



# Pewaukee Area Historical Society

Clark House Museum  
206 East Wisconsin Avenue  
Pewaukee, Wisconsin 53072

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

Email: [info@pewaukeehistory.org](mailto:info@pewaukeehistory.org)  
Website: [www.pewaukeehistory.org](http://www.pewaukeehistory.org)  
[www.facebook.com/pewaukeehistory](https://www.facebook.com/pewaukeehistory)  
262-691-0233

Spring, 2020

## Upcoming Events

Mark your Calendars!

Apr. 29 - Spring Mtg.  
7:00 p.m.  
Steele Exhibit Bldg.

May 19 - Community  
Night 7:00 p.m.  
(hosted by Pewaukee H.S.  
History students)

June 14 - Show Us  
Your Collection

July 12 - Ice Cream  
Social

Aug. 15 - Pewaukee  
Boat Show

Sept. 13 - Harvest Fest

Sept. 24-26-Rummage  
Sale

Oct. 28 - Fall Mtg.

Dec. 5 - Tree Lighting

## SPRING IS HERE!



Plan a visit to the Clark House  
Museum & Steele Exhibit Building  
May 31 - October 25  
Sundays 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.  
Wednesdays 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

## Docents Needed

by Tom Brick

How would you like to spend a relaxing Sunday afternoon at the Clark House Museum? Be a docent this summer and you can do just that during our open hours listed above. We need museum guides (docents) to welcome visitors to the museum and to help them with questions they may have. We schedule two docents for each Sunday, so if you are newer to the Historical Society, we will pair you with an experienced person. Phone or email Tom Brick if you are interested at 262-691-2191, [btbrick@att.net](mailto:btbrick@att.net).

*Friends are the  
Sunshine of life . . . .*

*John Hay*

Join us at **PAHS Spring Mtg.,  
April 29<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.** in the  
Steele Exhibit Bldg. located behind  
the Clark House Museum and visit  
with friends you haven't seen all  
winter or make some new friends!

Our program will be "Remembering  
Bill Brown, Pewaukee Scientist,  
Inventor, Innovator."



Bill Brown with his invention  
the "Big Stinky" fly trap

Hope to see you at the meeting!

## Welcome New Members

Jim Fischer  
Mary Gram  
Jimm & Kim Motyka  
Tom Nettesheim  
Chuck Nichols

New *Business* Member  
Small World Children's Dentistry  
in Pewaukee

Thank you for your membership!

# VOLUNTEER



## Wish List:

- PAHS is seeking a *Power Point Projector*. The projector will be used for public presentations at the museum. A new or gently used one would be greatly appreciated.
- PAHS is seeking *volunteers to give presentations on historical aspects of Pewaukee*. If you know anyone who could give a presentation of family or business history (20 – 30 minutes), please contact the Society.

## May 'PAINT-a-THON'

We ARE inviting anyone interested to join our group of volunteers for a day of painting. We'll be only painting as high as a step-ladder so nothing above the rain gutter. There is a sign-up sheet on the dresser on the porch. You'll be impressed as much as surprised whose names are already on it. If you've ever "painted the sidewalk with water" or your rusty bike, you're qualified!! The date will be determined by nice weather and we'll notify you by phone. So dig out some old clothes (oh, I see you're wearing them!) and help to spruce-up the Clark House. (PS: We won't be painting the sidewalk.)

## FINANCIAL REPORT

*by Tom Brick, Treasurer*

Thanks to some higher than expected grants and donations, we had a very good year in 2019. Our income exceeded our expenses by over \$5,000. On the expense side, although there are some expenses that are roughly the same year to year (insurance, telephone, internet, etc.), the "Wednesday volunteers" handle many of our smaller building repairs. This keeps

many of our expenses down.

For 2020, we have contracted to have the upper part of the driveway repaved. It will cost about \$5,400. And we may have to dip into our reserves to pay for this.

Overall, our finances are in good shape. The 2019 budget results will be posted on the Clark House office bulletin board.

## What's Up Next? . . . . .

### COMMUNITY NIGHT

**Tues., May 19, 7:00 pm**

**"100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Woman's Right to Vote"**



This interesting annual presentation by students from a Pewaukee High School History class will be held in the Steele Exhibit Bldg., located behind the Clark House Museum. Attend and learn about the "Woman's Right to Vote" movement and support our local students.

## Kathy Sampson is PAHS 2019 Volunteer of the Year!

Kathy last served as board secretary but has also organized Harvest Fest for many years and much more.

**Thank you  
Kathy!!**



## Show Us Your Collection #5

Sunday, June 14 will be our fifth "Collection" event! The event is a nice way to spend a sunny summer Sunday afternoon. From noon til 4:00 pm with set-up at 11:00 am.

We have some collections already lined up but have space for more. If you want to show-us-yours, leave us a phone message or send an email. No charge for members but non-members will be asked for a \$10 table fee. (*Email address on page one.*)

Everyone that attends tells us what a nice event it is. *Come and see for yourself!*

## Recent Acquisitions

*by George Strieter*

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

\*Gregory McDonald-Nativity Set carved out of stone by "Mac".

\*Helen Miller-photograph of Marietta Clark Larson

\*Kathy Sampson-nurmerous items related to Pewaukee history and used by generations of her family.

## Plan a visit to....

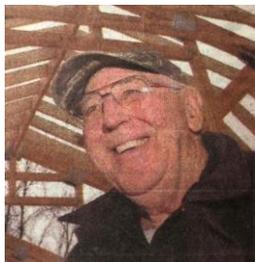


Janet Barthel, Nature Center Supervisor at Retzer Nature Center provided our program at our annual meeting on January 29<sup>th</sup>. Thank you Janet for showing us what a wonderful place we have close-by!

## “And in this corner ...”

by “Karl with a K” Dettmering

### Pewaukee Area Historical Society “Barn” Memories



the floor and walls. A framing contractor, Merkel Contracting Inc. did the framing. Gambrel roof trusses created the ceiling and roof. The barn replica was taking shape. Windows with divided lights were added giving the building the look of an earlier barn. Cliff Muehlenberg made authentic barn doors for the building.

Hardwood floors were installed. Sanding and lacquer was completed. Interior trim at the doors and windows added a finished look to the interior. Stairs to the basement and second floor provided access to storage areas. Dan Peckels arranged for donated paint. Dan’s painting gave the finished look to both the interior and exterior.

A bell tower incorporates the Pumpkin Hollow School bell which spent years calling students to the classroom. Now the bell calls people from near and far to share memories of early days in Pewaukee.

In warm weather the Historical Society Board members would meet to discuss future activities. The Ice Cream Social was held in July and Helen Ackley operated the ice cream cooler that provides scoops for cones or sundaes. Pie and ice cream being devoured by young and old.

In Fall, the society has a Harvest Fair. Robert Strieter would bring an apparatus to shuck corn from the cobs. Jim Willis had a portable forge and its partner the heavy iron anvil. He would ply the shaping

hammer pounding the anvil to create a sing-song rhythmic sound.

The blacksmith would alter iron horseshoes to apply to the hooves of horses. Under the spreading maple tree, Jim Willis would stand turning the crank on the forge to make the coals red hot. Sparks would fly and onlookers seemed to be in a trance.

An easel with a canvas resting on it as Orel Rooney created a one-of-a-kind oil painting. Nearby stood an apparatus to squeeze apples for autumn cider. Strangers ambled among the artists. The sun high in the sky discouraging rain clouds that would send people scurrying for shelter.

Sue Willis and Carole Brinkman set up a table with the girl scouts for antique games and puzzles. Curiosity lured some of the crowd to enter the house. There was a summer kitchen, and a room that resembled a one-room school. Many took a seat at a desk to recall attendance at school. Some may have remembered a favorite teacher. Walls displayed pictures of graduating classes.

A dental office was a one room display. Fixtures once used by dentists were a reminder of early dental equipment and slow running drills to remove cavities.

The sun began to sink in the west. Exhibitors were packing up their displays. The satisfied crowd dwindled and the yard emptied. Exhibitors and curious people enjoyed the festivities but now it was time to return to their quiet homes.

Come and visit! Come and ask the docents questions. They enjoy telling and

*(continued on page 5)*

Dedicated historians Penny Williams and Carol Fay were out of display area in the former Lutgen Auto Body Shop located on Oakton Avenue (near the current Village Hall).

The property on the southeast corner of Prospect Avenue and Watertown Plank Road was for sale. Those two astute ladies started the ball rolling to purchase the property. The residence at the time was occupied by three families. All of those families found other living spaces.

The house was in need of upgrades. New windows and new bevel siding were installed. Inside and outside areas were painted after new drywall was installed over cracked plaster. A small shed at the rear of the lot was bulging with artifacts.

Bob Williams of TDI Architects produced working drawings for a new Exhibit Building. Plans were submitted to the State Building Board for approval. Stamped approval was obtained.

Construction work was ready to proceed. Excavation was done by John Strieter (son of Ruth and Bob), concrete contractor Clay Peichler set the forms for the basement, poured the concrete basement walls and put in the concrete floor.

Next step was framing the

**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  
Kathy Sampson*

**Jean's Salad**

1 can (15-3/4 oz.) crushed pineapple, heat juice and pineapple

1 small pkg. Jello dissolved in pineapple and juice

Stir in 8 ounce pkg. of cream cheese that has been cut into pieces.

Let the mixture cool. Then gently fold in ½ pint whipped cream and pour mixture into serving bowl and refrigerate.

*Note:* Jean was a close friend of Dennis's mother so we've had this recipe at least 50 years.



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. Thanks for remembering!

**NEWSLETTER  
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**

**May 15, 2020**

**“Like” us on FACEBOOK**

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

**www.facebook.com/pewaukeehistory**

**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**  
**Chick-fil-A – (262) 691-0537**  
**Chiropractic & Wellness on**  
**Pewaukee Lake – (262) 695-0022**  
**Chris Lueth – American Family Ins.**  
**(262) 695-1981**  
**Edward Jones / Maggie Spada**  
**(262) 695-1109**  
**First Assoc. Agencies, Inc. / Jim Kloth**  
**(262) 786-2540**  
**Horner Plumbing Co.- (262) 695-7120**  
**Ken Weber Truck Serv.-(262) 691-0333**  
**Molly Maids of Lake Country**  
**(262) 691-5000**  
**Small World Children's Dentistry – Pwk**  
**(262) 780-9996**  
**Yonke & Son Funeral Home**  
**(262) 691-1900**

These businesses are partnering with us to show their support to the PAHS. 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!

**PLEASE NOTE:** Changes and/or cancellations of our scheduled events will be posted on our website, facebook page and included in our Clark House voice message.



**“These  
BRICKS  
are made for  
Walkin'...”**



in her white go-go boots  
Nancy wants to  
**“walk all over you!”**

“Still \$50”

(continued – “And in This Corner”) embellishing tales of old Pewaukee. Contemplate a long dusty hot ride west in a covered wagon. Feel the thrill of going to grandmother’s house in a one horse open sleigh. Marvel as you wonder about Bill Brown’s invention of his snowblower. Residents of Pewaukee, also enjoyed mail delivery by an *enclosed* sleigh that was pulled by a sturdy horse.

The Christmas Tree Lighting begins the Christmas season. The ringing of the bell invited mothers, fathers and many children. Santa heard the loud tones as the bell rang as he arrived in a big fire truck.

With a “ho-ho” and the shout “Merry Christmas” the excitement steeped the expectation of the holiday gathering. Boys, girls and occasionally cheerful adults would sidle up to Santa and they would inform Santa to bring their Christmas gift.

Then, with a bag of Christmas candy to give to all in attendance, he jumped in his sleigh, as he was flying away all heard him say, “Merry Christmas and good night”.

## **Sleigh Restoration!**

by Cliff Muehlenberg

The sleigh that we put outside at Christmas time was due for some fixin’. It was also time for its 100,000 mile check-up and coincidentally its 100 year check-up.

I’d been looking at it for a number of years thinking, “someday, I’d like to restore it when I have more time”. Truth is you never have more time, you actually have less.

When it was time to bring it inside again this year, the sleigh was unbolted from the

runners making it small enough to get down the stairs to the basement to get the 100 year check-up underway before it was out of warranty.

Duane jumped into action and began removing iron parts. He steel brushed some and took other parts home to use a wire grinding wheel on the parts. He then began painting the parts.

The sleigh or wood portion needs repair also. A floor board was broken. A very thin “splash” piece behind the horse’s tail was nearly gone. And a side piece that is badly split apart needs mending. The wood is my responsibility.



Thankfully, the sleigh had never been repainted. The original paint scheme as shown above is a common color for sleighs. It’s similar to “barn red”. And the outline of the sleigh-box is black with a faint pinstrip inside the black edge.

When the painting is done, we’ll need to find someone who can do the pinstriping, but that’s a long way down the trail.

The cushion and inside upholstery needs to be redone as well.

But as an old wise horse once told me, “*life is just one step at a time...*”

*History happens every day and you're in it!*

## **Sad News . . . . .**

Carol Knake

June 23, 1832–Jan. 11, 2020  
Carol lived in Florida, but still kept a residence in Pewaukee and continued her membership in PAHS. She and her husband Jack (deceased) were among the original founders of the Pewaukee Area Historical Society. Carol was a great supporter of the society.

Lois Leigh Royske

May 4, 1927–Feb. 2, 2020  
Lois was born and raised in the village of Pewaukee and graduated from Pewaukee High School in 1945. She loved the village of Pewaukee and enjoyed attending events hosted by PAHS of which she was also a member. Lois was the granddaughter of Pewaukee’s first veterinarian, Dr. John Kolander. Lois was a staunch and active member of PAHS.

At a recent Collection Event, Lois displayed just a part of her collection of Sakaegan Scrolls, the Pewaukee High School newspaper at the time she attended there. One of her favorite quotes was “I always loved Pewaukee Lake because it was there that I learned to fish, swim, and skate”.

We will miss both Carol and Lois and the friendship and good times we have shared.

## **Do You Know the Answer?**

The building where Park Avenue Pizza is located was once the location of . . . . .  
(a) The Pewaukee Post Office  
(b) Smokey’s Bait Shop  
(c) The Pewaukee State Bank  
(d) The Lake Movie Theater  
Visit the Clark House this summer for the answer.

**Pewaukee Area Historical Society**

**2020 Board of Directors**

President: Jeff Phillips

Vice President: Jim Tredwell

Secretary: Carole Brinkman

Treasurer: Tom Brick

Directors: Richard Hoffmann

Alexandra Lerch-Gaggl

Cliff Muehlenberg

Sandy Volmar

Penny Williams

The Society is a nonprofit organization, **501(c)(3)**, dependent upon private funding for capital improvements and ongoing operations. **All gifts are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.**

Newsletter editor: Karen Merz  
[info@pewaukeehistory.org](mailto:info@pewaukeehistory.org)

**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 31 – October 25  
Wednesdays 7:00–9:00 pm  
Sundays 1:00–4:00 pm  
Or anytime by appointment

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