





THE NEWSLETTER OF THE MARATHON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY • 2019 No. 2





HISTORIC TAVERN TOUR

Board a bus to visit six historic taverns. Hear costumed storytellers recount tales from the past. Cash bar at each stop. Bonus mystery surprise along the way.

Sunday, May 19 NOON

Bus Assignments // 11:30 AM
Tour Begins (tour lasts approximately 3 hours) // NOON
Live music by Substyle at the Eagle's Club // 3:00 to 5:00 PM

Event Begins and Ends at the Eagle's Club on South Third Avenue, Wausau.



Advance tickets only: \$25 each
Available at www.marathoncountyhistory.org
or by stopping by the Marathon County Historical Society.
This FUNdraiser is brought to you by the Marathon County Historical Society.

Individual questions can be addressed to Jane Janke Johnson @ 715-297-1946

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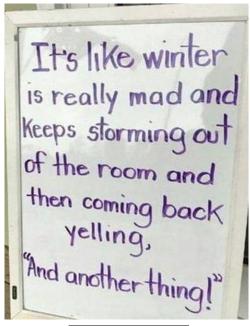
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Editor: Sara K. Goetsch





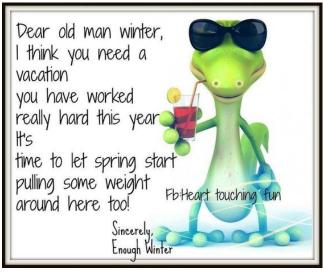
The Marathon County Historical Society is supported in part by City of Wausau Room Tax Funding.

All New Members and Gifts & Donations will appear in the next issue of the Wanigan due to technical difficulties and staff injuries.

• THANK YOU •

- ◆ To the volunteers who helped make our 20th Valentine Tea so successful. The Roaring 20's Theme for the 20th Anniversary was a blast.
- ◆ To the volunteers who helped at the Mother & Child Tea and made the job of serving tea and working on a craft with many young children look effortless.
- ◆ To the Emergency Police who made sure everyone made it safely across the street for our Members Only Sneak Peak of Houses In Bloom.
- ◆ To the Out Of The Woods Theater group for providing great music on the weekend of Houses in Bloom.
- ◆ To our volunteers who helped with the refreshments for Houses In Bloom





Misc...



A Very Special Thank You!

We would like to thank the following florists and designers who helped bring an early spring to the Yawkey & Woodson Houses. Their participation made our 4th Annual Houses In Bloom possible. Please mention you saw their work at our event when you shop with them!

- **A** Rustic Rhinestone Events
- ❖ Without A Hitch
- Kase Styles
- Floral Magic

- ❖ Evolutions In Design
- ❖ Pastor Rich Block
- **❖** Vintage Vixens

A Sincere Thank You to our Sponsors!

Our Valentine Tea would not be possible without the support of our sponsors. Their generous donations provided attendees with a unique and memorable experience for the 20th anniversary of the tea.

- ❖ Sweet Dreams Bakery
- ❖ Without A Hitch
- ❖ Johanna May's Fine Tea
- ❖ New Roots Coffee Company
- **❖** Vintage Vixens



A NOTE FROM SARA

Every year at this time, it's my job, along with the rest of the staff, to look over the volunteer list from the past year. I have my co-workers check all the people who are current in their "department" and then the list comes back to me for final revisions. It never fails.

After the Wanigan goes out, I find at least one, sometimes more, dedicated people that I've somehow managed to leave off the list. Or spelled their name wrong. Or missed a spouse. I could go on, but know that it's never intentional, and I take full responsibility. If I've managed to mangle your name or miss it entirely, please give me a call and your name will be put into a special section in the next newsletter. All of our volunteers are appreciated beyond belief around here, because without you, the staff couldn't do their job nearly as well.

Volunteers were treated to a light supper with a treasure theme this year to show our thanks. Even if you couldn't make it, know that we love all of you and you make the whole Historical Society look great!

WE TREASURE OUR VOLUNTEERS!

20 Years Later...

I am so delighted that the Valentine's Tea has just celebrated its 20th year. It certainly has grown from its beginning in 1999. Every year when I read about it in the Wanagan, I cannot help but remember the first one we had.

In 1999, I was the librarian at the Society, and as I looked across the street at the Yawkey House I wondered what we could do to highlight the house. It wasn't until after my daughter Tristan and I traveled to London and had High Tea at Harrods that I came up with an idea. It so happened that Valentine's Day that year fell on Monday so the Yawkey House would be closed. Perfect!

Nancy Klammer was the Events Curator at that time, and Amy Ryan was a volunteer in the library. I mentioned the tea to them and they both thought it was a good idea so we started planning how we could pull it off. None of us realized how much work it would be.

Sunday, the day before the tea, the three of us (plus Amy's mother Pearl) cleaned the house, carried in card tables and chairs, linens, silverware, dishes and more. Not only that, we made all of the food.

I can still remember rushing to finish the tea sandwiches as the guests arrived for the tea. We had two servings: one at 1:00 and the other at 3:00. Our worry was getting things refreshed and ready before the second group arrived. I think it was Jane Janke Johnson who poured, elegant in her wedding gown, at that first tea. Poor Nancy besides sharing the work, she also gave a program on teapots – not once but twice!!

After the guests left, we had to clean up everything because the house would be open the next day for tours. Needless to say, we were exhausted, but delighted that it had been a success. I think it was 6:00 when we finally finished our work.

The next few years we continued to do the tea in this manner, and as it grew we got bigger tables and put them into more of the rooms. We continued with two seatings.

As the event became more and more popular, we decided we had to move it to the lower level of the Woodson House. Luckily, by this time, Betty Walters had moved into the lower level of the Woodson House with her bakery. She and Lenore took over doing all of the food. What a relief that was for all of us. I was the Director by then and I remember so well the day that Bart Kellnhauser came to me to see what I would think of having a bakery in the Woodson House. I told him I had never really thought about it; only Bart would come up with that idea. It has proved to be a wonderful thing for the Society and also for the guests at the Valentine Tea.

Little did we realize when we had the first tea that it would become an annual event and a tradition at the MCHS. It is still a popular event and at the same time, a money making event. I hope it will continue for many years to come and that the guests keep enjoying it.



On a side note from Mary Jane's, I am forever grateful that Sweet Dreams took over making the goodies for this event! If I had to make the food, there is no possible way that we would have celebrated the 20th anniversary! I do also want everyone to know that your continued attendance at the Valentine Tea is sincerely appreciated and I look forward to the next twenty years.

~Sara K. Goetsch Current Curator of Events ~Mary Jane Hettinga



Upcoming Speakers



The Marathon County Historical Society continues its popular lecture series *History Speaks*, which includes a wide variety of topics presented by local experts and history enthusiasts.

All lectures are presented at the Woodson History Center, have no admission fee, and no registration is required. However, donations are always appreciated. **All presentations begin at 2 pm, unless otherwise noted.**

Saturday, May 11, 2019: Skunk Hill: A Native Ceremonial Community in Wisconsin, Bob Birmingham, And 1:00 p.m. Native American artifact identification session Saturday, June 1, 2019: Guilt, Survivorship, and the Trauma of War, Mort McBain Saturday, June 15, 2019: Music Makers of Marathon County, Ben Clark Saturday, August 24, 2019: Victory! Marathon County in 1945, Paul Clark



American Girl-Themed Garden Party Saturday, June 1, 2019 1 pm-3 pm

Enjoy an old-fashioned garden party with your American Girl Doll (or any other special doll) in the historic Yawkey House Museum Gardens. This year, we are also including pets, but not the real kind. Bring your favorite animal along, stuffed of course!

The party will include a brief look at antique dolls and stuffed animals, a craft project to make, games, and of course refreshments! Recommended ages 5-12. Cost is \$25 per adult 4 child/\$10 each additional child.

Reservations are **Required** and space is limited. Call Sara at 715-842-5750 to reserve your spot today. Girls & dolls can "dress-up" for this special garden party. Event will be held in the Woodson History Center in case of inclement weather.

For Fun

VAMONDE and MCHS

The Marathon County Historical Society has partnered with the free application VAMONDE to develop a new kind of walking tour that uses your smartphones to take you on an adventure.

The application uses your location to show you nearby "adventures," which might be used to supplement a tour at the Iron County Museum in Michigan, highlight important locations in the civil rights movement in Chicago, or find good places to go hiking in Minnesota.

When you get to the location indicated on the application's map, you can see pictures and read the stories about the building or event featured at that location. Other adventures might include video or audio clips that help tell a story as well.

Setting out on one of the adventures created by the MCHS might give you an explanation about the history of the YMCA or the Public Library, or serve as a jumping off point to learn about the Lumberjacks Baseball team or the 1921 visit by President Calvin Coolidge.

VAMONDE also lets you download tours and maps before setting out, if you want to avoid using cellular data. And you can also explore stories on VAMONDE's website, to explore cities near and far from the comfort of your own home.

You can download VAMONDE by searching for it in your preferred app store (including Apple Store and Google Play).

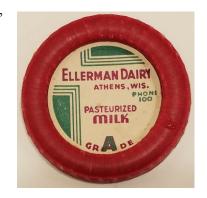
Ellerman Dairy

Glen Ellerman owned and operated Ellerman Dairy at the corner of Alfred and Mueller Streets in Athens, Wisconsin from the late 1940s into the 1960s. The dairy bottled milk from local farmers and delivered it to Athens-area residents and schools, as well as to residents up to the Medford area. Ellerman's dairy was located on the first floor of the building and Glen operated a restaurant on the second floor.



This Ellerman Dairy milk bottle was donated to the Marathon County Historical Society in 2018 by Jerry Sjostrom, a longtime Athens resident. "Milk is Nature's Most Perfect Food" is printed on the back of the bottle. Little is known about the history of Ellerman

Dairy. If you have more information, we'd appreciate hearing from you. Please contact Kathy or Linda at 715-842-5750.



Our Volunteers Are A Treasure!

Every April the staff looks over a list showing everyone who's volunteered here. It never ceased to amaze me, the number of people who give so graciously of their time and make the staff look so good! We sincerely thank you from the bottom of our hearts!

Sonja Ackerman George & Bonnie Alafouzos

Ron Allen
Dianne Ames

Emily Anderson
Kathy Anderson
Nancy Ashman
Doug & Claire Aziz
Barbara Banals
Brett Barker
Paula Barnes
Bob Becker

David & Gail Berge Bill Bertram

Michael & Jane Blick

Angie Bliese Fredrick Bliese

Carol Berens

Sandy & Rev. Richard Block

Michael Bresnahan Elizabeth Brezinski Bruce & Lynn Buhmann

Joan Burk-Miller Brian Bushnell Pat Casey

Sandi Cihlar Bill Coady Lisa Crump

Mary Ann Dawson Sally Decker Ronald Erickson Evolutions In Design Floral Magic Creations

Russell & Linda Forbess Jim & Mary Forer Kelly Franklin

Gerald & Mary Frickenstein

John Frieders Gary Gisselman Hunter Gnatz

Alaina & Julia Goetsch

Sara K. Goetsch Patrick Gosz Priscilla Grittner Cassandra Haen Robert S. Hagge Jr.

Ann Halfpap Lynne T. Hall Sherry Halsey Don Haney Kody Hart John Hattenhauer Connie Heidemann

Lisa Held Laurel Hoffmann Lorraine Hornung Gregory Huber Isis Hunter Kathi Hupy Karen Hurst Susan Hurst

Ray & Annie Jahns Jane J. Johnson Elizabeth Joswick

Irene Igers

Kase Styles Cheryl Keding Peggy Kinney Nicole Kleman Michael Kolasinski Kelly Krum

Lynn Lambrecht Mary Lebrun Linda Leighton James Lenselink

Kim Lenz Judy Lewis Rick Lohr Elizabeth Lutz Katherine Madsen Stephanie Martell

Carl Martens

Christine & Mike Martens Dorothy Maxfield

John Meachen Suzan E. Miller Maralee Moellendorf

Pat & Lucy McCarthy

Mary Moen Mullins Cheese

Nathan Murillo-Barahona

Kim Nevers Patricia O'Hara Bonnie Ostrowski Sharon Ostrowski Scott & Linda Peterson

Patty Pippenger Marlys Podratz Bethany Pravuch Mary Radke Matthew Raguse Kris Rasmussen Kathy Rein Carol Reitz

Nicole Riggs Mary Roberts Nicholas Robinson Rustic Rhinestone Events

Jessica Sandene Robert Sanders Dana & David Sanft Yvonne & Dave Schuster

Ivy Shaw Yvonne Siewert Katie Simson

Val Stanenas-Wacker Sandra Stemper Joan Stencil Nicole Stephens Richard Strasser Anna & Joe Straub Molly Straub Joan Stroyny

Sweet Dreams Bakery

Paula Szydel Jennifer Ternes Lori Torkko Chelsea Trinkner Jen Triolo Linda Tryczak Lee Ann Venne

Gerald Viste
Vintage Vixens
Kathy Volkman
Dave Wallenfelsz
Dave Wedemayer Jr.

Jane Wery Brian Williams Russ Wilson Walter Winchell Without A Hitch Kelly Zagrzebski DuWayne Zamzow Joseph Zimmerman

Pat Zmuda



Marathon County Historical Society 410 McIndoe Street Wausau, Wisconsin 54403

Return Service Requested

Non-Profit Organization U. S. Postage **PAID** Wausau, WI 54403 Permit #550

Our Mission Statement

To collect, preserve, advance, and disseminate the knowledge of the history of Marathon County and the State of Wisconsin

LOCATIONS AND HOURS

WOODSON HISTORY CENTER

410 McIndoe St., Wausau, WI 54403 Office: 715-842-5750 Library: 715-848-0378 Fax: 715-848-0576 Library Hours: Tuesday through Friday 9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Web site: www.marathoncountyhistory.org

YAWKEY HOUSE MUSEUM

403 McIndoe St., Wausau, WI 54403
Hours: Tuesday through Friday
9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Saturday and Sunday
1:00 - 4:30 p.m.
Yawkey House tours are offered on the hour,
last tour starts at 3:00 p.m.
Closed on Mondays and Holidays.



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