



# THE HISTORICAL BULLETIN

June 2012

Vol. XXIV, No. 2

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

## 2011 HISTORIC PRESERVATION AWARD WINNER

# ASHWAUBENON HISTORICAL SOCIETY 737 Cormier Road, Ashwaubenon

by Jerry Abitz

When someone mentions historic preservation, many visualize a mansion on the hill whose maintenance has been neglected and needs attention. But it is a broad field that encompasses, among other things, retrofitting a building so it can be used for purposes other than that for which it was designed. The last issue of this newsletter reported on the ARTgarage where the building designed as a cannery is now being used for a very different purpose. Reuse is not limited to a building designed by an architect for a wealthy client; the BCHS Historic Preservation Committee has given out 102 such awards for commercial buildings on Broadway and Main Streets, for some fairly modest homes, and even to individuals who have been active in promoting this ethic.

The impetus of historic preservation is on remodel, refurbish, and reuse. Similarly, the homeowner whose home is outdated or the family has increased in size will look at remodeling the home or adding onto the structure. Typically, the last thing the owner will consider is to demolish, haul to the landfill, and build anew; a practice which seems to predominate in today's culture. That method is a waste of resources and contributes to greenhouse gases affecting global warming.



Front entrance to the renovated Ashwaubenon Historical Society museum building, located on Cormier Road. Photo by Don Kraft.

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At the same time, as the Ashwaubenon Historical Society was losing its home at Cormier School, the old water department building became an option. The AHS, organized in 1975, approached the Village of Ashwaubenon about space in this building and a deal was worked out. With this accord, the building's future was assured and, in 2000, the Society began to develop plans for this simple-styled building with its 10,000 square feet of space.

In the 1990s, as the Village of Ashwaubenon agreed to become part of Green Bay's regional water system, the well at 737 Cormier Road was relegated to an emergency water source. The water department, then headquartered there, vacated the pumphouse and moved to a new facility. But empty buildings are a problem that are subject to vandalism and, if the vacancy persists, frequently get demolished.

With the help of Tom McKay,<sup>1</sup> head of the Office for Local History at the Wisconsin Historical Society in Madison, plans were drawn up to convert this building into a museum. The design included a ceramic tile entryway, overhead garage doors to move items in and out of their museum, and included the configuration of display areas, storage shelving, and other amenities to accomplish their goal. The Society purchased the necessary shelving and

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## ASHWAUBENON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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display cases. They carpeted the floors, revamped the wiring and lighting, installed a computer system and other necessities for a well-run museum.

The final result is a sprightly museum, chock-full of historical items and displays featuring the history of this area. Prominent in their displays is the Adolph Vandertie<sup>2</sup> Hobo and Tramp Art, donated to them by the J.M. Kohler Foundation of Sheboygan.

The AHS Museum should be on your list of places to visit if you are an area resident. It is the epitome of what a small city museum can be when an active historical society and local government cooperate to present their unique history. Any of the other 380 or so local societies in Wisconsin would give their right arm for that kind of support from their municipality/county.

For their work in developing and reusing an idle building whose useful lifetime had been threatened and turning it into a great, local museum, the Brown County Historical Society gave the Ashwaubenon Historical Society its 2011 Historical Preservation Award for adaptive building reuse.

<sup>1</sup>Tom McKay, a native of the Quad Cities in Illinois, was hired by the Wisconsin Historical Society (WHS) who

had been working in the State of Iowa. His expertise was designing and managing historical displays. Two that come to mind that I have visited are in Drummond, WI, and the WHS Museum on Madeline Island on the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore.

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**Top photo** — Articles of the Adolph Vandertie collection displayed in AHS museum. **Middle photo** — Carved ball cages from the same collection. **Bottom photo** — Agricultural display at the AHS museum. *All photos by Don Kraft.*





The Chase Stone Barn, built in 1903, is the focus of the town's current fundraising efforts — the Town of Chase needs to raise \$40,000 yet before June 30 in order to receive a sizeable grant which will enable them to preserve this historic barn. Once restoration efforts are complete, it will become the focal point of the Chase Stone Barn Park. The Town purchased the barn in 2007 in order to protect it. *Photo by Kristin Kolkowski.*

## Small Town Needs Help to Preserve Historic 1903 Stone Barn

Submitted by the Stone Barn Committee

The Town of Chase, which borders Brown County, asks for your help to preserve one of the last surviving all-fieldstone barns in the country. This unique stone barn was built by hand in 1903 using fieldstones that were pushed and tumbled to the Wisconsin region during three known ice ages over the past 70,000 years.

Wisconsin has lost over 83 percent of the original barns that once dotted our scenic landscape, and those which remain are fast disappearing, so this project is not just about saving an old barn — it's about preserving an important part of Wisconsin history.

Estimates are \$430,000 to restore the stone barn. In 2009 our town received a Challenge Grant from the Jeffris Family Foundation in Janesville, WI. If the Town can raise \$287,000 by June 30, we will receive a grant of \$143,000 from the Foundation. To date, we have raised

over \$247,000, but we still have almost \$40,000 to go and *less than two months to reach our goal!*

If you and/or your company would like to make a tax-deductible donation:

**Please make your check payable to:  
Town of Chase**

**Memo:  
Stone Barn Park Fund**

**Mail to:**  
Jolene Schwarm, Treasurer  
1330 Hayward Lane  
Sobieski WI 54171

**Donation forms** are also available on our town website at [www.townofchase.org](http://www.townofchase.org).

Please mark your calendar for June 30, our annual Town Picnic which, this year, will be a fundraiser for the Chase Stone Barn. The picnic will be at the Chase Town Hall, located at 8481 County Road S in Pulaski, and will include hay wagon rides to the stone barn, music, food and many fun activities.

The stone barn is listed on the State and National Registers of Historic Places. Our town purchased the barn in 2007 to protect it, and to

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## CHASE STONE BARN

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make it the focal point of our new Chase Stone Barn Park. Once the restoration is complete, we will begin the next stage of our project which is to develop a museum inside the stable area to educate people about the history of farming in Wisconsin and the geology of the stones. The Park will be used for all types of events, including youth activities, antique shows, auctions, weddings and receptions, company picnics, and so much more.

To learn more about the stone barn, please visit our website listed above, or search for Chase Stone Barn on Facebook (<http://www.facebook.com/ChaseStoneBarn>).

*Thank you for helping preserve  
a cornerstone of Wisconsin history!*



The inscription found in the Chase Stone Barn, built in 1903, identifies both the architect as well as the mason. Photo by Kristin Kolkowski.

## ASHWAUBENON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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<sup>2</sup>Adolph Vandertie Hobo and Tramp Art. See <http://www.ashhs.com/Collections/TrampHoboArt.aspx>, site maintained by the Ashwaubenon Historical Society. A resident of Green Bay, Vandertie developed this collection of Hobo and Tramp Art, currently on display in the AHS museum. This unique art form was developed by homeless people who rode the rails during the Great Depression and stayed in hobo jungles where a favorite pastime was whittling with a knife on any available scrap of wood. His collection numbered over 3,500 pieces. A documentary of his life was produced by Arktetype Entertainment. To purchase or learn more, go to: <http://www.catchwestbound.com/home.php>.

## Volunteers Matter!



Opportunities to get involved exist in many areas, and Jane, the BCHS volunteer coordinator, will be happy to get you involved. Depending on your preferences, you can:

- Get your hands dirty in our gardens
- Research local history and characters for Cemetery Walks
- Assist in creating education programs
- Participate in special events
- Share the stories of the Morgan L. Martin family as a docent for the Hazelwood Historic House.

To get started or for additional information, please contact Chris Dunbar or Jane Shatswell (920-437-1840), or send us an email ([bchs@netnet.net](mailto:bchs@netnet.net)).

## AFTER-SCHOOL ART CLUB VISITS HAZELWOOD

by Christine Dunbar

The art teacher for Aldo Leopold School's after-school art club, Sarah Tlachac, and her creative



Aldo Leopold School's After-School Art Club in front of Hazelwood Historic House. Photo by Kent Crain.

students visited Hazelwood to find photographic inspiration in the furniture and art objects in the House. Students also learned about exterior architectural elements and explored the Astor Neighborhood with cameras in hand. The school received a grant from Target Corporation to support the program.

Student projects will be highlighted at the ARTgarage on May 29, 6:00-8:00p, in Studio B.

*The public is invited.*

# EVENTS

Join us for one or all!!



There is no doubt farming is big business in Wisconsin. The agrarian nature of the Badger State is more than just an industry, however. It's a culture, a way of life, an iconic symbol that brands our state. To honor Wisconsin's agricultural heritage, the Brown County Federation of History Museums will offer a special series of programs during 2012. Join us to explore the historical, cultural and social nature of agriculture in America's Dairyland.

*(See website for additional events, dates, and times. Programs listed below are those remaining for the year.)*

- **Brown Co. Historical Society - Hazelwood Historic House**  
920-437-1840 / [www.browncohistoricalsoc.org](http://www.browncohistoricalsoc.org)  
Aug. 7 - Cooking with Herbs (*Reservations required*)  
Sept. 29 - Preserving the Harvest
- **De Pere Historical Society - White Pillars Museum**  
920-336-3877 / [www.deperehistoricalsociety.org](http://www.deperehistoricalsociety.org)
- **Green Bay & De Pere Antiquarian Society**  
[www.antiquariansocietygdbp.org](http://www.antiquariansocietygdbp.org)
- **Heritage Hill State Historical Park**  
920-448-5150 / [www.heritagehillgb.org](http://www.heritagehillgb.org)  
Sept. 8 - History of the Automobile - Historic Tractors  
Sept. 15 - Heritage Festival
- **National Railroad Museum**  
920-437-7623 / [www.nationalrrmuseum.org](http://www.nationalrrmuseum.org)

\*Presented by the Brown County Federation of History Museums

**Save the date!**

**BCHS Annual Picnic**  
**Thursday, August 16,**  
**on the grounds of**  
**Hazelwood House.**

**Bring a lawn chair**  
**and your appetite!**

*We'll be there!  
You?*

*See calendar listing for more details.*

- **Neville Public Museum of Brown County**  
920-448-4640 / [www.nevillepublicmuseum.org](http://www.nevillepublicmuseum.org)  
Aug. 11 - Dec. 2 - *Fertile Ground: Art & Agriculture Exhibit*  
Aug. 14 - Nov. 30 - *Farming in Wisconsin*  
for schools (preK-3), weekdays
- **Oneida Nation Museum**  
920-869-2768 / [www.oneidanation.org/museum](http://www.oneidanation.org/museum)
- **UW - Green Bay Archives & Area Research Center**  
920-465-2539 / [www.uwgb.edu/library](http://www.uwgb.edu/library)

## HAVILAND AND BLOOMS

Friday-Sunday,  
June 8-10  
12:00-4:00p

Hazelwood Historic House will be bursting with floral arrangements during the second annual presentation of Haviland and Blooms. Artistic arrangements by gifted, local floral designers harmonize with displays of hand-painted Haviland china by artist Frederika Crane. Floral paintings by local artists complement the exhibit. As an added treat, from 1:00-3:00p on both Saturday and Sunday, enjoy flower-themed tunes played by musician Mary Eisenreich and meet Frederika Crane, portrayed by Heritage Player Myrna Dickinson.



Demitasse cup and saucer hand-painted by Frederika Crane (in portrait). Photo by Kathy Kauth (2011).

Refreshments will be served on the back porch.  
Admission: \$7/person

## FLOWER FAIRY TEA PARTY

Sat., June 23  
1:00-3:00p



A fairy amidst the flowers! Photo by Kathy Kauth.

*Fairies, Fairies!  
Did you hear?!*

We're having a tea party just for you! Tea, lemonade, and an assortment of fairy sandwiches and treats elegantly served on the lawn of Hazelwood at 1:00p. Following tea, fairies will create a magic wand!

*Dress as a fairy if you wish!*

- ~ Create a fairy crown ~ Play fairy games ~
- ~ Meet a fairy princess and receive a special treat ~
- ~ Make a special wish with fairy dust ~
- ~ Join a fairy treasure hunt ~
- ~ Send a fairy letter at the Pixie Post Office ~
- ~ Search for hidden fairies in the Flower Fairy display ~

**Reservations required.** Admission: \$15/adults; \$5/child.  
Recommended for children 5+.

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# EVENTS

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## CELEBRATE INDEPENDENCE DAY AT HAZELWOOD HISTORIC HOUSE MUSEUM



**Wednesday, July 4  
11:30a - 4:00p**

**1:00p - Heritage Players  
Perform "Waterways"**

The Heritage Players open their seventeenth season with a performance of "Waterways: The Lakes and Rivers of Old Wisconsin in Story and Song." Directed by Stu and Bev Smith, with music by Mary Eisenreich, the Players are a community-based, non-profit, theatrical troupe created to breathe new life into local history.



"Waterways" will feature stories of the Lady Elgin maritime disaster, life among the river rats and shipboard cooks, the dramatic ordeals of Robert Noble and Father Allouez as well as a lonely lighthouse wife, and the droll humor of a Paul Bunyan tale. The music, composed and/or arranged by Mary Eisenreich, includes "Water is Wide," "Pinery Boy" and "The Waters of Wisconsin." Costumes are designed by Dee Stary. (For 2012 performance schedule, call 920-448-5150, or visit their website at: <http://www.heritagehillgb.org/calendar/may>.)

*Bring a lawn chair, and enjoy the show  
at 1:00p in Hazelwood's backyard!*

## Cemetery Walks

*See calendar listing for dates.*

### "IF TOMBSTONES COULD TALK"

Bring history to life through costumed actors assuming the intriguing characters of Green Bay's ancestors! It is a great opportunity to learn about the people who contributed to our colorful history. Programs take place in the beautiful grounds of Fort Howard, Allouez Catholic and Woodlawn Cemeteries. Bring your family to participate in these fascinating programs. Meet new characters in each of the cemeteries.



Roger Lawyer as Harold T. Shannon at Fort Howard Cemetery. Photo by Kathy Kauth.

This year, at Fort Howard Memorial Park, you will meet this newspaper man who went on to become a journalist, promoter, radio pioneer, advertising man and historian. A man of ideas, he was in demand when any group in the community undertook a project which required promotion.

**Admission:** \$6/person, \$14/family (children 5-17). **Reservations required.** Call 920-437-1840 or email [bchs@netnet.net](mailto:bchs@netnet.net).

**NOTE:** Cemetery Walks involve quite a bit of standing. You are welcome to bring a lawn chair.

# CALENDAR



## JUNE

**Friday-Sunday, June 8-10, 12:00-4:00p –**

Haviland and Blooms. \$7.00/person

**Thursday, June 14, 6:30-8:00p –**

"If Tombstones Could Talk" – Fort Howard Cemetery Walk. *Reservation required.* \$6.00/person; \$14.00/family rate.

**Saturday, June 23, 1:00-3:00p –**

Flower Fairy Tea Party. *Reservations required.* \$15.00/adult; \$5.00/child (5-12 yrs old).

## JULY

**Wednesday, July 4, 11:30a-4:00p –**

Celebrate the 4th!

11:30a-4:00p at the Hazelwood Historic House

1:00p – Heritage Players' performance of "Waterways: Stories and Songs of Wisconsin's Lakes and Rivers"

## AUGUST

**Tuesday, August 7, 6:30-7:30p –**

"Cooking with Herbs," Hazelwood Herbal Fest. *Reservations required.* \$10.00/person.

**Wednesday, August 8, 6:30-8:00p –**

"If Tombstones Could Talk" – Allouez Cemetery Walk. *Reservation required.* \$6.00/person; \$14.00/family rate.

**Thursday, August 9, 6:30-8:00p –**

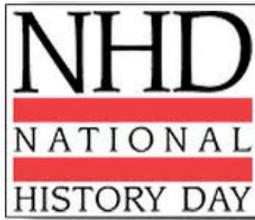
"If Tombstones Could Talk" – Allouez Cemetery Walk. *Reservation required.* \$6.00/person; \$14.00/family rate.

**Thursday, August 16 – Hazelwood's annual picnic!**

4:30-5:30p – Tours of Hazelwood Historic House

6:00-8:00p – Picnic on the lawn (*weather permitting*).

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## NATIONAL HISTORY DAY CELEBRATES

### TEN YEARS IN GREEN BAY

by Deb Anderson

National History Day is a nationwide academic opportunity for sixth through twelfth-graders. Students learn critical thinking skills, historical analysis, and gain experience using historical records. On the national level, the program received critical acclaim this year when it received the prestigious National Humanities Medal from President Obama.

National History Day students research a historical topic of their choice, alone or as part of a group, and create a project relating to the year's annual theme. Projects are presented as papers, websites, documentaries, performances, or exhibits. Green Bay has hosted the Northeastern Wisconsin Regional competition at UW-Green Bay for ten years, this year held on Sat., April 14. Finalists here move on to the State contest in Madison, whose finalists then qualify to attend the National contest in Washington D.C.

Held in just two rooms in the UWGB Union back in 2003, Green Bay's first National History Day regional event was small. The comparison of statistics shows how the event has grown:

	2003	2012
<b>Required space</b>	2 rooms (UWGB Union)	2 bldgs (UWGB)
<b>Students</b>	76	385
<b>Schools</b>	5	19
<b>Entries</b>	46	230
<b>Judges</b>	18	100

This year's theme was "Revolution, Reaction, Reform in History." Brown County schools that participated were Bay View Middle School, Green Bay Southwest High School, and West De Pere Middle School. Thirty-one Brown County youth placed as finalists or alternates to advance to the State contest.

BCHS offers a special award to projects that represent an exceptional job with topics pertaining to Northeastern Wisconsin history. In the junior division, this year's award went to Gracelyn Rezmer of Appleton's Kaleidoscope Academy for her website, "Tom Blake: Surfing the Waves of Revolution and Reform." The senior division winner was Natasha Stevens of Oneida Nation High School for her documentary entitled "Indian Gaming: The Reservation Revolution."

Sponsorship of this event goes beyond these special awards. From the beginning, the Brown County Historical Society has provided annual financial support as well as volunteers. BCBS is supportive of joint efforts to bring the program to a greater number of schools in Brown County.

If you would like to become involved as a National History Day volunteer or would like more information about bringing it to classrooms, check out the website at <http://uwgb.edu/nationalhistoryday> or contact Deb Anderson by emailing ([andersod@uwgb.edu](mailto:andersod@uwgb.edu)) or calling (920-465-2539).

## CALENDAR

(continued from page 7)

## SEPTEMBER

**Thursday, Sept. 13, 6:30-8:00p –**

"If Tombstones Could Talk" - Woodlawn Cemetery Walk. *Reseroation required. \$6.00/person; \$14.00/family rate.*

**Sunday, Sept. 16, 4:30-6:00p –**

"If Tombstones Could Talk" - Woodlawn Cemetery Walk. *Reseroation required. \$6.00/person; \$14.00/family rate.*

**Saturday, Sept. 29, 12:00-4:00p –**

"Preserving the Harvest," historical food preservation.

## DECEMBER

**Saturday, Dec. 1, 2:00-4:00p –**

Holiday Victorian Tea

**Dec 2, 8, 9, 15, 16, 26, 27, 28, 12:00-4:00p –**

A Hazelwood House Holiday

## An Evening in Pioneer Bellevue

**Thursday, June 21**

**7:00-8:30 p.m.**

**Village Safety Building  
3100 Eaton Road, Bellevue**

Discover Bellevue's pioneer past with Dan Meunier as he shares stories from his Aunt Eva Scory's family history account.

Help preserve Bellevue's history! Bring your old photos for identification and scanning. Preserving farm, family and commercial photos are important for future generations. Photos will be returned. Select photos will be reproduced and displayed in the Safety Building for the public to enjoy.

For more info, contact Donna Deer at the Village of Bellevue office (920-468-5225 or email [donnad@villageofbellevue.org](mailto:donnad@villageofbellevue.org)).

Spotlight on our Neighbors —



by Marian Schroeder

The Pulaski Area Historical Society and Pulaski Area Museum were both organized in 1976. Previously located at the Franciscan Monastery, the Museum moved in 1922 to its present location in downtown Pulaski. The building was donated to the Society by a prominent business man in memory of his father, Charles Segall, and is maintained by the PAHS.

Through the generosity of the residents of Pulaski and the surrounding area, the Museum houses many local collections and artifacts. Some of the exhibits and displays include agricultural tools, mementos from local businesses, sports memorabilia, items of Polish origin, and religious and military items related to the Pulaski community.

The collection also contains old photographs, scrapbooks, family records, obituaries, local newspapers, church books, cemetery records and school yearbooks.

The kitchen area as well as the railroad display have been recently updated. A current project involves a group of Pulaski High School students, with the assistance of a professor and students from the University of Wisconsin - Madison, who are entering the museum's inventory on the computer.

Visitors, tours of school children, organizations and researchers are always welcome.

PAHS publishes a spring and fall newsletter available to all members and the community.

**HOURS**  
**9:00A - 1:00P — MOST SUNDAYS IN THE SUMMER**  
**4:00 - 7:00P — TUESDAYS**

**129 WEST PULASKI STREET**  
**PULASKI WI 54162**

**FOR MORE INFO, CALL MARIAN SCHROEDER (920-822-5856)**  
**OR CHRIS JAWORSKI (920-822-3961), OR CHECK OUT**  
**THEIR WEBSITE AT [WWW.PULASKIWIHISTORY.ORG](http://WWW.PULASKIWIHISTORY.ORG)**

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HOURS for  
 JUNE - JULY 2012

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

HAZELWOOD HISTORIC HOUSE MUSEUM

JUNE 1 - AUGUST 26

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

Tours, programs and teas, scheduled

at your convenience by appointment.

ADMISSION

Adult \$4.00 • Seniors (60+) \$3.50 • Children (5-17) \$2.50

Children under 5 are FREE. AAA discounts.

1008 South Monroe Street, Green Bay WI 54301

Phone: (920) 437-1840 / [www.BrownCountyHistoricalSoc.org](http://www.BrownCountyHistoricalSoc.org)

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HISTORICAL SOCIETY & HAZELWOOD HISTORIC HOUSE