

The Dancing Penguins

By Paul Kerr

Invitations went out in 1955 and reservations were to be paid in advance, no later than April 30th, and the cost was \$2 per person. It was the second season of the newest club in Beloit, the *Penguin Club*. The invitation read "Señor and Señora Penguin hold on to your Hats! We are Flying Down to Rio." The event took place on May 7th and was held at the Forest Hills Country Club in Rockford, Illinois. The folks who put this social dance together were Mr. & Mrs. Stan Zabel, Mr. & Mrs. Carl Swartz, Mr. & Mrs. Robert Dane, Jr., and Mr. & Mrs. Dwight Brown. From all accounts this second dance of the season was a festive event. The dancing



Galen Williams

Penguins were popular from the start but it took a good committee to put it all together.

Back in the winter of 1953 Art Luebke, Greta Baird, Jean Neese, Kathryn Goodwin, Dave Mason, Donald Curtis, Allen Twyman, John Gwin and Jan Wall organized the Penguin Club of Beloit, and became the charter members. This club was to be "an association primarily of young married couples between the ages of 25 and 45, organized for the purpose of stimulating and sponsoring social dancing with congenial friends in desirable surroundings." Dances were to be distinctive and in good taste, combining unique themes and imaginative decoration with "superior" music. By May 11 of 1953 the Constitution



(Continued on page 10)

Beloit Historical Society

Founded 1910

2005 Officers

President:

William Yoss

Vice President:

Cathy Piazza

2nd Vice President:

Richard Ranft

Treasurer:

Harry Schermerhorn

Secretary:

William Bolgrien

Board of Directors

David Collins

Sue Drevdahl

Mary Frey

Maggie Janke

Tom Jones

Steve Kinkade

Ron Klein

Jeff Reese

Terry Russell

Date of Next Board Meeting:

January 19, 2004

Lincoln Center Staff:

Executive Director

Paul Kerr

Volunteer/Event Coordinator

Loretta Hatch

Facilities Supervisor

Fred Bull

Business Manager

Scott Reichard

The Newsletter, *Confluence*, is published quarterly for the membership of the Beloit Historical Society to inform readers of Society activities as well as educate them on the history of Beloit. The Beloit Historical Society manages two sites, Lincoln Center Museum with main offices at 845 Hackett St. and Hanchett-Bartlett Homestead 2149 St. Lawrence Ave. For further information please call (608) 365-7835 or e-mail us at beloihs@ticon.net.

Newsletter edited by

Scott Reichard

Other contributors to this issue:

Loretta Hatch,

Paul Kerr

UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday, February 10 - An Evening At Lincoln Center

Lincoln Center. 6:00 p.m. Dinner and program—*Tangled Up In Blue*, UW-Madison's premiere women's a cappella ensemble.

Saturdays, February & March - Quilting Classes

Lincoln Center. 9:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m. Cost: BHS members, \$11 per class; non-members, \$12. Contact Bobbie Fiske, 365-4528.

Thursday, April 20- Volunteer Recognition Lunch

Lincoln Center. 11:30 a.m. Lunch and program.



Contact Beloit Historical Society for further information (608) 365-7835

 Merry Christmas
& Happy New Year 

From the Staff of BHS

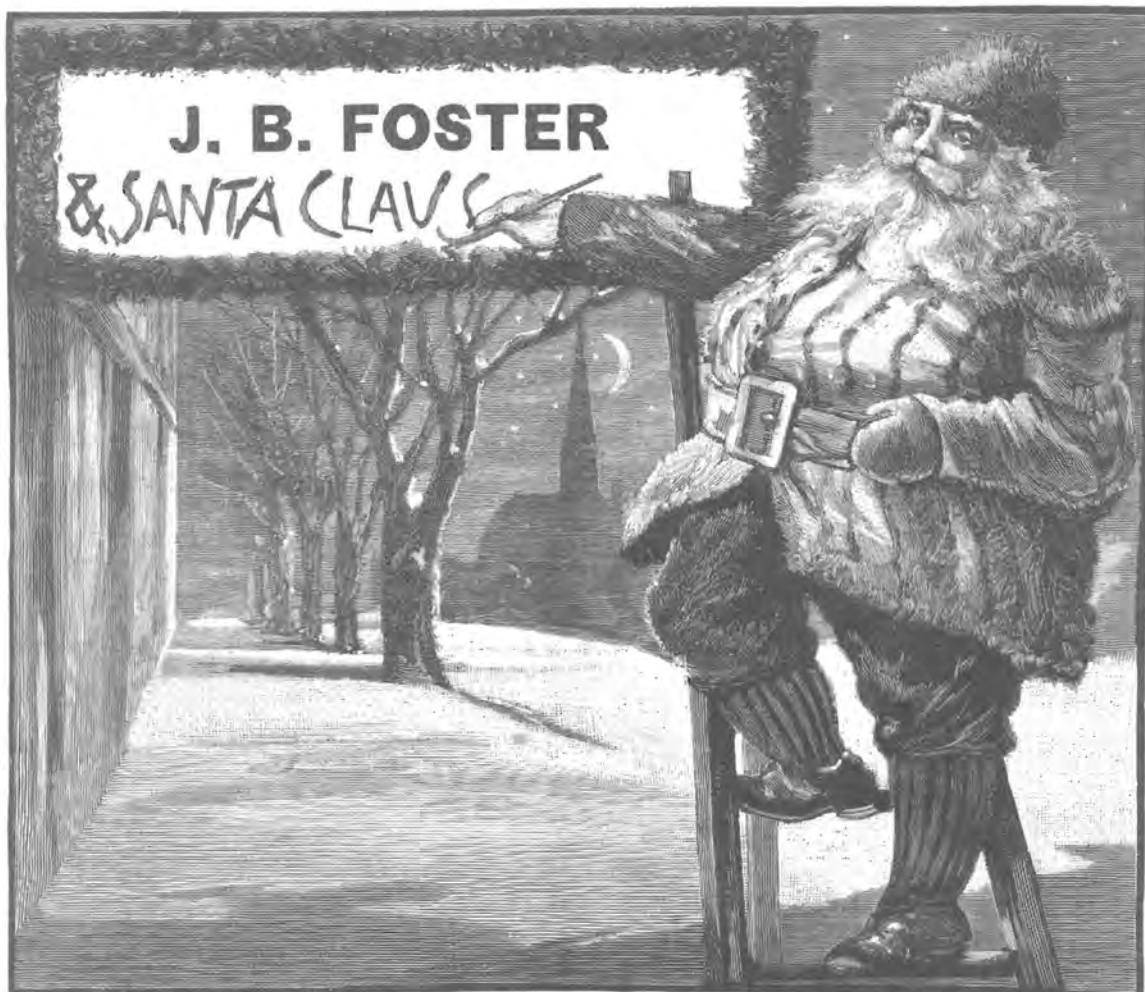
This Issue

Cover	<i>The Dancing Penguins</i>
2	Upcoming Events
3	J. B. Foster & Santa Claus
4	From the Files
5	Director's Report
6	Holiday Appetizer, Book Sale
7	Volunteer News, Beloit Quiz
8	Ads of Old
9	Ads of Old
10	<i>The Dancing Penguins</i> (contd.)
11	<i>The Dancing Penguins</i> (contd.)
12	From the Files (contd.)
13	Membership, A Farmer's Love Letter
14	Contributors
15	Membership Form, Free Book Offer
16	Gift Ideas

A Merry Christmas. ❧

THE HOLIDAY MESSENGER.

❧ A Happy New Year.



SANTA CLAUS HAS JOINED THE FIRM

AND NOW WE WILL ALL HAVE A MERRY CHRISTMAS.

THE BIG HOLIDAY STOCK HAS COME!

The Elegant Presents are Now on Exhibition. The Shrewd Buyers are Getting the First Pick from Our

Grand Display of Holiday Goods!

Never have such Nice Goods been shown. Never have Greater Varieties been offered. Never have Prices been so Low.

SOMETHING FOR EVERYBODY AND EVERYBODY IS PLEASED

Who sees and Purchases from our Great Line of Choice Selections in

TOYS, ❧ BOOKS, ❧ NOVELTIES,

❧ Fancy Goods, Notions, Etc. ❧

It is impossible to tell what we have. You must see our Display to appreciate the multitude of Appropriate Presents

We offer for One and All, Old and Young.

OUR BEAUTIFUL NEW STOCK IS ALL BRIGHT, CLEAN AND FRESH, AND CONSISTS WHOLLY OF THE LATEST AND MOST POPULAR DESIGNS. OUR PRICES MAKE THESE BEAUTIFUL GOODS IRRESISTIBLE.

There is sure to be a Merry Christmas at your house if you buy your Gifts from

J. B. FOSTER,

357 East Bridge Street,

Beloit, Wis.

From a 1891 flyer

From the Files



Just Gossip

Passed On For Your Pleasure By

Minnie McIntyre Wallace

(December, 1930, from a MMW scrapbook)

... The Christmas trees are twinkling in the parks, the beacon light of the tower of the First Congregational Church throws its clear beam for miles around, like a beckoning star, and a powdery fall of snow over the landscape promises the ideal setting for 1930 Yule. Mrs. Leonard Miller, Hillcrest, was one of the first of the east siderers, we believe, to deck her windows and door with Christmas wreaths. What is more fetching than the red and green of Christmas greens against a white colonial type house ... Recalling the Christmas decorations of last year, we remember that the ones of the Charles Jahnkes and the T. D. Greenes made the biggest impression on us for artistry and atmosphere ... The John Crist home already looks like a scene from a Christmas card, with its twin trees, on either side the porch entrance, in gala attire with their cheery twinkle of alternating colors...

... Mrs. A. M. Thayer and daughter, Winifred, gave their annual Christmas party on Thursday evening at their home, 639 Harrison Avenue. Covers were laid for 27 for dinner. Over the doors in the living rooms was a festoon of 15 red bells, symbolizing the number of years they have sponsored this Yuletide festivity. Each person drew a number and matched it to a holiday card at each plate. The centerpiece of each of the three tables was a five-pound fruit cake, decorated with red and green icing and flanked by tall red and green tapers. The salad and table appointments carried out Kris Kringle's colors. Each guest also received a small gift ... The Beloit State Bank officers and employees had their annual jollification and exchange of gifts last night in the bank community room. It was easier for some of the employees to compute compound interest on a fractional sum than to write the original verses accompanying each gift, but, we understand, some noble efforts were read... Speaking of parties, the business women of the Daily News held their annual Yule fiesta on Thursday night in the paper's conference-room. The games were framed to act as "intelligence" tests. For instance—Each person was given "a farmer's love letter," with blank spaces in it, in which the names of vegetables and fruits were to be written [*for text of "love letter" see page 13*]... Another was called "Bus Stops," a clever game with Beloit application, which, we understand, originated with Mrs. Earl Shanor. Questions were answered by the name of Beloit streets... The North End club held its annual Yule party on

(Continued on page 12)

From The Director

Since the last issue

Heritage Days of 11 September was celebrated at the Hanchett-Bartlett Homestead. It was a warm, sunny day that attracted an interested crowd who came for good food, toe-tapping music of the Monday Morning Dixie band and swinging do-si-do performances by the square-dancing ensemble Petunia City Squares. Our thanks to Bill Bolgrien for sponsoring the event, to Duane & Sue Drevdahl for providing the food, and to all those wonderful volunteers of the Historical Society who make all its events successful.



A week following Heritage Days was the Beloit Historical Society's **City Hall of Fame** on the 18th of September. On that Sunday five people were inducted into the Hall: George Clark, Byron Meech, U. S. Pride, Marge Van Galder and Harold West. This year's Hall of Fame was the best attended induction in fifteen years. Thanks to Co-Chairs Jerry Elliott & Joe Kobkylka and the other dedicated members of the committee, and to Lois MacGowan and Virginia Knutson for serving punch and cookies.

Large crowds packed the La Casa Grande's newly opened banquet hall for the Society's Tenth Annual **Gala Auction** on 8 October. Eager bidders competed for packages and items throughout the evening, responding to auctioneer and Master of Ceremonies Rich Ranft who donated his services for the occasion. A successful fund raiser it was and one enjoyed by the one hundred and forty people in attendance. Many thanks to Sue Drevdahl and her hard working committee members, Rich and Pat Ranft, Maggie Janke and to all those donors who made this event possible. This Gala rates as the third highest take since the Gala began back in 1995.

Less than a month after the Gala Auction the Historical Society celebrated its **Ninety-Fifth Annual Membership Dinner**. That was on the fourth of November and the dinner was attended by eighty people. No new Board members were added and only one, Larry Durben, retired. One new officer was added, with Cathy Piazza becoming the Vice President. For the evening program Ken Regez presented film shorts from the 1930s and '40s, which were well received. The program brought back memories and Ken added keen insights and information that were highlights to the nostalgic evening.

Coming Up

The Beloit Historical Society's **Annual Fund Drive** has begun with the recent mailing of appeal letters. Once again we ask for your support to help keep this unique organization healthy in the coming year of its continued programs and events. We come off an eventful year with a great many successes to celebrate. Help us to keep the momentum by giving what you can and please know your contribution is greatly appreciated. It is also tax deductible.

An **Evening at Lincoln Center** is scheduled for 10 February 2006, and for that evening the premiere women's a cappella ensemble of Madison—Tangled Up In Blue—will sing for you. We're sure you will enjoy the talents of these fifteen young ladies who have already made a name for themselves in Madison. Join us on that date for a musical evening and dinner. Invitations will be mailed out to alert you of further details.

Quilting Classes will be offered in the coming year starting up in February. Once again Bobbie Fiske lends her talents to teaching those interested on all Saturdays in February and March from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Bring a lunch and your desire to learn more about quilting to Lincoln Center here at 845 Hackett Street. Further information will be provided before the classes begin.

Thanks

Thanks to all of you who gave the necessary funds for the Matching Grant making it possible for us to receive the \$3000 from the Beloit Foundation. The Sharp AR-BC 260 is a real gem, offering us networking possibilities that didn't exist before. It also offers us color which is an option that wasn't available to us before. Loretta has already put this to good use in many fliers and invitations. And thanks to the Beloit Foundation for once again affording us the needed support to purchase the copier.

Thanks to the Larry Rice estate for the polished marble bench that resides permanently in our front lobby. It is dedicated to the memory of Diane Marks who was a volunteer for the Society for many years. The bench was originally part of the décor at the Beloit Savings Bank.

And our last sincere thank you goes to Cheryl Licary for making our series of Beloit Memorial Year Books finally complete. We now have every year book from 1916 to 2005. Cheryl responded to our appeal in the last issue of Confluence and donated a 1989 and a 1990 year book.

New to the Society

Having received a bequest earlier in the year for up-dating our capacity to catalog the collection, the Society has been able to purchase new computers. We now have up and running these new tools much needed for the coming years.

Paul K. Kerr

Notes From Loretta

Quick As A Wink! Holiday Appetizer

Cranberry -Turkey Wraps



1/2 c. water
 1/2 c. brown sugar (packed)
 1/3 c. sugar
 1/4 c. cider vinegar
 2 c. cranberries
 1/2 c. raisins
 1/2 c. sweet onion, chopped
 1 T. fresh ginger, peeled and
 finely chopped
 1/2 t. red pepper

(2) 3oz. Pkgs. cream cheese,
 softened
 1-1/2 c. shredded sharp white
 Cheddar cheese
 curry powder to taste
 (6) 8-inch Flour Tortillas
 1-1/2 lbs. cooked turkey slices
 1/2 c. fresh cilantro, chopped
 and divided
 6 T. chopped walnuts, divided

Add water, sugars and vinegar to a heavy saucepan; heat over medium heat until sugar dissolves, stirring often. Mix in cranberries, raisins, onion, ginger and red pepper; bring to a gentle boil, stirring occasionally until mixture thickens, about 5 to 10 minutes. Cool; cover and refrigerate. Combine cream cheese, Cheddar cheese and curry powder in a small bowl; mix well. Spread about 3 tablespoons cheese mixture in a thin, even layer over each tortilla; top with several turkey slices. Spread 2 to 3 tablespoons cranberry mixture on top; sprinkle with one heaping teaspoon cilantro and one tablespoon walnuts. Roll up tortillas; wrap tightly in aluminum foil. Arrange wraps on baking sheet; bake at 350 degrees until just warm, about 5 to 10 minutes. Slice wraps in half diagonally and arrange on a serving plate, serve warm. Serves 6. Optional: dress each wrap with fancy holiday ribbon: Try dipping these wraps in extra cranberry sauce too!

Holiday Book Sales Through December!

	Sale Price	Regular Price
Century of a City	\$20	\$25
Regal Beloit Corporation	\$25	\$30
Windows to Our Past (Beloit Area Post Card Photos)	\$20	\$20
Pioneer Beloit (Judge Arthur Luebke)	\$10	\$12
History of Beloit Fire Dept. (Herb Christainsen)	\$10	\$12
Sparks From the Flaming Wheel (Joseph Rhodes)	\$10	\$12
Sinissippi Reflections (Martin Krueger)	\$10	\$12

Know Your Beloit History

- (1) Who was the first male child born in Beloit? _____.
- (2) Who was Beloit's First Fire Chief? _____.
- (3) What is the name of the oldest school in Beloit today? _____.
- (4) How long has the City Manager form of Government been in existence in Beloit? _____.
- (5) Who were the Beloit Olympians? _____.
- (6) How old will the Beloit Historical Society be on February 21? _____.
- (7) Native Beloiters Roy Chapman Andrews is known internationally as an _____.
- (8) The first Newspaper in Beloit started in 1845, What was it called? _____.

Answers: (1) Selvy Kidder Boldgen (2) A.J. Battin (3) Hackett School—named for John Hackett (4) Since 1928 (5) The Wisconsin State Baseball Champions in 1867-1868 (6) 96 years (7) Archeologist (8) The Messenger



What Is... Volunteering

- * **Keeping Active**
- * **Gaining Experience**
- * **Meeting People**
- * **Exploring & Sharing Ideas**
- * **Acquiring Self-Confidence**

These are just a few good reasons why people volunteer. If you have your own reasons and an interest in keeping the history of the Beloit community alive... Join the Beloit Historical Society's volunteer staff today!

Meet people whose interests are similar to yours. Expand your history skills and give yourself the personal satisfaction of accomplishment.

As a volunteer, your time commitment is flexible. Every minute of volunteer time is appreciated and contributes to the Society's goal in collecting, preserving and disseminating knowledge of the history of the Greater Beloit area.

Volunteers are an important part of the Beloit Historical Society. The Society relies on its volunteers, members and staff, to provide ideas, financial support and helping hands. Together we have made the society what it is today. We are grateful to have a community of people who work together to preserve our city's heritage. Beloit Historical Society's volunteer opportunities include: Administrative Support, Collections/Accessioning, Maintenance, Bulk Mailings, Research, Docents (Tour Guides), Archives/Library, and Special Events. For further information on Volunteer Opportunities Contact Loretta Hatch, Coordinator of Volunteers (608) 365-7835

Ads of Old



Gift 3

FOR HER

Filter Queen Cleaners

\$15 for your old cleaner

Macoy's
Appliance Dept.
1545 Prairie

Mother Will Enjoy a New
MAYTAG WASHER

- Large Capacity White Porcelain Tub
- Fast, Efficient Washer Action

\$124.95 and up

Complete Line Washers and Ironers

FOOTVILLE IMPLEMENT
Phone 8 Footville, Wis.

Sewing Cabinets

Walnut or Mahogany

\$21 up

Singer

SEWING MACHINE CO.
411 State St. Ph. Col. 463

A Eureka
Tank Type
Vacuum Cleaner
\$54.95

Harris Ace Stores

418 E. Grand 110 W. Grand

Perfect Gifts For Her

- * G.E. electric ironer\$49.95
- * G.E. auto blanket\$41.95
- * Carpet sweeper, was \$8.95.....\$4.95

Roy's Appliance

"Your G.E. Dealer"
439 E. Grand Ave. Ph. Col. 2413

A NESCO ROASTER

With Clock and Timer
\$67.45

Nesco Roaster Stand
\$19.95

Roy's Appliance

"Your G.E. Dealer"
439 E. Grand Ave. Tel. Col. 2413

- If She Had Her Choice
She'd Pick One of These
- * Automatic Pop-Up Toaster
 - * Electric Waffle Baker
 - * Electric Corn Popper

ANDERSON JEWELERS

132 W. GRAND AVE.

HAND TOOLED Billfolds, Key Cases, etc.

Genuine calf leather in black, brown,
navy and red. Name imprinted free.

Vera Ryden

947 Cleveland Ave. Ph. Col. 4368
After 5 p.m. Mon. through Fri.

FOR HER

A Lifetime Gift

New Beautiful

Eldredge Electric

Sewing Machines

IMMEDIATE DELIVERY

BRANDT'S SERVICE SHOP

1202 VINE TEL. COL. 3124

Aluminum Roasters

Oval shape with or without
tray 3 sizes — small, medium,
large.

Satrang Hardware

Phone 6 Orfordville, Wis.

A Diamond
Gruen Wrist Watch
In white or
Natural Gold
\$71.50

Wm. Hamlin

"Your Jeweler"

The Solution To Your

Xmas Shopping

Give her a new living room
carpet — Fine selection of
colors and patterns to choose
from.

Krueger's

"The Carpet Store"

416 State St. Ph. Col. 4309

The perfect gift for her,
General Electric Roaster

\$38.95

Roy's Appliance

"Your G.E. Dealer"
438 E. Grand Ph. Col. 2413

Vacuum Cleaners

"The Famous Singer"

Singer

SEWING MACHINE CO.
411 State St. Ph. Col. 463

FOR HER

J. C. HIGGINS

Women's Golf Clubs

4 Irons, 1 Wood, With Bag

\$29.50

Sears, Roebuck & Co.

423 State St. Ph. Col. 816

SPECIAL GIFTS FOR CHRISTMAS

2 a.m. to 9 p.m. 'Till Christmas

- * Fancy lace trimmed panties 59c to 98c
- * Slips 32 to 52, \$2.98 and \$3.49
- * Ladies' sweaters 100% wool, long sleeves, 32 to 42, \$2.98 to \$3.98
- * Girls' panties, lace trimmed, 2 to 12, 59c to 69c
- * Crocheted gifts, nylon 51 gauge irregulars, \$1.00, regulars \$1.50 to \$2.25
- * Men's ties, \$1.00, dress shirts \$2.98

Bobbie's

1430 WISCONSIN

HERE'S SOMETHING DIFFERENT

A Beautiful Practical

Down or Feather Duster

Ideal for Dusting Figurines,
Fine Furniture, etc.

\$1.19 up

SEAEVER LABORATORIES
212 State St. Tel. Col. 1853

A Smart Necklace In Rhinestone

PEARL OR GOLD

THE HOWE WATCH CLINIC
(On the Bridge)

It's a Special Case for
Your Special Lady

Large selection of boxed jewelry,
necklaces, pins, earrings, bracelets
\$1.00 plus tax

Goldberg's

304 State St. Ph. Grd. 400

FOR HIM

For Year Round Pleasure

Give Him a
Remington, Sunbeam or
Schick Electric Shaver
\$15.00 to \$23.50

Wm. Hamlin

"Your Jeweler"

Evinrude Motor

For a family that loves the out-
of doors, what gift could be more
thrilling than a sparkling new
Evinrude under the tree.

Rudy Schultz

843 Bluff Col. 4934

FOR

It'll be C
The Year
If You G
AN ELECTRI
We have Schicks.
Sunbeams
"Lav-a-Da
SPECIAL WHIL
A Limited C
PACK.
4-HEAD S
\$12.50

Kant's Home

341 E. Grand

J. C. H

Men's G

4 Irons, 1 Wo

\$29

Sears, Roeb

423 State St.

Have a
Assort
Me
Birthston
\$15.00

ANDERSON

132 W. GR

GIVE HIM EA
FOR YEAR
SCH
ELECTRIC
\$17.50

HARRIS A

418 E. Grand

FOR

SELECT RADIO

G. E. -- PHIL

"The Everl

\$19.9

Krue

"The Car

416 State

G

For The E
Gifts galore to
Be Gift a
—F. cs, Nov
Open from 9 a.
Christmas.
611 8th St.

Dec. 10, 1948
Beloit Daily
News

Shoppers Guide



FOR HIM	FOR HOME	FOR HOME	FOR EVERYONE	FOR CHILDREN
<p>It'll be Christmas The Year Around If You Give Him ELECTRIC SHAVER Schicks, Remingtons and Sunbeams in stock. "Lay-a-Day Now" AL WHILE THEY LAST Limited Quantity of PACKARD HEAD SHAVERS \$12.95</p> <p>Home Appliance nd Ph. Grd. 588</p> <p>J. C. HIGGINS Men's Golf Set ons, 1 Wood, With Bag \$29.50</p> <p>, Roebuck & Co. St. Ph. Col. 816</p> <p>Have a complete Assortment of Birthstone Rings \$15.00 Up</p> <p>PERSON JEWELERS 32 W. GRAND AVE.</p> <p>FOR HIM EASY SHAVING FOR YEARS WITH A SCHICK ELECTRIC RAZOR \$17.50 UP</p> <p>IRIS ACE STORES and 110 W. Grand</p>	<p>Radios Zenith — Admiral Consoles and Table Models \$16.95 up</p> <p>Adams 159 W. Grand Ph. Col. 5969</p> <p>Practical Gifts WE SUGGEST: ★ Presto Pressure Cookers \$12.95 up ★ Electric Roasters ★ G. E. Electric Clocks \$4.50 up ★ Electric Food Mixers \$29.95</p> <p>Krueger's "The Carpet Store" 416 State St. Ph. Col. 4309</p> <p>TO MAKE CHRISTMAS REMEMBERED For Her: a Coffee Table \$19.50 to \$35.00 For Him: a Smoker \$5.00 to \$39.50 For the Kiddies: a Play Set Steel, Folding, \$13.50</p> <p>G. N. PROPST & CO. 115 W. Grand</p> <p>YOU WON'T HAVE TO STAND ON YOUR HEAD to see the improvement in your floors with our RUBBER AND ASPHALT TILE, SANDING AND FINISHING. K & S FLOOR CO. 959 1/2 Third St. Ph. Col. 4064</p> <p>SIMMONS The world's first and only ELECTRONIC BLANKET This amazing new blanket guards against colds. \$39.50 plus Fed. Tax SEE IT AT FOURTH ST. STORES</p> <p>Portable Power Saw Cuts wood, metal or plastics. The practical gift for the handyman, electrician, carpenter, furnace man, plumber, farmer, etc. Fully guaranteed. For demonstration call W. P. Young, Grd. 1107.</p>	<p>Cabinet Sinks 54 inch — with spray attachment \$109.50</p> <p>Sears, Roebuck & Co. 423 State St. Ph. Col. 816</p> <p>Unfinished Furniture Chests of drawers, desks, cocktail tables, etc., finely finished wood; chairs as low as \$3.45.</p> <p>BROWN'S PAINT STORE (West Side)</p> <p>Christmas Furniture Gifts ★ Hassocks....\$3.98 to \$8.95 ★ Pictures....\$2.98 to \$11.50 ★ Desks \$39.88 to \$62.50 ★ Smokers \$3.19 ★ Table Lamps \$7.95 ★ Platform Rockers .. \$39.88 ★ Cedar Chest \$44.95 ★ 9x12 Wool Rugs \$64.50 \$5.95 Lamp included at no extra charge. ★ Linoleum Rugs, 9x12 \$4.95 ★ Innerspring Mattresses \$24.50</p> <p>Gamble's</p> <p>Give Music From our fine selection of Classic, popular and children's records and Albums</p> <p>Goodenough's 430 E. GRAND AVE.</p>	<p>My Christmas List Mom (Easiest of all). There are so many things that will please her. One of those new waffle irons fits the ticket and also fits the pocketbook. (Mmm, and do I love waffles.) Alternate choices: coffee makers, toasters, juicers, roasters, grill combinations, steam irons, etc.</p> <p>Dad Let's make life easier for Pop! A new Fairbanks stoker will give Dad endless hours of comfort. There'll be no more running to the basement with firing problems. Not nearly as expensive as I expected either. By the way, controlled heat will be a luxury for me, too.</p> <p>Sis She gets so angry when she has wrinkled sleeves and pleats. I'm going to buy her a travel iron. She'll be pleased and so will my purse. Those last-minute rushes getting Sis to work in the morning antagonize me. An electric clock should eliminate that problem.</p> <p>Brother My brother and his model planes! A desk lamp is just what he needs to throw a little light on the subject—might help his home work, a bit too. But he'll be popular with the gang when they see the corn ponder I have in mind for him. The best part of all this is I only have to make one stop, I can get everything at</p> <p>R. T. Morrill's</p> <p>FOR BOYS A Sled for Fun FLEXIBLE FLYERS DELUXE RACERS ALL SIZES \$4.50 up</p> <p>Kant's Home Appliance 341 E. Grand Ph. Grd. 588</p> <p>FOR GIRLS A Baby Coos Doll Ideal's New Doll With the magic voice SHE CRIES—SHE SOBS SHE COOS Only \$6.95 at</p> <p>Kant's Home Appliance 341 E. Grand Tel. Grd. 588</p>	<p>— John Deere Toys — Tractors • Spreaders • Wagons Scale Models — All Metal</p> <p>Wise IMPLEMENT CO. 209 Short Ph. Grd. 78 (Open Friday Evenings 'Til 9)</p> <p>Wagons All steel, rubber tires \$7.08</p> <p>Tricycles 20 inch \$12.95</p> <p>Sears, Roebuck & Co. 423 State St. Ph. Col. 816</p> <p>DINNER and DECORATIONS OUR USUAL HIGH QUALITY BALSAM CHRISTMAS TREES Complete line of winter decorations for the cemetery and Christmas decorations for the home.</p> <p>FRUTIGER'S FLOWERS Ph. Rockton 68 Formerly 1010 Prairie Ave.</p> <p>Mmmm — They Melt in Your Mouth Festive Christmas Cookies Oven Fresh Twice Daily Order Yours Now</p> <p>Bake - Rite Bakery 319 State St. Tel. Col. 312</p> <p>Shop—then stop for Coffee at The Hilton</p> <p>Pets for Christmas Hundreds of Children Want Pets for Christmas. Phone Col. 4500 WANT AD DEPT.</p>
<p>Gifts The Entire Family store to choose from at Gift a variety Shop es, Nove. Books, etc. om 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. until as. h St. Ph. Grd. 1273M</p>				

The Dancing Penguins (Continued from page 1)

was published in booklet form and mailed to members. By May 22 of the same year the Penguins met at the Country Club of Beloit for their first event—an Inaugural Ball. Art Goldsworthy, a popular attraction at the Chicago supper clubs, played for the evening. It was fine dressing all round with the men in white tie and tails and the women in gowns.

Membership in the Penguins was limited to 125 couples. This would increase to 135 couples under Hal Tower's Presidency in 1956. Dues were \$10 per person in the inaugural year but would increase to \$17.50 per person under the Presidency of Leo Hansen in the 1957-'58 season. The Board was to meet at least once in sixty days. In 1953 it met 12 times in 5 months. In the first couple of years one of the major concerns of the Board was the waiting list. And what a lengthy one it was. In 1955 it consisted of 43 eager couples. Many of the members thought this list and the wait too long. They sought remedies to better accommodate these potential members. Eventually the waiting list would be limited to 25 couples with the first on the list to be the first as a new club member when a vacancy occurred.

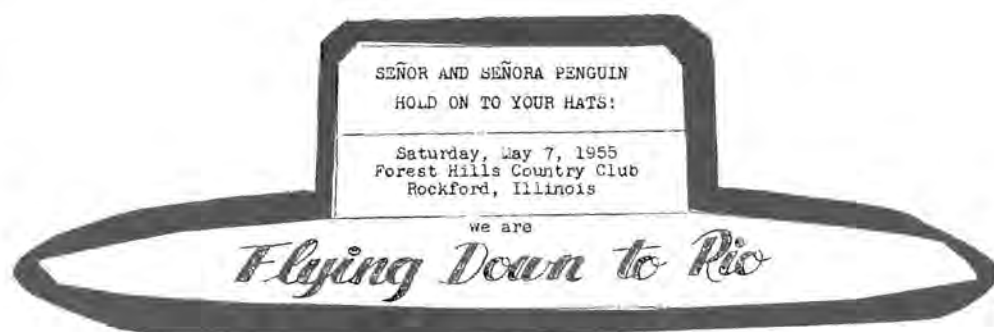
Dancing clubs were popular in the area and early in 1953 Art and his committee solicited help from Mr. Warren Jolley more of Madison, Wisconsin, hoping to learn from him how he got the *Combo Club* going, a dancing club that was established a year or two before the Penguin Club. Mr. Jolley more sent Mr. Harley Gave to discuss details of how the Madison club got established. He discussed at the meeting Board structure, dues, members only at the dances, renting a hall to dance (always a critical element to a season) and other issues.



The Dancing Penguins (Continued from page 10)

To learn more about the *Combo Club* Harley invited a couple of members from the Beloit club to a Combo dinner party at the Maple Bluff Country Club in June. But who knows if any Penguin club members went because by May they were dancing to their own tune right here in Beloit.

As we know, Art Goldsworthy and his band played the first tune at the inaugural ball but then there was Hal McIntyre's band at Rockford's Forest Hills Country Club for the second dance in 1953. There were two other dances in that year and a good many impressive orchestras and dances throughout the decade of the fifties. Tom Jones, a President of the Penguins, said Galen Williams was the most popular band the Penguins ever had play for them. Galen's orchestra played at the 1959 event with the theme "Come in Poor Taste, Dress your worst to look your best." Betty and Dick Finger were Chairmen for this event. Henry Brandon brought his band to a Penguin event. His fame was coast to coast because he was heard over the radio on ABC and NBC, as well as over Chicago's own WGN. Mr. and Mrs. Frank Kinast landed him for a gala affair in 1956.



Burt Rose and his Chicago orchestra were booked by Mr. & Mrs. John Eldred for a 1959 dance at Rockford's Elks Club. Mel Roland played for the Penguins at the Faust Hotel in Rockford in the 1959-'60 season. George Marshall and his "Speakeasy Six" performed some rousing roaring twenties music at another late 1950s event at the Country Club of Beloit.

The music was superior. The themes and decorations for each dance were equally impressive. At the Cape Cod Capers affair there was a ten foot tall lighthouse and at the Inaugural Ball there was an eight foot tall Penguin. People dressed to match the theme so at the "Kollegiate Kick-Off Dance" of 1958, skirts, sweaters and sports jackets were appropriate attire. The "Champagne Soiree" of '59 was a formal affair. The Penguins gave Beloit sparkle, and a season with them was a season to be remembered. From the single file of information we have about the Penguins it is assumed memory is all we have left of this once vibrant club.

The file mentioned is filled mostly with 1950s information, but there is an article or two that indicates the Penguins were dancing through the mid 1960s. Allen Tuftee was President in 1964. One other reference indicates there was to be a reunion for the Club members in 1990. Whether or not this transpired is unknown. As always the Historical Society appreciates additional information. If there are any Penguins out there with photographs and information please consider sharing them with us.



From the Files (Continued from page 4)

Thursday. This club has always made its children an integral part of its activities. This year 15 junior members from 3 to 14 furnished the program—carols, a play, recitations, etc., the older ones also helping serve...

... The Alvin Schickels, Two Rivers, Wis., are coming home to be with Mrs. Schickel's parents, the H. W. Adams, who are planning a family get-together during the Christmas holidays. Allan Adams, now a junior at Harvard, will come back, bringing with him his Grandmother Adams, who lives at West Newton... It is regrettable that Dr. and Mrs. W. L. Kenny, Chicago, will be unable to join the latter's parents, Dr. and Mrs. W. W. Crockett, around the Christmas board here. Mrs. Kennedy submitted to an operation this week to relieve the throat condition with which she suffered during her honeymoon last fall, and which recurs in cycles. Hopes are felt that this may result in complete recovery... We understand that plans for the second annual subscription dance at Cosmo hall are in the air. Further information may be had from Lester Fry, Kenneth Pollock, David Fifield, Camden Murkland or Robert Cocoran, members of the committee.

Cub Food Receipts



Our last batch of receipts brought in **\$53.17**. For each Cub Foods receipt submitted the Society receives 1% of the total. Thanks to everyone who participates in saving the receipts and thank you Charlie Jones for volunteering your time totaling them each quarter. Please keep saving receipts, and be sure to get them in before the end of the quarter. Every Penny Helps !!

Charlie wants us to pass on that the date for the quarters that he processes Cub Food receipts has changed. Corporate Cub is using the following periods for their program:

Feb. 25 to June 11 – June 12 to Sept. 3 – Sept. 4 to Nov. 12 – Nov. 13 to Feb. 18

Do you have a jar full of pennies (or nickels, dimes and quarters) that you'd like to donate to a good cause? You can put them to good use by dropping them off at the Lincoln Center. The last time we cashed in our accumulated coins we received **\$270!** **Thanks to everyone who remembered to "drop in a Lincoln penny for Lincoln Center."**



We currently have 711 members on our rolls. The following people have renewed their membership or have become new members between August 4 and December 2, 2005. A big Thank You for supporting the Beloit Historical Society! (Underlined indicates new member; numbers next to names refer to multi-year renewals.)

Ruth Adams	Dick & Mary Elliott (2)	Annabelle & Jim	Brian & Joni	Janet & Douglas Nicoll
Vonnie Adams (2)	Jerry & Carol Elliott (3)	Hauser	Kobischka	Helen May Olsen
Allen County Public	Lillian Engleson	Sandy & Dennis Hays	Faith & Joe Kobylka	Kenneth & Dorothy
Library	Edward & Helen Esler	Beth Heaney	<u>Fr. Steve Kortendick</u>	Ostoic
Ron & Joyce	Lynn Morand	Donald & LaVerna	Roberta Kroeger	onald & Dolores
Anderson	Evans (3)	Hilbig (2)	Harriet & Richard	Owens
Nancy Appleby	Lee & Marilyn	Lawrence Hines	Kubiak	Catherine Piazza
Larry & Karen Arft	Fassett (2)	Lloyd Hornbostel &	Macy Kunz	Patricia Rea
Jeanne & Clyde	Deanna Feuerstein	Linda Reinhardt	Tom & Peggy Lang	Lois & Roger Roen
Bachand	Eileen Finnegan	Lee & Janet Hovland	Elaine Lans	Marcella Salmons
Carl & Mary Balson	Caroline Florey	Kathryn Hudson (3)	Leverne Larsen	Robert & Mary
Tom & Teri Barnes	Arnold & Betty Fogle	Helen Humke	Glen & Leora Lee	Schindler
Esther Belardi	James Forrestal	Ruth & Ralph Irvin	Roland & Edna Lewis	Beth Schmuck (2)
Grace Bennis	Katherine Freeman	Cheryl Jackson	Janice LeDell Malson	Don & Kathy
Edgar Bergmann	Mary Frey & Bill	Dorothy Jeffers	Frank & Suzann	Schneider
Barb Blackman	Wieland	Jeff & Susan Johnson	Marsden	Raymond & Lolita
F. Caleb Blodgett	Shawn Gillen & Barb	Tom & Sharon	Lois Martell	Stanton (2)
John Bort	Higgins	Jordan (3)	George & Avis	Carl & Lorraine
Robert Bort	Lanier & Laurie	Ed Jordan	Masterson	Swanson
Susan Bort-Good	Gordon	Curtis & Edith Julson	Constance	Shirley Swanson
Mary Bort-Nesbitt	Julie Gram	Ann Justus	Matusiak (3)	Paul Thistle
Jack & Betty Brusberg	Alta Green	<u>Susan Kepplinger</u>	Gerald & Brenda	Dorothy Thompson
Joe & Ann	Barney & Millie	Ann Kinast (2)	McMillan	Shirley von Allmen
Chamberlain	Grommes	Margaret & Richard	<u>Kathleen</u>	Nancy Wallace & Tim
Patricia Dabson (3)	Ed & Kris Grutzner (3)	Kinkade	<u>McPhilliamy</u>	Ramsey
Oliver & Lillian Davis	Jeanne Haase (2)	Suzanne Kitto	George & Liz	Jim & Marianne
Mel & Sally Donny (2)	Carolyn Hansen	Ron & Carole Klein	Merchant	Wilson
John & Helen	Virginia Harrer	Dave & Jan Knutson	John & Marcia Minter	Lawrence & Jean
Eldred (3)	Bob & Patti Harrer		Jessie Mugnani (2)	Zanton

A Farmer's Love Letter

(from December, 1930, M. M. Wallace column; see page 4)

My darling _____, do you _____ all for me? My heart _____ for you
and my love is as soft as _____. I am for you as strong as an _____. You are a
_____. With your _____ hair and _____ nose, you are the
_____ of my eye. So if we _____, then _____ be married for I know we
will make a happy _____.

apple, beets, cantaloupe, carrot, lettuce, onion, pear, peach, radish, squash, sweet potato, turnip

Use the above words to fill in the blanks. Correct order of fill-in words is: below.

sweet potato, carrot, squash, onion, peach, radish, turnip, apple, cantaloupe, lettuce, pear

The Beloit Historical Society exists due to the generosity of its members and the community. Thanks to all who have contributed since our last newsletter (from August 4 through December 5 2005)



Contributors

Regal-Beloit, Quigley Smart, Shirley von Allmen, Brian & Joni Kobischka, Harry & Ruth Davis, Martin & Marlene Howe, Tim Johnson & Assoc., McGilvra Electric, Country Glass, Ruth & Ralph Irvin, Mary Herrmann, Jess & Darlene Nelson, Dorothy Thompson, Tom & Peggy Lang, Allen Tuftee, F. Caleb Blodgett, Esther Belardi, John & Helen Eldred, Sue Kurth, JA Grover & Ass., First National Bank, Laura Pomerene, Ed & Kris Grutzner, Richard Gerhard, Donald Chamberlin, George Masterson, Elaine Lans, Sue & Duane Drevdahl, Bill Bolgrien, Doug & Mary Eddy, Gerald & Brenda McMillan, Dorothy Jeffers, Merlin Nundahl, Marcella Savage, Kerry Ingredients, Barney & Millie Grommes, Robert Solem Fund, George & Liz Merchant, Terry Meyers, Bill's TV, BMHS Class of '65, Cathy Piazza, Harry Schermerhorn, Ken & Nancy Forbeck, Maggie Janke, Larry & Karen Arft, Joe & Ann Chamberlain, Constance Matusiak, Cheryl Jackson, Shawn Gillen & Barb Higgins, Lois MacGowan, Bob & Carol Schwaegler

*A reminder to everyone that the Beloit Historical Society is a **repository for Beloit History**. If you have objects, letters, diaries, photos, documents, clothing, etc., that pertain to Beloit history or someone from Beloit, please keep us in mind as a permanent home for these items.*

Please keep in mind that the Beloit Historical Society is a worthy organization to receive a **memorial gift**. Past memorials have been put to good use for special purchases or exhibits. Consider us when it comes time to remember your loved ones, or even include us in your estate planning.

Sponsor-A-Day

Why not consider sponsoring a day at Lincoln Center? By contributing the average cost of daily operations at the Society (\$300), you can pick a day to commemorate a special event or the memory of someone. Recognition of the contribution then is published in the Beloit Daily News and Stateline Shopping News.

BONUS FOR NEW MEMBERS!

If you aren't a member of the Beloit Historical Society, why not consider joining us? You will become part of Beloit's repository of history, one of Wisconsin's oldest local historical societies (founded 1910), and enjoy the many benefits offered (see the membership form below.) And as an incentive to becoming a new member we offer a **free book** if you sign up: *Pioneer Beloit* by Arthur Luebke, *History of the Beloit Fire Department* by Herb Christiansen, or *Sparks from the Flaming Wheel*. Please join us in celebrating Beloit's history!

Why not give the gift of membership? Buy someone a membership, and we'll take care of the rest. Send us the filled out form and payment, and we'll send the new member Society information, the most recent newsletter, and your choice of books (check your choice)—

Pioneer Beloit ☐ *History of the Beloit Fire Dept.* ☐ *Sparks From the Flaming Wheel* ☐

You can even do it over the phone with your credit card (MC/Visa). What better way to make your friend or family member's Christmas complete?



AN INVITATION...

The Beloit Historical Society is dedicated to the preservation, restoration, and interpretation of Beloit's rich history. Please support us by becoming a member, and receive membership benefits: The quarterly newsletter, *Confluence*; free admission to the Hanchett-Bartlett Homestead and complimentary passes for friends; affiliate membership in the Wisconsin State Historical Society; and discounts on Society activities, programs, and souvenirs.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Family _____



Individual Membership		Family Membership	
1 Year	\$ 20	1 Year	\$ 25
2 "	35	2 "	45
3 "	50	3 "	65
Additional, Tax-Deductible Gift			
Sponsor	\$ 50		
Supporting	100		
Sustaining	250		
Patron	500		
Benefactor	1000		
Other			

Beloit Historical Society Phone: 608-365-7835
845 Hackett St. Fax: 608-365-5999
Beloit, WI 53511 E-mail: beloiths@ticon.net

Beloit Historical Society's Unique Gift Ideas

Beloit Afghans

\$35 Sale through December (Regular Price \$40)

Lincoln Dinner Tickets (Tangled Up In Blue) February 10

BHS Member Price \$35

Non-member Price \$40

Spring Quilt Class Pkg. (Saturdays in February & March)

BHS Member Price, \$11 per class or all 8 Classes for \$77

Non-Member Price, \$12 per class or all 8 Classes for \$84

Chicago Bus Tour Tickets (Mystic Blue Luncheon Cruise) June 28th

BHS Member Price, \$75

Non-Member Price, \$85



(Contact Lincoln Center for further Information) 365-7835

Confluence

Beloit Historical Society
845 Hackett St.
Beloit WI 53511

The Vision of the Beloit Historical Society is to
make history a focal point of community pride
and to serve as a constant reminder to the
community of its great and diverse heritage.

Non Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Beloit, WI
Permit No. 87

Address Service Requested

Visit our web site at
www.ticon.net/~beloiths



**CHECK YOUR
EXPIRATION**

*Your membership expiration is printed on the
mailing label. If your membership is recently
expired or soon to expire, please renew your
commitment to preserving your community's
heritage today! Thank You!*

(If your expiration date is incorrect
you may have renewed after the newsletter was mailed.)