Seymour History Bulletin



A publication of the Seymour Community Historical Society – Fall and Winter 2021 **Dedicated to Preserving Seymour Area History** Bill Collar, Editor

Web site: www.seymourhistory.org **Museum Phone:** (920) 833-9835 If museum closed: (920) 833-6064 **Summer hours:** 1:00 – 4:00 F-S- S **Fall and winter:** 1:00 – 4:00 Sun. Closed: Jan. - Mar.

Board of Directors

Bob Bock Kurt Boettcher Bill Collar Gail Dean Janice Eick

Mike Keyzers Sue Keyzers John Koenigs Karen Kuske Ellen Piehl John Pashouwer

A Message from the Board of Directors

Even though it was necessary to keep the museum closed during Burgerfest the museum was open every other weekend during the summer. Music in the Park was the highlight of the summer along with the Saturday jazz band and the visit from the Model A club. Plans are to host Santa and Mrs. Claus on Saturday, December 4. The museum will be decorated in a holiday theme and every child accompanied by an adult will receive a present.

Your historical society is undertaking several major projects over the coming year. The Miller-Piehl Building (1894), which serves as our 1930s country store, is in need on tuck pointing and repair. The cost is estimated to be about \$35,000.00. Fortunately, money has been set aside over the years to cover the cost of the renovation from the historical society budget. More information about the building is included in this newsletter.

Some of the most unique and significant buildings in Seymour history no longer exist. Board member Kurt Boettcher is working with a noted Wisconsin artist to mount a large mural on the west side of the Miller-Piehl Building featuring buildings long forgotten. The large, colorful painting will include some present buildings and influential Seymour people from the early 1900s. The project is being financed through donations.

Christmas Open House and Kids' Christmas December 4th



Santa and Mrs. Claus will be present from 10:00 to Noon to greet the children and pass out toys.

Families are invited to the museum between 10:00 and noon on Saturday, December 4th for the Christmas open house. This year's theme is a "*Santa's Workshop."* Janice Eick and her sisters Jean and Joan, have done an outstanding job decorating the museum for Christmas.

The second floor has been turned into Santa's workshop with numerous decorated trees and winter scenes. Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus will be on hand to greet visitors and distribute holiday cheer. *The first 100 children will receive a free gift courtesy of a generous donor.* Consistent with the North Pole theme,

children have the opportunity to play with the Santa train, play with vintage toys and take home a pixie elf hat. Hot chocolate and Christmas cookies add to the holiday cheer. This is an excellent opportunity to treat the children and tour the festive museum.

Model A Cars and New Orleans Jazz

The "Nickle A" auto club and "The Talk of the Town" jazz band provided a memorable Saturday afternoon for Seymour area residents. Eighteen vintage autos were parked on Depot Street for inspection while the jazz band played familiar tunes. In fact, the music was so impressive a Seymour couple volunteered to cover the cost of their return for Music in the Park 2022.





The Model A cars were a big hit.

Kevin Van Ess and The Talk of The Town

Music in the Park - 2021

The summer Music in the Park program concluded Wednesday evening, August 25, in Nagel Park with Chad Przybylski's Polka Rhythms and an audience estimated at over 300. The color guard from Kraft-Krause-Mueller Post 106, presented the colors in honor of veterans.

Members of the historical society extend a sincere "Thank you" to Seymour area merchants who make the music possible and provide raffle prizes. It takes many volunteers to organize and produce the summer long program. Special thanks go to John Koenigs who lines up all the bands and provides a variety of music. We also appreciate Gary and Mary Lou Melchert for donating the soda and water and Susan Manzke for passing out the free raffle tickets. Diana Malcheski and Lisa Elsner did an outstanding job heading up the 50-50 ticket sales. Mike Keyzers as M.C. kept the programs organized and the rest of the board of directors handled concessions and other tasks.

The following people and merchants sponsored the music program. Be sure to thank them when you patronize their business.

- ✓ Balance Massage
- ✓ Bank First Seymour
- ✓ BMO Harris Bank
- ✓ Community First Credit Union
- ✓ Countryside Photography
- ✓ Dairy Queen Grill and Chill
- ✓ Diedrick's Heating and Air
- ✓ Don's Quality Market
- ✓ Family Insurance Center
- ✓ Good Shepherd Services
- ✓ Home of the Hamburger

- ✓ Isaar Trailriders Snowmobile
- Club
- ✓ JJ's Auto Clinic
- ✓ *Kwik Trip, Inc.*
- ✓ Melissa Hanson Massage
- ✓ Menn Law Firm, Ltd
- ✓ Muehl-Boettcher, Inc.
- ✓ Nicolet National Bank
- ✓ North Country Homes Bonduel
- ✓ Northeastern Roofing, Inc.
- ✓ Orion Labels, LLC

- ✓ Performance Corporation
- ✓ Ralph's Hardwood Floors
- ✓ Route 96 Jam Band
- ✓ Scott Marcks Trucking
- ✓ Seymour Chiropractic, SC
- ✓ Seymour Dental
- ✓ Sha-Bock Farm Bed & Breakfast
- ✓ T & T Storage
- Truman, Haase, Zahn Insurance
- ✓ Witt Family Ford



Chad Przybylski and the Polka Rhythms entertained a large crowd for the last music concert of the summer.



Krause-Kraft-Mueller Post 106 presented the colors at the tribute to veterans.



A special "thank you" to Les James, a music in the Park favorite for many years. Les traditionally got the program off to a great start with the first concert of the year in June. Les is retiring after 40 years of playing and singing the hits.



The Miller-Piehl Building

One of the most historic and well-preserved business buildings in the city is the former office of the Miller-Piehl Company. It dates back to 1893-94. For most of the 20th century the company provided building materials, coal and various services and resources for area residents. Over the years the elements have taken their toll on the brick building and it is in need of repair.

For many years the building served as the community museum. When the new museum was opened in 2012 the Miller-Piehl Building was converted to a 1930s era general store, serving as the agricultural component of the museum. Fortunately, thanks to our generous donors, a sustainability fund was established and the total cost of \$35,000.00 for restoration will be financed through the historical society budget without any tax dollars involved.

A Brief History of the Miller-Piehl Company and Building

The building was built by Fred Piehl in 1893-94. He was the grandfather of Frank Piehl, the last owner. Fred Piehl, came to Seymour from Germany via Canada. He was aboard the emigrant ship, "The Leibnitz."

Earliest ledger records show 1885 as a beginning year of the business. Fred Piehl and William Miller came to Wisconsin because of a growing interest in farming and immigrant



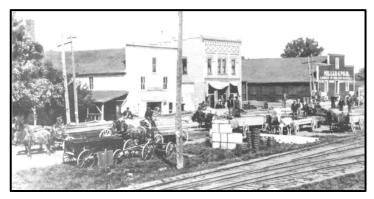
settlement. They had known each other in Canada where Fred was a farm hand for William's father. They saw а lucrative market for cedar posts and а growing need for lumber building supplies and and decided to make Sevmour the center of their business. Miller invested in the company until the late 1940s, although he was never active in the local end of

Fred Piehl, early 1900s

the business operation.

The original company and sawmill were located where Don's Quality Market now stands. Sparks from the steam plant ignited a fire in the sawmill, burning it to the ground in the late 1890s. The company rebuilt at the present location north of the railroad tracks on Depot Street.

In the beginning all the office work was done by family members including Fred's daughters who were sent to business school in Green Bay. The oldest of Fred's sons was sent to Oneida County to run the logging part of the company. William Miller had an office in the lumber Exchange in Minneapolis and served as a agent for the timber operation. All members of the Fred Piehl family were involved in some capacity. William was the company manager and salesman. Miller-Piehl also had yards operating in Oneida and Navarino.



Depot Street was a busy place in 1914

With up to eight trains a day passing through the city, Depot Street was the center of activity during the first half of the 20th Century. A coal shed continued to be located on the former location until about 1925 and a cement shed was located across the tracks, southwest of the depot until 1925-26. Frank Piehl remembered the employee, Bill Hilgenberg, who to fill a cement

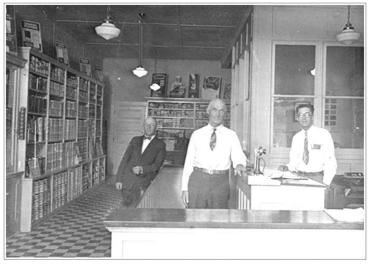


order for a waiting customer, would put one sack on his shoulders others under each arm and walk across the tracks to the waiting wagon.

Fred Piehl along with who other varied talents was a brick designed mason and directed the work force. The windows are typical of the era of the 1890s. Fred

Piehl also built several other houses and buildings in Seymour and was active in the management of the yard.

The brick used for the building came from the Duck Creek Brick Yards and was transported to Seymour by way of box cars. Typical brick from this yard have a flying duck design depressed in each brick. Some changes have been made in the building since Fred Piehl's time. Two additions, one for office space and another for storage, were added in the early years. The original building had an upstairs reached by an outside stairway on the west side wall. The upstairs room was used by as a meeting space by lodge organizations and religious groups. In later years Dr. Carlisle Runge, Fred's son-in-law, had a dental office in the south side of the second floor.



Left to Right: Alvin "Panks" Piehl and William Piehl and Edward Kropp, the bookkeeper. "Panks" was William's brother and Kropp was William's brother-in-law.



Earlv 1900s view of the building with center door. The original front door was in the middle of the building. This change was made in 1927 or

1928. The large safe in the present building marks the north wall of the original building where the stairs are now located. In the 1920's a hand operated elevator was installed to get supplies from the second floor, now used for storage.

The pre-1960 office building had desks, railings, a glass enclosed manager's office and high bookkeeping desks and stools placed along the east side of the room. In the back of the first floor room stood barrels of red and yellow linseed oil, turpentine, Japan dryer, Dutch white lead, plus a container for nails. This was the messiest part of the operation. The rest of the room was taken up with other paint supplies, staples of barbed wire, stair samples, screens and other building materials.

Behind the original buildings a few yards away



Walter Baehler (left) and two others loading lumber around 1960. Miller-Piehl provided building materials and coal to area residents for close to 100 years.

stood a small lime shed. Like the sawmill this too burned down. This occurred during the first flood of the Little Henry Creek nearby.

Other sheds torn down during the 1980s, were constructed from 1905 to the 1920s and used for storing windows, doors, cement and a variety of building materials needed as demands changed in the building industry.

The building served the construction interests of the community and now continues to serve as a vital facility to help preserve area history. The following page contains a number of pictures illustrating how the building depicts a 1930s general store similar to those in Seymour, Isaar, Briarton, Roselawn and Brasses' Corners.

A Look Inside the 1930s General Store (Miller-Piehl Building)



An animated "Ernie" welcomes visitors.



"Clarence" is doing his banking.



"Hank" is working in the harness shop.



"Helen" and "Eleanor" in the millinery shop.



"Fern" has worked the counter for years



Volunteers Janice and Bob pictured with "Fern".

1926 Recipe Book

In 1926 the Seymour American Legion Auxiliary published a cookbook featuring the favorite recipes of the members. Historical society secretary Janice Eick was asked to select several of the most unique, but not necessarily her favorite, submissions.

Choice Recipes

"Good friends, who would these pages test, A whisper in your ear: These dishes are the very best Your husbands hearts to cheer! Let none escape, but try them all— To boil or fry or bake; We'll warrant they are just as good As mother used to make!"

Issued by The AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY Seymour, Wis. 1926

OFFICERS:

Mrs. Nett Van Vuren, President Mrs. Mabel Row, First Vice-Pres. Mrs. Dorothy Otto, Second Vice-Pres. Mrs. Grace McBain, Secretary Miss Eva Little, Chaplain Mrs. Louise Roth, Sergeant-at-Arms Mrs. Velma Bloch, Historian

UNIT MEMBERS:

ELPHIE BALDWIN	ISABELLE BOYDEN	
NELL BUNKELMAN	SYLVIA BOYDEN	
ELSIE DEAN	GERTRUDE ERICKSON	
CATHERINE HITTNER	MATIE FRANK	
DORA HUVEN	PEARL LA COMB	
LINDA LAATSCH	ANNE LITTLE	
GRACE MC BAIN	HILDA MC BAIN	
LILA MILLER	ROSALIND MELTER	
MAUDE MILLER	EMMA PASCH	
MABEL ROW	FLORENCE PIEHL	
FLORENCE STADLER	RUBY SIEBERT	
META TUBBS	BERNICE TUBBS	
ELIZABETH ZIEGENBEIN	AGNES TUCHOLSKI	
TUBBS SARA WE	RBEL	
	ELSIE DEAN CATHERINE HITTNER DORA HUVEN LINDA LAATSCH GRACE MC BAIN LILA MILLER MAUDE MILLER MABEL ROW FLORENCE STADLER META TUBBS ELIZABETH ZIEGENBEIN	

Tongue Fricassee

One fresh beef tongue (4 to 5 lbs.) Boil till tender in salt water with parsley, celery and other soup greens. When done skin and put back in water to cool.

For meat balls for fricassee take $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. beef or veal, 1 good slice of wheat bread soaked in water, 1 egg. Season with salt and pepper, parsley and onion. Mix and form in small balls and cook slowly for ten minutes in the liquid the tongue was boiled in.

Gravy: Large piece of butter and 2 Large tablespoons flour, brown and then add salt and pepper to taste, juice of $\frac{1}{2}$ lemon, 1 can mushrooms and liquid the tongue was boiled in. Heat thoroughly and serve tongue sliced and meat balls, with gravy over.

Submitted by: Mrs. Katherine Hittner

Roast Onions

Wash some good size onions and without peeling, put into a pan with a very little water to keep from burning and bake in oven until soft. Then peel carefully.pour over a little Melted butter and serve. Submitted by: Mrs. Dorothy Otto

Cream of Beets

Chop boiled beets fine, place in baking dish, Cover with sweet cream, set in oven until heated through. Remove from oven and add 2 or 3 tablespoons of good vinegar. Stir in carefully, salt and pepper to taste. Garnish with parsley and serve hot.

Submitted by: Mrs. Chester Dean

Butterscotch Pie

Two egg yolks, 1 cup dark brown sugar, 1 cup sweet milk, 2 Tablespoons flour, butter the size of a walnut, 1 teaspoon vanilla. Cook in double boiler. Pour into baked crust. Make a meringue of 2 beaten whites of eggs and 2 tablespoons of sugar. Be sure to use the dark brown sugar.

Submitted by: Mrs. Florence C. Stadler

Potato Dumplings

Two cups cold potatoes, put through a food chopper, 1 cup of bread crumbs, 1 egg, small piece butter, melted, small tablespoon flour, pinch of salt. Work with fingers to form balls. Roll in flour and drop in kettle of boiling water to which a little salt has been added. Cook to about 8 to 10 minutes or until dumpling floats. Serve with sauce or drawn butter. **Submitted by: Mrs. Alice Longrie**

City Team Defeats Twelve Corners Team (Seymour Press Dec. 23, 1926)

Basketball was a popular sport in Seymour during the 1920s. The Seymour Creamery sponsored a city team and the high school was known to have very competitive squads. Both teams played in the Seymour Auditorium, a multi-purpose facility located at the intersection of Robbins and Main Streets. For games, the theater seats were removed and put in storage until the next event in the auditorium.



The local Creamery basketball team out-classed and out pointed the visitors from Twelve Corners last Friday Night December 17 at the city auditorium to a score of 28 to 22 in favor of Seymour in a fast and clean game of basketball. With the addition of several more players to the local squad, the boys were able to offer a defense to cope with as well as being able to cage the requisite number of baskets. At the end of

the third quarter the score was tied 20 to 20 and the balance of the game showed a steady gain on the part of the home boys.

The attendance was anything but encouraging for both the boys and their manager. It is certainly to the advantage of every citizen to show active interest in all sports of this caliber. A town is always judged by people that might be interested in coming here by the amount of enthusiasm shown in this regard as to its possibilities, in other respects avoiding funeral expenses. Turn out and attend the basketball games you'll enjoy them and also help the cause along.



Seymour High Again Defeats Pulaski Team

In the roughest and hardest fought game of the season the Seymour High Basketball Team defeated the strong Pulaski High Team at Pulaski in a five-minute overtime period 16 to 18, making Seymour's fifth In the first guarter the two teams straight victory. played on even terms with the score being 4 to 3 at the end of the quarter in favor of Pulaski. In the next quarter Pulaski came back strong and led at the end of the half 12 to 3. In the last half the Seymour boys went into the game with the idea of winning, and fought as hard as they could. The game ended in a 16 to 16 to tie which required a five minute overtime period in which the Seymour team made one basket, thus winning the game 16 to 18. Pulaski has a very strong team this year, and it is sure a credit to Seymour to have two victories over them.



1926-27 BB R. Forward - Claud Huth, R. Guard - Ronald Decker, Center - Vernon Ness, L.F. -Robert Miller and L.G. Horace Frieman. Subs: Gordon Ohlrogge, Harland Thompson, Leroy Decker, Harrison Kollath and Harold Thiede. Manager - Alfred Holz, Trainer - William Miller

After winning five consecutive victories,

Seymour High School met defeat at the hands of East Green Bay Tuesday evening. The game was very fast from the first whistle to the last. In the first half the Seymour boys could not find the basket, and as a result Green Bay was leading 7 to 0. In the last half Seymour staged a comeback, and at one time was only a couple of points behind their opponents. The game ended 14 to 8 in favor of East Green Bay. The Bear Creek game, which was to be played December 22 has been postponed to some later date.

Overall, it was a successful year for the Seymour cagers winning eight and losing six. The team was expected to do better but "scholastic troubles and injuries prevented us from having a championship team. At Hortonville the team was handicapped somewhat due to a slippery dance floor." Big wins over Kimberly (54 - 4) and Bear Creek (40 - 6) showed the potential of the team.



1926-27 High School Orchestra Grows from Ten to Twenty-five Members

(1927 Ripper)

The orchestra under the leadership of Mr. Leland Forrest, has grown from ten members last year to twenty-five this year. Their organization practices

faithfully twice a week and does much toward pepping up the school. The orchestra played for the Farmers Institute and several movies and will play for all the graduation events at the end of the year.

INSTRUMENTATION

First Violin: Stewart Droeger, Eunice Clough, Gustav Feuirig, Leon Schultz, Ivo Huettl, Maurice Barclay and Hubert Eick. **Second Violin:** Robert Slater, Robert Wolk, Frank Piehl, Harry Moeller, William Piehl and Harvey Doersch.

Solo Violin: Alfred Holz Cello: Miss Zenk First Clarinet: Elmer Melchert and Kenneth Brusewitz Piano: Malcolm Knutzen Second Clarinet: James Feurig Alto Saxophone: Carlton Stritzel Flute: Milton Keune, First Trumpet: Milton Sachs, Claude Huth Second Trumpet: Frank Wolk and Bell Fiedler Trombone: Darrel Hahn Drums: Floyd Haver

1926-27 Selected School Events

Sept. 17 The Sewing Club was organized under the supervision of Miss Olive VanVuren.

Sept. 27 Girls Glee Club organized. One of the girls trying out for alto sang second bass.

Oct. 4 First Boys Basket Ball Meeting. According to looks and actions we should have a peppy team.

- Nov. 3 All students gave a yell when it was announced no school until Monday because of teachers convention.
- Nov. 9 The students sang, "When the Red-Red Robin comes Bob-Bob Bobbin Along" in assembly.
- Dec. 6 Seniors had a glorious time on their sleigh ride party to Culbertsons. No serious results.
- Jan. 7 "Yes, We Have No Bananas" is announced as the most popular song. The students were amused.
- Jan. 11 Professor Axley recovering from several weeks of illness was welcomed back to school.
- Feb. 1 Some of the students began to act as if they had "Spring Fever."
- May 1 The **Ripper** is out. Now we have to sell them.
- May 5 Junior Prom! Big success! The hall was decorated beautifully. The Seniors felt highly honored.
- May 10 12 Senior Class Play! "Mary's Millions." Enjoyed by a very large audience.
- June 2 Commencement Exercises. Prof. E. G. Doudna of the University of Wisconsin speaker 25 Graduates.

Tom Coghill Trouble (The Seymour Press June 20, 1907)

This remarkable story merits review today to help the reader understand the financial success and business acumen of notable Seymour citizens early in the twentieth century. The amount of \$40,000 in 1907 is the equivalent of over \$1,000,000 in present day purchasing power. It also illustrates the lure of gambling and danger of get rich quick schemes. Also of note is the colorful style of journalism employed by the "Seymour Press" to captivate the reader.

Nearly everybody in this vicinity has heard or read of the fact that Thomas Coghill, cashier of the First National Bank of Seymour, is a defaulter to the extent of about \$40,000.00 and had an earthquake touched here the people would not have been more surprised, for the reason that Tommy Coghill was thought to be "gilt edge." Nevertheless it is only too true, and the shock made some people sick even those who were not connected with the bank.



The First National Bank was located on North Main St. between Hotel Florence and City Hall.

On Thursday Coghill was notified not to return to the bank until called for. The next Monday Coghill was put in the "sweat box" and made a full confession claiming that last August he was short several hundred dollars and went to speculating in wheat to make up the loss. If this is true Coghill made a serious mistake in trying to make good in this way. He would have fixed it up at home, and if he had the brains of a jack rabbit he would not go gambling on the board of trade.

There is not much confidence placed in Coghill's story, for he has been gambling in cotton and "feeding" a rubber plantation for a number of years, and that undoubtedly accounts for his first shortage. The directors immediately paid in to the bank the necessary amount to make good the loss, and the bank was closed only a few hours. The bank is still safe and sound.

The way Coghill covers up his crooked work was by filling out certificates of deposit for the full amount and the stub, which remained in the bank, for many pennies as there were dollars on the certificate which the depositor took home. He also doctored the books.

Coghill is 42 years of age but looks much

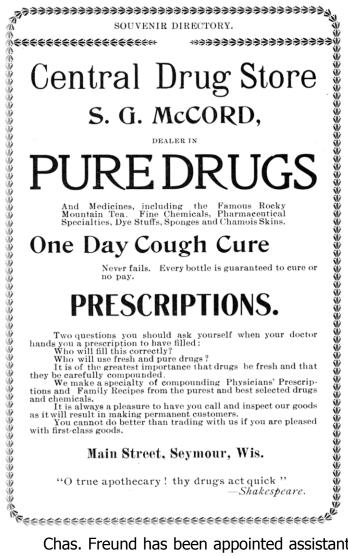


Constable August Wolk inside the First National Bank.

older. He was station agent at Black Creek and came to Seymour about 15 years ago and was station agent here until January, 1903, when he went in the new bank as officer. He was a leading member of the Methodist church.

He was arrested at his home and taken to Green Bay where he appeared before U.S. Court Commissioner Matile and waived examination. He asked to be permitted to appear before Judge Sanborn at Oshkosh Tuesday to enter a plea of guilty, but under the United Sates law a prisoner cannot be charged with a crime by information of the district attorney, and he was placed under \$40.000 bonds to appear before the grand jury next September. He could not furnish bonds. He asked the bank directors, whom he had roped in for several thousand dollars to go his bonds, but they refused.

The federal warrant was issued upon complaint of Attorney F. Strehlow of Green Bay. Suit will be commenced against the brokers who received the money. Coghill furnished the bank as cashier bonds, \$10,000 bonds by the American Surety Company of New York, which the bank examiner accepted as cash when he settled up the affair.



Chas. Freund has been appointed assistant cashier, and will probably be cashier in a short time. Jake Hahn is also employed at the bank. The arrest of Mr. Coghill was series of pathetic incidents. Deputy Vebber and F.R. Dittmer, president of the bank, went together to Coghill's home and they were seen before they reached the house. At the door they were met by a woman neighbor who was weeping. Coghill was sitting in a rocker and his wife was near him. Their only child, a 10 year-old boy, was on his father's lap, and when he learned the errand of the officer he clasped his father more tightly than ever about the neck and cried as if his heart would break. Vebber made known his errand and Coghill waived the reading of the warrant. He was told to be ready to go on the 10:10 train, and he was not taken into custody for the reason that he had been able to escape before, if he so desired. When the deputy went back to the house after Coghill the pathetic scenes were repeated. The father, mother and boy were all in tears and the boy refused to be taken from his father except by force.

Coghill was deeply affected and much downcast and could talk but a short time before breaking into tears. He expressed himself as being glad that his anxiety and worry over detection had passed, and his greatest regret was for his family. Too bad he did not think of his family before. If so, he would have not done what he did. It pays to walk the straight, narrow path.

Gambling, like liquor makes others suffer who do not indulge. Mr. Coghill will plead guilty, and will probably serve his time in United States Federal Penitentiary at Fort Levensworth, Kansas, where the inmates make chairs and shoes for army supplies. He is now confined in the county jail where he will remain until his trial.

The penalty for a crime of this kind under the United States laws is from 5 to 10 years, and under State banking laws not to exceed 20 years. The bank officials are entitled to much credit for fixing up the shortage so promptly.

Coghill looked haggard and worn. He was unshaven and the dark lines under his eyes testified to weeping and sleepless nights. When he was placed in the cell he was completely unnerved and turned deathly white and appeared about to faint.

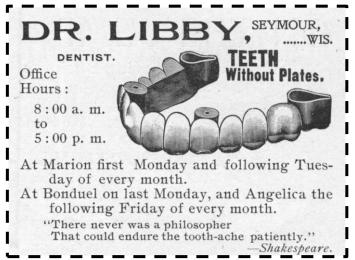
In another column will be found an article by Vice-President Tubbs which will explain many things.

To answer many questions and reassure depositors, Peter Tubbs, a director submitted a letter to the editor of the "Seymour Press." Excerpts from the letter are printed below.

A Few Facts on the Coghill Case

he

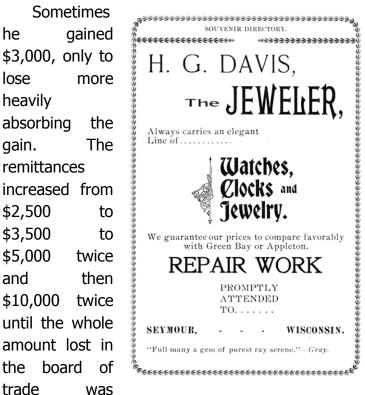
Editor of the Seymour Press: Because of the unfortunate speculation of the cashier of the First National Bank whereby \$40,000 was taken from its regular channel of business and lost to the bank, the public is rightfully entitled to know the real conditions of the bank, wherein they have placed their faith and money. Although the earnings of the bank were not satisfactory to the directors of the bank for the amount of business that was being done, some suspicion was aroused and at a meeting of the Directors on Saturday evening, June 8, a lead was struck that



satisfied the directors that crooked work was going on and it decided to call in an expert at once and sift the matter to the bottom.

Meantime, Pres. Dittner demanded the keys of the bank and Monday morning June 10, S.H. Cady accompanied by J.H. Taylor of Green Bay, came and Cashier Coghill was taken privately by Mr. Taylor where he laid the whole matter bare, commencing with a shortage for

cause unknown on balancing books, he commenced Aug. 16, 1906 to speculate in wheat on the board of trade to make good the loss, fearing to reveal the true situation to the directors and as he seems to have struck some genuine sharks on the Chicago board of trade and from time to time he was drawn into their net.



\$38,000, and not a cent to show for it. \$2,000 was invested in rail road bonds, apparently good, \$1,100 on other bonds for \$10,000 with monthly payment to follow. These bonds have been turned over to the bank and with life insurance and other valuable assets Mr. Coghill turned over about \$6,000. The commercial bond the bank held of \$10,000 makes about \$16,000. Thus



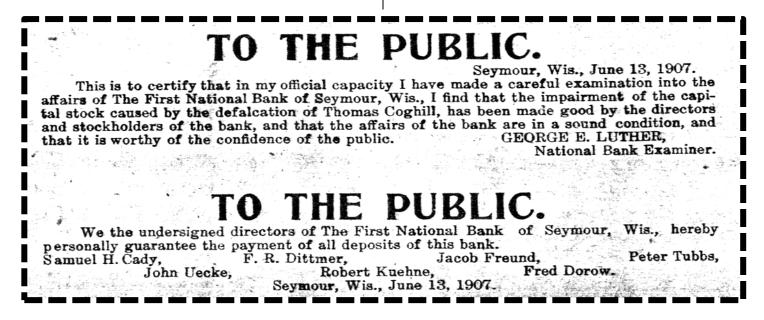
leaving a net loss to the bank of \$24,000. There was a surplus and earnings of the bank which could be applied and the stockholders and directors immediately raised \$23,000.

Mr. Luther, the Bank Examiner, who came here to straighten out the affairs of the bank said he never saw any such a case to settled so speedily and without a jar as this was done. He said he would have

to take off his hat to us. Everyone concerned took the matter in hand to do each his full duty,

determined that the public and patrons of the banks should not lose a cent. Ample means were provided by the assistance of four other National Banks to meet any run that might present itself, but, to our amazement, the next day after the examination \$5,000 more were deposited over the counter than was paid out. A rumor was started that the bank had even taken the savings of Mrs. Coghill and her son amounting to \$50.00. There is no foundation to Mrs. Coghill also holds the deed to the this. homestead valued at \$1,500 or more and no particle of revenge has been manifested. Mr. Luther said on his departure that the first National Bank of Seymour was as safe as any bank. Proceedings have started to recover the \$38,000 lost by Coghill, as there is a law providing for the return of any money taken from a bank by its cashier, unbeknown to the bank. There is hope at fully recovering our loss.

Peter Tubbs



The sad story of Thomas Coghill closed when he was sentenced to five years in prison. Fortunately, with the help of bank examiners and market regulations, most of the money was recovered. Quick action by the directors of the bank and their excellent reputations caused depositors to remain calm and avoided a panic.

Mr. Coghill served three years as a model prisoner in the federal penitentiary in Leavenworth, Kansas. Upon his release the family relocated and started a new life.

Seymour Community Historical Society Membership as of 11/01/2021

Abel, Mary Albert, Jean Anschutz, James and Cathy Bakula, Ken Barclay, Janet Barlament, Mark Bartz, Allan and Mary Claire Battisti, Bob and Jo Ann Bauer, Dave 10. Beilfuss, Dan and Ruth 11. Blahnik Barb J. 12. Blohm, Leland and Betty 13. Bock, Bob 14. Boettcher, June 15. Borremans, Todd and Joan 16. Brashaw, Brian and Susan 17. Braun, Jon and Jodi 18. Brinkman, Dennis 19. Brownson, Thomas and Mavis 78. 20. Buntrock, Richard and Bonnie 79. Huettl, Bernie 21. Burke, Shirley 22. Burmeister, Brad 23. Busch, Arlyn and Julie 24. Buttles, Douglas and Joyce 25. Buttles, Kevin and Cherry 26. Campbell, Jim and Nancy 27. Carlson, Dr. Jim and Sue 28. Chernick Family Foundation 29. Clausen, Deloris 30. Collar, Bill and Holly 31. Coonen, Marge 32. Coonen, Mark and Karen 33. Coonen, Scott and Anita 34. Coonen, Stephen and Brigitte 93. 35. Court, Robert and Debra 36. Cumicek, John 37. Dalke, Lois 38. Dean, Gail 39. DeBruin Eric and Trisha 40. Diermeier, Tim 41. Dorosz, Steve and Darla 42. Duffey, Tom and Ann 43. Dunville, Glenn and Sharon 44. Dver, Jon C. 45. Ebert, Audrey 46. Ebert, Joseph 47. Ebeling, Barbara 48. Eick, Bob and Janis 49. Eick, Janice 50. Eisenreich, Bobbi Jo & Ted 51. Farr, Kathleen and Dean 52. Ferge, Laurene 53. Forcey, John and Dawn 54. Freund, Ralph 55. Frost, Charles and Louise 56. Ganzel, Lorin 57. Gillis, Jim and Jeannie

58. Goeben, Samantha

59. Gonnering, Mike and Karen

63.

64.

65.

73.

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

7.

8.

9.

75. 76. Holz, Nancy Holzer, Vera 77. Howlett, George 80. Huettl, Jennie 81. Huettl, Mike Family 82. Huettl-Samson, Ann 83. Hunt, Stephen and Betty 84. Huth, Ralph and Mary 85. Ibe, Betty 86. James, Les 87. Johnson, Evalyn 88. Kabat, Reverend Bob 89. 90. 91. Kelly, Tom and Cathy 92. Kemp, Steve Kemp, Vernon and Mary 94. Kenton, Carol Piper 95. Keyzers, Mike and Sue 96. Kielar, Shirley 97. Kimberling, Diane and Ron 98. Klass, Pat and Mary 99. Koenigs, John 100. Krabbe, Steve and Cheri 101. Kraft, Dr. Tony DDS 102. Kraft, LaMont 103. Kraft, Esther 104. Kraft, Marlene 105. Kraft, Tony and Becky 106. Kraft, Vernice 107. Krahn, Kevan and Sandy 108. Krueger, Kenneth 109. Krull, Pat and Cathy 110. Kuehne, Carl & Mary Ellen 111. Kuene, Steve and Karen 112. Kunstman, Tom 113. Kurczek, John and Kay 114. Landwehr, T.J. 115. Lardinois, Terry and Patti 116. Laske, Terry 117. Loasching, Bill and Jackie 118. Lom, Joe and Mary

60. Gosda, Al and Carol 119. Lorenz, Diana 61. Gosse, Dr. Richard & Karen 62. Gosse, Marv Greuel, Mary and Deny Grimm, Nate and Abby Grimm, Paul and Deanna 66. Hanseter, Russ 67. Hein, Joann 68. Heidt, Jean 69. Hendrickson, Dave 70. Hermolin, Joe 71. Herbst, Gaylord and Linda 72. Hesprich, Kevin and Sue Hodgden, Ken and Mary 132. 74. Hoeft, Lowell Hoff, Dr. Don and Gail 134. 135. 136. 147. Kagerbauer, Dirk and Debbie 148. Kailhofer, Barry and Sandy 149. 150. 151. 152. 153. 154. 155. 156. 160. 161. 162. 163. 164. 165. 167. 168. 169. 170. 173.

178. Schmidt, Paul & Cathy(Piehl) 120. Lubinski, Dick and Donna 179. Schneider, Dennis 121. Lubinski, Travis 180. Schneider, Randy and Nancy 122. Maass, Dave and Mary 181. Schroeder-Puzen, Carol A. 123. Maass, Jim and Jean 182. Schuh, Pudge and Cassi 183. Schuh, Kurt and Kris 124. Maass, Warren and Gloria 125. Machachek, Ed and Jo 184. Schultz, Dennis and Marlene 126. Mahlik, Jill and John 185. Schuster, Ronald and Mary 127. Manzke, Susan 186. Seidl-Lorenz, Marilvn 128. Marcks, Donald 187. Seidl, Ron and Pat 129. Marcks, Emerson & Mariann 188. Sherman, Joyce 130. Marnocha, Greg and Kim 189. Shuler, Susan and Harvey 131. Martz, Cy and Lori 190. Sievert, Staci and Steve Zahn Mayer, Susan Miller Skinkis, Randy & Cassandra 191. 133. McBain, Roland "Bud" 192. Skodinski, Rogene McClone, Bear and Carla 193. Skodinski, Scott Smith Nancy R. Melchert, Gary & Mary Lou 194. Melchert, Ralph 195. Smith, Guy and Karen 137. Melchert, Steve 196. Smits, Mike and Cathy 138. Melotte, Ken 197. Somodi, Gail 139. Menor, Marilyn 198. Sprader, Phyllis 140. Miller, Mitch 199. Springstroh, Arlin and Janet 141. Miller, Ron and Laverne 200. Staley, Ruth and Elwyn 142. Moeller, Gary and Betsy 201. Staeven, Tom and Ann 143. Montgomery, Jan Reese 202. Stellmacher, Chuck & Deb 144. Muenster, James and Ginger 203. Stellmacher, Jon & Rebecca 145. Murphy, Jon and Lucy 204. Steltz, John and Desiree 146. Nachtwey, Michael 205. Swett, Keith Nachtwey, Ron and Sharon 206. Tech, Harold and Thelma Nagel, John and Dee 207. Tesch, David Natchek, Sally Miller 208. Thiel, Bill and Lori Nelson, Tom 209. Thiel, Shirley Nimmer, Lee 210. Timmins, Elizabeth Norelius, Janice 211. Treml, Brian Novak, Gary and Linda 212. Treml, Ronald E. Palubicki, Jim and Laurie 213. Truyman, Mark and Debbie Peotter, Donald and Ann Upp, Berl and Laurie 214. Peterson, Randy and Debbie 215. Van Boxtel, Dan and Teri 216. VandeLeest, Warren & Flo 157. Piehl Ellen 158. Piehl, Richard and Ann 217. Vanden Heuvel, Bud & Audrey 159. Pierre, Perry and Carol 218. Ver Voort, Glen and Sarah Pingel, Dolores 219. Ver Voort, Scott and Angela Piper, Janice 220. Voight, Jack Puls, Mike and Linda 221. Volkman, Dale and Karen Raether, June 222. Wagner, Al and Sally 223. Wendt, Byron and Bonnie Raymakers, Del Reed, Jeff and Karen 224. Wendt, Donald 225. Wettstein, Bob and Mary 166. Reed, Randy and Ann Reese, Shaun 226. Weyers, Colleen Rickert, Lisa 227. Wilken, Judy 228. Wilkinson, Tom and Sandy Robinson, Shirley Ross, Pete and Peggy 229. Woods, Jim 171. Rottier, Ken and Judy 230. Wulterkens, Jean Hackel 172. Rydzewski, Rob and Cathy 231. Wurtzel, John Sager, Dennis and Bobbi 232. Yaeger, Bruce Family 174. Sass, Jane 233. Zahn, Joyce 175. Schaumberg, Carl and Diane 234. Zahn, Donna 176. Schellinger, Tim 235. Zahn, Mark and Renee

236. Zak, Dr. Dan and Pam

177. Schmit, Lee and Betty

237. Zastrow, Lila * A \$50.00 donation merits a lifetime membership. If your name is not listed and you are a life member please e-mail bicollar@aol.com or call 920 833-6064. We appreciate life members who continue to donate.

The Memory Forest



Christmas is only seven weeks 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 \$50.00. 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.

Forty trees are available this year. They will be sold on a first come, first served basis. 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 and remove them after the holiday season.



Santa at the Museum

The upstairs of the museum is all decked out for Santa and Mrs. Claus' visit from 10:00 until noon on Saturday, December 4. Individually wrapped cookies will be available and every child can pick out a toy to take home.

Help Sustain the Historical Society and Museum with a Donation

Name	Phone	
Address		
E-mail	_ (Circle Amt.) \$10.00 \$20.00 \$30.00 \$40.00 Other	
In memory of (Optional)		

Mail your donation to P.O. Box 237 Seymour, WI 54165. 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.

Thank you for your support!

Donations Since April 10, 2021

A sincere "Thank You" to all of our donors. Your generosity makes it possible to maintain the museum and offer a variety of programs. Listed in the order received.

	-,		
Eunice Karweick	Seymour, WI	Sustainability	In memory of Adeline Wichman
Patti and Terry Lardinois	Seymour, WI	Sustainability	
Stan and Mary Larkin	Appleton, WI	Sustainability	In memory of Nancy Brinkman
Janice Piper	Waterford, `	Sustainability	In honor of George Piper
Dick and Donna Lubinski	Seymour, WI	Sustainability	2 .
George Howlett	Seymour, WI	Sustainability	In memory of Helen Stephans Howlett
Gary and Mary Lou Melchert	Seymour, WI	Sustainability	In memory of Adeline "Pudge" Lerum
Gary and Mary Lou Melchert	Seymour, WI	Sustainability	In memory of Edward Lorenz, Sr.
Marilyn Seidl-Lorenz	Seymour, WI	Sustainability	In memory of Edward Lorenz, Sr.
Diann & Robert Ciesielczyk	Seymour, WI	Sustainability	In memory of Edward Lorenz, Sr.
Douglas and Joyce Buttles	Seymour, WI	Life Membership	
Harold and Thelma Tech	Seymour, WI	Sustainability	
Russell Hanseter	Seymour, WI	Sustainability	
Sue and Harvey Shuler	Oneida, WI	Sustainability	
Mike Huettl	Seymour, WI	Sustainability	
Ed and Jo Machacek		Sustainability	
	Seymour, WI	•	Thrivent Choice Dollars
Laurene Ferge	Nichols, WI	Sustainability	
Ron and Pat Seidl	Seymour, WI	Sustainability	
Janice Norelius	Thornton, CO	Sustainability	In manage of Dr. D.C. Groundahl
John Wurtzel	Payson, AZ	Sustainability	In memory of Dr. R.C. Groendahl
Michael Nachtwey	Black Creek, WI	Sustainability	In memory of Ron Nachtwey
Barry & Sandy Kailhofer	Seymour, WI	Flowers	
Gary & Mary Lou Melchert	Seymour, WI	Sustainability	
Richard & Bonnie Buntrock	Seymour, WI	Sustainability	Ken and Judy Rottier's 50th Anniversary
Bill and Holly Collar	Seymour, WI	Sustainability	Ken and Judy Rottier's 50th Anniversary
Butch and Betty Blohm	Seymour, WI	Sustainability	In memory of grandson Shaun
Les James	Black Creek, WI	Sustainability	
Jon and Sarah Koenigs	Hortonville, WI	Sustainability	
Robert and Deb Court	Black Creek, WI	Sustainability	
Friends of Harvey Albert	Seymour, WI	Sustainability	In memory of Harvey Albert
Marge Coonen	Seymour, WI	Sustainability	In memory of Harvey Albert
Jean Albert	Seymour, WI	Life Membership	
Rogene Skodinski	Seymour, WI	Life Membership	
Deloris Clausen	Seymour, WI	Sustainability	
Janice Eick	Seymour, WI	Sustainability	In memory of Joseph Kline
Bill and Holly Collar	Seymour, WI	Sustainability	In memory of Joseph Kline
Nancy R. Smith	Gillett, WI	Sustainability	
Estate of Robert & Helen Piehl		Sustainability	
Estate of Francis Gerl		Sustainability	
John Cumicek	Seymour, WI	Sustainability	
Seymour H.S. Class of 1961	Seymour, WI	Sustainability	
Bill Treml	Seymour, WI	Plumbing Services	Treml Enterprises
Brandon Lawrence	Appleton, WI	Electrical Services	Bay Ridge Electrical
Schuh Construction	Isaar, WI	Construction	Schuh Construction
Eunice Karweick	Seymour, WI	Sustainability	In memory of Nancy Gomm Porter
Laurene Ferge	Nichols, WI	Sustainability	Thrivent Choice Dollars
0 -	,	·····,	

With several big projects underway your historical society continues to improve the museum and the general store and activities on Depot Street. All this is made possible through the generosity of our members. We also encourage you to keep the society in mind when doing estate planning. All board members are volunteers and one hundred per cent of all donations stay in Seymour.

Historical Objects in the General Store

Pictured below are eight once common objects that are on display in the general store. How many can you identify? Answers can be found on page 19





Not a brush, but a type of comb.





Looking good and feeling good.



Ε.

Used during WWI, but not in battle.



G.

Helped to prepare a local food.



B. _____

Used on the farm, but what for?



- D. _____
 - Gravity and a discerning hand made it work.

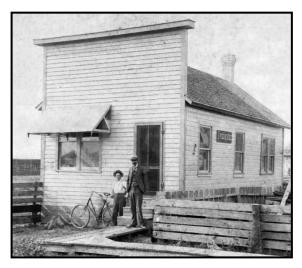




Be specific on this handy Item.



A measuring device, but what for?



H.J. Van Vuren and youngster Mike Allan on the steps of the TP in 1888.

The Crow's Nest

Henry J. Van Vuren started the Seymour Press in

1886. Forty-three years later, in 1929, he turned it over to his son, Clyde. H.J. continued to write his weekly column, "The Crow's Nest", until his death in 1939. The popular column was his reflection on the social and political issues of the times. Often humorous and at times acerbic, everything and everyone at one time or another was subject to his scrutiny. In 1927, during the height of Prohibition, people in the United States were



H.J. relaxing at Loon Lake. H.J. and 9 other Seymour business owners/families established the Loon Lake Outing Club, initially tenting and then building cottages for summer retreats to Loon Lake.

intoxicated with having a good time. The stock market was booming, Lindbergh flew to Paris, Babe Ruth hit 60 home runs and flappers were

challenging social standards. By examining H.J. Van Vuren's columns we see that life in Seymour reflected national trends. The following observations are from 1927.

- There is a lot of difference in an old auto and an old man. The auto gets loose in the joints by age, while the man's joints get tighter.
- A Seymour flapper says it took her several sittings before she knew how to skate.
- A Seymour man went to a doctor to see about his lame leg was told that it was old age that caused the pain. "Well" said the patient. "My other leg is just as old as the lame one."
- The Radio Board is to banish about one-half of the broad casting stations. Let's hope they kill at least that number. As it is now the stations are so numerous it is almost impossible to tune in without getting two or more at the same time.
- It's not fair to store away money as long as you have creditors. Pay your bills. Those whom you owe money most likely need it.
- "Prohibition not a political issue" reads a lead lie. It is like saying "free coinage of silver" is not an issue.
- A Wisconsin professor says "Success is not due to brains, but to luck". Whichever it is, give us the luck.
- The secretary of agriculture says that it takes, \$30,000,000 annually to replace the broken milk bottles.
- A New York woman says "smoke, drink, but do it moderately". This woman don't know or she don't think. All heavy drinkers and smokers were moderate indulgers once. The habit grows and the only way to do is not to start a habit.
- Bandits reported to be getting some big hauls, but the best one will come when they are hauled in some city's patrol wagon to the nearest jail.
- The question is asked, as to how long a person can live without food? The kids of Seymour on returning from school, will say that they can't live until supper time unless they get some at once.
- A Bald-headed Seymour man says he heard that the short skirts were going to disappear, and that is just what he feared.
- A farmer once asked the editor of a country paper for advice as follows: I have this horse that at times appears normal, but at other times is lame to an alarming degree. What shall I do? The replay came. "The next time that your horse appears normal, sell him."

Answers to the Historical Objects in the General Store

A. Hand Carder for wool - Hand-carding is a traditional method of preparing fleece and fibers for spinning soft, lofty yarns of varying fiber lengths. The purpose for carding is to separate and straighten the wool fibers. The result is a batt wool that makes spinning easier. Hand-carders are a pair of wooden paddles with wire faces. The wire teeth are either course or fine. The course teeth are for carding wool, mohair and course fibers. The fine teeth are for carding cotton and softer fibers like angora.

B. Hay Knife - Hay knives are needed as loose hay or silage becomes compacted within a stack. To remove it a hay knife is used to make a vertical cut so that sections can be removed easily as the intertwined stalks are cut. The offset handle allows the user to work down in a sawing motion. Once one section has been removed the worker starts again at the top creating another cut.

C. Hat Steamer - The Hat Steamer continues to be used by people to this day. Used with a mold, the steamer is used to block, stretch, crease, shrink or shape straw and felt hats. Ideal applications include removing nesting rings in seconds, freshening felt to a velvety texture and shaping the hat to the preference of the owner. Introduced in 1940.

D. Bag Seeder - Fill the bag with seeds, strap it on your shoulder and let your hand and gravity do the rest. Most of the early seeders of this type had a small box and hand crank attached to broadcast the seed.

E. Circular Sock Making Machine - This is a difficult item to identify, but it was very common during World War One. Good socks that didn't have knots or cause blisters, were in high demand, to prevent trench foot. The Red Cross gave women a CSM and 30lb of wool – if you made that yarn into socks for the troops, you got to keep the machine.

F. Wooden Barrel Spigot or Tap - The way to tap a wooden barrel is by tapping a simple onoff valve (spigot) into the bottom of the container with a hammer, and let gravity do the work. The beer simply flows out of the barrel and into the glass. Wooded barrels were common up until the mid 1900s.

G. Sauerkraut Pounder or Masher - This home-made wooden pounder was used to make sauerkraut. To make it properly you need to pound the cabbage in its container and release its juices. While there are many ways to achieve this, a turned wooden kraut pounder makes the job a lot easier.

H. Horse Collar Measuring Device - Used to measure the circumference of a horses neck to properly fit a neck collar. A neck collar is a padded fixture that completely encircles a horse's neck, resting against his shoulder. Neck collars have a groove that accommodates hames, to which the traces are attached. A neck collar is usually used to pul formal vehicles and for vehicles having a heavy draft.

Thank You Volunteers

It takes many volunteers to keep the historical society running smoothly. We thank our volunteers who serve as greeters and guides at the museum and general store. In addition to Music in the Park, the holiday displays and flower gardens require attention. The buildings have to be cleaned, windows washed and repairs made as necessary. During the school year students from the alternative school make a great contribution.

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

Return Service Requested

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 Friday 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



Christmas Open House at the Museum Saturday, December 4, 10:00 - 4:00.