

# THE REPORTER

Waupaca Historical Society, 321 South Main Street, Waupaca, WI 54981

Open Wednesday-Friday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

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Spring 2022

## Waupaca Historical Society Launches Capital Campaign

Since 1953, the Waupaca Historical Society has worked to preserve the rich history of Waupaca and the Chain O'Lakes. What began as efforts to preserve one of the oldest buildings in the City of Waupaca has grown to include the preservation of four sites and four buildings, an ever-growing artifact and archival collection, and monthly programs and community outreach. WHS has become a community partner with the City of Waupaca, the Waupaca School District, library, local businesses, and numerous arts and cultural organizations. We serve as a historical resource for our community and researchers and are an advocate for preserving our local history and stories for future generations.

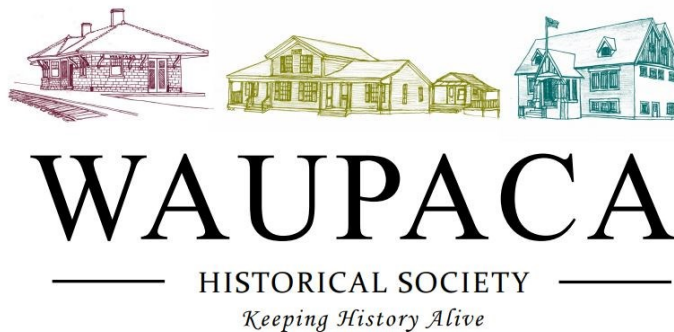
This year, the Waupaca Historical Society embarks on its first Capital Campaign. Our fundraising goal of \$400,000 will help us preserve and enhance our four buildings—the Holly History and Genealogy Center, the Hutchinson House Museum and King Cottage, and the Railroad Depot.

### How can you help?

We invite you to be a part of the Waupaca Historical Society's expanding preservation efforts and educational outreach. In its nearly 70 years, the WHS collection has grown to four sites, four historic buildings and more than 10,000 objects.

This campaign is about more than the buildings and collections we preserve—it is about the stories, the

connections, our role in the community and building for our future. Your support—no matter how much—will make a difference and help WHS grow in the ways we preserve local history, educate the public, and reach and serve the community.



### Did you know?

We are excited to announce that every member of the Waupaca Historical Society Board and the Capital Campaign Committee has donated or pledged to the Capital Campaign!

The Capital Campaign Committee includes Tracy Behrendt (Chair), Tim Drake, Jody Jansen, Aaron Jenson, Dennis Lear, Kent Pegorsch, Jack Rhodes, Nancy Ross, and Nancy Weasner.

### Have questions?

Please feel free to stop in at the Holly Center during open hours or contact any of our Capital Campaign Committee members if you have questions. We are all passionate about the projects and the Waupaca Historical Society's growing role in the community.

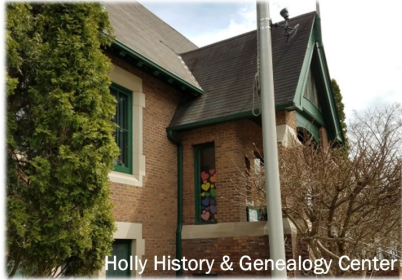
### How do I donate to the Campaign?

Donations can be made on our website at [www.waupacahistoricalsociety.org/capitalcampaign](http://www.waupacahistoricalsociety.org/capitalcampaign) or by mailing a check to: WHS, c/o Capital Campaign, 321 S. Main Street, Waupaca, WI 54981.

Thank you for helping us honoring our community's past by embracing the future!

# Waupaca Historical Society

## *Honoring the Past, Embracing the Future*



Holly History & Genealogy Center



Hutchinson House Museum



Waupaca Depot

The Waupaca Historical Society has been a part of our community for nearly 70 years—collecting, preserving, and sharing the stories, buildings and objects that define who we are, where we came from and who we are today. Every resident, past and present, is part of our community's story. With your help, the Waupaca Historical Society can continue to tell and preserve these stories for generations to come.

This year, the Waupaca Historical Society embarks on its first Capital Campaign. Our fundraising goal of \$400,000 will help us preserve and enhance our four buildings—the Holly History and Genealogy Center on South Main Street, the Hutchinson House Museum and King Cottage in South Park, and the Railroad Depot on Oak Street—along with our new property on Balch Street.

## Campaign Goal: \$400,000

### General Operations:

- **Additional staff/office upgrades**—add one part-time staff for volunteer coordination, rentals/programs and office/collections assistance; add office area/furniture/technology for additional staff person.
- **Digitizing collections/exhibits**—upgrade for online collections and exhibit software; technology for digitization/photography; online storage of digitized records; training and additional staff for digitization; outside services for digitizing.
- **Exhibit technology**—addition of interactive exhibits at all buildings, including but not limited to touch-screen tablets/panels.
- **Endowment**





## Campaign Goal: \$400,000

### Holly Center:

- **Lower level interior/audio/technology upgrades**—add Loop/hearing assistance to meeting room; upgrade flooring, walls, and seating; upgrade technology including screen and projector.
- **New roof**
- **Collections storage**—create secure collections storage through new walls/locking doors; add archivally safe shelving and boxes for collections; add UV filters for windows.
- **Kitchen upgrade/renovation**—add more storage for non-collections items and for use by rentals/community groups; update flooring, lighting and ceiling.



### Hutchinson House

- **New HVAC system**



### Depot:

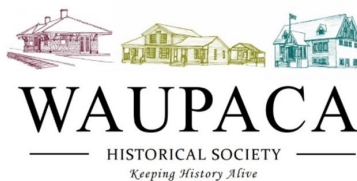
- **Storage shed**—for storage of non-collections items that are currently stored with collections.

### Balch Street property:

- **Collections storage building**—for storage, display and restoration of large implements, transportation objects, tools and other items that WHS cannot currently accept.



*Thank you for helping us honor our past and embrace our future at the Waupaca Historical Society!*



## Lost Arts Featured at the Hutchinson House in June

Step back in time as the Waupaca Historical Society hosts “Lost Arts” at the Hutchinson House Museum on Sat., June 25 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The event will feature arts, crafts, and hobbies common in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Demonstrators will show how they are keeping these arts alive—from wood carving and spinning wool to basket-weaving, rug-hooking, and blacksmithing. Families can take part in family activities like weaving and quill writing, along with other interactive demonstrations. Demonstrators will be in tents around the Hutchinson House and also inside the museum and King Cottage.

Visitors can also enjoy old-time music from Flip o’ the Coin from the Hutchinson House porch! Tours through the historic home will be offered throughout the day. Food and beverages will also be available at WHS’s brat fry that day.

The Lost Arts event is sponsored by the Waupaca Area Convention and Visitors Bureau.



*The Hutchinson House Museum will feature arts and crafts, along with live music and food, for the Lost Arts event on Sat., June 25 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.*

The Hutchinson House Museum is located in South Park on South Main Street in Waupaca. For more information on the event, call (715) 256-9980, visit [www.waupacahistoricalsociety.org](http://www.waupacahistoricalsociety.org) or check out Waupaca Historical Society on Facebook.

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## Early Wisconsin Pioneers Focus of Next WHS Program



Dr. Michael Stevens

More than a half million people settled in Wisconsin from the mid-1830s through the 1850s, and many recorded their experiences as they traveled, established homes, and formed new communities.

Author Michael Stevens will weave together these stories in his upcoming presentation, “The Making of Pioneer Wisconsin: Voices of Early Settlers” on Thurs., May 19 at 6 p.m. at the Holly Center.

Stevens will provide an intimate glimpse into the lives of these early settlers, as they describe what it

felt like to be a teenager in a wagon heading west or an isolated young wife living far from her friends and family. Stevens will present first-person accounts that form a fascinating narrative to help us understand Wisconsin’s early pioneers.

Dr. Michael Stevens spent much of his career with the Wisconsin Historical Society, where he served as the Wisconsin State Historian and State Historic Preservation Officer. Since his retirement in 2013, he has continued to research, write, and speak about history.

The program takes place in the lower-level of the Holly Center and is sponsored by Rex and Linda Pope, Paula Botan (in memory of the Barnhart and Buck families), Judy Trudeau, and Beiser Realty.

## Volunteers Needed at Hutchinson House

Spring cleaning has begun at the Hutchinson House Museum in South Park as we prepare for our open summer hours! This summer, we will be open on the second and third weekends of June, July and August from 1-4 p.m. Bring your families and friends for a tour at the Hutchinson House Museum and the King Cottage and learn about local history!



The Waupaca Historical Society also needs your help bringing early Waupaca history to life for this season's visitors. We are looking for volunteers to serve as tour guides at the museum this summer. No experience is necessary and training is provided—all you need is to love local history and to enjoy visiting with people! We are happy to have any level of commitment—even a couple of days during the summer are very helpful!

We are also looking for help painting the Hutchinson House fence on Sat., May 21 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. The Boy Scouts will be out there to help as well during this time. Lunch and all supplies for painting will be provided.

If you are interested in volunteering or assisting with painting, contact Tracy Behrendt at 715-256-9980 or [director@waupacahistoricalsociety.org](mailto:director@waupacahistoricalsociety.org).

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## At the Depot: Restoration Work and Planning for the Summer

*By Mike Kirk*

As warmer weather approaches, we are starting to get back into our summer activities. We're planning our summer hours to be open the second and third weekends from 12 to 5 p.m. June through August. We are also open by appointment and most any time you see us there.

We are resuming work on the Kreunnen and Skinner horse-drawn wagon in Richard Townsend's barn. Our hope is to get it done in time for the July 4th parade. Much of it depends on completing the wheels. I am also trying to finish up the Railway Express baggage cart that Lane Streck has done so much work on over the past couple years. It is currently in the Soo Line freight house.

On May 3, the Waupaca Historical Society held a player piano program at the Depot as part of the

Winchester Academy Roots of Jazz series. The speaker was Catherine Hennessy Wolter from Minneapolis. Her interest in player pianos and other new music technologies of the early 20th century began in graduate school at the University of Illinois, where she completed her PhD. We had a nice turnout of nearly 50 people, about the right amount for the space available. Catherine's talk included a presentation, and I enjoyed playing several pieces on the player piano highlighting points of her discussion.

Next up at the Depot is a Waupaca County Historical Network meeting on May 11. This group includes staff and volunteers at historical societies throughout Waupaca County. To start off the morning, we are serving Soo Line French toast prepared by Marilyn Herman.

## Mark Your Calendars for WHS's Summer Programs!



The Jenswold family will present a program on Whispering Pines Park on Thurs., June 16 at 6 p.m. at the Holly History and Genealogy Center.

The Waupaca Historical Society is gearing up for a busy summer season with events at each of its three locations.

The first program will be Thurs., June 16 at 6 p.m. at the Holly Center as the Jenswold family presents, "Whispering Pines Park: Memories of How It Was (1929-1974)." The family will reminisce about the park and feature the work being done today to preserve the park's history. The program is sponsored by Friends of Hartman Creek State Park and Beiser Realty.

Then look for the Waupaca Historical Society at Strawberry Fest on Sat., June 18 with a booth offering books, postcards, photographs and maps for sale—all to benefit the Capital Campaign!

The big event of the summer will be Lost Arts at the Hutchinson House Museum on Sat., June 25. Check out more details on this event on page 4.

Stop by the Holly Center on the 4th of July to get a cold drink or snack before or during the parade! Then, on Thurs., July 14 at 6 p.m., join us at the Holly Center for "Door County Lighthouses" with Ken and Barb Wardius. The

program is sponsored by Marge Writt (in memory of Don Writt), Beiser Realty, and Jack and Glenda Rhodes.

Families are invited to Family Fun Day at the Depot on Sat., July 16 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. as the Waupaca Area Public Library joins us for games, story times, crafts and more!

Then, on Thurs., August 18 at 6 p.m., WHS welcome David W. Gates, Jr. for "Wisconsin's Post Office Murals" at the Holly Center. Waupaca's Post Office mural will be featured in the presentation. This program is sponsored by Michelle Peterson (in memory of David Dresia), Janet Buetow (in memory of Karl Buetow), Waupaca Foundry, Beiser Realty, F. Thomas and Hope K. Olson, and Pat Hollenbeck (in memory of Warren Hollenbeck).

WHS will also be serving up brats and hamburgers at the Friday dance as part of Arts on the Square on August 19. Be sure to stop down and support WHS!



Ken and Barb Wardius will present, "Door County Lighthouses" on Thurs., July 14 at 6 p.m.

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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

*(all programs are at the Holly History & Genealogy Center unless otherwise noted)*

***Thursday, June 16, 6 p.m.:*** *“Whispering Pines Park: Memories of How It Was (1929-1974) with the Jenswold family*

***Saturday, June 25, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.:*** *Lost Arts at the Hutchinson House Museum*

***Thursday, July 14, 6 p.m.:*** *“Door County Lighthouses” with Ken and Barb Wardius*

***Saturday, July 16, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.:*** *Family Fun Day at the Depot*

***Thursday, August 18, 6 p.m.:*** *Wisconsin’s Post Office Murals with David W. Gates, Jr.*

***Friday evening, August 19:*** *Brat Fry in downtown Waupaca for Arts on the Square street dance*

### Staff:

***Director:*** Tracy Behrendt

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