

Seymour History Bulletin



A publication of the Seymour Community Historical Society – Spring & Summer 2024

Dedicated to Preserving Seymour Area

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Summer hours: 1:00 – 4:00 Friday - Sunday

Spring, fall and winter: 1:00 – 4:00 Sunday

Closed: January, February and March. Open by appointment anytime.

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The Contents of this Issue

The purpose of our newsletter is to keep our members informed of events taking place at the museum and to keep Seymour History alive through relating past social, cultural and economic activities. In addition to the annual meeting, this publication includes part two of an interview with Russ Hanseter who explains his duties as National Vice-commander of the American Legion. We have included tributes to Tom Duffey and Carl Kuehne, two people who played major roles in the organization of the historical society, building the museum and starting Burger Fest. Also of interest to local history buffs are a number of 1920s Seymour news articles from the Green Bay and Appleton papers.

Since a fire at the **Seymour Press** office destroyed copies of the local paper prior to 1947, historians must research Green Bay and Appleton papers for Seymour news. Fortunately, the larger area papers included a "Seymour News" section every week or two. Readers will also find the Music in the Park schedule for 2024 and part one of an interview with Vietnam veteran Robert Court.

The last several pages of this publication list our most recent contributors. Thank you for your gifts and donations necessary to keep our mission on track. The Seymour City Council recognizes the value of preserving our heritage and supporting an attractive museum through providing the museum utilities.

Mission Statement

The Seymour Community Historical Society is primarily educational. It specifically collects and preserves records and physical objects relating to the history of the city of Seymour, Wisconsin and the surrounding area.

Annual Meeting and the Presentation of the new Seymour H.S. Sports Exhibit - Saturday, May 11, 1:00 pm



The new exhibit includes over 100 years of sports history.

Everyone is encouraged to attend the annual meeting of the Seymour Community Historical Society at 1:00 on Saturday, May 11. Following a brief business meeting, the program will be the presentation of the new sports exhibit featuring a 55 inch touch screen computer monitor where visitors can access all championship sports teams and top athletes at Seymour High School. Also listen to Seymour's Hall of Fame and State Champion coaches comment on their experiences.

Dates to Remember

- * May 11 Annual Meeting - 1:00
- * May 5, 12, 19, 26 Museum Open
- * May 27 Memorial Day Program in A.M.
- * June 1- Museum Opens - Fri. Sat. Sun.
- * June 12 - Music in the Park Starts

This is what your Seymour Community Historical Society accomplished in 2023.

1. The SCHS has a reliable team of 15 volunteers who maintain and supervise the museum and general store three days a week during the summer months.
2. Approximately 2,750 people visited the museum in 2023.
3. Music in the Park continues to be a very popular attraction for city residents. The total attendance for the summer was close to 3,000. Raffle and concession income was \$4,400.00.
4. The memory forest remains popular with 43 decorated trees. It is a great program for area residents and provides Christmas cheer on Depot Street.
5. The floral display around the museum and general store add summer beauty to the Depot Street area.
6. The gazebo was used regularly throughout the summer. Often when the gazebo is used for community events such as church service and assorted gatherings, the museum is open to provide clean restrooms.
7. The Kid's Christmas was a success with 97 kids receiving gifts from Santa and Mrs. Claus.
8. Author Mike O'Connor spoke about his book **Badger Aces**. Fifty-six people attended the presentation.
9. Giz Herbst, from the Egg Harbor Historical Society, spoke at the annual meeting. Fifty-eight people enjoyed the program.
10. The historical society provided lighting for the large mural on the west side of the old general store.
11. Penny Gillespie, who coached volleyball for 16 years and taught Physical Education for 25, returned to Seymour for a visit. The society hosted a celebration with 74 in attendance.
12. An exhibit featuring a wide variety of dolls made by Tillie Stueflat of Seymour was on display.
13. The 4th grade class made their annual visit to the museum.
14. The SCHS continues to add to the society's collection of pictures and artifacts.
15. The SCHS maintains a website with over 3,000 area pictures and a collection of all newsletters.
16. The SCHS has been getting assistance from the alternative school students with cleaning and upkeep.
17. The SCHS Board of Directors values the support of the City Council and help from the DPW.

2024 Budget for the Seymour Community Museum

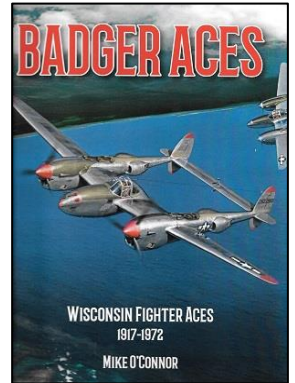
(To be approved at the annual meeting on May 11)

Expenses				Income	
Cleaning Supplies	200.00	Bld. Maintenance	4,000.00	Admission Donations	600.00
Office Supplies	700.00	Utilities	15,000.00	Music Sponsors	5,500.00
Tax Preparation	1,000.00	New Displays	3,500.00	50/50 Raffle	3,100.00
Bands for Music	5,500.00	License and Fees	400.00	Memory Forest	2,150.00
Advertising	1,000.00	Web Host & Tech.	1,500.00	Gift Shop	700.00
Music Expenses	1,000.00	Flowers & Decorations	1,000.00	Memberships	200.00
Special Events	1,400.00	Memorials & Gifts	1,500.00	Donations	13,700.00
Memory Forest	1,500.00	Postage	600.00	City of Seymour	16,000.00
Newsletters	1,400.00	Miscellaneous	550.00	Music Concessions	1,300.00
Display Maintenance	2,000.00			Special Events	500.00
Total Expenses - \$43,750.00				Total Income - \$43,750.00	

Author of "Badger Aces" Captivates Audience *Seymour's "Ace" George Doersch was featured.*



Wausau area author and fighter plane expert, Mike O'Connor gave a fascinating hour long presentation to a capacity audience to highlight the fall speaker program at the Seymour Community Museum. He stayed for another half hour answering questions and elaborating on his popular discourse. Many of the questions related to Seymour's own "Double Ace" George Doersch, who is credited with 10½ German planes in World War II. Colonel Doersch was well represented with numerous relatives in the audience. When asked why Doersch was not in the Wisconsin Aviation Hall of Fame, O'Connor shrugged his shoulders and replied, "He certainly deserves it. Start a



campaign to get him in."

More than 60,000 American fighter pilots engaged in combat. But, only a total of 1,447 became aces, shooting down or destroying at least five enemy aircraft in combat. His book details the flying exploits of the 44 men from Wisconsin. Speaking without notes, O'Connor also provided insight into the military career of Wisconsin's "Ace of Aces" Richard Bong. The historical society was made aware of the speaker by Air Force veteran Sharon Dunville who donated a copy of his book to the museum. Following the stimulating evening the American Legion Auxiliary provided coffee and desserts. Numerous people purchased copies of his "Badger Aces" book and his biography of Richard Bong.



Christmas at the Museum - 2023

Close to 100 children, accompanied by their parents, visited the museum to meet Santa and Mrs. Claus and pick out a present. Janice Eick and her sisters Joan Conradt and Jean Maass decorated the museum and donated presents. Every child received a bundle of candy canes along with a present of their choice.

A ten-foot Christmas tree was decorated inside the museum and 42 trees were included in the traditional memory forest on the museum grounds. Bob Bock had the Christmas train in operation to the delight of the children. Overall, it was a fun day for everyone and many stayed to explore the museum. Over 250 people visited the facility during the day.



Mayor Kraft welcomed Santa and Mrs. Claus to Seymour.



Children could pick from a wide variety of toys

A Tribute to Tom Duffey

By Bill Collar



Tom Duffey pictured by the Hamburger Charlie exhibit in the museum.

Last August I attended the funeral for Tom Duffey. In speaking with members of his family a number of memories flashed through my mind. A couple of these are pertinent to the historical society and worthy of mention. In the summer of 1975 I was preparing for my third year of coaching and teaching history at Seymour High School. Tom contacted me and said "Bill, the Bicentennial of the United States is coming up next year and we should do something to preserve Seymour area history."

He contacted several other people who were active in the Seymour Centennial Celebration in 1968 and we had a meeting and decided to form a historical society. After some research it was decided to incorporate as a non-profit educational institution with the Wisconsin State Historical Society. On December 3, 1975 the Articles of Incorporation was signed with Tom Duffey, president and Rita Gosse and Bill Collar signed as witnesses. The abandoned Green Bay and Western Depot was acquired to serve as a museum.

In the summer of 1988 Tom informed me that David Muench, who was the Economic Development Coordinator for Outagamie County, had contacted him and said that there was evidence that Seymour could be the birthplace of the hamburger. Tom formed a committee with a number of other residents of Seymour and called for all interested people to attend a meeting in the lower level of the municipal building. He had heard that I would occasionally dress up like historical characters in class and asked if I would portray "Hamburger" Charlie at the meeting. I agreed, members of the community responded and through a great deal of cooperation from numerous volunteers, the first Burger Fest was held on August 5, 1989.

Thank you Tom Duffey for your many contributions to Seymour including the Seymour Community Historical Society and the Home of the Hamburger.

A Tribute to Carl Kuehne

By Bill Collar



Carl Kuehne at the annual meeting of the SCHS explaining his role with the Packers.

Many Seymour residents were saddened to learn of the passing of Carl Kuehne, a 1959 graduate of Seymour High School. Carl, a highly successful businessman, philanthropist and member of numerous governing boards including the Executive Committee of the Green Bay Packers, helped make the new Seymour Museum possible. He also supported numerous other projects in Seymour including Burger Fest and the entryway to the high school athletic field.

As time passed and through the generosity of Seymour area residents, the museum collection grew and the depot was too small to sufficiently display area history. Eventually, the former Miller-

Piehl Office Building was acquired and the served the community well for a number of years. Rita Gosse, president of the historical society, realized the need for more storage and display space. Several plans were presented to put an addition on the Miller-Piehl Building and Carl was consulted for advice.

After a structural analysis of the building (it was sound) and consideration of future needs, Carl introduced the concept of building a new facility comparable to museums in much larger cities. A steering committee was formed to investigate the feasibility of such an endeavor. It was determined to erect a desirable display and storage area to convey and preserve Seymour history. The amount of funds available would have to be more than doubled.

Carl and his wife, Mary Ellen, helped launch the fund raising campaign with a significant gift. He continued to provide valuable advice and direction until the goal of 1.2 million dollars was reached. A total of over 250 people donated to the community project. The spirit of volunteerism and community support continues as the museum opens for the 13th year.

Thank you Carl Kuehne for your many contributions to Seymour including the Seymour Community Historical Society and the Home of the Hamburger.

Correction

In the fall/winter edition of the Seymour History Bulletin the interview with Russ Hanseter mentioned that he was influenced to join the American Legion by Alvin Piehl which is correct. A picture of William Piehl was incorrectly displayed. The 1969 picture below shows Alvin "Panks" Piehl and his twin Alfred Piehl, sitting behind the cake, at the 50th anniversary of the American Legion.



Seymour Press 1969

Fourteen WWI veterans were present at the 50th celebration of the American Legion Saturday evening. Seated left to right: Elbridge Boyden, Alvin Piehl, Alfred Piehl, William Del Marcelle, Sr. and Ralph Elsen. Standing left to right, Art Krause, Chester Ziegenbein, Ben Swiecichowski, Forest Huth, Harvey Weishoff, Joseph Hein, John Bunkelman, Floyd Hardecker Appleton; and Albert Rudie.

Interview with Russ Hanseter about his experiences in Washington, D.C. when the Pentagon was attacked on September 11, 2001 (Part 2)

Editor's comment: The previous edition of the "Seymour History Bulletin" included an interview with Russ Hanseter about his experiences in Washington, D.C. on 9/11/2001. Part 2 focuses on his experiences as National Vice Commander in 2001-2002.

It is also intended to emphasize the commitment Russ has made to advance the cause of the fair treatment of veterans and their families. The final question all of us should ask is, What have I done, or can I do, to help improve the quality of life in my city, state and country?

"As I passed through Detroit headed to my various meetings and Legion Departments, I was always early for connecting flights and would be at the head of the line. It seemed I was always singled out to remove my shoes and socks, check my brief case that I always carried. Remove my watch, any religious chains, my belt, change or anything that triggered an alarm.

After some time, I asked an official why me? He said we always take one of the first four aside it lets people know they could be next. After a while I learned to let a few travelers in front of me. My luggage was always roughed up and it was hard to keep shirts nice and pressed. On a trip I could have up to a dozen white shirts in my luggage.

And every trip would mean I had some gifts or memorabilia that needed to be checked over carefully. Lots of flights were delayed and other flights cancelled. I had to make several trips back to Washington, and the security measures had changed unbelievably. I remember saying 'visiting Washington would never be the same for our grandchildren."

As often as I could I drove so Donna could travel with me to Nebraska, North Dakota or South Dakota. Not for the eight day or more longer visits to Illinois, Ohio and Iowa. I did an eight-day tour in Illinois and was made an Honorary Post Commander of Post 78 in Pontiac, IL with a brand-new Post jacket and cap. I often visited four to six posts a day. I was made an Honorary Admiral in the Nebraska Navy and have a proclamation attesting the occasion. In North Platte, Nebraska for a Mid-Winter Conference, it was 75 degrees in

February. We left there for the N. Dakota Legion Conference and I met Ingvald Oakland. We went to Memphis, TN Aircraft School, he also served aboard ship. In December of 1952 we met a young Elvis Presley playing a guitar outside a record shop. Ingvald and I graduated one and two and had our picks of duty. We wanted to go aboard ship and there were two choices, the USS Megara Aviation repair and USS Bennington a carrier, both of us took the USS Megara..



USS Bennington

It was a fortunate choice, in May over a 100 were killed and 125 hurt in a catapult explosion on the Bennington that triggered even more explosions. Several men from our Memphis class died on that day.

One more related story of that year. Donna drove me to Iowa where Legion officials picked me up for another long tour. I did graduate work at U of Iowa in summer of 1970 and son Tom went to Grinnell so I knew some things about Iowa. Donna would pick me up again in a week. Up at 5:30am grab a coffee and off to

a Legion Post for breakfast, a short visit and a presentation. Mid-morning another Post that had huge doughnuts and coffee and the same routine. Then a Legion Post for lunch and I always made it a point to look for something unique about a Post, like winner of band competition at a 1946 convention or something about their Post namesake, and then made it a point to mention that during my visit and that worked very well. I left a half dozen worn white shirts at one of the hotels. Another story about them some other time.

Then an afternoon Post visit and back to our motel to prepare for an evening banquet. Food was always excellent, and in most cases the Legion



Post was the 'Hub' of activity in every community. At that time the Legion was trying to bring back the 'Blue Star Banner Program.' It originated in WW1, and I remember in WW2 when they appeared in the front windows in Oshkosh of families with a member

serving in the military.

My job was to encourage participation in the program. The banners were made in Iowa and after the third day the Legion Headquarters received a call as to what was going on, they were getting all kinds of orders. Then one evening when promoting the program I choked up in the middle of a presentation as I thought of Christmas 1952, when my two brothers and I were home on leave. My older brother Ron a 2nd Lt. in the Marines, younger brother Gib assigned to the USS Stoddard a Destroyer on west coast and me to the USS Megara an LST converted to aviation repair on the East Coast.

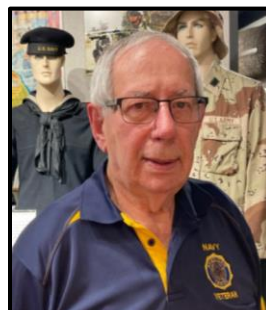
While home we learned that my cousin Danny from Navarino was killed in a battle for a hill in Korea, over a month before his 18th birthday. At Christmas his body still had not been returned to

the family for burial. I wondered what our mother was thinking at that time and thought; ***'Wouldn't it have been nice for her to have a 3 star banner in her window. We were young and thought nothing could happen to us. Now I wonder if Aunt Mary received a Gold Star indicating a family member gave his life in service to our country.'***

At a lunch at a Legion Post in Dubuque Iowa, it was our third stop and I could smell baked chicken, dressing and warm rolls and was pretty hungry. They said I had a newspaper interview and a radio station was all set for an on the air interview with audience callers. A half hour later I was still on the air. The group was now ready to leave and I apologized to the radio interviewer and off we were. My dinner was in a Styrofoam carton and with plastic spoon, fork and knife. Moving along at 65mph trying to avoid gravy on my shirt and trousers. We were on our way to a casino at Waterloo, Iowa for a conference with tribal leaders to talk about how our programs might help keep their sons in high school.

Toward the end of my year as a National Vice Commander I represented the American Legion at an Annapolis, MD graduation and presented an award for the top graduate in the English Department that year. My reserved parking was in an admiral's parking spot on campus. Donna and I felt it was a highlight of the year as a guest at the ceremonies with at least three admirals and their wives. It was a fantastic experience.

I think that covers quite a bit of my year. I still think a lot about what if that plane had hit the Capitol? What might have happened to me? What else was planned but didn't happen. Will it happen again? And how?"

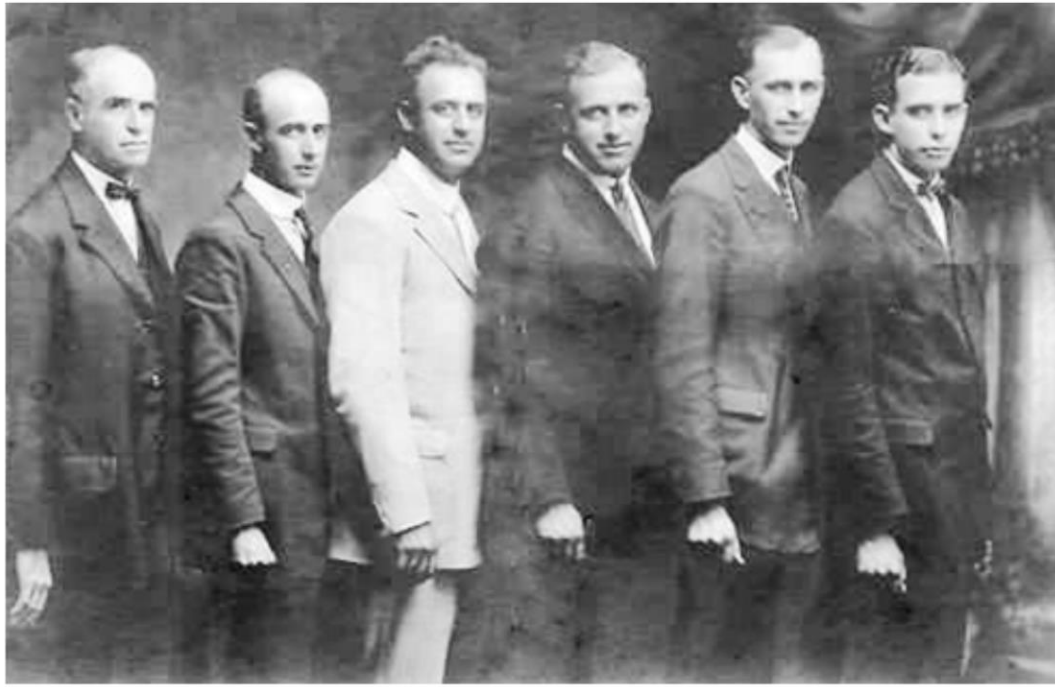


Russ Hanseter in the museum.

Russ Hanseter PNVC 2001-2002

One Seymour Family Gives Six Men to Newspaper Profession

(Appleton Post-Crescent March 28, 1924)



H.J. Van Vuren and his sons: Left to Rt. H.J. Harry, Guy, Roy, Clyde, and Floyd.

In the city of Seymour they sing more praises for H.J. Van Vuren than the distinction of being publisher of its newspaper, the Seymour Press. Mr. VanVuren is a nationally famous dad, not because he raised a family of record size, but because all of his five boys followed his own profession., ad have become editors or newspaper writers. Trade papers of the newspaper world and other publications all over the country have displayed the picture herewith, acclaiming the fact as unique in the journalistic profession . Dad himself has been a publisher for a long time.

He established the Seymour Press in a small way July 8, 1886 and will celebrate his thirty eight anniversary of its founding this year. He has kept adding new machinery so as to keep abreast of the times and now has a printing plant that would do credit to a much larger city. One son, H.C. Van Vuren, is editor of the Bonduel Times, Bonduel, Wi. And another, G.W. Van Vuren has a large printing plant at Chippewa Falls.

R.P. Van Vuren edits the Markesan Herald, C.A.

Van Vuren is associated with his father in Seymour, and F.S. Van Vuren is in the Milwaukee Journal. "There is no astounding secret in my having been able to make newspaper men out of my sons", said H.J. Van Vuren. "Each of them when younger was employed in my office."

Living in a farming community where the farm labor shortage was felt. I have been asked often, "How do you succeed in keeping your boys satisfied in your employ?" The answer is simple. During working hours they cease to be my sons and I cease to be their father. I expect the same quality of work that I would receive from any stranger employed in my office. They learn they are not to expect any favors as my sons during working hours. They receive pay only in proportion to their abilities and if any time their work proves unsatisfactory, they are as likely as anyone else to be fired . "Constant association with newspaper work, I believe is the principle reason why they all have been willing to follow my footsteps"

Three of the boys started out in different occupations but eventually came back to the publishing field. Perhaps, the father says because of peculiar fascination of the print shop and the editorial office imbued within them. G.W. Van Vuren owned and operated successfully a lumber and building material yard in northern Wisconsin,

C.A. Van Vuren was in the garage business in Seymour. Floyd Van Vuren was a student of architecture for several years at the University of Illinois.

15,000 People at Seymour Fair Today

(Appleton Post-Crescent August 20, 1924)

Seymour - Fifteen thousand people are attending the second day of the Seymour fair here on Wednesday. This is Appleton day and a large number of Appleton people are in attendance. The crowd is the largest in the history of the fair. Seymour fair officials early Wednesday morning have decided to extend the fair a day closing on

Friday instead of Thursday, but shortly before noon. The officials said the huge crowd today made another day unnecessary so the fair will close on Thursday night as scheduled. Races postponed from Tuesday because of the wet track probably will be sandwiched in Wednesday and Thursday. The track is in fair condition now and a crew of men worked all morning to make it as fast as possible.

Seymour Team Wins

A crowd of the usual size for the first day attended the fair. The rain during the night did not interfere with the program during the day, except for the horse races. Two races were run off and the others were postponed. The Seymour baseball team defeated the Appleton squad 6 to 5, in one of the feature attractions of the afternoon.

A high class program is offered fair visitors. Today is Appleton day and a large number of Appleton people are in the grounds. Judging of exhibits began on Tuesday morning and the work probably will be completed before the end of the day. The class of exhibits is fully up to the high standard set by the Seymour fair and in some departments the number of exhibits breaks all previous records.

1924

LET'S GO THE GREAT SEYMOUR FAIR

THREE DAYS Three Big Days
AUG. 19-20-21 Two Big Nights

TWO NIGHTS
AUG. 19-20

Absolutely the Biggest and Best Fair Ever Held in This Community. A Fair of the People, for the People, by the People in Every Art, Trade and Industry

THREE GRAND AND GLORIOUS DAYS, TWO SPECTACULAR NIGHTS

RACES

INCREASED PURSES—WELL ARRANGED PROGRAM—SPIRITED CONTESTS

<p>TUESDAY, AUGUST 19TH</p> <p>2:19 Pace Added Money \$300.00 1/2 Mile Running Race, Purses 50.00</p> <p>WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 20TH</p> <p>2:30 Pace Added Money \$500.00 2:50 Trot Added Money \$500.00 2:24 Pace Added Money \$500.00 1/2 Mile Running Race \$50.00</p>	<p>THURSDAY, AUGUST 21ST</p> <p>2:15 Pace Added Money \$300.00 2:20 Trot Added Money \$500.00 1/2 Mile Running Race \$50.00</p>
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NINE FAST RACES

MUSIC BY THE FAMOUS
SEYMOUR CONCERT BAND
Plenty of Music by a Real Band

BASE BALL

Baseball Games Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday between the best and most evenly matched teams in this community:

Tuesday, Aug. 19—Seymour vs. Oneida Wednesday, Aug. 20—Bowler vs. Kaukauna
 Thursday, August 21—Green Bay News Hounds vs. Anston

SEE THE OSTRICH FARM—FIRST SHOWING IN THIS STATE
DIRECT FROM LOS ANGELES, CAL.

Fifty Ostrich and Fifty Pheasants Doing Novelty Stunts. Race Ostrich against the fastest running Horse in this community. Driving them in a buggy, plowing, cultivating, and dragging. In fact doing all the work of a horse. Something new, Novel, Entertaining and Educational. A sensational hit of our 1924 Fair.

Celina Circus—Dogs, Pong and Monkeys
A real Hodge Podge of Fun and Skill, featuring High and Lofly Tumbling by Canine Acrobats.

Langer, the Bounding Artist
He sure is a scream from start to finish. Must be seen to be appreciated.

The Gedis Trio — A Double Horizontal Bar and Casting Cradle
A Novel Presentation of Skill in which the most difficult Feats are Garnished with Irresistible Fun

Ishikawa Troupe, Direct from the New York Hippodrome
Exhibiting Such Marvelous Feats of Willpower Creating Dexterity as to Crown them Supremely Eminent of All Acrobatic Troupes.

Josh and Samantha
That Quaint Old Couple that has played more Return Engagements than any other act in the World. Every one on the grounds will want to meet these people. They will live in your Memory Forever.

FIRE WORKS — Two Nights, August 19th and 20th
The Greatest Display of Scenic Spectacles Ever Seen in this Community. A Great Variety of Wonderful and Wonderful Effects. Special Features and Effects in Fireworks That are New and Novel.

DON'T MISS THE NIGHT SHOW—A WONDERFUL PROGRAM

CHILDREN UNDER TWELVE YEARS FREE

F. W. HUTH, Pres.
GEO. F. FIEDLER, Sec'y.



Eight horses were entered in the half mile running race which was won by "Dewey" in 1 minute and 4 seconds. Second place was won by Topy. King Direct copped first money in the 2:19 pace for a purse of \$300 and added money. The

winner owned by A.J. Mitchell, Plymouth, was forced to extend himself and five heats were required in the race. Ramsey Thornway, owned by J. Anderson, Shawano finished in second place. Eight horses were entered.

Kissinger Sells Garage George Vandenberg Becomes Sole owner—Bottling Works is Sold *(Appleton Post-Crescent January 24, 1921)*

Seymour - John Kissinger has sold his interest in the Vandenberg Auto Co, to George Vandenberg and has purchased the Seymour Bottling works of John Stuckart. New machinery and other improvements will be made in the bottling factory.

Seymour Press will build an addition to its office 12 by 38 feet in size to take care of its growing business. The Green Bay and Western railroad has added one more passenger car on the train running from Wisconsin Rapids to Green Bay. This is the midday train call the scoot. Wenzel Zepnick is visiting relatives at New Holstein and Kiel this week.

T.A. Nicodem, cashier at the Seymour State Bank, is back on duty after several weeks of absence account of an operation.

Farmers Opening Roads to Traffic Few Automobiles are Venturing Out in Country Area At This Time *(Appleton Post-Crescent March 24, 1924)*

Cicero - Farmers in this vicinity are helping to restore automobile traffic in the country by opening the roads. The recent thaws have made sleighing almost impossible for any distance and wheeled vehicles therefore have been put into use. Snow is being removed so these can travel conveniently. A number of automobile owners are taking advantage of the open roads and are using their cars, but the traffic is quite limited.



"Get a horse" was a common cry during the early days of automobile travel.

Mrs. Carl Ward spent a few days in Green Bay wither brother and family last week. David Sherman held an auction at his farm here Tuesday. All of his personal property was sold. Martin Zuleger. Who had been renting the farm for the last few years, has rented the August Able farm and will take possession at once Mr. Able and family will move to Seymour to reside.

A few friends gave a surprise party on Genevieve Zable Monday evening. Quite a large number were present. They spent the evening in playing games. Mr. and Mrs. H.E. Spaulding were business callers in Green Bay Friday. Robert Mueller sold his team of young colts to Mr. Conklin of Seymour. Miss Mable Vanderheiden of Seymour spent Monday evening with Miss Dorothy Zable. Several farmers drove to Seymour Monday with calves for shipping.

Mrs. William Bunkleman and Mrs. Fred Bunkleman were in Seymour A few days this week. They were called there by the sickness and death of their mother.

Industrial Changes Occur in Seymour and Other News *(Appleton Post-Crescent December 27, 1920)*

Seymour - M.J. Roach sold his lumber and coal business and property to the Heinemann-Johnson Lumber Company of Wausau. The new company will take charge about January 1.

Mrs. Nick Kitzinger visited with relatives at Appleton over Sunday. Mrs. Paul Warner of New

London was a guest of Seymour relatives and friends. Joseph Lotter is home from Madison spending his vacation with his parents, Mr. & Mrs.



Anton Lotter Jr. Esther Huth of Whitewater, Wisconsin is spending her Christmas vacation at the home of her parents. Mr. & Mrs. F. Huth. Elgie Marks, who is attending college at Madison is home for vacation. Miss Betha Wolk of Gary, Ind. is a guest of her parents Mr. & Mrs. August Wolk.

Walter Erwood of Norfolk, Neb. is guest of Mr. & Mrs. T.F. Duffey. John Brick, who has been in a Green Bay hospital returned home last week. Rubin Krause, who is attending college at Appleton is spending a vacation at the home of his mother, Mr. August Krausew. Miss Elenore Saben, who is attending college at Green Bay, is home for a few weeks. Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Ullman and children are very ill at their home in this city. A daughter was born to Mr. & Mrs. George Zimmerman, December 16th. Mrs. Zimmerman was formerly Miss Ella Kahnt of this city and now resides at Peoria, ILL.

Hans Peters, an old resident of the town of Seymour died Sunday. The infant of Mr. & Mrs. Gustave Kreager died on Sunday Dec 19th. The funeral was held Wednesday from home with Rev. Ohlrogge conducting the service. Miss Bertha Brauer spent Sunday with friends in Appleton.

A company has been formed in Seymour to build a gasoline filling station. Seymour parties and the United Consumers Oil Co. constitute the

company. The property known as the Hotel Seymour has been bought for \$7,000. The hotel will be taken down and a building will be erected.



Oscar Mc Bain's filling station replaced the hotel on the corner of Depot St. and Main St.

Harold Griffith of Racine is visiting his mother, Mrs. Allen Griffith. Fred Walch was at Appleton Monday on business. Margie Freund was entertained by a group of her little friends Saturday in honor of her seventh birthday. Games were played and lunch was served. Those attending were Jennie Werbel, Alice Freimon, Elaine Huettl, Elaine Jones, Lucille Droeger, Pearl Werbel and Alice Hansen.



Notice the bandstand next to the railroad tracks.

Mr. & Mrs. Erwin Holz of Racine Wisconsin are visiting with Mrs. Louis Holz and Mrs. A. Griffith. Mr. & Mrs. Will Egger and her little daughter of New London, are spending the holidays with Mrs. Egger's parents, Mr. & Mrs. William Zeh. Mrs. Frank Liebhaber returned from the Green Bay hospital where she submitted to an operation. Miss Sophia Marnocha is spending Christmas holidays at her home.

Local Legion Squad Heads for the State Tournament

(Seymour Press March 8, 1949)



Pictured above are members of this year's American Legion Basketball team which will represent the Ninth District in the State Tournament at Rhinelander this weekend. Seymour plays Wausau in their first game Saturday afternoon at 3:30. The team has a most impressive record this year winning the Outagamie County Legion league and being undefeated in league play. Members of the team reading left to right, standing are: Mack Miller, manager, Bill Novak, Barry Banacyznski, Claude Peotter, Austin Rudolph, Leland West and Vilas Kraft. Kneeling left to right are: Leroy Pasch, John Foate, Hank Beyer and Johnny Gavronski.



John Pashouwer, assisted by Terry Lardinois, obtained and reconditioned playground equipment so children will have a play area during Music in the Park. Thanks to the city crew for their help with the installation.

Music in the Park - 2024 (Music starts at 6:15)

June 12 - **Tom's Tunes** - Tom and his fun group sing many of your favorite tunes. Take a trip back in time and enjoy the hits from the 50s, 60s, and 70s.

June 19 - **Talk of the Town** - Back by popular demand playing jazz and the big band sound led by Kevin Van Ess and his hot clarinet.

June 26 - **Rocker, Rocker, Rocker** - An area favorite, they have been entertaining rock and roll fans for decades. Doug and Rick always bring their best to Seymour.

July 3- **Sarah and the Husband** - Fun vocals, great humor, John Jr., Neil Holub and one of the top fiddle players in Wisconsin - always an entertaining evening.

June 10 - **Thunder Country** - If you like classic country, this is the band for you. Gary Thunder and his band playing the greatest country hits and they always throw in a few surprises.

July 17 - **TNT** - The Natural Talent Polka band from Pulaski brings their explosive sound to Seymour as they warm up for Polka Days in their hometown.

July 24 - **Nite Hawk** - Vintage rock and roll played by some of the best guitar players in northeastern Wisconsin.

July 31 - **The Drovers** - Back by popular demand , great entertainers from Stevens Point. Playing a variety of music from country to old time rock and roll.

August 7 - **The New Generation** - Jeff Maroszek and his relatives bring the Polish Polka sound to the Home of the Hamburger.

August 14 - **"Rockin" Country** - Robin Wussow and Seymour area musicians rock the stage with classic country and rock and roll.

August 21 - **The Reason Why** - Entertaining Seymour fans for years, local musicians, Larry Wussow, Scott Skodinski, and Andy Huelttl play a variety of hits.

August 28 - **Chad Przybylski and the Polka Rhythms** - An annual favorite - veterans night. Chad and his band are noted for their high energy and great music.

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) _____

Are you a lifetime member? If not, a family membership is \$50.00, a business membership is \$100.00

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!

An Interview with Vietnam Veteran Robert Court

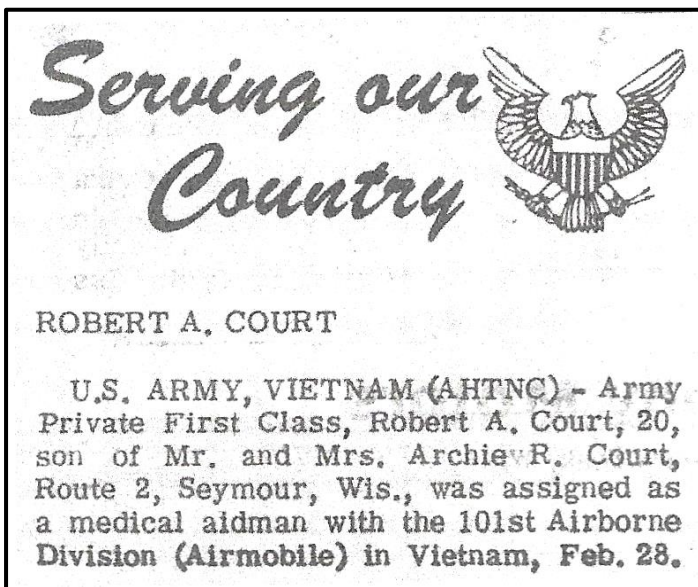
Editor's comment: Robert and Debby Court are lifetime members of the Seymour Community Historical Society and avid supporters of the museum. They have always attended exhibits and speakers on military topics. Several times it was mentioned that I would like to include an interview with a Vietnam Veteran in the newsletter and install it on the military kiosk at the museum. No one volunteered until several months ago Debby mentioned Robert was ready to be interviewed.

Robert, who was a medic, served in Vietnam for 14 months and often was under enemy fire. He was one of the first to land in Cambodia in 1970; his helicopter was shot down, he saved lives and had his life saved. While modest about his experiences, he answered every question and related a compelling story. I didn't realize the degree of his commitment until I read the book "Twelve Days In May" by Jerald Berry. It is the previously untold story of the 3-506th Infantry of the 101st Airborne Division. Thank you Robert Court for your distinguished service.

"I am a 1967 graduate of Seymour High School. In July of 1969 I received a notice that I was drafted and that I was to report in August. I went to Fort Campbell in Kentucky for eight weeks of basic training. It was a grueling time. I talked with some of the other guys that I went to school with and it sounded like they sure had it easier than I did. Three other guys from the Seymour area were with me,

During the eight weeks of basics we were tested and I was picked to be a medic. I have no clue how that came about. I took a test and something must have showed up. Ironically, my first cousin, neighbor Earl "Junior" Court was drafted about when I was and he became a medic also. His tour was in Alaska.

I did my medical training at Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio, Texas. While there I met Ira Culbertson, who lived near the base. His family originally was from the Seymour area. Culbertson Road is named after them. He was in World War II and the air force for 20 years and was stationed in San Antonio. He received the **Seymour Times-Press** and when he read that I was coming down there he came on base and found me. On weekends he would take me to his house for home cooked meals. I didn't know the man from



Adam, but I was so thankful for what he did.

A.I.T. was eight weeks of medical training and then I knew I would be sent to Vietnam. I was really scared. I thought, 'Am I intelligent enough for this, do I know enough?' But it seemed to work out. What I needed to know, I knew. They gave us a 'cheat sheet' that mentioned all the drugs and what they were used for. We were supposed to get time off before being deployed, but the top brass wanted to send us directly to Vietnam. We argued and objected and finally we were given two weeks off to come home for Christmas. The military didn't want us to come home because so many were deserting and going to Canada. When I got back I was deployed with our destination Vietnam and Cam Ranh Bay."



Robert, pictured in his "ambulance" was in Vietnam for fourteen months.

Part 2 of the interview with Robert Court will be in the fall/winter edition of the Seymour History Bulletin.

Donations Since October 3, 2023

Penny Gillespie	Minocqua, WI		Sustainability
Laurene G Ferge,	Nichols, WI	Thrivent Choice Dollars	Sustainability
Gary and Mary Lou Melchert	Seymour, WI	In memory of Vivian Tremi	Sustainability
Joyce Zahn	Seymour, WI		Sustainability
JSA Coffee	Seymour, WI	Tip Jar Donation	Sustainability
Russell Hanseter	Seymour, WI		Sustainability
Rick and Bonnie Buntrock	Green Bay, WI	In memory of Lorraine Buntrock	Sustainability
John Cumicek	Seymour, WI	In memory of Tom Duffey	Sustainability
Nancy R. Smith	Gillett, WI	In memory of grandfather Walter W. Smith	Sustainability
Thomas Staeven	Seymour, WI	In memory of Walter and Erma Staeven	Sustainability
John Cumicek	Seymour, WI	In memory of Bill Becker	Sustainability
Kevan and Sandy Krahn	Seymour, WI		Sustainability
Gary and Mary Lou Melchert	Seymour, WI	In memory of Vivian Tremi	Sustainability
Bill and Holly Collar	Seymour, WI	In memory of Vivian Tremi	Sustainability
Janice Eick	Seymour, WI	In memory of Vivian Tremi	Sustainability
Karen R Coonen,	Appleton, WI	Thrivent Choice Dollars	Sustainability
Debra Seidl	Appleton, WI	Thrivent Choice Dollars	Sustainability
Duane Doersch	Seymour, WI		Sustainability
John Wurtzel	Payson, AZ	In Memory of Vilas Kraft	Sustainability
Dan and Teri Van Bostel	Seymour, WI		Sustainability
American Legion Aux. Unit 106	Seymour, WI		Sustainability
Jean and Jim Maass	Seymour, WI		Sustainability
Marilyn Seidl-Lorenz	Seymour, WI	In honor of Shirley Melotte's 90th birthday	Sustainability
Barry and Sandy Kailhofer	Seymour, WI		Sustainability
Warren and Gloria Maass	Seymour, WI		Sustainability
Becky and Jon Stellmacher	Appleton, WI		Sustainability
Del M. Raymakers	Seymour, WI		Sustainability
Ronald and Mary Schuster	Fishers, IN	In memory of Ernest and Celia Schuster	Sustainability
Richard and Ann Piehl	Shorewood, WI		Sustainability
Giz and Linda Herbst	Egg Harbor, WI	Earl and Marcella Court and Grandma Schaumberg	Sustainability
Randy Skinkis	Seymour, WI		Sustainability
Sharon Nachtwey	Black Creek, WI	In memory of Ron Nachtwey	Sustainability
BMO Donor-Advised Fund Prog.	Seymour WI	Recommended by: Kurt and Deborah Boettcher	Sustainability
Jim and Nancy Campbell	Seymour, WI		Sustainability
Lowell Hoeft	DePere, WI		Sustainability
Pat and Mary Klass	Seymour, WI		Sustainability
Kenneth Kraft	Medford, WI	In loving memory of parents Vilas and Vernice Kraft	Sustainability
Glenn and Sharon Dunville	Seymour WI		Sustainability
Gary and Mary Lou Melchert	Seymour, WI	In memory of William "Bill" Heling of Bonduel	Sustainability
Sue and Harvey Shuler	Oneida, WI	In memory of Jean Melchert	Sustainability
Rose Kroner Salzmann	Shawano, WI	In memory of Norb and Doris (Lubinski) Kroner - Basement Bar 1950	Sustainability
Mike Huettl	Seymour, WI		Sustainability
Greg and Pam Leisgang	Seymour, WI	Sponsor of "Talk of the Town"	Music in Park
Earl and Marcella Court Family	Seymour WI	In memory of Carl Kuehne	Sustainability
Claude and Sue Court, Bud and Cheryl Court, Ron and Jean Bloxham, Gene and Suzanne Salzwedel and Giz and Linda Herbst			
Bill and Holly Collar	Seymour, WI	In memory of Carl Kuehne	Sustainability
Kailhofer's Greenhouse	Seymour, WI		Sustainability
Ann-Marie Louise Karweick	Seymour, WI	Thrivent Choice Dollars	Sustainability
Gail Barclay	Appleton, WI	Thrivent Choice Dollars	Sustainability
Judith Prelipp Bush	Downers Grove, IL	In memory of parents Alvin and Mildred Prelipp	Flower Garden
Gary and Mary Lou Melchert	Seymour, WI	In memory of Kent Boettcher	Sustainability
Pam Zak	Seymour, WI	In memory of Kent Boettcher	Sustainability
Bill and Holly Collar	Seymour, WI	In memory of Kent Boettcher	Sustainability
Bill and Holly Collar	Seymour, WI	In memory of Ray Palubicki	Music in Park
Bruce Melchert	Willmar, MN	In memory of Robert and Marian Melchert	Life Membership

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

Return Service Requested

May 11 - Annual Meeting featuring the unveiling of the sports exhibit (1:00).
May 27, Memorial Day - Slide show of Seymour area veterans.
June 12 Music in the Park starts.

Website: www.seymourhistory.org

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 April

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

Music in the Park - 2024 (Music starts at 6:15)

June 12 Tom's Tunes - Variety and fun entertainment

June 19 Talk of the Town - Classic Jazz and more.

June 26 Rocker, Rocker, Rocker - Classic Rock.

July 3 Sarah and the Husband plus Neil Holub

July 10 Thunder Country - Traditional country

July 17 TNT Polka - Young Talent Kicking Off Polka Days

July 24 Nite Hawk - Vintage Rock

July 31 The Drovers - Playing a variety of hits.

Aug. 7 The New Generation - Polkas and more

Aug. 14 Rockin' Country - Classic country and rock and roll

Aug. 21 The Reason Why - Wussow, Skodinski and Huettl.

Aug. 28 Chad Przybylski's Polka Rhythm's - Energetic polka