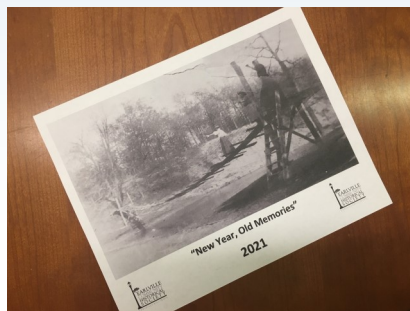


Summer 2020
Newsletter #18

2021 Calendar Sales!!

Within the next month we will be placing our order for the 2021 calendar with more vintage pictures of Earlville. This is our fourth year of publishing the calendar, and it continues to be a great fundraiser for us. This year's calendar will feature photos of local bridges, clubs, farmers, the Centennial celebration, Freedom Township, and, of course, our veterans, old homes, school and much more!



The cost will be the same as last year—\$15 each. If you want to have the calendar(s) mailed there is a \$2 per calendar shipping fee. They make great Christmas gifts. We have sold out in the past, so if you wish to order, don't wait until the last minute!

You can pre-order by email (earlville.history@yahoo.com) as long as you follow-up with a check or money order sent to ECHS, PO Box 683, Earlville, IL 60518. Covid has changed so much for all of us. When the calendars arrive, we will provide an update as to other locations where the calendars can be purchased.

**DUELING PIANO FUNDRAISER
CANCELLED
Due to Covid
Hoping to reschedule in 2021**



MUSEUM

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

HOURS

Saturday 10am-2pm
Sunday 12pm-2pm

**BY APPOINTMENT ONLY
UNTIL FURTHER
NOTICE DUE TO COVID**

Anytime by appointment

Call:

815-246-9778

815-985-3763

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

"Like" us on Facebook!

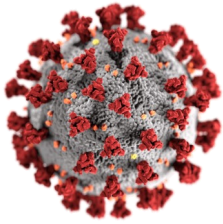


Meetings

**BOARD MEETINGS ONLY
SCHEDULED UNTIL
FURTHER NOTICE DUE TO
COVID**

2020 Officers

Pres	Rich Goodbred
VP	Stan Meloy
Sec	Karen Wold
Treas	Kris Goodbred
Curator	Anna Svendsen
Directors:	Bill Mitchell
	Larry Maly
	Sandi Engel



COVID-19 PANDEMIC

There's no question that the Covid-19 pandemic has affected everyone. It has hit particularly hard in small towns like Earlville. Our small businesses, whether they were considered "essential" or "non-essential" have struggled to stay open. Some have not survived. We know that many of our residents have lost their jobs completely. The Museum is certainly not "essential" but, we too, are facing challenges. Many of our donations and memberships come with events like Alumni and the Classic Car Show which were all cancelled this year. Our main fundraiser, Dueling Pianos, was rescheduled and then cancelled altogether. We have chosen to close our doors (except by appointment) and cancel meetings so as not to put our members (many of which are elderly) at risk. It costs ~\$700+/month to pay for our mortgage, utilities, software licenses and website maintenance. This year we have had some "planned" needed extra expenses—Potters Field monument and repair of the shed roof and floor. We do plan to have our calendar sales this fall which usually nets ~\$1200, but are unsure if the sales will be like in years past. We tell you this knowing that many of you are also struggling to make ends meet. We just ask that, if you have been less-affected by the pandemic, that you consider us with any charitable donations that choose to make this year. Every little bit helps. Thank you and STAY HEALTHY!



DRIVE-IN THEATERS AMIDST THE PANDEMIC!



One of the "not-so-hidden" gems in our community is the Rt. 34 Drive-In Theater. Although the history of drive-in's reaches back to the mid 1930s and 1940s, the real hey-day came in the 1950s when attendance exceeded that of the indoor theaters. Chuck Dyas recognized those changing times when he closed the Lyric Theater downtown and built Dyas' 34 Drive-In in 1954. Nearly every Earlville resident (and many from surrounding towns) has at least one memory of the drive-in whether it be sitting on the hood of the car with your PJs on as a kid, parents bringing the whole family to a show, sitting in the back row with your sweetheart, trying to sneak in without paying or sharing an underage beer with friends (sorry, cannot release my sources for those last two.....)

In 1994 Ron Magnoni purchased the drive-in and has successfully maintained and grown the business since that time. He faced what he thought was his biggest challenge when he was required to purchase a digital projector a few years back. But then, he had never been through a pandemic. Since the business was not considered "essential" the opening was delayed for over a month, and in the outdoor theater business (in Illinois) that is a big part of your income. Finally, on May 15th, restrictions allowed him to open with limited capacity. To complicate matters, many of the big releases were "televised" because of people staying in. However, drive-ins were quickly seen as a great place to "social distance" and still enjoy some entertainment. Pop-up drive-ins were appearing all over the country, and business at our local establishment was booming! Cars line up on Rt. 34 waiting to get in—especially since they are not yet allowed full capacity. 2019 was Magnoni's biggest year since owning the business. This year will be a challenge like it is to all businesses, but we look forward to many more years of being one of only a few successful drive-in theaters in Illinois and in the country. If you're looking for a great night of entertainment, why not buy a ticket and enjoy a night of nostalgia? Even if your normal bedtime is more like 9pm and your experience in the back row with your special lady or man may be different these days, we guarantee you'll have a great time!



- To those of you who have sent additional donations toward the Potters' Field Memorial gravestone, the building project or just to the general fund. We SO appreciate the help—this year especially!
- Jack Anderson for his carpentry skills with our displays areas and donor board
- Larry Maly for coordinating the repairs on the shed
- Bill Mitchell for taking care of our weeds and hauling away debris
- Sandi Engel and Karen Wold for sifting through our family histories for needed information
- Keegan Bottom (our student volunteer) for his help in creating our military log, entering information on Earlville houses and working on a sign for our elevator.

ECHS gratefully acknowledges the generous contribution from the
LYLE & MARION WALD TRUST
We appreciate your support!



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

POTTERS' FIELD MONUMENT

The Covid situation caused a bit of a delay but our monument is finally completed. It is more beautiful than we had anticipated. It is good to know that the persons buried there have been honored in some way. Potters ' Field is located in the far northwest corner of Precinct Cemetery.



Our Most Sincere Sympathies...

The Earlville Community Historical Society lost a good friend and supporter last month. Bruce Carter was one of the founding members of our organization and remained very active until his health began to fail. The Carter family has deep roots in Earlville's history being one of the early families to settle here. Bruce was proud of his heritage and had a magnificent memory of past events well into his 90's. He had a quick wit and great sense of humor. We all enjoyed listening to his interesting stories and all benefited from that historical knowledge that he was able to pass on. We extend our deepest sympathies to Laverle, Jean & Larry, Harold and all of Bruce's family and friends. Rest in peace, Bruce. A long life, "well-lived".

100th Anniversary

Ratification of the 19th Amendment

Earlville's Important Role in Women's Suffrage

Women first became organized in the public protest for equal voting rights in Seneca, NY, in 1848. Most will remember the role that Susan B. Anthony played in that fight for equality when, in 1872, she was arrested, indicted, tried and convicted for voting illegally in New York. She devoted over 50 years of her life to the cause. But, did you know that our little community of Earlville, IL, has a rich history and recognition in the women's suffrage movement in the state of Illinois?



Earlville's story begins in the mid 1850s with **A.J. Grover**. Grover moved to Earlville in 1853. He was a lawyer and, eventually, publisher of the Earlville Transcript, the local newspaper. As an outspoken advocate of women's constitutional rights, he wrote and published an essay (1855) in support of women's equality and specifically the right to vote. After his speech in 1855, A.J. Grover remained politically active. In 1860, he wrote a letter to Republican Presidential Candidate Abraham Lincoln in which he addressed his support for extended political rights. Abraham Lincoln was elected president later that year, but focused his attention more on the abolition of slavery than voting rights for African Americans and women.

This essay by Grover raised awareness in the community, especially with resident, **Susan (Hoxie) Richardson**. Susan (Hoxie) Richardson was born in Adams, MASS, on March 10, 1822. Her mother was Hannah Anthony Hoxie, the Quaker minister of the Friends Society of Adams. She was described as having a "gentleness of spirit, earnest faith and an enthusiasm for helping to better conditions which she felt were not right". Her father was Isaac U. Hoxie, at one time a member of the MASS Legislature. In 1844 she married George Reed Richardson, who also had grown up in Adams. After a honeymoon of a month they started for Illinois in a Conestoga wagon. The Richardsons settled on a farm on the banks of Indian creek at a time when Shabbona, the Indian Chief, was alive. They later moved to a farm northwest of Earlville, which, was sold to Levi Hiscock. Finally, they moved into town and purchased a two-story house on Paw Paw St. (now Ottawa St.). It was in this house that the first meeting of the Woman's Suffrage Association was held. As early as 1850 Richardson had begun to speak publicly upon the injustice of depriving women of the right to vote for those officials who were to make and execute our laws. She was inspired to start the society after hearing the address by A.J. Grover, a male supporter of women's constitutional right to vote. It is also significant that Susan B. Anthony, was her cousin.

Others in the community who shared her passion included **Clara (Darrow) Wiley**. She was the wife of Dr. Samuel Wiley, also an activist for women's suffrage and wrote a paper in 1859 discussing and in support of women's right to vote. Mrs. Wiley was also instrumental in the establishment of the Earlville Library.

(cont. on Pg. 5)

Women's Suffrage (cont. from Page 3)

Octavia (Norton) Grover, wife of A.J. Grover, was also an active member of the suffrage movement as was **Charlotte Harrison**, wife of C.S. Harrison, pastor of the Congregational Church. Harrison's husband, however, was an opponent of the movement. She was elected as the first president of the organization but resigned the position at the same meeting due to this conflict.

When the Civil War began in 1861, interest in the suffrage movement waned. There was renewed interest starting in 1869, and in 1870, **Susan B Anthony** came to Earlville and made an address on suffrage at the Universalist Church. According to the Earlville Gazette, *"Two characters who connected with that meeting stand out prominently in memory, namely, Susan Hoxie Richardson and Clara Wiley; two strong, typical suffragette advocates, not the satirized type of suffragette with short hair, manish clothes, and other assumed masculine attributes, but women whose advocacy did not detract one iota from their femininity nor interfere in least with their duties as wives and mothers; women who could ignore and turn aside the shafts of ridicule aimed at them because of their stance on suffrage. Ridicule is one of the most potent weapons with which to pierce the armor of a cause that has not truth, right and justice on its side. In those days every quill-driving reporter and every penny-A-line paragraph tried his hand at ridiculing the suffrage cause and the supporters of it."* That statement couldn't have been more true. There were harsh criticisms of the movement, and specifically of Grover, in the 1870s. The Earlville Gazette published numerous opinions between Grover and Rev. C.S. Harrison and well as Deacon W.R. Mann, both arguing that the suffrage movement was anti-Christian. This bantering involved name-calling and scathing insults reminiscent of today's political environment :)

In 1891 women were given the right to vote in school board elections. The women of Earlville cast their first ballots in the local school board elections in April of 1892.

THIRTY-SIX LADIES VOTED
for school trustee, and we "glory in their
vot'g" to such an extent that we give
their names as follows:

FIRST PRECINCT.

Mrs. Belle Hoos.....	Mrs. Mary Roath.....
Miss F. M. Perry.....	Mrs. Ellen Miller.....
Mrs. Melvira Carter.....	Mrs. I. A. Wiley.....
Mrs. O. I. Radley.....	Mrs. H. R. Wolcott.....
Mrs. A. Simison.....	Mrs. E. A. Doane.....
Mrs. J. P. Morrow.....	Mrs. Bella Moore.....
Mrs. E. E. Brown.....	Mrs. J. A. Dupree.....
Mrs. N. M. Taylor.....	Mrs. Hattie Wiley.....
Mrs. A. E. Goble.....	Miss Kate Dupree.....
Mrs. R. A. Dodge.....	Mrs. B. A. Dupree.....
Mrs. Clara Wiley.....	Mrs. M. J. Everham.....
Mrs. S. T. Stilson.....	Mrs. A. Chase.....
Mrs. Emma McClure.....	Mrs. N. E. Hunt.....

SECOND PRECINCT.

Mrs. S. B. Walker.....	Mrs. E. Hinsdale.....
Miss F. Burlingame.....	Mrs. K. A. Pool.....
Mrs. Lina M. Pool.....	Mrs. B. W. Tillson.....
Mrs. Eliza Boozel.....	Miss Mabel Tillson.....
Miss B. D. Pool.....	Mrs. C. Edgett.....

In the first precinct the total number of defective ballots was 15, and four of this number were incorrectly marked by the ladies. In the second precinct there were five ballots defective, thus making a total of 20 in both precincts, which were not counted. All things considered this is not a bad showing when we stop to think of how confusing the new manner of voting is to those who have not made it a study.

INSTRUCTIONS.

Below is given a fac-simile of the election ticket you will vote next Tuesday. If you wish to vote a straight party ticket, marking a cross in the circle over that party will do it. If there be one or more candidates you wish to vote for in either of the other parties, simply mark a cross opposite the name in addition to the circle you first marked. Do not scratch out any name under any circumstance, but if you write in a name, place a square and cross opposite it.

<input type="radio"/> REPUBLICAN.	<input type="radio"/> DEMOCRATIC.	<input type="radio"/> PROHIBITION.
<small>For Superior.</small> <input type="checkbox"/> LEVI W. DAVISON	<small>For Superior.</small> <input type="checkbox"/> WARREN H. NORTON	<small>For Superior.</small> <input type="checkbox"/> MANLEY EVERHAM
<small>For Town Clerk.</small> <input type="checkbox"/> HUDSON V. CHASE	<small>For Town Clerk.</small> <input type="checkbox"/> S. D. PHELPS.	<small>For Town Clerk.</small> <input type="checkbox"/> E. D. ROATH
<small>For Assessor.</small> <input type="checkbox"/> HENRY N. ESTES	<small>For Assessor.</small> <input type="checkbox"/> HENRY N. ESTES	<small>For Assessor.</small> <input type="checkbox"/> THOS. D. McCLURE.
<small>For Collector.</small> <input type="checkbox"/> HENRY A. CHASE	<small>For Collector.</small> <input type="checkbox"/> HENRY A. CHASE	<small>For Collector.</small> <input type="checkbox"/> THOMAS B. LITTEK
<small>For Com. of Highways.</small> <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHIE WHITE	<small>For Com. of Highways.</small> <input type="checkbox"/> EDWIN CARTER	<small>For Com. of Highways.</small> <input type="checkbox"/> JOSEPH ALCORN
<small>For School Trustee.</small> <input type="checkbox"/> CHAS. B. WATTS	<small>For School Trustee.</small> <input type="checkbox"/> RICHARD LA BEE	<small>For School Trustee.</small> <input type="checkbox"/>
<small>For Justice Peace.</small> <input type="checkbox"/>	<small>For Justice Peace.</small> <input type="checkbox"/> SOL BUTTERFIELD	<small>For Justice of Peace.</small> <input type="checkbox"/> ELLIS WHITE.
<small>For Constable.</small> <input type="checkbox"/>	<small>For Constable.</small> <input type="checkbox"/> JAS. CANTLIN.	<small>For Constable.</small> <input type="checkbox"/> T. E. KIDNEY.

(Cont. on Pg.6)

Women's Suffrage (cont. from Page 4)

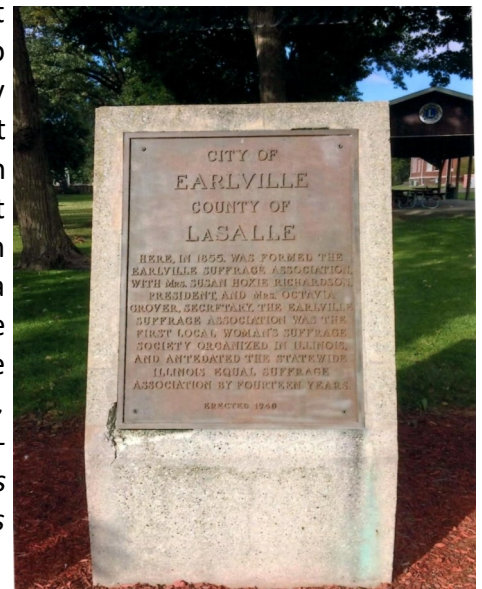
In 1913 a Bill was passed allowing partial suffrage, but voting was limited to presidential and municipal elections. It wasn't until June, 1919 that the 19th amendment (also known as the Susan B. Anthony Amendment) was passed, but because of some problem with the language, was not ratified until August, 1920.

Susan (Hoxie) Richardson died in 1901 at the home of her daughter, Susan A. Radley, in Milwaukee WI where she had made her home after the death of her husband in 1894. She and her husband had three children—Azelia Richardson Hammond (1845-1919), Edward George Richardson (1848-1932) and Susan A. Radley (1856-1923). She is buried in Precinct Cemetery in Earlville.

Clara (Darrow) Wiley died in 1916. She and Dr. Wiley had four sons—Edgar, Willis, Lewis and Frank. At the time of her death she was the oldest continuous resident living in the city for almost 66 years.

A.J. Grover died in 1891 in Kansas. He and his wife, Octavia, had six children.

In the 1930s there was a lot of inquiry and investigation as to the exact location of the house where Susan Richardson lived. The city wanted to affix a memorial plaque to the home for historical purposes. The only information was that the location had been described as "on the east side of the street, directly across from the south end of Dodge Park" in the "Stiquel" house. After much discussion it was finally decided that there would never be enough certainty about the exact house. Finally, in 1940, the Women's Mutual Improvement Club led a fund drive to erect a monument in Dodge Park recognizing Earlville's important role in the suffrage movement. An inscription on the monument located in Dodge Park reads: *"Here, in 1855, was formed the Earlville Suffrage Association, with Susan Hoxie Richardson, President, and Mrs. Octavia Grover, Secretary. The Earlville Suffrage Association was the first local Women's Suffrage society organized in Illinois and antedated the statewide Illinois Equal Suffrage Association by 14 years."*



Museum Improvements



Over the past years we have seen the little shed next door (to the west of the museum building) deteriorate. The roof leaked like a sieve making it unusable for storage, let alone displays. In addition, the floor boards were rotting creating a safety issue. This year we contracted to have the repairs made, and it is SO MUCH BETTER! Our plans are to use the back end of the building for storage and the front for display of farming items and memorabilia. At Christmastime Santa and the kids will be welcomed into a much nicer (and safer) environment during the EBA Christmas Festival.

Remember when....

Dr. A.C. Tillman was a veterinarian in Earlville from 1895-1942. When the new brick school was built in 1900 he bought a portion of the old wooden schoolhouse and moved it to this location on Main St. (between the old DX station and the current post office)



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

Eff. 11/11/2016