

MERRILL S. & S. B. SOCIETY AND LADIES' AUXILIARY

The Merrill Social and Sick Benefit Society grew out of the local branch of the Old Sons of Herodan Lodge which went bankrupt in July 1912. The 39 remaining members gave up their interests in the \$2,000 brick building on Grand Avenue owned by the organization in order the new society might be incorporated. August Braun, Sr., Mike Shape, August T. Heldt, and Richard E. Runke were the incorporators.

The present membership is 206. It is strictly a local organization, paying both sickness and funeral benefits and having a social side as well as its benefit feature.

The present officers are:

- Frank Fleischfresser, past president
- Kurt Maas, president
- Fred Heiler, vice president
- John H. McCarthy, secretary
- Elmer Howland, treasurer.
- The charter members were: Mike Shape
- Wm. G. Smith
- John Dettenthaler
- Theodore Heldt
- Wm. A. Burns
- Herman Schmoldt
- Wm. E. Fredericks
- L. Braun
- A. J. Braun
- August Braun, Sr.
- Louis Leidiger
- Ernst Leidiger
- Fred Treloir
- Aug. Heldt, Jr.
- Edward Heldt
- R. B. Brunke
- Ernst Lange
- Fred Krajewski
- Herman Walthers, Sr.
- Chas. Hankwitz
- Louis Joch
- George Karvel
- Wm. Betka
- Wm. Groth
- Richard Baade
- Otto Plautz
- Chas. Anderson
- Ben Anderson
- Emil Justman
- Emil Karnitz
- Julius Gromol
- John Krueger
- Herman Hessell
- John Wirth
- Emil E. Knorr
- Frank Beer
- Joseph Fisher
- Gust Neuman

The Ladies Auxiliary of the Merrill Social and Sick Benefit Society was organized April 17, 1926.

The following officers were chosen:

- President—Mrs. Del Lussier
- Vice-President—Joe Pfister
- Secretary—Mrs. Fred Brandt
- Treasurer—John McCarthy
- Officers for 1934 are:
- President—Mrs. Wm. Kemp
- Vice-Pres.—Mrs. R. Dorfeschmidt
- Secretary—Mrs. Max Hoeckendorf
- Secretary—Mrs. Harry Seger

The Charter members:

- Mrs. Elmer Blomquist
- Mrs. Leo Schreiber
- Mrs. Max Hoeckendorf
- Mrs. E. H. Howland
- Mrs. Fred Brandt
- Mrs. Henry Schultz
- Mrs. Emil Dorfeschmidt
- Mrs. Albert Litkey
- Mrs. Edward Zankrow
- Mrs. Harry Steinbeck
- Mrs. August Euler
- Mrs. Harry DeVall
- Mrs. Neil Benson
- Mrs. Frank Fleischfresser
- Mrs. Chas Kubasta
- Mrs. Frank Taylor
- Mrs. Wm. Frelberg
- Mrs. Ed Grob
- Mrs. Rich. Dorfeschmidt
- Mrs. Ted Welach
- Mrs. John Bauman
- Mrs. Wm. Detert
- Mrs. Geo. Plautz
- Mrs. Wm. Kemp
- Mrs. Wm. Sukow
- Mrs. Herman Brandt
- Mrs. Otto Nicklaus
- Mrs. Chas Radzke
- Mrs. Theo. Bauman
- Mrs. E. H. McCarthy
- Mrs. Joe Pfister
- Mrs. Earl Smith
- Mrs. Geo. Thill
- Mrs. Del Lussier
- Mrs. Herman Seiske
- Mrs. Wm. Litkey
- Mrs. Orz Ellsworth
- Mrs. Tom Norlach
- Mrs. Frank Cotey
- Mrs. Frank Cotey
- Mrs. Ben Gipple
- Mrs. Robt. Badesau
- Mrs. Frank Beranek



HENRY COETS, H. and his good' wife, who are among the highly respected old-time residents of this section of country, and well known as successful agriculturists.

HISTORY OF ROCK FALLS ROD AND GUN CLUB

A group of sportsmen and citizens at the invitation of Charles Fowler met at the Rock Falls town hall September 29, 1927. E. A. Krembs was elected temporary chairman of this meeting and W. H. AuBuchon, temporary secretary.

Many interesting talks were given on the value of cooperation in preserving game, fish, and wild life in general. It was pointed out that if immediate steps were not taken, there would be no hunting or fishing left for the following generations.

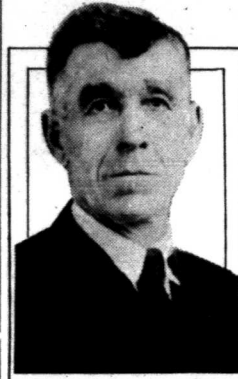
The result of this meeting was the organization of the Rock Falls Rod and Gun Club. The aims of the club being the preservation and propagation of game and fish, the prevention of fires, and pollution of streams in cooperation with the conservation commission.

It was decided to incorporate under the state laws and secure a charter. A list of the members who joined this organization along with the following members:

- Organized September 29, 1927 with 16th following members:
- Wm. Dotter
- L. H. Willett
- Bernard Guerin
- Chas. Barth
- Alfred Winkelman
- Jos. Tarend
- A. A. Lee
- John Bogie
- R. J. Eggert
- Rudolph Eggert
- Jos. Kastner, Jr.
- Fred Landwer
- Steve Erben
- James Neff
- A. C. Blood
- John Larson
- Otto Schulz

- C. Vaughan
- Joe Griel
- Frank Zirnschall
- Ben Winkelman
- W. H. AuBuchon
- E. A. Krembs
- Chas. Fowler
- E. O. Krueger
- E. F. Gipple
- Francis Golden
- Dr. H. G. Hinckley
- Rudy Fetka
- G. E. Cotter
- M. P. McLaughlin
- Hugo Hanig
- Hayden Blair
- Wm. Gruett
- Neal Hubbard
- Emil Semling
- Jack Kuppelcut
- Theo. Mattson
- Sigrid Mattson
- Paul Leopold
- Clarence Schram
- A. H. Schram
- Eugene Semling
- Wm. Kaiser
- Dr. D. B. Reinhart
- Albert Anderson
- Frank Guerin
- Board of Directors:
- Fred Landwer
- Chas. Barth
- Ben Winkelman
- A. A. Lee
- Chas. Fowler
- E. O. Krueger
- Jos. Kastner, Jr.
- Bernard Guerin
- Chet Couse.
- Officers:
- A. A. Lee, President
- James Neff, Pres.
- Fred Landwer, Treasurer
- R. J. Eggert, Secretary.

At a special meeting held May 29, 1928, the club made plans to



The late J. W. Cotey, early pioneer of Merrill. Mr. Cotey had the distinction of having built and sold more homes in Merrill than any other man.



GEORGE BOHAG, now residing with his family at 704 East Main street, at the advanced age of 91 years, recalls many incidents of the days when he "sailed the lakes" as well as the development of this city and section of country.

Mrs. Bohag accompanies her husband on this occasion, as she has done for the past sixty-four and one-fourth years, continuously.

The inserts of photographs of Mr. and Mrs. Bohag when they were married.

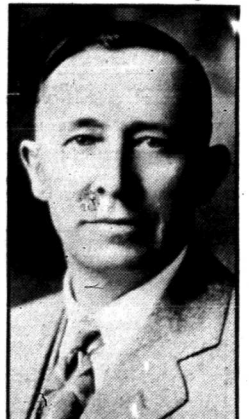
build a clubhouse. The Grandfather Falls Co. of Merrill, donated a site for the building. Funds were raised largely by donations and the clubhouse was built in the fall of 1928. This building was demolished by a wind storm the following year, but was rebuilt and stands today on highway 91, facing the Wisconsin river with the new Rock Falls Park as a background, the site of which was donated by the club.

On July 31, 1928 articles of incorporation were filed with the Secretary of State and a charter was secured and adopted at a meeting held August 9, 1928.

In conservation work the club has been active, having planted fish in the lakes and streams of Lincoln County at various times, paid rewards for the arrest and conviction of game law violators, and through the efforts of the club to stop pollution of streams, by paper mills especially, a hearing was held in the city hall at Merrill, on March 13, 1931, by the committee on water pollution, resulting in at least a measure of relief from that evil.

The affairs of the club have progressed in the hands of the board of directors with but few changes. The present board of directors being A. A. Lee, Fred Landwer, Ed. Kaufman, Wm. Dotter, R. J. Eggert, Hugh Rankin, E. J. Couse.

W. H. AuBuchon, and Paul Leopold. The officers being Hugh Rankin, president; Fred Landwer, vice president; and Richard Eggert, secretary and treasurer.



H. H. KUEHLING, county highway commissioner has been one of the main factors in the building of the fine system of highways throughout Lincoln county.

GRANDFATHER FALLS DAM



Grandfather Falls Dam, situated about 14 miles northwest of Merrill is one of the several large water power developments in the county. This dam furnishes power to one of Merrill's leading institutions, the Grandfather Falls Co.

CARL KLEBENOW, now deceased, spent many years in assisting in the development of the southern rural section of Lincoln county, with success. For several years preceding his death he spent the time in retirement in this city, but his interest in events remained acute.



JUL THIELMAN Few men in any community could play a more important part in its development than the late Jul Thielman. He was mayor three terms, chairman of the County Board. A man of boundless energy and enthusiasm. He was active in practically every business, stores, banks, telephone, hotel, logging and farming.