

Happy New Year 2024!

Another year has come and gone. Winter waited until after the holidays to begin in earnest! Our museum and historical society had a good season – again. It’s always fun and interesting to see how the year unfolds so let’s recap.

The meetings were well attended, not only for the programs, but also because Larry and Kathy Holl provided some great treats and refreshments. Lots of time was spent on purchasing, preparing, packaging and presenting these at every meeting – Thank You So Much!

Following are the programs/presenters we had in 2023.

Care-4-You Clinic from Dalton, a faith based non-profit facility staffed by skilled providers and volunteers was first.

Up next we had Claudia Tibbitz and William Gorr who re-enacted their Princeton Cemetery Walk portrayals for us.

In June we invited Vickie Wielgosh, President of Princeton’s Historical Society to tell us the ‘story’ of Princeton’s Folklore Museum.

Our picnic in July was delicious! Thanks again to Larry and Kathy!

August ushered in Dr. Alan Lippart, DMV who has been our community’s go-to for our animals’ healthcare. Very interesting.

Susan Gorr explained a bit about how the community of Princeton organized its cemetery walking tour and chose the people to be portrayed. Also in September was Heritage Day with many former presenters and several new ones as well. We formally dedicated The Don Leider Memorial Canning Exhibit with many of his family members present. Don was employed by Del Monte and was responsible for organizing many of the artifacts displayed in The Barn. He is truly missed. The pie and ice cream and popcorn always tops it off!

The October meeting was a power point re-cap of Heritage Day in September by President Schultz which reminded us of how much fun we had.

We were present for Markesan’s Homespun Holidays in November again this year. The big hit was the 150+ blue owl banks that were given away to children and adults.

The 2023 Local History & Preservation Conference was held October 18-20 in LaCrosse and was attended by President Schultz and Susan Gorr. We made many new friends from historical societies all across the state. Next year the conference will be held October 16-18, 2024 in Appleton.

Thank you to Dave Prill for all the painting, sprucing up and general upkeep he did throughout the spring, summer and fall. It is very much appreciated.

New glass doors have been installed in several of our display cases and our beautiful antique quilts are safely tucked in. New signage has been installed on the main and Kienas Buildings (which is finally completed except for a few minor things that need to be done). If you haven't seen our archives, make a point to come in when we open in May!

Members' Meeting Dates for 2024 are:

April 10-city hall May 8, June 12, July 10, August 14, Sept 11, Oct 9-city hall (all other dates will be at the museum complex. Please check our website or Facebook page for up-to-date information)

The cemetery walk will be May 27, 2024 at the Markesan Memorial Cemetery north section.

Heritage Day is September 15, 2024.

We will again be open the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of the month from May through September. If you would like to help staff on any of those days, please let a board member know. Help is always needed! There will be a sign-up sheet available at the April members' meeting.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT!!! Virginia Ness, wife of past-president Gil Ness and who is one of the founding members of the Markesan Historical Society, will be turning 100 years old at the end of January! Her address is 1130 N Margaret St. Markesan, WI 53946. Send her a card of congratulations on such a momentous milestone!

Sadly, we lost some wonderful members this year.

IN MEMORIAM

Ruth Justmann

Lois Winter

Lee Krueger

Helen Timm

Betty Kahl

Dennis Farmer Grahn

Orville Swanson

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