

Seymour History Bulletin



A publication of the Seymour Community Historical Society - Fall and winter 2013
Dedicated to Preserving Seymour Area History Bill Collar, Editor - 833-6064

Web site: www.seymourhistory.org

Museum Phone: (920) 833-9835

If museum closed: (920) 833-6064

Summer hours: 1:00 – 4:00 WTFSS

Fall and winter: 1:00 – 4:00 Sunday

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Busy Times at the Museum

The spring and summer of 2013 set a record for attendance at the museum and for activities sponsored by the Seymour Community Historical Society. This is possible because of your financial support and sponsorship of a variety of events. The purpose of this newsletter is to review the past events and to provide a glimpse into the winter and spring. As usual, this publication also includes little known facts about Seymour area history and comments from our membership.

Because of time constraints, mailing and production costs, the printed copy of Seymour History will come to you twice a year. Back issues, additional society activities and more details are available on the website (www.seymourhistory.org). In this newsletter, you will find an addressed return envelope for supporting our annual fund drive. In the future, every fall/winter issue mailed to you in November will include our annual fund drive.

Considerable cost is involved in daily upkeep, exhibit development and repair, licensing, tax preparation, beautification, office supplies, etc. Your historical society will continue to improve the exhibits at the museum and keep all electronic displays in working order. The society is counting on your backing to keep things running smoothly. All workers at the museum are volunteers. One hundred per cent of the money donated to the historical society is dedicated to operating expenses and the sustainability fund. We thank you for your continued support.

Countryside Photography Exhibit

During the month of May, the museum hosted a photography exhibit featuring the award winning work of Randy Peterson and Steve Kemp. The opening night attracted 145 people with over 300 viewing the display during the three weeks it was at the museum.

Wine and snacks were served by members of the historical society with Dan Beilfuss pouring wine and Janice Eick organizing the food. Guests had the opportunity to enter a raffle and vote for their favorite photograph. Mary Lou Melchert and Charlie Jenkins were the winners.

Overall, the event was a huge success and plans are in place to make the art show an annual event. Randy and Debbie Peterson and Steve Kemp of Countryside

Photography did a real professional job in presenting their photography, making it a fun evening for all in attendance.



Dan Beilfuss and Janice Eick



Randy, Deb, and Steve

Grand Opening of the General Store

The former Miller-Piehl office building, which served as our museum for years, is one of the oldest buildings in the city and is structurally sound. Since the historical society started in 1976, many tools and agricultural items have been donated to the museum. The Society decided to decorate the building representing a 1930s-1940s general store with an agricultural emphasis. This includes food, clothing, and everyday items portraying the era.



"Pa" operates the store.

Janice Eick and Jean Maass headed up the project, which includes a harness shop, millinery area, bank and post office, all on first floor. It is a great place to display articles that reflect the agricultural heritage of the area.



Jerry Hoefs in the Harness shop.

Thanks to generous donors, a sizable collection of artifacts is on exhibit. Additional items are welcome.

The Grand Opening on July 21 was a big hit with 142 people attending. Prices were rolled back to the 1930s. Randy Johnson donated ice cream that was sold for a nickel. Children purchased penny candy, nickel popcorn and pickles on a stick. The



The sales counter in the old general store.

general store is modeled after stores that existed in the Seymour area prior to the Second World War. An animated "Pa" in his rocking chair greets the visitor. A potbelly stove is the central fixture with a meat counter, bulk foods, fruits, and of course, Seymour canned goods. A large spinning wheel and loom highlight the fabric area, and a wide variety of old tools and farm items are also on display.

Seymour Hosts Regional Meeting



Rick Bernstein at the regional meeting.

On July 21 the Seymour Community Historical Society had the opportunity to welcome other societies from northeastern Wisconsin to the new museum meeting area. Tables and chairs were set up to accommodate representatives from Antigo, Pulaski, Sturgeon Bay, New Holstein, Ashwaubenon, and numerous other cities. There are over 400 local historical societies in the state that are affiliated with the Wisconsin State Historical Society. Yearly regional conventions are held to exchange ideas and share knowledge.

Rick Bernstein, of the State Historical Society, made an hour presentation explaining the resources available at the State Society in Madison.

Following Rick, Ken Winius of the Print Center in Kenosha, explained how he produced the large mural type photographs in the Seymour museum. Local photographer Steve Kemp, representing Countryside Photographers, described the process used to develop many of the exhibits in the museum



Vintage farm equipment at the Laske homestead.

and how he worked with the local society, The Print Center and Balance Studios. Heidi Klessig of Balance Studios detailed the role her company played in building the electronic exhibits in the new facility.



Everyone enjoyed the toy display at Melchert's.

After a picnic lunch provided by Don's Quality Market and the Home of the Hamburger, Inc., the guests were encouraged to tour the museum and general store. Following that, they had the opportunity to visit the Laske Homestead and Gary and Mary Lou Melchert's collection of pedal tractors, model cars and other historical items. Many positive comments were made regarding

the day's activities and impressive new museum/learning center gracing Depot Street in Seymour.

The Flowers on Depot Street

Pictures can't do justice to the beautiful flowers on Depot Street extending from the Hamburger Charlie statue to the Veterans Memorial. Many of the flowers were donated and planted by Kailhofer's Greenhouse.

Members of the historical society are grateful for the annual donation by Barry and his crew. We also thank Susan McMaster who fed and watered the flowers throughout the summer. The gazebo, surrounded by flowers, was an excellent location to host music in the park. Much credit must also be given to the Home of the Hamburger, Inc. and the Seymour City Crew for their roles in the beautification of Depot Street.

Music in the Park

The summer Music in the Park program concluded on Wednesday evening, August 28, with Bernie's Polka Band and an appreciative audience that was treated to free hamburgers by volunteers from the Home of the Hamburger, Inc. Jim Campbell, president of HOTH, and his hamburger helpers, grilled burgers and provided french fries for the crowd.

Ideal weather conditions made it a perfect evening for the veterans' night gathering. The Color Guard from Kraft-Krause Post 106 presented the Colors and Elaena Duffy led the crowd in singing the National Anthem. Bernie Kroll, leader of the polka band, who served two terms in Iraq, thanked all the veterans present for their service.



John Cumicek leads the color guard after the national anthem.

It was another successful summer as 3,000 people enjoyed the twelve concerts in the park. Members of the historical society extend a sincere "Thank you" to Seymour area merchants who make the music possible. It takes many volunteers to organize and produce the summer long program. A huge thank you for the members of the historical society who contributed their time, popping popcorn, filling coolers, selling concessions, distributing raffle tickets, organizing the programs, and preparing the site for the performances. Special appreciation is extended to host Mike Keyzers, and John and Lynn Koenigs who schedule the music.



Twelve different bands entertained the crowds this summer.

The following area individuals and businesses sponsored the 2013 summer music program: American Family Insurance, Baylake Bank, BMO Harris Bank, Chase Bank, Community First – Nichols, Coonen Inc., Cornerstone Pizza, Countryside Photographers, Cragun Grains, Diedrick's Hardware, Don's Quality Market, Doxbee's, Edward Jones, Investments, Family Insurance

Center, First National Bank, Friends of the Library, Garrow Oil and Propane, Good Shepherd Services Ltd., Home of the Hamburger, Inc., Huettl Bus, Inc., J J's Auto Clinic, Inc. Krabbe's Kountry Klub, Lakeside Foods, Lubinski, Reed, & Klass, Menn Law Firm, Ltd., New York Life – Ken Bakula, Outagamie Co. Deputy Sheriff's Association, Prevea Health, Scott Marcks Construction, Seymour DQ Grill and Chill, Seymour Mobile, Subway, Trakside Gas & Convenience Store, Truymen-Haase-Zahn Insurance, and the Whistle Inn – Nichols.

Thanks to our sponsors, concession sales, and the 50/50 raffle, the Music in the Park program is an excellent source of income for the sustainability fund. This summer, \$2,500.00 was realized.

Hamburger Items find a Permanent Home in Seymour



Jim Campbell with the Hamburger Collection.

The world's largest collection of hamburger related items has found a new home in the community museum/learning center in Seymour. Through the efforts of Jim Campbell, president of the Home of the Hamburger, the collection of Jeffrey Tennyson has been donated to the museum. Since Tennyson's demise, the collection has been property of Monte Greges who worked with Campbell to ship the items from California. Greges feels the collection should be available to the public and is impressed with the facilities at the Seymour Community Museum. Tennyson's book,

"Hamburger Heaven" along with postcards and other gift items are available for purchase at the museum.

Many of the burger items are now on display. Tennyson's assortment of burger related items includes over 1,500 objects ranging from telephones to teapots. The total collection was on display at the community museum during Burger Fest and for the entire month of August. The burger display continues to be a big attraction for the museum.

Seymour, WI claims the title of "The Home of the Hamburger" based on the fact the Charlie Nagreen fashioned a meatball into a patty and called in a "Hamburger" at the Seymour Fair in 1885. For more information, access the museum website at www.seymourhistory.org and the Burger Fest site at www.homeofthehamburger.org.



Seymour Fair Exhibit Expanded

Steve Kemp and Countryside Photographers did an outstanding job with the visual display highlighting the Seymour Fair. Pictures and ads dating back to the origin of the fair in 1885 are included. The visuals portray the changing nature of the midway as the fair made a transition from agriculture and horseracing to a more entertainment-oriented venue. A quick history of the fair can be grasped by a scanning the colorful exhibit. Of particular interest are newspaper articles dating from as early as 1890 encouraging residents of Appleton to take the "bus" to Seymour

Recently a touch screen computer was added to the display enabling the viewer to access the entertainment at the fair dating back to the early years. By simply touching a date, the computer will show a newspaper ad with the entertainment for that particular year. Another touch will show a picture of the performer along with a brief sound clip of his or her popular song. The display includes 120 songs.

Prior to 1958 most of the entertainment consisted of local bands, vaudeville shows, harness races, wild animal acts, tractor pulls and baseball games. Some of the more unusual newspaper ads are listed below.

1911 – An Air Ship - "Aerial flights will be made on Friday and Saturday by an experienced aviator representing the International Aviation Association of Chicago. This is no bluff. The Fair Association has entered into a contract, which in short is as follows: "If a successful flight is made each day said Association will receive \$950.00. If only one flight is made \$550.00. In case of very bad weather and no flight can be made the Aviation Association is to receive \$200.00. The Aviation Association guarantees the flights to be at least five minutes in duration."

1920 – An Aero-Plane – "Featuring Miss H. L. Potter and all the latest stunts."

1928 – The Flying Fischers – "Breath taking aerial stunts on the flying trapeze. Watch them do a triple somersault while blindfolded."

1934 – The Diecks and Their Educated Horses – "A State Fair attraction – An Outstanding hit!"

1940 - Joe Morris and His Devil-Dodgers – Death defying stunts performed on the track before your very eyes – crashing and smashing races – Head on collisions, etc. The most spectacular Thrill Show you have ever seen.

Let's Go--The Great SEYMOUR FAIR
3 Big Days--Aug., 25, 26, 27
2 BIG NIGHTS, AUG. 25, 26

Absolutely the biggest 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, 2 Big Spectacular Nights

Horse Pulling Contest Tuesday, August 25
 Postmaster Start at 10 o'clock a. m., Pulls Start at 2 o'clock p. m.

EIGHT FAST HORSE RACES

Increased Purses
 Well Arranged Program
 Clean and Spirited Contests
 Two Warm Races Daily, Racing Races On Last Two Days.

VERY EXCITING :::: MOST THRILLING

Tuesday August 25th	Wednesday August 26th	Thursday August 27th
110 Five Minute Races	110 Five Minute Races	110 Five Minute Races
100 Two Minute Races	100 Two Minute Races	100 Two Minute Races
100 One Minute Races	100 One Minute Races	100 One Minute Races

MUSIC-- By the Police Band, 1200. Field Artillery Band of Appleton and The American Legion Band of Green Bay. Plenty of Music all the time.

BASEBALL-- The Seymour team, Wednesday and Thursday. The Appleton team, Friday and Saturday. The Green Bay team, Sunday. The Appleton team, Monday and Tuesday. The Green Bay team, Wednesday and Thursday. The Appleton team, Friday and Saturday. The Green Bay team, Sunday.

10 Big Free Attractions 10

1950 – Ice Varieties Show – *"Special refrigeration equipment was developed to make it possible to build a full-sized ice covered outdoor stage. With lavish scenery, spectacular lighting effects, and special orchestra music, this show compares with expensive ice shows usually only seen in big cities.*

1954 – The 3 Goetschis – A unicycle trio that last year delighted thousands who saw the Ringling Bros. Barnum and Bailey Circus. They will appear this year in front of the grandstand.

Musical Entertainment at the Fair 1958-2013

- 1958 - Pee-Wee King Show, Starring Golden West Cowboy Band, Little Eller Long and Donnie White
- 1959 - Red Foley Show and the Stars of Jubilee U.S.A.
- 1960 - Jimmy Dean, Betty Johnson of the Jack Parr Show, the Browns and Manhattan Rocket
- 1961 – Carmel Quinn, Roy Acuff and the Smokey Mountain Boys
- 1962 - Parade of Stars, the Four Aces and Carmel Quinn
- 1963 – The Lennon sisters from the Lawrence Welk Show
- 1964 - Jo Ann Castle – Piano stylist on the Lawrence Welk show and The New Christy Minstrels
- 1965 – Bobby Vinton, George Kirby and the Carousel of Stars
- 1966 – Carmel Quinn, Jimmy Dean, Roger Miller and the Elkins Sisters
- 1967 – Frank Sinatra Jr., Carmel Quinn, Minnie Pearl and Frankie Fontaine
- 1968 – The Baja Marimba Band, Mary Taylor and Allen and Rossi
- 1969 – Tammy Wynette, George Jones and Jeanie C. Riley
- 1970 – Roy Rogers and Dale Evans Show
- 1971 – The Statler Brothers, Jeanie C. Riley, George Jones and Tammy Wynette
- 1972 – Tennessee Ernie Ford Show - Featuring the Brothers and the Sisters
- 1973 - Judy Lynn, Tanya Tucker, Trinidad Steel Band, Edmonds & Curley, Gene Detroy and Chimps
- 1974 – Barbara Mandrell Show and Danny Davis and the Nashville Brass
- 1975 - Carmel Quinn, Jim Roberts from the Welk Show, Brush Arbor, Jimmy Nelson and the Elkin Sisters
- 1976 - The Kids from Wisconsin, Little Angels from Korea, Tammy Wynette, and the Hager Brothers
- 1977 - Ronnie Milsap with Dave & Sugar- Pridesmen and Grandpa Jones from Hee-Haw
- 1978 - Tommy Cash, Stars of the Welk Show featuring Dick Dale and Gail Farrell
- 1979 – Billy "Crash" Craddock and The Judds
- 1980 - Marty Robbins, Jon Wamsley and Jana Jae
- 1981 – Ray Stevens, Mel Tillis, Tammy Wynette and the Thrasher Brothers
- 1982 – Box Car Willie, Huey Lewis and the News and Charlie Pride
- 1983 – Johnny Cash with June Carter, Conway Twitty, the Osmond Family and Tammy Wynette
- 1984 – The Nitty Gritty Band, Mickey Gilley, Loretta Lynn and Don Williams
- 1985 – Charlie Pride, Crystal Gayle and Ronnie Milsap
- 1986 – The Judds, Conway Twitty, Loretta Lynn and Ronnie Milsap

OUTAGAMIE COUNTY

FAIR DAYS

JULY 12-17 IN SEYMOUR

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

TUESDAY, JULY 12
TRACTOR PULL

100th Birthday Celebration
WEDNESDAY, JULY 13

TAMMY WYNETTE
FREE GRANDSTAND
SHOWS AT 7:00 & 9:30 P.M.



THURSDAY, JULY 14
JOHNNY CASH SHOW
WITH JUNE CARTER
SHOWS AT 7:00 & 9:30 P.M.



FRIDAY, JULY 15
THE OSMOND FAMILY
with Donny, Marie & Jimmy
SHOWS AT 7:00 & 9:30 P.M.



SATURDAY, JULY 16
CONWAY TWITTY
SHOWS AT 7:00 & 9:30 P.M.



SUNDAY, JULY 17 **SUNDAY, JULY 17**
ROCK CONCERT **DEMOLITION DERBY**
1:00 - 5:00 P.M. **EVENING**

Fair ad from 1983.

- 1987 – George Jones, Randy Travis and Survivor
- 1988 – Randy Travis, Roy Clark and the Johnny Cash Show
- 1989 – Merle Haggard, Emmy Lou Harris and The Oak Ridge Boys
- 1990 – Ray Stevens, REO Speedwagon and Tanya Tucker
- 1991 – Cheap Trick, Alan Jackson, Conway Twitty and The Oak Ridge Boys
- 1992 – Alan Jackson, Pam Tillis, Barbara Mandrell and Richard Marx
- 1993 – Kenny Rogers, Foreigner and Tanya Tucker
- 1994 – Charlie Daniels, REO Speedwagon and Sammy Kershaw
- 1995 – Tim McGraw, Faith Hill and Willie Nelson
- 1996 – Ted Nugent, George Jones, Faith Hill, Randy Travis and Al Yankovic
- 1997 – The Platters, Drifters and Coasters
- 1998 – Sha-Na-Na, Gallagher, Clint Black and the Steve Miller Band
- 1999 – Lynyrd Skynyrd, Paul Revere and the Raiders and Tim McGraw
- 2000 – Beach Boys, Martina McBride, Kenny Rogers and Styx
- 2001 - George Thorogood, Sammy Kershaw, Lorrie Morgan, Toby Keith and Lee Ann Womack
- 2002 - Alabama, Neal Mc Coy, Trace Adkins and Journey
- 2003 - Lonestar, Meatloaf, Phil Vassar and Travis Tritt
- 2004 - Bobby Vinton, Randy Travis, The Charlie Daniels Band and Alice Cooper
- 2005 - Reo Speedwagon, Night Ranger, Grand Funk Railroad, Darryl Worley and Trick Pony
- 2006 - Trace Adkins, Lonestar and The BoDeans
- 2007 - Phil Vassar, Saliva and Cheap Trick
- 2008 - Neal Mc Coy & Joe Nichols, Craig Morgan, Danielle Peck and Peter Frampton
- 2009 – Sara Evans and Gary Allan
- 2010 – Jake Owen and Chris Young
- 2011 – Alabama, Ted Nugent and Little Big Town
- 2012 – Josh Turner and Montgomery Gentry
- 2013 – Justin Moore and Rodney Atkins



The fair exhibit with the touch screen computer in the foreground.



A Brief Early History of the Fair in Seymour

The success of the fairs at Appleton (since 1859) and Hortonville prompted several prominent Seymour businessmen to investigate the possibility of starting a fair in Seymour. Led by W. B. Comee, D. H. Kenyon, and William Cirkel, the group met on August 11, 1884 for the purpose of organizing a "Fair and Driving Park Association."

With the support of William Michelsteter, a local banker, George Falck, owner of the Falck Hotel, and J. A. Stewart, owner of the flourmill, land was purchased northwest of railroad tracks and plans were made to construct a ½-mile racetrack. The organization pledged to support agriculture and livestock. The grand scheme included eventually bringing the county fair to Seymour. In 1920, after much debate with representatives from Hortonville, the Seymour Fair officially became the Outagamie County Fair.

Starting on October 6, 1885 a three-day fair took place. While many crops and animals were on display, the horse races were the featured attraction. George Falck and businessman William Muehl owned two of the fastest horses and were

the main promoters of the races. In fact, when Muehl's prize horse, Bessie F. died, she was buried with ceremony in the infield of the Seymour track. It is of some interest to note that a woman jockey rode in one of the first horse races on the new track. The **Appleton Post** reported that Fida Strong defeated Charley Leach in a "saddle horse race" and she was a "graceful rider."

During the first 20 years, the Seymour Fair grew from a small town horse race with modest agricultural exhibits to a grand spectacle attended by people from throughout northeastern Wisconsin. By the turn of the century thousands of individuals flocked to Seymour to participate in the festivities. Even though in 1890 the population of the city was only 850 with another 928 living in the town of Seymour, the city fathers were determined to expand the fair and eventually put Seymour "on the map."

Fourth Graders Tour the Museum

Six classes of fourth graders from Rock Ledge School took guided tours of the Seymour Community Museum during the past couple weeks. After a brief orientation emphasizing the changes that have taken place during the last 100 years on Depot Street, the classes were divided into two groups of twelve.



Lynn Koenigs, former third grade teacher at Black Creek, Bob Bock and Bill Collar retired high school teachers, led the tours. The students learned what life was like prior to electricity and many modern conveniences. They viewed a video about the early years and met Horatio Seymour, the namesake of the city. Students had the opportunity to take a trip back to the 1930s by visiting the old time general store to experience how area shopping was done generations ago. The bulk food and candy displays were of special interest.

Through an extensive military exhibit, the students learned how residents of Seymour and the surrounding area responded to defend our freedom from the Civil War to present times. The Home of the Hamburger exhibit introduced the students to Hamburger Charlie and "Burgertime", a popular video game from the early 1980s.

Mrs. Koenigs remarked how the experience reminded her of her teaching days and how impressed she was with the student behavior and interest. Mr. Bock enjoyed demonstrating the use of vintage agricultural tools in the general store and was impressed with the quality of student questions.

Mr. Collar remarked how pleased the members of the historical society were that the fourth grade teachers led by Mrs. Vicki Leisgang took the time to plan the activity and work it into their curriculum. "It was a great opportunity for students to see that history is all around us and we should appreciate the contributions of those who have gone before us. Mrs. Leisgang, who also advises the student council, was instrumental in encouraging the students to donate to the capital campaign. How neat it was for them to see how their money was put to good use in the community. What an excellent learning experience!"

Antique Clocks at the Museum



Marlene Wiedemann with one of the antique clocks.

During the summer months, several people stopped by the museum with items to donate. Most notable was Marlene Wiedeman with seven antique clocks. The clocks, once in her husband's collection, include a spring loaded Seth Thomas shelf clock, a German coo-coo clock, a pendulum wall clock, a Waterbury Clock Co. Pendulum Shelf Clock, an S. Peck and Co. pendulum shelf clock patented in 1870, an 8-Day German pendulum kitchen clock and a small Juba coo-coo clock. We thank Marlene and many others who have contributed to the artifact collection at the museum.

If you have an item or items that you are interested in donating, contact a member of the museum board to determine if can be used in the museum or general store. Once something is donated, it becomes the property of the historical society. Some objects will be placed in storage for future use.

Memory Forest on Depot Street

Thanks to Dr. Don and Gail Hoff, who donate the trees, the memory forest will brighten up Depot Street again this year. Anyone who desires to sponsor a tree should contact Janice Eick. The trees are a minimum of \$35.00 and will be in place by Thanksgiving. Please decorate your tree as you wish. If you only want lights on the tree, that is fine. This is a great way to remember a loved one while making a donation to the historical society.

Forty-five trees are available this year. They will be sold on a first come, first served basis. Once again, name plaques in front of the trees will identify the sponsors. The trees are lighted the entire month of December.



Students Volunteer at the Museum

The Seymour Community Museum comes alive for an hour every Tuesday morning when students from the Seymour Alternative School arrive to perform a number of tasks ranging from helping set up exhibits to general cleaning. Under the direction of teacher Jon Murphy, four or five students assist in keeping the building in tip-top shape.

"I don't know what we would do without their help," remarked Bill Collar, historical society president. "Whether it is setting up chairs and tables, or assisting with cleaning and polishing, the students are a tremendous asset. Coach Murphy pitches in and they accomplish a great deal in an hour. We have had many people comment about the cleanliness and condition of the museum. Much of it is because of the contributions of the students."

Mr. Murphy feels having the students volunteer working at the museum provides them with real life experiences while they provide service to the community. "Some things you just can't teach in the classroom. By pitching in at the museum, the students learn what it takes to plan a task and complete it in a limited amount of time. We make sure they pay attention to detail and stay on task. In many ways it simulates the on-the-job experience."



Seymour Alternative School students pictured in "Granny's Kitchen". Seated: Alexis Denny. Standing L to R: Granny, Teacher Jon Murphy, T. J. Ward, Jacob Mueller, and Justin Robinson.

Veterans Exhibit at the Museum

Veterans Day was originally called Armistice Day. When the fighting stopped following World War I leaders of several countries signed an Armistice on the 11th hour, of the 11th day, of the 11th month. This day was set aside to reflect and remember the sacrifices men and women made during the war to ensure peace. The first official celebration was on November 11, 1919. Veterans who survived the war marched in parades and were hometown heroes. Although Armistice Day was in honor of World War I, Veterans Day honors all military personnel. Separate ceremonies and commemoration events occur every year. For example, veterans and their families gather at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C. in support and remembrance of those who died in the Vietnam conflict. It



***Frank Huth WWI
Seymour Veteran***

is important on this day to give thanks for times of peace, and to remember who is protecting your rights every day.

To honor all veterans and to promote better understanding of the roll of our service members through the years, the Seymour Community Museum/Learning Center is hosting a display of military items and collectibles. The exhibit will be on display on weekends from 1:00 to 4:00 November 9 through November 24. Items from the Vietnam era are featured thanks to 1970 Seymour graduate Mitch Miller, who has been collecting since his brother sent items home from Vietnam in 1966. "I first got interested in military objects when my dad, a World War II veteran, had things on display in his barber shop in Seymour." Miller emphasizes that his collection is all authentic with no reproductions.



Mitch Miller pictured holding a helicopter pilot helmet from the Vietnam War era.

WWI, WWII, and the Korean War are well-represented and, over a dozen weapons from the Civil War are on exhibit. Bill Collar, who worked with Miller and Janice Eick in setting up the exhibit, is thrilled to have the display at the local museum.

"Mitch has been generous in sharing his valuable collection with us. This is an excellent opportunity to learn more about our nation's past and gain a greater appreciation for the role of our service members in defending our freedom. We have included local objects that have been donated over the years. It is an excellent exhibition of military items." Call 833-



Military Display at the Seymour Museum Sat. and Sun. November 9, 10, 16, 17, 23 and 24 from 1:00 to 4:00 or by special arrangement.

6064 to arrange a group tour.

Seymour Graduates in World War II

A plaque hangs in the military display on first floor of the museum. It was created late in WWII listing all the Seymour High School graduates serving in the military. When speaking with Seymour residents who graduated during the war years, they all mention that the young male graduates either worked on the farm or went in service. The 150 names on the plaque makes a person realize the impact the war had on area residents.



Archiquette, Floyd
Barth, Clarence
Bauman, Robert
Beckman, Francis
Beckman, Willard
Bernhardt, Laurent
Beyer, William
Blanshan, Dorothy
Blanshan, Harold

- | | | | | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------|-------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| Blanshan, Ralph | Foley, Harold | Kellogg, Robert | Mill, William | Rusch, Wallace | Sylvester, Willard |
| Brandenburg, Eldon | Ganzel, Lawrence | Keoppel, Austin | Miller, Robert | Sasman, Cyril | Talbot, Leroy |
| Brass, Harry | Gavronski, John | Kimball, William | Miller, Mack | Sasman, James Lee | Thiel, Vernon |
| Brockman, Earl | Gosse, Emil | Kneisler, John | Mueller, Marion | Sasman, Ralph | Timmers, Gordon |
| Brusewitz, Kenneth | Groendahl, Raymond | Koepp, Martin | Nelson, Don | Schnabl, Frank | Toeliner, Maynard |
| Bunkleman, Betty | Grunwaldt, Albert | Kraft, Kenneth | Nelson, Lowell | Schneider, Everett | Tubbs, William |
| Capron, Jon | Haase, Clarence | Krahn, Marvin | Ness, Willis | Schroeder, Harold | VanVuren, Keith |
| Culbertson, Ira | Haase, Howard | Krzuscz, Zygmund | Ohlrogge, Gaylord | Schweger, Clement | Veitch, Malcom |
| DeBruin Orville | Haase, Joseph | Kuehne, Robert, Jr. | Ohlrogge, Gordon | Scruton, Leonard | Wagester, Joyce |
| DeBruin, Lloyd | Hahn, Darrell | Kuntsman, Elmer | Pasch, Leroy | Shepherd, Allen | Wagester, Leonard |
| Denny, Arnold | Hallada, Franklin | Kuntsman, Harvey | Pauls, Alfred | Shepherd, James | Weise, James |
| Doersch, George | Hallada, Raymond | Liebhaber, Franklin | Peotter, Claude | Sherman, Colleen | Werner, Earl |
| Dombrowicki, Henry | Hawkins, Theodore | Liebhaber, Leroy | Piehl, Frank | Sherman, Danforth | Werner, Marvin |
| Dopkins, Harold | Heiden, Floyd | Lubinski, Vernon | Ploger, Ralph | Sherman, James, Jr. | Wolk, Arthur |
| Dopkins, Warren | Hein, Robert | Maas, Wilbur | Puls, Maynard | Sigl, Robert | Wolk, Robert |
| Druckrey, Melvin | Herning, Alan | Marnocha, Orville | Reed, Donald | Silverwood, Robert | Wussow, Carl |
| Eisenreich, Robert | Huettl, Bernard | Marnocha, Richard | Reed, Gerald | Sperl, George | Zey, Jerome |
| Falck, Beverly | Huettl, Joseph | Masch, Ellen | Reed, Lloyd | Steward, Howard | Ziewacz, Lawrence |
| Feurig, Don | Huhn, Maurice | Masch, Lois | Reed, Thomas | Stonis, John | Ziewacz, Carl |
| Feurig, James | Huth, Claude | Masch, Robert | Rettler, Norman | Storma, Ivan | Zuiches, Arthur |
| Fischer, Leon | Jackson, Robert | McBain, Roland | Royce, Cecil | Stygar, Stanley | Zuiches, William |
| Fisher, Elmer | Kaphingst, Gordon | Melchert, Carl | Royce, Marvin | Sutliff, James | |
| Fleming, Leo | Kaphingst, Robert | Melchert, Henry | Runge, Carlisle | Svendsen, Jeanette | |
| Foate, John | Karweick, Claude | Mill, Robert | Rusch, Roger | Sylvester, Gordon | |

Christmas Open House December 14th



Following the end of the military exhibit on November 25, the museum will take on a holiday theme featuring a Christmas open house on Saturday, December 14. A half dozen Christmas trees and numerous decorations will brighten up the building.

Because of the many bake sales in the community, the museum will no longer host a bake sale (sorry no more pies from Janice). Instead, the historical society will sponsor a day filled with family activities. These include traditional holiday games, crafts, music, and other activities. The children will have an opportunity to be the engineer on the "Santa Train" and play with toys from past generations. It will be a day filled with family fun in the

museum filled with holiday cheer. What a great way to promote the spirit of the season. Bring your children or grandchildren and help us celebrate a traditional Christmas.

Harold Tech FFA Advisor for 36 Years



Harold Tech taught Agricultural classes and was advisor to the Future Farmers of America from 1954 to 1990. In those 36 years he witnessed many changes. When asked to elaborate Harold was quick to reply, "The students really didn't change much, but farming did. Of course, the farms have become more mechanized with large machinery. The size of student projects increased as the years passed. I remember in the early years going to a farm visit and I had to crawl under a straw stack to see a litter of pigs. You just don't see that today. Everything is so much bigger today. I think it was Bob Kimball who got started in farming with 12 cows in his herd. Years ago, when the threshing crew came to the farm all the neighbors pitched in. Today, of course you have the combine and drop boxes, and drying bins. It is much different.

Farmers still help each other out, but not to the degree of years ago. When I was a kid, you had husking bees where farmers would get families together and husk corn. I remember if you found a red cob, you got to kiss a girl. Or, maybe it was if a girl found a red cob she would kiss a boy. Anyway, somebody was kissed!"

When asked what advice he had for farmers today. Harold paused and said, "Be efficient, keep costs down, oh you need good equipment, but don't go overboard. Excellent record keeping is another key and of course co-operate with those around you."

FFA Officers

Recently Harold has been on a mission to identify all the officers of the FFA since Bill Reese started the organization in 1937. He is missing a few years and can use your help. If you know the officers for any of the following years give Harold a call. He needs to complete his records from 1939-40, 1941-42, 1947-48, 1950-51, 1963-64, 1977-78, 1983-84, 1995-96, 1996-97, and 1999-2000. For a listing of all the years that have been completed, check the historical society website or stop in the community museum.



1984-85 Officers: L. to R. Ver Karweick, Keith Rohm, Russ Letter, Chris Sievert, Jody Letter and Jeff Letter

Here is a sample of Harold's research:

Year	President	Vice-President	Secretary	Treasurer	Sentinel	Reporter
1980-81	Joel Schultz	David Marcks	Troy Eick	Rick Hopfensberger	Paul Matuszak	Bruce Vandecorpet
1981-82	Carl Ambrosius	Paul Matuszak	Donald Stingle	Paul Rynish	Mark Matuszak	Paul VandenHeuvel
1982-83	Donald Stingle	Paul VandenHeuvel	Mark Matuszak	Tim Henn	Lee Lemke	John Nagel
1983-84	Tim Henn	Lee Lemke	Henry Peeters	Mark Maass	To be Determined	To be Determined
1984-85	Jeff Letter	Jody Letter	Chris Sievert	Keith Rohm	Russell Letter	Vernon Karweick
1985-86	Keith Rohm	Kurt Moeller	Brenda Olson	Chris Sievert	Steve Hoefs	Darrin Stingle
1986-87	Tom Albrecht	Mike Madison	Steve Hoefs	Darrin Stingle	Chet Olson	To be determined

Please Consider Including the Seymour Community Historical Society on Your Gift List This Holiday Season

Our new museum and old time general store hosted over 4,000 visitors during the past year. The complex in Seymour is increasing in popularity throughout the state and is of particular interest to people with ties to our city. Our recommended visitor's donation of \$2.00 per adult and \$5.00 a family is within everyone's price range. While we have numerous sources of income such as the 50/50 raffle, memory forest and the gift shop, our main source of funding is donations from our members. Without your support and that of the Seymour City Council, it would be very difficult to maintain a quality museum/learning center equipped with modern technology and changing exhibits.

Traditionally, the holiday season is a time of giving, and showing appreciation for the people and things that help make our lives special. In 1976, the Seymour Community Historical Society was established as an educational entity with the mission to collect and preserve records and physical objects relating to the city of Seymour and surrounding area. With your help, we will continue to improve our educational programs and enhance our excellent museum of which all of us may be proud.

Yearly Fund Drive and New Membership

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

Name: _____ E- Mail: _____
Please Print

Address: _____ Phone: _____

Amount ___ \$10.00 ___ \$20.00 ___ \$50.00 ___ \$100.00 ___ Other **Preference:** Sustainability Membership Exhibits Other
Check one *Lifetime memberships are \$50.00* *Circle all that apply*

Comments and Suggestions:

Donations and Memberships since May 2013 (In the order received)

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

Donald and Patti Eisenreich	Circle E Equestrian Stables, LLC Seymour, WI	Life Membership
Dennis and Nancy Brinkman	Seymour, WI	Sustainability Fund
Ken and Sue Brunner	Port Washington, WI	Sustainability
Fox Valley Two Cylinder Club	Fox Valley Two Cylinder Club Inc. Larsen, WI	Sustainability
Diane Kimberling	South Elgin, IL	Sustainability
Mrs. Judith Bush	Downers Grove, IL	Sustainability
Bill and Jean Gillette	Hurbertus, WI	Year Membership
Shirley Burke	Seymour, WI In memory of Adrienne Cumicek	Sustainability
Thrivent Financial	(Karen Coonen) Seymour, WI	Sustainability
Gary and Mary Lou Melchert	Seymour, WI	Sustainability
Steve and Brigette Coonen	Annandale, VA In memory of Tom Burke	Sustainability
Bob and Marge Coonen	Seymour, WI In memory of Tom Burke	Sustainability
Travis Lubinski	Shawano WI	Year Membership
Jim Braun	Seymour, WI In honor of Earl and Sharon Marcks	Sustainability
Amy Bradley for James Woods	Freedom, WI	Life Membership
June Boettcher	Seymour, WI In memory of Vernon Lubinski	Sustainability
Daniel and Sally Natchek	Muskego, WI In memory of Lucille Miller	Sustainability
Bob and Marge Coonen	Seymour, WI In memory of Lucille Miller	Sustainability
Janice Eick	Seymour, WI In memory of Lucille Miller	General Fund
Evelyn Lubinski	Seymour, WI In memory of Vernon Lubinski	General Fund
Al and Edna Peterson	Green Bay, WI In honor of Ken and Judy Rottier	Sustainability
Janice Eick	Seymour, WI In memory of Esther Kraft	Sustainability
Doloris Kuehne	Seymour, WI	Sustainability
Dirk and Debbie Kagerbauer	Seymour, WI	Life membership
Lowell Hoeft	DePere, WI	Life membership
Ginger and James Muenster	Black Creek, WI	Life membership
Daniel J. Johnson	Madison, WI	Life membership
Bob and Marge Coonen	Seymour, WI In memory of Robert Wilken	Sustainability
Eunice Karweick	Seymour, WI In honor of Robert Jeske	Sustainability
Robert and Jan Eick	Seymour, WI In memory of Jerry Thomas	Sustainability

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

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Military Exhibit Honoring Veterans – Nov. 9, 10, 16, 17, 23 -----Details inside

Website: www.seymourhistory.org

E-mail: seymourhistory@centurylink.com

Museum Phone: (920) 833-9835

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

Museum Hours

Summer:

1:00 to 4:00

Wednesday through Sunday

Fall and Winter:

1:00 to 4:00 Sunday

Admission:

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

Life Membership - \$50.00

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



The museum and the Depot Park area will be decked out for the Christmas Season. With 45-lighted trees and a variety of decorations reflecting holiday cheer, a drive down Depot Street will be a treat for the entire family.

Christmas at the museum will kick off with an open house on Saturday, Dec. 14. Watch the newspaper for more details. Preliminary plans include trees decorated with vintage ornaments, live holiday music, and toys from years gone by including several electric trains for the kids to operate. Perhaps Santa will even stop by for a visit.