



# Museum Matters

*the Summer 2015 newsletter of the*

## Elk Rapids Area Historical Society

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

### New Exhibit for 2015:

















Some things stay the same – some things change. This summer the Museum will present an exhibit entitled “THEN & NOW.”

On display will be over 50 items from the archives along with their “NOW” version.

The Museum is open now through September 5<sup>th</sup> every Wednesday and Saturday from 1:00 – 4:00pm.

After Sept 5<sup>th</sup>, we’ll be open through the end of September only on Wednesday 1:00 – 4:00pm.

Besides the “THEN & NOW” exhibit, each month some other aspect of Elk Rapids will be featured.

Stop by... bring the kids and visitors to enjoy a casual stroll down MEMORY LANE at the nicest Historical Museum in Antrim County!

Admission Fee: Historical Society Members – Free. Non-members (adults, children and families): A freewill donation is requested.

For more information, call the museum @ 231-264-5692 or visit our website:

[www.elkrapidshistory.org](http://www.elkrapidshistory.org)

# 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



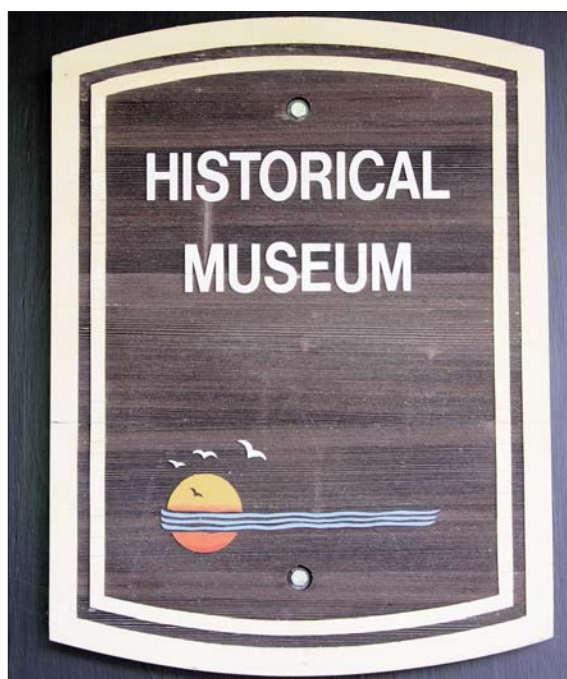
## ERAHS Board of Directors:

- Dan LeBlond .....President
- Craig Handley .....Vice President
- Adam Schuler .....Treasurer
- Marcia Graham .....Secretary
- Inez Gotts .....Trustee
- Dan Ernst .....Trustee
- Jane Lund .....Trustee
- Daniel Wettlaufer .....Trustee

Would you consider joining our board of Trustees?

We need your input to keep ERAHS a vibrant cultural and educational asset to our community. If you are a snow bird, don't let that stop you. We meet once a month except in the dead of winter.

Being an ERAHS Trustee takes little time and you will be actively supporting this unique place we call home.



*MUSEUM MATTERS* is published periodically by The Elk Rapids Area Historical Society.

Contributors: Dolores Hibbard, Dan LeBlond, Karen Szymanski, Glenn Neumann

All editorial and correspondence should be sent to:

**Craig Handley, editor, Post Office Box 2, Elk Rapids, MI 49629-0002**  
email: [president@elkrapidshistory.org](mailto:president@elkrapidshistory.org)

Copyright © 2014 by The Elk Rapids Area Historical Society.

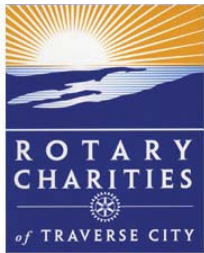
# President's Report:



Dan LeBlond

## CHALLENGE GRANT CONTINUES

Will YOU help us raise \$10,000.00 as soon as possible? Last December, the Elk Rapids Area Historical Society (ERAHS) received a capital grant of \$20,000 from the Rotary Charities of Traverse City, to be applied toward the cost of providing the museum building with an upgraded water service line, the remodeling of two bathrooms and the south door, making them handicap accessible.



The ERAHS was one of four Arts and Culture organizations to receive Rotary Charities funding from their fall 2014 grant cycle. The first \$10,000 was disbursed and received immediately; the second \$10,000 is a \$1 for \$1 challenge grant and will be paid upon documentation the match has been secured. As

of today, we are a little more than half way toward reaching our \$10,000 matching goal.

Anyone wishing to make a donation to the \$10,000 \$1 for \$1 challenge grant can do so by going to our website and clicking on the donate section. Be sure to type "\$1 for \$1" in the comment box. You can also send a check payable to the Elk Rapids Area Historical Society (or just ERAHS) and mail to P.O. Box 2, Elk Rapids, MI, 49629-0002. Again, please write "\$1 for \$1" challenge on your check.

## HELP NEEDED

The exhibit "THEN&NOW" is up and running from May 2 - Sept. 5, 2015. Volunteers did the planning and set-up, but volunteers are needed now to be GREETERS.

Due to a variety of reasons, the number of GREETERS from last year has decreased. We need to cover 36 days this summer (105 hrs.)

If you can give us 3 hrs. (Wednesday or Saturday, 1:00 - 4:00pm), please give Inez Gotts (231-264-6558) a call for more information or to help us out.

## VILLAGE MARKET COMMUNITY CASH

*Please turn in your receipts:*

All Historical Society members and friends who have saved their Village market cash register receipts can bring them down to the museum on the next couple of Wednesdays or Saturdays, 1:00 to 4:00 PM and hand to the Greeter on duty. You can also mail them to the Society at:

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

## VISIT OUR GIFT SHOP "ANNEX"

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK: 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Our booth is #82 in the Harbor Antique Mall 201 River St, Elk Rapids, MI 49629 (Corner of River and Cedar Streets)

*"WHERE THE PERFECT PRESENT IS THE PAST"*

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Mark your calendar for these programs. Unless otherwise noted, these programs will be held at the Museum, located at the corner of Traverse and Pine Streets.

**July 2nd, 2015 (Thursday) - 7:00 p.m.**

**"The Lone Ranger -- An American Icon"**

**Presenter: Dale Lopus**

Dale Lopus, a member of the historical society and collector of Lone Ranger memorabilia, tells the history of this American icon. He begins with the origin of one of early radio's popular adventure tales; its progression to motion pictures and then television.

Dale will bring back many of your childhood memories of this masked man and his faithful friend, Tonto. Return with us to those thrilling days of yesteryear; The Lone Ranger rides again!

**August 6th, 2015 (Thursday) - 7:00 p.m.**

**"Spies On The Lakes"**

**Presenter: Karl Mark Pall**

This bizarre story takes place during the Civil War on Lakes Huron, Erie, Michigan, St Clair and Ontario. It is full of twists and turns, the end is astonishing! The story includes a very mysterious woman and a host of Southern spies charged with piracy and espionage.

The story takes us to New York City for a military Court Room Battle with the best criminal lawyer representing a defendant, to Salt Lake City's Mormon community, Montreal, Canada plays a role, so does Chicago. It trav-

els to Washington D C and to Richmond, Virginia.

Karl Mark Pall is an award winning teacher of Michigan History, a graduate of Elk Rapids High School - Class of 1953, and a retired Adjunct Professor at Macomb College. He spent 20 years of research into this intriguing adventure.

The Civil War ended on April 9, 1865, a week later, President Abraham Lincoln was assassinated. The Elk Rapids Area Historical Society is pleased to commemorate the 150th Anniversary of the ending of the Civil War with Karl Mark Pall's presentation.

**September 3rd, 2015 (Thursday) - 7:00 p.m.**

**"Samels Farm: The Treasure on Skegemog Point"**

**Presenters: Susan Hall & MaryAnn Rivers Friese**

From 1895 to 1996 the Samels family farmed eighty two acres located about half way up Skegemog Point.

After 1996, the land came under the protection of The Archaeological Conservancy (TAC) because of the archaeological sites located on the property. For thousands of years before settlers arrived this land was home to Native Americans. Join us to learn about the past and present and future of this beautiful land.

Speaking on the archaeology and history of the farm will be Susan Hall and MaryAnn Rivers Friese.

Susan is a board member, a retired teacher, a wife, mother and grandmother, a resident of Elk Rapids and an amateur archaeologist.

MaryAnn is a former teacher, a board member (one of the founders), daughter of an archaeologist, a wife, mother, grandmother and a fine musician and singer.

**October 1st, 2015 (Thursday) - 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.**

**"Potluck Dinner & Annual Meeting"**

**At First Presbyterian Church, 404 Spruce Street, Elk Rapids MI 49629 (corner of First Street Note: this location is not the Museum's building.**

Society members and the general public are invited to attend the potluck dinner, followed by a brief Annual Meeting.

Officers will be elected and a PowerPoint slideshow will show the many improvements done to the building during the last year and plans for the new fiscal year.

**Admission Fee: Bring a dish to pass (table service provided.)**

More events are being planned. Watch for updates!



*Elk Rapids Iron Company Crew, 1887*

# Students learn to Quilt at the Museum

By Dolores Hibbard

On Tuesday, January 22nd, the Elk Rapids Historical Society conducted a program on quilts at Lakeland Elementary School, with the help of members from the Wednesday Piecemakers Quilt group. Catherine Walle, of the Historical Society, directed the activity, with Karen Szymanski facilitating. Another volunteer, Lynn Bauer, and members of the quilt group helped with the activity.

Kim Ranger, a Coordinator for the school district has been working with the Historical Society to plan field trips to the Museum and bring special exhibits to the school. This program on quilts would answer curriculum requirements for younger children. The students are currently involved in, "Every day we learn something new, it's time to learn something old", as part of their International Baccalaureate (IB) Primary Years Programme (PYP).

Numerous quilts of different styles were on display, as well as a 100 year old "crazy quilt". The students moved from display to display, at one time even crawling through a quilt tunnel. They seemed especially interested in the demonstration of hand sewing by Martha Snyder. She hand stitched two different colored squares together then cut them apart between the rows to make two sets of triangles. Shapes, colors, and patterns were named and described. After which, each child was given a bag with paper pieces to design a "nine patch" quilt pattern back in their classroom.

In addition, three students brought their personal quilts from home to share. It is important for children to know how items were produced in the past, and how we have changed and built on that knowledge. †



---

## ERAHS WISH LIST

If you have any of the following items and wish to donate them to the Elk Rapids Area Historical Society, we'd be only too happy to receive them.

- ✓ Small (working) refrigerator
- ✓ Photo's – especially of interiors of buildings
- ✓ Items to show different cultural influences
- ✓ School sport uniforms
- ✓ Men's (old) working clothes
- ✓ New, large staplers

Please contact the museum at Post Office Box 2, Elk Rapids, MI 49629-0002 or stop by during regular hours listed below.

## MUSEUM HOURS

October 1, 2014 through Sept 30, 2015:

Every WEDNESDAY, 1- 4 p.m.

May 02, 2015 through Sept 05, 2015:

Every WEDNESDAY, 1- 4 p.m.

Every SATURDAY, 1 - 4 p.m.

The Museum is closed on all major holidays. Admission Fee: None! (Donations are gladly accepted!)

## Didjano?

On November 8, 1878 Dr. Z. H. Evans, with the assistance of H. H. Noble, restored sight to Mr. S. Calhoun of Cadillac after fourteen years of blindness.

In 1883, a petition circulated to build a boat dock from the Bay to Bass Lake, and again in the 1930s and 40s.

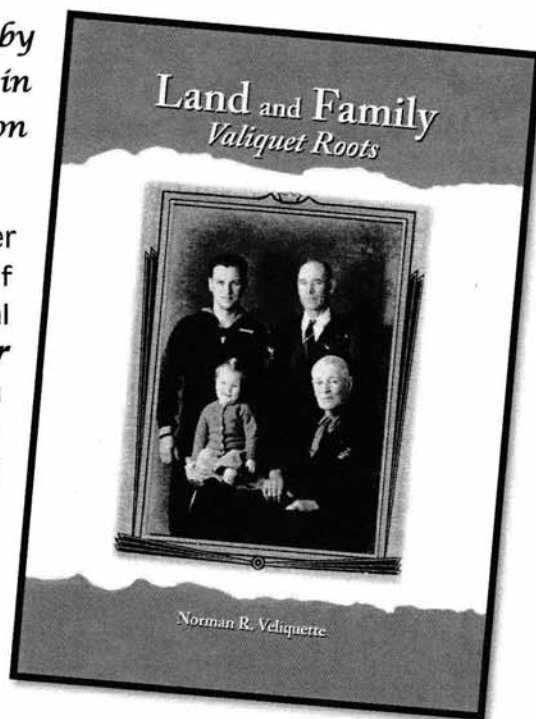
## ~ Pre-Publication Order Form ~

Once in a while, someone records the heritage of a family.  
Norman R. Veliquette has done that in his new book...

# ***Land and Family, Valiquet Roots***

*Scheduled to be published summer of 2015 by the Elk Rapids Area Historical Society, in concert with the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Milton Township located in northern Michigan.*

This 7" X 10" limited edition illustrated soft cover book containing 260+ pages is about history of both the land and the family. It will make an ideal gift for those with **Valiquet, Velliquette, or Veliquette** ancestors, descendants of Sean Valiquet who left France for Montreal in the mid-1600s. Norman traces twelve generations in his direct line. Find out how your branch of the family connects to the trunk and roots of the family tree. Place your order now to add this rare non-profit historical publication to your collection of treasured books.



### **Retail price \$29.95**

Copies	\$/book	\$/Package	Shipping	Package Total
6	\$25.00	\$150.00	\$20.50	\$170.50
5	\$26.00	\$130.00	\$17.50	\$147.50
4	\$27.00	\$108.00	\$14.50	\$122.50
3	\$28.00	\$84.00	\$11.50	\$95.50
2	\$29.00	\$58.00	\$8.50	\$66.50
1	\$29.95	\$29.95	\$5.50	\$35.45

Advance orders will influence the number of copies published making this book a limited edition. Package rates are designed to discount multiple purchases.

Order by credit card or PayPal from the Elk Rapids Area Historical Society website: <http://elkrapidshistory.org> (click on the "Online Store" tab). Or mail your order and payment in the enclosed addressed envelope to ERAHS, P.O. Box 2, Elk Rapids, MI 49629.

Checks payable to **Elk Rapids Area Historical Society** w/memo: "Valiquet Roots"  
Receipt of your purchase will be confirmed by email.

YES, reserve me \_\_\_\_\_ copies of the publication, "**Land and Family, Valiquet Roots**" at the pre-publication retail price of \$29.95 plus \$5.50 shipping for one book, **or** for multi-copy purchases the Package Total from the price list above, which includes \$3.00 shipping per book after the first copy.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

YES, I would like to pick up my books at the Elk Rapids Area Historical Society, NO shipping fees included.

Ck. No. _____
Date Recd. _____

# ***ELK RAPIDS LIBRARY LECTURES BY NOTED AUTHORS AT THE MUSEUM***

Our District Library hosts an engaging series of lectures by noted authors at the museum (301 Traverse Street, Elk Rapids):

June 11th (Tue. - 7:00 p.m.) Ron Rademacher  
Ron Rademacher, author of 5 books about out-of-the-way Michigan destinations, will be discussing back roads, historic sites, natural wonders, and unique festivals. Join Ron for an entertaining presentation! No registration necessary and light refreshments will be served.

August 3rd (Mon. - 7:00 p.m.) Doc Fletcher

September 24th (Thu. - 7:00 p.m.) Andrea Scarpino

October - Date to be confirmed Ronald J. Walters

November 5th (Thu. - 7:00 p.m.) Lori Speilman

Contact the Elk Rapids Library for more information.

***It costs \$82.19 per day to operate the Museum,  
whether open to the public or closed!***

***Yes! I want to support The Elk Rapids Historical Museum!***

Gift Amount:  \$50  \$100  \$200  \$500  \$1,000  \$2,500  Other

I have enclosed a check payable to ERAHS

Please print clearly:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Summer address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Winter address (if different) \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to be recognized for this donation  Yes  No

If yes, please list my/our name(s) as \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to give my gift  in Honor of  in Memory of

Name \_\_\_\_\_

(please include a note with acknowledgement information)

*Become a member of ERAHS  
and receive free admission to  
monthly programs and other  
benefits:*

- Single - \$25
- Family - \$40
- Business - \$50
- Patron - \$100

*The Elk Rapids Area Historical Society  
is a 501C (3) non-profit corporation.  
Contributions are tax-deductible to the  
extent allowed by law.*

*Thank you for your support!*  
[www.elkrapidshistory.org](http://www.elkrapidshistory.org)

**Mail to: ERAHS, P.O. Box 2, Elk Rapids MI 49629-0002**



# 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](mailto:president@elkrapidshistory.org), Web site: [www.elkrapidshistory.org](http://www.elkrapidshistory.org)

*Deliver to:*



*Here is a Sunday School picnic from the 1890s. We hope you enjoy your summer as much as these folks did and that you will take time between picnics to visit your Museum.*

**Visit us online at [www.elkrapidshistory.org](http://www.elkrapidshistory.org) and “like” us on facebook.**