



Sainte Marie Foundation News

To celebrate our very special hometown's spring season 2016

Volume 9, Issue 2

Mark your calendars

Sunday, April 24 – Tour via Bales bus to St. Mary-of-the-Woods, IN, to visit the Sisters of Providence and their beautiful buildings and grounds. **SOLD OUT!!**

Saturday, May 28 – Village-wide Garage Sale by SM Community Club, 7 – 11 a.m. with food from Sons of American Legion until 1.

Saturday, July 23 – Cork and Pork Festival at Picquet Park from Noon. – 11 p.m. Don't miss the second year of this successful event. Wine, beer, pork, and music. *See below for details.*

Saturday, Sept. 3, 1 p.m. at St. Mary's. FREE. **Terry Kirts**, English lecturer at Indiana U/Purdue U. and cantor at Saints Peter & Paul Cathedral, all in Indpls., will discuss the roots of Catholic music and changes since the 1960s. Join us for some solos, group singing and lots of joyful music. Program is related to the *Amazing Grace* exhibit at the museum. *See p. 4 for more*

Cork & Pork Festival

By Donna Keller, Foundation Board Member



Plans are now in the works for the 2nd Annual Cork & Pork Festival to be held at Picquet Park in Sainte Marie on Saturday, July 23rd. Jasper County is the 5th largest pork producing

county in the State of Illinois, so it seemed only fitting to promote a home grown product and pair it with wine and beer!

Beginning at noon on July 23rd, the Cork & Pork Festival will feature wine tasting, showcasing local wineries who will also be selling wine by the glass, bottle or case.. Wineries participating so far are, Lasata Wines, Vahling Vineyards, Homestead Vineyards; Sleepy Creek Vineyards, Kite Hill Vineyards and Fox Creek Vineyards.

Starting at noon, the festival will begin serving mouthwatering, pulled pork with a variety of sauces to compliment it. Other sandwiches include: America's

Cut; Pork Burgers and the infamous DaBurgers. There will also be bottled water offered, as well as a cola and a diet cola.

There will be live bands playing throughout the day with Salt Rock Jones starting at noon, followed by Quarter Annie with the Naked Sissy's rounding out the evening. There will be a beer garden featuring both Gray's Wholesale and Koerner Distributing products, so a variety of beverages will be available.

The Sainte Marie Foundation is in charge of the festival, and the proceeds will support the Foundation and other local organizations. Although the other local organizations who will benefit have not all been determined, the Cork & Pork Festival committee has decided that the Jasper County Boys & Girls Park will be one of the recipients, as they are working to raise funds for a new concession stand and bathrooms.

Last year the Sainte Marie Foundation; the Sainte Marie American Legion Post 932 family (this included the Legion, the Auxiliary and the Sons of the American Legion); the Jasper County Pork Producers; the Helpful Little Hands 4-H Club; St. Mary's Church; the N.C.H.S. football team and the Dundas Ruritan received funds.



Pix at left: Some 2015 attendees enjoyed the wine tasting and the opportunity to buy some bottles of wine.

The Cork and Pork

Festival committee are accepting sponsorships from the local business community for the Cork and Pork Festival. Any level of sponsorship that you would be willing to provide would be greatly appreciated and all sponsors will be recognized before, during and after the Festival.

If you would be interested in being a sponsor of this event, serve on the planning committee or help out the day of the festival working a two-hour shift, please call **Donna M. Keller at 618-455-3452.**

The Cork & Pork Festival is also very happy to welcome **the Picquet/Hartrich Reunion attendees** who will be gathering the weekend of the festival. If any of you would like to help out during your stay, let us know!



At left: The 2015 pork pullers were: l – r: Bill Meinhart, Ed Kocher, Thomas (Skip) Rogers, Dan Hartrich and Matt Kocher.

Scheduled Cork & Pork

Festival planning meetings are posted on the Cork & Pork Festival Facebook page. The next scheduled meeting is on Tuesday, April 5th at 7:30 pm at the Sainte Marie American Legion.

Catering at the Foundation House

Remember, **Hartrich Meats Catering** will provide meals for parties of six or more who meet or stay at the Foundation House. Call Janet at 618-455-3172 to order your meals.

2016 Flower Baskets

By Donna Keller



Everyone loves flowers, so when **Maxine Calvert** saw beautiful hanging baskets while visiting the city of Altamont one day, she felt this would be a perfect fit for the Sainte Marie Foundation and the Village of Sainte Marie. In 2010 Maxine,

then a Foundation Board member, started the Flower Basket Project.

That first year, four hanging baskets were hung at the four-way stop in Sainte Marie. **DM Manufacturing**, a Sainte Marie welding and manufacturing company owned by **Don Geltz**, made the wrought-iron hangers from a design created by Maxine's husband, **Maurice Calvert**. **Ron Kirts**, another Foundation board member, devised a battery-operated, watering pump to be pulled by a golf cart so that the flowers could be watered daily.

Six years later, the hanging baskets now total fourteen, and the Sainte Marie Foundation's Hanging Flower Basket Project has become a fund raiser for the Foundation with many businesses and individuals

wanting to sponsor or remember or honor their loved ones. Signs are professionally printed with names of sponsors/loved ones and are displayed on the east side of the old bank building for a \$115 donation.

Bob and Tammy Frye (at right in mid-March) plant the 14 baskets each year at Shady Maples



greenhouse, north of Oblong, where they are left until the weather is warm enough to hang them, usually around the middle of May. The baskets are faithfully watered and fertilized each and every day (sometime twice daily when the weather is extremely hot) by the **Frye's, Ron Kirts, Maxine and Dawn Calvert and Marie Wagner** who all volunteer their time.



(At left: what the Flower Baskets look like when first planted in mid-March.)

Not only do the residents of Sainte Marie enjoy the gorgeous hanging baskets, but the many people who travel through Sainte Marie each day are also treated to the beautiful sight; the flowers are sure to bring a smile to their faces and brighten their day.

Thank you to all the volunteers who make this project possible and to the people who generously give money so that it may continue.

News Notes

-Dave and Norma Ochs recently bought **Mary Hartrich's** house in the village. That beautiful house is built with bricks salvaged from the Joseph Picquet house which stood on the site (next to the Mission House) and was once used by the Priests of the Sacred Heart for their administrators and later as a dorm for the novitiates after a fire that destroyed their dormitory. Welcome, Dave and Norma!

- The American Legion Post 932 hall now has beautiful new bathrooms, thanks in part to \$\$ from last year's

Cork and Pork Festival. Also, accessibility to both upper and lower halls is now possible via an elevator (enter the south-side door). The Post facilities really look great – congrats to all involved.

- Angie Menke Zuber and Diann Ochs Lybarger (Pix:



1-r) were all smiles at the March 14 Monday Night Dance, but they admit they are still learning the ropes as they take over St. Mary's popular activity with the loss of longtime leaders such as **Millie Schmidt** (Diann's aunt), **Marge Barthelme**, **Lucie Hartrich**, and others. "We would love to have a couple more people to help us," said Diann. "Just stop by to see what a great program this is. You can just sit and watch; you don't have to dance." The night we visited, 78 people had signed in (entry is still \$2), and participants are pitching in to help Angie and Diann. Contact **Judy Wagner** at the church office 618-455-3155 if you can help.



Transitions

Arthur James Keller, 86. Survived by 7 children, 12 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren. Art supported the Foundation in various ways, but he is most fondly remembered for providing a large portion of the renovation funds for our 1st floor bathrooms. (Pix at left from 175th Anniversary book)

Mildred (Millie) Schmidt, 96. Survived by six children, 18 grandchildren, numerous great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren. Very active at St. Mary's, especially for her help at the Monday night dances.

Donna Kirts, 74, Robinson, IL. Survivors include her husband, **Larry Kirts**, daughter **Cindy** and 4 grandchildren. **Ron Kirts** is Larry's brother.

Vera Mae Kirts, 85, of Oblong, Ill. Survivors include husband **Henry "Fred" Kirts**, two children, 3 grandchildren; 4 great-grandchildren. **George Kirts** is Fred's brother.

Arlene Griffey Neupert, 84 of Tucson, AZ. Lived in SM until she was 12. Related to the Spitzer family, as reported to us by **Elaine Strutner Coyle**, Littleton, CO. (If anyone has further info, Elaine would like to hear from you. Contact us and we will forward to her.

Lovette Johnson Hillard, 73, Robinson, Lived in SM during the 1950's.

We Get Mail

From **Libby Zuber Riggs**. *After much discernment, I am taking a year to do volunteer work with The Poor Handmaids of Jesus Christ in Donaldson, IN. I've been considering a career change after nearly 30 years as administrator of group homes for adults with developmental disabilities. I've always felt growing up in Ste. Marie was a blessing and even a part of my faith and spirituality. I met the PHJC's when they came to teach bible school in the summers at SM. My mom helped teach so I always joke, "We were forced to help." I've never regretted that. Those women have molded and shaped me into the woman I am today. I've had a close relationship with the order since I considered entering in college. I've now been an Associate for 7 Years and serve as the leader of the southern Illinois region of Associates that extends from Olney to Belleville. It was a tough decision, but I've replaced any fears with faith and am now excited to see what the Lord has in store. I will be living in community with them, and working side by side. It's an opportunity to pay them back for all they've been to me while I take time to consider a career change. Continued prayers are welcome as I continue to be grateful for all SM means to me. As always, my heart remains in Ste. Marie. Peace.*

From **Sherry Gormley Crane** (niece of **Mary Hartrich**). *I have to tell you how much I enjoyed the story about the Sisters of Providence. I attended Ladywood School in Indianapolis, taught by SP Sisters and of course learned to revere their history. But I NEVER knew they were to have settled in Sainte Marie. Incredible small world stories always. Thank you for all of your work with the Foundation and the Newsletter!*

From **Diane Graham** –**Helen Keller Graham's** daughter. *I just wanted to let you know how much I appreciate the newsletter you send out each month. The articles are so interesting & I am learning about the people who my mother grew up with & I am filled with a sense of getting to know this wonderful woman I was blessed to have as my mother & best friend....*

REMEMBER

If you have e-mail, please ask us to NOT send you a printed copy of the newsletter. Send your request to patreisprpr@yahoo.com. You will save us some postage \$\$ and get a much expanded newsletter, in color too!

Sainte Marie Foundation
P.O. Box 186
Sainte Marie, IL 62459

*See list of Flower Basket
Donors in our Bonus Pages*

The Sainte Marie Foundation newsletter is published quarterly. Send comments to writer/editor Pat Reis, patreisprpr@yahoo.com. The Foundation is a tax exempt 501(c)(3) organization, duly recognized as an Illinois charitable corporation. Donations are tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law. Do you have a Sainte Marie story you would like to share? Write your own. We reserve the right to edit. Join us on Facebook. See www.saintemariefoundation.org for info

Hartrich/Picquet Reunion

by Mike Hartrich, Foundation VP

The third **Hartrich/Picquet Reunion** will be held on **July 23 and 24** this summer. The first, organized by **Ken Hartrich**, was held in 2003. Eleven years later, we finally got around to having the second reunion. We had such a good time, we decided to have one every two years.

At right: A “family” of Picquet’s viewed the War Exhibit at the Foundation House museum in 2014. Brothers Jim and Glenn Picquet (TX) in Jeep; Natalie (Jim’s wife), Sue (Chris’ wife) Brenda (Glenn’s wife) and Chris Picquet, MO, (Jim and Glenn’s nephew) take a break from reunion activities.



The question often comes up: why are the two families included in the reunion In the generation that was of marrying age in the mid-to-late 1800’s, two Hartrich men married two Picquet ladies and one Hartrich lady married a Picquet man. That means there were three sets of double cousins in that generation. Each of these families had several children. The decedents of these unions have spread across the entire United States. Two years ago, there were visitors from Alaska, Oregon, Texas, Florida, Minnesota and all points in between. This year, those who want to sample Ste. Marie traditions will attend the **Cork and Pork Festival** on Saturday afternoon and evening. We will have some pop up tents set up so we can sit in the shade and renew family friendships. The reunion will continue on Sunday with a meal at noon. There will be pictures, artifacts from various branches of the family, and lots of visiting to keep the group busy. Also, the Sainte Marie Foundation House Museum will be open both Saturday and Sunday. Tours of the graves at the cemetery, a visit to Dedication Hill, and a visit to the remains of the Picquet mansion will also be offered. For further information, contact **Mike/Teresa Hartrich 618-783-8678**.

Former Church Organists/Pianists/Other Musicians Sought

Are you a former or present-day organist/pianist/musician at St. Mary’s? We want to honor your work on Saturday, Sept. 3 when **Terry Kirts** will do a 1 p.m. program at the church -- *Salve Regina: A Legacy of Catholic Music in Sainte Marie*. Working with **Judy Wagner** at the church office, we came up with the following list of people – **but we know there are others**. Please e-mail Pat Reis with names and contact information patreisprpr@yahoo.com

Organ/Piano

John Alblinger (deceased)
Patricia Reis
Karen Reis Young
Annette Reis Lynch
Sharon Reis Ade

Marilyn Ochs Maginn (deceased)
Jim Litzelman
Jane Ochs
Julie Thompson Warfel
Terri Zuber
Sarah Boehl

Miranda Ochs

Guitar/Other Musician Leaders

Judy Helregel Millsap
Rose Gangloff
Norma Ochs
Kate Kaufman

Bonus Pages for E-mail Subscribers

These pages are only sent to e-mail subscribers. If you have family or friends who receive the printed version, you might copy these pages for them. Or better yet, if they have e-mail, send us their e-mail addresses, and we will send it to them directly. Thank you for saving us the postage \$\$ it would cost to mail this to you.

Sainte Marie Foundation Newsletter, Spring 2016, *continued*.....



The Foundation House in mid-March with the Magnolia tree in full bloom – an early spring this year!

Flower Basket Donors

The following names will be listed on panels at the old bank building when the new flower baskets are hung in late May. Thanks to all who support this popular Foundation program.

SPONSORS

American Legion Auxiliary Unit 932
American Legion Post 932
BJ's Interior Decorating (Bonnie Jackson)
Sylvia Geltz Brinkoetter
Hartrich Meats, Inc.
Paul & Carolyn Keller
Meyer Funeral Homes, LLC
Picquet Brothers (Texas)
State Rep. David Reis & family
Sainte Marie State Bank
Shane's Machine & Welding
Ralph & Carrie Weiss – Weiss Renovations
Sam & Linda Zuber Family

2016 Baskets In Memory Of
Bud & Evelyn Barthelme
From Margo Regas

Joe & Marjorie Barthelme
From their children

Neenah Bogard/Don Bogard; Lawrence/Clorene Ochs
From Ted & Susie Ochs

Betty Borgic
From Borgic Enterprises

Jud & Emma Cameron & Carol Cameron Martin
From Jud, Dick, Phil, Mike Cameron & Peg Cochran

Hilda Dallmier
From the George Dallmier family

Harry/Edith Elie; Tom/Pat Elie; Ira/Anna/Edmund Shryock
From Jane, Pat, Nancy, Barbara, Judy & Janet

Denise/Dorothy/Jim Hahn
From Kathy, Annette, Karen, Sharon, Jim, Larry & Kevin)

Albert & Marge Hartrich
From Dave Hartrich family

Mayme Hartrich
From Mary Hartrich family

Art & Alice Keller
From the Art & Alice Keller family

Harley & Lena Kirts
From the children of Joan Kirts Heneberry

Lora Kocher; Sheryl Paul; Ted & Martha Kocher
From Ed Kocher family

Bernard & Marie Ochs
From their family

Annis Menacher & Margaret Hunzinger
From Robert/Dottie Rumpp/Elizabeth Valbert & Artie Hunzinger

Mildred Schmidt
From Barb Schmidt Martin

Hamer & Martha Stone
From Ken & Jan Stone

Bob & Freda Swisher
From Carol, Jim & Patti

Maude & Francis Wagner
From their daughters

William Wait
From Mary K. (Keller) Wait

Francis Yager
From Marilyn Hawes

2016 Baskets In Honor Of

All past and present service men & women
from our community

From D. M. Manufacturing II, Inc.

Lucie Hartrich
From Mike/Teresa Hartrich

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

Joyce Mast
From Melinda Mast

Romonna Ochs
From her daughters

Theresa M. Ochs *From her children/grandchildren & great grandchildren*

THE BUSINESS EXHIBIT – starting in 2017

In 2017, the *Sainte Marie Foundation Museum* will present an exhibit on **businesses in the Sainte Marie area**. As part of that exhibit, we are doing a *booklet* that will feature all present and past businesses. Please complete the following questions; we prefer that you e-mail them to rakeller73@gmail.com, but if you want to use a printed form, just use extra sheets or write answers on back and mail them to **Donna Keller, 2591 N. 1800th St., West Liberty, IL62475**. Again, please write as much as you like. We reserve the right to edit.

Those of you who once had a business (or if your ancestors did), please complete the questions and add stories of your own about the history of your family's business. Thank you for your help with this project. Also, if you have artifacts or objects you could loan us for the duration of the exhibit (one year), please call **Mike Hartrich 618-783-8678.**

LIST OF QUESTIONS FOR BUSINESSES

Please write as much as you wish.

1. Date business was started. What is the nature of your business?
2. What prompted you to start your own business? Or did you inherit it? Or why did you buy this business?
3. Give us some history of the business? How many employees did you start with and when did you get to the current number of employees? How have you changed the business since you acquired it? Have your products/services changed and how?
4. What would you want people to know about your business? For example, if a group were to visit, what would you tell them that would make your business *unforgettable* to them?
5. Do you have a story you would like to share about your business? Your best (worst) day ever? Something you accomplished that surprised you?
6. Anything else you would like to share?

Name

Title

Business

Business Address

E-mail

Phone

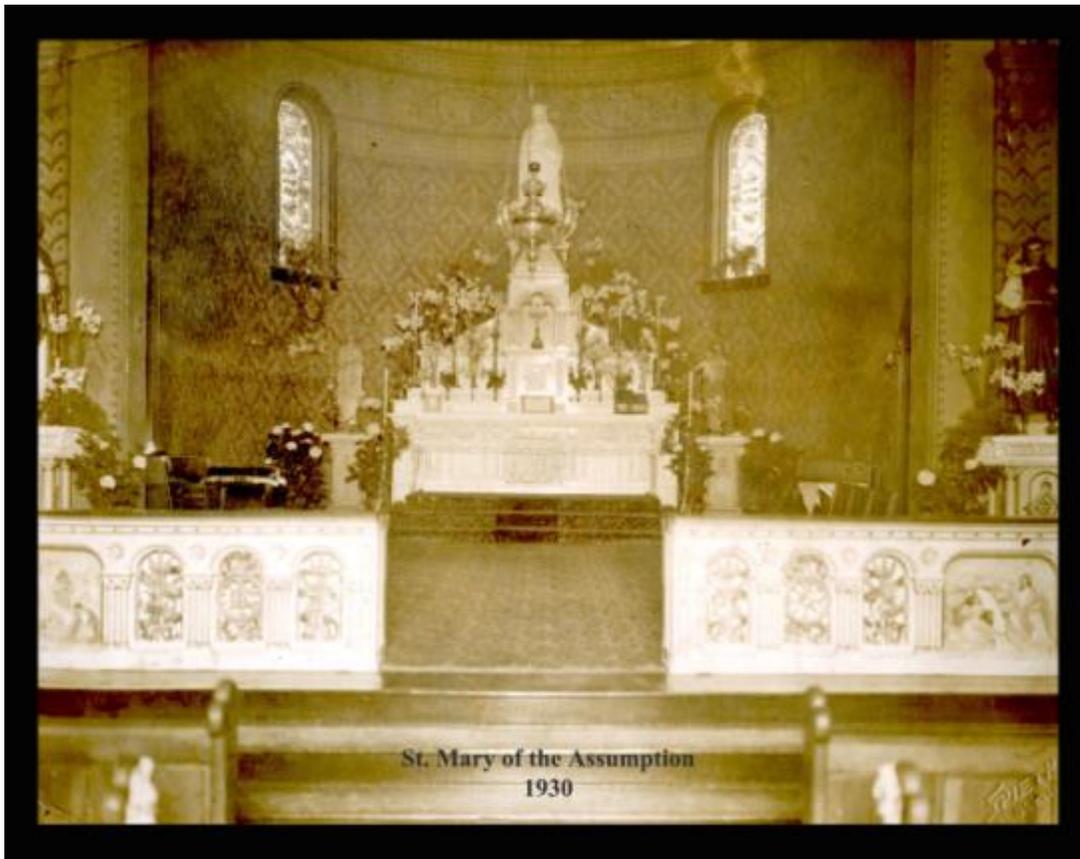
At Our Museum

by *Mike Hartrich*

Stories. Stories. Isn't that what our history is all about?

At the museum's *Amazing Grace* exhibit, there are many pictures and artifacts related to our St. Mary's church. And nearly all our visitors have a story.

Many fondly recall the nuns who taught through the years. One story we have heard is about a young Sister Ruth Ann playing softball with the girls. While running to first base, her veil blew off. The story goes that *it didn't bother her in the least because she kept on running*. Other nun stories have to do with the use of a ruler on the knuckles of the class malcontent. Obviously, we just could not resist putting a wooden ruler in the hand of the mannequin who wears a Dominican habit, circa 1960's. Guess that memory is just too imprinted in our minds.



Pictures of the church that burned in 1933 (above) also have been the source of many discussions. Younger people have no idea how opulent that church was. It had an ornate marble main altar. Even the communion rail was marble. Beautiful imported statues graced the very ornate side altars. And the steeple could be seen for miles. It was indeed a grand church.

And St. Mary's Picnics -- We have a picture of the old "cook shack" that was behind the old white church hall. In the "olden days" that was where the dressing that each family brought from home was mixed all together with the addition of some hot beef broth for more flavor. Can't do that anymore with today's sanitation laws! One phrase is always used about the cook shack. "It was hot!!!"

Stop by and see the *Amazing Grace* exhibit on the first Sunday of the month from 1 – 3 p.m. We would like to hear your stories too. (from curator **Mike Hartrich**)

A little story for you from John Ochs' *Life in Stringtown: Two Centuries of the Ochs Family*, pp. 12 - 13

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. The books are available for sale at the Foundation House. Here's one about a basic necessity: flour.

Flour

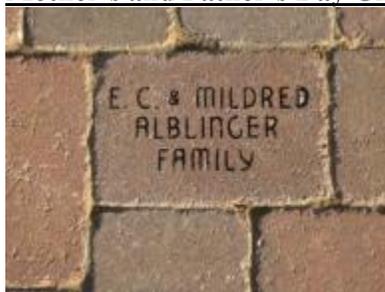
Flour was the staff of life in Stringtown. But prior to 1960, most of it was home grown. I (John Ochs) remember riding atop a box wagon of wheat, departing our farm at 7 a.m. heading for Shultz Milling Company in Olney. It would take a couple of hours for the horses to pull the heavy wagon on the 15 mile trip.

The wheat was milled, sifted and the pure white flour was put in new large cloth bags. The hulls were also sacked and later fed to livestock (Isn't it ironic that today consumers want 'whole wheat' or unsifted flour and pay a premium for it.) In yesteryear, a sign of affluence was to have pure white sifted flour. Only really poor people ate unsifted or whole wheat flour.

The horses would then plod along arriving back at our farm just before evening chore time. Dad and my older brothers Sylvan and Ken would grunt and drag the 50-pound bags of flour upstairs in our house where it would be dry until it was used. Part of the ceremony of course was Mom setting the mousetraps in every corner to nab any mouse that might approach the treasured flour.

When they were empty, the hems were taken out of the cloth flour sacks and were washed and sewn into everything from dish towels to course-threaded sheets that made one scratch throughout the night. Even worse was undershorts made from feed sacks which created pure hell for young boys sitting in the classroom. Excerpt from *Two Centuries of the Ochs Family* by John Ochs

Mother's and Father's Day Gifts



(At left) A sample engraved-stone

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** (pix below) 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 right): The daffodils announce spring at the rear of the Foundation House. Generous donations funded the benches and the lovely **Ken and Marge Hartrich memorial patio** (See info above about buying an engraved brick.) Tulip leaves are pushing out of the ground. Sainte Marie is full of blooms at this time of the year.





American Legion Post 932 Auxiliary members gather around one of two new tables in the lower Legion hall. **L – R: Angie Leonard, Evelyn Kocher, Kay Stark, Debbie Ferguson, Donna Keller, Bonnie Jackson, Marcia Ochs, Carolyn Barthelme and Rose Buerster.**

The two matching tables were made by **Don Zwilling**, who donated his labor for the Legion one. The family of **Oscar Strutner**, longtime loyal American Legion member, donated the second table in his memory.