

DE PERE HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Pillars of the future,
built on the foundations of the past.

White Pillars Museum • 403 North Broadway • De Pere, WI 54115

Open Monday – Friday • Noon to 4:00 PM

Other times by appointment: 920-336-3877

www.deperehistoricalsociety.org

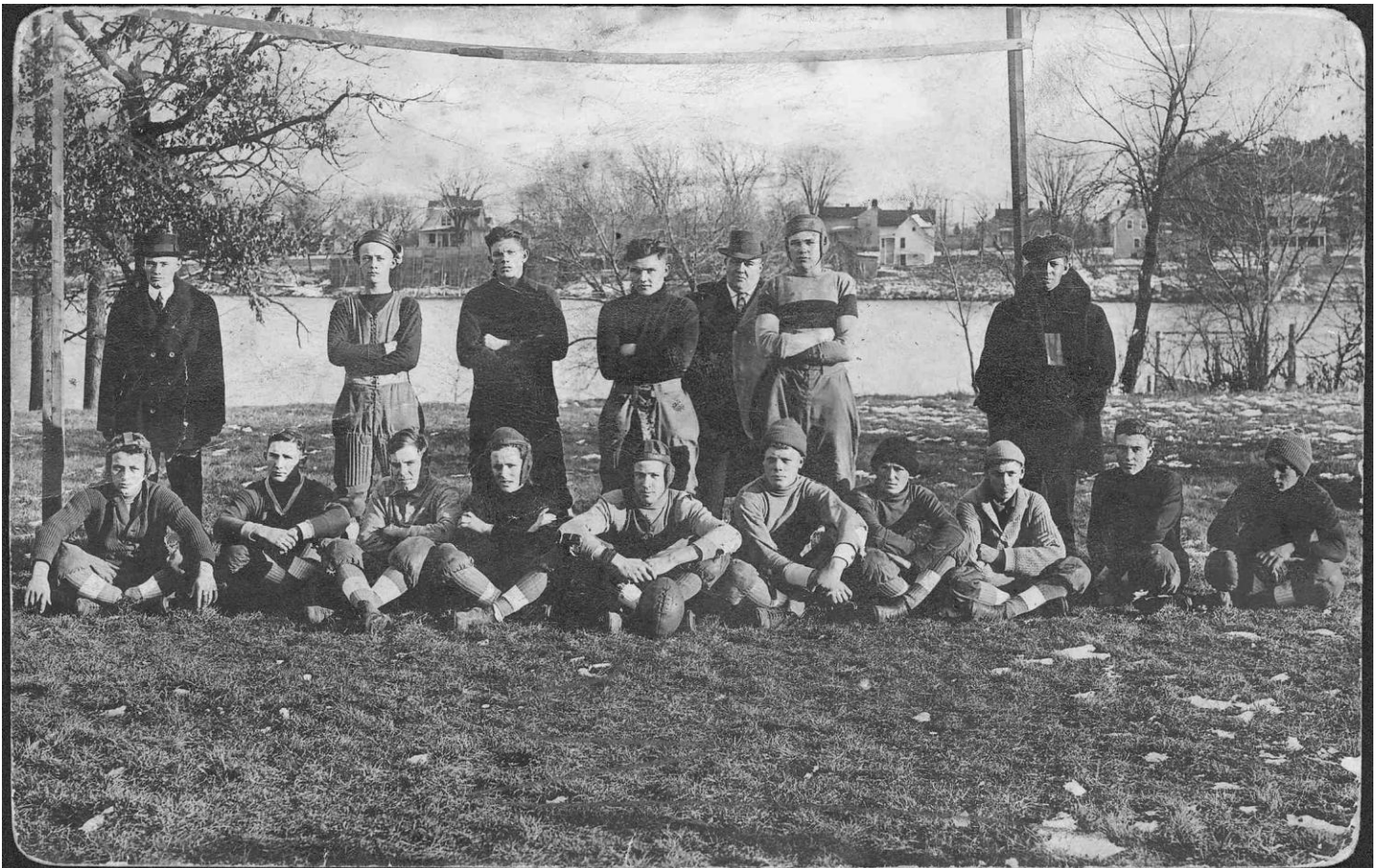
Volume 19

Issue III

Fall 2008

De Pere Historical Society Board Members

President: Fran Dimmer, Vice President: Bob Boyer, Treasurer: Dolly Van Sistine, Secretary: Mark Reinhart.
Members: Cindi Barnett, McKim Boyd, Mike Fleck, Tony LaLuzerne, Lynn Lee, Anne Mattern, Gerald Mattern,
Mary Kay Milquet, Mary Ann Schumerth, Dick Smits, Tom Walsh. Curator: Laurel Towns.



De Pere City Team - The 1919 Champions of Northern Wisconsin

DPHS MEMBERSHIP 2008

Business Membership

Gold: \$250.00 or More

City of De Pere
Plan Administrators Inc.
Ryan Funeral Home
Union Hotel & Restaurant
Van Gemert Memorials Inc.

Silver: \$100.00

Classic Dimensions
Cotter Funeral Home
Roels, Keidatz, Fronsee &
Danen, LLP
Seroogy's Chocolates
Sidekicks Bar & Grill
Systems Furniture
The C.A. Lawton Co.
Walsh & Walsh, S.C.

Bronze: \$50.00

Allen County Public Library

Alpha Delights, LLC
Badgerland Printing Inc.
Bilotti's Pizza & Italian
Garden

Brennan Buick Inc.
Legends/Swan Club
Nicolet National Bank
Pack and Ship, LLC
The Abbey Bar
Wm A. Hein Construction
Co. Inc.



New Members since Spring

Patron: \$100.00

McKim & Lisa Boyd
Gerald Condon, Jr.
James & Julie Kress
Michael & Bridget Vandelist

Benefactor: \$50.00

Dr. William & Camille
Woodward

Sponsor: \$20.00

Tom & Dorthea Allcox
Scott & Carrier Baeten
Helen Bie
Mary Collette
Louis & Dolores Eisch
Pat Enright
Joyce George
Mary Jane Herber

Dale & Mary Hitchcock
Bertha Kazmierczak
Judith Mathot Kloman
Jim & Judy Kneiszel
Peggy Koenig/Ward
Amalia Koepke
Roger & Judy Kralovec
Elizabeth Kress
Irene Kress
Gloria LaViolette
Tobajoy Levitas
Michael Lyga
Ken & Jean Mickle
Steve & Faye Rose
Doug & Liz Sommer
Mildred Sorenson
Dale Waldkirch
Tom & Sandra Walsh

THANK YOU!

De Pere High School - Six Yearbooks 1997-2008

Garden Club Des Peres - Two Large Cement
Planters

Telelaget of America - Telelaget- The First 100
Years 1907-2007 Book

The Celebrate Committee - Donation for use of the
Polo-Resto Building

Bob Desmond - Majestic Theater Photo

Mike Fleck - 14 History Magazines

Cathy Grassl - Four SNC Yearbooks

Grant Jackson - Eight Veteran Items

Joyce Klunk - Four Photos of Old De Pere Bridge

Bernice Lovesee - Father Claude Allouez 1622-1922
Book, 2 Newspaper Photos, Declaration of
Intention for Anton Van den Elsen

LeeAnn Michalske - Framed Watercolor of Old
Bridge by Lillian Chapel, 1962 Yearbook, five

Photos, two Newspapers, Class Reunion Book,
Basketball Program

Sue Mueller - Rita Lee Roth Story for Mueller
Family Book

Barb Osen - Two Osen Milling Pencils, 31 Photos
by Donna Osen, 1907 Framed Football Team
Photo, two De Pere High School Yearbooks

Don Pieters - 18 Funeral Cards & Church Articles

Bette Ribarchek - Craft Thread from Radant's Store

Joe Seroogy - Ten 1920's N.E.W. Fair Ribbons & 11
Premium Awards

Lou Silverdale - De Pere Journal Democrat
1/24/1935

Aaron Smits - Albers Family History Book

Suzanne Thibert - De Pere, Wisconsin Booklet

Dolly Van Sistine - Small Garden Spade

Leo Van Sistine & Crew - Fixed Back Porch and
Server Room Door

The 1919 Champions of Northern Wisconsin

In 1919, the upstart city football team from Green Bay, sponsored by the Indian Packing Co. was racing through their schedule undefeated and was scored upon only once all season. They were one of the most feared teams in Northeastern Wisconsin, with the exception of the undefeated city team from De Pere.

De Pere was also racing through its schedule undefeated and was scored upon only once. They tied Little Chute 0-0, trounced Kimberly 60-0, Kaukauna 40-0 and 30-0, allowed only one score for Little Chute 20-6, and defeated Neenah 38-0. As early as November 6, the newspapers reported that the De Pere team was trying to arrange a game with the Packers. One writer commented, "the Packers have offered such disagreeable terms that it looks to the De Pere boys that the Packers are afraid to tackle them." By the following week, the Packers bowed to public pressure and agreed to play a game with the De Pere team on November 30. Scheduled to play at Hagemeister Park, the teams were playing for the "Championship of Northern Wisconsin." The proceeds from the game would be divided and the winner would bring home 70 percent of the gate, allowing the loser just 30 percent. With both teams having only one game left on their schedules, it looked to be a battle between unbeaten football teams.

In regular season play the following week, the Packers were scheduled to play the Beloit Fairies for the Professional Football Championship. The De Pere team had Fond du Lac on their schedule. The Packers lost to Beloit 6-0 and Fond du Lac cancelled the game against De Pere, leaving only De Pere undefeated for the season. Four days before the game was to be played, the newspaper reported, "that the largest crowd that ever attended a football game in Green Bay is expected to be present" and "that where the bettors were once offering odds, now they are only willing to wager even money."

The projected starting lineup for the De Pere team was Charles Patterson, center; James Nuss, Dan Latus, guards; Carlton Roels, Murray, tackles; W. Metoxen, H. Schumerth, ends; Carey, quarterback; La Fleur, Chicoine, fullbacks; L. Janssen, Hanley, Langhoff, halfbacks. Also, playing that year for De Pere were Art Burckle, Elm, Riblitz, Ben Woods, F. Clabots, E. Haanen, Frank Hermsen, C. Ruel, Peters, W. Johnson and P. Lafond.

The week of the game, an ice storm hit the area and the big game was rescheduled for Dec. 14.

The following week the Packers were to play a rematch with Beloit, but it, too, was cancelled on account of the weather.

Record cold temperatures blew in the week of the rescheduled Green Bay Packers - De Pere City Team game and it was once again cancelled. This time it was not rescheduled, which left De Pere as the only undefeated team and "Champions of Northern Wisconsin." What might have been if the De Pere team would have had its chance against the upstarts from Green Bay?

Well, that story played out a year later. Green Bay and De Pere did play each other with the Packers prevailing 62-0.

Reprinted with permission from *De Pere of Yesteryear*
By Mary Kay and Dan Milquet

IT WAS IN THE DE PERE JOURNAL 50 YEARS AGO

AUGUST 21, 1958

Personals

Linus Verber has returned after spending a week in Fish Creek.

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Planert of Chicago visited relatives and friends.

Mrs. Elizabeth Tiesling spent last weekend with her sister **Mrs. Gertrude De Groot** of Kaukauna.

Mr. and Mrs. James Fanlon of Chicago are visiting with their son and daughter-in-law **Dr. and Mrs. H.V. Fanlon**.

Mr. and Mrs. James Van Sistine and family from Madison are visiting with **Mr. and Mrs. Matt Galvin** and other relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. Steven Wunk, Jr., and son of Milwaukee spent the weekend with her mother,

Mrs. Vivian Dahnke and family.

Jerry McCormack, 519 N. Broadway, attended the Eagle Scout Forestry Camp on Lost Canoe Lake near Boulder Junction last week.

Mrs. C.F. Trayser, 812 St. Francis Rd., will attend a CEO Sisterhood recruitment seminar at Cottey College, Nevada, Mo., Sept., 3 to 5.

Mrs. Darrell Larson, a former De Pere resident, is spending an extended length of time at the Georgia Warm Springs Foundation, Warm Springs, Ga. where she is undergoing complete workshop treatment and analysis of her condition in the hope that her condition can be improved. Mrs. Larson is a polio victim. Her husband was principal of Irwin School at the time they lived in De Pere.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Falck and family of Minneapolis, Minn., spent Saturday visiting with **Mr. and Mrs. A.S. Vanden Heuvel**. Saturday evening the Vande Heuvels entertained former neighbors of the Falcks.

Douglas Houghton, son of **Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Houghton**, 511 N. Michigan St. visited the University of Wisconsin campus during the past week to register for UW studies to be started with the opening of the University's school year in September.

Clayton Vande Ven and family and **Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Keyser** motored to Madison to visit with **Mr. and Mrs. Richard Baeten** over the weekend.

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Hibbert and children spent Tuesday evening at Manitowoc visiting with relatives and attending the Manitowoc county fair.

Miss Della Hanen, who spent the summer here with **Mr. and Mrs. John Creviere** and other relatives, left Sunday for Phoenix, Ariz. where she will teach the deaf.

Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Kelly and daughters, **Jill, Candace** and **Bridget** have returned to their home in Glen View, Illinois after a two week visit with Mrs. Kelly's mother, **Mrs. Walter Nordby**.

Don't miss the big nickel beers every Tuesday night from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at Beimborn's Bar 10 miles southeast of De Pere on Highway G at Shirley. -- Adv.

Plan Open House at St. Boniface School

An open house, to which parishioners and the public will be invited, will be held at the new St. Boniface school before school opens, according to the pastor, **Father J. W. Jansen**.

The new school is nearing completion. Blacktop was laid around the building Tuesday, and finishing of the interior is being completed.

Each classroom will have a hand carved cross imported from Italy hanging on the wall, Father Jansen said.

DO YOU RECOGNIZE THESE PEOPLE?

If you recognize anyone in these photos, please contact White Pillars Museum or email info@deperehistoricalsociety.org.



From left to right: 1-Johanna Elisabeth (Philipsen) Jacobs (1839-1922 De Pere), 2-Daughter-in-law of # 1 (married to Jan Jacobs ?), 3-Child of # 2, 4-Mother of # 2, 5-Grandmother of # 2



1-Son-in-law Martin Heesacker, 2-Son Jan or Piet Jacobs, 3-Father Pieter Hendrik Jacobs (1839-1920), 4-Son Piet or Jan Jacobs, 5-Daughter-in-law Jacobs (seated), 6-Mother Johanna Elisabeth Philipsen (1839-1922), 7-Daughter-in-law Jacobs

De Pere Journal-Democrat – October 8, 1931

Old Settlers Column

Miss Clara Cook met a former De Pere resident on her western trip last summer and submits the following:

De Pere is always happy to find that one of its own children has climbed the steep and difficult road to success. Recently she found one of her children hundreds of miles from home, but nevertheless, here in spirit, thinking of the place in which he was given his inspiration, the foundation of all the success he has built. This child, grandfather now, is one Joseph Hermsen.

There are undoubtedly those residents of De Pere who remember the Hermsen family, who in 1882 migrated to Bellingham, Washington. Henry Hermsen, Joseph's father, had four sons and three daughters. They lived just beyond the city limits on the Dickenson Road. Joseph, the typical curious small boy, spent many hours at Steckart's farm, where he was thrilled with the business-like activity ever to be found there. From early morning until late at night Joseph would wander about asking many questions, lending a willing small hand, giving a confident small boy suggestion that would receive a mere grunt from a preoccupied workman or a helpful explanation from a more patient one. Mr. Hermsen has a beautiful tenor voice and has been soloist at the Church of the Assumption in Bellingham for thirty-one years. He is a member of the Bellingham Men's chorus and over the radio at the recent state convention of the American Legion at Washington. He is a prominent member of the Knights of Columbus, the Catholic Order of Foresters, the Elks club and the Rotary club. He and his wife are both very active in civic affairs.

Mr. Hermsen has a large family, five daughters and three sons, all of whom are talented. Two are in Alaska. The eldest daughter, Mildred, is the wife of Thomas K. Smith, an Alaskan newspaper man and lives at Ketchum, Alaska. The elder son, Joseph, Jr., is in the government engineer's office at Seward, Alaska. The other two sons are completing college courses; John is at Washington state college and Edward is at the University of Washington. Winifred is a teacher at La Conner, Wash., and the two youngest children, Kathleen and Mary Jane, are at home. He has two grandchildren, of whom he is as proud as any grandfather should be.

Here is one who has followed an inspiration received in De Pere and has built a great character and a great industry two thousand miles away. De Pere is happy to find one so successful and claim as her own.

DE PERE HISTORICAL SOCIETY ANNUAL DINNER

Please join us for a wonderful evening of entertainment and history at the De Pere Historical Society Annual Dinner!

Highlights include:

- Historic photos displayed throughout the evening
 - **2008 Award** winners announced
 - The Year in Review presentation
 - Excerpts from "*They Came to Wisconsin; Immigrant Stories and Songs*" presented by **The Heritage Players**.
-
- Social hour begins @ **5:30 PM** (cash bar).
 - Family style dinner served @ **6:30 PM**.
 - Followed by the Annual Meeting and Awards
 - **The Heritage Players**

Tuesday, October 21, 2008

5:30 PM

The Swan Club at Legends

875 Heritage Rd

De Pere, WI

Retain this half as a reminder!

Clip here and send this half with your payment and reservation.

Your reservation is secured by sending your payment to the De Pere Historical Society before **Thursday, October 16, 2008** Dinner is \$15 per person.

Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____

Phone: _____ Number Attending: _____

Make checks payable to the **De Pere Historical Society** and mail or drop-off payment and bottom half of this page to:

**White Pillars Museum
403 N. Broadway
De Pere, WI 54115**



Top left: Baeten's Store (1910), middle left: Baeten's Store (1946), bottom left: Hoks General Mdse, Rose Hoks, Mary Johnson, Cleo Collette, W. A. Hoks, Minnie Hoks, top right: Bender's Grocery on the corner of Stewart and Third Streets, middle right: Rabbideau Hardware, bottom right: Hahn's Drug Store (1909)

De Pere Historical Society
403 North Broadway
De Pere, WI 54115
(920) 336-3877

Membership Application Form

If you would like to join the De Pere Historical Society, forgot to renew your membership, or would like to send a friend a gift membership, use this form. All members will receive the newsletters regarding families and events in De Pere history and Historical Society news.

Please check one:

- \$20-\$49
- \$50-\$99
- \$100-\$249
- \$250-\$499
- \$500 or more

Mail To:

De Pere Historical Society
403 North Broadway
De Pere, WI 54115
(920) 336-3877

This membership is for...

Recipients Name _____
Street/Apt _____
City, State, Zip _____
Phone _____ Email _____
Circle one: Birthday / Christmas / Other: _____

If this is a gift membership, this gift is from...

Your Name _____
Street/Apt _____
City, State, Zip _____
Phone _____ Email _____

*A special gift notice will be mailed to them with your name on it.

Membership Expires: December 31, 2009