



WISCONSIN  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY

COLLECTING, PRESERVING  
AND SHARING STORIES *Since 1846*

# COLUMNS

THE NEWSLETTER *of the* WISCONSIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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## NATIONAL HISTORY DAY IN WISCONSIN

Connecting Wisconsin  
students to the past while  
building their future

**HISTORY** is helping thousands of Wisconsin students each year shape their own futures as they participate in National History Day.

Coordinated here by the Wisconsin Historical Society, **NATIONAL HISTORY DAY** is an academic enrichment program that helps students in grades six through twelve learn about historical issues, ideas, people and events by creating research-based projects.

*Learn more on page 8*

# Historic Preservation A WISCONSIN LEGACY, SHARED



ELLSWORTH H. BROWN  
The Ruth and Hartley Barker Director

**IF YOU'VE RECENTLY VISITED** the Stoughton Opera House, toured the SS Meteor, or walked past the Cana Island Lighthouse in Door County, you have seen first-hand what dedication to historic preservation can accomplish. Tom Jeffris, head of the Janesville-based Jeffris Family Foundation, embodies this dedication. Through grants and endowments to institutions like the Society's Wisconsin Historical Foundation, and to cities and towns across the State, Jeffris has enabled communities to restore and preserve important tangible symbols of people's sense of time and place. Although Jeffris's generosity has touched several other Midwestern states, his investment in Wisconsin's architectural history is unmatched.

Along with a number of individual gifts that the Jeffris Family Foundation has given to support a wide variety of Society programs, and over \$1 million that it provided for the restoration of our Villa Louis (a grand Victorian-era estate in Prairie du Chien), the Foundation has recently given the Wisconsin Historical Foundation \$909,899 to create an endowment to support historic preservation. The interest earned each year from this investment enables the Society to extend its preservation efforts to projects it otherwise could not have launched. The Jeffris Foundation also provides financial assistance for people and communities otherwise unable to afford professional advice necessary to propose a site for consideration, as was the case with the Fairlawn Mansion in Superior.

One of Tom's continuing commitments is to the education of Wisconsinites and all architecture enthusiasts about the importance and beauty of the state's historic buildings, which is why he funded the creation of *Wisconsin's Own: Twenty Remarkable Homes* (Wisconsin Historical Society Press, 2010). This vibrant book of historic homes that have influenced American residential architecture shows talented Wisconsinites' breadth of architectural creativity and experimentation.

Jeffris's Foundation has also given challenge grants to communities engaging in local renovation and restoration projects. When the people of Stoughton sought to restore their grand Opera House several years ago, the Jeffris Foundation gave the Restoration Committee a matching grant of \$332,500 to help restore the building's main entrance and install an elevator. In a similar instance, a \$1 million challenge grant from the Jeffris Foundation in 2005 enabled the Marathon County Historical Society to launch a successful capital fund drive to restore the Yawkey House to its 1907/08 splendor. Last summer the Society's first *Wisconsin History Tour* venue was hosted by the Marathon County Historical Society, with several tour events held across the street at their Yawkey House. In the case of the Potosi Brewery, Jeffris and his foundation made a \$400,000 challenge grant, helping the Potosi Brewery Foundation accelerate its restoration work on the historic brewery that now includes a microbrewery, restaurant, and museum where the famous Potosi beer was once made.

I wish each of you could spend an hour with Tom. You would leave the conversation with admiration for the depth of his vision and personal commitment to historic preservation. You would also gain a greater appreciation for the importance of the built environment to a community's sense of place and continuity of identity and values over time. In a world in which demolition and new construction are common, Tom Jeffris challenges us to remember historic homes, breweries, opera houses, estates, and the vernacular architecture that have made Wisconsin a vibrant state. For his generosity and dedication, we thank him.

EHB

## COLUMNS

ROBYN KITSON, EDITOR

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*Together We are Collecting,  
Preserving and Sharing the Past While...*  
**FOCUSING ON THE FUTURE**



**ON BEHALF OF THE WISCONSIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY AND THE WISCONSIN HISTORICAL FOUNDATION,** I would like to express my sincere appreciation to everyone who generously supports the work we do to collect, preserve and share Wisconsin's amazing history.

Because of you, history lovers across the state — even across the world — continue to enjoy a wealth of stories and make new memories that remind them why Wisconsin is such a wonderful place to call home.

**Here are a few examples of how your support is being put to work in the coming months.**

In February the Wisconsin Historical Museum will open an exhibition showcasing Wisconsin's important role in the growth of American cycling. *Shifting Gears: A Cyclical History of Badger Bicycling* will allow visitors to interact with the science, technology and social history of cycling and discover how Wisconsin is leading the cycling boom currently sweeping the nation — just as we did in the 1800s.

The Society will also continue to expand its connection to communities across the state and to the whole world online. In Milwaukee we'll record history as it happens in partnership with the Water Council, which leads efforts among business, academic and industry groups to establish the Milwaukee region as the World Water Hub for water research, economic development and education. Additionally, the Society will initiate the extremely valuable, labor-intensive processes of digitizing more than 2,000 historic images, 700 Renaissance-era sheet maps, and cataloging the world-class film collections at Circus World Museum's research center.

And, of course, the *Wisconsin History Tour* will continue its travels across the state, delighting visitors of all ages. See some of our travel photos on the right.

These are just a few ways that together we will share diverse and satisfying experiences of history this year, and we couldn't be more excited to have you by our side. Thank you for your continued support.

With gratitude,

*Laura Ingersoll*

**Laura Ingersoll**

*Director of Annual Giving*

**PAPERLESS E-VERSION OF COLUMNS NOW AVAILABLE**

We invite you to view the new e-version of *Columns* at [wihist.org/societynewsletters](http://wihist.org/societynewsletters).

**Make your support go further. Go paperless!**

Going paperless is fast, easy, convenient, and it helps the Society save on overhead, printing and postage costs so your support has an even greater impact.

**To sign up to receive the paperless, e-version of *Columns* only, visit [support.wisconsinhistory.org/ecolumns](http://support.wisconsinhistory.org/ecolumns).**

If you would like to receive both paper and electronic copies, sign up to receive emails from the membership office at [wihist.org/memberemails](http://wihist.org/memberemails).

*Please note: You will continue to receive a paper copy of *Columns* unless you sign up to go paperless.*

**FRIENDS WE MEET ON TOUR**



The Tour packs the Weber Center for the Performing Arts in La Crosse for Veterans Day with the 1st Brigade Band Concert of Civil War Music.



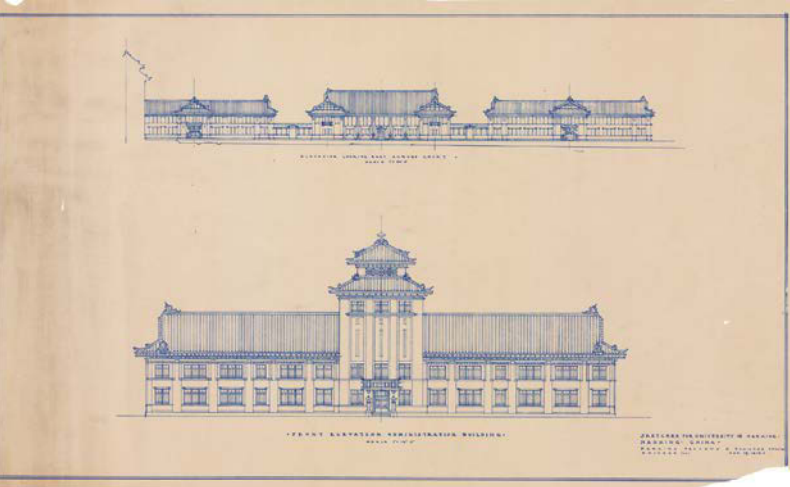
Jessie Garcia draws a big crowd at Mead Public Library on Tour in Sheboygan.



Peggy Derrick and Carmen Robieson from the La Crosse County Historical Society are all smiles for their mug shots at the History Happy Hour at the Casino Bar.



Wade House offers Tour visitors the experience of riding on the stagecoach road at Fall Family Fun Day in Sheboygan.



Nanjing Administration building elevation drawings dated Nov. 19, 1912.



Nanjing Administration building (October 2014).

# Cross-Culture Parallels Explored

by **DR. RICK PIFER**, recently retired from his 25-year position as Director of Reference and Public Services at the Wisconsin Historical Society

Life is full of surprises. Who would have anticipated that a single cup of coffee in October 2013 would lead to lectures in China, meeting with Jiangsu Provincial Archives staff, and the donation of important records to the Nanjing University Archives?



Last year, I became friends with Li Gang, a professor of history and archival studies at Nanjing University who came to Madison to learn about archival practice in the

United States and improve his English. In the fall of 2013, he audited my “Introduction to Archives” class at the UW–Madison School of Library and Information Studies. One evening after class, I asked Professor Li to join me for a cup of coffee. Soon we were meeting weekly, talking about archives and the English language, and becoming friends.

Professor Li initially asked me to collaborate on a project identifying key archival literature from the United States and Canada to recommend for translation into Chinese. He then invited me to deliver a lecture to a national archives conference of professors and doctoral students at Beijing’s Renmin University, one of the largest library schools in the world with responsibility for training most of China’s government archivists.

Before leaving for China, I learned that the Society’s McCormick Collection contained correspondence and building plans for a number of early buildings on the Nanjing campus. During the early

20th century, Nettie Fowler McCormick, whose husband invented the reaper, was one of the richest women in the world and a generous philanthropist. The Board of Presbyterian Missions drew her attention to their plans for founding a Christian university in Nanjing. Renamed University of Nanjing, McCormick hired a Chicago architectural firm to design the campus and its buildings. Between 1909 and 1920, she donated at least \$26,000 for construction of the administration building, library and dormitories. The buildings are still used today.

Today, Nanjing University serves 40,000 students and is a top university in China. The Wisconsin Historical Society donated high-resolution scans of Nettie’s correspondence from 1909 to 1920, and 27 drawings of Nanjing University buildings built with McCormick money. Although this was a private trip, it felt like an official visit when I delivered the scanned documents to the university archivist, Wu Mei.

A visit to the Jiangsu Provincial Archives, the equivalent of the Wisconsin State Archives, was another occasion for sharing information. A similar visit by a colleague from China would typically involve gathering staff informally for a

presentation. But here, we were ushered to a formal receiving room, offered tea, then moved to a large ceremonial room. The guests were seated on one side in front of microphones, and 22 archivists and supervisors sat on the other side.

Zhang Jiwan, the provincial archivist, began by commenting on the Provincial Archives’ history and goals, including a new state-of-the-art building, greater accessibility and openness, and more use by the public, particularly students. I was so struck by the parallels that I scrapped my prepared remarks and focused on the similarities in our programs, including our strong emphasis on open access, and our belief in the use of archives in education. While the parallels are striking, I suspect there are linguistic and political nuances that color how Wisconsin Historical Society and Provincial Archives staff understand concepts such as open access.

The legacy of this visit is hard to forecast, but conversations about access to information, openness and education are worth having. My friend is already introducing concepts from American archival literature into his classes as a way to broaden student understanding. We will soon begin work on an article describing the different meanings our two cultures give to words in the archival lexicon.

You never know where the offer of a cup of coffee will lead, but the journey can be amazing.

# Introducing Answers for YOUR HISTORIC BUILDING

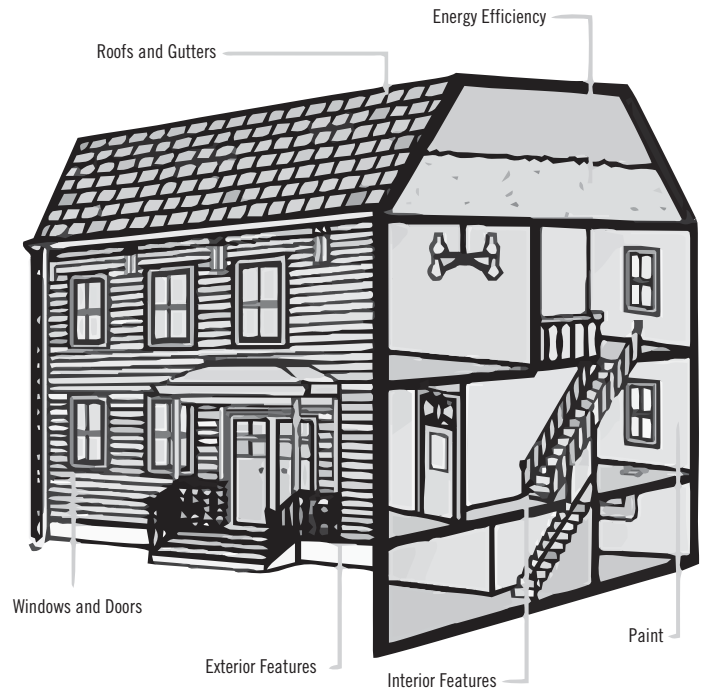
If you own a historic building, you know it deserves special care and attention to preserve its history and charm. This is especially the case when you need to make updates and repairs.

Whether it is an 1870s farmhouse, a one room school, or a 1920s commercial building that holds your heart, you want answers that are financially sound and historically sensitive. Fortunately, the Historical Society offers a brand-new web resource to answer questions about your historic building.

## NEW WEB RESOURCE: Free, and accessible online 24/7

Go to [wisconsinhistory.org/preserve-your-building](http://wisconsinhistory.org/preserve-your-building) and you'll find an image of a house divided into sections (like the image on this page). By clicking on an area where you have questions, you will find 145 concise yet thorough articles on topics ranging from window repair to how to talk with a contractor. You will even find several step-by-step articles for some common historic building projects illustrated by skilled tradespeople in detailed photographs. These articles are designed with a rating system to help you determine whether a project is a simple DIY repair or when it is time to call a contractor.

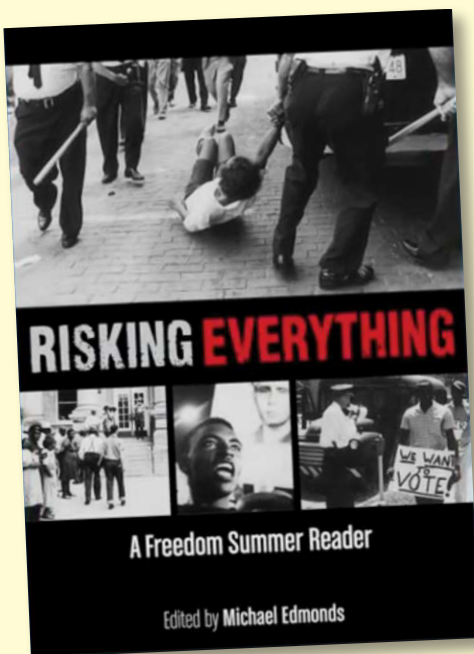
This resource was created to help historic building owners understand not only the techniques to preserve or restore a



building, but also how historic buildings work, why preservation is important, and tips on how to finance and plan a historic rehabilitation project in the most efficient and cost-effective way.

This Guide to historic building preservation is supported in part by a Preserve America grant administered by the National Park Service, Department of the Interior. The Society thanks the generous donors who supported this matching grant.

## Society Press Book Wins National Award



**USABOOKNEWS.COM**, the premier online magazine about mainstream and independent publishing, has named *Risking Everything: A Freedom Summer Reader* the best non-fiction anthology of 2014, praising the book's unique collection of vivid primary sources.

The book contains 44 eyewitness accounts, photographs, and other documents created during the 1964 Mississippi Freedom Summer project, a turning point in the civil rights movement. Editor Michael Edmonds, deputy director of the Society's Library-Archives Division, chose the contents from the Society's vast archives of civil rights documents and placed each in historical context. Hear what Edmonds has to say about the importance of the Freedom Summer documents in a Society Press interview at <http://wihist.org/freedomssummerinterview>

Civil rights veterans have praised *Risking Everything* for its authenticity and power, and reviewers have called it "a wonderful and long-overdue book" and "a giant eye-opener." College courses and private book clubs around the nation have also adopted it.

*Risking Everything* was part of the Society's commemoration of Freedom Summer's 50th anniversary. Other anniversary programs included a traveling exhibit seen by 30,000 people in Wisconsin and other states and an online archive of 40,000 pages at [www.wisconsinhistory.org/freedomssummer](http://www.wisconsinhistory.org/freedomssummer). The book and the other programs were funded in part through generous donations by the Jane Bradley Pettit Foundation, the Herzfeld Foundation, the Northwestern Mutual Foundation, C.G. Schmidt, and Weyco Group.

# Return of Nearly 300 Native American Remains

After three years of dedicated work, the Wisconsin Historical Society repatriated nearly 300 sets of remains and associated funerary object.

This represented the successful completion of a National Park Service grant the Society received in 2011 through the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA). Passed in 1990, NAGPRA outlines a legal process for museums, universities, and other institutions that receive federal funding to return, or repatriate, human remains and certain types of artifacts to Native Nations who make a valid claim for them. It requires these institutions to report what is in their Native American collections and to consult with the appropriate Native Nations about the identification, cultural affiliation, and repatriation of these cultural items. For many native people, these collections represent a painful part of their history; NAGPRA attempts to rectify this.

The Society's 2011 NAGPRA grant focused on eastern and southern Wisconsin. It required staff from two of its Divisions — the Museum and Historic Sites and the Historic Preservation Division — to work closely. Society Native American Liaison and Director of the Historical Museum, Jennifer Kolb, and Leslie Eisenberg, Compliance Archaeologist spent nearly three years in consultation with tribal representatives to work through the complicated issues to arrive at agreements as to how the remains should be cared for, and ultimately returned, to the appropriate tribe(s). NAGPRA representatives from three Tribes were critical to the

successful return and reburial of these remains: Mr. Michael Alloway, Sr. (Forest County Potawatomi), Mr. George Garvin (Ho-Chunk Nation), and Mr. David Grignon (Menominee Indian Tribe). The guidance and information shared by the NAGPRA representatives during these frank, and often difficult, conversations were invaluable. In addition to reaching the goals of the grant, the consultation process also worked to strengthen relationships between the Society and Wisconsin's Native Nations and Tribes. It also heightened awareness among the Historical Society's staff and Board of Curators, particularly its Stewardship Committee who reviewed all of the documentation related to claims and agreements before making a recommendation to the full Board. Working through the legal processes of NAGPRA also brought other issues and concerns, important to Native Nations and Tribes, in front of the Society.

In October 2014, the remains of nearly 300 Native Americans were reburied in two separate locations, marking the end of a process that began at the Society more than 20 years ago. The success of this grant demonstrates the Historical Society's ongoing commitment to fulfilling its responsibilities under NAGPRA, and to improving and sustaining its relationships with tribes. It also lays the groundwork for the recently awarded 2014 NAGPRA Consultation and Documentation Grant, which will focus on remains from sites in Wisconsin's northern and western regions.



FOREST COUNTY POTAWATOMI  
Keeper of the Fire



## COLLECTING HISTORY AS IT HAPPENS

### *Society Embeds Archivist at Water Council*

In 2009, Milwaukee's business leaders, educators, and politicians created the Water Council, an organization unique in the United States and geared toward



making the Milwaukee area the "World Water Hub" for research, education, and economic development. Documenting this historic work for the

Wisconsin Historical Society will be Kristen Leffelman, a Field Services Representative for the Society and Water Council participant.

Kristen's job will be a multifaceted one. By bringing together the Water Council and the staff and resources of the Society, she will be able to help train the council members in records management and archival documentation. With access to the Society's wealth of water-related information, in the form of maps and other primary sources, the Water Council will have a more comprehensive understanding of the history of the western Great Lakes and the development of Wisconsin's water resources and management. By helping to document this massive undertaking, Kristen will enable Wisconsinites present and future to better understand this state's role as a leader in water research, education, and technology.

Along with her skills as an historian and archivist, Kristen will bring to the Water Council her experiences working for the Hoover Institution, Lucasfilm Ltd., and the National Archives at the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library. A Wisconsin native, Kristen will be able to use her personal and professional experiences to record the expansion of this initiative in real time and for posterity.

The Society and Water Council partnership is funded in part through a generous contribution from the Sally Mead Hands Foundation.

# Recent Additions

## STATE REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

### Joseph B. Funke Company

La Crosse, La Crosse County, construction date: 1898

This building was home to candy manufacturer Joseph B. Funke Company. Constructed in 1898 and minimally adorned befitting its industrial heritage, the building contained offices and shipping on the first floor, chocolate was produced on the second floor, cream on the third floor, and hard candies on the fourth. In the early 20th century, candy production was a significant industry in La Crosse. The city had three large candy manufacturing companies producing 30,000 pounds of candy per day; the Joseph B. Funke Company was the largest. The building is representative of the city's turn-of-the-19th century's thriving confectionery industry and is the only surviving candy manufacturing building in La Crosse.



### Ezra and Elizabeth Goodrich House

Milton, Rock County, construction date: 1867

The Ezra and Elizabeth Goodrich House, constructed in 1867, is a unique example of Greek Revival architecture. One of the style's identifying features is the wide band of trim at the cornice, but here, instead of the wide band, the cornice is accented with large oculus windows regularly spaced around the entire perimeter of the house, a detail not seen anywhere else in the community. The house was constructed by Ezra Goodrich whose influence in public education, park development, and road planning and improvement shaped the community. He may be best known for his work to support and expand Milton College, an important institution in this small community for more than 100 years.

### Downtown Baraboo Historic District

Baraboo, Sauk County, construction dates: 1872-1966

Baraboo's downtown features the traditional courthouse square development so often associated with small towns and is distinguished by its remarkably intact collection of historic buildings. A wide range of architectural styles are present here, including Italianate, Romanesque Revival, Art Deco and Contemporary, demonstrating the vitality of this downtown area through many successive decades. The majority of construction within the district took place during historic periods of rapid economic development in Baraboo: The 1870s and 1880s saw the development of solid blocks of two-story masonry storefront buildings; the early 20th century was a period of civic growth and improvement; and the post-World War II period demonstrated a renewed interest in building, with the stylistic contributions from those decades finalizing the district. With so many distinctive downtown buildings, including the Sauk County Courthouse, the Gust Brother's Store and the Al Ringling Theatre, Baraboo's historic downtown is immediately recognizable and a source of great pride in the community.



### Wandawega Inn

Town of Sugar Creek, Walworth County, construction dates: Lodge 1927, Hotel/Cabins 1928

Wandawega Inn is distinguished in Walworth County for its rustic charm as a vacation resort and unmatched for its colorful, and at times sensational, early history. The resort's lakeside setting has charming wood vernacular buildings, many featuring original finishes and furniture. Play areas for shuffleboard, tennis and basketball round out the resort's offerings of boating, swimming and fishing. Its early history as a working-class resort and speakeasy seems to come straight from a novel or movie, complete with Chicago gangsters and illegal refreshments during Prohibition. By the mid-1940s, new proprietors transformed the property into a respectable resort for working-class families who often returned year after year. In the early 1960s, the property became a Catholic-Latvian retreat complete with Sunday Mass spoken in the Latvian language, making it significant for its cultural association with the Latvian-American community and perhaps the only property of its kind in Wisconsin with this cultural association.

**OTHER PROPERTIES LISTED:** Eau Claire Vocational School, Eau Claire, Eau Claire County; Masonic Temple, Milton, Rock County; Shekey House, Town of Koshkonong, Jefferson County; Square D Company, Milwaukee, Milwaukee County; Wood County Courthouse, Wisconsin Rapids, Wood County; East Oregon and South Barclay Industrial Historic District, Milwaukee, Milwaukee County

# National History Day in Wisconsin Connecting Wisconsin students to the

## History not only teaches us about the past, but it helps shape the future.



Sarah Fallon, Society National History Day Coordinator

Even more, it's helping thousands of Wisconsin students each year shape their own futures as they participate in National History Day.

Coordinated here by the Wisconsin Historical Society,

National History Day (NHD) is an academic enrichment program that helps students in grades six through twelve learn about historical issues, ideas, people and events by creating research-based projects. As Wisconsin's participation in NHD heads toward its 15th year, the Wisconsin Historical Society is seeking ways to extend its mission, reach more students and grow this exciting program.

"We've seen tremendous growth," says Sarah Fallon, NHD State Coordinator for the Society. "National History Day just keeps getting bigger and bigger."

In Wisconsin alone, what started with fewer than 1,000 students in 2001 has grown to a robust program reaching over 10,000 students annually.

### Purpose in projects

With its focus on historical research, students choose a topic in the fall of the academic year and conduct extensive research. Students then analyze and interpret their research and draw conclusions about their topics' significance in history.

From their original and secondary research, students then create one of five projects that they can enter into competition; the project can be an original paper, website, exhibit, performance or documentary. From late February through April, students participate in one of seven regional competitions at UW campuses and Carroll University in Waukesha.

The top projects from each regional advance to the state competition in Madison, which the historical society runs.



From there, Fallon and the Wisconsin Historical Society take about 60 students to nationals in June, held at University of Maryland College Park. At nationals, the top prizes include large cash awards and scholarships.

Students are not limited to any time period or geographical location with their research and projects, just an annual theme; the theme for the 2014-15 school year is "**Leadership and Legacy.**"

"It can be any aspect of history," says Fallon, who started with the program in 2008. "Some teachers will focus their students based on their class, but most teachers will say anything is fine ... ancient civilization to the 1980s."

### More than a contest

Most students participate in NHD as a requirement of their coursework, but teachers aren't alone when it comes to providing direction and resources. Throughout the year, Fallon connects with students and teachers alike, providing them with everything they need to successfully research and create NHD projects.

While participating in the program is a great way for students to dig deep into the past and gain important research and academic skills, both empirical and anecdotal evidence show that participation offers much more.

## FUELING THE MOMENTUM

National History Day is partially funded through a small allocation of money from the state through the historical society's budget, says Fallon. The rest is privately funded and supported through endowments and fundraising.

"Every year we do a tremendous amount of fundraising, especially as we grow," says Fallon.

With the program's 15-year anniversary in Wisconsin next year, plus continued demand from educators, Fallon and the Society are seeking additional support for the program.

"In the last couple years, we've had to be more targeted with our growth as we're limited in what we can do," says Fallon.

In addition to continued financial support from donations, volunteering is a critical way members can support NHD in Wisconsin. For instance, the regional and state competitions are solely judged by volunteers. Members also can help provide resources and topic ideas for NHD participants; Fallon will help coordinate that to get the information and ideas out to students.

Another critical way members can volunteer is by helping build more robust community relationships with local businesses, organizations and historical societies to engage and connect them to the work of the Wisconsin Historical Society to support the program and regional competitions.

"The biggest way people can help us is by being our ambassadors to grow the program."



# their past while building their future



“This isn’t just a project. It’s a really great opportunity for students to come out of their shells, to be an expert and to share their work. In doing so, they become better people and build those skills going forward.”

She adds, “It can help change students,” says Fallon. “For instance, I recall many students who at first found it challenging to workshop with me on their project, but over time they became the most confident students.”

For those seeking hard evidence of NHD’s positive impact, a 2011 study found that students who participate develop a range of college and career-ready skills, and outperform their peers on state standardized tests across all subjects, including science and math.

“You see them become better students, more confident, and better prepared for life.”

With a vision for a future in which we all actively use history to understand our own stories and the world around us, and to pass our heritage on to succeeding generations, National History Day provides a winning formula for the Wisconsin Historical Society to achieve this.

“We’re the main program dedicated to secondary education at the Society,” says Fallon, “and through it we’re able to successfully engage a group that traditionally isn’t aware of the wealth of resources here at the Wisconsin Historical Society.”

*by Amanda Wegner*

*The Wisconsin Historical Society is proud to sponsor National History Day in Wisconsin with generous support from: Anonymous, Alliant Energy/Alliant Energy Foundation, Mrs. Carroll A. Heideman, Richard G. Jacobus Family Foundation, The QTI Group, Wisconsin Society of Mayflower Descendants, and Worzalla. The Society thanks Ralph and Virginia Kurtzman, the friends and family of John C. Geilfuss and Dr. George Miller for establishing endowments that provide annual support for National History Day in Wisconsin.*

## FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:

**Sarah Fallon, 608-264-6487**  
[sarah.fallon@wisconsinhistory.org](mailto:sarah.fallon@wisconsinhistory.org)

## *Robust Resources to Ensure Success*

**To ensure student and teacher success,** Fallon and the Wisconsin Historical Society have a robust outreach program to support National History Day.

Each fall, curriculum materials are sent to teachers. Fallon also offers to visit classrooms, though the focus is more on meeting and connecting with teachers who are new to National History Day and their students.

“We do tons of hands-on work with our teachers and students,” says Fallon. “We travel the whole state from here.”

In late autumn and winter, students are invited to come to the historical society to do research. Teachers and students can also reach out to Fallon and the historical society as they prepare their projects.

Between regionals and state, workshops are offered to help students improve their projects.

But with finite resources, new and innovative ways to reach educators are key. One such way to extend resources is the recent addition of an intern from the UW–Madison history department.

In addition, Fallon is stepping up the program’s use of technology with tools like webinars, Skype and Google Hangouts.

“With schools participating around the state, we can’t necessarily meet everyone in-person, but we still want to connect with them in an efficient way. These tools help us do that.”

Changing the way the program connects with teachers and students is especially important as education itself changes.

“It’s a real time of change not only in technology, but how education is using technology. We’re trying to move to that same edge.”

## Rebuilding a Book

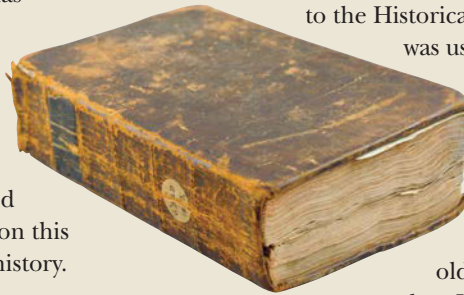
# AN OATH TO PRESERVE

**THE BIBLE USED TO SWEAR IN HENRY DODGE** as territorial governor and the U.S. Territorial Judges in 1836 has undergone complete restoration work.

James Twomey, an experienced bible conservator and proprietor of Book Restoration Co. in Kenosha, which specializes in restoration of historic bibles, took the project on at a greatly reduced rate for the Society. Mr. Twomey expressed great excitement to have the opportunity to work on this particular bible, which is important to Wisconsin history.

The bible, an 1829 edition published by the American Bible Society in Philadelphia, showed quite a bit of wear due to its use. It was the personal copy of John S. Horner, former territorial

governor of Michigan and first secretary of the Wisconsin Territory. Horner used the bible on July 4, 1836 to administer the oath of office to Gov. Henry Dodge and the judges of the Supreme Court: Charles Dunn as Chief Justice, and Alexander Frasier and David Irwin as associates. Horner donated the Bible to the Society in January 1870, with a note that reads: "I take pleasures in transmitting to you now... the Bible, as a contribution historically to the Historical Society of the State." Recently, the bible



was used again for the oath of office in 2011 and 2013. The pages of the text had split apart into several pieces and were very dirty, and the spine and covers were very worn and cracked. Mr. Twomey began by taking the bible apart and bathing the paper to remove dirt and old adhesive. He then resealed the pages

together. He reattached the original cover boards, applied a conservation consolidant to the covers to halt some of the leather decay, and dyed the covers back to their original rich brown color. A new sheepskin spine was attached. Several pages were missing; with the help of the Society's digital imaging lab, scans were obtained from the American Bible Society and replacement pages were attached to the text. The Society's paper conservator will clean and mend the letter from John Horner, which was attached to the inner cover of the bible, and Society staff will create a special box to house the restored bible and letter in upon return to Society stacks.



## Teachers' Guide to Milwaukee Civil Rights History



**Thanks to five Milwaukee-area donors**, teachers will soon have a new way to engage students with the history of the region's civil rights struggle. A 120-page handbook will be mailed free to every teacher of high school or middle school history, social studies, or civics this spring. It places Milwaukee events in the context of the movement for civil rights nationwide.

The book combines facsimiles of original documents from the 1950s and 1960s with classroom activities that encourage critical thinking. Topics covered include segregated schools, fair housing, non-violence, the role of government, the nature of prejudice, and comparisons between Milwaukee and the segregated South.

Primary sources reproduced in the book include articles, maps, letters, cartoons, photographs, flyers, advertisements, interviews, statistical tables, and speeches from the Society's archives in Madison and the University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee Area Research Center. The lesson plans were created by the Society's Freedom Summer project staff after consulting with Milwaukee teachers, historians, and archivists. A table correlates each lesson plan with widely accepted academic standards.

Funding to create and distribute the handbook was provided by the Jane Bradley Pettit Foundation, the Herzfeld Foundation, the Northwestern Mutual Foundation, C.G. Schmidt, and the Weyco Group. For more information, contact [michael.edmonds@wisconsinhistory.org](mailto:michael.edmonds@wisconsinhistory.org).



## Sharing Stories *One Community at a Time*

# TAKING HISTORY ON THE ROAD

by **JIM DRAEGER**, *Wisconsin Historical Society Architectural Historian and Director of Outreach*

How do we know that the *Wisconsin History Tour* is successful? Although responses to our surveys and visitor counts give us raw data, Mary Jane Connor and I can see the impact on the faces of attendees.

People engage with the speakers, listening intently, asking questions and sharing stories. They linger at the end of programs to talk personally with the presenters, purchase books and have topical discussions with other attendees.

On our first leg of our *Tour* in Wausau, Patty Loew kept an audience spellbound with her stories of Native American culture that opened the eyes of many to the distinctly different views of history, time and place held by Wisconsin's first people.

A couple from Fond du Lac planned a birthday trip to Door County around the *History Tour*, mixing the scenic and recreational beauty of Door County with programs on Frank Lloyd Wright, lighthouses and the Green Bay Packers.

A Monticello woman found a *History Tour* flyer in her local library and visited the Verona *Tour* stop. She became so

enraptured by the historical topics that she traveled to Racine the next month for another round of programs.

In Racine, a woman came to a presentation by Society underwater archeologist Tamara Thomsen lugging a pail of rusted metal parts she had collected along the beach near the Wind Point lighthouse. She had been told that they were likely from shipwrecks and was delighted when Tamara identified them as fasteners, hatch cover handles and other specific parts. At that moment, these wrecks became alive in the eyes of this scavenger and the stories she had been told became real and tangible.

Ninety-year-old Society author George Johnson wowed an audience in La Crosse with stories of Wisconsin's pearl industry. Attendees brought their own pearls and jewelry to share and gushed aloud at George's images of Wisconsin pearls. The

First Brigade Band, Wisconsin's authentic Civil War band interspersed excerpts taken from Civil War letters with Civil War songs played on vintage instruments.

The *Tour* tagline, "Sharing Stories, One Community at a Time" is more than just a slogan. Mary Jane and I see the impact of the *Tour* on the host cities and the excitement and interest from both our partner organizations and those who attend. We continue to travel the state, heading soon to Green Bay, Appleton, Eau Claire and Superior, so take time to join us, learn from our experts and share your stories with us. We can't wait to see you.

### WISCONSIN HISTORY TOUR STOPS

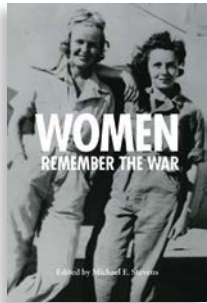
**Feb. 1-March 15, Green Bay**  
**March 1-April 15, Appleton**  
**May 1-31, Eau Claire**  
**June 1-30, Superior**

The *Wisconsin History Tour* is generously underwritten in part by the **Kohler Trust for Preservation** with additional support from Judd S. Alexander Foundation, Bemis Company Foundation, BMO Harris Bank, Culver's, Greater Green Bay Community Foundation, Green Bay Packers Foundation, Hilbert Communications, Murco Fund, Plenco, Racine Community Foundation, Racine Rotary Foundation and We Energies Foundation. Promotional support is provided by American Printing and Wisconsin Public Radio.

## New Archives Training Scholarship Available

The **Wisconsin Historical Records Advisory Board** is pleased to offer a new scholarship for graduate students, volunteer archivists, and practicing archivists from Wisconsin interested in attending professional conferences in 2015. Six scholarships — each up to \$300 each — will be awarded to help defray the cost of travel, lodging, registration and other expenses. The scholarships are limited to three conferences: Midwest Archives Conference (May 6-9 in Lexington);

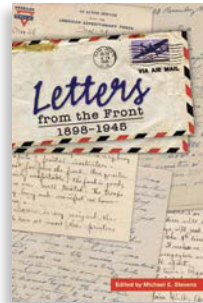
Midwest Archives Conference's Fall Symposium (Sept. 15-17 in Minneapolis); or WHS Local History and Historic Preservation Conference (Oct. 9-10 in Middleton). Applications for the spring conference are due by March 20; applications for fall are due by July 17. For more information and a scholarship application please visit: [wisconsinhistory.org/libraryarchives/whrab](http://wisconsinhistory.org/libraryarchives/whrab). The 2015 scholarships are generously supported by the Spacesaver Corporation.



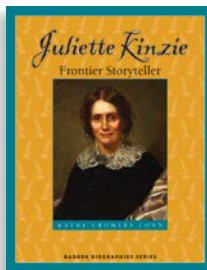
### Stories from the War

This winter, the Wisconsin Historical Society Press reprints two popular war history books from its Voices of Wisconsin Past series.

The books draw from oral history and written documents in the Society's collections. These books include "Letters from the Front: 1898-1945" and "Wisconsin Women Remember the War, 1941-45," both edited by Michael E. Stevens. "Letters from the Front" shares



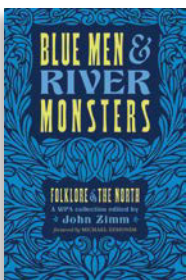
the vivid social history of wartime, told by 62 Wisconsin men and women who served in the Spanish-American War, World War I, and World War II. "Women Remember the War" introduces readers to the World War II experiences of Wisconsin women through selections from oral history interviews in which more than 30 women address issues concerning their wartime lives. For book and purchasing information, search by title on the Society Press webpage at [www.wisconsinhistory.org/whspress](http://www.wisconsinhistory.org/whspress). E-book editions of both books are also available through a variety of e-book vendors.



### Frontier Storyteller

In 1830, a young Juliette Magill Kinzie moved from her fancy home in Connecticut to a rustic log cabin in what would become Portage, Wisconsin, to join her husband, John, an Indian agent at Fort Winnebago. After their years on the Midwestern frontier, Kinzie published a first-person account, "Wau-Bun: The 'Early Day' in the Northwest," which became a best-selling book in her day. Today, Wisconsin Historical Society Press author Kathe Crowley Conn tells Kinzie's life story in "Juliette Kinzie: Frontier Storyteller,"

the newest in the Badger Biographies Series for Young Readers. The biography details the fast-changing times of frontier life as well the lives of the Indians and settlers Juliette encountered. The book also discusses the work of Kinzie's granddaughter Juliette Gordon Low, who founded the Girl Scouts of America. For book and purchasing information, search by title on the Society Press webpage at [www.wisconsinhistory.org/whspress](http://www.wisconsinhistory.org/whspress). An e-book edition is also available.



### Folklore of the North

Curl up this winter with bedtime stories of magical creatures and old country legends, drawn from stories collected during a 1930s Federal Writers' Program and published in the new Society Press book "Blue Men and River Monsters: Folklore of the North," which releases in February 2015 following a brief publishing delay. These are the stories Wisconsin immigrants, Native American medicine men and storytellers, and pioneers told each other from the earliest days of settlement in the Old Northwest. Editor John Zimm selected some

of the most interesting and noteworthy tales and placed them alongside stunning artwork collected by the Federal Art Project in Wisconsin. For book and purchasing information, search by title on the Society Press webpage at [www.wisconsinhistory.org/whspress](http://www.wisconsinhistory.org/whspress). An e-book edition is also available.



### *Congratulations to Kurt Griesemer, Society School Services Director!*

**Kurt received a Chicago/Midwest Emmy nomination and won the Emmy, for: Category #15 Outstanding Achievement for Children/Youth/Teen Programming — Program/Special/Series**

**Wisconsin Biographies:** Daniel Kaplan, Producer; Kurt Griesemer, Kristen Howdeshell, Kevin Howdeshell, Christopher Cook, Co-Producers; Becky Murkley, Consulting Producer; Peggy Garties, Executive Producer. Wisconsin Media Lab

Wisconsin Biographies is a collection of media to enrich the social studies and literacy curriculum, using the stories of notable figures in Wisconsin history. For each story, a 3-5 minute animated video engages learners of all ages. The content was designed around 4th grade standards, but is appropriate for use with younger and older students.

<http://wimedialab.org/biographies/>



Society members receive a 10-percent discount on all book orders.

For more information on books published by the Wisconsin Historical Society Press, visit [wisconsinhistory.org/whspress](http://wisconsinhistory.org/whspress).

## RACINE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION:

# Strong Partnerships Build Strong Communities

**IN 1975, A GROUP OF LOCAL LEADERS FORMED THE RACINE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION (RCF)** to meet the need for an organization to accept and manage distribution of charitable funds given to create a richer quality of life for county residents. Nearly 40 years later, millions



of dollars have been provided to support arts and culture, community development and educational, environmental, health and human services

programs. While the cumulative grant funding is impressive, the true value of the organization's work is not measured in dollars. For generations, the RCF has formed strong community partnerships to define needs and create support for innovative programs that enrich lives

and build a better future. Through wise stewardship of the resources they manage and dedicated effort to maximize investments in people, the RCF impacts thousands of lives every year and helps promote the growth and development of Racine County.

One notable way the RCF makes life better throughout the county is longstanding support for Community Oriented Policing (COP) programs. For example, the RCF provided funds in 1996 to help construct the first COP house. This model home was built in one of Racine's high-crime areas and a specially assigned officer was housed there to form relationships with community residents and create trust in the Racine Police department. There are now six COP houses in Racine County and the result is a dramatic reduction in crime — up to 70 percent in some neighborhoods. Other COP programs focus on connecting police officers and kids to form strong bonds of trust and mutual respect. Among them is a

Cops N' Kids fishing tournament and the Cops N' Kids Reading Center. Through these programs kids learn early that police officers care about them and are invested in their success. Chief Howell of the Racine Police Department sums up the impact of RCF's contributions, "The community policing concept is based on the power of strategic partnerships and we are grateful for the Racine Community Foundation's longstanding support. Their investments in programs that build trust and reduce crime provide invaluable benefits for everyone in our community."

The Wisconsin Historical Society has also benefited from Racine Community Foundation support. The Society is deeply grateful for a generous grant to help fund the *Wisconsin History Tour*. RCF's participation as a Community Presenting Sponsor was vital to the success of the exhibition at the Racine Public Library during September 2014. The *Tour* will travel to communities statewide through 2016.

## LOCAL HISTORICAL SOCIETY HIGHLIGHTS

# BRINGING LOCAL HISTORY ONLINE ON A BUDGET

**LIKE MANY SMALL TOWN HISTORICAL SOCIETIES**, the Brodhead Area Historical Society was interested in digitizing its extensive photo collection and getting it online for the community to enjoy. After all, preserving old pictures is no fun if they're all locked up in climate-controlled storage where no one will ever see them, right? Back in 2009, the group decided to join the digital age and make a website with a photo archive, figuring they could accomplish it at little cost.

Using donated and outdated equipment and software, Pat Weeden, BAHS's President, developed a procedure for scanning, based on the CDP Digital Imaging Best Practices document, which can be found online at [mwdl.org/docs/digital-imaging-bp\\_2.0.pdf](http://mwdl.org/docs/digital-imaging-bp_2.0.pdf). Establishing proper scanning and file management procedures is essential, and this booklet is a great guide for beginners and techies alike. With guidelines set, photographs were scanned and a digital library was built within a website to share with the world.

Many museums use and recommend CONTENTdm® for cataloging and hosting of image libraries, but BAHS quickly realized that the cost was not reasonable for their small museum. Not finding any good open-source software options, Weeden turned to a programmer friend who was looking to expand his

portfolio and together they built an online photo database with a basic input form for entering metadata about each picture. A local computer consulting firm kicked in with free web hosting.

But, they soon learned the limitations of their shoestring operation. The old computer was very slow, the free web hosting wasn't adequate once the database grew too large, and there was a major programming bug in the website. Poor planning was catching up and wasting valuable volunteer time.

In 2011, the Brodhead Historical Society applied for and received a Wisconsin Historical Society Mini-Grant that allowed them to purchase a new computer. They also discovered companies offering free or discounted services to nonprofits; for instance, TechSoup.org offers popular software at big discounts, and DreamHost offers free website hosting to non-profits at [wiki.dreamhost.com/non-profit](http://wiki.dreamhost.com/non-profit).

To fix a website bug, they turned to [freelancer.com](http://freelancer.com) and hired a programmer at a reasonable rate. They also partnered with [recollectionwisconsin.org](http://recollectionwisconsin.org) and now share their database statewide and beyond. Recollection Wisconsin is a tremendous resource for those looking to get their digital archive online. Look for their photo collection at [www.brodheadhistory.org](http://www.brodheadhistory.org)

# Events

WHAT'S ON AROUND OUR STATE

The following are Society special event highlights February through April 2015. For a complete listing of events, visit [wisconsinhistory.org/calendar](http://wisconsinhistory.org/calendar).

## EXHIBIT

**FEB. 27-OCT 10; WISCONSIN HISTORICAL MUSEUM, MADISON**

**Shifting Gears: A Cyclical History of Badger Bicycling**

Travel through 130 years of Wisconsin cycling history in the new exhibition Shifting Gears: A Cyclical History of Badger Bicycling.

**MAY 9-OCT 25; H.H. BENNETT STUDIO, WISCONSIN DELLS**

**150 Years of the H.H. Bennett Studio**

An exhibit celebrating 150 years of photography and tourism in the Dells

## ONLINE

**APRIL 8-DEC 31; ONLINE WEBINAR, WISCONSINHISTORY.ORG**

**Recorded Webinar: The Draper Manuscripts**

Webinar guides researchers in the use of the manuscripts collected by Lyman Draper, the Society's first director.

## FEBRUARY

**FEB. 3-MARCH 15 EXHIBIT; FEB. 17-21 PROGRAMS**

**Wisconsin History Tour at Neville Public Museum, 210 Museum Place, Green Bay**  
Complete information at [www.wisconsinhistorytour.org](http://www.wisconsinhistorytour.org)

**FEB. 3, 12:15 -1 PM; WISCONSIN HISTORICAL MUSEUM, MADISON**

**History Sandwiched In: "The Sixteenth Rail: The Evidence, the Scientist, and the Lindbergh Kidnapping"**

Join author and investigative reporter for WISC-TV, Adam J. Schrager, as he discusses his book, "The Sixteenth Rail."

## GREEN BAY

**FEB. 3-MARCH 15 EXHIBIT; FEB. 17-21 PROGRAMS**

**Wisconsin History Tour at Neville Public Museum, 210 Museum Place, Green Bay**  
Complete information at [www.wisconsinhistorytour.org](http://www.wisconsinhistorytour.org)



**FEB. 7, 4:30-6 PM; WISCONSIN HISTORICAL MUSEUM**

**National History Day Benefit Concert featuring Cris Plata**

Join singer-songwriter Cris Plata for a special performance benefiting deserving young scholars! Donations collected fund NHD scholarships.

**FEB. 14, 11-11:45 AM; OLD WORLD WISCONSIN, EAGLE**  
**Valentine's Horse-Drawn Bobsled Rides PLUS Winter Fun**

Enjoy a horse-drawn bobsled ride, sledding, and snacks by a warming fire for old-fashioned winter fun!

**FEB. 14, 10 AM-3 PM; FEB. 15, 11 AM-4 PM; WISCONSIN HISTORICAL MUSEUM, MADISON**

**Madison Winter Festival**  
Drop in for hot chocolate and enjoy the museum's engaging exhibits.

**FEB. 17, 12:15, 1 PM; WISCONSIN HISTORICAL MUSEUM, MADISON**

**History Sandwiched In: "Wheel Fever"**

Trace the story of Wisconsin's first "bicycling boom" from 1869 through the 1890s with Jesse Gant, authors of the Press book "Wheel Fever."

**FEB. 21, 10 AM-2 PM; WISCONSIN HISTORICAL MUSEUM, MADISON**

**Girl Scout Workshop (Junior): Playing the Past**

Learn how Wisconsin girls of the past lived and create your own historical character.

**FEB. 21; WADE HOUSE, GREENBUSH**  
**Hearthside Dinner**

Enjoy a delicious hearth-cooked meal, prepared with your own hands, in the historic Wade House stagecoach hotel. Reservations required.

**FEB. 24, 6-8:00 PM; WHS HEADQUARTERS, MADISON**  
**Black History Month: Milwaukee's Civil Rights Struggle**

Dr. Patrick Jones, author of "Selma of the North: Civil Rights Insurgency in Milwaukee" will moderate a program including clips from Wisconsin Public Television's new documentary, "Vel Phillips: Dream Big Dreams," remarks by the film's creators, and a discussion of Phillips' voluminous private papers by archivist Emil Hoelter. Free and open to the public.

**FEB. 24, 6-8:30 PM; HEDBERG PUBLIC LIBRARY, 316 SOUTH MAIN STREET, JANESVILLE**  
**Black History Month**

Michael Edmonds, editor of "Risking Everything: A Freedom Summer Reader," will introduce a screening and moderate a conversation about the PBS American Experience documentary, "Freedom Summer." Free and open to the public.

**FEB. 27-MARCH 1; VILLA LOUIS, PRAIRIE DU CHIEN**  
**Eagle Appreciation Weekend**

Villa Louis is open for tours 11 AM-4 PM as part of area Bald Eagle Appreciation events.

**FEB. 28, 10 AM-1 PM; OLD WORLD WISCONSIN, EAGLE**  
**Employment and Volunteer Open House**

Interested in joining the Old World Wisconsin team? Find out about employment and volunteer opportunities for 2015.

## MARCH

**MARCH 3, 12:15, 1 PM; WISCONSIN HISTORICAL MUSEUM, MADISON**

**History Sandwiched In: Homemaking on the Radio**

Historian Erika Janik shares how home economics and the power of radio turned rural women from farm laborers into full-time housewives and consumers.

**MARCH 7, 10 AM-2 PM; WISCONSIN HISTORICAL MUSEUM, MADISON**  
**Girl Scout Workshop (Brownie): Celebrating Community**

Learn about ways people celebrate their communities and be ready to display your WISCONSIN pride!

**MARCH 12, WISCONSIN HISTORICAL MUSEUM, MADISON**  
**Taste Traditions of Wisconsin: Wisconsin Women Play Ball**

Baseball historian Jim Nitz discusses the history of the All-American Girls Professional League in Wisconsin.

**MARCH 13 TO 14; CROWNE PLAZA MILWAUKEE AIRPORT HOTEL, MILWAUKEE**  
**2015 Ghost Ships Festival**

The Society's Maritime Preservation and Archaeology Program will present current shipwreck research.

**MARCH 17, 12:15, 1 PM; WISCONSIN HISTORICAL MUSEUM, MADISON**

**History Sandwiched In: Exposed! Harley-Davidson's Lost Photographs, 1915-1916**

Amy Gnad, Curator at the Harley-Davidson Museum in Milwaukee, shares how a set of the company's pivotal pictures went unseen for nearly one hundred years.

**MARCH 17-APRIL 30 EXHIBIT;  
MARCH 17-21 PROGRAMS**

**Wisconsin History Tour at  
History Museum at the Castle,  
330 E. College Ave., Appleton**

Complete information at  
[www.wisconsinhistorytour.org](http://www.wisconsinhistorytour.org)

**MARCH 19, 7 PM; H.H. BENNETT  
STUDIO, WISCONSIN DELLS**

**Spring Speakers Series:  
Seventh Generation Earth Ethics**  
Author Patty Leow, PhD discusses her  
latest book at the H.H. Bennett Studio.

**MARCH 20-21; VILLA LOUIS,  
PRAIRIE DU CHIEN**

**Behind The Scenes**  
Extended tours of the nooks and  
crannies of this restored mansion.  
Reservations required.

**MARCH 21;  
MINNEAPOLIS BOULEVARD HOTEL,  
2200 FREEWAY BLVD.,  
BROOKLYN CENTER MN**

**Upper Midwest Scuba and  
Adventure Travel Show**  
The Society's Maritime Preservation  
and Archaeology Program will present  
current shipwreck research.

**MARCH 21; WADE HOUSE,  
GREENBUSH**

**Hearthside Dinner**  
Enjoy a delicious hearth-cooked meal,  
prepared with your own hands, in the  
historic Wade House stagecoach hotel.  
Reservations required.

**MARCH 26, 7 PM; H.H. BENNETT  
STUDIO, WISCONSIN DELLS**

**Spring Speakers Series: Photo  
Preservation and Identification**  
Staff from the Wisconsin Historical  
Society Library-Archives discuss photo  
preservation.

**MARCH 28; VILLA LOUIS,  
PRAIRIE DU CHIEN**

**Breakfast in a Victorian Kitchen**  
A hands-on cooking workshop for adults  
culminating in a sit-down breakfast.  
Reservations required.

**APPLETON**

**MARCH 17-APRIL 30 EXHIBIT;  
MARCH 17-21 PROGRAMS**

**Wisconsin History Tour at  
History Museum at the Castle,  
330 E. College Ave., Appleton**  
Complete information at  
[www.wisconsinhistorytour.org](http://www.wisconsinhistorytour.org)



**APRIL**

**APRIL 2, 7 PM; H.H. BENNETT  
STUDIO, WISCONSIN DELLS**

**Spring Speakers Series:  
Restoration of the H.H. Bennett  
Studio Revisited**  
A look back at the work accomplished  
making H.H. Bennett Studio Wisconsin's  
Ninth Historic Site.

**APRIL 3-4, 10 AM-2 PM;  
WISCONSIN HISTORICAL  
MUSEUM, MADISON**

**Playtimes of the Past**  
Stop by the museum to create handle  
bar streamers, helmet decorations,  
and other bike-themed art, all while  
learning the history of Badger bicycling.

**APRIL 7, 12:15, 1 PM;  
WISCONSIN HISTORICAL  
MUSEUM, MADISON**

**History Sandwiched In: A Relic  
from Lincoln's Deathbed?**  
Curator Leslie Bellais examines  
the evidence behind a bedspread  
in Wisconsin Historical Society's  
collections purported to be from  
Lincoln's deathbed.

**APRIL 9, 7 PM; H.H. BENNETT  
STUDIO, WISCONSIN DELLS**

**Spring Speakers Series:  
Genealogy Research**  
A Primer on Exploring your Family Tree

**APRIL 16, 6:30-8:30 PM;  
WISCONSIN HISTORICAL  
MUSEUM, MADISON**

**Taste Traditions of Wisconsin:  
Wisconsin's Friday Night  
Fish Fry Tradition**  
Contemplate your favorite Friday night  
fish fry experiences in Wisconsin with  
folklorist Janet Gilmore and enjoy a  
traditional fish fry dinner.

**APRIL 18; WADE HOUSE,  
GREENBUSH**

**Hearthside Dinner**  
Enjoy a delicious hearth-cooked meal,  
prepared with your own hands, in the  
historic Wade House stagecoach hotel.  
Reservations required.

**APRIL 21, 12:15, 1 PM;  
WISCONSIN HISTORICAL  
MUSEUM, MADISON**

**History Sandwiched In:  
The Evolution of the  
Badger State Trail**  
Discover how the Badger State Trail  
evolved from a rail line to one of the  
premier Wisconsin state trails.

**APRIL 24-25; VILLA LOUIS,  
PRAIRIE DU CHIEN**

**Behind The Scenes**  
Extended tours of the nooks and  
crannies of this restored mansion.  
Reservations required.

**APRIL 28, 5:30-7 PM;  
WISCONSIN HISTORICAL  
MUSEUM, MADISON**

**Abraham Lincoln in Song**  
Award-winning folksinger Chris Vallillo  
uses contemporary and period folk  
songs to shed light on one of history's  
most beloved figures, Abraham Lincoln.

*Location Key*

**BLACK POINT ESTATE,  
LAKE GENEVA**  
262-248-1888 or  
[blackpointestate@wisconsinhistory.org](mailto:blackpointestate@wisconsinhistory.org)

**CIRCUS WORLD, MADISON**  
Toll free 866-693-1500 or  
[ringmaster@circusworldbaraboo.org](mailto:ringmaster@circusworldbaraboo.org)

**FIRST CAPITOL, BELMONT**  
608-987-2122 or  
[firstcapitol@wisconsinhistory.org](mailto:firstcapitol@wisconsinhistory.org)

**H.H. BENNETT STUDIO,  
WISCONSIN DELLS**  
608-253-3523 or  
[hhbennett@wisconsinhistory.org](mailto:hhbennett@wisconsinhistory.org)

**MADLINE ISLAND MUSEUM,  
LA POINTE**  
715-747-2415 or  
[madlineisland@wisconsinhistory.org](mailto:madlineisland@wisconsinhistory.org)

**OLD WORLD WISCONSIN, EAGLE**  
262-594-6301 or  
[oww@wisconsinhistory.org](mailto:oww@wisconsinhistory.org)

**PENDARVIS, MINERAL POINT**  
608-987-2122 or  
[pendarvis@wisconsinhistory.org](mailto:pendarvis@wisconsinhistory.org)

**REED SCHOOL, NEILLSVILLE**  
608-253-3523 or  
[reedschool@wisconsinhistory.org](mailto:reedschool@wisconsinhistory.org)

**STONEFIELD, CASSVILLE**  
608-725-5210 or  
[stonefield@wisconsinhistory.org](mailto:stonefield@wisconsinhistory.org)

**VILLA LOUIS, PRAIRIE DU CHIEN**  
608-326-2721 or  
[villalouis@wisconsinhistory.org](mailto:villalouis@wisconsinhistory.org)

**WADE HOUSE, GREENBUSH**  
920-526-3271 or  
[wadehouse@wisconsinhistory.org](mailto:wadehouse@wisconsinhistory.org)

**WISCONSIN HISTORICAL  
MUSEUM, MADISON**  
608-264-6555 or  
[museum@wisconsinhistory.org](mailto:museum@wisconsinhistory.org)

**WISCONSIN HISTORY TOUR,  
SOCIETY HEADQUARTERS,  
MADISON**  
608-212-5497 or  
[maryjane.connor@wisconsinhistory.org](mailto:maryjane.connor@wisconsinhistory.org)



WISCONSIN  
HISTORICAL  
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Madison, WI 53706

## SIGN UP FOR THE SOCIETY'S E-NEWSLETTER

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

# Don't Miss



## New Exhibition Opening February 27, 2015

Through the display of historic bicycles and objects, intriguing images and interactive experiences, *Shifting Gears* highlights the story of Wisconsin's two major bicycling booms. Travel through 130 years of Wisconsin history and discover our state's important place in the story of bicycling.



Wisconsin Historical  
MUSEUM

30 North Carroll Street • Madison, WI  
[wisconsinhistory.org/museum](http://wisconsinhistory.org/museum)



*Shifting Gears* is developed in partnership with the History Museum at the Castle in Appleton, Wisconsin and made possible by the generosity of lenders and museums throughout Wisconsin.

## Nominations to the Board of Curators

The Nominating Committee of the Society's 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 Columns  
Wisconsin Historical Society  
816 State St.  
Madison, WI 53706  
or via email to  
[info@wisconsinhistory.org](mailto:info@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.