

Volume VI...*"Baraboo Wisconsin 1850 to 2010"...***Section I**

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**About Section AAA**  
**The Ringling Brother's Family Tree**

Please note that there is much written about the Ringling Brothers..names, spelling, birth places and dates often disagree. The writer has done his best to be accurate...

**Great Grand-Father Etling** fought with the French Army of Napoleon Bonaparte. Etling had at least two daughters of which the second daughter, Helena would later marry a Frenchman by the name of Nicholas Juliar. Nicholas Juliar was born in 1797 in the Alsatian town of Ostheim on the Rhine. In 1840 the couple, along with their family set of America.

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**Grandfather (Heinrich or Frederich) Rungeling** was born in Dankelshausen, Hanover in 1790 or 1795 and later fought with the English-German Allies in the "Battle of Waterloo" against Napoleon Bonaparte. He married **Rosina Baumann** and died in the 1850's of Cholera after moving to Milwaukee.

**Grandmother Rosina Baumann** married Frederich Rungeling, they had two children, daughter Wilhelmina and a son August. Rosina died a few months after her husband died in the 1850's. Wilhelmina born 1833 in Hannover Germany, married during the 1850's in Milwaukee

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**Father (Heinz August Rungeling or August Frederick Rungeling )** (Father of the Ringling Brothers) was born Nov. 4, 1826 in Hannover, Germany. The modified U sounded like an "i" so shortly after moving to the United States, August had the spelling changed. He and Marie Salome Juliar were married in Milwaukee on Feb. 16, 1852. Father Ringling died February 16, 1898.

**Mother, Marie Salome Juliar** (Mother of the Ringling Brothers) was born in 1833 in Ostheim, near Colmar, Alsace-

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Lorraine. She and August Ringling were married in Milwaukee, Feb 16, 1852. Mother Ringling died in 1907.

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### The following seven boys and one girl were born of Heinz August and Marie Salome Ringling

**Brother Charles August Albrecht** was born December 13, 1852. In December of 1883, he married **Eliza "Lou" Morris**, who was born in 1851 in Pennsylvania and died in 1951(?). She played the role of Snake-Charmer with the circus. The couple had no children and were divorced in 1914. Supposedly she received \$100,000 as a divorce settlement which she used to construct the Morris Hotel which sat high above and looked down upon Mirror Lake. The hotel later burned to the ground. Albrecht or "Al" as he was known had a brown-stone house constructed on the corner of Broadway and Fifth Avenue after moving the old family home off the site. Supposedly this structure cost him \$35,000 plus.

Al. died January 1, 1916 in Baraboo, of Bright's disease. He was the founder and leader of the Ringling Bros. Circus, which grew from a small overland show into the country's largest and most celebrated touring circus.

*Albrecht, known as Al., was the equestrian director and was "Mr. Circus" if anyone was. He loved music, especially grand opera music. This, and his love for the theater, combined to produce those remarkable innovations to the circus, those Ziegfeldian extravaganzas "Jerusalem and the Crusades" and "The Field of the Cloth of Gold" with their Aida and Tannhauser scores.*

**Brother Augustus (Jr.) Gustav (Gus)**...Known as A.G. was born 1854 in Milwaukee(?) and died December 18, 1907 in New Orleans. Augustus and his wife Anna (Herley) Ringling had three daughters, Mattie, Alice and Lorene.

*August Jr., known A.G., joined the circus five years after it started, with the offer of a new department of his own to organize, and the prospect of once again living close to his parents, his brothers and his only sister, Ida. A.G. managed the advance advertising car.*

*He traveled three weeks ahead of the show in Car No. 1, which in deference to his wife, was painted a bright "Hurley green" and named the Irish Mail.*

**Brother George C.** was born in 1856 and died at the early age of 6 months.

1. **Brother William Henry Otto (Otto)** was born in 1858 and never married, therefore no children. Otto died on April 2 or 4, 1911 at the age of 53 at the home of his brother John on Fifth Avenue in Manhattan. They were in New York for a show at Madison Square Garden. Otto's circus shares were divided among his brothers including his brother Henry.

*Otto was the treasurer of the show. A quiet and methodical man, no digit was too small, no sum too large to be carefully husbanded. Had his brothers ever bothered to look at his books they would have found them balanced to the day. He remained a bachelor all his life, reserved and studious, and an indulgent checker player.*

**Brother Alfred Theodore (Alf T.)** was born in 1861 or 1862 or 1863 and died in 1919. Alfred married Adella M. Andrews who was born in 1869 and died 1931. Alf's circus talent was that of a juggler. Alf and Adella had a daughter, Baby Ruth, born and died in 1893. They also had a son, Roland Henry, who was born and died in 1894. Their son Richard who died in 1931 at age 36, married Aubrey Black. Richard and Aubrey had a daughter Marjorie Joan Ringling who married Jacob K. Javits of the Hotel Ambassador Manhattan. Granddaughter Mabel Ringling married Richard Durant, an elephant trainer.

*Alfred T. was a natural for his job as "Superintendent of Press". He loved words and the people who wrote them. His sentimental pen is easily recognized in many of the early route books, and in that masterpiece of invention the "Life Story of the Ringling Brothers".*

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**Brother Johann (John) Nicholas** was born on May 31, 1866. His talents included singing and clowning. John's wife, who he married in Hoboken, New Jersey in 1905, the former Mabel Burton was born 1875 and died in June of 1929 after suffering severe burns when the family boat caught fire on Sarasota Bay. John and Mabel had no children.

John next married Emily Haag Buck, some 20 years his junior. Later, about 1934, John sued Emily for a divorce.

On December 2, 1936, still marking catalogues for possible purchases and planning a circus spectacle called "Golden are the Days of Memory," the boy from McGregor who had become the "King of the American Circus" died of pneumonia, at age 70, in his home on Park Avenue, New York.

*John routed the show and made the railroad contracts. The glamour boy of the family and his Mother's fair-haired boy, he possessed a brilliant mind and was said to have a phenomenal memory. He took naturally to the city ways and early to city living, and limited his Baraboo visits to Christmas and family occasions.*

**Brother Charles Edward (Charley) Ringling** was the fifth son born to German immigrant August Frederick Ringling and Marie Salomê Juliar on December 2, 1863 or 1964 in McGregor, Iowa. He died one day after his 63rd birthday on December 3, 1926 in Sarasota, Florida.

He married Edith Conway when she was 18 years of age in 1887 or 1888. Charles and Edith had a son Robert who was born in 1897 and died in 1950. Robert, who pursued an opera career, married Virginia Sullivan and they had two sons, James and Charles Sullivan. Robert later married Irene Bauerfein.

Charles and Edith also had a daughter Hester Ringling who married Louis Lancaster. Hester and Louis had two children, Stuart and Charles Lancaster. Hester later married teacher, Charles E. Sanford.

*Charles, the smallest member of the family, was in charge of the advertising, and being an enthusiastic showman, he took an active interest in every part of the show. An energetic man, and*

*perhaps, it is said, the sharpest member of the family, he was never known to come out second best in any deal.*

**Brother Henry William George (Henry) Ringling** was born in 1868 or 1869 and died on October 10, 1918. He married Ida Bell Palmer in 1902. Ida was born in 1868 and died in 1966. Henry inherited Otto's shares in the circus.

Henry had a son, Henry Jr. who was born in 1906 and died in 1955. Henry Jr. conducted the Ringling Theater in Baraboo and married Jean Fowler. Jean was born in 1906 and died in 1994. Henry Jr. & Wife Jean had one son Henry Ellsworth Ringling III, born in 1939 and died in 1962 in a car accident just north of Baraboo on County Highway "A"..

*Henry, who was the biggest of the brothers, was born to be "Superintendent of the front door". Neither slippery kids nor city slickers ever got by him. However, his gruffness was only make-believe -- he was a very gentle person, quiet, agreeable and dependable.*

**Sister Ida Loraina Wilhelmina Ringling** was born in 1874 and died in 1950. She was married to Harry Whitestone North, an engineer for C & NW railroad. North was born in 1858 and died in 1921.

Ida and Harry's son, John Ringling North, was born in Baraboo on August 17, 1903. He married Jane Connelly of Connellsville, PA about 1924. In 1927 they separated and were legally divorced a few years later. John later married Germaine Aussey.

In 1909, six years after John was born, Ida's son Henry Whitestone Ringling North came into the world. He married Ada Thornburgh. They had one son John Ringling North II. Henry's second marriage was to Elizabeth Palmer Barnum.

Ida and Harry next had a daughter, Salome, born in 1911 who married Roy Stratton They had a daughter, also Salome. The Strattons were later divorced and Salome married R. L. "Dick"

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Wadsworth. They had two children, Randolph "Ducky" and Salome Wadsworth.

*John Ringling's Great Nephew, Charles Ringling Lancaster?.....*Johnny Ringling married a French woman, Germaine Aussey in Philadelphia on May 11, 1940, separated in 1943.

**About Section B Continued**  
**About winning the County Seat**

**Locating the Country Seat**

The "About Section B" in Volume I talks about the trials and tribulations regarding the placement of the Sauk County seat. Prairie du Sac was the county seat in 1847 and both Baraboo and Reedsburg was being considered for the new placement. A war was on between the two cities...and the shipping of logs down the Baraboo River, through Reedsburg to Baraboo was threatened by the construction of a dam in Reedsburg.

Some new data has surface on Facebook, placed there by **Michael James**. The following is what James wrote.

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**Reedsburg/Baraboo Feud**

The story of the Saw-Log Controversy

During the few years the village of Reedsburg had been in existence, its settlers had been generally prosperous, but it was prosperity at the expense of the Willard boys of Baraboo. From 1844 till 1848 they had rafted their logs from their up-river locations, unobstructed, down to their sawmill in Baraboo. When Reed built his dam at Reedsburg, conditions were suddenly changed. In fact, Reed is said to have confiscated their logs to build his "**Reedsburg Shanty Row**". However, this condition did not cause any serious trouble until the spring of 1851. We will not attempt to shift the blame, for, weighed from modern ideas of

justice, the Willard's were justified in protesting against the dam. It was not an uncommon occurrence for early settlers in logging to cut timber on the vast domain of Uncle Sam without his permission, and before the old gentleman surveyed and sold his lands in that region, there was a wide expanse along the upper waters of the Baraboo River covered with tall and graceful pines.

In cutting and rafting logs from this section, **George and Edward Willard** were most active. It soon became optional upon the part of Mr. Reed for their rafts to pass over his dam. It finally occurred to him that it would be to his best interest to prohibit further operations of this kind. In doing so he would not only prevent the probable destruction of his dam, but in the natural order of things the large number of logs lying in the stream could be purchased for a low price and made into lumber at his mill. But the Willard's insisted upon their rights to pass their logs over the dam; and when **Mr. Reed**, backed by the citizens of Reedsburg, refused them this privilege, they returned to Baraboo for the purpose of mustering a sufficient number of their friends to help them cut the dam and pass the logs through. In the meantime the Reedsburg people dispatched a messenger to Madison for the United States marshal, who they supposed, would seize the logs, which had been cut on government land. They were disappointed, however, when the marshal appeared with a posse and ordered the dam cut right away and the logs released. The marshal gave the order, his men went, cut the dam, and the logs went charging through.

Reedsburg people looked on this action as a step beyond the province of the marshal and they immediately ordered his arrest. **Alfred Leonard, Amos R. Sprague** and **John Kerstetter** had just been elected constables, and they took the United States marshal into custody. An indignation meeting was called at once, and a large crowd soon assembled in Sanford's store, which was conducted by **O. H. Perry**. Inflammatory as well as conciliatory speeches were made; but **E. G. Wheeler** finally convinced the crowd that it would be the height of folly to attempt resistance to United States authority. Some of the villagers, determined that the logs should not go down to their destination, felled trees across the

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river to prevent their progress, which of course made the Baraboo people considerable trouble. But the latter came out ahead. Reedsburg's incense subsided and the marshal's release was forced upon them by a writ of habeas corpus and the affair never came to trial. It is worthy of record that there was no recourse to violence; and although the cutting of the dam was a vital blow to Reedsburg's leading industry; the people bore their misfortune with pioneering fortitude. Mr. Reed had aspired to build a town, but when he had it well under way he had been forced to witness its complete destruction. That is the inglorious story of **Reed's Mill**, 1847-1851.

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Note: George and Edward Willard came to Baraboo in 1844 and made a claim on the river about two miles above the then Baraboo city limits. The proprietary interests of the Willard's soon passed to **Culver & Conkey**, who a year or two later sold out to **Metcalf & Crossman**. For more data, see "*BARABOO Wisconsin...1850 To 2010 Volume II, Trivia Section I*".

**About Section BB Continued**  
**About the Evolution Of local roads including Highway 12**

**Roads in Wisconsin:**  
**1913**

In 1913 it was reported that there were built in the state in 1912: 10 miles of first-class roads (concrete), 165 miles of second-class roads (crushed stone), 54 miles of third-class roads (gravel Macadam), 18 miles of fourth-class roads (shale surfaced), and 472 miles of fifth-class roads (graded but not surfaced) -- a total of 719 miles of roads.

**East Sauk Road**

In Volume I, Section "BB" of "*BARABOO Wisconsin 1850-2010*" we find a description of the early East Sauk Road which ran north & south over the south Bluff at Devil's Lake. It was the main path from Harazsthy (Sauk City) to the area which would later become the village of Baraboo. **Alice Kent Trimpey**,

in her book, "*BECKY, My First Love*", described the early trail as follows. "*It was a long winding road over densely wooded bluffs--- with moss covered purple rocks along the highway. The tall pines, whose branches like flowing robes swept the ground, had all the dignity of some patriarch of old. Beautiful groups of white birches and in some low spot an emerald pool where willows grew. At last at the highest point of the road we caught a glimpse of the prairie--- nothing in heaven is lovelier than Sauk Prairie in June.*"

**New Highway 12 By-Pass**  
**2014-2018**

**(Highway 12 to be moved farther west again.)**

In May of 2014, the following was reported in the Baraboo News Republic. "The reconstruction of Highway 12 (South Boulevard) into the city was under reconstruction".

The summer of 2014 would see the start of the \$85-million construction of a new Highway 12 by-pass. That section of 12 would serve the traffic west of Baraboo from Ski Hi Road to Terry Town Road. The four-lane road would feature an exit into Baraboo at county highway W and another exit into West Baraboo at State Highway 136. Roundabouts supposedly would facilitate both exits.

Along the bypass south of Baraboo, Gasser Road would become an overpass. Lehman and Ski Hi roads would remain full-access intersections at ground level.

In 2018 it is expected that the old highway 12 from county highway W to the "Point of Rocks" would be re-paved.

To the north, Hatchery Road would end in a cul-de-sac with no access to Highway 12.

The old highway 12 from Terry Town Road south to 136 would be renamed County Highway BD. South of that point old highway 12 would be renamed State Highway 136. Also, State Highway 159 south of town (connecting 123 and old highway 12) would be renamed 136.

The state also planned on re-surfacing highway 123 which connects Baraboo to Devil's Lake in 2016. It's possible that

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highway would then become an extension of Baraboo's Walnut Street.

It was expected that the new highway 12 by-pass would be completed in 2018. At that time, the old highway 12 (presently BD) running from Terry Town road to Berkley Boulevard in West Baraboo would be resurfaced.

A roundabout may then be constructed at the intersection of BD and Berkley Boulevard.

The first phase of the new highway 12 west of Baraboo was scheduled to begin in March of 2015. This phase would affect side roads between Terrytown Road north of Baraboo and the "Point of Rocks" near Skillet Creek. Mashuda Contractors of Princeton won the \$23 million contract for this phase.

**About Section BBB Continued**

**About Sauk County Place Names**

<http://www.saukcountyhistory.org/baraboostreetnames.html>

**Camp's Corner**

Fourth and East street junction in Baraboo

**"Climax"**

See Podunk.

**"Manchester"**

On account of an early water power site pumping station, a plat was made and recorded in 1850 as the Village of Manchester, comprising the entire north-east one quarter of Section 1. It was thought at that time that Manchester would at least hold its own with the village of Lyons, which in turn, was competing with Baraboo, but Baraboo apparently out-distanced them all. It was said that the name came from an eastern city...

**"Pecks Prairie"**

This area would be about a mile east of Baraboo on both sides of Highway 33. In 2014 the Luther Farm (previously the Alexander farm) is located here. According to H. E. Cole's book *"Baraboo, and other Place Names in Sauk County"* this prairie was named after **Eben Peck**.

**Podunk!**

**By Bill Schuette**

**June of 2012**

Yes, there really was a town called **Podunk** in Sauk County. If you venture north on Hwy 23, out of LaValle, you'll come to Kalepp Road. A short distance down this dead end road, sits a large building constructed of field stones. It's a long forgotten potato warehouse—the only structure left in Podunk, and was once used by the Reedsburg Hunting Club.

In 1873, when the Chicago and Northwestern railroad came to Sauk County, that location was a stopping point for the trains which picked up farmer's potatoes and lumber.

The word "Podunk" is generally believed to be a Native American name which means "lowland". Many communities named Podunk generally exist in swampy, low lying ground, which is also true of Sauk County's Podunk.

Another deprecation of the word may have come from the sound that a mill wheel makes as it turns around: "po-dunk," "po-dunk," "po-dunk."

This location is noted on an 1878, map of LaValle Township, and is also found on maps dating up to 1955. In C.W. Butterfield's 1880 "History of Sauk County, Wisconsin", he writes: "...still another mill is doing a flourishing business at a switch on the railroad, called Podunk, owned by a Milwaukee man. Large quantities of railroad ties wood and timber are bought here. A store, boarding-house and blacksmith-shop are in operation at this point."

H.E. Cole also made note of Podunk, writing in 1912 about place names in Sauk County.

[Podunk is located on] "A railroad siding between LaValle and Wonewoc." The farmers in the neighborhood called it "**Poor Dickie**" and finally it simmered down to the meaningless word Podunk. The place is sometimes called **Crossman's Crossing**, for a land owner there."

Today, all that remains of this once thriving little community is the old potato warehouse constructed of field stones.

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It's located next to the bed of the old Chicago & Northwestern railroad tracks, now the 400 trail.

Podunk was also known as "Climax".

### **About Section C Continued**

#### **About Baraboo**

The question has surfaced regarding Baraboo being referred to as the "**Gem City**" and how/who/when it happened.

**Edward Geick, Baraboo City Administrator**, found "Gem City" mentioned in a 1907 "Wisconsin State Horticultural Society Annual Report", page 45 and 46. The report speaks of the bland surroundings of the block on which the courthouse site.

*"When the old courthouse was built it stood for years in the center of a lot otherwise vacant, unadorned by lawn or walk, by tree or shrub or flower. The County Board refused time and time again to appropriate a dollar for the embellishment of or care for the grounds. At length the horticulturists in Baraboo took matters into their own hands. They appointed a day for a "Bee" and called for volunteers to fix up the court-house yard. Volunteers came with teams and tool, trees and flowers. They also brought the women folks along and had a picnic dinner. As a result of the day's labor...behold the beautiful trees surrounding our court-house. That horticulturist built better than they knew! Baraboo was not then the beautiful city that we know today but that day they crystallized the thought of what Baraboo should be. As a result of the crystallized thought, the "**Gem City**" of the State."*

Also **Emmalee Hanchek**, a Sauk County Historical Society volunteer found the following:

*"Early boosters called Baraboo the "Gem City," because it was a beautiful town nestled like a gem amidst the surrounding bluffs".*

Regarding the moniker "Gem City", Dina Fishkin wrote in her 5th article of her award winning series titled "**BARABOO...From its Beginning to 1976**" which appeared in the Baraboo News Republic... *Early Baraboo promoters began to use the word "Gem City" as the Swiss who settled on*

*the Prairie of the Sac...likened Baraboo to the jewel-like valleys of Switzerland....*

Found in Early Black Note Book "Early Times and City Directories" ..."Early Days" Section, second page prior to "Outline Sketches of Sauk County" by Canfield page.

However...research finds many businesses in Baraboo using "Gem" in their business titles, some probably prior to the aforementioned.

*Gem City Canning Company (1899); Gem City Bottling Company (1904); Gem City Restaurant and Lunch Room (1906); Gem City Horse Shoeing Co. (1912); Gem Theater (1914); Gem City Transfer line (1915); Gem City Garage (1915); Gem City Dairy (1921); Gem City Filling Station (1922); Gem City Oil Company (1925); Gem City Finance (1935); Gem City Financier Company Co. Inc (1938); Gem City Hotel (1942); Gem City Upholstering (1955); Gem City Candy Company (2003); Gem City Saloon and Eatery (2010).*

### **About Section CC**

#### **About Gollmar Brothers Circus**

Part of the following historic data was published in 1918, *A Standard History of Sauk County Wisconsin*, by an advisory board and President of the Sauk County Historical Society, **Harry Ellsworth Cole**. Also, thanks go to **Peter Shrake** of the **Circus World Museum** for photos and other data.

The Gollmar brothers of Baraboo were known to the home people as blacksmiths, machinists, proprietors and iron manufactories, business men and good citizens; also as owners and promoters of a well known circus in which field they were generally known as outsiders.

Their father, **Gotlieb G. Gollmar** was born in Germany, December 13, 1823, and died in Baraboo, June 5, 1914. Their mother, **Mary Magdeline (Juliar) Gollmar** was born Alsace-Lorraine, July 8, 1829, and died in Baraboo, January 26, 1916. The

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couple was married in Chicago, November 17, 1848 and lived happily for over 67 years.

They moved to Baraboo in 1851 and bought a lot on the corner of Third Avenue and Birch Street where they lived out the rest of their lives. Of a family of 14 sons and daughters the following were deceased at the date of this data (1918)...Sarah, Sarah A., **Jacob (who had an interest in the circus when it was organized)**, Caroline C. Knight, William H. and Lillie M. Foster. Still living in Baraboo at the date mentioned were **Edward T., Charles A., Benjamin F., Fred C., Walter S., Frances Brown and Dr. Arthur H. Gollmar** of Kankakee, Illinois.

The Gollmar brothers were cousins to the more famous Ringling Bros. which prompted them to start their own circus with a moderate sized overland wagon circus in 1891. The first performance was given in Baraboo in May of 1891. On June 1, the show traveled to Mineral Point, Wisconsin for the first road show. Charles A. Gollmar was its manager, Benjamin F. its treasurer, and Fred C. its advance agent, and Walter S. equestrian director. The first season closed on September 26 at Columbus, Wisconsin

The business grew steadily until 1903 when the brothers switched to rail transportation. At its peak, the Baraboo based show used up to 22 rail cars and became a major American circus.

The brothers operated the circus until 1916 when the equipment was sold to **James Patterson** of Paola, Kansas, a well known carnival operator. Also given to Patterson for one year was the use of the title of "*Gollmar Bros. and James Patterson Combined Circus*" for a single season...1917.

For almost five years the title remained dormant. In early 1922 the Gollmar's granted a 5 year lease of their title to **Jerry Mugivan** of the **American Circus Corporation** and became one of four operations run by Mugivan and his partners. In 1922 **Frank Gollmar** rejoined the show to head the advance department however the Gollmar title was shelved in 1923 in an effort to cut back on operational costs. After a brief revival of the title for the 1925 the name was again shelved. It is believed that in 1926 the

lease with Mugivan ended and with it the last circus bearing the Gollmar name.

It should be noted that Fred Gollmar was the grandfather of **Sandy Gollmar Edwards** of Baraboo. Sandy's father was Judge **Robert Gollmar** who, in 1965, chronicled the circus history in a book titled "*My Father Owned a Circus*".

### **About Section DD Hospitals of Baraboo**

#### **St. Mary's-Ringling Hospital and St. Clare Hospital History**

In 1911, Dr. Albert Ochsner, a former Sauk County resident, made a generous offer. He would donate his house and several acres of land to the village of Baraboo if the city and residents could raise \$50,000 for a hospital that could be constructed on the high-land above the upper oxbow where later the Ochsner Park would locate. The offer was withdrawn when only \$15,000 could be raised.

It was March 22, 1922 when Mrs. Alfred Ringling, widow of one of the famous Ringling Circus brothers, offered Father O'Reilly of St. Joseph's Catholic Church, her 25-bedroom mansion on Oak Street as a home for boys. But Father had a different idea ... he wanted to create a hospital for Baraboo. Mrs. Ringling agreed and after six different orders of nuns were contacted, the Franciscan Sisters of St. Mary agreed to the challenge, even though they had opened St. Mary's Hospital in Madison (50 miles down the road) just 10 years earlier.

Father O'Reilly and Baraboo mayor Adolph Andro promised the sisters that the local community would take care of all the remodeling. In a two-day period, they raised \$18,000 of the total cost of \$24,000 to transform the grand home into a working hospital. It opened as St. Mary's Ringling Hospital in 1922.

Through the years the hospital grew to become an integral part of the Baraboo area as well as the main hospital for Sauk County. By the early 1960s however, the Wisconsin Board of Health determined it was no longer feasible to continually remodel or add on to the turn of the century Ringling home.

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In June of 1963, St. Clare Hospital was built on land donated by Mr. & Mrs. Frank Adamske and St. Mary's Ringling Hospital then became a skilled nursing home, later evolving into the northern retirement home for the sisters. Since its opening day on June 25, 1963, St. Clare has continually developed and provided services in response to the health care needs of residents in the Baraboo, Lake Delton, and Wisconsin Dells area, and the more than 1.5 million annual visitors in the area.

Today, St. Clare offers acute care services as well as chemical dependency treatment, occupational health, home health and hospice care; ambulatory care services including day surgery and hemodialysis; and a radiation oncology center. The hospital has the busiest emergency department outside of Madison, WI and offers urgent care services in the Baraboo, Lake Delton and Wisconsin Dells Communities.

St. Clare was one of the initial organizers of the Sauk County Collaboration for Health, a Wisconsin Healthy People 2000 initiative.

St. Clare is a member of SSM Health Care (SSMHC), a St. Louis-based health care system, which is among the 10 largest Catholic health care systems in the United States. Local management authority is vested with an Administrative Council, led by hospital President **Sandy Anderson**. Community leadership is provided to the hospital by a local Advisory Board and member the St. Clare Health Care Foundation.

On Friday June 26, 2015, St. Clare Hospital hosted a reception for departing president, **Sandy Anderson** that attracted dozens of well-wishers. Speakers said Anderson's move to Ministry Health marks a loss for Baraboo's hospital. They said Anderson embodied St. Clare, not only because she-like the hospital - is small yet mighty, but also because she embodied the institutions values. "She personifies the best of SSM," said Damond Boatwright, CEO of the hospital's parent company, SSM Health Care of Wisconsin.

**SSM Health Care of Wisconsin**

A nonprofit corporation called SSM Health Care of Wisconsin encompasses SSMHC (SSM Health Care) holdings in southern Wisconsin. This includes St. Clare Hospital and Health Services in Baraboo; St. Mary's Hospital Medical Center in Madison; and two nursing homes, St. Clare Meadows Care Center in Baraboo and St. Mary's Care Center in Madison.

SSM Health Care of Wisconsin is a single unified focus for all SSM Health Care ministries in Wisconsin. This fairly new arrangement allows work to be accomplished more efficiently and effectively to achieve program and service integration that provides even better care at a lower cost. It also helps the health care facilities to better fulfill their commitment of truly representing the local communities that serve while maintaining the significant advantages of being part of a larger health care system.

### **SSM Health Care 2002**

Founded by the Franciscan Sisters of Mary and based in St. Louis, Missouri, SSM Health Care spans four states - Missouri, Illinois, Wisconsin and Oklahoma. The system has 20 hospitals, three nursing homes, rehab, home care, an information center and a host of additional health-related services. Nearly 5,000 affiliated physicians, 23,000 employees and 5,000 volunteers work together to provide exceptional health care services. In 2002 SSM Health Care became the first health care organization in history to receive the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award, the nation's highest award for quality.

**1208 Oak Street  
St. Mary's Ringling**

**By**

**Carol Sorg**

**Compiler & Doner....August 1998**

**The Manor 1963-1975.....The Convent 1975-1998**

**Dedicated To:**

Volume VI.. "Baraboo Wisconsin 1850 to 2010"... Section I

Sister Mary Paulette, FSM Administrator of the Manor, beloved of residents and staff; respected by volunteers and the Baraboo Community at-large

And

Barbara Naidl, R.N. who served the Hospital, Manor, and Convent for a total of forty-nine years, and is hereby recognized for her devotion to her patients, through her profession.

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St. Mary's Ringling has been a presence in Baraboo since 1922, a hospital (1922-1963), a nursing home (1963-1973), a convent for retired Franciscan Sisters if Mary from 1973 to the present (1998).

1998 is Wisconsin's Sesquicentennial year. The Franciscan Sisters of Mary have been in Wisconsin since 1912 (Madison), and in Baraboo for seventy-six of those one-hundred-fifty years.

The house that gave the hospital, Manor (nursing home), and convent its name of Ringling was a gift, in 1922, to the FSM from Della Ringling, a widow of Circus King, Alf T., one of the five brothers who gave their name of Ringling to the Greatest Show on Earth.

The handsome Ringling house which served, alone, as a hospital until 1945 and then was joined to a fine, three story, brick addition, was raised in 1977. To an entire generation, the brick addition is the only "Ringling" health care facility known.

This booklet has been prepared as a sequel to a St. Mary's Ringling Hospital booklet compiled in 1997; the purpose of this booklet is to record is to record the Manor and Convent years; years of service to the aged and infirm, and to retired Sisters.

Lest we forget...

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The manor Years.....

At 1:30 in the afternoon of Saturday, June 15, 1963, the patients at St. Mary's Ringling Hospital, 103 10th. Street, were transferred to the new St. Clare Hospital at 707 14th Street. Transferred six blocks east and five blocks north. Transferred from a residential area of Baraboo, where St Mary's Ringling had served as a hospital since 1922, to a high point, a former farm site, featuring a stunning view of the Baraboo range, surrounded by open land that soon became desirable residential lots, resulting in a neighborhood.

Since 1960, when a decision was made to build a new hospital to replace St. Mary's Ringling, resident Sisters had been planning a use for the former hospital. A nursing home! A nursing home? As the FSM had been the first to bring professional hospital services to Baraboo, they were now to be the first to provide professional care to aged and infirm patients. Professional care that would exceed nursing service to include social, religious, occupational, physical activities; a concept to cover all the needs of patients who, for the most part, would become residents.

On Saturday, June 15, 1963 nineteen patients remained at St. Mary's Ringling, as did eight Sisters. Thus began the manor Years.

Extensive renovation of the second and third floors of the 1945 Ringling Hospital addition was undertaken, to convert special service rooms, as obstetric, surgical, laboratory departments to resident rooms. A figure with a familiar name was retained to make his third architectural change to St. Mary's Ringling: Lewis Siberz, a Baraboo native, Architect Siberz executed St. Mary's Ringling first enlargement in 1936; designed three story brick addition to its changing needs. Among the enhanced amenities was a large pleasant room on the first floor, enlarged from the existing cafeteria, to create a common dining area for residents, and also serve as a space for social activities. Cost of the remodeling was \$90,000.

The nineteen residents who were the first to be numbered as "Manorites" were housed in the original Ringling-house-

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become-hospital. It was in October, 1964, that a patient first occupied a room in the remodeled brick addition.

**Census** soon increased. The Manor was licensed to house seventy-one residents. Capacity was achieved and maintained. Operation of the Manor averaged \$15-\$17,000 per month. Expenses were seldom met by monthly payments of residents.

Sisters augmented Manor expenses with occasional benefit sales and outright requests for funds which were usually met by an informed public.

Members of the Baraboo community rallied to the needs of the Manor in diverse ways. An advisory board was formed in May of 1964. Board members included:

Helen & Wilbur Deppe	Ruth McGann
Whitney Fullmer	Curt Page Sr.
Robert Greenhalgh	Norman Sauey
John Hoppe	Erma Teelin

Sister Mary Paulette Swoyer, FSM, served as administrator of the manor at its inception and throughout its operational years.

In February of 1965 Church Women United of Baraboo initiated a monthly birthday party for the manor residents. Representatives from Baraboo's many churches included:

Florence Burkman	Lucille Doering
Edria Halbach	Ernestine Hanson
Constance Kauffman	Anna Kramer
Deloris Krueger	Ruth McGann
Nell Rachor	Lillian Schneller
Dorothy Schram	Dorothy Smith

The first birthday party was held February 15, 1965. Such monthly events became a tradition that continued throughout the manor years.

Ruth McGann, board member and active volunteer at the manor, recalls her hours at the Manor as being "pleasant and rewarding". Ruth particularly remembers Sister Paulette's interest in each resident and Sister's awareness of residents who were

seldom visited, urging volunteers to spend time with such lonely ones.

Ruth remarked of Sister Paulette's generosity in recognizing volunteers by hosting luncheons, teas, and/or dinners on their behalf. One such was a pleasant Christmas time dinner on December 2, 1966. Church women United were represented and recognized for the success of their Manor Birthday Project. Manor residents had made table decorations of miniature Christmas trees. Table favors were made by Francis Litscher. Marren Henry, wife of Reverend Archie, Pastor, First United Methodist Church, was the current president of Church Women United. She and Ruth McGann officiated at the dinner.

Ruth remembers that Sister Paulette and staff furnished punch and coffee for the monthly birthday parties; that Lillian Schneller made corsages and boutonnieres for each birthday honoree (the Schneller's were well known for their abundant flower gardens); that Deloris Krueger made diabetic cookies, and that Mildred Dokken reported to the newspaper of the birthday parties. Other birthday treats were furnished by committees representing the churches involved in the project.

A vital service to women residents was provided by a group of beauticians who volunteered their skills. These women included Mildred Koberstein, Jan Kuntz, Myrle Sauey, Avy Schilling, Muriel Wilkinson and Kathryn Zobel. Upon the death of Kathryn Zobel, her co-workers donated a versatile wheel-chair-stretcher to the Manor, in Kathryn's memory.

An exemplar of volunteer endeavor was Mildred Dokken, who devoted countless hours teaching Agnes Swoyer to read. Agnes, a handicapped adult resident, was a sister of Sister M. Paulette.

Regrettably, a complete list of volunteers has not been located. At the risk of unintended omission, following are the names of a few volunteers from among the many:

Agnes Gahagan	Irene Gillem
Vivian Howard	William Hustedt
Leona Kohlmeier	Ethel Mayhew

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Reverend Alan Tripp

According to Virginia Anderson (C.O.T.A.), Reverend Tripp remained faithful and friendly visitor into the convents years. In addition to Reverend Tripp, other local and area ministers were frequent visitors. Through the years a resident priest served the Manor and the convent.

The beneficence of volunteers, named or unnamed, is beyond measure. The gifts of their time and talents were perceived and received as a benediction by all (residents & staff) within the walls of St. Mary's Ringling Manor.

Lucille Doering had a personal reason for being a volunteer. She recalls: "In 1964 my mother had a stroke which made it impossible for me to care for her. She was taken to the Manor where excellent care was given her for five months. Being unable to talk, it was hard to know what she so desperately tried to tell the caregivers. Those who cared for her gave extra time to understand her gestures. As a family, we knew Mother was contented to be at the Manor. The compassionate Sisters and skilled doctors were the pillars that held the manor together. The nurses and aids, with their training and dedication, were "beacons of light" to those in the dark world of pain and confusion."

A full nursing staff of Sisters, R.N.'s, L.P.N.'s, saw to the daily needs of ambulatory, wheelchair bound, and bedfast patients. The daily census of the manor exceeded the census experienced and remembered by St. Mary Ringling Hospital staff. At the Manor there was not the turnover of patients as known from hospital days. The manor concept of nursing care was one of comfort, of helping the patients to be constant, to provide cheer and imbue a sense of "belonging" in new surroundings, delicately avoiding the time-honored nursing care goal of "discharge home". Custodial care, a sometime occurrence in the former hospital, was now routine. Physically, the staff adapted to change. Philosophically adaption required greater change, required seminars, continuing education classes, learning new and different skills; the challenge of professional care of the aged and infirm. A nursing care goal was to keep a resident as ambulatory as possible. Non-ambulatory

residents were encouraged in whatever physical activity he/she could tolerate. Physical activity was a priority; to be increase when possible, to be maintained, at best.

Physicians serving the manor include: D. Conners, F. W. Gissal, K. D. Hannon, R. G. Hansel, C. R. Pearson, and J. T. Siebert.

In the fall of 1967, agents of the state Industrial Commission, who regularly visited and inspected the manor, advised Sister Paulette that regulations required the installation of a sprinkler system in the original Ringling house/hospital (constructed 1898). In 1967, thirty-one ambulatory residents occupied the Ringling section of the manor. (Total Manor census was 74). The cost of installing the sprinkler system was \$25,000. A seemingly insurmountable, unattainable sum! Two organizations in the community responded to the need of the Manor. The association of Retired Persons, with W. F. Donahue as president and spark plug, sponsored a fund drive, with fund seekers conducting a house-to-house solicitation, as well as calling on local businesses. Co-chairmen of solicitation were William Husted and Frank Henry. Each ward in the city had a chairman;

First Ward	Elizabeth Terry
Second Ward	Curt Page
Third Ward	Ida King & Mary Stieve
Fourth Ward	Mary Lu Gavin & Jo Zipsie
Fifth Ward	Frank Adamske
Sixth Ward	Zella Bisch
Seventh Ward	Lloyd Capener
Eighth Ward	Joan Coughlin & Audrey Temple
Ninth Ward	Cora Balthazor
West Baraboo	Doris Bailey

The Baraboo Jaycees sponsored a radio auction which involved members and merchants. The auction was aired from the lobby of the Warren Hotel (Fourth and Oak, with stations WBOO, Baraboo and WRDP, Reedsburg participating. Both fund raising

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efforts were successful and the sprinkling system was installed, prolonging the use of the Ringling house/hospital six more years.

It was during the childhood of her youngest daughter, Tracie that Erma Teelin became a volunteer at the Manor. Tracie often accompanied her mother to the manor. Erma recalls: "The residents enjoyed Tracie and of course she had a wonderful time playing games and visiting. A particular resident was 'Kitty,' who had long, white silky hair that Tracie enjoyed brushing, and whose Irish brogue intrigued Tracie. Kitty, too, was happy to see Tracie. One day when we went to see Kitty, she was no longer in her room. The room was occupied by someone else. Of course Tracie was puzzled. Very softly and gently, Sister Paulette explained to Tracie that Kitty 'had gone with the angels in heaven, and that one day we would see her.' That seemed to ease little Tracie's mind, at the time. She was at an age when death would be difficult to understand.

One Christmas season Tracie was an angel in the Manor pageant which included a photo session and treats following the pageant, all in all a delightful afternoon. We were getting ready to leave when I missed Tracie. Sister Paulette and some of the other Sisters were standing, ready to say 'good-bye,' but not saying a word, just smiling sweetly. I looked for Tracie in nearby rooms, in the foyer, taking a good amount of time to do so, and not finding Tracie! Finally, the truth presented itself. Tracie had crawled under Sister Paulette's habit and hidden herself from all of us! She just didn't want to go home! Guess she decided we wouldn't look there, and she was right! The Sisters enjoyed the humor of the situation, as did others of us." Erma concludes that Tracie is now married and the mother of four, "who enjoy hearing this little tale about their mischievous mother."

In April, 1968, in an effort to augment and enhance community service to the Manor an organization was formed and named Friends of the Manor. Organizers included:

Mildred Dokken	Nita Dippel
John Dwyer	William Hustedt
Erma Luetkens	Erma Teelin

Erma Luetkens proved a fine "Friend of the Manor." At the behest of Sister Paulette, Erma attended the MATC to become a certified occupational therapist assistant (C.C.T.A.). Writing from her home in Australia, in the spring of 1998, Erma reminisced as follows: "I worked at the manor as a nurse's aide, on the third floor, for nine months, with Sister Theodosia and Sister Annella Marie Orf. I admired Sister Theodosia's quiet ways and her devotion to the residents. Sister Annella Marie kept me laughing, which is healthy medicine. It was while I was a nurse's aide that Sister Paulette asked me if I would go to C.O.T.A. training at Madison Area Technical College, Madison. I was reluctant at first because I was happy with what I was doing. Not wanting to disappoint Sister Paulette, I went to school, but I have wondered if I wasn't better at nursing than being a C.O.T.A.? To be a C.O.T.A., one should be an extrovert, and I am an introvert. Nevertheless, I did my best.

I worked six years as a C.O.T.A. During those years many activities were originated and organized for manor residents. The activities succeeded due to cooperation of staff and other employees, for example, Sister Mary Leo Schmaltz, dietary department; a woman of quiet ways and the patience of Job. She always cooperated with my plans for residents to prepare picnic food or make cookies. And...she did so with a smile. A kitchen assistant was Alice Credelich. Alice was conscientious about any and all tasks. She was also generous with her camera, taking pictures and slides at every opportunity. Then she would show the slides for an evening of fun. As a volunteer with Friends of the Manor, Alice visited the Manor after working hours or on a day off, to play cards or take residents on outings. Such outings might include fishing! Alice would be busy with her camera whenever a resident caught a fish. When these slides were shown, the residents would relive the excitement of their catch and the fish stories would begin!

"Teen age volunteers from the Advent Christian Youth Fellowship played games with resident, ran errands, and perked up

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spirits as only the young can do. Volunteers are a valuable asset to any institution.

Festivals and holidays prompted celebrations. Christmas, Easter, Valentine's Day and Halloween involved making decorations; hats for Easter, baskets for Christmas treats, all manner of fun and participation.

"Sister Paulette was invaluable to me. I so appreciated her counsel. She remains special to me. In the fifth year of my employment I received a pin for loyal service. Sister Paulette presented the pin. I still wear that pin, on my suit, with pride.

"In Australia, I have a husband and children I have worked in a nursing home, here (Home for Incurables), I have done some home nursing. I shall cherish memories of the Manor so long as I live." (Erma Luetkens Hill).

Occupational therapy services were an integral part of St. Mary's Ringling Manor. Virginia (Ginny) Anderson has written:

...."After Erma moved to Australia, the department was headed by for a year by Irene Larson, a home economics graduate. At this time I heard through June Hannon that the Manor was looking for a new Activity Director. I was interviewed by Sister Paulette and in the fall of 1970 I attended MATC to acquire an associate degree as a C.O.T.A. Nancy McGann (who had been an Activity Aide under Erma Luetkens), and I ran the department from 1971-1984 with assistance from several aides: Anne Russo C.C.T.A., Vi Radley, Sue Nuttall, and Dianna Wolterstorff. We offered crafts, movies, bowling, R.C.M., outside entertainers, Protestant church services, holiday parties, etc.

It was through the efforts of women as Erma, Alice, Ginny and Nancy, that the lives of residents were happier and more fulfilled. St. Mary's Ringling Manor set an early example of well-founded and well-rounded activities for residents that were proven of emulation.

The year 1972 marked fifty years of service of the FSM in the Baraboo community. That year also marked the centennial of the Order.

In Baraboo, this dual anniversary was celebrated in June. A highlight of the celebration was the presentation of the pageant, With These Hands. The pageant was written and directed by Nita Dippel, and was presented at the Baraboo High School. Members of the cast were twenty-two Sisters from St. Clare Hospital and St. Mary's Ringling Manor. The pageant beautifully and evocatively portrayed the Sisters healing ministry "with these hands."

Late in 1972, Sisters at the manor commenced a community service named FISH, a forerunner of today's "crisis intervention." FISH is not an acronym, but is a well known early symbol of the Christian Church. In 1972, in Baraboo, FISH was a symbol of the Good Samaritan, as it provided telephone access to people in need. Phones at the Manor were manned around the clock. Volunteers from the community as well as Sisters handled calls. Volunteers also provided transportation for callers to out-of-town destinations. FISH responders were resource people, answering calls and referring callers to appropriate sources of help. A steering committee for FISH, activated in October of 1972 included:

Jean Brockley	Jean Carmichael
Phyllis Gee	Louis Krunnfusz
Duane and Ellen Nible	
Mary Carol Solum	Elizabeth Wolkowski
Sister Bridgid	Sister Paulette
Dr. Robert G. Hansel	

FISH was a forerunner of "911" and other recognized emergency resources of the 1990's.

### ADIEU

Late in 1973, in compliance with nursing home regulations of the State of Wisconsin, the FSM relinquished their skilled nursing license and moved all but twenty-six residents to area nursing homes. The remaining residents were assessed as requiring "intermediate care." By September of 1975, intermediate care was also terminated.

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The manor had served the Baraboo community for twelve years. As its predecessor, St. Mary's Ringling Hospital, a need had been seen and filled. The hospital and the Manor were essential providers upon their years of service.

### THE CONVENT

By September 1975, Intermediate Care manor residents had been transferred to other care facilities. The Manor had been a pilot facility, leading private and municipal agencies to recognize and respond to the growing need for health care accommodations for the elderly. Such recognition and response provided a destination for manor residents within Baraboo and beyond.

Again, St. Mary's Ringling changed focus. Forty-one years a hospital; twelve years an elderly-care institution, now to become a retirement home for Sisters (FSM). Again, remodeling and renovation took place. By 1977 the original Ringling house-that-became-a-hospital, was raised. Soon, other remainders of the Ringling era fell: a house on Eleventh Street and the venerable stable were raised to create improved ingress and egress to the property and to enhance the grounds. The Ringling house/hospital site became a beautiful garden, affording much pleasure to convent and neighbor residents. The port-cochere that had been an Oak Street entrance fixture for eighty-nine years was replaced by an attractive brick and glass entry. Renovation of and addition to the first floor of the 1945 brick addition to the hospital left "old-timers" bewildered and confused. Former hospital staff gazed in wonder and perplexity at the enlarged dining area, the spacious, graciously furnished living room (complete with fire-place), and tried to locate--at least in their mind's eye--the site of the former emergency room, nurses dining room (later coffee/gift shop). The rear entry and emergency entrance used by night duty nurses. The familiar was gone. In its place was a pleasant, attractively appointed home. Convent, yes; and comfortable in all aspects.

Franciscan Sisters of Mary now had a choice of a location to spend their retirement years, Baraboo or St. Louis. Many chose Baraboo, some because they had served St. Mary's Ringling

Hospital and/or Manor and desired to return; others because they had family in Wisconsin or an adjoining area; others were attracted by the natural beauty of Baraboo and Sauk County. So, they came...and went. Retired FSM's proved to be mobile, and the convent census fluctuated. Over the years, a roster of Sisters at the convent may have totaled a hundred or more. Fewer Sisters than that were in residence at any given time.

Thirteen FSM are buried in St. Joseph's Cemetery, Baraboo. The earliest burial of a FSM is 1946. The most recent is 1989. Of the thirteen, ten died during residency at the convent. Several of the ten were sisters who had served St. Mary's Ringling Hospital, the Manor and Convent. One...Sister Liquori O'Toole, had come to Baraboo in 1922 when the hospital was opened.

Sister Mary Paulette Swoyer, FSM, who had served the Manor as Administrator, served the Convent as Executive Director from its inception until 1985. Her successor was Sister Aloysius Mary Borst. In 1988 Sister Aloysius was succeeded by Sister Mary Elizabeth Ruppert.

In early convent years, Sisters, as they aged and their health failed, were cared for by a nursing staff. Also, recreational and social activities for all Sisters were directed by staff from the manor days. In July of 1988, however, a decision was reluctantly made by the executive Sisters in St. Louis to terminate the nursing department at St. Mary's Ringling Convent. The census of Sisters/patients at the Baraboo convent did not warrant the cost of a professional staff and other personnel. By September of 1988 six Sisters were transferred, by plane, to the Motherhouse in St. Louis.

Now it is 1998 (When written) and another difficult decision has been made by St. Louis executives. The number of retired Sisters at St. Mary's Ringling Convent is exceeded by the number of staff to operate and maintain the building. It is no longer fiscally feasible to fund the convent.

St. Mary's Ringling Convent will close in September, 1998. Resident Sisters will remove to St. Louis. Sister Elizabeth Ruppert rues the departure. Effervescent, the charismatic, cordial to all,

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Sister has found her decade in Baraboo, at St. Mary's Ringling, "the best ten years of my life."

Departure of the Franciscan Sisters of Mary marks the end of an era. The west half of the 1200 block of Oak Street (from Tenth-to-Eleventh Street) has been the scene of community service since 1922. That service outgrew a mansion, outlasted a Manor and outlived the Convent.

And so they are going...the Franciscan Sisters of Mary. Going from Oak Street, though three served St. Clare Hospital on Fourteenth Street, but it was the Oak Street site that brought the Sisters to Baraboo in 1922, and it is from that site they depart.

Farewell...

### References

<u>Various issues of Baraboo News Republic</u>	1963-1998
<u>The Baraboo Sun</u>	1997-1998
<u>St. Mary's Ringling</u>	1922-1982
By Sister Mary Liquori O'Toole	
<u>Correspondence, Interviews, Recollections</u>	1997-1998
Carol Sorg...Compiler and Donor, Baraboo Wisconsin...August 1998	

### **About Section DDD About Deppe Enterprises**

#### **(Baraboo News Republic)**

In 2014, what had started with a lumber yard launched in 1914 had expanded to include trucking, warehousing, concrete, gravel and waste disposal enterprises over the years. David Deppe, President of the firm, stated that the family was very proud of the long life of the business. David's grandfather, T. R. Deppe started Deppe Lumber Co. on Moore Street, Second generation Wilbur Deppe then joined the business as did third generation David.

Fourth generation Tim Deppe, in 2014 operates Deppe Transit, a trucking firm while Fifth Generation, Willie Deppe joined the team at age 23.

Diversification is one thread running through the family's

history in business. An example is the fact that when Seneca Foods local can production plant needed warehousing space, Deppe Enterprises established Custom Warehouse and Distributing which constructed storage facilities that store billions of cans.

The Deppe family also operated D&D Disposal for 28 years until national firms came on the scene. The family then decided to focus its attention elsewhere. Another thread from the lumber business included fuel oil delivery to long-distance trucking.

David stated that "their history has always had trucks involved". The family business was the contractor that built the roads and railroad tracks at the former Badger Army Ammunition Plant. It also was an active participant in the construction of interstate 90/94 from Lake Delton to Portage.

In 2014 the family business owns several buildings in Baraboo, including the Walnut Street building occupied by Toro and other businesses.

On September 14, 2014, the mayor of Baraboo proclaimed Deppe day in Baraboo.

### **About Section E Continued About the Schools of Baraboo**

The story of the first schools in Baraboo is told in "*Volume I of BARABOO...Wisconsin 1850 to 2010*", *About Section "E"*, which also speaks of future school construction. The following acts to fill some gaps and is a continuation of that article.

#### **Private School**

**Mrs. C. C. Remington** was one of a class of three who received the first diplomas granted by the Milwaukee Female College in 1850. She received a letter from her uncle's brother, **James Flanders**, a retired circuit Methodist minister, saying there was a good opening in Baraboo for a private school advising her to come to Baraboo immediately.

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At that time there was no railroad or roads connecting Milwaukee to Baraboo so **Arthur Flanders** of Milwaukee procured a horse and an open buggy and they headed in the general direction to Baraboo. Neither had been west of Milwaukee so the trip was an adventure. They found themselves lost several times and people of whom they made inquiries were only able to give them some feeble directions to Fort Winnebago, now Portage.

They were only able to find accommodations for the nights at private homes...which at times were low lonesome looking cabins and at times were not friendly.

The trip took four days and nights over long stretches of level prairie, up and down rough wooded hills, through sleepy villages, through bogs and over corduroy roads. They crossed the "Old Wisconsin" by ferry at **Dekorra**, named after an old Indian Chief. The evening of the fourth day found the duo entering Baraboo at **Camp's Corner** (Fourth and East Street) and with tired bodies and thankful hearts, reached the home of Mr. Flanders.

Mrs. Remington opened her school in the Methodist Church at the corner of what would later be Broadway and Fifth Avenue. Remington's first students were **Eliza Chapman**, **Emma Maxwell** (later to become **Mrs. H. H. Potter**) and her five brothers and sisters, three daughters of **Mr. Flanders**, two of **Esq. Davis**, two of **M. C. Waite**, three children of **Mrs. Lucy Perkins**, the Postmistress, **Martha Dartt** (later **Mrs. Martha Maxwell**), **Cornelia Po...?** (later **Mrs. Stanley**) and her little brother **Melvin** who later drowned in the mill race at Maxwell's dam and **Libbie Curry**, later **Mrs. Victor Peck**.

In 1851 Mrs. C. C. Remington purchased some lots on Sixth Street near Oak and had constructed a small school house. Among the ascensions to Remington's school that year were: **Walter** and **Albert Porter**, **A. Tuttle**, **Alfred Anderson**, **Rose Clark** (**Mrs. Morely**) with her brother and sister and **Will** and **Bevie Bassett** (**Mrs. Clark**). **Judge Camp** brought his little son **Arthur**. **George Hiles** from "under the hill" brought his son.

Later, **Ruby Cowles** taught there and still later it was used as a Female Seminary. Finally the building was moved eastward a

few blocks and settled down as a dwelling house

### Facebook Notes

#### German Book Burning WWI

#### Schools & German Text Books being burned

Peter Arndt: I attended a lecture on the "book burning". It has been pretty much verified that it was a senior class prank. German had been cancelled at BHS as a result of budget concerns. The texts were taken from a storage room. This photo has appeared in numerous historical texts. Perhaps at the time it was obviously used for political purposes. **Sandy Koeppe Bader**: My dad's older sister was confirmed at St. John's in German. That would have been about 1925. Dad and his younger sisters got the English version. **Kenneth Barnhart**: I am of the opinion that German immigrants living in Baraboo stopped having German language church services in response to either the First or Second World Wars. Anyone know for sure?

### Coming Together in Baraboo Schools

#### Baraboo News Republic Bicentennial Issue

July 30, 1976

The development of the Baraboo school board began in 1850 when a union school district was created. At that time, a school board was set up, most likely of three members. The reason for the number three is not known, however there is a good possibility that one school board member was chosen from each of the three wards.

### 1850-1870

#### New School, NE corner of First & Oak Street Intersection

In 1850, a larger school house became necessary a two-story frame structure, thirty-five feet square, containing three departments, was erected at the NE corner of the intersection of First and Oak Streets. A popular union system was adopted.

This building served the community for nearly 20 years. There were 273 children in the community, of which 212 attended

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schools. A total amount of \$119.00 was paid in salaries to four man- teachers. \$690.00 was raised by taxation of property.

*In 1861, the Sauk County government became organized and all school districts in the county were numbered and came under county supervision. Baraboo became District Seven.*

### **1870-1906**

#### **Red-Brick School at SE Corner of Second & Oak Streets**

This article shall speak in more detail about the High School located at the SE corner of First & Oak Street. It is a continuation of the article in the original *BARABOO...Wisconsin 1850 to 2010-Volume I...About Section E.*

#### **By Mrs. M. E. Reul**

As the village grew, the need for more commodious quarters became apparent. A new school was constructed on the SE corner of the intersection of Second and Oak Street with an address of 110 Second Street. The excavation was started in April of 1869, and the building was completed in October of 1870 at a cost \$33,000. School started the same day the building was opened. The building could seat 650 more in various rooms. The following August it was decided to organize a free High School. One thousand dollars was appropriated to defray expenses.

The buildings three storied super structure rested on a basement, part of which was finished off into three school rooms. Originally there were three school rooms and the superintendants office on the first floor, three school rooms and a small library on the second floor, an assembly room and a small apartment opening off from it on the third floor. Later the assembly and Room No. 7 on the first floor were partitioned into two rooms each. Such was the building that in the school year, 1888-1889 housed a kindergarten, the upper grades of the common schools and the high school.

At that time the high school was small. Room No. 9 on the first floor provided ample room for its student body. Classes were small. They met in the main room and in the two rooms into which

No. 7 had been divided. However, before June, 1889 the attendance had outgrown the seating capacity of No. 9, an overflow sat in the larger of the two classrooms.

In the fall of 1889 the two lower grades of the high school were moved into room No. 8 across the hall from room No. 9. Although this division of the student body relived the congestion in room No. 9, it unfortunately impaired the unity of school sentiment.

A year later a physics laboratory was installed in the basement and a chemical laboratory on the third floor. Note the convenience: four rooms on the first floor, one on the third floor, one in the basement, and three long halls and stairways between the two laboratories. The famous **Dr. Suessmilch** in 1854 used to trot his patients up and down stairways for health sakes. Surely the science pupils could not have suffered in health.

Baraboo really needed a new building at that time. Attempts were made then and later to get one, but--futile. It almost seemed providential when a defective ventilating shaft obligingly caused the old building to burn down. Fortunately the fine collection of stuffed birds willed to the Baraboo schools by Mr. **Chas. Deininger** of Sauk City had been removed to the city library.

The fall of 1894 brought a welcome change. The physics laboratory was moved to the third floor and the high school acquired the sole use of floors two and three. The working space was now more compact but unfortunately the student body was now quartered. Each high school grade was housed in a class room in charge of an assistant and passed to other class rooms for those recitations not under the supervision of the home teacher. The arrangement had some serious drawbacks. To overcome them the laboratories were moved from the third floor to the second, and the old assembly room with window area was restored.

Thus, after seven years of shifting, the greatest problems of the school were solved, and its welfare greatly promoted. For the first time in its history the high school's students enjoyed a room undisturbed by recitations. Naturally the common home room knit

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the grades together and created common interests. These interests engendered a desirable school spirit, pride and loyalty. This spirit was further fostered by the mass singing in the main rooms. Led by Superintendent J. E. NeCollin's inspiring voice, a good sing invariably put the school into fine fettle.

Expansion in attendance called for expansion of the faculty. During the school year 1888-89, superintendant **W. J. Breir** assisted by **Miss Carrie Baker** and the writer (**M. E. Reul** of this history) carried on school work. In the summer of 1889 Superintendent Brier accepted a call from the River Falls State Normal and Miss Baker joined the faculty of the Madison High School. **L. H. Clark** and **Miss Flora Lawson** were elected to fill the vacancies respectively. In the winter of 1889-90 another assistant was needed. **Miss Emma Gattiker** kindly helped out for the rest of the year. That summer the State Superintendent of schools wanted L. H. Clark for State Inspector of High Schools. E. C. Wiswall was called to fill his space and **Miss Muck** of Whitewater was elected to assist in teaching. In the spring of 1890 the writer was invited to assist in the Madison High School, but two years later was recalled to the home school. That fall, 1894, school opened with **J. E. NeCollins** as superintendant, **Miss Jessie O'Leary** as teacher of English, **Miss Minnie Caldwell** as teacher of mathematics, **Miss Harriet Richardson** as teacher of science and German. A year later **Miss Hutton** was added to the faculty. At the end of the school year Miss Richardson left to get married and Miss Hutton changed her vocation. The school board then elected **Miss Caroline Kimball** as teacher of literature and Miss Jean Cady to continue the work in Latin. Failing health forced Miss Cady to resign in June. Miss Martha Baker was elected to teach Latin and German. The growing interest in athletics called for a man assistant. **Albert Hager** was the man elected. **Jerry Riordan** followed him the next year. In June of 1899 another sweeping change took place in the faculty. J. E. NeCollins went to northern Michigan. Miss O'Leary took the principle ship of the schools at Merrilan, Wisconsin. Miss Caldwell and Miss Kimball married. The school board filled the vacancies thus created by electing **H.**

**Whipple** for superintendent, **Miss Leona Delap** for mathematics, **Miss Katherine Falvey** for literature, and **Miss Elizabeth M. Keech** for English. The following spring, 1900 the writer accepted a call to River Falls State Normal.

And so it went.....To paraphrase Tennyson's lines: Teachers may come, and teachers may go, but the school goes on forever.

*Written by M. E. Reul*

\*\*\*\*\*

The attendance increased and the demand became greater until in the first part of the twentieth century the building was overcrowded and the need for a new school was very evident.

But...before any definite plans had been made, the school building was destroyed by fire on February 9, 1906. The pupils continued their schooling in the City-Hall, Y.M.C.A., the Bacon Building on the NW corner of Ash and Third Streets and some of the churches. It was then that the red-brick school was constructed and served as a Senior High School until 1921 when roomier accommodations were necessary.

*When the city became incorporated in 1882 Baraboo broke away from the county district and developed its own city school district and school board.*

**1906-1928**  
**Annex School**

**By L. A. Nolan**

A temporary school was built about 1906, at approximately 120 Second Street, to house the seventh and eighth grades. This was called the **Annex**, and sometimes referred to as the "Old Yellow Barn". The school structure was set back in the middle of the block, actually it straddled Sanborn Map locations 104 & 105 of First Street, facing north and protruding about halfway into the future east-west alley space. So, one could also contend that the annex was on the south side of the school block facing north. Part of this building was razed in April of 1928 to make way for the

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new Senior High School, which overlapped one corner of the annex. The students of two grades that had to vacate that part of the annex building were transferred to the Y. M. C. A. at the NW corner of Second and Ash Streets and the high school. The remaining two grades were being taught to the tune of carpenter's hammers.

110 Second Street was the north "Annex" entrance to the red-brick **High School** that was built in 1907 and fronted on Oak Street. By 1929 the new Senior high School was completed on Ash Street and the redbrick school on Oak became the **Junior High School** for seventh, eighth and Ninth grades. The razing of the old junior high school began the week of June 11, 1977. For more details on the construction of the junior high school see Oak Street, 100 block.

### **Annex only Temporary but used 20 Years**

The Annex School Building was a four room structure built in 1906. It housed the seventh and eighth grades of the city. Baraboo, at that time, was divided into three wards and had a school in each ward for the lower grades. The intention was that the annex would be used until the red-brick building was completed. Instead it was used over twenty years.

The city owned fifty feet of frontage on Second Street between Oak and Ash Streets which ran through (south) to First Street. It was here that a temporary building was constructed and called the Annex.

It was an odd name for the building as it was not attached to any other building. When the wind blew hard, those inside the building wished that it was connected to something. That may have been the reason??

The style of architecture was an enlarged version of an English stable. This class of building was very popular in back yards during at the turn of the century. To give it the proper setting, it was placed back from the street about half a block. This was so it would nestle between the red brick building and Peck's barn. A straight walk, twelve feet wide connected it with the walk on Second Street. The landscape was a well-diggers dream. It was

devoid of trees, shrubs, or plants of any kind. The ground sloped gently from all directions toward the building.

There was not any thought given for room for recreation. The lighting consisted of two naked bulbs, dropped from the ceiling. The thought of ever having 20-20 vision after two years here was very questionable.

Readers who were forced to attend classes here may recall many experiences of their own. Records of the dedication of this building were not kept or have not been preserved.

A flag for each room, blotters for the teacher's desks, and sundry, were not covered in the appropriation for the school. Times have not changed a great deal, for it was decided that the best way to raise the money needed, was to serve a pancake dinner. The use of a local hall was donated. The names of the speakers of the evening were not recorded. The high light of the evening is a story of one, forgettable male, seated at the first table. This story is still told in many variations and enlarged upon. When all were seated and the first table served, this instructor, waved to those assembled, scratched the pancakes and proceeded to pour syrup over his head.

A committee of some of the most respected citizens was called on to make a final inspection. Their findings brought up the old controversial question of church and state. The object that caused the controversy was the staircase. While the committee agreed in principal as a whole, they had two variations. One faction thought the stair case to be a replica of Holy Hill, while the other faction figured that the steps so steep and narrow must have some connection with the golden steps that lead to the pearly gates. They brought out the fact that the least trip one might have would cause one to descend below. A second meeting was called, and it was decided that the Biblical construction was unintentional and probably was not any greater mistake, than the rest of the building.

One should not think or write of the Annex without giving special praise to the devoted teachers of that time. Picture them as young girls, full of ambition, and filled with desire to prove there selves worthy of advancement. Let us dwell on the thought of these teachers, who won a life sentence, by making an application for a

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temporary position. By the time of the termination of their assignment, they were wrecked with arthritis. This was brought on by prolonged walking and standing on the warped and unlevel floors of the Annex. They did not stay on as martyrs to the cause, and were replaced by others who made a lasting impression.

One teacher never to be forgotten could make the milk of kindness as she spoke, but managed to coat it with the oil of sarcasm before she was through. The number of her friends would make a hermit happy. She was known as Miss Personality.

The red hair of one of the teachers would blend with that on the flag which stood at the side of her desk. When the wind blew, the windows would rattle, the flag unfurl, and her hair would flutter. She was spoken of as Miss America.

The physiology classes of the four rooms were taught by one instructor. On one occasion they assembled in the gym of the red brick building so that they might study together, and form a more realistic idea of the human body. A human skeleton was on display. After a half hour lecture a test was given. The pupils were told to describe their impression of the study in no less than a hundred words.

The next day the teachers returned the test papers, and said that she was proud of the class with one exception. "There is a dreamer among us" she said, "I hope that when he falls off cloud nine, he is not seriously injured.

During detention hour the Dreamer's Dream was retrieved from the waste basket. Today he would get credit for being original.

### "Bones"

Do not hang that skeleton on the wall,  
Though its bones are tied together,  
Let him down lest he should fall,  
His neck and jaws are hinged with leather.

What a big brute he must have been,  
Over six feet, with heavy bone,  
Perhaps the envy of his fellow men,

Now on display, but all alone.

Try to leave a mark upon the stones,  
Never doubting that one is able  
It is wiser to leave a bag of bones,  
Like those you see upon the table.

Lesser men's names, one can recall,  
Their deeds impressed on sands of time,  
Many smaller, and not so tall,  
Leave us more than just the lime.

Still this fellow, one can shake,  
Without disturbing his family tree.  
One should leave more than what they take,  
The greatest things in life are free.

The custodian was a jovial man who believed combining a certain amount of horse play along with his work. He was an ardent jockey. His humor did not always meet with the teacher's approval, but it did help them forget their shabby surroundings. He had a cabinet desk in the lower hall where he sold school supplies to the forgetful. He was very busy. Over his desk was a large sign huge which read:

Loiter not upon the trestle,  
The train is just around the bend.  
Your future is on the other side,  
This place is not the end.

He took delight in adding to the assignments on the blackboards. One problem he added as number 11, with a notation that it would count to forty.

### Number 11

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If it takes six sticks of dynamite to blow a certain size stump ten feet in the air, how many sticks would it take to blow the Annex over Peck's barn, removing the doors and breaking the windows to reduce the pressure?

We did not have a baseball, football or basketball team. Wrestling was frowned on, and discouraged, but it was practiced from Second Street to the cloak room, anytime the pupils were called to, or dismissed from class. There were not any prizes given other than the extra hours that the contestants had to spend after school.

Our track team was not as they are known today. One did not have to be fleet of foot to be chosen. Anyone who was shoved off the walk onto the lawn, which was mire most of the time, became a member for that day. A teacher stood at the door to check our credentials. The reward was a chance to clean the floors after school.

Peck's Donkeys, which he used for delivery purposes, were stabled on the other side of the alley. They used to join in when we had singing and often broke up the silence of the class room with a solo or quartet number of their own.

The annex should have never been torn down, but should have been preserved as a shrine for those who suffered here. For future generations of pupils and teachers, it could have been used as a place to gather when they felt sorry for themselves.

NO CANNON ROARED ON DISTANT HILLS,  
NO BUGLE BLEW ITS GLORY,  
AS THE OLD ANNEX CAME TUMBLING DOWN,  
IT BROUGHT AN END TO MY STORY.

Written by L. A. Nolan

**1927-1929**

### **Yellow-Brick High School, 311 Ash Street (Continued)**

This article shall speak in more detail about the "Yellow-Brick" Senior High School located at 311 Ash Street. It is a

continuation of the article in the original *BARABOO...Wisconsin 1850 to 2010-Volume I...About Section E.*

Following the war in 1920, throughout the entire country there was a tremendous increase in high-school applicants. Baraboo was not exempt from this wave and by 1920 the red-brick school house on the corner of Oak & Second Streets was totally inadequate.

The Board of Education made an appeal to the tax-payers for a new school. A bond issue of \$210,000 was asked. Of this amount \$165,000 was to be devoted to the construction of the building and \$35,000 would be used for the purchase of land. The plan was rejected 693-1022. The solution to over-crowding had been rejected.

In 1927 the Board asked that another referendum be held asking for \$225,000 for a new Senior High School. The referendum was held on April 5, 1927. Approval was made by a vote of 1114-363.

In choosing a site, the Board hit upon an ideal location. The proximity of the new school could be close enough to the red-brick Junior-High structure to share a single heating system. Construction began in the fall of 1927 and the building was ready for occupancy in May of 1929.

When the new Sr. High School was constructed on Ash Street, it was decided to connect it with the Jr. High School on Oak Street with a tunnel. Eighty-Four years later this tunnel has brought back fond memories as discussed on Facebook.

### **Building Details**

Books would no longer be stored in the student's desk, but in steel lockers built into the walls on the first and second floor corridors. These two-person lockers would also afford room for the students to place their wraps.

The assembly room as a place to study was eliminated and would be done in home-rooms or study-halls. Adjacent to the study-halls was the library that would accommodate 45 students.

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Shelves for 4,000 books were constructed as well as ample magazine and newspaper racks.

The smallest class-rooms would hold twenty; the largest thirty. Each room had a special heating system that would introduce a change of air at the rate of several times an hour.

The assembly-room was located on the second floor with a capacity of five hundred and fifty. The stage was fully equipped including a large modern theatrical switch board that would allow special lighting effects. Above and at the rear of the hall was a fireproof "moving-picture" booth with a telephone connection to the stage.

There were three laboratories in the building--chemistry, physics and biology. At the basement level, there was a small greenhouse at the south end of the building where research in botany could be conducted under ideal conditions.

The gymnasium was one of the features which garnered the most pride. The playing floor was of regulation size, 90 X 46 feet. Permanent bleachers on the west side would accommodate seven hundred spectators and by using the gym floor it was possible to seat twenty-five hundred spectators. Lockers and showers were located under the bleachers. The gymnasium extended out beyond the rest of the building and it was said that its roof could be used as a play-area.

Thanks were extended to principle Kingsford whose nineteen years of service was most fittingly crowned by this accomplishment and to the members of the Board of Education, **Mr. E. P. McFetridge, Mr. Oscar Altpeter, Mr. W. G. Evenson, and Mrs. James H. Hill**, to whose ability and patience during the construction, this building was a tribute.

Originally school board members were appointed by the mayor, but in 1931, the board was elected by popular vote of Baraboo citizens for the first time. By this time the board had five members.

In 1961 and 1962 the Baraboo School District became a joint city district to include about 154 square miles surrounding Baraboo.

Until this time, Lyons (West Baraboo) and townships in the Baraboo area were required to pay tuition for their students attending the Baraboo High School.

To provide representation for the outlying districts, two school board members were added and a stipulation that at least two board members must always be from out of the Baraboo city limits.

### **Schools up-dated**

West School replaced the First Ward School in 1951 at a cost of \$261,370; East School was built in 1954 at a cost of \$372,998 and South School in 1956 costing \$320,555.

Not yet part of the Baraboo School District, Pleasant Valley School was built in 1956 for \$56,444 and Fairfield Center School in 1960 for \$93,889.

The only other grade school not built in the last three decades and still in use in 1976 was the North Freedom School built in 1902 and valued at \$147,000.

### **New Senior High School**

In September of 1960 members of the City Council in regular session took the necessary steps to authorize a referendum on the matter of a site for the new school, to be submitted to the voters at the election, November 8. The referendum would read, "At which one of the following sites shall the proposed new high school be constructed...maybe "East (or Hyer)", "West (or Draper)", "present site" or "site next to armory".

Baraboo went to the polls in November of 1960 and cast votes which favored the Broadway site for its new high school. Second place winner was the Draper site, third place winner the Hyer site, with a scattling vote for the present site and the South Boulevard location known as the armory site. The school board and city council will ultimately make the final decision.

The attorney general's office had recently replied to an inquiry and stated that "there is no law that states you cannot build a school in the vicinity of a jail.

In 1961, the Senior High School, located on Draper Street,

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was built at a cost of \$1,719,278. In that year and 1962, the city and surrounding schools merged into a joint city school district.

The newest elementary school in the system, Gordon Willson, was erected in 1970 at a cost of \$456,000.

By 1979 a new school building was located on the far northwest side of Baraboo and the building at 311 Ash Street was converted to a civic center.

In June of 2015, the Baraboo News Republic reported that an office demolition was complete at the High School, with parking lot and roofing work continuing.

### **GLW Elementary School Expansion 1986**

Groundbreaking for the school expansion took place on the north lawn of the GLW elementary school. This school will undergo the largest change, a remodeling of the interior including four traditional class rooms and a new wing which will house another 12 rooms. There would be some changes also to other Baraboo district schools.

### **East Elementary School Expansion 2015**

In June of 2015, the Baraboo News Republic reported that a steel framework that would house a new library and media center was recently erected at the East Elementary School

### **Jack Young Middle School 2015**

In June of 2015, the Baraboo News Republic reported that a new science, technology, engineering and math classroom at Jack Young Middle School was coming together.

### **About Section EE Haskin Triplets**

#### **THE HASKIN TRIPLETS**

Three little boys were born May 24, 1861 to **Postmaster and Mrs. Leonard Haskins** of South Starksboro, Vermont. The

family being of English descent was happy that the triplets were born on the 54th birthday anniversary of Queen Victoria of England.

The birth of living triplets at that time was a rather rare event and it had to take much careful planning to select suitable names for them.

So...after much thought, it was decided to write to President Lincoln and ask him to name the triplets. The president replied by instructing his secretary that he wished the boys to be named after himself and two of his cabinet members. Thus, the boys were named "**Abraham Lincoln Haskins**...after the President", "**Gideon Welles Haskins**...after the Secretary of the Navy", and "**Simon Cameron Haskins**...after the Secretary of War". A personal handwritten note by the President accompanied the letter. A photo-static copy is prized by the family of the triplets.

Two of the triplets weighed three and a half pounds at birth and the other just three pounds. Two of them were identical, blue-eyed with fair hair while the third had brown eyes and dark hair. The identical twins were lively and full of mischief while the other was quite and thoughtful

The dark-eyed triplet was often lonely and was given to imbibing. He tried marriage three times and not until his third did he find peace and contentment. The other two brothers found wives in Wisconsin and both raised large families.

The English strain was very pronounced in the family and they were all very proud of their ancestry. Their great-grandfather was born and raised in London and came to the United States where he settled and raised his family.

### **Reply to Simon Cameron by Leonard Haskins**

Starksboro, VT. November 4th, 1861  
Hon. Simon Cameron  
Secretary of War

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Dear Sir;

Your favour of the 19th of September last has come to hand, and in reply to same, say that I have concluded to name the boys according to your suggestions, and in doing so I shall not only be constantly reminded of the great and momentous struggle which the loyal citizens of this Republic are having to put down treason and rebellion, but also the noble and praiseworthy part of the President and his coworkers, the Secretary of the navy and yourself in this struggle.

May the God of battles aid your effort in restoring peace to our beloved country, so that hence forward through all coming time, it shall be the land of the free and the home of the brave.

Very respectfully yours;  
Leonard Haskins

### More on the Haskins' Family

**James Haskins** was born in New Hampshire in 1784. He was not known around Huntington or Starksboro or any other towns in the area of Huntington until September 6, 1815, when he was known as purchasing land in Huntington for \$275 from **Henry and Silas Hodges** of Clarendon & **George F. Hodges** of Rutland. At that time James was "of Huntington".

James Haskins was in the war of 1812 and served in the battle of Plattsburg in 1814, so he must have been in Vermont at that time. The roster of the war of 1812 lists James Haskins as a Corporal in Captain Willson's Company (Col. Wm. Williams' regiment) on detached militia in the U.S. Service for three months, eleven days in 1812. He also served in the Third Regiment (Tyler's) Vermont Militia.

Strangely, there is no death record for James, though there is a grave registration card which says he was buried in Huntington

Gore, Chittenden County, but gives no date. He does not appear in the 1860 census but probably was living in New York as he applied for bounty land on January 4, 1859 when he was a resident of Ellenburg, NY.

James fathered a number of children but there is no record for any of them. One has to rely on death records for information.

**Solon Haskins**, the first child was born in Vermont in 1813 and died July 5, 1867 at the age of 54. His parents are given as **James** and **Sally Haskins**. Solon married **Sophie Staves** on December 6, 1832, and died in Starksborough and is buried in Huntington Center.

The 1850 census also shows **Horace Haskins** in Starksborough (age 35) born in Vermont. It is believed that he was also a son of James and Sally Haskins but there again is no birth record. However, **Gideon Haskins** spoke of his "Uncle Horace".

**Samuel S. Haskins**, born in 1817 was a son of James Haskins and Lucy Hart. Samuel died May 15, 1898 in Huntington at the age of 81.

**Willard Haskins**, son of James and Lucy Haskins was born in 1820 and died March 3, 1896 at the age of 75.

**Leonard Haskins** was born to James and Lucy Haskins on February 13, 1825, **William** was born in 1828, **Mariah Haskins** was born in 1826 and **Mary Ann Haskins**...1830.

**Lucy Haskins**, second wife of James, died in 1841 at the age of 50 and is buried at Hanksville Cemetery in Huntington.

**Mary Grace Haskins** was the third wife of James and was the mother of **Louisa Grace Haskins** who married Leonard Haskins.

### About Section F Continued

#### About the Yellow Ringling Home on Eighth Street

Eventually the house was sold to brother **Henry Ringling** and later handed down to **Henry Ringling Jr.** and his wife **Jean Fowler Ringling**. Next it was passed down to Henry's daughter **Salome "Sally" (Juliar Ringling) Clayton-Jones** and from there to her children, **Kate and Charles Clayton-Jones**.

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Jean Ringling died in 1994 and her daughter Salome then lived in the home until her death in 2005.

In May of 2013 RE/Max Grand placed the **Charles and Edith Ringling** home on the market with an asking price of \$1.25 million. The listing price for the six-bedroom, four-bathroom, 6,353 square-foot home, also included an attached lot, carriage house and cottage.

In the autumn of 2014 Madison residents **Stuart Koeling** and **Julie Hearley** announced that they have accepted an offer to buy the property from siblings **Kate and Charles Clayton-Jones** and have asked the planning commission to review their concept for a bed-and-breakfast. The duo's plans call for an opening in the spring of 2015. The couple have budgeted \$1 million for the purchase and another \$75,000 for improvements and promotion.

### Section F Extended

#### More holdings by the Ringling's & their family

##### By Clark Wilkinson

**Clark Wilkinson** did much research of Baraboo history and the following does not specially apply to the yellow house but does apply to the Ringling family and extended families.

Feb. 1, 1867...**Maria Magdalene Juliar** purchase from John and Agnes Dickie Lots 11 and 12, Block 41 for \$300.

April 29, 1882...**Maria Magdalene Juliar** sold the aforementioned property to **August Ringling** for \$500 and took back a mortgage for that amount payable on or before May 1, 1885 with interest at 6%. It was paid and released on May 16, 1883. It is not clear what August did with these lots but in 1903-1904-1905 **Ida North and Harry North** (her husband) lived at 309 Birch Street which would have been situated on the north 1/2 of lots 11 and 13.

June 29, 1900...**Magdaline Armbruster**, a widow sold to **Salome Ringling** the North 1/2 of lot 1, Block 10 (821 Oak Street) for \$1,180 where she moved after the death of her husband. The

probate of her estate after her death showed her homestead as Lots 1 and 2, Block 10 and appraised at \$3,500.

August 21, 1911...Records indicate that **Mary Andrews** sold to Ida North the south 1/2 of lot 10 which is rather confusing.

March 19, 1906...The Ringling probate shows that Salome had due her at her death a note on this date in the amount of \$900 from **A.A. and N. Juliar**, a note and mortgage from Ida North dated October 5, 1906 for \$900, a note and mortgage for \$1,100 from **Oscar Birr** and a note from **George Brock** for \$1,000.

After the death of Mother, but before the death of **Gus Ringling**, all the brothers and wives headed home to Ida. Personal property was to go to Ida North with **Henry Ringling** the Trustee for her and after her death for her children. **Mrs. August Ringling's (Salome)** mother was named **Magdalene B. Ringling**, was born July 25, 1833 and father **Frederick Ringling** was born November 11, 1826. Salome died on January 27, 1907. She lived at 821 Oak Street in 1903-04. On November 24, 1907 and after the death of their mother, the brothers deeded it to Ida. (Meaning the house?) On May 6, 1919 the property was sold to **Thos. Moran** who moved into the Al. Ringling house...confusing... (Maybe Ida moved into the Al. Ringling house).

1895-1896...**Moeller Wagon Shop** was located at 207-209 Third Avenue.

1903-1904...**A. A. Roberts** residence shown at 213 Birch Street.

1905...**Arthur Waite** residence shown at 322 Fifth Avenue.

1903-1904...**Gottlieb Gollmar** residence shown at 507 Birch Street.

1898-1899...**A. G. (Gus) Ringling** shown at 230 Seventh Avenue.

1895-1896...**Ringling Brother's office** shown at 232 East Water Street.

1890...**Al Ringling** and Brother **Charles Ringling** shown at Warren Hotel.

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1895-1896...**Otto & John Ringling** shown at Warren Hotel, joined later by brother **Alf. T. Ringling**.

**Harry North** had a daughter **Lilah North** from a previous marriage. She married **Walter Wilcox** on December 2, 1916 at the age of 30. She was in charge of the wardrobe department on Water Street. Her mother was **Nina Wilson**.

On the lot where **Henry Jr.** and **Corwin Moeller** are buried is an old marker showing **Nicholas Juliar** died April 9, 1882 and **Magdaline Juliar** who died in 1889. One was 83 years, 1 month, 12 days.

### About Section FF The Flag of Wisconsin

The following joint resolution, adopted by the legislature of 1863, was approved by the governor on March 25 of that year.

*Resolved, by the senate, the assembly concurring, that the following be and is hereby adopted as the design for a state flag for the State of Wisconsin:*

*State Flag.--To be dark blue silk, with the arms of the state of Wisconsin painted or embroidered in silk on the obverse side, and the arms of the United States, as prescribed in paragraph 1435 of "new army regulations," painted or embroidered in silk on the reverse side; the name of the regiment, when used as a regimental flag, to be in a scroll beneath the state arms.*

*The size of the regimental colors to be six feet six inches fly, and six feet deep on the pike; the length of pike for said colors, including spear and ferrule, to be 9 feet 10 inches; the fringe yellow, cords and tassels blue and white silk intermixed.*

It was ordained by chapter 167, Laws of Wisconsin for 1907 (Section 633m of Wisconsin Statutes), that organization, armament and discipline of the Wisconsin national guard, shall be the same as that which is now, or may hereafter be prescribed for the regular and volunteer armies of the United States." Consequently the state flag is now as provided in paragraph 222 of United States Army Regulations for 1904 --the colors to be of silk,

five feet six inches fly, and four feet four inches on the pike, which shall be nine feet long including spear and ferrule.

As a matter of fact, the State at the present time possesses no distinct stand of colors; the design is only seen in connection with the several regimental colors.

### About Section G Continued About Street Names and House Numbers

**Athenaeum Place**...Runs north and south over the H. H. Potter property on the south side of the Baraboo River, was a continuation of Depot Street running south. It created access to Ringling's spur tracks and to the railroad roundhouse which the Ringling's rented.

### About Section GG About Haseltine's Clock

On March 2, 1933 the Baraboo News Republic reported that **W. L. Haseltine**, of 318 Tenth Avenue, was busy putting the finishing touches on the cabinet of a Grandfather's clock that he designed and constructed over the prior two years.

For several years Haseltine had dreamed of constructing such a time piece for his home and when a friend presented him with several fine pieces of Walnut about a dozen years prior it seemed as though his dream would materialize.

However, he still needed to design the item and that would take time. About Christmas time, a couple of years ago, the Haseltine's were visiting some friends and while there he noted a piece of furniture which had the lines that he thought would be just right for the clock housing. He went to work immediately on the design. By March of 1933, the clock had taken its place in the dining room of the Haseltine home.

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The clock's walnut housing stood 7 feet, 3 inches tall, 25-1/4" wide and 11 inches deep. In addition to the regular clock face, there is a counter attachment that shows the day of the week, the date of the month plus the month and the year. The mechanism is so arranged that on Leap Year (or every fourth year) the clock alternately shows 29 days in February instead of 28.

The clock's mechanism is composed of the movements of two other clocks whose wheels and arrangements have been changed and rearranged by Mr. Haseltine to suit his needs. One controls the striking and time while the other controls its chimes. The chimes strike four times an hour. They are heard for 3 seconds followed by the two-tone strike at the hour, at the quarter hour for three seconds, plus another special tone at the half-hour, and for 6-1/2 seconds at the three-quarter mark. They are regulated on a ratio of 5 to 11, states the Baraboo man. The tones are attained by the use of two walnut sounding boards and the roll from an old music box.

As of 2014, the Haseltine Clock was in the entryway to the **House of Clocks** store in Portage, Wisconsin. The owner and operator of that business is **Andy Daigneault**. Mr. Daigneault stated that when his business is closed or sold the clock is destined for the Sauk County History Center in Baraboo.

### **Run by Electricity**

The clock, with a built in electric drive mechanism, automatically winds itself every evening at 9:10 o'clock; this time, however can be changed to suit one's particular desire. An electric motor situated in the base, controls the winding and the striking parts at all times and winds whichever one needs it. It always winds the time first, if it requires winding, and then switches over to the other side. The time usually requires winding about once a week and the strikes and chimes every day or two, depending on the mechanical controls are set. A master switch controls the winding and when thrown, allows the winding of either set.

Haseltine stated that there is usually something objectionable in an item when first finished and in this case he

speaks of the noise which is heard when the clock winds. This is due to the high speed motor he states, and he plans on installing a slow-speed motor.

The counter attachment was built completely by Mr. Haseltine and it operates in such a manner that the date of the month and day of the week changes a few seconds after midnight. As the months turn, the cam regulating them draws the year cam up and on New Year's night that turns over.

### **About Section H Continued**

#### **About the Iron Horse**

#### *The Milwaukee Road*

*(Its First 100 Years)*

**By August Derleth 1948**

Re: The La Crosse and Milwaukee railroad Company: Consolidations included the **Beaver Dam and Baraboo railroad Company**, incorporated March 31, 1855;

Name changed May 13, 1858 to: **Milwaukee, Watertown and Baraboo Valley Railroad Company**;

Name changed March 16, 1861 to: **The Milwaukee and Western Railroad Company**.

Deeded June 8, 1863: to **Milwaukee and St. Paul Railway Company**.

#### **Amos Hull...Fireman**

**Amos Hull** was just a young man when he came to the Baraboo area about 1880. He first worked as a fireman on the double track between Madison and Elroy. He later worked for sometime at Lancaster before returning to this area.

Hull eventually became an engineer with the Chicago and Northwestern Railway Company and at one time 24 trains a day passed through or stopped at Baraboo.

His last railroad run was October 30, 1925, from Winona to Baraboo. In the late 20's the mainline was moved to Adams and the district offices to Madison.

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Hull's poetry, written during the depression, shows how he mourned the passing of the railroad in the city of Baraboo.

**The Old Home Town**

**By A. A. Hull**

The Old Home Town is now just a dot on the map  
As it quietly lies here by the "Railroad Track".  
The General Office is gone, the Round House and Shops;  
And the fast passenger trains go by without stops.

The Round House whistles no more call the men to work  
And in the days of small pay no one sought to shirk.  
Our old "Railway Men" gone, but few are here still  
As the great majority is resting, up on the hill.

Our teachers have taught schools, far over the sea  
Our preachers have preached Christ and Salvation that is free  
Our Soldiers have fought the world's battles for their own  
Our Sailors tread the decks in a "Hot Torrid Zone"

And they brush a tear, when the band plays "Home Sweet Home."  
Our musicians have played in the world's best bands  
And longed for the Home Town when in far distant lands  
Our old circus men are gone, their homes so quiet and still;  
But the "Show" must go on, new men their places fill.

And the Mining Men of the Old Cahoon Iron Mine  
No longer dig the ore down below the water line.  
Our old friends of the time when business was good  
Have gone their way; younger men are where they stood.

The "Old Home Town," a ghost of its former self  
Where so many are mourning the loss of their wealth;  
But we still stand true to our church and our God  
As we trod the old streets, our old friends aft have trod.

Some old friends will return to their final rest on the hill  
Some will see all our faults and our weakness still,  
But deep down in their innermost soul, they will know no ill

Oh! The Old Home Town, now just a dot on the map  
Here beside the former bust "Railway Track"  
But her heart strings reach out, all over the world  
To beckon her children where-e'rr the Flag is unfurled.

May they all return to their Home Town near Devil's Lake  
And greet the old scenes ere this life they forsake.  
And those that will come will find we ring true  
And all still honor the Old Home Town..Baraboo.

**The Old Baraboo Round House Whistle by A. A. Hull**

The sound of that old whistle  
At the "Railroad Shops" is gone,  
But yet, to the former workmen  
The sound still lingers on.  
It blew at early morning  
And at the close of day,  
Its sounds would loudly echo  
For many miles away.

Across the sparkling meadows  
And woodlands far and near  
The "Echo" of that old whistle  
Would reach most every ear.  
Those days the shops were busy,  
Its whistle would not fail  
For there was no depression  
That ever would prevail.

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Its sound would bring back memories  
That still linger in our ears,  
Of the days when all were busy  
In those bright and prosperous years!  
Skilled workers came by dozens  
To the old shops there each day,  
From all parts of the city  
To earn their daily pay.

Prosperity would bring progress  
Around us everywhere,  
The sound of that old whistle,  
Spread far out upon the air.  
Not one machine was idle  
After that old whistle blew  
For the men had taken their place  
To do what they were paid to do.

They did not think that whistle  
Would ever cease to blow,  
As the shops, they were so busy  
And still, would larger grow.  
More and more employment  
Was given to working men  
And still more jobs would open  
As we could see it, then.

That deep-toned, old whistle  
Can Baraboo ever forget  
That blew each day so faithful;  
It seems we can hear it yet,  
Morning, noon and evening  
We all would hear it sound,  
All had known that whistle

For so many miles around.

It called so many workers  
Who heard its call with joy,  
With thoughts of good conditions,  
That no one could destroy.  
So why has all this happened,  
As we see it here today?  
Without that dear "Old Whistle,"  
There is no work, no pay.

The sound of that old whistle  
With a whizzing "echo" in its wake  
Was heard from "North Freedom Village,"  
Down through to "Devil's lake."  
The "farmers" prized it highly,  
As they could set their clock.  
But, when it blew no more,  
Their best friend gone, oh what a shock!

Some fifty years its welcome tones  
Were gladly heard among the hills,  
It seemed part of nature then,  
Until the change brought on our ills.  
Farewell, old whistle, so nobly done!  
Nothing will ever fill your place  
To the old timers, mostly gone,  
It surely leaves a vacant space!

Oh God, bring that old whistle back  
Its answer to our humble prayer!  
Put back to work those idle men;  
Give them their honest share!  
Swing those old doors open!  
As they always used to be.

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Again, let's hear that whistle!

It would sound so good to you and me!

In January of 1989 the **Chicago and Northwestern Railroad** notified six Baraboo rail customers that the rail switching yard was being closed immediately. The railroad cited the condition of the tracks as the reason for the closing. The tracks could be reopened if the customers or city would pay for the required upgrades. A major concern at the time was its affect on the annual Circus train.

**About Section HH**  
**Methodism in Baraboo**

Note: More on Methodism may be posted in the following volumes:

**(BARABOO Wisconsin 1850-2010, Volume II, 620 Broadway)**  
**(BARABOO Wisconsin 1850-2010 Continued, Section II, 620 Broadway)**

**(BARABOO Wisconsin 1850-2010, Vol. III, 202 Fourth Avenue)**  
**(BARABOO Wisconsin 1850-2010 Continued, Section III 202 Fourth Avenue)**

**(BARABOO Wisconsin 1850-2010, Vol. III, 202 Fourth Avenue)**  
**(BARABOO Wisconsin 1850-2010 Continued, Section II 615 Broadway)**

1841 First preaching service in Baraboo (Then called Adams) by Rev. Fullerton of the Rock River M.E. Conference. His sermon was held on October 16, 1841, in William Hill's

log cabin to 11 persons. They later met in homes and/or the court house.

1842 First Methodist Class organized on April 10, 1842 by Thomas Fullerton; Muscoda Circuit. The first convert was Miss. Mary Hill.

1843 Circuit divided; became part of Sauk-Prairie Mission.

1848 Union Sunday School organized; J. A. Maxell, Methodist Superintendent.

1849 Separated from Sauk Mission and became head of Adam's Mission.

1850 Chapel built, Methodists separated from Union Sunday School

1850 The German Methodist Episcopal Church was organized in 1850 in the Town of Freedom. In 1870 they purchased the former Presbyterian Church across from the Baraboo High School SW Corner of the 2nd. Ave. and Oak St. Intersection).

1851 First church building started. Became Baraboo Mission.

1853 Building completed and dedicated. Wisconsin Conference met here.

1856 West Wisconsin Conference organized.

1857 Sewing Society organized. Later became ladies Aid. First parsonage was located the intersection of 7th. Avenue and Broadway.

1860 West Wisconsin Conference met here.

1866 South Side Church erected new building.

1885 Some church records indicate that a small church was constructed on the south side to serve 1300 people there??

1890 Larger brick building erected on south side. This happened due to the Ladies Aid Society which raised money from chicken pie suppers and sociable's. A shed was constructed at the rear of the church where horses could be tied and protected from the weather.

1891 Parsonage at 7th. Avenue and Broadway was sold and a new parsonage house at north end of Broadway was purchased.

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- 1896 German Methodists tore down old building & built new brick church and parsonage. North side erected a parsonage at 4th and Broadway at a cost of \$2,400.
- 1898 New brick church built; \$17,000.00
- 1899 Church dedicated...Bishop McCabe...over 1000 people attended.
- 1912 Pipe Organ installed; South side merged with North Side.
- 1914 Bronze memorial tablet erected on corner 5th. and Broadway.
- 1925 Basement placed under church... Rev. J. E. Kundert.
- 1934 South side German Church joined First Methodist Episcopal Church September 16, 1934.
- 1942 Centennial...Rev. Chas. Emery, Bishop Cushman.
- 1960 Sunday school rooms remodeled for education unit & study. Consecration service March 6...Rev. Harold Singer...Bishop Northcott.
- 1962 120th. anniversary...Rev. Archie Henry...Bishop Alton.
- 1965 W.S.C.S. 25th anniversary...memorial carillon installed.
- 1966 Rev. J. Wm. Shepherd...associate minister
- 1967 New hymnals
- 1968 Bethel series Bible study began. Rev. C. James Weis. Remodeled sanctuary consecrated. Signing of new W.S.C.S. charter of Emanuel Church.
- 1970 Wall-to-Wall carpeting installed.
- 1971 Basement remodeled...50 volunteers. Pony Express financial drive.
- 1972 New Parsonage...405 14th. Avenue  
Old parsonage used for church school classes.
- 1992 Old parsonage razed to make way for church addition, which included Singer Fellowship Hall, mezzanine, kitchen, expanded basement.
- 2010 New roof installed...new updated insulation installed, improving heating and cooling efficiency.
- 2012 Sanctuary repainted and new carpeting and media screen installed, electrical wiring up-dated, organ refurbished, two new stoves (one convection) purchased for kitchen.

Changes continue... the First Methodist Episcopal Church became the First Methodist Church; next it became the First United Methodist Church of Baraboo.

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**Some of the following may disagree with the preceding data.**

There seems to be a disagreement among early settlers as to who preached the first sermon in Sauk County. According to William Canfield, Martha Cowles believed that Elder Nichols, a congregational clergyman that had settled at the village of Prairie du Sac preached the first sermon at Sauk and Baraboo. Mrs. B. T. Cowles thought perhaps that a traveling Baptist missionary by the name of Mathews, preached the first sermon in Sauk County.

Mrs. Henry Teal, was quite positive that John Crummer preached the first about 1840. While boarding with her at Willow Springs, he determined to preach the first sermon in Sauk County, that the honor might rest with the Methodist denomination

Mrs. Valentia B. Hill stated that the first sermon preached in the Baraboo Valley was in her house, near the Wood & Rowan mill by Thomas Fullerton in the winter of **1842** and that she was the first person baptized. Also that her son , Ickabod B. Hill, was the first white child born in the valley, January 9, 1842.

Methodism may have been introduced to the settlement of Baraboo by Rev. A. M. Badger with B. T. Kavanaugh, Presiding Elder. Regular meetings of the Methodist Society began in 1842 in a log cabin with six members (four of them being known as Lawrence Cowles...leader Ralph Cowles and Mr. & Mrs. Solomon Shafer) and belonged to the Sauk Prairie Mission, its territory extended from Black Earth Creek in Iowa County to Dekora in Columbia County.

Later they met in members' homes and eventually in the courthouse. In 1848 James A, Maxwell, Peter Losey and Alexander Crawford were elected as board trustees.

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In 1849 it became a separate society and took the name of the Adams Mission. Asa Wood was appointed preacher and received \$117.91 salary for the year, including \$50 from the Missionary Society. The number of members was 16 in all...Mr. And Mrs. Alexander Crawford, Mr. And Mrs. James A. Maxwell, Mr. And Mrs. C. A. Clark, Mr. And Mrs. E. Langdon, Mr. And Mrs. J. M. Clark, Mrs. C. Brown, B. L. Purday, Charles Stanley, Ralph Cowles, Mrs. James Crawford, and Mrs. C. M. Adams.

It was then decided to build a chapel. Mr. Crawford donated a lot at the southeast corner of the intersection of Broadway and Fifth Avenue for the church location. A building committee made up of Asa Wood and C. A. Clark was appointed. Clearing the snow away from the ground, a rough wooden building, 34 (some say 24) by 36 feet was constructed in 1849.

The edifice was boarded horizontally, inside and out, with 1-inch rough sawn boards over 2 by 6 inch studs. The space between the boards was filled with sawdust for insulation. This was reportedly the first church building in Baraboo.

Mr. A. C. Kingsford gave a description of the old original church in 1914. Kingsford was commissioned by the Historical Society to present a memorial on their behalf to the City of Baraboo represented by Mayor Thuerer. Part of his presentation is as follows.

*"As might be supposed, the first church was not a significant structure. In fact it was frequently referred to as the "shanty church." I glean the following facts from the church records. It was 24 X 36 feet and 10 or 12 feet high. The walls were boarded horizontally inside and out and filled with sawdust between. The floor and roof were plain rough boards. The seats were of two-inch plank with a back four inches high. The door was in the east and a plain pulpit in the west. The building was finished and dried out ready for use in two weeks, from the first clearing of the ground. The cost was approximately \$200.00."*

As soon as the weather permitted, Mrs. Remington opened a school in the church building. Remington's first students were Eliza Chapman, Emma Maxwell (later to become Mrs. H. H. Potter) and her five brothers and sisters, three daughters of Mr. Flanders, two of Esq. Davis, two of M. C. Waite, three children of Mrs. Lucy Perkins, the Postmistress, Martha Dartt (later Mrs. Maxwell), Cornelia Po... (later Mrs. Stanley) and her little brother Melvin who later drowned in the mill race at Maxwell's dam and Libbie Curry, later Mrs. Victor Peck.

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The Baraboo Methodist Episcopal Church congregation (now Baraboo First United Methodist Church) is recognized as having the first house of worship in Baraboo, a small, rough, cabin chapel erected in early **1849** at the SE corner of Broadway and Fifth St. It didn't take long to determine that the chapel was too small for the job so the group undertook to build a bigger building at the same place.

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In January of 1851 steps were taken to build a new church on the ground where the first chapel stood. During the summer a 36 by 50 feet building was raised on the basement walls and the basement finished off so that it could be used for services during the fall and winter of 1851-52. Also during the summer, a term of the circuit court was held in the same basement. The building was completed during the summer of 1853. On the 26th of August, 1853 the new church was dedicated to the worship of Almighty God by Rev. Bishop Levi Scott, of Wilmington, Delaware.

This conference included all of the state of Wisconsin and the Territory of Minnesota. Rev. S. Spates came all the way from Sandy Lake Indian Mission and desired to be released from the mission; but, as no one could be found willing to go, he said, in a public meeting held during the conference, that, "rather than have my red brethren left without a shepherd, I will go back to them, standing sentinel until I am relieved.

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There were present at this conference 125 ministers gathered from this extensive field. The second conference was held in 1860, Bishop Scott again presiding.

The summer of 1853 also saw the arrival of the first church bell in Baraboo – but it didn't belong to the Methodists! No, the Presbyterians got there first. The Sauk County Standard reported in July of 1853, "*The First Bell in Baraboo – We had the pleasure yesterday of listening for the first time in this town to the peal of the church bell. It has been obtained by the Presbyterian society and will soon be placed upon their neat little church. The tones are rich and silvery, and upon the return of each Sabbath morn, they will be a joy to all our citizens.*"

Not to be outdone, the Methodists got right to work to arrange for a bell for their fine new church. The bell was to be bought from a Chicago firm and brought to Baraboo. To pay for the new bell, a capital funds drive was held. The estimated price of the bell, its hangings, transportation from Chicago to Madison and then from Madison to Baraboo (where it had to be hauled laboriously up the Sauk Hill), and all other expenses came to \$342.00. A document listing the contributions to the capital fund exists, recording promissory notes, and reads in part, "The undersigned for the purpose of purchasing a bell for the M. E. Church in the village of Baraboo promise to pay to the Rev. William H. Thomson on his order the sums set opposite our respective names on or before the first day of May next. Signed at Baraboo Wisconsin, February 1<sup>st</sup>, 1854".

There were more than ninety names on the list and it read like a "who's who" of Baraboo. James Maxwell, merchant; James A. Maxwell, creator of Maxwell's Mills on the Baraboo river near the intersection of Manchester St. and Race Rd., John B. Crawford, farmer, Benj. L Purdy, grocer, bookseller, and former postmaster of Baraboo; William Chapman, farmer; William H. Clark, attorney, and judge. The list goes on and on with carpenters, painters, farmers, a printer or two, etc. The donations range from \$20 to Fifty cents. Using the CPI as we would today (2007) for a comparison, the fifty cent pledge would be worth about \$12. If one

uses the "unskilled labor wage" measure, however, the value jumps to \$190! That measure is probably more accurate for comparison purposes.

In April of 1854, the Sauk County Standard reported that "*The Methodist Society has ordered a bell for their house to weigh 700 lbs.: The Bell arrived just in time for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration in 1854*". The bell did weigh in at 795 pounds.

The newspaper of July 5, 1884 reported as follows

*"The new bell for the Methodist house arrived Saturday evening and was immediately hoisted into its place where its deep but sweet tones were heard. The only fault we found with it was that it kept its tongue ageing too fast. There is as much science in pulling a bell rope as there is in pulling a tooth. The bell alone weighs 795 lbs."*

In the same issue of the paper

*"There was plenty of "music in the air" Saturday evening. Soon after the new bell of the Methodists commenced ringing, the smart little bell of the Presbyterians pealed forth, to show what it could do. In a short time some roguish boys procured cow bells and commenced opposition in good earnest—together with the firing of firecrackers they kept up a din and clatter until about 11 o'clock."*

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**First United Methodist Church**

**The Church Bell:**

This bell was the second Church bell in Baraboo. It was cast in a foundry in New York State in **1853**, and bought through a Chicago firm in **1854**. The bell, its hangings, transportation from Chicago to Baraboo, and all other expenses came to \$342.00. The bell was paid for by a capital funds drive held in 1854. Individual donations came from more than ninety church members and ranged from \$20 to fifty cents.

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The bell alone weighed 795 lbs, and was hung in a metal structure in the church steeple. It was installed in the building at Fifth and Broadway in time to be rung for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration in 1854.

In 1898, when the current building was constructed, the board of Trustees paid \$10 to have the bell moved from the former building. Sixty years later, the bell fell into disuse and sat silent for 30 years. In 1995, the bell and its "hangings" were refurbished and the bell rededicated. It rings every Sunday to summon the faithful to worship.

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The Bell continued to summon the faithful to worship for years thereafter.

In 1866, 25 feet were added to the south along with a bell tower. The entrance to the church was on the south facing the alley. An entrance to the basement was made from Fifth Avenue. The area between Fifth and Fourth Avenues was quite hilly at the time as can be seen from the illustration in the photo section.

**1857-1869**

The **Methodist Sewing Society** was formed. This later became the **Methodist Ladies Aid** and the forerunner of the **Methodist Women's Society**. It was begun with the objective of raising funds to assist in building and furnishing a parsonage. Women's dues were 25 cents, but men could also belong for dues of 50 cents. Women who brought their personal sewing were fined 5 cents. One of the strictly enforced rules read, "No one shall be at liberty to speak evil of any person." Projects included a communion tablecloth, a rag carpet, curtains, and dishes for the church. Money was also allocated from the treasury to buy currants or grapes and for sugar to make wine for sacramental purposes.

**1887-1890**

The **Busy Bee Mission Band** was organized with 30 men and women, probably as a social group. Dues were 6 cents per meeting.

An account by a parishioner who attended the old church on Fifth and Broadway occupied until 1898, tells that there was an "Amen Corner" in the church as one member usually sat there and by a nod of his head indicated whether or not he agreed with the minister.

On May 11, 1898, (some records indicate May 6, 1898) a contract was let to Bowen & Lake of Sparta for the construction of a new Methodist Church at 202 Fourth Avenue at a cost of \$17,000. The land was purchased from **Levi Crouch**. Early on, the Crouch home was located on this corner, surrounded by beautiful Maple trees. The parsonage on Fourth Avenue was erected the following year at a cost of \$2,400. Records indicate the final cost for the land, church and parsonage to be \$23,605.00

The corner stone, a fine large slab of Bedford limestone, was placed on Tuesday, June 20, 1898 and the building was accepted in December of the same year.

The same year in 1898, when the current building was constructed, the board of Trustees paid \$10 to have the bell moved from the former building to the new one. Sixty years later, the bell fell into disuse and sat silent for 30 years. In 1995, the bell and its "hangings" were refurbished and the bell rededicated. It hangs there in the bell tower today. A symbol of the dedication of this congregation was to provide a house of worship in this place for now and always it rings every Sunday to summon the faithful to worship.

(COMPILED BY JERRY BULLARD 2007)

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In July of 1898 the old church building located at Broadway & Fifth Avenue was sold to **L. F. Halsted**, the consideration being \$1,810.00. Halsted planned on removing the steeple and using the building for a meeting hall. He then rented the building to the **Church of God**. However, this building was destroyed by fire in February of 1899. Halsted had a \$500

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insurance policy on the building. Al. Ringling then purchased the land so that no one would build across from his newly planned residence. The lot then sat empty until 1928. In July of 1928, the **Pennsylvania Oil Company** purchased this location from the **Al. Ringling estate**; the site was a desirable one, having been kept vacant so long as the Ringling family occupied the home that stood on the opposite side of the street. The corner had long served as a baseball diamond for the boys of the neighborhood.

In 1912 the South Side Methodist Church, which had formed in 1885 and erected a small church building, which was later replaced in 1890, merged with the north side congregation. This formed the First Methodist Church. On September 8, 1934, the German Methodist Church joined the First Methodist Church, thus forming the **First United Methodist Church**. In 1972 the new parsonage was constructed at 405 Fourteenth Avenue.

**1913**

The first organ in this building was built by Wangerin-Weickhardt of Milwaukee and dedicated in January, 1913. It was rebuilt in 1956, replacing the hand pump and mechanical key action with the installation of electric key and stop actions and a new detached console. Then, in 1976 plans for a new organ began under a committee led by Mr. **William Shogren**. The current organ was constructed by the Wicks Organ Company, of Highland, Illinois, and delivered in March of 1980. It was played for the first time on Good Friday, April 4, 1980. Total cost of the organ was \$69,500.00. Long-serving organists were **Clarissa Morse** and **Gordon Krunnbusz**.

The organ specification includes two manuals and pedal, 18 voices, produced by 21 ranks of pipes totaling 1223 individual pipes. The Pedal Organ and Great Organ are unenclosed – the pipes are those you see above and behind the altar, the Swell Organ pipes are enclosed in a box with movable vertical louvers (swell shades) to allow volume control, located behind the Great Organ pipes.

**1992**

The current building configuration was completed which included Singer Fellowship Hall, kitchen, mezzanine, expanded basement area.

Please note that the following names in *italics* and underlined are from William Canfield's "Outline Sketches of Sauk County and Old Settlers".

	Presiding Elder	Pastors
1842		Thomas M. Fullerton
1842		A. M. Badger
<u>1844</u>	<i>B. T. Kavanaugh</i>	<i>A. M. Badger</i>
1845	Henry Summers	P. S. Richardson
1846		Eldrich Holmes
<u>1847</u>	<i>E. Springer</i>	<i>E. Hawes</i>
1848		Joseph Williams
<u>1849</u>	<i>Edwin S. Bunce</i>	Asa Woods
1850	C. Hobert	Edward S, Bunce
<u>1850</u>	<i>Chauncey Hobart</i>	<i>Nelson Butler</i>
<u>1851</u>	<i>Washington Wilcox</i>	<i>Nelson Butler</i>
<u>1852</u>	<i>Isaac Searls</i>	<i>C. P. Newcomb</i>
1853	I. Searles	J. M. Wells
<u>1853</u>	<i>Isaac Searls</i>	<i>W. H. Thompson</i>
1854	I. Searles	J. H. Scott
<u>1854</u>	<i>Isaac Searls</i>	<i>Augustus Hall</i>
1855		J. C. Braynard
<u>1855</u>	<i>R. W. Barnes</i>	<i>W. B. Hazeltine</i>
1856	M. Himbaugh	H. Palmer
1857	M. Himbaugh	H. Palmer
<u>1857</u>	<i>Elmore Yocum</i>	<i>I. A. Sweatland</i>
1858	M. Himbaugh	Rowbothom
<u>1858</u>	<i>Elmore Yokum</i>	<i>I. A. Sweatland</i>
1859	M. Himbaugh	Rowbothom
<u>1859</u>	<i>Elmore Yokum</i>	<i>W. M. Osborne</i>
1860	A. H. Walters	R. Fancher
<u>1860</u>	<i>M. Bennett</i>	<i>C. E. Weirch</i>

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1861	A. H. Walters	A. Hall
<u>1861</u>	<i>M. Bennett</i>	<i>W. H. Kellogg</i>
1862	A. H. Walters	R. Gould
<u>1862</u>	<i>M. Bennett</i>	<i>Washington Wilcox</i>
1863	E. Yokum	R. Gould
<u>1863</u>	<i>M. Bennett</i>	<i>Washington Wilcox</i>
1864	E. Yocum	J. S. Lake
<u>1864</u>	<i>R. Dudgeon</i>	<i>J. E. Irish</i>
1865	E. Yokum	W. B. Hazeltine
<u>1865</u>	<i>R. Dudgeon</i>	<i>J. E. Irish</i>
1866	E. Yokum	W. B. Hazeltine
<u>1866</u>	<i>R. Dudgeon</i>	<i>J. B. Bachman</i>
1867	J. H. Bachman	E. McGinley
<u>1867</u>	<i>R. Dudgeon</i>	<i>Elmore Yokum</i>
1868	J. H. Bachman	I. A. Sweatland
<u>1868</u>	<i>J. B. Bachman</i>	<i>Elmore Yokum</i>
1869	J. H. Bachman	W. W. Wheatman
<u>1869</u>	<i>J. B. Bachman</i>	<i>J. H. Whitney</i>
1870	J. H. Bachman	W. W. Wheatman
<u>1870</u>	<i>J. B. Bachman</i>	<i>J. H. Whitney</i>
<u>1871</u>	<i>J. B. Bachman</i>	<i>James Lawson</i>
1972		Rev. Evans
1885		Rev. Benson
1894		Rev. Bushnell
1895		Rev. Martin
1903		Frederick E. Ross
1910		S.A. Ross
1950		Harold W. Singer
1968-1975		C. James Weis
1975-1977		David Worm
1977-1986		Ruwal H. Freeze
1986-1994		Clyde S. Cross
1994-2000		Myron Talcott

2000-2006	Forrest Shelton Clark
2006-2014	Donna Miller
2014-	Marianne Cotter

\*\*\*\*\*

It was reported in the 1908 issue of the Baraboo Weekly News that **Charles Hirschinger** presented a new bell to the German M. E. Church. The bell weighed over 800 pounds and was 40 inches in diameter.

On September 8, 1934, the German Methodist Church joined the First Methodist Church, thus forming the **First United Methodist Church**. In 1972 the new parsonage was constructed at 405 Fourteenth Avenue.

Mrs. **Valentia B. Hill** stated that the first sermon preached in the Baraboo Valley was in her house, near the Wood & Rowan mill by **Thomas Fullerton** in the winter of 1842 and that she was the first person baptized. She also said that her son, **Ickabod B. Hill**, was the first white child born in the valley, January 9th, 1842.

**About Section I Continued**  
**Bridges of Baraboo**

**1925**

**Ash Street & Second Avenue Bridge's**

In November of 1925 it was reported that a new concrete bridge to span the river on Ash Street was to begin shortly. The work was to be performed by the M. A. Adams Construction Company of Minneapolis at a cost of \$35,474. The same company was also engaged in the construction of the Second Avenue Bridge which was nearing completion.

**1953**

**Moore Street Bridge**

In the February 18 issue of the 1953 Baraboo News Republic it was reported that the **Moore Street Railroad Bridge**

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was expected to be open in about a week. There was more work than expected to repair the bridge and it was necessary that one end be completely rebuilt.

The following article was written by Bill Schuette for the Baraboo News Republic in 2002. Mr. Schuette has generously allowed it to be included in this book of history...jw.

### **The Last Covered Bridge in Sauk County**

By Bill Schuette

Traveling the rustic dirt-covered roads of Sauk County during the latter half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century was a challenge for both teamster and team.

To early settlers, streams and rivers were an impasse which had to be breached one way or another. Usually the driver sought a shallow stone-covered bottom, at times traveling miles out of the way to locate a suitable crossing.

Primitive log bridges were later laid across narrow sections of streams, but floods and the ravages of weather either floated them away or rotted the wood, making the bridge unsafe for passage.

One solution to this problem was to cover the bridges with a roof and side walls, thereby protecting the deck, and preventing the timbers from deteriorating.

The idea for the first covered bridges originated in Central Europe to protect wooden trusses and joints from the weather. Later the idea was brought to America and used to protect railroad bridges. It was a natural transition to utilize similar designs for roadway bridges. The first covered bridge in the U.S. was built over the Mohawk River in New York in 1808.

Local farmers, who were responsible for building some of the early covered bridges, patterned their construction after farm buildings and usually based the height and width of the

opening on the size of a load of hay. The sides were covered with closely placed boards to protect the wooden structure from inclement weather and to keep teams of oxen or horses from getting spooked as they crossed the moving water.

From 1873 to 1877, six Sauk County covered bridges were constructed by Jared "Jerry" Dodd and his crew:

Over the Baraboo River north of Ableman (Rock Springs) on Hwy 136 near Van Hise Rock, built in 1875, cost \$1,482. Torn down in 1924.

Over the Baraboo River near the railroad tracks in Ableman, gone before 1924.

Over Narrows Creek, one mile west of Ableman on Hwy 154, collapsed in 1930 under the weight of a gravel truck.

Over the Baraboo River near the Baraboo Island Woolen Mill, built in 1873, 141' long, 18' wide, cost \$2,700, including painting and abutments. Gone before 1924.

Over the Baraboo River connecting Ash & Walnut streets in Baraboo, built in 1875, with causeways for foot travelers outside the enclosure, but under the roof overhang, 166' long, 17' wide, and 12' high in drive through. Used 83,000 feet of lumber, 54,000 shingles. Gone before 1924.

Over the Baraboo River, junction of Hwy 33 and Co. T, known as the Butterfield Bridge, built in 1877, 60' long. Torn down in 1934.

The Dodd family originated in New York where Jerry had built five bridges before coming to Sauk County.

Many of these structures were narrow, and allowed passage in only one direction. With the advent of the automobile, they proved to be disconcerting if speeding vehicles from opposite directions wished to traverse the bridge simultaneously. If they met on the bridge, one would have to back up and let the other pass—often times with the result of an exchange of unkind words between travelers.

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Mrs. Andrew Radies of Baraboo, recalled the old Butterfield Bridge, in a 1994 *News Republic* article, "The Bridge used to look like a barn, or red building with up and down side boards. In later years after the autos came to be more numerous, the side boards were taken off to let the approaching car know if there was another one inside the bridge as it was a one-way bridge."

John Geoghegan recalled hearing Arnie Wolf tell of an experience he had while crossing the Rock Springs Hwy 136 Bridge. Arnie was traveling home one night with his team of horses, under the light of a bright full moon. Upon approaching the bridge, one of the horses refused to cross. A vertical board on the side of the bridge was missing and the moonlight was streaming in the slot, casting a rectangular patch of pale light onto the floor inside. Mr. Wolf was finally able to coax his reluctant horse to cross the bridge by removing his coat and placing it over the horse's eyes.

Geoghegan also recalled hearing that during the winter, snow was hauled into the covered bridges so that cutters and sleighs could more easily pass through. He said that the snow lasted well into the spring, due to the cool air circulating around the floorboards.

The Butterfield covered bridge, the last one in Sauk County, was eventually replaced by a more modern iron truss bridge in 1934, when the highway was straightened. Previous to that, travelers approaching the old covered bridge had to negotiate a sharp curve just before entering, resulting in numerous accidents.

The bridges of Sauk County have evolved through the decades as technology improved upon their construction, and changing traffic demanded wider and sturdier river crossings. The memories of these old wood-covered bridges are also fading as those who traversed them in their youth, are also

fading from the scene. Fortunately, several black & white images of these quaint structures have been preserved by the Sauk County Historical Society for future generations to marvel at their uniqueness.

### **Potter's Lane Bridge**

Potter Street was named after **H. H. Potter**, who came to Baraboo in 1849, later married the daughter of James A. Maxwell, **Miss Emma Maxwell**. This early path was referred to as **Potter's Path**, later **Potter's Lane**. In May of 1872 Mr. Grubb, one of the owners of the Manchester Waterpower, constructed a bridge over the race at the foot of Potter's Lane and constructed a roadway parallel to and down the east bank of the race. It was noted in the *Baraboo Republic* that the citizens of Baraboo would then be able to avail themselves of a new drive to the Lake via the roundhouse, H. H. Potter's, past the Manchester Mills and so on to the Lake.

### **Foot Bridge over Baraboo River**

The "photo section" of section I shows a close-up of the old foot bridge and behind it the barn where poles were made and stored in the old Ringling winter quarters along Water Street. The old barn is gone now and a new bridge crosses the river from the Horse Training Barn and Camel Barn that were the first units of the then new Circus World Museum.

### **About Section II**

Historic Homes/Property

The following is a copy of a collection real estate transactions researched by **Clark Wilkinson** of Baraboo, mostly about circus people and those related.

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Feb. 1, 1867, **Maria Magdaline Juliar** purchased from **John and Agnes Dickie** Lots 11 and 12, Block 41 for \$300. On April 29, 1882, she sold the lots to **August Ringling** for \$500. She took back a mortgage for that amount payable on or before May 1, 1885 with interest at 6%. It was paid and released on May 16, 1883. It is not clear what August did with these lots but in 1903-04-05 **Ida North** and **Harry North**, her husband, lived at 309 Birch Street which house would be situated on the north 1/2 of lots 11 and 12.

On June 29, 1900, **Magdaline Armbruster**, a widow, sold to **Salome Ringling** the north 1/2 of Lot 1, block 10 (which is 821 Oak Street) for 1180 (?). She moved there after the death of her husband. The probate of her estate after her death showed her homestead as Lots 1 and 2, Block 10...appraised at \$3,500. However...on August 21, 1911 **Mary Andrews** sold to Ida north, the South 1/2 of Lot 10 which is rather confusing?

The Ringling probate shows that Salome had due her at her death a note dated March 19, 1906 in the amount of \$900 from A. A. and N. Juliar, a note and mortgage for \$1,100.00 from Oscar Birr and a note for \$1,000 from **George Brock**.

Mrs. August (Salome) Ringling's mother was named **Magdaline B. Juliar**, born on July 25, 1833 and her father **Frederick Juliar** was born on November 24, 1826. Salome lived at 821 Oak Street in 1903-04 and died on January 27, 1907.

After the death of mother Salome Ringling on November 24, 1907 and before the death of father August Ringling, all the brothers and wives deeded the home at 821 Oak Street to their sister **Ida (Ringling) North**. Personal property was also to go to Ida, with Henry Ringling the

Trustee of it for her and upon her death her children. On May 6, 1919 Ida sold the house to Thos. Moran and moved into the Al. Ringling house.

In 1895-96, the Moeller Wagon Shop was at 207-209 Third Avenue.

A. A. Roberts' residence was at 213 Birch Street in 1903-04.

Arthur Waite residence was at 322 Fifth Avenue in 1905.

Gottlieb Gollmar residence was 507 Birch Street in 1903-04.

A. G. (Gus) Ringling lived at 230 7th. Avenue in 1898-99.

Otto, Alf T., John, Al and Charles Ringling lived at the Warren Hotel at various times between 1890 and 1896 (Possibly earlier and/or later).

**Harry North**, Ida Ringling's husband, had a daughter **Lila North** from a previous marriage. Lila married **Walter Wilcox** on December 2, 1916 at the age of 30. She was in charge of the wardrobe department which was located on Water Street. Her mother was **Nina Wilson**.

On the lot where Henry Jr. and Corwin Moeller are buried, is an old marker which shows that **Nicholas Juliar** died on April 9, 1882 and his wife, **Magdalene Juliar** died in 1889. One of them (Nicholas) was 82 years, 1 month and 12 days old when they died.

### About Section J Continued Local Newspapers

#### Time Line: *Baraboo Republic*

**Jan. 1855**--*Baraboo Republic* begins as a weekly newspaper published by Col. D. K. and Silas Noyes.

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**Oct. 1855**--Silas Noyes leaves and Henry Perkins and John Blake become publishers.

**Jan. 1856**--Editor Col. Noyes elected to State Assembly, N. W. Wheeler becomes temporary editor.

**1857**--Ansel Kellogg becomes partner, Perkins buys out Blake's share, and Noyes resigns as editor.

**Jan. 1860**--Kellogg-Perkins partnership dissolved Kellogg's interest purchased by John Blake and C. E. Stewart.

**Aug. 1863**--Blake becomes sole proprietor.

**April 1865**--Blake sells his share to William Hill.

**Aug. 1872**--Hill sells his share to Joseph Weirich.

**1874**--Edwin Woodman joins as partner.

**May 1878**--Weirich dies, Woodman becomes sole proprietor.

**Jan. 1880**--J. H. powers joins as proprietor.

**1882**--Powers retires; partnership formed between him and George and Sidney Hood.

**1894**--*Daily Republic* established to run alongside Weekly Republic.

**March 1895**--Hood Brothers become sole owners.

**Sept. 1923**--Weekly *Baraboo Republic* discontinued due to lack of profit.

### **History of the *Baraboo News* and *News Republic***

**Early 1880's**-- L. H. Cook starts small Delton newspaper. *Mirror Lake Echo*.

**1884**--Baraboo's J. F. Kartack buys equipment from Cook, produces *Baraboo Advertiser*.

**1885**--*Baraboo Advertiser* changes name to *Baraboo News*, a weekly publication.

**April 1894**--Dorsett and Cole purchase interest in *Baraboo News* and soon add a daily newspaper.

**June 4, 1894**--First issue of *Baraboo Evening News* published.

**Oct. 1894**--Office and plant moved to Third Street above F.E. Brewer shoe store.

**1895**--Kartack sells interest in newspaper to Harry Ellsworth Cole and A.D. Dorsett,

**Jan. 1907**--Cole buys Dorsett's interest in the newspaper, becomes business manager.

**1910**--Cole sells half interest in the newspaper to Harlan Page.

**April 1928**--Cole dies, Page purchases the interest of his heirs, becoming sole owner/

**Jan. 1, 1929**--*Baraboo News* absorbs *Baraboo Republic* to form *Baraboo News Republic*, Page's sons M.C. and Harlan Jr. join as partners.

**Feb. 16, 1929**--*Baraboo Daily News* sold for 3 cents a copy.

**1933**--Curt page Sr. becomes editor of the *Baraboo News Republic*.

**Sept. 1, 1970**--Lavine Newspaper Group purchases *News Republic* from Page.

**Feb, 1971**--Page Sr. retires as editor. His son Curt page Jr. stays on as general manager.

**1976**--*News Republic* moves from 408 Oak Street to 219 First Street.

**1989**--John Lavine sells the paper to Independent Media Group.

**Oct. 1995**--*News Republic* switches from a Sunday to a Saturday week-end newspaper.

**1999**--*Baraboo News Republic* goes online.

**2000**--*News Republic* and sister papers in Central Wisconsin Newspapers purchased by Madison Newspapers Inc.--now Capital Newspapers Inc.

**Sept. 30, 2005**--*News Republic* moves to new building on Matt's Ferry Road during newspaper's 150th. Year.

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**About Section "K" Continued**  
**About the Sauk County Fair**

**April 1856**

The **Sauk County Agricultural Society** met at the office of the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, in Baraboo, on the 15th. ult. (March 1856), and elected the following officers for the ensuing year.

President--**Ralph G. Camp**, of Baraboo  
Vice-President--**Isaac W. Morley**, of Freedom  
Treasurer--**Richard H. Davis**, of Baraboo  
Secretary--**Warren C. Waite**, of Baraboo

And an executive Committee consisting of one member from each town. The Society was in flourishing condition with a surplus fund of \$135.00.

**June 2013**

**Friends of the Grandstand** group held a "Grip-N-Rip" golf outing on June 14, 2013 at the Baraboo Country Club in an effort to raise money to improve the Sauk County fairground's grandstand. The ultimate goal was to raise \$250,000 to make the grandstand safer and more comfortable. This event raised close to \$10,000.

**2014**

**By Lindy Larsen**

**Marketing Director at the Sauk County Fairgrounds**

Within the last century the fairgrounds and fair has continued to change and grow. It has evolved to include more 4-H and FFA youth exhibitors and more Open Class Exhibitors. In the beginning there were more classes that were geared toward livestock and horses. Now it's expanded to include poultry, sheep, rabbits, swine, goats, exotics and don't forget cats and dogs.

Over the years some buildings have been torn down due to age such as the horse barn. The huge round barn that housed the cattle burned down in the late 1990's. The original fair office was

located under the existing grandstand. In the 1970's a new commercial building was erected and since has sheltered the office.

New pedestals were put in for electricity/water so that large campers would be able to utilize the grounds. Progress Hall was also built.

A new horse arena and barn was constructed and in 2013 a new horse barn was also erected. Some of the old buildings are still standing including the grandstand, which is 135 years old.

**Sauk County's "Fairest of the Fair"**

(Ref: Sauk County 2014 Fun Guide)

1966 Judy Kuhnau	67 Patti Grantin	68 Linda Sale
69 Nancy Sale	70 Bertie Canepa	71 Dana Oulette
72 Linda Gasser	73 (no contest)	74 Patti Hanson
75 Dixie Miller	76 Jennifer Arndt	77 Deb Darrow
	78 Valerie Hegna	79 Suzanne Schaeffer
80 Darla Wolterstorff	81 Cathy Kaiser	82 Sara Hanusa
83 Connie Mundth	84 Pamela Krueger	85 Connie Fellman
86 Tina Geffert	87 Joan Phillips	88 Tina Grover
	89 Rebecca Capener	90 Stephanie Faivre
91 Rebecca Capener	92 Kristin Larson	93 Jamie Hillcoat
94 Karen Lantz	95 Elizabeth Vorndran	96 Jo Ellen Elsen
97 Jen Tormey	98 Sarah Koepp	99 Julie Litscher
2000 Jessica Hartjung	01 Brienne Holschbach	02 Lisa Kvernen
03 Renee Stieve	04 Kristin Terry	05 Rose Reisinger
06 Amanda Sandmire	07 Cathy Jo Lick	08 Rachel Messmer
09 Teynna Marx	10 (no contest)	11 Jenna Lovell
12 Quincy Kissack	13 Kimmi Evert	14 Sydney Litscher

**About Section "M" Continued**  
**About the Post Office**

**Baraboo Post Masters Continued**

**Debbie McNicol**, April 14, 2007 to June 2009

**Janet Wilson**, June 2009 to November 2009

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**Stephanie Warren**, November 2009 to August 2011

**William Brikl**, August 2011 to November 22, 2013

**Susan Spahn**, Officer in Charge, November 23, 2013...

### About Section "N" Continued About Devils Lake Area

**1914**

#### **Cliff House Annex to be razed**

It was announced in March of 1914 that the **Cliff House Annex** would be removed. The removal of the structure was part of a clean-up plan on the part of the foresters of the park. The old building had been used to house employees of the **American Refractories Company**.

**January 1915**

In January of 1915 and under the direction of **L. Prader**, the **Messenger Hotel** at Devil's Lake State Park had been torn down and in a few days the lumber would be hauled across the lake on the ice and used in erecting a pavilion

#### **Civil Conservation Corp.**

In June of 1935, about 200 men of the **Civilian Conservation Corps** set up camp as Junior Company 2669 in what was then known as the "Pine Grove" on the south-east side of the lake. This company was all white as were most of the CCC units serving in Wisconsin after 1934. A month later 30 more men arrived. A great source for more information on the CCC is **Robert J. Moore's** book "*DEVIL'S LAKE Wisconsin and the Civilian Conservation Corps*".

Economic turmoil and widespread unemployment plagued the United States in the late 1920's into the early 1930's. In 1932

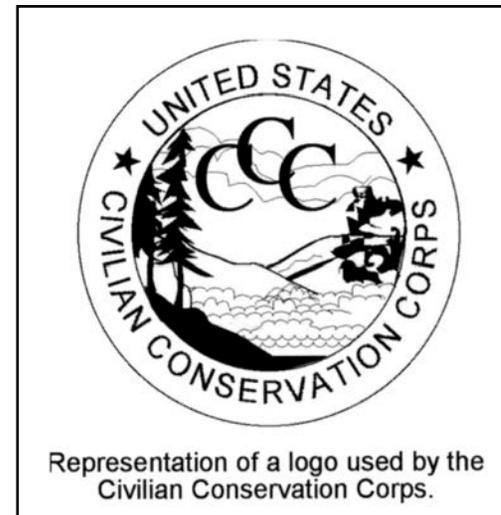
Franklin Roosevelt was elected president and within a few months proposed a program to an emergency session of Congress that would address the growing problem of soil erosion and

declining timber resources. Another major consideration was to utilize significant numbers of the unemployed to implement the measures he proposed. The congressional bill was presented to Roosevelt for signing on March 31, 1933. The program was initially called the **Emergency Conservation Work Act**.

Over a period of time the work camp distribution changed dramatically and there were camps located in each of the contiguous states as well as Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. By the end of 1935 over 2650 camps were in operation.

In 1937 the name was officially changed to the **Civilian Conservation Corp** or the **CCC**. As the program progressed it took on still another name, **Roosevelt's Tree Army**. The CCC erected 3,470 fire towers, built 97,000 miles of fire roads, spent 4,235,000 man-days fighting fires and planted more than three billion trees.

The corps included the Soil Conservation Service that was involved in erosion control. In addition, The Grazing Service



involved in the protection of rangelands. Other activities included the building of small dams, stream improvement and restocking of

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fish, protecting natural habitat for wildlife and the development and construction of recreational facilities in national, state, county and metropolitan parks.

The outbreak of World War II resulted in the decision not to continue funding the program.

The 4,000 temporary and permanent camps scattered across the nation were run military-style by the war department, though the recruits carried picks and shovels rather than rifles. The earliest enrollees wore surplus uniforms from WW I. The CCC boys worked 40 hours a week and had their evenings and weekends free. Each camp had a recreation building, education building and infirmary. The men lived in barracks and ate in a mess hall. Enrollees enlisted for up to two years and many parlayed the skills they learned in the CCC into jobs and careers.

The young men lived in close quarters, 40 to a barracks, and had to learn to get along. "You had to be quiet when you put coal in the stove at night or someone would hit you on the head with a shoe," said Noble Bandy of Leslie, Mo.

### **1964**

#### **Cottages have to go...**

Cottage owners on the north shore of Devil's lake received notice in July of 1964 from the conservation department, advising them of the termination date of their leases, December 31, 1964. The letter advises the owners that their personal property must be removed by that date, or the state will take it over and dispose of it.

Some of the owners have been on state owned land on the north shore for nearly 50 years. The first leases were on a year to year basis, but later for periods of several years. A bill had been passed by the legislature which would have allowed extension of these leases but the measure was vetoed by Governor John Reynolds. The veto was over-riden by the Senate but failed to gain the necessary two-thirds majority in the assembly. Nearly 90 cottages were involved.

#### **Devil's Lake Park Nominated For Historic Place**

It was reported in February of 2014 by the Baraboo News Republic that Devil's Lake State Park had been nominated to the Wisconsin Register of Historic Places and the National Register of Historic Places.

If approved by the Wisconsin Historic Preservation Board it then would be considered by the U. S. National Park Service. **Paul Wolter**, then President of the Sauk County Historical Society also served on the Review Board that would consider the designation.

If the designation was approved, the park would then qualify for some additional grants to preserve historic buildings located therein.

It was reported in early 2015 that the request had recently been approved by the committees of the U. S. Department of the Interior and the Wisconsin Historical Society.

#### **Baraboo Locations**

##### **On**

##### **National Register of Historic Places.**

- G. Tuttle Estate
- Al. Ringling Mansion
- Al. Ringling Theater
- Baraboo Public Library
- Charles Ringling House
- Gust Brothers' Store
- Island Woolen Mill Co. Office Building
- Jacob Van Orden House
- Manchester Street Bridge
- Man Mound
- Point of Rocks
- Ringling Bros. Circus Headquarters
- Sauk County Courthouse
- Seven Gables house
- Thompson House Hotel
- Walworth D. Porter duplex

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- William Clark House

**El Rancho Resort**  
**Ninnemans, Cushmans**

**Shadow Town**

**Origin of the Name and the location of Shadow Town**

The original article in Volume I of "*BARABOO Wisconsin, 1850-2010*" speaks of **Shadowtown**. Writer **Betty Krueger**, a columnist for the Baraboo News Republic, wrote about Shadow Town and shared a verse in that regard....

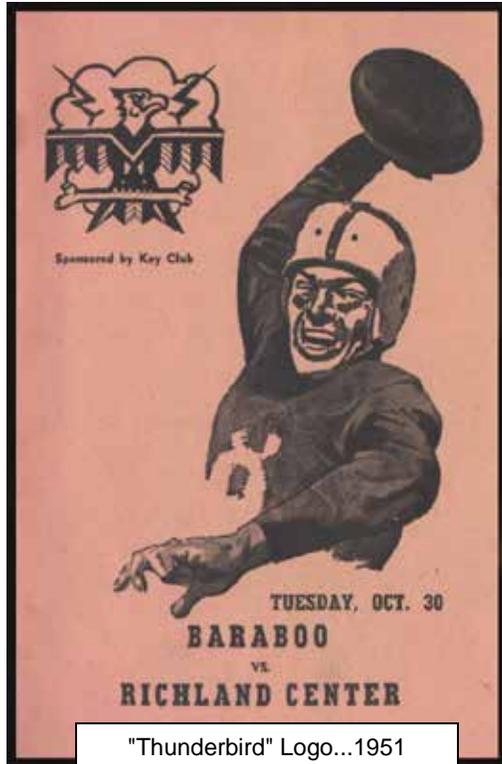
*Down on the way to deep Devil's Lake, where three roads  
meet and birds sing sweet, and Oaks grow tall, And deep shades  
fall;*

*There, Thompson's had, to make friends glad; their  
concerts free, beneath the tree,*

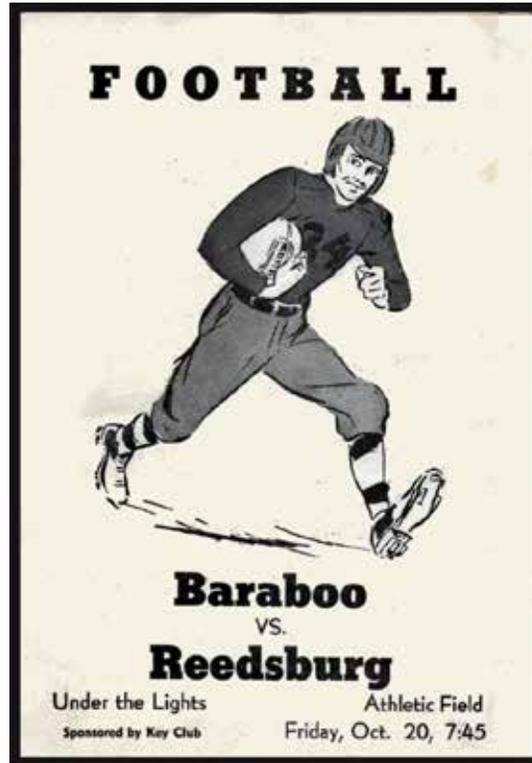
*From that place came, Shadow Town's name, heard far  
and near, now...for many a year*

*Down on the way to deep Devil's Lake.*

Shadow Town was located within a small triangular plot of ground bordered on the North by County Road "DL", on the West by the railroad and on the East by the exit road leading from the lake area to "DL".

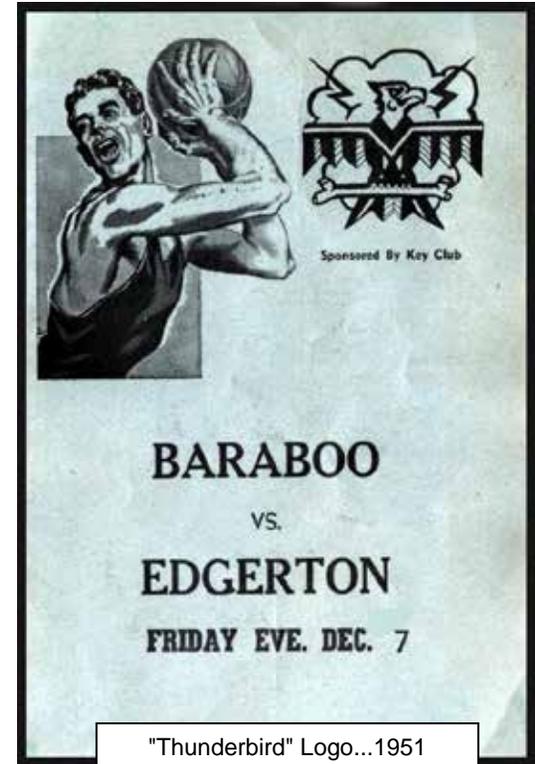


"Thunderbird" Logo...1951



No "Thunderbird" Logo...1950

"Thunderbird" Logo



"Thunderbird" Logo...1951

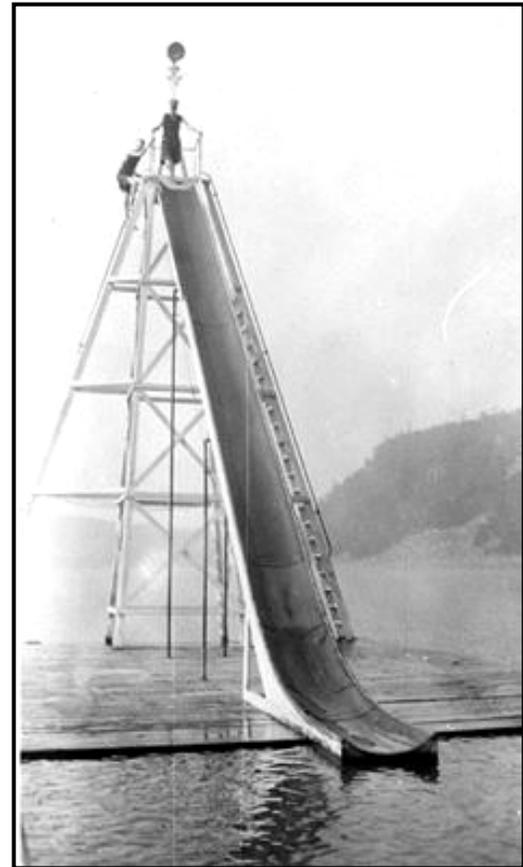
**-Photo Section I-**



Interesting photo from the banks of Devils Lake.... in this 1877 incident ... look at the crowd along the bank. One could easily assume we were at war with some approaching Navy. The cannon is braced from falling into the lake and at the ready for firing! But in fact - we were not at battle this June day; it was the first firing of the cannon at the 1877 Devils Lake Regatta. WOW did they get a crowd for that event. Photo and description by Dennis Kluge

Also..a fun slide, may be a little scary!

**Devil's Lake Misc.**





President Franklin D. Roosevelt (lower right) visits a camp in Virginia's Shenandoah Valley.

Planting Trees



Charles Ringling Home  
201 Eighth Street c2013  
Photos by Bill Johnsen



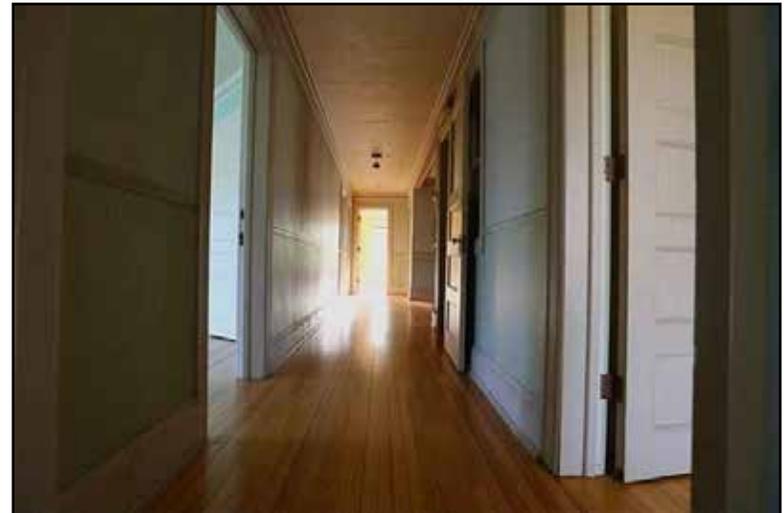


Charles Ringling Home  
201 Eighth Street c2013  
Photos by Bill Johnsen





Charles Ringling Home  
201 Eighth Street c2013  
Photo by Bill Jounson





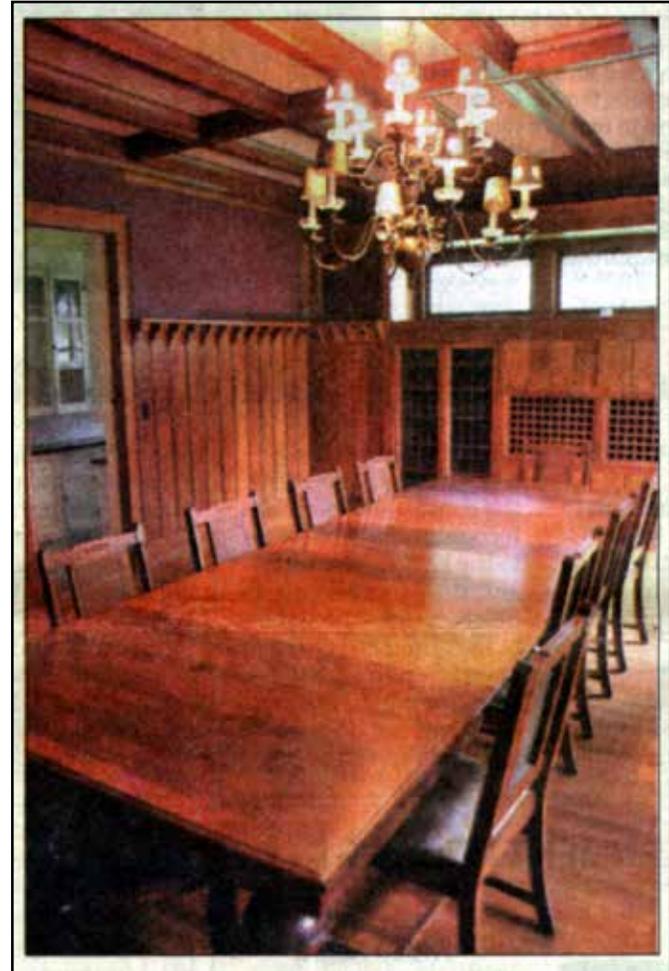
Charles Ringling Home  
201 Eighth Street c2013  
Photos by Bill Johnson





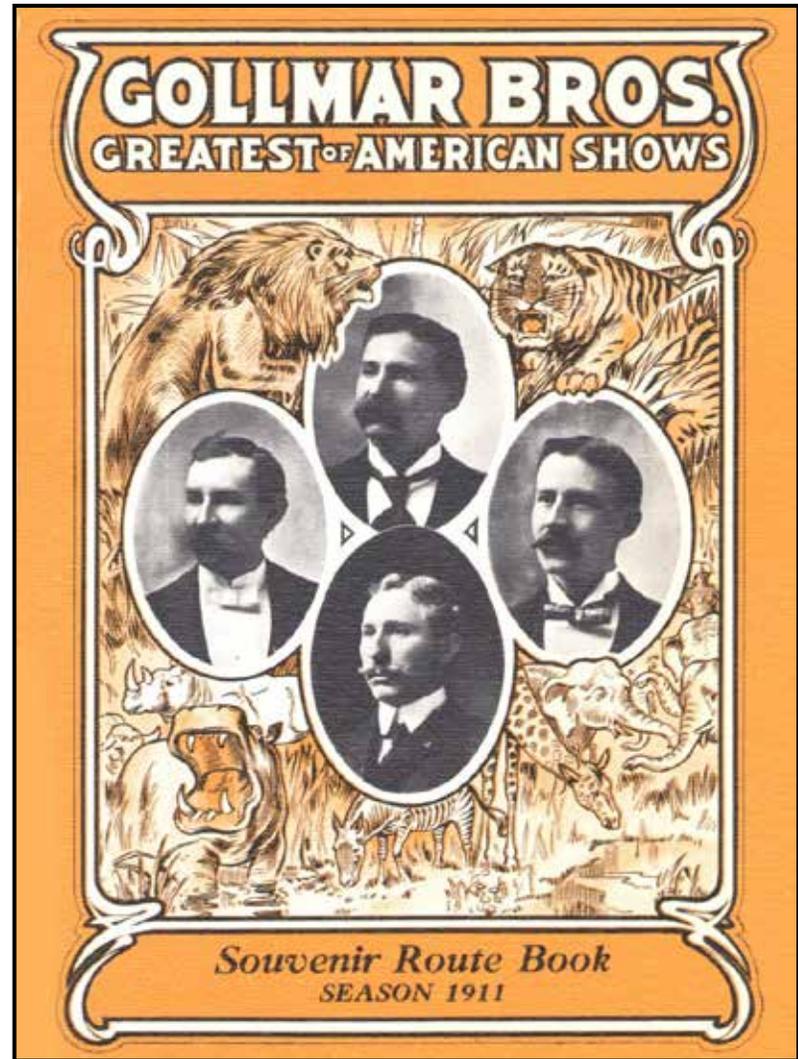
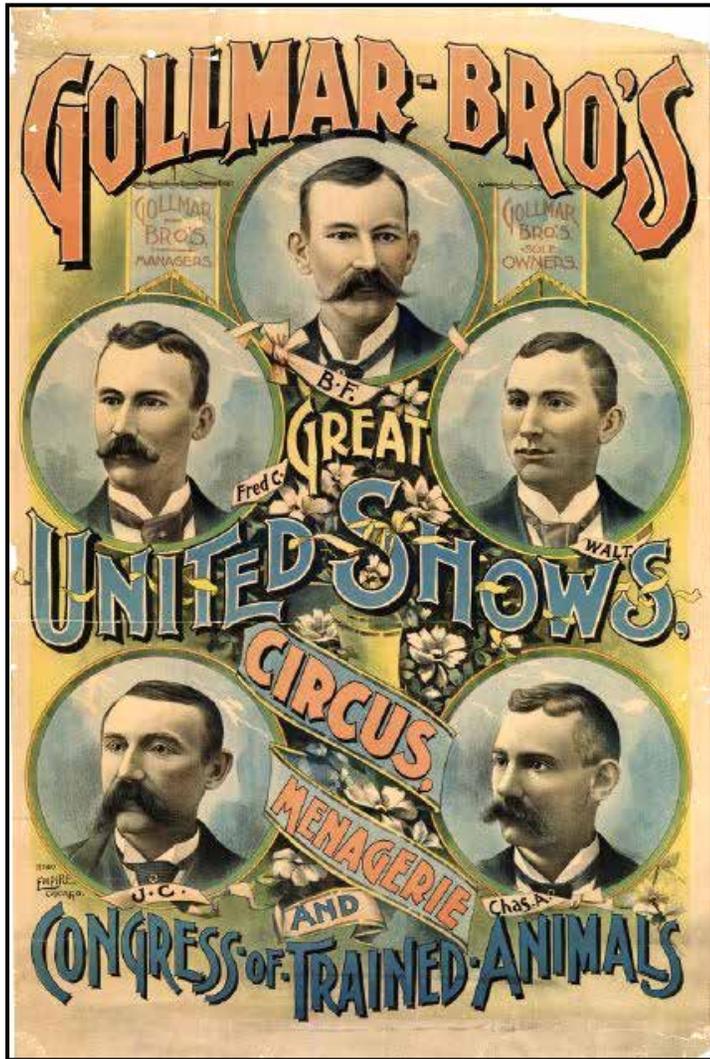
Charles Ringling Home  
201 Eighth Street c2013  
(Photos by Bill Johnsen)

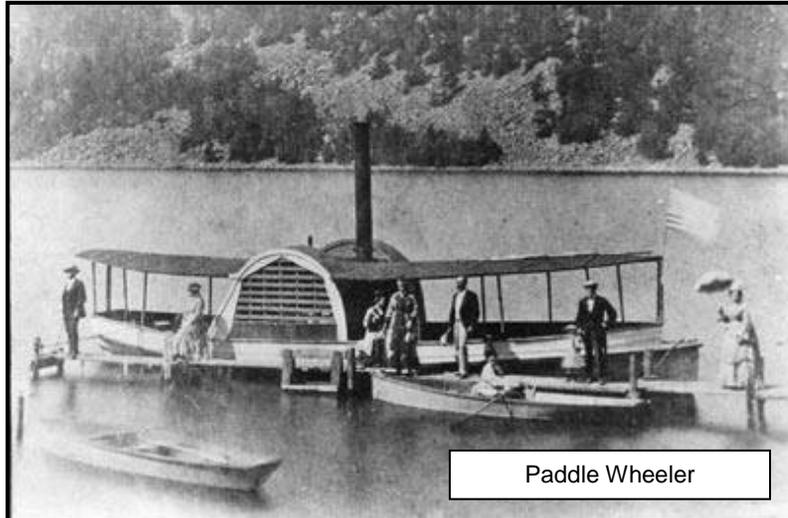




Intercom

Charles Ringling Home  
201 Eighth Street c2013  
Photos by Bill Johnsen

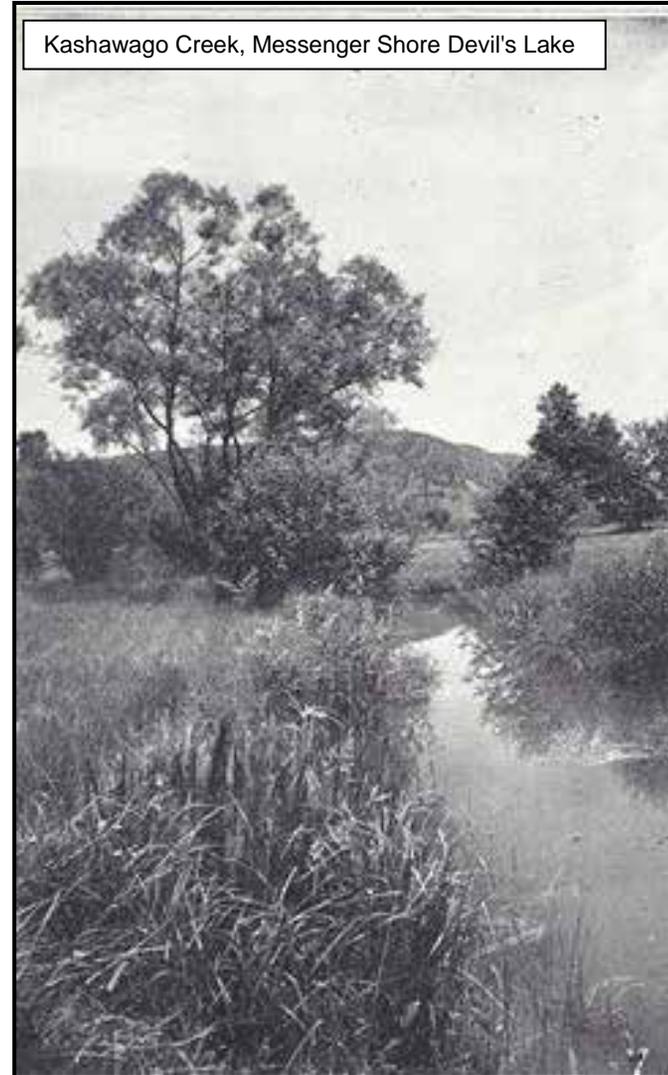




Paddle Wheeler



Silver Dale Resort entrance..c1925



Kashawago Creek, Messenger Shore Devil's Lake

Devil's Lake Misc.

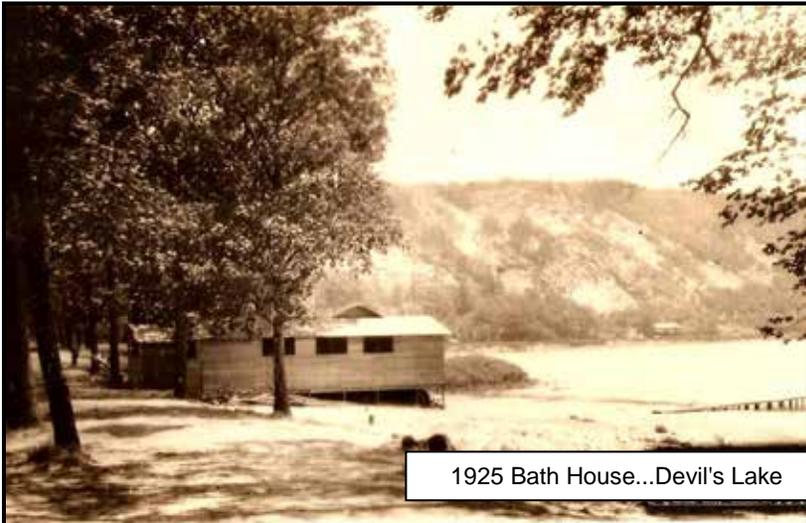
One or both of the cottages shown below were eventually rented as tourist housing under the name of the "South Shore Lodge" and sold at auction in the 1970's.



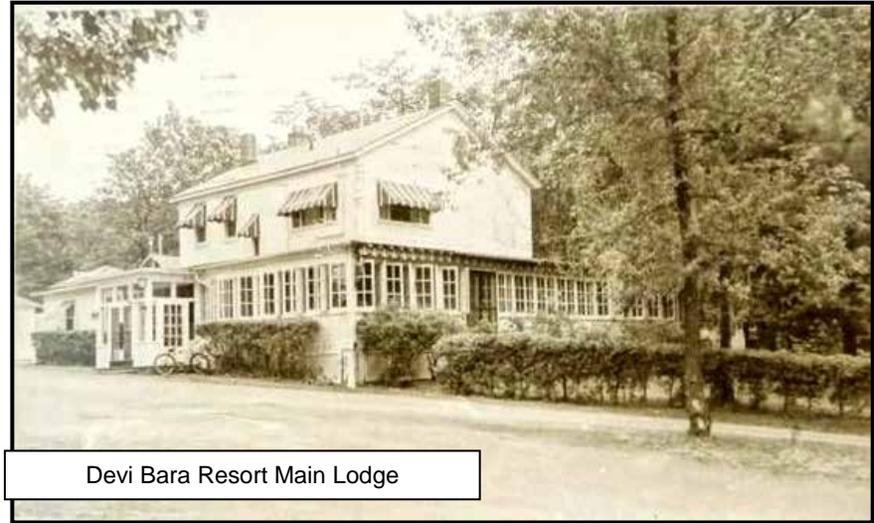
**Ringling's Summer Homes**

Mr. & Mrs. Harry North's Cottage, located on a thin ribbon of land between the south-shore road and the lake and west of and adjacent to Henry Ringling's "summer home"..

Henry Ringling's "summer home"...S. shore of Devil's Lake was constructed in 1915; there was only a foot path joining the SW corner of the lake to the SE corner at that time so Ringling converted the path into a road.



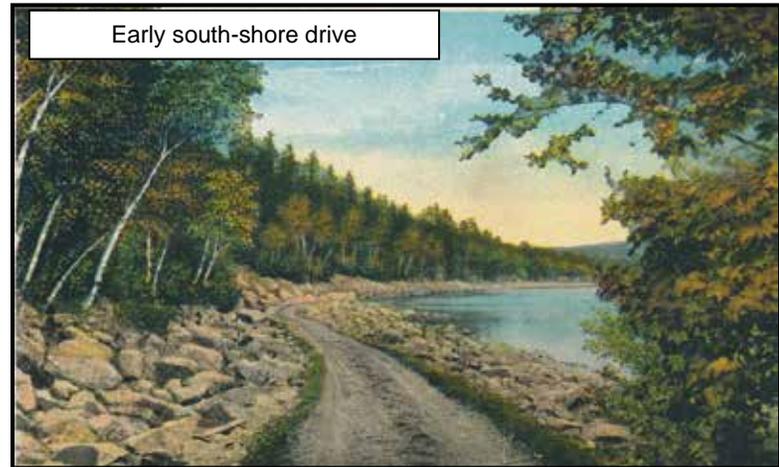
1925 Bath House...Devil's Lake



Devi Bara Resort Main Lodge

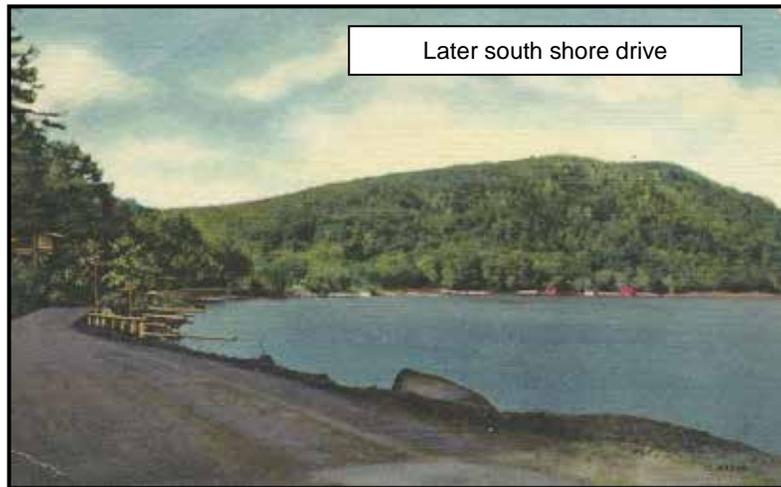


Early on referred to as "Messenger Shore"



Early south-shore drive

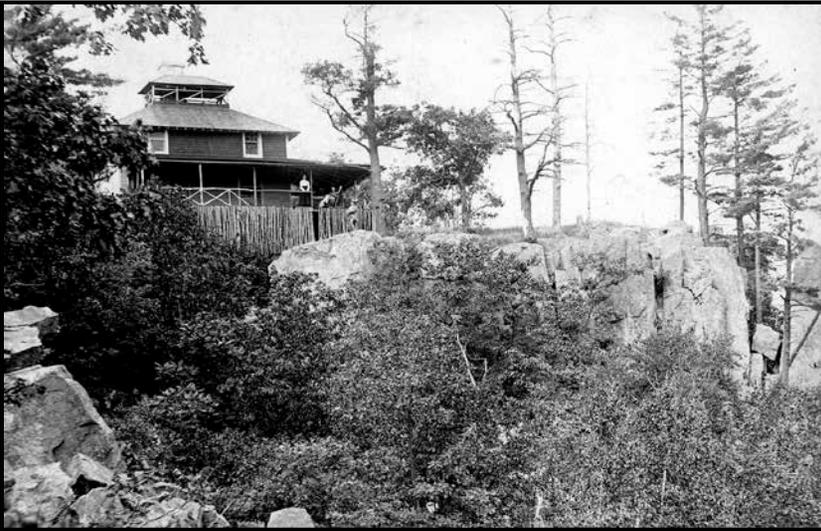
**Devil's Lake, South Shore Drive**



Later south shore drive

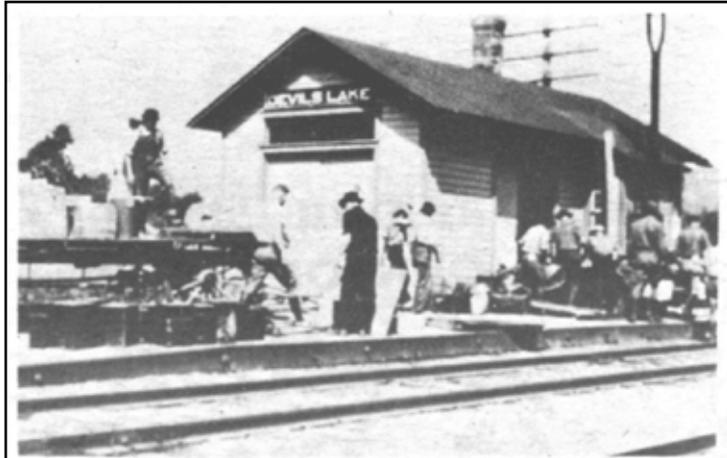


South Shore Drive...c2013

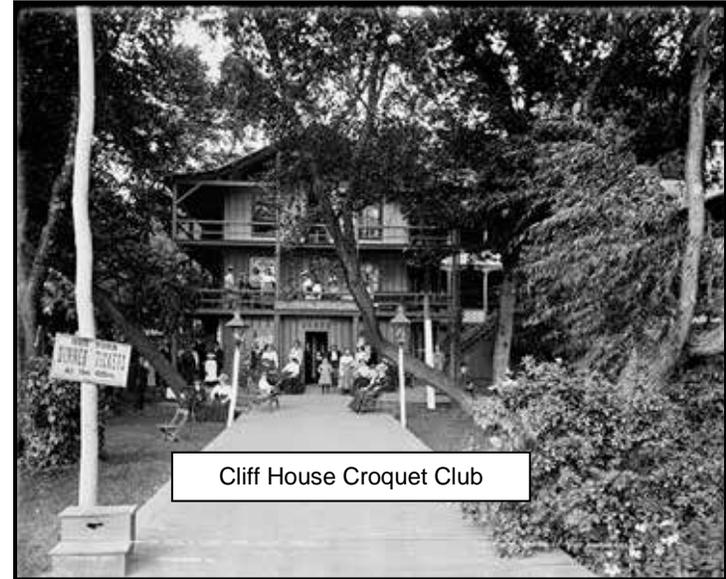


Beginning in 1894, Arthur R. Ziemer platted out "80 plus" lots on top of the west bluff in a development he called *Palasades Park*. The 90 acre development included plans for a hotel and park. A road made from crushed stone from the Hopkins Quarry led the way to the top of the bluff. An early plat shows the lots along the edge of the bluff. Several cottages were constructed along with an observatory tower 85 feet high. Mr. Ziemer died in 1895 at the age of 25 from Typhoid fever in his west bluff cottage. The project was picked up by others and continued until about 1941.

Also shown..Palisades' Park tennis court and cows grazing.

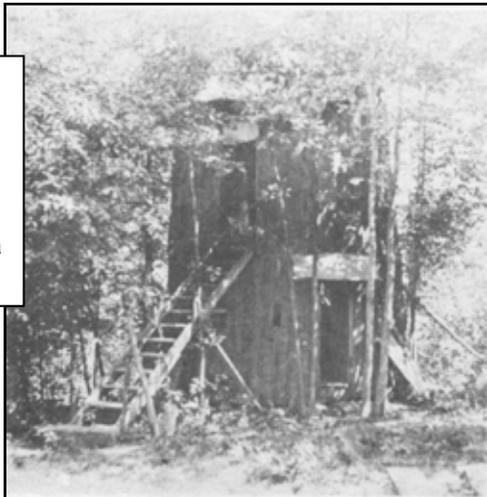


*South Shore Railroad Station No. 2.  
UW Survey Camp unloading, 1920's.*



Cliff House Croquet Club

Canfield's  
Tree House  
at South-  
East corner  
of Devil's  
Lake, back  
off the road a  
little.



*Canfield's Tree House at Devils Lake.*

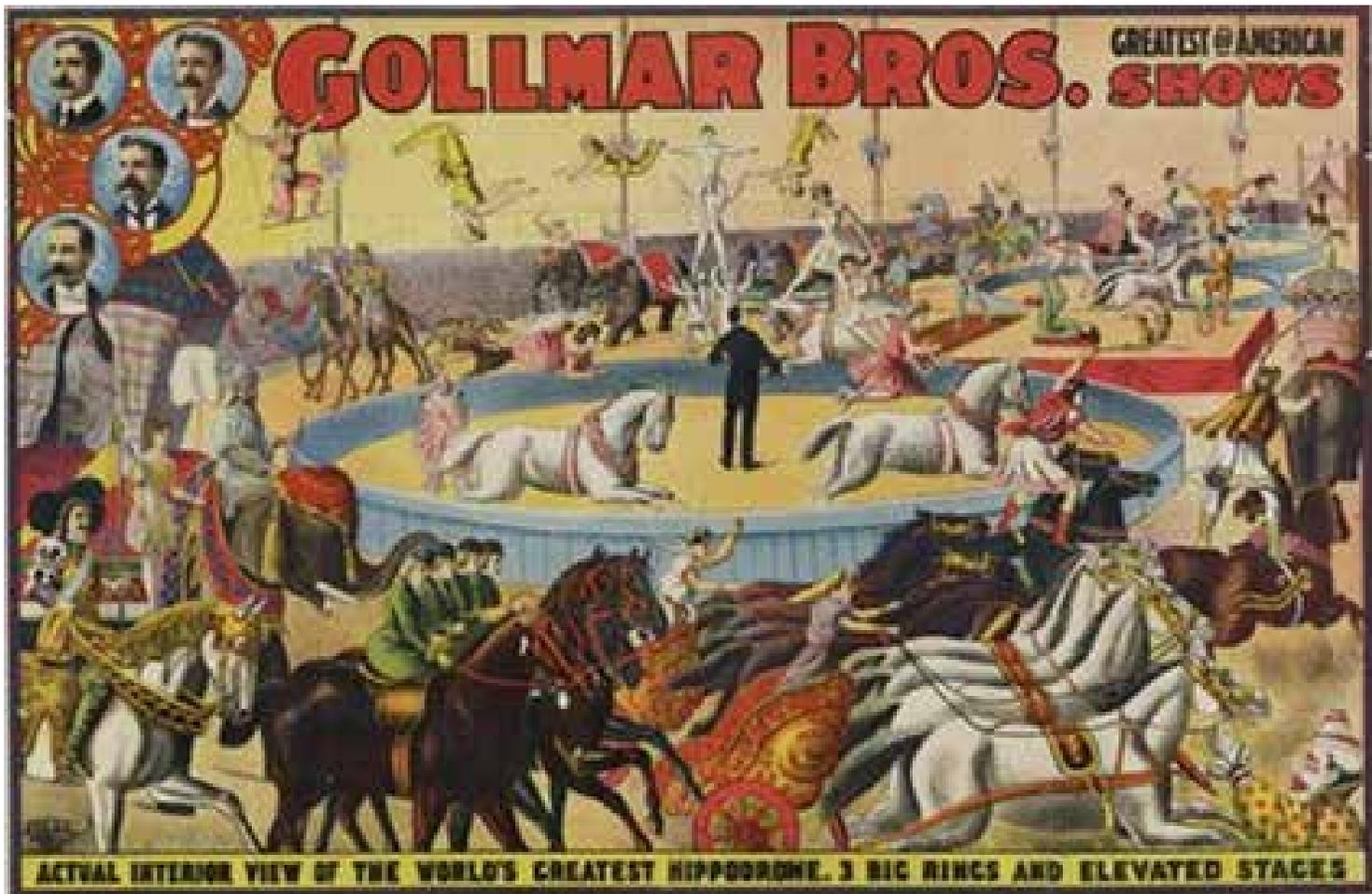
Station shown below was moved about 500 feet south after this photo was taken.



*Old South Shore Railroad Station at "Kirkland".*



Gollmar Brothers' Circus winter quarters...Second Avenue on the Baraboo River Bank....Island Woolen Mill in the background....Mary Rountree Park not visible to the far right. c1903-1916/17



**Former Hospital Staff Members**



Dr. J. Moon



Dr. R. Cahoon



Dr. F. Winslow



Dr. H. Vander Kamp



Dr. F. Tryan



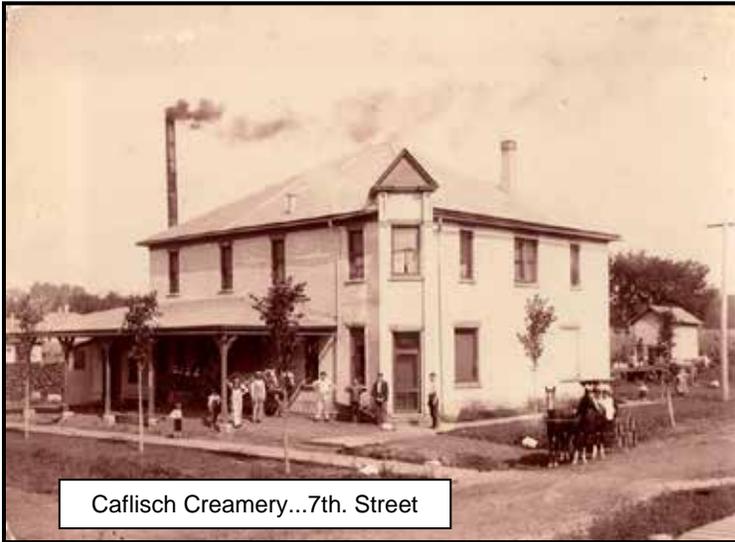
Dr. D. Kelly



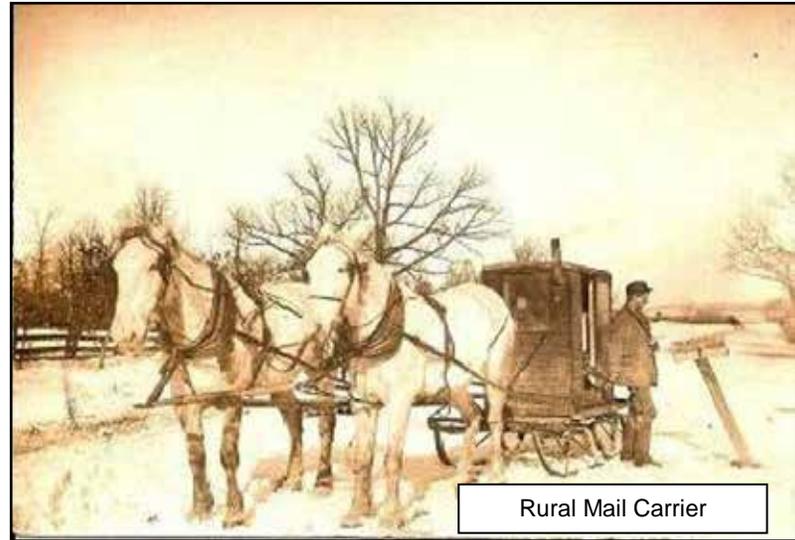
Dr. H. Irwin



Dr. A. Farnsworth



Cafflich Creamery...7th. Street



Rural Mail Carrier



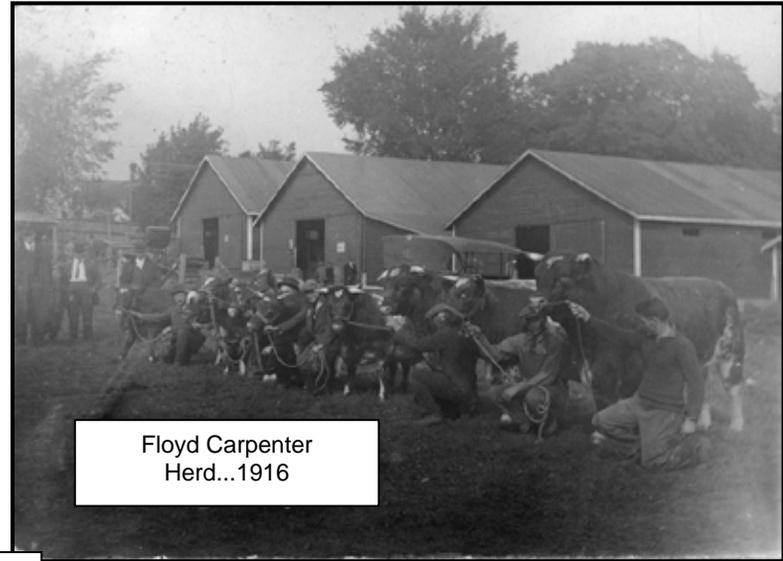
August Platt Ice Delivery



Cahoon Mine



1945 L-R...Paula Krueger, Carol Clift,  
Lou Ann Marquardt, Judy Farrell

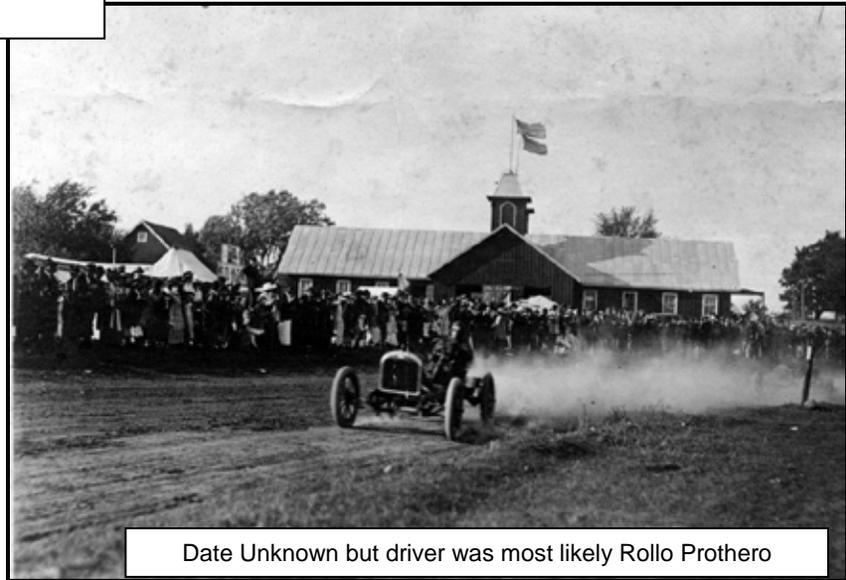


Floyd Carpenter  
Herd...1916

**Sauk County  
Fair**



Date Unknown



Date Unknown but driver was most likely Rollo Prothero

