

# Markesan Historical Society Gazette

## Winter 2021



### 2020--A Year to Remember!

During a normal year, the Grand River Valley Museum and the Markesan Historical Society would have been open and hosting the usual events and activities. But, because of Covid-19, all activities were curtailed. We look forward to rescheduling activities as soon as the virus abates.

The first order of business for the new year of 2021 is the payment of dues. Have you paid your dues for the upcoming year? You may send your payment to the Markesan Historical Society, P. O. Box 242, Markesan, WI 53946. We appreciate your support of the Society through your payment of dues.

The second order of business is to help us save money by having your newsletters emailed to you. Share your email address by sending it to [markesanhistoricalsociety@gmail.com](mailto:markesanhistoricalsociety@gmail.com), and it will be taken care of for you.

The third order of business is to inform members to visit the Markesan Historical Society Facebook page. If you haven't had the opportunity to do so, you will find many interesting posts and comments.

#### Thank You

Thank you, Jim Fenske, for serving many years on the Society's Board of Directors.

Your service has been greatly appreciated. Best wishes to you. Pat Prill has been appointed to fill Jim's seat on the Board.

#### Kienas Building News

To refresh everyone's memory about the building, here is a brief history. It sits on the site of the old Butenhoff Blacksmith Shop. Walter Kienas purchased the building, razed the blacksmith shop and erected the present building to house his nursery stock. The building later became part of the Grand River Co-op. It is now utilized by the museum for archival storage. Genealogies, obituaries, weddings, cemetery records, military records and school information, and the history of the Streets of Markesan abound. Scrapbooks bursting with area history are also available to anyone looking for information. Photo albums of events can be viewed.

Many items have already been moved from the main museum building to the Kienas Building. This area is a welcome addition to the museum complex.



## Not Online?

For those of you who are not online, here is a post that was on the Markesan Historical Society Facebook page:

### Who Am I?

I taught at Markesan High School for many years. I am a man of short stature and round girth. I always wore a bow tie. My wife is a lovely lady named Dagny. I do not live in Markesan, but in Green Lake, and I drove to school every day. Does this ring a bell with you? When giving a hall pass I would sign it "P.W." I was the Freshman class advisor and also taught Civics when I was not teaching my usual vocal and instrumental music classes. I always wore a white suit when the students were in concert and with the marching Hornet band. Have you guessed who I am yet? I also taught at Green Lake and Brandon. I served in World War I as an Army bugler. I died on Christmas Day in 1987.

If you guessed the man as Paul W. Bird, you are right.

Many complimentary comments have been made about the posts on this page. Thank you, Chris Scott, for all the work you do on the Society's Facebook page.

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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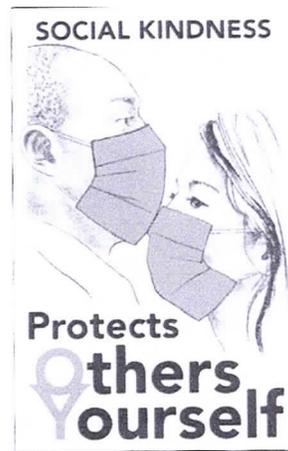
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PO Box 242, Markesan, WI 53946

## Keeping History

Are you keeping a journal, news clippings and other Covid-19 items? Even the recording of daily thoughts of the events that are transpiring are of great value. Family members will be pleased to read what you have written and kept in the years to come.

The museum is also keeping a file of news clippings and articles from the Wisconsin State Historical Society to add to its archives during this great moment of history. Covid-19 continues to have a major impact on all of our lives. Stay healthy, and please take good care.



This poster is from the Covid-19 Poster Project from the Wisconsin State Historical Society.

It is hoped that the regularly scheduled meetings listed below will soon take place.

### MEETINGS

The Historical Society meets the second Wednesday of the month during the summer at the museum at 7 p.m. October, November, December,

April & May meetings are at the City Hall.

### MEMBERSHIP

\$5/yr. individual

\$100/ lifetime individual  
or husband & wife

### 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.