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Origins of the Bonniwell Name in Ozaukee and Washington County Come to Life in George Bonniwell's Book

From where did the Bonniwell name come for the Bonniwell Road in Mequon, the Bonnywell Village Apartments in Thiensville, and other area designations? George and Char Bonniwell of Plymouth, Minnesota recently visited the Jonathan Clark House Museum in Mequon for a book signing of <u>The Bonniwells - 1,000 Years</u>. Historian George B. Bonniwell authored the book after extensive research on one of Mequon's prominent early white settler families. The event took place in the Jonathan Clark House Museum parlour.

Young Jonathan Clark House Historian Spencer Holloway greeted guests in his Jonathan Clark House costume reminiscent of his study subject, early Wisconsin settler Peter Turck. As a Grafton High School Freshman, Spencer is intrigued by the stories of Jonathan and Mary Clark, Mary's parent's Peter and Rachael Turck and their friends the Bonniwell family. One of the book segments he has studied is a quote from Charles Bonniwell on the arrival of the Bonniwell family to Milwaukee.

In 1839, Milwaukee was only a small hamlet, with no harbor and a population of less than two thousand people. After a while, we met (a man by the name of) Peter Truck, who said he knew just the place for us. He took us up into (what was to become) the town(ship) of Mequon (17 miles north of Milwaukee) where he had a small sawmill. Our family found shelter the first night in the sawmill.

The event sponsor was Tammie Strause of the Pink Llama Gallery in Cedarburg. Reception hosts were Mike Holloway and Kathy Pederson of Portside Investment Advisors in Mequon. The museum is on the corner of Bonniwell and Cedarburg Roads in Mequon. For more information on the museum and book sales, contact Nina Look at: jchmuseum@gmail.com or call 262-618-2051

Photos, page two Photos by Jean Hill submitted by Friends of Jonathan Clark House