

# Bonus Pages for E-mail Subscribers

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**Sainte Marie Foundation Newsletter, Winter 2016, continued for 5 pages.....**



## **2016 Flower Basket Project:**

The Sainte Marie Foundation's Flower Basket Project has been very popular since it first started. People living in and traveling through Sainte Marie enjoy the beautiful baskets during the spring, summer and early fall months. The Sainte Marie Foundation would like to continue this project with your help.

Many of you have graciously helped with this project in the past, and we were wondering if you would like to help once again to sponsor the 2016 Flower Basket Project. Plans need to be made early. The plants for the baskets are started in a greenhouse after the first of the year and are planted in the baskets in March. They grow in an Amish greenhouse north of Oblong until the baskets are hung sometime in May. We also need plenty of time to get the signs printed.

A donation of \$115.00 will name you as one of the sponsors of the 14 flower baskets. Each donor (individual or business) is listed on professionally printed signs displayed on the old bank's windows. We also list "In memory of" or "In honor of" your loved one, if you prefer that kind of donation...but of course that space is limited.

**Please consider helping us with this worthwhile project.** The baskets not only beautify the quaint little village of Sainte Marie, but they show what incredible pride we all (near and far) have in this community as did our ancestors before us.

*Should you decide to help sponsor this project, you can send your check by March 1, 2016, made out to the Sainte Marie Foundation, for \$115.00 along with the completed enclosed form (in the check memo, please write 2016 flower basket.) My address is on the form as well as other contact information should you have any questions. The form should be returned to Donna M. Keller @ 2591 N 1800<sup>th</sup> St, West Liberty, IL 62475 by March 1<sup>st</sup>.*

Thank you in advance for your continued support of Sainte Marie and the Sainte Marie Foundation.  
Sincerely,

Donna M. Keller  
Sainte Marie Foundation Board

## The Sainte Marie 2016 Flower Basket Project

\_\_\_ Yes, I would like to help sponsor the 2016 Flower Basket Project. I have enclosed my check for \$115.00, made payable to the Sainte Marie Foundation.

*Sponsor names will again be posted on the windows of the old bank building. Please indicate below just how you would like your sponsorship to be listed:*

\_\_\_ Just list me as a sponsor.  
(Print how you want it listed) \_\_\_\_\_

OR

\_\_\_ I would like my sponsorship to be made (*please print*):

-In memory of \_\_\_\_\_ from \_\_\_\_\_

OR

-In honor of \_\_\_\_\_ from \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

*Please make your \$115.00 check payable to the Sainte Marie Foundation; (please write 2016 Flower Basket in memo). Thank you for your continued support in making our village so beautiful.*

**Please return to:**

**Donna M. Keller  
2591 N. 1800<sup>th</sup> St.  
West Liberty, IL 62475**

## The River Floods Again



Is this a lake surrounding Sainte Marie? Yes, or so it seems! The road north out of SM was closed for this winter flood that happened at the end of December 2015. The river surged to record levels, just as it did in 2008, but this time the Captain Pond levee held, except of a break near Rafetown, at its southeast end. But there were several breaks in the next levee district, Greenbriar. We hope all dries out before spring planting-time. (Pix from David Reis)



**Getting ready to hang the baskets:** L-R: Volunteers **Bob Frye, Ron Kirts and Bob Helregel** (on his tractor) hanging the first flower basket last year.

If you want to help with this very popular project, fill out the enclosed form and send your check as soon as possible.  
(pix from Donna Keller)



### At St.-Mary-of-the-Woods

The **Saint Anne Shell Chapel** on the grounds has walls paved entirely with shells gathered from the Wabash River in 1843 – that’s a time when Ste. Marie was just getting established, and also a time when Joseph Picquet was trying to get his French friends, the Sisters of Providence, to Sainte Marie where he had promised them land and a house. **Take our April 24<sup>th</sup> tour** to discover the story behind their establishing a home in the woods near Terre Haute, IN. *See p. 1.* (Pix from Sister of Providence website)

### Mother’s and Father’s Day Gifts



Stumped about what to get your parents (or other family members) when they have everything already?? **Consider buying a brick on our Ken and Marge Hartrich Memorial patio** so that your loved ones will always have a “place” in our historical records at the Foundation House. Bricks may be purchased with two-line (\$200) or four-line (\$400) engraving of **12 characters** per line. And you would be helping fund the Foundation with your donation. Send your request and check with printed copy to SMF, PO Box 186, Sainte Marie, IL 62459.  
(At left) *A sample engraved-stone*

Thanks to these late-2015 brick donors: **Barbara Timberman, Leonard/Joyce Keller Decker and Doug Wait and Katie Keller Wait.** We appreciate your generosity!

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### A little story for you from John Ochs’ *Life in Stringtown: Two Centuries of the Ochs Family*, pp 14-15

*Editor’s note: I love the stories in the back of John’s book – where he writes about the early life of German settlers in his home territory of Stringtown, just south of Sainte Marie. I can relate. We also had sauerkraut-making as part of our farm life, so his story is very familiar.*

#### Sauerkraut (excerpt from John Ochs book)

Sauerkraut (I still can’t look at it) was another constant for our German descendant families. Sauerkraut was cheap and easy to make. Cabbage was easy to grow, so it was an everyday staple in Stringtown.

Cabbage in the form of slaw was served almost daily when it was in season, primarily because it all was ripe at the same time in most years. The only way to preserve any of it for the winter was to convert it into sauerkraut.

The process was easy. Cabbage was shredded and then dumped into large five or ten gallon crocks or placed into 55 gallon wooden barrels. Dump in a bucket of cut cabbage and cover it with a light layer of salt. Dump in another bucket of cut cabbage and cover it with salt. Stomp it down with a stick resembling a ball bat, and add another layer. When the barrel was full a wooden lid was added and the curing processes began. A month later when the smell was bad enough to knock a buzzard off a manure spreader, it was ready to eat.

The family cook, with a strong disposition, would lift the wooden lid, fill a pan, wash the new kraut to get rid of some of the salt, and then cook it for dinner. To some of us, the stench was so bad that one could detect the smell from the driveway when visiting a neighboring farm.

My father, Uncle Gust, and even Uncle Joe saw no reason for all the washing and cooking and would enter the cellar and simply grab a handful of the fermented cabbage from the barrel and eat it raw as they headed afield to hunt rabbits or to the barn to milk cows. None ever complained of internal parasites. Of course, they would offer a handful to the boys who routinely declined.

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**Do you remember the Quilt Show at the 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary?** I came across this photo while looking for something else, and it brought back wonderful memories of our 2012 event. All these beautiful quilts were made by Sainte Marie women over the years, and St. Mary's Church has never been so beautiful with every pew covered with quilts. Thanks again to **Eufala Bigard** who so ably chaired this outstanding event.