



THE HISTORICAL BULLETIN

March 2011

Vol. XXX, No. 1

A newsletter by the Brown County Historical Society dedicated to the preservation of Brown County history.

2010 HISTORIC PRESERVATION AWARD WINNER

LARKWOOD WEDDING CHAPEL

by Jerry Abitz

What happens to a building in a rural setting that has lost its purpose? How does one find a reuse? In an urban setting, it is much easier to find a use for a derelict; but if a building is not being maintained, it eventually collapses.

The Protestant German settlers of the 1850s in this part of Brown County erected a log church building south of the crossroads community of Lark, ownership of which changed hands a number of times over the years. Additional property was purchased for various building upgrades until 1913 when another building program produced the brick building we see today. In 1968, it became the Emmanuel United Methodist Church through consolidation of



Larkwood Wedding Chapel, located at 7019 County Road G in Greenleaf, as it looked in 2010. *Photo courtesy of Larkwood Chapel.*

two religious groups.

The 1913 building plan, one popular with a number of Protestant denominations, is a modified Akron plan, named after that city in Ohio where this configuration developed. Floors are sloped towards the altar in a theater-style setting. Curved pews are grouped outward from the altar with a center aisle leading from the entrance to the altar so that one can see and hear the pastor without any impeding structures. While many of this style have rotundas, this carpenter-style Gothic¹ is more typical of the smaller churches. The Sunday school rooms are typically arranged around the periphery and can be separated from the sanctuary; this building, however, has them off to one side. Pull-down doors, similar to a roll-top desk, can be used to separate the sanctuary from the Sunday school and office areas.

The exterior was built in the classic Gothic Revival style with elements of the then-popular Arts and Crafts movement. The Gothic windows with their arched tops are filled with opaque stained glass depicting Christ figures as representatives of key elements of faith while other windows support a simpler linear design associated with Craftsman style. While the arched windows, doors, steep roof, and bell tower are Gothic in splendor, exposed Arts and Crafts brackets support the bead-board-covered soffits.

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LARKWOOD WEDDING CHAPEL

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Gothic-style rosette motifs in the interior are found in the window frames and pews. The boxed, square oak columns, baseboards, and doorframes are all typical of the Craftsman style.

This church and the parsonage physically document the history of the German-speakers who settled this area; it also is an outstanding example of the blending of the Gothic Revival and Arts and Crafts architectures one does not often see today.

Located in a low-growth area, the population of this church dwindled until three years ago when the congregation closed their doors. Mike and Ruby Gilbertson, who envisioned the revitalized building becoming a beautiful wedding chapel, purchased it, along with the adjacent parsonage that once housed the resident ministers and their families.

They replaced water-damaged plaster, repainted the walls, and repaired the altar. Several of the Sunday school rooms are furnished as a bride's area and groom's areas for the final priming before the ceremony. They wisely preserved the original historic integrity, and have been told the building is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. They are soliciting business as the Larkwood Wedding Chapel, and

already have bookings for the future.

For their efforts in preserving this historic structure, the Brown County Historical Society gave them a 2010 Historic Preservation Award for Building Adaptive Reuse, presented at the annual meeting of the Brown County Historical Society on Sunday, Jan. 23, 2011.

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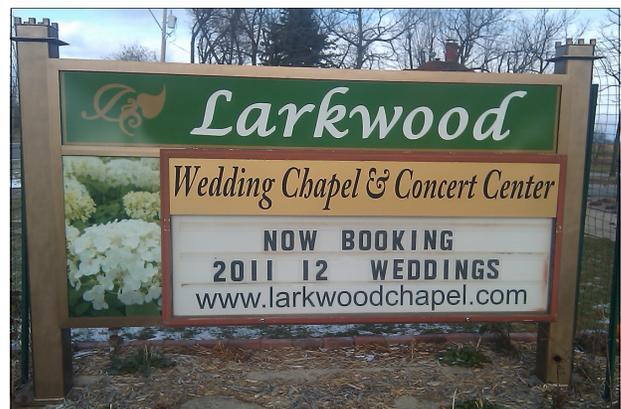
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¹*Carpenter-Gothic refers to an interpretation of that high style by a local carpenter, meaning it*



Top: The interior of the refurbished Larkwood Wedding Chapel, looking at the front. *Photo courtesy of Larkwood Chapel.* **Middle:** Original wooden pews seat approx. 200 on the main floor, plus additional seating in the balcony. *Photo by Don Kraft.* **Bottom:** Current signage. *Photo by Melissa Hauk.*

may not follow the style as completely as a Gothic-style interpretation made by an ar-

2011 ANNUAL MEETING

by Christine Dunbar

Brown County Historical Society members and guests gathered at the Swan Club at Legends Brewhouse and Eatery on Sunday, Jan. 23, to celebrate a successful year.

Board President Wendy Barszcz thanked departing Board member Tom Van Gemert, and welcomed new and returning board members. Treasurer Dennis Wojahn reported on the finances of the Society, and thanked members for their financial support.

Mary Jane Herber and Dr. Ken Mickle presented the Society's **Local History Award of Merit** to a surprised Patricia Cochran. Helen Ferslev, also an award recipient, was unable to attend the meeting and received the news of her award via telephone. Both women were cited for their long-standing service to various historic organizations in the community.

Retired Hazelwood Curator, Sally Enloe, was recognized for her seven years of dedication with a watercolor of the Historic Hazelwood House painted by local artist, Carolyn Barnard.

2010 Historic Preservation Awards were presented to:

- **Truttmann Hearth Ware**, 3795 Shirley Road, Town of Shirley
- **Larkwood Wedding Chapel**, 7019 Dickinson Road, Town of Lark
- **Petry-Neveu House**, 802 East Walnut Street, Green Bay
- **Cotton House**, Heritage Hill State Historical Park, 2640 South Webster, Allouez

During the evening, guests encountered three of Green Bay's past citizens from the Society's "If Tombstones Could Talk" cemetery program. Featured were Denis Murphy as portrayed by Steve Stary, Stephen Leonard Martin as portrayed by David Burke, and Bill Stary as Curly Lambeau.



2011 Annual Award Dinner — (Top row, left) Patricia Cochran (r) receiving the 2010 Brown County Historical Society Local History Award of Merit from Award Committee members Mary Jane Herber and Dr. Ken Mickle. (Top row, center) Sally Enloe opening retirement gift of a print of an original water color of the Historic Hazelwood House by Carolyn Barnard. (Top row, right) Melissa Hauk (l) presenting Alison and John Van Lanen with a Preservation Award for Truttmann Hearth Ware. (Bottom row, left) Mark Steuer (l) presenting Mike and Ruby Gilbertson with Preservation Award for Larkwood Chapel. (Bottom row, center) Melissa Hauk (l) presenting Tristan Zimmermann and Troy Kapalcznski with Preservation Award for Petry-Neveu House. (Bottom row, right) James Hayward (l) presenting Charles Pelky, Nick Backhaus, and Susan Wade with Preservation Award for Cotton House at Heritage Hill State Historical Park. All photos by Chuck Golueke.

BCHS BOARD — INTRODUCING NEW FACES



**CHARLES GOLUEKE
Abrams**

Chuck Golueke was born and raised in De Pere, and currently resides north of Green Bay. He worked for many years in the printing industry and now works in the computer graphics field, plus a day a week helping out at our local wine- and beer-making supply store.

His interest in photography and history led him to Heritage Hill in the early years, where, as an active volunteer for many years, he helped with photo projects, newsletters, slideshows, and as an interpreter. He most recently interpreted beer-making at the Hill's Fall Fest. Two past *Voyageur* covers featuring Heritage Hill used images taken by him.



**PILAR McDERMOTT
Green Bay**

Pilar McDermott spent the greater part of her adult life in Boston. She loves history and has, more than once, planned a vacation around a historic mansion (her interest) and a battlefield (her husband's). A favor-

ite such vacation was to Brandywine to see where her ancestors fought alongside George Washington, and to visit the famed DuPont Mansion, Winterthur. After that trip, Pilar concluded that she would make a better heir-ess than she would a foot soldier.

The McDermotts have lived in Green Bay for six years. They love their life here and all the community has to offer. They enjoy hearing concerts at Heritage Hill and going to family events at the Botanical Garden. And, as of late, both McDermotts have become completely obsessed with Ancestry.com.

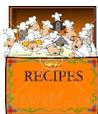


**LAUREL TOWNS
Denmark**

Laurel Towns retired as the curator of White Pillars Museum in December of 2010. She worked on many historical restoration projects, including the Polo-Resto Service Station and the Courthouse Marker. Earlier in her career Laurel was employed at Heritage Hill State Historical Park where she developed the historical clothing program and served as part of the research team for the restoration of Tank Cottage.

Laurel is currently a member of the Brown County Historical Society Preservation Committee. Laurel provides historical clothing and paper doll programs

Heirloom Recipes



"O'Connell Shepherd's Pie"

"This is my Irish grandmother's shepherd's pie recipe. It's great for cold weather!"

—Bridgett Lowery

Share the recipes that have been passed down to you from family members or friends; they could become someone else's new tradition! To submit your favorite "Heirloom Recipe," email it to Christine Dunbar (bchs@netnet.net), or mail a copy to the BCHS office.



Recipe: O'Connell Shepherd's Pie

From the kitchen of: Bridgett Lowery

in honor of Grandmother Loretta Koch O'Connell (1908-1994)

1 lb. ground beef
1-2 lbs. potatoes,
peeled and chopped
8 oz. shredded sharp
cheddar cheese
¼ c. diced onion
4 T. butter, separated
¼ c. warm whole milk
Salt and cracked black
pepper to taste
1 c. beef gravy (can use
jarred substitute)

Preheat oven to 350°.

Bring large pot of water to boil. Cook onions in large pan until soft, but not brown, in 2 T. butter. Add gr. beef; cook and break up until fully cooked. Remove from heat.

Potatoes will need to cook at a boil for about 15", until fork tender.

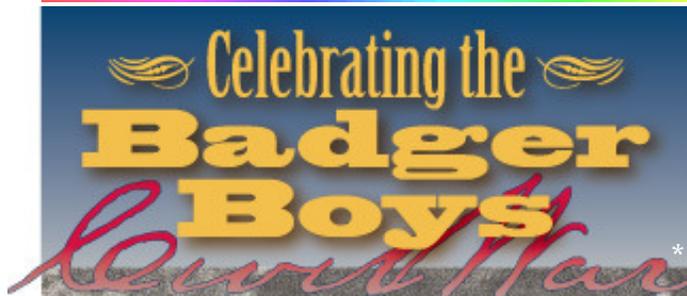
Drain potatoes; return to hot pot. Add warm milk, butter, and salt and pepper to taste; mash to the consistency of your liking.

In a buttered casserole dish, layer potatoes then beef. Bake for 20". Add shredded cheese; bake another 5" or until melted.

Serve hot with gravy on each slice.

EVENTS

Join us for one or all!!



April 12, 1861 ... 150 years ago ... the U.S. Civil War began with the Confederate attack on Fort Sumter. Before our nation was reunited, over 620,000 Americans gave their lives in the effort. More than 12,300 of these were from Wisconsin. To honor the sesquicentennial, members of the Brown County Federation of History Museums are presenting a series of Civil War programs. Please join us in remembering this darkest period in our great nation's past.

(See calendar for dates and times.)

- **Brown Co. Historical Society - Hazelwood Historic House**
920-437-1840 / www.browncohistoricalsoc.org
Sat., Aug. 20 - Civil War-themed Tea Party
- **De Pere Historical Society - White Pillars Museum**
920-336-3877 / www.deperehistoricalsociety.org
For activities, please see website.
- **Green Bay Area Research Center**
920-465-2539 / www.uwgb.edu/library
Thurs., Apr. 14 - Workshop,
Wisconsin in the Civil War - Telling Our Story
- **Heritage Hill State Historical Park**
920-448-5150 / www.heritagehillgb.org
Sat. and Sun., June 25-26 - Civil War Reenactment
- **National Railroad Museum**
920-437-7623 / www.nationalrrmuseum.org
Sat., July 9 - Lecture, *Bean Poles and Corn Stalks: A Look behind Civil War Railroads*
- **Neville Public Museum of Brown County**
920-448-4640 / www.nevillepublicmuseum.org
Feb. 5 - Nov. 6 - Exhibit,
Badger Boys: Northeast Wisconsin and the Civil War
Wed., Mar. 30 - Performance,
Bruce Burnside's Untold Stories of the Civil War
Sat., Sept. 10 - Living History, 2nd Wisconsin Reenactors
Lecture Series, check website for details
- **Oneida Nation Museum**
920-869-2768 / www.oneidanation.org/museum
Feb 25 - Dec. 31 - Exhibit
The Oneida in the Civil War

*Presented by the Brown County Federation of History Museums

SAVE THE DATE

Step Back!

GREEN BAY & DE PERE ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY
WITH THE NEVILLE PUBLIC MUSEUM & THE DE PERE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Cordially Invite You to A
VINTAGE FASHION SHOW
& PICTORIAL HISTORY OF GREEN BAY & DE PERE 1900-1960

Tuesday Evening, May 24, 2011

KI Convention Center - Downtown Green Bay
Dress - Vintage Attire (optional)

Dinner invitations will be mailed in March, 2011

www.antiquariansocietygbdp.org



CALENDAR



MAY

Hazelwood Historic House -

Open every Saturday and Sunday, 12:00n-4:00p -

Tours conducted every half-hour beginning at 12:00n with the last tour of the day beginning at 3:00p. Tours last approximately 45 minutes.

Mother's Day - Sunday, May 8, 12:00n-4:00p -

Celebrate Mother's Day with half-price admission for mothers.

Astor Neighborhood Walking Tours -

Saturday, May 14, at 9:30a -

Friday, May 20, at 2:00p -

Saturday, May 21, at 9:30a -

Celebrate Preservation Month with a sidewalk tour of selected Historic Homes in the Astor Historic District. Admission - \$3/person. Reservations requested.

JUNE

Hazelwood Historic House -

Open Thursdays through Sunday, 12:00n-4:00p -

Tours conducted every half-hour beginning at 12:00n with the last tour of the day beginning at 3:00p. Tours last approximately 45 minutes.

Thursday, June 16, at 6:30p -

"If Tombstones Could Talk" Cemetery Walk at Fort Howard Memorial Park. Hear the stories of some of Green Bay's past residents. Admission - \$5/person; \$12/family. Reservations required.

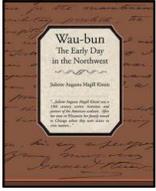
(Continued on page 7)

BOOKS BY MAIL

Available on the website www.browncohistoricalsoc.org or by mail using the form below.

WAU-BUN: THE "EARLY DAY" IN THE NORTH-WEST

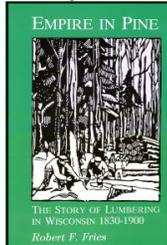
by Juliette M. Kinzie. Book Jungle. 2008. Hard cover, 266 pages. **Cost: \$19.95.**



It is sometimes hard to imagine a time when Wisconsin was a vast wilderness — or that Green Bay was actually green, but Kinzie brings that world to life with her recollections of first moving to Wisconsin and meeting some of the people important to Green Bay and Wisconsin history. She also includes some French rowing songs, and language translations for greetings from the early days of living among the fur traders, Native Americans, and in the forts of early days in the North-west Territory which eventually became Wisconsin. Kinzie's words live and breathe like real people telling their stories to a close friend around a camp fire, or a kitchen table in the modern age.

EMPIRE IN PINE: THE STORY OF LUMBERING IN WISCONSIN 1830-1900

by Robert F. Fries. William Caxton Ltd. Rev. ed., 1989. Soft cover, 253 pages. **Cost: \$14.95.**

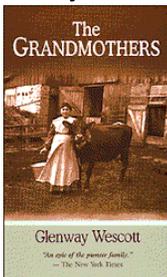


One may almost say that our nation was carved from wood. Beginning with the first white settlement on the Atlantic coast pioneers of each successive frontier who struggled to create order from a tangled wilderness by using wood for homes, fences, furniture, factories and steam engines. This book analyzes the development of the lumber industry in Wisconsin beginning with early pioneer loggers, and chronicles the industry's output which soared from a few thousand board feet in the 1830s to the stupendous total of four billion board feet in the peak years of 1892. The effect of the industry on settlement, the ruthless attack on the forests and ensuing deforestation and eventual conservation reform are covered in a highly readable account of this fascinating era in Wisconsin history.

THE GRANDMOTHERS

by Glenway Wescott. UW Press. First released - 1927; back in print - 1996.

Soft cover, 388 pages. **Cost: \$19.95.**



Wescott's Alwyn grew up with his grandparents living in the house with his family, and was told stories of relatives by his grandmother, to the point where he feels he knows these long-dead ancestors even though they never made acquaintances. Alwyn, as he grows older and begins to understand more fully the lives of his relatives, fills in the pieces of these stories with his own imagination, to the point where the fabric of the story so incorporates these details that he can no longer remember where his grandmother's words end and his begin. While abroad in Europe, Alwyn becomes a symbol of the Wisconsin character: a rugged individual, shaped by family and relatives growing together on wild land, taming the wilderness and growing with the young nation in the early 20th century.

**To Order: Please fill out below and return with payment or credit card info to:
Brown County Historical Society, P.O. Box 1411, Green Bay, WI 54305-1411**

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CALENDAR

(Continued from page 5)

JULY

Celebrate the 4th of July at Hazelwood!!

Monday, July 4, 10:00a-4:00p – “Civil War Blues”

The Heritage Players entertain with stories and songs commemorating the sesquicentennial of the Civil War. Children’s activities, house tours, and picnic food for purchase. Regular admission charged; members free.

AUGUST

Wednesday, Aug. 10, at 6:30p –

Thursday, Aug. 11, at 6:30p –

“If Tombstones Could Talk” Cemetery Walk at Allouez Catholic Cemetery. Meet several of Green Bay’s past citizens and enjoy stories of their lives and contributions to early Green Bay. Admission - \$5/person; \$12/family. Reservations required.

Saturday, Aug. 20, at 2:00p –

Civil War Era Tea and Musical Entertainment – Enjoy an elegant afternoon tea party reminiscent of the 1860s on the Historic Hazelwood House grounds. Delight in Civil War era entertainment by Mary Eisenreich. Admission - \$25/person includes tea, punch, and authentic, sweet and savory tea courses.

SEPTEMBER

Wednesday, Sept. 14, at 6:30p –

Sunday, Sept. 18, at 4:00p –

“If Tombstones Could Talk” Cemetery Walk at Woodlawn Cemetery. Relish the past by listening to some of Green Bay’s past residents. Admission - \$5/person; \$12/family. Reservations required.

Group Tours or Teas –

If you wish to schedule a group tour or tea (10 or more people), call 920-437-1840. Group tours and teas can be scheduled outside normal business hours.

Autumn

-  **Fall Bus Tour of Historic Green Bay**
-  **Tea Tasting Event**

IN MEMORIUM

Dean O’Brien (1932-2010)

by Bill Meindl, *Voyageur* Publisher

Dean O’Brien, editor of *Voyageur* magazine from 1989 to 1995, passed away June 16 in Minnesota at the age of 78. A native of Waukesha, Dean was a communication and journalism professor at UW-Green Bay, joining the original faculty of the new four-year school in 1968 after serving in the Marines, receiving his Ph. D. from UW-Madison, and working for newspapers in Illinois, Michigan, and Wisconsin. He became editor of *Voyageur* a year before his retirement as a full professor from UWGB. Over the years he was also active with his wife, Polly, in the Cofrin Arboretum, Artstreet, and the Green Bay Botanical Garden, among other community interests.

Dean was perceptive, creative, always made deadlines, and a gentle soul to those who knew him. He is missed.

JOB OPENINGS

Volunteer Coordinator/Program Manager (part-time; avg. 20 hrs/wk) — Responsible for volunteer management of Hazelwood Historic House and BCHS programs and events.

Program Committee Member — Bring your ideas to create new programs, and be a part of events such as Cemetery Walks, Victorian Teas, and educational programs.

For more info and/or application, contact Christine Dunbar at bchs@netnet.net.

CORRECTIONS — December 2010 issue BCHS Historical Bulletin

- *The Bellin Building* (pg. 3) — Both Dr. Bellin and Dr. Minahan had ties to the *Casco area*, not Casco Hospital. The number of manual elevators still in existence is *three*, not four.
- *Your Last Chancery* (pg. 1) — Photo of the Chancery was taken by Jeanne Biebel, not Don Kraft
- *Goodbye, Sally... We’ll Miss You* (pg. 6). Photo of Sally Enloe at Farm Technology Days was taken by Jeanne Biebel.

Spotlight on our Neighbors — Historic Allouez Society

by Lee Reinsch

Many of the names celebrated by the Brown County Historical Society have ties to Shantytown/Allouez — think Dousman, Fr. Bonduel, St. John’s Church, Hochgreve Brewery, and Rufus Kellogg.

Now, think of the stories this one little village has to tell, starting with a sprinkling of tiny shacks along the Fox River, many of which were used as whiskey outposts for Camp Smith soldiers, and definitely not ending with the razing of the imposing St. Joseph’s Orphanage.

Founded in 2007, Historic Allouez Society (HAS) currently has 81 members, and invites you to join its journey to preserve history from Shantytown to present-day Allouez.



John Bushmaker and the Hockgreve Brewery horses.
Photo released to Historic Allouez Society by Pat O’Connell.

Membership

- \$20/year — single membership
- \$30/year — family membership

For more information, contact Tony La Luzerne at floggertl@yahoo.com, Bobbie Charneski at 920-336-2880 or RMC071137@aol.com, or send an email to historicalallouezsociety@gmail.com.

12:00n-4:00p, Thursday-Sunday

JUNE – AUGUST

12:00n-4:00p, weekends

MAY

Phone: (920) 437-1840

Off-season group tours and teas by appointment

MARCH – APRIL

HAZELWOOD HISTORIC HOUSE MUSEUM

BCHS offices — 8:30a-4:00p, weekdays
BROWN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MARCH – JUNE 2011

HOURS for

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