

Pewaukee Area Historical Society

Clark House Museum
206 East Wisconsin Avenue
Pewaukee, Wisconsin 53072

Fall 2026

The Birth of the Nation *** The Incorporation of the Village of Pewaukee

by Kathy Novack

THE 250TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNITED STATES

On July 4th, 1776, we celebrated the birth of the United States of America.



THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE INCORPORATION OF THE VILLAGE OF PEWAUKEE

The Town of Pewaukee was established in **1840**, *Milwaukee County*. Waukesha County was not formed until **1846**. The State of Wisconsin wasn't established until **1848**. In **1876** Pewaukee became a village.

Did you ever wonder why Asa Clark made the decision to come to Pewaukee in **1836**? Was there some external event that influenced his decision?

To get to the answer, the place to start is our nation's beginning.

In **1783** the United States became a globally recognized independent nation.

One of its first challenges was the need to form a plan to address settlement and Native American issues.

The **Confederation Congress Proclamation of September 22, 1783**, was passed. The proclamation prohibited the taking or buying of land from Native Americans without explicit authorization and direction from the federal government.

It would be almost 40 years before government action opened the door to settlement in the Pewaukee area.

The 1833 Treaty of Chicago

In the treaty, Potawatomi, Chippewa, and Ottawa nations ceded their land to the United States. It was ratified in **1835**. The earliest the government could put the ceded land up for public auction was **1839**.

In **1835** pioneers headed west. They prepared *unofficial* land claims (also known as a squatter's claim) for specific sections of land. Paper records were kept by a community "clerk" or "censor." The settler would live on and improve the claimed land. It could not be legally purchased until 1839.

In **1836**, Asa Clark arrived from Vermont and filed such a claim for land on the northeast shore of Pewaukee Lake. The summer of **1837** Asa Clark and his family settled permanently on his claim. He purchased the land in **1839**.

By **1843** - only six years later - Pewaukee had grown to 230 residents. The **1880** census lists the now (1876) Village of Pewaukee's population at 566. Today, the population has grown to over 8,200.



It's been a long journey.

2026 Museum Hours

2nd & 4th Sundays
1-3 pm

May 25 - September 28

Wednesdays 1-4 pm
May 28 - October 29

Upcoming Events

Oct. 3 - Harvest Fest

Oct. 28 - Fall Meeting

Dec. 5 - Tree Lighting

Email:

info@pewaukeehistory.org

Website:

www.pewaukeehistory.org

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/pewaukeehistory

It's almost here –

HARVEST FEST 2026 SEPTEMBER 13

by Gerrie Marincic and Carole Brinkman

Harvest Fest 2026 will be bigger and better than ever! Besides having demonstrations of old-time crafts, we are including more activities for children. Be creative and decorate a scarecrow or pumpkin. Find buried treasure and win a prize.

We'll have our delicious hot beef sandwiches and hot dogs available for purchase.

We will again have a BAKE SALE, but WE NEED BAKERS! If you are willing to bake for us, it would be greatly appreciated. All kinds of baked goods are welcome (cakes, pies, cookies, bread). Gluten free items are also needed. If you prepare canned goods, we'd like whatever you make (jam, salsa, dilly beans), surprise us! If you have an overabundance of produce from your garden, bring it over!

We can always use help in the bakery and food booths. If you can give us a hand, please contact Carole at (262) 352-7892.

You can drop off your items at the Steele Building on Saturday, September 12, 2:00 to 4:00 pm, or leave your items on the table in the side porch of the Clark House by the driveway.

This is one of our major fundraisers. Come join us for a fun and educational afternoon with your family and friends and learn from our wonderful demonstrators.



***Come early, get lunch,
buy some goodies,
and be home in time for the
Packer game at 3:25!***



IT'S THEORECTICALLY FALL – LET'S GET OUT AND EXPERIENCE IT

by Kathy Novack

I know the official start of Fall is September 22nd. But to me it will always start on September 1st. My summer decorations come down. I start putting out my fall ones. (I have so many one day is not enough.)

Here's s my suggestion – explore the historic charm and scenic lake views of Pewaukee. Walk around the downtown area and lakefront. Add an ice cream treat or a nice lunch along your walk.

Other options – the footpath at Simmons Woods, a walk or ride on the Lake Country trail. Your dog would love a trip to a dog park. Bottom line – we should treasure the cris, colorful days of fall. They go by too quickly.

Some Fall Groans –

**What did the jack-o'-lantern do
when pulled over by the police?**
Spilled its guts.

**What do you call a small pepper in
the fall?** A little chili.

What did autumn say to summer?
I'll fall-ow you anywhere.

Anonymous

Did you know ...

Early bricks were made
with cow dung and mud.
Todays bricks are
much improved.
No longer is
mud used.

(Hurry, still only fifty bucks.)

by Cliff MuelenbergZ

2026 Ice Cream Social

by Kathy Losiniecki and Therese Bloom.

Thanks so much to everyone who came out for our annual ice cream social, held every second Sunday of July. A big shout out to all the volunteers who make this event such a success.

A special thanks to the Pewaukee Chocolate Factory for supplying everything we needed for the social, including the ice cream, cones, hot fudge, and whipped cream. The beer floats were a big hit!

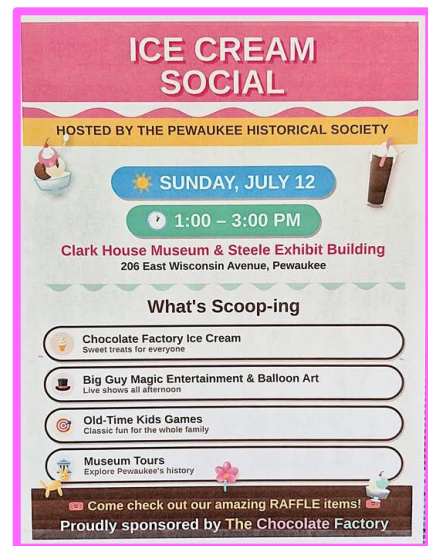
We also want to thank Big Guy Magic and Dan Pollack, who delighted the kids with fun magic tricks and balloon creations.

We had amazing raffle items donated by our generous Pewaukee Village businesses. Our good friend again donated awesome raffle tickets to the Zoo, Fairs and Brewers!! He also included a 2-night stay at the Chanticleer Inn in Eagle River!!

Folks viewed the old-fashion vehicles, farm implements, and the wide array of antique tools in the Steele Exhibit Building. They also enjoyed a free tour of the Clark House Museum, viewing local history objects (high school graduation composites always a big hit). There were lots of questions about Waukesha Beach and many compliments on the wonderful mural painted by deceased member and local artist Orel Rooney.

Members from the Woman's Club of Pewaukee volunteered their time to help wherever they were needed.

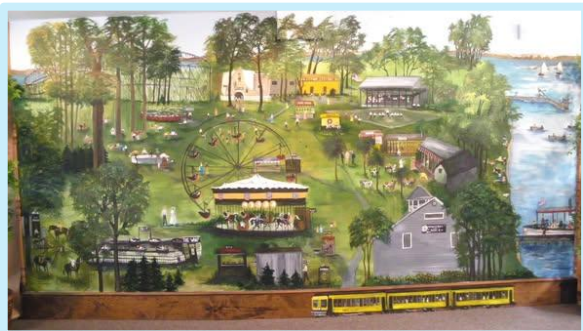
Thank you to our amazing community who came out to support our local museum. Proceeds from the event will go toward much needed updates to the Clark House Museum. Thanks again, and we'll see you next year.



Lisa Heise, Tom Brick,
and Karen Merz



Kathy Losiniecki
and Therese Green



Orel Rooney



Cam Strom,
Mary Dietz,
and
Sandy Soria



Mary Dietz,
Barb Wollner,
Bonnie Eggert,
and Kathy Novack



GARDEN ART

by Linda Whittmann

Did this ever happen to you? You receive a lovely gift and now you have to redecorate the whole room to show it off? Well, it happened in our garden. We received a sweet lilac in memory of Penny Williams. But where to put it? It needs space, sunshine and we want to show it off.

We've been drawn to the beautifully refreshed gazebo, but the garden outside of it was overgrown and a mishmash of things that were trying to suffocate each other. There was a rose bush growing inside of the spiraea, astilbe that had been overtaken and the path was no longer passable.

A project that we'd been talking about for two years. Now we had the incentive that we needed. It took several weeks to dig out the things that needed to go, then rototill (which was a full team effort, thanks guys) and look for things to compliment our dear lilac.

When you have a large property there are always things that outgrow their space and should be divided, so our decision was easy. The blazing star (liatris) and cardinal flower (lobelia cardinalis) that were planted along the path leading to the side door and needed to be staked to prevent them from accosting anyone trying to enter. We took those sun loving plants, natives that attract pollinators and relocated them.

Now they will have enough time to get used to their new location before they take their winter nap.



PEWAUKEE IN THE FALL

By Kathy Novack



Three Summer Projects Completed

by Cliff Muehlenberg

Project One –

In June, we attempted to hire a handyman to seed and prep the ground around the Little Free Library at the front of the house. An area about 15 x 50’.

We tried to hire any of the popular “weed and feed” services. None do planting. And although the job is too big for us, it's too small for whole-house landscapers.

Seeding sounds like a simple chore but like many things, there's more to it than the magic seen on TV.

We raked the area of debris, used fresh topsoil and filled many divots. Next, we spread the seed and staked down an erosion mat. The area rises gradually 2' higher than the city sidewalk.

The key to the success of the project-after seeding, It needs to be watered consistently! We used a timer and watered every day at 5am, surprising early joggers. We are pleased with the result.



Project Two - Repair, rebuild the cupola and paint the gazebo.

When you see something every day its aging is unnoticeable. Multiply the days in a year, times 30 and all of a sudden, it's time to repair and paint.

The Gazebo was built almost 30 years ago. The posts (main support) are still sturdy. The cupola has needed repairs for several years. The woodworking is not the problem but how to get it off the roof was.

None of us want to climb on anything much taller than a kitchen step-stool, - especially when you get to that top step and think “what was I after?”

After asking for suggestions and with no solution identified, it occurred to me to ask our roofer! He said, “Sure no problem.”

The cupola was totally rebuilt with solid wood in the spring. Next, there was a lot of painting to a gazebo – the inside as well as the outside. It takes time but the freshening result is worth it.

The roof also looked worn. We had the roofer back to replace it. The original shingle color was brown like the main house but now it is a dark green and everyone likes it. The new cupola was reinstalled by the roofer.



Project Three – Replace the railings on the ADA ramp on the back of the house.

The original was wood, 30 years old and falling apart. The new railings are PVC (plastic) and should last much longer (unless a tree falls on it). Tony L and I began what the two-to-three-day project. Finally on the *sixth day*, we put the final screws in, and it is now complete.

The railings are not made solely of PVC, They required some wood and metal for strength. The exterior is all PVC and weatherproof and will be easier to clean.

To my surprise, after the rain Tuesday night it had brown spots from the tree before we had even put in the final screws! It



2026 “Show Us Your Collection”

by Carole Brinkman

On June 14, 2026, members and visitors spent a pleasant afternoon viewing a wide range of collections shared by PAHS members at our annual “Show Us Your Collection” event.

Jim Tredwell shared soccer jerseys. Carole Brinkman collects White House ornaments.



Local resident David White brought his collection of lanterns.



Did you know Cliff Muehlenberg has an extensive collection of Schlitz memorabilia?



Board member Anne Kagerah has beautiful vintage hats.



Local resident Tom Beaton is a Civil War enthusiast. Tom shared his knowledge of battles and uniforms

What do YOU collect?

We'd love to have you share your collection at next year's event on

June 13th, 2027

It's early September and there are many special days ahead before Christmas. And now here's already a Santa, reindeer and a Christmas tree! What!

Here's why.

This year's Tree Trimming and all the festivities that go along with it **is December 5th!** The next newsletter will be coming out only days before our special Tree Trimming event.

So, here's the deal –
TODAY

get out your calendar and mark the date!



Editor's Note ...

by Kathy Novack

I'm wondering ... DO YOU RECEIVE YOUR NEWSLETTER BY MAIL BUT ALSO HAVE AN EMAIL? Have you recently thought about changing your election to receiving it by email? It's truly a win-win!

For you, you'll be able to access prior newsletters quickly on-line without keeping that stack of old newsletters getting dusty in a corner.

For PAHS, it saves the cost of stamps, printing 100 copies, and finally, the time volunteers put in getting them ready to put in the mail.

Just a thought...

**Hoping to see you all at our
Harvest Fest
on October 13th.**



NEWSLETTER **CONTACT INFORMATION**

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

Kathy Novack – email:

info@pewaukeehistory.org

Or kthlnnvck@gmail.com

Questions? Call Kathy at 262-696-4187

Deadline for the next newsletter is
November 15, 2026

BUSINESS MEMBERS

American Legion Post 71

Main St., Pewaukee.

Ampersand Marketing (262) 446-0688

Big Guy's Magic (262) 691-8801

Bubba's Frozen Custard (262) 695-8189

Century Fence Co. (262) 547-3331

Chiropractic & Wellness on
Pewaukee Lake (262) 695-0022

Chocolate Factory - Pewaukee (262) 264-0015

Chris Lueth - American Family Ins. (262) 695-1981

First Assoc. Insurance/James Kloth (414) 840-2150

Five O'Clock Club (262) 691-9960

Ken Weber Truck Service (262) 691-0333

North Shore Bank (262) 691-5740

Pewaukee Area Arts Council (262) 370-0904

Small World Children's Dentistry -
Pewaukee (262) 780-9996

State Farm Insurance/Joe Woelfle (262) 241-8292

**Please remember to shop local and
keep Pewaukee businesses in
Pewaukee!**



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.

Thank you for remembering.

"Like" us on FACEBOOK

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

www.facebook.com/pewaukeehistory

Pewaukee Area Historical Society

2026 Board of Directors

President: Tom Brick

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Secretary: Carole Brinkman

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Kathy Losiniecki

Gerrie Marincic

Cliff Muehlenberg

Sandie Moncada

Susan Schweda

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: Kathy Novack
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.

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