwonago Players and loved every one of them. In her later years she was part of a team that visited many area senior living centers and sang with the group and also played the Omnicord. For leisure, Darla enjoyed art, making pottery, painting, sewing and knitting. Darla was a true lady and she will be deeply missed but forever remembered by those she leaves behind.

She is survived by: her husband, Don Enright of Mukwonago, WI; her brother, Doug (Traci) Albright of LaFarge, WI; her two children, Michael and wife DeeDee Morateck of East Troy, WI and Michele Scolman-Heizman of Fort Atkinson, WI; her step-children, Timothy (Becky) Enright of Ashippun, WI, Kevin (Kelly) Enright of Delafield, WI and Erin Enright of Mukwonago, WI; her grandchildren, Nicholas (Amy) Morateck of Greenfield, Michael (Jenna) Morateck of Appleton, Samantha Morateck of Waukesha, Dalton (Cassie) Scolman of Fort Atkinson, and Jordan Scolman of Fort Atkinson; step grandchildren Tyler, Conner, Liam, Eden, Collin, and Ava; her great-grandchildren, Rowan, Winslow, Rhys, Zaiden, Seneca and Maisy; and she is also survived by a number of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

She is preceded in death by her parents, her first husband George, and her brother, Donald Albright.

Memorials in Darla's honor were made to the Highview Evangelical Presbyterian Church or to the Fairhaven Foundation - Hearthstone.

A Memorial Service was held to honor Darla's life at Highview Evangelical Presbyterian Church at 5:00PM on Thursday, August 15th. Visitation took place from 3:00 pm to 5:00PM. A reception meal followed the service.

Gibson Family Funeral Homes of Eagle and Palmyra, WI served the family. Online condolences were placed on gibsonfuneral.com.

Eckart, Wallace W., Jr.*Dec. 11, 1953—July 25, 2024*

Wallace W. Eckart, Jr. age 70, of Eagle, WI passed away peacefully on Thursday, July 25, 2024 at AngelsGrace Hospice Center in Oconomowoc.

Wally was born on December 11, 1953 in West Bend, WI the son of Wallace W. and Mary (Bryant) Eckart, Sr. Wally was united in marriage to the love of his life, Peggy A. Bohrman on August 3, 1974 in Waukesha and the two would go on to enjoy over 49 years of marriage together. Wally and Peggy were blessed with two children, Laura and William. Wally worked in a few different capacities over

his career. He worked as a mechanical engineer for Waukesha Engine for 20 years, and then as sales and diagnostic representative for his own company Heavy Duty Specialties. Wally was gifted with an analytical and creative mind. He was skilled at diagnosing problems and finding practical solutions. He could draft and design plans with ease and his welcoming personality allowed him to instruct and assist his co-workers and clients in a friendly manner. Wally had a heart to serve others and did so in his professional and personal life. He was president of the Eagle Elementary Parent Teacher Organization for a few years, and served on the local school board. He also served as a member and president of the Eagle Lions Club, where he earned the Melvin Jones Fellow award for dedicated humanitarian service. Wally had many interests during his life. He had a deep love of music and enjoyed playing Trumpet in the Burlington Kiwanis Civic Band with Peggy for over 30 years. He loved to entertain, including having a starring role in church events and as Hagrid at Hogwarts in Hartland. Above all else in Wally's life was his love for his family, enjoying the many trips they took across the country. He was a devoted husband, father and grandfather and will be sincerely missed by those he leaves behind.

He is survived by: his loving wife, Peggy Eckart of Eagle, WI; his two dear children, Laura (Alexander) Chandler of Hartland, WI, and William Eckart of Medford, OR; his precious granddaughter, Lily Chandler; his cousins, Donna (Brad) Peters of Belvedere, IL and Arthur Hallman of Waupaca, WI; and his brother-in-law Robert(Karlene) Bohrman of New Berlin. He is also survived by a number of other relatives and many friends.

He is preceded in death by his parents, and two brothers at a young age, William and Robert.

Memorials in Wallace's honor were made to the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation – Wisconsin Chapter of Brookfield, the American Kidney Fund, or AngelsGrace Hospice of Oconomowoc, WI.

A Celebration of Wally's life was held from 2:00PM until 5:00PM on Sunday, August 11, 2024 at the Gibson Family Funeral Home in Eagle, WI (499 Elkhorn Road, Eagle, WI 53119).

Gibson Family Funeral Homes of Eagle and Palmyra, WI served the family. Online condolences were placed at gibsonfuneral.com.

OBITUARY**Chapman, Russell L.**

Dec. 23, 1934—Oct. 4, 2024



Russell L. Chapman, 89, of Eagle, WI passed away on Friday, October 4, 2024, at Lakeland Medical Center in Elkhorn.

Russ was born on December 23, 1934, in Eagle, the son of Archie and Helen (Dingman) Chapman. He grew up in the Eagle area and was a 1952 graduate of East Troy High School. After his schooling, Russ faithfully served his country in the United States Army and was deployed to Korea. After an honorable discharge, Russ came back to Eagle and worked with his father and his uncle, Harold, at Chapman Oil. He worked as a Standard Oil Agent, Amoco Jobber and a BP Jobber for a total of more than 40 years. Russ was also dedicated in serving his local community. He was a volunteer fireman for the Eagle Fire

Department for 30 years, a charter member and past president of the Eagle Lions Club as well as a lifelong member of the Eagle United Methodist Church.

On June 11, 1960, Russ was united in marriage to Patricia McAllister and the two would go on to enjoy 64 years of marriage together. God blessed their union with four children, Lisa, Diane, Robert and Daniel. Russ was a proud and involved father and grandfather. He was dedicated to supporting his children and grandchildren and rarely, if ever, missed a sporting event or other activity that involved his family. For leisure Russ enjoyed golfing, playing cards and doing yardwork. He will be remembered for his quiet nature and sense of humor. Russ was a good man and will be sincerely missed by those he leaves behind.

Russ is survived by: his loving wife, Patricia Chapman of Eagle; his children, Lisa (John) Linneman, Diane (Todd) Snyder, Robert (Kari Kuss) Chapman, Daniel (Mary) Chapman; his grandchildren, Samantha (Chuck) Huebner, Kasey (Vanessa) Snyder, Kristin (Jake) Lofy, Matt Chapman, Jenny (Greg) Arnold, Emily (Kyle Schmidt) Chapman, Jonathon (Katie) Chapman, Nicole (Jon) Hubbard, Drew (Kaylin) Chapman; his thirteen great-grandchildren, Madelyn, Leah, Graham, Caid, Wesley, Ella, Jackson, Holden, Maeve, Liam, Evelyn, Callie, and Hensley; and his sisters-in-law, Sandra Brothers, Rae McAllister and Ann McAllister. He is also survived by a number of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

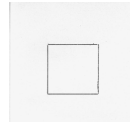
He is preceded in death by: his parents, his brother Darrell Chapman; his sister, Doris Hackel; his brothers-in-law, Don Hackle, Wayne McAllister, Tom McAllister, and Dan Brothers; his sister-in-law Joyce Chapman and his son-in-law, Robert Javorek.

In lieu of flowers, memorials in Russell's honor were made to the Eagle Fire Department or a charity of one's choice.

A Funeral Service was held at 1:00PM on Saturday, October 12, 2024, at the Gibson Family Funeral Home in Eagle (499 Elkhorn Road, Eagle, WI 53119). Visitation took place from 11:00AM until the time of service at the funeral home. Russ was laid to rest following the service in Oak Ridge Cemetery of Eagle, WI.

Gibson Family Funeral Homes of Eagle and Palmyra, WI served the family. Online condolences were placed at gibsonfuneral.com.

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



Mailing Label

MUKWONAGO RED BRICK MUSEUM TOUR

by Carrie Peavy



Have you ever driven past the Mukwonago Red Brick Museum and thought, “I really need to stop in and check this out someday?” Such was the case with a group of EHS friends who attended a tour in September. Looks can be deceiving, and what appeared to be a tiny building seemed to expand with each room we explored in this recently renovated museum. Three collections of unique local and Wisconsin tribal artifacts (Arthur Grutzmacher, Charles Schoewe, and William Kirkby) comprise the Native American Room alone. We are so thankful for having had this opportunity and would encourage others to stop in to satisfy your curiosity. You won’t be disappointed! While they are currently closed to the public except for Dec. 7 (4-9 pm), watch for their 2025 schedule of tours and special events and learn much more by contacting them at: FB, (262) 363-6413, or mukwonagohistoricalsociety.org.



EHS visitors and MHS tour leaders Henry Hecker and Janine Coley. Photos by Art Peavy.

★ ★ UPCOMING EHS EVENTS ★ ★

Sat., Oct. 26
Tue., Nov. 5

Pumpkin Party 2:00—4:00 pm at the museum
Election Day Bake Sale at Eagle Municipal Building