

Historic Home Tour

Houses with Stories to Tell

By Patra Holter

The third annual WHA home tour will take place this year on Saturday, July 30 during the Brownstone Days festival between the hours of ten and two. Five houses will be featured with emphasis on their history, architecture and unique stories. A host and docents will be available to guide visitors through the experience.

The homes are all within walking distance of each other and the cost of the tour is \$5.00 per person. Tickets can be purchased in advance at Karlyn's Gallery in Washburn and at Stone's Throw in Bayfield. On the day of the tour, they can be purchased at WHA ticket booths near the Chamber on Bayfield Street or at the WHA tent across the street from the Washburn Public Library near the neighborhood of the featured homes.

We invite you to participate in an enjoyable few hours as you travel between each of the homes. And be sure to visit the Karzmarek home which is featured in the June issue of *Lake Superior Magazine*.

Tour on the Trolley

By Sharon Stewart

Free trolley tours on Saturday, July 30, will introduce locals and visitors to Washburn's historic sites. For the past five years, Ron and Kay Maassen have sponsored the Heritage Association's one-hour, narrated trolley tours to visit significant locations throughout the community.

The tour starts near City Hall and relates historic events as it passes the library and the Catholic church en route to the Bayfield County Court House, the first site in Bayfield County to be recorded in the National Register of Historic Places. The trolley winds through our new Third Street Historic District and highlights community landmarks on Bayfield Street on its way to Memorial Park, the Coal Dock and West End Park.

The trolley will pick up passengers at City Hall at 11 am, noon and 1 pm. The comfort of the trolley is an easy way to tour. And don't forget – the ride is free for riders of all ages.

President's Letter

Connections

It says something about the values of the citizens of Washburn that there are five different groups working, in one way or another, on preservation of our history, our architecture and our culture. It is clear that we treasure our heritage. The five groups are:

- Washburn Heritage Association
- Washburn Area Historical Society
- Washburn Cultural Center
- Historic Civic Center Foundation
- Washburn Historic Preservation Commission.

These organizations emerged and evolved over the years with distinct, different objectives. On the other hand, we have much common ground and know a lot can be accomplished by working together. A newly-formed consortium has met several times to talk about ways to collaborate, communicate effectively and share resources. Part of our action plan deals with improving sustainability of our groups by attracting younger members to our missions and a clearer definition as to how our past relates to our current identity.

While there are details to be worked out, it is safe to say we are excited about joining forces on projects and perhaps, at some point, merging some of the groups. We will keep you posted about our progress and, in the meantime, welcome comments and suggestions about the consortium.

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Visit our Website at www.washburnheritage.org

Fifth Annual Tony Woiak History Festival

We have a very interesting line-up of speakers for this summer event, co-sponsored by WHA and the Washburn Area Historical Society. Please note that the venue has changed for the summer, and all programs will take place at the Steak Pit at 7:30 p.m. The Steak Pit will be offering a Festival Special for those who would like to dine before the program. All programs cost \$5.00 admission. This summer series made possible by a grant from the Apostle Islands Historic Preservation Conservancy

Tuesday, June 28 – C. C. - Tales of

Washburn's Namesake - Washburn, Wisconsin was named after a member of one of the most influential political and industrious families in American history. Born and raised as a Massachusetts Yankee in Maine, CC was the first of the Washburn brothers to head west in search of fame and fortune. CC represented Wisconsin in Congress alongside two other brothers from other states, served the nation in the Civil War, became a Wisconsin governor, a member of the UW Board of Regents, president of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin, and still found the time and energy to establish the company that is known today as General Mills.

Join Pete Mann, former Washburn administrator, as he shares tales of the man who never set foot in the Wisconsin community named after him, but whose influence continues to reverberate across portions of the Badger State. Music will be provided by Zach Olson.



Tuesday, July 12 – Join Captain Sherman Edwards to hear the story of the home that fell through the ice between Madeline Island and Bayfield as it was being moved. Sherman is a certified diver and actually swam through the home as it sat on the lake floor. Music to be announced.



Tuesday, July 26 – Lamps in the Wilderness– The six light stations of the Apostle Islands have been called the “largest and finest single collection of lighthouses in the country.” The stories of these beacons are rich with drama, heroism, comedy and villainy.

Former National Park Service historian Bob Mackreth has spent years researching and compiling these tales. Join Bob as he reads selected passages from his book in progress, “Lamps in the Wilderness: The Lighthouses of the Apostle Islands.” Music provided by Liesel Wilson



Tuesday August 2 – Washburn's

Robinson Family – In 1887, Matthew H. Robinson arrived in Washburn and his family became an involved and colorful group that helped develop and shape our community. Family members included a newspaper owner, mayor, barber, pianist, chairmen of both Republican and Democratic County committees and owner of a speakeasy. Karen Spears Novachek, assisted by Cherie Grant, will highlight the Robinson

family history and their impact on our community. Music will be provided by Yazmin Bowers

High School Collaboration

By Andrew Grimm

This year the Washburn Heritage Association has begun to work closely with students from Washburn High School on planning and implementing historical projects to communicate the history of Washburn and the Washburn community.

One of the major projects undertaken was the filming of the 2016 Winter History Festival performances by Washburn High School students. These performances were filmed and then burnt to DVDs for members and community members to enjoy at home. There are plans to film presenters of the 2016 Summer History Festival. Future plan call for students at Washburn High School record interviews with members of the community to preserve the history of the area. As a board member of the WHA and a teacher at Washburn High School I am excited at the prospects of working with students and WHA members to promote the history of the Washburn community.

Please Join Us

If you are interested in any of our projects and would like to volunteer to help, or of have ideas for new projects, please talk to any board member. You can join the Washburn Heritage Association by visiting our website and downloading the membership form. Or call [715-373-5212](tel:715-373-5212) to have a form mailed to you.