



Menomonee Falls Historical Society

June 2017

Newsletter

2017 Events:

- **Civil War Encampment**
July 15th and 16th
- **Quarterly Meeting**
July 31st
- **Artist Ride**
September 15th 16th 17th
- **Halloween Family Fun Night**
October 20th and 21st
- **50th Anniversary Silver Tea**
December 3rd



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FROM THE PRESIDENT



Greetings to all and a heartfelt "thank you" to all who helped in any way with **In Touch With History** or **Old Falls Village Days**. Once again we faced a challenge with the weather on Saturday. Sunday was a great day. We are looking forward to the Civil War Encampment July 15 and 16. We need volunteers. We are looking forward to a great weekend. As the summer progresses, we are working on maintenance on some of our buildings. Our thanks to everyone working on the buildings. I'm looking forward to seeing you at the Civil War Encampment.

—Warren

QUARTERLY MEETING

The Quarterly meeting was held on May 22 in the Publik House at Old Falls Village. Twenty-two members and guests attended. The meeting was called to order by Diane Harley at 6:30 p.m. Highlights from the brief meeting include: the \$1,500 grant from the Greater Menomonee Falls Foundation; chinking at the Sparrow cabin; roof for the Brogan cabin will be replaced in 2018.



Randy Newman

At 7:00 Diane introduced our speaker for the evening, Randy Newman. Randy gave a very interesting talk about the history of Menomonee Falls. He shared many interesting bits of history such as the population of Menomonee falls in 1840 was 100. Whitlin's Garage was a blacksmith shop in 1912. Bank of Flowers was originally Citizen's Bank. Otto Schneider was our first Police Chief, he earned \$8 per month. Held's, which was located near the corner of Appleton and Main St. and is now Hanson Soft Water, burned down after an explosion. The sugar beet factory in Menomonee Falls was our first million-dollar business.

Thank you, Randy, for an entertaining and informative talk.

IN TOUCH WITH HISTORY

In Touch with History, was held on June 2. This was a fun filled day, spent teaching the younger generation about life as it used to be. This event was for second and third graders, providing a hands-on experience with history. It included activities such as fire starting, flintlock loading, corn husking, cross cut sawing, blacksmith demo, ice cream making and butter churning. It was a great day for everyone

OLD FALLS VILLAGE DAYS

The week-end started out wet. We had rain on Saturday June 3 for opening day of Old Falls Village Days. The rain kept the Harley Davidson motorcycles away along with most visitors.

Sunday was a beautiful. We had a good number of visitors and over 50 entries for the car show. Patrons could enjoy all the historic houses, the Country Market, various displays and demonstrations. Hope to see you next year.



Old Falls Village Car Show

CIVIL WAR ENCAMPMENT AND ICE CREAM SOCIAL

The 18th annual Menomonee Falls **Civil War Encampment** will take place on July 15th 10:00 to 5:00, and 16th 10:00 4:00 at Old Falls Village.

Enjoy walking the grounds, viewing military camps of both the Union and Confederate army's, as well as civilian life during the Civil War.



Demonstration

Here is a chance to be up close to reenactors recreating the way of life and battles of the Civil War.

See authentic Civil War cannons being fired during the battle, 2:00 pm both days, on a newly enlarged battle field. Skirmishes and training events are viewable throughout the weekend.



Civil War canon fired during battle

A silent auction, held both days, ends Sunday at 1:00 pm. Bake sale, gift shop, scavenger hunt, artillery drills, cooking demonstrations, storytelling, Civil War memorabilia, food and entertainment are some of the activities that can be found during the two-day event. Oh, and General Grant might make an appearance.



General Grant

This event, like all others held at Old Falls Village, will help us maintain the grounds and buildings. We greatly appreciate any donations. Admission is \$6.00 per adult, \$2.00 for children under 12, under 5 free. Admission for Veterans is free both days from 10:00 a.m. to noon, with military ID. Historical Society members are free. Why not join the Historical Society today. An annual family membership is \$25.00 and includes admission to all of our events.



Spinning wheel demonstration

For a map of the grounds and event information please go to oldfallsvillage.com

Hope to see you at all our great events.



SUMMER QUARTERLY MEETING

We're having a cookout. Monday July 31 meet and greet at 5:30 p.m., dinner at 6:00 p.m.

You are invited to attend our Summer Quarterly Meeting, a cookout at Old Falls Village.

Please bring a salad or dessert to share. After supper, we'll walk around our campus to see what's new.

RSVP by calling 262-250-3901 by July 26. We hope you can make it.

UNSUNG HEROES AWARD

Bob and Diane Cowan were honored with the "Unsung Heroes Award" by the Greater Menomonee Falls Foundation at North Hills Country Club on May 9, 2017. They were nominated for the award by Sue Jeskewitz for their countless hours of volunteerism for the Historical Society and Old Falls Village. Bob and Diane received \$250 to be donated to a non-profit organization of their choice. They have given the money to the Historical Society to be used for the reconstruction of the Sunnyside School Bell Tower. We appreciate their generosity of time, talent and treasure

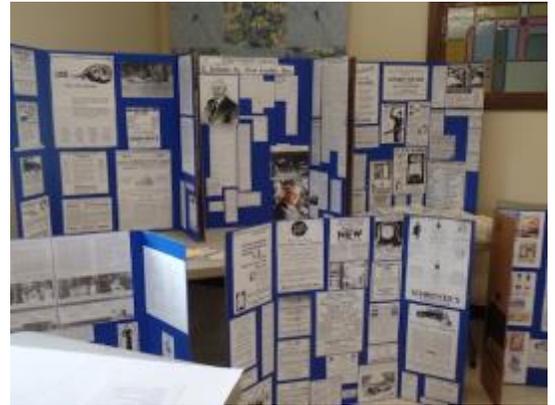


SPEAKING OF JILL

Jill Schmidt presented a history of Menomonee Falls on June 13th to the seniors at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church in the Falls. We received lots of great feedback. Jill keeps things interesting by interjecting many personal, humorous stories. We also managed to sell a few books.

Jill does a great job with this presentation. She's happy to do it for any group. It's free, but we wouldn't turn down a donation. The groups enjoy it and it serves as a great advertisement for Old Falls Village and the Historical Society.

If you know of a group the might be interested in seeing the presentation see our website at oldfallsvillage.com.



Poster Boards with Menomonee Falls Information



Jill Schmidt

ONE HUNDRED YEAR FAMILY CERTIFICATE

If you are a descendant of anyone who settled in Menomonee Falls over 100 years ago, you too can get a certificate. It's free, but we wouldn't turn down a donation. Just go to oldfallsvillage.com to see how to get yours.



Gloria Dei Lutheran Church



Nancy Wittlin-O'Connell

Century Pioneer Family Certificate
 The Menomonee Falls
 Historical Society
 recognizes

Nancy Wittlin-O'Connell
 as a descendant of
 Henry Fasting John B. Wittlin
 Philip M. Kleyer Peter Wittbrock
 who settled in Menomonee Falls on
 1855 (H.F.) 1900 (S.M.)
 1891 (P.M.K.) 1913 (P.W.)

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Newsletter

Patrick & Sue Lynch

Web Master

Patrick Lynch

We're on the Web!

See us at:

<http://www.oldfallsvillage.com/> or

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Menomonee Falls Historical Society

MENOMONEE FALLS HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Many historical society members are now receiving the newsletter on line. Did you know there is an archive of Menomonee Falls Historical Society newsletters available? All you have to do is go to our website, oldfallsvillage.com, then click Newsletters. There you will find the current newsletter and older versions of the newsletter, dating back to 2010.



NEW MEMBERS