

Heritage Happenings

Lest We Forget...

Unless the Lord build the house, in vain do we labor.

In HH—March preparations for the building of a new stone convent began. Plans for a five story building that would run north to south were sketched out by Adolph Druiding. (See February 2022 HH) The plans were for just one wing initially and then



others to be added as the congregation grew. Land had been cleared from the property that had been purchased and a rough, bumpy road finally led from the main road and could now be utilized to haul materials to the site. Ground breaking took place on November 23, 1872. Anyone who wanted to was invited to attend. Bring your shovel!!



Excavation began at once. Since it was easier to haul materials in winter by sleigh, anyone who owned a wagon or sled helped to move materials but it sure wasn't easy given the hilly nature of the land. Getting huge rock boulders down that front hill and then up, up, up to the site wasn't easy for the horse drawn wagons or sleds loaded with huge rocks.



Finally the foundation was laid. Try to imagine how deep that original foundation must have been, how thick the supporting walls of stone were. Now the building could start to go up.

On the bottom of the cornerstone a space was carved that would hold this metal box...the type of "time capsule" used in



1873. Inside the box they placed 16 coins, a paper booklet, and 3 pieces of paper money: 10 cent, 15 cent, and 50 cent paper. The paper booklet was too fragile to identify a title.



On July 17, 1873 the Manitowoc Pilot announced: "The cornerstone of the Nunnery will be laid next Sunday July 23. As it is somewhat difficult to walk to this place in such heat as we have now, there will be ready at the Catholic church corner of Main and Marshall St. vehicles from the livery stable, to bring our honored quests to their beautiful place." The "honored quests" were the Sisters home for the summer: Sisters Gabriella, Coletta, Odelia, Seraphica, Francis, etc. More were probably there as on August 2, just one week later, 10 candidates were received into Novitiate and 4 Novices professed their vows. What a thrill to be able to attend this momentous occasion...their new Motherhouse begins!!

Sleuthing in the Archives—the Remembrances Binders



The February issue of HH began with eulogies not done on Sisters deceased before June 1979. Completed thus far: Sisters whose name began with “A”: 59 eulogies. Sister Paula has completed Sisters whose names began with “B”: 32 Eulogies with photos for 12. Sisters whose names began with “C”: 54 eulogies. Photos still need to be checked on. Sister Marcolette has volunteered to start work on Sisters whose name begins with “D”. With this issue of HH, 12 “B” Sisters are featured:

1. Sr. Bartholomew Lemberger—April 9, 1948
2. Sr. Basilia Konop—December 16, 1956
3. Sr. Beata Warneck—November 8, 1973
4. Sr. Beatrix Groessel—March 24, 1950
5. Sr. Benjamin Eriksen—August 19, 1973
6. Sr. Berchmans Helf—January 7, 1932
7. Sr. Bernetta Brislen—April 8, 1976
8. Sr. Bernice Geimer—April 14, 1924
9. Sr. Bertram Gerber—April 18, 1972
10. Sr. Blaise Schlaefel—April 13, 1974
11. Sr. Borgia Marten—July 1, 1941
12. Sr. Borromeo Cerletty—April 28, 1956



Pictures left to right:

Top Row: 1—4

Middle row: 5—8

Bottom Row: 9—12



The World Gets Smaller Everyday! Email March 4, 2022

Dear Venerable Sr Caritas Strodthoff, as a local historian, I have some questions for you. Could you please tell me the date of entry into your Order and the date of profession for:

1. Sr. M. Gonzaga Leineweber Born: July 18, 1855 Died: May 2, 1912 Manitowoc.
2. Sr. M. Augustine Leineweber Born: July 25, 1842 Died: February 25, 1905 Manitowoc Perhaps with a photo and what the sister worked as at your place?

Thank you. Josef Engelke *Ortsheimatpfleger von Duderstadt-Nesselröden*



Nesselroden, Germany



I asked myself: *WHO is Josef Engelke? How did he find me?* I checked with Father Uwe (my German translator) who told me: Josef is the historian for Nesselroden. Uwe had contacted him about a translation done on Sister Gonzaga who was from Nesselroden. Turns out Sister Bonaventure Engelke (German Sister from Nesselroden) was Josef’s great-grandfather’s sister! Four German Sisters came from Nesselroden: Eugene Engelhard, Clara Hunold, Bonaventure Engelke, Gonzaga Leineweber. Josef now wants news on all four of these Sisters. Uwe plans to meet with him March 28th, when “we will visit Lindau, Gieboldehausen, Rollshausen and ... Nesselröden. The next day I will visit Dingelbe, Dinklar and Blumenthal ... to take photos of the churches (and the archives in Hildesheim and Stade). The Sister schools are everywhere destroyed, but not in Dinklar.” It sounds like Uwe plans to publish a book on the German Sisters!! He waves at all of us on the selfie taken by Sr. Marie Kolbe whom he met in Rome last week!! ...small world!..an exciting connection!