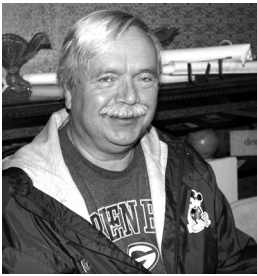


Message from the outgoing President



Just a quick message of thanks to the members who helped the Society and me get thru the last year and a half. I want to thank Gary Sorensen for going with me to the meetings with the county as we separated from the county and for his hard work as our treasurer . A

special thanks to Joanie Ingraham and Kathleen McGwin for their decades of hard work and service to the Marquette County Historical Society. They will be hard to replace.

I hope to continue working on the blacksmith shop project and getting it ready for the public. The work being done on the shop is thanks to a generous contribution from Barbara Borders, a great supporter of our Historical Society.

Thanks again for all of the support.

Rich Faltz

Message from the incoming President



Hello. My name is JoAnn (Ingram) Groskreutz. I will be the President for 2024. I have been a volunteer at the Marquette County Historical Society for 5 years. Currently my specialty has been working with PastPerfect 5.0. This

computer program has allowed me to enter over 2,000 items, from collections we have, on to the computer. I am able to add and edit each item from our inventory to the program. I can also add a picture of each item. This then becomes a searchable database for visitors to the museum. We need more volunteers to learn this program. This program also keeps track of our membership records. Please stop by and learn more about PastPerfect 5.0. Our second year is just around the corner in which we will be totally independent from the county. That means we must find more ways to generate income. We can always use volunteers for data entry, staging exhibits, maintaining collections, working with others to organize the blacksmith shop, and much more. You choose how many hours or days you would like to volunteer. Again, stop by the museum and check us out. You are always welcome.

A special thank you to past Board member Kathleen McGwin for all the work she has done for the museum. It will take at least three volunteers to step into her role as newsletter editor, Facebook manager and website design and maintenance. She was an asset.

Jo Ann Groskreutz

PS

Our wish list for 2024: Volunteers, Acid-free archival boxes, Letter size hanging folders, Acid-free photo sleeves, copy paper, Data entry volunteer, Sheet protectors for documents, Photographer, Letter size laminating film, Kitchen supplies-disposable coffee cups, plastic spoons, paper towels, 2 new computers, Donations

Change of Leadership at MCHS

Officers for 2024:

President: Jo Groskreutz
Vice President: Norm Barnard
Secretary: Carol Claesges
Treasurer: Gary Sorensen

Board of Directors:

Sue Standke (2025) Jeanne Metcalf (2025)
Chuck Shultz (2024) Pam Iruk (2024)
Norma Weisbrod (2024) Todd Kruger (2025)
Rich Faltz (2025) Vacancy

Reminiscent Ramblings

By Dan Janke



It's peculiar how old photos or mere snippets of conversation can bring back memories from long ago and that is exactly what happened with the September issue of IMPRINTS.

That milk truck pictured on page 6 brings back memories for me. When my Dad (Elson Janke) was working under the hood, as a youngster, I got into that truck and blew the horn. I couldn't really hear what my Dad said after being startled by the horn and hitting his head because I was on that horn yet.

On page 3, the truck by the telephone pole was my Dads wrecker for many years. Elson owned a can milk truck (milk, in those years was primarily transported from farm to processor in milk cans) and hired various drivers. On the drivers' days off, my Dad, brother Dick and I did the routes. Elson worked on a lot of milk trucks, doing business as Dugan Motors in downtown Westfield, including mounting van type boxes on new trucks.

The routes for Dads trucking endeavors encompassed rural Westfield and clear south of Montello. Parts of Adams County were also included.

There were a number of times when I accompanied Dad on wrecker calls. On one occasion a milk truck broke something in the rear end and Dad told me to get in the milk truck and hold the steering wheel straight while he lifted the rear end and towed the truck down Highway 51 into the shop. We made it to Westfield OK but somehow I think there was an illegality involved with that operation. Another interesting incident was when a loaded milk truck, on a Sunday morning, ended up in the Westfield Mill Pond near where the Historical Society currently makes its home. The truck driver had made a turn where the road wasn't. I think that driver should have drunk milk the night before. Since that driver was already wet, he had the privilege of hooking the wrecker cable to his truck.

There were quite a number of local guys who operated their own milk trucks. Some that I remember are Herb Thalacker, Norbert Henke, Gerhart Henke and Marv Warnke.

While some local kids worked at the creamery, I worked two summers at the pop factory in Lawrence. I drove my 1931 Ford to work during the second summer. Maybe I'll tell tales about that operation in a future issue.

Here are some interesting tidbits regarding the dairy industry in the past. In the winter time, some farmers had a heated water tank outside for their milk cans. On occasion, the water would freeze anyway and the cans had to be broken loose. One of the farms we picked up from had twelve cans. That was quite a lot back in the day and a normal pick up would usually be 2 or 3 cans. I remember that the cans had the name of the dairy embossed on the side of the can. Farmers could order butter and other finished products by leaving a note in the milk house and the order was delivered the next day by the route driver. When the milk cans arrived at the creamery, they were put on a conveyor and the covers had to be knocked open using a weight from an old window sash. I reckon most people today wouldn't know what one of those window weights would look like.

The truck pictured on page 6 was used for local home deliveries. I recall that Walter Henke was one of the drivers.

Well, my brain has been thoroughly picked for the time being, but maybe I can dredge something up in the future. Thanks for reading.



Annual Cookie Walk a huge success



Message from the Cookie Walk chair, Carol Claesges

I want to say thank you to everyone who helped make the 2023 Cookie Walk such a success. The best year ever! It could not have been accomplished without our large number of volunteer bakers. The variety and quantity of cookies was amazing. Thank you all. A special thank you to the work crew — Norm, Lynette, Pam, Bob, Kathleen, Carol, Deb, Jeanne, Jo, Norma, Mary Jo & Margaret who took time from their busy Thanksgiving weekend to help. Can't wait to see what next year will bring.



Upper left, this happy crew are annual visitors to the Cookie Walk. They live in Chicago and make it a point to come to the cookie walk held during Westfield's Taste and Tour.

Upper right, it's not just the cookies that draw people to the historical society. Here, a dad shows his son the wonderful mail wagon/sled on exhibit at the museum.



Left, a family deliberates over the big variety of cookies to choose from at the cookie walk.

Margie Thalacker is named 2023 Hero of History

Margie Thalacker was named the 2023 Hero of History by the Marquette County Historical Society at their annual meeting in November. Margie has donated many historical artifacts to the museum and is available to answer questions about Marquette County and the families that have lived here for generations. She can often be found helping visitors who are researching their ancestors. Margie adds many details to the records at MCHS about the people and communities in Marquette County.

Previous Heroes of History are:

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 and Ella Faye Johnson, 2018 Ed Thalacker, 2019 Joan and Norm Ingraham, 2020 Greg Smith, 2021 Kathleen McGwin, 2022 Carol Claesges.



Margie Thalacker had family and friends present when she recently received the Marquette County Historical Society Hero of History 2023 award. Dick Arndt from Albuquerque, Gus Thalacker, Patrick Thalacker, Darrel Schueler and Mary Buchholz gathered around the new Hero of History, Margie Thalacker. Margie will be sharing her many memories and family history with the historical society in the near future and MCHS will share it with you.



Vice President of MCHS Norm Barnard congratulated Margie on her award.

Visit our website: www.marqcohistorical.org

PLEASE RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP or if you are reading this newsletter and are not yet a member, please JOIN NOW. Membership is due January 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
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www.marqcohistorical.org
Hours: Open Every Wednesday Afternoon (1:00-4:00 p.m.)
Other Times Available by Appointment

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Rich Faltz (2025) Vacancy

**Thank you to everyone who volunteered,
donated and attended our events in 2023.
MCHS had a great year and we are all
looking forward to 2024.**

Join today! The Marquette
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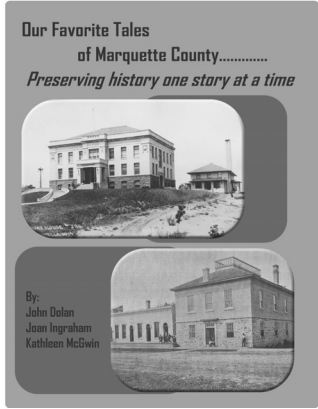
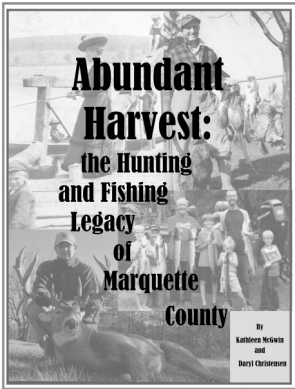
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Business memberships are \$50. They support local history plus receive advertising in our quarterly newsletter.

Local history books make great Christmas presents. We have them for you at the historical society or you can buy them at Readers' Realm Books in Montello. All the money goes to either the Marquette County Historical Society or the Montello Historic Preservation Society. Local history books make great gifts and Christmas isn't too far away.



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