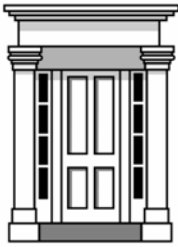


SHEBOYGAN COUNTY



HISTORICAL
RESEARCH
CENTER

The Researcher

The Newsletter of the Sheboygan County
Historical Research Center

Volume XXVIII Number 6 August 2018

The Researcher is sponsored by Jay Christopher of Christopher Farm & Gardens.

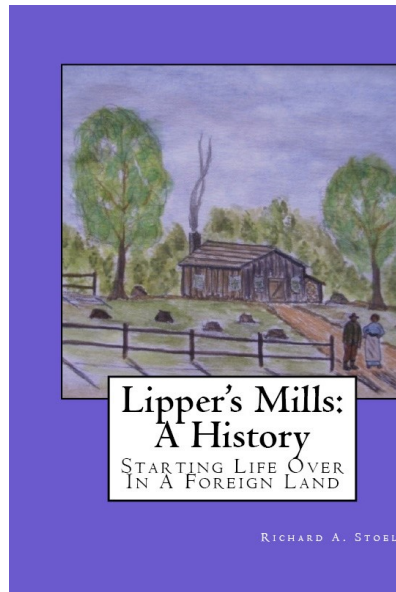
Newest Publications

Lippers Mills
Starting Life Over in a Foreign Land

by Richard A. Stoelb



1983-2018



Tucked away along the Sheboygan River in Town Herman, Sheboygan County, Wisconsin sits an unincorporated village. This slightly out of the way place is located twelve miles northwest of the city of Sheboygan just off County Hwy A four miles west of Howards Grove.

In 1847, the area along the river was wooded by large popple trees within a vast thick forest of white pine and mixed hardwoods. It was also the site of a large Indian camp.

For the first few years the village was called Lippers Mills because the people had come from Lippe-Detmold, Germany and thus were called Lippers. The Mills refers to the saw mill and a flour mill constructed there on a stretch of rapids on the Sheboygan River.

Today we know Lippers Mills as the Village of Franklin.

It was 170 years ago and over 4,000 miles away that a group of 112 people from the village of Langenholzhausen, Lippe-Detmold, Germany left for America. They were in search of better opportunities leaving poverty, political chaos, and religious persecution.

This publication about the village of Franklin is filled with color images, historic and contemporary, and great stories along with a history of settlement, growth and decline. It is available in the Millhouse store or online at schrc.org. The cost of the his 147 page book is \$20.00 plus tax.

Continued on page 8 . . .

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 9:00am to 12:00 noon.

Closed August 20, 2018 through September 3, 2018 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 53085.

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.

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on Facebook**

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.

**DON'T MISS SHEBOYGAN COUNTY HISTORY COLUMN IN THE
SATURDAY SHEBOYGAN PRESS OR ONLINE FRIDAY THROUGH SUNDAY EACH WEEK.**



Arthur Perry

SCHRC board member, Arthur Hayssen Perry passed away on Monday, July 16, 2018 after many months battling cancer. Art was a wonderful asset to the Research Center, always enthusiastic and creative. He loved local history, especially that of Elkhart Lake, the Hayssen Manufacturing Company and really, anything Sheboygan County.

We are saddened by his death. We are grateful to his wife, Ruth, for sharing him with us. He will certainly be missed and remembered. We are better for having known him.

Sheboygan Press Articles

August is a very busy month. Much to be done. So, we are taking a bit of a vacation from writing. Local history articles found in the Sheboygan Press during August may be a rerun of an earlier article, or they may be skipped. The Press will make that decision. All new articles will resume at the beginning of September.

Closed for Archiving

The Research Center will be closed from Monday, August 20, 2018 through Monday, September 3, 2018 for its semi-annual archiving. During the time we're closed, we get caught up on processing collections, finish the many projects started and not finished, clean and organize the files and the building, and much more. Thanks for your patience.

Membership Renewal

Membership renewal letters will be mailed in the first weeks of September. Renewal rates remain the same.

This year we're asking that each member either sponsor or recruit a new member for The Research Center. We have so much great history that needs to be shared. We know you know someone who would love a membership. Remember, Membership dollars pay for all of the day to day items needed to keep the doors open.

WISH LIST — PAPER TOWELS

The Researcher is sponsored by Jay Christopher of Christopher Farm & Gardens



August 2018

“LET’S DEVELOP OUR CENTER”

Steven K. Rogstad
Director of Development

A major source of satisfaction for any development manager is seeing campaigns and projects become successful. This year’s annual campaign continues to bring in vital operating monies. Christopher Farm and Gardens has sponsored the newsletter, *The Researcher*, for one year, while the Perry Fund has provided a gift for an upgrade of the Center’s website.

There are many individuals who are attracted to funding - specific projects rather than making a customary donation. For those people, I have some exciting options.

While the annual Lincoln Seminar and Second Saturdays are familiar programs, two new programs are “Taproom History” and an internship program for students attending Lakeland University.

“Taproom History” will bring unusual local history presentations, suitable for a taproom to area pubs.

The student interns will be doing local research at the Center for a Public History Certificate at Lakeland.

A list of fundable projects is included in the newsletter insert. You need not fund the entire amount. All donations are appreciated. Be a part of something great.

SCHRC Annual Meeting

The Center is celebrating its 35th Anniversary this year! Come celebrate at the Annual Meeting on Friday, October 12, 2018 at Amore in Plymouth. 11:00am to 1:00pm.

The Historical Symposium

The Center is hosting a 2-day history conference on Thursday, August 16, and Friday, August 17. Numerous historians and scholars will be educating and entertaining attendees on a wide range of subjects that are associated with the theme of history and travel in Wisconsin.

Detailed information about the symposium and the individual presentations is included in this issue. This is the first of what we hope will be several annual symposiums the Center will be hosting going forward. If you attend this event and enjoy the topics, I am confident you will want to jump into your vehicle and tour these wonderful sites for yourselves.

Some of the best vacations I ever took included visits to sites where history was made. Sometimes it was a place where significant history took place – like Gettysburg or Bunker Hill; other times it was just a plot of ground where a rock, a bronze tablet, monument, or statue now stands. But history of some kind was made there.

They are places that still have relevance. They are places that still need to be *visited* and *remembered*. They are places that merit *meditation* and *rumination*. They are places that still *matter*. That is what these eight scholars will be motivating the attendees to do: to visit the sites and ponder their significance as places where Wisconsin history was made, and as windows into who we are as a people, as a state, and as a nation.

REGISTER NOW!

The Lincoln Seminar on Wheels Bus Trip

This 4-day motor coach bus trip is being planned for people to experience the greater Springfield, Illinois, Monday-Thursday, September 17-20.

I will be coming along as the “traveling Lincoln historian,” to provide insights and mini-lectures about what we will be seeing. We will be visiting many of the main sites, including the fabulous Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library & Museum, Old State Capitol, current Illinois State Capitol, Lincoln Home, First Presbyterian Church, New Salem village, the grave of Ann Rutledge, and Lincoln’s Tomb.

If you love history, or have always dreamed of going to Springfield, or have not yet been to the fantastic Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library & Museum (considered by many scholars to be the best presidential museum in the country!), or have been inspired to learn more about the great Lincoln, this trip is for you!

REGISTER NOW!

Sponsoring Memberships

Have you sponsored a new member as part of the 2018 Annual Campaign?

If every SCHRC member sponsored a new member for one year at the \$40.00 level, the Center would raise \$34,000! Imagine what new programs and projects could be realized with just that one small effort.

Please help the Center during this annual campaign and our upcoming membership campaign by bringing in one new member.

Please feel free to contact me with your ideas, suggestions, and recommendations for enhancing our fundraising efforts. You can contact me at 920-467-4667, or email me at steverogstad@schrc.org.

THE INFAMOUS CLUB ARABIA



Located on the northeast corner of old Highway 32 (today's Hwy 42 or Calumet Drive) and Mill Road in the town of Sheboygan. Club Arabia was a place of drinking, dancing and intrigue. It was later The Flamingo, one of the area's most popular supper clubs.

It isn't often that one piece of property brings so much color to the business life of a community.

Today, the property on the northeast corner of Calumet Drive and Mill Road houses a simple strip mall, but once upon a time, it proffered a bit more excitement. Home to Juckem's Place, Pirc's Hall, Club Arabia, Club Morocco, the Ambassador Club and the Flamingo Club the site witnessed and made history.

Prior to 1922, Juckem's Place, touted as one of the best known roadhouses in the vicinity operated there. Prohibition was in full swing, yet places like Juckem's were busy, supplied with black market hooch. Located in the town of Sheboygan, away from the prying eyes of the police, cars made remote establishments like Juckem's readily accessible.

Roadhouses varied from small, questionable taverns to fancy nightclubs with big name dance bands and floor shows. Many served food, but the big attraction was being able to drink illegal beer or liquor. Quite often roadhouses also offered the services of young ladies to paying customers.

In April 1922, retiring owner, Philip Juckem sold the place to George Pirc for \$12,000. The opening dance of Pirc's new Club Arabia took place on Easter Sunday, April 16.

George Pirc was an interesting character. He first comes to attention in the Sheboygan Press in 1911. A short article mentioned troubles with George's citizenship papers. Pirc, a recent immigrant from Slovenia (1903), was naturalized in 1906, but after investigation by the Feds, it was found he lied on his affidavit - it seems he had a wife and several children in Slovenia, but also had another family here in She-

**GEORGE PIRC TO
TAKE POSSESSION
OF JUCKEM PLACE**

Juckem's place, one of the best known roadhouses in this vicinity, has been sold to George Pirc of this city by Philip Juckem, who will retire from business, including the implement business, which he will dispose of at a later date.

The institution is located one and a half miles north of the city on Calumet Drive. The consideration of the sale was \$12,000.

Mr. Pirc will gain possession to the place early in April, and in the meantime Mr. Juckem is considering building a home nearby, on a portion of the land which he has withheld for his own use.



September 8, 1933

boygan. One of nineteen immigrants who had their naturalization papers revoked in September 1911, his citizenship was cancelled, never to be reinstated.

Theme dances were big at the time. On April 17, 1924, Club Arabia hosted a Big Kewpie Doll dance with music furnished by Glaeser's Theatrical Five. Free Kewpie dolls were given out. Auto busses left from Eighth and Michigan at 8, 9 and 10pm. Admission was 68 cents for gents, excluding tax. Ladies were free. Princess Entertainment Co. was in charge of the event.

The Princess Entertainment Company gave away novelties at dances and parties. Kewpie dolls were one of those novelties. The patent for Kewpies was registered in Germany in 1913, and the craze continued in the U.S. well into the 1920s. Pirc used the company on a regular basis to add to the fun.

Club Arabia was up for sale in June of 1926. Advertised as a soft drink parlor with wonderful living quarters, it was listed as a profitable business that had recently been rebuilt and redecorated.

It seems no sale occurred because in 1929, Pirc's Hall advertised an event with the Hotel Witter Rosebuds, 11 Pretty and Talented Girls, a real musical treat, positively the best ladies' orchestra in the world. The theme would be a Spanish Nite Dance where the first fifty girls received a Japanese parasol. The grand prize was a Spanish shawl.

The storied past continues. George Pirc Sr. died in 1930, but his wife, Anna, remained the owner, leasing it to a variety of proprietors over the next fifteen years.

Fred Godeman, (aka Goodman), owner of The Lodge on Indiana Avenue, remodeled it and opened for business on July 1, 1931. Club Arabia was famous for its Moorish architecture and décor. Its arched roof had a 16-foot high dome, 24 feet in diameter.

In October of the same year, Club Arabia advertised, Be Hungry, Famous for Good Foods, Italian Spaghetti, Chop Suey and Chili Con Carne. It was a veritable international feast. They also advertised the place had a cool, restful atmosphere, as it had some of the first air conditioning in the area.

Godeman ran Club Arabia until May of 1932 when it was taken over by Louis Orphal of Milwaukee. Orphal ran the club for a few months before the building burned to the ground in 1933 from a fire of unknown origin.

The January 1, 1933 fire destroyed the casino equipment valued at \$3000 and \$5000 of musical instruments and all the household goods of Mrs. Anna Pirc. The bartender, William Virbicus, tried to save the cash register containing about \$500 but an explosion occurred throwing him through a window. The Pirc family escaped with just the clothes on their backs. Smoke billowed from the orchestra area in the blaze which started after closing on Saturday night. The only water available was from nearby pumps and a bucket brigade, a losing proposition.

Fred Godeman was a sketchy fellow. After he left Sheboygan he was questioned about the death of Dorothy "Babe" Waters, a well-known torch singer who died in Chicago in 1933 following an alleged illegal operation. Miss Waters performed for Godeman for four or five months beginning November 1, 1931. She also worked for Godeman at the Club Hotcha, located south of Sheboygan on Hwy 141.

Though the wording is cryptic, the Sheboygan Press article appears to report Waters died after an abortion performed by two Milwaukee dentists. Yes, dentists, a father and son duo. The police also came to Sheboygan and questioned a number of the employees and entertainers at Club Arabia about the "birth control club." Dr. Sherman Lewis, one of the accused, was certain Miss Waters died from eating tainted ice cream, while her autopsy proved she died from peritonitis. It was an unfortunate situation.

In May of 1934, Club Arabia offered a Snake Dance thrill. Miss Jane Hamilton, the only dancer who danced with two snakes at one time performed at Club Arabia. She performed with an eight-foot Mexican Indigo snake and a six-foot black Diamond Rattler. One was a venomous biter, the other a constrictor.



For a while in 1935, Club Arabia was at the center of a huge blackmail extortion involving Sheboygan citizens. The club was closed for a few months as the drama played out. Fred Godeman and George Pirc Jr. were found guilty of extorting \$8,500 from Arnold J. Steimle, former president of the Bank of Sheboygan. Steimle absconded with funds from an aunt and the American Legion. Pirc and Godeman somehow found out and blackmailed the man. All three men spent time in prison.

An April 21, 1935 Sheboygan Press editorial lamented Club Arabia should close immediately as no self-respecting person wanted to be seen there.

For a while in 1935, Club Arabia was also known as The Morocco. Mark Gallagher was

listed as manager. On Saturday, March 7, 1936, it opened as Seitz's. In August, 1936, it was billed as The New Club Arabia. On December 5, 1936 the Club Arabia was purchased by the Le-Ot company of Sheboygan.

On August 6, 1937 Sheboyganites saw the Grand Opening of the Ambassador Club. New managers were S.C. Wilson, K. Culbert and James Stokes of Saginaw. Music Tuesday through Sunday, American and Chinese food. In December of 1938, ads tout a new 78-foot circular bar with revolving stage. Stub Wilson was the proprietor.

In September 17, 1941 the business became the Flamingo under the management of Nick Sicillia. Billed as Sheboygan's only theater-café its colorful neon lighting showcased the brilliant white and blue of the exterior.

The club was closed in January of 1942 due to money trouble, the management owing twenty-five creditors a total of \$75,000. Mrs. George Pirc (Anna) still owned the building.

A July 3, 1942 Sheboygan Press ad announced Martin and Pauline Pirc Potokar had purchased the property, and re-named it the Flamingo Theater Café. Potokar added the restaurant in 1947. By 1948, it was the Flamingo Club serving South African Lobster tails and frog legs and about 1960, it became Marty's Flamingo.

Durward Pautz bought the club in 1970 from Martin Potokar, and ran it until 1989. Under Pautz's ownership it excelled and was the site of hundreds of weddings, family celebrations and organizational meetings, It was a favorite supper club to all.

The business stood empty for a few years after 1989. In 1991, it was bought by Mike and Barbara Zeller who ran it for a couple of years, but a downturn in business led to closure, after which it was converted to office space.

Having fallen into disrepair, the iconic building, home to fascinating Sheboygan history, was razed in early 2004. It was the end of an era.



YOU ARE INVITED

SCHRC Annual Meeting and 35th
Anniversary Celebration
Friday, October 12, 2018

Amore
18 West Mill Street
Plymouth, WI

Italian Buffet Lunch
\$16 per person

11:00am - 1:00pm



Durward's Flamingo Club

Hwy. 42 — Formerly The Flamingo

Noon Luncheons

Served Daily

11:30 to
2:00 P.M.

DINNERS SERVED DAILY

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5 to 11 P.M. on Weekends

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13 Oct 1970

November 1935

GRAND OPENING

Wednesday, Nov. 27th

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(FORMERLY CLUB ARABIA)

Mark Gallagher, Mgr. — Presents.

MISS AUDRIE LA MERE and Her Young Ladies In Song and Dance

Addie Wargo
And the Golden Voice Sox

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In the
Wedding

Charley Clark
Ace Whistler

EDDIE TESCH
and his
Band of Bands

MARK GALLAGHER
M. C.

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Newest Publications, continued

Our German Heritage

By James E. Schultz

This book is entitled “***Our*** German Heritage” not only because it is written for my family, but also for the many other people – especially in Wisconsin – who share some version of what is described here. It is intended to be a resource for three different audiences:

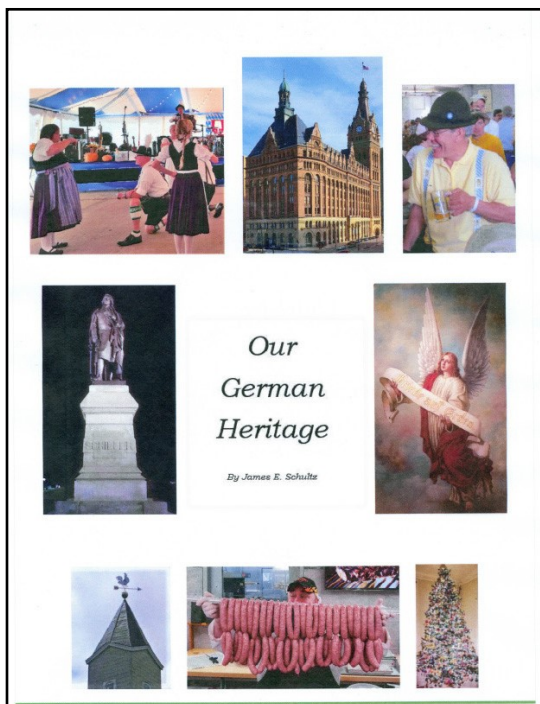
For people interested in how German immigrants influenced life in America, especially in Sheboygan County, Wisconsin,

For people interested in the Bloedel, Flick, Graefe, Hesse, Scherr (Scheer), Schulte, Schulz (Schultz), Sinner, or Wannemacher family lines, and

People looking for techniques for investigating their own family trees.

The regions spanned by my heritage are Saxony, North Rhine, Thuringia, Rhineland, and Hesse. Religious backgrounds include Reformed, Lutheran, Catholic, and so-called “Free Thinkers”. Occupations include farmer, miller, carpenter, shoemaker, day laborer, and “peddler”.

Our German Heritage is available in the Millhouse store for \$18.00.



SHEBOYGAN COUNTY HISTORICAL RESEARCH CENTER PROJECT SUPPORT

The Sheboygan County Historical Research Center serves the public by collecting and preserving the written documentation and photographic images of Sheboygan County.

The mission statement, seen above, gives a brief synopsis of what SCHRC does each year, but it in no way communicates the huge volume of work done at the Research Center. In reality SCHRC is open more than 1800 hours each year, helping 4000+ researchers. The collection is at the core of our mission so acquiring and processing thousands of items of historical importance takes place. SCHRC also sponsors educational programming for the general community (51 programs last year) and publishes books on local history (5 this year).

**WE NEED YOUR HELP, YOUR SUPPORT, YOUR SPONSORSHIP FOR THESE PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS.
A DONATION TOWARD ONE OR MORE IS MUCH APPRECIATED.**

Programs

Second Saturdays-Journeys into Local History is a series of interactive multimedia programs, presented by experts, that deals with nine local history topics. Each program actively involves the learning audience by searching for a connection between our historical past and our present daily lives. Local historical events are connected to regional and national events. This is the eighteenth year for Second Saturdays. Attendance has increased to more than 1500 participants. Each second Saturday of the month - from September through May- specialists from throughout Wisconsin will present relevant topics. Each program is held in a large and comfortable meeting room at Plymouth Arts Center. The presentation runs for two hours, from 9:30am to 11:30am. The series is open to the public.

Second Saturdays Budget

Speakers' Fees	\$4,500
Supplies and Services	\$250
Hospitality	\$525
Staffing	\$1,080
Indirect Costs	\$727
Total	\$7,082

We have received a \$2,000 grant from Wisconsin Humanities Council for Second Saturdays. And SCHRC member Sandy Mahlich has also given a generous donation. We still need \$4900 to fully fund the series.

Lincoln Seminar - This series of four lectures will focus on Traveling With Lincoln - A four-part series. Tuesdays- October 2, 9, 16, 23, 2018 6:30pm-8:30pm at the Sheboygan County Historical Museum.

Lincoln Series Budget

Speaker's Fees	\$600
Supplies and Services	\$50

SHEBOYGAN COUNTY HISTORICAL RESEARCH CENTER PROJECT SUPPORT

Staffing	\$320
Indirect Costs	\$110
Total	\$1,080

History on the Move is a series of talks given in communities throughout Sheboygan County. Topics vary depending on the venue. We go to Cedar Grove, Oostburg, Plymouth, Sheboygan and Random Lake, meeting in libraries, sharing stories and great history.

History on the Move Budget

Speakers Fees	\$750
Supplies and Services	\$150
Indirect Costs	\$155
Total	\$1,055

Tap Room History

Reaching out to a younger and different crowd requires a suitable venue. Tap room history will meet in a different pub four times each year with a program geared to the crowd. Topics may include Prohibition, brewing history, gangsters, ghost stories and much more. This series of events brings the history to the participants.

Tap Room History budget

Speakers Fees	\$750
Supplies and Services	\$150
Indirect Costs	\$155
Total	\$1,055

Equipment

Library Reception Chairs - Larger, wider, sled base chairs are needed for the library. Some will have arms, some will not. A couple will accommodate big and tall folks. Our old wooden chairs no longer meet the needs of our researchers.

12 chairs x \$250 each = \$3,000 or \$250 per chair

Basement Dehumidifiers

2 x \$300 each
Total \$600

Donations can be made for all of part of each project.
Please specify on your check.
Thank you.

HISTORY OUTSIDE THE BOX SYMPOSIUM

HAS BEEN CANCELLED

THE EVENT WILL BE RESCHEDULED