

Summer 2019

LANGLADE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY



Annual Rummage Sale Fundraiser

While we continue to raise funds for our major remodeling project, the museum also carries on with its daily operations. This also requires operating expenses which comes from a separate fund. Since we are an entirely self-sufficient organization we must rely entirely on donations and special fundraising events to keep the museum open and functioning.

One of our major fundraisers took place this past June – our annual rummage sale of items donated by members of the community. The nice weather helped make it a success and we were able to make

over \$700 after expenses. This is one of many events we use to cover expenses and one of our larger ones.

Thanks to all those who made donations and purchases. Your support is greatly appreciated. Also thanks to all those volunteers who helped curator Mary Kay Wolf on the day of the sale. Without all of your help we could not keep the museum open.



Looking for a bargain at a museum rummage sale that was held a few years ago

We will also be at the dessert table at a Music in the Park concert. Thank you to all those bakers who help make this event another success.

The Museum's Road Show

With summer activities finally in full swing, the museum is once again making the rounds at public events with displays of items and photographs from our collection. One of our favorite venues is at the Antigo Farmers Market at the Heinzen Pavilion. Here we are during June Dairy Month accompanying an event held by the Dairy Board. We had a display of old photographs and a Babcock butter fat tester, which a surprising number of people remembered.



CURATOR:
Mary Kay Morrissey Wolf

DIRECTORS:
Dean Blazek
Fran Brown
Nancy Bugni
Glenn Bugni
Carol Feller Gottard
Chris Haedtke
Lisa Haefs
Joe Hermolin
Diane Zuelke

THANK YOU

Items Donated:

- Annie & Tom 48 star American flag
Benishek:
Kay Doran: WWI book
Bruce Kainz: C&NW uniform
Greg Koeppel: Civil Defense uniform items
Steve Marx: Junior Women's Club quilt
Samantha Photographs from around
Masterson: 1913
George Rock: various books
Karen Stewart: Photographs, 1913
yearbook, baptismal gown
Red & Judy Water jug used while potato
Turney: picking, child's tool box

Memorial Donations:

- In memory of: Ernie Millsaps from
Don & Ann Thompson
In memory of: Lyle Forth from family
In memory of: Helen Morrissey
from Joe Hermolin

Monetary Donations:

- In honor of Jim & Toni Thomas

LANGLADE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Museum Remodeling Update

As anyone passing the Sign Park at Clermont St. and Fifth Ave. can see, fundraising for the museum remodeling has been going well and we are confident that we will be able to achieve many of the goals we set out for ourselves, most importantly handicap accessibility. Some interior design changes will definitely take place but to what extent is still uncertain.



We are grateful to the community who are helping us in this daunting project. Below is a list of contributors during the past quarter.

Contributors to Let's Make History Remodeling Project

Foundations:

- Vanguard Charitable Trust
Elwyn Remington Foundation
Sheldons' Inc.
Gerald & Dorothy Volm Foundation
Antigo Lions Club
Braun Woodlands Foundation
in memory of Frederic & Virginia Braun
Listle Family Private Foundation

Businesses:

- City Gas
Volm Companies
Ourada's Dixie Lunch
Lakeside Market
Jayme Hyer's Rusty Bucket

Individuals:

- Polly & Dean Blazek
Don & JoAnn Belanger
Thomas Bradley
Tim and Terrie Brandt
Mary Brennecke
Jeanne Darling
Joe & Mary Jo Filbrandt
Judy Grimm
Jean Hubatch in honor of her mother
Elvera Frisch's birthday
Joe Hermolin & Renate Bromberg
Ed & Geneva Kennedy
Frank Krom
Dick & Bette Lund
Don & Mary Mollet
Bobbie Rosier
Donna Ruf
Nick & Jeanette Salm
Lynn Schimmels
Joyce Sharon in memory of
Bud & Robert Sharon,
owners of Sharon Motors
Frank & Lena Simon families
[John and Kay Quinlan]
Gerald & Joan Schunke
Karen Trembath

Museum Remodeling Update

Fundraising for the museum remodeling is going well (see page 2). Less obvious is the progress being made in the remodeling plans but they are progressing as well. Since the summer is our busiest time for visitors at the museum it was thought that nothing disruptive should occur until fall.

We have been working with Rod Cox and Associates Architects and Planners of Wausau in developing detailed plans that fit our specifications. A tentative schedule has been worked out with the architects. Construction documents should be completed in July. Bidding would occur during the first 2-3 weeks in August and reviews of bids end of

August, State review of the addition would occur near end of August and construction could start sometime in September.

We will be working with Tradewell Construction in addition to Rod Cox and Associates in coordinating with mechanical, electrical, and plumbing subcontractors. While construction details are being developed Cox and Associates will submit architectural and structural drawings to the State for review and approval.

Of course, some delays may come up (they usually do) but we seem to be on track. Much of the initial work will be on the exterior of the building but at some point during the

winter the ability to function with our historic displays and archives and the Antigo Visual Arts programs will be impacted. It is however still too early to plan specifics.



New Museum in Madison

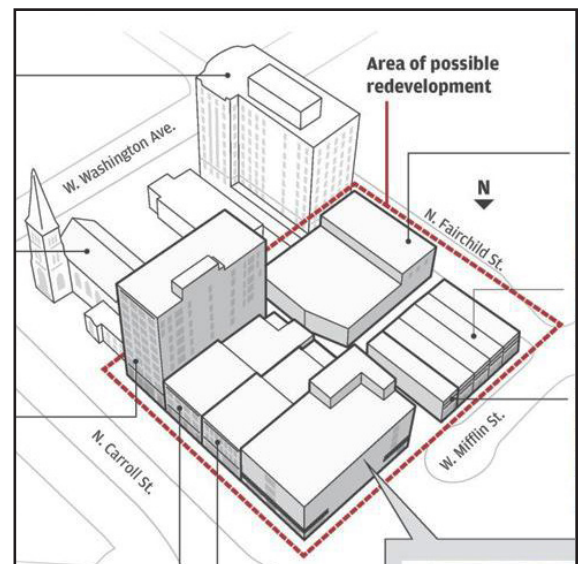
Even as Antigo advances with remodeling plans, the Wisconsin Historical Society is moving forward with its plans for a new museum in Madison. “The new history museum will tell Wisconsin’s stories from all 72 counties and allow the Society to provide access to Wisconsin’s treasured national collection, which is second only in size and significance to the Library of Congress,” said Christian Øverland, Ruth and Hartley Barker Director of the Wisconsin Historical Society. The new 100,000-square-foot museum, which is slated to open in 2024, will replace the current Wisconsin Historical Museum. Former governors Thompson and Doyle are co-chairs of the fundraising Campaign: For a New Wisconsin History Museum.

Recently, members of the state Assembly and Senate on the Joint Committee on Finance (JFC) included \$70 million for the new museum

project in the 2019-2021 Capital Budget. The JFC’s decision provides \$70 million in state financing towards the \$100 million museum building, with the Society, through the Wisconsin Historical Foundation, responsible for privately funding the remaining \$30 million. The Foundation is also raising an additional \$20 million for an endowment for ongoing museum operations.

A separate fund has been established to assist over 400 affiliated local museums (including ours) to preserve their regional histories, create exhibitions for display in Madison and then return the displays to their home base.

As part of the planning for the new museum “Listening Sessions” have been held around the state. Society



Director Christian Øverland made it clear that the Society was there to hear what people had to say. “This is the people’s museum. This is not me talking to you, this is me listening to you.”

These are indeed exciting times to be interested in history.

Logging Camp Life

Pioneer life in Langlade County at the end of the 19th and early 20th century was full of hardship and uncertainty. Many settlers who came to farm worked their fields the summer and found work in logging camps during the winter to supplement their incomes. Logging was (and still is) an important part of the economy of Langlade County.

It was not only men who took off to the forests of the Northwoods to add to their farming incomes. Women often hired on as cooks in the camps and while feeding a crew of hungry lumberjacks was not as dangerous as being a lumberjack or handling a team of oxen or horses, it was a difficult task with long hours of work.

Although logging was done in winter, work at a proposed site would begin in late summer or early fall with surveying, bunkhouse construction (on a higher elevation area), and clearing of paths for the hauling of the logs. Stables for the horses or oxen also had to be established, as well as a blacksmith shop and other workshops.

We can get a sense of what life was like for a camp cook from a diary kept by Ida Moran and published in the Antigo Daily Journal. Her days started quite early, sometimes to a surprise layer of snow that had blown in through the chinking of the bunkhouse that was not necessarily tightly constructed. : It was not uncommon to find two or three inches of snow on the beds when the alarm clock awoke the cooks a little



before 4:00AM.” Then Ida Moran would prepare breakfast for the awakening crew. Her menu seemed fairly limited.

“For breakfast we had fresh pork, beefsteak or sausages, griddle cakes, fried spuds, donuts, and coffee. For dinner we had beef stew or pork roast, potatoes, onions or rutabaga, good brown gravy and butter, pie or pudding and coffee. For supper there was provided fried potatoes, cold meat or fish, butter cake, prunes,

coffee or tea, minced apple or prune pie.”

Nothing went to waste in a logging camp if it could be helped. She noted in her diary that on some occasions the beef that went into her pot was provided by oxen who had been used to haul logs but were no longer fit to work. Ida Moran makes no mention in her account of life in a logging camp whether she got any complaints or compliments about her cooking from the crew.

Logging and Wood Products

Times change and rural 1 or 2 room school houses are a thing of the past. This upcoming fall rural schools in the Antigo School District will also be a thing of the past. Here are some old area schools as they appeared over the years. A Complete collection of photos is in the museum.

Top row (left to right): Ackley and Neff Switch

Middle Row: Norwood, Ormsby

Bottom Row: Summit, Upham



ADDRESS:

404 Superior St., Antigo, WI 54409
Phone: (715) 627-4464
Email: lchs@dwave.net
web site: www.langladehistory.com

MUSEUM HOURS:

October 1 to May 1,
Thursday to Saturday

May 1 to October 1,
Tuesday to Saturday

10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

MEMBERSHIP DUES

Individual, 1 year: \$25
Individual, 3 years: \$50
Family, 1 year: \$30
Family, 3 years: \$70
Junior (18 or younger), 1 year: \$3
Business, 1 year: \$100
Life Member: \$250



ITEM FROM THE MUSEUM:

A Logging camp frying pan and coffee pot
This 18 inch diameter pan and 14 inch tall coffee pot were standard items in a logging camp kitchen



404 Superior Street
Antigo WI, 54409