

## From Miller-Davidson House Museum To Old Falls Village



Organized into 1960's, The Menomonee Falls Historical Society was built around the dissemination of local history and the preservation of their first acquisition, the Miller-Davidson House.

For the next few years, other buildings were added, and by November of 1971, it became obvious that a new name was needed. Among those names under consideration for the next few months were; Fallstown, Fallsburg, Heritage Hall, and Old Falls Village.

In January of 1972, back when individual membership was \$2, family membership was \$3, and a lifetime membership (with no annual dues) was \$100, there still was no name for the museum. All four submissions were repeatedly voted on by the membership "but because of a deadlock, a decision could not be reached".

By February, while negotiations were being made for the preservation, moving and restoration of the first school house in Menomonee Falls to the museum site, plans were also being made to preserve the old railroad depot, and still no name had been decided on.

By May, society president Lois Dougherty, was mentioned in the societies' minutes. "The Menomonee Falls Historical Society celebrated the beginning of its seventh year by officially naming our museum "Old Falls Village". This includes The Miller-Davidson House, Umhoefer Log Cabin, Barn, Old School House and our newest old structure, a garage to house the Village Vintage Fire Engines.

The new name was announced in the Menomonee Falls News in the May 6<sup>th</sup> issue. The society decided to celebrate the naming of Old Falls Village with an open house. In the barn was displayed various items. The porch displayed paintings done by local artists, including Elinor Krause and Jeaneen Semon. Dishes were displayed in the dining room. Pictures were included in the article.

Fifty years later, we have acquired more buildings and a large membership, with many active and generous volunteers. Without them Old Falls Village could not be sustained.