

Seymour History Bulletin



A publication of the Seymour Community Historical Society – Fall and Winter 2014
Dedicated to Preserving Seymour Area History Bill Collar, Editor - 833-6064

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Summer hours: 1:00 – 4:00 WTFSS

Fall and winter: 1:00 – 4:00 Sunday

Closed: January, February and March

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Communication from Your Historical Society

Because of increasing production costs and mailing expense, the Seymour History Bulletin has become a twice-yearly publication. Unless the society has your e-mail address, you will receive a printed copy in the spring and fall. The purpose of the newsletter is to keep all our members informed of activities taking place at the museum, additional society news, and to look back at Seymour area history. If you are not receiving an electronic copy and have an e-mail address, please send your e-mail address to pma@billcollar.com and your color copy will arrive via the Internet.

For our members living in the Seymour area, make it a point to stop at the museum periodically and catch up on the latest developments. The exhibits on the second floor are constantly changing with modifications in the works for the permanent displays. If you have roots in Seymour, but seldom return to the area, our Web site www.seymourhistory.org will help you keep in touch. Jennie Huettl is continually adding pictures and updates on the society Facebook page. For those of you with an account you can find us at "Seymour Community Historical Society."



The Annual Meeting

Just over 100 people attended the annual meeting of the historical society at Doxbee's on May 3. The theme for the day was "Seymour's Connection to the Green Bay Packers." Society members were encouraged to wear green and gold and to bring their Packer items for display. Host John Maino interviewed guests and answered questions regarding his media coverage of the team. Janice Eick, Sue Keyzers, Mike Keyzers, and Jennie Huettl were reelected to the SCHS Board of Directors. A few highlights for the event include:

Ted Eisenreich, of Seymour, Facilities Director for the Packers, explained the renovations underway at Lambeau Field and gave a historical summary of the additions. Ted and his wife Bobbie Jo, both work for the Packers. They had their Super Bowl rings on display.

Carl Kuehne a native of Seymour and member of the Packer Board of Directors and Executive Committee told how he recently discovered that his



Host John Maino interviewing Seymour native Carl Kuehne.

Grandfather was one of the founders of the team. He talked about the origin of the Packers and how his grandfather was vice-president of the packing company that helped outfit the team with the understanding the team would be called "Packers."



Becky Ullmer with her impressive display of Packer items.

Patti Dethardt recalled that she organized bus trips from the Hotel Seymour and they became a big part of Seymour's Lambeau experience. To start the party Patti told how Debbie Peterson would recite the "Our Favre" as a tribute to the team. Patti and Debbie then did a reenactment accompanied by slides.



Packer Hall of Fame finalists: Greg Marnocha, Dave Rickert, and Joe Kuhar.

We were fortunate to have three Packer Fan Hall of Fame finalists in attendance. Seymour's Greg Marnocha, a finalist in 2013, coordinated this aspect of the event and had his huge Packer collection on display. Other finalists who had displays and were interviewed by John Maino included Greg's father in-law Joe Kuhar and Lisa Rickert's father Dave. Becky Ullmer, Mary Lou Melchert, Carl Kuehne, and other Packer enthusiasts brought items for display.

Historical society members Bud and Audrey VandenHeuvel, Marge and Bob Coonen, and Don and Dorothy Reed provided fun stories about the history of their season tickets. Overall, it was a fun day for everyone with the profits benefiting the museum sustainability fund. A special "Thank You" to Doxbee's, ACN, John Maino, Greg Marnocha, all exhibitors, everyone in attendance, our auctioneer Bud VandenHeuvel and the Green Bay Packers.

Packer History from a Seymour Perspective



*When Keith Van Vuren was editor of the **Seymour Press** he often expressed his opinion about the Packers in the paper. This was a time before extensive television coverage and national analysts. Excerpts from a number of his more controversial columns are reprinted below. Since many Seymour area people attended games, his comments always generated interest.*

October 28, 1948 – Lambeau Resign

"Last week we said we'd have to wait to see how the Packers put out in a few more games before we could pass judgment on their win over the Rams. The showing they made in Milwaukee Sunday before a measly crowd of 13,000 was showing enough. Washington made saps out of them and after looking over the roster and comparing the material the Packers have with other teams, and above all with Washington who only brought along 28 men for the game, and lost another five by way of injuries before the game was over, we'd say it isn't the players, it is the coaching staff, namely Lambeau.

Curley has been great in his day, but that has gone past. Lambeau better step upstairs to the front office and let somebody else run the team. They more than stunk Sunday. If Lambeau has the good of the team, the good of Green Bay, and the good of the National League at heart, he'll get out without being asked."

Lambeau struggled through a 3 and 9 season in 1948 and finished 2 and 10 in 1949 before resigning. He coached the Packers for 29 years and ended with a 209-104-21 record,



Curley Lambeau coached the Packers for 29 years.

September 15, 1953 – Fire Ronzani



Gene Ronzani struggled as head coach.

"The cries for Packer Coach Gene Ronzani's scalp have died down a little after the Pack managed to score in the second half of Sunday's game against the Rams. The defense however was no match for the Ram's passes and the Pack slumped still lower in the league standings with their 38-20 loss. New cries have arisen from the depths of Packer land which seem to be shouting, "We want Hinkle!" The former Packer great submitted his bid last week for head coach to replace Gene Ronzani who is (and we use the term loosely) the present Packer coach.

While we are on the subject, I understand the people of Green Bay are thinking of sending the Packers down as Green Bay's representative to Santa Claus Bowl this year. Think they could win it?"

The Packers finished the season with only two wins and Ronzani resigned with an overall 14-31-1 record in four seasons at the helm.

October 9, 1958 – Starr Not a Quarterback

Ronzani was followed by four years of Lisle Blackbourn who compiled a 17 and 31 record. In 1958 Blackbourn was succeeded by Ray "Scooter" McLean. There was a battle for the quarterback position between Joe Francis, "Babe" Parilli and a 17th round draft choice, Bart Starr. The editor of the Seymour Press didn't think Starr had a future in the NFL.

"Unless the Green Bay Packers get some help at quarterback, it is going to be a long, long season. The Packers played hard Sunday, both offensively and defensively in the line, but just haven't got the guns at quarterback to get the job done. Starr in our estimation never will be a quarterback and Francis needs plenty of playing. Parilli could be the answer, but needs the chance without his back to the wall."

The Packers finished the 1958 season with a franchise-worst 1-10-1 record. McLean resigned at the conclusion of the season, which opened the way for the hiring of Lombardi in January 1959. Starr spoke at a "Holy Name" breakfast at St. John's in Seymour in April, 1961. His presentation is available on the society Web site (seymourhistory.org) under "News."



October 4, 1959 New Coach – New Team

Editor Van Vuren had it right with his comments about the new Packer Coach Vince Lombardi who would lead the Packers to a 89-29-4 record over the next nine years. With the opening of the new stadium in 1957 many Seymour residents purchased season tickets and their families remain ardent fans today.



Many Seymour area fans shared editor Van Vuren's assessment of Lombardi.

"As impossible as it seems, the Green Bay Packers and the San Francisco Forty-Niners, two teams picked for last place, will be fighting for first place at the stadium Sunday. They are the only two undefeated teams in the Western Division and Coach Vince Lombardi has his hands full trying to prevent Green Bay fans from becoming too optimistic. Can you imagine that? Well it so happens in our estimation this is a different coach --- a terrific coach!

The fact alone that through a few trades and some rough preseason training, this Lombardi fella has been able to take a team that won a single game last year through the third week of play with an undefeated record should prove that this coach is different. When the Packer's board of a million bosses was dissolved and all the power was placed in Lombardi's hands, then the Packers became a different organization.

Now that the team has tasted victory and liked it, we know that this Green Bay outfit is going to be an entirely different team. It's hard to believe that one man could bring about such a change, but as hard as we try, we can put the cause to no other man than one Vince Lombardi.



Summer Activities at the Museum



Deanna DeBruin researched the history of the library and created an impressive slide program.

It was busy summer at the museum with over 2,500 visitors and numerous special exhibits. In May the museum helped the Muehl Public Library celebrate 20 years in their present building. Library Director Elizabeth Timmins assisted by Dan Jach and Deanna DeBruin set up a display illustrating the changes that have taken place during the last two decades. The card catalogue was replaced with the computer, the overhead projector with the smart board and the magazine and newspaper rack with on-line versions.

A PowerPoint presentation, prepared by DeBruin was the highlight of the exhibit. It portrayed the history of the library

June Wedding Show

A wide variety of items from the museum collection were displayed during June. Visitors saw the handmade 1908 wedding dress of Mrs. Andrew Rusch and the blue wedding suit of Mrs. Smiley Nicodem (Rhoda). Additional dresses include those donated by the Mueller family, Gladys McCormick, Fenton Muehl, Sophia Kocha, Agnes (Sigl) Krizek, Viola Mamerow, Myrene Goerl, Lydia Barth, Nancy Steiner, Vernice Witthuhn plus many more.

Also shown were tuxedos, from Carl Tickler and Grandy Nelson, a very old jacket from Grandpa Voss and a Swallow

Tail coat made by

Paul Kuehne

in Radegast, Germany. This was made at his father's tailor shop where he learned the trade before coming to America in 1913. The personal touch was added with wedding flowers and boutonnieres for the men.

Over 100 people were impressed by the dresses and suits worn by students who modeled the outfits. Members of the SCHS prepared punch, cupcakes, and other goodies for the visitors. Many people enjoyed viewing the slide show featuring 120 area-wedding pictures from years ago.

Also on display were mother of the bride dresses, flower girl dresses, bridesmaid dresses, wedding cakes, accessories and common gifts of different eras. If you would like a wedding picture added to the program, please provide the SCHS with a picture and the appropriate information. This can be done at the museum or via the Internet.



Students modeled vintage dresses and suits.



L to R: Megan Eick modeling Jill Matuszak's dress from 1987, Nikki Eick wearing Gail Dean's dress from 1963, and Tara Eick with Sue Keyzers' dress from 1973. Joan Conradt and Janice Eick served as hostesses.

July Stock Car Exhibit



Ron Hassemer stopped at the museum and explained about his father, Harvey Hassemer, who raced at the Seymour Fairgrounds in the 1950s and 1960s. Since he used to travel with his dad from track to track, he developed a keen interest in stock car racing. Ron constructed a large 6' by 19' model of a vintage racetrack complete with over 60 authentic model cars. This was a fun exhibit and was on display at the museum during July.

Over 350 people viewed the display, many from out of the area. Ron was at the museum on Sundays and provided a great deal of historical information.

He explained that there was only one division of racing. Time trials consisted of two laps, one lap at a time, so drivers could adjust their cars to make them faster for the next timed lap. The cars that timed the fastest would be required to start in the back of the pack

and race their way to the front, which made it exciting not only for the drivers, but also for the spectators. There were four ten-lap races, a 15-lap semi-feature, and a 25-lap feature.

Some nights more than 60 cars would show up, so there would also be a consolation race for non-winners to earn some tow money. Fifty per cent of the gate went to race winners. They would also receive a checkered flag, and during the county fair or mid-season, get a trophy. At some tracks, the first rollover would get a case of beer. Thank you Ron for sharing your exhibit with us.

August and Burger Fest



**Above: A portion of the burger collection.
Right: Visitors enjoying the museum during Burger Fest.**

Burger Fest continues to be the busiest time at the museum. This year 1,577 people visited the museum to check of the history of Hamburger Charlie and the origin on the hamburger in Seymour. Through cooperation with the Home of the Hamburger, Inc. and the generosity of the Jeffery Tennyson estate, the Seymour Community Museum hosts and displays the world's largest collection of hamburger related items. While the museum includes a vast assortment of local history related items, and that remains our main purpose, the burger collection serves as a stimulus to



The museum attracted over 1.500 visitors during Burger Fest.

draw tourists from throughout the nation. This summer volunteers at the museum greeted visitors from as far away as New York, New Jersey, Arizona, and Georgia.

This summer the museum was featured in ***Fox Cities*** magazine and ***Our Wisconsin*** magazine. The Seymour Historical Society Board of Board of Directors is continually working to increase the presence of the society on social media. Help us spread the word about our beautiful facility in Seymour.

September and the Doll Display



Seymour resident Mary Lou Melchert is known for her collection of pedal cars, tractors, and John Deere items. Recently she added an assortment of over 200 dolls. When asked what influenced her to acquire the dolls she replied, "I was actually looking for some John Deere dolls, but when I discovered the entire collection was for sale, they were just too beautiful to pass up."

Mary Lou's latest acquisition was on display at the Seymour Community Museum during September. The dolls included representations from the Amish, Dutch, Native American, Raggedy Ann and Andy, numerous other countries and of course, John Deere. The colorful exhibit featured Danbury Mint Dolls, Marie Osmond Dolls and various others cherished by collectors.

Lifetime members of the Seymour Community Historical Society, Mary Lou and her husband Gary have contributed numerous items to the museum. Most notable is the permanent exhibit of past Seymour automobile dealers

featuring items from Gary's model car collection. The Melcherts appreciate the opportunity to put their items on display "so others can enjoy them."

Music in the Park



Members of the HOTH provided free burgers for those in attendance.

The summer Music in the Park program concluded on Wednesday evening, August 27, with Bernie's Polka band and an audience close to 400. The crowd was treated to free hamburgers and fries by volunteers from the Home of the Hamburger, Inc. Jim Campbell, president of HOTH and his crew prepared the treat. The color guard from Kraft-Krause Post 106, led by John Cumicek, presented the colors and Eleana Duffy sang the National Anthem.

It was another successful summer as over 3,000 people enjoyed the eleven concerts in the park. Members of the historical society extend a sincere "Thank you" to Seymour area merchants who make the music possible.

It takes many volunteers to organize and produce the summer long program. A huge thank you for the members of the historical society who contributed their time, popping popcorn, filling coolers, selling concessions, distributing raffle tickets, organizing the programs, and preparing the site for the performances. Special appreciation is extended

to host Mike Keyzers and John and Lynn Koenigs who lined up the music.

New Exhibits at the Museum

The Seymour Flying Club

The fall 2010 edition of the Seymour History Bulletin included an article about the Seymour Flying Club. You can access the full article at the SCHS Web site (www.seymourhistory.org) under "News." The article started out as stated below. When it dissolved, the organization donated \$15,000.00 to the SCHS. The museum now provides the visitor with a quick pictorial history of the club and the airport that was located south of the city on Highway 55.



The flying club display features an airplane propeller, a Piper Cub model, a 4' by 5' aerial view of the fairgrounds and numerous pictures of the airport.

During the spring of 1947 a group of intrepid Seymour citizens met at Hotel Nelson (Hotel Seymour) and agreed to form the "Seymour Flying Club, Inc". with the slogan, "Seymour of Wisconsin" as their theme. The Board of Directors included Derbert Coonen, Orville Marnocha, Stewart Droeger and Harold Maass. Officers elected were: Bud Nelson, President, Jarvis N. Selberg, vice-president, and Marvin R. Kuehne secretary-treasurer.

At the second meeting on June 13, 1947, 19 new members were added to the 23 charter members, making the total membership 42. The club decided to hold regular weekly meetings and invited ladies as guests for the June 23 meeting to be held at

Marnocha's lounge. Entertainment and movies were planned for the evening.

A large number of women were present for the "ladies night meeting." They were entertained with two movies, "The Navy Flies On" and "Fight for the Skies." Bob Jubin, a flight instructor from Oconto, and Ed Wichman, a flight instructor from Oshkosh, gave interesting talks on aviation. It was reported that the American Legion was pleased with the flying club's offer to provide rides at the July 4th celebration. The committee indicated

that it would secure a field for flight use and make arrangements to provide transportation from and back to the fair grounds.

The club continued to meet on a regular basis holding its first annual meeting in January at the hotel. The major topic at the annual meeting was the possibility of obtaining land near the city of Seymour that was suitable for an airport. By the end of the month several sites were recommended and a goal was established to make a decision by early spring....

....As years passed, the land purchased for the airport increased in value and eventually was sold. Descendants of the charter members established two scholarships, with a maximum of \$2,000.00 each, for graduates of Seymour High School who pursue a career in an aviation related field. Most recent recipients of the grants are Heather Drephal and Sullivan Stroess.

The Seymour Community Historical Society has also benefited from the generosity of the flying club. Prior to dissolving, they donated \$15,000.00 toward the new museum building fund. This exhibit in the new museum reminds future generations of the days when Seymour had an airport and local flying enthusiasts took to the air over the city.



The exhibit includes pictures of the first and last officers of the club and a plaque citing the recipients of the scholarship.

French Fry Guy and Big Boy Statue



Society member Lynn Koenigs pictured with the Fry Guy.

Recently the burger collection at the museum received a big boost with the addition of the "French Fry Guy" and a statue of the "Big Boy." The SCHS and HOTH teamed up to bring the items to Seymour. Jim Campbell, president of HOTH, explained, "We are pleased to play a role in the addition of these two historic items to the burger collection at the museum. Both items are colorful and make great photo opportunities for families."

The origin of the French Fry Guy is not well documented. He can be spotted around Europe and in seaside towns in England. It is believed he originated from either Belgium, The Netherlands, or northern France. In these countries a typical fast food dish is a container of chips. It was customary to have a sign outside the shop usually of a chef holding a cornet of fries. To simplify the sign the chef was dispensed and the cornet of chips was turned into a character. The next logical step was to turn the character into a 3-D fiberglass mascot, thus the French Fry Guy was born.

This particular statue was found outside a fast food restaurant in Lima, Ohio where he was discovered by the owners of Door County Antiques. It stands about six feet tall and is attached to a movable base with wheels. The garish colors and exaggerated features make the French Fry Guy a bizarre and intriguing addition to the museum collection.

Big Boy Statue

Recently, Jim Campbell, president of Home of the Hamburger traveled to southern Michigan to bring back a symbol of the popularity of the hamburger in the United States. The statue was originally part of the Tennyson collection that was donated to the museum a couple years ago. Now on permanent display in the museum, the colorful fast food icon welcomes visitors to the museum and is a great photo opportunity.



The Big Boy restaurant started as Bob's Pantry in 1936 by Bob Wian in Glendale, California. The establishment became known as "Bob's, Home of the Big Boy Hamburger" then as "Bob's Big Boy." It became a local chain under that name and nationally under the Big Boy name, franchised by Robert C. Wian Enterprises. The chain is best known for its trademark chubby boy in red-and-white checkered overalls holding a Big Boy sandwich (double-decker cheeseburger).

The inspiration for Big Boy's name was Richard Woodruff (1932–1986) of Glendale, California. When he was six years old, Woodruff walked into the diner Bob's Pantry as Bob Wian was searching to name his new hamburger. Wian said, "Hello, Big Boy" to Woodruff, and the name stuck. Warner Bros. animation artist Ben Washam sketched Richard's caricature, which became the character seen on the company trademark. This 1956 Big Boy figure was used for large painted fiberglass statues placed outside the restaurants.

In Wisconsin, the Big Boy statue greeted customers outside of **Marc's Big Boy** restaurants from 1958 to 1995. The franchise was owned by the Marcus Corporation.

The Coachlite Supper Club

If you were in Seymour during the 1960s and were looking for a great place to eat, the Coachlite Supper Club was high on your list. Conveniently located on Main Street in downtown Seymour, Janice and Roger Eick were your hosts. Noted for tasty steaks, lobster, and broasted chicken, the Eicks ran the Coachlite from 1965 to 1972.



Roger and Janice Eick operated the Coachlite Supper club on Main Street from 1965 to 1972.

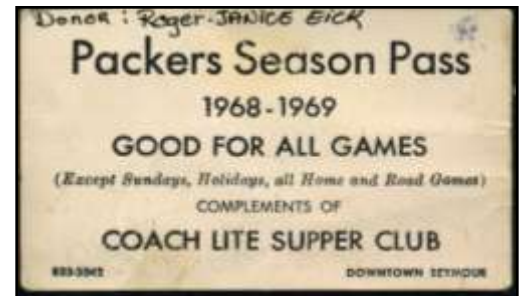


The red and white decor and central chandelier gave a touch of elegance to the barroom.

Janice recalls working for her mother, Tillie Stueflat, at the Nook restaurant during the early 1960s, then purchasing it several years later. After an extensive renovation, including adding a dining room in the back, the restaurant could seat 80 guests for dinner.

The decor featured red carpeting with white coach lights on the walls and white linens on all the tables. Diners sat in wooden captain's chairs. The barroom was done in red carpeting, white Austrian drapes with a red valance over the top and a fancy chandelier in the middle of the room. A large mirror behind the back bar added a wider dimension to the relatively narrow room.

In addition to the steaks, seafood and chicken, customers enjoyed homemade soups and freshly baked bread and rolls. The Coachlite was a great place to gather after a round of golf or ball game. During the Lombardi era the bar room was crowded from wall to wall with Packer fans before and after the games. Roger even came up with a free season ticket that he passed out to promote the business.



Roger's "Free" Packers Pass



The dining room accommodated up to 80 people.

Quinn, Minnie Pearl, Frank Sinatra Jr., Frank Fontaine and others. They enjoyed the local cuisine and all signed a menu before leaving.

In 1968 the first Seymour Outstanding Citizen of the Year banquet was held at the Coachlite.



After the 1967 fair a number of the stars stopped to eat at the Coachlite. They autographed the menu. Most notable are: "Your food is fine" – Minnie Pearl, "Thank you" Carmel Quinn and Frank Sinatra Jr. Notice: A large lobster tail was \$4.00 and a tenderloin \$3.95.

Janice remembers the long hours and hard work that the business required, but most of all she enjoyed all the terrific people she met and her diligent staff. "We were blessed with many loyal customers and dedicated employees." When asked to recall some of the most memorable events, she smiled and told about the 1968 Seymour Centennial Celebration parade when the Coachlite sponsored a large white pumpkin coach drawn by two horses and a sign that said, "Dine with Cinderella at the Coachlite." All the characters of the Cinderella story marched in the parade including the mice, Lucifer the cat, the ugly stepmother and her sisters, along with Prince Charming. The coach was handmade by Roger and Janice's dad.

It was special when celebrities stopped to dine. The most memorable event was in 1967 when the entertainers at the fair ate at the Coachlite. The group included Carmel



Roger and Janice were creative in their advertising including the 1968 centennial parade.

Harvey Muehl, a long time Seymour businessman, was the recipient. The program was sponsored by the **Seymour Press** and Jaycees.

With growing children and more responsibilities at home, in 1972 Janice and Roger sold the business to Lloyd and Alice Lemorande. Eventually, after several more changes in ownership, the building was destroyed by fire in 1985. Additional pictures and more information about the Coachlite can be found on the Seymour Historical Society Web site (seymourhistory.org) under "Image Gallery

1941 Humor

Chairman of the dance committee – Can't you stretch the music a little – just a dance or two more?

Orchestra Leader – Say this ain't no rubber band!



In 1972 Roger and Janice turned over the keys to Lloyd and Alice Lemorande.



"Cinderella" was a big hit in the parade.

Cartoon by Ole Olsen



"Ole" Olsen was an accomplished area artist who created cartoons making fun of local events during the 1960s. Subscribers to the **Seymour Press** looked forward to seeing who would be the object of his humor. This particular drawing was titled, "The Seymour Sporting Scene."

The story behind this cartoon - Tillie Stueflat always made the homemade bread in the Coachlite. She stepped on a nail and was not able to make the bread for the following night. Roger Eick said, "Give me the recipe, I will make the bread"

He got the recipe mixed up and the dough was flowing all over the place. Of course, Roger was the talk of the town and Ole made sure everyone knew about it. Roger never made bread again.

Lynette Louise Veitch Patchen Remembers

By Gail Veitch Dean



LYNETTE VEITCH

"Lynnie"

She put the pep in pepper.
Glee Club 1,2, Forensics 1, Chorus 2-4,
Chorus Assistant Director 3, Dramatics
Club 2-4, Dramatics Club Secretary 3,
F.H.A. 2-4, Sextet 3,4, All School Play
2,3, Chorus Treasurer 4, Dramatics
Make-up Chr. 4, F.H.A. Vice-President
4, Homecoming Chr. 4, Ripper 4, Blue
Jay 4, Pep Club 3,4, Pep Club Presi-
dent 4.

Lynette was active in high school graduating from Seymour in 1953.

Lynette Louise Veitch Patchen entered the world in Seymour, WI on June 13, 1935. She was the second child and first daughter of V. Lowell and Adeline (Bock) Veitch. She was born in the house that is now known as 364 Lincoln Street. The house was smaller, and faced what is now Sally Street. She was born at home, as was the custom at the time.

Lynette attended Seymour Grade School. She remembers in kindergarten her teacher Miss Cauley, told her mother she was quite shy and usually went in the

corner and played all alone. Like most students she walked to school in the morning, went home for lunch, and then back to school, and home after school. At that time, all students attended the big school on Robbins Street.

Children in Seymour looked forward to the Outagamie County Fair. Lynette liked riding on the Ferris wheel and the merry-go-round. The horse races also were one of her favorite things to watch. These were harness races where the horse pulled a rider in a sulky. When Lynette entered Seymour High School, she played clarinet in band. Since the high school band always played at the fair, all the members were admitted at no charge.

One of her favorite town characters was Wally Wingate. He was a colorful character who did odd jobs for various businesses and often slept at the jail in city hall. Even more memorable was "Old Franz." Lynette and her sister Gail would sit on the corner of High and Main Streets and wait for "Old Franz" to come staggering home. He always said, "You good kids I like your dad, Lo Beach. He's good guy." Then he would give each of the girls a nickel for ice cream. Our father, Lowell Veitch, was a county Policeman, and many times he picked up "Old Franz" when he had too much to drink and took him home. Of course, today they would take him to jail.

It was a real treat to go to Grandma Veitch's house and listen to the radio. Grandma would make a dish pan full of popcorn, and we would listen to Jack Benny and Dennis Day, The Shadow Knows, The Green Lantern and The Lone Ranger.

We moved to High Street and had sidewalk on our side of the street, which was great for roller-skating. These old-fashioned skates had clamps and attached to your shoes by tightening the clamps with a key. Lynette was allowed to skate from corner to corner on her block. In the winter it was convenient to go skiing and tobogganing with other kids at the stone quarry a half-mile west of her house.

The neighbor kids all seemed to congregate at the Veitch house. We played kick the can, Annie over, hide and go seek, and of course 21, which was a ball game with one batter, and everyone else catching. When one of the people catching got 21 points, he or she was the batter. Boys and girls played together and often the games would go on until dusk.

While in high school, Lyn worked at Reese's Dairy, and baby-sat for many people, making 25 cents an hour. Babysitting sometimes included feeding the kids and washing dishes. There was no television back then and no snacks in the refrigerator for the sitter.

Lyn worked two summers at the Seymour canning factory. It was hot, tiring work, but she needed to save money for college. After graduation from Seymour High in 1953, she attended Oshkosh State College for two years. Then she returned home for a year and worked for the **Seymour Press**, to get money to finish college. Most of her work was in the office doing a variety of tasks. She also wrote a number of articles and did some print work.

Once Lyn accumulated enough money, she returned to college in Naperville, Illinois, and North Central College where she majored in religion. After graduation, Lyn became a Director of Christian Education, working with youth, first in Decatur, Illinois and then in Toledo, Ohio.

Eventually Lyn met and married her husband Bob Patchen in Toledo, Ohio where they still live. She has returned to Seymour many times over the years to visit. Some of her most fond memories are of her childhood and growing up in Seymour.



Lynette's father, Lowell Veitch, was an Outagamie County police officer for 33 years.



Reese's Dairy was a popular spot when Lynette was in school.

How Many of These Names do you Recognize?

With help from Ellen Piehl



The Bean Family Memorial. One of the most unique in the city cemetery.

Over the last 100 years, the most frequent names given male and female babies have changed considerably. In 1914 the top five boy's names were John, James, William, Robert, and Joseph. One hundred years later in 2013, Noah, Liam, Jacob, Mason and William were most common. William is on both lists, but Michael has held the top spot for 44 of the last 100 years.

Mary has been ranked number one 42 of the 100 years to lead the girls' names. In 1914 the top five included Mary, Helen, Dorothy, Margaret, and Ruth. The 2013 list is much different with Sophia, Emma, Olivia, Isabella, and Ava leading the way.

Marlan and Lois Rehmer transcribed and indexed the Seymour City Cemetery tombstones in 1995. Listed below are some of the more unusual names from the transcription index:

Alpheus (Atwood), Vida (Berry), Elbridge (Boyden), Aiken (Brunette), Chancy (Daniels), Hepsy (Day), Minetta (Duernberger), Alvilda (Husman), Auguena (Huth), Otelge (Kimpel), Nicea (Knox), Devaudella (Le Mieux), Early (Le Mieux), Zida (Mc Mullen), Eldreth Rose (Mielke), Edner (Nickel), Rosewitha (Niedermair), Fidelia (Patten), Emro (Plantikow), Elvary (Reis), Achsah Sherman), Sarepta (Sherwood) and Anelda (Wisniewski).

Seymour Community Museum Board member Ellen Piehl (an accredited genealogist) photographed all the City Cemetery tombstones this past spring and is currently labeling them. They will be put on flash drives and made available to the public at City Hall and the museum. A transcription and photos are already finished for the Emmanuel Lutheran Cemetery. Anyone interested in more details can contact Ellen through e-mail at (belewzrd@new.rr.com).

Halloween Activities

SCHS Board member Lois Dalke headed up the Halloween activity again this year. Through the generosity of



Steve Ashman donated his time to demonstrate pumpkin carving to parents and children.

Greg Rottier and John Banker 80 pumpkins were donated to the historical society. All the potential Jack-O-Lanterns were then picked up by local families for the children to carve. On a beautiful sunny Sunday afternoon, the children brought their Jack-O-Lanterns to Nagel Park adjacent to the museum. Steve Ashman was a big hit with his creative pumpkin carving demonstration.



A couple of Steve's creations.

The finished products, were put on display along Depot Street. The Jack O' Lanterns made quite a spectacle when they were all lighted up at night.

December Events at the Museum

Christmas Open House and Celebration Saturday, December 6th 10:00 to 3:00

Christmas Fun

Everyone is invited to the **"Kids' Christmas at the Museum"** on Saturday, December 6th. The theme for the 10:00 to 3:00 program is "A Name That Tune Christmas." The fun program will feature a dozen Christmas trees decorated to portray a popular Christmas song such as "Frosty the Snowman."

Children will have the opportunity to win prizes and receive presents. Crafts, vintage toys, treats, and surprise gifts (as long as they last), will be available for the children. The museum will be decorated to reflect the holiday spirit. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

This is a great opportunity for parents and grandparents to spend some quality time with the children. The entire museum will be decorated with Christmas music playing. All the trees on Depot Street will be trimmed to portray a variety of themes and commemorate loved ones.

Memory Forest on Depot Street

Christmas is only two months away and the Seymour Community Historical Society is accepting sponsors to purchase trees in the memory forest that will brighten up Depot Street again this year. Anyone who desires to purchase a tree should contact Janice Eick at Northeastern Roofing (833-6184). The trees are a minimum of \$35.00 and will be in place by Thanksgiving. Please decorate your tree as you wish. If you only want lights on the tree, that is fine. This is a great way to remember a loved one while donating to the historical society.

Thirty trees are available this year. They will be sold on a first come, first served basis. Once again, name plaques in front of the trees will identify the sponsors. The trees are lighted the entire month of December. Sponsors are responsible for decorating and removing decorations from the trees. Please have all

decorations in place by December 1st.



Museum signs

Recently, with the cooperation of HOTH, members of the historical society added “Visit our Museum” signs to the “Welcome to Seymour” greeting on all the roads entering the city. These, along with articles in the ***Fox Cities*** magazine and the ***Our Wisconsin*** magazine, help inform the public about the beautiful museum facility in downtown Seymour.



Honor our Veterans at the Museum

The Seymour Community Historical Society is continuing to add pictures of area veterans to the archives at the museum. To include an area veteran, bring a picture preferably in military dress, to the museum during open hours 1:00 to 4:00 on any Sunday. A member of the museum staff will scan the picture and return it to you. The entire process will take no more than ten minutes. The picture, along with the branch of service, will be added to the PowerPoint slide show that will be shown at the museum every November and after the Memorial Day program in June. Presently the collection includes 160 area veterans dating back to World War I. A number of people have sent pictures via e-mail. This is fine.

Please make sure it is a JPEG image scanned with at least a 300 DPI resolution. Include the name, branch of service and if the person is deceased. Send the picture to pma@billcollar.com.

Colonel George A. Doersch

When touring the Wisconsin Veterans Museum in Madison the visitor is impressed with a World War II diorama featuring an actual P-51 Mustang diving out of the sky. Upon closer inspection, one notices it is the **"Ole Goat"** piloted by Seymour graduate George A. Doersch.



Born on October 14, 1921 in Seymour, Wisconsin, Doersch was assigned to the 370th Fighter Squadron of the 359th Fighter Group, after having been appointed a cadet in June of 1940. He saw a great deal of combat in the skies over Germany during World War II. On May 8, 1944 he scored his first two victories flying his first P-51 combat mission while single-



George A. Doersch, 370th Fighter Squadron, 359th Fighter Group, in cockpit of his P-51 "Ole Goat."

handedly engaging a large German FW-190 formation that was attacking a "box" of Allied bombers. He became the 359th's third ace three weeks later when he shared in the destruction of two FW-190s near Stettin, Germany on the



This painting, "Green Nose Top Cover," shows Doersch leading a section of P-51 Mustangs providing top cover for B-17 Bombers.

Baltic Sea. He became a double ace on January 14, 1945 when he downed two FW-190s near Heimingstadt, Germany. He was involved in numerous encounters with Me-262 jet fighters during the last months of the war, but all ended inconclusively."

It is believed that he flew about 150 missions in Europe in P-47s and P-51s. There is confirmation that he downed 10½ enemy planes, sharing one with another pilot. Among honors he received were the Silver Star, Distinguished Flying Cross with three oak leaf clusters and Air Medal with 14 oak leaf clusters. He received the Croix de Guerre from the president of France, Charles De Gaulle, in 1945.

Doersch retired from the Air Force in 1967 and went to work for Hughes Aircraft in California. He retired as a district manager at Hughes in 1989. With 10½

enemy planes downed in WWII he was the second ranking "Ace" in his fighter group. His plane the **"Ole Goat"** hangs in the Wisconsin Veterans Museum in Madison.

Humor from the Aug. 26, 1941 Seymour Press

POP—Pop Probably Prefers Pressed Steel



Donations and Memberships from April 2014 to Nov. 2014 (In the order received)

The historical society gratefully acknowledges the following donations and new lifetime memberships.

Ed and Marilyn Seidl-Lorenz	Black Creek, WI	Sustainability
Mary and Deny Greuel	Seymour, WI	Sustainability
Vilas and Vernice Kraft	Seymour, WI	Sustainability
Helen Howlett	Seymour, WI	Sustainability
Gary and Mary Lou Melchert	Seymour, WI	Activities
Judith A Bush	Downers Grove, IL	Flowers
Dan and Sally Natchek	Muskego, WI	In Memory of Lucille Miller Sustainability
Jean Melchert	Seymour, WI	Sustainability
Susan and Harvey Shuler	Oneida, WI	Sustainability
CenturyLink - Mark Schwaller	Wausaukee, WI	Sustainability
Karen Coonen - Thrivent Financial	Seymour, WI	Employee Giving Campaign Sustainability
Bill and Holly Collar	Seymour, WI	In memory of Charlie Jenkins Sustainability
Eunice Karweick	Seymour, WI	Wed. Ann. 40 th Robert Court Sustainability
Eunice Karweick	Seymour, WI	Wed. Ann. 50 th Norman Stingle Sustainability
Lee Rihm	Menasha, WI	Sustainability
Bernie Huettl	Two Rivers, WI	Membership
Robert and Deb Court	Black Creek,	Sustainability
Duane Ebert	Green Bay, WI	Sustainability
Dick and Darlene Stedl	Seymour, WI	Sustainability
Leland and Betty Blohm	Seymour, WI	In memory of grandson Shaun Sustainability
Bob and Sue Manzke	Seymour, WI	Building Fund
Judy Severson	Seymour, WI	In memory of Keith Spaude Sustainability
Doloris Kuehne	Seymour, WI	Sustainability
Tom Kunstman	Boulder, CO	Membership
Karen Coonen - Thrivent Financial	Seymour, WI	Employee Giving Campaign Sustainability
Warren and Gloria Maass	Seymour, WI	Sustainability
Elizabeth Timmins	Oneida, WI	Sustainability
Janice Eick	Seymour, WI	Sustainability
Alice Brick	Seymour, WI	In memory of Orvell DeBruin Sustainability
Bob and Darlene Butters	Seymour, WI	Sustainability
Seymour Firefighters	Seymour, WI	Building Fund
Mike and Sue Keyzers	Seymour, WI	Building Fund
Vilas and Vernice Kraft	Seymour	Sustainability
Karen Bowers	Wrightstown, WI	In memory of Robert & Rachel Gagnow Sustainability
Giz and Linda Herbst	Egg Harbor, WI	In memory of Phyllis Rothlesberger Sustainability
John Banker	Black Creek, WI	Sustainability

Help Support the SCHS and the Museum

The Seymour Community Museum is a tribute to our members and supporters. Your donations help us maintain an outstanding facility that preserves the heritage of Seymour and the surrounding area. Thank you!

To contribute to the historical society, mail your donation to P.O. Box 237 Seymour, WI 54165. **All workers at the museum are volunteers and 100% of your donation is used to cover the cost of Society and Museum activities.** The Seymour Community Historical Society, Inc. is a tax-exempt entity. Your donation is fully deductible as provided by law. The federal identification number is: 39-1235870.

Lifetime memberships are \$50.00 for a family and \$100.00 for a business. Yearly memberships are \$10.00 per family and \$5.00 per individual. **A red check on the front of this mailing means your annual membership is due.**

Have You Considered ...

Leaving a bequest to the Seymour Community Historical Society in your will? Our legal representative will be happy to work with you and your attorney along with other financial advisors to help you formulate your gifts and estate plans. Contact Bill Collar (920) 833-6064 or pma@billcollar.com for additional confidential details.

Seymour Community Historical Society
P. O. Box 237
Seymour, WI 54165

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Open House and Christmas Party at the Museum Saturday, December 6th 10:00 to 3:00

Website: www.seymourhistory.org

E-mail: seymourhistory@centurylink.com

Museum Phone: (920) 833-9835

If the museum is closed: (920) 833-6064

Museum Hours

Summer:

1:00 to 4:00

Wednesday through Sunday

Fall and Winter:

1:00 to 4:00 Sunday

Closed January through March

Open by request anytime

Admission:

Suggested donation - \$2.00 Individual
- \$5.00 Family

Life Membership - \$50.00

Year Individual - \$5.00 Year Family - \$10.00

How to Order Historic Pictures

The SCHS is receiving an increasing number of requests for copies of pictures from the image gallery. To order a photo, follow this procedure.

1. Contact us at P. O. Box 237 or e-mail pma@billcollar.com
2. Identify the picture or pictures you are requesting by category, title and number.
3. Specify the size you desire either 8" x 10" or 4" x 6"
4. Include your mailing address.

Pictures printed and mailed to you are \$10.00 (8" x 10") or \$6.00 (4" x 6") plus shipping. You will receive an invoice.

High-resolution pictures sent via e-mail are \$3.00 each.

All life members of the SCHS receive a 50% discount.