

# $\frac{WISCONSIN}{HISTORICAL}{S O C I E T Y}$

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Collecting, Preserving and Sharing Stories Since 1846

# Columns

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE WISCONSIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY VOL. 34 NO. 2 | ISSN 0196-1306 | SPRING 2013



DAVID SIMMONS

In preparation for a grand opening in June, a trio of historic wagons have taken their place in a new, state-of-the-art home, the Wesley W. Jung Carriage Museum at Wade House. Shown here are a tobacco wagon (1900) and an open delivery wagon (1910), both made by the Jung Carriage Company of Sheboygan, and a top buggy made by the Sayers & Scovill Company of Brighton Station, Ohio, circa 1905. Read more about the Visitor Center and Wesley W. Jung Carriage Museum on page 10.



Ellsworth H. Brown The Ruth and Hartley Barker Director

#### Columns

Bob Granflaten, Editor Composure Graphics, Designer

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# Spring signifies renewal,

# and the historic sites and museums are looking forward to a new season filled with fresh ways to tell home-grown Wisconsin stories.

AS YOU CAN SEE from the cover image, one exciting change for us is the opening of the new Visitor Center and Wesley W. Jung Carriage Museum at Wade House in Greenbush. We're planning a very special — and free — membersonly sneak preview event on Friday, June 7. Then, on Saturday and Sunday, June 8-9, the new 38,000-square-foot facility opens to the public. This new center will transform the visitor experience at Wade House and give past visitors a dramatic incentive to return for a look at this beacon of a building. Learn more about this new attraction on page 10.

Old World Wisconsin, which last season launched Life on the Farm, its interactive historic farming program, has plans for more hands-on experiences that will engage visitors' senses while they relive rural Wisconsin life in the late 19th century. On each weekend in May, visitors to the outdoor museum can immerse themselves in the same kinds of activities our pioneer ancestors experienced, from sheep shearing and working with wool to plowing and planting the fields. Learn more about Old World Wisconsin this season on page 10.

Also new this season will be tours of our 12th historic site, which we began to manage in January — Black Point Estate, a magnificent historic house and gardens in Lake Geneva from which nothing was removed from its beginning to 2005, the year the state received it as a gift of William O. Petersen. The 1888 Queen Anne-style summer cottage provides a unique glimpse into the lifestyle of a wealthy Victorian-era family and embodies an immigrant success story. The house's builder, Conrad Seipp, was a German immigrant who built a fortune as a brewer in Chicago. A visit to Black Point today is, in many respects, a throwback to the Victorian era, as visitors arrive at the site by boat, just as generations of the Seipp family and their friends did. To learn more, visit blackpointestate.org.

Recruitment for a site director to operate Black Point Estate is currently underway, as is a search for a new director for our Victorian house museum in Prairie du Chien, Villa Louis. After more than 30 years as Villa Louis' site director, Michael Douglass has retired. During that time, he oversaw a top-to-bottom restoration of the mansion and the adjacent Dousman office building. Stocked with furnishings original to the home and office building, the striking buildings represent one of the most authentic Victorian house restorations in America. Villa Louis opens for tours on May 4.

All of our other historic sites and museums have unique stories to tell as well. You can revel in the razzle-dazzle pageantry of the American circus at Circus World in Baraboo, celebrate the Cornish culture and lead-mining heritage embodied at Pendarvis in Mineral Point, or explore Great Lakes legend and lore at Madeline Island Museum in the beautiful Apostle Islands. Without ever leaving Wisconsin, you can relive real-life stories as rich and varied as any you can imagine. •

#### 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.

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

# Thank You, Members

THIS MAY, as the Wisconsin Historical Society opens its museums and historic sites for an exciting new season, we also celebrate your membership support with a month of special offers and extra benefits. As a member, you provide critical funding for our ongoing education, genealogy, local history and historic preservation programs, historic sites and museum activities, and the preservation of the priceless evidence of Wisconsin's heritage. You make it all happen, and we simply can't thank you enough.

A few of the perks you can enjoy during Member Appreciation Month include the following.

- Double Discount: Save 20 percent — that's double your normal member discount — on any purchase on wisconsinhistory.org, at all museum and historic site gift shops, on genealogical records, books, historic image prints and more. To use this discount for online purchases, use the code "MMM2013" in place of your member ID during checkout.
- **Referral Bonus:** Refer a friend or family member, and we will send you a special gift or discount after we receive their membership application.

- **Gift memberships:** Purchase a membership as a gift for a friend or family member, and we will include a special bonus gift for the recipient.
- Weekly contests and drawings: Follow our giveaways, or participate in our weekly contests to receive special prizes.

You can stay up-to-date on all the Member Appreciation Month offers and benefits through our weekly thank-you emails during the month of May and by visiting support.wisconsinhistory. org/membermonth2013. To sign up to receive emails from the membership office, simply send an email with your first and last name to membership@wisconsinhistory.org.

On behalf of all of us at the Wisconsin Historical Society, thank you for all you do!

Sincerely,

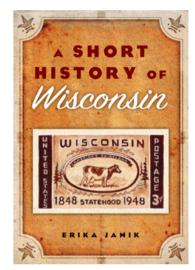
Laua/Bean

Laura Beam Membership Manager

#### **Dont Miss Out**

Membership Appreciation Month discounts, perks and details will be announced via email.

If you don't already receive emails from the membership office, send an email with your first and last name to membership@ wisconsinhistory.org to sign up.



Refer a friend or family member during May, and we will send you a free copy of this book after they join.

# **Preview the Society's New Website**



Visit preview.wisconsinhistory.org

THANKS TO THE generous support we received from contributors to the *Forward!* Campaign, we have made significant progress toward the launch of the new wisconsinhistory.org.

We invite you to preview a live version of the new website in real-time development at preview.wisconsinhistory.org. This preview, or "beta" website, is in constant development and changes daily. We invite you to explore, learn more about the new site, and provide us with your input by clicking the "feedback and support" tab.

The Wisconsin Historical Society extends special thanks to the individuals and organizations whose significant contributions made it possible to develop a new website: Diane Kay Ballweg; The Lynde and Harry Bradley Foundation; The Evjue Foundation, Inc. the charitable arm of The Capital Times; David Cronon Family Trust; Jane Bradley Pettit Foundation; Bob and Sharon Gilson in memory of Rebecca Gilson; and Tom and Renee Boldt. Thank you also to the many members who made special contributions toward this project. We look forward to keeping you informed of our progress. •



Check out Life on the Farm at Old World Wisconsin on May 18 and watch our Life on the Farm Extreme contest winners in action. Be sure to stop in the gift shop and take advantage of your double discount, valid through the entire month of May.



Child in Madison, 1900

#### What to Know Before You Go

Location: Pyle Center, 702 Langdon Street, Madison, WI

Contact Information: (608) 264-6519 or email asklibrary@ wisconsinhistory.org

For registration fees (including discounted rates for members), a registration form for the conference, or for more information, visit wisconsinhistory. org/libraryarchives/classes. Space is limited, so please register early.

# **Attend the First Annual African-American Genealogy Conference June 21-22**

LOOKING FOR A HOME, the first annual African-American Genealogy Conference, co-hosted by the Wisconsin Historical Society and the Madison African-American Genealogy Writing Group, will convene Friday and Saturday, June 21-22, at the Pyle Center in Madison. "This conference will provide a scholarly blend of speakers headlined by Tony Burroughs, with a broad range of topics that will capture all researchers' interests," says Lori Bessler, one of the conference organizers and a Society genealogy reference librarian. Burroughs is an internationally known genealogist, author and lecturer who taught genealogy at Chicago State University for 15 years. His book, Black Roots: A Beginner's Guide to Tracing the African-American Family Tree, was number one on Essence magazine's best-seller list.

Other speakers include Walter T. McDonald, co-author of Finding Freedom: The Untold Story of Joshua Glover, Runaway Slave, and Crystal Moten from the University of Wisconsin-Madison history department. Moten will discuss "Finding and Telling Their Stories: Black Women's Lives and Experiences in the Historical Record"; James Hansen, Society genealogy reference librarian, discuss "African-American Newspapers will and Periodicals"; and Lori Bessler will discuss "Navigating Ancestry and FamilySearch."

"This conference is your chance to learn from people who have used different records in following and tracing the historical journey of black people," says conference organizer Kay Simmons. "If your ancestors aren't showing up in the usual records, you'll learn about some other places you can search." Members of the following groups receive a discount for the conference: Wisconsin Historical Society, Madison African-American Genealogy Writing Group, Wisconsin Black Historical Society, and chapters of the Afro-American Historical and Genealogical Society, and the African-American Genealogical Society.

Prior to or following the conference, attendees can visit the Wisconsin Historical Society, which holds one of the top five genealogical collections in the nation, with a scope of North American history. The Society's newspaper and periodical collections are second only to that of the Library of Congress, with a rich collection of African-American newspapers and other African-American collections.



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

# Take Advantage of These Spring Genealogy Workshops and Webinars

EACH SPRING the Society sponsors a slate of educational workshops for beginning genealogists to veterans, this year including several online webinars in which users can participate from their homes. These workshops feature presentations led by noted experts. This year seven workshops will take place from April through June. Members of the Wisconsin Historical Society and the Wisconsin State Genealogical Society receive discounts on registration fees. For complete details, and to register, visit wisconsinhistory.org/ libraryarchives/classes.

April 13-Workshop: French-Canadian Genealogy

**April 16** — Webinar: The Draper Manuscripts

**April 22** — Webinar: Genealogy, Where Do I Go Next?

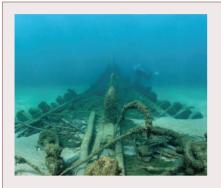
May 1 — Webinar: Archival Collections

May 4 — Workshop: Irish Genealogy

May 11 — Webinar: Wisconsin in the Civil War

June 21 - 22 — Looking for a Home: An African-American Genealogy Conference (see the story above) •

# State Register of Historic Places Recent Wisconsin Additions



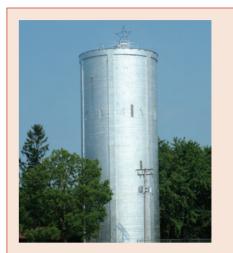
Australasia Shipwreck (Wooden Bulk Carrier) Town of Sevastopol, Door County

The remains of the Australasia are located approximately 800 feet southeast of the Whitefish Dunes State Park beach in Door County. At the time of its launch in 1884, the ship was the largest wooden vessel built on the Great Lakes. The Australasia is the product of master shipbuilder and successful maritime entrepreneur, Captain James Davidson, of Bay City, Michigan. Designed to tow one or more schooner barges, the Australasia moved immense bulk cargoes across the Great Lakes so efficiently that it successfully competed with larger, more modern steel ships at a time when wooden vessels were quickly becoming obsolete. On October 17, 1896, the Australasia caught fire near Baileys Harbor and was scuttled in 15 feet of water south of Cave Point in Whitefish Bay.



Einar and Alice Borton House Eau Claire, Eau Claire County

The 1949 Einar and Alice Borton house is a highly intact example of the prefabricated all-metal houses designed and built by the Lustron Corporation between 1948 and 1950. The unprecedented need for housing at the end of World War II made it necessary to explore innovative, even radical, ideas to meet the country's housing needs. None was more modern or innovative than the Lustron Corporation houses. Lustron houses are either two- or three-bedroom, single-story houses that have steel frames, exterior walls of enameled steel panels, and roofs sheathed in enameled steel shingles. Interiors also feature walls of enameled steel panels and factory-provided, built-in steel storage spaces, as well as factorysupplied sinks and bathtubs.



Neillsville Standpipe Neillsville, Clark County

In 1890 the first Neillsville Standpipe was built on the highest point in the city. On March 20, 1926, an icecap on the top of the tower broke free from the sides of the tank and plummeted to the water below, bursting the sides and causing the collapse of the standpipe. In September 1926 work began on a new standpipe at the earlier location. A concrete encasing tower, resembling a medieval castle tower, houses the hemisphericalbottomed 250,000 gallon steel water tank. The Tierweiller Brothers Concrete Company of Marshfield built the 95-foot-tall concrete tower, and the Pittsburgh-Des Moines Steel Company designed and constructed the tank. This unique standpipe is still in service and continues to serve the water and firefighting needs of the city.



Burlington Cemetery Chapel Burlington, Racine County

One of only two cemetery chapels in the city, the Burlington Cemetery Chapel is a late and unique small-scale example of the Richardsonian Romanesque style, characterized by its solid volume and simple form, weighty mass and rough-faced masonry construction, round arch and gable parapets. The chapel is located in Burlington Cemetery, which was one of the area's earliest graveyards. Construction of the chapel began in 1921 to provide a shelter at the cemetery for funerary gatherings.

#### Other Listings:

Burlington Community Swimming Pools and Bathhouse, Burlington, Racine County

Cornelius, Charles and Theresa, House, Neillsville, Clark County

Omaha Hotel, Neillsville, Clark County

Richards Hill Residential Historic District, Watertown, Jefferson County

To learn more about available Society resources to aid in preserving historic homes or properties, visit wisconsinhistory.org/hp.

#### Chippewa County Looks to its Past

The Chippewa County Historical Society will celebrate the county's past in May with its signature event, *The Past Passed Here*. The event is held each spring at Allen Park, on the banks of Duncan Creek in downtown Chippewa Falls. It was once the site of Native American and French fur trade camps. Visitors of all ages can enjoy exploring a variety of authentic re-enactor camps and participating in hands-on camp activities. The event takes place May 9-12. The cost is \$3 per person, \$10 per family. For more details visit thepastpassedhere. org or call (715) 723-0619.

### **Collections Highlight:**

#### Discover and Share Your Wisconsin Story on This New Website

WISCONSIN HERITAGE ONLINE, the statewide digital collaborative, has a new name — Recollection Wisconsin — and a new look. The program's new website provides Wisconsin residents and audiences worldwide with free access to a growing set of historical resources from the collections of libraries, archives, museums and historical societies across the state. Visitors can use the website to explore historic photographs, postcards, maps, letters, diaries, articles, books, artifacts, oral histories and other materials from dozens of Wisconsin communities.

Many affiliated local historical societies have partnered with the program to share materials from their collections online. Visitors can find a wide variety of local resources ranging from photographs of the Lake Superior iron ore docks from the Ashland Historical Museum and Civil War-era letters written by Antigo city founder Francis Deleglise from the Langlade County Historical Society to glass-plate negatives illustrating innovative farming practices at Cornfalfa Farms in Waukesha County from the New Berlin Historical Society. Other Wisconsin Historical Society affiliates that have created digital collections through the program include numerous county and municipal historical societies throughout the state. New features visitors can find on recollectionwisconsin.org include:

- Share a story. Recollection Wisconsin has partnered with Wisconsin Life, an audio essay series on Wisconsin Public Radio that celebrates what makes Wisconsin unique, to collect and share stories contributed by visitors.
- Stories from the collections. The site provides a closer look at small slices of state and local history as told through photographs and documents from participating organizations.
- **Browse.** A user-friendly browser interface enables visitors to sort collections by topic categories, such as cranberries, music or World War I, or by types of materials, such as plat maps or scrapbooks. Visitors can also use an interactive map to locate digital collections in or near their hometowns or other locations of interest.

Wisconsin Library Services sponsors the Recollection Wisconsin program in partnership with the Milwaukee Public Library, the University of Wisconsin-Madison and the Wisconsin Historical Society. To explore the new website, visit recollectionwisconsin.org. •



Bill Collar, president of the Seymour Community Historical Society in Seymour, will be the host for the Northeast Regional Meeting on July 20.

#### Learn About Your Local History at This Year's Regional Meetings

Each year the Society and the Wisconsin Council for Local History partner to hold regional meetings in each of the council's 10 regions. Local hosts provide hospitality and share their community history, field services staff present workshops, and attendees share ideas and information through regional roundtable discussions. Mark your calendars and plan to attend a regional meeting in 2013. Full agendas, registration information and more details can be found at wisconsinhistory.org/ localhistory. Meetings are geared towards staff and volunteers of local societies and museums, but are open to anyone with an interest in local history

Southeastern Region Menomonee Falls Historical Society — Friday, June 14 Capital Region Rock County Historical Society — Wednesday, July 10 Metropolitan Region Greenfield Historical Society — Saturday, July 13 Northeastern Region Seymour Community Historical Society — Saturday, July 20 East Central Region Sheboygan County Historical Society — Wednesday, July 24 Central Region New London Public Museum — Monday, August 5 Northwoods Region Florence County Historical Society — Friday, August 16 Northwest Region Douglas County Historical Society — Friday, September 13 Southwest Region Deke Slayton Memorial Space and Bicycle Museum — Monday, September 16 West Central Region Stanley Area Historical Society — Saturday, September 21

# **Local History Highlight:** Madison Trust for Historic Preservation

THE MADISON TRUST for Historic Preservation is one of the Wisconsin Historical Society's newest affiliates, although it's been around for some time. Founded in 1974, the Trust is a local historic preservation advocacy organization that began the way many preservation organizations do — as a reaction to the demolition of a historic building. In Madison, such demolitions became a trend in the 1960s as the city adapted to rapid growth. The galvanizing event came in 1970 when a grand 19th-century Greek Revival farmhouse, Mapleside, built of locally guarried sandstone, was demolished to make way for a fastfood restaurant. The demolition received national attention when Ada Louise Huxtable criticized it in The New York Times, complete with a photo of the Burger King that replaced it.

Other pioneering advocacy groups had formed in response to those early issues, and members of those groups worked with city staff and Common Council members to pass the city's Landmarks ordinance in 1971, which protects historic places designated under the ordinance. Those early organizations, however, did not continue past the mid-1970s, and the Trust assumed its ongoing mission of education and advocacy for historic places in the greater Madison area.

In 2009, with more than 300 members and an active volunteer board, the Trust hired its first-ever executive director, Jason Tish, and today continues to raise awareness of the importance of historic places to Madison's sense of place. With a full-time director available to promote policies and decisions that protect historic places, the group has been successful in affecting positive changes to proposals that would otherwise have negative effects on historic places. The Trust's Historic Architecture Walking Tours program, pictured here, is a key component of the organization's educational mission. It has grown from one walking tour in 2001 to seven walking tours and one bicycle tour, with more tours in development.

The annual Historic Preservation Awards event brings together preservation advocates, property owners, contractors and craftspeople to showcase projects that restore or rehabilitate historic properties throughout the region. The Trust presents a series of Old House Workshops in the winter months, an annual winter event for members and other special events throughout the year. Through advocacy and education, the Trust is continuing to promote the value of historic places to the future of Madison into the 21st century. For more information visit the Trust's website at madisonpreservation.org. •



A walking tour on Madison's Mansion Hill

#### Create a Lasting Legacy – Join the Robert B.L. Murphy Legacy Circle

Creating a legacy often means handing down what we value most. For many of us, that includes making certain that our children and grandchildren will inherit our precious history and heritage.

You can help ensure the Wisconsin Historical Society's ability to collect, preserve and share stories by remembering the Society in your will, naming the Society as a beneficiary of your retirement plan, or establishing a life-income or other planned gift. For more information about the various ways you can support the Society through gift planning, please contact Sarah Milestone at (608) 264-6585 or via email at sarah.milestone@ wisconsinhistory.org.

# Make Sure Your Local Historical Society Has This Year's Updated Mini-Grant Guidelines

Local societies and museums affiliated with the Wisconsin Historical Society are eligible to apply for mini-grants of up to \$700 for collections care and management projects. The Wisconsin Council for Local History and the Society partner each year to offer this important program. Examples of commonly funded projects include the purchase of PastPerfect collections management software as well as computers, scanners and digital cameras for digitization projects. Many organizations apply for funds to purchase archival storage supplies such as acid-free boxes and folders.

The updated guidelines for 2013 were mailed to each affiliated society, but are also available to view and download online at wisconsinhistory.org/localhistory. The deadline is June 3, and awards will be announced in July. Your field services representative can answer questions and provide assistance, especially to first-time applicants. Contact Rick Bernstein at rick.bernstein@wisconsinhistory.org, (608) 264-6583, or Janet Seymour at janet.seymour@wisconsinhistory.org, (715) 836-2250.

#### Events Calendar

The following are special event highlights for the spring 2013 quarter. For a complete listing of events, visit wisconsinhistory.org/ calendar.

### > A P R I L



#### April 13 Hearthside Dinner

Live the history of the 1860s as you prepare a meal in the kitchen of the historic Wade House stagecoach inn. Wade House, 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. \$45. (920) 526-3271 or wadehouse@wisconsinhistory.org



#### April 27 Mad Hatter's Tea Party

Finger foods, crafts and dress up inspired by Lewis Carroll's 19th-century "Alice" stories. Old World Wisconsin, 1 – 3 p.m. (262) 594-6301 or oww@ wisconsinhistory.org

### > M A Y



#### May 4 Early Morning Bird Walk

Learn about song birds and fowl that inhabit Old World Wisconsin. Continental breakfast to follow. Old World Wisconsin, 6 – 9 a.m. Reservations required: \$15 (\$10 for members of the Old World Foundation). (262) 594-2922 or friends@friendsoww.org



#### May 4 Bustle Hustle 5K Run/Walk

Take part in this run/walk through the fields and farms of Old World Wisconsin. Old World Wisconsin, Registration at 8:30 a.m. Run/walk at 9:45 a.m. Children's 1K race at 10:45 a.m. \$18 adults and \$14 children (preregistered), \$22 adults and \$18 children (not preregistered). (262) 594-2922 or friends@friendsoww.org



May 4 – May 26 **Spring Into the Past** Springtime is a flurry of activity on our 19th- and early 20th-century farmyards and homesteads. **Old World Wisconsin, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. weekends only.** (262) 594-6301 or oww@wisconsinhistory.org



#### May 12 Mother's Day Brunch

Make mom's gift a morning spent together. All moms receive free museum admission this day. Old World Wisconsin, seatings every 45 minutes from 9:30 a.m. to 12:20 p.m. Adults \$20, children \$10. (262) 594-6301 or oww@wisconsinhistory.org



#### May 18 Breakfast in a Victorian Kitchen Participants prepare and consume a Victorian breakfast. Villa Louis, 8:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. \$40. (608) 326-2721 or villalouis@wisconsinhistory.org



#### May 18 – 19 At Work and at Play Help Wade House get ready for spring. On Sunday only, take in a vintage base ball game at 1 p.m. Wade House, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. (920) 526-3271 or wadehouse@wisconsinhistory.org



#### May 18 - 19 Wild West Show

An event featuring cowboys and cowgirls, plus trick riding, roping and shooting. Circus World, 5 p.m. Saturday, 2 p.m. Sunday. (866) 693-1500 or ringmaster@circusworldmuseum.com



# May 30 – June 2 Circus Model Builders Convention and Show

Explore an exhibit of miniature circus creations. Circus World, 9 a.m. – 6 p.m. (866) 693-1500 or ringmaster@ circusworldmuseum.com

# > J U N E



# June 1-30 Celebrate Wisconsin Folklife Sing, dance, craft and eat your way through the ethnic folk traditions that make Wisconsin unique. Old World Wisconsin, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. weekends only.

(262) 594-6301 or oww@wisconsinhistory.org



#### June 1 Rousing with the Roosters

Experience 19th-century farm life firsthand, then enjoy a breakfast you help prepare. Old World Wisconsin, 6:30 – 9:30 a.m. \$45 includes breakfast and museum admission. (262) 594-6301 or oww@wisconsinhistory.org



#### June 1 Nash Metropolitan Show

See several of these rare cars on display. Circus World, 9 a.m. – 6 p.m. (866) 693-1500 or ringmaster@ circusworldmuseum.com



#### June 7 Wade House Sneak Preview

Join fellow Wisconsin Historical Society members for a sneak preview of the new building (see page 10). Wade House, 5 – 8 p.m. Free and open to all Society members. Register by May 31. (888) 748-7479 or membership@ wisconsinhistory.org

#### June 8 1860s Dairy Day

Take part in cheese, butter and ice cream making. Stagecoach rides. Wade House, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. (920) 526-3271 or wadehouse@wisconsinhistory.org



#### June 8 13th Anniversary Celebration

Celebrate the 13th anniversary of H.H. Bennett Studio's operation as a historic site. **H.H. Bennett Studio**, **10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Free admission this date only. (608) 253-3523 or hhbennett@wisconsinhistory.org** 

#### June 15 Great River Road Festival



Come celebrate the Great River Road's 75th Anniversary. Stonefield, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. (608) 725-5210 or stonefield@wisconsinhistory.org

#### June 15 Rousing with the Roosters

Experience 19th-century farm life firsthand, then enjoy a breakfast you help prepare. **Old World Wisconsin**, **6:30 – 9:30 a.m. \$45 includes breakfast and museum admission. (262) 594-6301 or oww@wisconsinhistory.org** 



#### June 15 Taste Traditions of Wisconsin

Join the Wisconsin Historical Museum staff in Rhinelander for a sampling of traditional supper club fare. Al-Gen Dinner Club, 3428 Faust Lake Road, Rhinelander, 1 – 3:30 p.m. \$15. (608) 264-6555



#### June 16 Father's Day Breakfast

Enjoy a hearty breakfast buffet with dad, then visit the museum. All dads receive free museum admission this day. **Old World Wisconsin, Seatings 9:30 a.m. – 12:30** p.m. **\$20 adults, \$10 children 5-17.** (262) **594-6301 or oww@wisconsinhistory.org** 



#### June 16 Father's Day Base Ball Match

Join in the fun as the Wade House vintage base ball team engages with fans. Wade House, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. (game time 1:30 p.m.). (920) 526-3271 or wadehouse@wisconsinhistory.org



#### June 22 Midsummer Spirits

Celtic "spirits" come to life and mingle with human kind. Pendarvis, 7 – 9:30 p.m. \$10 adults, \$5 children 5-17. (608) 987-2122 or pendarvis@wisconsinhistory.org

### > J U L Y



#### July 4 A Day on the Green

Kick off the summer season on the island with a festive parade through La Pointe. Madeline Island Museum, noon – 3:30 p.m. (715) 747-2415 or madelineisland@wisconsinhistory.org



#### July 4 An Old World Fourth of July

Celebrate Independence Day in small-town fashion. Old World Wisconsin, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. (262) 594-6301 or oww@wisconsinhistory.org



#### July 5 – 31 The World of Little House

Enjoy a month full of activities that let you live like Laura Ingalls Wilder and her family. Old World Wisconsin, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. (262) 594-6301 or oww@wisconsinhistory.org

#### Events and Exhibits at the Wisconsin Historical Museum

Free admission for members (unless otherwise noted)

#### Through August 3 **Wisconsin Innovations:** From the Iconic to the Unexpected\*

Discover the diverse array of inventions, concepts and traditions that originated in Wisconsin. **9 a.m. – 4 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday** 

Through November 9 You Are Here: Maps & Meanings See a variety of striking maps from the rich collection of the Wisconsin Historical Society. 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday

# May 4 and $11\ \text{Bottoms}$ Up: Wisconsin's Historic Bars and Breweries

Celebrate Wisconsin's rich beer brewing history by taking in hourly screenings of Wisconsin Public Television's production, *Bottoms Up: Wisconsin's Historic Bars and Breweries.* **9 a.m. – 4 p.m.** 

May 7 A Spirited History of Milwaukee Brews and Booze Historian and author Martin Hintz will share the rich heritage of the folks who turned Milwaukee into the beer capital of the world. **12:15 – 1 p.m.** 

# May 8 Taste Traditions of Wisconsin: Breweries of Wisconsin

Celebrate Madison Craft Beer Week and join award-winning author Jerry Apps as he tells the story of the Dairy State's other major industry: beer. **\$28 (10-percent discount for Society members). Register by May 1. 6:30 – 9 p.m.** 

#### May 9 Potosi Beer and Wisconsin Cheese Pairing

Representatives from Potosi Brewing Company and Wisconsin Cheese Originals pair some of the brewery's delicious brews with Wisconsin's finest cheeses. **\$15. Register by May 1. 7 – 8:30 p.m.** 

#### May 21 A Farm in Wisconsin

Author Richard Quinney will discuss and sign copies of his book, *A Farm in Wisconsin.* **12:15 – 1 p.m.** 

# June 4 Taste Traditions of Wisconsin: Poles in Wisconsin

Join author Susan Gibson Mikoś for a discussion of Polish cultural heritage and a dinner of delicious Polish cuisine. **\$25 (10-percent discount for Society members). 6:30 – 9 p.m.** 

The museum is located at 30 North Carroll Street on Madison's Capitol Square. For more information call (608) 264-6555, email museum@wisconsinhistory.org or visit wisconsinhistory.org/museum.

\* *Wisconsin Innovations* is made possible by a lead grant from the Madison Community Foundation, generous gifts from American Family Insurance, The Evjue Foundation, Inc. the charitable arm of The Capital Times, and Sentry Equipment Corp., with additional support from Ann L. Koski, Promega Corporation, Madison Gas and Electric Foundation, U.S. Bancorp Foundation and Wisconsin Public Radio.

#### Wade House Sneak Preview

#### Free members-only event Friday, June 7 5 - 8 p.m.

Join fellow Wisconsin Historical Society members for a sneak preview of the new Visitor Center and Wesley W. Jung Carriage Museum at Wade House.

Complimentary hors d'oeuvres and beverages

Two adults and all dependen children welcome

#### RSVP by Friday, May 31

Space is limited. Register online at support.wisconsinhistory. org/whsneakpreview or contact the membership office at membership@wisconsinhistory. org or (888) 748-7479.

Formal invitation to follow

# Wade House Visitor Center and Wesley W. Jung Carriage Museum Grand Opening

FOLLOWING A MEMBERS-ONLY sneak preview event on Friday, June 7, a new 38,000-squarefoot Visitor Center and Wesley W. Jung Carriage Museum at Wade House will open to the public on Saturday, June 8. The grand opening falls exactly 60 years after a group of celebrants originally dedicated the Society's historic site in the Sheboygan County village of Greenbush. The project represents the culmination of years of planning, fundraising and work with state officials and legislators in a public-private venture that made the state-of-the-art building possible.

#### **New Facility Transforms the Visitor Experience** The new Visitor Center and Wesley W. Jung Carriage Museum, located on the south side of state Highway 23, will provide Wade House visitors with an entirely new, hands-on way to explore the era of stagecoach travel. Some of the new activities visitors can enjoy include the following.

- Climb inside a replica of a real stagecoach from the 19th century.
- Explore the new museum store and café.
- Learn riveting stories about the time of horse-drawn transportation through

the interactive new Wesley W. Jung Carriage Museum.

- Ride in a real horse-drawn wagon over the Mullet River and through the historic site.
- Stroll the new boardwalk and enjoy the scenic landscape.

The new year-round facility also includes a large room for public and private functions; a classroom that will accommodate a variety of programs for school children and adult learners alike; and ticketing, restrooms and administrative spaces.

Multiyear planning for the new building took hold when the Mark Jung family and the Kohler Trust for Preservation each pledged extraordinary leadership gifts of \$3 million. The State Building Commission followed with \$6.5 million. The new building will help Wade House most effectively realize the project's major focus: "on the cusp of change, the horse-powered economy of the 19th century."

#### New Operating Schedule

This spring and fall Old World Wisconsin will be open weekends from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. but closed to the general public most weekdays. Daily operation will begin May 25 and run through Labor Day, September 2. Visit oldworldwisconsin.org for complete details.

#### Member Month Perks

Use your double (20 percent) discount at Old World Wisconsin and at all of the museum and historic site gift shops throughout the month of May. See the story on page 3.

### **New Experiences at Old World Wisconsin**

GUESTS CAN LOOK FORWARD to exciting changes at Old World Wisconsin this season. Director Dan Freas has announced a slate of engaging new activities: "We've created many new experiences for guests of all ages, adding interactive opportunities into each day we're open to the public (see our new operating schedule at left). This follows our successful Life on the Farm launch last year, where guests could experience the daily chores of a 19th-century farm family. Our goal is to provide an even more heightened visitor experience every weekend throughout the operating season."

The season begins with Spring into the Past weekend experiences in May. During peak visitation from Memorial Day through Labor Day, guests can also look forward to these special events:

- Celebrate Wisconsin Folklife is a chance for guests to sing, dance, craft and eat their way through different cultures, and will be held every weekend in June.
- The World of "Little House" allows guests to try the chores and the fun of Laura Ingalls Wilder and her family and friends, throughout July.
- Civil War Wisconsin takes place from August 1 through Labor Day, and is an opportunity for guests to explore life on the home front, in the camps and on the battlefield.

# Polio Survivor Jerry Apps Recounts Living with the Affliction

POLIO WAS EPIDEMIC in the United States starting in 1916 and lasting into the late 1950s. In 1955 the Salk vaccine became available, saving thousands of lives. Yet that same year, Wisconsin's Fox River valley had more polio cases per capita than anywhere in the United States. Celebrated rural historian and Wisconsin Historical Society Press author Jerry Apps was one of Wisconsin's polio cases. He was 12.

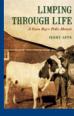
In his most personal book yet, *Limping through Life: A Farm Boy's Polio Memoir*, Apps reveals how the disease affected him physically and emotionally. He shares how polio profoundly — and in some ways, positively — influenced his education, military service and family life, and set him on the path to becoming a professional writer.

Apps clearly recalls when he felt the first effects of the debilitating, sometimes fatal illness that permanently affected his gait — and his life. "I can still remember that short winter day and the chilly night when I first showed symptoms. My life would never be the same," he writes.

Young Jerry Apps had to make many adjustments and meet many challenges after that winter night, and in *Limping through Life*  he reflects on the ways his world changed after polio and pays tribute to those family members, teachers and friends who helped him adjust, grow and become the agricultural professor and wellknown rural historian and environmental writer he is today.

A lifelong advocate for the rural life that sustained him through, and pushed him beyond polio, Apps shares many of his memories of growing up on a farm in a newly released and wildly successful Wisconsin Public Television documentary, A Farm Story. He will share stories of The Quiet Season - winter on the farm - in another Society Press book, due out in fall 2013. His other Wisconsin Historical Society Press titles include: Garden Wisdom: Lessons Learned from 60 Years of Gardening; Barns of Wisconsin; Old Farm: A History; Tent, Tigers, and the Ringling Brothers; Casper Jaggi: Master Swiss Cheese Maker; Horse-Drawn Days: A Century of Farming with Horses; and Ringlingville USA. A former county extension agent and professor at the University of Wisconsin College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, Apps still enjoys his own family farm, Roshara, west of Wild Rose.

#### Member Month Perks



Win a copy of *Limping through Life* by Jerry Apps. Participate in contests happening each week in May for a

chance to win special prizes, like the book pictured here. Use your double (20 percent) discount throughout May to purchase books from the Wisconsin Historical Society Press at shop. wisconsinhistory.org. See the story on page 3.

# Many Society Press Titles Now Available as E-Books

THE SOCIETY PRESS is reaching readers beyond the printed page by publishing its current — and many of its older — books electronically, as e-books available in a wide variety of formats. The Press has published more than a dozen titles as e-books, including such best-sellers as Return to Wake Robin: One Cabin in the Heyday of Northwoods Resorts; A Short History of Wisconsin; The Bark River Chronicles: Stories from a Wisconsin Watershed; and Creating Dairyland. The newest e-book releases include several Civil War-related books, both from current and backlist titles, including the fall 2012 release, This Wicked Rebellion: Wisconsin Civil War Soldiers Write Home, the 1986 favorite, Old Abe the War Eagle: A True Story of Civil War and Reconstruction, and the spring 2013 e-book release of the 1997 classic, Wisconsin in the Civil War: The Home Front and the Battle Front, 1861-1865.

Wisconsin Historical Society Press e-books are available for purchase on these major platforms: Amazon Kindle, Barnes and Noble Nook, Google Play, Kobo, Sony Reader, Apple iBooks and Overdrive/Content Reserve.

Beginning in 2013 the Society Press will print e-book versions simultaneously with the printed edition of each new book, including such spring 2013 titles as *This Superior Place* by Dennis McCann, *Limping Through Life* by Jerry Apps (see the related story above) and the second, revised edition of *Indian Nations of Wisconsin* by Patty Loew. In addition, the Press continues to transform many older titles into e-book formats.

#### Bottoms Up Book a Huge Success

The numbers tell the tale. The Society Press has sold 7,000 copies of *Bottoms Up: A Toast to Wisconsin's Historic Bars & Breweries*, selling through the first print run in just three months. Co-authors Jim Draeger and Mark Speltz have spoken at more than 40 events all over Wisconsin, and every major newspaper in the state plus more than 70 small dailies and weeklies have run stories on the book. Regional and national media made note of *Bottoms Up* as well, including the Chicago Tribune and The New York Times.



The America shipwreck site

#### Visit Black Point Estate

Starting in May you can visit the Society's newest historic site: Black Point Estate, historic house and gardens, in Lake Geneva. The site will be open weekends only May 4 through June 9, and daily tours will begin June 15. Tours depart by boat only. Visit blackpointestate.org for more details or call Lake Geneva Cruise Lines at (262) 248-6206.

Check your mail in the coming weeks for more information about using your member discount and planning your visit.

#### What to Know Before You Go

Location: Wisconsin Historical Museum, 30 North Carroll Street, Madison, WI

Contact Information: (608) 264-6555 or email museum@ wisconsinhistory.org

Website: wisconsinhistory.org/ museum

Free admission for members

The Caxambas Foundation provided generous funding to catalog and digitize the Society's 25,000-item map collection. We are grateful to the Caxambas Foundation for improving public access to one of the Society's most important resources.

# 50th Historic Wisconsin Shipwreck Added to the State Register of Historic Places

IN FEBRUARY the Society's Historic Preservation Review Board listed the shipwreck, *America*, as Wisconsin's 50th historic shipwreck site in the State Register of Historic Places. The approved nomination will now go to the National Park Service, which will review the nomination to determine whether the site should also be listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Wisconsin is one of the leading states in listing shipwrecks in the national register.

Shipwright Archibald Muir constructed the schooner *America* near Port Huron, Michigan, in 1873. The *America* is a canaller, a unique vessel type developed for use on the Great Lakes and designed to fit through the Welland Canal locks in the St. Lawrence Seaway while carrying the maximum amount of cargo. With only inches to spare, canallers squeezed cargos of grain from ports on Lake Michigan and Lake Superior through the canal, delivering it to ports on Lake Ontario. Canallers returning to the upper lakes often carried a cargo of coal to power and heat Midwestern cities. The vessel sank in a violent collision with an unlighted scow towed

by an escort and lies eight miles offshore from Kewaunee in 120 feet of water.

The America provides archaeologists and historians with the unique opportunity to study the construction techniques of Great Lakes canallers and helps maritime researchers better understand how business interests around the lakes adapted ships and other transportation methods to meet their needs. Preserving this shipwreck as well as the 49 other listed wrecks ensures that these underwater museums will be available for future generations. They will be able to experience these wrecks firsthand on dives into the clear waters of Lake Michigan or through the ever-expanding, magical world present on the Society's Maritime Trails websites at maritimetrails.org and wisconsinshipwrecks.org.

With addition of the *America* to the state register, the Society has listed one-third of the known shipwrecks in Wisconsin waters, and Wisconsin's shipwreck listings in the National Register of Historic Places comprise one-third of all nationally listed shipwreck sites.

# Explore the Place We Call Wisconsin Through the Museum's Newest Exhibition

SHOWCASING SOME WONDERFUL and engaging examples of the cartographer's art, a new Wisconsin Historical Museum exhibition, *You Are Here: Maps and Meanings*, will encourage visitors to reflect on who we are, where we belong and what we might share. The exhibition of striking, intriguing and distinctive maps will explore some of the ways that maps carry meanings and how they have helped us collectively define the place we call Wisconsin. The exhibit opened April 2 and runs through November 9, 2013.

At their most basic level, maps tell you how to get from here to there. But maps can also convey social, cultural and emotional information. They tell us what their makers considered important, like who owns the land, where their ancestors came from, what businesses are likely to prosper, or what problems need solving. Maps can be powerful analytical tools, revealing place-based facts about our world that are otherwise difficult to see. A well-conceived map can help us understand the world around us in new ways. At their most abstract, maps can convey metaphysical as well as physical information. They can also tap memories and inspire feelings of adventure, concern or mastery.

You Are Here draws heavily on the extensive collection of historic maps in the Society's library and archives, and supplements them with contemporary examples. Among other issues, the exhibit explores differences between Native American and European mapping concepts, how different graphic techniques can yield different messages, and how the shape of Wisconsin has become graphic shorthand for our values and traditions.



# **Meet: Tamara Thomsen**

### Staff Profile

#### How long have you been doing underwater archaeology for the Society?

I started out as a volunteer research diver for the Society's Maritime Preservation and Archaeology Program in summer of 2003. I helped with two projects - the survey of the schooner, Lumberman, off Oak Creek and the survey of the canaller, Kate Kelly, off Wind Point. Both were later listed on the National Register of Historic Places. In 2004 I contracted to create photo mosaics of shipwrecks in the Apostle Islands. Following that summer, I was offered a position as a Historic Preservation Specialist and about 18 months later I was given a dual appointment as Maritime Archaeologist.

# How does one prepare for a career in underwater archaeology?

Traditionally, one graduates from a master's program in maritime studies from either East Carolina University or Texas A&M University. I came to this career in a completely different manner. I graduated with a Master of Science in plant breeding and genetics in 1993 from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. I decided to give myself some time to find a job, and in the meantime I taught scuba diving to pay the bills.

Eventually I started volunteering on maritime projects. On a whim, I applied to work as a volunteer diver at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's USS Monitor National Marine Sanctuary. I volunteered for four missions (projects) to the USS Monitor in 2000 and 2001, and this is where I got my on-the-job training in underwater archaeology. We surveyed the wreck, and documented and collected artifacts in preparation for both the engine and turret recoveries.

I was offered the job with the Society in 2004, mostly because of my skills in scientific diving. Today I still volunteer. Every year I assist with the scientific diving course taught at Texas A&M University, helping to teach the university's field lab in Florida the last two weeks in May.

# What are some of the risks and rewards?

There, of course, is always an inherent risk when you go into a foreign environment, such as beneath the surface of the water to work. But much of that risk can be mitigated through training. Since part of my work with the Society involves training volunteers to work on the projects of the maritime program, risk mitigation is also where I receive much of my reward. Much of our recent work has been conducted in deep water, and many of our volunteers have been trained in the use of rebreather technology (a recirculating device where carbon dioxide is removed from the breathing gases and oxygen is added back in), and trained in the use of helium mixed gases for diving beyond 100 feet of water. Our core group of research volunteers has been working with us for many years. They have put in many hours of training and preparation to get to a place where we can successfully complete deep water archaeological surveys with a high level of precision and success.

#### What are some of your most memorable experiences in diving Great Lakes shipwrecks?

Some come through the invaluable partnerships that we have developed throughout the years working with different agencies. John Karl from the University of Wisconsin Sea Grant Institute learned to scuba dive this past spring in order to participate on the survey of the *Australasia* shipwreck off Whitefish Dunes State Park. Watching him experience the excitement of seeing and diving on his first Great Lakes shipwreck brought back all the excitement of my first time wreck diving.

Developing techniques for photo mosaicing shipwrecks in deep water in partnership with Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution has also been a great learning experience for me. The WHOI-Advanced Imaging and Visualization Laboratory has used Wisconsin's shipwrecks as a testing ground for camera equipment and technology for deep water archaeological surveys. For the 100th anniversary of the sinking of the *Titanic*, they used the techniques that were developed here to optically survey 100 percent of the ship's debris field, which was featured in the April 2012 National Geographic magazine. We here in Wisconsin are also greatly benefiting from this relationship through the beautiful shipwreck mosaics we are able to produce from the data they share with us. •

# Members Celebrate Oscar Season in Style at "Hollywood in the Heartland" in Milwaukee

(Above): Drawing on display from renowned costume designer Edith Head for the film "To Catch a Thief"

(Right) From left to right: Fred Geilfuss, Diane Nixa, Carl Mueller and Nick Wilson







(Top): Francine Muhich and Katherine Kuenkler

(Middle): Scripts, scores and photos on display from "West Side Story"

(Above): Robert and Clare Marsh

(Above) Jessica Schafer and Holly Ottum

(Above) Members get a behind-the-scenes look at film, theater and television artifacts from one of the world's largest archives relating to the entertainment industry.

# **HISTORIC SITES AND MUSEUMS**

#### MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR MEMBERSHIP THIS YEAR!

#### As a member, you can enjoy the following during each visit:

- Half-price or FREE admission to all historic sites & museums
- 10-percent discount\* at all museum and historic site gift shops
- \* Double discount (20 percent) during Member Appreciation Month in May



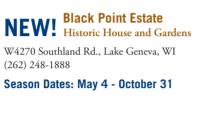












**Circus World** Experience the Thrill That Never Grows Old 550 Water St., Baraboo, WI (866) 693-1500

Open year-round Performance Season: May18 - September 2

#### **First Capitol**

The Birthplace of a Great State 19101 County Hwy. G, Belmont, WI (608) 987-2122

Season Dates: June 12 - September 2

H.H. Bennett Studio The Man Who Made Wisconsin Dells Famous 215 Broadway, Wisconsin Dells, WI (608) 253-3523

Season Dates: May 1 - October 31

#### Madeline Island Museum A Place of Encounters

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

Season Dates: May 25 - October 4

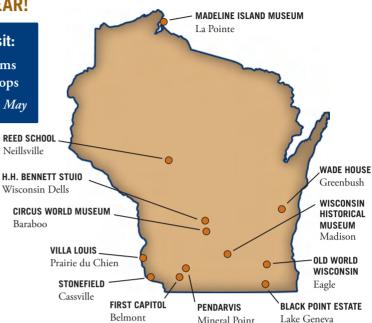
Old World Wisconsin Relive the Spirit of America's Heartland W372 S9727 Hwy. 67, Eagle, WI (262) 594-6301

Season Dates: May 4 - October 13

#### **Pendarvis**

Discover Wisconsin's Groundbreaking Community 114 Shake Rag St., Mineral Point, WI (608) 987-2122

Season Dates: May 8 - October 31



**Reed School** 

(608) 253-3523











**Stonefield** The Roots of Rural Wisconsin 12195 Hwy. VV, Cassville, WI

Season Dates: May 4 - October 27

When One Room Shaped Many Lives

U.S. Hwy. 10 & Cardinal Ave., Neillsville, WI

(608) 725-5210

#### Season Dates: May 25 - October 6

#### Villa Louis

(608) 326-2721

Enter the World of Victorian America 521 N. Villa Louis Rd., Prairie du Chien, WI

Season Dates: May 4 - October 31

#### Wade House

Explore the Era of Stagecoach Travel N7965 State Hwy. 23, Greenbush, WI (920) 526-3271

Season Dates: May 18 - October 13

NEW Visitor Center and Wesley W. Jung Carriage Museum opens June 8 *Member sneak preview on June 7* 

#### **Wisconsin Historical Museum**

30 N. Carroll St., Madison, WI (608) 264-6555

**Open year-round** 

For detailed season days, times, admission fees and other information, please visit wisconsinhistory.org/sites





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**Periodical Class** 





- The new \$12 million, 38,000-square-foot Wade House Visitor Center and Wesley W. Jung Carriage Museum in Greenbush resulted from a public-private partnership between the state of Wisconsin and private donors.
- The Kohler Trust for Preservation and the Mark Jung Family each pledged extraordinary leadership gifts of \$3 million to get the ambitious project underway.
- Once opened to the public in June 2013, the new facility will provide a state-of-the-art space for curatorial care and display of the one-of-a-kind carriage and wagon collection, and will transform the Wade House visitor experience.

#### 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. Workers carefully unload this prized 1886 Silsby steam-powered pumper from a flat-bed trailer upon its arrival at its new home, the Wesley W. Jung Carriage Museum at Wade House in Greenbush. The historic site's new Visitor Center and museum facility opens to the public on June 8. See the story on page 10.

