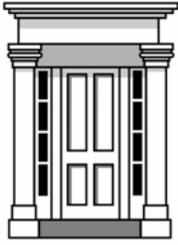


SHEBOYGAN COUNTY



HISTORICAL  
RESEARCH  
CENTER

# The Researcher

The Newsletter of the Sheboygan County  
Historical Research Center  
Volume XXIV Number 3 February 2014

## *The Mystery of the Celtic Cross*



© claudinex - Picturing Ireland

The Irish Celtic Cross is a symbol that conjures up all the mystery of the Dark Ages. It is also a popular symbol of faith, whether the belief is pagan, Christian or of any other religion. But perhaps it is most widely known as a powerful symbol of Irish heritage.

Ancient Celtic crosses, also known as ring or wheel crosses, appeared in Europe during the Middle Ages, as early as the 5th century. They were originally carved as stone boundary markers or as monuments near monasteries and churches. This style of cross was common in Ireland, Scotland, Wales, Cornwall and other regions influenced by early Celtic Christianity.

The shape of the Celtic cross was widely used by many ancient peoples. The four arms of the cross represented the four directions (east-west-north-south), the four elements (fire-earth-air-water-air) and man's mind-body-soul-heart. The addition of the ring around the cross has had many explanations including symbolizing the great wheel of life or the worship of the sun and moon.



The Sheboygan County Historical Research Center is located at 518 Water Street in Sheboygan Falls.  
Open Tuesday through Friday, 9:00am – 4:00pm and Saturdays from 8:30am to 12:00 noon.

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*The Researcher* is the official newsletter of the Sheboygan County Historical Research Center, 518 Water Street, Sheboygan Falls, Wisconsin.

It is published six times per year in August, October, December, February, April and June.

The Research Center is the local history archive for Sheboygan County and areas surrounding the county. It is a repository for paper records of all kinds.

The Research Center is a sister organization to the Sheboygan County Historical Society and Museum which collects the artifacts of the county.

*If you file it, it comes to the Research Center. If you dust it, it goes to the museum.*

#### **SCHRC Board of Directors**

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#### **Donor News**

Since our last newsletter SCHRC has received donations in memory of long-time member and Second Saturdays enthusiast, Ron Schoenfeld. Thanks to Ron's family and friends. Ron will be greatly missed.

SCHRC has also received generous project and program support from the Joseph and Evelyn Richardson Foundation, Windway Foundation, Hayssen Family Foundation, the Sheboygan Falls Kiwanis and the Garton Family Foundation. The Research Center is grateful to these wonderful organizations for supporting SCHRC's mission.

#### **Second Saturdays-Journeys Into Local History**

**March 8, 2014 - Women in the Military** - Multiple presenters at **Plymouth Arts Center, 520 East Mill Street, Plymouth**. Roundtable discussions, video, lecture, displays.

**April 12, 2014 - History of a Model City, Madison, Wisconsin** - Erika Janik at **Sheboygan Falls Memorial Library, 330 Buffalo Street, Sheboygan Falls**. Beginning with the retreat of the Wisconsin glacier and the story of early Native American peoples, author Erika Janik narrates the journey of Wisconsin's capital city from the "center of the wilderness" to the "Laboratory of Democracy."

**May 10, 2014 - Lighthouses of Wisconsin** - Ken and Barb Wardius at **Sheboygan Falls Memorial Library, 330 Buffalo Street, Sheboygan Falls**. No symbol is more synonymous with Wisconsin's rich maritime traditions than the lighthouse. These historic beacons conjure myriad notions of a bygone era: romance, loneliness, and dependability. Let's take a trip around the state.

#### **Genealogy Classes**

**February 10, 2014 - Immigration** - Where Did Our Ancestors Come From and How Did They Get Here? Ports of Entry, Ports of Departure, Ships and Passenger Lists (at SCHRC) 1:00pm.

**February 27, 2014 - Immigration** - Where Did Our Ancestors Come From? (at Kiel Public Library) 1:00pm

**March 10, 2014 - Irish Research** - From Ireland to America (at Plymouth Historical Society) 1:00pm

**March 27, 2014 - Military Records** (Kiel Public Library.) 1:00pm

**April 5, 2014 (Saturday)** - German Genealogy Mini Conference - 9:30am to noon (at the Sheboygan County Historical Museum).

**May 12, 2014 - Family Tree Maker, Getting the Most Out of It.** (at Random Lake Historical Museum, RL) 1:00pm.

**September 15, 2014 - Cemeteries, Graveyards and Burial Grounds** - Stories They Hold and Interpret Them. (at Sheboygan Falls Memorial Library) 1:00pm

**October 13, 2014 - Military Records, How to Access Them, What to Do With Them.** (at SCHRC)

**November 10, 2014 - Organizing My Research: I have all this stuff, now what do I do with it?** (at SCHRC)

**December 8, 2014 - Photos, What We Can Learn From Them and How We Identify Them.** (at SCHRC).

#### **History on the Move**

**February 15, 2014 - One Room Schools, 10:00am** Cedar Grove Library

**March 6, 2014 - Beechwood, Batavia and More 1:00pm** Random Lake Lib.

**March 15, 2014 - History of H.C. Prange's 10:00am** Cedar Grove Library

**April 15, 2014 - Churches of Sheboygan County 6:00pm** Cedar Grove

**May 13, 2014 - Sheboygan County's First Settlers 6:00pm** Cedar Grove

*Sheboygan Press,*  
Wednesday, July 28, 1971  
**On the 'Rok' . . . At 93,  
Juricek Still Tends Bar**

By Fred Wagner, Press Staff Writer

Rok Juricek, who'll be 94 in three weeks, has received his license to tend bar again, making him the oldest licensed bartender in Sheboygan and maybe in Wisconsin.

His length of service as a bartender, extending back nearly 70 years, is also probably some sort of record.

Juricek reports regularly for work six days a week at Stanza's Tavern, 801 Indiana Avenue. His work day starts at 6:30am when he arrives by bus to clean up the premises and open the bar at 8am.

Juricek came to the United States in 1901 from Croatia, now a part of Yugoslavia, and went to work in the mines at Iron Mountain, Michigan. He has since made his home in Sheboygan since 1903.

He tended bar for the late Frank Fale, and then owned his own tavern, the Croatian Home on South Eighth Street, next door to the former Riverside Electric and Power Plant, from 1910 to 1923 when he sold the property to the Wisconsin Power and Light Company.

One of his vivid memories of the period when he operated his own business is the day in 1912 when a street car went out of control and plunged into the Sheboygan River from the 8th Street bridge near his tavern, killing three persons. He was one of only a handful of persons to witness the tragedy.

Following the sale of his bar in 1923, Juricek worked at a lumberyard and later for the City of Sheboygan. For more than 20 years, he's not exactly sure how long, he has been a bartender for Stan and Lou's (now Stanza's). Mrs. Stanza Francis says he is still adept at making mixed drinks as well as sling beer.

An event Juricek is looking forward to this summer is taking a vacation starting August 5 with his son, the Rt. Rev. Msgr. Ivan Juricek of South Omaha, Nebraska. Now retired, Msgr. Juricek was a priest for 45 years and has been given the title, "monsignor emeritus."

The pair plan to travel to Oklahoma and other parts of the Southwest.

Juricek also has a daughter living in South Omaha, Mrs. Mike Cvitak, and another, son Emeric. Juricek makes his home with Mrs. Francis and family and she says he remains very independent despite his age.

A lot of water has gone under the bridge since Rok Juricek started tending bar and a lot of brew has gone over the counter. He may still be at it when he's 100.



**93-year old Bartender. If experience is the best teacher, Rok Juricek should really know his business. He had been tending bar for nearly 70 years and recently again received his city license, making him certainly the oldest licensed bartender in Sheboygan and perhaps the state. He is shown offering up a glass of the foamy stuff at Stanza's Tavern, 801 Indiana Avenue, where he has been employed for many years.**

**Bar token for Stan and Lou's Tavern in Sheboygan.**



# Olympic Wear

Made in Sheboygan

Article Idea by Ann Kraft, Research by Mary Meyer



**1968 Winter Games— Grenoble, France  
U.S. figure skaters in red parade coats.  
Left to right: Tina Noyes, Janet Lynn  
Nowiki and Peggy Fleming.**

Everyone who watched the Olympics in the 1960s and 1970s saw a little bit of Sheboygan each time the U.S. Olympic Team was featured. Sheboygan-made clothing was worn from the opening ceremonies to the closing of the games. Two Sheboygan manufacturers stepped up and provided coats, jackets, socks and knit hats to our athletes free-of-charge; they were Lakeland Manufacturing and Wigwam Mills.

Lakeland beat out the competition to win the right to make coats and jackets in 1964 and 1968. Wigwam Mills provided socks to the U.S. Nordic and Alpine ski teams, figure skaters and other winter sports participants from 1960 to 1972.

*The Sheboygan Press*, February 18, 1963

Lakeland Coat Named Official Olympics Garb

Lakeland Manufacturing Company has been selected by the U.S. Olympic committee to make the official parade coat for the U.S. participants in the 1964 Winter Olympics at Innsbruck, Austria, George Holman, president, announced today.

... The Sheboygan manufacturer presented its 1963 fall styles to day by the unique means of a musical ice show, "Parade of Champions, a Salute to the 1964 Olympic Games at Innsbruck." An audience of more than 450 of America's top retailers, fashion experts and members of the press and wire services viewed the show, featuring the premiere display of the 1964 Olympic parade coat.

*The Sheboygan Press*, Monday, April 15, 1963

Sheboygan-Made Coats For U.S. Winter Olympic Stars

The United States Olympic Committee has announced its choice of a Sheboygan-made sports coat for women members of this nation's team entered in the 9th Winter Olympic Games at Innsbruck, Austria in January and February of 1964.

The Olympic coats are the product of the local Lakeland Manufacturing Company which is also supplying similar sports apparel for men on the U.S. team. According to George Holman, president of Lakeland, the coats are made in an off-white woolen fabric with a bulky knit shawl collar to match, edged in blue and red to tie in with the colors of the Olympic emblem, and the crater blue Acrilan pile body lining.

The Sheboygan-made coats will be worn by the U.S. team in the opening parade and for opening and closing events of each day's winter Olympic activities — skating, skiing, etc.

Lakeland produced the sports coats in its Sheboygan plant. In all, 150 of the Olympic Parade models are being donated to the U.S. Olympic committee by the local firm which was chosen by the committee to make the coats after its design had been selected in competition with a number of other nationally known manufacturers.



**Lakeland Label in 1964 Parade Coat  
used in Innsbruck, Austria.**

# Made in Sheboygan!

Lakeland Manufacturing Company began in 1894 when H. J. Holman began the production of men's overalls. Herman Holman would go out and collect orders and, Sophia, his wife, would sew them on her home machine. The company grew and the clothing line added trousers, shirts and sports clothes for men and boys. In 1926, the company name was changed to Lakeland Manufacturing. Their old "Diamond" trademark was replaced with the new "Lakeland" label. The company moved into a new three story building at South 14th and Alabama. From the beginning there was an insistence on sturdy fabrics and fine workmanship. By 1979 the fourth generation of Holmans were producing more than 150,000 men's coats and jackets. Downturns in the economy plus foreign competition spelled the end for Lakeland in Sheboygan. The company closed in 1989 and was sold to a New York firm in 1990. Lakeland parade coats were worn by the U.S. Winter Olympics teams in 1964 in Innsbruck, Austria and 1968 in Grenoble, France. A travel jacket was used by the U.S. Olympic teams in the 1964 Tokyo and 1968 Mexico City Olympics.

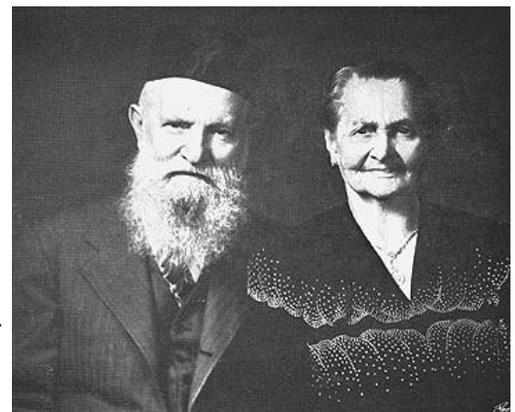


This is the parade coat worn by the U.S. Olympic Team during the opening ceremonies of the 1964 Winter Games in Innsbruck, Austria. It was designed and manufactured in Sheboygan by Lakeland Mfg. Company.



Wigwam Mills began business as Hand Knit Hosiery in 1905. The first products were heavy woolen socks and liner mittens for lumbermen. Herbert Chesebro was the company president. A new building was built at the corner of 14th Street and Huron Avenue. The stock market crash of the 1920s and the following Great Depression took its toll on the hosiery business, but with the help of a local bank, the company stayed in business. During WWII Handknit Hosiery devoted 75% of its production to

heavy wool socks for the Army. On January 1, 1957 the company changed its name to Wigwam Mills, Inc. and in 1969 the company relocated to its Crocker Avenue facility. In 1968 Wigwam supplied socks to U.S. skaters for the Grenoble, France winter games. Peggy Fleming won a gold medal for figure skating. In 1972 Wigwam supplied socks and knit hats to the U.S. ski teams for the Sapporo, Japan games. Barbara Cochran became the first U.S. gold medalist in skiing in two decades when she won the women's slalom.



Herman and Sophia Holman



Frankfurt, Germany, January, 1964: Six members of the U.S. figure skating team strike a one-legged pose in front of the plane on which they just arrived from New York on their way to the Winter Olympics at Innsbruck, Austria. They are, left to right, Albertina Noyes, Tommy Litz, Christie Haigler, Monty Hoyt, Peggy Fleming and Scott Allen. Beneath the levity of the photo, though, was an undercurrent of sadness; since the last Olympics, the entire U.S. team had perished in a plane crash in Belgium in 1961. Allen, only 14 years old, sparked the rebuilding effort with a bronze medal at Innsbruck; four years later, Fleming captured a gold at Grenoble.

# The Pre-Plank Intellectuals of Sheboygan Falls

by Scott Noegel

When one thinks of Sheboygan Falls in the early 1840s, one naturally conjures black and white images of pioneer log cabins, the town's primitive mill, and settlers trading with Native American tribes. One pictures a time when work commanded nearly every daylight hour and many of the nights. One imagines the many hardships that followed the tiny trails that connected the village to the rest of the world. Of course, such images are quite accurate. These were very rugged times, lived in the most primitive of conditions, and far from the conveniences we now take for granted. Nevertheless, few would imagine that Sheboygan Falls was then home to a vibrant intellectual community.

Prominent among the young intellectuals was Horace Rublee and his sister Emeline, both of whom also are numbered among the town's first schoolteachers. Horace and Emeline came from Vermont in 1840 with their mother Martha. Their father Alva had arrived in 1839, and he managed William Farnsworth's sawmill. As both Horace and Emeline would later relate,<sup>1</sup> the wilderness town at that time was primarily a community of young people, mostly from New England, with strong intellectual interests.

Indeed, during the winters, the settlers held a weekly debating society, which opened with someone reciting an original essay or poem. Though books at first were hard to come by, the settlers strove to have more sent and they shared them openly with each other. Early titles read and discussed in literary meetings included Scott's *Lady on the Lake*, Dickens' *Oliver Twist*, Goethe's *Faust*, in addition to works by Byron, Milton, and Shakespeare. One of the most influential books consumed by the village was Combe's *On the Constitution of Man*, which combined evolutionary ideas with moral philosophy and neuroanatomy. Today these ideas are associated with phrenology.

This was a very progressive town. Nearly everyone read the *New York Tribune*, then edited by Horace Greeley. Greeley, and others whose works they read, inspired a strong interest in creating a utopian society based on the social movement known as "Fourierism." Fourierism was a socialist philosophy of reform based on the ideas of the French theorist Charles Fourier that aimed to transform society into self-sufficient and independent communities. The philosophy inspired the famous Brook Farm experiment of West Roxbury, Massachusetts, a communal society founded by Unitarian minister, George Ripley. Also informing the Brook Farm was the principle of transcendentalism, a religious and cultural philosophy that aimed to reward equal shares for equal distribution of chores, thus providing additional time to all for intellectual and scientific endeavors.<sup>2</sup> Many in Sheboygan Falls adopted these principles and attempted to apply them to their new society. As Emeline Rublee noted, the movement "broke out with a good deal of virulence right here in those primitive days."<sup>3</sup>

Horace Rublee circa 1855



The experiment was short lived. Not only did the Brook Farm fail as a social experiment, Sheboygan Falls underwent a tremendous amount of change, especially when the first major wave of European settlers came. Before their arrival, Sheboygan Falls was much more populated than Sheboygan, which was merely a stopping point for logging ships taking their timbers south. As Emeline put it, Sheboygan, or "The Mouth" as they called it then, was considered "the duller and more conservative region (of Sheboygan County)... Little intellectual stimulus was found there..."<sup>4</sup> All this changed with the European newcomers. Horace Rublee left Sheboygan Falls for Madison shortly after 1850 and he quickly became the co-editor and owner of the town's political paper, *The Argus*. Even-

Emeline Rublee circa 1855



tually he would become the State Librarian of Wisconsin, editor of the *Madison State Journal*, Minister to Switzerland under the Grant administration, editor of the *Boston Advertiser*, and the editor and owner of the Milwaukee *Sentinel* until his death in 1896. His two sons would become major players in national and international politics. Emeline Rublee married George T. Cole, another prominent early settler. Her children too became important figures in law and education.<sup>5</sup> The early reminiscences of Horace and Emeline Rublee help us to see the lives of Sheboygan Falls' first settlers in greater depth and color. They remind us that among the farmers and fellers of trees were intellectuals, eager to participate in the great social experiment of early Wisconsin, and surprisingly self-aware of their roles in making history.

<sup>1</sup> Emeline wrote a paper about her early experiences that her brother Horace read before the Pioneer Society at Sheboygan Falls on February 22, 1894. It was published again as "Mr. Rublee's Reminiscences," *Sheboygan County Historical Review* 2/1 (1910), pp. 5-7. The photographs here of Horace and Emeline are found therein. The same issue contains reminiscences of Emeline Rublee as related to a friend, Mrs. Otto Gaffron. Both of the reminiscences were read before the G. G. G.'s, a women's club at Plymouth on October 26, 1909. The intellectual nature of Sheboygan Falls continued to fascinate its residents for many years, as seen by the numerous times the reminiscences were republished. See, e.g., the *Sheboygan Press*, February 14, 1914, April 17, 1916, and Horace Rublee's "Reminiscences of Sheboygan Falls," written in 1857, which appeared again in the *Sheboygan Press*, April 23, 1926. In turn, these were republished with some variations in the *Sheboygan Press*, April 29, 1927, August 25, 1934, and March 16, 1939.

<sup>2</sup> Among the founders of the Brook Farm was novelist Nathaniel Hawthorne.

<sup>3</sup> "Mr. Rublee's Reminiscences," p. 6.

<sup>4</sup> "Mr. Rublee's Reminiscences," p. 6.

<sup>5</sup> I intend to write in greater depth about the Rublee family and their descendants for an upcoming edition of *The Researcher*, as the family is not represented in Janice Hildebrand's, *They Were First* (Sheboygan Falls, WI.: SCHRC, 2003).

## Dad's Mustache Club

*The Sheboygan Press*  
January 14, 1935

Tom Fitzpatrick, 81, was the honored guest at a banquet of Dad's Mustache Club Sunday Evening. Mr. Fitzpatrick, who is the oldest member of the organization, told of his early experiences with mustaches, recalling the various styles from the old 'military' and 'handle bar' to the 'Charlie Chaplin', 'misplaced eyebrow' and present day 'excuse'.

"They used to say," said Mr. Fitzpatrick, "that the reason men raised mustaches was because they were too lazy or too unsteady to shave under their noses. There isn't much danger that those supported by the young whipper-snappers of today will be soupstrainers, and I have my doubts whether there is anything to back-up the common expression that they are cookie dusters."

Elmer Stein of this city and Herbert Ewig of Port Washington sang a duet entitled, "The Old Mustache." Eugene Stein entertained with a number of mustache stories. Ralph Feudner and Jake Verhage were among the other entertainers. Jake Gabrielse acted as toastmaster and gave a clog dance.

The next banquet is scheduled to take place in June. William Barrett was elected as the new president of the organization.

Tom Fitzpatrick is at right. His brother, Mike is at left and his sister, Sister Francis Xavier is at center.

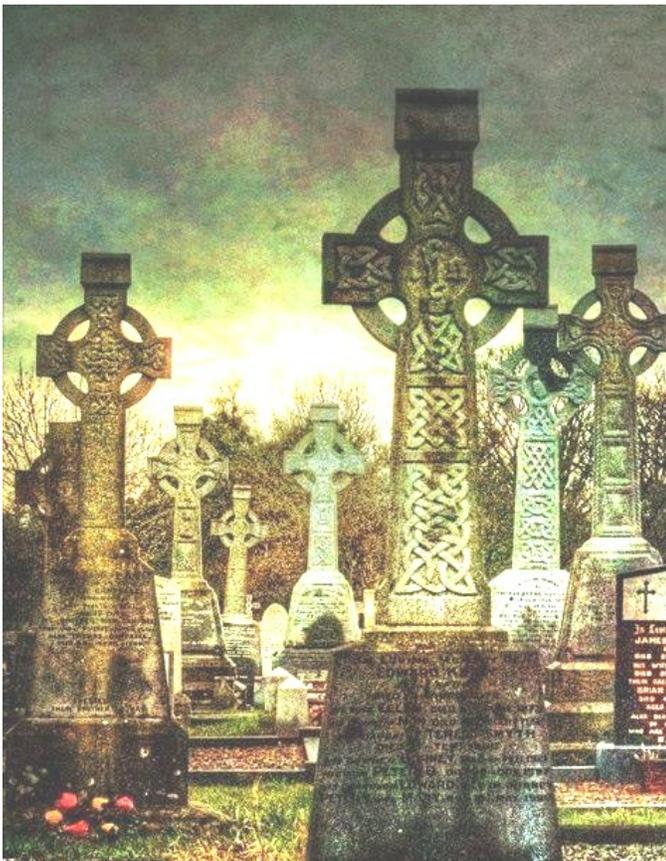


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In Irish legend, St. Patrick is credited with introducing the first Celtic cross. When shown a sacred stone marked with a circle representing the moon goddess, he made a mark of a Latin cross thru the circle and blessed the stone.

The Cross did not become a common symbol of Christianity until the 4th century. Images of the cross were in fact quite rare before the "discovery" of the "True Cross" promoted fragments of the "True Cross" as powerful relics.

The crosses were often decorated with a series of panels of traditional Celtic designs, or depictions of biblical scenes, stories, or historical events. Those with inscriptions were dedicated to the memory of certain individuals.

There are rarely records or evidence to explain the meaning of the specific knot work, spirals, key patterns and mazes used by the artist. The flowing lines and interwoven designs are often interpreted as the interconnectedness and continuity of life. Animal figures and foliage designs were also common.

A variety of Celtic crosses are found in cemeteries in Sheboygan County, mainly in the towns of Mitchell, Lyndon, Scott and Sherman.

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# 2014 *Annual Fundraising Campaign*

Very soon we'll launch our annual fundraising campaign.  
This year it's all about preservation, about saving what's truly important,  
about saving what's irreplaceable.

What if these rarities are not preserved? The answer is clear.  
Those links to our past will be irretrievably broken.

More than 4.8 billion artifacts are held in public trust by more than 30,000 archives, historical societies, libraries, museums, scientific research collections, and archaeological repositories in the United States, but **lack of funding** places a third of these items at risk of being lost.

History is not something obscure or unimportant. History plays a vital role in our everyday lives. We learn from our past in order to achieve greater influence over our future.

History serves as a model not only of who and what we are to be,  
we learn what to champion and what to avoid.

Everyday decision-making around the world is constantly based on what came before us.

Why?  
**Because history matters.**

In short, we need to remember, period.  
**And we need to act, without waiting for someone else to do it.**

So I ask you now —  
When your annual campaign request arrives in the mail-

Please support the  
Sheboygan County Historical Research Center generously.

Your history matters!