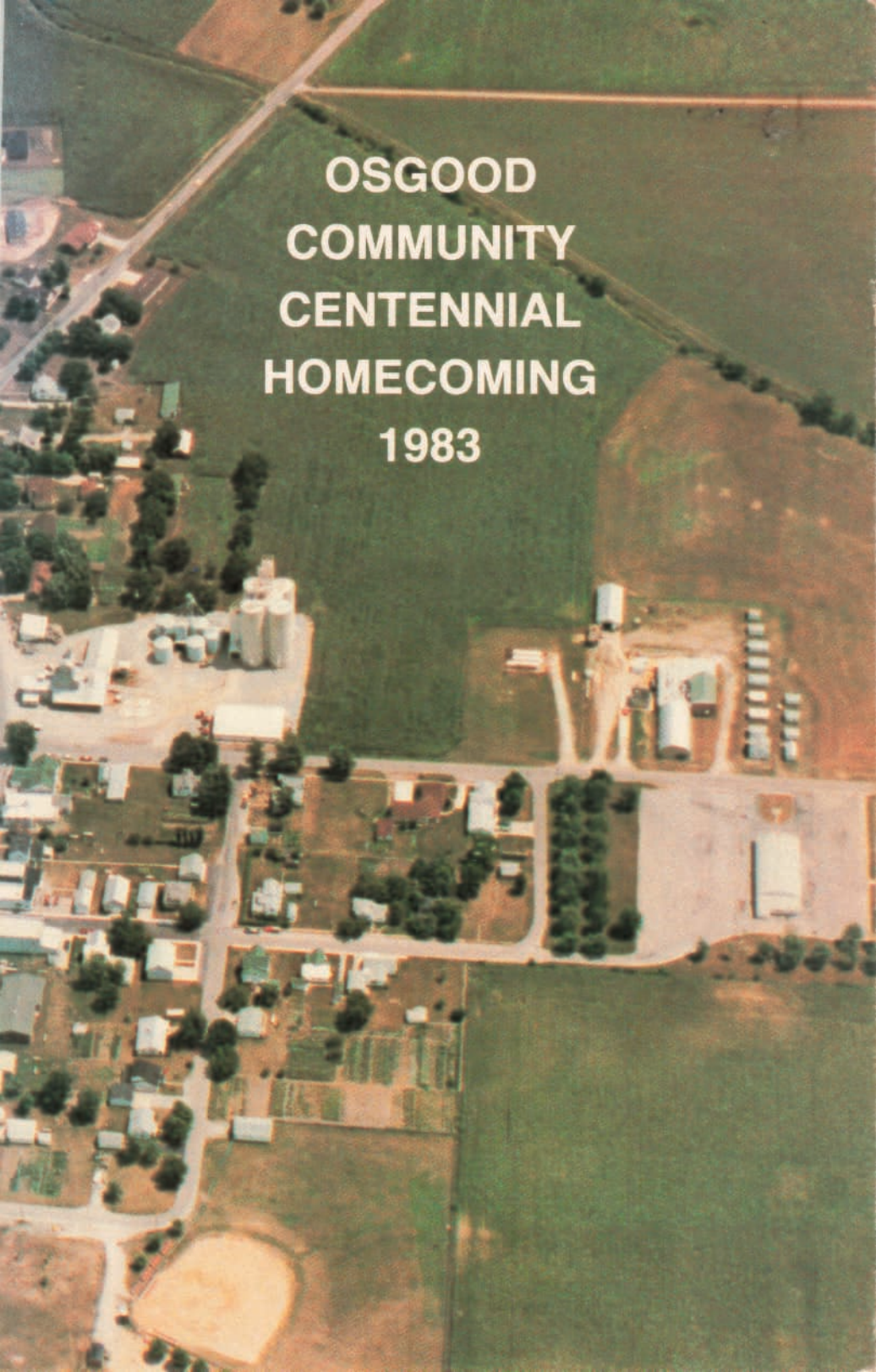

OSGOOD
COMMUNITY
CENTENNIAL
HOMECOMING
1983

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OSGOOD COMMUNITY CENTENNIAL HOMECOMING 1983

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1983

OSGOOD COMMUNITY CENTENNIAL HOMECOMING

GENERAL CHAIRLADY ..... Shirley Wenning
CO-CHAIRMAN ..... Nick Wenning, Urban Winner
Louis Alexander

HISTORICAL ..... Alice Poeppelman
CO-CHAIRLADIES ..... Verene Kramer, Janice Berger
Mary Ann Arling, Rita Pohl
Diana Albers, Theckla Recker, Alvina Kuether

CHICKEN BARBECUE
FOOD, CONCESSIONS ..... American Legion Post #588

CANDY AND POP STAND ..... Youth Organization

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES ..... Mary Ann Arling, Linda Arling
CO-CHAIRMAN ..... Norma Bohman, Donna Grieshop
Vernon and Sharon Mescher

TEENAGE & ADULT ACTIVITIES
CHAIRMAN ..... John Seger

MINIATURE TRACTOR PULL ..... Gary Poeppelman
Harold Bohman

ENTERTAINMENT ..... Elmer Wietholter

CHANCE GAMES ..... Louis Alexander, Ohmer Brandewie

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Mayor Frank E. Arling, Jr.



Front Row, left to right: Vernon Huber, Maurice Brunswick - Pres., Frank E. Arling, Jr. - Mayor, and Paul Albers - Clerk. Back Row, left to right: Jerome Kemper, Victor Kramer, and Lavern Pohl. Absent when photo was taken: Nicholas Arling.

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Early Village History

Located in the North-East corner of Darke County, in Mid-West Ohio, Patterson Township, lies a Community of Osgood, Ohio, an incorporated town with a population of 318.

Legend has it that a Captain Osgood moved thru the area in the late 1870's and was the first settler in Osgood, and therefore, naming the town in his honor. He was a captain in the Civil War and came to Osgood from Versailles, Ohio.

Patterson Township was incorporated in 1841. A prominent name "The Winger Family", plotted the southwest section of Osgood. John Henry Winger, born in 1844, fought in the Civil War and made his home one-half mile west of Osgood with Charles Winger and the children of Alva Winger and Josephine Burns.

On March 12, 1881, Anne Brewer negotiated the transaction of seventy acres to Osgood and it became a village in 1883.

Rachel Brewer and Harvey Frank sold land to Osgood for the construction of the "C. H. and D." railroad, "Cincinnati - Hamilton - and Dayton" on September 5, 1881, with W. J. Sherman as surveyor and William Sullivan - Thomas Mayer as Notary Public.

Osgood was incorporated August 6, 1883. Officers for the town were chosen with H. C. Miller as Mayor - T. Mendenhall, Treasurer - W. S. Williams, Clerk - and N. Fry as Marshal. Councilmen were: H. H. Brown, S. H. Love, George Preston, C. W. Supinger, J. Frantz and Charles Pearson.

Early settlers in the area include: Winger, Brewer, Whitaker, Goubeaux, Coble, Schwierking, Dirksen, Schulze, Miller, Mendenhall, Straker, Connaughton, Alexander, Burns and DeWeese.

Religious background was a significant characteristic of the village. Church of God began in the late 1880's, and it ceased.

Christian church was founded in 1886 on land donated by Anthony Coble and transacted in 1887. The services were well attended and most services over-flowing. The church ceased services in the middle twenties and once a year reunion services were held until 1974. This building is at the same location which is renovated and owned by Alfred Holscher.

Some of the families who worshipped at the church were: Hills, Davidsons, Staudts, Millers and Wingers.

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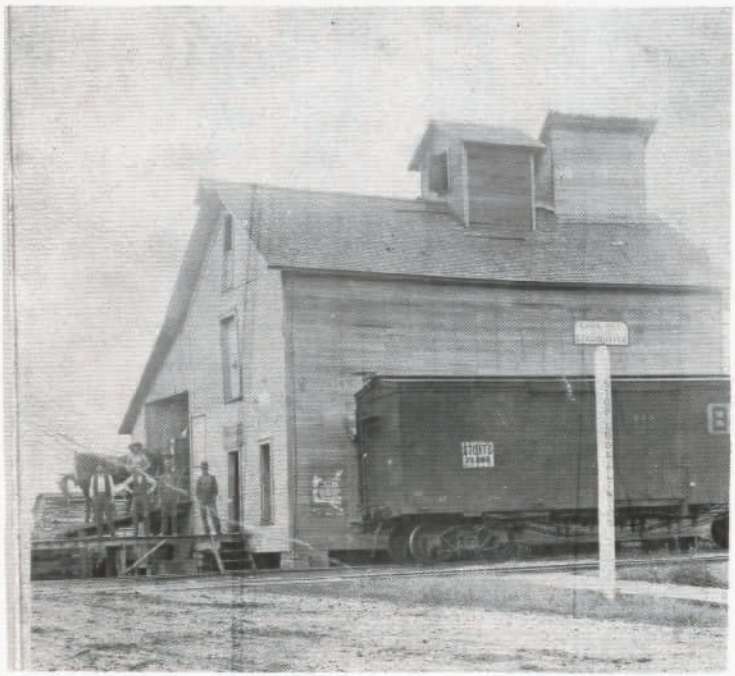
Progressive development of the village became a reality and a Post Office commenced with Tim Connaughton serving as first Postmaster.

Then followed Rueben Hanna, Mary Stueve, Caspar Franzer, Herman Franzer, George Bohman, Irene Bohman, Eileen Pleiman, and Bernard Pleiman who is the present postmaster.

The C. H. & D. railroad was built in 1891 with a depot and water tower and operated until 1923. Tom McGlinch was the first ticket agent followed by Andrew Becker.

Agriculture became a rapid growth to the area with the railroad, and the train made its regular stops in Osgood and to the Community as it transported grain, hogs and cattle to other cities as well as bringing in supplies. Before the day of the motor car it was a wonderful way to travel. Businesses began to flourish. Among the listings are: elevator, barber, general store, hardware, blacksmith, electrician, shoemaker, bar, livery stable, contractor, ditcher, grocer, sawmill, scrap yard, tile yard and hotel.

With the railroad, a depot and water tower were built in the village, thus keeping the community very active.



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The depot was situated where the Osgood Service station is now located. When a passenger wanted to stay in a hotel overnight, all he had to do was walk across the street to a big house with many windows. Later the hotel was bought by Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Alexander, who made it into a home and lived there many years.

Hilgefords Saloon was near the depot on Main Street.

Alexander Brothers operated a grain elevator near the depot for many years. They served the needs of the farmers in the community for several generations.

The water tower was several hundred feet north of the depot. When the C. H. & D. went out of business in 1923, the water tower was sold to a young farmer, Fred J. Poeppelman, who made a large circular corn crib out of it on his farm.

The livery stable was east of Alexander Brothers elevator. People tied their horses there when they went to church, shopping or to the saloon.

Mendenhalls operated a General Store which was later destroyed by fire.



Cigar Factory is the building in right background - taken around 1920.

A cigar factory was located across the street from the old school house. Some of the young ladies of the community were employed there. After the factory went out of business, Ernest Althoff made it into a garage and service station.

Clem Gunckle was one of the early barbers in Osgood.

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Al Brown owned the coal yard. Coal could be bought for three to four dollars a ton and you could heat a house for a year.

John Beard was the honey dipper. If a farmer had the misfortune to lose a cow or horse, he would skin the animal and bury the carcass. This was before the days of fertilizer companies.

Osgood also had a piano store located across from the old bank and operated by William Danzig. Occasionally platform dances were held on summer evenings on the lawn next to the store.

Casper Franzer, and Herman Franzer owned and operated a Hardware Store which also housed the postoffice. After the death of Mr. Casper Franzer, George Bohman owned and operated the hardware store.

Alexander Elevator

Alexander Brothers began business in 1903 by three brothers, Andrew, Joseph and Elic Alexander, with Andrew as manager.

They purchased an elevator where the existing elevator stands and later purchased an elevator across the street where the Osgood Service station is located.

The old elevator was demolished, and in 1916 the high part of the present elevator was built on.



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One of the first hammer mills in the area was installed in the early 1930's.

Andrew bought out his two brothers in the 1920's, and the firm remained with the name, Alexander Brothers.

Various equipment was added as needed and a feed room was built on the east side of the elevator.

Andrew Alexander died in 1946, and his wife, Mary Alexander, became the owner, and Louis (Jiggs) Alexander became the manager.

Mary Alexander passed away in 1954 and her children became the owners, with the same management maintained and the business incorporated.

More grain storage was later added, and a dryer and pellet mill were installed.

Alexander Brothers, Incorporated, sold to Minster Farmers Exchange in 1977 after being in business from 1903 to 1977 which was seventy-four years in business.

A small block building east of the elevator housed a generator that supplied the town with electricity in the early 1920's.

In 1977 Alexander Brothers, Incorporated, sold out to the Minster Farmers Co-op. This firm was established as a farmers cooperative elevator in the 1920's.

A fertilizer building was added in 1978.

In 1979 four concrete silos were added. This raised the storage capacity by 240,000 bushels.

The elevator now operates as a branch of the main office, offering all the services that are available at the main office in Minster and the blend plant at New Bremen, Ohio.

The manager of the Osgood Branch is Linus Hoying.

Early Church History

St. Martins Cemetery Association was formed in September of 1906 by Herman Wildenhaus, John Heckman, John Huber, Martin Magato and E. A. Goubeaux.

A few of the early ones buried there have these names on the tombstones, Catherine Bohman in 1906, Bertke children in 1908 and 1911, Gertrude Clune 1908, Elizabeth Bruening in 1909.

In 1950, with donations from the parish members, the monument group was placed there to honor the memory of our parish boys who died overseas, during the two world wars.

For many years Simon Lehnert was custodian of the cemetery. At his death in 1953, Herbert Winner took over and he and his family are the present custodians.

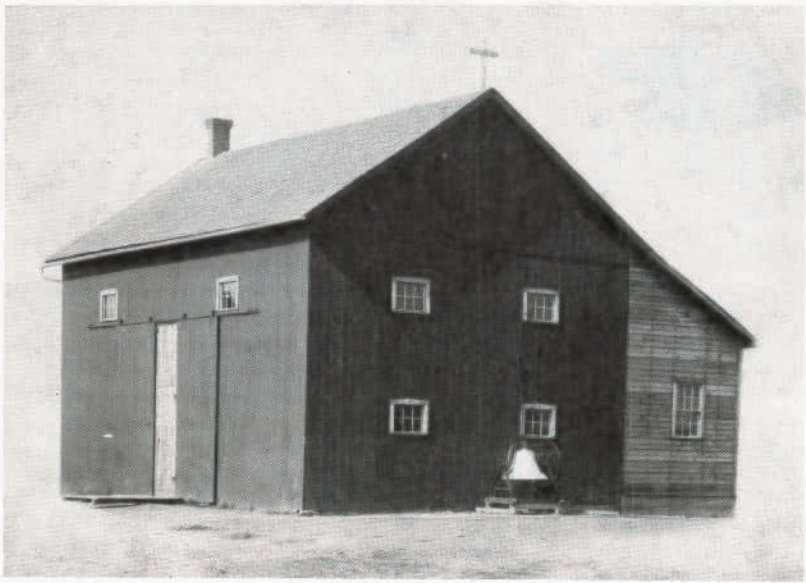
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Saint Nicholas Catholic Church was organized August 12, 1906 by Reverend Bernard Beckmeyer. The church was built at a cost of $22,000.00. The building committee consisted of Henry Brandewie, John Heckman, Joseph Alexander, John Bohman, Joseph Bertke, John Bruns, and Henry Schemmel.

December 6, 1906 is designated as the Patronal feast day of the first mass of the church. Reverend F. B. Veil officiated as celebrant at the Solemn High Mass.

After the frame structure of the Catholic church was demolished, another Catholic church was built of red brick. Volunteers erecting the church were: John Bruns, Henry Schemmel, John Bohman, Joseph Alexander, Mary Ann Cullum, Simon Lenhart, Amelia Pfohl, Henry Brandewie, Martin Magoto, John Heckman, Timothy Connaughton, Bernard Streaker, Henry Schulte, Anthony Mueller, Fred J. Poeppelman, Frank Poeppelman, Michael Dapore, August Reichert, Leonard Bruey and John Bruey.

Some of the families who worshipped there were: Bruns, Brandewie, Bohman, Bruey.



First Catholic Church.

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Memorial in cemetery.

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Present-day St. Nicholas Church.

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Flood

In the spring of 1913, when the warm weather arrived, so did the rains. With the rain, the snow melted and the rain and snow was too great for the Mile Creek to handle and thousands of acres were flooded for a few days.

Restaurants

The restaurant of the Community was: Hilgefords Restaurant. Owners were: Leo Schwieterman, Herman Winner, Schlarmans, Barney Rutschilling, Norb Stucke and Roman Stucke, present owner (Norb's Place).

School

Osgood's first school was demolished in 1912 and the bricks were used to line the inside of the Public School which began in 1912.



Josephine Franzer began teaching September 1916 and Mr. Jesse Baker taught the upper grades. They followed Bertha Alexander and John Connaughton.

The first grade enrollment in 1916 are: Joseph Becker, Leroy Bernard, Robert Bohman, William Brown, Harold Bruns, Ferdinand Recker, Sylvester Schwieterman, Elmer Treiber, Maxine Mendenhall, Pauline Mendenhall, Elizabeth Poeppelman, Kenneth Preston and Leona Treiber.

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Pupils attending the year of 1917-1918 are: Frank Schwierking, Alfred Schwierking, Aloysius Grieshop, Charles Grieshop, Alphonse Franzer, Jerome Bernard, Julia Schwieterman, William Brackman, Calvin Voisinot, Welcome Burns, Belva Smith, Lewis Treon, Roy Davidson, Norbert Franzer, John Lengerich, Alga Bruey, Ellery Voisinot, Ralph Wissman, Willard Staudt, Lorena Schwieterman, Anna Lehnert, Henrietta Bernard, Veronica Franzer, Emreda Alexander, Pearl Davidson, Adella Bruns, Marie Lengerich, Wilma DeWeese, Geraldine Ullery, Lefea Staudt, Kathryn Wissman, Myrtle Gardner, Alvera Bernard, Mary Hess, Rosalee Alexander, Viola Bergman, Leonida Burns, Oneda Brucken, Della Staudt, Bessie Davison and Alfrida Bergman.

Teachers who taught school since 1916 are: H. Jesse Baker, John Connaughton, Mary Gigandet, Leo Klingshirn, Dorothy Meyer, Amy Spahr, Herman Sims, Josephine Franzer, Herman Leugers, Louise Bergman, John Ernst, Ruth Barhorst, Ursula Drees, and Joseph Kloeker.

One year the schools were closed because of a smallpox epidemic. The following year they were closed six weeks because of the flu.

Josephine Franzer's enrollment was fifty-three pupils in grades one and two. Her last year of teaching had eighteen pupils in grade one. Josephine Franzer taught forty-six years.

Osgood was very proud of its school with the Christmas and Thanksgiving programs as a highlight of the community. Sometimes box suppers were held and spelling and ciphering contests were annual affairs.

The winner in the township would later compete with other winners in Darke County.

Banking History

Banking Corporation of Osgood was chartered December 31, 1915 and functioned in 1916 at the location of State Route 705 and State Route 716 intersection. The first bank president was Henry Brandewie, with Herman Brandewie as Vice-President. Chairman of the Board of Directors was Louis J. George. Other directors were Andrew Alexander, Frank Danzig, Bernard Bergman and H. H. Straker. The first cashier was Leo Wildenhaus.

The first stockholders meeting was September 2, 1915 with August J. Reichert as secretary.

Stockholders August 30, 1915 were: Louis J. George, Bernard Bergman, Herman Brandewie, Henry Osterloh, Leo J. Wildenhaus, Bernard Mescher, John F. Mahar, C. Brunswick, Ber-

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nard Streaker, Frank George, Lewis Bey, Frank Schieltz, Frank Danzig, Henry Brandewie, August J. Reichert, C. F. Franzer, Joseph Alexander, Andrew Alexander, H. H. Straker, Anton Kuether, and Henry Brandewie as trustee.

August Reichert was cashier beginning August 31, 1918 and continued until his resignation in August 28, 1945.

Alga Bruey was then appointed as cashier and secretary and retired April 1973.

Interest was one per-cent on savings the year of 1945.

March 7, 1916 bank report was $40,442.70.



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March 21, 1927 was the bank robbery by two heavily armed masked bandits. It took place in the daylight hours and the bandits escaped with two-thousand dollars.

The formal opening of the new bank located on State Route 705 was held on Sunday, June 24, 1962.

The land was purchased from Charles Winger, Aug. 8, 1961.

Alga Bruey was manager and cashier until his retirement. Ronald Thobe was appointed manager and cashier of this bank in April 1973 and still holds the office today.

The present directors are as follows: Louis Alexander - Chairman, Alga Bruey - President, Robert Simon - Vice President, Henry Leugers, Delmar Brandewie, Jerrold Brandewie and Roland Thobe - Secretary.

At the present time the Bank employs eight full-time employees and two part-time employees.

World War I and II

World War I was fought in 1918 with the veterans from our community. Giving their time and lives for our safety were: Abraham McMahon and August Piquenot.

Those giving their lives during World War II were: Edward Holscher, Ernest Bohman, Walter Reichert, Norbert Mescher, Adrian Wissman and Henry Zenz.

After the First World War, Charles Bertke became the sole repairman.

Later came the C. M. Meyer and Company store. The post office was situated in the store, with Mary Stueve being the postmistress.

William George was a store-keeper and it was located on the north side of the street. Henry Brucken was a huckster for the Meyer Store and sold groceries, gingham, etc., to the families in the territory.

Nieberdings operated a store after C. M. Meyer and Company.

Tuente Livestock

Tuente Livestock, Inc., company was founded by Ben Tuente, father of Elmer in the early 1920's in the town of Osgood, Ohio. The company originally handled hogs, coal and fertilizer. In 1928 Ben Tuente bought Frank Pequignot farm, ½ mile north of Osgood and the company was moved there. For many years, Elmer managed a company branch at Versailles, Ohio where coal and fertilizer

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were shipped in by rail and then trucked to the Osgood area. Upon Ben's death in 1946 the Versailles branch was closed and Elmer managed the Osgood branch. As Elmer's sons, Ron and Roger, grew up they concentrated on becoming a daily hog market and expanded by adding a yard at St. Sebastian, Ohio. In addition to the markets, Tuente Livestock, Inc. operates a fleet of seven semi-trailer trucks which are licensed in fourteen states. Since Elmer's death in 1981, his sons Ron & Roger manage the company and employ 21 people at the present time.

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Osgood Cement and Tile Plant

In 1906 some local businessmen decided that there was a need for a drain tile plant in the Osgood area.

Andrew Alexander, Joseph Alexander, Frank George, Wm. Schwieterman, Andrew Schwieterman, Frank Magoteaux and Lou George formed a corporation and called it The Cement Tile & Block Manufacturing Company.

In 1908 the plant was put in operation, and they hired Wm. Schwieterman to manage it.

They had two Huffman trucks, chain driven and hard rubber tire to haul in the sand and stone to make the tile and blocks.

The cement was shipped in on the "C. H. and D" railroad. The sand and stone was shoveled on by hand at the gravel pit and brought to the plant and shoveled off through windows into the sand room of the building. The Aggregate was then shoveled into a wheelbarrow and measured, then wheeled to the mixer and the cement and water was added and mixed to the right consistency. Then it was dumped on the floor, and shoveled into the tile machine. The tiles were put on cars that held 300 ft. The cars were on tracks and were pushed into the kilns to be steam cured. After curing, they were taken outside and stockpiled on the yard. It took 30 days for the tile to get hard enough so that they could be put into the ground.

The block machine was a power tamper that tamped one block at a time, stripped off of the machine and set on cars and cured the same as the tile.

The plant was operated from 1908 till the fall of 1925, by Wm. Schwieterman and then it was sold to Albert Magoteaux.

In 1945 when Ralph Magoteaux returned from service after World War II, he joined his father in partnership.

The name of the corporation was changed from The Cement Tile and Block Mfg. Co. to Osgood Cement Tile Co.

In 1947, aggregate bins, conveyors and bulk cement equipment were installed, also a scale installed and all aggregate and cement was weighed for a more accurate mix.

The cement industry through the years of research produced a cement that took less curing time. Concrete tile could be steamed over night and the next day through testing they would meet American Society of Testing Specification.

The manufacturing of concrete block was discontinued in 1946 and concrete septic tanks were made.

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In 1967 concrete feed bunks were added to their line of products.

In 1959 Ralph bought out his father's stock and he operated it till 1981.

The Depression

The depression of 1929 lasted until 1934. Things were pretty rough. Wheat was 38 cents a bushel, hogs $2.90 a hundred, oats was 12 cents a bushel and it took a bushel of oats to buy a pound of Mother's oats, and 2 bananas could be purchased for five cents.

Land sold for $80.00 an acre, a two plow tractor (with plow) sold for $600.00. A Model T Ford sold for $495.00, milk was $1.00 a hundred and if you wanted a cheap date, it cost twenty-five cents to go to a dance and the girl got in free.

Most people did not go to town to get groceries but butchered, canned, and baked in their homes. Some sold their home brewed whiskey to make a little money to enable them to make ends meet.

Hardware Store

The present Hardware store was built in 1903 after the former building was destroyed by fire. John Meyer operated a grocery and dry goods store in the old building, passing away before the present building was completed. His wife, Celia, continued the grocery and dry goods business with the help of Charles and Mary (Reichert) Stueve.

After a few years Leo Neiberding took over the business, and Adella (Bruns) Eifert was employed as a clerk.

The store was purchased in 1933 by William George, and a huckster route was added, operated by Norbert Franzer. It carried a complete line of groceries and dry goods.

Elizabeth Lachey took over the business in 1938 until 1941, when it was moved to the building at the corner of State Route 716 and State Route 705.

In 1947, the building was bought from August Reichert by William Brandewie, and a hardware was opened by Ohmer Brandewie and Alphonse Franzer. They continued in business until July 1, 1949 when it was sold to Bernard and Sylvester Pleiman. In 1957 Bernard took over as sole proprietor.

William Whipp owned and operated the business from 1972 until 1974 when it was sold to John and Marge Langenkamp.

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In 1978, it was purchased by Nicholas and Linda Arling from Langenkamp's. They operated it until August of 1981 when it was purchased by Paul and Thomas Gagel as a branch of Maria Stein, Gagel Hardware, which they operate at this time.

Poeppelman Gas

Poeppelman Brothers, Fred J., Frank and John originated the natural gas business in 1926. The village was furnished with natural gas from wells drilled east of Osgood for thirty-two years. However, in 1952 the wells could no longer meet the increasing demands, and propane was augmented for present use.

Fire Department

The fire house was also known as the "Old Town Hall". The second floor was used for the jail, meetings, dances and medicine shows.

In 1929, the first fire department was organized with George Nisonger as president, Al Franzer as secretary and Ernest Althoff as chief. The first fire truck was an $800.00 REO Speed wagon and pump.

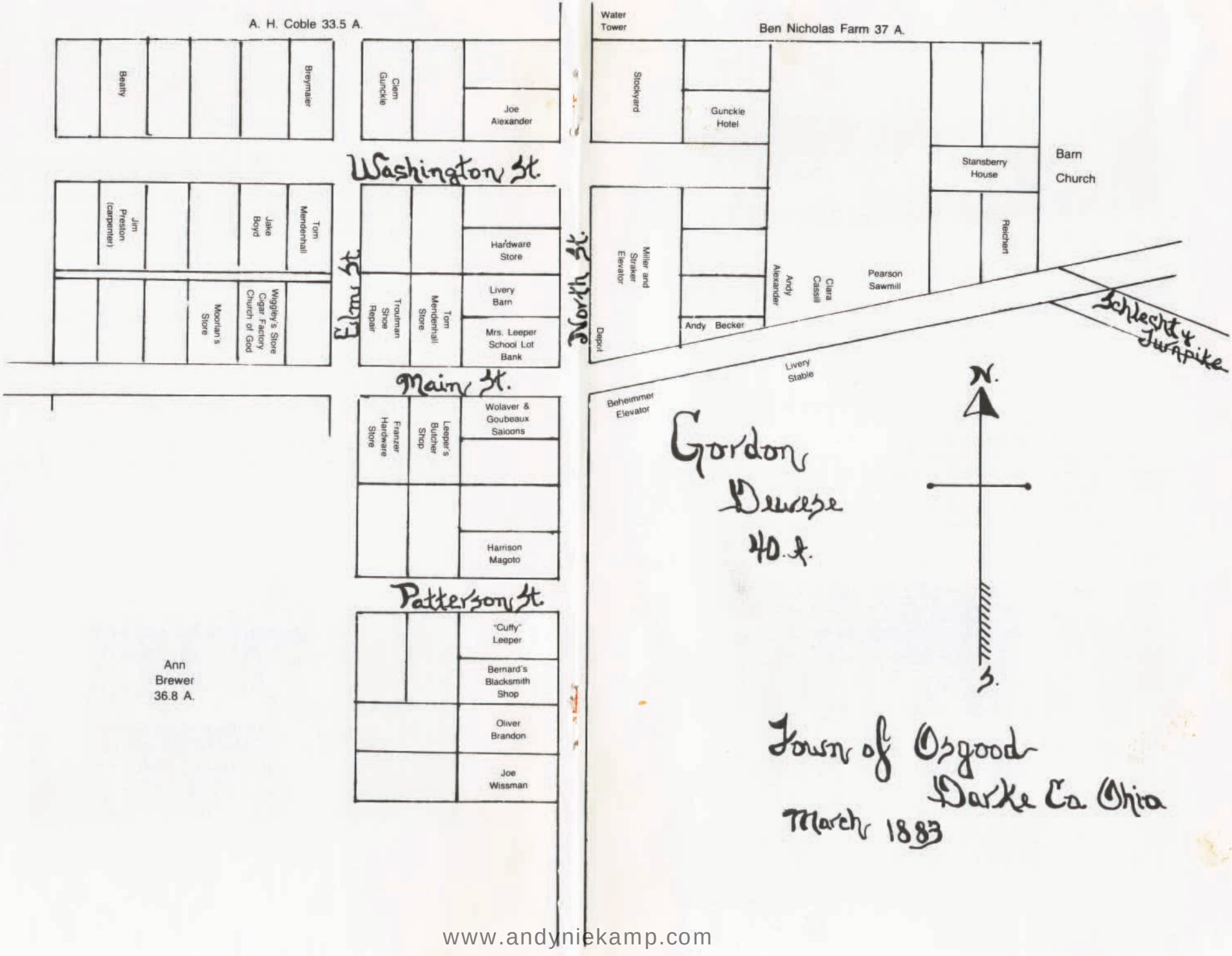
Jule Magoto was appointed chief in the late 1930's.

In 1947 under the direction of Louis Alexander, a new International fire truck was purchased.



Old Town Hall.

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Osgood Firehouse and Present Equipment.

1983 Volunteer Firemen

Front Row, kneeling left to right: Neil Pleiman - Asst. Chief, John Seger - Captain, Elmer Mueller - 1st Lt., Vernon Mescher, Carl Langenkamp, Daniel Mescher, Ronald Brunswick, Alan Bohman, Kenneth Winner and Steve Winner. Standing left to right: Frank E. Arling, Jr. - Chief, Larry Pleiman - Secretary, Fred Mueller, Paul Albers, Kenneth Meyer, Jerry Grieshop, Mike Kemper, Cletus Grieshop, John Schwartz, Rodney Gibson, Myrle Poeppleman, Damion Brandt, Gary Poeppleman. Absent when photo was taken were: Cyril Albers - 2nd Lt., Fred Winner, Dennis Winner, Alan Winner, Ralph Winner, Nick Wenning, Bernard Pleiman, Larry Goubeaux, John Goubeaux, Dave Anthony, Louis Bohman and Nick Arling.



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Retired Honorary Firemen

Left to right: Urban Winner - Ret. Capt., Richard Bohman, Ralph Magoteaux - Ret. Chief, Maurice Bohman, Ohmer Brandewie, Alferd Holscher, Virgil Goubeaux - Ret. Capt., Vernon Huber, Edward Winner, Walter Frey, Louis Alexander - Ret. Chief, and Herbert Winner. Absent when photo was taken were: Vitalis Grillot, Thomas Winner, Robert Bohman - Ret. Sec., and Roman Stucke. Deceased Firemen: Urban Poeppleman, Virgil Bergman, Bernard (Bud) Schulze - 2nd Lt., Ralph Wendel and Victor Hoelscher.

Osgood Rescue Squad - 1983

Kneeling left to right: Patty Petty, Judy Grieshop, Brenda Schwartz - Sec./Treas., Henrietta Winner, Deborah Gehle, Mary Jean Pleiman, Bernadetta Kemper and Robert Grieshop. Standing left to right: Neil Pleiman, Deborah Groff, Rev. Arnold Behrends, Diane Seger, Steve Wenning, Mary Miller, James Frey, Josephine Bruns, Hugo Schlarman, Chris Otte, John Seger, Shirley Frey, Cyril Gehret, Eva Gehret, Mark Gehle, Ronald Brunswick - Pres., James Brandewie - V.P. Absent when photo was taken were: Verene Kramer, Teresa Grillot, Joseph Grieshop, Nick Kemper, Angela Grieshop and Larry Goubeaux.



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Ralph Magoteaux became chief in 1952 and served through 1978. During this time, a new 750 - gpm pumper was purchased in 1965; the volunteers built a new water truck on a 1970 Ford chassie; and a new three-bay all brickhouse was built, complete with meeting rooms, restrooms, and kitchen. This was financed through donations from people in the district.

Our present chief, Frank Arling, Jr. took office in 1978. In 1979, the volunteers designed and built a new initial attack truck on a new 4 wheel drive Ford Crew Cab. This won a first place trophy at the Central Western Fireman's Convention at Mechanicsburg, Ohio, and several other trophies since.

In 1981, the department accepted its first woman fireman.

In 1975, with the help of Versailles Life Squad, Osgood Rescue Squad was formed. Since January, 1980, it has been an independent unit with a 1980 ambulance and a thirty-two person squad.

At present, there are thirty-six active members; fourteen honorary; and five deceased — Urban Poeppelman, Virgil Bergman, Ralph Wendel, Bernard "Bud" Schulze and Victor Hoelscher.

The present fire officers are: Chief, Frank E. Arling, Jr.; Assistant Chief, Neil Pleiman; Captain, John Seger; First Lieutenant, Elmer Mueller; Second Lieutenant Cy Albers and Secretary, Larry Pleiman.

These men really deserve the greatest recognition of the community, as they put a great deal of time and energy into the success of the department. They eagerly continue all the required fire and first-aid trainings. When the whistle blows, they run quickly. We are proud of our department and feel safe in their hands.



Osgood Community Fireboard
Left to right: Robert Poeppleman, Othmer Klenke, Carl Langenkamp, Raymond Broerman, Roger Tuente and Ervin Ahrens.

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Norb's Place

Opening date of the establishment presently known as Norb's Place is unknown. The first known owners were Wolaver, Lee Hilgefort, and Leo Schwieterman. The exact dates when these owners were in business is unknown.

Herman Winner purchased this property from Leo Neiberding in 1929, operated it until 1934 then it was sold to John Schlarman in 1937. It was sold to Bernard Rutschilling who operated the bar until March 1946.

It was then purchased by Norbert Stucke, who operated it until he suffered a stroke in 1949. His son, Roman Stucke, then managed and operated it until Norbert's death in 1954.

Roman continued to manage the business during his mother's ownership and purchased the business in 1964. He is presently the owner and operator.

Winner's Incorporated

The year of 1930 Robert Winner bought the meat market from William Leeper. At that time the meat cooler was kept cold by putting ice on shelves above the cooler.



Hardware building purchased in 1944.

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In 1938, a farm consisting of 13 acres was purchased east of town from Frank Magoteaux, former owner Ben Poeppelman. A slaughter house was built, and it has been enlarged four times since and the barn was converted into a stockyard.

The hardware building owned by George Bohman was purchased in 1944, and was next to the meat market. The first locker plant in this area was built which consisted of three-hundred lockers. Gradually the home freezer came into existence, and at the present time there are rented lockers in use. It was during this time that the store was enlarged to the present size.

Robert Winner sold his business in 1950 to four of his sons: Vernon, Ralph, Urban and Tom. At that time the livestock yard was expanded, several semi-trucks were purchased and entered the commercial hauling market for Val Decker Packing Co.

A stockyard was built at Philothea, Ohio in 1957.

Kenneth Winner, Robert's youngest son bought into the business in 1963, and it was then changed to the Corporation of the now present Robert Winner Sons, Incorporated.

Robert Winner died suddenly in 1965 at the age of 66.

In the same year, the locker plant in Willowdell was purchased.

The Bowman Meat Farm, Greenville, Ohio, was purchased in 1973, and consists of a slaughter house, processing building, etc. Most of the cattle that are fed out are slaughtered and kept on this farm which is operated by Michael Winner and John Kremer.

Later in 1980, a stockyard was built in Williamsburg, Indiana, which is being operated by Terry Winner.

In 1981, five sons were taken into the corporation: Jay, son of Vernon, - Alan, son of Ralph, - Michael, Steve and Terry sons of Tom.

The Winner family has operated the business in this area for fifty-three years - since 1930.

In 1980 Mrs. Robert (Kathryn) Winner passed away at the age of 79 years.

Poeppelman Sawmill

The Poeppelman sawmill originated on the farm of Fred J. Poeppelman in 1930, one-half mile east of Osgood, State Route 705.

Farmers brought in logs from many miles and had the lumber sawed for their use.

Mr. and Mrs. Fred J. Poeppelman moved to the village of Osgood in 1948, and he passed away at the age of 93 in 1978.

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Urban, son of Fred lived on and owned the farm where the sawmill was located, and joined in the business of the sawmill. Urban passed away at the age of 48.

Fire demolished the sawmill in September 1969. The farm is now owned by Gary Poeppelman, son of Urban.

L. H. Schmidt Eggs

In 1934 L. H. Schmidt established an egg processing plant at his father's farm. When needing more room to expand, he moved



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his business to Osgood in 1937. He leased a building from Jule Magato, formerly occupied by Ernest Althof, an auto sales and service business.

In 1942 he had to discontinue his business and went into military service during World War II. The building he had occupied was destroyed by fire in 1945.

In March of 1946 he purchased a building from Irene Bohman, and resumed business in June of that year. He made two additions to the building to better serve his customers. He had sales outlets in Ohio, Penn. and Michigan.

L. H. Schmidt retired in Dec. 1982, he and his wife Ruth reside in Osgood.

Economy Store

Lachey's Economy Store was originally purchased from William George in 1938. Joseph and Elizabeth Lachey continued to operate the grocery and department store, which now is the present Gagel Hardware Store.

The store carried a general line of merchandise, including groceries, dry goods and notions. They also operated a store on wheels, that serviced a large area of the community. It was operated by Norbert Franzer for years and carried the same line of merchandise as the store. He also purchased eggs from the farmers.

Located in this building for eight years, they moved with their three children, to the corner of State Route 705 and State Route 716 where they built their own home and store.



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They continued to operate the same kind of business, with Theresa (Wenning) Alexander as a full-time clerk and Bernadine Bruey and Mildred Winner as part-time clerks.

Joseph Lachey passed away in 1957. The store on wheels was discontinued and Elizabeth and her children continued the business until her retirement in 1978.

Elizabeth is now married to Anthony Grogean and resides at Dayton, Ohio.

American Legion

Osgood American Legion Post 588 was formed in 1946. The first commander was Alphonse Franzer and they held their first meetings in the town hall above the old fire house. There were 32 charter members.

Four acres of land was purchased from Henry Brandewie and the present building was built in 1952. Mortgage burning took place in 1956. Bernard Pleiman is the present commander and there is a total of 124 present members. A permanent charter was attained in 1953.

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The American Legion Auxiliary was formed in 1952 with 44 charter members. June Luebke served as the first president and Mary Bruns is the present president. The present membership is 80 members.

A legion bar was built and held its grand opening in May 1981. Dave Anthony served as the first manager and Linda Arling is the present manager.

Feed Supplies

In 1948 Ervin Recker started a feed store and sold dairy, hog and dairy concentrate to farmers in the area. He remained in business twenty-seven years. Over the years he sold Pillsbury feed, Yieldmore feeds, DeWine & Hamm and State Pilot feeds. He also sold Pioneer seed corn for twenty-five years.

Osgood Service

The Osgood Service Body Shop was built in 1949 on a lot owned by Mary Alexander. The business was operated by her and managed by Robert Gavit. Leo Schockman leased the building about 1952, and the north end was added in 1953. Mary Alexander passed away in 1954 and the building was rented to Alfred Luttmer by the Alexander family. In 1958 the building was sold to Harold and Arnold Wenning and they operated the business until it was sold to Maurice Brunswick and Charles Oldiges in 1973. In 1981 the partnership was dissolved and Maurice Brunswick became the sole owner.

1950 Snow Storm

Saturday, November 25, 1950 a snow storm arrived with great force and had drifts of five to six feet.

Osgood was without electricity for a few days when a transformer blew at the church.

With the close of forty hours devotion of the church, tractors with blades were used to open the roads for people to attend services.

A daughter was born to Mr. & Mrs. Henry Pleiman with the aid of a neighbor.

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Beauty Shop

Bernadetta's Beauty Shop located on 705 in Osgood, was open for business May 1949. The building was built by Lawrence Rutschilling. Since the opening it has been operated by Bernadetta (Rutschilling) Kemper for 35 years.

Scrap Yard

Elmer Wietholter, formerly from Minster, Ohio, moved to the Osgood area in 1953 on a farm of 8½ acres of ground bought from Walter Tuente. One acre of ground was used as a scrap yard. As time progressed, the yard grew larger and is now situated on seven and one-half acres.

The scrap is processed, cut up, and delivered to different foundaries and steel mills, namely, Lima and Marion, Ohio, — Muncie and Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Elmer usually employs three to five people.

Local people hired in the past were — Wilfred Homan, Paul Homan, Michael Siegrist and Herman Winner.

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The Beckman & Gast Co.
Osgood Plant

This busy tomato cannery is owned and operated by the Beckman and Gast Company with the main office in St. Henry, Ohio. The Osgood plant is managed by Nick Gast. With the help of local and migrant employees, they manage to put up nearly 100,000 cases of whole tomatos in a typical 8 week season.

The plant was purchased in 1958 from Clarence Grilliot of the Osgood area. Clarence purchased the plant around 1950 from a father and son team, Stan and Jim Waymire from New Madison, Ohio, who had been running it since 1947 or 1948. Previous operation was by the Macke family who ran several canniers in the northern Ohio, Putman County Region. They used the plant strictly as a weigh station for fresh tomatos from local growers. Before the Mackes, the plant was owned by Lippincott Canning Company. They put up the original brick building in the late 20's or early 30's to use as a boiler house and with the intention of putting up a complete cannery on the site, but for some unknown reason, possibly the depressed state of the economy at the time, the plant was never completed and stood idle for several years.



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Osgood Plumbing

Osgood Plumbing and Heating is owned and operated by Neal Pleiman. His business offers plumbing, heating and floor covering.

The business was established January 1, 1963 and located at 144 West Main Street.

Moss Dairy Equipment, Inc.

On May 1, 1969, Frank E. Arling Jr. and Hugo Langenkamp, Co-distributors of Watkins Products of Darke Co., purchased Moss Dairy Equipment from Josie and George Moss of Greenville.

Mr. Arling and Mr. Langenkamp purchased the business name plus inventory. The business was started in Frank Arling's garage, but as the business grew, so did the need for storage space, and a warehouse was built in 1972. At this time Mr. Langenkamp dissolved his partnership and continued as distributor for Watkins Products, while Frank & his wife, Mary Ann, took over complete ownership of Moss Dairy Equipment and were incorporated March 21. In June of 1976, their eldest son, John, joined the business and started a retail farm route.

Since December 1, 1982, Germania Dairy Equipment is also sold and serviced.



Dairy Equipment Warehouse built in 1972.

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Recreation Park

In the summer of 1971, the Osgood community organized a recreation committee consisting of Frank E. Arling, Jr., Roman Stucke, Thomas Winner, Maurice Brunswick, Robert Luebke, Vernon Huber, and William Whipp.

The Recreation Association had a tournament on Labor Day and the proceeds were set aside to improve the park facilities.

All old fence and facilities were torn down that Fall and approximaetly 1,500 cubic yards of fill ground was hauled in. The new ball diamond was graded down and new fences were put up.

In the early spring of 1973, the present shelter house and tennis courts were built. Later in the fall, playground equipment was installed with the help and cooperation of many people.

On October 28, 1976, approximately 7 acres of ground and wooded area was purchased from Richard Bohman. The wooded area is intended for picnic and playground use.

On December 29, 1978, approximately 5 acres, including the old school house were purchased from the Marion Local School District. It was decided at a public town meeting to raze the old school house. All salvagable materials were removed and sold.

The lot was seeded and trees were planted on the present site. This nice facility could not have been built without the tremendous cooperation and help of this community.

Religion

In March 1973, Father Paul Golembiewski and Margaret McLean, his housekeeper, arrived to our area. He served our community for ten years. Due to ill health in September of 1982, his involvement became limited and he passed away June 1983.

Margaret McLean continues her association in our community.

Osgood's Bicentennial Days

On August 7 & 8, 1976, the Village of Osgood helped celebrate America's 200th Birthday. The festivities started at 11:00 A.M. on Saturday with an Over 40 Softball Tournament. There was also a Baking Contest of pies and cookies which were judged. After dinner there were Big Wheel and tricycle races for children 6 years and under.

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In the afternoon there were sack races for all ages, pony rides, and a greased pole with a $10.00 bill attached to the top.

Bev Anthony and Nancy Wenning dressed up as two clowns, and tied many balloons into cute animal creations.

At 6:00 P.M. Thunder-Chicken, a sky-diving clown, had a hot-air balloon ascension with some of the kids being lucky enough to have a hot-air balloon ride.

A horseshoe tournament was held for the men, while bingo was held in the school basement for the ladies and children.

At 5:00 P.M. much of the attention was drawn to the old bus garage as many spectators enjoyed a greased pig contest.

The tug of war mud pull was also an attraction that was viewed by many.

Later, Thunder-Chicken passed out trophies and plaques to the winners of the Poster contest.

Fr. Paul Golembiewski and his cook, Margaret McLean judged the Essay contest. Plaques were presented to winners. All other contestants received a small award donated by Fr. Golembiewski and Miss McLean.

Later in the evening a sing-along was held along with Chuck-a-Luck, card games, and paddle wheel games.

The menu for the two day celebration consisted of an old-fashioned Ox Roast along with other sandwiches and refreshments.

Bohman T. V.

Robert Bohman started Bohman T.V. at St. Henry, Ohio and moved to Osgood in 1967. He operated the business until 1977. The building was sold to Randy Poeppelman in 1983, where his wife Betty presently operates a craft and gift shop.

1978 Worst Blizzard in Over 100 Years

On January 25, 1978, it rained all day. All during the day and into the evening a terrible snow storm was predicted. The 11:00 news on TV again predicted a terrible snow storm coming through the night.

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After midnight, Thursday, January 26, 1978, the rain began turning to snow. Later, the wind picked up and it began snowing harder. "This is the worst snow storm I've ever seen," said some of the older men.

This was later to be the talk of our community and many surrounding areas. As in many cases, this storm turned out to be a true test which proved our love for our neighbor and fellow man.

Electrical power was lost around 6:00 in the morning. By 9:00 various phone calls were received as to what type of action the town was going to take, as many of the local people needed help. It was decided that anyone who was able, should meet at the firehouse for an emergency meeting.

Dressed as warm as possible, many people began walking to the firehouse. This was a terribly difficult task. The wind and snow were blowing so hard, that all sense of direction was lost.

While at the firehouse, the meeting began. With people who had weathered the storm, a plan of action was being organized. Ideas were scarce.

Many local residents had snowmobiles and it was decided that they should be used to perform such duties as transporting people to other people's homes that had heat, delivering groceries, gas, oil, and medicines. Some of our local farmers donated milk to many families.



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The only thing that snowmobiles couldn't deliver was the duty of the stork. On Thursday, January 26, 1978, Mrs. Earl (Marie) Heitkamp gave birth to a baby daughter. John Seger, a rescue squad member drove his snowmobile and picked up Ruth Oldiges, a registered nurse and neighbor of Earl and Marie's to help assist them in the birth of their child. While John Seger transmitted instructions over the telephone with Dr. Delbert Blickenstaff of Versailles, Earl and Ruth performed the duties of doctor and midwife. At 3:26 P.M. little Susan Elaine was born.

Two days later, Saturday, January 28, was a date that Mr. & Mrs. George (Irene) Speelman won't forget. Charles Oldiges, a neighbor of Speelmans and husband of Ruth Oldiges walked next door and helped George deliver a baby boy.

Still another couple, Mr. & Mrs. John (Delilah) Core were expecting a visit from the stork. With the help of the state snow plows, the Osgood rescue arrived and drove Mr. & Mrs. Core to Wayne Hospital at Greenville, Ohio at 5:00 A.M. on Saturday, January 28, 1978. Later that night Delilah gave birth to a baby girl, Mercedes Maria. Everyone was glad to hear that all the babies and mothers were fine.

Meanwhile, the late Mr. Victor Hoelscher showed concern for his neighbors, John and Sandy Schwartz and their two children, Eric and Kathy, by walking across the fields to tell them he had



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come to take them to his home which had heat. With everyone dressed as warmly as possible and the children wrapped in blankets, they started walking across the fields. With the wind and snow blowing, they soon became lost. Walking in circles, they nearly froze to death. Finally, about 2 hrs. later, Vic recognized an old stump along the side of the field. Vic realized they were only a ¼ of a mile in an opposite direction from where they had started. The only thing left to do was to walk farther on to the next neighbor's house, Mr. & Mrs. Charles Grieshop. A closed-up door was discovered and both men pounded on it frantically. The Grieshop's daughter, Judy, thought she heard a noise and went outside to discover the 5 victims who were nearly frozen. To her amazement, they were her neighbors. They were graciously taken in and were very thankful that they were safe.

Many residents never remember our Catholic Church, St. Nicholas, ever cancelling mass on the weekend. This was to be a first. The town was completely isolated for 3½ days.

With regular snow-plowing street cleaner, Gary Poeppelman on his honeymoon in Florida, Nick Grillot came to Osgood with an 8 ft. snow blower to help clear streets and many of the private drives.

Many town and rural families housed their friends and neighbors, and seemed to enjoy the old time atmosphere of no lights, fireplaces, or old fashioned heating stoves. But most of all, they enjoyed the love and concern of each other at a crucial time.

This was recorded as the worst blizzard in over 100 years. The temperature with chill factor was recorded at 58° below zero. Half the town was out of electricity for 31 hours, while the remaining half was out for 34 hours.

All and all, there were no deaths, no lights, some heat, three new babies, and lots of love and concern for our fellowman.

1980 Flash Flood

On June 1, 1980 3½" to 4" of rain was recorded in the water gauges of residents of Osgood. Many of the streets were closed as they were covered with water. The ball field was flooded with as much as 2 ft. of water. The town kids were swimming and many were floating on inner-tubes in the high water. The parking lot looked like a huge swimming pool.

Fortunately the water receded after a few days.

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Body Shop

Poeppelman Body Shop, St. Rt. 716 Osgood, Ohio is owned and operated by Randy Poeppelman, who had his grand opening Oct. 17, 1981.

Octagenarian List

Leonard Bruey - oldest original parishioner.

Lawrence and Rose Rutschilling - oldest married couple.

Other Octagenarians are: Rose Dirksen, Lillie Recker, Anna Hoehne, Catherine Bohman, Leo Bruns, Anna Schemmel, Frank Kramer, Rose Rutschilling, Lawrence Rutschilling, Mary Schulze, Frank Grieshop, Louis Eilerman, Anna Arling, Mary Schlarman, Josephine Franzer, Eleanor Brandewie, Elizabeth Grilliot, Tony Bruns, Fred Kelch, Linus Dirksen, and Ben Rethman.

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