

March 2018

Volume 43 Number 1

Mark your calendar for 2018 special MCHS events

Saturday, April 21 1 PM Dale Caskey logging presentation and homesteading in Marquette County

Saturday, June 9 1-3 Strawberry Sociable Teddy Bear Picnic

Thursday thru Sunday, July 5-8 Marquette County Fair booth

Sunday, September 23 1:30 PM Jessica Michna presenting Laura

Ingalls Wilder: Road to the Little House

Sunday, October 14 1:30 PM Author Peter Shrake speaking on his book The Silverman about Indian Agent John Harris Kinzie

Historical Society seeks ideas for new barn quilt block

The Marquette County Historical Society is planning another barn quilt block for the newest building addition and is looking for design ideas. They would like the ideas that are offered to show some element of Marquette County history.

It is not necessary to design a whole barn quilt block, although it can be done. They may just take elements from several ideas to put together our block.

Ideas or designs may be dropped at the museum (open on Wednesday afternoons or by appointment) in Westfield or at the Marquette County Tribune office, 120 Underwood Avenue in Montello. We encourage students to participate but the project for ideas for a new barn quilt is open to anyone. If you are working online, please email a pdf of your design to joanie@theingrahams.com.

To the right is one of two barn quilts that are presently at the museum. This one celebrates the Sallie Sheldon Hart quilt that is in our collection. MCHS is on the Marquette County Barn Quilt and Hidden History Route. Go to www.barnquiltsandmurals.com



Have you tried out the Marquette County John Muir Nature and History Route mobile app? You don't need a smartphone to see it. Use your computer to go to

1903 house has been a witness to Westfield history

Karen Christensen of Westfield stopped by the historical society one day to show MCHS volunteer Janet Pope a painting of a house both of them have in common. The house was built in 1903 by Karen's great-grandfather Alma Carpenter. Karen's great-grandmother Sarah, daughter to Alma, married James Jones and they and their twelve children lived in the house. Their daughter Sylvia (Bloss) was Karen's grandmother.

In 1923, the land next to the house was .set up as a fish hatchery that utilized the fast flowing natural springs in the area. The Wisconsin Conservation Commission purchased the property in 1926. This included the hatchery, a house, barn and other buildings. The house was used for the fish hatchery managers over the years.

Gary and wife Janet were interviewed in 2011 about the hatchery for the book Abundant Harvest: the legacy of hunting and fishing in Marquette County (available for sale at the Marquette County Historical Society.) From the book, "Gary Pope came to the Westfield Fish Hatchery in 1966 after working at the Wild Rose hatchery for 10 years. He'd grown up south of Waupaca, spent two years in the Army as a cook and applied for a job opening at the hatchery when he returned home. He came with much experience in trout stream restoration, rough fish, and hatchery work. He and his family moved into the house on the hatchery grounds.

'I lived in the most beautiful place,' recalled Janet, who walked through the now empty house and pointed out where their Christmas tree stood, where each child slept, and how she chose the floor covering still on the kitchen floor. She still has dreams about their former family home with its big screened in porch, chicken coop and barn. The hatchery sits on nine acres."

It saddens both Janet and Karen that the house has been empty for a number of years.



Karen Christensen, left, and Janet Pope, both have personal ties to the house that was for years used for the manager of the Fish Hatchery in Westfield. It was built in 1903 by Karen's great-great-grandfather.







In 2011, Janet and Gary Pope stood in front of the house on the Fish Hatchery grounds where they raised their family when Gary was the hatchery manager. The house had already been empty for a number of years, used for temporary housing for DNR workers. The house was beautifully built with built in cabinets and decorative hardwood floors.

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Copy of photo of James Knox Jones family taken in Westfield, WI (approximately 1900). This photo was altered in 1983 and three children were added to the photo



Upper Left, the house on the old fish hatchery grounds was built in 1903. On the porch in the photo is the family of Sarah (Carpenter) and James Jones. Below left is a photo of them and their family.

The porch was eventually screened in and Janet Pope, who with her husband Gary, raised their family there when Gary managed the fish hatchery for the DNR, loved the porch and the lovely house. Janet is shown above in 1967 with her children when they lived on the hatchery grounds.

WE NEED HELP! To keep the historical society active and successful, we need volunteers in all areas. Would you like to run for the board? Can you scan documents? Do you like to organize? Can you help with carpentry, renovation and the like? Please contact us or come to the museum on Wednesdays from 1 to 4.

Update! The annual Cookie walk in November was a huge success. The amount of total money taken in was \$1,046. The net profit after expenses was \$698.11. Thanks to everyone who donated cookies and all the buyers.

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

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) 296-4700 / e-mail: marqcohistorical@gmail.com Www.marqcohistorical.org Hours: Open Every Wednesday Afternoon (1:00-4:00 p.m.) Other Times Available by Appointment Officers: President: Leroy Stublaski Vice President: Ed Thalacker Secretary: Carol Claesges Treasurer: Kathryn Colmer Curator: Carol Claesges Office Manager: Janet Pope Board of Directors: Richard Faltz (2020) Sue Standke (2018) Allen Willkomm (2020) Greg Smith (2018) Joanie Ingraham (2020) Kathleen McGwin (2020) Karen Watkins (2020)

"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 County Historical Society welcomes new members.

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.

Membership Application
Please Print
Name:
Phone:
Address:
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\$25 Sustaining (donation plus membership) \$30 Family (dependent children and spouse) \$225 Lifetime \$50 business (includes business card in newsletter) Make check payable to:

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

Memberships renew November 1 each year.

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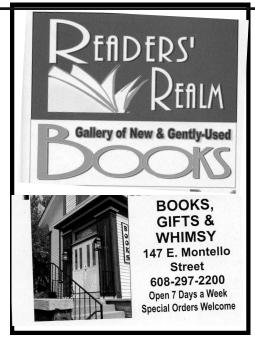


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Requests for help continue to rise

Already since January 1, MCHS has received 12 requests for information through our website. Once a request is received, it is forwarded to volunteers Pat Kruger, Carol Claesges and Janet Pope who do what they can to fulfill the request. They often turn to other volunteers and board members to assist as well.

Requests come regarding obituaries, location of graves, community history and more. Sometimes the requester is referred to other resources like other historical societies, libraries or the county Register of Deeds.

The success of finding information is very high because of dedicated and knowledgeable volunteers. One example is a request from Prairie du Sac for an obituary for an infant who died in 1931. The family had information that she'd died in Chicago but was buried in Endeavor.

Janet Pope recognized the name of the family and its relation to Joan Ingraham's family tree. Joan was able to give date of the death and Janet was able to find the announcement in a local paper. Chicago was not where the infant died. Family information sometimes gets confused.

Because of Janet's work, the information could be passed on to the elderly sister of the infant who is going blind and who wanted to be able to see it while she still could. Thanks, Janet and all the volunteers at MCHS. Stories like this happen every week at the Marquette County Historical Society.

Quilt book and cemetery friends still alive and well

Kathleen McGwin's house fire set back the Cemetery Friends and second edition of the Marquette County quilt book, but work will resume on both early in 2018. Kathleen has all the quilt photos since she saved her backup drive from her computer, but lost all the paper copy folks filled out about the quilts. Watch the Marquette County Tribune for information about dates Kathleen will be available at the museum for those who brought quilts to be added to the book, to once again fill out information and identify the correct quilt. She apologizes for this double work.

Watch the paper also, for a date when the Friends of the Marquette County Cemeteries will begin meeting. It probably will be in May.

From Montello Historic Preservation Society



Marty Kupferschmidt visited the museum recently and talked with Board Member Greg Smith. Marty has donated turn of the century furniture to the historical society that complements the décor of the Cochrane-Nelson home. You can see it in the parlor of the home. Thanks to all who make MCHS better tell the story of Marquette County.

