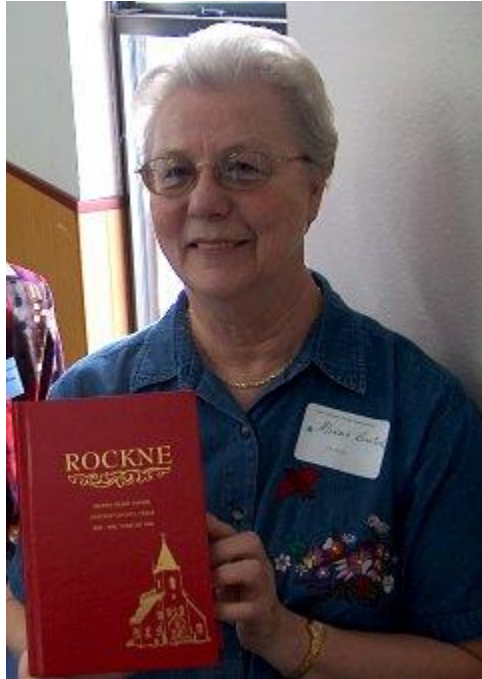


Minnie L. Bartsch Retires from First National Bank

By Erlene Goertz
Rockne's Roving Reporter



Editor's note: Minnie Lehman Bartsch is a charter member of the Rockne Historical Association and the curator of the Rockne Museum.

Minnie Bartsch, the first woman vice president for First National Bank in Bastrop, retired on March 31 after 43 ¾ years of working at the bank. Minnie was the guest of honor for two retirement parties.

The first was held at the First National Bank community room in Bastrop, and she was the guest of honor for the second party hosted by her children, Mark and Donna Bartsch, Tina and Terry Horyza, Kathy Bartsch and Cleota Gambino at the VFW Hall in Rockne.

As a going away present, Reid Sharp, president of First National Bank, presented her with two bookends giving the date of her retirement and a picture of her as the organizer of the bank's roadrunner trips. He also presented her with a free paid trip to Germany this September, organized by Rev. Bernard Goertz.

Minnie, who grew up in Rockne, has been and is still greatly involved in the activities of Sacred Heart Parish Rockne community and Austin Council of Catholic Women. She served as the past president, was treasurer of the Austin Deanery Council of Catholic Women, held an office in the Deanery CCW, taught CCE for 19 years, was charter member of the VFW Auxiliary 2527, was the treasurer for the Bastrop County Child Welfare board for 27 years, and is the secretary-treasurer for the Rockne Homemaker's Club.

She is a past president of the Rockne Historical Association and is still working as treasurer for RHA and St. Ann's Society. Minnie is the present secretary for Sacred Heart Parish Rockne.

Minnie oversaw the planning of trips and served as the tour guide for the First National Bank Roadrunner trips since 1982, and she plans to stay involved in this activity. She recently returned from a trip to Savannah, GA and Charleston, S.C.

Reid Sharp, president of First National Bank said, "I would like to thank Minnie for a job well done... Minnie has been a great employee. There is not enough good things that I can say about Minnie. She has meant a lot to me and has taught me a lot. We worked at the Old Dime Store owned by Cecil Long, together. I opened my first bank account at the First National Bank about the age of 12, and she was the one who helped me with my first account. Minnie was here when I became the president of the bank and has been here ever since. We are certainly going to miss her but wish her the best retirement ever. She has earned it."