

THE EAGLE SPEAKS

CHIPPEWA COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

JUNE 2017



"OLD ABE"

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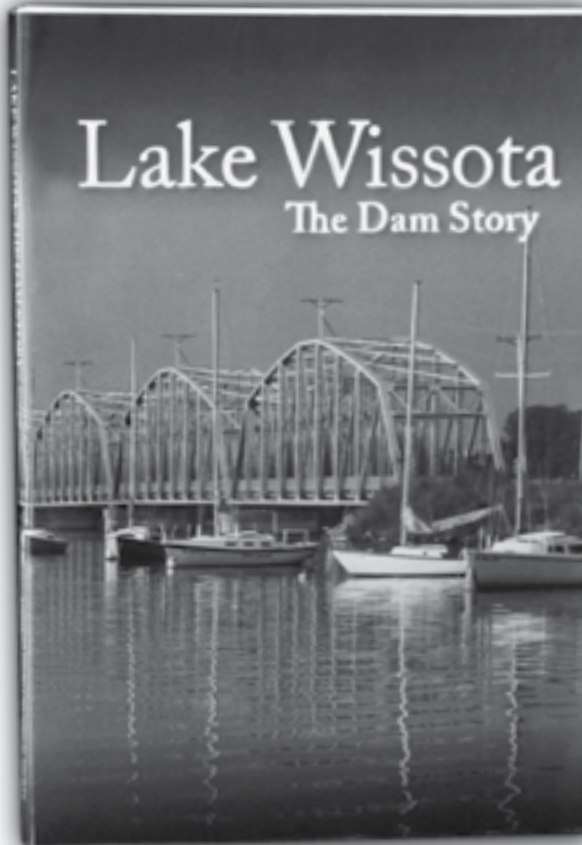


ATTENTION:

We are closed Tuesday July 4 for the holiday

Plan a museum tour while children are on vacation or when company visits this summer.

Open Tuesdays 9 am - 4 pm or group tours by appointment.



Lake Wissota: The Dam Story

BY JIM SCHUH

Our new pictorial history book celebrates the lake's 100-year anniversary with more than 300 photos, six maps, a dozen ads and hundreds of newspaper clippings and reminiscences of the building of the dam and the lake. Stories about the people who lived, worked, and played there, then and now are included. Authors Donna Bourget, Anne Keller, and Jim Schuh compiled the paperback.

Review by Barbara Ray:

A gift worth giving, either to yourself or another, is a copy of Lake Wissota, the Dam Story. This thoroughly researched and carefully crafted account of what was once billed as the "Niagara of the Northwest" is enhanced by over 300 photographs of the region from 1915 to the present. Area residents will recognize some locations, families and businesses as well as enjoy accounts of "lake lore." This publication promises to become an historic treasure for the entire community.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7



COUNTY NEWS

Stanley Area Historical Society

DAVID JANKOSKI, REPORTER

Greetings from the Stanley Area Historical Society. We are happy to report that we are ready for the 2017 museum season after spending a month cleaning and developing several new exhibits. New this year are exhibits featuring a local collector's cast iron toys, baby clothing, what was happening a 100 years ago and the continuation of the WWI timeline. Continuing will be a major exhibit in our North Gallery featuring businesses on Stanley's Broadway Street in the 1950's and 1960's. In the South Gallery a major new exhibit continues to be constructed that will feature the Northwestern Lumber Co. and various other businesses the company operated during the early 1900's. Our Digitization Committee has completed photographing and recording data on our men and women's hat collection and are now scanning our photograph collection. We continue to use cloud storage for the work having been completed. This work group has eight individuals who have devoted weekly hours during the winter months on this mammoth project.

We are pleased to announce that we have two new Board Members replacing one who passed and one who has memory difficulties. Donna Endru has been a long time member and volunteer and she brings experience in the financial field. Jeff Trunkel is a young man who is a teacher and has a keen interest in local history. It is so good to have a younger voice on our Board!

Happily our grounds have also had some major improvements this spring. The high school landscaping class has spent considerable hours redoing the landscaping surrounding our buildings. After nearly 15 years, the weed invasion required attention.

Please come see us on Saturdays and Sundays 1-4 p.m. during June, July, August and September. We are looking forward to greeting and meeting you.



Joe Madelert

Mandelert Family Story Part 6

JIM MANDELERT

Next I want to pick up Joe Madelert's story. After the Woolen Mill ended, Joe found an engineering position with Catalytic Combustion in Bloomer, Wisconsin. Joe worked at the plant "learning the ropes". After a while, Joe was asked to trouble shoot equipment in the field and was away for spells. Then came the summer of 1963 when Joe was away most of the summer in Detroit. He came home with news that he was being transferred to Des Plaines, Illinois to work for Universal Oil Products (UOP). The family moved to Arlington Heights, Illinois just before school started. Two years later, Joe came home with news that he was offered a job at UOP's home office in White Plains, New York. That did not set well with Katie as she wanted to go back to Chippewa Falls. Joe obliged her and made a few calls to Chippewa Falls and learned that there was an opening with Darley Pump for an engineer. Joe traveled to Chippewa Falls, interviewed and was hired by the chief engineer to replace him someday.

Now we come to the end and I suppose I should tell you about the author. I was born in 1951 at the old St. Joe hospital. My schooling started with Chestnut Grade School. Sixth grade was at the old vocational school. That spring we saw the demolition of the old high school. Seventh grade was at the old aging middle school. Study time was at the old Carnegie Library behind the stacks in the window well. One day I had a tap on my shoulder, I turned and Steve Cray introduced himself. We became good friends. My family moved to Illinois and eighth grade was at a new school where I took drafting. Freshman grade was at Arlington High School. I joined the after school Electricity Club where I learned how to repair televisions. Walking to school involved crossing the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad tracks. We moved back to Chippewa Falls and I rejoined my class, graduating in 1969 with a group of friends including Steve Cray. I remember seeing an early form of digital technology using relays in math class.

College for me started out commuting to UW-Eau Claire for one year where I found chemical engineering. I arrived at Madison to continue and found the campus covered in plywood from the Army Math Research bombing. When I got senior status, I found out Chemical Engineers were being offered jobs related to the Vietnam War. That I did not want. In one of my elective courses, I dealt with punch cards. At the computing center was a Harris Mainframe computer behind glass with Electrical Engineering students in

GENEALOGY CORNER

J. A. Taylor, No 1

JUDITH A. RUBENZER

In the 1980's I inherited some kind of "horn" with the inscription of "J. A. Taylor, No 1" inscribed on it. What was the horn used for? Who is J. A. Taylor? Why did my Great Grandfather have it?

Years later on Antiques Roadshow, they showed a "fireman's trumpet" which is very rare today. It was identical to my horn.

In 2012, we purchased a book titled "Life and Times on the Mighty Santeur" by Clara C. Anderson. I read, that on February 24, 1869 there was a huge fire in Chippewa Falls that burned many businesses and homes. Afterwards, a volunteer fire department was formed. In 1870 the city purchased a Silesby Steam Engine and named it "J. A. Taylor" after the first Mayor of Chippewa Falls. My trumpet must have been on that Fire Engine and so named after the first mayor.

In 2015, the Chippewa County Genealogical Society newsletter had a listing of the Fire Chiefs in Chippewa Falls from 1870 to present. The list showed my Great Grandfather, Joseph Durch was the third Fire Chief serving from 1883 to 1887.

At some point in time the trumpet was either purchased by my Great Grandfather or was given to him. It remained in his house until years later when his Great Granddaughter saw it, admired it and was given permission to take it.

The Chippewa County Historical and Genealogical Societies are hoping to construct a new building. I learned that there will be an exhibit for the Fire Department in the new building. After hearing this, I have decided to donate the fireman's trumpet for the Fire Department exhibit so that everyone can enjoy a piece of 1870 Chippewa Falls History.

The trumpet will be going home. ♣



Cray-1
Supercomputer
released in 1976.
Photograph by
Ed Toton.

white lab coats. That I did want. Unfortunately that would take too long to retake electrical engineering courses. I went home that summer and with a little looking found out the Chippewa Valley Technical College had gotten a grant to buy two computers and teach a logic technician degree. That I did want and so I signed up for a two year course. We learned programming, how to install and repair computers and a course in Boolean Logic. Due to my college background, I managed to graduate in three semesters. In my last semester I got a call from Steve Cray saying his dad was 'looking for a few good men'. I called and Seymour was glad to hear from me and invited me out to the new Cray Research lab in Hallie. There I saw equipment that was very exciting. He was glad to hear I knew Boolean algebra. I was hired and reported to work January 7th, 1974.

The first computer to ship was the Cray-1 S/N 1 to Los Alamos. I began working on S/N 2. S/N 1 had troubles with its memory system. After a long customer meeting, I was informed that S/N 2 was to be torn apart and rebuilt as S/N 4 with memory protection and shipped ASAP to Los Alamos. I traveled with S/N 4 and when ready, it worked flawlessly to solve a national issue. On the way back to Chippewa Falls, I was informed that I was going to take S/N 1 to England. It seems there was a need for an accurate week's weather forecast. British Petroleum and Royal Dutch Shell were installing oil drilling platforms in the North Sea between Scotland and Norway. The waves that came with Atlantic storms into the North Sea would rise up over the shallows and sink oil platform with all crews aboard. A five day notice was needed for the sea going tugs to get out and evacuate the crews. The Control Data computer was not powerful enough. I arrived at Harwell Labs and with a team got the S/N 1 installed. The five day weather code was installed and run. After a short while, a weather map of the North and Atlantic Seas was made that showed a big storm coming along with its coordinates. The staff did not trust the Cray 1 so a call to the Royal Airforce was made instructing pilots based in Scotland to fly to the coordinates. They did and there was a big storm coming. The tugs were dispatched and got to the platform in time. The storm hit and severely damaged the platform enough to cause deaths. When more powerful Cray 1's came to England, the Cray-1 S/N 1 was sent to 'Her Majesty's Secret Service'. After several years, Cray-1 S/N 1 was shipped back to Chippewa Falls and today resides at CFMIT on display. ♣



CALENDAR

**History Center open every Tuesday
9 a.m.-4 p.m.**

June 13

9:00 a.m. Capital Campaign Executive
Committee Raihle Law Office

June 20

9:30 a.m. CCHS Board Meeting
11:00 a.m. Historic Marker Committee
Noon Area History Center
Birthday Lunch
2:00 p.m. The Past Passed Here
Meeting

June 27

9:00 a.m. Capital Campaign Executive
Committee, Raihle Law Office

July 4

Area History Center Closed for Holiday

July 11

9:00 a.m. Capital Campaign Executive
Committee, Raihle Law Office

July 18

9:30 a.m. CCHS Board Meeting
Noon Area History Center Birthday
Lunch

July 25

9:00 Capital Campaign Executive
Committee, Raihle Law Office

Aug. 8

9:00 a.m. Capital Campaign Executive
Committee, Raihle Law Office

Aug. 15:

9:30 a.m. CCHS Board Meeting
Noon Area History Center
Birthday Lunch

Aug. 22

9:00 a.m. Capital Campaign Executive
Committee, Raihle Law Office

A Message From Your President

Weather again is in the news. It is the first time I have seen eight gates open in the dam in town. The Chippewa River could have been used for white water rafting this week. Fortunately *The Past Passed Here* was two weeks ago because Allen Park was more than half underwater this past weekend.

Co-chairs Jim Schuh, Marge Hebring and their volunteers put on another excellent *The Past Passed Here*. The weather this year was fantastic. See more about this year's event in this Eagle Speaks. The mobile lumberjack museum, which was at TPPH was also at Springfest several weeks earlier. We are looking into taking the museum to more educational and special events and parades in Chippewa.

The Chippewa Area History Center project continues to move forward. The City's street projects for 2017 includes rebuilding Bridgewater Avenue. This allowed us to have the City install the utility connections for the future CAHC. A new concept has been developed by CBS² taking into account the elevation difference between Bridgewater and the new Center. A Request For Proposal (RFP) has been completed by the Building Committee and will be sent out to local architect/engineering firms to bid on designing the CAHC.

The Capital Campaign will begin this fall. The good news is we have received \$300,000 in donations and pledges from board members and other friends to date. Anyone wishing to contribute can make a donation to the Chippewa Area History Center through the Community Foundation of Chippewa County who we have contracted to manage Capital Campaign Funds. We will keep you informed of fundraising progress.

It is important before we go to the public for support this fall that all members of the society have been asked to contribute to the campaign. All members received the case statement several weeks ago and will soon be receiving a letter asking for your support.

On May 31, for the second year, about 65 Hillcrest School second grade students, who are studying about their home town, will visit our museum to learn about early Chippewa Falls history. Thank you to Mary Erickson for chairing this event.

The new book completed by Jim, Donna and Anne, *Lake Wissota: The Dam Story*, is available. Perfect timing leading up to the 100th anniversary celebration planned for this summer.

A few years ago who would have thought that the Society would be publishing its second book and on our way to building a new Center. *Dave* ♣

PHOTO AT THE TOP OF THIS PAGE: For the second year we hosted about 65 Hillcrest Elementary School second grade students who have been learning about their home town in school. We shared information about the French fur trade, lumbering, advancements in communication and transportation and tools used in Grandma's kitchen. Pictured from left: Marge Hebring, Jake Jacobson, Jim Schuh, Mary & Jim Erickson and Donna Bourget.

**“The all-volunteer spirit of past and current
Historical and Genealogical Society members
has been very impressive and inspiring.”**

– Bob Hogseth



Total Campaign Goal: \$3,500,000 * Construction Begins At: \$2,450,000

Gifts and Pledges

Received as of April 30, 2017: \$301,000

HISTORIAN SOCIETY	OLD ABE SOCIETY	VOYAGEUR SOCIETY
Ann and Dave Gordon	Emmett and Anne Keller	Rose and Skip August
	David and Rita Raihle	Don Bichner
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		JoAnn Flater Memorial
OTHER GIFTS and PLEDGES		
Anonymous	Mary E. McKenna	Flambeau Area Trail Tenders
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Diana Germain (in memory of Wayne Germain)	Patrick and Susan O'Donnell (Charles' 90th)	Lorraine Pontius (in memory of John Pontius)

Thank you for supporting historic preservation and education!

Please note: As explained in the “Donor Recognition Plan”, we are printing only the names of those gifting \$100 or more to the Capital Campaign. We do, however, sincerely appreciate the many gifts under this amount! If you believe your gift was omitted or listed incorrectly, please call 715-723-4399. We apologize for any errors and will do our best to correct them.

Dear Members:

You will soon be reading and hearing more about the upcoming \$3,500,000 Chippewa Area History Center Capital Campaign. Last December you should have received the eight-page campaign “Case Statement.” It included a pledge form for those of you who might have wanted to make a 2016 tax year charitable gift. Thank you to those who sent in a gift in December or in recent months! The campaign’s Executive Committee decided to delay the planned April “general public” phase until this summer. We didn’t want to interfere with the capital campaign efforts for the new Riverfront Park, another very worthy community project. But before we begin to ask the general public for a gift, it is very important to demonstrate that both Historical Society and Genealogical Society members have already supported this exciting new building project.

First, we made presentations to Board members and campaign committee volunteers and asked them for a gift/pledge. They responded wonderfully! Over \$300,000 has now been pledged! Second, we are now asking all other members to consider a gift. We plan to include a campaign update in all future newsletters until the goal is reached. The Executive Committee plans to approve the start of construction of the History Center when we reach 70% (\$2,450,000) of the \$3,500,000 goal. We hope a grand opening can take place within three years.

The all-volunteer spirit of past and current Historical and Genealogical Society members has been very impressive and inspiring. Many people have generously donated their many talents, their valuable time and their hard-earned money, to make the vision of a new Chippewa Area History Center a reality. Please consider mailing a gift and/or pledge today. It would be wonderful to reach \$1,000,000 before we begin the “general public” campaign phase this summer.

Thank you for supporting historic preservation and education!

Sincerely,
Bob Hogseth & Dave Raihle, Jr.
Campaign Committee Co-Chairs

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Additional Donations to the Building Fund

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Tom & Jackie Joy
Brian Haag

Myron & Peggy Bauer
Mr. Larry Keith
Mr. & Mrs. Kevin Thorie
David & Nancy Berger
Betty & Sharon Hickey
Scott Borths
James Madison
Susan Dole



Authors Jim Schuh, Donna Bourget and Anne Keller toast the completion of "Lake Wissota: The Dam Story"

Lake Wissota: The Dam Story

CONTINUED FROM FRONT

The book is available for \$20 from the Chippewa County Historical Society, 123 Allen Street, Chippewa Falls. (To order by mail send us a \$25 check payable to CCHS with "Wissota Book" in the memo.) Five other locations will sell the volume, including Foreign Five, 123 N. Bridge St.; Gordy's Market Lake Wissota, 17158 County Highway J; Pine Harbor Campground, 7181 185th St.; SandBar & Grill, 17643 50th Ave.; and Wissota Café, 17255 Cty. Hwy. X.

All proceeds from the sale of the book will be donated to the Chippewa Area History Center Capital Campaign. The money will help build the new home of the Chippewa County Historical Society and the Chippewa County Genealogical Society next to the south entrance of Irvine Park on Bridgewater Avenue. ♣



Lake Wissota Centennial Celebration Picnic
at Lake Wissota State Park
Saturday, July 29
10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Don't miss the fun!



ABOVE: Issac Walters, Bagpiper and French Fur Trade Re-enactor

ABOVE RIGHT: Jim Lindberg and Wayne Krefting take a break from demonstrating French fur trade life and relax.



The Past Passed Here



JANEL SEAHOLM, *Community Resource Coordinator, Chippewa Falls Area School District*

BONJOUR! The 2017 Past Passed Here was an excellent event to bring knowledge, curiosity, and excitement to over 650 4th graders from the following school districts: Chippewa Falls, Holy Ghost, Cadott, Christ Lutheran, Crestview Academy, Fall Creek, and Stanley Boyd. The Past Passed Here is the perfect event to “bring to life” what the students have learned throughout their Wisconsin History unit. The students loved being able to participate in different games and activities! Many students came back with their families on the weekend to show off what they had learned.

Some highlights of the week: It was the first time that the Cadott School District had attended the event! All of the teachers were extremely excited about the opportunity and hope to attend again next year. One teacher even said that this was a fantastic way to end his field trip career, as he is retiring from teaching in June. Another highlight was how respectful the students were! Many of the presenters mentioned how well the student’s listened and what great questions they had. What a compliment to all of the teachers who work with these children on a daily basis. The last highlight was indeed the absolutely beautiful weather we had for all 3 schooldays!

On behalf of all of the schools, I would like to say thank you to the Chippewa County Historical Society’s The Past Passed Here Committee on your incredible efforts to make this event such a huge success for our students. Several teachers commented to me that this is their favorite field trip of the year because of what it provides for their students. In a follow-up survey all of the teachers said they hope that this event continues in the future! Personally, this was my first year attending, and I thought it was an outstanding way to engage our students and create an experience that goes well beyond the classroom. For that, we all say, MERCI BEAUCOUP! ♡

The Past Passed Here 2017 Sponsors:

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TRAPPER: Country Treasures, Fill-Inn Station, Dave & Evie Frasch, Horan Funeral Home, Konsella Health Care Mart, Peter Lea, Medicine Shoppe, Jim Schuh, Bruce Sorenson, Thaler Oil, Jerry Way

KEY: LUMBER BARON: \$1,000+;
TIMBER CRUISER: \$500+ ;
TRADER: \$100+ ; TRAPPER: \$ 50+



Self taught 18 year old Boyceville resident, Saul Japuntich, demonstrated techniques of sharpening a two-man cross cut saw.



Congratulations to Jefferson Award winner, Chuck Card, who helped create and has run the sawing competition for the last 14 years. As a community volunteer, Chuck has assisted numerous local non-profit and educational organizations for several decades.



Betty Jacobson and Melissa Mauhar Detlaff kept our food booth running efficiently and smoothly.

Mother Nature Smiled Upon Us!

JIM SCHUH

Following Catherine Lea's retirement after 13 years of exceptional work with TPPH, we welcomed Janel Seaholm's school coordination efforts and upbeat personality!

This educational special event is not often blessed with a comfortable climate. In its 14th year we enjoyed gorgeous

weather and again experienced an awesome event! Had our event been scheduled a cold, windy and rainy week later we would have had to cancel it due to severe flooding of Allen Park.

Volunteers are the secret to our success! Thank you to the dozens of authentic re-enactors and numerous other helpers who continue to make this a truly distinctive event! A special thank you to volunteer chairpersons: Event Co-Chair: Marge Hebbing, Food Booth Chair: Betty Jacobson, Admission Gate Chair: Anne Keller. ♣



RE-ENACTORS!

JIM SWANSON (Archery & Boosway) ♣ **DANNY MEYER**, Frozen Toes (Hawks) ♣ **ROD CONT*** (Paddle Race) & Student Welcome ♣ **JIM LINDBERG*** (Cat and Mouse) ♣ **CHUCK CARD*** & **BILL KROLL** (Sawing Competition) ♣ **JUDY RICHARDSON, TERI STAHR & JULIE SOKUP**, All Students Souvenir Medallions ♣ **HANNIBAL HASSE** (trader) ♣ **TERI STAHR*** tee-pee living & coordinating medallion making ♣ **WAYNE KREFTING**, (Northwest Company Clerk/Trader) ♣ **CINDY LOU CHOATE** (weaver) ♣ **ALBERT SIMONCIC** (Pine needle baskets) ♣ **JUDY DORF** (Native American finger weaving & jewelry sales) ♣ **MARGE HEBBRING** (Storytelling & Native American Finger Weaving) ♣ **ANNE KELLER**, (Student Welcome & French Ancestors & Language) ♣ **ROSE SUTTON** (Nothing wasted: beading & clothing) ♣ **BRENDA FREES** (clothing & Fashion Show Sat. at 1 pm) ♣ **JIM SCHUH*, SKIP AUGUST, DAVE GORDON, JAKE JACOBSON, MARY OPSHAL & CHUCK NAGEL** (Lumberjack Tool Demo) ♣ **TERRY KRUGER** (blacksmith) ♣ **CAROL CHWALLA** (The Pie Lady) ♣ ***DAN WINRICH** (Dutchman Forge: blacksmith) ♣ **MARY MILLER** Indian Fry Bread ♣ **JERRY LOSS** Nobody's Business candy shop ♣ **MAUREEN & MARK WILBER**, cast iron cooking ♣ **TIM METZGER** (Nine Claws), Backup help & guitar **New 2017 re-enactors included: KIM CRAIG** (Flint & Steel Fire starting) ♣ **ROGER HELESON** (Swedish Immigrant explaining items from the old country in his trunk) ♣ Saul Japuntich (Saw Sharpening) ♣ **ISAAC WALTERS** (Bagpipes & Fur Trade)

Musicians & Singers: Thursday Banjo, Guitar & Vocals: **PETER LEA** ♣ **Friday** Fiddle: **BRUCE SORENSON** ♣ **Saturday** Guitar: **DAN LEA** ♣ flute: **JACEY LEA** both vocals ♣ Bagpipes: **ISAAC WALTERS** ♣ Guitar & Vocals: **JERRY WAY** ♣ Percussion: **JIM SCHUH**

*Helped start event in 2003

Chippewa County Historical Society

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Riding the buffalo, that was created by the late Arley Engle, continues to be a favorite photo opportunity for students at *The Past Passed Here*.

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