

Pewaukee Area Historical Society

Clark House Museum 206 East Wisconsin Avenue Pewaukee, Wisconsin 53072

Email: <u>info@pewaukeehistory.org</u> Website: <u>www.pewaukeehistory.org</u> <u>www.facebook.com/pewaukeehistory</u> 262-691-0233

Spring, 2019

PAHS SPRING MEETING Wednesday, April 24th, 7:00 p.m. Steele Exhibit Building

It's time to get together and forget about that winter weather that cancelled our January meeting.

Following a brief business meeting including the election of 2019 board members, Tom Koepp, Mgr. and John Ruf, Board Member of the Lake Pewaukee Sanitary District will update us on what's happening on Pewaukee Lake and the surrounding watershed areas.

This should be an interesting evening of learning and you might also be able to get to see some old friends See you April 24th!

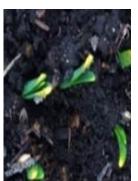
SPRING HAS ARRIVED

by Karen Merz

The garden is starting to sprout at

the Clark House and that means that our busy season can't be far behind. The Clark House Museum will begin free tours again on May 26.

If you are inter-



ested in volunteering, don't wait until we call you, simply call the Clark House and let us know. We'll get you in touch with the right people. Another way to help, plan on attending our events and spread the word, your support is appreciated!

COMMUNITY NIGHT Tuesday, May 21st, 7:00 p.m. Steele Exhibit Building

Don't miss this interesting event presented by Mr. Yuskis' Pewaukee High School history students. This years' event will highlight "World War I in Pewaukee and America".

As in the past, Community Night is planned as an interactive presenttion and a wonderful way to support our local students. The students will present information



that they have researched but encourage family stories of that time period from the audience. Do you have memories of a family member talking about that time period? Invite a friend and plan on attending.

Growing Your Family Tree

by Tom Brick

Over the years, many people have used the archives in the Clark House to help them with their genealogy projects. We have many files indexed by family names, old phone books, pictures and school records. If you're going to finally tackle that project, contact us to help you add a few Pewaukee branches to your tree.

Also, if you already have organized your Pewaukee family tree, we would love to have a copy of your information to share with our future generations.

Museum Hours: May through October Sundays 1-4 pm Wednesdays 7-9 pm or anytime by Appointment

<u>Upcoming</u> <u>Events</u> Mark your Calendars

Mark your Calendars!

Apr. 24 – Spring Mtg. 7:00 p.m. Steele Exhibit Bldg.

May 21 – Community Night 7:00 p.m. Steele Exhibit Bldg. (hosted by Pewaukee H.S. History students)

June 9 – Show Us Your Collection Noon – 4:00 p.m. Steele Exhibit Bldg.

July 7 – Ice Cream Social Noon – 4:00 p.m. Steele Exhibit Bldg.

Aug. 17 – Boat Show 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Pewaukee Lakefront

Sept. 8 – Harvest Fest Noon – 4:00 p.m. Clark House Museum, Steele Exhibit Bldg.

Sept. 26-28-Rummage Sale

Oct. 30 – Fall Mtg.

Dec. 7 – Tree Lighting

Show Us Your Collection #6

by Cliff Muehlenberg

Our newest event is now 6 years old. Remember when you were? Me neither.

I have to remind some that claim they collect nothing that it's just not so. It might be they've had it for so long a time they don't even recognize it as a "collection"!

Maybe it belonged to mom or a relative and you rescued it from being donated. Or maybe it's packed away in the box it came in so long ago. Most have more than we think or like to think we have.

This event is short and only from 12 to 4 p.m. on Sunday, June 9. All that have participated have discovered 'new old things' they may not have thought about since they were much younger, maybe age 6?

Tables are free to PAHS members or \$10 to non-members. Call 691-0233 if you'd like a table to "*show off your stuff*". Or just stop by and see ours.

In Memoriam . . .

by Penny Williams

Although we don't usually make note of a member's passing, I felt that these two individuals rated mention.

Ken Coshun, owner for many years of the Lake Pharmacy in Pewaukee passed away in January and was buried on January 25th. Although he was not a native Pewaukeean, Ken purchased the original Post Office building on Oakton Avenue when it became available in November of 1958 to establish Pewaukee's second pharmacy. The village was growing, and despite the predictions of an "Old Timer", that he wouldn't last more than two months, Ken not only was successful, but went on to build a new and larger store at Main and East Wisconsin Ave. He and his

wife, Bev, put down their roots in the Pewaukee scene and after a few years purchased a home on Lake Street where they raised their daughters. Both girls graduated from Pewaukee High School.

When it was organized in the 1990's, Ken and his family became Charter Members of PAHS and have been Life Members ever since. In the early days Ken volunteered at the Ice Cream Socials and taught everyone how to make the perfect root beer float that never ran over. Ken retired several years ago, but he never forgot his Pewaukee ties and friends.

Jack Koepp is the second person that I want to remember. Jack attended Ken's funeral and passed away less than a week later. He and his family are also Charter and Life Members of PAHS. Jack's connections to our village go back more than 100 years and there is now and has always been a Koepp involved in Pewaukee and the surrounding area. He taught his family well, leading by example, and although he was 95 years old when he passed, he never forgot his roots. Jack's grandfather, Herman Koepp, came to Pewaukee in the early 1900's and operated a combination grocery and dry goods store. His father, Harry, had a successful gas station and car dealership, first on East Wisconsin Ave. across from where the Clark House Museum is located and later across from the lakefront. After his service in World War II, Jack returned to Pewaukee and started Koepp Realty. He was Pewaukee's only realtor for many years and knew the Village and surrounding area and its residents well. In recent years, although retired, his interest in Pewaukee never waned. Most recently he took part in the Clark House "Show Us Your Collection" event with a scrapbook he had made detailing Pewaukee history.

Both men will be missed as the epitomy of old-time Pewaukee.

Improving America

by Tom Brick

Wouldn't it be a good idea if leap year day was moved from February 29th to June 31st. . . that way, we would have one less day of winter and one more day of summer.

2018 Tree Lighting

The afternoon was filled with fun activities but the rain came down in buckets during the lighting of the *real Christmas tree.* See the article on the next page about the tree.



"And in this corner ..."

by Carole Brinkman

How often do you travel along West Wisconsin Avenue and the beachfront area? Have you ever noticed the large stone monument across the street from Brewers Two coffeeshop and wondered what it was? I am here to answer your question!



Originally a similar monument had been erected south of the dam near the swimming area. An inscription reads "To honor those who served humanity in the Great World War 1914-1918". On the reverse side is stated "Erected by the people of the village and township of Pewaukee – 1919". An addition stating "and of all following conflicts" was added at a later date.



Attached to the flagpole is a bronze plaque stating "For those who served with valor and honor in our military service to defend these United States and millions of people around the world. With a special gratitude to those individuals who made the ultimate sacrifice to preserve

Krasinski donates Community Christmas Tree

by Cliff Muehlenberg

This is the first year to have a live Christmas tree in a number of years. For many years, the blue spruce on the corner of the property was the community Christmas tree. That was until it out-grew the Park and Rec Department's high reach equipment. That tree is a memorial donated by the Janine and Dick Knutsen family.

It once again became possible this year because of our new outdoor exhibit area on the Prospect Ave. side of our property. The

our freedom". World War I 1914-1918 World War II 1939-1945 Korean War 1950-1953 Vietnam War 1957-1975 Erected July 4, 2001 Pewaukee, Wisconsin by the Harken Family.

Many Pewaukeeans have served our country over the years. In our attempt to honor them, our newest exhibit at the Clark House Museum will be focusing on the 100th anniversary of the Pewaukee American Legion Post 71, chartered in 1919. Our exhibit will open on Sunday, May 26th, Memorial Day weekend, with hours from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. and run through Sunday, October 27th. All are invited to come and learn of Pewaukee's military past, and, the next time you're downtown, stop at our lakefront memorial and pause for a moment to remember . . .

exhibit area was the Eagle Scout project of Aaron Rooney and completed this past summer.

The exhibit area has electrical and lighting controlled by a timer due to the in-kind electrical magic of Kevin Cecka. And he's never even been a scout.

The exhibit area is filled with red granite stone, which is Wisconsin's state stone as advised by our "rock star" Richard Rosenberger. In the center is an 8" diameter pipe dug 36" deep to hold our Community Christmas tree.

When I mentioned to my friend Tom Krasinski, that we were again going to be able to have a 15 foot live tree, the first in a while, Tom asked, "Where are you getting the tree?" Without missing a beat I said, "Uh, I don't know". He said, "I'll pay for it, how much does it cost?" I didn't know that either but I knew the spirit of Christmas was alive and well in Tom!

Like most projects, many people were involved in making it happen. From the Eagle Scout coordinator Terry Hoepner, Aaron Rooney's fellow scouts that dug, filled, constructed and even sweat, Aaron's parents, the PAHS board, Kevin Cecka who made the lights go on, volunteers who chose the tree, stuffed it in Duane Bewer's little red truck (it looked like the tree was driving), decorated it and finally Tom Krasinski for his generosity (which we hope continues).

Many thanks to all involved and keeping <u>the spirit</u> alive all year long! **Note:** If you have an old family recipe or just one you want to share, please submit it. It would be interesting if you have some background for the recipe to share also.

From the Kitchen of Helen Ackley

Aztec Salsa

25 grape tomatoes, cut in quarters 1/2 red onion, diced

3 green onions, diced

1 can Delmonte Southwest Corn (drained and rinsed)

3 avocadoes, diced

Mix the following together and then combine with the above five ingredients.

1 pkg. Good Seasons Italian Dressing (dry) 1/4 c. olive oil 1/4 c. red wine vinegar

Serve with scoops tortilla chips

ENJOY!



PAHS receives a 1% rebate on your store receipts from the Sentry store in Delafield. Receipts must be less than 6 months old and can be left in the dresser drawer marked "Sentry receipts" on the screen porch of the Clark House. Penny Williams will take it from there. Thanks for remembering.

It's BRICK planting season. . . .

Dick got knee pads for Xmas and he's itchin' to use them. . .

Somebody *please* buy a brick.

Don't want to see him cited for loitering. . . .again.

Still only \$50 (even our prices are historic.) Order forms are available inside the side porch at the Clark House and on our website.

BUSINESS MEMBERS

Anton's Salon & MSpa-(262)646-9888 Bubba's Frozen Custard-(262)695-8189 Casa Tequila Restaurant-Pewaukee (262)796-6966 Century Fence Co. - (262) 547-3331 Chiropractic & Wellness on Pewaukee Lake - (262) 695-0022 Edward Jones / Maggie Spada (262) 695-1109 **Groff Insurance & Financial Services** (262) 695-1600 Horner Plumbing Co.- (262) 695-7120 Ken Weber Truck Serv.-(262) 691-0333 **Molly Maids of Lake Country** (262) 691-5000 WaterStone Bank - (262) 696-5200

These businesses are partnering with us to show their support to the Historical Society. Please remember them when you need their services. Let's keep our Pewaukee businesses in Pewaukee and keep growing our business community! Thanks for your business membership!

Welcome New Members

Mary Gram Maggie Spada of Edward Jones

Thank you for your memberships. We look forward to seeing you at our events.

<u>NEWSLETTER</u> CONTACT INFORMATION

Be part of the next PAHS newsletter by submitting an article or other event information to

Karen Merz – email: info@pewaukeehistory.org Questions? Call Karen at 262-695-0600 Deadline for the next newsletter is <u>May 15, 2019</u>

"Like" us on FACEBOOK

And be the first to hear about PAHS news and events!

www.facebook.com/pewaukeehistory

Refrigeration Woes

by Penny Williams

In the first half of the 1900's most housewives had very few of the conveniences that we take for granted today. For instance, refrigeration was a big problem, and the housewife had to shop daily in order to have fresh meat and produce for her family. After mechanical refrigeration became a reality in the early 1920's, it was only businesses or the very wealthy who had refrigerators of their own. Instead of lake ice, which was readily available in Pewaukee in the winter, there were companies which manufactured ice for home consumption. The ice man made it possible to keep perishables for short times without spoiling.

All home iceboxes worked the same. Most were made of wood, and were insulated as well as they could be. Most were lined with some sort of galvanized metal for ease of clean-up. There were two compartments, the top one for a block of ice, and the bottom one with shelves for anything that needed to be kept cool for a few days, and believe me, nobody stood with the door open looking for a snack as we do now!

A drain which led to the upper compartment to a drip pan under the ice box was an important feature for catching water from the melting ice. In families with children, it was often assigned to a 9 or 10 year old to be in charge of making sure that the pan was emptied on a regular basis. The pan was heavy and cumbersome and woe be to the child who allowed it to overover. Then they had a floor to clean up, too.

The housewife placed a card in the window when she wanted to order ice. It was available in blocks of 25, 50, 75, or 100 pounds, and the card was divided front and back to show the numerals for the amount of ice needed. Whatever numeral was up was the size wanted. Larger blocks on the truck were prescored, and the iceman chopped off whatever size was ordered and carried it to the house with steel tongs. He usually carried it to the house on his shoulder which was protected by a piece of leather or other padding. Can you imagine carrying a 100# block up to a second floor apartment? NOT A JOB FOR A WIMP!. Children waited eagerly for the iceman because they caught hunks of ice that flew off as he was chopping. What a cool treat on a hot summer dav!

Schmidt Bros. was the Pewaukee Ice Company for many years, and their ice house, which is still standing is on E. Wisconsin Ave. It is the stucco building which has been converted to apartments.

Recent Acquisitions

by George Strieter The following people have recently made donations of items that will be displayed as space permits.

- *Joan Reinicke pre-1914 photos of Pewaukee Tavern
- *Jeff Konkol vintage fire extinguisher
- *Elsie Bauer vintage tools and tool boxes

Thank you for keeping our history alive!

Eagle Scout Award

by Cliff Muehlenberg

Sunday, November 25th, Aaron Rooney joined the elite group of scouts who have achieved Eagle Scout Award status. St. John's Lutheran Church on Barker Road was the setting for the event and has been for some time. The event for Aaron alone was well attended.



Aaron, his family and numerous other scouts installed our lighted outdoor exhibit area in June, 2018 as his Eagle Scout project. The exhibit area is on the Prospect side of our property. It's bordered with Fond du Lac stone that matches the flower beds in front of the Exhibit building and filled with red granite stone which is the Wisconsin state stone from Red Granite, Wisconsin.

A slide show chronicalling Aaron's life was shown from very early years to present. Numerous scouts, scout officials and other Eagle scouts shared experiences of scouting with Aaron over the years.

Parents, Melanie and Bill, also received a well deserved Eagle Scout parent pin for their years of scouting support on the long journey to finally become an Eagle Scout.

Congrats, Aaron!

Pewaukee, Wisconsin 53072 206 E. Wisconsin Avenue Pewaukee Area Historical Society

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improvements and ongoing operations. All gifts are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. Newsletter editor: Karen Merz

Sandy Volmar

The Society is a nonprofit organization, **501(c)(3)**,

Penny Williams

info@pewaukeehistory.org

dependent upon private funding for capital

The Clark House, once a stagecoach inn, is now a museum operated by the Pewaukee Area Historical Society. It is located at the corner of Prospect Avenue and East Wisconsin Avenue in the Village of Pewaukee. There is no admission fee. Donations are accepted.

The Pewaukee Area Historical Society

(PAHS) is a non-profit, charitable, educational organization founded to research, collect and preserve the history of the Pewaukee area. PAHS invites anyone who has an interest in the history of the Pewaukee area, its people and the community, to become a member.

Museum Hours: May 26th – October 27th Wednesdays 7:00-9:00 pm Sundays 1:00-4:00 pm Or anytime by appointment

Pewaukee Area Historical Society 2018 Board of Directors

President: Jeff Phillips

Vice President: Jim Tredwell

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Alexandra Lerch-Gaggl Cliff Muehlenberg