



THE LEGACY

EARLY SUMMER 2014

Upcoming Fund Raiser ANNUAL ELKHORN CITY RUMMAGE SALE

The Walworth County Historical Society will be taking part in the annual Elkhorn city rummage sale. It will be on Friday and Saturday, June 13th / 14th. Our sale objects will be in the main room of Heritage Hall. Sale hours will be from 9am - 4pm.

NO museum items will be in the sale. However, if you have been spring housecleaning and have anything you no longer want, our rummage sale could use it. We are open Wednesday through Saturday from 1pm to 4pm if you have something to bring. It is wise to call first though 262-723-7848 or 262-723-4248.

We can also use some "clerks" the two days of the sale. We can use some shoppers too!!

Our new membership chairperson, Kay Sargent, is cleaning up the files. Our membership is on a calendar year for everyone - that's January 1st through December 31st. Most of our members have renewed their memberships. There's still quite a few that haven't yet. If you haven't renewed yet, please do so by using the form on last page. If you are unsure of your status, please contact Kay at sargent@idcnet.com or 262-728-5298

Calendar for 2014

July 1st- 2 pm @ Resource Center
Board of Directors meeting

Webster House Museum
Now open for summer
Wed-Sat 1pm-4pm
Group/School Tours by appointment
262-723-4248

June 13th & 14th 9am - 4pm
Elkhorn City Wide Rummage Sale
Heritage Hall

July 12th & 13th 11am - 5pm
GAR (Grand Army of the Republic)
Spanish American War Encampment
Cira 1898, Webster House Grounds

July 13th 1pm - 3pm
Ice Cream Social
Webster House Museum

Doris Reinke Resource Center
210 S. Washington St., Elkhorn
Wed-Thurs 1-4 pm or by appointment
262-723-7848



Wedding Gown Display

Something borrowed
Something blue
Something old
Something new

A wedding gown exhibit will be on display starting the same weekend as the rummage sale, June 13 and 14, in the Webster House Museum.

Over time, the society has collected a variety of wedding gowns representing many styles. These will be in the museum for summer visitors to see, along with the regular museum tour.

Did you know that brides many years ago often wore dark dresses instead of white? The reason for this was that the wedding gown would later become a "best dress" to be worn on special occasions. Clothing 150 years ago was not so plentiful as today.



GRAND OPENING REVIEW

The grand opening of Heritage hall was attended by approximately 80 people, including David Bretl, county administrator, Steve Nass, county legislator and Neal Kedzie, county legislator.

Brief histories were presented by Doris Reinke, Bob Webster, Dan Richardson, and Patricia Blackmer.

After refreshments (the society's popular sugar cookies and lemonade) guests toured the building which was formerly Betts funeral home. Webster House museum across the street was also open and Frank Eames provided short tours there.

A special thank you to Kay Sargent and Mrs. James Boardman who baked the batches of cookies for us.

The art work of Katherine Yares, a recent deceased member of the society was on display in the main hall during the grand opening. Yares, who lived in Elkhorn, was one of our helpers at the museum, on hand to prepare it for opening in the spring and closing in the fall. She also was in charge of maintaining the scrapbook which recorded our activities.

Her brother donated all her pictures which ranged from impressionistic to abstract, specifying that they could be sold. Many of her paintings were purchased after the display and the proceeds will be used to fund our projects.

Three Living History Camps will be present at the Walworth County Historical Society Encampment scheduled for July 12th and 13th. The Grand Army of the Republic Camp G.A.R. Post 8 (Civil War Veterans) as well as a Spanish-American War Soldier & Sailor Camp and a lady civilian camp will be on the grounds of the Webster House Museum for the weekend. Information regarding each group will be displayed at Heritage Hall during this event. Also included will be the Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War 1861-1865 who will be present to answer questions and recruit members for their tents.

On Sunday morning at 10am, there will be an old fashion religious service to which the public is invited led by Chaplain Donald Shawhan of Post 8.

Later Sunday from 1:00-2:00 pm three Civil War authors will be present for a book signing. Lance Herdegen, Post 8. Chair of the Wisconsin Civil War Sesquicentennial Commission and author of *The Iron Brigade in Civil War and Memory: The Black Hats from Bull Run to Appomattox and Thereafter*; *Those Damned Black Hats*; *The Iron Brigade in the Gettysburg Campaign*, *Four Years with the Iron Brigade*; *Civil War Journal of William R. Ray*. *The Men Stood Like Iron*; *How the Iron Brigade Won its Name* and *In the Bloody Railroad Cut at Gettysburg*. Herdegen was the winner of the Army Historical Foundation Distinguished Writing Award

Dennis Moore, Post 8. Author of *The Anderson Papers*; *The Civil War Diaries of James S. Anderson* 5th Wis. Inf. Order of Execution; *The Trial and Execution of Private John Carroll*. (The only Wisconsin soldier to be executed in the Civil War) and *The History of Horace M. Walker* Post 18. Grand Army of the Republic Manitowoc Wisconsin. 1881 - 1934.

Thomas Arliskas, Post 8. Author of *Cadet Gray and Butternut Brown*, a Collection of notes on Confederate Clothing and uniforms-- Thomas Publications, 2006, Gettysburg, PA. Arliskas has sold over 7,000 copies of his book which is in its second printing.

The afternoon promises to be a wonderful family event with an old fashioned ice cream social.

VETERANS' ROOM



The veterans' exhibit in Heritage Hall is open the same hours as Webster House Museum. Former service men are there Wednesday through Saturday from 1pm to 4pm to welcome and guide visitors.

A growing collection of 20th century military memorabilia is on display. This includes photographs, flags, documents and uniforms.

These relics have needed some place for their preservation and the society is happy to have space for them.

WWII/KOREAN MILITARY JEEP

Through the efforts of Bob Webster and Phil Jones a major symbol of modern warfare is part of the veterans' exhibit. It is a jeep, that memorable vehicle which captured the imagination of a generation.

Phil Jones of Jones Bus Transportation in Elkhorn, had one as part of his collection of cars. Bob Webster who has been the moving force in establishing the exhibit donated funds to acquire the jeep.

Until suitable space can be found to display the jeep Jones is housing and maintaining it.



WALWORTH COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

9 East Rockwell Street
 P.O. BOX 273
 ELKHORN, WI 53121
 Phone: 262-723-4248
 E-mail: walcohistory@tds.net
 Web Site: www.walcohistory.org
 Newsletter: walworthchsnewsletter@gmail.com

Officers

Doris Reinke
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Dan Richardson
 Vice-President

Gwen Tveter, Secretary

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Board Members

Helene Hurdis
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 Pat Blackmer
 Julie Taylor
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 Kay Sargent
 Michael Wozny
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Past President

Dan Richardson

WCHS MEMBERSHIP RUNS FROM JAN 1ST THROUGH DECEMBER 31ST YEARLY

WALWORTH COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP FORM

NAME _____
 ADDRESS _____
 CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____
 TELEPHONE _____
 E-MAIL _____

Membership Level: (Check One) Single \$15 Family \$20
 Contributing \$25 Patron \$50

Other:

Donation \$ _____ Webster House Museum
 Heritage Hall General Fund

Volunteering Interests: (check all that apply)

- Computer Work (w/ Microsoft Publisher, Word, Excel, Access, Other)
- Photography Sewing and Fabric Conservation
- Gardening Tour Guide (Docent) Research Assistant
- Baking Painting & Maintenance Other _____

Please clip and send this form to: Walworth County Historical Society, P.O. Box 273, Elkhorn, WI 53121

Our Wish List

Can you help out by contributing one or more from the list below?
 Contributions of these items will help keep our costs down.

- Paper towels, toilet paper, hand soap
- Photos or your family members, places and/or events from Walworth County
- A copy of your Walworth County family history
- Plastic cups, plates, bowls, napkins
- Garbage bags, light bulbs, & postage stamps
- Volunteers

We welcome and solicit articles, citations, and photographs by members and volunteers for possible publication in *The Legacy*.
 Please send material or suggestions to: walworthchsnewsletter@gmail.com or WCHS, PO Box 273, Elkhorn, WI 53121 or call (262) 723-7848.
 Any articles must observe copyright restrictions and credit must be cited for material from other sources. All decisions are final and rest with the editorial staff.

WALWORTH COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

www.walcohistory.org

CORNERS OF ROCKWELL & WASHINGTON STS

Webster House Museum: Wed thru Sat 1-5 pm 262-723-4248 *(Seasonal)*

Doris Reinke Resource Center: Wed & Thurs 1-4 pm 262-723-7848

Or By Appointments

“COLLECTING, PRESERVING AND SHARING THE RICH HISTORY OF WALWORTH COUNTY”

**Walworth County Historical Society
P.O. Box 273
Elkhorn, WI 53121**