

Heritage Happenings

Archives Office

May 2018

Lest We Forget...

Theresa's April history (Mother Gabriel) left off settling Father Joseph in his parsonage and her move to Manitowoc. Her annals continue: *The day after the Feast of St. Peter and Paul (June 30, 1868—150 years ago this June) a farmer took me back to Manitowoc...to the Roemer house where in the basement, school was yet arranged by a lady teacher before (known as "Sister Veronica"). In the second story of one side a Finnish family lived and the other side Mrs. Emmer...Sister Nothburga's mother.* (NOTE: Emma Nothburga was 22 years old at the



time. She was received into the community in 1872 at age 26. Here she is some time before 1912)

My room was on the third story with a table, 3 chairs, bed, dishes just enough for one person.....School was to begin the first Monday in July (July 6). I had no spare time but go to work. 40 pupils were the first weeks attendance, quite a few, without a help....ages 6—16.



Location of the Roemer House

Sister Nicolata Engeldinger wrote the following about the location of the Roemer House where Theresa was to teach.

"At the bottom of pg. 22—St. Boniface Centennial Bulletin 1853-1953—it mentions the exact place of our convent in Manitowoc. Ida Kessen told me: I remember the place because we passed it every time we shopped down town. Once I went with someone to have a ? article repaired. I remembered going up the steps and into the room but I do not know how the Sisters or pupils got to the basement unless there was a door in the back. The house impressed me because it was so tall and narrow. The basement windows were partly underground. The location was at corner 9th and Washington St. in Manitowoc where the



Glander Studio now is. The above drawing identifies the house as a Harness Shop. This is a drawing I made of my recollection of the first house used by our Sisters to teach in. It was the old Roemer house." On the left is the Glander building as it now appears.



Where did they first live?

A history of Father Joseph Fessler states: *In January, 1869, the other women came and joined Theresa in Manitowoc. The little community of women moved to Manitowoc where a combination convent and school building was constructed for them by June, 1869.*

QUESTION: *Where did they live between January 1869 and June 1869? Sr. Nicolata's source writes: The convent faced Hancock St. The back faced Marshall St. It was the lot directly west of the present court house. My Aunt, Sr. Cassiana, used to bring food etc. to the Sisters there because they were so poor. Sr. Cassiana applied for admittance in that building. She told of the bare rooms and her fear as she sat on a chair waiting for a Sister to speak to. Ida Kessen (source) lived next door of the convent on Hancock. Could "Little Nazareth" be the home they moved to in June 1869!! And this one in January??*



This month May 20 is...Pentecost!



This gift of poetry was found in Sister Sean Marie Tobin's folder.

"Gifts"

O artist of heaven and earth

Look down upon my strength and worth.

Touch my soul to open wide

And share with all the beauty inside.

Let my smile warm the lost,

Give my love, a PENTECOST

A love for life, a joy

With others I dare employ

A leaf, a dewdrop each day anew,

A means of creativity to insue.

Each day's color, my life does paint

Until my soul has grown quite faint.

Grant me the freedom to always use

The gifts I have for those you choose

To honor you, my God and all.

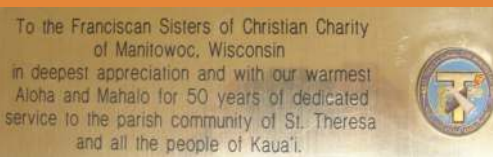
In Spring, in Summer, and in Fall.

SEAN

Sharing Artifacts this month centers around awards and recognitions bestowed upon us as The Franciscan Sisters of Christian Charity. They come in all shapes, sizes, materials. Some of these awards are presently on display in the Heritage Display Room back corner. Here are some of the twelve that have thus far been photographed, documented, and catalogued.



1. 100 Years of Service to St. Francis de Sales School — Manitowic 1902-2002
2. Catholic Memorial High School—Alumni of the year 2001-2002



3. Aloha & Mahalo—50 years of dedicated service—St. Theresa, Kekaha.

Necrology Reflections Update

Over the years, historical reflections have been written after a Sister dies. Sister Roselani did these for several years. Now Sr. Natalie's Wake Reflection is placed in these binders. The archive goal is to include at least some personal data on all our deceased Sisters along with a photo if available. Sister Delia has compared the Necrology



Book with the Reflection Albums and identified those Sisters without any reflection paper. She also alphabetized the Necrology Book by last name making it easier for visitors to find their relatives. Now the task is writing up data on the missing Sisters.



Heritage Artifacts and Their Histories

Over time paper numbers have dried up and fallen off labeled articles. Many of our artifacts have histories connected to them which are quite interesting. Each artifact is now being photographed, catalogued, numbered with a finding aide code, and then added to a blue binder photo album with a short history. Long histories will be in a separate binder, filed by code number. Here you see the first code on the Clarks Mills "Shanty".

PA-0001 stands for Photo Artifact—0001.

