

# NORTH WOOD COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWS



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## ***From the President***

Dear Friends, Members, and Volunteers of NWCHS:

Spring is here and as I write this note on Monday, May 6th, the trees are sprouting buds, tulips and daffodils are in bloom and we are looking forward to uncovering the roses and seeing the green, green lawn again!

Many activities for 2013 are in the planning. Our **Pie & Ice Cream Social is on June 8th** and during our **July picnic** this year we will recognize our volunteers—however, all are welcome to attend!

During the summer months, our Gift Shop Coordinator, Mary Anne Arendt has lined up various **guest artists for Saturday receptions**—see inside for details. And this fall we are coordinating an **Antique Faire & Appraisal** event. More news on this event will be forthcoming.

NWCHS is a volunteer run organization. Any help is appreciated from working in the gardens, helping with tours, working with cataloging photos and artifacts. We do train and love to interact with our volunteers! The coffeepot and teakettle are always available as well as good conversation!

The North Wood County Historical Society has stewardship of numerous historical artifacts that have been donated by area individuals who have entrusted them into our care. To sustain the NWCHS we do need continued financial support. **Thank you to all who have submitted a donation and/or paid their annual Membership Dues!** I truly believe the Marshfield and area community will support organizations in time of need.

Our General Meetings and Board Meetings are open to anyone who has an interest in history—so please join us!

Enjoy the summer. Please stop by and visit the Heritage Rose Gardens, tour the Mansion and visit the new Gift Shop!

Shelby Weister  
NWCHS President

## **Next General Meeting: May 20th 7-9PM (Note: This is one week earlier than normal)**

*Meetings for members and friends of NWCHS are the last Mondays of the month (unless it falls on a holiday) 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 note our 'wish list' on the back cover. All is greatly appreciated!***

### Ken Flanagan Reception Held



Local Artist, Ken Flanagan shows off one of his paintings .

On Saturday, March 2nd a reception was held for Ken Flanagan at the Upham Mansion. Flanagan, a local artist who taught at Marshfield Sr. High for 33 years, was available to the over 60 guests who came out to meet him. During the reception a group of Kindergarten through 4th grade students from the School of Performing Arts of Marshfield and Stevens Point provided entertainment and refreshments were also available. Mr. Flanagan really enjoyed his time visiting with people and since March the paintings have been on sale in the Mansion's gift shop and 8 of them have been sold. The paintings will continue to be on sale until June.

Our gift shop has a profit of \$480.49 as of May 1st. We have an order of 10 Dancing Dan jig dolls that will come to \$50. This order should be fulfilled before June 1st. The next plan is to connect our events with Chestnut Avenue Center For the Arts. Contributed by Mary Anne Arendt

### Up-coming Artist Receptions:

Each reception is on a Saturday  
from 2pm—4pm

**June 15th—Chris Egger**— Paintings, Drawings

**July 13th—Sherry Nussbaum**- Portraits

### Blum Brothers Exhibit

In March we finished a new, semi-permanent exhibit of the Blum Brothers Box and Butter Tub Companies. The display is on the Mansion's 2nd floor and showcases butter tubs and cheese boxes—many of which were donated to the Historical Society by Harold Blum. This exhibit will be up for about a year.

We also had a mini-exhibit of the same subject in the Marshfield Public Library through the month of April. We are hoping to have more mini exhibits in the Library in the future!



Howard and Peter Paulson,  
great-grandsons of Peter Paulson,  
and Barney Kedrowski

### 1902 Paulson Engine No. 1 Comes 'Home'

It was a blustery day on Tuesday, April 16th, but for Barney Kedrowski no weather would have dampened his spirits. He had brought a restored Paulson Engine to the Kohs Machine Shop (204 W. 1st St ) along with two brothers, Howard and Peter Paulson, both great grandsons of Peter Paulson who patented the engine.

In 2011 Barney had bought the rusty, long forgotten Paulson at an auction and one year later had restored it to working order. As he did more research Barney located Howard and Peter Paulson and invited them to join him in Marshfield so that they would have the honor of starting up an engine their great-grandfather had invented in front of the very building where it was manufactured.

The Paulson Engine was manufactured in 1902 by Lang and Scharmann which, at the time, was located at 204 W. S. Depot St. The building still stands and is currently Kohs Machine Shop, owned and operated by Jeff Wills.

# See, Save and Celebrate

## Historical Preservation Month ~ May 2013

### Wednesday, May 1

5:30 pm  
**"Kick-Off Celebration"** at Veterans Park  
 West 7th Street and South Chestnut Avenue  
 Join us as Marshfield Mayor Chris Meyer proclaims May as Historic Preservation Month and then follow along on a narrated walking tour of Marshfield's Park Street Historic District. Refreshments will be served.

### May 2 - 28

**"Marshfield: Past, Present and Future Exhibit"**  
 Marshfield Public Library  
 211 E. Second Street  
 Marshfield Middle School student artwork depicting Marshfield's historic downtown through various time lenses displayed.

### Thursday, May 9

5:30 - 7:00 pm  
**Artist Reception** - Refreshments will be served.



*I.P. Hume House  
 built in 1892  
 407 Park Street*

### Wednesday, May 15

7:00 pm  
**"History of the Marshfield Telephone Company"**  
 BeeBee Forum Room  
 Marshfield Public Library  
 211 E. Second Street

Everyone is invited to be first in a series of lectures on Marshfield History. Local historian and former Marshfield mayor, Michael Meyers, will trace the history of Marshfield's local phone company's from its founding in 1882 through to the early 1960s. The stories will prove both informative and entertaining. Refreshments will be served.

### Saturday, May 25

9:30 am - noon  
**"Beginning Genealogy"**  
 Marshfield Public Library  
 211 E. Second Street  
 Join us for a free beginner's workshop. A brief introduction gets you started. Then one-on-one help with an experienced family history researcher guides you to the best sources for your search. Please register in advance by calling the library at 715-387-8494 extension 211.



*Stories of yesterday shared with school children*

### Friday, May 24

8:30 - 11:00 am and 12:00 - 2:30 pm

### Cemetery Tours

Hillside Cemetery Entrance  
 1110 N. St. Joseph Avenue  
 The public is invited to join school children as they tour the cemetery and meet noteworthy citizens of "Marshfield's Past."

### North Wood County Historical Society

212 W. Third Street  
 Enjoy a look at the **"Blum Brothers Box Factory History, 1910-1972"** through a display of photographs and memorabilia of this Marshfield business.  
 Hours: Wednesday 1:30 - 4:00 pm  
 Saturday 1:30 - 4:00 pm  
 By appointment - 387-3822

### Thomas House History Center

105 S. Central Avenue  
 View the display **"Lest We Forget"** to learn about the military efforts of Marshfield's men and women.  
 Hours: Wednesday 1:00 - 4:30 pm  
 Saturday 11 am - 2:00 pm  
 By appointment - 384-5867



*North Wood County Historical Society  
 & Upham Mansion's  
 Pie & Ice Cream Social  
 Saturday, June 8<sup>th</sup> 2013  
 10am-3pm*

*Tours of the Mansion w/ admission*

*Homemade  
 Ice cream!*

*Cake Walk at 1pm!*

*Live music on the porch!*

*Historic  
 Demonstrations!*



*Lester Tenney: World War II  
 Bataan Death March Survivor*



### Wednesday, May 29

7:00 pm  
**Holiday Inn** -  
 Hub City Ballroom  
 750 S. Central Avenue  
 Join Dr. Lester Tenney, World War II Bataan Death March survivor as he tells about his experience on the march and also about his 3 1/2 years as a Prisoner of War.

Marshfield Historic Preservation Month Events are coordinated by the City of Marshfield Historic Preservation Committee, Main Street Marshfield, the Marshfield Convention and Visitors Bureau, the Marshfield Area Genealogy Group, the Marshfield Historic Preservation Association, the Marshfield Public Library, the North Wood County Historical Society and the Leard Foundation For Historic Preservation

### Heritage Rose Garden

Tom Ptak, Master Consulting Rosarian, and Tom Stram, Master Gardener, will be preparing the Historical Rose Garden for a glorious bloom period of early June. The rose garden was started in the early '90s by many North Wood County Historical Society members and continues to thrive with thirty-five varieties of old roses which were popular in the years prior to 1900. Plans this spring include pruning, fertilization, mulching with bark, spray prevention for fungus, and if time allows, power washing the seat area of the pergola.

If you desire a education on rose growing, both men will gladly answer your questions on how to grow roses of many types during the yard clean-up day posted.



### Historical Society Garden News

Submitted by Tom Ptak

#### May 16<sup>th</sup>—Upham Yard Work Day



The Governor Upham Mansion yard clean-up day is scheduled for May 16<sup>th</sup>. Garden helpers are being recruited and those interested should bring lawn rakes, gloves, pruning shears and their yard & garden maintenance talents for the annual garden work day.

Society members and volunteers are asked to pitch in for much needed preparation before the pie and Ice-cream Social June 8th and the Dairyfest events.

#### The Benefits of Being a Volunteer

Volunteering adds variety, fulfillment, increasing the sense of self-worth. It is an opportunity to meet new friends and to help others. Studies show that individual volunteers also benefit significantly. A 1999 study found that people volunteering forty hours a year were 40% more likely than non-volunteers to live a longer, happier life.

#### Sunday, May 19th Open House and Old Car Show at the Wisconsin Veterans Home at King 10am-3pm

Our friend, Arnie Michelson, who now resides at King, has invited us to come to the open house. He would LOVE to have visitors!

The Open House will feature an old car show, free paddle boat rides, a vintage, military vehicle display, music and a gift/craft shop.

If you are interested in joining a car-pool of people to go to King Veterans Home please contact Kim at the Mansion: 715-387-3322.

More information here:

<http://dva.state.wi.us/Docs/KingCarShowFlyerMay2013.pdf>

### Student Tours



When you identify the artifact to the left as the equivalent of a modern day vacuum cleaner, students give you a funny look. When you explain that it is a rug beater there is an 'Ah' moment... but when you let a student actually beat a rug — that is something they will remember about their tour at the Governor Upham Mansion!

Every year hundreds of 3rd-8th grade students from Marshfield and Spencer schools come through the Upham Mansion in May.

Following a short presentation on the early history of Marshfield, the Upham family, when the Mansion was built and who lived here, the classes are divided into 4 smaller groups. Starting in different locations in the house, the students are then taken on a tour where they interact with artifacts in various rooms and learn more about life at the turn of the last century. Many times we receive hand-made cards of thanks from the classes, each depicting what was remembered most. Often times students bring family members back to the Mansion at a later date—and give a tour of their own!

This year student tours began in April and run through June 4th! Without the help of a number of volunteers these tours simply would NOT be able to take place!

A **HUGE Thank you** to the following individuals who enable the Coordinator to run an event students enjoy!

Mary Anne Arendt, Karen Bittrich, Chris Buchanan, Shirley Burt-Overli, Romelle Bymers, Deb Genett, Dolly Kobs, Linda Nafziger, Martha Pomainville, Ken Swenson, and Karen Thompson.

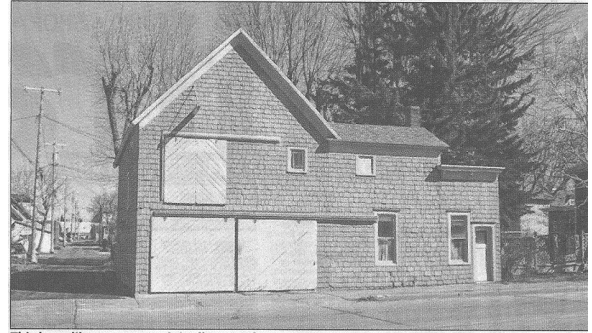
## Historic Snap-shots -Then & Now

by Ken Wood

This new section will feature our Vice President, Ken Wood, who will submit articles on historic structures in the area. Due to time constraints, this first piece is an article Ken submitted to the Marshfield News Herald on July 25, 2011. If you have a suggestion of historic buildings in the north Wood County area you would like to see featured please contact the NWCHS office at: 715-387-3322.



This barn housed a cow at one time. (CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS)



This barn-like structure originally served as a veterinary office.

**T**here are two interesting structures in the area of East Fourth Street and South Maple Avenue. Both are barns, but they had completely different uses.

The first is a barn-like building on the north side of East Fourth Street between Maple and Cedar avenues. It was built as a veterinarian's office by Dr. Andrew J. Abbott, who lived next door at 213 E. Fourth St. Dr. Abbott operated the office



**HIDDEN  
IN PLAIN  
SIGHT**

**KEN  
WOOD**

there until the mid-1930s. The last entry in a telephone book that I can find for him is 1936.

In 1939, the office was occupied by Dr. John B. Fleming, who operated it until the mid-1980s. The last entry for his office is in the 1983 telephone directory.

The second barn was truly a barn and is in the alley between Fourth and Fifth streets, east of Maple Avenue. This barn was built by Helmuth Koenig. He had been a grocery on Central Avenue until he traded his store for a grain mill, the Sparr Cereal Mill, renaming it the Marshfield Milling Company.

The original mill, the Banner Mill, had burned in the fire of 1887 and had been rebuilt. In 1909, the Banner Mill was sold to C. J. Sparr

of New Lisbon and renamed the Sparr Cereal Mill. Its specialty was ground corn meal and grits for making beer.

Marshfield Milling produced a full line of Gold Bond and Big Value animal and poultry feed, and in the 1940s, it expanded to become a wholesaler of building products and supplies. In 1981, it moved its operations to East Fourth Street, and the name was changed to the Prince Corp. in honor of W. J. "Prince" Koenig. This now gets us back to the barn.

According to Walter Koenig's son Mike, his grandfather actually had animals in the barn, including a cow. Each morning,

before school, the cow was milked, and Walter had to drive it east on Fourth Street to the pastureland near where the middle school now is located. After school, he

had to bring it back home for milking once again. This would have been in the decades of the teens and '20s when cows, goats, pigs, chickens, mules and horses were very common in the city.

### Partners in Marshfield's History

#### Chair-people, Main Contacts & Presidents:

Marshfield Historic Preservation Committee—  
Ken Wood

Marshfield Genealogical Society—Vickie Schnitzler

Marshfield Historical Preservation Association—  
Shirley Mook

History Month Committee—Don Schnitzler

North Wood County Historical Society—Shelby Weister

Marshfield Public Library—Lori Belongia

### Contributions and Special Donations

Thank you to the following businesses, individuals and entities who have given special contributions:

Anonymous  
Chris Buchanan  
City of Marshfield  
Charlotte Kruse  
Lion's Club  
Master Gardeners  
Arnie Michelson  
Nelson Jameson  
Floyd & Polly Nikolai  
Margaret Peterson  
Schalow's Nursery  
Monie Upham  
Darby Upham

**North Wood County Historical Society—Upham Mansion**  
**PO Box 142**  
**Marshfield, WI 54449**



If you would like to be unsubscribed from this letter please contact the office or send us an email.

#### The Mansion's Wish List:

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

#### **Items needed:**

- ⇒ **1st class Postage stamps**
- ⇒ **Paper products**— copy paper as well as paper towels, T.P., and facial tissue.
- ⇒ **Printer cartridges.**  
HP 60XL black & 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:

**Blum Brothers Box Exhibit** 2013—Spring 2014

**May:** Marshfield Memorabilia—Glassware collection by Shelby Shelby Weister

**June 8- (10am-3pm)** Pie & Ice Cream Social—Bridal Exhibit

**June 15—** Artist Reception 2-4pm—Chris Egger

**July 13—** Artist Reception 2-4pm—Sherry Nussbaum

**July 27—***Amazing Race* fundraiser for *the Personal Development Center* 1-3PM

#### **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)**