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# LINDEN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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## LARRY DALE & MANDY SCHULTZ ARE THE LATEST LINDEN CAR DEALER

Linden's newest business is located on the North edge of town on Highway 39. Larry Dale and Mandy Schultz operate a used car dealership in conjunction with their auto repair and convenience store farther down Franklin Street. Larry's Auto sales opened in February and so far has registered ten sales.



*Mandy and Larry Dale Schultz at their used car business on the North end of Franklin Street in Linden.*

The roots of this home grown business go back three generations to Dale Schultz who started a gas station and auto repair shop 54 years ago. Larry took over the business in 1979 and early this year Larry Dale took over the business which includes towing at all hours of the day and night, as well as the auto repair and convenience store. Larry and Jan Schultz own and operate a storage unit business next to the car lot.

Three licensed car salesmen, Larry Dale, and Larry Schultz, and Alan Gruenwald are ready to sell cars off the lot. It is the goal of Larry Dale to offer good cars at \$5,000 and under. The Schultz family have a long record of giving back to the community in many ways. Larry Dale and Mandy have been Linden

First Responders and Larry Dale is a member of the Linden Fire Department.

The Schultz car dealership is not the first one in Linden. In the early 1920's A. Wilkinson sold Studebaker cars; T.L. Edmunds was a Dodge dealer; the Lead City motor company (proprietors unknown) sold Ford and Buick autos; Billy and Ernest Carrow operated a car repair shop and Chevrolet dealership in downtown Linden in the 1920's and 1930's. Claire Christenson had a Chevrolet dealership in the late 1950's and early 1960's in Edmund. If you have any information or photos on the above car dealers, the Linden Historical Society would appreciate a copy.

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## **SCHULTZ, CONTINUED**

In addition Linden resident Dalen Rickard had a used car business in Mineral Point and Linden native, Melvin Rickard sold used cars in Cobb

The Carrow Chevrolet garage was located just down the street and adjacent to the current American Legion building. Earnest Carrow Senior was known by everyone as "Billy" and his business partner and son was called Earnest or Ernie. Ernie had one brother, Milford. Their Mother, Mary Amelia (Jewell) died when Ernie was eight years old.

According to a short story in our archives by Hobart Tredinnick, the Carrow garage may have been similar to the Schultz station in one respect—as a social gathering spot where the locals would gather to watch the two mechanics and pass the time. Hobart wrote, "At Carrow's garage, Billy and Ernie worked on all makes of cars. They eventually obtained the Chevrolet dealership. Anyone who would go down to Carrow's garage either to get gasoline or repairs to their car or just to see what was going on there would be greeted by Billy Carrow in a very nonchalant way. He was accustomed to the people who hung around to see the activities as well as visit. In the back end of the garage would be Ernie who was concentrating on his work. Ernie very energetically would be focused on the job he was doing. No time for small talk."

Hobart also remembered, "A large colorful billboard stood inside the fence below the junction of Galena Street and the Mifflin Road (County X today). The billboard read, 'The Most Beautiful Chevrolet in Chevrolet History.' The logo was in large bold letters and had a picture of a Chevrolet sedan with a four cylinder engine and two wheel brakes. It was a very successful and reliable automobile."

Linden Historical Society member Catherine Whitford recalls when her family bought a new 1939 Chevrolet from the Carrow garage. Catherine said that Ernie later sold and serviced appliances from a shop by Paull's store, across the street and just west of the Linden Methodist Church. He sold appliances until 1957 when he moved to Baraboo. Your newsletter editor and the late Al Spargo visited Ernie many years ago at his home in Baraboo. It was an interesting visit because Ernie still had a sharp mind with total recall of the past.

## **LINDEN HISTORICAL SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING FEATURED ANOTHER GOOD PROGRAM**

On Saturday, May 19 Joan Bennett gave a powerpoint presentation on mills of the Linden area. Joan recently completed her book, *The Mills of Iowa County*. Joan talked on and illustrated the Linden area mills including ledger pages from a 19th century mill in Linden township that produced flour from area farmers. The Tregidden mill, named after a village in Cornwall, was located on Mill Creek road near the Bloomfield and Diamond Grove neighborhoods. The ledger pages revealed many local names.

After the presentation there were many interesting comments and questions from those who attended. Information is still being sought by Joan on locating the actual mill site of the Welsh mill in southern Linden township, if you know the answer please contact the newsletter editor and I will pass it on to Joan.

In the business portion of the meeting two board members, Randy Baker and Jim Jewell were re-elected to two year terms. Our society greatly appreciates the use of the village hall meeting room for our meetings. Thank you village of Linden !

# IN MEMORIAM

## **Mary Ann (Crase) Raynoha**

Mary Ann was born in 1925 in Madison to Francis and Victor Crase and passed away April 3, 2018. In 1928 the family moved to a small farm near Dodgeville where she attended a one room country school. Mary Ann went to Dodgeville High School for two years until the family moved to Madison in 1941, where she graduated from Edgewood High School in 1943. Mary Ann married Stephen Raynoha, they were married 67 years until his death in 2013. After raising eight children Mary Ann not only returned to work but also graduated from Edgewood College. Mary Ann was a member of the Linden Historical Society. Her lasting contribution to our archives was an extensive genealogy book, *John And Elizabeth Jane (Rule) Crase*.

## **Jeanette (Fine) Reisen**

Jeanette (Fine) Reisen, age 91, of Kansas City, Missouri, formerly of Linden, passed away March 14, 2018. She was born August 19, 1926 in Linden, a daughter of Frank and Lydia Fine.

## **Dolores (Beerkircher) Griswold**

Dolores (Beerkircher) Griswold, age 93, of Livingston, WI, passed away on March 31, 2018. The daughter of William and Ruby Beerkircher, Dolores was born on October 8, 1924 in Linden. She married Theodore "Ted" Griswold in 1941.

## **Ernest Elmo Vial**

Ernest Elmo Vial, age 87, of Cottage Grove, WI, passed away on April 17, 2018. He was born on July 17, 1930 in Linden, son of Ortis and Yvette (Holmes) Vial.

## **Jack A. Gilman**

Jack A. Gilman, age 78, of Linden, passed away on July 6, 2018 at his home, following a long painful battle with cancer. He married Diane Severtson on July 6, 1963. Jack was truly a jack of all trades, farming, working the Linden mine, road construction and working for the Linden township before retiring in 2003. Jack was a friend to everyone he met and a loyal member of the Linden Historical Society.

# ACQUISITIONS TO OUR ARCHIVES

Henry Peterson folder of letters and documents relating to 1930 era patents he received. Peterson lived North of Edmund. Received from Mineral Point Archives.

Two Maps: Early Mineral Point mining map and 1870 map of Iowa County from Tim and Barbara McElhatton.

Book: *Henry Dodge, Governor of The Original Territory of Wisconsin*, by William Salter. Jim Jewell.

Books: Two volume set, *Memoirs of Iowa County*, published 1913. Jim Jewell

## THE FUTURE OF LINDEN'S PAST

The Linden Historical Society board of directors has agreed to start a building fund for a future home for the archives of the Society. The archives are now located in the home of the society President, and are open to anyone. It is convenient for the current President and newsletter editor who protects the collection with passion 24 hours a day.

At some point in the future, however, a new home for the archives with a location in Linden will be needed for the next generation to carry

on. A new home for the archives could offer regular visitor hours, allow for exhibit displays, room for meetings and more.

We do not have a site or building chosen at the present time, but the board feels the first step is to start to raise funds now for a future building. The seed for the future home of the Linden Historical Society is the \$850 memorial money from the late Sarah Jewell. Donations can be sent to our treasurer with a note directing the money to the LHS building fund.

## MC ELHATTON CONNECTIONS TO LINDEN AND LOST GROVE

LHS members Tim and Barbara McElhatton visited Linden and the area in July in an on-going quest to document the family history. Tim's great-great-grandfather, Daniel McElhatton, enlisted in the civil war at the age of 41, along with his oldest son Daniel and were part of the 11th Wisconsin infantry, also know locally as the "Farmers Guards." Sadly, Daniel McElhatton Sr., was one of several soldiers killed in a skirmish at Fort Blakely, Alabama on the last day of the war.

Daniel McElhatton Sr., and his wife Elizabeth emigrated from Ireland in the 1840's and he was a miner in Linden in the Lost Grove neighborhood. They raised a large family here, and after his death Elizabeth moved the family to Mineral Point where she passed away in April, 1889. Our archives are sadly lacking in any writings or memories of life in the Lost Grove community from any era including modern times.

If any of our readers can help with written memories or photos of the Lost Grove school both the McElhattons and the Linden Historical Society would be most appreciative.



*Tim McElhatton and LHS President Jim Jewell outside the Linden Methodist Church which was part of a brief tour for Tim and his wife Barb who live in Milwaukee*

# PIONEER PROFILE OF CAPTAIN JAMES CHENOWETH OF THE LINDEN MINING COMPANY

The earliest days of mining in Iowa County were primitive with miners in groups of two or more taking the lead out with windlass & bucket. When they hit the water level they typically walked away to another prospect.

The first large mine, operated by capital from a group of investors in Pittsburg, Pa., was called The Linden Mining Company which operated their mine starting in the 1850's. The company owned several tracts of land both within the village and township of Linden.

The company was run locally by Captain James Chenoweth, born 1802 in Cornwall. James and his family first show up in the 1850 census when they lived in Mineral Point. The family consisted of his wife Elizabeth and their three children: Louise, Elizabeth and Joseph ranging in age from 10-16, all born in Cornwall.

Starting in the early 1850's James often wrote long letters in the local Mineral Point *Weekly Tribune* extolling the inexhaustible riches that he believed were deeper underground. At this time he worked in the Dreadnought mine located in the vicinity of the current Point grocery store.

Around 1855 James was hired by the Pittsburg investors to superintend the Linden Mining Company they had formed. The group bought a property from the Heathcock family that had produced lead for 20 years continuously and was estimated to have yielded 20,000 tons of lead. This incredible deposit of lead and zinc would eventually stretch over one mile long from west to east.

The Linden mining company was operated entirely on the Tribute system brought here from Cornwall by Cornish miners. Basically what this means is that the men were independent contractors who leased part of the mine for a percentage of the ore brought to surface rather than a daily wage. Once or twice a year Capt. Chenoweth would preside over an auction on what was called Sett day when the leaders of the Tribute teams of 4-6 men would bid on "pitches" or areas of the mine that would become their lease. The Tribute teams were responsible for all their expenses such as mining tools & repairs, powder, candles, etc. Captain James would accept the best bid for the company just as it was done in Cornwall.

The Linden Mining Co. hired a mining engineer, Nicholas Vivian, who hailed from Redruth, Cornwall to visit and write a report on the Linden Lead mine they owned for the benefit of all those invested.

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## **CAPTAIN CHENOWETH, CONTINUED**

Vivian wrote a detailed 12 page assessment after a December, 1856 tour of the mine and he commented on the Tribute system in use, “but all has been taken away on Tribute, no wages having been paid on any part of it—not even to drive the adit.” Adit is a Cornish word which means drainage tunnel which in this case was used to partially drain the water from the workings. The area of ground was situated on a hill and the adit helped drain water into a nearby stream. Pumps were used below the adit level. Normally work in a Cornish mine that involved sinking a shaft, putting in an adit, or any non-mineral project was called Tut work or contract work where miners would bid by the foot or fathom to do the job.

In 1856, the Linden Mining Company put forth a proposal to the Wisconsin legislature for the use of \$30,000 in public funds to sink a test shaft deep into the lower magnesian formation. In today’s money that would be \$831,364. The proposal to appropriate the money for a deep mining test never made it out of committee. Earlier geological surveys had rendered reports that were either inconclusive or unfavorable to the possibility of ores much farther down. I believe that the deep mining test proposal was initiated by Capt. Chenoweth.

In May, 1860 Capt. Chenoweth in one of his letters to the Mineral Point newspaper stated, “I would suggest that there should be formed a common stock of 150,000 dollars for the purpose of sinking a shaft through the various strata, say 600 feet, and levels extended in such directions as may be thought practicable that the mineral resources may be properly tested.” Capt. James envisioned a Mineral Point to Linden landscape akin to Cornwall. Further down in his letter he wrote, “I would say that if this plan is properly carried out, ‘ere long the pathway from Mineral Point to Linden may be well shown by steam engines, etc.”

In another letter to the local paper, Capt. James used the old Cornish motto, One and All to make his point when he summed up, “I hope we will say, one and all, as citizens of the state of Wisconsin, we will push forward and develop the mineral resources of this prosperous state. I would urge this upon the citizens of Wisconsin to sink, explore and develop the mineral resources which are inexhaustible and which are underneath our present workings.”

Not everyone agreed with Captain James and his detractors debated the issue in the pages of the local papers and he often used his native Cornwall in defense. One example was when he said, “There are greater prospects of mineral wealth in Wisconsin than there ever was in Cornwall, at our present depth, but the Cornish mines being thoroughly tested and properly developed have laid open fields of labor and opened up the richest mines that are in the known world.”

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## CAPTAIN CHENOWETH, CONTINUED



*This is a group of unidentified Linden miners who would have worked for one of the larger company owned mines in Linden, after the Linden Mining Company closed.*

Nicholas Vivian, the Cornish mining engineer in his report wrote, "I am glad to find that you have engaged Capt. James Chenoweth as your mining agent. I consider him to be a good, energetic, judicious man, and have no doubt that had you availed yourselves of his services when you came into possession of the Heathcock range, you would have had a dividend paying mine before this time."

Capt. Chenoweth's wife Elizabeth likely died sometime in the 1850's as she does not show up on the 1860 census that lists James and his children in Linden. Captain James Chenoweth died in late December, 1860 and was buried in Linden. I have not located his grave and cannot be sure if he was buried in the old Peddler's Creek or the new cemetery, now in use, which was started in 1860.

## QUERY ON DE WITT FAMILY

Any information on the De Witt family? My ancestor was in Linden for the 1860 census. They may have also been members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Reply to: Michelle Schultz, 662 Louisburg Road, Hazel Green, WI 53811. Email: [newcovenant662@yahoo.com](mailto:newcovenant662@yahoo.com)

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**\*\*\* PHOTO AND DOCUMENT DONATIONS ALWAYS APPRECIATED \*\*\***

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If you have any photos or documents on Linden area history we would love to make a copy for our archives. Photos and documents can be scanned and returned to you if desired. Contact either the President or Vice-President listed below. Membership in the Linden Historical Society is \$10 per year, lifetime membership \$100. Make check payable to Linden Historical Society and send to Treasurer Robin Lindner.

### **HOW TO CONTACT US**

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### **LINDEN HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

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