

The Garland City Gazette

September
2021

The Ashland Historical Society Newsletter

Volume 4
Issue 3

BEASER SCHOOL

1899 — 1910

By Dorie Traaholt

Beaser School began being built in 1899 and was partly finished in 1900. It is built of what was then locally quarried brownstone and yellow brick with a brownstone arch over the main entrance. In 1900 the first four rooms facing Beaser Avenue, the basement underneath, the halls and towers were finished. The first day of school was in the fall of 1900. In 1901 the four rooms facing the alley were finished. During the first year a wooden shanty was erected to hold the wood used to heat the building and a heavy carpet hung in front of the boiler to prevent it from freezing at night and an almost 24 hour janitor shift was necessary to keep the building somewhat comfortable.

The school was named for Martin Beaser. He was born in Erie County, New York. He left New York and went to Lake Superior via Mackinaw by a steamer, then to Ontonagon in a small sailing vessel. He was in the mercantile business. After arriving at La Pointe in about 1856, he came over the ice in a dog train along with others to Ashland and located here permanently. Beaser is given credit for giving Ashland its name. In 1866, he drowned in the bay while attempting to come to Ashland in an open boat from Bayfield. He is buried on Madeline Island at La Pointe.

Beaser School was one of the city's neighborhood



Beaser School.

schools. When the other city schools needed more room, students began getting bussed in from other areas. Because the bussed students could not go home for lunch, school lunches were initiated. The children would come to the office in the morning, money in hand a buy a lunch ticket. A milk break was also given to all students.

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President's Corner



With Tory Strohane

{ THANK YOU! }

As I write this article, the nights are cooling off after an exceptionally warm and pleasant summer, sans the rain we needed. The museum has had a steady stream of visitors even with only being open on Fridays, Saturdays and Mondays.

Memberships have also remained steady, something we appreciate very much, as well as the memorials and donations, which help us to stay open. We continue to be very grateful for all the support.

Over the summer months, our displays have been enjoyed by local and out of town visitors and we have been busy performing family research for folks with connections to Ashland and the surrounding area.

The all school reunion will be held next summer, but there were several class reunions held this summer, the AHS classes of 1951, 1961 and 1976, to name a few with some being more informal than others. An abbreviated version of Bay Days was successfully held in July and the mural tours are back in operation and will be until September 11th. The newest mural was dedicated in July and is on the east side of the Stagecoach Bar (formerly Cabbie's).

As you look forward to the fall colors and on to winter, remember to renew your membership at the end of the year. Memberships follow the calendar year January 1st through December 31st. If you receive the Gazette, then you know your membership is up to date.

{ AHSM Board }

Tory Strohane	<i>President</i>
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Jeff Cate	Mary Gruper
Rita Kovach	Bob Klamerus
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Glenn Samuelson	

Update!

The new email for the Ashland Historical Society is

ashlandhistory54806@gmail.com.

We have been working on the web page and it is currently under construction.

If you need to contact us, please use the new email address. We continue to be open **Friday-Saturday** and **Monday** from **10am to 3pm.**

Our phone number is 715-682-4911, but messages are only checked on days we are open, so the email address is the best way to contact us unless you call on the days we are open.



Memorials, Donors & Honorees



June—September 2021

In Remembrance Of:	By:
Ray & Libby Rikkola	Deborah & Patrick Davis
Leon “Mike” Culligan	Kathy Culligan
Richard Klamerus	Jim & Nancy Daoust
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Brinker & Kull Families	Eugene & Cheryl Brinker
Jane Tolliver	James & Elizabeth Chambers
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Donors
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Eugene & Cheryl Brinker
Jack & Julie Coy
Meg O’Brien

Ashleigh Wadzinski

Newsletter Editor

Cruciverbalist

In addition to this quarter’s donors, our newsletter editor would like to thank the following from *TheNounProject.com* for the use of this issue’s graphics: “Star” by Ethelia Lung, “Light Bulb” by Michel Faz Fajes, and “Location” by supalerk laipawat.

BEASER SCHOOL

– continued from Page 1

The school had traveling teachers for music, art, and Physical Education. The traveling teachers came once a week to the classroom and the classroom teacher would carry out these classes on the other days. Each traveling teacher had a home base in one of the schools. The art teacher's home base was in the basement at Beaser next to the furnace room. When coal deliveries were made it wasn't always pleasant.

Beaser Park had a playground with one swing set, one slide and one merry-go-round which was kid propelled. Teachers took turns supervising the playground. Across the street was a baseball field, which was used at times for P. E. classes. On the side of the older part of the building was a spiral fire escape. There are many stories to be told about the fire escape! There were bats in one of the towers and a bell, which they say came from the old high school, but before that a hand bell was used.

on duty for a long time, but students were also crossing guards. This was a job they took seriously and were proud to be wearing an orange vest and holding a red flag to direct traffic.

The building was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1980. Today it is home to CESA 12 and other small businesses.



Early Beaser student outing.

On the corner of Beaser and 6th Street was the Corner Store and many of the kids would frequent it often. Kids walking to and from school would be escorted across the street by crossing guards. Letty Goeltz was

MOVERS & SHAKERS

EUGENE A. SHORES

By Mary Gruper

Eugene was born in New Marlborough, MA on August 14, 1845, the son of Eliphlet Eno and Amanda (Hawley) Shores. At a young age he went to Illinois to work on his uncle's farm. It was in Illinois that he met John Canfield who owned a lumber mill in Manistee, MI. John Canfield asked Eugene to go to Manistee and work in a clerical position in Canfield's store.

In 1861 Eugene joined the 20th Regiment, Company I of the Indiana Infantry. He ranked in as a musician and ranked out as a sergeant in 1865. After the Civil War he returned to Manistee and was employed by Canfield. While he was in Manistee he also got involved in the insurance business.

Together, Emma and Eugene had seven children, six who were born in Manistee and the youngest born in Ashland.

In 1879, Shores became a walking boss in the woods for E.G. Filer, another lumber mill owner in Manistee. He came to Ashland 1882 on behalf of Canfield and Filer. He was buying and looking up land for them to purchase.



Shore Block, 401 West 2nd Street, Ashland, WI.

After coming to Ashland, Eugene established the Northern National Bank of Ashland in 1887. He was the first president of the bank and continued in that capacity. In 1888 he erected the Shores Block (the 400 block of Main Street) as home for the bank. It was the first brick block of any size in Ashland. In 1888 he made Ashland his permanent home.

In 1889 the Shores Lumber Company was incorporated. The mill that would be put on the site was brought to Ashland following disassembly of the Cohasset Lumber Co. in Muskegon, MI. After surviving a union riot, the Shores Lumber Mill burned in 1896 with a total loss of \$487,000 with the insurance covering only \$350,000.

In 1892, Emma purchased 6 lots of property from



Eugene Shores

On June 30, 1867, Eugene married Emma Warren Calef. Emma was a descendant of Enoch and Nathan Hale and General Warren, who fell at Bunker Hill. She was a member of the Daughters of the Revolution.

Emeline Vaughn on the corner of Seventh Avenue and 7th Street West. In 1894, when the Shores mansion Elmhurst was completed, it was one of the most exquisite homes ever built in Ashland. It was razed in 1952.

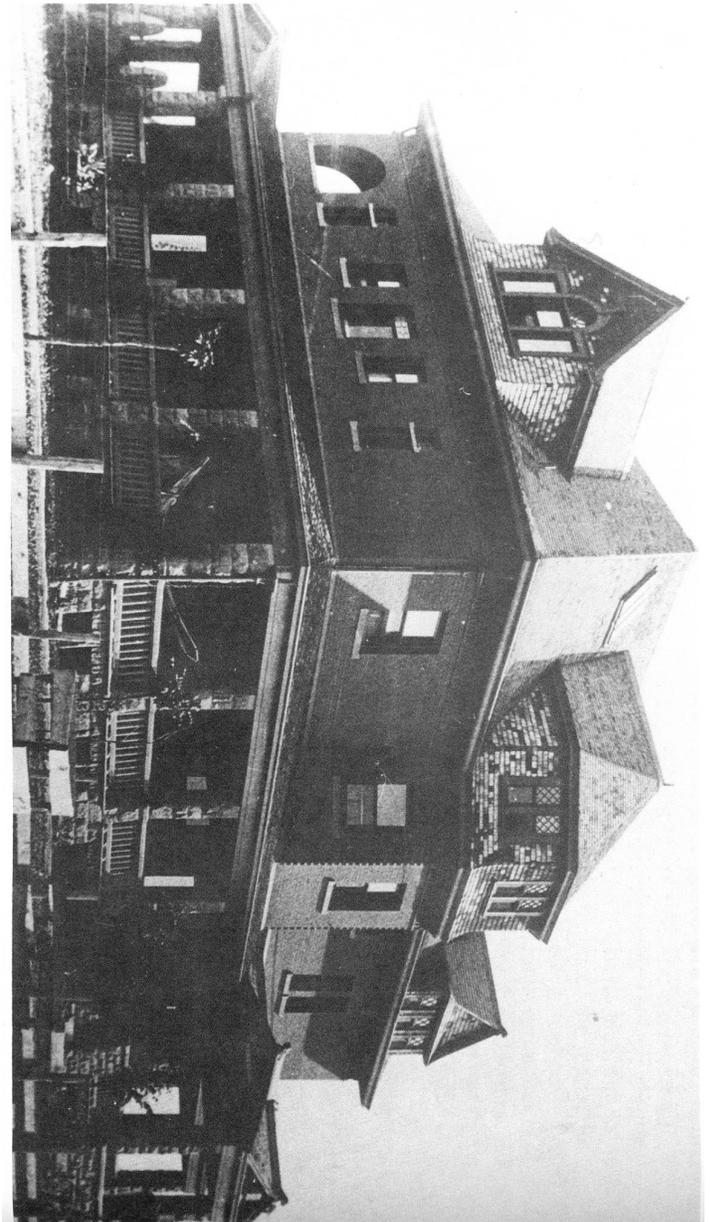


Emma Shores

The Shores family was living in Tacoma, WA in 1910. Eugene was pursuing the lumbering and insurance businesses. By 1920, Eugene and Emma were back in Ashland and living in the mansion.

On April 18, 1921 Eugene passed away; the cause of death was heart blockage. He was the G.A.R State Commander for several years, so he is buried in Arlington Cemetery in Arlington, Virginia.

Emma was involved in the temperance movement, women's suffrage and was instrumental in bringing the Red Cross to Ashland with meetings held in the mansion. Emma passed away on October 22, 1930 and is also buried in Arlington Cemetery.



The Shores mansion was located at the corner of 7th Avenue and 7th Street west. it was torn down in the early 1950s, but the museum was gifted with two of its doors that we hope to display in the near future.



The Bright Spot

With Jim Goeltz



Ben Metternich arrived in Ashland sometime in 1935 from Wausau. He took over as manager of the old paper mill overlooking the Bay on 24th Street East on what is now Lake Shore Drive and employed many Ashlanders. The mill made paper products out of pulpwood, which was floated down from Canada on huge rafts encircled by huge logs chained together and guided by tug boats.

In 1936 Metternich, an avid sports follower, began awarding a trophy to the top student athlete from DePadua and Ashland high schools. There was much interest in who would walk away with a trophy. Of course, no one locally made ‘book’ on who might win. There were a few years when I had my doubts about the recipients and a couple of years when I thought some shenanigans went on. Let’s start with DePadua in 1950.

Jack ‘Bones’ Hulmer was a senior at the catholic school that year. In his four-year career as a basketball player, Jack amassed a total of over 1100 points. As a senior, he scored 502 points, eclipsing the 407 record of Dick Axness of Ashland high in 1946. I presumed that Hulmer would be an automatic to receive the Metternich Trophy. Not so. At DePadua’s senior awards day Ben Metternich presented the trophy to the Class of 1950. What a surprise. Jack went on to play for Superior State (now UW-Superior).

The 1941 winner at Ashland high was announced as Chet Olson. This was a surprise to me. Now Chet was a good athlete, he played three sports, but I personally

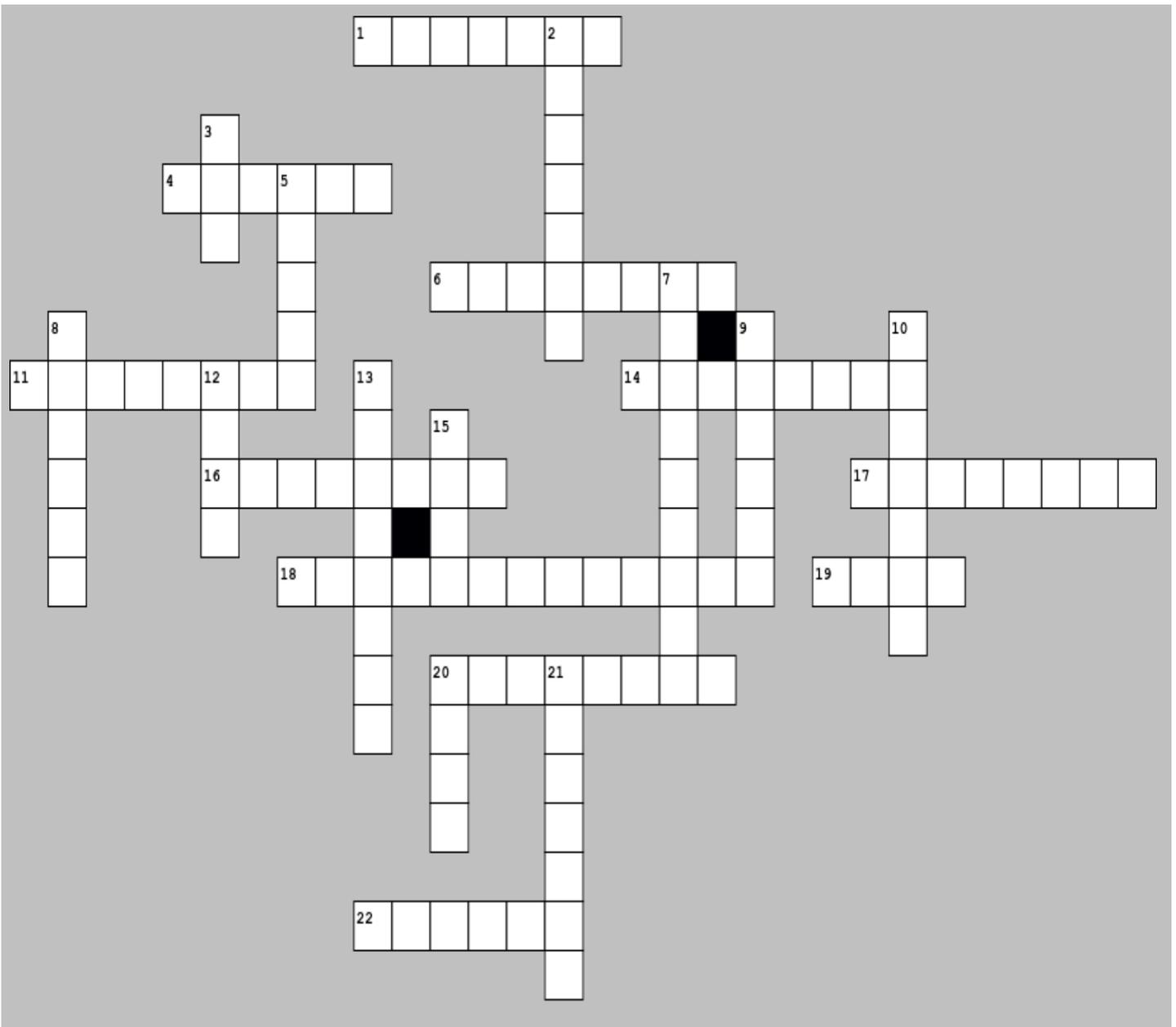
thought that Harley Bassford, Sam Armstrong, John Drolson, Larry Mathews, or Rollie Vocelka were better athletes. Metternich maintained academic performance was the key factor as he proclaimed that the teachers made the selection. He just presented the trophy.

One day, Ben Metternich made it clear to me that the teachers selected the winner based on academic accomplishments. Bob Bond was presented the trophy in 1948. Bob played football and basketball, plus tennis and track. Coach Melvin said that Larson was the next best center he coached in Ashland, but Dick Axness was the best. Don was on the honor roll, participated in plays, the Nativity, Ted Mesang’s band as a bassoonist, the choir, the Glee Club, and the orchestra. Don’s father, Walt, who was vice-president of the power company, had a meeting with Ben Metternich. Before the meeting began Metternich told him he could make his son an all star if he did certain things. Mr. Larson walked out of the meeting. My take: the teachers selected Don Larson because of his academics. Metternich, however, put Bob Bond’s name on the trophy.

Tad Bretting won in 1954. Tad’s teammate, Jack Brose, also a good athlete and student, was also given the trophy by Metternich. My take: Jack’s dad worked at the paper mill for Metternich. Several years ago when I was doing a series on Metternich Trophy winners while doing freelancing for The Press, I asked Jack for an interview. I was declined.

QUARTERLY CROSSWORD

By Ashleigh Wadzinski



Crossword Key

Find our crossword key on our website:

www.ashlandwihistory.com/crossword

Mission Statement

The Ashland Historical Society is a non-profit volunteer organization that promotes the appreciation of local history and community pride through a visual connection to the past. We carefully curate and preserve a vast collection of memorabilia, artifacts, articles, stories, and traditions awhile functioning as an educational resource for the community.

Enjoy crosswords? Past editions are available online for print. Head to our website above to find them! Our newsletters are digitally archived at www.ashlandwihistory.com/newsletter

Across

1. 20th Regiment, Company I of the _____ Infantry.
4. Ben Metternich arrived from here.
6. What position did John Canfield offer to Eugene Shores?
11. A city in Michigan.
14. The Shores Mansion.
16. Eugene's father.
17. Often known by the nickname Mighty Mac.
18. Eugene was born in this state.
19. The 1941 winner of the Metternich Trophy.
20. Where was the art teacher's base?
22. For whom was Beaser School named?

Down

2. Where was Martin Beaser born?
3. Daughters of the Revolution.
5. The number of children Eugene and Emma had.
7. A Military Cemetery in Virginia.
8. General Warren died on this hill.
9. The first brick block in Ashland.
10. A ship.
12. Don Larson participated in this club.
13. Which lumber mill was disassembled?
15. Beaser School is now home to this agency.
20. What lived in the tower?
21. Emma purchased lots from _____.

Thank you to
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for printing this
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Ashland Historical Society Membership Form

Membership includes family or single member and includes the quarterly "Garland City Gazette" newsletter and 10% off of Museum Gift Shop purchases.
Donations, Memorials and Honoring individuals always appreciated.

Member Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

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Membership is \$15 per calendar year.

Membership fee: Donation: Memorial/Honoring (Circle One)

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