



Pewaukee Area Historical Society

Clark House Museum
206 East Wisconsin Avenue
Pewaukee, Wisconsin 53072

Summer 2026

2026 Museum Hours

2nd & 4th Sundays
1-3 pm
May 25 - September 28

Wednesdays 1-4 pm
May 28 - October 29

Upcoming Events

June 14 - "Show Us Your Collection"

July 12 - Ice Cream Social

Aug. 9 - Art at the Museum

Sept. 13 - Harvest Fest

Oct. 28 - Fall Mtg.

Dec. 5 - Tree Lighting

Email:
info@pewaukeehistory.org
Website:
www.pewaukeehistory.org
Facebook:
www.facebook.com/pewaukeehistory

About the Pewaukee Area Historical Society

by Tom Brick

Founding (1976): The organization began as a temporary museum committee to commemorate the U.S. Bicentennial.

- **Incorporation (1977):** Formally established as a non-profit educational organization.
- **Clark House Purchase (1992):** The society purchased the 1844 Mosley Clark Stagecoach Inn (also known as "Lilac Rest"), which served as a vital stop on the Watertown Plank Road.
- **Role:** The society works closely with the [Wisconsin Historical Society](#) and holds free tours, community events, and displays, including a large collection from scriptwriter Robert J. Shaw.

Key Historical Themes Preserved

- **Asa Clark Family:** Focuses on the first white settler in Pewaukee, who arrived in 1837, and his son, Mosely Clark.
- **Ice Industry:** Highlights the 19th-century industry where ice was harvested from Pewaukee Lake and shipped to Milwaukee and Chicago.

- **Local Life:** Showcases artifacts from the 1900s, including Native American history, particularly the Potawatomi.

Location and Operations

- **Museum Address:**
206 E Wisconsin Avenue
Pewaukee, WI 53072.

Activities: The society maintains a museum, the Steele Exhibit Building, and hosts events such as history programs for the community.

Museum Passport Program

by Tom Brick

The History Consortium of Waukesha County has developed a program to promote interest in the many local history museums in Waukesha County.

The "Passport" that they created has squares for 13 museums in the county (including the Clark House), along with their addresses, open times and web sites.

When you visit a museum, the docent will put a stamp in the square for that museum. If you visit all 13 museums by the end of the year, your name will be entered for a random drawing for a cash prize or Old World Wisconsin tickets.

You can get a passport at the Clark House or copy it from our website



**Yup,
SPRING
is a busy time!**

by Cliff Muehlenberg

Finally, that first really unseasonably warm day arrives, and you just want to feel what warm air feels like again. And how good the warmth of the sun feels on your face. You walk outside but with a jacket on and it feels almost surreal. You thought it might just never happen. But you know it's too good to stay this way and pretend it will anyway. After all, you only have to kid one person...you!

There is so much that needs to be done outside. But it doesn't need to be done on the very first day. Today is for enjoying just how it feels. That's enough.

Everything is slowly waking up, but you try not to notice. The yard with grass showing signs of green. Flower beds with leaves in them, the grill with the cover on, shovels that need to put away, bushes that could have been trimmed last fall.

I'm going to pretend today it doesn't matter as I inhale the fresh spring air deeply as I can.

The Historical Society is the same way. It's been asleep all winter and needs attention in so many places. I've just returned from our meeting and read the list of things that need repairs and in some cases replacement. The list is too long to include here. And I don't want to tire you by reading it. The property there is much larger than what is around my home.

All this work even though in much more spring-like temperatures it will require waking up some muscles that have also been asleep for a while.

ART AT THE MUSEUM – AUGUST 9

by Carole Brinkman

Art is all around us, but we just need to take time to look for it in our lives.

Join us on August 9th – noon to 4:00 pm. The Pewaukee Area Art Council in partnership with PAHS is planning an afternoon of hands-on art activities for the whole family, including paint, fabric and jewelry. (www.pewaukeearts.org)

Tour the museum, enjoy the art and participate.

Rummage Sale Results

by Tom Brick



We had another very successful rummage sale this year, earning \$1,048.50.

Thanks to everyone who donated items, and those who worked at the sale. And of course, to those who bought items!

BTW – *who is that with Sandie Moncada and Susan Schweda?*

WaterStone Bank Charitable Checking Program

by Tom Brick

We just received a \$ 250.00 check from the WaterStone Bank.

This was our annual award for having our checking account designated as a "Charitable Checking Account".

The amount we received is based on how many bank customers tell the WaterStone Bank that they are supporters of the Pewaukee Area Historical Society.

The more supporters we have, the bigger our annual award. It doesn't cost you or us anything to be part of the program.

Kiwi Chocolate Cake

(also called a "Depression Cake")

by Anne Kagerah

This is my father Richard Kuenn's favorite cake. He got the recipe while working at Krueger Lithography. It's called the "Kiwi Chocolate Cake." No worries, no kiwi are in the ingredients.

After doing some research after losing my cherished recipe card (later found under the fridge), I learned the cake was also called a "Depression Cake" during the time when butter, eggs, and milk were limited.

Delicious and a super easy cake! Makes one 9x13 cake or two nine-inch round pans.

3 cups all-purpose flour
½ cup baking cocoa
2 teaspoons baking soda
2 teaspoons salt
2 cups white sugar
2 cups vegetable oil
2 cups cold water
2 teaspoons white vinegar
2 teaspoons vanilla extract



Preheat oven to 350° in the center of oven rack. Lightly grease pans. Stir all dry ingredients in large bowl, whisk to break up any clumps. In a smaller bowl, stir wet ingredients together. Thoroughly combine bowls and pour into pan(s). Bake until a toothpick inserted in center of cake comes out clean.

Bake 9x13 cake 30-40 minutes.
9-inch round pans 20-30 minutes.

Ice with your favorite toppings, sprinkle with powdered sugar, or sprinkle with chocolate chips just prior to baking!



NORTH SHORE BANK

DONATES OVER \$2,500 TO PEWAUKEE AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY THROUGH ITS GIVEBACK PARKING LOT INITIATIVE

by Anne Kagerah

North Shore Bank has donated more than \$2,500 to the Pewaukee Area Historical Society, located at the Clark House Museum in the Village of Pewaukee.

The donation comes from proceeds generated by the bank's community give-back metered parking system at its Pewaukee branch, 120 W. Wisconsin Ave.

Installed in 2022, the parking system was designed to support downtown accessibility while reinvesting funds directly into the local community.

The Pewaukee Area Historical Society, a volunteer-led organization dedicated to preserving and sharing the area's history, plans to use the funds to repair the museum's gazebo and exterior stair railing.

"The goal of this program has always been to create a meaningful benefit for our community," said Anne Kagerah, assistant vice president and Pewaukee branch manager at North Shore Bank. "As we celebrate 30 years of serving the Pewaukee community, we're proud to give back in meaningful ways and support the Pewaukee Area Historical Society and the stories that connect and enrich this community."

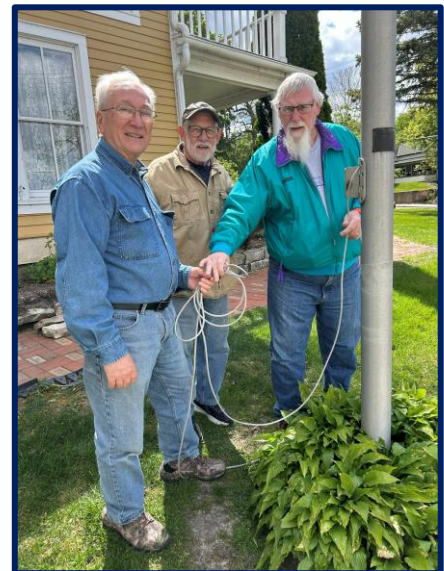
How many Volunteers does it take to put up our New Flag?

by Cliff Muehlenberg

Well, if you're looking at the picture you might say "three".

That's close but not quite right because I had to step away to take the pic. And I'm not inclined to take selfies. As my brother would quickly point out, "I have a face for radio."

The three handsome gents in the photo are Richard Rosenberger, Gordy Merz, and Jim Willis.



“Show Us Your Collection”

by Cliff Muehlenberg

Our kick-off Collection Event!

Sunday, June 14, from noon until 3:00.

Have you thought about participating, bringing something YOU have and talking to people about why you have it, where you got it and making your mind stretch back to who knows when. It's reminiscing about something you enjoy and getting to talk with others about it. It's just fun!

Sunday, June 14, noon until 3:00. Call us.

Let us know you're coming and what you're bringing. Set-up begins at 11:00.

“Collections”
From prior years



Marilyn Hagerstrand



George Strieter



Richard Rosenberger



Carole Brinkman



Adorable Little Boy



Cliff Muehlenberg

HARVEST FEST - SEPTEMBER 13

Noon to 3:00 pm

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 will again have a **BAKE SALE**, but **WE NEED BAKERS!**

If you are willing to bake for us it would be greatly appreciated.

Sandy Volmar & Candy Muehl

All kinds of baked goods are welcome (cakes, pies, cookies, bread). Gluten free items are also needed. If you prepare canned goods, we'd also like whatever you make (jam, salsa, dilly beans), surprise us! If you have an overabundance of produce from your garden, bring it over!

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.

And of course, we'll have our delicious hot beef sandwiches and hot dogs available for purchase. 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.

This is one of our major fundraisers. Come spend 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.

Half the Mystery

Solved !

by Cliff Muehlenberg

You may recall, that we previously asked whoever borrowed our very new DeWalt drill-driver kit that they would kindly return it. It vanished about 8 months ago. We searched everywhere. And you know when you lose something you go check your pants pockets just one more time...in case somehow you missed it the first three times.

After all the likely places were checked several times, then we began looking in places it could never be. Rationalizing that somehow by some strange turn of events, it got put in the *dishwasher*. Well, it wasn't there either.

Then one day, I got a call from Dick Rosenberger announcing, "You'll never guess what I found." I had lost all hope for the drill-driver. He replied, "I found the drill-driver!" My immediate question was, "Where?"

He said it was inside our antique ice box in the Exhibit Building. We both had looked there three or four times.

You'll recall, that the headline states "**Half the Mystery...**" That's because when I went to use it, *one* battery was there but the *second* wasn't? I needed to drill a hole for something I was working on. Where are the drill bits? Removing everything for the carrying bag...they weren't there either!

Most know, if you buy a replacement battery it costs most of what the entire kit cost to begin with.

Again, I ask if the borrower is reading this, please return the rest of the kit. I still have a hole needing to be drilled.



Asa says...

"Who do you know that wants to buy a brick?"

(Still only \$50)

The first brick was purchased on August 11, 1994, by Kathy Schulze.

It reads

"Peace to All"

An Olde Fashion



Sunday, July 12th

1:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Clark House Museum

Steele Exhibit Building

206 East Wisconsin Ave.

Pewaukee, WI

FREE ADMISSION

Hosted by Pewaukee Area Historical Society



***** Museum Tours *****

Sponsored by "The Chocolate Factory"



REMEMBERING PENNY WILLIAMS

JANUARY 25, 1929 – JANUARY 12, 2026

by Carole Brinkman

What can be said about Penny?

Although not a native Pewaukee, Penny arrived in 1949, the new bride of Wally Williams. They moved into Wally's family home on W. Wisconsin Avenue and started their family, Carole (1950), Jim (1952), and Nancy (1968).

In 1958, she began working at the National Food Store (across from the beach) where she met many residents who shared their knowledge of Pewaukee. When a temporary summer exhibit was planned for the Bicentennial in 1976, she and Wally pitched in. From this simple beginning, the Pewaukee Area Historical Society was formed.

Always one to be doing, she quickly began serving on the Board as Secretary. Through lots of hard work and fundraising, the current building was purchased in 1992.

While working as the village clerk (1979-2000), she was known as the go-to person when anyone had a Pewaukee related question. As a result, she was asked to write a monthly column in the Lake Country Reporter entitled "The Old Rail Fence" where she shared interesting stories of Pewaukee's history. These can be found in the reference section of the Pewaukee library.

I could go on and on about this amazing lady and her love of Pewaukee. I knew her well – she was my mom. As her tombstone reads,

Always Remembered.



Kathy Novack, Karen Merz, Gordie Merz, Teddy Volmar, Sandy Volmar, Ted Volmar, Tom Brick, Sharon Strieter, Marilyn Hagerstrand, Milton Hagerstrand, and front & center – Penny Williams.



KARL DETTERMING

1931 - 2026

by Tom Brick

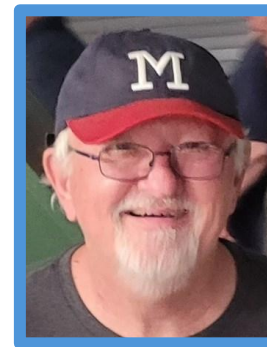


Karl Edward Dettmering passed away peacefully on February 19, 2026, with his wife of 70 years, Barbara and other family by his side.

Karl was born on December 29, 1931, in Dennison, Texas. His family moved to Medford, WI, where he met his future wife, Barbara McCarron. They married on June 4, 1955, and settled in Pewaukee, Wisconsin.

Karl was very involved in the remodeling of the Clark House Museum in the 1990s and was a key figure in the building of the Steele Exhibit Building.

He was a great asset to the community and he will be missed.



JIM WILLIAMS

1952 - 2025

by Carole Brinkman

We have lost another long-time member. Jim Williams, son of Penny and Wally, (and he was my brother), passed away

unexpectedly on November 19th at his home in West Allis.

A 1971 graduate of Pewaukee High School, he could always be seen in summer cutting the grass at his at his boyhood home on W. Wisconsin Avenue.

An avid baseball fan, he played for the Land O Lakes league and never missed a Brewers game.

Donations that were given in Jim's name will be used to upgrade our computer system. Jim, thank you for always supporting the historical society!



Editor's Note ...

by KathyNovack

You may be thinking “didn’t we just get a newsletter?” Well yes, you did. That’s because the Spring Newsletter went out later than usual.

My plan is to send out four newsletters a year starting with the first weeks of March, June, September, and December.

Between now and August 15th, if you have any suggestions on the newsletter’s content, format, or just in general please let me know.

Take care,
Kathy

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
August 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.

Thanks 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
Vice President: Jim Tredwell
Secretary: Carole Brinkman
Treasurer: Tom Brick
Directors: Anne Kagerah
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.

2026 Museum Hours

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1-3 pm***

May 25 - September 28

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May 28 - October 29***

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