Marquette County Historical Society

# IMPRINTS

ON THE SANDS OF MARQUETTE COUNTY

Old fashioned ...on purpose

December 2022

Volume 47 Number 4

### **Carol Claesges named Hero of History**

Greetings all!

I hope everyone is doing well and prepared for the holiday season. It's been busy; the county board voted to sell us the property in Westfield. There is some paperwork to take care of, but as of January 1st, 2023, the Society will own it. I personally want to thank every member and the board members for their support and input on this endeavor.

Message from the President

I also want to thank Ron Barger and the County for all their help.

We will be looking for volunteers to serve on committees that we will be instituting next year. Each committee will be charged with a different duty: finance, buildings and grounds, fundraising, long-term planning, and other things, so if you have wanted to be more involved, let us know.

The biggest push I would like to see this year is to increase our membership and have a broader presence in the community. I would like us to get more involved with the other historical societies in the county. I think we can be a help to each other, and maybe collaborate on projects.

I would like to get going on the blacksmith shop, just a basic cleaning and list of what's there. We will just need bodies to help move things. Some possible dates will be in a future newsletter.

Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



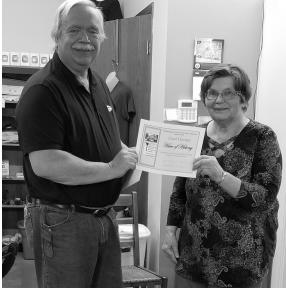
Rich Faltz

Curator and Secretary of the Marquette County Historical Society Carol Claesges was named Hero of History for 2022 by the Marquette County Historical Society at the annual meeting. President Rich Faltz presented Carol with a certificate and a gift of appreciation. Her name was added to the Hero of History plaque in the museum in Westfield.

Carol has been the impetus behind an extensive reorganizing and cataloguing of artifacts so that they are safely recorded and stored. She has developed various indexes to make finding artifacts easier. Carol also has organized the annual Cookie Walk for many years and takes on special projects like the recent 60th anniversary dance in 2022. She spends many hours each week volunteering for the historical society and is skilled at researching family histories for those who seek help from MCHS.

Carol joins the list of previous awardees of the special designation of Hero of History.

2010 Fran Sprain; 2011 Esther Brancel: 2012 Neil and Pat Kruger; 2013 Clint Kolpin; 2014 Roberta Johnson: 2015 Gene Yates; 2016 Mary Jean Thalacker; 2017 Janet Pope, Ella Faye Johnson; 2018 Ed Thalacker: 2019 Joan and Norm Ingraham; 2020 Greg Smith; 2021



President of the Marquette County Historical Society Rich Faltz presented Carol Claesges with the Hero of History award at the annual meeting recently. Carol is on the board of directors and is curator and secretary. Her extensive work on cataloguing artifacts has made great improvements to the safe storage of the society's collection.

Kathleen McGwin; 2022 Carol Claesges

# Cookie Walk a roaring success....thank you all

The Marquette County Historical Society raised over \$1300 at the recent annual cookie walk. Thank you to everyone who baked cookies, volunteered, and came to buy cookies. Thanks especially to Carol Claesges who organizes the event. As an all volunteer and all donation supported non-profit organization, it takes a lot of work to be able to have a museum, the great archives and collection that we have and a stunning museum and three historic buildings that we maintain. MCHS is successful because we have the volunteers and supporters that we have.



Board member Jeanne Metcalf snapped this photo at the cookie walk. People came for cookies but also had fun. Jeanne said, "They literally lit up the room because the all had some holiday lights on them! Even the short jacket lit up!" Pictured are customers Don, Elizabeth, Tom and Diane.

Right, During the cookie walk, people toured the museum and Tyson Swan, an

X-Ray Technician, was fascinated with the shoe X-Ray machine MCHS has in its collection. It was invented by Syl Adrian, once owner of Indian Echoes, now River's Bend. If you haven't seen the machine and read its back story, stop in and see it for yourself.





Customers had a hard time choosing their cookies with the large selection presented. Volunteer Carol Streich, right, checked people out at the cookie walk.



Can't make it on a Wednesday afternoon during our regular open hours? We'd love to accommodate your schedule and will arrange to open for you if you call or email us. Schedule a visit today! Call and leave a message 608-296-4700 (messages are only picked up once a week, so call with enough time to schedule your visit.) Or go to our website at www.marqcohistorical.org and use the CONTACT US form to send us an email. We will respond quickly. Or call one of the board members...see our phone numbers in this newsletter on page 4.

# Board Members, Officers, elected at Annual Meeting

Several board members were re-elected at the November 9 Annual meeting. A motion was made that a unanimous ballot be cast for the four board members who were up for reelection because of expiring terms. Sue Standke, Norma Weisbrod, Chuck Shultz and Kathleen McGwin all agreed to serve another term and were all re-elected for two year terms.

A board meeting was held after the annual meeting where officers were elected. Rich Faltz was elected as President, Norm Bernard Vice President, Carol Claesges Secretary and Gary Sorensen Treasurer. Officers serve one year terms.

# Thank You.....

A special thank you to all the cookie bakers, decorators, workers and vendors: Rich, Mary, & Sarah Faltz; Jeanne Metcalf; Joanie & Norm Ingraham; Pat, Todd and Paula Kruger; Norm & Lynette Barnard; Kathleen McGwin; Nora Beskow; Carol Streich; Kathy Colmer; Pam Iruk; Mary Fullmer; Erin Claesges; Allen Willkomm's church ladies; Norma Weisbrod; Karen Christensen; Deb Burton; Jo Groskreutz; Mary Jo Ziglinski; Barb Kidney; Bob & Peggy Fullmer and anyone else who donated their time or baking skills.

Without you, there would be no Cookie Walk. Thanks again. *Carol Claesges* 

# Christmases Past .... Below, newspaper about 1900, right below, Christmas 1956

-The dancing people, of Germania, were treated to a dance, Tuesday evening, at which they tripped the light fautastic till early in the morning.

-Mr. and Mrs. Homer Brooks received the finest Christmas present of any one in Montello. It was God-given and was in the shape of an 8½ pound girl.



### Ways that you can support the Marquette County Historical Society financially

The Marquette County Historical Society operates solely on donations and volunteer labor. With the society taking over the land and buildings from Marquette County, it is even more important that MCHS carefully plan for the future financially to assure that history in Marquette County is preserved for future generations. Although MCHS has always paid for major expenses over the years, not having the security of the county as a back up source of support, and taking on more expense like insurance, we must be vigilant with our resources. We hope you will consider ways you can help. Membership dues make up a reliable source of income. Please renew your membership and consider becoming a lifetime member. Donations collected at special events are also an important source of income for MCHS. MCHS provides free programming but in order to keep doing that we depend on donations. Purchasing books published by MCHS is another way you can help. Local history books make great gifts and are available at the museum, at Reader's Realm Books in Montello and at the Register of Deeds office in the courthouse. Finally, please consider putting MCHS in your will or making special arrangements for legacy gifts in order to save history through the work of the Marquette County Historical Society. Your support is appreciated and important.

Do you have a suggestion for a Hero of History in your Marquette County neighborhood? Someone who has worked to preserve historical records, artifacts, stories, or buildings? Someone who has supported history in our county? Contact us and tell us about them.

# Visit our website: www.marqcohistorical.org

PLEASE RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP or if you are<br/>reading this newsletter and are not yet a member, please JOIN<br/>NOW. Membership is due January 1. Remember, Life Time<br/>membership is \$225 and you never pay again! Individual \$15<br/>Family \$30 Sustaining \$25(individual plus donation)<br/>Business \$50 (includes business card in newsletter for a year).<br/>We need your support.Join<br/>Men<br/>disco<br/>pleasure<br/>wonderful

The Marquette County Historical Society is a 501(c)(3) Non-profit organization founded in 1962 Marquette County Historical Society 125 Lawrence Street, P.O. Box 172 Westfield, Wisconsin 53964 608-296-5658 / e-mail: marqhistorical@gmail.com Www.marqcohistorical.org Hours: Open Every Wednesday Afternoon (1:00-4:00 p.m.) Other Times Available by Appointment

Officers:

President: Richard Faltz Vice President Norm Bernard Secretary: Carol Claesges Treasurer: Gary Sorensen Curator: Carol Claesges

#### Board of Directors:

Sue Standke (2024) Norman Barnard (2023) Joanie Ingraham (2023) Norma Weisbrod (2024) Todd Kruger (2024) Jeanne Metcalf (2024) Chuck Shultz (2024) Kathleen McGwin (2024) Gary Sorensen (2023) Bob Fullmer (2024)

"Imprints: On the Sands of Marquette County" is the quarterly newsletter of the Marquette County Historical Society Editor: Kathleen McGwin

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Join today! The Marquette

Members receive a the newsletter, discounts on gift shop items, and the pleasure of knowing you are preserving the wonderful, rich history of Marquette County.

# County Historical Society welcomes new members. Membership Application

Please Print

Name:

Phone:

Address:

Email Address:

\$15 Individual
\$25 Sustaining (donation plus membership)
\$30 Family (dependent children and spouse)
\$225 Lifetime \$50 business (includes business card in newsletter)
Make check payable to:

### Marquette County Historical Society 125 Lawrence Street, P.O. Box 172 Westfield, WI 53964



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OUR BUSINESS MEMBERS ARE MAKING HISTORY TODAY, PLEASE SUPPORT THEM.



The Marquette County Tribune

"Recording Marquette County History since 1859" P.O. Box 188, Montello, WI 53949 608-297-2424 www.marquettecountytribune.com Business memberships are \$50. They support local history plus receive advertising in our quarterly newsletter.

Go to www.marqcohistorical.org and have fun looking at our website.

# Fifth generation Kline visits museum with 4th generation





Kebin Kline and his son Corbin (see photo left) came to the Marquette County Historical Society so that Corbin could learn a bit of family history. They are standing next to the Frederick Kline Jewelry Store safe that is in the collection of the historical society. Kline jewelry was located in Westfield and Kebin said that before the village had their own safe, their papers were stored in the Kline safe. Frederick was Kebin's great grandfather. Corbin is 5th generation of the Klines from Marquette County.

# *Celebrating Sixty draws to a close*

The Marquette County Historical Society ends its 60th year of saving Marquette County history and begins its 61st year in 2023. The board wishes everyone a Happy New Year with much happiness and success. Make the Marquette County Historical Society part of your life and visit us or join today.

Celebrate Sixty in 2022 by adding \$60 to your annual dues. Support the next 60 years of preserving history by donating just a dollar for each year the Marquette County Historical Society has been working for you! Please consider adding \$60 to your annual dues in 2022. Celebrating 60 donation + dues in 2022: Individual \$15 +\$60 = \$75 Sustaining \$25 +\$60 = \$75 Sustaining \$25 +\$60 = \$90 Lifetime \$225 + \$60 = \$285 Business \$50 + \$60 = \$110 The photo above is from the Centennial Memories Westfield book sold for \$5 at the historical society. It shows the inside of the Fred and Leo Kline Jewelry Store. The family line is Frederick, his son Leon, Leon's son Richard and then Kebin which brings us to Corbin. MCHS collection holds many family records so that generations can research their families.

Below, The dance instructor in this photo is Florence (Mrs. Richard) Kline who is Kebin Kline's grandmother, Corbin's great grandmother. They were performing the very popular at the time, Red Bird. From left to right, Twyla Schauer, Ethel Crockett, unknown, Mildred Schauer, Hazel Warnke, Lilas Laing, Marion Dewar, Florence Kline, Roberta McWilliams, Nina Waldo, Ann Eubank, Maxine Schwark, Elda Schleuter, Grace Campbell and Jean Crockett. The Marquette County Historical Society is a great place to research your family history. Visit us at www.marqcohistorical.org or on Facebook to learn more.

