

The
Rochester
Historical
Preservation
Society



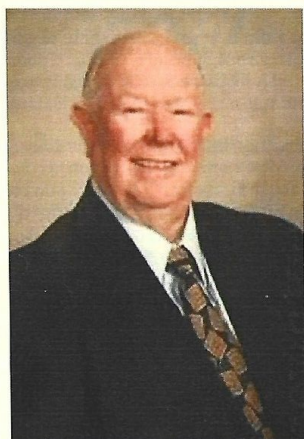
Item

P.O. Box 13
ROCHESTER, ILLINOIS 62563

1830sStoneHouse

Spring 2024
www.rocnesternhistoricalsociety.org

Steve Wayne Leach



July 3, 1943 - April 15, 2024
Celebration of Life
April 21, 2024
Rochester United Methodist Church

A Tribute to Steve Leach

A lifelong resident of Rochester, Steve was involved with RHPS from its beginning. Not only did he work diligently on projects, but he served as the society's treasurer for 20 years.

Just about everyone he ever met knew and remembered him for his genuine smile and jovial personality. Steve, you will be missed by many and remembered by all who knew you. Thanks for your dedication to and service to the Rochester Historical Preservation Society.

The RHPS needs YOU!

We need members! You might ask, "Why should I be a member of the RHPS?"

Check the following list for some of the top reasons for joining this group.

1. Tiered, tax deductible membership offerings.
2. Learn about the history of the community.
3. Help support what is going to be happening at the Historical Park.
4. Supporting the community through historical development.
5. Help preserve the past for generations to come.
6. Make new friends.
7. Informative newsletters sent to you.

The RHPS Thanks

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Please join us for the
RHPS Meeting
MONDAY
May 20, 2024
7:00 p.m.
ROCHESTER UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH
GYMNASIUM



In December 2023, Madeline Moore also sent me a collection of 29 book reviews and other stories published in newspapers nationwide. *The New York Times*, *Chicago Tribune*, *The New York Herald*, *The Washington Post*, *San Francisco Chronicle*, *Houston Post*, and the *Los Angeles Times* all ran stories of high praise for Smith's novel, *The Lemon Jelly Cake*.

The enclosed review is from *The New York Times*, August 3, 1952.

Submitted by
Ray Bruzan

From the N Y Times, August 3, 1952

Dr. Edwin R. Babcock, a Civil War surgeon, built the two-story brick home on East Main Street in Rochester in which Madeline Babcock Smith was born in 1887. By that time, the home and office were owned by Dr. E.R. Babcock's son and Madeline's father, Dr. Oliver Brewster (O.B.) Babcock.

It's an interesting coincidence to note that Rochester's two giants in the arts, violinist Louis Persinger and author Madeline Babcock Smith, were born in 1887 in the same East Main Street doctor's office exactly four months apart.

Dr. E.R. Babcock and his wife, Martha, are buried in Rochester Cemetery.

Smith is certainly Rochester's most noted author, having written a New York Times Best Seller that Paramount Studios had considered making into a movie prior to the author's death.

A folder containing the book reviews sent from Moore's home in Portland, Oregon, are now in the library. Local residents are encouraged to stop by the Rochester Public Library to read the reviews and see the first-edition copy of *The Lemon Jelly Cake* on display. The library also has several copies of the book available for checkout.

NEWSLETTER ARCHIVE NOW AVAILABLE ON WEBSITE

A new "Newsletter" webpage has been added to the Rochester Historical Preservation Society's (RHPS) website:

www.rochesterhistoricalsociety.org

This contains an archive of old Newsletters. The current archive goes back to 2018. All future Newsletters will be added to the website which will allow members and visitors to see what has been happening at past meetings and with other activities.



Thanks, Toby McDaniel, for a beautiful picture of the Stone House.

2024 MEMBERSHIP LIST *

Charter – Life	Fur Trapper		
Elliott Bell	Richard & Karen Alexander	Ron & Sue Green	Forrest & Mary Lou
Terry & Tammy Campbell	Roy & Trudy Ballinger	Tim & Priscilla Kluge	Holsapple
Patricia Creviston	Gary Bottrell	Mike & Glenda Long	Don & Becky Honigman
Chelsea Gerberding	Mike & Sandy Brewer	Darrell & Denise	Elaine Hundley
Fred & Carolyn Gerberding	Mike & Sharon Cortelyou	Maxheimer	David & Fay Ann Jostes
Gabe & Angela Gerberding	Susan Cull		Ken & Nancy Miller
Linda Grimm	George Anne Daly	Sandie Nuding	Scott & Suzanne Moss
David & Arlene Grubb	Robert Dean	Jerry Orban	Tom, Stacia & Logan Munroe
Dean & Renee Housel	Max & Debbie Dillahunty	Jerry & Reba Robertson	McDevitt Family
Dennis & Nancy Keiffer	Brian & Mary Fairchild	Gina Roccaforte	Nick & Stephanie
Allen & Barb Mendenhall	George & Phyllis Fairchild	Ann Rowley	Palazzolo
Carl O. "Bud" Moore	Randy & Brenda Hawkins	Tris Schnepfer	Henry & Margaret
Lee & Carol Shafer	Harold & Jane Hendrickson	L. Keith Steiner	Patterson
David & Debbie Taft	Robert Hendrickson	Ben & Mary Tuxhorn	Mark & Nancy
Steve Taft	Bill & Penny Hinrichs	Ron & Kahla Wiggins	Poffenberger
Ann Tucker	Kim & Cinda Klickna	Curt & Kathleen Winhold	Loree & Carolyn Riggs
Bill & Barb Voisin	Steve & Nancy Leach	Debbie Yeaman	Randall & Suzann Segatto
Nate & Carol Wilcoxon	Stu & Sandy McMillan		Dick & Lorine Wallin
	Carolyn Moore	Homesteader	Deidre Zobrist
	Pat Palmer	Mark & Cynthia Anderson	
Storekeeper	Rich & Ann Ramsey	Terry & Diane Arthur	Settler
Joshua & Cecile Becker	Don Taft	Wayne & Anita Beck	Carolyn Lea Clevenger
	James & Ruth Ann Theis	Tom & Michelle Bertrand	Bev Drilling
Tradesman	Rosemary Weistart	Ray & Pam Bruzan	Nancy J. Leach
Jane Fairchild	Richard Williams	Paul Carlson	Toby Mc Daniel
Patricia Kessler		Jeffrey & Andrea Deters	Robert & Leslie Struble
Jacquie Ramsey	Blacksmith	Tom & Cherie Doherty	Carolyn Wanless
Roxy Schmidt-Gundy	Lyle & Donna Behl	Rick & Jeanne Eilering	
	John & Sue Endsley	Sharon Evans	Sodbuster
	Henry & Mary Gartner	Dennis File	Jan Catalano
		Henry & Beth Haupt	
		Don & Gayle Highley	

*NOTE: The above listing of the 2024 RHPS Membership is compiled from new and renewal membership forms received as of May 7, 2024 from the Annual Membership Campaign. If there are any questions, please contact Max Dillahunty at 217-498-9709.

DONATIONS to RHPS	
From Stone House Tours	\$99.00
From Fall Car Show	\$500.00
From Dean Housel	\$1000.00
From Angela Carver	\$85.00
In Memory of Evelyn Ramsey	\$1000.00
In Memory of Dorthy Ross	\$100.00
In Memory of Robert Struble	\$10.00
In Memory of Debbie Schnepfer	\$780.00
In Memory of Carolyn Carlson	\$25.00
In Memory of James R. Weistart	\$50.00
In Memory of Clarence R. Leach	\$10.00
In Memory of Loren & Charlotte Schmidt	\$100.00
In Memory of Steve Leach	\$2600.00
In Memory of Byron Braner	\$100.00

**HOPE TO SEE YOU ON
May 20, 2024
ROCHESTER UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH
GYMNASIUM
7:00 p.m.**

ROCHESTER HISTORICAL PRESERVATION SOCIETY

P.O. 13

ROCHESTER, ILLINOIS 62563