



Summer 2009 Volume 31 Issue 3

Dwight Foster's House Receives J.L.C.



The Fort Atkinson Historical Society's Foster House is receiving lots of attention this summer! In June, restorationist Craig Roost (above, right) began removing deteriorated clapboard siding from the house. These four photos document his work on the south wall of the structure. In addition to inspecting for active insect infestation, Craig will be wrapping each wall with sheathing and insulation before residing with new lumber. He will also rebuild windows and trim and finish up by giving the house a fresh coat of white paint. This summer is *your* once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to see what Charles Rockwell saw as he was building the house in 1841. If Craig can take a break when you stop by, he'll explain what he's doing, as well as what the house has been teaching him. Put this stop on your list!



401 Whitewater Avenue
Fort Atkinson, WI 53538
920-563-7769
fax 920-568-3203
www.hoardmuseum.org
Hours: Tuesday — Saturday
9:30 a.m. — 4:30 p.m.
Sundays thru 9/5, 11 — 3:00

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Kori Oberle, Director
Karen O'Connor, Curator
Linda Winn, Office Manager
Tammy Doellstedt, Volunteer Coordinator
Greg Misfeldt, Facilities Manager



Notes from the Director's Desk

by Kori Oberle

This summer while the flowers have been blooming and the **fireflies have been flickering, we've been adding to our** knowledge of the history of the Frank and Luella Hoard House and of the Hoard Family. Construction dates, land transfers, and obituaries have been scrutinized for evidence through the good work of two UW-Whitewater Public History Interns, Amy Becker and Whitney Alsteen. Much of this research is being done right **here within the Museum's Knox Research Library and Archive.** Both interns are now busy knitting together all of their findings into **rich narratives that we'll use for a variety of purposes as we** interpret both the Hoard House and the Hoard Family to our visitors.

* * *

Another development this summer is the change in staff **member Tammy Doellstedt's position. Tammy is now spending all** of her 18-hours per week devoted solely to the Museum's volunteer program. Her new job title is Volunteer Coordinator and she is now responsible for recruiting, training, scheduling, and recognizing our volunteers who support our daily operations, our educational tours, and our special events and public programs.

Tammy's new work schedule is Tuesdays through Fridays from 10:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., in order to be available when most of our volunteers are in the building. She is beginning a recruitment for weekend greeters, archive assistants, and gift shop assistants. Please let her know if you can recommend a great weekend **volunteer, or if you'd like to serve occasionally on Saturdays or** Sundays. You can reach Tammy at 920/563-7769, and by e-mail, tammy@hoardmuseum.org.

Remember my little granite pail?

The handle of it was blue.








Think what's got away in my life!

Was enough to carry me thru.

Lorine Niedecker



Hoard Bulletin Board

-  Calling all family historians! Beginning August 15, registration will be possible for a series of Saturday **classes and workshops on family genealogy** at the Wisconsin Historical Society on the UW-Madison campus. Visit wisconsinhistory.org/libraryarchives/classes or e-mail asklibrary@wisconsinhistory.org for more information.
 -  The **final 2009 summer Sunday** that the Museum will be open is Sunday, September 6, from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
 -  **Attention All Archive Assistants!** Now that you've processed the backlog of newspapers, we have even more fun lined up for you. That's right: now you can dive into researching local history questions from visitors and staff. For example, we're trying to document the location of fort Atkinson's Novelty Hall. And, you can help! On Wednesday, September 16, between 10:30 a.m. and noon, we will gather to review basic research techniques. Watch for your postcard invitation. This is open to all current and new Archive Assistants! The learning concludes with a delicious potluck lunch...
 -  October 3 and 4 will be here before we know it and that means the **Lorine Niedecker Wisconsin Poetry Festival is just around the corner!** The Friends of Lorine Niedecker have posted the festival's detailed calendar at <http://www.lorineniedecker.org/agenda.pdf> . Many of the weekend's events will take place at the Hoard Historical Museum.
 -  Save the Date: Our annual **Volunteer Thank You Brunch** is scheduled for Sunday, October 11 at the Koshkonong Mounds Country Club, starting at 12:00 noon. There is no Packer game that day, so no excuses! Watch for a postcard invitation in the mail in September.
 -  Did you know...the 37th Annual Black Hawk Artists Show and Sale opens this year on Sunday, November 1, at 1:00 p.m. And, there's a new member of the group now that Jean Tyler has moved east.
 -  Check out www.hoardmuseum.org to see what else is happening at the Museum.
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In Memoriam: Hugh Highsmith

Fort Atkinson Historical Society members, staff, and Board of Directors said a fond and respectful farewell to longtime member and past president Hugh Highsmith in June. In addition to his work preserving Indian Mounds around Lake Koshkonong and the area, Hugh and his wife Fanny served as honorary co-chairs of the **Hoard Legacy Campaign which funded the museum's renovation and expansion in 2006 and 2007.**

Hugh passed away on June 7, 2009, at the age of 94. Our best wishes go to his immediate and extended families and close friends. Memorials may be made to the Fort Atkinson Historical Society or to the Dwight Foster Public Library, 102 E. Milwaukee Ave., Fort Atkinson.



Hugh Highsmith
1914—2009

Meet the Board Members: Andy Yocom

Andy Yocom was born and raised in Philadelphia and is a graduate of Trinity College, in Hartford, Connecticut. At a young age, he became fascinated with broadcasting and pursued a career in television and radio, beginning as a member of the production crew at Connecticut Public Television. He worked his way into TV production and program management while moonlighting as announcer at several Hartford area radio stations.

In 1975, Andy was appointed Coordinator of Programming at PBS in Washington, DC and was responsible for the program schedule fed daily to public TV stations nationwide. In 1978, he moved to Chicago as Director of Production for public TV station WTTW/11. In over 22 years at WTTW, Andy held various management positions.

In 2001, he retired and moved to Fort Atkinson with his wife, Ann Engelman, to be closer to her family and her Wisconsin roots. The move brought him the opportunity to present classical music on radio as part-time host on Wisconsin Public Radio. Andy also fills in part-time on "The Morning News" at 940/WFAW, in Fort Atkinson.

Andy is a member of the Board of Directors of the Madison Symphony Orchestra, a past member of the board of The Fort Atkinson Regional Science Fair and past President of Heart of the City. He is the father of four and grandfather of seven. Andy began his first 2-year term on our board in February, 2009, and is seen here helping at the Ice Cream Social..



"My ancestry, dating back to the mid 17th century in southeastern Pennsylvania, has inspired me to learn more about early American history. In my public television work, I found that the best history programs are those that present compelling stories well-told. I am grateful for the opportunity to support the Historical Society's mission to bring excellence to the presentation of the excitement of history to its many visitors."



Junior Member Takes Birthday Tour!

Just last month, Eden Steiner became the Fort Atkinson Historical Society's first Junior Member to take a special birthday tour of the museum. With her sister and mother, Eden toured the Mounds Gallery, learned about the Black Hawk War, and walked through the Historic Hoard House.

When Eden was recognized for her work in this year's Fourth-Grade Oral History Project, she received an invitation to become a Junior Member, along with her classmates. Junior membership includes a birthday tour as well as invitations to special programs and events. Call for more information.

The Museum is a Busy Place!



Many intergenerational families have visited us this summer, including volunteer extraordinaire, Dave Camplin, and his grandson, Parker, who both like the Late Woodland Camp in the new Mounds Gallery.



In June, F.J.A. Christiansen Roofing Company workers removed the roof above the office area that was damaged by severe ice damming this past winter. Here they are installing a new 3-ply material that adheres without nails. This means there will be no nail holes for melting ice to seep through.



You're looking at the middle office area where Linda Winn usually works. TSM Contracting removed insulation and ceiling tiles damaged by ice damming and will soon put new insulation and ceiling tiles in place. Then we'll be creating a new spot for volunteers in this room; check it out!



Special thanks go out to our teaching assistants who worked with touring young people and their teachers this spring: Milo Jones, Ron Koenig, Rick and Vicki Looze, Deb Lundy, Al Peters, Karen and John Syens, Carol Wanie, Christi Ward, and Bob Wulfkuhle.



Meet the Volunteers: Linda Niemeyer



I have lived my entire life in Fort Atkinson and have spent many wonderful hours at the museum, especially when I was a child, when it was located in the public library basement. I have been a volunteer at the museum for over five years.

I also have volunteered for over 20 years at the hospital and served a two-year term as the Partners president. Other volunteer activities include the World Dairy Expo in the first week of October. I have worked in the Purple Cow booth there for four years. I also have served a six-year term on the United Way of Jefferson and Northern Walworth County and as a trustee at the United Methodist Church for six years.

I have been married to Phil Niemeyer for 26 years and we have a blended family of four children and seven grandchildren. We love to travel, anywhere, and enjoy cruising. We have traveled to 48 of the states with Delaware and Idaho yet to see, but we will be crossing Idaho off our list this September. We have traveled in the UK, Europe, Canada, Mexico, South America, and the Caribbean.

In my spare time I do stained glass and mosaics. I love to read, cook, and spend time with my grandchildren. Being around people is important to me and volunteering is wonderful and rewarding. I can not express how proud I am to be a part of our museum and what a wonderful treasure it is for our community.



Linda Niemeyer has a *new* volunteer position at the museum. She now assists our Volunteer Coordinator, Tammy Doellstedt, with scheduling and other clerical duties. Volunteers may have spoken with her on the phone, as she has been calling them to serve as greeters, archive assistants, teaching assistants, and for special events. Linda is usually in the museum office on Thursday mornings. Stop by and say hello!



Calling All Greeters!

Each and every greeter is invited to join us for an informative meeting followed by a delicious potluck lunch, here at the museum. Please call Tammy or Linda N. now at 920/563-7769, to reserve your spot. Because it is important for all greeters to attend, we are offering the meeting at two different times. If you can't make it to the September session, we'll expect to see you at the October session. Thanks! **Monday, September 21, 10:30 a.m. 'til noon, potluck follows**

or

Monday, October 5, 10:30 a.m. 'til noon, potluck follows



Bussey Collection On Exhibit in Mounds Mezzanine

For more than 70 years, James Bussey has collected Indian and fur-trade era artifacts from Crabapple Point on the north shore of Lake Koshkonnong. He has recently agreed to lend the museum part of this archaeological collection.

Working with Joel Winn and state archaeologists Amy Rosebrough and Bob Birmingham, we have selected almost six dozen pieces that were

made and used by people living on this site from the middle Archaic period to the close of the fur trade era around 1830. These objects have been made out of different types of stone, copper, glass, steel, brass, and lead, and were used for a variety of purposes. They are on exhibit in the area overlooking the *Mysteries of the Mounds* gallery until next spring. We thank you, Mr. Bussey!



We will tour the Mineral Point Historical Society's Orchard Lawn, shown here. It was home to Cornish immigrant Joseph Gundry and his family. Cornish stonemasons Richard Thomas and James Carbis built this home for the Gundrys in the 1860's, around the same time the Frank Hoard house was built in Fort Atkinson. The society received a Jeffris Family Foundation grant to help fund the home's recent restoration.

To reserve your seat on the tour bus, call us at the museum, 920/563-7769 ; payment reserves your spot.

Saturday, September 26, 2009

Destination: Mineral Point

Join us for a one-day bus trip to southwestern Wisconsin's historic lead-mining region! We're headed to Mineral Point on Saturday, September 26 to tour the Wisconsin Historical Society's Pendarvis Historic Site. Afterwards, we'll have lunch and then visit Orchard Lawn., a home recently restored by the Mineral Point Historical Society.

We will be visiting during Mineral Point's 17th Annual Cornish Festival! This community event is sponsored by the Southwest Wisconsin Cornish Society and includes food, music, craftspeople, and visitors from Cornwall.

The day's itinerary will include time to participate in the festival, shop the local artists' galleries, or hike the Merry Christmas Mine Hill. The Van Galder bus loads at the museum parking lot at 7:45 a.m. and we'll return to Fort by 6 or 6:30 p.m. The cost is \$45 per person for members and \$50 for non-members.

H oard HISTORICAL MUSEUM

FORT ATKINSON HISTORICAL SOCIETY
NATIONAL DAIRY SHRINE'S VISITORS CENTER

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Fort Atkinson, WI 53538

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Mark Your Calendar for the
Looking At The Stars

Historic Quilt Exhibit

Tuesday, August 4, through Saturday, September 26, 2009

OPENING RECEPTION

Friday, August 7, 5:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Includes 6:00 p.m. Program:

"The Civil War Era: A Tapestry of Quilts & Stories"

with Pat Ehrenberg

