
Members-Only Day at the Hoard Historical Museum

We are hosting a “Members-Only Day” to thank you, the members of the Fort Atkinson Historical Society. The Museum will be closed to the public and will offer unique experiences to members. Members will be granted special behind-the-scenes access to *your* museum. We hope you are able to attend Members-Only Day!

Members-Only Day Saturday, August 19, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

If you’ve ever wondered where the Museum keeps all of its artifacts, Members-Only Day is for you! The Museum’s Members-Only Day for Fort Atkinson Historical Society members will allow members to go behind the locked doors to where archives and collections are stored. In addition to behind-the-scenes tours, the 1841 Foster House will be open. Weather permitting, vintage games will be available on our beautiful lawn.



Tour times:

10 a.m. & 2 p.m.: Behind-the-Scenes Tour

Join Museum Director Merrilee Lee or Assistant Director Dana Bertelsen on a tour of our collections spaces. In our collections spaces you will be able to see the objects the Museum owns that are currently not on display. These objects are kept safe behind locked doors in climate-controlled rooms.

11 a.m. & 3 p.m.: The Archives: What is it and how can you use it?

The archives is home to the Museum’s paper documents and photographs. They include scrapbooks from the 1800s and 1900s, bound volumes of the Jefferson County Union and the Daily Jefferson County Union, business files, files from local organizations, church and cemetery records, photographs of area locations, and many other documents. Through your membership to the Museum, members are able to conduct research in the archives free of charge.

1 p.m.: Ten-Door Tour

This family-focused tour of the Museum is for our younger members or our young-at-heart members. Have you have ever walked through the Museum and wondered, “*What’s behind that door?*” Then this tour is for you! You will walk through the Museum with Museum staff who will open ten doors of your choosing and allow you to take a peek.

401 Whitewater Avenue
Fort Atkinson, WI 53538
920-563-7769
fax 920-568-3203
www.hoardmuseum.org
www.facebook.com/hoardmuseum
Hours: Tuesday – Saturday
9:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Closed Sundays & Mondays

2017 FAHS Board of Directors

Bob Cheek, President
Bonnie Geyer, Vice President
Loren Gray, Treasurer
Denice Jones, Secretary

Elected Board Members

Jack Blodgett
Bob Cheek
Bonnie Geyer
Karen Gómez
Loren Gray
Don Henning
Sue Johnson
Denice Jones
Gerald McGowan
John Molinaro
Joel Winn

Standing Members

Beth Gehred, City Council Rep.
Steve Larson, Nat'l Dairy Shrine Rep.
Merrilee Lee, Museum Director
Matt Trebatoski, City Manager

Emeritus Member

Milo Jones

Museum Staff Members

Merrilee Lee, Museum Director
Dana Bertelsen, Assistant Director
Tammy Doellstedt, Volunteer Coordinator
Linda Ager, Beverly Dahl & Dorothy
Harwell-James, Operations Assistants
Greg Misfeldt, Maintenance



Merrilee's Musings

By Merrilee Lee, Museum Director



I often summarize our mission as the three "P"s: *preserve*, *protect*, and *promote*. There are more details to our mission, but the "P"s are a good starting point for explaining what we do here. In looking back at our spring, we definitely were preserving, protecting, and promoting our past. Whether in a new exhibit focusing on WWI and a local soldier boy, or leading school tours through the Foster House, we promote our past. We preserve our past through the ongoing collections work in the building (which you can see in progress during our Members-Only Day on August 19th) and through community events such as the Fort Koshkonong Rendezvous which tells the early story of our state. And every day we protect our history by reminding all who visit us that our history has value and importance.

The stories of those who went before us deserve respect and should be preserved. As a recent famous musical about the early American statesman Alexander Hamilton describes history, "But when you're gone, who remembers your name? Who keeps your flame? Who tells your story?"

In short, we do.

We remember the stories of Irving "Pike" Roberts, W.D. Hoard, Black Hawk, Almira Foster, Increase Lapham, Betsey Sears, Emily Frissell, Arthur Hoard, Milo Jones, Edgar Larson, Lucien Caswell and all those who went before us.

We remember those we've recently lost: Carol Bonnet, Mary Carbon, Doris Hetts, Fanny Jones Highsmith, and Sheldon Mielke, Richard Schauer, and Kathy Wilcox.

We tell their stories and keep their flames. It's the basis of who we are as an institution and serves as our guide for all that we do.

I am very honored to be a part of this organization tasked with the job of preserving, protecting, and promoting *our* history. I sincerely hope that you are honored as well.

Merrilee

Recent Events at the Museum

Dairy Day at the MOOseum

Even with the early morning thunderstorm on the morning of the event, our Third Annual “Dairy Day at the MOOseum” was a success! More than 500 people came to meet the seven milking breeds on the yard of the Museum. While here, they were able to sample local cheeses courtesy of Crave Brothers, enjoy John Klettke’s 20-foot diorama depicting the history of dairy farming, play dairy-themed games, have their faces painted with cow spots, taste freshly churned butter, and participate in a dairy trivia contest. The event concluded with a cow parade with all seven breeds in the back yard.



The Second Annual Dairy Baking contest grew in popularity, with 12 desserts entered this year between the three classes of youth, family/group, and adults. The three judges deliberated and named the following participants our first place winners: Caytie Shaw (youth) and her Brown Cow Brownie; Traci and Mickey deGroot (family/group) and their Chocolate Strawberry Cheesecake; and Deb Lundy (adult) with her Speckled Holstein Cheesecake. The contest is free to enter and first place through honorable mention were awarded with prizes courtesy of the Jefferson County Dairy Promotion on behalf of the Wisconsin Milk Marketing Board.



A special thanks to our event sponsors: Foremost Farms, Jefferson County Farm Bureau, United Cooperative, Vita Plus, and the Wisconsin Milk Marketing Board. Additionally, we would like to thank the following Business Patrons of the Museum that helped to support the event: Badger Bank; Beauty and the Bean; Fireside Theatre; Fort Community Credit Union; Johnson Bank; Jones Dairy Farm; W&A Distribution Services; and W.D. Hoard and Sons.

Ice Cream Social

On a beautiful Independence Day, our 38th Annual Fourth of July Ice Cream Social was enjoyed by approximately 1,100 people (that’s nearly 10% of town!), ranging from infants to those more than 90 years old. Generations of families enjoyed games, ate 45 gallons of Schoep’s ice cream, and sampled more than 150 dozen cookies made by our amazing



volunteers. “Bill Camplin and Friends” entertained the crowd with lively music, and the Fort Atkinson Piecemakers Quilting group presented 24 handmade quilts to veterans and select other members of the community. *Thanks to all who enjoyed the holiday with us!*

Thank you very much to our event friends and sponsors: Abendroth Water Conditioning, Daily Jefferson County Union, First Baptist Church, Brianne Brandenburg & Tari Smith of Frostie Freeze, Mr. Martin Lemke & friends, and PremierBank. Additional thanks to our Business Patrons for sponsoring this event: Abendroth Water Conditioning; Ball Corporation; Beauty and the Bean; Behling, Jasper, and Selburg, LLC; Bungalow Pros; Day Insurance; Fireside Theatre; Fort Community Credit Union; Jones Dairy Farm; Café Carpe; Tall Guy Productions; and W&A Distribution Services.

(Continued from page 1)

Members-Only Day Ongoing Events

Outdoor Games, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Throughout the day members are welcome to come to the Museum lawn and gardens to try their hand at vintage games. The games will be set up; all you need to do is show up! Directions for both vintage and newer games will be available to make playing even easier.



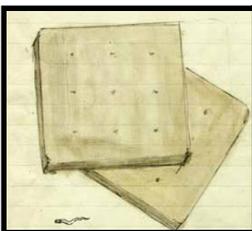
Artistic depiction of Museum staff practicing their croquet skills for "Members-Only" Day. Careful, rumor has it that they take croquet very seriously.

Indoor Experiences, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

We have been hard at work this summer at the Museum and we hope that you're able to explore our exhibits while you're here! The Mysteries of the Mounds theater has been updated. The first floor of the Hoard House was repainted this past winter, and additional furniture and books were added to allow you to sit and enjoy the ambiance of the house. Additionally, we are honoring World War I with our new exhibit, "Over There: A Fort Atkinson Boy in World War I," in the second floor Luella Hoard Gallery.

Be sure to sample exhibit-related foods on Members-Only Day. There will be hardtack in the Civil War Era Room, wild rice in the Mysteries of the Mounds, and a treat from Luella Hoard's recipe collection in the Hoard House.

Hope to see you there!



Taste hardtack in the Civil War Era Exhibit & wild rice in the Mysteries of the Mounds Exhibit!



By Tammy Doellstedt, Volunteer Coordinator

Did you know that Wisconsin ranks second in the number of volunteer hours per capita?*

Last month, I celebrated ten years of employment at the Museum, and have served as volunteer coordinator for much of that time. Together, we have grown the volunteer program to 200+ individuals. If you are currently serving as a volunteer, **THANK YOU!** You serve a vital role in helping us accomplish the Historical Society's mission to "preserve, protect and promote the history and culture of Fort Atkinson and the surrounding area from its earliest inhabitants to the present day."

To *accomplish* our mission we are currently looking for help in two areas:

⇒ **Greeters:** Greeters welcome and orient visitors to the museum. We need more Greeters who can work on Saturdays. This involves a 3.5 hour shift, once a month. If you like meeting new people, are outgoing and friendly, let's talk!

⇒ **Archive Assistants:** There will never be a shortage of tasks for the Archive Assistants. Archive Assistants love discovering things about the past in old newspapers and documents. People who enjoy reading historic documents are needed for all shifts, Tuesdays through Saturdays. Computer skills are especially helpful, but not required. This is a 3-hour shift, 1 to 2 times a month.

Please stop in the Volunteer Office or give me a call so we can talk about your involvement here at the Museum. High School students are welcome to join us! Middle school students are welcome to apply for volunteer positions, as long as they agree to bring along a well-mannered grandparent or parent. Let's see if we can make Wisconsin #1 in per capita volunteer hours!



Congrats, Tammy, on a decade of working at the Museum! Thank you for all that you do!

*According to an article in the December 2016 Daily Union.

From the Archives

A letter from Irving "Pike" Roberts

Last fall, a collection of World War One letters written by Irving "Pike" Roberts was donated to the Museum by his daughter, Mary Roberts Lemke. Pike was born and raised in Fort Atkinson and enlisted in the Army after the United States entered the Great War.

The United States Congress declared war on Germany on April 6, 1917. Roberts enlisted, and regularly wrote to his parents throughout his involvement in the war. He first wrote to his parents while at training camp in late summer of 1917 and continued through the end of his service after the war was won. Throughout his correspondence, he described the war as uneventful. After armistice was declared on November 11, 1918, Roberts wrote the following letter to his parents. In it he describes his wartime experience more fully than in his past letters home.



"Somewhere in France"

Nov. 12, 1918

Dear Folks:

Can you imagine the feeling that we had yesterday? I doubt if you would be able to because I can't quite diagnose the feeling myself. But I can tell you that it is a great feeling of relief and joy not to here [sic] those big guns all day long. But we even where we could here [sic] the last shot fired.

War may be a great experience but I have had plenty and I think now that this one is over. There were many times when I thought that they had the best of me and that the next one would surely get me but not a single scratch.

Now we can begin to look forward. It probably will be a long time before things are fixed up but anyway we can start in planning.

I got personal letters from various people yesterday. One from you, John, Chet, Martin and a few more. The Spanish "Flu" surely has been hitting a great clip lately. We haven't been bothered much with it lately or at any time but I am not bragging about it as I certainly will hate to fight that.

Martin sent a peach of a letter and I must get around to write one to them. She says that that fellow who used to work for them died at Camp Funston of the "Flu." She seemed to have sort of adopted him.

Stationary is rather sparse so had to use this Dutch stuff. [Editor's Note: Pike wrote on the reverse side of a printed train schedule]

Well must quit now and clean up a bit.

*Love,
Irving*

Stop in to the Museum to learn more about Roberts' World War I experience and an overview of the war. The Museum is partnering alongside the following Jefferson County Museums: Bark River Woods Historical Society, Hebron; Cambridge Historical Society; Jefferson Historical Society; Johnson Creek Historical Society; Lake Mills/Aztalan Historical Society; Rome/Sullivan Historical Society; Waterloo Historical Society; Watertown Historical Society; and Whitewater Historical Society.

Summer Interns

This summer, the Hoard Museum had the opportunity to have two interns work at the Museum. Our interns, Anna Cornell and Clare Nelson, were assigned separate projects to plan, research, and implement. We had additional summer help with Josh Juarez, an 8th grader at Fort Atkinson Middle School, who volunteered twice a week.

Anna Cornell is a senior majoring in public history at UW-Whitewater. This summer, she worked with Museum Director Merrilee Lee's guidance to develop a new exhibit in the second floor of the Hoard House. Anna developed the exhibit theme, selected artifacts in the Museum collection and archives, researched the artifacts' history, wrote the exhibit text and labels, and will be installing the exhibit soon. Stop in to see our new exhibit, "The Room of Remembrance: Preserving Our Private Past," later this fall! Anna experienced all aspects of museum work through her internship this summer. She helped at the greeter desk, worked during events and programs, volunteered in the 1841 Foster House, and assisted with other Museum projects.

Clare Nelson is a Fort Atkinson native and a junior majoring in history at St. Olaf College in Minnesota. This summer she worked with Merrilee on updating the Museum's current display about the Hoard family in the Hoard House staircase exhibit case. Through the course of her internship, Clare has researched the family and the house in the Museum archives and developed new exhibit panels.



Anna Cornell



Clare Nelson



Josh Juarez

Josh Juarez volunteers with his father, Brian, at the greeter desk once a month and the pair are part of the Civil War and Governor Hoard Day Celebration committee. This summer, Josh worked on updating the Museum scavenger hunts for elementary school visitors, catalogued our book collection in the Hoard House library, and helped with exhibit displays in the Hoard and Foster Houses.

We enjoyed sharing our passion of working in a Museum and sharing what it means to preserve, protect, and promote our area's history with our interns and volunteers. Thank you for spending the summer with us!

3rd Annual Taste of Fort Atkinson & Hops Fest

The Hoard Museum will be hosting the 3rd Annual Taste of Fort Atkinson and Hops Fest fundraiser on Saturday, October 28. Stay tuned for more details in the next newsletter! Tickets will be available at the Hoard Museum and Festival Foods in Fort Atkinson.

Come get a taste of what our city has to offer!



Upcoming Events at the Hoard Museum



☞ Foster House Open ☞

It's not too late to see the Foster House this season! The Foster House will be open for tours on Saturday, September 2, and Saturday, October 7, from 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. Come for a tour and to talk with a trained museum volunteer about the 1841 Foster House, the family who built it, and the early days of Fort Atkinson. If you cannot attend a scheduled tour you may make an appointment to tour the Foster House by calling the Museum office at (920) 563-7769.

☞ Mornings @ the Museum ☞

First Fridays, October – May, 8:30 – 10:30 a.m.

Mornings @ the Museum is back for the 2017-2018 school year! Preschool children and their family members or teachers are invited to explore the Museum one hour before we open to the general public. This time allows little ones to explore the exhibits at their own pace with their family or teachers. Refreshments for preschoolers and adults are served. Storytime is at 9 a.m. and 9:45 a.m. in the exhibit space and crafts are available throughout the morning.



This fall's themes are:

October – Birds • November – Thanksgiving • December – Winter Fun

☞ Garden Education Seminar ☞

Saturday, September 23 *Perennial Gardens and Fairy Garden Workshop*

☞ Gardening Seminar: Perennial Gardening 9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. *free, registration required*

The Hoard Museum's Jefferson County Master Gardener Volunteers are again presenting their annual half-day seminar. The program at the Museum will have something for the novice gardener as well as the more experienced perennial gardener. Among the topics to be covered are:

- | | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| • Common gardening terms | • Shade gardening | • Intersectional Peonies |
| • General garden maintenance | • Bulbs | • Our favorite perennials - 5 favorites of each Master Gardener |
| • Perennial garden design | • Propagation - splitting and seeds | |



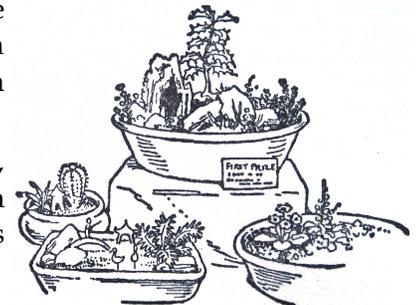
As always, this educational program is free, but registration is REQUIRED to ensure we have sufficient materials for all attendees. Please contact the museum by Wednesday, September 20, to reserve your spot!

☞ Workshop: Fairy Gardens: 1:30 – 3:30 p.m. \$25 non-member/\$15 museum member, registration required

Following the Perennial Gardening Seminar, Master Gardener Dianne Bowker will hold a workshop to introduce participants to the art of building a Fairy Garden. Fairy Gardens are fanciful miniature gardens complete with structures and actual living plants.

Bring your own container (maximum size 12" wide x 12" long x 4" deep, minimum 6" x 6" x 3") or use one of ours. Dianne will help you start your own Fairy Garden with plants, found materials, and items constructed from various bits of garden remnants, such as seeds, cones, sticks, and dried flowers.

The \$25 fee for this workshop covers the cost for materials, **discounted to \$15 per person for Museum Members**. Registration is limited to 16 people, and participants must be at least 10 years old. Contact the museum to register. The deadline to register is Wednesday, September 20.



To register, call 920-563-7769, email info@hoardmuseum.org, or stop by the Museum office!

Hoard HISTORICAL MUSEUM
FORT ATKINSON HISTORICAL SOCIETY
NATIONAL DAIRY SHRINE MUSEUM



Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 94
Fort Atkinson, WI
53538

401 Whitewater Avenue
Fort Atkinson, WI 53538

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Upcoming Events at the Hoard Museum:

- August 19: ♦ Members-Only Day, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
- August 26 ♦ Garden Education Program, Native Plants II, 2 p.m.
- September 2: ♦ Foster House Open for Tours, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
- September 10: ♦ Volunteer Recognition Event, 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.
- September 23: ♦ Garden Education Seminar, Perennial Gardens 9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
♦ Garden Workshop, Fairy Gardens, 1:30 – 3:30 p.m. \$25 non-members/\$15 members
- October 6: ♦ Morning @ the Museum, 8:30 a.m. - 10 a.m.
- October 7: ♦ Foster House Open for Tours, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
- October 14: ♦ Civil War and Governor Hoard Celebration, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
- October 21: ♦ Garden Education Program, Native Woody Plants - Shrubs & Vines, 2 p.m.
- October 28: ♦ Taste of Fort Atkinson Fundraiser, 5:30 p.m. - 8 p.m.
- November 3: ♦ Morning @ the Museum, 8:30 a.m. - 10 a.m.
- November 18: ♦ Garden Education Program, WWI Victory Gardens, 2 p.m.

Questions about any of our events?

Contact the Hoard Historical Museum by calling (920) 563-7769 or emailing info@hoardmuseum.org.