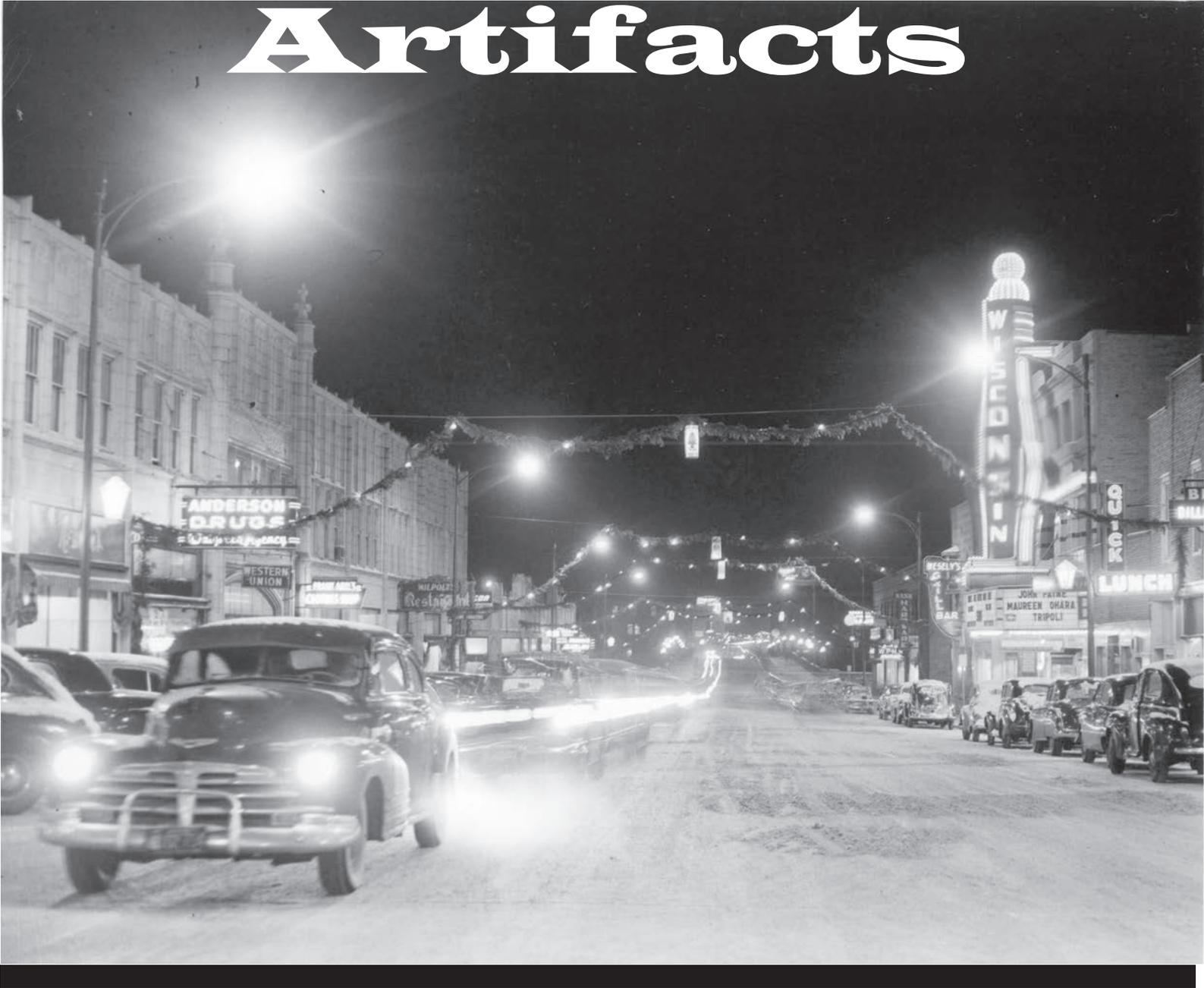


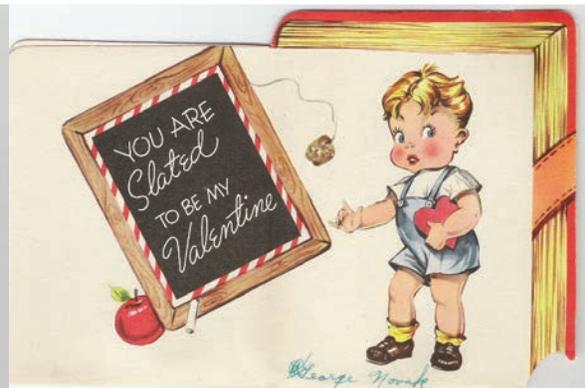
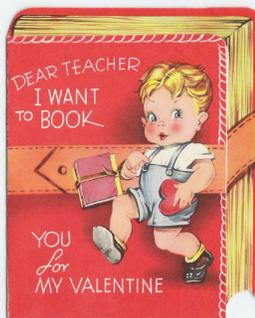


February 2005 Volume II #4
South Wood County Historical Corp.

Artifacts



Cover photo by Don Krohn. Looking toward the Grand Avenue Bridge on West Grand Avenue, Wisconsin Rapids. At the Wisconsin Theatre, the 1950 Maureen O'Hara film, *Tripoli*. Inside this issue: Joan Haasl, pages, 2-3; Don Krohn photos, 4-5; Wally Ives, 6-13; Glen Zieher, 14-22; History at McMillan, 23; Valentines from the Museum, cover, 2 and 24.



Joan Haasl

Libraries Are Great Places

The floor in my mother's bedroom squeaked under her considerable weight. Night after night the noise saved me from being caught reading in bed. I used a flashlight to read Big Little Books under the covers. My mother was always trying to catch me but never did. A squeak was a life-saver.

I've always been a reader. To this day I can't go to sleep without reading. Books are magic to me. Libraries and book stores are wonderful places, exciting places. The best gift I can receive is a book.

When I was very young, before kindergarten, my parents took me with them to vote in the T.B. Scott Library. This was an old red brick building where Gaynor Park now is located across from the Court House. One of the ladies gave me a ballot and pencil and said I could vote too. I told my brother I had voted and he insisted I hadn't done any such thing. It was easy to get Bill agitated. He would jump up and down and insist I was wrong.

It really got him nuts when I insisted that, when I cut my steak in small pieces, I had more. He would yell, "You don't have more, you just think you have more!" But I would placidly insist I was right. I bet his blood pressure went up even when he was a kid.

One result of my supposed voting was that I learned where the library was and what a library was, a most important discovery in my life. It was a few years before I was allowed to go by myself. I spent a lot of time at that old library. I made lots of book reports and often my teachers would say I should stick with books at my grade level.

One time at the old Howe School I found a wonderful book and read the whole thing. My teacher then told me I had read the next year's History book.

There was a time, a long time ago, when I believed everything I read. If it was printed on a page I thought it had to be true. This also got my brother upset. He would yell I didn't know what I was talking about and I would reply I had read it in a book.

All these years later I no longer believe everything I read, but I still read all the time and it's still one of life's great pleasures.

JH



Joan Haasl

Tales from Third Street

Ray Mullen was our neighbor when we lived on Third Street South. He lived with his mother and father. His brother Howard lived in St. Louis with his wife and two children Tom and Ann. When they came to visit I played with them.

I didn't know what Ray's father, Tom Mullen, did for a living until I bought a 1913 City Directory. By his name it said, "he travels." Later I learned he was a salesman for a wholesale grocery company based in Green Bay.

I remember Ray well, because he was so nice to me. He always made me feel like I was special. One Sunday morning he took me along to open his store for a customer. His clothing business was on the East Side near Daly's Drug Store. A man was waiting for Ray to outfit him for a game of golf. He bought a cap like Payne Stewart always wore, a white short-sleeved shirt with a faint check pattern, plus-fours, clocked stockings and brown and white shoes. That fellow was ready for the country club.

Another time, Ray came over and sadly told me his mother was dying. She had diabetes. Not long after, some men came and carried her body out the front door.

Mrs. Mullen and my mother were friends and my mother missed walking across the side street evenings and visiting. In those days it seemed like everyone visited instead of watching TV like most people do today. Many nice evenings Mrs. Percy Daly would come to visit also. After Percy died, Dorothy Daly married Ray Mullen and they moved to Iowa City, Iowa. This surprised my mother. I never saw Ray again but I've never forgotten him.

Dorothy Daly was the mother of James, Mary Ellen, Cynthia and David Daly. Jim became a famous actor, probably best known as Dr. Paul Lochner on "Medical Center." Two of his children are also actors, Tyne Daly of "Cagney and Lacey" fame, now starring on "Judging Amy" and Tim Daly. I don't remember David but the other three often walked by our house and all were good looking, bright, energetic and talented.

I remember a Halloween prank they pulled and I think the Roberts cousins were in on the fun. They made a dummy in a man's suit and tied a rope around him so they could jerk him back.

My mother opened the door and the dummy flopped on the floor. My mother screamed and they jerked the supposed corpse out of the house and ran off.

My mother, when she got over her fright called them "damn fools." The "damn fools" ran up Third Street laughing all the way. They were a merry bunch and full of fun. But it gave my mother a terrible scare and she was upset with them for a long time. Halloween on Third Street in those days wasn't for the faint-hearted.

One night on Third Street cans were placed around trees with a rope across the road. It was intended to create a racket but the rope got caught on a car and the noise could be heard for blocks on the night air. A headlight on the car was broken.

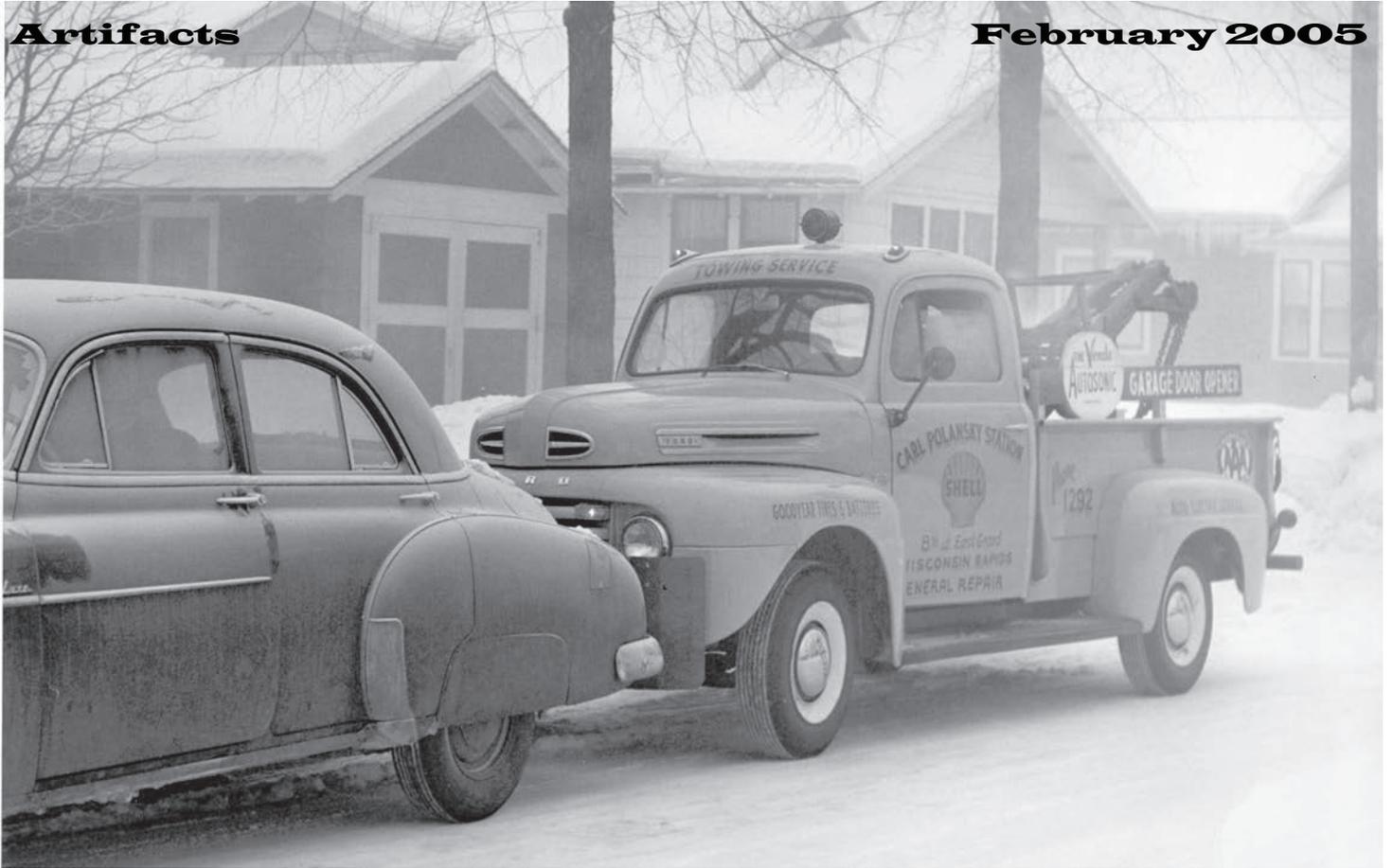
Another Halloween a bunch of kids threw rotten tomatoes at Judge Calkins' wife. She called my mother and said I was in the group, but I wasn't. My mother believed Mrs. Calkins and insisted I had been there. I got in some mischief alright, but not that time.

JH



In and around Wisconsin Rapids, circa 1950. Photos by Don Krohn, *Daily Tribune* photographer. At left, fisheree? Looks like Lake Wazeecha. Send identification and locations to Dave Engel, 5597 Third Avenue, Rudolph WI 54475.





Our 20th Century

Wally Ives

22 September 2004

Marshfield, Wis.

As told by Wally Ives to Dave Engel

Wally shows a 1988 award from Wakely Inn Preservation, signed by Michael Hittner, president.

We were both on that committee of course (*Dave Engel and Wally Ives*). I'm very proud of that.

This other one I'm proud of: I had a hole-in-one when I was at Orlando.

Wakely Inn Preservation

They, Nekoosa Edwards, were going to tear down the Wakely house. I talked to a friend of mine who was in charge of that. He was also a pilot, so we were good friends in that regard.

I asked him if it could be saved because it's historic.

He said, the only way we could do it - if you find somebody who could take care of it.

We got together. I think you promoted that. The

Wisconsin Rapids home builders, of course, they took hold of it and fixed it up.

I remember working on the television set of the people that were living there before. They had problems with their antenna; it wouldn't work. Static.

Upstairs, they had the antenna laying on the thing, covered with bat dew. Was that a mess. Maybe six or seven inches of bat dew.

In restoring it, they probably discovered that the bats had a good home there.

I'm real proud of that and it's really taken off. I stopped by and looked at it and all the other buildings.

Day Job

My day job? Up in Medford, a ham radio operator.

I moved to Rapids in 1956 to work at Harold Collman's television repair shop. I worked for him for many years. Then, I had a chance to set up a shop for Speltz music. I went there and set up a shop and worked for them.

I had a chance to buy a business, all the equipment. A man was going out of business in Stevens Point, so I went over there. I worked full time for Speltz and worked weekends, Saturdays and Sundays over there. And then on my own and business took off real fine.

After I retired, I went to school again and became a watchmaker in Iron Belt, Michigan. Dad had been a watchmaker too. I sold the business out.

Marshfield

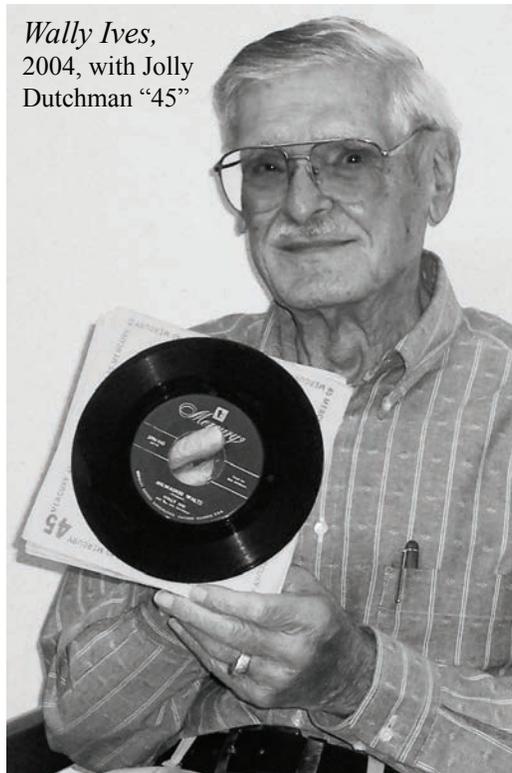
I was born May 6, 1923, in Lankin, North Dakota. My dad was with Western Electric. He had a crew putting in electricity. His name was George Smith Ives. My mother was Katherine [*Schereck*] Ives.

We moved to Marshfield when I was one year old. [*George Ives became chief engineer at the Roddis Lumber and Veneer Plant.*] My dad was mayor of Marshfield from 1934 to 38.

He was also in business. He had a jewelry store and sold radios.

He had the first radio station in Marshfield. It was WGBR. Had 15 watts, lots of power at that time.

They used to have cards they would send in, called echo cards. One of them said, you're so strong here, we can get you on the loudspeaker. 1926, that was.



Wally Ives, 2004, with Jolly Dutchman "45"



Wally's "new band": Ives on trumpet, rear, third from left

He built radios, too. A radio that was given to me many years ago is in the museum here in Marshfield. The radios he manufactured were state-of-the-art at that time.

Most of them were regenerative sets that made a lot of squealing. This was TRF or tuned radio frequency. Later on, they came out with the super heterodyne radios they have today.

My dad liked to teach. I'd go out in the shop with him and he'd teach me electronics. He had several places downtown over the years. This was out by our home on south Oak street in Marshfield. He built a little shop behind there. He built amplifiers.

My father died when I was fifteen. I went to Washington grade school, Purdy junior high and Marshfield senior high, which is now the junior high school.

Marriage

I belonged to the First English Lutheran church. When I married Georgie, I joined the St. John's Episcopal church in Wisconsin Rapids.

We were married in 1965. She was five years younger than myself. She was married to – her maiden name was Hansen. She was from Wausau. Her dad had a print shop.

In January 2001, Georgiana died of cancer. She lived just a little over a year after they discovered it.

My first wife (we were divorced) passed away when she was only around 55. She had a heart problem. Her name was Ruth. She was from Loyal. We got married in Marshfield.

Her maiden name was Pallicer but she had a mixed-up life and she was told her name was Russell.

I was married the first time in 19... oh gosh, I was 20 years old. 1943. My children are: Barbara, Wally Jr., Walter, but I always called him Wally. My name is Walter William. And Lynn.

We had a fourth, Lavern. When we lived on Griffith, he was hit by a car and killed, walking back to our house after the races that they used to have at the Ridges.

Kenney

Of course, I knew your wife's mother, Kathryn Kenney. We were in the same class together. She graduated in '41 also. I knew her very well.

She's a very nice girl, came from a very good family. Her dad was an insurance man and I knew him very well because my dad knew him. I got insurance from him.

He [William Kenney] took me to the clinic in the old place. It was only two stories high. In the basement, there was a drugstore and they sold candy. We'd run across from the Washington school and buy candy in the basement of the clinic. There were only a handful of doctors then.

He took me into the clinic for an examination for my insurance. He was a prominent man, a member of the American Legion and he was very good there.



135th medical regiment band. Wally Ives (still in high school), Don Bream, Al Rasmussen

Kathryn was a good student. I think she was straight A. She was a social type but she studied and she was very quiet, sophisticated I would say.

School Band

Here in Marshfield, they started band in seventh grade.

I was playing first trumpet in the junior band in seventh grade, third chair, though the other guys were older.

I got first at state when I was in ninth grade and then we also went to two national tournaments after the regular tournaments and we got first there in both concert and sight reading.

The first was in St. Paul, the second in Minneapolis. We were invited to the World's Fair in New York but we didn't have money to go.

Trailer detached near Arpin en route to Eagles club in Wisconsin Rapids..





Russ Nelson orchestra, Wally Ives, second from left, rear, with trumpet

I played in a trumpet trio. We had to practice an hour a day besides our regular playing. We got second at National. It was in a church and we played too loud and it reverberated so badly.

The other trumpeters were Bob Smith and Jack Stangl. He taught at Mid-State. I think he's in Wisconsin Rapids.

In high school, we had a little group called the Razmattaz Cornet. We did Schnickelfritz type stuff. That came easy. I'd heard something and I'd play it. It's a thing that – I can read and fake.

Some guys can only read and some guys can only fake, like my friend Howie Sturtz [*well-known band leader*]. He never even read music in high school. He'd listen to it and play it.

And I played with the 135th medical regiment band when I was in high school. I played first parts in that band too. It was stationed right here in Marshfield. It was a National Guard Band. I couldn't be in the National Guard because I was still in high school.

When they left for a year, I was a senior. They were supposed to come back in January the year I graduated from high school, but World War II, December 7, happened.

I was 4-F. I was 1-A first. I had asthma bad. It's still bad. I felt bad about that, so I went to school and became...

Florida Five

In school, I always played a cornet. I started playing a trumpet right after I graduated. It was a different type of bore, good for dance music and so forth.

Well, I was playing with a band out of Point when I went to machinist school. Right after I graduated, that was the first one: Irv Lutz and his Florida Five, but nobody had ever been in Florida.

I made more money than the guys that worked at stores uptown. They got a dollar a day and that was five days a week. I made between twelve and sixteen dollars a week.

Blue Denim Boys

And then I got a job with a band in Winona. That's where Barb was born. And I got sixty dollars a week. That was the...that's a long time ago, the Blue Denim Boys.

We had to wear blue denims and they were tailor-made. We played polkas and waltzes.

And I was with the Delta Boys in Marshfield. And also Benny Graham, a darn good band in Stevens Point.

Then I went with the Blue Denim Boys. Then they formed a new band and I was in charge of the trumpet section.

It was called The Country Gentlemen. That was a road band. We played several states.

About that time, the band was going broke because of

transportation. It was right after the war. You couldn't get tires and we didn't get to a job one night. That did it.

Jolly Dutchmen

Then I formed my own band with my brother, Lovell and myself on trumpet. Lovell was five years younger than me.

I was doing some arranging.

He says, "What ya got there, Wally?"

I said, "That's an arranging book."

He said, "Can I look at it?"

He could do it so much better and faster so I thought, why should I waste my time when he's doing so good?

His arrangements always kept getting better.

The first band was called "Wally Ives and the Jolly Dutchmen."

I said, "Wally Ives AND the..."

This is a German community. Lovell and I were English.

How that happened is, you had to pay to get a special poster and this one was available. Actually,

it was a Six Fat Dutchmen's poster in the first place.

So I inserted "Wally Ives and the Jolly Dutchmen."

Looking back, I was 27 years old when I signed a contract with Mercury records for Wally Ives and the Jolly Dutchmen [1950].

In the meantime, I recorded for RCA with Lawrence Duchow – out of Appleton at that time. I played with the band and we went down and made records.

When we started our band, we were able to book from July through November. There aren't any jobs at the pavilions in the winter time, so, in order to keep living, I did that [Duchow] as soon as I got back.

We had a

six-piece band, originally. Then we started the eight-piece band. Lawrence Duchow spoiled me, see.

We had two trumpets, Lovell and myself, and we talked to Lynn Winch, a fine trombone player, but he didn't want to play polkas.

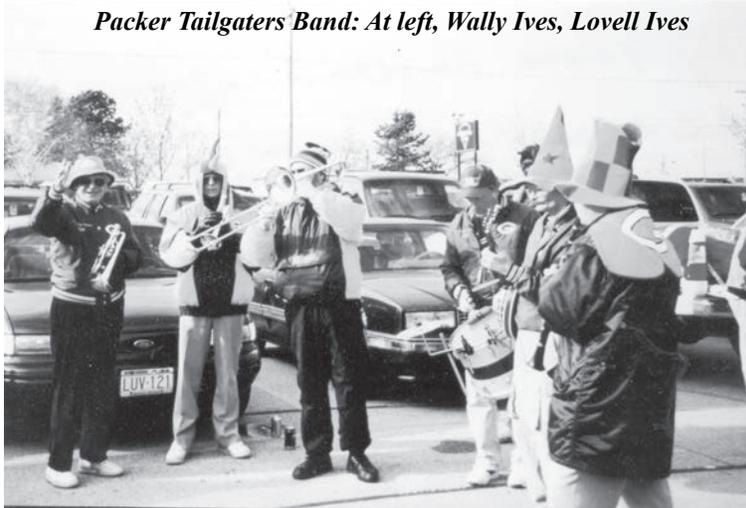
I said, well, you're playing in the city band, it's the same thing as playing a march.

So I talked him into it and he was a good musician.

We had very good musicians. Most of these were guys that graduated from the Marshfield high school band. Two of them became music teachers in college, both at Green Bay.

There were: Lovell Ives, Lynn Winch (my son was named after him), Fritz Berger, Wayne Jaekel (the one who became a professor at University of Green Bay; my brother helped him get there), Pat Plunkett on bass (from Greenwood). He also played in the band out of Winona, the Country Gentlemen. That was nine-piece band. Bill Gorke on sax. Bob Worth on drums. This was the original Jolly Dutchmen.

Packer Tailgaters Band: At left, Wally Ives, Lovell Ives



Uncalled Four

We also had a Dixieland band, the Uncalled Four Plus Two. That was Don Chesebro on clarinet, myself on trumpet, Carmen Lane on piano, Jim Dugan on trombone, one of the greatest.

Bob Worth on drums.

That's the Worth fishing tackle company in Stevens Point. He's chairman of the board now. Lane had a music store and was a music teacher. I was still living in Rapids.

Dixieland

The old Dixie tunes are still my favorite and always will be. My dad loved Dixieland and he had a P.A. system on the car and he would ballyhoo with that and us kids would go out with posters to put in places. He advertised that way.

Bartman's shoe store in Marshfield was going out of business and we would go along, my cousins and myself. They'd give us these bulletins and we would go along the street and march to Dixieland.

He was a musician too, trumpet, piano, banjo. You would sing and play in the living room.

Some of my favorite Dixieland songs?

"Jazz Me Blues," "Jazz Band Ball," "Struttin' with Some Barbecue," that's one that Louis Armstrong played.

Bunny Berrigan.

Bix Beiderbecke? Way ahead of his time. Yeah, they were idols. I would say Harry James was more of an idol. I went to see him several times. Harry James came to Rapids twice, at the old ballroom out there on First Street: Skyway. I saw him in Vegas several times.

Jan Garber came to the fieldhouse. I went to see him.

Show Biz

If I could have made a living at it, I would have been a professional musician. For a while I was doing that more than anything else, playing two Dixieland bands in Madison and one in La Crosse.

I played with a band out of Chicago. They came up and needed a trumpet player and I played with them. Only one night.

He said, "I'd like to have you come to Chicago with the band."

My lip was great that night. I hit high E above high C. I read like crazy. The jazz was good. Well, it may not have been good but I enjoyed it; but I had my business then and I couldn't leave that. I often wondered if I should have.

Oh, and I played the [*Wood County*] fair in the pit band and played a lot of shows down in Rapids. I played for...oh no, that was Green Bay, the Bob Hope show. And the sax guy, the Yackety Sax guy.

Road Band

When I had the band, we played Skyway, and the Eagles Club in Rapids, right near the Witter Hotel.

We played Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, Iowa and Minnesota. We had a three-seat station wagon and a trailer. There were eight guys. We figured out that we spent more time together than we did with anything else, including ourselves, because we were on the road.

When we'd go down to Milwaukee, we played at the Eagles Ballroom, a big place. We'd stay over in Milwaukee. We played around Milwaukee a lot, for dances. Out on 27th, Muskego Beach. They had an old broken-down roller coaster right next to it. Some of it was tumbling down.

We played the country club very often, Bulls Eye.

The Indian Crossing Casino at Waupaca. I played that with the first band I played with. I played that quite often. That was fun.

I was single then. The whole band was, except for the leader. They had the best looking gals dancing there. I enjoyed playing there but I was too shy to talk to any girls at that time, eighteen years old.

The casino was a thing of its own.

Weddings, a lot of weddings. I still talk to people that say, "Oh, you played at our wedding."

We used to play at Golden Gate. We played there with a Dixieland band and also with Earl Schanock and I can't remember the name of the band.

Right after television came out, a lot of dance halls burned mysteriously all over the country

Golden Gate was a place to play. I played there with a small Dixieland Band, I forget what we called it. Bud Witt was playing clarinet with that band. Bud Rozell?

When we played the back part they danced waltzes and polkas and what we called the businessman's bounce. That's a-dumpa dumpa, that kind of tempo.

Rock & Roll

Rock & roll took care of the dance bands. We were playing Dixieland after rock and roll. There were still people dancing the businessman's bounce that we played with ...

When I was secretary of the union, and a business agent in Rapids, local 610. They started playing, then they came into the union in order to play the other places, so I got real well acquainted with those guys and they were real good musicians.

It was an entirely different thing.

One of the reasons for it was that they started playing the cool jazz, just for listening. You couldn't dance to it. Rock & roll they could dance to. I never got into cool jazz.

We considered rock & roll not being music, but actually it was, mostly rhythm instruments, two guitars and a drummer and that was about it. Once in a while a sax. Lots of singing.

It was devastating for us. Places that we played went to rock and it sold and that's the thing to do, I understand, being in the music business. We did our business too.

The only thing that survived was the Dixieland. We played at the place next to the Casino last summer.

The Entertaining Life

Lifestyle as a musician? I had the shop. You couldn't make it at night only. I suppose you could, if you wanted to live frugally.

One of the sayings was, when I'd be hired by other bands, they'd say, you're a good musician but don't give up your day job.

When I had my band, I didn't have a day job. It took all my time.

I did study electronics and I was a ham radio operator, built all my own equipment. I couldn't afford to buy the equipment.

I lived in Medford for a short time right when television came in. That took care of the band business, so I talked to a guy in Medford and he hired me because he liked the way my transmitters sounded. That's where I started working on radios and television. It came real easy for me.

Coming home three o'clock or four in the morning is okay if you're single and young. The guys in the band were young and single. As they got married, I had to hire different people

I played with the Six Fat Dutchmen with Dick Dale, who played with Lawrence Welk. We were the only sober ones.

Recording

I recorded with Duchow and with my band and we had broadcast every Sunday 1 to 1:30 out of WDLB, WIGN, WBFK – Marshfield, Medford and Park Falls – we were sponsored by Earl Berg, the Berg auto company. Some of them they'd record for us.

I took the stuff to a guy in Park Falls and he did the recording. He made CDs of the old recordings and cassettes.

Some of the records sold nationally. I once got a letter from Spike Jones. "Milwaukee Waltz." "Aunt Ella's Polka" on the other side. "Oody's Polka." My brother was called Oody. "Timberscript Line." It was actually Connor Script Line but they wouldn't let me use that name.

Then there were "Elsi Schultzenheim," "Braves Polka," "Schtinkerwaltz."

[A record label says Wally Ives and the Jolly Dutchmen began playing in 1947 and disbanded in 1954.]

City Band

I left Rapids when I retired at 62 and went to Florida but still came back for city band. It was 32 years of playing and directing. That was really a wonderful time.

I still go over and rehearse with the band under Dave Davies during the winter.

Earle Garber, I sit right next to him. He's a good trumpet player and a good friend. I would say he is a little more legit than jazz. I never heard him



Civil War-era. George Wilson Ives, left. He was father of Charles Ives (1874-1954), the innovative American composer. (Photos this section from Wally Ives)

play jazz. He's a very good legit trumpet player. He went to VanderCook music school, Chicago. We'd be quite equal if we looked back a few years; he's younger than I am.

Charles Ives

Charles Ives [*well-known early American composer*] he's a relative. My great-grandfather that came here in 1846 from New Haven, Connecticut: his younger brother was Charles Ives' father. He was the one that was the director of the band in New Haven. They had players in each corner, playing different tunes and he would listen to them. That's when Charles Ives, his son, was with him. That's when he started writing this different kind of music.

I have a picture of his dad, a trumpet player. I have a genealogy that goes back to 1635 when the first immigrant came here. My Aunt Grace was a genealogist.

I went down to the state historical society when I was president of the South Wood County, so I looked up in the genealogy department and there was a complete genealogy.

South Wood County Historical Corp.

The historical society in Rapids was a wonderful experience. [*Ives was SWCHC president. He was also a founder of Wakely Inn Preservation, Inc.*] It was a good society. That was in the 1980s. My wife was on the board. That's how I got that.

Emily Baldwin Bell. She knew what was going on and she was sharp and let everybody know. She was very good at it

Of course, Ellen Sabetta. Georgie always bought her clothes at Newton's, where Ellen worked.

Added: Mel Laird [*former Congressman and Secretary of Defense*] was manager of the high school jazz band. It was a big swing band.

He graduated a year ahead of me. He was well known in school. He was in debate. His mother was a Connor. Yeah, he was a rich guy. He drove Packards at band jobs. I remember one at Granton. I'd get to ride in a Packard.

This interview supplements the October 23, 2004, River City Memoirs in the Wisconsin Rapids Daily Tribune.

Glen Zieher's Arpin

Historians can be found in surprising places. If you look in the basement at 1420 Woodbine St., Wisconsin Rapids, you're likely to find Arpin native Glen Zieher at his computer with a scrapbook or photo album open to a page of interest. Every picture tells a story and this is part of his collection.

Zieher was born May 7, 1933, to Otto and Katherine Proesel Zieher. The 1952 Auburndale high school graduate attended Central State College, Stevens Point, 1952-58, then served in the U.S. Army in Korea from 1954-56. He was active in area sports teams through the 1960s and managed an Arpin baseball club that played at Milwaukee County Stadium.

Employed in 1958 as a rural mail carrier for the Arpin area, Zieher retired in 1990. While in Arpin, he organized and served as president of the Arpin Advancement Association. A long-time member of the Arpin Volunteer Fire Dept., he helped organize the village of Arpin in 1978 and was its president for six terms. He was appointed Wood County Jury Commissioner in 1977. He is a former member of American Legion Post 475 and Wisconsin Rapids Elks Club #693. He is a supporter of the Wood County Republican party.

With his wife, Zieher operated a nursery on Highway 186 in Arpin from 1964-1991. In 1992, he moved to Wisconsin Rapids, where he served on that city's Development Authority 1994-1999.

Zieher married the former Jean Schenk September 17, 1966, in Wisconsin Rapids.

(A February *River City Memoirs* in the *Daily Tribune* will feature Zieher.)



Above left: Katherine Proesel at first communion, probably at St. Mary's Catholic Church, Auburndale. She married Otto Zieher and became Glen's mother. Above right: Nick and Margaret Zieher, well known residents of Vesper.

Artifacts III, p. 3. Former Congressman and Secretary of Defense Melvin R. Laird identified his mother, Helen Connor Laird (second from left), a Stassen delegate, and Mr. and Mrs. George Landon of Wausau. Republican Presidential candidate Harold Stassen, left. ↓

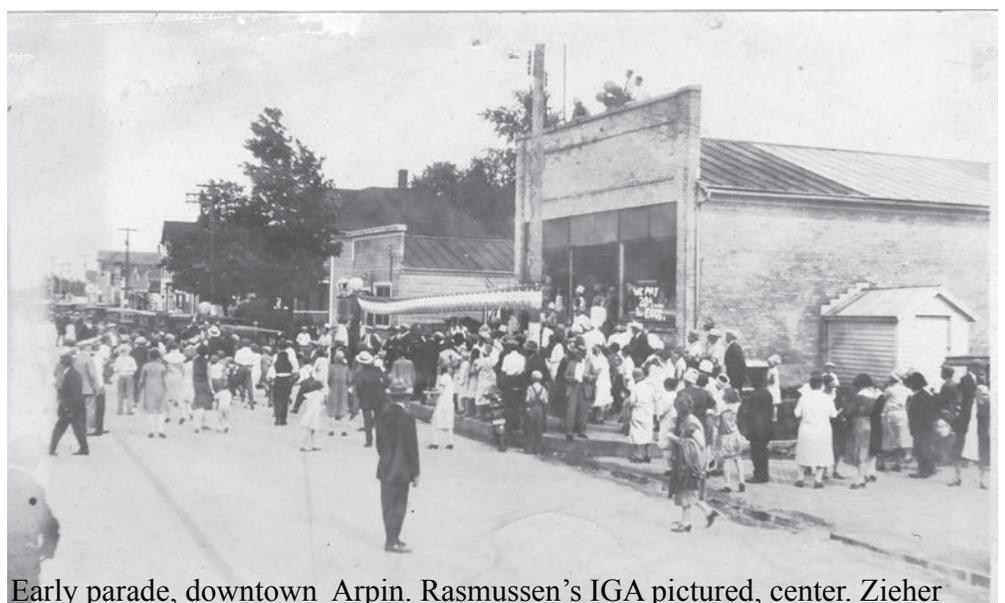


Glen Zieher identified some of those pictured on the *Artifacts III* cover, as shown below. They are all involved in Wood County government. ↓





1956 Wood County Centennial Parade, Arpin. Richard Rasmussen, William Grimm, Walter Chronis, Russell Zieher. Drummer unknown. Center, rear, Power & Light Building. Right, Arpin Dairy.



Early parade, downtown Arpin. Rasmussen's IGA pictured, center. Zieher remembers when "Laschky" used to throw chickens off the roof of a building, probably on the right (the later Power & Light), to draw a crowd to his store.

← "V" for victory. Photo back says "Me and Miss Amble," a teacher.



Location unknown. Might be a Vesper sawmill.

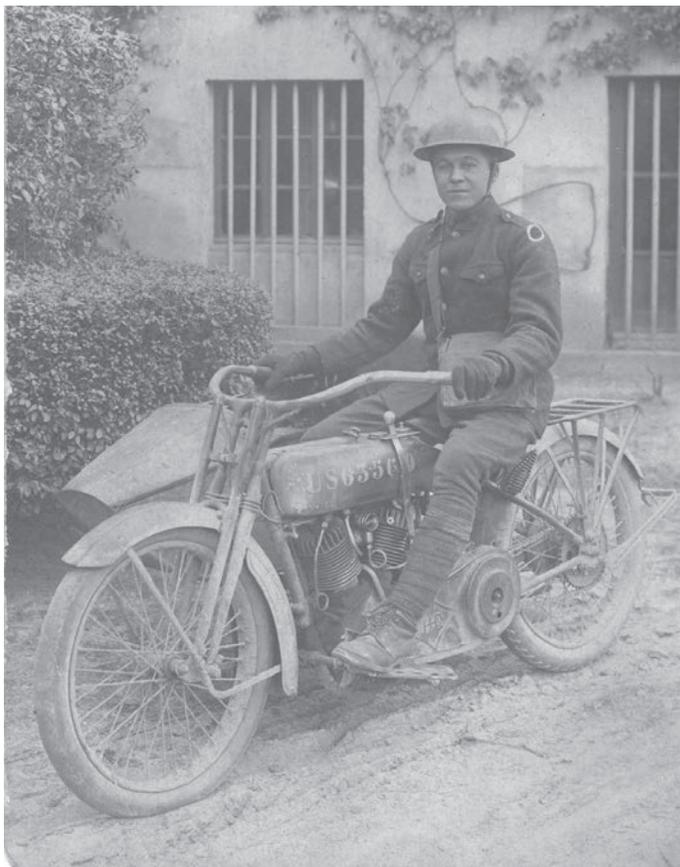
Model T Ford autos. This is a postcard. Location unknown. Looks like a wedding. Sign says, "Sunrise." License plates: 1914.



Otto Zieher, right. "Otto Schulz, middle, was married to my Aunt Alma," said Glen. "That's gotta be my Uncle John kneeling with the dog."



Brothers: Marvin Zieher holding Glen, with Harold Zieher, in 1933. Taken at the farm "next door," where Glen lived his first two years.



Otto Zieher in Belgium, WWI, 1918. He was a courier.



In 2004, Glen visied Fran Hamerstrom's (pictured) former house recently. He was one the first UWSP students to work with Fran and Fred H., famous Plainfield-area conservationists.





Above, left: "Glen and Butch, 1945." While the dog's owner was serving in Japan during WWII, Glen looked after "Butch." Less than a week before the soldier came home, Zieher said, the dog was killed by an automobile. "I prayed all during mass for it. I was sure that dog was going to be back somehow. I got a little bit mad at God for a couple days. My dad felt so bad for me that we went and got a little dog from a good friend of my dad's."

Above, right: at Arpin grade school. Rear Nina Knutson, Glen Zieher, Lawrence Bendickson. Front: Carol Lingford, Dan Van Natta (aviator glasses), Carmen Gruetzmacher, Bill Ohm.

Could be the Hemlock Creek. Otto Zieher with sons, Glen, left; Harold, right; and Marvin, also standing.





↑ Trap shooting in Arpin area. Second from right, standing: Nick Zieher; fourth from right, Bill Otto. Fourth from left, standing, Otto Zieher.

“Ladies Aid” style meeting about 1942 at “Doc Ryan’s.” Some of the last names of those pictured are Vandenberg, Toth, La Crosse, Mayer, Lochner, Zieher, Whitman, Brandl, Hornick, Ryan, Cabot, Zieher and Bymers.





← "Dad's garage on corner"



Ford agency and garage, Arpin



Otto Zieher, left, and his brother, William Zieher, center





Looks like rural mail delivery, circa 1950. Glen Zieher was a rural mail carrier for many years.



Glen and Jean Zieher on their honeymoon in 1966, visiting Congressman Melvin R. Laird (left)



Francis Daly Sr., left, and Otto Zieher, representatives of the Wood County Board, looking over the Norwood asylum farm, Marshfield.



Milwaukee County Stadium 1961

Glen Zieher's Arpin baseball team played at Milwaukee County Stadium in 1961, 1962 and 1963, accompanied by bus loads of fans. "We didn't win the state championship," he said, "because the Milwaukee companies hired people based on their athletic abilities."

Top: Glen Zieher, Bruce Gasch, Lowell Flewollen, Kenneth Hammond, Ron Altmann, Craig Skibba. Seated: Franklin Sommerfeldt, Bosco Gabel, Ed Haumschild, Bob Hubert, Bruce Johann, Larry Brennan, Dick Cutler. Bat boys: Dan Haumschild, Ron Haumschild.



History at McMillan

by Don Litzer

Head of Adult Services

McMillan Memorial Library

The *Wisconsin Magazine of History's* Winter-Spring 2004-05 issue features an article by Matt Blessing entitled "Reuben Gold Thwaites and the Historical Resurrection of Lewis & Clark." Blessing recounts SHSW director Thwaites' efforts, beginning in 1893, to locate and make available to researchers journals compiled by members of the Lewis & Clark expedition then in private hands.

As Blessing notes, Thwaites' research techniques, while hardly innovative, "may serve as a model for how archivists, historical editors, and diligent researchers can effectively work as partners in acquiring valuable resources."

Another example of such collaboration is demonstrated by Wisconsin Rapids' own McMillan Memorial Library in its recent efforts to locate and microfilm previously unavailable newspapers published in south Wood County, Wisconsin.

McMillan's project began modestly. Since 1995, the Heart O'Wisconsin Genealogical Society (HOWGS) has offered beginning genealogy classes at the Library in odd-numbered years. Since 1997, Flores Gumz, HOWGS' education committee chair, has collected information about the Library's genealogically-related resources to share with class participants. In late 1998, I offered to review and edit a list Flores had compiled of microfilmed Wisconsin Rapids-area newspapers at McMillan. The gaps and inconsistencies in newspaper titles and issue runs made apparent by the list amounted to an accumulation of loose ends to be gathered together into a useful fabric.

A first step of analysis was to consult with Dave Engel and Mark Scarborough, for whom, before, during and after their employ with the *Wisconsin Rapids Daily Tribune*, newspaper accounts were a major source of material, especially for Engel's

River City Memoirs and Scarborough's *Over The Rapids* columns.

Engel had participated in an early 1980s project to microfilm issues of the *Centralia Enterprise* owned by the South Wood County Historical Corporation's Museum, and unsuccessfully searched for issues of a local German-language newspaper mentioned in some bibliographies.

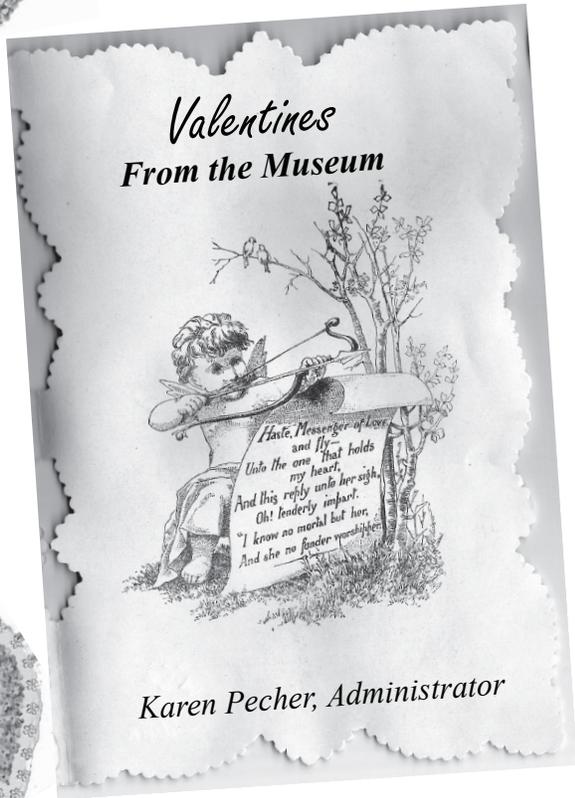
Presently, computer databases are the most current and complete resources for identifying what Wisconsin newspapers exist and where they are located. Most notable among these are the University of Wisconsin-Madison's library catalog (called MadCat) that includes holdings of the Wisconsin Historical Society, and the WISCAT union catalog managed by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction's Division for Libraries, Technology and Community Learning.

However, still serviceable for those not using the Internet, bibliographies in print list newspaper collections known to exist at certain places and points in time. The most recent of these is *Newspapers in the State Historical Society of Wisconsin: A Bibliography with Holdings* (New York: Norman Ross, 1994), usually referred to by McMillan staff and genealogists as "the green book."

A close look at the "green book" entry for Wisconsin Rapids showed that it couldn't be counted on to be complete. Not mentioned were the *Centralia Enterprise* from 1879 to 1887, the *Centralia Enterprise & Tribune* from 1887 to 1900, the *Wisconsin Rapids Daily Leader* from 1902 to 1919 and even the *Wisconsin Rapids Daily Tribune* from 1966 onward.

Reviewing the next most recent authoritative listing, *Guide to Wisconsin Newspapers, 1833-1957* (known as "Oehlerts" after its author) revealed other loose ends. It listed the parent newspaper for the *Wisconsin Rapids Daily Tribune* as the "*Wood County Tribune*"—a title that no one could recall having seen on a south Wood County masthead!

It was apparent that a bibliographic tinkering would not be sufficient; an overhaul was in order. Next, we'll discuss the heavy lifting and mention some of those who helped with moving parts!



Karen Pecher, Administrator



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