



# Markesan Historical Society Gazette

## July/August/September 2015



The 24th Annual Heritage Day will be held on Sunday, September 20, 2015 from 1 to 5 p.m. at the Grand River Valley Museum, 214 E. John St. An Historical Scavenger Hunt will be an event for the afternoon!

Leonard Quinn and his canine friend, Slider, of Green Lake presented the program at the July meeting. Leonard is the national spokesperson for Leader Dogs for the Blind; and a most enthusiastic speaker is he. "Going blind is not the end of the world," he told. "We just do things differently. We use the talent we have left."

He told of one instance when he wanted to cross the street from the apartment building where he lived. His dog would not cross, no matter what Leonard said. So he turned back to the apartment building and told the manager what had happened. "Good thing," the manager replied. "It's very foggy today and the dog couldn't see across the street." Leonard was amazed, for nowhere, no how, was the dog trained in fog.

Puppies for the program are born at Leader from stock and at 6 weeks start their training. It takes 14 months to train a dog and to put it in the hands of the person who needs it. Leonard closed with these words, "The only happiness is the happiness to give."

Bobbie Erdmann of the Berlin Area Historical Society was the speaker at the meeting in August, portraying the daughter of George Ryan in her telling of "A Paddle Boat Daughter."

The Fox River was a busy place during George's life. In 1865 he journeyed to Maine to build ships. His brother, James, learned the craft also. George sometimes had unusual ideas brought to him for ship building, but he complied in building the designs desired.

In 1876 he returned to the area. A very good lock system was in place from Berlin to Green Bay to Portage for boat travel. From Berlin to Oshkosh it cost 25 cents one way and 50 cents for the round trip.

When the days of the paddle boats were over, their upper decks were removed and the boats were used for freight and passengers. The barges carried logs, coal and lumber.

George was involved with it all, and when he died in 1930, in tribute to him, boats were tied up for his funeral from Oshkosh to Green Bay.

The September meeting focused on plans for the 24th Annual Heritage Day on Sunday, September 20, 2015 from 1 to 5 p.m.

Crafters and vendors will be:

Basket weaver  
Quilter  
Blacksmith  
Hickory Syrup Maker  
Bee Keeper  
Author  
Ukrainian Egg Decorator  
Spinner  
DAR  
Butter Making

Music



Pie & Ice Cream  
Lemonade  
&  
Popcorn

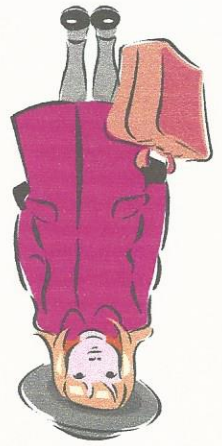
**Pictures Tell the Story**  
Photographers who captured Markesan's early history were:

Bruce D. Harper  
William Harper  
L. J. Heinz  
Mr. Martin  
Arthur Marwitz  
H. G. Potter  
F. W. Snell  
A. W. Young  
Albert Zabel



Albert's slogan was, "Where there's beauty we take it; where there's none, we make it."

24th Annual Heritage Day  
Sunday, Sept. 20, 2015  
1 to 5 p.m.  
Crafters, Vendors,  
Music and More



Markesan Historical Society  
Sue Abendroth  
430 Sunrise Lane  
Markesan, WI 53946

### ACQUISITIONS

The family of the late Glen Seymer has donated Glen's collection of Indian arrowheads to the Museum. Over 500 arrowheads are now displayed in a shadow box on the Utley Depot wall. The arrowheads were found along the Grand River on the Seymer Farm.

The Museum has received a vintage Schwinn bicycle from Karen Ueker and Doris Degener. It is on display in the Barn.

The family of the late Chuck Nixon has donated his service dress uniform and other memorabilia concerning his death during WW II. A display is being arranged for these articles.

Display cases have been donated by Charles Ness for Museum displays. Sincere thanks to all who have so generously donated items for the historical displays of Markean and the surrounding area.

### TOURS

The Markesan High School Class of 1965 toured the Museum on July 25th as part of their class reunion. The Class of 1955 will do the same on September 12th.

### HOUSEKEEPING

The Amish have painted the cupola on the Barn and cleaned the gutters.

### PIES

Pies are needed for Heritage Day!  
Call Pat--398-2719

### Meetings

The Historical Society meets the second Wednesday of the month in the Barn at the Grand River Valley Museum, 214 E. John St. for the summer months at 7 p.m. The Society meets at the Markesan City Hall, 150 S. Bridge St. during the winter months.

### Museum Hours

The Grand River Valley Museum is open on Saturdays from 1 to 4 p.m. May through September. The Museum is also open by appointment.

### MEMBERSHIP

\$5/yr. individual  
\$100/ lifetime individual or husband & wife

### Board of Directors

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