



Sainte Marie Foundation News

To celebrate our very special hometown's spring season 2015

Volume 8, Issue 2

Mark your calendars

Sunday, May 3 – Museum open 1-3 p.m. One of your last chances to see the Military Exhibit, which closes on May 31 (open from 11:30 to 1:30 that day). Free.

Saturday, May 23 – **Village-wide Garage Sale** by SM Community Club, 7 – 11 a.m. with food from Sons of American Legion until 1.

Saturday, May 30 – **Workday at Foundation House.** Bring work gloves for outside work. Or prepare to clean and perhaps paint inside. Wear old clothes. Lunch provided.

Sunday, May 31 – Closing reception for Military Exhibit. Museum open 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. with **Ken Stone** talk (2 p.m.) at American Legion followed by a wine and cheese reception. *See details below.*

Monday, June 1 – Workday at Museum to pack up the Military Exhibit and start preparing for the next exhibit (*Amazing Grace: 1837 To Now*) on how churches influenced the history of Sainte Marie. This exhibit will be opened later in the summer.

Saturday, July 25 – **Cork and Pork Festival** at Picquet Park from Noon – 11 p.m. Co-sponsored by the Foundation with Ste. Marie Community Club, Ste. Marie American Legion, Auxiliary and Sons of the American Legion,



Jasper County Pork Producers, *et.al.* Wine, beer, pork, and music! See article below.

Vietnam: An Army Aviator's Perspective

Sunday, May 31, 2015 - 2 p.m. (*Last day for Military Exhibit at the Museum, open from 11:30 – 1:30 p.m.*)

In a joint program with the Foundation, the Ste. Marie American Legion, the Auxiliary and the Sons of the American Legion, former resident **Ken Stone** will talk about his experiences in the Vietnam War. Ken's service in the Army included nine years of active duty, mainly flying army reconnaissance planes. He retired as a "bird colonel" after 20 years of service and went on to become a professor of economics at Iowa State University.

Ken wrote this about his talk and slide show:

On my first tour of duty (1962-1963) in Vietnam, there were very few U.S. troops on hand, and we were viewed primarily as advisers. I flew a twin-engine, turbo-prop airplane called the Mohawk. My unit was the 23d Special Warfare Detachment; our primary duty was to conduct surveillance for the South Vietnam military. We had to carry a Vietnamese observer along with us. We also carried machine guns and rockets that we could fire only when we were fired on first.

My second tour was 1966-1967. I was assigned to the First Infantry Division, operating mainly in the "Iron Triangle", north of Saigon. By this time major U.S. units had arrived, and the enemy was primarily North Vietnamese units rather than the local Viet Cong that we were previously fighting. My primary job was as aircraft commander for the First Infantry Division Commander, Major General John Hay. In so doing, I saw firsthand all the battles we were involved in and heard all the talk among our top military commanders.



On my first tour we were led to believe that we were being sent to stop Communism in South Vietnam. The "Domino Theory", popular at the time, promoted the idea that if South Vietnam fell, then all the surrounding countries would also fall.

About half way through my first tour, I became disillusioned by the indiscriminate nature of insurgent warfare, where the bad guys could hide among civilians who consequently suffered casualties. This rapidly turned the non-committed civilians against us and toward the insurgents.

During my second tour, I soon saw the futility of our ill-conceived strategies. For example, we could conduct a successful operation in an area and instead of then occupying the area, we would pull back and within weeks the bad guys would again control it, and we would have to re-take it.

In summary, I think that the U.S. should not get involved in insurgency wars where we can't tell the good guys from the bad guys.

Ken Stone's 2 p.m. talk will **be at the American Legion Hall, Ste. Marie**, (with wine/cheese reception following talk). Free; donations accepted.

Our Next Exhibit: *Amazing Grace*

The next exhibit will be *Amazing Grace: 1837 To Now*, a look at the role that religion played in the history of our village. We are looking for: group pictures of First Communions, Confirmations, May Crownings, priests and sisters who served at St. Mary's; CYO groups, old statues; religious items; prayer cards...anything related to St. Mary's or St. Valentine's would be welcome. We are also including items from Pilgrim Holiness and the South Bend Church.

If you can help, please contact co-curators **Mike Hartrich, 618-783-8678** or **Donna M. Keller, 618-455-3452**. Or if you have pictures, you may drop them off at the Sainte Marie State Bank. Please include names of people in the pictures, the year (if possible) and who the pictures need to be given back to after they are scanned. If you can scan them yourself (at highest resolution), you may then email them to Donna at rakeller73@gmail.com. If you have any stories to share on the subject, send them to the above email. Items are needed the first week of June (pictures before).



Pix at left: One of the items to be featured in the church exhibit is this sick call set from the late 1800's that was donated by Bonnie Beucherie Jackson. Bonnie's grandmother had the set, but after she died, it languished in a barn for many years before Bonnie rescued it. The wood had been damaged

by water, so Bonnie restored it and added the purple lining inside to replace the damaged interior. Priests would carry this box to homes of sick parishioners. Inside were the candles, crucifix, holy water and holy oil – often used to give “last rites” to the very ill. (Picture by Maxine Calvert)

This exhibit will feature items borrowed from the archives of the **Priests of the Sacred Heart, Hales Corners, WI**, who had a novitiate in Sainte Marie until it closed in 1972. We also have been in contact with the **Ursuline and Dominican** convents whose nuns taught in Sainte Marie. With all of these resources, this will be an incredible exhibit that will run until summer 2016.

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. And **congratulations to Hartrich Meats for the SIX outstanding awards** they recently won for their meat products!

Cork & Pork Festival Saturday, July 25th

Looking for a reason to “Come Home to Sainte Marie”? Why not make plans to come and visit on Saturday, July 25th? This would be a great way to see a lot of people at the same place and have a great time too!



The Sainte Marie Foundation, the Sainte Marie Community Club, the Jasper County Pork

Producers and the American Legion Post 932 family are working together to plan this great community festival that will be held at Picquet Park on Saturday, July 25th from 12 noon until 11 pm.

Local wineries will be offering samples of their wines and will include wine sales by the glass, bottle or case. Delicious pork products will be served by the Jasper County Pork Producers: Pulled Pork Sandwiches, America's Cut Sandwiches and Pork Burgers. There will be live bands playing throughout the day and a beer garden.

For more information or if you would like to help sponsor the event or work a short 2 or 3 hour shift, call **Donna Keller, 618-455-3452** (rakeller73@gmail.com).

The Helpful Little Hands 4-H Club in Sainte Marie will be helping with cleanup the day after the Cork & Pork Festival to earn money for their club. They will also be collecting the cans to recycle to earn money. Thanks to the 4-H Club!

Flower Baskets

The following donors will be listed on huge signs mounted in the old bank windows. We thank you for your assistance with the most popular project that the Foundation offers:

Sponsors

ASL Solutions, Inc.
American Legion Auxiliary Unit #932
BJ's Interior Decorating (Bonnie Jackson)
Borgie Enterprises, Inc.
Sylvia Geltz Brinkoetter
Faltmier Daughters: Janet, Patty and Marlene
Hartrich Meats, Inc.
Hi-Benders, Inc.
HSF Excavating, Inc.
Paul & Carolyn Keller
Peoples State Bank



Mont Eagle Mills, Inc.
State Rep. David Reis & family
Sainte Marie State Bank
Shane's Machine & Welding
Simple Rewards Day Spa & Salon
The Gas Station

In Memory Of

Barthelme's Grocery – from Jim Barthelme
Bud/Evelyn Barthelme – from Margo Regas
Jud/Emma Cameron & Carol Cameron Martin
Hilda M. Dallmier – from the George Dallmier family
Harry & Edith (Shryock) Elie – from Tom, Pat, Nancy, Barbara, Judy & Janet
Denise M. Hahn – from the Hahn family (Kathy, Annette, Karen, Sharon, Jim & Kevin)
Alice Keller – from the Art Keller family
George/Viola Litzelman – from their children
Bernard/Marie Ochs – from all their family
Jerome Maginn Family – from the Maginn children
Rosemary Mullinax - from the Mullinax children
Clarence (Buss)/Nita Wade – from Dorothy/Robert Rumpff & Elizabeth Valbert
Maude/Francis Wagner – from their daughters
William Wait – from Mary K. (Keller) Wait
Frank/Bernadette Zuber – from Sam/Linda Zuber

In Honor Of

All past & present service men & women from our community -
from D.M. Manufacturing II, Inc.
Don/Christine Litzelman – from Jim, Cheryl, Susan & Tony
Mildred Schmidt - from Barbara Martin

News Notes

-**Sue Hunzinger Wheat** has agreed to be the new landscape committee chairperson at the Foundation House, replacing **Annette Reis Lynch** who has served for the past three years. Thanks to Sue, who served on the committee along with **Carolyn Kirts, Patti Buntin, and Madonna Schackmann**. Annette will continue to help where possible. We know the Foundation's gardens will be as beautiful as Sue's own home gardens!



-Congratulations to **Foundation Board secretary Kevin Parker** who was recently appointed a judge of the Fourth Judicial Circuit Court in Illinois. He was most recently the States Attorney in Jasper County, a job he now relinquishes as he takes on the role of judge. Congratulations, Kevin. (And he promises to stay on as a Foundation Board member!)

-Watch for the next **Illinois Tourism** magazine which will feature the opening of our Museum and other SM events.

-We welcome some new residents to Sainte Marie:

Reid Ackerman and his wife bought the Rita Logan house. **Travis Bergbower** bought the Larry Ping house. And **Tyler Hemrich** will take over his great-grandmother Neehah Bogard's house.

Booking the Foundation House

To book the House (weddings, funerals, reunions, overnight stays, etc.) call 618-455-3153.

Transitions

Ruby Dean Frauli, 89. Survived by 7 children, 11 grandchildren and 19 great-grandchildren

Don Bogard, 78, of Robinson. Don was a loyal supporter of the Foundation and occasionally showed up at our workdays. We will miss him.

Oscar Strutner, 94. Survived by wife Marcella (Menke), 6 children, 14 grandchildren, 7 great-grandchildren. Charter member (70 yrs.) of SM American Legion Post #932. Served his country in the United States Army Air Force during World War II - in North Africa, Italy and Sicily.

At the Foundation House



The "chicken house" on the Foundation property is scheduled to be renovated this summer. Last year, we transferred the metal roof that was on the back of the Foundation House to this building, replacing the rusted metal roof. At the same time, our roofing contractor, straightened the building and reinforced some interior walls, making it much sturdier. We hope to have doors like the originals put back on this summer and a new south wall. Hopefully, a new paint job and some replacement siding will make this building much more presentable.

Work Days at the Foundation House

May 30, 9 - 3 – Clean up and paint. Inside and outside work!

June 1, 9 - 3 – Help pack up the Military Exhibit and prepare to return items that have been loaned to us.

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

Thanks to our volunteer mowers –



George Kirts
Jack Thompson
Bill Hartrich
Bob Helregel
Robert Rump
(pix at left)

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 and/or contact Pat Reis patreisprpr@yahoo.com. We reserve the right to edit.

A Conversation with Mike Hartrich

We asked Mike Hartrich what impressed him most about setting up the Military Exhibit at the Museum:

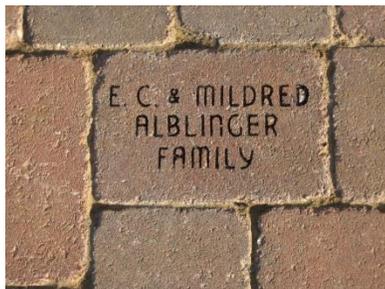
The thing that struck me most is that Ste. Marie veterans have traveled, served, and fought literally all over the world. As the uniforms, artifacts, and memorabilia were brought in, each had a story to go with them. Their stories would have remained untold if these items had not been loaned or donated to the museum for all to see and appreciate.

Grandchildren and great-grandchildren have listened intently as their parents tell the story of what grandpa did while he was serving his country. This display has brought the descendants of Ste. Marie residents back to their roots. We have items donated or loaned to us by grandchildren, nieces and nephews, some of whom had not been back to Ste. Marie for many years. Some items have come back to us from as far away as Texas and Indiana, and as close as Effingham and Olney.

Personally, I have learned so much about the men and women who served their country. These veterans talked very little about their experiences in the military. As a kid growing up, I had no appreciation of what veterans had endured during their service. Seeing their medals and citations, and knowing now where they served and what they were asked to do has given me an appreciation of the great sacrifices that they made.

If you have not yet seen this exhibit, plan to do so within the next month. Remember, the exhibit closes on May 31. If you have a group of family members, we can arrange a special opening for you. Call 618-455-3153 for info.

Mother's and Father's Day or Memorial 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** (At left: A sample engraved-stone) 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 of the words to be engraved (remember 12 characters per line!) to: SMF, PO Box 186, Sainte Marie, IL 62459.

Happy 90th Birthdays

Congratulations to **Lucie Hartrich** and **Leila Rennier** who recently celebrated their 90th birthdays! Good health!!!!

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 *continued*.....

Bonus Pages News Notes

-St. Mary's will have a Sunday mass once again, starting April 10. Father Robert Spriggs, who served in the parish from 1981 – 1986, will be saying masses on Saturdays at 4 and on Sundays at 8. We welcome Father Spriggs back to SM for this weekend duty, as many are pleased to have Sunday mass at St. Mary's back again.

-Did you play the organ/piano at St. Mary's Church at any time in the last 50 years? Were you a vocal or instrumental soloist at the church? We are looking for past musicians and want to know just when you played, if you have any pictures of you performing, and what your favorite hymns were. We are considering a program related to our *Amazing Grace* exhibit that would feature past musicians and their favorite church music. Please e-mail Pat Reis at patreisprpr@yahoo.com with the information.

-Former Sainte Marie resident **Jim Litzelman** played a recital on March 25th at his alma mater, Eastern Illinois University, in Charleston, IL. Dr. Litzelman enjoys a successful career as a pianist, teacher and lecturer. He is a member of the piano faculty at The Catholic University of America in Washington, DC since 1993, serving as director of the graduate piano pedagogy program for ten years. In 2010 he provided a fabulous benefit concert for the Sainte Marie Foundation at St. Mary's Church in the village. We are so proud of him and hope he will provide another wonderful concert for our community in the near future. Thanks to **Glenda Reis Schwartz** who sent us the program from the EIU concert, which she and her brother **Tony Reis** proudly attended, as did Jim's aunts, **Pat Mammoser**, Arthur, IL and **Carolyn Kirts**, SM, along with her daughters **Carla** (visiting from CO) and **Rhonda** (Champaign, IL) and three granddaughters.



Also attending were **Vincent and June Zuber**, Assumption, IL; Jim's mother **Christine Litzelman**, accompanied by a grandson, and other relatives and friends

(Picture: Jim playing at St. Mary's in 2010)

Ochs Family Book Excerpts

We have received permission to publish excerpts from the fine book, *Life in Stringtown: Two Centuries of the Ochs Family*, written and edited by **John and Susan Ochs**, Ann Arbor, MI, with photos from the collection of **Norma Kocher**, Newton, IL. (Available at the Sainte Marie State Bank for \$15) The book traces the ancestors of the Ochs' from their roots in Reinheim, Germany, to today. We especially liked the 18

pages of Section 4 at the back of the book because the many short vignettes on such topics as Funerals, The Religious Life, Soap Making, Hog Butchering Day and others reminded us of the early days of Sainte Marie. Here are two that you might enjoy.

The Angelus, Section 4, p. 2

The heartbeat of any small community in earlier times was the ringing of the church bells and Stringtown was no different. For centuries Catholic tradition held that church bells were to be rung at 6 a.m., at noon, at 6 p.m. and midnight in some urban areas. Part of that custom grew out of the practicality in centuries where few people owned clocks. The church bell often meant, get up, go in for the noon meal, or finish the field work and go start the evening chores. It was also the time when devout families would recite a set of prayers known as ‘the Angelus’. To refresh your memories, it went like this: toll three times, pause....toll three times, pause....toll three times, pause... then ring both bells for a short time. A series of prayers was recited by the faithful as the bells rang.

This centuries-old Catholic custom ceased in the enlightened age following Vatican II in the early 60’s. *Editor’s note: The bells are still rung at St. Mary’s in Ste. Marie. They are on an automated system, and they ring at 6 a.m., noon, and 6 p.m. Many of us still remember **Jud Cameron** ringing them “by hand”. The sound of the Angelus is a welcome sound whenever we visit Sainte Marie.*

Ashes (Section 4, p. 17-18)

With the mention of wood ashes in the previous section (on Soap making), it is important to pause for a moment and recognize that staying alive in early Stringtown involved using virtually everything produced on the farm. That included the massive amount of wood ashes that were generated not only in the heating stove, but [also] the wood cook stove.

Ashes were the primary, perhaps the only source of lye which was used for multiple purposes. Water was strained through ashes and the ‘lye water’ was used as a primary ingredient in soap making. Ashes were blended in hog feed or fed straight to hungry hogs as a wormer before modern day chemical-based wormers. Ashes were used as a melting agent on sidewalks and driveways. They were used in the hog butchering process in the scalding water to make the hair slip during the scraping process. And most commonly they were used in chicken wallowing tubs where chickens deloused themselves throughout the year digging deep into the ashes and fluttering their feathers.

Stringtown farmers treasured and protected their ash supply. The most elaborate system was used by Uncle Gust Ochs. Anyone visiting that historic farm will remember a four-foot high roof....covering what was perhaps an old livestock water tank where ashes were dumped year-round. That structure was located in the barnyard just outside the house yard gate and was the source of questions for many youngsters visiting that farm. Chickens roamed freely there as they did on all farms, and made a daily pass through the ash tank for their daily wallow and delousing.

When the supply became too great, year-old ashes were dumped on the potato patch where they helped break up the heavy clay soils and killed potato bugs and other insects that overwintered in the garden.

While some may question why we went into detail on this subject, it is all part of the overall story of Ochs survival in a wilderness that was ruthless and unforgiving with frigid winters, and blazing hot summers.

(Above excerpts from *The Ochs Family 1700-2013* by John and Susan Ochs, with permission from the authors.)

From your editor

I write this a few days before Easter, and I wish all of you a very Happy Easter. Thanks to the **Community Club** for continuing the tradition of an Easter Egg Hunt in Sainte Marie for the little ones. Mayor **Jack Thompson** and I are talking about starting a Tree Planting Initiative in the community. We have lost so many trees in the past few years, just because many are getting so old, because of an oak tree disease and also because the drought a few years ago was very hard on trees. Watch for further information about how you can get a tree planted on your property, probably in the fall – a good time to plant trees.

Pat Reis, President
Sainte Marie Foundation

Last Chance to order the Military Exhibit DVD

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