



THE COLUMNS

Newsletter of the Pepin County Historical Society

Vol. XIX, No. 3

Affiliate of the Wisconsin Historical Society

September 2005

HIGHLIGHTS OF SUMMER PICNIC & SOCIETY NEWS

The PCHS Summer Picnic held in the new screened pavilion at Round Hill was attended by an estimated 60 people. Despite the hot weather, the shade of the hill made for an enjoyable afternoon. The history of Round Hill was presented in pictures and narrative. Ken Holden and his wife from the state of Oregon attended the picnic. Ken explained how Round Hill was the very spot where the story of Susan Richardson and John P. Holden began.

The West Central Region of the Wisconsin Council of Local History (WCLH) Convention was held August 20 in Alma. Participants from numerous societies and museums in the area shared stories of successful events and activities. PCHS reported the completion of the Helen Parkhurst Memorial/Black School Bell Tower Restoration Project. Afternoon tours included the Lock-&-Dam #4, the Richard/Kathryn Harry car collection, and the Alma Area Museum.

The WCLH annual State Convention will be held October 8 in Rhinelander. PCHS submitted an application for a Local History Certificate of Commendation (awarded at the convention) for its Helen Parkhurst/Black School Project. No word has been received yet if we'll be awarded a certificate.

The PCHS Board has accepted with regret the resignation of Board member and Vice-president Don Rahman. Don has been an excellent board member and volunteer and will be missed. Kim Wagenbach will take Don's place as vice-president and a replacement is being sought to fill the vacancy on the board. Many thanks to Don for his service!!

The PCHS Board is always grateful to the many dedicated people who have given memorials, donated historical items, and volunteered their time to help make the Old Courthouse Museum a success.
- Russell Haigh

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 FALL MEETING

2:00 P.M. - Sunday, October 9, 2005
Courtroom - Old Courthouse Museum
Washington Square - Durand, Wisconsin

" Honoring 'His Honor' "

The Pepin County Historical Society Board of Directors will be honoring the Honorable Dane F. Morey, recently-retired Pepin-Buffalo County Circuit Court Judge, at the Society's Fall Membership Meeting. The Board will recognize Judge Morey for his many years of service to Pepin County as an attorney and judge. Judge Morey will be sharing anecdotes and memories about his legal and judicial careers.

Dane Morey began his legal career in the late 1950s as an assistant district attorney in Juneau County, Wisconsin. Less than two years later, following the resignation of his boss, Dane ran for and was elected Juneau County District Attorney. However, within a year he was invited to join the law firm his brother Randy Morey and John V. Whelan operated in Mondovi. Dane accepted, resigned as District Attorney, and moved to Mondovi. In 1962, Dane moved his office to Durand, where the firm had purchased the law practice of John Bartholomew, who became the new Circuit Court Judge. In 1965, Dane moved his family to Durand, where they lived for the next 40 years.

He conducted his law practice in Durand until he was appointed judge in January of 1990, following the resignation of then Circuit Court Judge Gary Schlosstein. In April of that year, Dane ran for and won his first six-year term as the Pepin-Buffalo County Circuit Court Judge. He was re-elected in 1996 and again in 2002. He resigned from the bench July 1st of this year.

Dane was born in 1932 at Trego, Wisconsin, in the home of relatives, where his parents were visiting. His aunt, who was a nurse, helped deliver him. He grew up in rural Spooner, Wis., and graduated from Spooner High School in 1950.

He studied pre-law at Superior State College in Superior, Wis., for two years, and then, enlisted in the Army during the Korean Conflict. He trained in the Army Security Agency and spent a year in California learning the Korean language to become a translator.

After leaving the Army in 1955, Dane went to University of Wisconsin at Madison to continue his studies in law. While in Madison he met his future wife Ruth, who was studying to be a nurse. A few years later, while finishing his law degree, they were married.

(adapted from an article by Dave Brommerich, *Courier-Wedge*, 7/14/05)

SOCIETY NEWS

"HONOR AN EDUCATOR" - Buy-a-Brick project reached the magical threshold of 50 bricks (64 orders have been received) and PCHS has ordered the first batch of engraved paving bricks. The engraved bricks should be ready soon and, if all goes well, the bricks will be laid along the walkway of the Helen Parkhurst / Black School Bell Tower Memorial in front of the Arkansaw Middle School by the end of September. This is an on-going project, so it is never too late to honor an educator or mentor special to you. Our next order deadline will be February 1, 2006.

OTHER NEWS & NOTES

INTERESTING NEW WEBSITE for genealogists can be found at:

www.eastpepincemetery.com

This website features **East Pepin Cemetery** - "A beautiful Pioneer Cemetery actively maintained in the Town of Albany, Pepin County, Wisconsin, USA".

DO YOU MISS the "Today is History" column that regularly appeared in the Courier-Wedge? Many people do. PCHS is looking for a volunteer to dig up old photos and stories of Pepin County to share with the rest of us. Call the museum at 672-5423.



This wood and sheet metal washing machine from a century ago was recently donated to PCHS by Terry "Seed" Brunner of rural Durand. The "Handy Washing Machine" was patented in November, 1892. This one was purchased and used by Matthias and Julia Brunner in the early 1900s and has been in the family ever since. Dirty clothes and soap water went into the tub, the louvered basket would then pivot down on top and have to be moved back-&-forth by hand for the scrubbing action. The washing machine had been stored in barns and sheds over the years and is in need of a thorough, but gentle, cleaning before it will go on display.

SYMPATHY TO THE FAMILIES OF:

Bert Hagness - PCHS member
 Leon Prissel - PCHS Volunteer

MEMORIALS RECEIVED -

For:	From:
Midge Lieftring	Joe/Christie Lieftring
Floyd/Margaret Rhiel	Joe/Christie Lieftring
	John/Linda Solie
	Madeleine Lieftring
Robert Goodrich	Joe/Christie Lieftring
	John/Linda Solie
Cecil Barber	Beryl/Evelyn Holmstadt
Marie Jereczek	John/Linda Solie
Fr. Matthew Molinaro	Madeleine Lieftring
	Midge Heurich
Leon Prissel	Madeleine Lieftring
	Richard/Vera Slabey
Bert Hagness	Galen/Bernadine Radle
	Judith A. Schwellenbach
	Audrey Hooser
	Richard/Denise Polzer
Jean Sweeney	Thalice Nicklas
Dorothy Brunner	Judith A. Schwellenbach

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



Pepin County Historical Society

Officers:

President: Russell Haigh
 Vice-Pres.: Kim Wagenbach
 Secretary: Roberta Stuart
 Treasurer: Galen Radle

Directors:

Rita Conlin, John Solie,
 Lois Laehn, Jean Kannel

"THE COLUMNS" is published three times a year by the Pepin County Historical Society.

Editor: Terry J. Mesch

Editorial from the Courier-Wedge, June, 1925:

YOUNG MEN DISGRACED

It is said that a considerable number of well known young men of Cumberland, Chippewa Falls, Stanley, Glen Flora and Ladysmith have been disgraced for life this spring by getting into girl scrapes. It is likely that young men of various other places have done equally as bad but have been more fortunate in concealing their escapades. It may be going too far to say that the young people of the present day are more reckless than ever before but it is safe to say there is altogether too much wrong-doing. In too many instances, it is done by young people of good families whose parents have made sacrifices in order that their children might enjoy better educational and other advantages that they were permitted to enjoy. It is really worse for young people of this class to go wrong than it is for those who have never had a chance in the world and go wrong partly when they have become discouraged because of their poor opportunities.

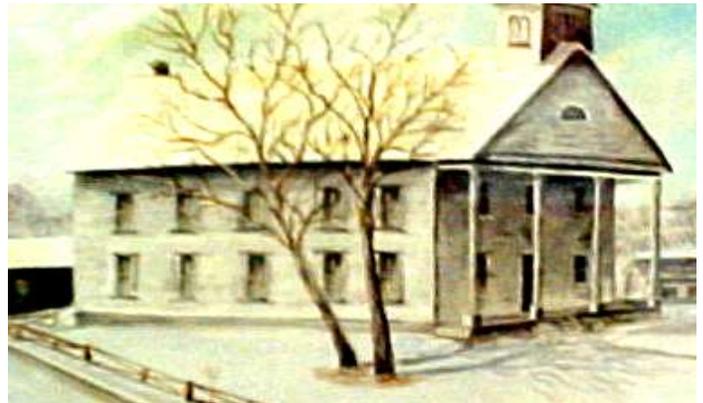
Our nation now holds a very important place in the world in many respects but such a condition can not be maintained unless more attention is given in the maintaining of high ideals.

Rome and other nations went down after sacrificing high ideals which built them up and we can not hope to escape if we do likewise. Thirty years ago the young people attended church Sunday evening in large numbers. Now very few attend and it must be confessed that the same will apply to many older ones as well. A very large number of young people, sometimes placed as high as 90 per cent, have forsaken the religious faith of their parents and grand-parents.

Getting back to first principles in religion and politics becomes necessary at times and now appears to be one of those times.

- Submitted by: Jean Kannel

NOW, YOU SEE 'EM...NOW, YOU DON'T. Next time you visit the Old Courthouse Museum, take a look at the photos of the building along the southwest wall of the main corridor. On close examination, you'll notice the number of windows in the northeast wall of the first floor changes. The top picture below is a painting based on the oldest photo of the building in the PCHS collection and shows five windows. The middle photo (circa early 1900s) shows only four. The bottom photo (mid-1900s?) shows four windows, but in different places and none at the rear of the building (obstructed by the trees, one of which is likely the infamous "Hangin' Tree").



Pepin County Historical Society
OLD COURTHOUSE MUSEUM
Washington Square
P.O. Box 74
Durand, WI 54736

PRST STD
Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. postage
PAID
Durand, WI
Permit No. 5



PCHS Fall Meeting
Sunday, October 9 - 2:00 P.M.
Old Courthouse Museum
Washington Square - Durand, WI
"Honoring His Honor"
(see inside for details)

"Red Eagle Lake, Montana" - oil painting by C. H. Gleason - on display in Room 1 at the Old Courthouse Museum. Painted a hundred years ago when Gleason lived in Durand.

DATES TO REMEMBER

- Oct 5 - PCHS Board @ Museum 5:00 pm
- Oct 9 - Fall Meeting
- Oct 15 - Last Day Open for '05 season

MUSEUM WISH LIST*:
- new track-lighting systems in display areas

