



Sainte Marie Foundation News

Celebrating our special hometown 2019

Volume 12 Issue 1

The Way We Were

FOUNDATION MUSEUM EXHIBIT 2019

Our current exhibit that opened in May of this year is "The Way We Were". It features the schools in the Ste. Marie area, beginning with the many one room schools in Ste. Marie and Fox townships. The earliest one room school class picture is from 1898. There are class pictures from the Ste. Marie grade school from the early 1920's through the 1970's. Included are many class pictures as well as individual pictures from Henry Kirts' collection dating back to the 1940's as well as other individual pictures from other collections.

Another feature is Ste. Marie's two-year high school taught by Christine Alblinger, Miss A to many of us. Included in the school display are old student desks and the teacher's desk from the white school building used by Mr. Kirts. Another showpiece is a collection of old books that were the staple of our early education (Dick and Jane readers and many other books that are familiar to the older generations). We have expanded the exhibit into an adjacent room this year. This is where we have displayed the toys of the baby boomer's childhood; dolls, metal strap-on roller skates, toy trucks, toy six shooters with the red box of caps, metal Slinky, 12 cent comic books, and many, many other old toys. Old kitchen items, a 1958 Sears Christmas wish book, Glasswax Christmas window stencils, View Masters with color discs, and other things from our past are sure to make us nostalgic for a time past.



The Foundation Museum is open the first Sunday of the month from 1-3 or by appointment.

Another Successful Cork & Pork Festival

Many organizations are helped

This year the 5th Annual Cork & Pork Festival was held on July 13th in Sainte Marie. More than 1500 people attended the event and over 1000 pounds of pork (donated by JBS) were consumed.

Pulled Pork Nachos and the "Porksicle" were the crowd favorites. Wine tasting from eight area wineries; live music all day and delicious pork cooked by Hartrich Meats and the Jasper County Pork Producers made for a great festival.

Donations from many generous sponsors help finance the festival, of which we are very grateful. It takes over 200 volunteers to work a two-hour shift at the event in Registration; Pork Food Stand; Souvenirs and the Beer Garden.

New this year was a Jeep Run held in memory of John Lybarger, who served on the Cork & Pork Festival Committee since the beginning and was a great friend to the Sainte Marie Foundation. The Jeep Run had over 80 jeeps participating, and plans are to make it an annual event at the Cork & Pork Festival.

Profits made from the Cork & Pork Festival are given back to various local community groups and organizations. The Cork & Pork Festival, started by the Sainte Marie Foundation, is one of the big fundraisers of the year, along with the Hanging Flower Basket Project. This year over \$32,000.00 will be donated from the Cork & Pork Festival for a total of over \$116,000.00 given back to date. The date for the 2020 Cork & Pork Festival is slated for Saturday, July 11, 2020...MARK YOUR CALENDARS! If you have never helped work at the festival, you may volunteer by contacting Donna M. Keller through Facebook on the Cork & Pork Festival or the Sainte Marie, Illinois page. We heard the Barthelme Reunion is slated for that same weekend so they could enjoy the festival!

SAINT MARY'S 182ND ANNUAL PRE-LABOR DAY PICNIC

A traditional end to summer

Another successful picnic was held by St. Mary's Church on Sunday, September 1. A nice crowd gathered to enjoy the traditional dinners, try their luck at the raffles and games, and to connect with family and friends they had not seen for a while. Over 800 dinners were served and porkburgers and brats were completely sold out.

Looking back at an early record of the Altar Society's annual church picnic in 1866, it stated, "Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Picquet promised to donate two brace of wild ducks, and Mr. and Mrs. Xavier Picquet 12 roast prairie chicken. The rest of the parish are to furnish vegetables, pickles, jams and jellies, homemade bread and pies."

The early picnics were held on the grounds of the Xavier Picquet grove on the Fourth of July. With so many other area towns having celebrations on the same day, Miss Marie Picquet suggested changing the celebration to Labor Day. The location was changed to a grove adjoining the Sacred Heart Novitiate and when the Church Hall was built, the basement was used to serve the dinners and the rest of the festivities followed. Now the annual event is held on the grounds of the church.

It is heartwarming to see the continued success of the picnic. It shows the strength of a community for such a wonderful event to continue as many years as it has.



Thank you to all the sponsors and volunteers who make this Sainte Marie Foundation Flower Basket Project possible

A list of donors to the Flower Basket Project will be given in the next newsletter.

Queen of Hearts

Many people have had Queen of Hearts fever in Jasper County and the surrounding counties, as the Newton Athletic Booster Club Queen of Hearts jackpot hit over \$520,000 before the Queen was uncovered on September 8th. Another round of Queen of Hearts began Saturday, September 21.

The Sainte Marie American Legion Post 932 hosted the drawing on August 24th with help from Hi Benders, The Hill, and the Foundation. Over a thousand people gathered for a Queen of Hearts party in anticipation of having their name drawn and finding the Queen of Hearts. While the ticketholder drawn was present and won \$3,000.00, the Queen was not revealed...so the excitement continued for two more weeks.

To participate, a ticket is purchased at one of the announced locations. The buyer selects an available number and writes it on their ticket. If their ticket is drawn, they will win a percentage of the pot for being present or another amount if they are not. If the Queen is under the number they wrote on their ticket, they win ½ the jackpot. If there is no number on the ticket, the lowest unused number on the board is selected. The Newton Athletic Booster Club (a 501(c)(3) not for profit corporation), uses the Queen of Hearts Raffle as a fundraiser to assist the student athletics at Newton Community High School.

The Queen of Hearts Raffle has been not only a great fundraiser for the Newton Athletic Booster Club, but has been an economic boom to Jasper County, bringing people from all over to the county to purchase tickets and while here they spend money, eating, buying gas, etc.

Mary Clotilde (Mayme) Huber Hartrich

Have you ever wished you had been born earlier and had the opportunity to know someone much better? This has always been my wish - spending more time getting to know my maternal grandmother, Mayme Huber Hartrich. Since I was only four years old when she passed, I did not have the opportunity to really know her. I have vague memories of time spent at the farmhouse kitchen table and in the back seat of my grandparent's 1957 Chevy Bel Air while taking drives in the country. What I do have is the next best thing - Grandma loved to learn and write about many things, but she had a deep passion for the history of her beloved Sainte Marie.

Mayme was responsible for the writing of the 1962 History of Sainte Marie celebrating the 125th year since its founding. While searching for Christopher Columbus's birth home, she found an article she had previously written for Sainte Marie's 100th birthday in 1937. Doing some calculations, she discovered that the 125th anniversary was quickly approaching. Armed with books, pictures, newspaper clippings, and documents lent to her by Charlotte Rudd, Joseph Picquet's granddaughter, she thought she could put together a couple of pages. Months and months of research, interviews, writing, rewriting, and dirty looks from Grandpa Ferd (for a table covered in papers instead of food) resulted in a 64-page book of the history of our little village. She served as General Chairman of the Quasquicentennial Committee that pulled off a fantastic celebration with the help of many. The 3-day festivities were the beginning of the Sainte Marie Community Club.

In a tribute to Mayme for her work on the above celebration, Bernadette Reis penned several touching paragraphs. She described Mayme as someone who took the time to take "minute vacations to stroll through a garden, to watch a spider spin its web, and to take the hand of a child and explain the wonders of nature." She also noted her qualities as a friend, a reader, a collector and restorer, but mainly wrote about on her as "...a historian who scans the pages of history with delight."

In response, Mayme stated, "It is my sincerest wish that everyone continues to plant trees, flowers, and shrubs around their homes and farmsteads and I'll feel amply paid. By doing this we not only beautify our homes, we beautify our community, State and Nation."

Mayme was also a great cook. As was the case for all housewives of the day, everything was from scratch. Many hours of their days were spent in food preparation whether it be gardening, canning, or making meals. Women of the day were very frugal and thrifty, using whatever was

available to make a meal. My mother commented they once dined on blackbird pie!
Below is a recipe of Mayme's that we still enjoy on chilly winter days.

Mayme's Cherry Dumplings

Sauce

2 T Butter
Dash of salt
½ C juice from fruit or apple juice
1 ½ C prepared fruit
½ C sugar
1 ½ C boiling water
(I have used cherries, peaches, and blueberries.)

Combine above ingredients in a heavy skillet. (I use an electric skillet.) Bring to a boil; reduce heat and simmer for 5 minutes.

Dumplings

1 C sifted flour
1 ½ tsp baking powder
2 T butter
½ t vanilla
½ tsp salt
¼ C sugar
1/3 C milk

Sift together the flour, baking powder, salt, and sugar. Cut in the butter until mixture is crumbly.
Add vanilla to the milk. Add milk to the flour mixture and stir until just mixed. Drop by tablespoon into boiling sauce.
Cook uncovered for 5 minutes. Cover and steam for 15 minutes longer. Don't lift lid until the full 15 minutes is up!
Serve warm in a bowl with half and half drizzled over the top.



Mayme Huber Hartrich
Circa 1915

I would love to use this space to share family recipes and stories about Sainte Marie residents from our past. Contact Gina Fox at gina.fox1@gmail.com

Helpful Little Hands



While searching through some of my grandmother's newspaper clippings, I came upon the following Letter to the Editor she wrote dated May 7, 1962:

"There is an old saying, 'Give credit where credit is due,' and our 4-H girls in Sainte Marie certainly deserve a lot of credit.

They canvassed the town for Red Cross and did some fine work. Mrs. Lawrence Hartrich was the chairman. When the Cancer Fund drive came along, they worked again, and some even volunteered.

Our 'Helpful Little Hands' were helpful indeed.

The 4-Hers working were Bonnie Hunzinger, Kay Barthelme, Carol Swisher, Judy Huff, Susie Bogard, Carol Rennier, Kathy Burgund, Annette Hahn, and Vicki Sheridan.

They are truly good American citizens in the making." The club is still very active 57 years later and can be counted on to help with activities in the community. A future newsletter will give more history about our local 4-H club.



Donations given to the Sainte Marie Foundation were used to build this accessible ramp so that all can visit the Foundation House. Thank you to Larry and Dolores Hahn and Dusty Wright for your time and talents in constructing the ramp.

Transitions

Marion E. Bahl, 88 of West Liberty died June 28, 2019. Survived by wife of 65 years, Melvina, and children - Leland Bahl, Deborah Scholes, and Karen Brackett.

Anna Lou (Buerster) Stone, 78 of Sainte Marie died April 29, 2019. Anna Lou was preceded in death by husband, E. R. (Bud) and son, Mark. Surviving are children Diane Houdasheldt, Susan Madlem, Steve, Dave, Julia Turner, John, Michael, and Brenda Womack. Anna Lou was a frequent volunteer and supporter of the Sainte Marie Foundation.

Eugene (Hop) Hartrich, 96 of Sainte Marie died March 23, 2019. He was preceded in death by his wife Maxine (Cunningham) Hartrich. Surviving are several nieces and nephews.

Josephine (Nix) Kapper, 90, of Olney, formerly of West Liberty, died March 25, 2019. Josephine was preceded in death by husband Marion Kapper and son and daughter-in-law Bernard and Judy Kapper. Surviving are children Glenda Weber, Mary Ann Bergbower, Sara Frichtl, and Dennis Kapper.

Florence (Cunningham) Kocher, 86, of Sainte Marie passed February 17, 2019. Surviving are children Connie Meyer, Ken Kocher, Margie Jackson, and Greg Kocher. Her husband, I. D. "Lightning" Kocher preceded her in death.

Eufala (Bowser) Bigard, 90, of Ste. Marie died December 7, 2018. Preceding her in death was husband, Eugene. Surviving are children Sandra Fisher, Margorie Thompson, Ginger Robins, and Deborah Dallman.

Mary Elizabeth Hoecherl, 99 of Sainte Marie died November 26, 2018. Preceding her in death were her parents, Paul and Ruth Hoecherl; sisters Helen Hebenstreit, twin Mildred Hoecherl, and brother Fred Hoecherl.

John Lybarger, 70 of rural Sainte Marie died November 7, 2018. Surviving are his wife of 50 years, Diann, son Jeremy and daughter Traci Lybarger. (See Cork & Pork article concerning a Jeep Run in John's memory.)

Maxine (Cunningham) Hartrich, 94 of Sainte Marie died September 22, 2018. Her husband, Eugene (Hop) Hartrich died 6 months later March 23, 2019. Surviving are several nieces and nephews.

Celeste (Menke) Keller, 105 of Decatur and formerly of Sainte Marie died August 11, 2018. Preceded in death by husband Frank Keller. Surviving are daughters June Zuber and Jean Smith.