
CIVIL WAR AND GOVERNOR HOARD DAY

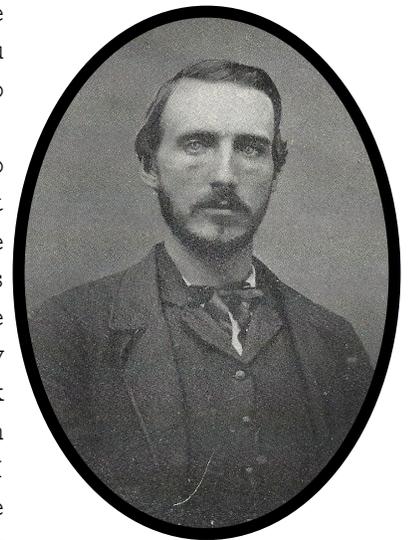
On Saturday, October 14, the Museum is hosting our annual Civil War and Governor Hoard Day Celebration. Events will be held throughout the day, including a 10 a.m. talk given by Museum Director Merrilee Lee titled "The Wars of W.D. Hoard: The Civil War through World War I." Pam Welcome will be portraying Sojourner Truth at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m., our own Civil War Panel will present "Prisoners of War" at 1 p.m., and Civil War reenactors will be on the grounds for you to interact with throughout the day.

The Museum is fortunate to have William Dempster Hoard's unpublished autobiography. In it he describes the major experiences of his life, including his military career. When W.D. Hoard was 24 years old (in 1861), he enlisted as a Union soldier in Company E, 4th Wisconsin Regiment. Up to that point, he had worked on a dairy farm in New York and as traveling salesman and music instructor in Wisconsin. Hoard enlisted in Union Army twice. Below is an excerpt from his first enlistment detailing his near-death experience in Louisiana as a soldier.

Our Civil War and Governor Hoard Day Celebration is free and fun for all ages. Thank you to our event sponsors PremierBank and Hoard's Dairyman. Hope to see you there!

"Ten days after our occupation of New Orleans [in the summer of 1862], we were ordered on board a steamboat and disembarked about 60 miles above [the city], taking a tremendous march of seven miles through the cypress swamp to the Jackson and New Orleans Railroad to cut off General Lovell [of the Confederate Army] who, it was understood, was making preparations to proceed northward with his train of cars. It took us twelve hours to march the seven miles through the swamp and we arrived just a half hour after the General had passed. We were covered with mud to our necks and then we had to make the march back again to the river. Twenty-seven men came down with dengue or breakbone fever and I was among the number. I believe all of them died but myself and I probably would have met the same fate but for all the kindness of a creole friend in the city whose acquaintance I had formed and who obtained from Dr. Stone, the great yellow fever physician, some medicine that saved me. But I could not recover and this illness which lasted several weeks resulted in my sinking lower and lower every day until the surgeon of the

regiment said to me one day, "If you have any word to send to your family, you have better do it now for I do not think you have three days to live." This message startled me very much, but my mind seemed to work at once clearly upon the situation. I then said to the doctor, "Am I of any further use here?" "Not any whatever," he said and at my request, he went down to General Butler's headquarters and obtained my discharge, placed me on a cot and with the aid of four comrades, I was taken to the ship DeWitt Clinton, a sailing vessel that was going to leave that afternoon for New York loaded with sugar.



W.D. Hoard circa 1865.

After his discharge, Hoard recovered from dengue fever, returned to his parents' home in New York, and sent for his wife and son to join him. In 1864, he reenlisted in Battery A, First New York light artillery.

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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

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Merrilee's Musings

By Merrilee Lee, Museum Director



As I'm writing this (Sunday, October 1), the museum is full of college dairy judging teams in town for the World Dairy Expo. Today I've spoken to people from Nebraska, South Dakota, North Carolina, and Canada. Yesterday (Saturday, September 30) we hosted the Lorine Niedecker Wisconsin Poetry Festival, which was attended by people from around the Midwest. Where else could you find poets and dairy farmers in the same place in the same weekend? And yet, these two different groups of people were drawn to our museum.

This weekend demonstrates that our museum is so much to so many. Regardless of who you are, where you're from, or what you do, you will be welcomed here. I guarantee that you will find something in our museum that intrigues you, makes you want to learn more, or discover more on a new topic.

I view the museum as a continuum started generations ago for future generations. While we are currently those "future generations" planned for many decades ago, there are generations yet to come. And by being an inviting place to all people, by bringing awareness to the history all around us, and by encouraging people to explore, we are planting seeds for a future harvest, just as our founders did before us. And that harvest? You are part of it just as our volunteers are a part, too. We could not sow nor reap without help; thank you for helping to make that possible.

In a few weeks, you will be receiving a letter asking you to renew your membership to the Fort Atkinson Historical Society & Hoard Historical Museum. I hope that you will renew, not out of a concern for the bottom line, but because you see value and importance in your membership. Your membership and support help us further our mission, but equally importantly, your membership helps us carry on the work started decades ago.

Now, who's ready to plant for the future?

Merrilee

Recent Events at the Museum

Members-Only Day

This past August, the Fort Atkinson Historical Society hosted a Members-Only Day for members of the Historical Society and Museum. The Museum closed its doors to the public and offered three separate behind-the-scenes tours through the building. On one tour, members were able to explore the building's collection storage rooms where artifacts are stored. A second tour allowed members to discover what is available in our Archives (and how to use it!), and the third tour was a Ten-Door Tour to see all the hidden spaces within the Museum.

In 2018, the Museum will offer at least three Members-Only Days on different topics throughout the year. We hope you will be able to attend one (or all!) next year. Stay tuned!

Tours of Downtown Fort Atkinson



Last year, the Museum began its tour program by leading walking tours once a month during the summer and a bike tour in the spring. Throughout the summer of 2017, Director Merrilee Lee and Assistant Director Dana Bertelsen took more than 60 folks around the Merchants Avenue and Main Street districts. The tours started at the Farmers Market and each walk lasted approximately one hour. This season, we were invited into Main Street businesses to explore their interiors and talk about their history. Thank you to Black Hawk Senior Residence, Foerster Realty, Humphrey Floral and Gifts, and Tuttle's Pharmacy. In 2018, tours are scheduled at 8, 9, and 10 a.m. one Saturday of the month from May-July, and September-October!

Ancestry Discovery

We receive all manner of research requests and they normally fall into two categories: historic house research or genealogy. Occasionally we get one that falls into a different category.

This summer, we were contacted by Randy Van Ness from Portage, WI. He had a family Bible from the Orlando Hart family in Oakland, WI, dated 1870. After calling a few different places, Randy was told to contact us for help with his quest. Randy is not a member of the Hart family but felt that the Bible, full of genealogical information, should be returned to a descendent of Orlando Hart. He asked if we could find a Hart family member who would be interested in the Bible. Well, this job required the fantastic genealogy skills of Barbara Orlando, an active Museum volunteer in our archives. Barbara, who is no relation to Orlando Hart, started researching the family and found the Rucks family, a direct line of Hart's living in Cambridge, WI. The Rucks were delighted with the discovery! Shirley Rucks is a great-granddaughter of Orlando Hart and her grandson Brian Rucks is an avid genealogist!



Bill Scherwitz, Shirley Rucks, Randy Van Ness, Barbara Orlando, and Carl Rucks explore the 1870 Bible.

On September 27, Randy drove from Portage to the museum and met Shirley and her son Carl to officially give them the Bible. Also present were Barbara and Bill Scherwitz. Bill is a distant relative of the Hart family. The group explored the names listed in careful handwriting in the 1870 Bible, discovered the answers to a few mysteries, and uncovered more familial connections. The Rucks family was very appreciative of Randy's quest to have the Bible returned to the family.

Our mission at the museum is to preserve, promote, and protect our history. Sometimes to fulfill the mission, all we need to do is make a phone call to the right person.

Black Hawk Artists Show

Opening Reception on Sunday, November 5, 1 - 4 p.m.

The Black Hawk Artists 45th Annual Show and sale will run November 5-18 at the Hoard Historical Museum. This year's show will have an "edgy" theme as the artists have challenged themselves to illustrate the theme "On The Edge." The theme wall, which is the first glimpse of art that greets visitors as they enter the Museum, will show their "edgy" work.



L-R: Jan Holewinski, Karen Gómez, Karen Crosby, Mary Wallace, Judith Henning, Linda Tump, Angie Hamele Szabo, Julia Ince, Jan Gilkey, and Priscilla Heussner.

The opening reception will be on Sunday, November 5 from 1 - 4 p.m., and the Black Hawk Artists will be on hand to discuss and answer questions about their art.

The Black Hawk Artists' works are diverse and reflective of their artistic progress. Their varied life experiences and unique perspectives, along with a wide-ranging selection of media, help the artists produce a rich array of visual treats.

The all female Black Hawk Artists meet monthly to encourage each other's art and plan their yearly show at the Hoard Historical Museum. Artists participating in this year's show are Jan Gilkey, Priscilla Heussner, Judith Henning, Jan Holewinski, Julia Ince, Sally Koehler, and Angie Hamele Szabo, all of Fort Atkinson; Mary Wallace of Cambridge; Karen Gómez of Jefferson; Karen Crosby of Lake Mills; and Linda Tump of Whitewater.

See samples of the Black Hawk Artists' work on Facebook at www.facebook.com/BlackHawkArtists.

2018 Volunteer of the Year: Kay Falk

To be considered for the Museum's Volunteer of the Year award, a person must be a member of the Historical Society, display reliability, flexibility, be a team player, volunteer more than 50 hours annually, have a diversity of service, and be enthusiastic, among other qualities.



As a young girl, Kay enjoyed visiting the museum in the 1950s when it was still housed in the basement of the Dwight Foster Library. She has many fond memories of her time there. As a young mother, Kay helped the Museum by writing historical articles. Kay was able to become more involved with the museum in 2009, and we are so grateful for all the ways she serves here. On a monthly basis, Kay serves as a greeter and an archive assistant. She helps in the office, serves in the kitchen, delivers birthday announcements to the radio station, calls volunteers, helps catalog the collections, helps proofread our newsletters, bakes cookies, gives tours of the Foster House, and hangs art shows, among other things! All this and she still is able to help care for her 99-year-old mother-in-law, and serve in multiple ways in our community, including her church, the hospital, and other organizations. Kay, we greatly appreciate all you do to promote the mission of the museum!

2018 Volunteer Recognition Awards

Jack of All Trades Award: Russ Nord



Russ takes initiative to help at the Hoard Museum with odd projects. While working at the Greeter desk, he heard the Museum's (formerly) squeaky wheelchair. He assessed the problem, ordered the part, and installed it, ensuring our visitors a smooth and quiet ride. Russ also spent time in January helping to repaint part of the Hoard House first floor. He was part of a crew of volunteers, but Russ logged the most hours of painting. He also prepped the Foster House porch for repainting with Greg this past summer and is willing to help with numerous other tasks. Thanks, Russ!

Jill of All Trades: Mary Adams

Mary is a volunteer who is always smiling and enthusiastic. She likes working behind the scenes: baking cookies, dusting the Gift Shop once a month, helping with art shows, July 4th, programming, fundraisers, and decorating for the Holiday Open house. Outside of the museum, she has put on miles delivering posters to advertise upcoming events. Thanks for your quiet and vital service!



Baker of the Year: Donna Petersen

Donna joined our baking volunteers in 2013. Her goodies are delicious, and we appreciate the time it takes her to make our receptions at the Museum extra special. Donna's cookies are looked forward to by those "in the know" and are rarely left over after an event is done. Donna is also quite generous with her baking – she brings 10+ dozen cookies for each event that she provides cookies!



Garden Volunteer of the Year: Shirley Brown



Shirley joined the museum volunteer staff in the 2015. She is a Master Gardener through the Jefferson County Extension. Garden volunteer award winners must spend time digging in the dirt, and Shirley does that by caring for highly visible Sign Garden on the corner of Whitewater Avenue and Fourth Street. She helps with spring and fall cleanups and is on the Master Gardener team that plans our annual garden events. She will also be presenting the November 18 Garden Education Program on WWI Victory Gardens!

Greeter of the Year: Sandy Basich

Sandy has been orienting visitors to the museum since 2011. She, along with all other greeters, has the vital task of being the first person that visitors interact with when they enter the museum. Her role is important and often influences what visitors think of their museum experience. She graciously serves on Saturdays and is very friendly, reliable, and welcoming. Her love for children is very apparent and a great asset!



Archive Assistant: Vicki Schicker



Vicki joined the museum volunteer family in 2009. As an archive assistant, she serves 2-3 times a month at the Archive Desk, doing a variety of tasks. In the past year, Vicki transcribed numerous letters dating from early pioneer days in the 1850s through Vietnam War Veteran letters. She has the useful knack for reading a variety of cursive styles. Vicki also reads historical papers for content for upcoming programs and exhibits. She has been known to spend time doing the thankless task of alphabetizing the entries in the card catalog. Thank you, Vicki, for your help!

Upcoming Events at the Hoard Museum

3rd Annual Taste of Fort Atkinson & Hops Fest Fundraiser

Saturday, October 28, 5:30-8 p.m.



The Hoard Museum is once again hosting the Taste of Fort Atkinson and Hops Fest benefit to raise funds to support Museum programming. This event has the added benefit of creating a greater appreciation for local businesses and restaurants.

Festival Foods is sponsoring the Hops Fest by providing Wisconsin beer and wine, as well as an ample supply of delicious Wisconsin cheeses.

This year's Taste of Fort Atkinson will feature a variety of appetizers, entrée samples, and desserts from six local restaurants. Café Carpe, El Patron Mexican Restaurant, Jones Market, Mangiami Italiano, Paddy Coughlin's Irish Pub, and Salamone's Italian Pizzeria are supplying delicious food from their kitchens for you to enjoy at the Taste of Fort Atkinson.

Come get a taste of what our city has to offer! Tickets are available at the Hoard Museum or on Eventbrite.com and are \$40 per person. Call the Museum to purchase your tickets today!

❧ Holiday Open House and Gingerbread House Contest ❧

Come to the Hoard Historical Museum and join the festive fun during our annual Holiday Open House! The event is free and open to the public.

Interactive activities include children's holiday crafts and the opportunity to build and decorate your own gingerbread house out of graham crackers and candy. While you're here, you may enjoy holiday treats baked by the Museum's volunteer bakers, admire our holiday decorations, take in an exhibit on Winter in Fort Atkinson, hum along to holiday music, and vote for your favorite entry in the Gingerbread House Contest! At 2 p.m., Gingerbread House Contest winners will be recognized as well as the winner of the People's Choice category.

The 4th Annual Gingerbread House Contest is open to all artists and bakers from around the region. This year's contest theme is **BARNS**. Construct your favorite barn, or a barn of your own design. Original house designs are also accepted in the Gingerbread House Contest. Enter as a youth, adult, professional, or as a group! Youth and group entries are allowed to use a gingerbread house kit or may make their entry from scratch. For more information or for an entry form, stop by the Museum office or go to www.hoardmuseum.org.



Entry from a previous year's Gingerbread Contest

Gingerbread House Contest Important Dates:

Registration: Tuesday, November 28 – Thursday, November 30

Popular choice voting: Saturday, December 2 through Saturday, December 9 (voting closes at 1 p.m.)

Gingerbread Houses and Barns on display from Saturday, December 2 – Saturday December 16

Upcoming Events at the Hoard Museum

☞ Mornings @ the Museum ☜

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

Mornings @ the Museum is back for the 2017-2018 school year! We welcome 2- through 5-years-olds and their family members or teachers 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:

November – Thanksgiving • December – Winter Fun • January – Police and Fire

☞ Fort Atkinson Historic Bicycle Tour ☜

Saturday, October 21, 9 a.m.

Director Merrilee Lee will lead cyclists on an easy one-hour bike ride through historic Fort Atkinson. Meet at the Farmer's Market sidewalk at the intersection of Milwaukee Avenue and Merchants Avenue. **We ask that you register for this free tour.** Call the Museum office at (920) 563-7769 to reserve your spot on this fun and breezy tour around town! Don't forget your helmet!



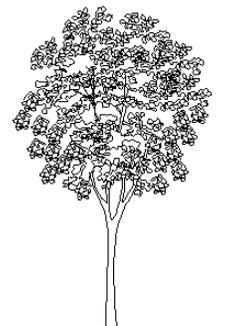
☞ Garden Education Programs ☜

Saturday, October 21, 2 p.m.

Native Woody Plants – Trees, Shrubs, and Vines

Wondering what trees to plant on your property to replace diseased ash trees, or to create more shade? Do your foundation plantings or borders need to be updated or filled in?

Come to the next program in our Native Plants Garden Education series at 2 p.m. on Saturday, October 21. Master Gardener Beverly Dahl will review a number of 'woody' plants that are native to our area and suitable for homeowner use. Native plants tend to need less care, are more likely to thrive in our variable weather, and support local wildlife better than many 'imported' plants that are commonly found in stores and garden centers.



Also - *save the date* for our last Garden Education program of the year - WWI Victory Gardens. Master Garden Shirley Brown will share the results of her research on this topic on November 18 at 2 p.m. Garden Education programs are free of charge and open to all.

☞ Winter Workshop ☜

Saturday, November 25, 11 a.m. and 2 p.m.

Join us on the Saturday after Thanksgiving for family friendly fun for all ages! Come at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. to make traditional orange clove pomanders and holiday paper decorations that you can take home with you. While here, enjoy some wintery cookies and hot cocoa or apple cider. If the weather gets snowy, bring your snow pants and we will head outside to make our own Effigy Mound shapes in the snow! You do not need to register to attend. Check our website or Facebook page to learn more!





401 Whitewater Avenue
Fort Atkinson, WI 53538

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Upcoming Events at the Hoard Museum:

- October 14: ♦ Civil War and Governor Hoard Day Celebration, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
- October 21: ♦ Bike Tour of Historic Fort Atkinson, 9 a.m.
♦ Garden Education Program, Native Woodys - Trees, Shrubs & Vines, 2 p.m.
- October 28: ♦ 3rd Annual Taste of Fort Atkinson Fundraiser, 5:30 - 8 p.m.
- November 3: ♦ Morning @ the Museum, 8:30 - 10 a.m.
- November 5: ♦ 45th Annual Black Hawk Artists Opening Reception, 1-4 p.m. *Art Show open through November 18*
- November 18: ♦ Garden Education Program, WWI Victory Gardens, 2 p.m.
- November 25: ♦ Winter Workshop, 11 a.m. & 2 p.m.
- November 28: ♦ Gingerbread House Registration begins, *open through December 1*
- December 1: ♦ Morning @ the Museum, 8:30 - 10 a.m.
- December 9: ♦ Holiday Open House and Gingerbread House Contest, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
♦ *December 23-26: Museum Closed for the Holiday* ♦ ♦ December 27-30: Museum Open! ♦
- January 5: ♦ Morning @ the Museum, 8:30 - 10 a.m.
- January 2-6: ♦ Museum Open! *Museum closed for maintenance January 8-22*

Questions about any of our events? Visit our website, www.hoardmuseum.org or contact the Museum Office by calling (920) 563-7769 or emailing info@hoardmuseum.org.