

Sainte Marie Foundation News

Celebrating our special hometown Spring 2021



Museum VIP Opening

A VIP preview of the Ste. Marie Foundation House's new museum exhibit, A Sainte Marie Vintage Christmas, was held on Tuesday, March 9. Around 30 invited guests toured the beautiful new holiday exhibit. Delicious cookies were provided by Laura French of Laura's Little Sweet Shop and Donna Boehl of Sweets, Eats, and Treats, both of whom are vendors at the Sainte Marie Farmer's Market. See graphic above for our new viewing hours.



Farmers Market to Open June 5

Area residents are anxiously awaiting the opening of the extremely popular Sainte Marie Farmers Market. In a little more than a month, Sainte Marie's Picquet Park will be the place to get fresh baked items, local honey, unique vintage finds, handcrafted items, and much more. The market will be open from 8 – 12 Saturdays from June – October. Keep an eye open on Sainte Marie, Illinois FaceBook Page for more announcements. Graphic by Elisabeth Hartrich Thacker

Volume 14 Issue 2



John Lybarger Memorial Jeep Run and 7th Annual Cork & Pork Festival Saturday, July 10, 2021

The return of the Cork & Pork Festival is back! Picquet Park will be the place for the immensely popular event. Wine tastings, tasty pork sandwiches, live music, a beer garden and souvenirs will begin at 5:00 p.m. This year's entertainment will feature the Matt Poss Band which will perform from 6 – 10 p.m. with DJ music before and after.

The John Lybarger Memorial Jeep Run with McClane Motors (main sponsor) in Newton will be held that morning with registration starting at 10:00 at the water tower in Picquet Park. The Jeep Run will begin at 11:00 and will travel to the following businesses: Muddy Saloon, BJ's Saloon, The Hill, and SKY Saloon. Any vehicle is welcome to participate. A 50/50 drawing will be held at each stop with a raffle to be held at the Cork and Pork Festival. You must be present to win. Tshirts can be pre-ordered for \$20 here: Jeep Run Tshirt The Jasper County community has benefited tremendously from the proceeds from the celebration. Over \$131,000 has been donated to various organizations over the life of the event. Many generous sponsors along with Hartrich Meats, Jasper County Pork Producers, the Sainte Marie Foundation, and JBS make the Cork and Pork Festival happen. We want everyone to enjoy and have a good time, but remember: no children, no coolers, and you must be 21 to enter. Please bring ID. \$10 per person will cover admission. See you on July 10!



Vintage Photos

Guess the year...1921 or 2021? Makes you do a doubletake, doesn't it?

April Goss of Ste. Marie displays her outstanding talent in the photos she took of grandsons, Lucas, and Nixon. The noteworthy pictures were taken with the Ste. Marie State Bank and the former Alblinger and Kirts Hardware as backdrops. Lucas Zuber, son of Lacey and Brandon Duvall, poses as the adorable shoeshine boy. Nixon Martin makes a very believable newspaper boy. He is the son of Colt Goss and Kylie Martin. Grandparents of both boys are Louie and April Goss of Ste. Marie. Great grandparents are Jeff and Liz Hartrich Thacker. The boys' great great grandparents were Larry and Mary Mattingly Hartrich. (see more pictures on back page)





Ste. Marie Community Club Easter Egg Hunt 2021

The Ste. Marie Community Club came through again with lots of candy-filled eggs for youngsters of the area and a visit by the Easter Bunny himself. The annual hunt, which has been held almost since the beginning of the Community Club in 1962, was held on Saturday, April 3, at Picquet Park.



Huge thank you to Donna Keller for sending pictures, creating graphics, and keeping us current on happenings in Ste. Marie!

Flower Basket Donations

2021

Thank you so much for the sponsorships of the flowering baskets. What a wonderful way to brighten our little village, honor or memorialize our loved ones, and support the work of the Ste. Marie Foundation. Thank you again! Thanks also goes to our faithful waterers!

Sponsors

American Legion Auxiliary Unit 932 American Legion Post 932 ASL Solutions, Inc. Ted Barthelme B. J's Decorating - Bonnie Jackson Sylvia (Geltz) Brinkoetter Matt & Cindy Borgic Copper Transport, Inc. Hartrich Meats, Inc. Paul & Carolyn Keller Mont Eagle Mills, Inc. Mont Eagle Products, Inc. **Glenn & Brenda Picquet** Reis Farms – David & Scott **Rising Sun Family Farm** Sainte Marie State Bank Sainte Marie Storage, LLC Randy & Susan Stoops Village of Sainte Marie **David Wiltshire**

In Memory Of

Bud & Evelyn Barthelme From Margo Regas

Gilbert & Bernita Barthelme From their family

Joe & Marjorie Barthelme From their family

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Neenah Bogard, Paul Bogard, Don Bogard From Ted & Susie Ochs

Hilda Dallmier From George Dallmier & family



Jud & Emma Cameron, Jud Cameron & Carol Cameron Martin From Rick & Peg Cochran

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Paul & Regina Faltemier From their 18 grandchildren

Shirley Geiger From Hi-Benders, Inc.

James & Dorothy Hahn & Denise Hahn From the Hahn family

Thelma Hartleroad From her loving family

Harold Hartrich From Mike & Teresa Hartrich

Kenny Hartrich From Sandra, Lana, Bruce & Eric

Larry "Sonny" & Mary Hartrich From their children & grandchildren

Carole Helregel (in Memory of) Bob Helregel (in Honor of) From Brian, Michele & Stacey

Ed & Millie Helregel, Tom & Kate Gowin From their family Ethel Kautz

Art & Alice Keller From their family Marion, Viola and Jim Keller From their family

John Lybarger From Diann, Traci, Rob, Jeremy, Mary & boys

Frank Miller From the Rennier and Miller families

Paul & Rosemary Mullinax From their children and grandchildren

Bernard & Marie Ochs From their family

John A. & Theresa M. Ochs From their family

Lawrence & Clorine Ochs From Ted & Susie Ochs

Larry & Barb Rennier From Jeannie, Lori, Mark & John

Francis & Mildred Schmidt From the Schmidt children & grandchildren

Eloise Spitzer From Mary Jo Martin, Allison Wiley, & Abigail Wiley

Francis & Maude Wagner & daughter Barbara From the family

Shirley G. Yager From Anna, Angie, G.G., Rikki, & Savannah

Linda, Chris & Austin Zuber, & Gavin Griffith From Sam Zuber family

In Honor Of

Honoring those who served, Past & Present From D.M. Manufacturing II, Inc.

Don & Christine Litzelman From Jim, Cheryl, Susan, and Tony

Mary Kathryn Keller Wait From Pamela Wait Miles

Thank you to Carolyn Keller for taking care of flower basket donations.

Meet Our Directors

Director Dolores Hahn



Dolores is a retired Certified Fundraising Manager with over 30 years of experience in education, health, religious, political, national, and local organizations. Her background includes Administrator for University of Illinois, Roosevelt University, College of DuPage, and Lake Land College. She volunteered for 55 nonprofit organizations with fundraising efforts. Her father Delbert Schmidt was raised several miles west of town on the farm owned by Archie and Florence Schmidt. His parents were Raymond and Laura Schmidt. Delbert made a home for his wife, Alfonsina, and seven children in the area as well. Dolores is married to Larry Hahn who was raised in Ste. Marie. He is the son of Jim and Dorothy Hahn and he and his six siblings have deep roots and great pride in Ste. Marie too. Larry and Dolores have 5 children and 9 grandchildren and one on the way.

Director Jason Warfel Tells History of Holy Cross Church in Wendelin



Director Jason Warfel has done it again with an excellent video series about the history of the Holy Cross Church in Wendelin. The parishioners will be celebrating the 150th anniversary of the church this summer, and Jason produced these incredible videos about the history of the church. The correlation between this church and St. Mary's in Ste. Marie is interesting. Take a few minutes to watch; you will not be disappointed. He is working on four more videos in the series.

Episode 1 <u>https://youtu.be/q966eRKXfvs</u> Episode 2 <u>https://youtu.be/EMrkWEadcj0</u> Episode 3 <u>https://youtu.be/375nqdfMOjA</u> Episode 4 <u>https://youtu.be/qN0FHqWvbC8</u> Episode 5 <u>https://youtu.be/Lc6xafLUutM</u> Episode 6 <u>https://youtu.be/lfkAAwcZUgY</u> Episode 7 <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gFtWFzW1QTI</u>

Taking Care of Us

Medical Care in our Village

Dr. James Picquet



The health of Ste. Marie's early citizens was well taken care of for over 100 years. Surprisingly, Ste. Marie has had several doctors and other people in the medical field live in the village. Even though residents now need to travel a minimum of ten miles to be seen by a doctor, that was not always the case.

Born in 1824, Ste. Marie's first resident physician was James Picquet, brother of founder, Joseph, and son of Jacques and Cleophe Schifferstein Picquet. At the age of 19, James emigrated from Hagueneau, France with his mother, brother Xavier, and sisters Amelie, Marie, and Louise. His father and brother, Joseph, were already established in Sainte Marie. In 1844, James began his education in the U.S. at St. Louis to learn the language and customs of our country. He then went to Vincennes to study medicine under the direction of Dr. Battey. To complete his medical training, he journeyed to France and enrolled at the prestigious *Ecole de Medicine*. James returned to Sainte Marie ready to practice medicine with his bride, Victoria Schifferstein in 1854. He had a thriving practice in the village until he was appointed surgeon at the government hospital in Vincennes at the beginning of the Civil War. Upon the completion of his work there, he moved to Evansville and established himself in

medical practice until 1868. He returned once again to Sainte Marie and enjoyed the respect of his fellow citizens and a remarkably busy practice.



James and Victoria had six children: Marie, Pauline, Anna, Cecile, Edward, and Raymond.

His wife Victoria died in 1881and Dr. Picquet died in 1892. They are buried in St. Mary's Cemetery.



Sainte Marie Tribune 1912

What is Our Town's Name, Anyway?

Is it St. Marie, Ste. Marie, or Sainte Marie? Actually, the original name of our village was *Colonie des Freres*, or Colony of Brothers. This name made a lot of sense in the establishment's beginning. A group of related Frenchmen living in one area with a common goal...the name was perfect. When others saw the fine resources of the place and the determination and progress of the founding fathers, they concluded it was a great place to live. Now the name did not fit so well. Ste. Marie was gaining residents that were not related at all and they were of many different nationalities. The name was then changed to St. Marie after the Blessed Virgin Mary and the namesake of the Catholic Church that was the center of town.

It was entered as such on the government records when the town was incorporated. In 1892, after many years of being St. Marie, some of the original settlers asked that it be changed to Sainte Marie, or Ste. Marie (abbreviated) to represent the French heritage of the village.

When searching for other towns in the United States that have the distinction of the French spelling, you will only find Sainte Genevieve, MO.

So, purists would tell you to stay with Sainte Marie, but you would also be correct if you wrote the name as Ste. Marie. Let's just be sure we keep the "e". As we have always known, Sainte Marie is an incredibly unique place!

Colonel John J. Rider



1826-1906

Like any town, a variety of people make up the population. Some towns like Ste. Marie have had the familiar family names throughout the course of its history. If you say a particular last name in Jasper County, people say, "Oh, they have to be from Island Grove." or "I bet they have family in Hidalgo." A few other family names are seen for several generations and then disappear and there does not seem to be a common link with a particular place.

Such is the story of Colonel John J. Rider. Born in Canton, Ohio on November 21, 1826 to Paul and Sarah Rider. He married Mary Louise Breisacher in 1847 in Stark, Ohio. The records show their first four children were born in Fairfield, Illinois, suggesting they moved there to obtain employment. John was a skilled carpenter and the offer of a job as a sawyer at the sawmill run by Xavier Picquet and Theodore Schifferstein in Ste. Marie, brought him and his young family north by 1860. It is thought that he built the house his family lived in on Main Street. Kathy Slankard now owns this house. Sometime after the war he purchased a small 40-acre farm west of town.

Even though they were blessed with several children, Louise and John endured much heartache as they lost seven infants and toddlers over the course of their marriage. Tragedy struck again in 1866 as Louise was killed in an oil lamp explosion after John's return from the Civil War. She and the children that passed before her share a common headstone in St. Mary's Cemetery.

John had five young children at home and soon married Catherine Wheeler Midkiff in 1868. She was a Civil War widow who had two children. During the twelve-year marriage of John and Catherine, they buried four infants. She died in 1880 of smallpox.

John married Mary Veronica Gangloff in 1887. John Wolfgang Rider was born in 1888 and son, Justin, died as a young child in 1891. Veronica lived for another twenty-five years and moved to Mattoon to live near her only child. She is also buried in St. Mary's Cemetery.

John served as Postmaster of Ste. Marie from 1885 to 1889 and then again from 1893-1897. John was also community minded and gave much of his time to various organizations. "St. Marie, the banner township that year, elected the entire democratic ticket, with Col. J.J. Rider at its head for supervisor. The Colonel made a good and efficient member on the old board, and the Democrats of this township had shown their appreciation of his merits by re-electing him" Newton Press Mentor

Many people help build and strengthen towns, so what makes John Joseph Rider different?

John was a Civil War hero. Several years after moving to Ste. Marie, he served in the Union Army. At that time, he would have had small children at home. John, as well as many Jasper County residents enlisted in the 32nd Illinois Regiment, Company K. This regiment was formed at Camp Butler, near Springfield.

J. J. proved to be an exceptionally good leader and quickly rose through the ranks from 1st Lieutenant to Captain in June of 1862 and in August 1863 to Lieutenant Colonel. During the time he was enlisted, he led his men in several battles. He oversaw Company K when they were loaded on the gunboat, Lexington, and made their way up the Tennessee River. They were fired upon by a Louisiana Regiment and Company K fought back and managed to run off the Rebels. Once ashore, the Illinois men seized some artillery, but were driven back to the boats by enemy fire. This was the first skirmish at Shiloh. On April 6 and 7 of 1862, while fighting at Shiloh, the 32nd lost 44 men and 212 were wounded or taken prisoner. This was more than half of the entire regiment.

Company K also saw action in the siege of Corinth where they had so many casualties due to battles, sickness, and extreme labor, they numbered fewer than 300. They saw skirmishes at Matamora, Kenesaw Mountain, and Natchez. In Mississippi they freed many slaves, some of whom were organized into colored troops. They served under General Grant near Vicksburg and joined up with Sherman in Georgia. Marching to Washington, D.C., they were part of the review before President Lincoln. Making their way to Fort Leavenworth, they were mustered out and then went on to where the Regiment started, Camp Butler, to collect wages owed them. The Civil War was particularly devastating with over 600,000 lives lost. The statistics of the 32nd Regiment bears this out with the following statistics:

Officers killed or mortally wounded: 8 Officers died of disease or accident: 2 Enlisted killed or mortally wounded: 90 Enlisted died of disease or accident: 168

Link to complete outline of the 32nd Civil War Involvement

https://civilwar.illinoisgenweb.org/history/032.html

According to records at the Civil War Memorial Park in Chattanooga at the Chickamauga Battlefield, Lt. Colonel J.J. Rider had to make some decisions on the battlefield that were contrary to the standing orders of his superiors. Due to the situation he found his Company in and upon his own judgement, he changed the strategy he was ordered to follow. He was brought before a court martial and was cleared of any charges as his actions saved the lives of many men. Because of his intelligent decision making, he was promoted to Colonel.

According to his son, Paul, John had taken his horse with him during the war and was lucky to be able to return to Ste. Marie with him after the war. The horse was named "General" and was "a dark chestnut with a white blaze face and four white legs from top of hoof to knee". The horse seemed to have a very quirky side and loved the sound of a band. He would prance around and was not satisfied until he was able to follow the band around. He would never overeat and preferred drinking from a particular rain barrel over fresh water from a stream or trough.

In October of 1885, a reunion of Civil War Veterans was held a mile south of Ste. Marie with Colonel Rider in charge. There were over three thousand people at the camp listening to speeches, participating in various activities, and talking around the campfires outside their tents.

The official proclamation stated,

"This camp will be known and designated as the Colonel John J. Rider Soldiers Reunion Camp. St. Marie, Ill., on Oct. 14, 15, 16, 1885. Second, Col. J. J. Rider is hereby installed as chief of staff to the commander-in-chief and Capt. Wm. Mattoon as adjutant general and the following details on the aids de camp to the commander-in-chief: Capt. J. R. Johnson, Wm. Trainer, Xavier Picquet, Capt. C. Brown and David Fleming."

The article noted that Colonel Rider did an outstanding job on organizing the reunion and that the plans could not have been made by a more capable person.

Using his carpentry skills, John and Charles Guthneck were hired in 1878 to build a new jail in Newton on the southeast side of the square. It was also noted in an 1882 issue of the Newton Press that he was building a bridge near Sainte Marie.

John Joseph Rider died on March 10, 1906 in Ste. Marie and is buried in St. Mary's Cemetery with a small military marker and a main headstone for him and his wife, Veronica. Even though there are not any remaining members of his family in the area, he will be remembered as one of the most influential men in our village's history.

PIONEER RESIDENT OF JASPER NO MORE

Demise of Col. J. J. Rider Removes an Old Landmark From That Section—Funeral Monday.

J. J. Rider, a pioneer and one of the best known residents of Jasper county, died this morning at his home in St. Marie, aged 84 years. The funeral services will be held Monday morning from the Catholic church at that place. J. A. and Paul Rider of this city, both sons of the deceased, accompanied by their families, will attend the services.

The deceased came to Jasper county in his early manhood and had made that section his home ever He had held a number of since. offices of public trust, among them the postmastership for many years under the administrations of President Cleveland. He was widely known throughout Jasper county, and also to the older residents of Mattoon, where he often had visited his sons. He had been married three times and was the father of a large number of children. Besides J. A. and Paul Rider of this city, among the children who survive are Mrs. James Anderson, St. Louis; Mrs. Thornton Wheeler, Dundas; Charles and Carroll, Chicago, and John, Jr., who lives at the family home in St. Marie.

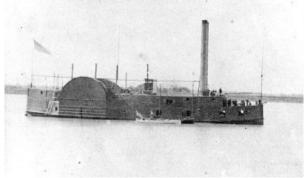
Mattoon Journal 03.15.1906

Last Saturday morning at his home in St. Marie, Ill., J. J. Rider for many years a resident of Jasper county, answered the final call and passed from life at the ripe age of 84 years, death resulting from the infirmities atten, ant upon old age.

The funeral was held at the Catholic church at St. Marie Monday. Mr. Rider was a gentleman of the school, a Jacksonian democrat and a devoted member of the Catholic church. He is survived by five sons ,Charles and Carroll, Chicago, John, Jr.,St. Marie, J. A. and Paul, of this city and by two daughters, Mrs. James Anderson, St. Louis, and Mrs. Thornton Wheeler, Dundas.

Sainte Marie Tribune 03-17-1906

Photo # NH 55322 USS Lexington, photographed during the Civil War



The Civil War Gunship, Lexington, on which Rider led Company K

Name and Rank.	Residence.	Date of rank or en- listment.	Date of muster.	Remarks.
Pyle, George W Preston, Samuel Reider, Benjamin F Reid, Phillip	Hollis	Sept. 26, 1864	Sept. 26, 1862	Mustered out June 3, 1865
Reider, Benjamin F	RUSE	Oct. 18, 1864	Oct. 18, 1864	Abs't.sick.at M.O. of Regt.
ullivan, William		Oct, 17, 1864	Oct. 17, 1864	Sub. M. O. Sept. 16, 1865
Smith, Charles	Berwick	Oct. 18, 1864 Oct. 21, 1864	Oct. 18, 1864 Oct. 21, 1864	Sub. M. O. Sept. 16, 1865
Geid, Phillip Sullivan, William, Snither, Andrew Smith, Charles, Strayhan, William, Strayhan, William, Styne, Nicholas Zansandt, John Willard, Miron B	Rockwood	Sept. 27, 1864 Sept. 26, 1864	Sept. 27,1864 Sept. 26,1864	Abs't.sick.at M.O. of Regt. Mustered out Sept. 16, 1865. Sub. M. O. Sept. 16, 1865. Mustared out Sept. 16, 1865. Sub. M. O. Sept. 16, 1865. Mustered out June 3, 1865. Discharged June 25, 1865.
Willard, Miron B		Oct. 11, 1864	Oct. 11, 1864	Discharged June 25, 1865 Sub. Absent. sick, at M. O. of Regiment.
Vaidman Francis		Oct. 26, 1864	Oct. 26, 1864	of Regiment. Sub. M. O. Sept. 16, 1865
Worthington, James Wilcockson, Lycurgus Walters, James	Vermilion Limestone	Oct. 20,1864 Sept. 27,1864	Oct. 20, 1864 Sept. 27, 1864	Sub. M. O. Sept. 16, 1865 Mustered out June 3, 1865
	C	OMPANY K	5	
Name and Rank.	Residence.	Date of rank or en- listment.	Date of muster.	Remarks.
Captains,			1	
Samuel B. Crowley John J. Rider	St. Marie	Dec. 31, 1861 June 10, 1862	Aug. 10, 1863	Resigned June 19, 1862 Promoted Lieut. Colonel Mustered out Sept. 16, 1865.
James Armstrong		Apr. 25, 1865	July 15, 1865	Mustered out Sept. 16, 1865.
First Lieutenants. John J. Rider William B. Crowley	St Maria	Dea		Desmoted
William B. Crowley		June 10, 1862	Any 99 16/5	Resigned June 25, 1863 Promoted
James Armstrong James B. Wilson	**	Apr. 25, 1865	Not must'd.	M. O. Sept. 16, '65, as Serg.
Second Lieutenants,	St Maria	Deg. 21 1921		Dorignod Man 2 1929
Xavier Picquet	Nom I Death	May 2,1862	June 22, 1865	Resigned May 2, 1862. Discharged Jan. 24, 1865. Mustered out Sept. 16, 1865.
First Sergeant.	New Liberty	Apr. 40,1000		intustered our Sept. 10, 1000.
Lewis Neill				Disch. Aug. 1, '62; wounds.
Sergeants. William B. Crowley	St. Marie		Dec. 31, 1861	Promoted 1st Lieutenant Promoted 2d Lieutenant
				Promoted 2d Lieutenant Re-enlisted as Veteran
Mathew Hynes	**			Deserted fm. parole camp.
Corporals. James D. Martin	St Maria		Dec. 21 186	Disch Oat - '62 disabil
Cornelius O'Donnell John Hynes	** ******			Disch. Oct, '62; disabil. Disch. Oct, '62; wounds. Died at Corinth. Apr. 14, 1862; prisoner war Abs't, sick, at M. O. of Reg't. Disch. Mar. 24, '63; disabil. Disch. Mar. 24, '63; disabil.
John Hynes	1		4.	1862; prisoner war
John Wesley Brown John S Terhune George R R. Smith Thomas Ping John Akin	New Liberty			Disch. Aug, '62; disabil.
				Disch. Mar. 24, '63; disabil. Mustered out. Died, St. Louis, Apr '62
50m Aam	St. antirie			
Musicians. Alexander Todd	New Liberty		Dec. 31, 186	Disch. Aug. —, '62; disabil Disch. 1864; disability
Phillip Treanor				Disch. 1864; disability
Wagoner. Dyer D. Woodworth .	Cumberland		Dec. 31,186	Discharged for disability
Adcock, William	Palmyra	Aug. 27, 186	1 Dec. 31, 186	Transferred to Co. A Mustered out. Deserted Feb. 28, 1982. Mustered out. Disch. July 4, "62: disabil. Mustered out. Oct. 30, 1864 Died, C'p Butler, Jan. 31., 6 Mustered out. Died, C'p Butler, Jan. 37, "6
Anderson, John Bess, Jacob	St. Marie	Oct. 1,186		I Transferred to Co. A. Mustered out. Deserted Feb. 26, 1862. Mastered out. Disch. July 4, %2; disabil. Mustered out Oct 20, 1864. Died, C'p Butler, Jan. 31, &6 Mustered out. Died, C'p Butler, Jan. 36, %
Banington, James, Brassier Felix				Mustered out. Disch July 4 '52' disabil
Bostick, James L	New Liberty			Mustered out Oct. 30, 1864.
Buckman, william J.	Alem Liberte		•	torea, C p Dutter, Jun . 3165

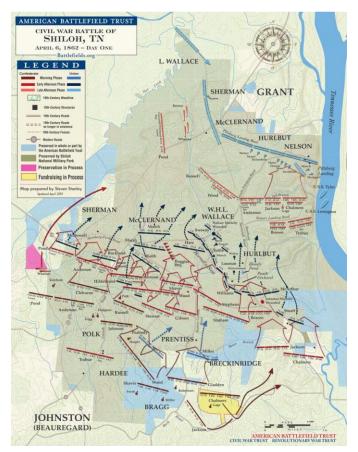
Roster of the Commanders and Staff of the 32nd Regiment

Complete Roster of Illinois 32nd Regiment

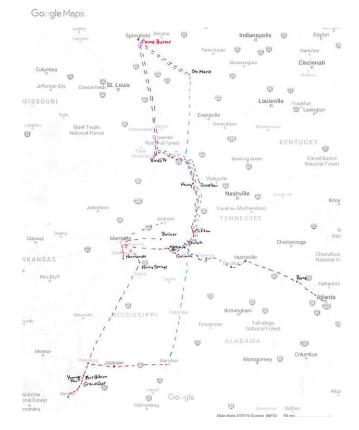


Plaque at Shiloh Battlefield

Illinois 32nd Infantry at the Battle of Shiloh



Movement of Illinois 32nd Infantry during Civil War



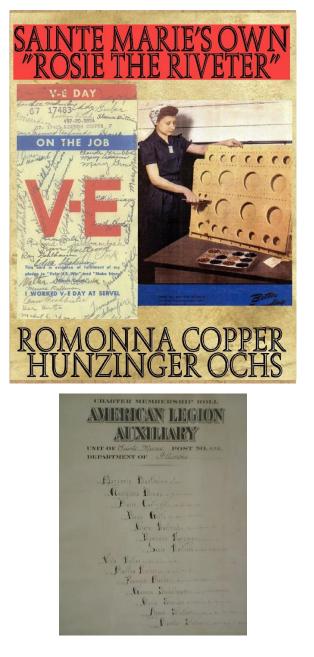
Many thanks to Glenn Picquet for his research and generosity.

Transitions

Romonna Copper Ochs 1923 – 2021

Sainte Marie mourns the lass of long-time resident, Romonna Ochs. Romonna was born in rural Jasper County to Herman and Emma Copper. She was a graduate of Newton Community High School. She worked at the Evansville Defense Plant helping with the war effort as a Rosie the Riveter. She was also Postmaster of the Ste. Marie Post Office for 25 years. Her first husband, Richard Hunzinger passed away in 1964. Surviving Romonna are husband Johnny Ochs, and daughters Sue, Bonnie, and Jane, 6 grandchildren, 8 great grandchildren, 6 great-great grandchildren and Johnny's family.

Romonna was a charter member of the Ste. Marie American Legion Auxiliary.



Bridges of Ste. Marie In the Beginning



(The bridge pictured above is a representation of what the bridge may have looked like.)

Name one of the most important features of Ste. Marie, and the Embarras River is likely to be the first mentioned. It is this river that young Joseph Picquet crossed, nearly drowning in the process. He ended up becoming extremely ill after this crossing but eventually recovered.

The story of the river's name has several different variations, but the truth is that "embarrass" in French means obstruction. And that is what the early settlers decided on, as the river often was difficult to cross. In 1964, United States Geographic Naming Information System settled on the spelling of Embarras to create uniformity. The correct pronunciation is "Ahm ber ah".

Now that we know how to say it, spell it, and how it received its name, how did early pioneers cross the river? Often the river could be forded, and the settlers merely walked across. There was always the risk, though, that livestock or wagons could be swept away or hit a hole. In 1848, a ferry was established to help with safe passage of the river. The ferry was simply constructed. Ropes were tied at both banks of the river allowing the ferrymen to cross the river by pulling the ferry across. The charge for such a service was:

- $\circ \quad \ \ \text{five cents for those on foot} \\$
- ten cents for a man and horse
- \circ ~ 15 cents for two horses and wagon
- o three cents per head of cattle
- two cents per head for hogs, sheep, and goats

Being frugal people, most settlers would take their chances and cross the river on their own or sometimes the ferryman would not be on duty. The ferry business did not turn out to be a successful venture and was shut down in 1860. The public needed a reliable way to go over the river and demanded that a bridge be built across the Embarras. A year later in 1861, amid many discussions and legal obstacles, Japer County built a covered bridge at Ste. Marie. J. D. Tripp was the contractor the cost being about \$3500. This bridge and the one at Newton were the major bridges in the county.

John C. and Gertrude (Yager) Kraus Family

As the story goes for many of our hamlet's earliest residents, John Kraus and Gertrude Yager emigrated from Germany in the early to mid-1850s.

After the settlement of Sainte Marie by people of the Alsace region of France, many people from Germany made the courageous trip to the United States for economic and religious reasons. And many of them settled in the virgin timberlands of our county. John (Joanas Thadeus Theodorias Yaeger) and Catherine Gertrude (Fisher) Yager were such a family. They and their four children, John, Peter, Gertrude, and Margaret made the trip from Hesse-Damstadt, Bavaria, Germany landing in New York in 1843. Upon arrival, they were a family of seven with daughter Mary having been born on the ship on the way to America.

They were farmers in Germany and knew they wanted to do the same in the new country. They headed for the fertile soils at the center of their adopted country. Finding such enormous expanses of affordable land, they were probably overwhelmed by their fortune. And probably a bit intimidated by the amount of work it would take to establish a productive farm. There were forests to be cleared, a house and outbuildings to be built, and a family to be fed.

John C. Kraus, 1833-1905, was born in Felsbereshof, Germany and came to the United States in the 1850s, several years after his brother, Valentine. The brothers bought land across the Embarras in an area known to us as The Bend in the mid-1850s. They thought the price of land too high in Ste. Marie. John and Gertrude Catherine Yager (1838-1908) were married in St. Mary's Catholic Church on May 5, 1857. They made their home on the bluff side of the Embarras, one-half mile from where St. Valentine's Church was later built. This union was blessed with ten children. Frederick died in infancy and Rosena died as a young adult. The surviving children were John (Mary Ann Rennier), Gertrude (Jacob Rennier), Margaret (Peter Beasler), Joseph (Catherine Roider), Mary (Wolfgang Geiger), Matilda (Michael Geiger), Anna (Robert Ochs, Jacob Ochs), and Frank (Mary Bergbower). The family worked hard and found the opportunities they were looking for. The acreage grew as the boys matured and

were able to help on the family farm. Gertrude made sure the garden she tended helped feed their large family. She also sold extra produce in Newton, a distance of fifteen miles. Soon after daybreak, neighbors would see her driving the team of horses and the wagon full of produce, already five miles into her trip. John had been well educated in Germany, but Gertrude had little formal education. Because of this, she drew pictures of the vegetables she sold with tally marks for every 10 cents she sold below the pictures. One of her granddaughters reported that she loved to look at the precise records her grandmother had kept.

The Kraus home was known for its hospitality and welcomed neighbors and visitors alike. When each of their children married, John and Gertrude gave each couple 120 acres. Because of this, their families lived in an area of three miles by six miles. There were many cousins and few unrelated people in the area. Many people have no idea they are descendants of this couple that started life together almost 165 years ago. John and Gertrude are both buried in St. Valentine's Cemetery in the Bend.

Information for this article was taken from "The Heritage of Jasper County, Illinois 131-1988". Leona G. Kocher submitted the information for the book.







-Uncle John Kraus, of the Dark Bend, was in the city, Monday. He gave us the circumference of an apple free on the farm of the late Valentine Kraus which measured 9 ft. and 5 in. 21/ feet from the ground at the smallest part of the trunk before reaching the limbs. Mr. Kraus thinks this the largest apple tree in the county. It was set out nearly or quite 40 years ago.-[Newton Press

Olney Times 05-16-1888

Hog Has Rabies

The first victim of the raving mad dog which has been terrorizing this vicinity, was a hog belonging to Jacob Rennier of the Bend which died from hydrophobia Sunday.

Must Keep up Dogs

Owing to the danger of the spreading of hydrophobia by dogs effected with the disease which have been running at large for several weeks, the undersigned president of the board of trustees of the Village of Ste. Marie, Ill., hereby issues a proclamation, that all dogs kept or harbored within the village limits must be confined to the premises of their owners until August 31, 1917. Dogs running at large, in the village, whether owned within or outside the limits of said village will be killed. Dated at Ste. Marie, Ill., this 8th day of August, 1917. Al Ostheimer.

Village President.

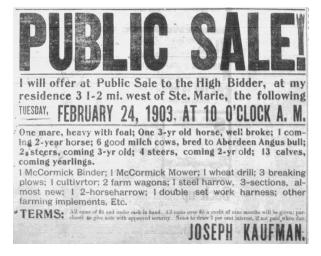
Sainte Marie Tribune 08.17.1917



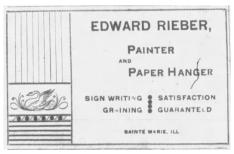
Olney Times 04.15.1859



This 1944 advertising calendar from Barthelme's store was featured on a Jasper County Facebook site recently. What a beauty!



Sainte Marie Tribune 02.21.1903



Sainte Marie Tribune 10.04.1901



Leo and Charlene (Litzelman) Bolander

Born on the eve of St. Nicholas Day in 1890, Leo Nicholas was the 4th child of Jacob and Caroline Anne Hahn Bolander. His namesake was Pope Leo XIII, the Pope at the time. Both of his parents' families had come from France decades before. He grew up on the family farm west of Ste. Marie. Many know it as the Leo Kaufman farm. There were ten children including two sets of twins.

Charlene Mary Litzelman was born on February 20, 1892, the fourth of twelve children of Charles and Matilda LaMotte Litzelman. Their home place was north and west of Sainte Marie on the present-day Jim Nix farm. The Litzelman family was from Germany and the LaMotte's were from France. Both families came to the U.S. earlier in the 19th century. As was customary for the time, Leo, and Charlene both worked away from the area prior to their marriage. Charlene worked as domestic help in Decatur, and Leo worked at a variety of farming help such as corn husking. They were married on February 12, 1917 and were blessed with five children: Mary Eloise Reynolds 1917-2001, Merceda Ruth Money 1923-1992, Odilo Joseph 1927-1995, Harold Anthony 1930-2015, and Georgianna Marie Weber 1933. They lived two miles west of town commonly known today as Dean Ochs's farm.

Neighborhood butchering rings are something that Georgianna will always remember. Every day between December 26 and the first day of January, families in their neighborhood gathered at a different neighbor's home and would butcher hogs. The circle included the families of Francis (Yank) Schmidt, Andy Sheridan, Thomas Kaufmann, Florent Schmidt, Norbert Sheridan, and the Bolanders . The year of St. Mary's church being struck by lightning and burning to the ground is easy for her to recall as it was the same year she was born. She was told that Jean Huff was the last baby baptized in the old church.

Georgianna and her siblings walked two miles to and from school every day. She attended 1-8 grades at the Brick School and remembers attending Mass every morning. They brought their lunches to school in a pail until the advent of hot lunches served at school. The Ste. Marie High School closed just before she graduated from eighth grade, so she attended four years of high school at Newton.

Doctor G.C. Brown was a well-known figure in their family. Doc delivered most babies in Ste. Marie during 1917-1933. He commented after learning of her name that Georgianna Marie Bolander was too long of a name. Of course, his own wife was also named Georgianna and nicknamed Babe. Doc Brown was very influential in the community. He had a well-established relationship with the Illinois Governor at the time, and he was instrumental in getting the Ste. Marie Spur road brought to our small town. Before the construction of the road, the only paved road in the area was IL 130. between Olney and Newton. Farmers would help the crew when they came by their homes by using their teams of horses to build the base or whatever needed done. The road began in 1930 at Boos and they worked their way east to Ste. Marie at the rate of one mile of road per year. The crews were in front of the Bolander house in 1933, the year that Georgianna was born. Her mother told her the amount of dust was incredible!

Georgianna and Ralph Weber met at a dance in Ste. Marie and began dating in the early 1950s. Ralph was from the Wendelin area and had been working at Alblinger and Kirts Hardware working with John Alblinger doing plumbing and electrical work. He remembers John as a truly kind and hardworking man. Ralph boarded at the home of Ruth Picquet, and they got along famously. Ruth liked to play (and win) lots of canasta. Ralph was called to serve in the Korean War and upon his return, he and Georgianna were married on October 15, 1955. Leo and Charlene moved into Ste. Marie and the newlyweds made their home on the farm. Ralph was working on the family farm back in Wendelin, and the daily drive proved to be too much. The young family moved to be closer to the Weber farm. They are the parents of five children, 14 grandchildren, 15 great grandchildren, one on the way, and two babies who passed.

Leo passed away in 1973 and Charlene in 1976. They are buried in St. Mary's Cemetery in Ste. Marie.

1917 Ste. Marie Area Marriages

MARRIAGES Ferd Hartrich and Mayme Huber Leo Bolander and Charlene Litzelman Leo Long and Helen Reitz Ernest Burgner and Cliffie Harding Fred Haring and Odelia Spitzer Everett Graham and Adalia Miller Barney Burgner and Edith Kesler Peter Wolff and Barbara Helfret Xavier Huss and Catherine Hepp Lessley Zellar and Anna Amend Henry Raef and Ada Carter Marion Lamotte and Daisy McDevitt Paul McCullough and Ruth Yeager Alois Ochs and Lela Miller Gus Zinser and Clothilda Ostheimer Ed Dallmier and Julia Kerner Ed Klueg and Tillie Kraus Frank Erwin and Eliz Shelly Bernard Harmon and Iva Dise Louis Huber and Mary Cutbertson

Sainte Marie Tribune 01.18.1918

Leo Bolander and wife have been entertaining a little daughter at their home since Monday.

Sainte Marie Tribune 11-16-1917

Ste. Marie (Special)

A high mass of Thanksgiving will be said at 10 a.m. Sunday in St. Mary of the Assumption Roman Catholic Church of Ste. Marie on the occasion of Mr. and Mrs. Leo Bolander's golden wedding anniversary.

A dinner will be served for their guests at the River Park Cafe in Newton.

The couple will be honored with a 2 to 4 p.m. open house in the Ste. Marie church parish hall.

The former Charlene Litzel-

man and Mr. Bolander were married Feb. 12, 1917, in St. Patrick's Roman Catholic Church of Decatur.

They have five children: Mrs. Vern (Mary Eloise) Reynolds, Mrs. Norman (Merceda) Money, both of Indianapolis; Odilo Bolander, Harold Bolander, both of Newton, and Mrs. Ralph (Georgianna) Weher of Wakefield. There are 20 grandchilchildren.

Decatur Herald 02-09-1967



Mary Bolander, Leo and Charlene Bolander



Georgianna M. Bolander Weber



Jacob and Caroline Bolander 61st Wedding Anniversary



Daughter Mary and Caroline Bolander



Kate Bolander (sister-in-law of Caroline), Charlene Litzelman Bolander, Minnie Bolander (another sister-in-law), and Ellen Litzelman Hunzinger

Generations Feel the Ste. Marie Connection

By: Donna Keller

In early February, the Foundation (Gina Fox and Donna Keller) received an email via the Sainte Marie Foundation website from Dorie Freebury Falik from Lansing, Michigan, requesting to purchase a 175th book. Genia asked if I could take care of the following request. *"Greetings! I would like to purchase a copy of the book, Sainte Marie, Illinois: Stories and Reminiscences 1837-2012. I am a descendent of Edward Barthelme (wonderful photo of the Barthelme & Keller Store featured on your website!). Edward's daughter, Madeline Barthelme Ebel, was my grandmother. It would mean a great deal to have this book in my personal genealogy collection. Thank you! Sincerely, Dorie"*

What ensued over the next few weeks was a lovely exchange of emails and of great vintage Barthelme family pictures and ads from the Sainte Marie Tribune...and a friendship that we both have hopes will continue. I wanted to share bits of her emails and a couple of the pictures Dorie sent.

"Thank you so very much for all of the scans of the ads! Will look at those when I'm on the computer. And, anything about Ed would be greatly appreciated. You are so kind!"

"My grandmother was Madeline Barthelme Ebel. Her daughter Carolyn, the eldest, was born in 1943. Carolyn Ebel Freebury, was my mother. We lost her in 2017 to a rotten rare form of uterine carcinosarcoma. She had such a brilliant memory of family history, which compels me to keep those memories for my niece and cousins' children. I miss my mom every day." "My grandmother, Madeline (Mag, Mags, Magdalenam) was born in 1916 to Edward Barthelme and Nora (Keller) Barthelme. I am sending several gorgeous photos of "Mags" Barthelme as a young woman, all of which appear to have been taken in the yard of the Barthelme house. As my Papa (Tom Freebury) would admiringly remark, "She (Mags) was a tall glass of water!" He has also been known to say, "When I stop looking, toss dirt in my face. Because, I'll be dead!" He is hilarious! I might add that he is the sweetest man on earth, who was utterly devoted to my mother for over 50 years." Mags married Jerome Bernard Ebel in 1942, and they eventually settled in Battle Creek, Michigan. Mags, hated being moved so far away from her kin. It is plausible to surmise that the Ebel family's annual summer trips to Sainte Marie were the happiest periods of Mag's life, and my astute mother (Carolyn) recognized this, even as a very young child. She recognized her mother's joy when surrounded by her family, and that made the time spent with the Barthelme aunts, uncles and cousins, so very precious for my mother.

I have not been to Sainte Marie, but absolutely must plan a visit in the future." Looking at the beautiful photos of my

grandmother as a young woman has me pondering how facial features are passed through the generations. Genetics are amazing! My mother's youngest brother, Terry Ebel, and all three of his children, have inherited the fine Barthelme features. No mistaking their familial relation! Their brow, eyes, nose and chin, are the spitting image of Mags.

"Sharing now a few more photos of "Mags" from the St. Johns School of Nursing (Springfield, IL). I wonder how her father, Ed, felt about women - especially one of his daughters! pursuing a career? Mags was fortunate enough to have a successful nursing career in Battle Creek, MI. She was a charge nurse at Leila Hospital (now the Battle Creek Health System) for many years. She must have been a force to be reckoned with! Her granddaughter, Kristin Ebel Hankinson (Jerome Ebel Jr's daughter), is now a nurse at the very same hospital. Having a mother as a nurse was quite an experience for my mother and her siblings! They were dosed regularly with Castor oil - yuck! - and were experts at hiding when Mags would plan to dispense various inoculations at home."

I told Dorie that I had shared a lot of the pictures with my friend and her cousin Vicki Kocher, who had been guarantined for over a year where she lives at Villas of Holly Brook assisted living in Newton. Vicki enjoyed the pictures so much and mentioned that Dorie's mother (and Grandmother) were a hoot. I told her that we were also good friends with Bob and Carolyn Barthelme (more cousins) – her reply – "Words cannot express how truly touched I am that we have made this connection. My mother would be thrilled to know that you are also close friends with her cousin Vicki and Bob, and his wife Carolyn Barthelme! And, yes indeed, my mother was a hoot! She loved to laugh." "Thank you for reaching out to Vicki! How wonderful that you are friends - She would be my mother's first cousin, known as "Carol Ann" to the Sainte Marie clan - and that Vicki was able to help identify the Barthelme siblings, many of whom you knew personally. I scoured through the enormous box of old family photos once again and pulled quite a few featuring Vicki's family. I will send the photo scans in a series of following messages. I plan to send you quite a few photos over the coming weeks, such treasures for the Sainte Marie archives!" Vicki's mother "Leve," and her sister, Ottie" (Eloise Spitzer), were my mother's most favorite aunts! Oh, my goodness. My mother is certainly beaming down from heaven with joy that this family connection has been made." Dorie sent many Sheridan and Joe Barthelme pictures that I shared with Vicki and Bob & Carolyn.

"As for the history of the (Barthelme) house, I understand that it was purchased by Ed Barthelme from his brother-in-law after the death of his wife, Ed's sister. Do you know when the house was originally built? Have you ever happened upon any interior photos of the Barthelme house during its early days? I would love to know more! I hope to see the house in person one day, to stand in the yard with some of the old photos for perspective, and to behold my family history."

"One picture (of the Barthelme) house features a lovely prospect of the yard (Oh, how I do wish some of the photos were in color to see the gorgeous roses and flowering shrubs!). The second photo was actually stumbled upon recently during my genealogy research, posted in a public access family tree by some distant relative. You may very well have this in the Sainte Marie archives! If I'm not mistaken, that would be Nora Barthelme seated on the steps along with the first five children? Isn't it a wonderful photo!" Also included is the only (good)photo of Nora Keller Barthelme in our family archives. She had quite the formidable presence!

"I have always been intrigued by old houses and the stories of the lives lived within their walls. It is sad that the once vibrant Barthelme house now quietly sits empty in its twilight years."

I have enjoyed the many email exchanges with Dorie and hope there are many more to come. It was amazing piecing together from all her emails to come up with such a touching and sometimes humorous story! Someday soon Dorie and her husband, Rob, are going to come and visit Sainte Marie...and meet some of her extended Barthelme family in person and I promised a personal tour of the Sainte Marie Foundation House and Museum! (Donna)

If anyone has any answers to some of Dorie's questions or some pictures to share, her mailing address is: Dorie Freebury Falik 311 Williamsburg Rd. Lansing, Michigan 48917 Email: <u>dorie.freebury@gmail.com</u>



Tom Freebury, Carolyn Ebel Freebury (daughter of Mag Barthelme Ebel) and Dorie Freebury Falik (daughter of Carolyn, grand daughter of Mag and the great grand daughter of Ed & Nora (Keller) Barthelme



Nora Barthelme and children



Madeline St. John's School of Nursing Graduate



Children of Ed & Nora (Keller) Barthelme Front Row L to R: Olivia (Leve) Sheridan, Marge Hartrich, Magdalene (Mag) Ebel, Eloise Spitzer, Mildred Alblinger. Back Row L to R: Joe Barthelme, Eugene Barthelme, Frances (Bud) Barthelme, Gilbert Barthelme



Magdalene (Mag) Barthelme Ebel and Jerry Ebel in 1942

More Vintage Photos









FOR SALE-A DeLival cream separator, good as new. Ed Faitemier, Ste. Marie, Ill. DATE: MAY 15, 2021 SICN UP TIME: 8:00A.M. LOCATION: BOARS NEST: EAST OF SAINT MADIE



2 person teams \$20 per team Weigh ins at 5:00 p.m.

- PLAQUE WINNERS FOR BICCEST CATFISH, BICCEST BASS, AND MOST LBS. OF PANFISH PER STRINGER (FISH MUST BE LIVE).
- PULLED PORK BBQ AND CHIPS AFTER THE WEICH-IN - EVERYONE WELCOME (FISHING OR NOT)

All proceeds will go to the bend community club Please direct questions to Chad Coleman 618-354-1713

Proceeds to the Bend Community Club



Sainte Marie Tribune 10-04-1901