



Sainte Marie Foundation News

To celebrate our very special hometown's summer season 2010

Volume 3, Issue 3

LABOR DAY WEEKEND IN SAINTE MARIE

Jim Litzelman Piano Concert : A Benefit for the Sainte Marie Foundation

Saturday, September 4, 2010

2 p.m. St. Mary's Church, Sainte Marie, IL

Tickets: \$10 adults; \$5 Students/children: Available at Sainte Marie State Bank, Peoples State Bank of Newton, First National Bank of Dieterich (Newton branch), First Financial Bank (Newton) and Crossroads Bank (Effingham) or Sainte Marie Foundation (%Annette Kirts), PO Box 186, Ste. Marie, IL 62459

Don't miss this opportunity to hear world performer James Litzelman in his beloved hometown!

Jim attended Ste. Marie Elementary School, Newton Community High School and Eastern Illinois University, where he received a degree in music (piano performance) in 1984. He went on to Catholic University of America for graduate work, became a faculty member in 1993 and is now the director of the graduate program in piano pedagogy.



Jim is well known as a soloist, collaborative artist and lecturer, having performed and lectured in the United State, Europe, China, Russia and Mexico.

While at Newton Community High School, he was very active in the band and chorus. He returns to Ste. Marie to play this concert in St. Mary's church where he once played piano and organ as a teenager.

Truly a world traveler and performer, *he now comes back to perform in his little hometown to benefit the Sainte Marie Foundation.* The concert will be held in St. Mary's Church at 2 p.m. with a reception afterwards at the American Legion.

Thanks to the **Don and Christine Litzelman Family** and to **Samuel Music Company**, Effingham, for rental of the nine-foot grand piano. This is going to be a concert you will not want to miss! Buy your tickets now.



Also, that weekend.....

St. Mary's Picnic

Sunday, September 5

Serving dinner from 11 a.m. – 5 p.m.

The Foundation House will be open for viewing from 1 – 5 p.m. Stop by and see how far we have progressed since last year.

Oh, Those Flower Baskets!

Visitors to Ste. Marie this summer are in for a special treat. With Foundation backing, Foundation Treasurer **Maxine Calvert** spearheaded a program to hang beautiful flowering plants on four telephone poles at the center of town. Each basket has a gorgeous cascade of different shades of pink flowers.

“We hope that businesses and interested individuals will sponsor more flowering baskets next year,” said Maxine. “We just wanted people to see how pretty they could be so we planned a limited number this year.” The Foundation had **DM Manufacturing** make the wrought iron hangers that are attached to the poles, from a design that **Maurice Calvert** created.



Ron Kirts (above) devised a battery-operated watering pump, and he and Maxine take turns watering the plants daily, pulling the pump behind their golf carts.

Foundation House Update

The fascia is finally finished, thanks to the herculean efforts of our contractor, **Larry Hahn**. Getting to the top of that big house required some extra scaffolding, to say the least.

We also had a new metal ceiling put on the front porch and renovated the old light fixture with new wiring and globe. Everything looked beautiful for the May 30 event, including the gardens.

We continue to work on the sun porch – scraping, caulking and painting and hope to have it finished by Labor Day.

Thanks to the volunteer crew who take turns mowing the lawn: **George Kirts**, organizer; **Bob Helregel**, **John Michl**, **Robert Rumpp/Louis Valbert** and **Jack Thompson**. We appreciate all you do.

The flower gardens are gorgeous thanks to the efforts of **Maxine Calvert** and **Carolyn Litzelman Kirts**, with some help from **Tammy Frye** and others.

From our “Items We Need” list, thanks to **Louis Valbert** for the donation of two filing cabinets and to **Teresa Hartrich** and her mother **Estella Zuber** for donating sheets.

Thanks also to **Amanda Zuber Huber** who donated children’s books “so the little visitors have something to read when they stay at the Foundation House.”

Call Sandy Hartrich 618-455-3575 or e-mail sjh@psbnewton.com to reserve the house.

Items We Need at the Foundation House

- 6’ – 8’ sturdy ladder
- Small step stool/ladder (2 -3 steps)
- Large plastic trash can with lid

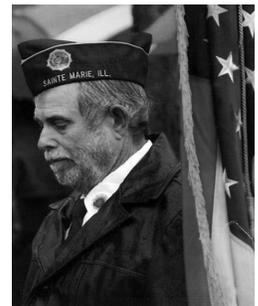
Donations to the Museum

Gloria Zuber Schwartz donated a brass planter that once belonged to Georgianne “Babe” Brown. Gloria had the old pot repaired and refinished; it’s quite beautiful!

June Keller Zuber brought in some really old pictures that we had copied, thanks to the Heath Grant. She was pleased to learn that we are still accepting wedding pictures to add to our extensive wedding picture exhibit (not on display right now).

Transitions

Ben Kocher, 71, passed away May 21 at home after a long illness. Ben retired from being a school custodian at Sainte Marie after 36 years of service. For many years he tended to the water plant, read water meters, substituted as a school bus driver, volunteered with the fire department, served on the town board, and made reports to the state concerning precipitation and river levels. He also enjoyed mowing many of the yards in town. He was a devoted life member of the American Legion Post 932 where he has served as commander. He was also a member of St. Mary’s Catholic Church and a life member of the Knights of Columbus. He is survived by his wife, Vicki (Sheridan) Kocher; sons, Brent (Amy) and Rodney (Cheryl); daughter, Jodi (Lin) Mabrey; and 4 grandchildren. (From Becky Sheridan)



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May 30 Event

Over 60 people attended the very successful May 30 event where the Loretta Zuber Garden in front of the Foundation House was dedicated and the 17 pencil drawings by Helen Keller Graham were formally accepted by the Foundation. Thanks to Annette Hahn Kirts who chaired the event.



Visitors viewing the 17 drawings of "Ladies in Hats 1923"

Women in Hats 2010
Many guests wore hats in honor of the donation of 17 drawings donated by Helen Keller Graham.



Even the kids got into the act, wearing hats that were prize winners!(l-r) Rachel and Lena Burdette, Gracie Hartrich, Zeke & Levi Huber, Lily Randolph and Marley O'Brien.

Here are some guys with hats, too. L – R) Mike Hartrich (wearing one of his dad's hats, Dennis Shelley (wearing a Gene Zuber hat!), Vincent Zuber, Sam Zuber and Maurice Calvert.



June and Vinnie Zuber unveil the plaque that dedicated the garden in memory of Loretta Zuber 1909-2009.



Anita Reis Steber serves cake.

We Get Mail

Jeff Borgie sent a donation with this note: *Many of you have met **Don Albers of DCA Construction**. I have known the man for over 25 years and have*

always admired his business prowess. When Don tells you something, you have his word on it. As you all know now, he also has a heart of gold.

After the wind damage our farm sustained last June, we needed DCA to begin the repair and rebuilding process quickly. To have your house available to the DCA crew worked out wonderfully for all. I apologize that we tied up the house for over 9 months, but DCA accomplished a lot.

Please accept this donation as a tribute to a great man, a great community and a wonderful place to raise a family.

Jeff, Kelly, Ben, Missy

Connie Wilsterman (Joan Kirts Heneberry's daughter who lives in Falmouth, MA) sent a donation and wrote "how much I enjoy the newsletter and how excited I am about the work you are doing." We love hearing from the Ste. Marie grandchildren – ones who did not grow up here but visited grandparents often. It's nice to know that Ste. Marie is still important to you.

Ruthann Gowin (River Grove, IL) sent a donation in memory of **Carol Cameron Martin** from the **Merece and Gerrie Gowin Family** (Ruthann, Dean and Kathy Gowin Dillman). *We really, really enjoy the newsletter. Keep up the excellent work. Go Ste. Marie.*

Lucie Huff Gorman (Springfield, IL) wrote: *I love getting this newsletter. Hope to get to the concert in Sept. I knew Jim when he was just a little tyke. A good kid then and now a great professional.*

Phyllis Kaufmann (Austin, TX) and her sister **Mary Kaufman Gurski** (Boca Raton, FL) both requested the e-mail newsletter "just to save the Foundation mailing costs," although both admit that they love the paper version and read it "cover to cover." Phyllis noted: *Concerning the pictures each month that I really enjoy, I've noticed that no one looks like I remember them♥*

News Notes

-Janet Faltemier Sitkewich (CA) was in Sainte Marie for a short visit in mid-June, staying with **Romonna Hunzinger Ochs**. She managed to take a peek at the Foundation House before visiting her daughter, **Emillia Lloyd**, an MD who lives in O'Fallon, IL, and is another one of those grandchildren who has fond memories of Ste. Marie.



Sainte Marie's new flower baskets on four light poles at the intersection. Story on page 2.

Workdays at Foundation House,
September 2 and 3, 2010
9 am to 3 pm

Yes, I want to help the Sainte Marie Foundation. Enclosed is my check for:
 ___ \$20 ___ \$40 ___ \$100 ___ \$1000 Other \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (Home) _____ (Work) _____ (Cell) _____

E-Mail Address _____

My donation is *in memory of*: (print) _____

Or *in honor of*: (print) _____

(Names will be included in the quarterly Foundation newsletter and/or annual report.)

Sainte Marie Foundation, P.O. Box 186, Ste. Marie, IL 62459

www.saintemarietfoundation.org

The Sainte Marie Foundation newsletter is published quarterly. Send comments to writer/editor Pat Reis, patreisprpr@yahoo.com. The Foundation is a tax exempt 501(c)(3) organization, duly recognized as an Illinois charitable corporation. Donations are tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law.

News Notes continued.....

-We were intrigued with this tidbit. The **Peoples State Bank's Facebook Treasure Hunt for Jasper County Treasures** includes this clue: *Find a town with a population of 300 people that is located on the Embarrass River. You will notice 4 hanging planters near the 4-way stop. Near your destination you will find the Picquet Park. You are looking for the Foundation House which is undergoing some big renovations by the folks of this quaint little town.* Contestants have to take pictures of the site, proving they were there. Check it out on the web. Google [facebook peoples state bank jasper county](http://facebook.com/peoplesstatebankjaspercounty).

-Thanks to the **Mary Heath Grant** (Robinson), we have many old (copied) pictures now hung in the Foundation House. They look splendid!!



Loretta Zuber's nieces and nephews at May 30th dedication event included:

- Back Row: Mandy Zuber Huber and son, Levi, Fork Polk, LA; Gene Zuber, Newton; Dennis Shelley, Manchester, MO; Edie Zuber Hice, Ste. Marie; Vinnie Zuber, Assumption; Cecilia Zuber Shelley, St. Louis, MO; Art Keller, Ste. Marie.**
- 2nd Row: Jim Gassmann, Olney; Sam and Linda Zuber, Alice Cunningham Keller, all of Ste. Marie**
- 3rd Row: Gloria Zuber Schwartz, Belleville; Pat Zuber Gassmann, Olney; Theresa Zuber, Newton; June Keller Zuber, Assumption.**
- Bottom Row: Florence Cunningham Kocher, Ste. Marie; Libby Zuber Riggs and her daughter Emma Riggs. Olney.**

**BONUS PAGE FOR E-MAIL LIST
(lucky people!!)**



Maurice Calvert takes the flower baskets to their new homes on the telephone poles at the four-way-stop.



South side view of the Foundation House April 2010 with the Magnolia tree in bloom.



L-R: Cecilia Zuber Shelley (St. Louis, MO) and her brother Gene Zuber (Newton) on May 30. Love that hat!



Four wonderful hats worn by (l-r) Martha Eubank (Willow Hill), Linda Zuber, Florence Cunningham Kocher, and Marge Barthelme on May 30.



We reuse everything! Maxine and Maurice Calvert cut down two of the old porch columns to make these gorgeous pedestals for flower baskets at the back of the house. Yes, that is the original Kirts barbeque in the background.

THANK YOU! We thank everyone who has contributed to the Foundation since we began three years ago, whether it be with cash, volunteer work or donated items. Without your help, we could not have renovated this old house nor grown as an outreach Foundation the way we have! When I look at all these pictures, I am very grateful.
Pat