THE EAGLE

CHIPPEWA COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

SPEAKS

AUGUST 2010

"OLD ABE"

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Inside this Issue:

Calendar
Chippewa Canning Co3
Committee Members 7
County News 2-3
Donations9
Featured Artifact4
Genealogical Society9
Historic Markers7
Marsh Bridge Update5
President's Letter 4
The Famous 400!1
Volunteer Profile

Grand Central Station, Chicago, 1963



Mark your calendar and save this date:

CCHS Bi-Annual Membership Picnic Potluck

Irvine Park Activities Building

Monday, September 20 5:30 p.m.



The Famous 400!

ARLEY ENGEL

In the summer of 1946. As a young farm lad our neighbor Frank Wall talked me into steering and braking the Wall brother's John Deere model G tractor as he towed it to his brother-in-law's farm at Elk Mound. This was about a 12 mile trip at the time. I think the G was the largest tractor that John Deere built at the time, and the steering was quite stiff for a 9 year old lad. Frank was towing it with a 1946 Buick Roadmaster. He kept the speed between 15 and 20 miles per hour, which seemed fairly fast in the cool morning air. Our reason for taking the tractor to Elk Mound was to help Wilbert "Ebe" Meyer finish the baling of his hay crop, as his Case tractor had broken down and would not be repaired for nearly a week. They had about 20 acres cut and ready to be baled. As we came near the farm just across a 7 acre field, I noticed a fast train with a rotating head light—that light really caught my attention.



COUNTY NEWS

Stanley Area Historical SocietyDAVE JANKOSKI, REPORTER

Our new addition was officially opened on July 10. We were very happy that Dr. Ellsworth Brown, the Director of the Wisconsin Historical Society and Janet Seymour, Regional Representative, were both able to be present and offer

remarks. Dr. Brown also assisted with the ribbon cutting ceremony. Pre-event publicity in our local weekly and in the two regional daily newspapers allowed many in the Chippewa Valley to be introduced to our museum. We were very pleased that over 400 visitors attended during the two-day event. The five artisans who presented were very well received. Overall, we couldn't have wished for a more successful opening. And the weather also cooperated!

Besides helping develop and create a museum exhibit that recognizes the 100th Anniversary of Scouting, local scouts set up camp on the museum's front lawn during our open house on July 10 and 11. The scouts made donuts and oatmeal cookies over an open fire and shared a taste with visitors who stopped by to visit their camp. The scouts had fun and their visitors had a tasty treat.

Besides our new addition being opened we also reopened our Farm and Logging Building, which has been completely cleaned and reassembled, with many additions to the exhibit topics. Much new signage has also been added due to the handiwork of Brian Solie, a retired Stanley carpenter. There are also several completely new exhibits that have been added with an emphasis on the cash crops that were grown by the early farmers to supplement their meager family income.

There are many volunteers that we need to thank for working on our new building. We are indeed fortunate to have received approximately \$140,000 in donations to date and have only approximately \$8,000 remaining to be paid off.



Postcard featuring the dining car of the new 1935 "400." Collection of Jeff Hampton. www.cnwhs.org

The Famous 400! continued from cover

When we finally got to the farm, my first question to Frank was, "What in the world was that train with the flashing light?" His answer was, "That my boy was the Famous 400 Train that travels from the Twin Cities to Chicago in 400 minutes."

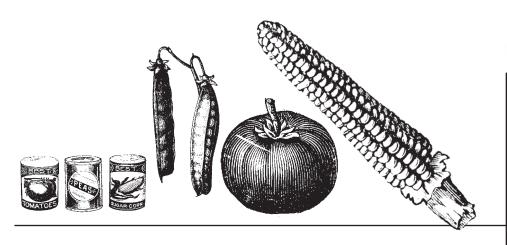
My next experience with the 400 was in the summer of 1947. My mother Evelyn Engel and I were invited to Chicago to visit her brother, my Uncle Jerry Peterson and his new wife, Reva. This year must have been some of the good times after World War II for Wisconsin farmers, as we had purchased a new International KB-5 1/2 ton truck, a new Fox chopper with hay and corn head, a Hudson pacemaker car, and a new Forney Arc welder. I remember this welder well as brother Eugene and I were helping dad weld up a new guard to put over the electric motor and the belts of our pump jack. Dad had been warned not to look at the arc without using the welder's helmet, and I'm sure he tried to impress that fact on us boys, but boys will be boys and we did a lot of peeking at what kind of work he was doing with the fancy new welder. Our peeking did not bother our eyes at first, but as we got into the evening they started to itch, and as evening rolled on they got progressively worse. Our eyes hurt so bad that around 10 that night mother called Dr. Picotte to see what we could do for the pain. He suggested that she peel some potato's, then squeeze them to get some of the juice, and then put this juice directly into the eye. This was soothing for a while but the pain became unbearable. The Doc had told mother that the effect from watching the welder was the same as sunburn on our eyes—and mother and I were going to Chicago in just a few days!

Dad loaded us in the new Hudson and headed to the 400 depot in Eau Claire. This was going to be a very exciting trip. I think it was the first time mother and I had left the farm on our own. After we boarded the train everything that we did was new to us. Can you imagine a 10 year old kid and his mother being turned loose on such a marvelous unit as this? We hadn't traveled very long when the conductor came through and punched our tickets, told us we were free to roam to different cars, and to be sure to check out the dining car. The conductor noticed us wandering around and gave us a short tour. He first guided us to the sleeping car where he showed us how the beds were made. Then he took us into the Observation Car where the seats were set at a different angle for better viewing of the country side. When we got to Wyeville there was a short delay, which I did not understand. How were we going to make 400 miles in 400 minutes? After this delay we were on to Chicago.

Our experience at Grand Central Station in Chicago was breathtaking (please see cover photo). We were being met at the station by an aunt that I had never met and an uncle that I had not seen for 3 years, while he was in the Navy. They finally picked us out in the crowd. We were whisked off in a cab to their apartment to start a week of much entertainment including River View Park and the roller coaster, "ride again for a dime".

That's all for now from Engel's Little House On the Wheaton Prairie. :

-2-



Chippewa Canning Co.

BY ARLEY ENGEL

The Chippewa Canning Company, previously located at 909 E. Grand Avenue, began in late 1900 with a corporation formed by L.C. Stanley, J.B. Kehl, James McKinnon, William Irvine, A.B. McDonell, M.A. Poznanski, Leslie Wilson, M.S. Bailey, Thomas Kelly and L.M. Newman. Their goal was to build the biggest and best canning company in the state. The construction of the main building began in 1901. The factory was 36x80 feet, the engine room 16x20 and the big warehouse was 20x50 feet. The buildings were enclosed by the end of February and they proceeded with the installation of machinery. The total contract for acreage of peas, corn and tomatoes was approximately 500 acres. In 1902 the plant produced 711,000 cans of peas and in December of that year the canning company shipped 130 head (5 carloads) of fine cattle to the market. The cattle had been fed on pea vines and corn husks to fatten them up.

In 1908 they added pumpkin (discontinued in 1914) and in 1914 they added snap peas (discontinued in 1917). Major rebuilding and enlarging took place in 1916 and in 1931 the plant was remodeled and enlarged to twice its original size. It then became a three-line plant for peas and corn. In 1942 the firm became a partnership between Ray C. Lange and A.B. Hein, operating as Chippewa Canneries. The production was marketed under the company's own labels: Sally Ann, Jack and Jill, and Green Babies.

In the early 1950's Paul Glasner was the plant manager and some of the other local employees included Fieldmen: John Lynn, Dayton Reed, and Steve Rooney. Some of the men that worked with the harvesting equipment and at the viners included Elmer Bowe, Perry Johnson, John Goettl, Mickey Schneider, Leon Fye, Shorty Wellner, Earl Schick, Bernie Steinmitz and Trummie Schneider. Some of the younger guys that worked on the pea harvest included Dennis Bowe, Roger Bowe, Tom Lea and yours truly Arley Engel. There were also many women working in the plant including Hilda Bowe, Barb Gaier and Caroline Goettl.

We will be doing a Historical Marker for the Chippewa Canning Company and we are looking for Photos and any information that you would like to share with us. We are especially looking for info on when it closed. Please contact us at the Area History Center (on Tuesdays) at 715 723-4399.



COUNTY NEWS

Cadott Area Historical Society

B.A. SCHWETZ, PRESIDENT

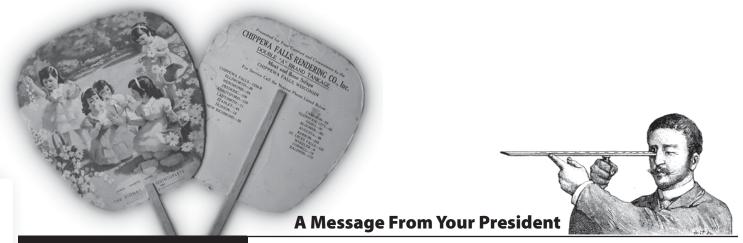
Spring was the time for numerous events and projects for the CAHS. Heritage Days were celebrated during May by inviting students from local 4-6th grade classes to visit the historical society museum. The theme was the development of the maple syrup industry in the Cadott area. Mr. John Roth, developer of one of the early sugarbush enterprises in rural Cadott, spoke to the kids about the four generations of his family involved in the Roth Sugarbush and the current state of the art of making maple syrup. The kids enjoyed receiving a dish of ice cream with maple syrup.

The CAHS increased its display of old farm equipment by adding an outside display of antique equipments donated by one of its members, Mr. Tom Chapek. Many people have already enjoyed this addition to our history of farming in the Cadott area.

Cadott celebrated Nabor Days in early July, a major summer festival for the whole community. As in the past, the CAHS sold strawberry shortcake during the two-day event. CAHS members pick the berries and make the shortcakes. This has become a significant part of the socialization that takes place at Nabor Days.

"Country schools" are disappearing across the country as they disintegrate from lack of use. Cadott made a commitment to preserve one of these schools, the Baker School, by moving it to the Riverview Park in the Village of Cadott several years ago. The village and the CAHS agreed to move the school from the Park to the property of CAHS buildings, an event which is scheduled to take place in mid-July.

Come and visit our museum and talk with our members who are at the museum every Monday, except holidays, from 9am to 4pm.



FEATURED ARTIFACT

What do the Dionne Quintuplets and Chippewa Falls have in common?

NANCY SCHUH

Fred and Cynthia Schmidt recently donated two 1937, Dionne Quintuplets /Chippewa Falls Rendering Co. promotional fans. Fred discovered the fans in the upper shelf of a closet soon after inheriting his Mother's cottage. The cottage has been in Fred's family for three generations. His grandparents Rev. Karl and Lydia Bubeck were the original owners. Rev. Bubeck was the founder of St. John's Lutheran Church in Cadott. Their children built the cottage as a gift to them in 1938.

On one side of the fans are the names and images of the Quintuplets and on the other side is an advertisement for the Chippewa Falls Rendering Co. It reads that the fans are "Presented for Your Comfort and Convenience by the Chippewa Falls Rendering Co. Inc. Double A Brand Tankage, Meat and Bone Scraps." It then lists the towns where they provide service and their corresponding one to four digit telephone numbers.

The quintuplets were born in 1934 near Corbeil, Ontario, Canada. After spending their first four months with their family they were made wards of the King for the next nine years, during which time they were one of Canada's largest tourist's attractions. The sisters and their images were used to publicize many commercial products including Quaker Oats, Karo Syrup, and in our area, the Chippewa Falls Rendering Co.

It doesn't seem possible it's time for this message again. I have to admit that my purchase of a Foreign 5 and Lucy's Delicatessen has taken most of my time, which has left too little for the Historical Society. As the business settles down I hope I will be able to spend more time on Society business. My thanks to Jim Schuh, Vice President, who has been very helpful as has the rest of the regulars at the History Center on Tuesday since my venture into retail.

The Board of Directors took action at its last meeting to raise the membership fee. It has been a number of years since the last increase in dues. The expense of operating the Historical Society, its museum at 123 Allen Street has increased. The new membership fees are:

Individual (1 year) \$20

Family (1 year) \$25

The Contributing Member \$50, Life Member (Individual) \$125, and Life Member (Couple) \$175 were not increased.

Several years ago the Board changed the membership renewal date for all members to October 1. Please check your mailing label for your membership information. Enclosed in the newsletter is an envelop for you to return your membership dues or donation. Please don't forget to renew your membership. Your membership in the Chippewa County Historical Society is important to help us preserve our rich history.

A change is coming. Our museum displays have been static for a long time and it is time for a change. The Board and I are looking at our museum and the use of the space we have at the History Center. We are preparing a detailed plan of changes to the museum and the use of the space. While this project has just begun we are planning to have it done so we can share it with the membership at the September Membership Meeting. This is an exciting endeavor and an enormous undertaking. We'll need lots of help.

For the second year the Society had a display at the Solstice On Grand Art Faire. It is an excellent opportunity for the Society to educate the public on our task of preserving the rich history of Chippewa County. Look for the pictures of the event in this issue. Thanks to all who worked at the display talking with visitors.

In case you haven't heard we lost Gail Willi the end of July. She was an important asset to the Historical Society. Gail became a director in 1993 and has been on the Board since then. She was involved in many activities including Display Committee, Artifacts Committee. She headed up several fund raising raffles, and chaired the Sesquicentennial Committee. Gail manned the Pure Water Days booth for several years. Her passion was researching church history of churches in Chippewa Falls. We will miss her contributions to the Historical Society.

Dave 🐿

Arley Engel and Jeff Prichard man the CCHS information display and sales table at the Second Annual Summer Solstice Art Fair in the Cook Rutledge Mansion carriage house. A painting of the Reverend Charles F. X. Goldsmith was on display as well as other examples of fine art from our museum.



TETRA, a barbershop quartet, lead by Jim Erickson, far right, entertained visitors around the mansion grounds and at the CCHS display. On the right is an original painting by renowned late local artist Hugh Mandelert.





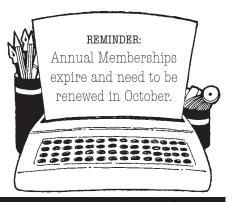
MARSH RAINBOW ARCH **BRIDGE UPDATE**

JIM SCHUH

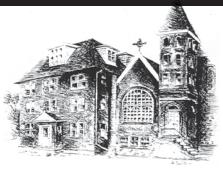
Our last three newsletters have included articles about our concern regarding the possible removal of the Marsh Rainbow Arch Bridge. This is the last remaining bridge in Wisconsin constructed in this architecturally significant style. We are anticipating the intermediate public information

meeting, that was originally scheduled to be held in March 2010, to be scheduled soon. The below information update was furnished by the Project Engineer:

"We are waiting for the Wisconsin Department of Transportation Management Consultant (WDOT-MC) to review our Draft Alternative Analysis Report. We want to make sure that they agree with our recommendations before holding the Intermediate Public Informational Meeting. We sent the WDOT-MC the Draft report on March 17, 2010. We are still waiting for comments. I would hope to have comments soon so that we can get the meeting scheduled. I'm hopeful that we can have the meeting this fall. As soon as the report has been reviewed by the WDOT-MC and revisions are made, I believe the City will post the report on their website." Visit: http://www.chippewafalls-wi.gov/City news.htm



Membership Form



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☐ Contributing Member (1 Year)...... \$50 Life Member (Individual)......\$125 ☐ Life (Couple)\$175

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Chippewa Falls, WI 54729



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Thank you for your note of appreciation to Historic Marker Com-Inank you for your note of appreciation to Historic Marker Committee
Takion to the Viviania Club about the Chinacian County Uistania mirree Chairman, Iom Larson, Ioliowing his slideshow presentation to the Kiwanis Club about the Chippewa County line 15th tation to the kiwanis club about the Chippewa County Historic al Society (CCHS) Historic Chared Your note with committee committee the committee that the committee t cal Society (LCHS) Historic Marker program. At our June 15th committee meeting, Tom shared your note with committee mambers Dear Joe: Thank you also for your generous \$200 Historic Marker program Inank you also for your generous \$200 Historic Marker program donation that was enclosed. The CCHS, is recognized by the IRS, aunduun und was enclosed. The CCH3, is recognized by the instance of the senciosed organization and therefore your constant as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization informed the committee above tribution is the doductible to the senciosed organization and the committee above the profit of the doductible to the senciosed organization is the doductible to the senciosed organization is the doductible to the senciosed organization and the committee above the senciosed organization and the senciose as a SUIICI(3) non-pront organization and the committee about tribution is tax deductible. Tom informed the committee about tribution is tax deductible. Tribution is tax deductible. Iom informed the committee about your request to have a historic marker produced for Sokup's Gromembers. your request to nave a mistoric marker produced for Jokup's dio-cery, which was established by Joseph Sokup in 1894. This is a decided to Willer was established by Joseph Sokup in 1894. Inis is a wonderful recommendation and the committee has decided to wonderful recommendation and the committee has decided to wonderful recommendation. I have volunteered to control to the committee would require the control to the committee would be controlled to the committee would be controlled to the Wonderful recommendation and the committee has decided to contact pursue your request immediately. I have volunteered to contact pursue your request additional information regarding his potor. Column to request additional information. pursue your request immediately. I have volunteered to contact immediately. I have volunteered to contact information, regarding his peter Sokup to request additional information, regarding the fourth generation family by cinete for writing the family by cinete fo reter Sokup to request additional information, regarding his to request additional information, regarding the text historic fourth generation family business, for writing the text historic fourth generation about colorion INSTORIC TOUTHIN GENERATION TAINING PHOTO SELECTION. Your efforts over the years in helping support the formation of the course of the work of the work of the course of the course of the work of the wo Tour enurs over the years in neiping support the formation of the CCHS and in starting the Historic Marker program are very the CCHS and in starting the Historic Marker program are very the CCHS and in starting the Historic Marker program are very the control of the marker of the control of the CCHS and in starting the mistoric marker program are very much appreciated! Thank you for all that you have done to premuch appreciated! Thank you for all that you have done country much appreciated! Thank you for all that you have done to premuch short and aromate the rich history of Chipnesia. much appreciated: Induk you for all that you have done to pre-Serve, protect and promote the rich history of Chippewa County. Jim Schuh, CCHS Vice President and Historic Marker Committee Secretary

Completed Historic Marker Projects:

Cc: Peter Sokup

Our Donation Thank You Letter to

Mr. Joseph W. Joas

Your Historic Marker Committee members, Arley Engel, Kurt Gaber, Tom Larson and Jim Schuh, have been busy during the last year creating, updating and maintaining the 50 county historic markers. These eight markers were improved:

- #10 Federal Building U.S. Post Office, 315 N. Bridge St. replaced marker house
- #15 Chippewa Spring House, 600 E. Park Ave., new marker placed near bottling plant to be readable from the bike trail
- #18 Chippewa Lumber & Boom Co. new marker placed on the bike trail south of Court Street and is readable while facing the hydroelectric dam
- #21 Jacob Leinenkugel Brewing Co. 1 Jefferson Ave., located by the old hospitality center was deteriorated. A new marker was installed at Leinie Lodge.
- #23 William Irvine Marker in Irvine Park, new marker installed
- #29 Goldsmith Chapel, 123 Allen St., added a new plaque
- #44 The Badger Blue Mills, Lake Hallie Park, new marker installed
- #47 Pig Alley, 1 Jefferson Ave., a new marker was installed on the brewery property on the bike trail, facing north just to the south of the marker for the brewery

The Historic Marker budget is minimal and we are barely able to stretch it to cover needed activities. Please consider sending us a tax-deductible donation targeted for use by our committee.



Chippewa County Historical Society Committee Members

* Collection & Artifacts:

* Nancy Schuh, Arley Engel, Lucyann LeCleir, Terri Stahr, Jeff Pritchard

Photography Sub Committee:

*Lucyann LeCleir, Donna Bourget

* Building & Grounds:

*Steve Rasmus

Space Utilization Sub Committee

*Steve Rasmus

*** Education:**

*Catherine Lea, Evalyn Frasch, Ann Gordon, Rosemary Broeren

Docent Subcommittee:

Lalie Boos, Pat Ahneman

Exhibits:

* Arley Engel, Nancy Schuh, Lucyann LeCleir

Historic Markers Sub Committee:

* Tom Larson, Jim Schuh, Arley Engel, Kurt Gaber

***** Finances:

*Skip August, Kathy Forsgren

* Membership:

*Shirley Liedl, Mary McKenna

Telephone Subcommittee:

*Mary McKenna

* Publicity:

*Jim Schuh, Wayne Meyer Newsletter Design: Elly Rochester

* Chairperson

The Eagle Speaks is published quarterly by the Chippewa County Historical Society, a non-profit organization established to promote and stimulate historical interest in Chippewa County, Wisconsin.

Mail any comments or future articles to 123 Allen St., Chippewa Falls, WI 54729. 715-723-4399.

Chippewa County Historical Society 123 Allen St., Chippewa Falls, WI Open on Tuesdays | 9am-4pm



Bill Zimbehl

CALENDAR

August 17, 9:15 a.m. CCHS Board Meeting

August 17, 10:30 a.m.

Historic Marker Committee

Meeting

August 17, Noon Area History Center Birthday Lunch

August 24, 1 p.m. Chippewa Falls History Coalition Meeting

September 20, Monday, 5:30 p.m. CCHS Bi-Annual Membership Meeting. Picnic Potluck, Irvine Park

September 21, Noon Area History Center Birthday Lunch

September 28, 1 p.m. Chippewa Falls History Coalition Meeting

October 19, 9:15 a.m. CCHS Board Meeting

October 19, 10:30 a.m. Historic Marker Committee Meeting

October 19, Noon Area History Center Birthday Lunch

October 26, 1 p.m.
Chippewa Falls History
Coalition Meeting

A VOLUNTEER PROFILE MARY MCKENNA



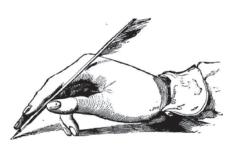
This faithful volunteer is one we seldom see and rarely even hear him when he does show up. Bill is a quiet fellow who goes about his tasks almost unnoticed. We get to chat with him when he attends our monthly birthday parties and at other times as he stops in our offices. He is a pleasant person to have around.

Bill is a hometown boy, born and raised in Chippewa Falls and was the only child of Ethel (Metzenbauer) and Bill Zimbehl Sr. He attended schools in the area, graduating from First Ward grade school and Chippewa Falls High School. He followed in the foot-steps of his dad who was a sheet-metal worker. Years ago the sheet-metal shop was in the back of the hardware store and it was located on Spring St. where the Hong Kong restaurant now operates. Years later, in the 1950's, the, business moved to its present location at 1318 Water St. When Bill's dad passed away in 1960, he took over the business himself until he retired in 2005 having worked at the business for 55 years and now continues to volunteer at the History Center where he has contributed his services for over 20 years. That's dedication! In addition to belonging to the Historical Society, he is a member of the Genealogical

Society, the Senior Center, the Chippewa Valley German Klub, and belongs to Trinity Methodist Church where he ushers. Bill also volunteers his time helping collect the donation canisters for the Chippewa Humane Society. He started helping out at the History Center because he is interested in the history of Chippewa Falls and likes working with the nice people here.

For fun and recreation, Bill enjoys traveling and has been to Germany, Cancun, Mexico, Alaska and on a Caribbean cruise with his good friend Dorothy Lundgren. They have also taken numerous short trips, enjoying going to casinos, playing cards and dining out. Bill is an avid dancer having participated in square dancing and he is affectionately called "ball-room Bill", because if there is music playing anywhere, you might just find Bill out on the floor enjoying his favorite pastime.

Bill is one busy man and yet makes time to volunteer his time here at the History Center and we appreciate his efforts and value his friendship and say "thank-you, Bill", for all you do.





Donations in

Arley & June Engel	Donations in	
Lewis Wolfe Bernice M. Wolfe 25.00 Keith Mueller & Andrew Horvatin Arley & June Engel 10.00 Father Philo Champion 25.00 Audrey and Clarence Pierre Girard 50.00 William D. "Don" Flangan Adelaide Willett 20.00 Gail Willi Kathy Forsgren 5.00 William D. "Don" Flangan Arley & June Engel 5.00 Gail Willi History Center 10.00 Gail Willi History Center 10.00 Gail Willi Eulalia Boos 10.00 Gail Willi Shirley Liedl 20.00 Gail Willi Jim & Nancy. Schuh 25.00 Gail Willi Gerald R. and Carol Way 30.00 Gail Willi Verene A. Crane 100.00 Gail Willi Jeannette & Bruce Miller 25.00 Gail Willi Roger F. Leveis 25.00 Gail Willi Ann Welke 50.00 Gail Willi Ann Welke 50.00 Gail Willi John S. Bjerke 10.00 Gail Willi Jean F. Bastian<	Memory of:	From:
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NOTES FROM THE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

ANNE KELLER, liaison between the two societies

Quite likely you are reading this newsletter because you are interested in the history of Chippewa County. You appreciate the variety and depth of its historical events, places and families. The Genealogical Society library, in the same building as the Historical Society collections, has many, many printed sources about this county's events and places, but especially about its families. There are many people living in the area today whose family names can be found on the county's 1888 platbook. Some Chippewa area names can be found as "far back" as the area's 1850 census. There are also many (probably about 300) published family stories and trees - Norwegian, German, Scotch, French-Canadian ... and so many more! Some (a very few) of the family names that have been researched, put into book form, and are on the CCGS shelves are: Altman, Beaudette, Bischel, Boos, Brunet, Carroll, Cutting, Dachel, Erickson, Faschingbauer, Gaier, Hassemer, Hvall, Jenkins, Kressin, Lashway, Mayheu, McHugh, Melville, Pape, Rasmus, Rubenzer, Shock, Thompson, Ulrich, Wettstein, Willi, Ziegler, Zwiefelhofer. Yes, there are also Bowe, Meinen, Olson, and Zwiefelhofer family trees "on the shelf." Come and visit the Genealogical Society library – compile your own family tree. Families are the "backbone" for the rest of the county's events and places. 🏖

Chippewa County Mistorical Society

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