

The Researcher is the official newsletter of the Sheboygan County Historical Research Center, 518 Water Street, Sheboygan Falls, WI 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 surrounding areas. It is a repository for documents and images.

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Welcome New Members

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Program Schedule

See schrc.org or Facebook for more details.

Gravestone Cleaning Workshops

Please call (920) 467-4667 to register.

Saturday, June 21 – Waldo Cemetery, Waldo from 9 to 10 am

Saturday, September 20 – Waldo Cemetery, Waldo from 9 to 10 am

Saturday, October 4 – Union Cemetery, Plymouth from 9 to 10 am

Date TBD – Evergreen (Harmon) Cemetery, Plymouth from 9 to 10 am

Taproom History

at Racer's Hall, W4408 County Road C, Plymouth — 6:30 pm

Meet regional authors who will discuss their new books.

June 19 – Dr. James Marten will discuss his book, *“The Sixth Wisconsin and the Long Civil War”*

July 17 – Kurt Sampson will discuss his book, *“Indian Mounds of the Horicon Marsh and Upper Rock River”*

August 21 – Steven Rogstad will discuss his new book, *“The Million Dollar Quartet and the Challenges of Oral Testimony”*

Book Club

at 517 Monroe Street, Sheboygan Falls — 1 to 2:30 pm

Please call (920) 467-4667 to register.

Thursday, July 17 – *The Fisherman's Tomb* (2018) by John O'Neill

Thursday, September 18 – *Talking to the Dead: Kate and Maggie Fox and the Rise of Spiritualism* (2009) by Barbara Weisberg

Annual Meeting

at The Wade House, W7965 State Highway 23, Greenbush, WI 53026

11 am to 1 pm

Friday, October 10 – Steve Michaels presents *“Sheboygan County's Last Union Veteran”*

Lincoln Seminar

at Racer's Hall, W4408 County Road C, Plymouth — 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm

Steven Rogstad presents 4 sessions on the “Lincoln Douglas Debates”

This year's Lincoln Seminar examines the political context for the debates, identify who the Illinois voters were, discuss the various topics both candidates introduced in the debates, and study the rhetorical ploys utilized by both candidates to further their political positions. Many persons maintain that the ideas expressed by Lincoln before and during the debates foreshadowed the American Civil War and threatened American social order. Learn what is true about the debates, and what is not.

October 7

October 14

October 21

October 28

Let's Develop Our Center

continued from page 1

year. Thank you to everybody who played a part in what is a wonderful moment for the organization.

We just completed another season of Saloon Stories, which focused on current preservation projects in the county. Now we shift into our Taproom History program series, which will showcase books that have been recently published by regional authors. On June 19, Dr. James Martin of Marquette University will discuss his book, *The Sixth Wisconsin and the Long Civil War: The Biography of a Regiment*. On July 17, Kurt Sampson, Curator of the Dodge County Historical Society, will discuss Native American effigy mounds from a book he co-authored, *Indian Mounds of the Horicon Marsh and Upper Rock River*. Finally, on August 2, I will be examining material from my latest book, *The Million Dollar Quartet and the Challenges of Oral Testimony*. Details about these programs are found elsewhere in the newsletter.



Please consider bringing friends to these programs and show support for new scholarship by Wisconsin authors. Books will be available for purchase and signing for all three authors.

Finally, I would like to announce that the SCHRC needs a handyman that would be able to volunteer a few hours on an as-needed basis for maintenance and repair of buildings. We are now in three buildings and we could use individuals that would be willing to perform some scraping, caulking, painting, watering plants, weeding, and light repair/maintenance work. Perhaps

you are a retired custodian, or know someone who is. I would love to chat with you. Please consider giving a few hours to the Research Center and help keep our buildings in great condition. We have a responsibility to maintain the highest standards as occupants in the Cole Historic District.

Keep checking the SCHRC website – www.schrc.org – for updates.

As always, thank you for all you do to support and help develop our Research Center!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Steven K. Rogstad". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Steven K. Rogstad
Executive Director
steverogstad@schrc.org



SCHRC Staff: (L–R) Richard Stoelb (Researcher), Michele Barry (Researcher), Katie Reilly (Lead Researcher), Steven Rogstad (Executive Director), and Mary Parrish (Administrative Assistant).

The Deacon's Daughter **Sarah Trowbridge Cole: A woman who excelled in character and virtue**

By Richard Stoelb

We know many things about Charles Dugely Cole. Much has been written at length about him and his contributions to the development of Rochester (later renamed Sheboygan Falls) and his recruiting efforts in getting people to settle there. However, very little is known about his wife Sarah W. Trowbridge, the Deacon's daughter.

Thomas Trowbridge appears to be the first Trowbridge to arrive in America settling in Dorchester, Massachusetts, in 1636. The name of Trowbridge is a very old name and means "bridge by the tree" in old English. Trowbridge, and all of its various spellings, goes back to early England and the Conqueror, William 1st, where the name is recorded in the Domesday/Doomsday Book. The survey, begun in 1085 and completed in a year later, was commissioned by William 1st to survey every county in England to list his holdings and dues owed him.

Sarah Wilson Trowbridge, the oldest of eight children, was born in Worcester, Massachusetts, on October 6, 1813. Sarah's father, William, was a farmer and a very skilled blacksmith, having learned the trade from his wife's brother. He came to Sheboygan in 1836 with his family and opened a blacksmith shop there. The family spent the winter in Sheboygan with his daughter Sarah and her husband Charles D. Cole, and their two small boys, George and William.



Sarah Trowbridge Cole
(1813—1887)

The following year Trowbridge bought land west of Sheboygan Falls for a farm from Cole. William also was a lay Baptist preacher and was always referred to as "Deacon." He was the first minister of the Gospel in this part of Sheboygan County, and was noted for his preaching and many acts of kindness towards both the Indians and the early settlers. He went anywhere to preach and lent what aid he could. It was his calling to go where needed. In one instance, he went to an Indian village staying there through the winter until the small pox epidemic had passed. Distance was no obstacle. Sometimes he traveled on foot; other times he rode on horseback, sometimes in good weather and sometimes in foul. Deacon Trowbridge answered "the call" right up to his death in 1880. He was a devout man who led a noble

life in service to others and was an inspiration to all. Upon his death, he was buried in the Sheboygan Falls Cemetery.

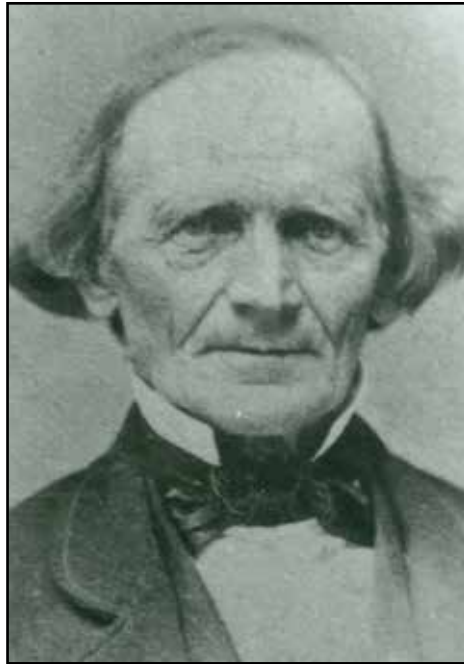
Sarah's mother, Dorothy "Dolly" Chapin Trowbridge, was not a rash woman. She was described as being devout, tolerant, calm, and patient. Dolly was hard working and carried out her family duties while exercising sound judgment in the management of her house. Her constant aim was to make her husband and children happy. She welcomed strangers with cheer and kindness. She died January 1, 1844, and is buried in the Sheboygan Falls Cemetery.

Sarah W. Trowbridge married Charles Cole on August 22, 1831, in Ithaca, New York. The couple had six children, George, William, James, Charlotte, Harriet, and Nathan. She was a charter and founding member of the Baptist Church in Sheboygan Falls. She started the first school there and also taught students in her home. Like her mother, she welcomed all new arrivals to the area by helping them to settle in and adjust to their new life in the unbroken wilderness of the Wisconsin Territory. Sarah inherited many of the same attributes her parents possessed. She was a temperate woman and well respected in the community. It was said that Sarah "was a woman who excelled in character and virtue."

Sarah's husband Charles was simply known as Charlie by

everyone who knew him, and was a pioneer and entrepreneur. The Cole Historic District, the birthplace of Sheboygan Falls, is named after him. Charlie was a broad-minded man with a kindly disposition. He was a friend to all. If something had to be done, he would do it. He provided lodging for new arrivals until they could get their own homes built. His honesty was never in question, earning the respect and admiration of all he came in contact with professionally and socially. He was a strict temperance man. In 1847 he organized the first temperance society in the Midwest, The Sons of Good Temperance Lodge No. 1, in Sheboygan Falls. That year he walked to Green Bay to personally pick up the charter for the lodge and then walked back to Sheboygan Falls.

Cole was a Yankee and a liberal born in Schenectady, New York, on October 19, 1806, the oldest of 11 children born to Nathan Cole and Chloe Rowley Cole. By 1831 he had located to Cleveland, Ohio, where he was running his own fleet of canal boats on the Ohio Erie Canal, built during the 1820s and early 1830s, that connected Akron with the Cuyahoga River near its outlet on Lake Erie in Cleveland. With the advent of the railroads, and their ability to move more people and goods farther and faster, the operation of canal boats became increasingly unprofitable. Looking for better opportunities to improve his fortunes, Cole sold his business. In 1836 Charles, with Sarah and their two sons George and William, ages three years and one, left Cleveland for Sheboygan. There at the mouth of the Sheboygan River, Cole with William Farnsworth built



Charles Dugley Cole
(1806—1867)

a merchandising warehouse (Cole and Company) and set up a fur trade business with the Indians.

Starting a new life in the frontier was hard enough, but it was about to get a lot tougher in the Wisconsin Territory and the country as a whole.

The Panic of 1837 was a major financial crisis in the United States. It was a time of economic depression, widespread unemployment, currency devaluation, bank failures, and business closures. Markets dried up. Land and lumber prices plummeted. British banks reduced their lending to the United States. It was partly attributed to speculation in land, poor banking practices, and political decisions which included President Andrew Jackson's refusal to renew the charter of the United States Bank at Philadelphia.

The Panic of 1837 was followed by another period of deflation and

depression. The Panic of 1839 saw the collapse of the cotton market which led to a general economic depression between 1839–1843. The total capital held by American banks dropped by 40%. Over 40% of all banks failed. Prices fell and the economy declined to a crawl. Businesses closed, and there was mass unemployment.

As the depression deepened, more and more people left Sheboygan until it resembled an abandoned ghost town. Their son James Riley Cole was born in 1837. In 1838, Cole resigned his position as Postmaster of Sheboygan and moved his young family to Sheboygan Falls. The family took up residence in the Stedman Mill House, and Cole started farming land he owned near the village. In 1839, Cole was appointed Postmaster of Sheboygan Falls; the only post office in the county at the time.

He was a tireless promoter of Sheboygan Falls and was rather successful in getting people to come to what he called the El Dorado of the West. You could say Charlie persuaded them to come and Sarah settled them in.

Sarah Cole was instrumental in organizing what is now recognized as the oldest Baptist congregation in Wisconsin.

Located at 633 Buffalo Street (on the corner of Buffalo and Elm Streets), the church (now Falls Community Church). It was organized in Sheboygan at the home of A. G. Dye on February 11, 1838. Besides Dye and his wife Mary, four other members

were present at the organizational meeting. They were William Trowbridge, his wife Dorothy Chapin Trowbridge and their children, Sarah Cole and William S. Trowbridge. Trowbridge was named Deacon and did the preaching, while Trowbridge was chosen as church clerk.

Monthly church meetings continued to take place in private homes. In 1839 the church moved to Sheboygan Falls. In 1845 members voted to give the church the name of Sheboygan Falls First Baptist Church and designated Sheboygan Falls as the regular place of meeting. The frame for the first church building was erected in 1849 and dedicated on December 12, 1850. It stood along the river near what was known as Baptist Bay because baptisms were performed there. Later the church building was moved down the street to its current location. Today an empty Wells Fargo Bank building occupies the church building's original location. The building was designated a landmark in 1973.

An undercurrent of religious persuasion that grew in popularity rather quickly across the nation was Spiritualism. It was a popular social religious movement that gained significant influence in Wisconsin in the 19th and early 20th centuries. It first appeared in the 1840s in upstate New York and moved west with the settlers. In Sheboygan County, many early settlers, including those in Sheboygan Falls, were involved in or at least were familiar with Spiritualism. They were in good company. Queen Victoria and her

husband Prince Albert, Mary Todd Lincoln, wife of President Lincoln, and Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, British writer, physician, and creator of the fictional detective Sherlock Holmes, were devout Spiritualists. The movement had a profound effect on American society inspiring social reforms, shaping religious beliefs, social values, and political movements. The movement appealed to reformers and free thinkers. Others drawn to the movement were those looking for advice and guidance from the spirits on moral and ethical issues, e.g., the abolition of slavery, equal rights for women, state's rights, temperance, education, and the nature of God.

Spiritualists believed in an afterlife where spirits continued to evolve and interact, and those who have passed on can and do communicate with us. Anyone could receive spirit messages but some people were more receptive than others. Formal sessions of communication about the afterlife, called séances, required a medium. Spiritualists also believed spirits were more advanced than humans, and that they were able to provide humans with worldly and spiritual guidance. Many of the converts to Spiritualism were women and many prominent women like Sarah W. Cole supported Spiritualist reforms.

However, in this time of religious revival and social reform, or awakening and enlightenment, when it came to the question of slavery even the Baptists couldn't agree. The abolition of slavery was still a very divisive and contentious one. The Southern

Baptists supported slavery; the Northern Baptists (now named American Baptists) did not. In 1840 the Baptist Foreign Mission Board denied a request by the Alabama Convention that slave owners be eligible to become missionaries. A Baptist Free Mission Society was formed and refused to accept Southern money. The Southern members withdrew from the convention and formed the Southern Baptist Convention. The split was completed in 1845 and remains so today.

The Spiritualists were in need of a facility large enough to hold their meetings. The only places that could accommodate them were the local churches. The churches refused to allow such gatherings of the public to take place in their houses of worship because most of the men and women were Spiritualists.

In 1850, with church doors closed to Spiritualists and their meetings, some of the leading citizens from Sheboygan Falls, including Charles and Sarah Cole,



A.G. and Mary Dye

Silas and Betsy Stedman, William Prentice, Archibald Skinner, M.P. Roberts, Hiram Smith, and Alban Peacock took it upon themselves and built their own meeting hall. Silas Stedman donated the land on Thomas Hill for the building. The hall was named Free Hall and was used for free speech. It was a place where anyone, men and especially women, could freely speak in public on any topic from religion to politics. This was a significant shift in 1850s America.

In the early 1800s, women, in a male dominant society, were treated as second-class citizens. Their thoughts, ideas, suggestions, and concerns did not count; they were not important. Women were expected to maintain a submissive role in society and spend their time doing tasks associated with a female role. They were denied the rights afforded to men. The only suitable role for a woman was that of wife and mother. Women began to speak out more and more for their rights and place in society. Female reform societies in the 1830s became female social movements. The Women's Rights Movement began with a small group of women in Seneca Falls, New York, working to bring about changes in legal and social attitudes that would emancipate women from the restrictions placed upon them. In Sheboygan Falls they had the Free Hall. They had a platform from which to freely speak.

Silas Stedman and his wife Betsy deeded the hall to the Free Hall Association in 1865. Later, Charles and Sara Cole became owners of Free Hall. Charles died in 1867. In his will Sarah was designated as

his "Devisee," leaving her all of his property. Sarah died in 1887. Her will stipulated: "My intent in the property situated in said village [Sheboygan Falls] known as the Free Hall, I desire to have [it] so kept [maintained] and secured [protected] as to secure [provide] to any and all so-called Spiritualists the free use thereof and the benefits of any net proceeds from the rental thereof."

The Spiritualist movement eventually died out. But, the hall remained open to all and became a popular gathering place for a variety of social functions in Sheboygan Falls, and remained so for many years. As time passed, the building fell into disrepair and it went through a number of owners and was remodeled into apartments. Today Free Hall is a private residence on 521 Madison Street in Sheboygan Falls. The hall and the Baptist Church are just two examples of the architectural heritage that is found in the community.

Who was Sarah Trowbridge Cole? She was many things. Yes, she was a wife and a mother, a very noble profession to be sure, but besides that she was also a pioneer, a helpmate, and a full partner with her husband Charles. They could be considered a power couple of Sheboygan Falls. She was a woman of exceptional fortitude. When Charles chose to start anew in the Wisconsin Territory, Sarah, with their two very young boys, went with him and left behind the security to face the unknown. She was a liberal, a reformer, and a founding member of the Baptist Church in Sheboygan Falls. She

was an educator. Along with other progressives, Charles and Sarah helped build the Free Hall and continued supporting it throughout their lives.

We most likely will never know the full extent of her reach, but we do know that Sarah Trowbridge Cole was a woman who excelled in determination and character. 🍀

We appreciate your feedback!



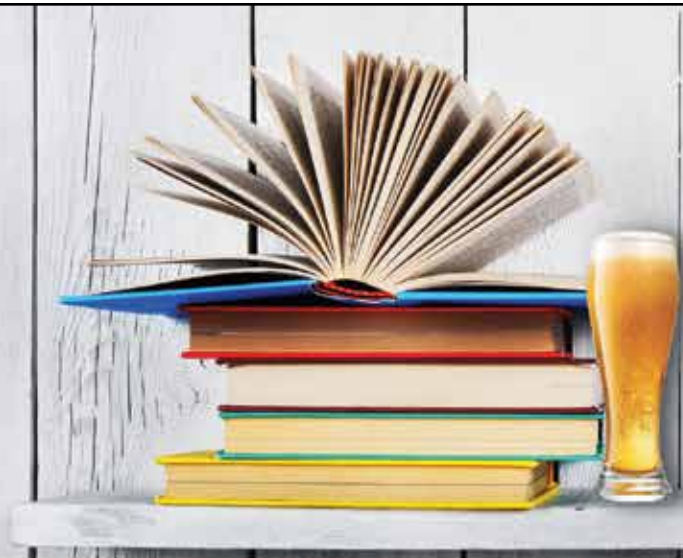
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2025

Sheboygan County Historical
Research Center Presents

TAPROOM HISTORY

Meet Authors of New Books

JUNE 19

MEET DR. JAMES MARTEN

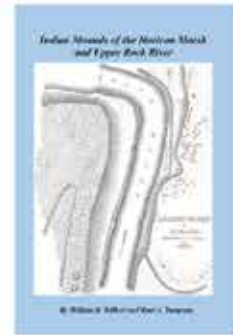
To support the Union during the Civil War, Wisconsin formed the famous Iron Brigade in the Army of the Potomac. The Sixth Wisconsin Infantry Regiment spent most of the war as part of the Brigade. Dr. Marten offers an intimate study of the men who served in the regiment and reminds us of the important ways in which they represented Wisconsin and served America!



JULY 17

MEET KURT SAMPSON

Indian mounds abound in Wisconsin, but new research shows they have been discovered in Horicon Marsh and further north. His new 500-page book documents over 160 mounds in Dodge County alone. Sampson is a premier effigy mound researcher and author. Prepare to be educated and entertained about Native American history!



AUGUST 21

MEET STEVEN K. ROGSTAD

Learn the true history behind the Million Dollar Quartet, a seminal moment in rock & roll history, when Elvis Presley, Carl Perkins, Johnny Cash, and Jerry Lee Lewis sang their way into mythical status one day in 1956. Rogstad has written the first historical study ever published about this event!



Programs begin at 6:30 pm

EVENT LOCATION



W4408 County Road C
Plymouth

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SHEBOYGAN COUNTY



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The Research Center is sad to announce the death of former member Robert Gorges, who passed away February 15, 2025, at age 85.

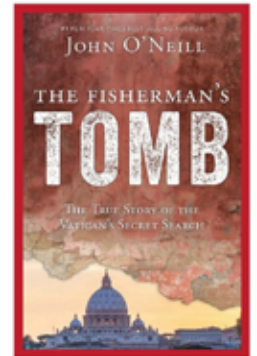
Bob was a stalwart member of the SCHRC Board of Directors for many years. He participated at events, assisted in the repair and maintenance of the Mill House, staunchly supported the staff, and was a strong advocate for the Center in the community.

He was born in New London, Wisconsin, on August 28, 1939, and was united in marriage to Marion Gobar on June 3, 1961, in Baraboo. He graduated from University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire in 1961 with a B.S. in Science, Chemistry, Physics and Math. He did graduate work at the University of Minnesota, Cornell University, Hope College, Florida State University, University of Berkley, and Brown University. He was an educator at Sheboygan North High School for 35 years, and served on its student council advisory board for 28 years.

The SCHRC extends its condolences to Bob's family.



If you are interested in history - whether it is local, regional, or national history - the Center has an exciting and fun activity. The SCHRC is hosting a book club that will have historical themes.



The club will read John O'Neill's *The Fisherman's Tomb* (2018). Participants are responsible for obtaining their own books.

Thursday, July 17
1 to 2:30 pm



Register today!

The Book Club will be held at 517 Monroe Street, Sheboygan Falls, in the lower level meeting room. Park in the back parking lot.

Million Dollar Quartet

The Million Dollar Quartet is recognized as a landmark moment in the early days of rock and roll music. Unexpectedly and spontaneously, Elvis Presley, Carl Perkins, Johnny Cash, and Jerry Lee Lewis blended their voices together in the studio at Sun Records in Memphis, Tennessee, on December 4, 1956. For a few hours they harmonized on popular tunes and gospel songs. Fifty years after it happened, the event was made

into a major Broadway musical that continues to tour America. What has been written about the episode is very contradictory, and even the artists left different versions of their role in it. Steven Rogstad has written the very first historical analysis of the event and exposes the challenges of using oral testimony when recapturing the past for posterity. Published by the Research Center, pre-order your signed copy now!



Pizza Arrives in Sheboygan County

Pizza, that most divine gastronomic treat, was created in Naples, Italy as a quick and nourishing food for the working class. Available mainly from street vendors, it remained unknown to much of the world until more than 4 million Italian immigrants streamed into the United States from 1880 to 1920.

Gennaro Lombardi opened the first licensed pizzeria in New York's Little Italy section of Manhattan in 1905. Lombardi modified Neapolitan methods when he exchanged wood-fired ovens and mozzarella di bufala for cows' milk mozzarella and coal-fired ovens to feed the large numbers of Italian immigrants in New York City.

Pizza was a food mostly confined to small areas of the Northeast until after WWII when American GIs stationed in Italy returned home with an enthusiastic appreciation of the foods they discovered while in service. Interestingly, in the 1940s, sales of oregano increased by 5,200 percent over eight years due to the surge in popularity of pizza and other Italian foods. Singers like Frank Sinatra and Dean Martin, who were of Italian ancestry, also helped spur sales.

By the 1950s, pizzerias were found in many of America's cities. According to American Heritage, the number of American pizza parlors grew from 500 in 1934 to 20,000 in 1956. Pizza pundit, John Mariani, explained the phenomenon, "Like blue jeans and rock and roll, the rest of the world, including the Italians, picked up on pizza just because it was American."

Small, independent restaurateurs used only homemade mozzarella cheese, marinara sauce, and toppings they themselves created. They kneaded their own elastic dough and tossed the pizza pies in demand by families and friends looking for a cheap meal out. It was a perfect communal food — no single slices sold. A pizza was something to be shared with others.

A January 23, 1956, Sheboygan Press article had Joseph Sartori of Plymouth speaking on "Italian Cheese and that Pizza Craze," to the Business and Professional Women's Club at the Sheboygan YMCA. Pizza was still new to the citizens of the county. At that time S&R Cheese produced the mozzarella and parmesan cheese needed for those luscious pies. It's

hard to remember now, but the streets of Plymouth, smelled for decades, like an Italian kitchen.

The county has had too many pizza joints to mention in this article, but we'll reference a few. Faye's, located on Calumet Drive in Sheboygan has been in business since 1957. An early ad boasted, Pizza Pies, made right before your eyes. Before Faye's the business was Russo's.

Erie Eat Shoppe, in 1958, had a Volkswagon delivery bus that advertised 15 varieties of pizza in three sizes, priced from 75 cents. The Erie Eat Shoppe was located just east of 14th Street on Erie Avenue.

Pizza Village at South 8th and Georgia opened in 1961 also under the name Russo's. It was a local hangout for high school students.

Tom and Marlene LaBouve changed the name to Pizza Village when they bought it in July of 1967 and for 26 years they owned the restaurant until they

sold in August of 1993 to Mary Jo and Bill Benninger.

When Dino's Pizza, Plymouth's first opened in 1962, a small pizza sold for 90 cents and soda was a nickel. Still in business today, it was also the first in town to serve sub sandwiches.

By 1975 pizza was a staple for teens. Other favorite haunts included Brat'n Burger Pizzeria on North 15th and Pizza Barn on Penn Avenue in Sheboygan. Plymouth also had Mike's Pizza Parlor and Sheboygan Falls had R-Dee's Restaurant and Pizza.



A Sheboygan Press ad featuring Erie Eat Shoppe's Volkswagon Pizza Delivery Bus in 1958.

Coming almost full circle, Il Ritrovo of Sheboygan is today known for its certified Neapolitan pizza, and utilizes a wood-fired stone oven, much closer to those used in Italy two hundred years ago.

Pizza sales is a \$36 billion per year industry with more than 72,000 pizzerias in the U.S alone. Each man, woman and child eats an average of 23 pounds of

pizza yearly. Statistics certainly prove that pizza has evolved from a regional dish of the working class to a favorite of the masses.

Whether it's pepperoni or cheese, sausage and mushroom, thin crust or deep dish, when next you enjoy a slice, remember to thank the GIs who brought it home. 🍕

Figure 8 and White City

Work on the White City, a new place of amusement for Sheboygan pleasure seekers at Lake View Park, progressed rapidly the early months of 1906. The "White City" was on a bluff overlooking Lake Michigan on the north side of what is now Wilson Avenue. The amusement park replaced the Lake View menagerie and part of an eight-acre woods.

White City was the common name of nearly 30 of amusement parks in the United States. Inspired by the White City and Midway Plaisance sections of the World's Columbian Exhibition of 1893, the parks started gaining in popularity in the last few years of the 19th century. The 1901 Pan-American Exposition in Buffalo, NY, inspired the first Luna Park in Coney Island, and a boom in building amusement parks (many named White City and Electric Park) ensued in the first two decades of the 20th century.

The entire park was open to the public and free outside exhibitions were held daily. A ten-cent charge applied to each special attraction – a Coney Island style merry-go-round, maze, tent shows, the White City Theater and perhaps the most attractive feature, the Figure Eight roller coaster.

The Figure Eight coaster had a ride of 1,450 feet which wound around much of the grounds. Talk of a coaster in Sheboygan began in April of 1904 but never came to fruition. Two years later, the bents and sills were assembled and painted bright white to keep with the theme. The coaster stood an impressive three stories high. Nearly 5,000 incandescent globes were placed along the Figure Eight and 250 lights illuminated the merry-go-round. It must have been quite a sight!

May 27, 1906 was slated to be the grand opening of Sheboygan's New Pleasure Resort but rainy weather interfered so only a handful of folks braved

the elements to check it out. The grand opening was pushed back to May 30. It was reported that the Figure Eight was one of the best constructed eighths on the Coaster Company's lists and was pronounced safe from top to bottom. Large crowds of people visited Lake View daily during the summer to take a ride on the Figure Eight which quickly became the leading attraction. By July of 1906 a large number of large brass handles were attached to the cars running around the Figure Eight which was deemed a great improvement as it would give the more timid people a chance to hold onto something while the cars swung around the track.

Only one incident, concerning the Eighth, was reported to the press. Adolph Baumann's new derby hat fell off his head while riding the coaster and it was crushed into slivers.

And as quickly as the Figure Eight went up, it was taken down. The newspaper reported on the 24th of March 1908 that Mr. Adams of the Coaster Co. arrived for the purpose of hiring men to take down the structure. Four days later a crew of twenty was busy dismantling the coaster as it was to be shipped to Waterloo Iowa's Electric Park. It was purchased for \$50,000. 🍕



Lake View Park Figure Eight Roller Coaster, c. 1906–1908



Sheboygan County
 Historical Research Center
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Walnut Grove Cemetery Restoration Project

We are excited and proud to announce that the Research Center is working with the Village of Glenbeulah to restore the Walnut Grove cemetery to its former beauty, honoring the memories of those who rest here and preserving its historical significance for future generations. We began cleaning and repairing gravestones in this cemetery nestled just outside the Kettle Moraine Forest in May. Thank you to Gary Klein and The Sheboygan Press for these beautiful photos and video of the restoration process. If you'd like to help or would like more information, please contact the Research Center!



Volunteers work to clean the gravestones at Walnut Grove Cemetery.



Sheboygan County Historical Research Center's Mary Parrish, center, explains what soaps can be to clean gravestones.



Scan the code to watch a video about the cemetery restoration project.