



Sainte Marie Foundation News

To celebrate our very special hometown's fall season 2016

Volume 9, Issue 4

What's Happening?

Amazing Grace, the current exhibit, will officially **end on Sunday, December 4th**. If you are available that afternoon, we ask that you come by **after 2:30 p.m. to pick up any items you have loaned us**. The House will close shortly after for several months, as we will be doing some inside renovation and also setting up the Business Exhibit.

Business Exhibit Setup

If all goes well, the Business Exhibit will officially open Sunday, April 2, 2017. Those of you with information about your business (or your ancestors' business), please send information to Donna Keller, 2592N.1800th St., West Liberty, IL 622475 or rakeller73@gmail.com (we prefer e-mail!!). Here are some questions to help you (choose the ones you wish to answer):

1. *Date business was started. Nature of the business?*
2. *What prompted you to start the 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.*

IMPORTANT: Please include your Name (and title, if you have one), the business and its address, your e-mail and phone. Also, include pictures, which will be returned to you. Or if possible, please scan them and e-mail them to Donna Keller rakeller73@gmail.com. Thank you for your help with what we hope will be a great 2017 exhibit.

Salve Regina Program A Smash Hit

Terry Kirts and a group of 10 present and past musicians offered an outstanding program of traditional and contemporary music on Sept. 3, as they explored "two centuries of Catholic music in SM". Sharing their talents were four current accompanists: **Jane Ochs, Miranda Ochs, Julie Thompson Warfel and Terri Zuber**. The choral ensemble included: **Teresa Hoecherl, Amanda Zuber Huber, Terry Kirts, Judy Helregel Millsap, Lynda Zumbahlen Minor, Norma Ochs and Marcia Zumbahlen**.

The church rang with beautiful music, as the audience joined in for such well-known hymns as *Holy God We Praise They Name, Hail Holy Queen*, and *Sing a New Song*. We thank all the musicians who participated in this special program. A reception followed at the Foundation House.



l-r: **Teresa Hoecherl and Judy Helregel Millsap** enjoy the outdoor reception at the Foundation House. Teresa majored in music at EIU and is an organist at Christ the King Catholic Church in Greenup.



Dominican **Sister Ruthanne**, (at left) now in Springfield, loved seeing the *Amazing Grace* exhibit at the Foundation House and meeting with her former students and choir members.

Other former musicians who attended on Sept. 3 were **Mary Lou Fehrenbacher, Annette Reis Lynch and Patricia Reis** – all former organists – as well as guitarist/singer **Rose Gangloff**.

(More pix in the Bonus Pages)



Something You Might Not Know: **Terry Kirts**, who coordinated the Salve Regina Program, is a multi-faceted young man. Besides being a senior lecturer in the Department of English at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis, he is a

contributing editor for food and dining at the magazine, *Indianapolis Monthly*, and his culinary reviews and articles have been published widely in local and national publications. He appears weekly as the “**Foodie on Duty**” on radio station B105.7 discussing the central Indiana food scene. Since 1995, he has been a staff cantor and choral soloist at Saints Peter & Paul Cathedral in Indianapolis, where he has composed the texts for several hymns. In 2015, his lyrics for the choral anthem “The Greater Gifts,” set to music by the Chicago-based composer Paul French, was published by MorningStar Music Publishers. He’s **Ron and Carolyn Kirts’** son.

Cork and Pork Festival A Success!

The 2nd Annual Cork & Pork Festival held on Saturday, July 23rd at Picquet Park in Sainte Marie was a huge success with an estimated 2000 attendees. Neither the heat nor the many other area activities kept attendance down. Profits, which this year totaled \$22,800, are given to local organizations and groups. Thanks to key organizers **Bob and Donna Keller** and son Jason, as well as the Jasper County Pork Producers and many volunteers from local community organization.

The Sainte Marie Foundation received \$4,000.00 for the continuation of their primary missions: preserving the history of Sainte Marie through the Foundation House and Museum and other projects that help the Village.

The 2017 Cork & Pork Festival will be Saturday, July 22. MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!



At left: Setting up the tents on Friday afternoon with help from locals and some of the NCHS football team.

Transitions

-Paul Mullinax, 94. Long time SM resident who with wife, **Rosemary** (deceased 2001), was involved in multiple activities at St. Mary’s as well as other community activities. His photographs of SM buildings are memorable, but the many, many trees he planted (especially the two long rows on the west side of Picquet Park) are a fitting memorial to a man his daughter **Christine** said “stood in for Johnny Appleseed.” Survived by 7 children (including **Gina Fox**, one of the founding Board members of the Sainte Marie Foundation); 7 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren.



-Christopher Gilbert Zuber, 56, along with his beloved grandson, **Austin Zuber, 6**, in a tragic car accident. Survived by parents, **Sam and Linda**, 2 children, 4 grandchildren, and five siblings.

We Get Mail

-From **Katie Keller Wait, CA.** Katie celebrated her 95th birthday this past summer. She remembers having to cross the river from her family home and walking up the muddy, river road east of town with her brother **Art Keller** on their way to school. They would leave their boots by a tree stump near the edge of town while they went to school.



-From **Maureen Kelk, PA.** *I was putting peonies in my Ste. Marie pot this morning and thought I would send the picture to you. Love this pot (from the 175th anniversary). It sits in the center of my kitchen. Flowers always remind me of my grandmother (**Lena Kirts**) and Ste. Marie. Two of my favorite things! Thanks so much for all you do. Love the newsletter! (**Maureen** is the daughter of **Don/Joan Heneberry, PA**)*

-From **Linda Litzelman, MO** (edited)
Ted’s Tavern (submitted for the Business Exhibit)
*Born in 1911, my father, **Ted Litzelman**, loved baseball, especially the Saint Louis Cardinals. When he was 15, he, his brother George, his dad and his uncle traveled to St. Louis for the 1926 World Series where he saw Babe Ruth hit his famous three home runs in one game.*

He and his brother played with the SM baseball league, traveling around to the surrounding towns. Sometime in his late teens or early twenties, he went to Detroit and played with their farm league. Dad was a catcher and unfortunately suffered an injury, causing him to lose a kidney. (Cousins report that they heard stories that he might have had a “promising career.”)

*He returned to SM, and he and his brother-in-law **Art Schwartz** had a dance hall called *The Nighthawk* at the intersection of Routes 130 and 130A (Boos). There he met his future wife **Beulah**, whom he married in 1939. They moved to Martinsville where he ran a tavern and café with a friend.*

*Around 1944, they returned to SM where he eventually opened **Ted’s Tavern** in what was a Ladies Dress Shop owned by his aunts **Rose and Mary Spitzer**. Their shop had been named “Rosemary’s” – combining their two names.*

*I remember **Jud Cameron and George Keller** working for dad as bartenders while he farmed with his brother **Bud** and brother-in-law **August Radke**. On Sundays we would sweep the floors and restock the freezers with drinks. There were always jars of pickled pigs feet and hard boiled eggs sitting on the bar. On occasion, we would get a knock at our door in the middle of the night – someone wanting booze. Often, dad did not answer. He eventually sold the tavern, maybe in the late 60’s.*

(Editor’s Note: Thanks to Linda and others who have submitted information for our Business Exhibit, which will open in 2017)

We Are Grateful

Thanks to the **Ste. Marie Open golfers** who donated over \$580 to the Foundation after their big event this past summer. We soooo appreciate their generosity which helps keep our Foundation thriving each year. These are super guys who give back to their community in so many ways. And we hear that **Elmer Ochs**, one of the major organizers, had a hole-in-one at the event. Congratulations, Elmer.

That same week, we received a very welcome \$500 check from **Mont Eagle Grain Elevators** – a gift that was initiated by the employees at the Sainte Marie location. We are so grateful for your help!

It takes a lot of \$\$ to keep our little organization going, especially with upkeep on the House and the funds we spend on exhibits. So we appreciate any size donation. Our fiscal year ends September 30. We hope you have made your annual donation so that your name will be included in the **Annual Report** (due out in November).

A Nebraska Visitor



A new Picquet showed up in Sainte Marie on July 23-24 for the Hartrich/Picquet reunion – **Philip Picquet** (center above) from Grant, NE “I drove across the country so we (wife Jamie and one of my sons) could see the town where my ancestors settled. “ said Philip, who is a superintendent of a county school district. We were delighted to welcome him “home” and hope he remains in touch. In the picture above, **Philip and his wife Jamie** examine the Amazing Grace exhibit with **Don Alblinger** (on left), president of the the Sainte Marie State Bank. The picture above Phil and Jamie’s heads is a portrait of the Joseph Picquet house, loaned to the Foundation by the **Sonny and Mary Hartrich family** (whose home replaced this stricture and was built with bricks salvaged from the old house).

To Book the Foundation House

Call Ron or Carolyn Kirts 618-455-3153.



idea for others who want a beautiful location for a wedding!

At left: It was a beautiful summer day in Sainte Marie when this tent suddenly appeared at the back of Picquet Park. Seems that a local family had rented it for a wedding officiated by Circuit Judge Kevin Parker, who is one of our Foundation Board members. Just an

Sainte Marie Foundation
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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. Address: SMF, PO Box 186, Sainte Marie, IL 62459.



At left: Pat and Don while on a Foundation Tour at the llama farm at St.-Mary-of-the-Woods, Terre Haute, IN, in late April.

Dear Friends,

*As I was in the midst of writing this newsletter, I received a call that my dear friend, **Don Perille**, had passed, somewhat unexpectedly although he had been ill. Those of you who met him during the past eight years know that he loved coming to Sainte Marie. It was so different from his city and suburban life. He enjoyed talking to SM people and especially loved learning about farming from **Maurice Calvert and Rich Ochs**. He also loved what we were doing at the Foundation House and annually made a large*

contribution in honor of my birthday. He would want me to tell you how much he enjoyed his visits to our hometown, and for sure he would add, "Keep up the good work." I will miss him a lot. Pat Reis, editor



The Foundation House, Summer 2016

Thanks to our volunteer mowers who keep the property looking so nice: **Bill Hartrich, Bob Helregel, George Kirts, Jack Thompson and Robert Rump**, who helps George coordinate the program.

And kudos to **Roger and Sue Wheat** (with help from **Janeth Hartrich and Patty Swisher Buntin**) who meticulously care for the trees, flowers and shrubs. The house looked beautiful this summer, though it needs some paint on the trim and windows. We are so lucky to have this grand old home as a place for people who have left Sainte Marie and need a "home" when they return for a visit. And it has turned out to be a great little museum. Thanks to all who support our efforts to maintain it and to the many volunteers who help keep it going.

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, Fall 2016, *continued*.....



*We were so sad to hear of the death of our beloved friend, **Mary Hartrich**. As an active Sainte Marie advocate, she was a supporter of the Foundation from our first days. Her death occurred after our newsletter copy went to the printer, but we were able to put a longer notice in these Bonus Pages, which are prepared a few days after the paper newsletter is written. Bon voyage, Mary! We loved all you did for your little hometown.*

Mary E. Hartrich, 94

Mary is survived by her four children, **Elisabeth** (Jeff) Thacker, Oblong; **Donald** (Nikki) Hartrich, Moore, MT; **Phyllis** Moraga, Eureka Springs, AR and **Joseph** (Liz) Hartrich, Ashland, OR; 11 grandchildren, 18 great-grandchildren and 4 great-great-grandchildren. Her husband, Lawrence 'Sonny', died in 1993. They resided in Ste. Marie where Sonny co-owned and operated Hartrich Brothers Feed and Grain with his brother Eugene.

Mary was very active in her community; she was a member of St. Mary of the Assumption Catholic Church, where she had served as President of the St. Mary's Altar Society; Ste. Marie American Legion Post #932 Ladies Auxiliary, where she had served as President and the Ste. Marie HEA, where she had served as President. She established a full nursing scholarship at Olney Central College and Lincoln Trail College.

Memorials, as requested by the family, may be sent to the Sainte Marie Foundation and/or the Ste. Marie American Legion Ladies Auxiliary.

Scenes from Around the Village



At left: After 8 a.m. Mass in our beautiful St. Mary of the Assumption church on Sunday, Sept. 4 (Labor Day weekend).



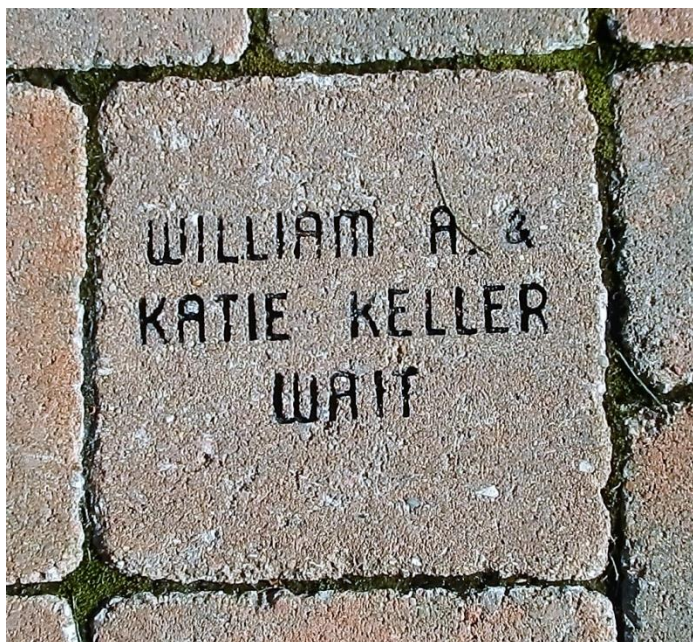
We are pleased to see the improvements made to the old “Bolander House” (at left) which has been vacant for years. Owner **Robbie Alblinger** has put on a new roof, replaced the porch (including those striking pillars), removed the old white siding and made other improvements. He is taking his time, but we applaud Robbie for wanting to save an “old beauty.” This house is just south of the Foundation House. Many of us remember the Hamer and Martha Stone family living there when the children were young.



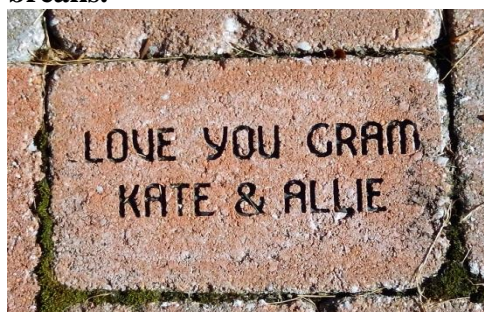
The **Flower Baskets** in late August – such a beautiful way to welcome visitors to the village. The 14 baskets along Main Street make the village quite unique in this part of southeastern Illinois. Thanks to volunteer waterers – **Bob and Tammy Frye, Ron Kirts, Maxine Calvert, and Marie Wagner** – who take weekly assignments to water daily – and sometimes more than daily during extremely hot weather.

And thanks to all who contributed to these baskets. Your names are on lists on the old Bank building – and remain up for the year.

Some Recent Additions To Our Memorial Patio



We are still accepting orders for engraved stones in our memorial patio. What a great holiday gift for someone in your family! It's always a joy to see a family search and find the brick that they dedicated to their loved ones. Two line bricks cost \$200 and four liners cost \$400. Only 12 spaces per line. We do not do engravings during the winter months, but we will hold your order until the spring weather breaks.



A Response to our Request for Memories of Ste. Marie Businesses

From **Jean Barthelme Regas**, Indianapolis, IN

{Editor's note: In our last newsletters, we asked for memories of Ste. Marie businesses. Jean responded with the following notes – and pictures taken in 1974 by her mother, Evelyn Barthelme, which we will use in our Business exhibit opening in spring 2017.}

Below are some memories I have of Ste. Marie as a child of the Main Street businesses south of my house (Florence Kocher's house now).

*I remember a large building that used to be a dance hall (nice hardwood floor), I think. Then Maurice Gowin had what we called a Hammer Mill where he ground feed. Next was a brick store owned by George and Goldie Shedlebower (which eventually became the Hartrich Grocery (about where the Hideout building is now). They had popsicles and little ice cream Dixie cups. Grandpa's store (the **Barthelme** Store (on the NE corner of Main and Embarras, now a parking lot next to the post office) did not. **Lawrence Michl** had the auto repair shop. **Pete Hoffman's** barber shop was next, in the back of the old bank building. Around the corner to the west, **Charlie Curtright** had a tavern in an old grey building, since torn down.*

*I remember the Rosemary Dress shop too (where **HiBenders** is now). Doc and Babe Brown lived in a house next to the **Alblinger and Kirts garage** on the east side of the street. I think Babe also played organ at church as a fill-in at one time.*

*Hope you can get memories for **Mon Spitzer's blacksmith shop** from the Spitzer's. It had a forge and anvil, etc. Very impressive to a child.*

*On Embarras Street, **Blanche Chapman** had her beauty shop in the building west of Grandma Barthelme's house where Doc Brown had had his office before leaving town to take an IL state job.*

***Donnie Alblinger**, my first cousin, and I roamed freely through the bank, and post office. In the back of the post office was the equipment for printing the Ste. Marie Tribune, which was discontinued when the editors went to war (World War I).*

*Above the **Alblinger and Kirts** hardware store was storage and a piano; **John Alblinger**, co-owner, would come upstairs and play. I remember "Oh Johnny" – a popular song he pounded out on the piano.*

Old movies were shown between an old bldg. and the Michal garage on summer Friday nights. "Killer Bats" scared my little brother Teddy so much that I had to sleep with him. Occasionally, a medicine wagon parked in back of the hardware and sold "cure alls". Then a movie was shown by the "medicine man"; we sat on the grass or across the street at Grandma Barthelme's to watch.

*There was the **Saw Mill** in back of Grandma's barn and also an **old Creamery** (along the former railroad tracks) that as kids we wandered though. It was in falling-down condition.*

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More Pictures from the Reception on Sept. 3, 2016



The daughters of **Marcella Menke Strutner** (center, sitting) chat with their cousin, **Janyce Barthelme Rubsam** (standing). Sitting l to r: **Jane Geltz**, **Marcella Strutner** and **Susy Lawler**.



Marcia Zumbahlen, Evanston, IL and one of the musicians who participated in the Salve Regina program, examines the 175th Anniversary Book during the reception on Sept. 3.

A Recent Addition to our Wedding Display

(Below): Ted and Beulah Litzelman (center) at their 1939 wedding. Submitted by their daughter, **Linda Litzelman**.



SPECIAL THANKS to an anonymous donor who bought us a new refrigerator to replace a very old one at the Foundation House. We appreciate your generosity! This new efficient unit should save us some money on our monthly electric bill.