

Becki Kearns is named Hero of History

Hero of History for MCHS was presented to Becki Kearns of Town of Buffalo in Marquette County.

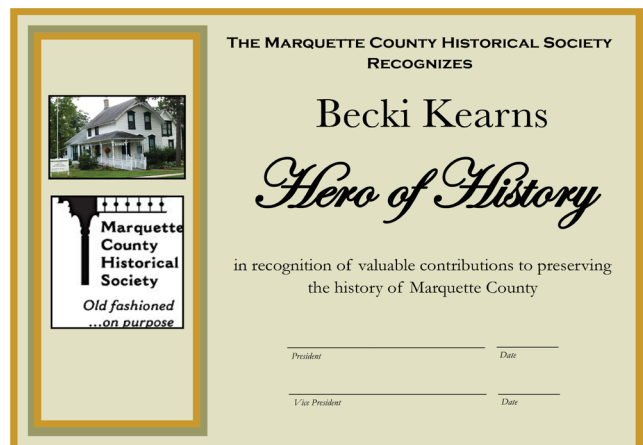
Becki has been using the museum files since the office was in the dining room of the Cochran Nelson house - long before the museum building was built .

She is always out preserving and scanning photos of the area and its people. Because of her close proximity to Green Lake and Columbia Counties she shares her knowledge, info and photos with Kingston, Village of Marquette and others besides MCHS. School and railroad pic-



tures have been added to our files also. She encourages others to check with MCHS bore disposing of family records and items. She has scanned over 70,000 pictures from neighbors and families, capturing history that could have been lost.

Becki Kearns- a deserving recipient.



February 2026 President's Message



Wow! 2025 disappeared so fast I thought I heard a sonic boom.

We are starting the new year with new ideas and they will hopefully lead to better things.

First off, it is our intent to up the ante regarding the number of newsletters. We want to move from quarterly to bi-monthly. Hopefully, to help generate interest in what we are trying to accomplish plus garner some fresh blood in the realm of volunteerism. We always welcome new help in our endeavors and urge people to come on down and see what we have and how you can help.

Sometimes it might seem like we get a little stagnant but I think that is normal for any organization. That's where your help can come in. You might just me the motivation for the next big project, display or fund raiser. I have spoken with a few of you on occasion and those who I have encouraged to participate know who you are. I will gladly welcome you aboard in the coming months. Lots to do, so stop in or contact me somehow and we'll chat.

It has come to our attention that a recent contributor to Reminiscent Ramblings, Keith Wohlfert, is experiencing a medical setback. We ask that you hold Keith in prayer and hope for a positive outcome from his treatment.

The society is making changes to our membership renewal date. All memberships will now renew on February 1st of each year. If you joined or renewed within the last quarter of 2025, your membership will be good through January 31, 2027.

We appreciate your patronage and membership in our organization and as you may know, we no longer are under the auspices of the County Government. While we really appreciate the County's contribution over the years, we now face the entire cost of doing business.

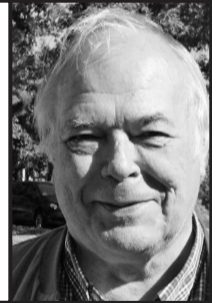
If you could contribute whatever amount you deem fit, it will allow us to better cover operating costs and utilize more funds for improvements to our museum and the overall function of our Society.

If you wish to make an online contribution, please use this QR code to go to our page on zeffy.com.



Reminiscent Ramblings

By
Dan Janke



Not all memories need to be dredged up from the distant past

Take this past year for example. In this case, the memories go back a few years, but as I write this, the events I will recount are from more recent memories.

Throughout my life, a lot of memories were made while sitting out in the woods and marshes trying to carve my niche as a “great white hunter”. Just this past deer season, I experienced something that may not be seen, felt nor heard by many of the people I know. The 2025 deer season was not what many would consider normal in terms of weather. Us old timers grew up with some pretty frigid temperatures and sometimes snow deep enough to be a hindrance if one had to walk very far. 2025 was balmy in comparison to some past deer seasons but what I am about to relate doesn’t necessarily hinge on it being 50 degrees and sunny or zero and blustery.

It is a rather unique experience so this year I got out my cell phone and made a quick video. Not to capture any visual reference but to record the sounds around me. Granted, it was a fairly balmy day but I have experienced this in the past. In the month of December. That harbinger of spring. Hundreds of them. Robins. The little rascals are hard to spot but in 2025 the numbers were high enough that occasionally, one or two would land on a branch within sight of my stand. The sound of robins is unmistakable and the chatter indicated that there were probably a hundred, possibly two hundred of them surrounding me. I even detected that familiar ‘rain song’ characteristic of robins and wondered what that was about. I’m pretty sure I could go out right now (in January) and hear an occasional cluck as the day warms up.

To be sure, I think conditions have to be just right for any robin population to winter over in Wisconsin, but I’ve seen it. This event did occur along a creek in some pretty heavy cover. Water, thick cover, available food. If their little toes can stand it, why go south. It’s almost right up there with a sasquatch sighting. I have heard tree knocking at dusk while in the same area. It makes me wonder.

Needed Items

The Historical Society would graciously accept the following donations:

Cash! Cash is good. But, kidding aside, there are items that we may need in our day-to-day operations. They include: cardboard banker’s boxes, extension cords (100 ft), and with the advancement in computer technology, they don’t come with CD players any longer. A couple of add-on CD players would be nice.



2025 Marquette County Historical Society Cookie Walk



The Marquette County Historical Society's annual Cookie Walk was held on November 28th and 29th. Despite a snow storm on that Saturday, the event was another big success! At one point, over 80 plates of cookies were set out, making it a difficult task for hungry shoppers to choose their favorites!

Many thanks to all the dedicated bakers who supplied the sale with a fantastic cookie selection!





Look at all the amazing, delicious cookies that were for sale at the annual MCHS Cookie Walk this past November!



OUR BUSINESS MEMBERS ARE MAKING HISTORY TODAY, PLEASE SUPPORT THEM.


Business memberships are \$50. They support local history plus receive advertising in our quarterly newsletter.




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The Marquette County Tribune
"Recording Marquette County History since 1859"
www.marquettecountytribune.com

Go to www.marqcohistorical.org and have fun looking at our website.

Visit Our Website: www.marqcohistorical.org

PLEASE RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP or if you are reading this newsletter and are not yet a member, please **JOIN NOW**.

Memberships is due February 1.

Remember, Lifetime Membership is \$225 and you never pay again!

Individual: \$15 Family: \$30 (spouse & dependent children)

Sustaining: \$25 (individual plus donation)

Business: \$50 (includes business card in newsletter for a year)

We need your support!

The Marquette County Historical Society is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization founded in 1962.

Marquette County Historical Society

125 Lawrence Street, PO Box 172

Westfield, Wisconsin 53964

(608) 296-4700 / e-mail: marqhistorical@gmail.com

www.marqcohistorical.org

Hours: Open Every Wednesday Afternoon (1:00-4:00 pm)

Other Times Available By Appointment

“Imprints: On the Sands of Marquette County”

is the bi-monthly newsletter of the Marquette County Historical Society.

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Secretary: Jeanne Metcalf

Treasurer: Gary Sorensen

Board of Directors:

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Sue Standke

Norma Weisbrod

**MCHS is open Wednesdays
from 1:00 to 4:00 pm and by appointment.**

Join Today!
*The Marquette County
Historical Society
welcomes new members.*

Members receive a newsletter, discounts on gift shop items, and the pleasure of knowing you are preserving the wonderful, rich history of Marquette County.

Membership Application

Please Print

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

- \$15 Individual
- \$25 Sustaining
(donation plus membership)
- \$30 Family
(includes spouse
& dependent children)
- \$225 Lifetime
- \$50 Business
(includes business card
in newsletter for 1 year)

Make check payable to:

Marquette County Historical Society

PO Box 172

Westfield, WI 53964

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Be sure to LIKE us on Facebook and enjoy the changing posts about history in Marquette County. You can add comments about your own experiences or information about each post.

Marquette County Historical Society
125 Lawrence Street, PO Box 172
Westfield, WI 53964

Upcoming Events

Late April the society is sponsoring an "Airing of the Quilts." We are working on this now and will have dates soon, contact the museum for more info.

May 29-30, 2026 we are planning on participating in the annual village rummage sale in Westfield. This is all contingent on having enough product to warrant participation. At the moment we do not have enough to plan with so we are asking anyone to please scrounge around for "quality" items to donate. You may contact us with whatever information you may be able to provide. Emails for our office and officers are available elsewhere in each issue of IMPRINTS. Thank you.

Brat Wagon

We have also secured the use of our local brat wagon and will be selling brats, hot dogs and hamburgers on May 29-30 as well. So if you are free to help with that project, it's pretty low impact. Plus, you get to see all sorts of interesting people. Just contact one of us to volunteer.

The museum is seeking past yearbooks from Montello Schools.