

WASHBURN HERITAGE ASSOCIATION



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Second Annual Tony Woiak History Festival Scheduled

The Washburn Heritage Association, along with the Washburn Area Historical Society, is pleased to announce the Second Annual Tony Woiak History Festival. Four lectures will be held on Tuesday evenings in July and August. Funded by a grant from the Apostle Island Historic Preservation Conservancy, the lectures cover a broad range of historic topics.

All of the lectures will be held at Stage North in Washburn at 7:30pm. Light refreshments are also provided. The cost is \$5.00.

Second Annual Tony Woiak History Festival Schedule

- July 16, 2013 - Memories in the Brownstone: A Short History of Houghton Point - Al House
- July 30, 2013 - Celebrate Souvenir Views and Washburn in Stories, Songs and Pictures - Betty Ferris
- August 6, 2013 - Historic Civic Center: The Heart and Soul of Washburn - Mary Nowakowski
- August 20, 2013 - The Fire Demon: Historic Area Fires - Bob Mackreth



The Trolley Is Back! Guided History Tours During Brownstone Days

For the third straight year the Heritage Association will provide guided historic tours of Washburn on Saturday, July 27th during Brownstone Days. The BART trolley will provide transportation for the tours through the generosity of WHA members Ron and Kay Maassen.

The tours highlight twelve historic sites in the city limits, and feature live commentary by WHA members who can make these historic places come to life. Participants will learn many surprising facts about Washburn's history from the comfort of the trolley. The tours are perfect for all ages - children through seniors. And, of course, they are free!

The trolley loading area will be located at the Washburn Chamber of Commerce. Tours depart at 10am, 11am, noon and 1pm.

Historic Civic Center Foundation Formed

The newly established Historic Civic Center Foundation (HCCF) will support tourism, business and community involvement that benefit the area of Washburn Wisconsin.

The initial project of the HCCF is to establish the historic Washburn Civic Center as a gathering place for the Washburn community and a new hub for tourism in the Bayfield peninsula. The renovation will convert this beloved building into a first class facility and will help elevate the community's expectations for future development. The Washburn Area Chamber of Commerce will manage the Historic Civic Center building, which will become an income generating establishment. This income will be used to support the mission of the HCCF.

MISSION

To protect, preserve, interpret, and increase awareness of the architectural and cultural history of the City of Washburn and its surrounding area.

Facade Improvement Awards Draw Attention to Local Landmarks

Recently the Washburn Heritage Association (WHA) presented the owners of Karlyn's Gallery with a Façade Improvement Award. Karlyn's Gallery is the premier visual arts center on Chequamegon Bay. It maintains its central identity as a gallery, but is also purveys art supplies and Karlyn Holman's many books and instructional videos. It provides printing, archival framing and graphic arts services. And it is an art school with classes in several visual arts media.

Said Karlyn, "Not bad for a business that started with a pottery wheel in my basement and three toddlers to care for." In 1968 Karlyn was ready for a storefront retail space to complement her sales at Mid-western art shows and fairs. She and husband Gary Holman decided to buy the downtown building for \$2,000. The couple began rehabbing the space right away. Karlyn's business thrived, and by the early 1970s the space became so tight that Gary said, "It was

like trying to put four pounds into a three pound bag." He added a second story to make a frame shop and classroom.

During all these expansions, Karlyn and Gary have been careful to keep the historical and architectural sense of the boomtown building intact, yet maintain a welcoming curbside appeal. A bright, new blue exterior, a new roof, lovely flower boxes, a pleasant side yard seating area, and even a 'dog bar' make Karlyn's Gallery a jewel on Washburn's main thoroughfare.

When presenting the award, WHA Board member Irene Blakely stated, "Karlyn's Gallery successfully attracts customers with ongoing, thoughtful improvements to their building and to the quality goods and services they offer. Their positive contribution to our streetscape makes them very deserving recipients of the Washburn Heritage Association's Façade Improvement Award."

President's Letter

Washburn lost the little white boomtown building across the street from Leino's to the wrecking ball this past year. A different outcome than the DuPont Club/Civic Center building which was thankfully saved and rehabilitated. As noted elsewhere in this publication, there is a plan in place for this building to become headquarters for the newly-formed Historic Civic Center Foundation. This is wonderful news, as the center will still be available for public use.

Not long ago, I drove through a small town where virtually all the old buildings had been demolished. It made me appreciate the treasure of historic structures we have here. These buildings provide a link to the past and help portray from where we came. Equally important are the stories, artifacts and memorabilia relating to the vitality of the area throughout the years.

Washburn has mastered the oft repeated cliché, "If we don't know where we've been, how will we know where we are going?"

We do know where we have been, thanks to many forward looking people. And we are lucky to live in this city where history is valued. The sense of place derived from this knowledge is an important tool for progress and future planning.

Carla Bremner, President



Karlyn's Gallery received a Façade Improvement Award from members of the Washburn Heritage Association.