

Spring 2019 Newsletter #14

ECHS Quarter Auction Fundraiser!

Thu., June 13th

At

Mendota Moose Lodge

Doors open at 5:30 Auction begins at 6:30

Bring your quarters and come on out for a fun night and great opportunity to support the Historical Society!



Annual EHS Alumni Meeting



Celebrating the EHS Classes that end in "9"

The Museum will be open for extended hours on Saturday,

June 8th, from 10-5, and our usual hours on Sunday, 12-2 (or
by appt.). We will be having a "Sidewalk Sale" of duplicate
items during that weekend so stop up for a visit and peruse
our stash. No marked prices—just a free will donation to
support the Museum.

MUSEUM

136 S. Ottawa St. P.O. Box 683 Earlville, IL 60518

HOURS

Saturday 10am-2pm Sunday 12pm-2pm CLOSED JAN.-MAR.

Anytime by appointment Call: 815-246-9778 815-985-3763

www.earlvillehistory.org earlville.history@yahoo.com

"Like" us on Facebook!



Meetings

Our meetings are currently being held at 9am on the first Saturday of every month. Next meeting will be Sat. Jun. 1st, at the Museum.

2019 Officers

Pres Rich Goodbred
VP Stan Meloy
Sec Karen Wold
Treas Kris Goodbred

Directors: Bill Mitchell

Larry Maly Sandi Engel



Jack Anderson, Pat Russell, Stan Meloy — installation of pegboard for 2nd floor

Rich Goodbred, Denny Trump, Kenny Gast, Doug and John Corrigan, Larry Maly—new (old) cabinetry for 2nd floor

Don Bomstad—building base for EHS display
Dave Michelsen—donation of vacuum cleaner
ECHS Clean-Up Crew (Robin Orr, Jack Anderson, Larry Maly, Dave Michelsen, Anna
Svendsen, Carol Landers, Karen Wold) Spring clean-up of the Museum

Last, but not least—Larry Maly and Norm Peterson who are at our beckon call for planned (and mostly, unplanned) "honey-do" jobs around the museum.

The Museum could not exist without the help of these and countless other volunteers!



....are always needed and welcomed!

If interested in lending a hand and learning about Earlville please contact us at: earlville.history@yahoo.com

This summer we are thrilled to welcome a couple of student volunteers—Keegan Bottom and Kaelin McNelis to the Museum!!

Calendar of Events



Jun. 1 ECHS Meeting Jun. 8 EHS Alumni

Jun. 13 ECHS Quarter Auction

Jun. 22-23 Community Fest Jul. 6 ECHS Meeting

Aug. 3 ECHS Meeting



Earlville Community Fest

(Previously known as Lionsfest)

Saturday and Sunday June 22-23, 2019

Including Lion's Club
Pork Chop Dinner and Drawdown

Events in the Park

Sunday Morning Breakfast Followed by Ecumenical Service

Come Out and Support Your Community!!

Earlyille Wall Art

Before TV and Social Media businesses had to be creative in advertising their wares. "Wall Art" (painting advertisements on the outside of brick buildings) became a popular way of getting your name in front of the public. Everyone can probably recall seeing faded remnants of ads for Gold Medal Flour or Bull Durham tobacco on the side of a building. These are called "ghost signs", and there is a movement to revitalize these signs in communities across the Midwest. Our own Co-Op elevator has a circular outline of the Gold Medal Flour ad that was once painted there. The south side of the old bowling alley building had both Gold Medal and Bull Durham ads. In addition, several local businesses—Remick's Bakery and Sylvia's Café used the sides of their buildings to advertise their businesses. (see photos on page 4)

Another creative advertiser was Burma Shave. First introduced in 1926, the company used catchy (often humorous) phrases on a series of 6 signs posted along rural roads with the last sign carrying the name of their brushless shaving cream. The signs were placed at a distance apart so that one could read the entire verse while driving (this must have been the origin of "distracted driving"). As the interstate system was developed and speeds increased on all roads, the signs had to be placed father apart for motorists to read. They were eventually removed (1963) when there was less traffic on rural roads.

Did you know....?

Frank Haven Hall from Earlville invented the first successful Braille typewriter (1892)?

Oliver Dennett Grover from Earlville painted the mural on the dome of the Chicago Blackstone Library?

Herbert Orin "Fritz" Crisler from Earlville was the head football coach at the University of Michigan from 1938-1947 with a record of 71-16-3?

Stephen Behel from Earlville played major league baseball for the Milwaukee Brewers and New York Mets in the 1880s? His dad, Jacob, was an ag engineer and invented the "billhook"?

Susan Hoxie Richardson from Earlville founded the first Woman's Suffrage Society in the state of Illinois in 1855 (right here in EARLVILLE!)?

There are plenty more people on this list! We are looking for names of "notable" people with ties to Earlville. Do you know someone who excelled in some way— outside of Earlville or in a way that helped this community? Send your ideas to us at earlville.history@yahoo.com



Some Recent Donations..

EHS Football uniform and memorabilia - Shirley Bauer Family

Cheerleading Skirt and Football memorabilia—John Orr Family

Jewelry box from ALyea Drug Store— Marlyn Hackett

Doll Buggy belonging to Effie Diehl—Rich Goodbred Family

Typewriter (1940) from EHS—June Novak **Pail Heaters**—Ramona Schweiger









Examples of Wall Art in Earlville



(From the Earlville Leader, June 3, 1892)

CYCLONE!

Earlville Visited by Disastrous Storm

If there were any of us who may have predicted that a cyclone would sometime visit our city in all its fury, that dream has been realized, the prophecy fulfilled in last Tuesday's storm. And yet when we say, in exaggeration, for Earlville could not have escaped so luckily had the storm been as disastrous as many localities have in times past been visited with. The weather had ben cloudy and threatening and considerable rain had fallen during the day but no one looked for such a thing as a cyclone. Shortly before five o'clock on the day in question the wind became gusty and fitful and the rain began to pour down in torrents. Suddenly there gathered in the southwest what appeared to be an immense cloud of smoke which moved in an easterly direction toward the Sylvester Cook property south of town, then quicker than lightening changed its course and swept down upon the Catholic church, laying the sheds adjacent to that structure flat to the ground and scattering the boards in every direction, crashing in the windows in the church, sash and all, and taking large patches of shingles off the roof and twisting the church out of shape, but doing scarcely and damage to the inside. The Catholic church stands near the corner of Stilson Ave. and Union Streets and across the street just to the east of the latter street stands the beautiful home of S.S Willard, dentist, which was directly in the path of the cyclone but strange to say was hardly scratched, although boards and debris were carried both sides of it. A small hole was discovered in one pane of glass after the storm had swept by.

The next home east is the old Ustick place and is but a few steps from Mr. Willard's home. The side walk between these places was picked up and crashed through the side of the Ustick house, now occupied by Wm. Whitman, about six feet of it protruding through the siding into the back room of the house.

At this point the cloud seemed to raise for no particular damage was done until Fred Grinder's barn on Ottawa Street was reached. This had just been re-shingled and was substantially built but was picked up like a feather and dropped in a heap a few feet distant being entirely demolished.

Woodsheds and outhouses did not seem to be "init" at all, they just toppled over like an egg when stood on its end, and nearly everyone in that part of town is on an equality in this respect. (continued on Page 6)





CYCLONE Article (continued from Page 5)

One peculiarity of the storm was the fact that a pigeon house elevated on a frail support, but a few feet from the barn which was destroyed, stood the test and was untouched. Just to the side of the barn stood an old corn crib, and this escaped with the loss of the roof. In one of the boards of the crib was a three cornered piece of glass deeply imbedded, and many of the buildings in the path of the storm were plastered up with leaves and branches.

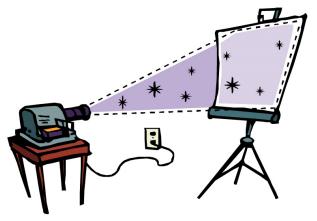
The German Lutheran Church was the next in line, and was considerably damaged. Men were at work decorating the church inside, when the storm swept upon them. The walls were cracked and damaged to quite an extent, and several windows broken. The parsonage, with stands next to the church, received a slight shaking up, breaking a few window lights, and the barn belonging to the place, was somewhat knocked out of shape.

The storm then continued on its way, tearing up small building and trees, until it reached the home of Mrs. Donahue, in the eastern part of town. Here the house was unroofed, and the chimney crashed down through into a bedroom, but fortunately no one was in the room.

The storm was one of great fury. Large trees wee twisted and torn up by the roots, as through they were mere twigs. A remarkable feature of the storm, was that there were several fine residences and other buildings right in the path of the cyclone that escaped untouched. The people of Earlville can congratulate themselves on escaping with so slight damage from a storm that displayed so much force at times, and coming in such a direction as to lay waste the most beautiful part of our city. Fortunately no one was injured but there are several narrow escapes reported.







New Projector and Screen

The Museum has recently purchased a projector and screen making it easier to view pictures and provide presentations at our monthly meetings and other community events. The technology allows us to project websites and files that have been scanned into our laptop computer among many other options. This was made possible by your generous donations and/or memberships!

Earlville Community Historical Society

A Not-For-Profit 501(c)3 Organization

MEMBERSHIP FORM

New Member
Renewal
Membership Type/Dues (after initial payment, dues are collected each Nov/Dec for following year) Individual (\$15.00 per person - annually) Business/Institution (\$50.00 annually) Family (\$30.00 annually) Individual Lifetime (\$150 per person - one-time payment; no annual dues) Business/Institution Lifetime (\$300 – one-time payment; no annual dues)
Member Information
Name(s)
Address
City/State/Zip
Phone Email Address* *To avoid postage costs we would like to send newsletters to your email account.
Do you have a Facebook Account? Yes/No If yes, please "like" our Facebook page by searching for: Earlville Community Historical Society

Send this form and your dues to the following address:

Earlville Community Historical Society Attn: Membership 136 S Ottawa St. PO Box 683 Earlville IL 60518