



WISCONSIN  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY

# Columns

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*Collecting, Preserving  
and Sharing Stories  
Since 1846*



WHI 58403

Regardless of party affiliation or political persuasion, most would agree that former U.S. Senator William Proxmire of Wisconsin was consistently one of the Senate's most colorful members. Now you can see many records documenting Proxmire's political career in a new online collection. See the story on page 10.



Ellsworth H. Brown  
*The Ruth and Hartley Barker Director*

## Do you know about the Beloit College Mindset List?

Check the class of 2015 list at [beloit.edu/mindset](http://beloit.edu/mindset)

to learn more about this annual endeavor that began in 1998 “to reflect the world view of entering first-year students.” For example, members of the class of 2015 have always had the Internet at their disposal, they have always taken the word “online” for granted, and crossing the digital divide has redefined how they access information and conduct research. The list is eye-opening and provides the context for this short story and what the class of 2015 knows, and does not know — except for the work of Sara Maly and, thanks to her, the students coming out of Columbia County’s Lodi High School.

Two weeks ago Sara, who is now a freshman at the University of Wisconsin-Stout in Menomonie (that’s right, the class of 2015), and her mother Margaret, my executive assistant, introduced me to a mural prominently displayed in one of the school’s halls. It is 8 feet high and 16 feet long.

The mural is remarkable, depicting 87 people in 50 scenes, including those standing in a Great Depression soup line, the four figures on Mount Rushmore and all four Beatles. All figures are recognizable. With a little help from school volunteer Suzie Wimmer, Sara labored about four hours a day for a semester to produce the work.

I have often quoted a sign that used to be on a billboard just east of Janesville: “Without a

Heritage, Every Generation Starts Over.” What is even more remarkable than the labor and talent on display in the mural is that it contains 128 square feet of pure heritage: Wisconsin memory, American memory, international memory. Sara surveyed history teachers to determine the places, people and events that should be represented or that complemented curriculum. Her survey revealed that educators simply regard some figures as “universal” — Shakespeare and Picasso, for example.

Wisconsin is well represented, and you’d recognize the people, like “Fighting Bob” La Follette and Father Jacques Marquette. You’d know the other Americans and the “internationals” like Mother Teresa and Gandhi too, all iconic. I was struck by how unlikely and yet naturally the mural transfers American memory to a new generation, how most of us could name virtually all figures on the wall, how much the 87 people or the scenes that contain them are part of our common memory, ready to be retrieved and put to work maintaining a sense of identity and place and nationhood.

The only images you might not connect with at once are the Lodi Blue Devils logo and her cat Jeffrey, which Sara slipped into the mix. Let me know if you find them. •

### Columns

Bob Granflaten, Editor  
Composure Graphics, Designer

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### Nominations to the Board of Curators

The Nominating Committee of the Board of Curators nominates Society members for election to the board. Voting members of the Society may suggest a candidate for board service by submitting the candidate’s name and a brief resume to: Nominating Committee Chair, c/o Margaret Maly, Wisconsin Historical Society, 816 State Street, Madison, WI 53706 or via email to [margaret.maly@wisconsinhistory.org](mailto:margaret.maly@wisconsinhistory.org).

Members may also nominate a prospective candidate by petition. In addition to its nominees, the Nominating Committee will place in nomination the name of any member presented to it by a petition signed by 25 members of the Society, provided that the signatures are gathered between January 31 and March 2 of each year and submitted to the committee by March 2.

Upon request, any member seeking to prepare such a petition shall have access to the names and addresses of the Society’s members. A petition template is also available upon request. Such requests may be sent to the above-listed name and address.



*Forward!* The Campaign for the Wisconsin Historical Society, publicly launched in October 2010, seeks to complete the first major fundraising campaign in the Society's history to reach the campaign's \$77 million goal.

Visit [forwardcampaign.org](http://forwardcampaign.org) for more information.

## Helping to Save Wisconsin's Historic Homes and Properties

YOU CAN HELP double support for the Society's Historic Preservation Web Initiative by making a special, one-time gift before April 30. A grant from Preserve America, an initiative of the National Park Service and the U.S. Department of the Interior, will match gifts dollar-for-dollar through April. As part of the *Forward!* Campaign, the Historic Preservation Web Initiative will provide key online resources for people working to preserve historic places in Wisconsin and throughout the nation.

### Historic Preservation Web Initiative

Despite a significant and growing demand for these resources, currently there is no single definitive source for people seeking basic information about historic preservation projects. To respond to that need, the Society's Historic Preservation Web Initiative will provide free, convenient and easily accessible information, tools and training. These key resources will benefit homeowners, commercial building owners, local preservation commissioners and community groups. They will also serve as a model to those throughout Wisconsin and the nation.

Launched in April of 2010, the Historic Preservation Web Initiative has already made available four decades of data on 128,000 historic buildings in Wisconsin — an invaluable resource to support ongoing preservation efforts.

### Once the project is complete:

- **Homeowners** will be able to research the history of their homes, learn how to identify common issues, and access how-to training for fixing problems or working with building professionals.
- **Commercial building owners** will have access to technical preservation training to address common rehabilitation concerns and also find tips about possible sources of financing.
- **Local preservation commissioners** will gain a greater understanding of their role in local government and promoting preservation in the community.
- **Preservation advocates** will find information needed to organize a local preservation advocacy group, explain how to communicate the values of preservation to the community and advocate for the protection of historic buildings as community assets.

### We Need Your Support

Saving historic places requires dedicated people backed by the right resources. Your gift will help ensure future generations will inherit a Wisconsin where history is displayed in its structures, where heritage is celebrated with regularity, and our identities are closely linked with our past.

Please consider making a special gift in support of this project before April 30. Your gift will be matched dollar-for-dollar by a grant from Preserve America, doubling its impact throughout Wisconsin and the nation.

### Easy Ways to Donate:

1. Mail a check payable to the Wisconsin Historical Foundation, P.O. Box 260050, Madison, WI 53726-0050. Please include the words "Historic Preservation" on the memo line of your check to further ensure accurate processing.
2. Contact Juliet Page at (608) 261-6580 or [juliet.page@wisconsinhistory.org](mailto:juliet.page@wisconsinhistory.org).



*"I am proud to have made a contribution toward this vitally important initiative. By preserving Wisconsin's historic buildings and places, we will honor the legacy of those who came before us by ensuring their rich heritage is passed on to future generations."*

**Gary Gorman**  
President and CEO,  
Gorman & Company Inc.  
2009 National Preservation  
Award Winner, National Trust for  
Historic Preservation



## April FRIENDS Auction to Benefit the Society

THE FRIENDS of the Wisconsin Historical Society continue to make ambitious plans for the support organization's "30th Star Benefit Antiques Auction" on April 28 in the historic Clausing Barn at Old World Wisconsin, an event that provides important funding for the Society. Riene Wells and Debbie McArdle, veterans of the enormously successful 2010 Antiques and Vintage Auction, are coordinating the event. An exciting Preview Party, Friday evening, April 27, will kick off the event with a fish dinner, door prizes, free antiques appraisals and featured speakers, Jerry Apps, author of the Wisconsin Historical Society Press book, *Barns of Wisconsin*, and his son, Steve Apps, whose photographs illustrate the book. Festivities begin at 4:30 p.m. and end at 9 p.m. The cost, including dinner, is \$39 per person.

Well-known Oconomowoc auctioneer Carol Miller of Bailey's Honor Auction & Estate Services has volunteered to call the April 28 auction. She boasts an impressive resume that speaks of 17 years of experience in the auction industry. She holds the title of 2010 Wisconsin State Champion Auctioneer.

Contributions of antiques (more than 99 years old) and vintage items (50–99 years old) are still being gathered from across mid-America. Large or small, desks to fountain pens, and tables to porcelain, the no-reserve auction should prove a worthwhile destination for any antiques enthusiast. Viewing on Saturday, April 28, will begin at 9 a.m., and the auction will begin at 10 a.m. There is no charge to attend the auction.

A grant from the Wisconsin Antiques Dealers Association continues the group's commitment as the auction's founding sponsor. The admissions charged at the association's October and February antiques shows in Waukesha fund the grant and scholarship programs. See [WisconsinAntiquesDealers.com](http://WisconsinAntiquesDealers.com) for more info.

To make a donation of an antique or vintage item, to purchase Preview Night tickets, or for other questions, contact Riene Wells at (262) 363-4700 or by email to [info@eagle-house.com](mailto:info@eagle-house.com) or Debbie McArdle at (815) 575-1272 or by email to [jjmcard@comcast.net](mailto:jjmcard@comcast.net). •



## New Society Press Book Recalls a Family's Summers in Northwoods Wisconsin

*RETURN TO WAKE ROBIN: One Cabin in the Heyday of Northwoods Resorts* by Marnie O. Mamma recalls the raucous family car rides, the call of the weekly square dance, the splash announcing a perfectly executed cannonball — all are familiar sounds during the summer at lake resorts and cabins in northern Wisconsin. In a series of evocative essays accompanied by a treasure trove of family photos, Mamma takes us to Wake Robin, the cabin her grandparents built in 1929 on Big Spider Lake near Hayward. For five generations Mamma's family has spent

their summers canoeing, fishing and swimming — escaping to the simplicity of the Northwoods.

In *Return to Wake Robin*, Mamma traces the history of one resort and cabin, from the golden age of the Northwoods camps and cabins to the shift to modern lake homes, condos and jet skis. Her remembrances of family fun in the sun will resonate with anyone who spent their summers "up north" — or wishes they had.

And remember, Society members receive a 10-percent discount on all Wisconsin Historical Society Press books. •

## Big Award for Ho-Chunk Photo Book

The Wisconsin Historical Society Press is pleased to announce the recent USA National Best Book Award won by *People of the Big Voice: Photographs of Ho-Chunk Families 1879–1942* by Charles Van Schaick, Tom Jones, Michael Schmudlach, Matthew Daniel Mason, Amy Lonetree and George A. Greendeer. The book received top honors in the category of "Photography: People" for the portrayal of the relationships and resilience of the Ho-Chunk community at the turn of the 20th century through more than 300 beautifully detailed duotone photographs. The book was also a finalist in the Best Interior Design category. Society Press books were finalists in six additional categories.

## Milwaukee's National Soldiers' Home Named a National Historic Landmark

NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARKS are our country's most exceptional historic properties. The Northwestern Branch, National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers, commonly known as Milwaukee's National Soldiers' Home, received this designation on June 17, 2011, becoming the state's 41st National Historic Landmark property. To learn more about National Historic Landmarks, visit [nps.gov/history/nhl](http://nps.gov/history/nhl).

The Northwestern Branch (now the Clement J. Zablocki Veterans Affairs Medical Center) was the second of the three original branches of the National Asylum and the first National Home branch that the Board of Managers had designed and built. The board designated Milwaukee as the site of the Northwestern Branch in 1866, and construction of the first buildings on the site began in the fall of 1867.

Thomas Budd Van Horne laid out the original design of the Branch grounds and of the associated Wood National Cemetery. Employing elements of the Picturesque style, he contrasted wooded areas with curving paths and roads lined with trees to create a scenic setting. Prominent Milwaukee architects, including Edward Townsend Mix and Henry C. Koch, designed several of the early buildings.

During its first year, 212 veterans lived at the Northwestern Branch. By 1877 1,307 veterans resided there. The growing number of aging and infirm veterans resulted in more long-term members and in greater demands for care of elderly soldiers. Building design reflected the changing population, with new buildings limited to two stories, the addition of an elevator in

1883, and the addition of dining facilities to the barracks so that the residents would not have to travel as far for meals.

The campus design aided in the veterans' recuperation and eased the transition back into society. The core contained elements of a village, including a post office, library, recreation hall, theater, chapel and recreation areas.

Beginning with the 1920s, the emphasis was on hospital construction, including one for tuberculosis patients begun in 1922 and a hospital annex constructed by the Veterans Administration in the 1930s. After each major conflict, the VA added additional facilities, including more storage and maintenance buildings required for the continued upkeep and functioning of the facility.

Today, the historic core of the nation's best remaining 19th-century Soldiers Home sits vacant and neglected. The Wisconsin Historical Society has worked with local, state and national partners to bring recognition and visibility to this nationally significant site. The Society has supported the Northern Branch designation as a National Historic Landmark, negotiated with the Department of Veterans Affairs to repair serious structural problems in the most historic buildings while providing new patient care facilities. The Society has also worked with a broad coalition of veterans, veterans advocates, historic preservationists and interested people to begin developing a plan to reuse the vacant structures and preserve a visible symbol of America's commitment to treating its wounded and injured veterans. •



Old Main at Milwaukee's National Soldiers' Home



The surgeons' quarters



The chapel

### Call for Ideas for Historic Preservation and Archaeology Month in May

Now is the time to begin thinking about planning events and activities to mark Historic Preservation and Archaeology Month in May. During this celebration, communities throughout Wisconsin plan many local and regional events to promote historic and prehistoric places for the purposes of instilling community pride, promoting heritage tourism, and showcasing the social and economic benefits of historic preservation. You won't want to miss this opportunity to join in the celebration.

Wisconsin's Historic Preservation and Archaeology Month offers limitless possibilities to highlight local historic and archaeological landmarks. Activities and events range from walking tours, a historic building open house and how-to workshops to fundraising kickoffs, historic marker dedications and op-ed pieces on historic preservation in the local newspaper.

You may submit events for inclusion in the Society's online Historic Preservation and Archaeology Month calendar at any time prior to the event. Submitting events can be done easily at [wisconsinhistory.org/hp/hpmonth](http://wisconsinhistory.org/hp/hpmonth) or by contacting Joe DeRose at the Wisconsin Historical Society, 816 State Street, Madison, WI 53706, by phone at (608) 264-6504 or via e-mail at [joe.derose@wisconsinhistory.org](mailto:joe.derose@wisconsinhistory.org).



A round wooden box with lid from the Skare Collection

## Collections Highlight

### The Skare Collection at the McFarland Historical Society

IN 1942 the *Wisconsin Magazine of History* wrote: “Museum curators and antique collectors have figuratively gone mad over the treasures that Albert Skare has housed in his ‘Hidden Farm’ log cabin museum near McFarland.” Born in McFarland in 1878 to Norwegian immigrant parents, Albert Skare began assembling a collection of Norwegian and Norwegian-American artifacts sometime in the early 20th century. In addition to bentwood boxes, hand-carved spoons, turned wooden bowls and other examples of folk art brought to Wisconsin by Norwegian immigrants, he collected farming equipment, tools, kitchen implements and other artifacts of daily life in rural Wisconsin used by his family members and other Norwegian-American families in the area.

Following Skare’s death in 1967, his niece Margaret Greene Kennedy donated the entire collection of more than 1,000 objects to the McFarland Historical Society. In 1973 McFarland Historical Society volunteers disassembled the log cabin that was once at the heart of Skare’s “Hidden Farm” museum and

moved it to the Society’s property on McFarland’s Main Street.

Highlights from Skare’s extensive collection can now be viewed online thanks to a collaboration of the McFarland Historical Society, Wisconsin Heritage Online and the University of Wisconsin-Madison. In summer 2011 the UW’s material culture program paired three undergraduate students with three local historical societies to help them build digital resources. History major Katie Dreps worked with McFarland Historical Society President Dale Marsden and other society volunteers to select, research and catalog examples of the household goods and folk art in the Skare collection. Katie’s own Norwegian heritage inspired her to learn more about these objects: “My grandmother grew up on a farm outside of Lodi, the granddaughter of Norwegian immigrants. ... This internship has been a great opportunity for me to connect with my Norwegian heritage in a direct way.”

View selections from the Skare collection online at <http://content.mpl.org/mcfarland>. •



## 2012 Local History Conference Adds Town Square Exhibit Space

THE ANNUAL Local History and Historic Preservation Conference, September 28–29, will convene in Madison at the Sheraton Madison Hotel this year and will have a special new feature of interest to local historical societies. The Wisconsin Council of Local History is sponsoring a *Town Square* area in the Inspiration Ballroom that will provide table display space for any interested affiliated society at no charge. The council’s Administrative Committee decided to offer this opportunity to encourage local organizations to prepare displays of their activities, showcase any special projects or awards, display products, and in general do some “bragging” about their local historical organization.

The area will allow for conference attendees to gather for refreshment breaks and general networking opportunities to learn more about the various organizations that are using the space

for displays. In deciding to provide this area, Sonja Ivanovich, Administrative Committee president, commented: “Our board felt that there are so many of our affiliates that are doing so many wonderfully creative projects and activities, that we need to provide a venue that encourages them to publicly show conference attendees their significance. This area will also provide an opportunity for learning, networking and exploring ideas that will help organizations grow.”

Space is limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis. More information will be available as the conference dates draw near. Any member organization interested in reserving a table should contact either Roy Ostenson, council member-at-large, at [ostensor@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ostensor@sbcglobal.net) or by phone at (715) 505-1110 or Terry Thiessen, council vice president, at [tethiessen@frontier.com](mailto:tethiessen@frontier.com) or by phone at (920) 948-7748. •

## Connecting to Collections Project Reveals Need for Conservation Awareness

WITH SUPPORT from a 2010 Institute of Museum and Library Services planning grant, the Society became a project partner with several other organizations to assess the current conservation and preservation needs of Wisconsin museums, historical societies, libraries, archives and other collecting institutions. During the survey period, 391 Wisconsin collecting institutions responded to an online survey. The main goals of the study were to identify conservation and preservation needs and to articulate a prioritized plan of action to meet identified preservation needs.

The study revealed that 77 percent of respondents said their institutions had no part of the budget dedicated to preservation or conservation of collections. While most organizations monitored their collections storage areas in some way, 28 percent did not conduct any monitoring. The study also found that 81 percent of organizations did not have a disaster plan involving collections, and that number jumped to 95 percent for organizations with budgets under \$50,000.

The project partners, under the leadership of the Wisconsin Historical Society, are moving forward to secure funding to support improved collections preservation practices statewide, with an emphasis on training for staff and volunteers who work with collections. In the meantime, the report included these basic, low-cost steps organizations can implement now.

- Include the words/concept of “preservation” within your organization’s mission statement to begin a dialog about the issue with the board and members.
- Purchase low-cost water detector alarms (\$7–\$10) and place them in and around collection storage, exhibition and any known leakage locations to immediately and inexpensively reduce one of the most common risks to collections.
- Regularly visit and inspect storage rooms/locations to immediately and inexpensively reduce risk to collections from their highest reported cause of damage.
- Reference the following list of good preservation/conservation information locations to expand your knowledge base with quality information:
  - Canadian Conservation Institute Notes
  - Midwest Art Conservation Center
  - Wisconsin Historical Society
  - National Park Service Conserve-O-Grams
  - Northeast Document Conservation Center

For more information about the Connecting to Collections project, contact Janet Seymour at [janet.seymour@wisconsinhistory.org](mailto:janet.seymour@wisconsinhistory.org) or call (715) 836-2250. The other project partners included the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction’s Division for Libraries, Technology and Community Learning; the Wisconsin Federation of Museums; Wisconsin Library Services; and the Midwest Art Conservation Center. •



Overhead water pipes above archival storage boxes illustrate a clear preservation need

## Local History-Genealogy Workshops Slated

EACH SPRING the Society sponsors a slate of educational workshops for genealogists as well as for the staff and volunteers of local historical societies and museums. These workshops feature presentations and hands-on learning opportunities led by noted experts.

This year nine workshops will take place in May and June. The offerings include five half-day workshops on various genealogy topics in Madison, a cemetery monuments restoration workshop in Lake Geneva\*, a daylong program on digitization projects and an archives management class. This year the series will also feature a webinar

that provides a general introduction to using the increasingly popular museum inventory software, PastPerfect 5.

Workshops will range in cost from \$25 to \$40. In some cases seats will be limited so we recommend you register early. Affiliated societies and members of the Wisconsin Historical Society and the Wisconsin State Genealogical Society receive discounts on registration fees. For more about the various programs and to register, visit [wisconsinhistory.org/libraryarchives/classes](http://wisconsinhistory.org/libraryarchives/classes).

\*Full day workshop that will include a lunch. •



Drawing of Ames-Angier family tree of North Easton, Massachusetts, 1560–1937

The following are special event highlights for March and April 2012. For a complete listing of events, visit [wisconsinhistory.org/calendar](http://wisconsinhistory.org/calendar).

## > MARCH



### March 1 – August 31 **Wisconsin Innovations: From the Iconic to the Unexpected**

Discover the diverse array of inventions, concepts and traditions that originated, in one way or another, in Wisconsin. **Wisconsin Historical Museum on the Capitol Square. 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. Suggested donation. (608) 264-6555 or [museum@wisconsinhistory.org](mailto:museum@wisconsinhistory.org)**



### March 1 – 17 **Milwaukee Lost!**

Explore a wall and case exhibit on the 1929 wreck of the railroad car ferry *SS Milwaukee*. **Wisconsin Historical Museum on the Capitol Square. 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. Suggested donation. (608) 264-6555 or [museum@wisconsinhistory.org](mailto:museum@wisconsinhistory.org)**



### March 1 – 31 **Wisconsin Innovations Movie of the Month on Demand**

Enjoy the Ron Faiola film, *Wisconsin Supper Clubs: An Old-Fashioned Experience* (2011, 82 minutes), about the history and tradition of this Wisconsin institution. **Wisconsin Historical Museum on the Capitol Square. Screenings on demand when other programs are not in session. Suggested donation. (608) 264-6555 or [museum@wisconsinhistory.org](mailto:museum@wisconsinhistory.org)**



### March 3 **Genealogical Resources for German-American Ancestry**

A hands-on computer workshop that will help family researchers identify resources available on the Internet as well as offline. **University of Wisconsin Memorial Library, 728 State Street, Room 231, Madison, 9 a.m. – noon. \$35 for members of the Society, Wisconsin State Genealogical Society or Friends of the Max Kade Institute, \$40 for non-members. (608) 262-7546 or [apetty@wisc.edu](mailto:apetty@wisc.edu)**



### March 6 **Dane County Place-Names**

Join local historian Tracy Will, author of a new introduction to the recently reprinted edition of *Dane County Place-Names* by Frederick G. Cassidy, as he shares insights into the origins and evolution of local names that reveal a colorful history. Book signing to follow. **Wisconsin Historical Museum on the Capitol Square. 12:15 – 1 p.m. Suggested donation. (608) 264-6555 or [museum@wisconsinhistory.org](mailto:museum@wisconsinhistory.org)**



### March 6 **Taste Traditions of Wisconsin: The Wau-Bun Stories of Juliette Kinzie**

Enjoy a delicious dinner, then celebrate Women's History Month with a look at the adventures of early Wisconsin pioneer Juliette Kinzie, as performed by Betsey Means of WomanLore. **Wisconsin Historical Museum on the Capitol Square. 6:30 – 9 p.m. \$30 per person (register by February 28). (608) 264-6555 or [museum@wisconsinhistory.org](mailto:museum@wisconsinhistory.org)**



### March 6 **Author Jerry Apps in Madison for Book Launch**

Jerry Apps, author of *Garden Wisdom: Lessons Learned from 60 Years of Gardening*, will discuss his book and sign copies. **Barnes & Noble West, 7433 Mineral Point Road, Madison. 7 p.m. Free admission. (608) 827-0809**



### March 14 **Author Dennis McCann in Cudahy**

Dennis McCann, author of *Badger Boneyards: The Eternal Rest of the Story*, will discuss his book and sign copies. **Cudahy Family Library, 3500 Library Drive, Cudahy. 6:30 p.m. Free admission. (414) 769-2244**



### March 17 **Hearthside Dinner**

Guests prepare and enjoy a hearty meal in a historic stagecoach inn. **Wade House, 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. \$45 per person. (920) 526-3271 or [wadehouse@wisconsinhistory.org](mailto:wadehouse@wisconsinhistory.org)**



### March 18 **Tracing Your Jewish Roots from German-Speaking Europe**

This workshop will provide an overview of resources and research techniques that address unique challenges faced by genealogists looking for their Jewish ancestors from German-speaking Europe. **University of Wisconsin Memorial Library, 728 State Street, Room 231, Madison, 1 – 4 p.m. \$35 for members of the Society, Wisconsin State Genealogical Society or Friends of the Max Kade Institute, \$40 for non-members. (608) 262-7546 or [apetty@wisc.edu](mailto:apetty@wisc.edu)**



### March 20 **Oshkosh Activist Jessie Jack Hooper**

Helen Bannan of the Wisconsin Humanities Council impersonates 1920s Oshkosh suffragist Jessie Jack Hooper, speaking directly to today's audiences about Hooper's life experiences and political activism. **Wisconsin Historical Museum on the Capitol Square. 12:15 – 1 p.m. Suggested donation. (608) 264-6555 or [museum@wisconsinhistory.org](mailto:museum@wisconsinhistory.org)**



### March 22 **Author Marcia Carmichael in Hubertus**

Marcia Carmichael, author of *Putting Down Roots: Gardening Insights from Wisconsin's Early Settlers*, will discuss her book and sign copies. **Richfield Village Hall, 4128 Hubertus Road, Hubertus. 7 p.m. Free admission. (262) 628-2260**



**March 24 Reading Old German Script**

This workshop will acquaint participants with the basics of the Old German written alphabet so that they can transcribe words into modern script.

**University Club**, 803 State Street, Room 212, Madison, 8 a.m. – noon. \$35 for members of the Society, Wisconsin State Genealogical Society or Friends of the Max Kade Institute, \$40 for non-members. (608) 262-7546 or [apetty@wisc.edu](mailto:apetty@wisc.edu)

**March 24 Author Jerry Apps in Wild Rose for Book Launch**

Jerry Apps, author of *Garden Wisdom: Lessons Learned from 60 Years of Gardening*, will discuss his book and sign copies. **Patterson Memorial Public Library**, 500 Wisconsin Avenue, Wild Rose. 6 p.m. Free admission. (920) 622-3835

**> APRIL****April 1 – 30 Wisconsin Innovations Movie of the Month on Demand**

Enjoy the award-winning documentary, *Uncommon Places: The Architecture of Frank Lloyd Wright* (2009, 60 minutes), which examines Wright's revolutionary contributions to American architecture.

**Wisconsin Historical Museum on the Capitol Square**. Screenings on demand when other programs are not in session. Suggested donation. (608) 264-6555 or [museum@wisconsinhistory.org](mailto:museum@wisconsinhistory.org)

**April 3 If I Were a Building: Frank Lloyd Wright and the Personalities of the Past**

Bob Kann, author of *Frank Lloyd Wright and His New American Architecture*, tells tales about the famed architect and the buildings he designed. Book signing to follow. **Wisconsin Historical Museum on the Capitol Square**. 12:15 – 1 p.m. Suggested donation. (608) 264-6555 or [museum@wisconsinhistory.org](mailto:museum@wisconsinhistory.org)

**April 3 – 6 Playtimes of the Past**

Drop-in built environment activity for youth. **Wisconsin Historical Museum on the Capitol Square**. 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. Suggested donation. (608) 264-6555 or [museum@wisconsinhistory.org](mailto:museum@wisconsinhistory.org)

**April 13 – 14 Ghost Ships Festival**

Take part in a conference dedicated to Great Lakes scuba diving and maritime history with Society underwater archaeologists Keith Meverden and Tamara Thomsen. **Wyndham Milwaukee Airport and Convention Center**, 4747 South Howell Avenue, Milwaukee. Exhibit hall free and open to the public; presentations \$20. (414) 481-8000 or [ghost-ships.org](http://ghost-ships.org)

**April 14 Hearthside Dinner**

Guests prepare and enjoy a hearty meal in a historic stagecoach inn. **Wade House**, 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. \$45 per person. (920) 526-3271 or [wadehouse@wisconsinhistory.org](mailto:wadehouse@wisconsinhistory.org)

**April 17 Wisconsin Writers Writing About Wisconsin**

Join Kenneth Grant, emeritus professor at the University of Wisconsin-Baraboo/Sauk campus, as he offers a thumbnail history of Wisconsin's literary history and discusses what makes Wisconsin writing distinct.

**Wisconsin Historical Museum on the Capitol Square**. 12:15 – 1 p.m. Suggested donation. (608) 264-6555 or [museum@wisconsinhistory.org](mailto:museum@wisconsinhistory.org)

**April 24 Author Lee Somerville in Rhinelander**

Lee Somerville, author of *Vintage Wisconsin Gardens: A History of Home Gardening*, will discuss her book and sign copies. **Olbrich Botanical Gardens**, 3330 Atwood Avenue, Madison. 6:30 p.m. Free admission. (608) 246-4550

**April 25 Taste Traditions of Wisconsin: Gardens Past and Present**

Join award-winning authors of *Farmstead Chef*, Lisa Kivirist and John Ivanko, as they share simple tips for homegrown and homemade cooking, followed by a dinner inspired by their book. After dinner, Lee Somerville, author of *Vintage Wisconsin Gardens: A History of Home Gardening*, will discuss her book and sign copies. **Wisconsin Historical Museum on the Capitol Square**. 6 – 9 p.m. \$30 per person (register by April 18). (608) 264-6555 or [museum@wisconsinhistory.org](mailto:museum@wisconsinhistory.org)

**April 27 – 28 30th Star Benefit Antiques Auction**

See the story on page 4.

**April 28 – 29 Madison Antique Showcase and Sale**

The Society will have a booth at this year's event showcasing antiques and collectibles. **Alliant Energy Center Exhibition Hall**, 1919 Alliant Energy Center Way, Madison. 9 a.m. – 6 p.m. Saturday, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. Sunday. \$6 per person, \$6 parking. (608) 267-3976

**April 30 Author Candice Andrews in Rhinelander**

Candice Andrews, author of *Beyond the Trees: Stories of Wisconsin Forests*, will discuss her book and sign copies. **Rhinelander District Library**, 106 Stevens Street, Rhinelander. 11 a.m. Free admission. (715) 365-1070



WHI 30145

Informal portrait of Senator Proxmire, 1975

## New Research Resource: Proxmire Digital Collection Goes Online

EVERY READER OVER AGE 50 will remember Wisconsin Democratic U.S. Senator William Proxmire (1915–2005). For 30 years he was a well-known political maverick devoted to curbing government mismanagement and protecting consumers. All over the nation, people of all political persuasions eagerly read his monthly “Golden Fleece” awards, which blended outrage with sarcasm to expose wasteful government spending. Back home, he was famous for his hand-shaking marathons at the State Fair.

Politically, Proxmire was a fiscal conservative who cut budgets, returned nearly a million dollars from his Senate office allowance to the Treasury, and refused limousine rides. But he was also a principled liberal who thought that it was government’s proper role to try to solve social problems.

After leaving office in 1989, Proxmire and his staff donated more than 200 boxes of archival materials to the Society. Between 2008 and 2011 40 oral history interviews with friends, relatives, colleagues and staff complemented these paper records. The Society recently published the most important portions of the collection on its website, where researchers can examine his legacy.

The Proxmire Digital Collection contains more than 7,500 pages of manuscripts, press

releases, newsletters, photographs, articles, interviews, books and correspondence, as well as all 40 oral history interviews. The Society staff indexed the whole collection, so anyone with Internet access can trace his attitudes and actions across three decades of public life.

Researchers will find all the Golden Fleece awards, candid internal office memos, published and unpublished articles, campaign advertisements, and even a file of jokes that Proxmire maintained for use in his speeches. The interviews provide vivid memories of his encounters with Presidents John F. Kennedy, Lyndon Johnson, Jimmy Carter and Ronald Reagan. Among those who shared memories in the interviews are former Vice President Walter Mondale, Senators Alan Simpson and Jake Garn, Wisconsin Representatives David Obey and Ron Kind, and Public Television political commentator Mark Shields as well as Proxmire’s children and wife Ellen (who shared two long interviews).

Proxmire’s family and friends, who generously contributed time, materials and financial support, made the digital collection possible and ensured the preservation of his legacy. You can view the collection at [wisconsinhistory.org/topics/proxmire](http://wisconsinhistory.org/topics/proxmire). •



Daniel Freas

## Welcome Daniel Freas, Old World Wisconsin’s New Director

THE SOCIETY WELCOMES Daniel J. Freas, who has joined the staff as director of Old World Wisconsin. His first day in the new post was January 30. Freas comes to the job with nearly 30 years of firsthand experience in outdoor museum education and administration. He most recently served as vice president of guest experiences for Conner Prairie Interactive History Park in Indianapolis, a position he has held since 2000. He served in a variety of other capacities at Conner Prairie since 1998.

Freas’ earlier experience includes historic sites administration and education positions at the Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania in Pittsburgh, the North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources in Raleigh, the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission in

Harrisburg, and Old Salem Museums and Gardens in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. He holds a bachelor’s degree in outdoor museum studies from Salem College in West Virginia.

“I am extremely excited about Old World Wisconsin’s potential to engage visitors of all ages in experiences that are fun, relevant and authentic,” said Freas. “By fulfilling this potential, we can inspire a sense of curiosity among these visitors that will lead to a lifelong appreciation for, and desire to learn more about, those who came before us.”

As site director at Old World Wisconsin, Freas will oversee a full-time professional staff of 15 and a large seasonal staff of interpreters and volunteers. •

## A 19th-Century Farmer's Work is Never Done

A DAY IN THE LIFE of a 19th-century Wisconsin farmer is hardly a thing of the past for the historic farmers of Old World Wisconsin. This hard-working group takes care of animals' needs, manages crops on 10 working farmsteads, and keeps the vintage farm equipment in good repair. A typical in-season day begins at 6 a.m. with the milking of the museum's cow. Chores continue as this farmer begins feeding the site's 100-plus animals, changing their bedding, and cleaning and replenishing the water barrels. A second farmer joins in about 8 a.m., loading feed and delivering bedding until, working farmstead by farmstead, the farmers meet up and complete the animal-care chores by mid-morning.

Next, the fun begins. According to Bryan Zaeske, manager of the farm program at Old World Wisconsin, a favorite job of the farm staff is sharing the animals with the outdoor museum's guests. They harness the horses or yoke the oxen teams and move throughout the museum grounds, discussing history, answering questions, and giving visitors an opportunity for up-close question-and-answer sessions.

Midday is also a time to knock off tasks from the ongoing to-do list. Items change by season and often include repairing fences, cleaning

barns, plowing or planting, shocking grain, hauling wagons filled with bunches of grain for threshing (in time for Laura Ingalls Wilder Days, August 4-5), cutting hay, repairing equipment, moving animals to fresh pastures. As with their 1800s counterparts, there's always more to do.

In mid-afternoon, the rotation of feeding, watering and milking begins again. It's during these twice-daily stops that the farm staff is able to check on each individual animal, moving them to the off-site animal barn should they require special attention. Visitors can look forward to the 4 p.m. milking of the museum's cow, done authentically by hand.

Three-to four staff members plus a corps of enthusiastic volunteers manage the museum's farm program (if volunteering in the farm program is for you, see the article in the sidebar at right). The asset Bryan values most in his staff is an open mind — to do things the same way farmers did more than a century ago. And although all of the work the visitors see the farmers do is historic, today's veterinary care is one modern improvement for which Bryan is grateful.

Visitors to Old World Wisconsin can look forward to greater opportunities to experience farm-related activities beginning in May 2012. •



© LOYD HEATH

An interpreter on the 1860 Schulz Farm

### Old World Wisconsin Seeks Volunteers

At Old World Wisconsin, we're always looking for enthusiastic volunteers with a passion for helping. We have opportunities for gardeners, craft workers, volunteers who help maintain period apparel, those who demonstrate and repair vintage farm equipment, helping out with our many special events, and many more. If you're looking for a chance to roll up your sleeves and be part of our volunteer team, contact Jeni Miller at [jeni.miller@wisconsinhistory.org](mailto:jeni.miller@wisconsinhistory.org) or call (262) 594-6301.



© LOYD HEATH

Volunteers enjoying a break on the 1860 Sanford Farm

### Call for Nominations for Annual Society Awards

The deadline for entries is April 1, 2012.

#### Book Award of Merit

Contact Michael Edmonds at [michael.edmonds@wisconsinhistory.org](mailto:michael.edmonds@wisconsinhistory.org) or (608) 264-6583.

#### Genealogy Book Award of Merit

Contact James Hansen at [jamesl.hansen@wisconsinhistory.org](mailto:jamesl.hansen@wisconsinhistory.org) or (608) 264-6535.

#### Governor's Archives Awards

The Society offers three awards: for archival achievement, archival innovation and archival advocacy. Contact Simone Munson at [simone.munson@wisconsinhistory.org](mailto:simone.munson@wisconsinhistory.org) or (608) 264-6470 for more information.

#### Historic Preservation Awards

The Society offers two awards: for historic restoration and historic preservation. Contact Joe DeRose at [joe.derose@wisconsinhistory.org](mailto:joe.derose@wisconsinhistory.org) or (608) 264-6512.

#### Museum Exhibit Awards

The Society offers two awards: one for museums with an annual operating budget exceeding \$50,000 and one for museums with an annual operating budget of less than \$50,000. Contact Jennifer Kolb at [jennifer.kolb@wisconsinhistory.org](mailto:jennifer.kolb@wisconsinhistory.org) or (608) 261-2461.

#### Public Program Award

Contact Dawn St. George at [dawn.stgeorge@wisconsinhistory.org](mailto:dawn.stgeorge@wisconsinhistory.org) or (608) 264-6566.

#### Reuben Gold Thwaites Trophy for Local History

Contact Amy Norlin at [amy.norlin@wisconsinhistory.org](mailto:amy.norlin@wisconsinhistory.org) or (608) 264-6579.

#### Wisconsin History Website Award

Contact Paul Hedges at [paul.hedges@wisconsinhistory.org](mailto:paul.hedges@wisconsinhistory.org) or (608) 264-6451.

For complete criteria for each of the award categories, nomination procedures and nomination forms, visit [wisconsinhistory.org/about/awards](http://wisconsinhistory.org/about/awards).



National History Day students giving a group performance

## 2012 National History Day in Wisconsin Regional Events

SOME 9,000 WISCONSIN STUDENTS at more than 100 Wisconsin schools are participating in National History Day this year. These students are going beyond their textbooks as they research and analyze the significance of their topics in history. In March and April students will begin presenting their work at regional competitions, which take place across the state.

For most students, the National History Day journey began last fall as they selected a topic connected to the 2012 annual theme, “Revolution, Reaction, Reform in History.” Students completed their own historical research, visiting libraries and archives, interviewing experts, and gathering a variety of primary and secondary sources on their topics. Students came to their own conclusions about the significance of their topic in history and will present their ideas through a creative project: a museum-style exhibit, media documentary, research paper, interactive website or dramatic performance.

The National History Day competition cycle gives students a chance to present their scholarship to the community and their peers

while competing for the chance to advance from regional to state and national competitions. Regional events will take place across the state in March and April:

- Milwaukee: Saturday, March 3
- La Crosse: Wednesday, March 21
- Madison: Saturday, March 24
- Eau Claire: Thursday, March 29
- Green Bay: Saturday, April 14
- Stevens Point: Sunday, April 15

Visitors are always welcome to share in the excitement at an event. Volunteers are also needed to serve as judges or manage competition areas. Contact the state coordinator Sarah Aschbrenner for event visitor information or to volunteer: email [sarah.aschbrenner@wisconsinhistory.org](mailto:sarah.aschbrenner@wisconsinhistory.org) or call (608) 264-6487.

The Society plays a vital, year-round role in the implementation of the program in many classrooms. Staff members develop curriculum materials, work with students in the classroom and on research field trips, provide assistance with school events, and help to coordinate regional, state and national competitions. •



The donated Culver's sign in its original location

## Culver's Franchising System Donates Early Restaurant Sign

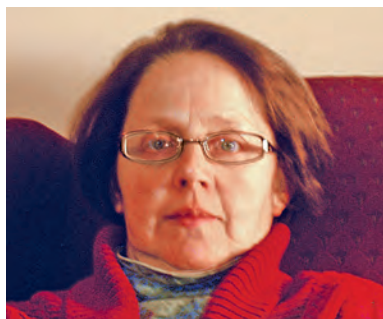
THE FAMILIAR BLUE OVAL sign that identifies the many Culver's Restaurant franchises located throughout Wisconsin and several other states has become a Wisconsin icon. Now, through the generosity of Culver's, the sign that towered above Culver's first successful restaurant franchise location in Baraboo from 1990 to 2011 has a home in the collections of the Wisconsin Historical Museum. Culver's donated the sign to the museum in January. Jim Greeley Signs & Awnings of Richland Center manufactured the sign in 1990.

“You don't know how tickled we are to see the road sign of our first franchise restaurant, which opened in Baraboo in 1990, now become part of the collections of the Wisconsin Historical Society,” said Craig Culver, chief executive officer of Culver's. “Starting with one restaurant in 1984 in Sauk City, we never thought that someday



Paul Bourcier of the museum staff, left, and Keith Herbeck of Greeley Signs and Awnings move the sign into a collection storage area

we would have 450 of those blue signs scattered across 20 states. Nor did we ever think that that blue sign would ever have enough historical significance to end up in the Society's museum collections. I can't tell you how proud we all are at Culver's to know that blue sign will now be part of the history of Wisconsin. Very cool!” •



## Meet: Gretchen Jaeger

member since 1999

### How did you first discover the Wisconsin Historical Society, and why did you become a member?

I've been interested in history all of my life. As a young girl in Green Bay, my school classes toured Tank Cottage and Hazelwood Mansion, which I always loved. My family took a weekend excursion to wonderful Villa Louis one summer in the 1970s. Once I was in high school, I volunteered as a docent at Tank Cottage and got to know it even better. I moved to Waukesha County in the 1980s and soon discovered Old World Wisconsin. I became a member there, which naturally led to a Wisconsin Historical Society membership. Not long afterward, my husband and I joined the Regimental Volunteer Band of Wisconsin, a Civil War re-enactment band that camps and marches on the field. Our band was featured every fall at Old World Wisconsin Civil War days and at Wade House re-enactment weekends.

### What is the best thing that you ever learned from the Society?

With my interest in the Civil War, I was a frequent library and archives visitor, first online, and then in person. I researched the Civil War regimental bands from Wisconsin and found wonderful material written by a soldier in the 6th Wisconsin, a member of the famed Iron Brigade. The most thrilling moment of my archival research was holding in my hand the diary of the captain of that regiment, which fell open to the entry for July 1, 1863. There was a smudged thumbprint over the entry which describes the fighting of the brigade on that day at Gettysburg.

### What does history mean to you?

My family has been in the U.S. since the 1700s and in Wisconsin since the mid-1800s. I have ancestors that fought both in the American Revolution and in the Civil War. I have loved learning the "little history" — the stories of everyday

people and how they were affected by great historic events. My great-grandmother wrote a story about the assassination of Abraham Lincoln when she was 7 years old. History connects me to my ancestors and to the great people who settled and formed this state. Everything is much more real when seen through the eyes of ordinary citizens.

### Why do you think that it is important that we pass on our history to the next generation?

Again, I think it is meaningful to find a connection to previous generations. We have the potential to learn so much from them! Learning about our strong female ancestors has been an inspiration to me, my sisters, my nieces, and hopefully one day to the generations that follow. •

### Membership Poll:

Which membership benefit is your favorite?

- A. Bimonthly Columns newsletter
- B. Weekly Society E-newsletter
- C. Subscription to the quarterly *Wisconsin Magazine of History*
- D. Free or discounted admission to all 11 historic sites and museums
- E. Discounts on purchases
- F. Special events and activities

Vote for your favorite by contacting the membership office toll-free at (888) 748-7479 or [membership@wisconsinhistory.org](mailto:membership@wisconsinhistory.org).

For a complete list of your membership benefits, visit [wisconsinhistory.org/membership](http://wisconsinhistory.org/membership).



Loren Anderson



Melinda Heinritz

## A Period of Transition at the Wisconsin Historical Foundation

AT THE END OF DECEMBER we bid farewell to Melinda V. Heinritz, who joined the Wisconsin Historical Foundation 12 years ago as its first development officer and six years later rose to the post of executive director.

Under Heinritz's leadership, the Foundation experienced significant growth in private philanthropic support and greatly expanded the services it provides to support the Wisconsin Historical Society. She played an instrumental role in launching the *Forward!* Campaign, the Foundation's first-ever major philanthropic effort, which has now raised more than \$71 million to ensure that the Society remains among the nation's finest historical institutions. We are grateful to Melinda for her exemplary service on behalf of the Foundation and Society.

At this time, we are pleased to announce that Loren Anderson is serving as interim

executive director. Anderson is a senior partner at Anderland Consulting Group and provides strategic planning, executive coaching and strategy development to businesses and executives. Prior to that, he served as executive vice president of Aurora Health Care's South Region for 11 years. He has more than 30 years of management experience and serves on the Foundation Board as co-chair of the Philanthropy Committee.

The Foundation is already benefitting from Anderson's experience, working closely with the Society to determine its needs and the best way forward. We will keep you informed of our progress in the months ahead as the Foundation begins the next exciting chapter in its evolving story. •



## About the Wisconsin Historical Foundation

ESTABLISHED IN 1954, the Wisconsin Historical Foundation is the official fundraising and gift-receiving organization for the Wisconsin Historical Society. In addition, the Foundation administers the Society's membership program and provides marketing and external relations support. The Foundation is accredited by the Better Business Bureau and has received Charity Navigator's coveted four-star rating.

The mission of the Wisconsin Historical Foundation is to strengthen the Wisconsin Historical Society's ability to fulfill its public mandate and its mission to help people connect

to the past. The Foundation fulfills its mission by increasing awareness and fostering philanthropic relationships throughout Wisconsin and beyond, and by seeking resources and solutions that make visionary and entrepreneurial ideas possible.

In seamless partnership with the Wisconsin Historical Society, the Wisconsin Historical Foundation aspires to create the strongest community of users, visitors, members, donors, volunteers, advocates and staff, all working together to champion the Society as an indispensable and irreplaceable source for history in Wisconsin. •

For more information about any of these opportunities:

Please contact Juliet Page at (608) 261-6580 or [juliet.page@wisconsinhistory.org](mailto:juliet.page@wisconsinhistory.org).

### Many Ways to Show Your Support for the Society

#### Gift Memberships

Membership is a great gift! You'll be giving a valuable and meaningful gift while supporting the Society.

#### Gift Planning

Planned gifts offer the opportunity to leave a lasting and meaningful legacy by including the Society in your will, creating a charitable gift annuity or trust, or making a designation in your retirement plan.

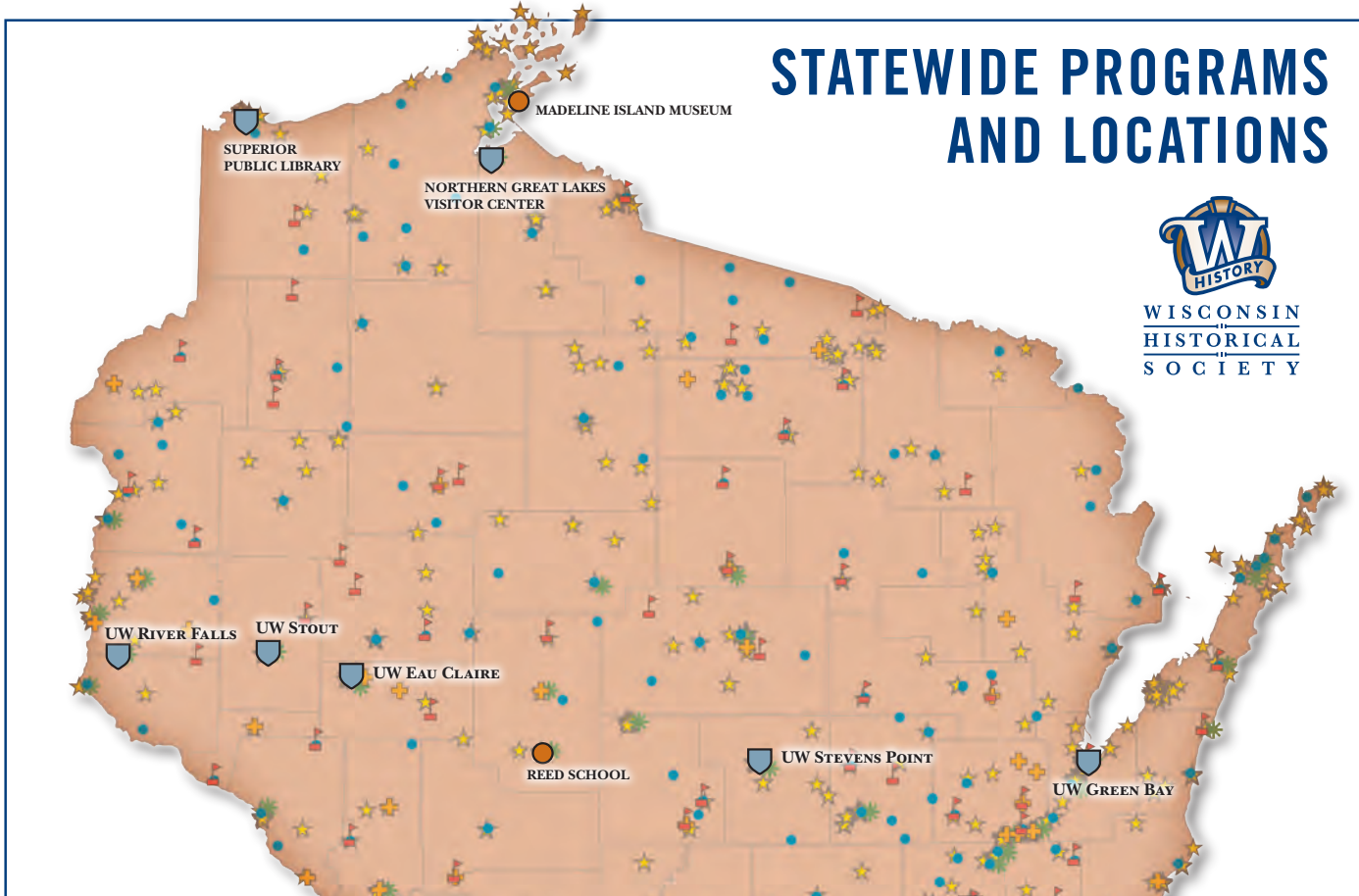
#### Tribute Gifts

Tributes or memorial gifts can honor someone you admire, respect or want to remember in a meaningful way.

#### Matching Gifts

By taking advantage of a matching gift benefit, you may be able to double or even triple the impact of your gift.

# STATEWIDE PROGRAMS AND LOCATIONS



## LEGEND

**Society Headquarters**  
 816 State St.  
 Madison, WI 53706  
 General Information: (608) 264-6400  
**LIBRARY** (608) 264-6534  
**ARCHIVES** (608) 264-6460

Regular Hours:  
 8AM - 9PM Monday-Thursday  
 8AM - 5PM Friday and Saturday

**Wisconsin Historical Foundation**  
 (608) 261-9364

**Historic Sites and Museums**

Circus World  
 550 Water St., Baraboo, WI  
 (866) 693-1500

First Capitol  
 County Hwy. G, Belmont, WI  
 (608) 987-2122

H.H. Bennett Studio  
 215 Broadway, Wisconsin Dells, WI  
 (608) 253-3523

Madeline Island Museum  
 226 Col. Woods Ave., La Pointe, WI  
 (715) 747-2415

Old World Wisconsin  
 W372 S9727 Hwy. 67, Eagle, WI  
 (262) 594-6301

Pendarvis  
 114 Shake Rag St., Mineral Point, WI  
 (608) 987-2122

Reed School  
 U.S. Hwy. 10 & Cardinal Ave., Neillsville, WI  
 (608) 253-3523

Stonefield  
 12195 Hwy. VV, Cassville, WI  
 (608) 725-5210

Villa Louis  
 521 N. Villa Louis Rd., Prairie du Chien, WI  
 (608) 326-2721

Wade House  
 W7824 Center St., Greenbush, WI  
 (920) 526-3271

Wisconsin Historical Museum  
 30 N. Carroll St.  
 Madison, WI 53703  
 (608) 264-6555  
 Hours: 9AM-4PM Tuesday-Saturday  
[wisconsinhistory.org/museum](http://wisconsinhistory.org/museum)  
 Museum Store  
 (888) 999-1669

**Area Research Centers**  
[wisconsinhistory.org/library/archives/arcnet](http://wisconsinhistory.org/library/archives/arcnet)

**Affiliated Historical Societies**

**Active Historic Preservation Commissions**

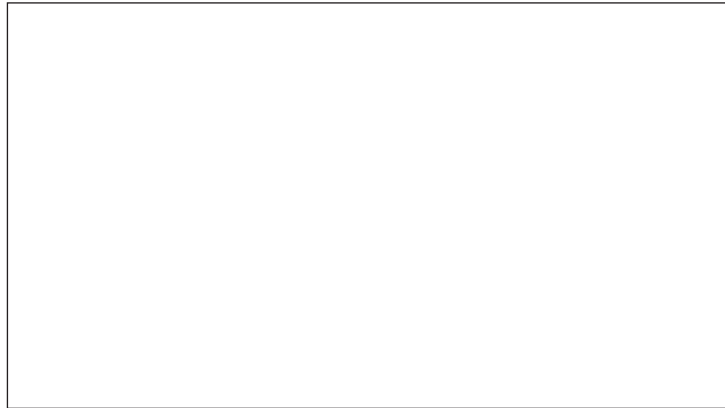
**Participating National History Day Schools**

**Fourth-grade Textbook In Use**

**National Register Listings**

# Columns

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Periodical Class



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## *Did you know?*

- U.S. Senator William Proxmire of Wisconsin jogged five miles each way between his home and his office every day for decades.
- When stopped by a mugger while jogging one night, Proxmire claimed to have terminal cancer and jogged away unharmed.
- Proxmire gave more than 150 monthly “Golden Fleece” awards to government agencies that he felt squandered taxpayers’ money.
- Proxmire ran his Senate office so frugally that he gave back hundreds of thousands of dollars from his budget allowance.

### Sign up for the Society’s e-newsletter!

Get all the latest Society news, information and upcoming events delivered to your email inbox every Friday morning. The e-newsletter will also point you to popular features on our website including Odd Wisconsin and This Day in Wisconsin History. Sign up at [wisconsinhistory.org](http://wisconsinhistory.org).

U.S. Senator William Proxmire won his first national election victory in 1957 in a special election to fill the seat of Senator Joseph McCarthy. Re-elected in 1958, Proxmire went on to overwhelming victories in 1964, 1970, 1976 and 1982. Here he makes an appearance on the CBS news program, *Meet the Press*.



Read more about a new digital collection documenting the career of Senator Proxmire on page 10.