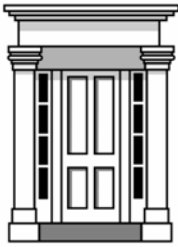


SHEBOYGAN COUNTY



HISTORICAL
RESEARCH
CENTER



Above: the Kohler -Andre park main entrance sign.

Below: Terry Andrae, wearing many of the medals he won racing High Wheel bicycles between 1885 and 1892.



The Researcher

The Newsletter of the Sheboygan County
Historical Research Center

Volume XXVI Number 6 August 2016

Kohler Andre Park



Kohler-Andrae's landscape is an interesting mix of river marsh, pine and hardwood forests, long beaches and beautiful sand dunes overlooking Lake Michigan, one of the largest bodies of fresh water on earth. And it is one of our most treasured assets.

Terry Andrae State Park, established in 1927, and John Michael Kohler State Park, established in 1966, total 988 acres. The parks contain over two miles of beaches and sand dunes along the shore of Lake Michigan, with woods and wetlands away from the water. The Black River flows through the parks.

On a cold December day ninety some years ago, Terry and Elsbeth Andrae were at Elkhart Lake winterizing their cottage. They stopped in Sheboygan to get something to eat because the restaurants in Elkhart Lake were closed for the winter. They decided to take the back roads home to Milwaukee.

Their travels took them down a road that went to a place along the lakeshore several miles south of Sheboygan which was for sale. Elsbeth fell in love with the place. Shortly thereafter, they purchased the ninety-two acres of land from the Naths.

Background

Born December 5 1868, the son of Franz Julius and Anna Marie Andrae of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Terry's father operated one of the first electrical contracting firms in the country. Terry convinced his father to sell bicycles at the store, too. In 1881, the Andrae Company began replacing gas street lamps with electric lights on Milwaukee streets. The company also sold and installed telephones and switchboards. As the automobile became popular, the Andrae Company also became an **cont. on p. 4**

The Sheboygan County Historical Research Center is located at 518 Water Street in Sheboygan Falls.

Open Tuesday through Friday, 9:00am – 4:00pm and Saturdays from 8:30am to 12:00 noon.

Closed Saturday, September 3, 2016 for Labor Day. Also closed last two weeks of August for Archiving.

Phone: 920-467-4667

E-mail: research@schrc.org

Website: schrc.org

The Researcher is the official newsletter of the Sheboygan County Historical Research Center, 518 Water Street, Sheboygan Falls, Wisconsin.

It is published six times per year in August, October, December, February, April and June.

The Research Center is the local history archive for Sheboygan County and areas surrounding the county. It is a repository for paper records of all kinds.

The Research Center is a sister organization to the Sheboygan County Historical Society and Museum which collects the artifacts of the county.

If you file it, it comes to the Research Center.

If you dust it, it goes to the Historical Society & Museum.

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**Check out
schrc.org**

**Website updates
weekly
Go to History News
under Collections
Great Stuff!!**

Go Paperless. Receive *The Researcher* via email. Save paper. Save postage and receive a more colorful newsletter. Contact Katie at research@schrc.org to sign up now. Catch us on Facebook— Updates daily.

Don't miss Sheboygan County History column in the Saturday *Sheboygan Press* or online Friday through Sunday each week.

Closed for Archiving

SCHRC will be closed from Monday, August 22—Saturday, September 2 for Archiving. This time we'll be filing and cleaning up the general files. After years of use, they get tattered, need new file folders and labels and have too many copies of the same article. We're going to get rid of the unfiled pile!

**Please support our Business members.
They make all the difference in the quest to save history.**



Feldmann Engineering & Manufacturing

Annual Campaign Goal Reached!!

Thanks to all of our donors- our 2016 Annual Campaign was a great success.

Our newest Legacy Society Members- 2016

John and Deloris Ballhorn
William and LuAnne Cleary Benninghaus
Dolores Hilpertshauser
James and Virginia Hoelter
Tom and Joanne Howe
Julilly Kohler
Steve and Jane Brasser Shaver
Dolores Slesrick
Thomas and Wendy Testwuide

SCHRC's generous Legacy Society Members

Acuity Foundation
Julia Baer
Conrad and Barbara Barrows
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Sue Kennedy
Steve Kestell
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Wenig Funeral Homes

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Ruth Kohler
Windway Fdn. - Terry and Mary Kohler
La Monte Kolste
Rick and Pamela Kroos
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Business Members

Bemis Company	Quasius Construction, Inc.
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Kohler Foundation	Wenig Funeral Homes

auto parts and accessories distributor.

The Andres later purchased an additional twenty acres, bringing their property to 112 acres. In 1925, Terry and Elsbeth Andrae built a summer home which they named Henriette Lodge, in honor of Terry's sister who died two years earlier. They entertained many friends and relatives at their "Pine Dunes" property.

In addition to Henriette Lodge, they converted Detlaf Nath's fisherman's shack on their property into a guest cottage. That cottage was near where the playground is today. The land was still scarred from forest fires in the late 1800s. Mrs. Andrae planted many pine trees to restore the land. Some of them are still standing today. Henriette Lodge had a kitchen on the lower level on the right side of this picture. There were bedrooms on the second floor. On the left side there was a 30 by 50-foot room where they entertained and fed their guests.

In 1926, the Andrae Company was sold to General Electric, but General Electric was not interested in the auto parts business. Terry Andrae kept the auto parts division and called it Andrae Automotive Supply Company. In 1927, when Terry left this summer home on August 13, to return to Milwaukee for a business meeting, he remarked to his wife, Elsbeth. "To me, this is the loveliest place in the world." It was the last time he would see his home. He died just a few hours later.

In 1928, on the anniversary of his death, Elsbeth Andrae donated their "Pine Dunes" acreage to the State of Wisconsin in memory of her husband, Terry, with the condition that it be a State Park named Terry Andrae State Park. Terry Andrae State Park opened on May 1, 1929. This became Wisconsin's 14th state park, and the first to be donated. The land was valued at \$125,000. Mrs. Andre died in California in 1950.

The Park

Henriette Lodge was used as the park shelter building when the park first opened. Campers were allowed to use the kitchen facilities to prepare meals. There was a designated area for camping with no designated campsites. Campers could set up their campsite anywhere within that area. There was no limit on the length of stay. Families would come and set up their camp for the summer. Many men left their families at the campground while they went home and worked during the week. They would return on weekends with groceries and camp with their families for the weekend.

In 1938, the state of Wisconsin approved the first land purchase to expand Terry Andre Park; 16 acres of land with 1,000 feet of frontage on Lake Michigan just north of the original park. The land was purchased from the Herman Gartman heirs. From 1938 – 1965 the State continued to purchase land to expand the park using eminent domain when property owners did not want to sell or would not agree to the price offered by the State.

In 1966 about 650 acres of land was donated by the Kohler Company with the stipulation that it be named John Michael Kohler State Park. It was decided to have two separate parks operated jointly and named; Kohler Andre State Park.



The Henriette Lodge, home to the Andre family.



Cecil White and his family lived in this house when he was the park superintendent, 1952-1979. In the early days of the state park system, the superintendents were required to live on the property in a house provided by the state.



Above: The park was immensely popular right from the start. From the time it opened, people were asking the State of Wisconsin to buy more land to expand the park. Photo circa 1940s.

Below: This is a view of the lakeshore parking lot at the end of Old Park Road in the 1940s. Note the dune east of the parking area. The parking lot is still in use today but dune is long gone and is now all sand beach. The dunes are part of the Kohler Park Dunes State Natural Area, which contains one of the state's largest collections of rare interdunal wetlands — pockets of water and wetlands within the dunes — that exist in less than 10 spots in Wisconsin. A cordwalk snakes through the dunes for two miles along Lake Michigan, providing up-close views of the unique landscape as well as the lake to the east and forest to the west. Also watch for more than 150 bird species that live in or migrate through the park, including red-tailed hawks, sanderlings, sandhill cranes, belted kingfishers and great horned owls.



Lost Places of Sheboygan County

Hoard, New Paris, Bear Lake, Hull's Crossing- what do they have in common? They are lost places of Sheboygan County- communities that were, for a short time, vibrant and busy, but fell into decline and disappeared except for the occasional mention on an old Sheboygan County map.

The settlement of Salina was shown on an original 1837 speculator's map near present-day Cedar Grove. It was to be the center of a great salt industry, with the explanation that the government had made a survey and found two rich layers of salt nearby, and that it had reserved the land.

The only element of truth in this statement was that the government surveyors did run across a natural salt lick on the line between sections 23 and 24 within the present limits of Cedar Grove. Licks were not uncommon in the wilderness; wild animals resorted to them to partake of their saline properties.

But, as far as platted there were no salt licks or salt springs worth mentioning anywhere in the vicinity. The circulars also went on to describe how two piers were constructed at the river mouth in Salina, one on each side of the harbor, with a lookout tower at the end of the north pier. A more dazzling and dishonest picture of conditions can hardly be imagined.

Pine Grove, now part of the Kohler-Andrae State Park, was located along the lakeshore about seven miles south of Sheboygan. Johann Lutz bought forty acres of beachfront property in Town Wilson in one of the most productive fish areas along the western shore of Lake Michigan. There Johann joined a group of Yankee fishermen who had moved from Lake Erie around the Detroit area a few years earlier. They included names now in historical accounts up and down the shoreline of Lake Michigan such as Gilbert Smith, father of the famed Smith brothers of Port Washington, Wisconsin, David Wilson after whom Sheboygan County's maritime-rich Town Wilson is named, Joseph Fairchild, a pioneer in both fishing and farming, and the Osgood brothers.

Hoard - was a small settlement once located around the intersection of Cty Rd GW and Risseuw Road in the town of Holland. In 1874, Benjamin Garside moved to the town of Holland after he lost everything in the great Chicago fire



August Moenning, commercial fisherman, poses with a prize sturgeon caught in Lake Michigan waters off Pine Grove. Sturgeon were once a common fish in Lake Michigan. Moenning's pier was just east of where the Sanderling Nature Center is today, inside Kohler-Andre State Park.

Commercial fishermen hated to catch sturgeon because they usually tore up the nets, requiring extensive repairs. Sturgeon were not worth much on the market. A 150 lb. sturgeon would bring 20-25 cents, if you could find someone to buy it. Often Sturgeon were fed to the pigs or thrown on the shore to rot.



Garside home in Hoard

of 1871. His cooperage burned to the ground, so when he arrived here he started another. He also started a farm and a cheese factory right next door to the old store building that would eventually become a post office.

The post office was added at Hoard on Mar. 29, 1890 and discontinued Aug. 15, 1903; postmaster Ewaldus De Wall. Probably named after William D. Hoard, governor of Wisconsin from 1889 to 1891. It was located in James Lord's house.

The Cheese factory was owned by Garside until 1920, when it came into new ownership, James Lord. It burned down in 1941 and was not rebuilt.

The Hoard School, a log schoolhouse, was built around 1868 and was located about one-half mile south of the crossroads.

Poodles Corners was located on the southeast corner of Hwy 32 and Hwy County A in the town of Holland, Poodles Corner was to have been named because of the cheese factory there. It seems the Dutch term for the hoops used for forming the cheese was hoeppel. The German word was bugel. Perhaps it is a dialectic combination of the two. Another story about the name goes as follows: In the early 1900s, Joe Lensink operated a store next to the cheese factory. It seems he had a hired hand who had very long unruly hair. The store was a favorite spot for men and boys to congregate and, because of the long time between haircuts, the patrons started calling the young man Poodles. Eventually the intersection became known as Poodles Corners. What's true? Who knows.

The first cheese factory there was opened in 1881. In 1884, cheese from the factory was exhibited at the World's Fair in New Orleans and won a premium award. Cheesemaking was discontinued in 1920, and the building was sold to George Te Ronde who eventually tore it down. The corner was also the home of the Te Ronde gas station, an interesting building, Art Deco in design, unusual for the area.

New Paris - was located in the town of Plymouth just south of the city on the Mullet River (Hwy PP at the railroad tracks). The Brickbauer family operated a mill there.

Bear Lake - is really a swamp, .46 acres in size, located in sections 29 and 32 (Highway U and Forest Drive) in the town of Greenbush and named by the government surveyor, Nehemiah King, who jotted in his notebook in 1835, "We could not learn the Indian name of this Lake with any certainty. From the circumstances of their having recently killed bears near it, we gave it the name of Bear Lake."

Entries in the journal of Thomas Weeks, who settled on lands adjacent to Bear Lake, talk of trading with the Indians living there. In November of 1848 and again in February of 1854, Weeks bartered flour, tobacco and powder to his neighbors in return for haunches of venison.

The county's largest, and probably only, muskrat farm was located here in the 1920s and 1930s.

Hulls Crossing was simply a railroad crossing in the town of Greenbush on the southwest side of the Sheboygan Marsh.

Dozens of these lost places mark our past. Grab a map and take a road trip. They make for an interesting ride.



Hulls Crossing in the town of Greenbush.

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Kohler-Andre park cont. from page 5. Below: Camp Taswood



In 1947, Camp Taswood was built on the park property. The camp was operated by Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Smyth and Mr. and Mrs. Edward Mueller. Ten campers could sleep in two army surplus pyramid tents.

In 1948; Four sleeping cabins were built; a walk-in cooler was added to the mess hall.

1949; A 15 x 30 addition to the mess hall was constructed; Five more sleeping cabins were added making a total of twelve camp buildings including a chapel.

In 1951; Last year of camp operation. 1952; Camp buildings converted to summer rental units

In 1955 the Camp property was divided into five parcels among the Smyth family heirs.

The Camp buildings on those parcels were auctioned by the DNR, then moved or salvaged. From 1965 – 1967 the DNR acquired four of those parcels from the Smyth heirs.

In 1957, a big change came to the State Park System for campers when the three week rule was enacted, putting an end to “Endless Summers”. Campers could not stay longer than three weeks. Before, some campers would set up in spring and stay all summer. In 1962, a \$2.00 Admission sticker was required to enter all State Parks.

2016 SCHRC Fall Program Schedule

All programs are open to the public. Most are free of charge.
Second Saturdays is funded in part by a grant from the Wisconsin Humanities Council
and by the John and Hilda Holden Memorial Fund

(History on the Move) Cedar Grove Public Library

131 Van Altena Avenue, Cedar Grove

Time: 1:00pm - 2:30pm

Tuesday, September 13, 2016 - Our Deep German Roots

Tuesday, November 15, 2016 - Dutch in the Midwest

(History on the Move) Oostburg Public Library

213 North 8th Street, Oostburg

1:00pm to 2:30pm

Tuesday, September 27, 2016 - Traveling by Interurban

Tuesday, October 25, 2016 - Wartime Stories- Sheboygan County Experiences

Tuesday, November 29, 2015 - Sheboygan County Crime and Criminals

(Genealogy Classes) SCHRC

518 Water Street, Sheboygan Falls

1:00pm to 3:00pm \$15 members, \$20 non-members

Monday, September 12, 2016 - Genealogy 101

Monday, October 10, 2016 - Land records and Property Research

Monday, November 14, 2016 - DNA and genealogy

Monday, December 12, 2016 - German Genealogy

Monday, January 9, 2017 - Research Work Day

Monday, February 13, 2017 - Research Work Day

(Genealogy Classes) Kiel Public Library

511 Third Street, Kiel

7:00pm to 8:30pm

Monday, November 21, 2016 - DNA and genealogy

Second Saturdays- Journeys Into Local History

Made possible by funding from the John and Hilda Holden Memorial Fund

Plymouth Arts Center, 520 East Mill Street, Plymouth - **all except October, 2016**

9:30am to 11:30am

September 10, 2016 Chad Lewis - Wisconsin's Gangster Past- Turning the Badger State into a Crime State

October 8, 2016 Michael Edmonds - Risking Everything, the Freedom Summer of 1964

This October program will be held at the Sheboygan County Historical Museum, 3110 Erie Avenue, Sheboygan

November 12, 2016 Jerry Apps - Farm Memories from Yesterday

December 10, 2016 John Eastberg - Pabst Farms and TBA

January 14, 2017 Rochelle Pennington - The Wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald

February 11, 2017 Matthew Prigge- Milwaukee Mayhem - Murder and Mystery in the Cream City's
First Century.

March 11, 2017 Wendy Lutzke- The USS Cobia and Much More

April 8, 2017 Michael Jacobs - America Declares War on Germany, 1917

May 13, 2017 John Jenkins- Prohibition in Wisconsin's Holyland.

Mead Public Library Series

This free program is part of "Preserving the History of Sheboygan Through Digital Images," a series funded by a grant that Mead Library was awarded from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Thursday, August 18, 2016

6:00pm-7:00pm

5) Sheboygan's Infrastructure, from its Scenic Parks to its Fire Department - Sheboygan is a city blessed with wonderful people and a great atmosphere. It is an easy and safe place to raise a family because of its infrastructure. We'll take a trip through its parks including Vollrath Zoo. We'll learn about the development of its utilities, electrical, water and sewer and trace its transportation modes over time. Also, highlighted will be the fire and police departments.

Thursday, September 15, 2016

6:00pm-7:00pm

6) Sheboygan's Historic Connections – This presentation deals with City of Sheboygan residents and many of the unexpected and interesting ways some connected to significant national and world-wide events of the past. With connections to the Manhattan Project and the building of the Brooklyn Bridge, the Olympics and the Beatles, city residents participated in the making of some amazing and important history.

September 24, 25 - Celebrating 250 Years of Volga German History Conference and Dinner

Locations:

Saturday - 8:00am to 5:30pm at Sheboygan County Historical Museum, 3110 Erie Avenue, Sheboygan

Saturday evening - 6:30pm dinner at Al & Al's, Sheboygan, 1502 South 12th Street, Sheboygan, WI

Sunday - 9:15 am to 5:00pm at Trinity Lutheran Church, Sheboygan

Mark your calendar. This September the Sheboygan County Historical Museum, 3110 Erie Avenue, Sheboygan will host a two-day seminar, September 24th and 25th, 2016, celebrating Sheboygan's Volga German history. Because food is being served, please register by September 1. \$30 per person by September 1 -- \$40 per person (after September 1).

Registration is required for both the conference and the meal at Al & Al's. Places still available.

Registration for the conference includes all sessions and a boxed lunch. Seating is limited call now.

Call the Sheboygan County Historical Museum for more info- 920-458-1103.

The Lincoln Series with Steven Rogstad—The Assassination of Abraham Lincoln

Tuesdays- October 4, 11, 18, 25, 2016

6:30pm-8:30pm

A Four-Part Series

Sheboygan County Historical Museum—3110 Erie Avenue, Sheboygan.

The Lincoln assassination is one of the most prominent – and also one of the most misunderstood – events in American history. Aside from the acknowledged fact that Lincoln was murdered by John Wilkes Booth in Ford's Theater, most of what people think they know about Lincoln's murder is wrong and do not associate the crime with the Civil War, or as a natural result of it.

For nearly eight decades after Booth killed Lincoln, the crime was seen as an isolated event, without having any connection with the civil conflict that preceded it, or Reconstruction that followed it. Moreover, Lincoln's assassin was portrayed as a mentally deranged –almost demonically-influenced – individual, who killed America's newly anointed presidential saint. When the assassination of Abraham Lincoln, however, is studied as a result of the hatred that existed between the sections of a divided country, President Lincoln's controversial policies, the Emancipation Proclamation, and the South's view of Lincoln as a tyrant and dictator, his death seems not only logical, but almost anticipated.

This course examines the details of the assassination through the lens of conspiracy theories that arose immediately after Lincoln's murder.

Session 1 puts the Lincoln assassination into its proper historical context.

Session 2 looks at the event as a Grand Confederate Conspiracy.

Session 3 examines it as a Simple Conspiracy.

Session 4 studies a myriad of other conspiracy theories.