



THE COLUMNS

Newsletter of the Pepin County Historical Society

Vol. XX, No. 1

Affiliate of the Wisconsin Historical Society

March 2006

PCHS MOURNS THE PASSING OF SOCIETY PRESIDENT RUSSELL HAIGH

Pepin County lost a great community servant early last December when PCHS President Russell Haigh passed away suddenly at his home in Durand. Russ was a great teacher and mentor and was a tireless supporter and promoter of the community. His enthusiasm for and leadership of PCHS are missed; he always lifted our spirits and kept us on task. It has been an honor for all of us who were privileged to work with Russ. His spirit remains and keeps us moving forward.

Vice-president Kim Wagenbach stepped forward to lead PCHS until officers are appointed following the upcoming Board elections at the Annual Membership Meeting in April.

President's Message:

Hello, I'm Kim Wagenbach and the acting-President of PCHS. I was Vice-President at the time of Russell Haigh's passing and now will try to fill his position.

We were truly blessed with Russell's energy and ambition. We will miss him very much.

Everything seems to be running smoothly with the other Board members pitching in and with the continuing help of our dedicated volunteers.

Our first items of business will be filling vacancies on the Board and organizing our annual membership meeting on April 9, during which we will be holding election for three seats on the Board. The three-year terms of Russ, Galen Radle and Roberta Stuart are expiring. Galen and Roberta have agreed to run again.

Hope to see you April 9.

- Kim Wagenbach

TOURS, RESEARCH, QUERIES

Persons interested in making arrangements for museum tours, doing research, asking questions about the collection, etc., should call the museum phone at (715)672-5423 or call the Pepin County Resource Office (715)-672-5709.

PCHS ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

2:00 P.M. - Sunday, April 9, 2006

Durand High School - Multipurpose Room

Durand, Wisconsin

Featured speaker will be **Mary Logue**, well known local writer and author of the popular "Claire Watkins Mysteries." [*Claire is a Pepin County Deputy Sheriff who lives in the fictional Village of Fort St. Antoine.*] The following is taken from Mary Logue's website (<http://www.petehautman.com/marylogue.html>) :

"I don't know how or why I ended up a writer. My father was an accountant for 3M and my mother was a social worker for a while and then a mother to five children. I lived a rather idyllic early childhood in Lake Elmo, Minnesota; horseback riding, swimming in the three lakes within walking distance, reading to my heart's content, and babysitting my younger sisters and brother. I wrote my first mystery when I was in fifth grade about a strange jeep trail that circled the pond I lived on, and a set of adoption papers found on a dirt road.

I lived in France for a year, going to school in Aix-en-Provence and translating the French poets. Then I wrote rock and roll reviews when I came back to Minneapolis. In my late twenties and early thirties, I put in a stint in New York City, writing for the Village Voice, doing manuscript work for Simon and Schuster, and having way too much fun. I also wrote my first published novel: Red Lake of the Heart. New York taught me that Minnesota was interesting. I moved back home.

In my late thirties, while teaching a suspense class at The Loft in Minneapolis, I met Pete Hautman. He was a student; I waited until the class was over to ask him out. Besides looking good in a pair of cowboy boots, he could also write up a storm. In our forties, we decided to have everyone's perfect life. We sold our house in Minneapolis, bought a house in Tucson, and lived there in the winter, traveling to Stockholm, Wisconsin, for the summer months. That lasted four years. We loved Tucson. We hated moving twice a year.

Now we're settled back in the Twin Cities and have kept the farmhouse in Stockholm. We work in offices right next to each other and occasionally have lunch together, but always dinner. He tells me what kind of cars my characters should drive and I give him information on women's shoes and clothes. It works."

SOCIETY NEWS

PCHS TREASURER Galen Radle's financial report for 2005 shows the Society is in excellent fiscal condition. Receipts from memberships, memorials, donations, interest, and sales of cards, books, bricks, etc., totaled \$8,291. Total expenditures were \$6,863. Anyone who would like to see an itemization of expenditures can request a copy by calling the Old Courthouse Museum phone @ (715)672-5423 and leaving a message.

A STATE HISTORICAL MARKER application has been sent to the Wisconsin Historical Society for placement of a 36"high x 24"wide state marker attached to posts to be erected on the lawn of Washington Square. The City of Durand has granted a permit and the Pepin County Property Committee has agreed to allow the marker, which will hopefully be ready for its unveiling during the Durand Sesquicentennial Celebration scheduled for September 16.

"HONOR AN EDUCATOR" - Buy-a-Brick Project reached its second plateau with 14 more orders received. PCHS has ordered the second batch of engraved paving bricks. The engraved bricks should be ready soon and will be laid alongside the walkway of the Helen Parkhurst / Black School Bell Tower Memorial in front of the Arkansaw Middle School.

MUSEUM NEWS

ATTENDANCE at the Old Courthouse Museum during 2005 was nearly 500; up from 2004 when an estimated 446 visited. The busiest days when the museum was open regular hours to the public were once again during Durand Funfest Weekend. However, the largest groups touring the museum were in May during the annual Law Day/Mock Trials organized by the Pepin County Bar Association and the annual visit by third graders along with teachers and chaperones from Durand area schools. The largest single group of people in the building at one time was the Durand Cub Scouts with more than three dozen scouts plus at least one parent/friend/sibling per scout along for the evening. In an effort to grow attendance at the museum, the PCHS Board has given permission to begin an advertising campaign in the regional Star Shopper. This "KNOW YOUR HISTORY" ad will hopefully pique the interest of residents and encourage them to contact the museum for a personal guided tour **anytime by appointment**.

OUR GENEROUS VOLUNTEERS contributed nearly 750 hours of their time to keep our museum going and our Society on course during 2005. Four key volunteers show up every Tuesday and have been tirelessly (and tearlessly) cataloguing and protecting valuable photographs, letters, documents, artifacts, etc. Irma Bauer, Judy Schwellenbach and Pat Ulwelling, who have been regular Tuesday volunteers for years, were joined last year by Julie Rinholen. Their tasks seem daunting at times. "Do you think we'll ever get this all caught up?" is a frequent question. The response is: "Not if we are doing our job preserving Pepin County history correctly." History stops for no one...it keeps on going and going and going... longer than the Eveready Rabbit.

MEMORIALS RECEIVED -

For:	From:
Russell Haigh	Galen/Bernadine Radle, Don/Irma Bauer, Helping Hands Club(AMS), Nick Bauer, Wayne/Toots Feuling, Tom/Judy Fagerland, Galen/Cindy Koller, Fran/Heidi Passe, Terry/Kay Olson, Jerry/Viv Levenske, Shelby/Gary Schlosstein, Beverly Wild, Dick/Vera Slabey, Fred/Rita Conlin, Bill/Kris Wrasse, Joe/Christie Lieftring, Richard/Denise Polzer, Mary Buchholtz, Charles/Lois Laehn, Lee E. Grippen, Madeleine Lieftring
William R. McMahon	- Richard/Vera Slabey Mary Buchholtz
Bert Hagness	- Madeleine Lieftring Joe/Christie Lieftring Mary Buchholtz
Dorothy Brunner	- Madeleine Lieftring
Leon Prissel	- Joe/Christie Lieftring
Marie Jereczk	- Joe/Christie Lieftring
Lawrence Bauer	- Galen/Bernadine Radle
Margaret A. Bauer	- Galen/Bernadine Radle
Ronald R. Karshbaum	- Mary Buchholtz
Frances Sankey	- Mary Buchholtz
Florence J. Abbott	- Mary Buchholtz
Peter & Margaret Hartley	- Beryl/Evelyn Holmstadt
Bernard Traun, Sr.	- Jerry/Viv Levenske
David Castleberg	- Galen/Bernadine Radle Lee/Gayle Grippen

A gift membership to the Pepin County Historical Society is a great way to show your thoughtfulness and care for someone special.

RS

Pepin County Historical Society

Officers:

Acting President: Kim Wagenbach
Vice-Pres.: vacant
Secretary: Roberta Stuart
Treasurer: Galen Radle

Directors:

Rita Conlin, John Solie,
Lois Laehn, Jean Kannel

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Editor: Terry J. Mesch

Doin' The Wash

Anonymous note (ca 1900) on display at the Whistler Museum and Archives in Whistler, British Columbia

Recipe For Washing Clothes

Build fire in back yard to heat kettle.

Set tubs so smoke won't blow in eyes if wind is pert.

Shave one whole cake of lye soap in boiling water.

Sort things. Make 1 pile of coloured, 1 pile white, 1 pile breeches and rags.

Stir flour in cold water to smooth.

Thin down with boiling water. Starch.

Rub dirty spots on board, scrub hard then boil.

Rub coloured but don't boil. Just rinse and starch.

Take white things out of kettle with broom handle. Then rinse, blue and starch.

Spread tea towels on grass; others on fence.

Put rinse water on flower beds.

Scrub porch with soapy water.

Turn over tubs to drain.

Go put on a clean dress.

Smooth hair with side combs.

Brew tea.

Sit and rest.

Rock a spell.

Count your blessings.

- Submitted by: Jean Kannel

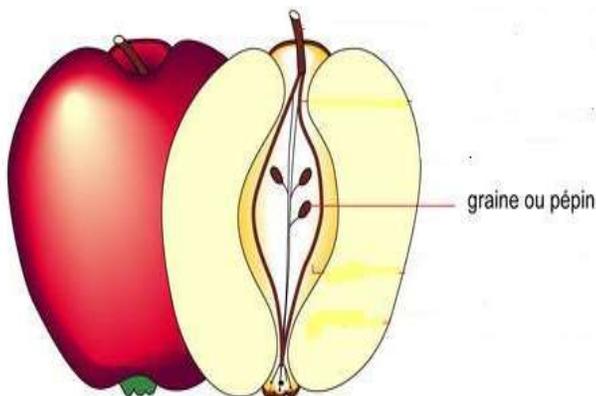
[The "COLUMNS" welcomes submissions from anyone, but reserves the right to edit for length and content or to reject any submission.]

What's in a name?

"pepin" is a very old French word; our English word "pip," meaning small seed (as in an apple), is probably derived from it.

FRUITS CHARNUS - À PÉPINS

POMME



SATURDAY VOLUNTEER HOSTS FOR 2006

May 27	- Fred & Rita Conlin
June 3	- Gwelda Glaus & Lou Simpson
June 10	- Judy Schwellenbach & Joyce Haigh
June 11	-
June 17	- Terry Mesch & Lori Miller
June 24	- Don & Irma Bauer
July 1	- Chuck & Lois Laehn
July 8	-
July 15	- Gerald & Deanna Rippley
July 22	- John & Linda Solie
July 29	- Diane Bauer & Carol Danzinger
Aug 5	- Pat Miller & Sadie Hagness
Aug 12	- Pat Ulwelling & Evelyn Holmstadt
Aug 19	- Pat & Rosemary Achenbach
Aug 26	- Kim and Lynette Wagenbach
Sept 2	- Roberta Stuart & Rosemary
Carlisle	
Sept 9	- Galen & Bernadine Radle
Sept 16	-
Sept 23	- Bernard & Lorraine Brenner
Sept 30	- Donna Setterlund & Jean Kannel
Oct 7	- LaVern Crapser & Joanne Gilbrault
Oct 14	- Linda DeLong & Julie Rinholen

Museum is open Saturdays 1 - 4 pm.

Any of the above volunteer hosts with scheduling conflicts should contact Volunteer Host Coordinator Linda DeLong at 672-5167.

The Old Courthouse Museum periodically needs hosts for special events and Saturday substitutes. If you would like to serve as a museum host, please call 672-5423 to leave a message.

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

PEPIN THE SHORT, (French PÉPIN LE BREF, German PIPPIN DER KURZE) b. 714 - d. Sept. 24, 768, Saint-Denis, Neustria [now in France]. He was the first king of the Frankish Carolingian dynasty and the father of Charlemagne. A son of Charles Martel, Pepin became sole de facto ruler of the Franks in 747 and then, after deposing Childeric III in 751, king of the Franks. He was the first Frankish king to be anointed--first by St. Boniface and later (754) by Pope Stephen II.

Pepin County Historical Society
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PCHS ANNUAL MEETING -
Sunday, April 9
2 pm - DHS Multipurpose Room
Guest Speaker: MARY LOGUE
Author - "Claire Watkins Mysteries"
 (see inside for details)

DATES TO REMEMBER

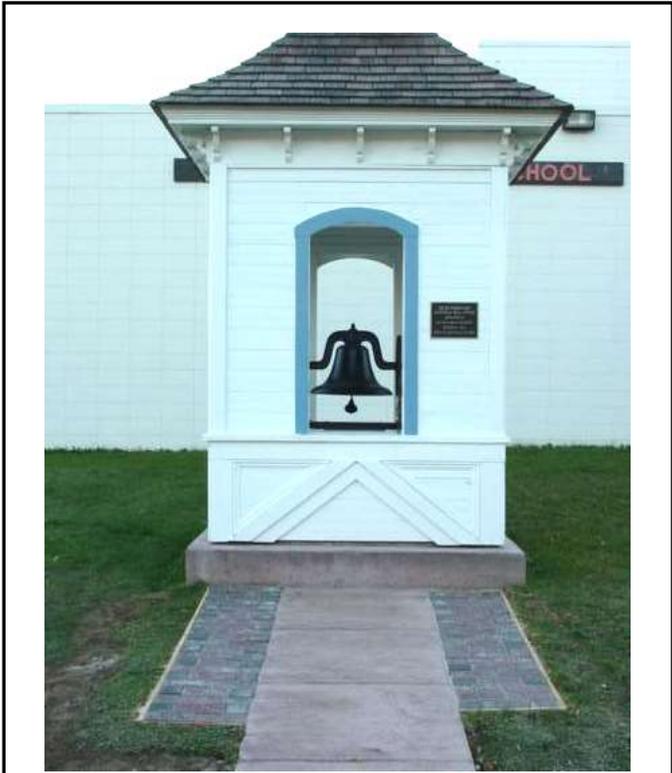
- May 3 - PCHS Board @ Museum 5:00 pm
- May 10 - Cleaning Day @ Museum
- May 27 - Opening Day of '06 Season
- Jun 7 - PCHS Board @ Museum 5:00 pm
- July 5 - PCHS Board @ Museum 5:00 pm
- July 9 - Potluck Picnic 5:30 pm @ TBD
- Aug 2 - PCHS Board @ Museum 5:00 pm
- Sep 6 - PCHS Board @ Museum 5:00 pm
- Oct 4 - PCHS Board @ Museum 5:00 pm
- Oct 8 - Fall Meeting 2:00 pm @ TBD
- Oct 14 - Last Day of '06 Season

Join us!

MEMBERSHIPS:

- ___ \$5 Individual
- ___ \$8 Family
- ___ \$25 Friends of
Museum
- ___ \$25
Business/Professional
- ___ \$50 Contributing

Name _____
 -
 Address _____



"Honor a Teacher/Mentor" bricks border the walk to Helen Parkhurst Bell Tower Memorial. The engraved bricks were installed last Fall by Russ Haigh and Terry Mesch.