

Koshawago Founders

KOSHAWAGO
FOUNDERS

About Koshawagos

The Koshawagos (Men of the Valley) incorporated in 1899 and had a club house at Devil's Lake at Messenger's Shore. The purpose of the club was and is of a social nature. Matthew H. Mould was the president and Joseph W. Power was the secretary.

ABBREVIATED BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF THE FOUNDERS

H. M. MOULD

-HENRY MATTHEW MOLD-

Mr. Henry M. Mould took a clerkship in the **Owen & M. H. Mould Book Store** in 1872 and in 1873 purchased the stock and business. In November of 1879 Mould moved his newly acquired business to the new Burrington Block at 504 Oak Street. In 1885 Mr. Mould took on the job as postmaster of Baraboo, but retained his interest in the store. In fact, the post office may have been in the rear of the bookstore at that time.

On January 7, 1886 Mould took in **A.G. Buckley** as a partner, establishing the **Mould & Buckley, Book Store and Cigars** and in 1892 moved to the southerly portion of the J. J. Gattiker building at 512 Oak.

E. G. MARRIOTT

-EDWARD G. MARRIOTT-

Edward G. Marriott was born in Wollaston, Northamptonshire, England on September 30, 1850 Mr. & Mrs. Ebenezer Marriott.

He served an apprenticeship as a shoemaker in England and in 1869 came to America and settled in Baraboo, going to work for Avery & Green where he remained until 1870.

He then went to work for Gibson & Dibble who were located in the old frame building at 502 Oak where the First National Bank

later stood. In 1875, Gibson & Dibble moved across the street to the Mills Block.

It was reported in January of 1876 that the firm had dissolved and Gibson would carry on. Gibson advertised a going out of business sale in August of 1876 and sold his store to **E. G. Marriott** in September of 1876; at this point it is not sure where the store was located.

After purchasing the stock of Gibson, **E. G. Marriott** established his boot and shoe business in the same location. He moved very to 116 Third Street in 1876, leased the building and opened the **Marriott Shoe Store**.

In January of 1900, the Leiser brothers, located at 528 Oak Street sold their shoe stock to M. L. Patterson and Chas. Whitman who assumed charge of the business immediately. As soon as the shoes were put up for liquidation, **E. G. Marriott** purchased the complete shoe stock totaling \$8,000, at that time a pretty large purchase. The store was then re-opened under the name of **Marriott & Co. Shoe Store**. The Leiser brothers were adjudicated bankrupt with claims against them amounting to \$6,000 with more expected. There were no assets.

He remained in the shoe business until about 1905 when he gave up his active interest. At that time it was reported that the business was incorporated with his son, **William H. Marriott** and William's son, **E. Dean Marriott**, as active partners. (There is some question as to whether or not E. Dean Marriott was an active partner). In November of 1907, **Mayor E. G. Marriott** purchased the Gattiker Block on Third Street for \$16,500. The real estate included the

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buildings located at 110, 114 and 116 Third Street. Mrs. E. Pfannstiehl, Miss Gritli Gattiker and Miss Louise Gattiker owned the property.

TOM ENGLISH

-T. W. ENGLISH-

In April of 1895, **Lee, Pratt & English Hardware Store** became the new name of the hardware firm hitherto known as Lee & Pratt and located at 107 Third Avenue.

Arrangements were completed by which **T. W. English** became a partner of C. H. Lee and A. H. Pratt. **Mr. English** was backed by abundant experience, having been associated with Ira L. Humphrey in the store at the foot of the hill a number of years prior. It was expected that English would assume general charge of the store while Messrs. Lee and Pratt would look after their extensive jobbing and furnace department. In October 1898 the hardware began a remodeling project.

About 1899 the store moved to 115 Third Avenue. This move was prompted by the fact that this building's interior was originally designed and had, for many years accommodated a hardware store.

In May of 1899, the hardware store underwent an expansion at the rear of the store. The timbers used were from the old Methodist church.

In April of 1900, Aden Pratt retired from the firm and Messrs. Chas. Lee and **T. W. English** purchased his interest. The firm, which would then be known as the **Lee and English Hardware Company** would remain in business. Mr. Pratt's plans for the future were unknown. The hardware store promptly obtained August Ockershauser as a salesman. Ockershauser had previously been in the tin and hardware business as well as being employed by the Gattiker Hardware.

In March of 1903, the **Lee & English Hardware Co.** was incorporated under the laws of Wisconsin, with a capital stock of \$20,000. The following officers were elected: C. H. Lee, President, **T. W. English, Vice-president** and A. Ockershauser, Secretary. The object of the incorporation was to give some of the help an interest in the business, thereby giving them more incentive to a laudable effort.

It was reported in December of 1905 that as of January 1906 the following changes would be made to the ownership of the firm. **T. W. English** would retire from the firm and J. D. Two and Will J. Radtke would assume his interest. Mr. Two lived in Minneapolis and was a salesman for a wholesale hardware firm. It was presumed that he would not play the role of an active partner. Radtke who had eight years of practical experience with the late Marriott Brothers' Hardware and their successors, Settergren & Pittman, would take charge of the inside management of the new firm while Lee, the president of the firm would continue to be in charge of the shop and outside work. The name of the new firm would be The Lee-Radtke Hardware Company.

AMOS JOHNSON

-AMOS P. JOHNSON-

On February 16 of 1880, **A. P. Johnson & Co.** partners, **A. P. Johnson** and **B. S. Doty** announced the dissolution of their partnership. Doty sold his interest in the business to **William E. Briscoe**, the firm then being known as **Johnson & Briscoe**. The firm was located at 412 Oak Street.

In October of 1880, **Messrs. Amos P. Johnson and William Briscoe** removed their stock of flour, feed, grain, etc. from the stone building on Oak Street to the old Head-Quarters Building at 139 Third Avenue where they felt they would have more room and be more conveniently situated.

One of the best bargains secured for sometime was the purchase in April of 1884, of the Henry Moeller property by **A. P.**

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Johnson for the sum of \$2,500. The property consisted of two lots, one on which is this two-story brick building. **Johnson Flour & Feed** planned on moving as soon as some finishing touches were applied to his new building and a four-ton set of Franklin's scales were installed.

From 1884 to 1891 **Amos P. Johnson, Flour & Feed** was located here while in October of 1891, Monroe & Teel announced that they had dissolved their partnership, probably at 412 Oak street, which actually took effect November 1, 1891. Mr. Teel purchased Monroe's interest in the refrigerator storehouse and retained the lime business.

Mr. Monroe acquired Teel's interest in the flour and feed store. It was then determined that a new firm, to be known as Teel Brothers Flour and Feed, would conduct a flour and feed business at this stand lately occupied by **A. P. Johnson**. However, it was reported on August 29 that Nelson Teel and Robert Schneller were preparing to take control of this business, which would be known as Teel & Schneller Flour and Feed. In the September 3, 1891 issue of the Sauk County Democrat, the company was advertising as Schneller & Company, which probably included Teel as a minor shareholder.

It is not clear what happened to **Amos Johnson**...he may have just sold his business.

HARRY ACOTT

-HARRY M. ACOTT-

Harry M. Acott was born in London in 1881, later setting sail for America. After a few months in New York, he moved to Baraboo where he took a job as clerk in the store of Davis & Jackson. A year later he went to work representing the Boston Boot & Shoe Company. A year later, he found himself back at Davis & Jackson. In September of 1888 he opened his own clothing store, doing business

at 130 Third Street as **Harry M. Acott, Clothier**. This address was given as 318 third in the 1890 Sauk County Directory. In 1902, Acott was proudly showing off a new large gasoline lamp that added much to the appearance of the store in the evening. James Farnsworth installed the lamp. In January of 1914, and after selling an interest to Oscar L. Gust, the business became known as **Acott-Gust Clothing Co.** Gust at one time clerked for Acott for about ten years then left and worked for a manufacturing firm in Milwaukee and also for the Ringling Brothers. This partnership lasted until about 1917 when the business was again being operated as **The Acott Clothing Co.**

In October of 1925, the **Acott** store closed its doors for the last time and the Peck Mercantile Co. purchased the remaining stock at a private sale. About \$4,000 was paid and Peck Mercantile held the final liquidation sale on the premises

PHIL CRAMER

-PHILLIP D. CRAMER-

Samuel H. Peck, father of Roy T. Peck, who was in business at 124 Ash Street, joined forces with **Philip D. Cramer** and built a 2 story, 30 X 80, brick building at 116-118 Ash Street in 1891 for \$4,000.

It was reported in September of 1891, that Peck & Cramer had purchased of the Y.M.C.A., an empty lot adjacent to Irving's Barber Shop on which to erect a store in the near future. Also, In October the paper stated that Peck & Cramer had broken ground near their present location to erect a new 30 X 80 ft. two-story building. The building was expected to be complete by February of 1892. D. Worth was the builder. The Republic, dated March 3, 1892 reported that Peck and Cramer moved into their fine new brick store on Ash Street just north of the bridge last Thursday. The cost of the building, it was said, amounted to \$4500.

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business. In July of 1891, they “fitted up a warehouse adjoining their store”. Also in July of 1891, it was reported that Mrs. Lavoo’s building, adjacent to Peck & Cramer was razed? In January of 1901, the partnership of **S. H. Peck** and **Phil Cramer** was dissolved. Peck would continue the business. The business was then known as **S. H. Peck Dry Goods**.

BERT CRAMER

In 1902 the Woo Len Laundry was located at 121 Fourth Street and in 1903 Charles W. Ibe Tailor Works was sharing space at this site. In 1905 **Bert Cramer** opened a new Dye House here. Then in February of 1907, William Allen purchased the dye works from Cramer, naming it the Baraboo Steam Dye Works. William Millard would be in charge of the dye works for Allen. In December of 1908, William Millard found himself the new owner of the business, having purchased it from Cramer.

GEORGE CRAMER

-DR. G.L.G. CRAMER-

In 1890 **Dr. George L. D. Cramer**, Physician & Surgeon as well as Dr. Benjamin F. Mills, were practicing their trade at 106 Third Street. In 1898, Dr. Cramer was located 419-1/2 Oak Street.

WILLIAM KUNZELMAN

-WILLIAM ARTHUR KUNZELMAN-

From September 1, 1894 to 1896 Gustav Wagenbreth and **William Kunzelman** were partners in the **Wagenbreth and Kunzelman Restaurant** venture located at 112/114 Fourth Avenue; Kunzelmann had worked as a clerk for Marriott's Shoe Store for the prior 15 years.

Then in July of 1896, Wagenbreth sold his interest in the saloon and restaurant business to **Kunzelman**, who would conduct

the business thereafter as the **William Kunzelman Sample Room**. Wagenbreth moved to a farm a short distance from Baraboo.

In 1900 George Ruhland sold this property to **Kunzelmann** and at the same time, purchased the building on the northeast corner of the intersection of Oak and Fourth Street, the later location of Ernest Sanderson's barbershop. This may have been the building on Oak behind 101 Fourth Street. **Kunzelman** retained the saloon license until at least 1909.

The Gustave Wagenbreth Saloon did operate here in 1913 but **William Kunzelman** owned the saloon license here in 1916. In 1931, this business was known as **Kunzelman Confectionery** and/or **Kunzelman's Ice Cream Parlor**. William Kunzelman died October 19, 1939. He was 76 years old and had been proprietor of businesses at this site since the 1890's. The operation and ownership of the parlor was then transferred to **Mrs. William Kunzelman** and her son, **W. Arthur Kunzelman**.

W. J. POWER

-WILLIAM JOSEPH POWER-

Power's Tailor Shop was first established about the time of the Civil War, although as early as 1854 **Mr. Power, Sr.** first began to measure the dimensions of Baraboo citizens. It was at the close of the war that he established his own business at the site of the present shop at 410 Oak Street. His son, **William J. Power**, began to learn the tailor trade there with his Father in 1883 and in 1889 the son took over the business which he operated up to the time of his death in August of 1922 at the age of 56. For 60 consecutive years the tailor shop has been in its present location, making it one of the oldest businesses in the city and with few exceptions one of the oldest in the same location.

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JACK LAYDEN

-J. W. LAYDEN-

Jack Layden was a train dispatcher in 1905.

ENOS SHERMAN

Enos Sherman was a railway engineer and belonged to the B. of L. E. Benevolent Society in 2003-2004 according to the city directory

IRA SHERMAN

Ira Sherman was a railway engineer in 1895.

L. E. HOYT

-LESTER E. HOYT-

L. E. Hoyt, in May of 1894, moved his stock of **flour and feed** to 135 Third Street from the Masonic Building.

On March 22, 1897, shortly before 3:00 in the afternoon, the great mass of ice that had accumulated above the Oak Street to Vine Street Bridge, known as the "High Bridge", presented too great a load on the dam supplying **Hoyt's Mill** and Mark Warren's Light Plant, and carried away the dam in total. The dam, which was owned, by **Hoyte**, Warren and McFetridge was rebuilt as soon as the water level subsided. The cost probably ran between \$2,000 and \$3,000.

The **Home Roller Mills**, as it was called at this time, and still the property of **L. E. Hoyt**, was completely destroyed by fire on July 5 of 1902. There was conjecture that the fire was a result of fireworks being set off on the high bridge next to the mill. Burning shingles were carried almost to the fairgrounds. The mill office and two barns across the street were destroyed. With the mill went about 200 barrels of flour, 1200 bushels of wheat and considerable corn, rye and oats. The loss was about \$20,000 to \$25,000 with \$10,000

insurance. The destruction was most complete, nothing being left but the dam and the timbers under water.

By December of the same year, **Hoyt** was busy having plans prepared for a new flouring and feed mill and electric light plant to be built on the old mill site. The mill was to be 28 feet by 36 and the electric light building would be about the same ground floor dimensions, but would only be one story. The material had been ordered and the work would begin when weather permitted.

In September of 1902, a twenty-year franchise for the operation of a gas and electric plant was granted to **L. E. Hoyt**. One of the conditions was that **Hoyt** would not consolidate with Strong's lighting plant and that the franchise be accepted within 60 days.

In June of 1903, **Hoyt** again applied for a franchise to provide the citizens of Baraboo with electricity for the next 25 years. This was according to an ordinance that was before the council at that time. The ordinance did not give Hoyt a monopoly however; the city was free to build their own plant as well as to grant permission to other private firms to do the same. The ordinance had not passed at the time of Hoyt's application.

In March of 1906, at a sheriff's execution sale, Dithmar & Carrow purchased the **L. E. Hoyt** dam and rights under the dam. However, in March of 1907, in front of the courthouse, the sheriff sold the dam and waterpower including some land under the Oak Street Bridge to the First National Bank for the sum of \$5,000. This plant had been one of the leading water-powers in Baraboo until the building was destroyed by fire. The Baraboo property was under the control of the Western Gas & Investment Company, a South Dakota Company.

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L. T. OSBORNE

-LLEWELLYN TRELOAR OSBORNE-

In May of 1898, **Llewellyn Treloar Osborne** and his brother **W. H. Osborne** of Mineral Point leased the building at 150 Third Street, for a term of 2-1/2 years. Both of the Osborne's were traveling salesmen for the tobacco firm of Daniel Scotten & Co. of Detroit for many years. The partners were to establish a grocery store here. In January of 1900, the Osborne brothers decided to close their place of business. They immediately placed their complete stock, as well as fixtures, up for sale. **L. T.** promptly acquired a position with the Jewet & Sherman Coffee House as a drummer. **W. T. Osborne** decided to return to his hometown of Mineral Point, and open a grocery store there. However, it was reported in February of 1901 that he gave up his business there and went back on the road for the firm he worked for a few years ago.

On June 4, 1909, about 9:30 pm, the gas launch, Sans Souci, owned and operated by Chas. Sladdeck of Sauk City was traveling down the Fox River near Berlin, having on board the owner and Mr. **L. T. Osborne** of Baraboo and Frank P. Neu of Prairie du Sac. They were not familiar with the river and did not know of a fast approaching Berlin dam. Before they realized the situation they found themselves quite near to the dam. The boat struck the slash board on top of the dam and the boat went over the dam sideways.

Bennie Vetchke, who was in the vicinity with his fishing launch, heard the men's cries. He went to the rescue as quickly as possible and succeeded in saving the launch owner who hung onto his boat until rescued. **Osborne** and Neu, after a struggle, sank to a watery grave. The men were supposedly on their way to Oshkosh.

OSCAR MESSENGER

The southwestern shore, across the lake from the former Kirkland and Lake View hotels, is called **Messenger Shore**, after a

family that lived there. The first Messenger live there was Lyman C. Messenger, a man who mounted rattlesnakes; reportedly he caught the reptiles by "hypnotizing" them.

Oscar Messenger, his son, resided here with his wife, Emma, and their 3 children, LeRoy, Alvah and Dorothy; he died around 1900. Mrs. Messenger outlived her husband by a number of years.

Oscar Messenger managed the Lake View resort for Hopkins for a few years in the early 1890's, but then he erected his own buildings, including a hotel, by the southwestern corner of the lake. The hotel had a lawn where people relaxed, played croquet and lawn tennis, or pitched horseshoes. Meals were prepared and served in a pavilion, which also functioned as an entertainment house. By the lake there was a refreshment stand, which was also used for storing oars and bathing suits. The rates in the early 1900's were \$1.50 a day or from \$7 to \$8 a week.

The **Messenger's** ran a paddlewheel steamboat, "Alvah," named after their oldest daughter, in the 1890's, and LeRoy Messenger used a gasoline launch to meet the passenger trains at the Kirkland station in the early 1900's.

The **Messenger's** had a vegetable garden near the lake and one of their hired help was a gardener.

This family and also Edward Martin, a local farmer, were cutting marsh hay by **Messenger Shore** before the park was established and this activity was continued after 1911. Some of the hay was stored in the **Messenger** barn. These were horse and buggy days and the people who journeyed to the lake from places to the west and south, intending to picnic at Kirkland, left their wagons by Messenger shore and rented a boat for 25 cents. If they wanted their horses to feed while they were at Kirkland, they put the animals in the barn for 10 cents and the horses could munch on hay cut from the lakeshore.

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There was talk in the early 1900's of a vacation on **Messenger Shore** being a cure for hay fever, and people were buying lots along the south shore. By 1910 there were 31 cottages at this end of the lake and eventually there were 43 parcels of private land along the south shore. Most of the cottagers sold their property to the state (a transaction of \$1) in return for rent-free leases with expiration dates of 1970-1973.

Mrs. Messenger sold to the state in 1911. Lucius D. Prader, who secured the first concession in the park, tore down some of the buildings (not the hotel, pavilion, or barn) for the lumber, which he used for concession buildings along the north shore. The first park manager and his wife lived for a while in the hotel, and there was a grocery store in the pavilion for a few years after the park was established.

H. H. HALSTEAD

In July of 1919, there was work going on in an effort to remodel the old Ruhland Brewery building to transform it into a wholesale grocery firm by the name of Gerber Wholesale. The wholesale firm took hold and in May of 1920, the property was knocked down to **H. H. Halstead** for \$9,000. The property included this address plus land along the river.

C. E. NEWELL

C. E. Newell was listed as a Railway Machinist in the 1903-1904 city directory.

GEORGE DASH

-GEORGE B. DASH-

In March of 1907, the **Pearl Light Company** was formed by **G. B. Dash and W. C. Blaska**. The owners of the new company had invented a new and better gasoline lighting system, which they claimed was far superior to anything on the market. Blaska had an

office in the city and Dash was spending his time on the road setting up sales representatives. At that time the item was being manufactured in Chicago by a specialty factory.

In 1901 **George B. Dash** leased the **Ruhland Building** at 110 Fourth Avenue, where he established **Dash's Bowling Alleys**. On Tuesday evening, October 1st. 1901, Dash opened his new bowling alley. The three alleys were kept going from 8:00 in the evening to midnight. Those who were in a position to know say this was the finest alley in the state outside of Milwaukee. The building was extended back to the alley and was well arranged for such a place. In May of 1903, Dash moved one of his alleys to Kilbourn where it was intended to be conducted as a branch. In November of 1903, Dash was granted a permit to establish a shooting gallery here and the gallery opened on Saturday, November 14 with prizes given.

In July of 1905, **Henry K. Dillenbeck** purchased Dash's cigar store and poolroom business, discontinuing his business on Oak Street. Dash would move to Kilbourn to watch over his bowling alleys there. In November of 1905, Dash removed his bowling alley and shipped it to Rio.

SAM PECK

-SAMUEL H. PECK-

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Ringling Builds Road to South Shore Devil’s Lake

At an early date, date unknown, Henry Ringling had a road constructed around the south shore of the lake and built a cottage that was later known as the South Shore Lodge. Prior to that time a steamboat was the only mode of transportation to Messenger Shore and Kirkland.

1910

The Confectionery Stand belonging to Mrs. Messenger at Devil's lake was destroyed by fire in July of 1910. The origin of the fire was a mystery with the theory being advanced that some mice plus an open match box might have been the cause.

South Shore Access

In June of 1914 the park board laid out a new road connecting the Messenger shore of Devil’s Lake with the East Sauk Road.



Samuel H. Peck Dry Goods circa 1885 124 Ash Street
Located on the south-east corner of the intersection of Water and Ash Street

Messenger's Shore...Southwest corner of Devil's Lake c1906



L-R...Charles E Brown of Milwaukee
and
Joyce W. Caron, H.E. Cole & A. B. Stout, all of Baraboo