



### From the President

Dear Members,

In January I accepted the nomination to be your Vice President. Sadly our President Lorraine Hugg passed away in April, so I became President... my plate runneth over and I am overwhelmed! I will do my best to uphold the NWCHS mission.

#### Board of Directors

##### **President**

Shelby Weister

##### **Vice President**

##### **Secretary**

Martha Pomainville

##### **Treasurer**

Laura Ptak

##### **Directors**

Ed Arendt  
Mary Anne Arendt  
Chris Buchanan  
Dolly Kobs  
Ken Wood

##### **Past President**

Tom Ptak

##### **Interior Designer**

Chris Buchanan

##### **Librarian**

Georgianne Bentzler

##### **Master Consulting**

##### **Rosarian**

Tom Ptak

##### **Coordinator**

Kim Krueger

We had a busy summer with numerous events some of which are highlighted inside. The Respite Garden Tour was in June. Over one hundred people were given a tour of the Heritage Rose Gardens by Tom Ptak and Tom Stram. The Master Gardeners, under the direction of Gail LaFontaine, completed two memorial gardens planting annuals and perennials, shrubs and did a lot of landscaping. Just a reminder, the annual yard clean up day is **October 20th** from 9am to Noon. Please come and join us. Coffee and rolls will be provided.

We received a grant from the Marshfield Community Foundation for a multi-media projector to be used for historical education and guest speakers.

An emerging task force will be meeting regarding future projects including updating exhibits in the Mansion and collaborating with the Library for historical displays, expanding the gift shop, and revising displays of the Upham family history. If you are interested in helping we will value your input—please call Kim at the Mansion.

Members, we are a volunteer organization and we need your help to preserve NWCHS and the Upham Mansion. Whether you like to work behind the scenes (fixing things, painting, cleaning, decorating for Christmas, etc...) or like to interact with people... WE NEED YOU!

Enclosed is a new donation envelope in which you can send in your 2013 Membership or donation to NWCHS.

Respectfully Submitted,

Shelby Weister

Next General Meeting: Monday, Sept. 24th 7-9PM

**Keith Scarce**, local archaeological researcher and collector from Loyal, will be the guest speaker.

Meetings for members and friends of NWCHS are the last Mondays of the month from 7pm to 9pm. Each meeting features a short business meeting, a speaker and snacks. We look forward to seeing you!

If you or if you know someone who would like to speak on a topic at a General Meeting please contact Kim at the Mansion

Please also note our 'wish list' on the back cover. All is greatly appreciated!

**2012 Pie & Ice Cream Social  
June 2nd**

**Summer Events**

This year's Pie & Ice Cream Social was very well attended! The weather was beautiful and the roses were in bloom... A **HUGE THANK YOU** to all those who made it happen!



Romelle Bymers and her yummy homemade ice cream!



Mike Holubets provided the entertainment.



**Fire Path Walking Tours**

Starting at Upham mill yard through the Central Avenue business district, local re-enactors highlighted events of the June 1887 Fire. Despite the hot weather the event was very well attended!



Shirley Mook portrayed Mary Upham

Tom Ptak portrayed William Upham

**125th Marshfield Fire Anniversary—Flag Raising Ceremony**

Submitted by Tom Ptak

The well planned event began on the warm summer day of June 28th with an oak tree planting which symbolized Mayor William Upham's raising and rebuilding his business thereby spurring the town of a three thousand citizens to rise from the ashes of an enormous fire.

Mayor William Upham, portrayed by NWCHS Past President Tom Ptak, wearing a tailored vested black suit, brimmed gray hat and a mustache, disembarked from the head automobile of the parade and walked to the podium on the Upham Mansion front porch. Monie and Darby Upham- granddaughters of William Upham, Marshfield Mayor Chris Meyer, and Dave Anderson - District Director of the 7th District of Wisconsin also attended. Mayor Meyer introduced Mayor Upham who spoke to the visitors as he did in 1887 at 6:00am on the day following the great fire. The speech brought the visitors back in time encouraging them with much conviction that he would rebuild his business. Mayor Upham spoke of the facts and figures of the fire and then made closing remarks of his intent to in the next few weeks rebuild the mill and then most of his businesses by the end of the year. He brought reverence to the end of his speech, by ordering the US flag raised, symbolizing his intent and raising the citizen's hopes for employment, and stone cement business construction for fire prevention.

Towards the end of the event Joe Finamore sang a song he had composed commemorating the 125th Marshfield Fire Anniversary. To write the song Joe had studied many of historic documents written by the fire victims.





**WHS Grant Awarded!**

In June, with the help of Doug Seubert, NWCHS submitted an application for a Mini-grant offered by the Wisconsin Historical Society & Wisconsin Council for Local History. In August we were notified that we were awarded the grant! The matching grant was for \$700 to be used towards archival material. NWCHS will match the grant with \$700 raised through the Pie and Ice Cream Social and a generous donation given by Monie Upham.

Most of the money raised by the Society usually goes towards operational expenses and Mansion upkeep. This grant will ensure the proper storage of original documents entrusted to NWCHS so that they can be preserved and protected for future generations, as well as enable patrons, students and researchers to locate and utilize them safely.

**In Memory**



**Florence Mickelson**

NWCHS mourns the passing of Florence (Arnie) Mickelson who passed away in July. Before recent years, when health did not permit, Florence spent a number of hours volunteering behind the scenes. Florence enjoyed the Mansion loved to chat with people. We extend our sympathy to Arnie, her husband.

**Dr. Joseph Ousley**

We were also saddened to hear of Dr. Ousley's passing September 4th. Dr. and Mrs. Ousley have been well known contributors to the community of Marshfield and towards the North Wood County Historical Society. We extend our sympathy to Mrs. Ousley.

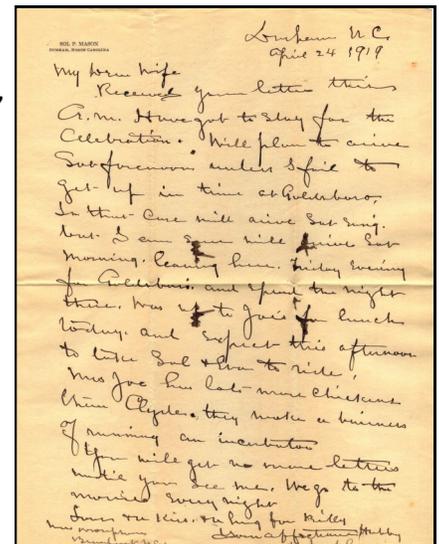
**Upham Letters**



Monie Upham loaned to NWCHS a box of letters that William Upham wrote to Grace during their short courtship. The loan was for one month so that we could scan the letters and place them into archival sleeves and binders for preservation. Ranging in dates from 1915 to 1922 the majority of letters were written in March, April and May of 1915.

William Upham's intention, prior to meeting Grace in Beaufort, NC, was to sail his yacht 'the Comrade' from De Pere, WI to Chicago down the Illinois and Mississippi Rivers, through the Gulf of Mexico, up the East Coast and through the Great Lakes via the Hudson River, completing his voyage back in Chicago. He started on November 7, 1913—which incidentally happened to be on the first day of the great 'White Hurricane', which raged the Great Lakes from 7-11 November! He got as far as Sturgeon Bay, WI and waited out the storm for 4 days.

After meeting Grace, William continued his voyage, writing as he went, describing where he was and what he was doing all the while courting from a distance.



On April 17, 1915 William cut his voyage short and left from Philadelphia for Chicago via train. He spent a couple days in Chicago and Milwaukee before returning to Marshfield April 27th. The letters continue up through May 27th prior to arriving back in Beaufort for their June 1st wedding. After they were married the remaining letters were written when William took trips away from Marshfield and in May 1922 when Grace was at St. Mary's Hospital in Rochester, Minnesota.

The scanned letters can be seen at the Mansion upon request.

### The Mansion's Wish List:

⇒ **VOLUNTEERS!!!** If you would like to help we can use you!

#### **Items needed:**

- ⇒ **1st class Postage stamps**
- ⇒ **White, all purpose Copy paper**
- ⇒ **Paper products**—paper towels, T.P., facial tissue
- ⇒ **Printer cartridges.**  
HP 60XL black and tri-color
- ⇒ **Financial Donations** The North Wood County Historical Society / Upham Mansion is a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization; donations are tax deductible. Our tax ID is 39-6078622.

### Upcoming Events:

#### **Exhibits at Upham Mansion:**

**Sept:** Marshfield & Area Baseball

**Oct & Nov:** Political Memorabilia

**Dec:** Victorian Christmas

#### **Victorian Christmas Event 1:30-4:00**

**Saturday Dec 1st & Sunday Dec 2nd**

Cookies and punch served

Admission \$2 children 12 and under free.

#### **Office Hours:**

**Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Fridays 9:00am-1:00pm**

#### **Tour Hours:**

**Wednesdays & Saturdays 1:30-4:00pm**

(Closed Holiday Weekends)

**Tel. 715-387-3322 Email: [uphammansion@frontier.com](mailto:uphammansion@frontier.com)**

**Web: [www.uphammansion.com](http://www.uphammansion.com)**

FALL 2012

MANSION NEWS

***North Wood County Historical Society—Upham Mansion***

***PO Box 142***

***Marshfield, WI 54449***



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