

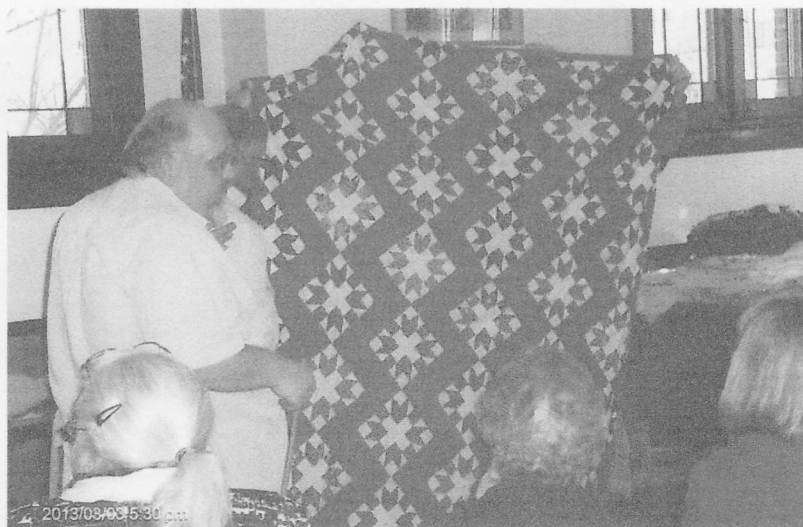
# The Reporter

Volume 17 Issue 2 The Newsletter of the Waupaca Historical Society Spring 2013

**WHS Board of Directors:** Dennis Lear, President; Mike Kirk, Vice President; Betty Stewart, Secretary; Bob Kessler, Treasurer, Tracy Behrendt, Gerald Chappell, Deb Fenske, Glenda Rhodes, Jerry Salan, David Trombla, Joyce Woldt, Don Witt, and Marge Witt

**WHS Director:** Julie Hintz **Hutchinson House Museum Curator:** Barbara Fay Wiese  
**Collection Committee:** Joyce Woldt, Tracy Behrendt, Dennis Lear, Gerald Chappell  
**Membership Committee:** Barbara Wiese, Julie Hintz, Bob Kessler  
**Program & Event Committee:** Dennis Lear, Julie Hintz, Gerald Chappell, Barbara Wiese, Marge Witt

## \*A Report on the 'Look at Quilts and Quilting Fabrics Presentation'



The Waupaca Historical Society hosted guest speaker, Gerald Johnson of Iola, at the Holly History and Genealogy Center in Waupaca Thursday March 7, 2013. For an audience of about 45 interested quilters, Mr. Johnson displayed and discussed many vintage quilt samples as he spoke about dyes, fabrics, and techniques used in making vintage quilts during the Victorian era and early 1900s. Dennis Lear and Don Witt assisted by holding up quilts for viewing and discussion and Tracy Behrendt and Marge Witt repacked the quilts.

## \*WHS 2013 Spring through Fall Schedule\*

### Past

The Waupaca Historical Society's Program and Event Planning Committee met 3/19/2013 and set the following schedule.

On Sunday, April 21st, the Depot was opened as a rest area along the Quarry Trail as part of the 40 person Volksmarch Walk in Waupaca.

On Tuesday, April 23rd for the Waupaca High School Service Project Day, 19 Students worked at the Depot and much hard work was completed.

On Thursday, April 25th The Board of Directors and their spouses entertained past WHS President Richard Bidwell and his wife Kathy with a dinner and tribute at Chef Chu's Restaurant in King.

The base of the tribute: Richard Bidwell, past president of WHS, knew and remembered that vision without action is merely a dream; president Dick Bidwell also knew and remembered that action without vision merely passes time; but, most important, Dick Bidwell always knew, remembered, and operated under the philosophy that Vision followed by Action can save an old history or make a new world; and thus, as past WHS president, Dick Bidwell's leadership and direction did much to keep Waupaca history alive!

On May 10th the 2013 Spring Reporter was mailed out to the WHS membership.

### **Future**

For display at the Holly Center, Director Julie Hintz is developing an exhibit featuring people, events and artifacts from the 60-year history of the society. The exhibit will run throughout the summer.

On Monday May 13th and Tuesday May 14th from 10 until noon, members of the Board of Directors and their spouses will engage in a Spring Cleaning Day at the Hutchinson House.

On Thursday, May 23rd, a large group of Home School students will tour the Hutchinson House.

On Saturday, May 25th, a "Victorian Secrets" exhibit will open upstairs in the alcove of the Hutchinson House Museum, featuring ladies petticoats, under slips, bloomers, camisoles, chemise, nightgowns, stockings, etc.

On Memorial Day Weekend (May 25 – 27) the Hutchinson House will open for the summer season. The Hutchinson House Museum will be open from 1-4 p. m. on Saturdays and Sundays, with special hours for the 4th of July and special events. .

On Tuesday, June 4th, the WHS membership will engage in a field trip/outing to visit the Marathon County Historical Society headquarters, the Yawkey House Museum, and the Woodson History Center in Wausau. See page 3 to make reservations.

On Saturday, June 15th WHS will participate in the Strawberry Festival by opening the Depot (10 a. m. to 5 p. m.) and the Hutchinson House (1 p. m. to 5. p. m.).

On Thursday, July 4th, WHS will participate in the July 4th celebration by opening the Hutchinson House from noon to 4 p. m.

On Thursday August 17th, WHS will participate in the Art on the Square/Art at the Depot by opening the Depot and the Hutchinson House. Some members will also be helping with the Waupaca Area Triathlon.

On Saturday August 24th, WHS will participate in the Rod and Classic Car Show in South Park by opening the Hutchinson House from 10 a. m. to 4 p. m.

On Thursday, September 5th, WHS will hold its Annual Membership Meeting. Following a pot luck supper at the Holly Center that is capped with a 60th Anniversary Cake, Director Julie Hintz will give a Power Point presentation of the highlights of the 60 year history of the Society.

On Saturday, September 21<sup>st</sup>, WHS will participate in the Fall-O-Rama by opening the Hutchinson House from 10 a. m. to 4 p. m. to feature pioneer craft demonstrations and a bake sale.

During late September, Curator Barbara Fay Wiese will visit the Waupaca 4<sup>th</sup> grade school classes to provide history lessons pertaining to the Hutchinson House Museum.

Between October 1st and 11th the Waupaca 4th grade school classes will visit the Hutchinson House Museum.

## Waupaca Historical Society Members

In lieu of a quarterly membership meeting in June, we are planning a field trip to the Marathon County Historical Society Headquarters in Wausau, WI.

**WHS Members -- Please join us for this special Field Trip!**

**DATE: Tuesday, June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2013**



### ITINERARY:

- 8:15 A.M. – Meet at Holly History Center and depart Waupaca for travel to Wausau, WI. Carpooling is encouraged amongst our membership. Maps / Directions will be given out at the Holly History Center.
- 9:30 a.m. – Begin tour of Yawkey House Museum and Woodson History Center (go to [www.marathoncountyhistory.org](http://www.marathoncountyhistory.org) to learn more about these buildings)
- 12:00 / 12:15 p.m. – Depart for drive to restaurant
- 12:30 p.m. – Lunch at the Wausau Mine Company's Mother Load Eatery (see menu at <http://wausaumine.com>) - Order from the menu and pay on your own! The restaurant will reserve a special room for our group.
- 2:00 p.m. – Optional tour of the Leigh Yawkey Woodson Art Museum (see [www.lywam.org](http://www.lywam.org)) - Admission is free with self-guided tour
- 3:30 / 4:00 p.m. – Depart for return to Waupaca

If you wish to join us for this special Field Trip, please detach the form below and mail with your payment to: Waupaca Historical Society, 321 S. Main St., Waupaca, WI 54981  
**Your registration form and payment must be received by May 24<sup>th</sup> !!!**

Yes, I wish to join the Waupaca Historical Society on their Field Trip to Wausau. I wish to participate in the following (check all that apply):

- ☐ Tour of Yawkey House Museum and Woodson History Center – Enclose \$5/person
- ☐ Lunch at the Wausau Mine Company's Mother Load Eatery – Pay on your own
- ☐ Optional afternoon visit to the Leigh Yawkey Art Museum
  
- ☐ I will furnish my own transportation for this field trip.
- ☐ I am willing to be a driver and can take up to \_\_\_\_\_ additional riders.
- ☐ I need transportation. Please notify me if space is available with another driver. Please enclose \$10/person extra for transportation expense if needing a ride and not furnishing your own transportation. [NOTE: Riders may be required to take the optional afternoon tour of the Art Museum.]

NAME(S): \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed is my payment of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ person(s) attending this field trip.  
Make check payable to Waupaca Historical Society.



The Waupaca Historical Society would like to thank these area businesses for partnering with us in 2013! We encourage our members to utilize their products and services!



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**Wisconsin Public Service**

## **\* Waupaca Historical Society 1964-94\***

A history article by Jerry Chappell

An article on "The First Decade of the Waupaca Historical Society (WHS) -1953-1963" appeared in Volume 13, Issue 2, spring 2009, and pp. 1-3. Thus, in our 60th year of honoring those who have been keeping history alive, please go back to that article and review who the people were that originated our society. Now let's consider the people and events that stand out in the second, third and fourth decades, 1964-1994.

Picking up where the first decade was ending, the 1963 WHS officers were Allen Scott, president, replacing Alma Bridgeman; George Hill, vice president, succeeding Dr. Norman Jardine; and Mrs. Dagmar Nelson, secretary-treasurer, replacing Mrs. Ruth Raddiff.

Actually we ended decade one in 1967 with Miss Nita Benedict, serving as WHS President, coordinating the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration of the Hutchinson House (HH).

The sources of the history for this document are WHS Scrapbook II, as compiled by A. E. Sutton, Scrapbooks III (March 1989 - August 1992) and IV (September 1992 - December 1994) as compiled by Vera Duesterbeck, and the 1969-1994 minutes of the WHS meetings, which were first held in the Waupaca Public Library's Clubroom, then for most of the years in the Waupaca First Methodist Church. During the full 30 year period, the coordinating structure of WHS was predominantly in the hands of a "four officer executive group," and an HH curator, who seemingly served as an informal Board of Directors. Apparently, the full WHS membership was invited to attend the monthly WHS meetings wherein decisions were made by the consensus of those in attendance.

The WHS president's greeting and announcements were followed by a pledge of allegiance, an invocation, and the singing of several verses from "God Bless America."

Some years there was a Program Chairman who was responsible each month for the speaker selection and program presentation. Other years, various members took turns stepping up to schedule a speaker and program, often speaking themselves. Members also took turns as part of the Hospitality Committee, responsible for the Social Hour. Usually the secretary, treasurer and HH curator (e. g., conveying the number of visitors, amount of money and artifact donations, repair needs, and a plea for docent help) gave reports. In addition, during most years, the following standing committees also gave a report of their activities at each gathering during the business meeting: Accessions, Maintenance (usually Don Duesterbeck with helpers), and at the proper time of the year, Nominating. Victorian artifacts were continuously donated throughout the three decades. Each year there was an annual volunteer HH cleaning.

1969-84

The minutes of 1969-71, show that the WHS officers for those years were Phillip B. Truesdell, president; Miss Marietta Stadler, vice president (replaced by Mrs. Verna Jensen '71); Alma Bridgeman, secretary-treasurer; and Nita Benedict, HH curator.

Members volunteered to assist with activities in the HH. The 1969-71 programs included "The Songs and Music of Pioneer Days," "The History of Lakeside Cemetery," "Memories of Rural Churches in the Waupaca Area," "History of the Children's' Home (on the present Bethany Home site)," "Potato Growing & Marketing in the Waupaca Area – Past and Present," "The Building of the Covered Bridge on Don Schmidt's Red Mill Property," "The History of the Arnold Brewery", "Paul Pope's Paleo Indian Spearheads," and "The



The 1850 Arnold Brewery was located on the northwest end of Elm Street. The photo shows the front of the brewery. Leonard Arnold, who built the brewery, is seated in the cart at the left with his twin sons, Leonard and Albert. Leonard Sr.'s grandson William Arnold presented Arnold family history to WHS. Perhaps the outstanding single event was when senior Leonard, in 1869, had his arm shot off as a cannon went off unexpectedly as he was ramming wadding into its barrel in the courthouse square. The Photo is from Scrapbook II, p. 5, courtesy of the Waupaca Historical Society.

Neglected Status of Old Cemeteries in Central Wisconsin (Guyants)".

In 1971 the new office of Secretary, separating it from treasurer, was created with Vera Duesterbeck assuming the office. Mr. John Holzman became the HH Curator. During 1972, the elected officers were: Don Duesterbeck, president; Phillip Truesdell, vice president; Mrs. Duesterbeck, secretary; and Verna Jensen, treasurer.

In 1973 a Taping Committee started interviewing older citizens of the community and recording their experiences and insights. In turn, an Essay Contest Committee

initiated/ sponsored a high school Wisconsin history essay competition that continued throughout many of the years. Savings and checking accounts of WHS were started at local banks. Display cases were built by Don Duesterbeck.

The '73 and '74 programs included "The Spanish American War," "Homecoming 1913," "Granny's Quilts," "The History of Cranberries in the Waupaca Area," "The History of the Dane House," "Famous People of Wisconsin," "The History, Life, and Traditions of American Indians," "The Bicentennial Of, By, and For the People," "Postal Service in Wisconsin," "The Growth of the Waupaca Police Department," "Buttons Through History," "Yesterday's Housekeeping," and "The History of the Foundry." In addition, WHS hosted a "Lost Arts Day."

In 1974 John Holzman consented to take over the presidency of WHS and Charlotte Nolan replaced him as curator of HH. WHS was pleased to receive word that HH was accepted as a State Registered Landmark (No 119) and saddened by the deaths of pioneer contributors Allen Scott, Tom E. Browne, Sophelia Kurkowski, Alma Bridgeman, and Philip B. Truesdell.

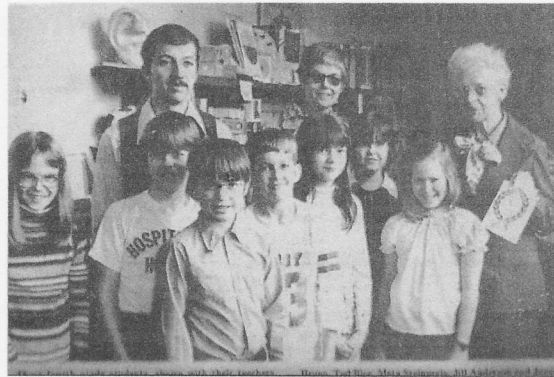
In 1975, the WHS officers (John Holzman, president; Carmen Barnes, vice president; Josephine Rowlands, secretary; and Verna Jensen, treasurer) contended with the preparation for Waupaca's part in the



1976 National Bicentennial by creating many new committees. Included were a Book Committee to develop the "Our Heritage" book for the bicentennial, a committee to plan for hosting the North Central Regional Historic Convention, a Building Procurement and Funding Committee (chaired by Isabel Salan) to add an addition to HH, a Historic Sites and Markers Committee (research done by Dr. and Mrs. McGinnis) to identify over 18 historic Waupaca sites (Don and Vera Duesterbeck created, lettered, and painted the plaques.). Some years there were also committees for Program, Accessions, Taping and Family History, Membership, Essay Contest, Hospitality and Lunch Coordinating, Scrapbook, and Lost Arts.



Players from WHS used drama to emphasize serious and humorous events in the history of Waupaca as they hosted a regional convention. Left to right: Mr. and Mrs. Don Duesterbeck, Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Guyant, and Jerry Janssen. Photo courtesy of the Waupaca Historical Society.

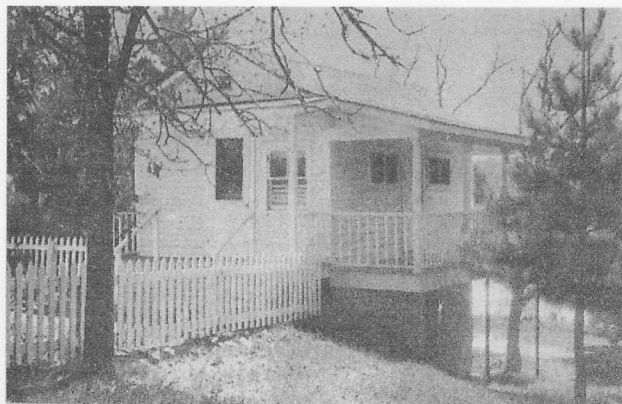


These fourth grade students, shown with their teachers John Cross and Marion Tappa and Mrs. Sam Salan at right, were Wisconsin History Essay Contest winners. The students, from left, include Mona Gohla, Jim Kelly, Tom Bruno, Tod Rice, Meta Steinoreis, Jill Anderson and Janet Fabricious. Mrs. Salan was chairman of the contest that was sponsored by WHS. Photo courtesy of WHS, 1979.

Included in the historic sites were Baxter School, Danes Home/ Hall, Episcopal Church, Mead Bank, Old Library Ste, Baptist Church, Browne Law Office, Danish Methodist Church, Evans Woolen Mill, Holy Ghost Evangelical Church, United Methodist Church, Old Tannery, Seventh Day Adventist Church, Trinity Lutheran Church, The Fisher-Fallgatter Mill, and the Shearer-Christy House.



For more than 20 years, since 1969, when the grain milling operation ceased, the Fisher-Fallgatter Mill on Osborn Street in the city of Waupaca has remained quiet. Photo courtesy of Waupaca Historical Society.



The Heritage House. Moved from the Veterans' complex in KING, 1975. WHAT WILL ITS FUNCTION BE? PHOTO COURTESY OF THE WAUPACA HISTORICAL SOCIETY.



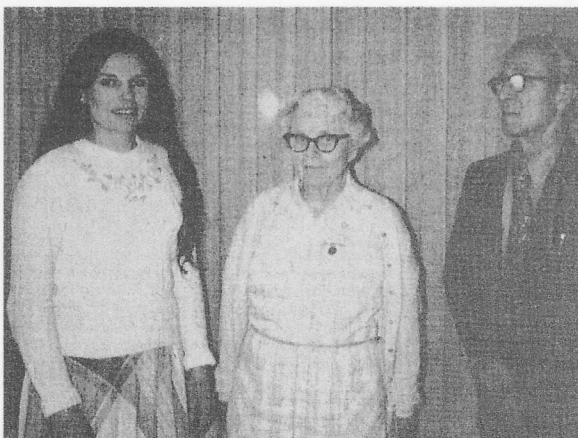
Don Duesterbeck using a two-handled knife to carve legs for a bench. Photo courtesy of the Waupaca Historical Society.

During 1975, WHS also acquired the Heritage House from the veterans' complex at King for \$250. A basement was dug, a foundation laid, and the building was moved into place beside HH.

In 1976 the new officers were Reverend George Warren, president and Mrs. Alfred Nelson, vice president. Josephine Rowlands continued as secretary and Verna Jensen as treasurer. A Time Capsule was buried in the HH lawn. Throughout a number of the later years, WHS sponsored a 4<sup>th</sup> grade Wisconsin History Essay Writing Contest and the winners were invited to read their essays at WHS meetings.

In 1977, the officers remained the same except Wayne Guyant became vice president and Mrs. Guyant took over as program chairman. A porch was added to the Heritage House and 130 wooden plaques were completed by the Duesterbecks for wall memorials of pioneer Waupaca families. Don Duesterbeck also took care of all repairs needed around the two buildings.

In the 1978-'81 period, Mary Nelson as president was replaced by Father Edward Webster; Carman Barnes as vice president was replaced by Dr. McGinnis; Vera Duesterbeck as secretary was replaced by Mrs. Frank Lueders and then Robert Rauch; while Verna Jensen remained treasurer. Linda Cross became curator and wrote a column, "From the Curator's Corner," for the *Waupaca Post* that nicely kept the community informed about many aspects of HH. The presentations included "Yarns of Yesteryear," "50 Years of Railroading," "World of Coins," "A History of Newport Rhode Island," and "The Early History of Halloween." A telephone was acquired, WHS entered an association with the Waupaca County Historical Society, a Memorial and Sunshine (or Cheer) Committee was created, WHS celebrated its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary with a pot luck party at the Red Mill, 4<sup>th</sup> Graders commenced to tour HH, and the inside of HH was painted for \$550.



Zilpha Davis, center, hostess at the historic Hutchinson House in Waupaca for the past five years on a full time basis, recently received a recognition pin from Linda Cross, curator of HH. Dr. H. J. McGinnis, vice president of WHS looked on. Photo courtesy of Waupaca Historical Society.



Father Edmund Webster accepted the gavel from Mary R. Nelson as the new president of the Waupaca Historical Society, a position that Mrs. Nelson held for the past two years. Other members of the society are Dr. H. J. McGinnis, vice president; Pauline Lueders, secretary; and Vera Duesterbeck, treasurer. Photo courtesy of the Waupaca Historical Society



In the 1982-83 period the president was Dr. H. J. McGinnis; vice president Evelyn Doerr; secretary Louise Sutton; treasurer Vera Duesterbeck; and curator Linda Cross. The programs included "Excerpts From George Washington's Life," "The History of the Pinkerton Family," "The History of the American Red Cross," "The Granite Quarry," "The Great Depression," "The Mead Murder Case," "Life of Benjamin Franklin," "The Life and Inventions of Thomas A. Edison," "The History of New England Gravestones," "Danish History in the Waupaca Area," "The History of the Waupaca Historical Society," "Heritage Hill," and "The Silver Fox Industry."

In 1984 Evelyn Doerr served as WHS president; John Holzman as vice president; Louise Sutton as secretary; Vera Duesterbeck as treasurer; and Carmen Barnes as curator and Zilpha Davis as assistant curator. Some high school students who helped guide the 437 individuals that visited HH during 1983 continued helping. WHS received \$1000 from the city for upkeep of HH and the first listing of financial donations from the community totaled \$1835.

The 1984 program presentations included "Irish Songs," "The Life of Thomas Jefferson," "The Dane House," and "Marine Hospitals in the U. S." That year there was also a two session panel presentation and interaction on "Which Ethnic Group Contributed Most to Our Early Waupaca History".

Among others receiving awards for service over the years, Don and Vera Duesterbeck were awarded for their work at Hutchinson House and as tour guides and for Don's repair work on the two buildings.

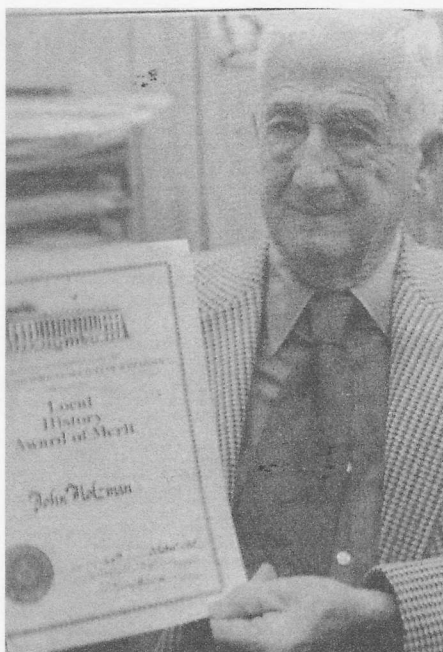
#### 1985-94

The WHS mission during the fourth decade seemingly was twofold: a) over ten years of monthly meetings, WHS offered over 60 speakers/presentations that reviewed history. And b) they also kept Waupaca history alive by doing so within a vital Hutchinson House Museum and associated endeavors:

**1985** "The Story of Cobbtown (panel)," "Ups and Downs as a Doctor's Wife in the 1930's," "History of the American Flag," "The Early History of Ogdensburg," and "The Battle of Manila Bay."

**1986** "Life on the farm - Changes in Agriculture Over the Past Twenty-five Years," "Changes in the Waupaca School System," "The Beginning and History of 4-H Clubs (with some of the currently involved children participating)," "The History of Old Cars and their Beginning," "The Dushek Trucking Company," "Memorabilia - Show and Tell," and "Trends in Banking."

**1987** "Marketing Waupaca History," "Early Medical Care and Nursing in Wisconsin," "The Holly Family History of Undertaking in Waupaca," "The History of Law and Order in Waupaca," "The Sheet Metal Business," "History of Waupaca Apple Orchards," "A New France in our Midwest- Early History of Detroit," "Forming the Constitution of the United States," "The Spanish American War," "Centennial Celebration at King," "First Thanksgiving," and "Christmas at Mount Vernon 1783."



WHS vice president John Holzman with Award of Merit (for outstanding contributions in the collection, preservation, and dissemination of Waupaca and Wisconsin history) from a special committee representing the State Historical Society Board of Curators.

**1988** "George Washington," "Duties of the National Guard," "The Circus World and Museum at Baraboo," "Lawrence College," "The Waupaca Library and its Many Needs," "A Trip to Germany," and "A trip to China".

**1989** "The Manufacturing of Horse Drawn Wagons," "Educational Forums and Festivities in Washington, D. C.," "The Chain 'o Lakes Stamp Club," "A Mission Trip to Bangalore India," "The Life of Margaret Ashmun," "Old Schools in the Weyauwega-Fremont Area," "Organ Music," and "Birds Native to Our Area."

**1990** "The French Revolution vs. the Revolutionary War," "Russian Culture," "Impersonation of Second Territorial Governor of Wisconsin (Doty)," "Tape of Life in Waupaca in 1938," "Rural on the Crystal," "Wisconsin, Appalachia, and Indiana Folklore," and "Recycling."

**1991** "The Difference Between Biographies and Historical Biographies," "Beatrice Potter's Children's Stories," "Colonel Charles Lindbergh," "The Fire of the Columbian Exposition of 1893," "Crystal River Bed and Breakfast Inn and its History," "Medicine and the Early Medical Profession," "Cary Jacob Bond," and "Camping Week for the Handicapped at Keller Lake Park."

**1992** "Native American Cultures," "Unique articles on Display at New London Museum," "Events Following the Assassination of President Abraham Lincoln," "The Ellington Ancestors Arrival in Wisconsin," "Events Surrounding the Sinking of the Titanic," "The Wolf River," and "Composing and Printing 'Ghost Houses of Wisconsin'."

**1993** "Activities Relevant to Cemeteries in the Area," "The Stained Glass Windows of Neenah and Menasha," "The Battle of Midway," "The Potato Industry and its Warehouses," and "The Milwaukee Fire Department."

**1994** "Colonial Williamsburg," "Wisconsin Barns," "Bell Telephone," "Wild Flowers," "History of Wisconsin State Parks," and "History of Lighting,"

Within a close-knit active membership of about 25, over the decade of 1985 through 1994, the life of WHS was in the hands of five presidents, five vice presidents, two secretaries, one treasurer, five curators (and a number of assistants), and a few sporadic program chairpersons.

**Presidents:** Evelyn Doerr '85, '86; John Holzman '87; Dr. H. J. McGinnis '88; Steve Nieland '89; Father Webster '90, '91, '92, '93; Don Duesterbeck '94.

**Vice Presidents:** John Holzman '85, '86; Isabel Salan '88, '89, '90; Steve Nieland '91, '92; Gill Hill '93, Don Clayton '94.

**Secretaries:** Louise Sutton '85, '86, '87, '88, '89; Don Duesterbeck '90, '91, '92, '93, '94.

**Treasurers:** Vera Duesterbeck '85, '86 '87, '88, '89, '90, '91, '92, '93, '94.

**Curators:** Linda Cross '85, '86 (assistants, Mary Nelson and Zilpha Davis '85, '86); Mary Nelson '87, '88, '89, '90, '91 (Assistants Francine Gies '88, '89 and Steve and LaDonna Nieland '89); Susan Porfilio '92, '93; Linda Pope '94.

#### Additional Activities over the 1985-94 period

During most of the 85-94 years WHS participated in the Pioneer Craft Show/Festival at the Armory, the Strawberry Festival, the Fourth of July Parade, and the Fall O Rama. They also held an annual picnic, usually at the Riverside or South Park. Over the decade, member and guest attendance ranged from 10 to 25.

WHS installed a bathroom in HH and bought an insurance policy in '86 and hosted a "Historical Workshop" at Trinity Lutheran Church in '87.

WHS got a donation from the city of \$1,500 and gave Mary Nelson \$300 as HH curator in '88.

The treasurer's report reached \$5116, WHS had a display at the New London Museum, and the painting was completed at the HH in '91.

Taking over as curator for '92, which was the 35<sup>th</sup> birthday, Susan Porfilio kept the Waupaca community well informed about activities at the Hutchinson House Museum through a column in the *Waupaca Post* entitled "Hutchinson House Highlights." To quote from Susan, "If people get out to see Victorian artifacts like we have at Hutchinson House, they'll find it really makes history come alive."

WHS hosted the State Historical Regional Convention and WHS held "Victorian Mistletoe Dinners" at the Oakwood Restaurant in '92 and '93.

WHS had Joss Heating and Cooling install a system for \$3,700, the treasurer's balance reached \$11,000, and a request was made to the city for \$5,000 for salaries and \$2,000 for operating expenses in '94.

Somewhere along the way, WHS turned the Heritage House into a Research and Genealogy center.

NAUPACA COUNTY POST

OCTOBER 29, 1992

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DOCENTS AT THE HUTCHINSON HOUSE this past summer gathered recently to celebrate a successful season. From left are (front) Betty Manion, Andi Crane and Joan Grace; (middle) Linda Pope, Evie Brown and Deb Katerzynske, and (back) LaDonna Nieland, Bettie Hill, Barb Paulson, Lois Finger and Curator Susan Porfilio. Guides missing from the photo are Phil Clough, Jane Legault and Edith Dennis. (Post Photo)

## Hutchinson House Highlights

By SUSAN PORFILIO, Curator

The 1992 season at the Hutchinson House Museum in South Park ended during Fall-O-Rama with many local people touring for the first time or returning after an absence of some years.

Many positive comments were heard, both verbally and in letter form, stating surprise at the vast amount of interesting artifacts contained in our museum.

This season, the increase in local guests and out-of-town visitors more than doubled the previous year's attendance. The volunteer staff and the curator at the Hutchinson House were all pleased with the season's total, and hopeful that we will have even more supporters for next season. The total amount of visitors was 660, up from a 298 total last year.

The word is getting out about "Waupaca's best-kept secret" and the present museum supporters are delighted about that. After all, the reason museums exist is for the enjoyment and education of the public. It is hoped that we are filling that need.

On Saturday, Sept. 26, during Fall-O-Rama, a special treat was a Suzuki concert held in the formal parlor at the museum. The students, who performed under the direction of Jenny Burton of Stevens Point, were Eliza Schultz, Nat Pope, Martha Duerr, Ryan Hutchinson, Sharon Roark, Linda Miller, Jaci Durrant, Beth Stadtmueller and Courtney Nenn.

The curator and all the docents (guides) who worked three or more times per month this season had an appreciation dinner at the Oakwood Inn on Tuesday, Oct. 13. All were present except Phil Clough, Jane Legault and Edith Dennis (a Waupaca summer resident).

At present, plans are well underway for a new event to be offered for the public on Sunday evening, Dec. 6. A Victorian Christmas dinner will be held, starting at 5 p.m. at the Oakwood, with entertainment before and after dinner as well as door prizes for guests.

This will be a family affair and there will be limited seating for about 250 people. Watch for more information in future issues of the *Waupaca County Post*.

Thus, the dedicated officer group, curator, and members of WHS did their job. Like care keepers, through scrapbooks, presentations, HH tours, involvement in community events, and newspaper articles, they kept Waupaca's history alive.

Of the many men, women, and teenagers who served as guides for tours, or were workers and helpers at HH over the years, many have come and gone: sometimes their time was brief, sometimes it was long. There are too many to list and if we attempted to do so, we would inadvertently leave some out.



Waupaca Historical Society  
321 South Main Street  
Waupaca, Wisconsin 54981 - 1745

## Keeping History Alive - And Making History



**Linda Pope (left) shows the Hutchinson House kitchen to visitors, July 1992. Photo courtesy of the Waupaca Historical Society.**