



Museum Matters

the Fall 2014 newsletter of the

Elk Rapids Area Historical Society

Exploring the past... Understanding the present... Envisioning the future

Museum receives generous donation

The Elk Rapids Historical Museum is proud to announce receiving the largest collection of State of Michigan historical books pertaining to farming, fruit growing and animal husbandry. Donated by Karl Mark Pall, a 1953 graduate of Elk Rapids High School, the library was used to teach Michigan's farming history. Pall, a retired Adjunct Professor at Macomb College, collected state documents for over fifty years.

"I discovered the Elk Rapids Area Historical Society and Museum when I returned for my 60th class reunion. I was impressed with the museum and library," Pall said. "I thought...here is the place for all my history teaching aids."

Twenty volumes, one going back to 1853, show the successful development of the principles of scientific farming. Additional books show the emergence of fruit and berry cultivation, now most important to the Grand Traverse regional economy.

The agricultural reports contain information obtained at the Michigan State Experimental Station which was located on the campus of Michigan State University. The books also contain steel engravings of farm implements, cattle, fruits and vegetables. Books from the 1900s contain photographs of discussion topics.

Also donated was a huge collection of aboriginal trade copper from Michigan's Upper Peninsula. The artifacts represent the lost Native American miners from thousands of years ago. These miners made trade copper found throughout North America. "Anthropologists do not know who these people were. They have been lost in time though their work lives on," Pall stated. "I'm happy to share this collection which was displayed at the educational seminar of the Michigan State Numismatic Society." Pall was the society's educational director for over 8 years.

"It is my hope that the Elk Rapids Area Historical Society would welcome the textbooks that I utilized for teaching the history of Native Americans in Michigan, and the Michigan Great Lakes," he



Karl Mark Pall with a portion of the aboriginal trade copper collection he donated to the museum.

said. "I also hope that the collection would entice the visitors to the Elk Rapids harbor to study sailors going back before the Griffin, the first boat built for the Great Lakes."

Dan LeBlond, President of the Elk Rapids Area Historical Society, operators of the Museum said, "The Elk Rapids Area Historical Society and Museum is a center that inspires people to explore the past, understand the present and envision the future. This is our mission. Now, being the new steward of Mr. Pall's remarkable collection, contributes to accomplishing that mission by serving as the authority on regional history; preserving artifacts pertinent to the region; assisting with research and learning; and sharing our past as the foundation for the future."

Researchers can arrange to view and study the library by making arrangements to visit by contacting:

Elk Rapids Area Historical Society, P.O. Box 2, Elk Rapids, MI 49629-0002, E-mail: president@elkrapidshistory.org, (231) 264-5692.

Plan to attend our "Potluck Dinner & Annual Meeting"

October 2nd, 2014 at Calvary

Lutheran Church, 10180 Elk Lake Road., Elk Rapids MI 49629 (at the blinker on US 31) *Note: this location is not the Museum's building.*

Society members and the general public are invited to attend. Potluck Dinner, followed by brief Annual Meeting Officers will be elected and a PowerPoint slideshow will show the many accomplishments during the last year and plans for the new fiscal year.

President's Report:



Dan LeBlond
Time flies

There is a nip in the air and one wonders where the summer went. Things are quiet around town since school began and it's time to get out and enjoy all that autumn has to offer before Jack Frost comes calling.

Matching Gift Challenge

We are in the process of launching a capital improvement fundraising campaign that we are calling: "Elk Rapids Area Historical Society Handicap Accessibility & Water Project Plan."

This project is intended to bring handicapped accessibility to the rear entrance door and bathrooms, plus replacing the water service line to the building and other infrastructure improvements to the lower level's "Exhibit Area J."

We are busy writing grant requests to help fund the estimated \$79,000 project. Three were submitted on September 1st., others will go out in December; but, grants can only do part of the job.

We need donations from our members and friends as well. Grantors request that we, the Society, commit funds to the total project cost.

We plan to contribute \$17,200. We've already raised \$4,200. We are asking YOU to help us with the rest - \$13,000.

To help get us started, an anonymous donor has offered to match, up to \$5,000 for the new water service line and Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant bathrooms. With your contribution and the match, we can get started on the project by bringing the new water service line from the Traverse St. water main, around the east side of the building to the rear where it will hook-up to the interior lines.

Can you make a donation by October 31st? You can use the donation form below and please write "MATCHING" on the memo line of your check. Thanks!

Save those receipts!

Now through Memorial Day 2015, all Historical Society members and friends are asked to save their Village Market cash register receipts. For the ninth year in a row, the Society is participating in the market's "Community Cash Program." We look forward to another good year; please continue to save your receipts for us!

They can be brought to the museum any Wednesday, 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. and given to the greeter on duty; or, handed to Dan LeBlond, Glenn Neumann, any Society Board Member. You can also mail them to:

Elk Rapids Area Historical Society
P.O. Box 2
Elk Rapids, MI 49629-0002

Would you like a pew?

Several pews were removed as we converted the old church to a museum. We've kept the extra pews in storage until we were sure we no longer needed them. After two years, we've decided that they need a new home. If you are interested in a pew (or pews) for yourself or for an organization, contact the museum at (231) 264-5692 or email: president@elkrapidshistory.org

Congratulations, Lynn

Lynn Meeker was recently interviewed by Jack O'Malley for an upcoming edition of "Jack's Journal" on TV 9 & 10. Lynn has volunteered as a geneologist for ERAHS and she discussed the use of Bibles to trace family history. Bibles from the museum's collection were shown during the interview. We're glad to see that Lynn is receiving recognition for the fine work she does.

<p><small>The Elk Rapids Area Historical Society is a 501C (3) non-profit corporation. Contributions are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.</small></p> <p>Name _____</p> <p>Address _____</p> <p>City _____ State _____ Zip _____</p> <p>Email _____</p> <p>Phone _____ Mobile _____</p>	<p>Elk Rapids Area Historical Society Museum corner of Traverse & Pine Streets 248-542-4208 www.elkrapidshistory.org</p> <p>Yes, I want to support with my donation</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> \$5000.00 Challenge Gift Fund \$ _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Capital Campaign Fund \$ _____</p> <p>Total donation \$ _____</p> <p>Make check payable to: Elk Rapids Area Historical Society P.O. Box 2 Elk Rapids, MI 49629-0002</p>	<p>I would like to make periodic contributions to the Capital Campaign Fund</p> <p>Monthly \$ _____</p> <p>Yearly \$ _____</p> <p>Other \$ _____</p>
<p><i>Thank you for your support!</i></p>		

Vision Statement

The Elk Rapids Area Historical Society and Museum will be a distinguished leader in defining the unique history of the region by connecting the past, present and future through:

- Historical Preservation
- Community Collaboration
- Educational Programs
- Research Documentation

Mission Statement

The Elk Rapids Area Historical Society and Museum is a center that inspires people to explore the past, understand the present and envision the future.

We accomplish this by:

- Serving as the authority on regional history
- Preserving artifacts pertinent to the region
- Promoting, collaborating and supporting community activities
- Providing a center for community engagement and education
- Assisting with research and learning
- Ensuring history is an integral component of community development
- Sharing our past as the foundation for the future

Visit us online at
www.elkrapidshistory.org
 and "like" us on facebook.

Below are the remaining activities scheduled by the Elk Rapids Area Historical Society for the rest of the year. Unless otherwise noted, admission is a \$5.00 suggested donation for adults, \$2.00 suggested donation for students (under age 18) is requested at the door for these programs. Children are free. All proceeds benefit the Elk Rapids Area Historical Society's building preservation.

Date	Activity
October 2 nd (Thur)	Museum Program Annual Meeting & Potluck Dinner (not at the Museum, see front page for details) Admission: bring a dish to pass.
October 9 th (Thur) 	2014 marks the 50th Anniversary of the Ford Mustang . The local Cruisin' Pirates Car Club invites you to learn the history of this fine automobile. 5:00 p.m - 7:00 p.m: Members will have their cars on display on the Museum's grounds. 7:00 p.m: Ken Dabrowski will tell the story of the Mustang.
November 6 th (Thur) 	Museum Program w/Green ER: R. Gauthier, Great Lakes Water Levels . Green Elk Rapids is a community based organization in Northern Michigan that aims to spread awareness of all things "green." Admission is free
November 12 th (Wed) 	Museum Program: T. Wooten, "Walking on Bullets: A Poetic Tribute to Korean War Veterans" based on oral history interviews with Maurice (Fuzzy) Guy, a Korean War Veteran and his wife Carol Guy. All proceeds benefit the Military Order of the Purple Heart Chapter 609, a group of our local veterans.

The Elk Rapids Library hosts an engaging series of lectures at the museum. Contact the library for more information:

<u>Date/Time</u>	<u>Library Speaker</u>
October 4th (Sat, 3:00 PM)	Richard Alan Hall
October 16th (Thur, 7:00 PM)	Valerie Winans
October 22nd (Thur, 7:00 PM)	Kwame Alexander
November 1st (Sat, 3:00 PM)	Tobin Bunk
November 8th (Sat, 3:00 PM)	Ken Scott

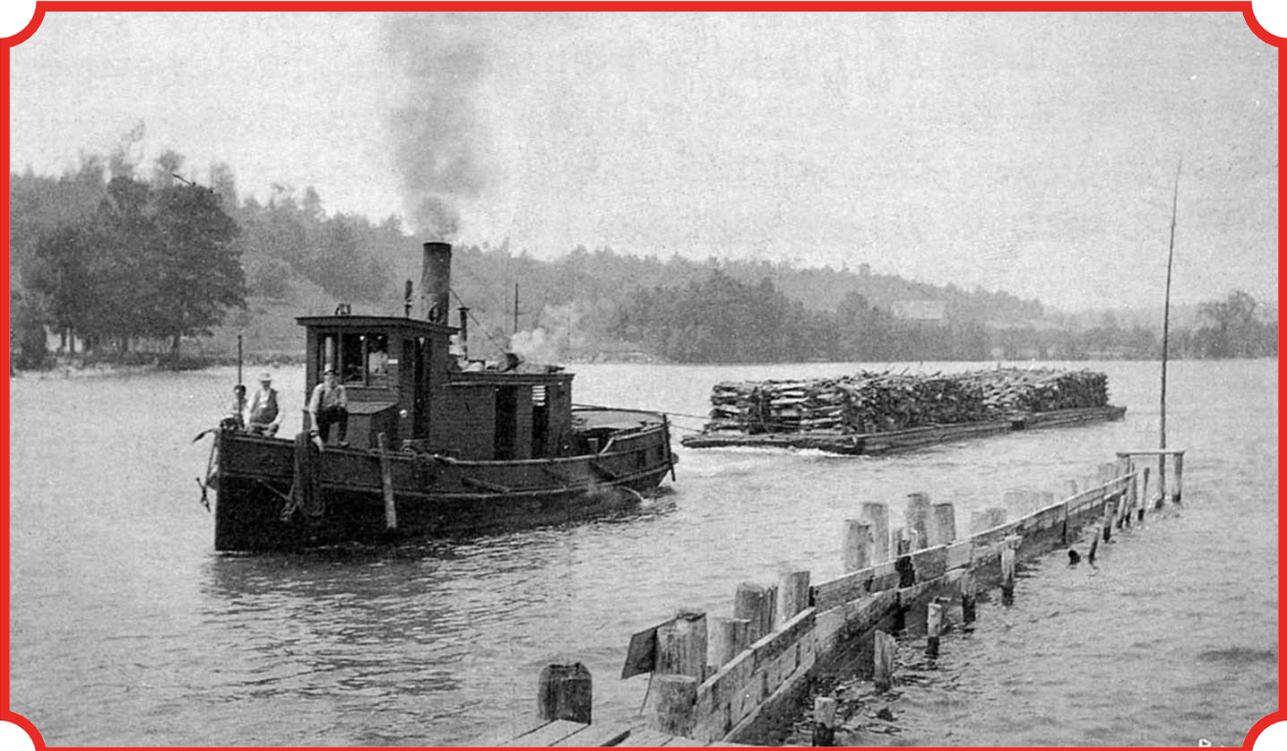


Elk Rapids Area Historical Society

Post Office Box 2, Elk Rapids, Michigan 49629-0002

Contact: Dan LeBlond, President (231) 264-5692 or (231) 264-8984, Email: president@elkrapidshistory.org, Web site: www.elkrapidshistory.org

Deliver to:



Here is the "Elk" owned by the Elk Rapids Iron Company entering Torch River. The Chain of Lakes proved to be a vital source of transportation for the entire area.