

VOICES FROM THE PAST: A DISCOVERY WALK THROUGH PINE GROVE CEMETERY



SUNDAY,
SEPTEMBER 22,
2019

Re-enactors tell our local history through
first-person narratives.

Tours running continuously starting at
11 a.m. with the last tour at 2 p.m.

**Pine Grove Cemetery
1501 Grand Avenue
Wausau, Wisconsin**

~ Open to the public ~
~ Suggested Donation \$5 per person ~
~ Held Rain or Shine ~

*For more information: 715-842-5750
www.marathoncountyhistory.org*

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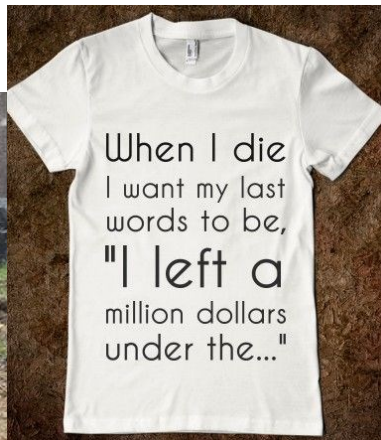
PRINTING OF THE WANIGAN

Editor: Sara K. Goetsch

Welcome to our New Members

Jean A. Witzeling
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Cemetery Humor



• **THANK YOU** •

- ◆ To Sun Printing for printing the Wausau Westside Historic Tavern Tour posters
- ◆ To Nationwide Indemnity for office supplies
- ◆ To Cloverbelt Credit Union and Forward Electronics for the new phone system
- ◆ To all the volunteers who helped out at the MCHS booth for the Wisconsin Valley Fair
- ◆ To Jenna Breitenfeldt, the 2019 Fairest of the Fair, for all her help with our summer events



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

Misc...

WI Remembers Help

Hundreds of visitors viewed the traveling exhibit Wisconsin Remembers: A Face for Every Name while it was at MCHS during May. This is the exhibit that shows a photo for each person listed on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall in Washington, D.C., plus Vietnam era veterans listed at The Highground in Neillsville, WI. We have many volunteers to thank for their assistance with bringing this exhibit to Wausau and for help with the special events we hosted here.

Thank you to Kathy Volkmann, Bill Coady, Russ Forbess, and Linda Forbess for transporting the display, installing the local displays, and help with programming.

Thank you to Yvonne Schuster, Pat Casey, Sharon Ryd, and Rich Block for help with refreshments and other details at our special events.

Thank you to the 32 name readers for our Memorial Day ceremony.

Thank you to Mort McBain for his presentation on June 1.

Thank you to sponsors Cloverbelt Credit Union, American Legion Montgomery Plant Dudley Post 10, Elderon Memorial VFW Post 8068, Edgar Memorial VFW, and Mosinee VFW Post 8733.

• GIFTS RECEIVED •

- ◆ A donation in memory of Jeff Krause from Jane & Jim Janke
- ◆ A donation in memory of Walter Scheidemann from Jane & Jim Janke
- ◆ A donation in memory of Donald Weinkauff from Mary Jane & Allen Hettinga
- ◆ A donation in memory of Peter Mattiacci given by Carol Reitz
- ◆ A donation in memory of Joan Kuehl by Kathleen Volkmann
- ◆ A donation in memory of Ruth Schultz by Jim Janke & Jane Janke Johnson
- ◆ A donation in memory of Grace Menzner by Jim Janke & Jane Janke Johnson
- ◆ A donation in memory of Alice Whitmore by Jacie & Wayne Jensen
- ◆ A donation in memory of Alice Whitmore by Kathleen Bond
- ◆ A donation in memory of Alice Whitmore and in support of the Little Red Schoolhouse by Daina Tainter
- ◆ A donation in memory of Alice Whitmore and in support of the Little Red Schoolhouse by: Diann Newby, Karen Graff, Lucy Harvey, Barb Mullen, Sue Sammann & Waego friends
- ◆ A donation in memory of Alice Whitmore by the Orsay Family Foundation

• GIFTS RECEIVED •

- ◆ A donation in memory of Alice Whitmore and in support of the Little Red Schoolhouse program by Mary Hague
- ◆ A donation from Victoria Lindsay
- ◆ A donation from John Davis
- ◆ A donation from Catherine Brody
- ◆ A donation from Elizabeth Jamieson
- ◆ A donation from Darlene Vlietstra
- ◆ A grant from the John & Alice Forester Charitable Trust
- ◆ A grant from the Nancy Woodson Spire Foundation, Inc.
- ◆ A donation from William J. & Jeanne M. Schmelzer
- ◆ A donation from James Padavick
- ◆ A donation from Timothy R. King



100 Years

JANKE BOOK STORE: Turning the Pages of History 1919-2019

Janke Book Store is one of Wausau's oldest retail establishments. The roots of the business date back to 1876 when the bookstore was established by C.W. Chubbuck and later sold to Mr. Richard Collie. Following Carl Janke's service in World War One, he returned to his hometown of Wausau, Wisconsin, and purchased the business from Richard Collie in 1919. Carl's Army buddy, Reno Kurth, was a silent business partner. The business operated under the name Janke-Kurth Co. until 1948 when Janke purchased Kurth's interest and it became known as its present name.

After returning from the Korean War, Carl's son, John Janke, entered into partnership with his father in 1954. After Carl's death in 1974, John and his wife, Delores, assumed management of the store. John passed away in 2006 and Delores in 2016.

Janke Book Store had four locations in downtown Wausau, but all in the same 500 block. The first location was at 508 Third Street. In 1963 the Jankes purchase the Davis building, at 525 Third Street but did not move until 1967. This move was necessary due to the expansion plans of First American National Bank (now BMO). In 1982 the building directly south of the bookstore was purchased from Jim Kryshak and Dr. George Wilke. This acquisition allowed the business to grow. A final move in 1991 to 505 Third Street (the former Walgreens building) grew the retail space to over 10,000 square feet.

Jim Janke joined the business in 1980 and Jane Janke in 1983. Today the third generation brother-sister duo work side-by-side and love the daily interaction with customers.

Some interesting facts:

Marion Zahrt was hired by Carl Janke 66 years ago and continues to work for the third generation.

During the Depression, books were rented.

Janke-Kurth Co. was a Kodak camera dealer.

An Alaskan ten-foot brown bear named Bruce is the store mascot.

Jankes is the oldest bookstore in the State of Wisconsin.

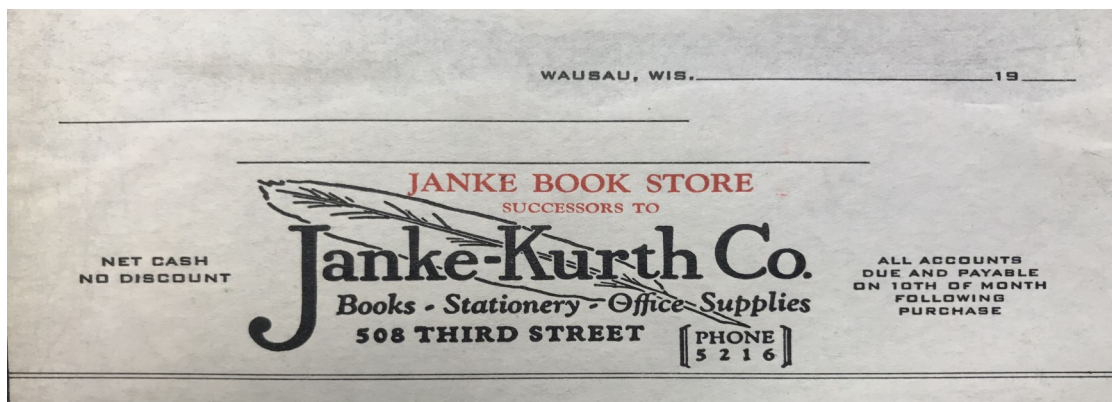
Hallmark cards have been sold in the store for 85 years.

The Janke family has published and/or authored six local history books.

Jane has served on the Marathon County Historical Society Board of Directors for over 20 years and serves as their secretary. She also loves re-enacting historical characters.

The Janke Family will be celebrating their 100th Anniversary on Sunday, October 27, 2019, at an Open House from 1 until 4 pm at the Rothschild Pavillion. The public is invited for Root beer floats, displays and presentations.

By Jane Janke Johnson



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.**

Sat., Sept. 21: *Extraordinary Women of Marathon County*, with Christine Kadonsky.

Sat., Oct. 5: *History Speaks: Women's Work During Prohibition*, with Alison Staudinger.

Sat., Nov. 9: *History Speaks: Puerto Rico After the Storm*, with Rick Lohr.



Hotel Wausau, now known as The Landmark apartments, was completed in 1925 and was the premier hotel in Wausau for several decades. In addition to 257 guest rooms, the elegant hotel featured the palatial Crystal Ballroom and dining room, the Blue Fountain Lounge and the Coffee Shoppe. For many years they hosted banquets, wedding receptions and conventions.

The hotel, located at 221 Scott Street in downtown Wausau, was part of the Schroeder chain of hotels, most of them built in Wisconsin. Before the hotel could be built, Wausau had to agree on spending at least \$200,000 to help finance construction. The remaining \$800,000 was to be provided by Chris Schroeder and Sons. The cost of purchasing the site (then occupied by the Bellis Hotel) was an additional \$250,000.

The newly built hotel brought a great deal of business to downtown Wausau. Train travel was popular in those days and the hotel was located between the two Wausau depots, making it a convenient and lovely place to stay. In the 1970s, the hotel was turned into the 100-unit Landmark apartments, which still occupy the space along with a number of retail tenants.

The two pieces of dinnerware shown here were used at Hotel Wausau when it opened in 1925. Both were designed by Arthur Schiller & Son of Chicago, who primarily supplied china to hotels, railways and airlines. The center of the heavy 10 ½" charger plate is adorned with the image of a Native American chief along with several images showing local scenes, all nestled in a gold gilt garland. The 9" soup plate is edged with green and grey Classical garland decoration and "Hotel Wausau" is at the top center. As can be seen on the postcard, the garland motif is also used on the building exterior - at the center peak, below the third floor windows and between the eighth floor windows.



By Kathy Volkmann, Curator of Artifacts

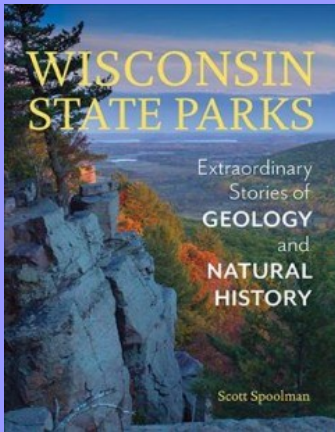
(See postcard on page 3)

Book Festival

The Marathon County Historical Society
is proud to partner with the
Central Wisconsin Book Festival



*These events will be hosted Sat., Sept. 28, at the
Woodson History Center,
410 McIndoe St., Wausau*

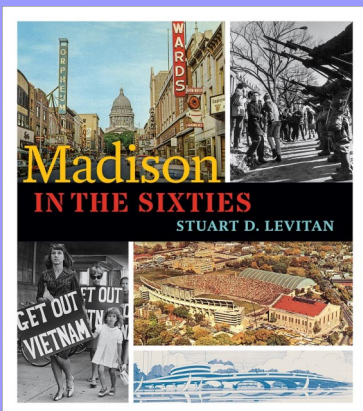
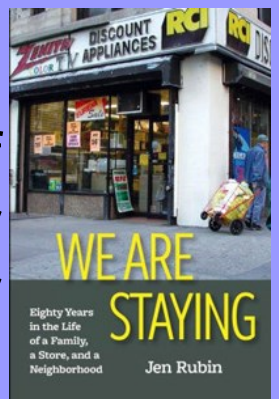


At 10 a.m., learn more about the extraordinary geology and history of Wisconsin State Parks with author Scott Spoolman.

At 11 a.m., join the interactive Family Memoir Writing Workshop with Jen Rubin.



At 1 p.m., Jen Rubin will read from her memoir, We Are Staying, the fascinating tale of the Radio Clinic store her family operated for decades in Manhattan's Upper West Side.



At 2 p.m., Stuart Levitan, author of Madison in the Sixties, will discuss issues that dominated that decade in Wisconsin's capital city.

In Remembrance...



Alice M. Whitmore, 82, Mosinee, passed away at home on May 7, 2019 surrounded by family.

She was born April 13, 1937, in Antigo, WI, the daughter of the late Otto and Gertrude (Carlin) Raith. She spent her pre-school days in logging camps living in a 12' x 18' cabin with a wood-fired cook stove and a kerosene lamp. Her dad taught her poetry and songs and instilled in her a love for learning.

She graduated from Elcho High School, married on July 4, 1955, and five little Yoders were born in 6 years and 6 months. The close-knit pack of kids kept Alice busy gardening, sewing, attending church and catechism, getting kids to 4-H, horse shows, sports, demanding excellence in school and music and playing in the Yoder Family Polka Band. Alice orchestrated frequent moves the family made throughout the Midwest and if there

wasn't a 4-H club in a new community, she started one. Summers were spent at their cottage on Long Lake in Kempster, WI, where Alice learned to do turn-arounds and start out backwards on water skis and she made sure all of her kids learned to ski as well. Alice began college when her fifth child left for kindergarten and graduated summa cum laude in four years from UWGB. She taught school at Elcho and Green Bay then, after another move, returned to school and earned her M.S. degree at Iowa State University. She also learned to fly. After moving to Wausau, WI, and a divorce from her first husband, Alice became a Realtor and business owner, leading Century 21 Tri City to become the second largest in sales volume in central Wisconsin. Alice attributed her resilience to her father whose mantra she lived by, 'A worry is an opportunity to take action'. She was active in many Wausau and Mosinee organizations including the Chamber of Commerce, Board of Realtors, Altrusa Club, Noon Optimists, Westside and South Area Business Associations, Habitat for Humanity and the Wisconsin Republic Party.

Alice married David Whitmore on Dec. 23, 1993, at St. Paul Catholic Church, Mosinee. The couple spent their 20 year marriage snow shoeing and skiing, bicycling with the Wausau Biking Vikings, ballroom dancing, attending classes and traveling the world together. Their active lifestyle was an inspiration to their children and grandchildren. She cared for David, at home, until he died on Christmas Eve in 2013.

Alice remained an active widow with the WAGOs (Women Actively Enjoying the Great Outdoors). She golfed frequently and served on the board of Indianhead Golf Course, Mosinee, volunteered as a teacher in the Little Red School House for the Marathon County Historical Society, led water exercise classes in Mosinee for the Woodson YMCA, downhill skied, volunteered at St. Paul's Catholic Church in Mosinee and traveled. She was honored as a Woman of Vision by the Woodson YWCA in 2014. After being diagnosed with stage 4 breast cancer in 2015, Alice traveled to Japan, Iceland, Turkey, Africa, Vietnam, Washington, DC, and New York City, treating grandchildren to many of these and other trips. Alice's last trip was to the Crystal Bridge Museum in Fayetteville, AK, a bucket list destination that she enjoyed just three weeks ago with her only sister, Vicki, cousin Bev and aunt Karryl.

One to never give up, Alice water skied again at age 80. Now we stand on the dock crying, comforting each other, laughing and waving at mom, grandma, great grandma, sister, friend and teacher as she heads into heaven, on water skis, a golf cart, a bicycle, an airplane...

Survivors include five children, Debra (Steve) Dhein, Green Bay, Steven Yoder, Blue Mounds, Lisa (Liana Teteberg) Yoder, Salt Lake City, UT, Amy (Dennis) Thomsen, Boise, ID, Cheryl (Jim) Kennedy, Schofield; 10 grandchildren, Nic and Dan Yoder, Natalie Klingforth, Clayton, Steve and Katy Powell, Reed and Blake Dhein, Allie Christman and Lexi Copeland; 8 great-grandchildren; and two siblings, Chuck (Diann) Raith, Summit Lake, and Veronica (Jan) Wagner, Pelican Lake. She is preceded in death by one brother, John Raith.

Profound thanks to daughter Cher for her devoted care of Alice and to her husband, Jim, for his support. Thanks to Jillian, Tim and staff of Interim Hospice and to Dr. Onatillo and medical team, and to the staff of TLC Home Care. Memorial donations, in Alice's name, are welcome to: St. Paul's Altar Fund, Mosinee, The Little Red School House c/o Marathon County Historical Society and the Alzheimer's Association.



Marathon County Historical Society
410 McIndoe Street
Wausau, Wisconsin 54403

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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.