



The dedication for a log chamber of commerce building drew local dignitaries in June of 1948, including then chamber president, Louie Dittmer (with shovel) and (l-r) Ed Yuill; Kay McMullen; Ira Smith; C.O. Reed and Rean Mooney. Strolle; Earl Styles; John

Leader led in caring

A man known throughout the area for his compassion for others was the second president of the Gaylord / Otsego County Chamber of Commerce.

Ed Strolle, a longtime Vanderbilt and Gaylord businessman, served as president of the chamber in 1949.

Strolle took over the post from Louis Dittmer, who held the presidency for the first four years the board was organized.

In 1949, Strolle was a familiar name and a familiar face in Otsego County.

As the owner of Strolle Oil, Ed Strolle was known as a man who would not see any of his customers without heat in the winter.

"He gave away fuel oil and stuff when he needed it worse himself," one former business competitor remembered.

Despite having moved to the Detroit area almost three years ago to live with his daughter, Strolle is known in the Gaylord area for his many charitable and volunteer services.

He chaired the Selective Service Board for almost 25 years, served on the board of directors for the Little Village senior citizen hous-

ing for over 15 years and was a charter member of the Gaylord Rotary Club.

In the summer of 1989, the Herald Times honored Strolle with the title of der Buergermeister, first citizen of the Alpine Village, during the 25th annual Alpenfest celebration.

Strolle served on the board of directors of the chamber for about 10 years, including three years as vice president.

He was also mayor of Gaylord for two years and a city alderman (the predecessor of the current councilman) for seven years in the 1940s and '50s.

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