



# Pewaukee Area Historical Society

Clark House Museum  
206 East Wisconsin Avenue  
Pewaukee, Wisconsin 53072

**Museum Hours:**  
May through October  
Sundays 1-4 pm  
Wednesdays 7-9 pm  
or anytime by Appointment

Email: [info@pewaukeehistory.org](mailto:info@pewaukeehistory.org)  
Website: [www.pewaukeehistory.org](http://www.pewaukeehistory.org)  
[www.facebook.com/pewaukeehistory](https://www.facebook.com/pewaukeehistory)  
262-691-0233

Winter, 2017

## Events

Mark your Calendars

Dec 2 - Community  
Tree Lighting  
2:00 - 5:00 p.m.  
Clark House,  
Steele Building

### 2018 Dates to Remember:

Jan. 31 - Annual  
Meeting 7:00 p.m.  
Pewaukee Library  
Community Room

Apr 25-Quarterly Mtg

May - Community  
Night hosted by  
Pewaukee H.S. History  
students (Date TBA)

June 10 - Show Us  
Your Collection

July 8 - Ice Cream  
Social

July 25-Qtly. Mtg

Aug 18 - Boat Show

Sept 9 - Harvest Fest

Sept 27-29-Rummage  
Sale

Oct 31-Quarterly Mtg

Dec 1 - Tree Lighting

## COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING Dec. 2, 2017 2:00-5:00 pm

The Pewaukee Kiwanis Club is sponsoring the annual Pewaukee Christmas Tree Lighting hosted by the Pewaukee Area Historical Society at the Clark House Museum and the Steele Exhibit Building on Saturday, December 2nd for kids of all ages. Activities include:  
**2:15 pm:** Santa and Mrs. Claus arrive in a Pewaukee Fire Truck with police escort.



- Take pictures with Santa (bring your own camera).
- Santa's gift shop for the little ones to purchase a gift for mom and/or dad at \$2.00 per gift which includes gift wrapping.
- Kids can make a craft.
- Win a Poinsettia - plants donated by the Pewaukee Kiwanis Club.
- Cookies and hot chocolate provided by the Pewaukee Kiwanis Club.

**4:00-5:00 pm:** Caroling with the Civic Broadway Singers.

**5:00 pm: Christmas Tree to be lit.**  
\*Please bring donations of non-perishable food for the food pantry.

## See You at the Meeting...

PAHS annual meeting is scheduled for *Wednesday, January 31, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. at the Pewaukee Public Library, Community Room, located at 210 Main Street, Pewaukee.* We will have a brief meeting as well as election of board members followed by an interesting presentation (to be announced). Check our website or voice message for more information in January. If you would like to serve on the PAHS board, please leave a voice message at the Clark House or respond via email. PAHS cannot exist without volunteers!

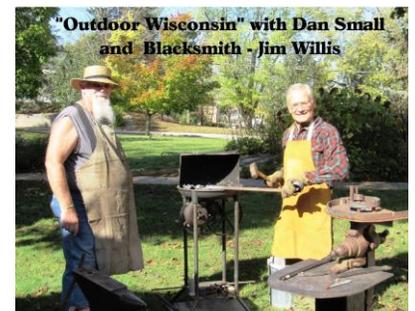
## Local Blacksmith Makes It To The "Big Time"

A voice message at the Clark House inquired whether we have any blacksmith tools that they could use for an upcoming TV show. . . we can do better than that . . . we have a blacksmith, our own Jim Willis!

On October 17<sup>th</sup>, the Outdoor Wisconsin production crew and Dan Small arrived to film a segment with Jim Willis demonstrating his art that will be shown in January.

Once we know the date we'll list it on our facebook page.

Nice job Jim!



## Pewaukee School Memories

by Richard Rosenberger

Do you know what once stood on the grounds where the Pewaukee Public Library stands? If you do, you have lived in Pewaukee for a long time. That's right! The Pewaukee Middle School stood there.



Old Pewaukee Middle School

The corner stones of the school have been at the Clark House for quite a few years but they were broken apart. Volunteer Richard Rosenberger put the pieces together and capped them. They are now a solid pair of end tables that you can find on the museum's patio.



(Richard Rosenberger (left), Duane Bewer (right))

The park bench in the photo is one of seven park benches that volunteer Duane Bewer has been restoring to a long lasting, comfortable condition. As you visit the Clark House and relax on the benches, be sure to look at other Pewaukee school memorabilia such as class pictures. They are sure to bring back memories of former teachers, students and you might even be in a picture.

## Goal: Keeping the Clark House Property in Good Shape

by Tom Brick, Treasurer

At this time of year, we take a look at how our receipts for the year (fundraising, dues, donations) compare with what we have budgeted for such normal expenses as gas, electricity, lawn care, snow removal, phone, internet, garbage removal, security system expenses and liability insurance and we have very little money left over for any unexpected or major repairs or improvements. One unexpected expense this year occurred when we had to replace the Clark House hot water heater at a cost of \$900.00. In the near future, we will have some major expenses for repaving our driveway (\$3500), removing and replacing a maple tree (\$1500 + removal cost), along with other items that we would like to get such as a vacuum cleaner for the exhibit building and equipment to enhance presentations in the exhibit building. The items listed above are just examples of some major expenses which our budget cannot cover. Please consider a donation to the Historical Society that would help keep us "in the black", keep our buildings and grounds in good repair and help us make our exhibits even better. Remember we are a 501(c)3 organization and your donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. Donations of any amount are greatly appreciated.

## 2018 Membership Forms and Life Member Update Forms Included

It's that time of year again! Annual membership is due January 31, 2018 – forms are included for those members that pay annually. For life members, an update form is included so that you can keep us updated with your current contact information and indicate your volunteer preferences. If you wish to help save postage for PAHS, please provide your email address and circle "Yes" on the form.

*(No emailed newsletters this time only so that forms can be provided.)*

If you have questions, please leave a message at the Clark House (262-691-0233).

## Recent Acquisitions

by George Strieter

The following donations have been received recently and some will be on display at the Clark House as space permits.

\*Perry & Donna Bartlette donated Perry's Army Air Force Hat, Uniform and Portrait.

\*Susie Hansen donated a wood jigsaw puzzle, Hudson hand sprayer and several other misc. items.

\*Carolann Aiken donated aprons, a rug beater, old WI map and other misc. items.

\*Darrel & Goldie Blodgett donated a picture of the Bartz & Schmidt garage on Capitol Dr.

Thank you to everyone for keeping history alive!

# “And in this Corner ...”

by Carole Brinkman

Have you ever heard the expression, “I was in the right spot at the right time”? That was certainly my case when on August 3<sup>rd</sup>, I was in the Steele Exhibit Building greeting members of the Woman’s Club of Pewaukee during their Meet and Greet luncheon meeting. I happened to be standing next to our doctor’s carriage when a woman approached and we began talking about the buggy. I told her how we had been gifted the carriage by the Haasch family a few years earlier, our unsuccessful attempt to find a horse and driver, and eventual use of Cliff Muehlenberg’s lawn tractor to pull the buggy in the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade. It was a form of horse power, but not what we had envisioned.

I learned the woman’s name is Alexandra Lerch-Gaggl, and after a little more talking, she said maybe she had a solution to our problem. Her husband Wolfgang drives... and they have two horses that can be used to pull a carriage. I was so excited, I could hardly believe it. After more discussion, it was decided that Wolfgang would come over to the Clark House and check out our buggy and shafts to see if this would even be possible, and it was!! The carriage was loaded onto a trailer and taken to Muskego where they board their horses to “introduce” their horse Ty to the buggy.

On the afternoon of September 3<sup>rd</sup>, I drove out to Muskego and met up with the

Gaggl’s and their son Alex at the stable. I watched as they harnessed up Ty and then hitched him up to the buggy. It was so great to see our carriage finally being pulled by an actual horse. After the initial trial run to make sure everything was okay, Wolfgang asked if I’d like a ride. WOULD I EVER!! We rode for about a half hour and made final arrangements to meet at Old World Wisconsin the next day with Ty and the carriage.

The Gaggl’s are members of the Dairyland Driving Club, a group that enjoys hitching their horses up to their carriages and carts and riding in various areas of the state. Because we were riding at Old World Wisconsin, we would need to be in period attire.

Labor Day dawned gray with a hint of rain, but that didn’t keep the hardy group away from riding. When I arrived around 10:30, everyone was busy harnessing up their horses and rigs. By 11:30, it was time to get dressed in our correct attire, and by noon we were ready to go. We were fortunate to have the Haasch’s stop by for awhile to see the carriage all rigged up.



Ty driven by Wolfgang, Alex & Alexandra Gaggl

Old World Wisconsin lies on 576 acres of beautiful scenery, with four miles of trails which we rode, crossing back and forth for an hour or so. It was fun to interact with

other visitors that were there for the day. If you’ve never been to Old World Wisconsin, I highly recommend it. At the end of our ride, we gathered back in the pasture and enjoyed an informal lunch. I made new friends with members of the group. A very enjoyable day!

Be sure to come and see us in the Pewaukee 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade next year and “take a step back in time”!

## Rummage Sale Success

by Helen Ackley, Event Chair

The Clark House Museum has once again benefited from the generosity of Lake Country residents for donating an unbelievable number of items that were sold at our annual rummage sale. The weather was sunny and warm, just perfect for the throngs of shoppers to visit and buy. It was a record breaking fundraiser.

An army of volunteers including National Honor Society students from Pewaukee High School made it possible.

Thanks to all! We look forward to enthusiastic participation again next year!

## Annual Third Grade Tours – October 16-19

We were again pleased to host *nine* third grade classes from Pewaukee Elementary School over a four day period during the week of October 16<sup>th</sup>. Our volunteers always enjoy teaching the students about our history and watching them experience the typewriter, kitchen tools, dentist corner and more. A big *Thank You* to the classes for their donation of \$219. We hope that we see these smiling faces at some of our events throughout the year.

**Note:** If you have an old family recipe or just one you want to share, please submit it. It would be interesting if you have some background for the recipe to share also.

*From the Kitchen of  
Auntie Joyce  
(submitted by Helen Ackley)*

**Overnight Coffee Cake**  
(makes two cakes)

Note: Use a bunt pan (Do NOT use an angel food pan because the butter will leak out!)

1 pkg. frozen Rhodes sweet roll dough  
1 pkg. (four serving size) vanilla or butter-scotch pudding mix (not instant)  
1/2 cup brown sugar  
1/2 cup pecans, chopped  
1 stick butter, melted  
Pecan halves for the bottom of the pan

Use about 15-17 frozen rolls (put on the counter to thaw about 5-10 minutes, just long enough to cut with a butcher knife) cut each one into four pieces while semi-frozen.

Combine dry pudding mix, brown sugar and chopped pecans.

Melt butter.

Spray pan with Pam or cooking spray. Cover the bottom of a well-buttered bunt pan with pecan halves. Place roll dough pieces in pan on top of pecan halves. (Fill pan only 2/3 full if you don't want it to rise over the top.)

Pour all melted butter over frozen dough and sprinkle with all pudding mixture.

Cover with a piece of wax paper and leave cake pan overnight on kitchen counter. The dough rises beautifully by morning.

Bake at 350° for 30 minutes.

Invert on serving plate. Let sit for about 15 seconds, then remove pan.

Serve . . . . Sticky – but good!

**BUSINESS MEMBERS**

**Artisan 179 – (262) 691-0200**  
**Century Fence Co. – (262) 547-3331**  
**Chiropractic & Wellness on  
Pewaukee Lake – (262) 695-0022**  
**5 O'Clock Club – (262) 691-9960**  
**Harken, Inc. – (262) 691-3320**  
**Lake Country Business Consulting  
(Cynthia Welman) (262) 719-9065**  
**Chris R. Lueth Ins. Agency –  
(262) 695-1981**  
**Molly Maids of Lake Country -  
(262) 691-5000**  
**Ken Weber Truck Service -  
(262) 691-0333**

These businesses are partnering with us to show their support to the Historical Society. Please remember them when you need their services. Let's keep our Pewaukee businesses in Pewaukee and keep growing our business community!



PAHS receives a 1% rebate on your store receipts from the Sentry store in Delafield. Receipts must be less than 6 months old and can be left in the dresser drawer marked "Sentry receipts" on the screen porch of the Clark House. Penny Williams will take it from there. Thanks for remembering.

**NEWSLETTER**  
**CONTACT INFORMATION**

Be part of the next PAHS newsletter by submitting an article or other event information to

**Karen Merz – email:**

**info@pewaukeehistory.org**

**Questions? Call Karen at 262-695-0600**

**Deadline for the next newsletter is**

**March 15, 2018**

**"Like" us on FACEBOOK**

And be the first to hear about PAHS news and events!

**www.facebook.com/pewaukeehistory**

## History at the Clark House Curb

by Penny Williams

Buried under the pavement of East Wisconsin Ave. and Hwy. M lie the remains of the longest road of its kind ever built in Wisconsin! Known as the Watertown Plank Road, this super highway of the 1850's was an important means of transport. In the 1840's a network of post roads had been created in this area of Wisconsin, but they were impassable most of the time due to muddy conditions, and travel ground to a halt. An original charter was issued in 1846 in the name of the Lisbon & Milwaukee Plank Road Co. Shares were sold for \$10 each, but there was little interest until 1848 when heavy rains once again made roads impassable.

Even then there were rules for road construction. In wooded areas trees were removed 2 rods (33 feet) from the centerline, and ditches were provided for drainage. The road was 24 feet wide and graded so that the center was 6 inches higher than the sides. Twelve foot stringers of white oak were laid 8 feet apart and then dirt was filled to one-half inch above the stringers, but was sloped so that the stringer wasn't covered.

Three inch (3") oak boards were laid across the stringers and pounded with a heavy maul to create an even, dry road surface. Nails were not used, preventing injury to animal hooves from loose nails. Tolls were collected beginning at .01 per mile per animal, reaching \$1,300 per week in good travel times.

Tolls were not charged for those going to church, funerals or military duties. Watertown Historical Society files show the rate was increased in 1852 to .15 per animal or .25 per team.

The estimated total cost of construction was \$119,000. In 1850 there were seventy investors who earned 7% on their investments. The original road began at approximately 12<sup>th</sup> and Juneau in Milwaukee and passed through Wauwatosa, Elm Grove, Brookfield, Goerke's Corners, Pewaukee, Hartland, and Oconomowoc before ending in Watertown. Communities grew up along its route, and a spur was built from Goerke's Corners to Waukesha. The Clark House in Pewaukee was a popular stagecoach inn along the route. Arrival of rail transit in the 1850's cut down on road traffic, but the original route is still in use for county and local roads.

The Clark House Museum has recently acquired a piece of the original timbers used in construction of the Watertown Plank Road. They were exposed during a Village of Pewaukee road improvement project and presented to us by Scott Gosse, Village Administrator. The acquisition will be put on display during the 2018 Museum season.

## Welcome New Members

Since our last newsletter we welcome the following:

Micki Hobbs

Cynthia Welman – Lake Country Business Consulting

## BRICKS

**The only gift that lasts forever.... requires no batteries & one size fits all!**

**\$50**

## Our Volunteers Have Been Busy This Fall!

September 10 – Harvest Fest  
The weather was beautiful, many thanks to our presenters and all the bakery and food donations that helped to make for a successful fundraiser.

September 28-30–Rummage Sale – see Helen's thank you article.

October 5 – Carole Brinkman led a cemetery tour for two Pewaukee High School history classes.

October 6 – Residents from Kirkland Crossings toured the Clark House followed by a bus tour of historic Pewaukee led by George and Sharon Strieter.



Kirkland Crossing Tour

October 16-19 – Nine 3<sup>rd</sup> grade classes toured the Clark House Museum.

October 24 – Pewaukee High School history classes visited the Clark House and the Strieters answered their questions related to their individual history projects.

THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS!

**Pewaukee Area Historical Society  
2017 Board of Directors**

President: Carole Brinkman  
Vice President: Jim Tredwell  
Secretary: Kathy Sampson  
Treasurer: Tom Brick  
Directors: Candy Muehl  
Cliff Muehlenberg  
Jeff Phillips  
Sandy Volmar  
Penny Williams

The Society is a nonprofit organization, **501(c)(3)**, dependent upon private funding for capital improvements and ongoing operations. **All gifts are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.**

Newsletter editor: Karen Merz  
[info@pewaukeehistory.org](mailto:info@pewaukeehistory.org)

**The Clark House**, once a stagecoach inn, is now a museum operated by the Pewaukee Area Historical Society. It is located at the corner of Prospect Avenue and East Wisconsin Avenue in the Village of Pewaukee. There is no admission fee. Donations are accepted.

**The Pewaukee Area Historical Society** (PAHS) is a non-profit, charitable, educational organization founded to research, collect and preserve the history of the Pewaukee area. PAHS invites anyone who has an interest in the history of the Pewaukee area, its people and the community, to become a member.

Museum Hours: May 27<sup>th</sup> through October  
Wednesdays 7:00–9:00 pm  
Sundays 1:00–4:00 pm  
Or anytime by appointment

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Address Service Requested