

# TIMELINES

## NEWSLETTER OF THE OZAUKEE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY



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OZAUKEE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

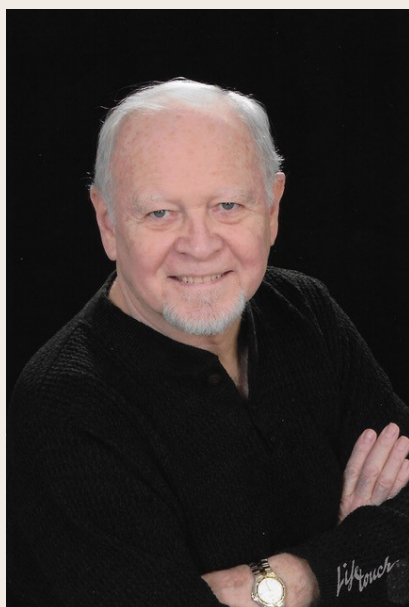
SUMMER QUARTERLY MEETING

**Monday, August 5**

**Location: Rose-Harms Legion Hall- 7:00PM**

**1540 13th Ave , Grafton**

### FROM IRELAND TO OZ



Bill Malone, a lifetime member of OCHS, has spent many years researching his family history. But for the passion of his father, William F. who started documenting the family history, this story could never have been told. Bill made two trips to Ireland to find the exact location where his family originated. The Malones resided in Moyrath, Village of Kildalkey in the County of Meath.

A 4<sup>th</sup> Generation Irish Descendent, Bill will share his story of the Malone Family coming from Ireland to America where they eventually settled on a farm just north of Cedarburg.

***Refreshments will be served and Cash Bar Available***



***Greetings From the President:***

Hello! The summer is in full swing and we hope that you have enjoyed several very successful events with us. We had WWII in May, our Flag Day Celebration in June, and Fire Up The Forge in July. Harry Potter, Bluegrass at the Village, Planes, Trains & Automobiles, Autumn at the Village and The Winter Solstice are yet to come. We thank our members for their continued financial support and our volunteers for their hard work.

We have completed many improvements to our three locations. Stony Hill Schools' plaster was repaired, the interior and exterior have been painted and new lighting has been installed. The Cedarburg Hazel Wirth Archives and Research Center will have its new HVAC systems installed the last week of July, thanks to the many donations and the grant received from the Greater Cedarburg Foundation! A beautiful 35-foot windmill was erected at the entrance of Pioneer Village last month, thanks to Allen Buchholz and his group of volunteers that assisted in raising it up. Work continues on the caboose project with a full recap in our fall newsletter. To say that we at OCHS have been busy is an understatement!

We are very pleased to welcome two new board members to the OCHS Board of Directors. Lindsey Harness is our new newsletter editor. She has a PhD in Communication from UW-Milwaukee, Master of Arts, and a Bachelor of Science in Communication from Missouri State University. She currently serves as the Executive Director of the Research Center for Women & Girls at Alverno College. She has an extensive career in writing, as well, and is the perfect person to take on this role. She currently resides in Waubeka, enjoys reading, house renovations, gardening, walks with her dog, and the outdoors. Ashley Fullerton has also joined our board as new director. She has great administrative skills and is a real multi-tasker. As a mother of two young boys, she has to be a multi-tasker to keep up with them. She lives in Waubeka with her family, has an amazing passion for our local history and can't wait to get involved.

We still have several roles open on the board, volunteer coordinator, quarterly meeting coordinator and school tour coordinator. If you are interested in getting involved, please feel free to give me a call (1-262-377-4545 ). As always, we are looking for volunteers to help with our remaining events. Try it, You'll Like it!

***Hope to see you soon!***

**Mary Ann Velnetske - President**

**BOARD MEMBERS**

Mary Ann Velnetske, President  
 Allen Buchholz, 1st Vice-President  
 Becky Miller, Secretary/Graphic Design  
 Don Borgwardt, Treasurer  
 Keri Eichner, Director  
**Open**-Quarterly Program Chair  
 Dan Paulus, Director  
 Dick Liersch, Director  
 Lindsey Harness, Newsletter Editor  
 Ashley Fullerton, Director  
**Open**, Volunteer Coordinator

**SUPPORT STAFF**

Jane Butz, Archivist  
 Chris Fricke, Archivist  
**Open**, Membership  
 Jim and Sally Punzel-Pioneer Village Caretakers  
 Eugene Durben/ Kayla Beegle-Storck Blacksmiths

**TOUR GUIDES/DOCENTS**

Dennis Beder	Barbara Roob
Donna Smith	Carol Stephenson
Linda Ziebell	Carol Curtis
Chris Schultz	

**CONTACTS**

Village Management-Allen Buchholz  
 Village Hall Rentals-Allen Buchholz  
 Website-Mary Ann Velnetske  
 Marketing-Becky Miller  
 Videographer-Dick Liersch  
 Photographer/Social Media-Laura Bruederle  
 Newsletter-Lindsey Harness

## FOND MEMORIES - Remembering John Armbruster



John Armbruster, a lifetime member of OCHS passed away early in the morning on June 20, 2024, while at home with his loving wife Pat by his side. He was born on April 10, 1952, to Robert and Mary Aileen (Behnke) Armbruster.

According to John's obituary, "John was full of life and a quiet hero." He was a resident of Cedarburg, a graduate of Cedarburg High School (class of 1970), and an alumna of Marquette University (class of 1974).

John moved back to Cedarburg to help with the family business. As the owner of Armbruster Jewelers, he was immensely respected by his colleagues in the jewelry industry. Armbruster Jewelers celebrated their 140th year in business this year.

"Coach John," as he was affectionally known, served as the Cedarburg High School Freshman Boys Basketball team and announced basketball games on WGLB radio.

In 1984, after answering a newspaper ad searching for a Special Olympics basketball coach, John met his wife, Patricia Theis. John married Patricia in 1986 and served as a Special Olympics basketball coach for 40 years. Patricia and John welcomed two daughters. John was also a loving grandpa.

John was a true advocate for building community and preserving history. He served on numerous boards and was a supporter of many local organizations, including the Ozaukee County Historical Society.

John will be missed by all those who were fortunate to know him. Ozaukee County Historical Society sends their heartfelt condolences to his family and friends. May his memory provide peace during this gentle time. John's full obituary can be found at:

[https://www.gmtoday.com/news\\_graphic/obituaries/john-armbruster-72/article\\_9a33d790-3288-11ef-b48b-abd325f5a591.html](https://www.gmtoday.com/news_graphic/obituaries/john-armbruster-72/article_9a33d790-3288-11ef-b48b-abd325f5a591.html)

## Donations May—July

### Memorial Donations:

Georgia Battermann-  
Bob Waterstein  
Allen & Cherie Buch-  
holz-Wilma Borgwardt  
Phil & Jean Steinke –  
Renny Rappold

### Caboose Donations:

Mike & Carol Hecker  
Mary Sayner  
Phillipp Litho  
Sullivan Food/Pasta  
Shope

### Sponsorships:

Port Washington State Bank – Bluegrass Sponsor  
Port Washington-Saukville Rotary – Bluegrass Sponsor  
Velnetske Law Offices – Bluegrass Sponsor  
Cedarburg Auto Repair Service – Bluegrass Sponsor  
Badgerland Bluegrass Music Assoc. – Bluegrass Sponsor  
Summit Credit Union- Bluegrass Sponsor  
Mueller Heating and Cooling – Bluegrass Sponsor  
MacGillis Insurance Agency – Flag Day Sponsor  
Northshore Bank – WWII Sponsor  
Ted Grob Corporation – WWII Sponsor  
Velnetske Law Offices – WWII Sponsor

**Stony Hill School:** Dale Batz – Two Antique School Light Fixtures

**General Donations:** Janice Watson – Pioneer Village

### Rummage Donations:

Wisconsin Museum of Quilts & Fiber Arts  
First Immanuel Lutheran Church  
Christ Alone Church  
Clay Hill  
Jim Stuckert  
Carol Vaney  
Carol Boettcher  
Matthias & Barbara Hasenauer  
Dottie Wittenberg

and so many others. We raised \$2,900 so far for the Caboose Project!

**Thank you for your kindness, generosity and support!**

## 2024 Updated Events Calendar

- ♦ July 27 Harry Potter at the Village
- ♦ Aug. 11 Bluegrass at the Village
- ♦ Sep. 7 Planes, Trains and Automobiles
- ♦ Sep. 28 Autumn at the Village
- ♦ Oct. 27 Pioneer Village Closes
- ♦ Dec. 21 Winter Solstice



**Volunteers: You can have it “your” way! Please consider volunteering for one of these amazing events!**

- ♦ You can volunteer by calling Becky 262-689-1452 or Mary Ann 262-377-4545.
- ♦ You can email us at: [ochsvolunteers@gmail.com](mailto:ochsvolunteers@gmail.com)
- ♦ You can signup on our website: Go to “Volunteer” and it is linked to SignUp Genius. Pick your role, date and time.

*We also are still in search of a new Volunteer Coordinator. If you are interested, please let us know!*

**Sign Up NOW!**

**<https://www.ochs.co.ozaukee.wi.us/volunteer-opportunities>**



# Grafton and the Zip Code Day

By: James Cornelius



Many people filled the Paramount Plaza at 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue in Grafton on Thursday, May 30<sup>th</sup> between 4 and 7 p.m. Given the modern trend toward numeralizing most dates, you can see that 5.30.24 is the city's zip code, 53024, and boosters grabbed the chance to capture the attention of the U.S. Postal Service and the pride of people in the area. The Grafton Chamber of Commerce took the lead in planning and executing. Said Tom Krueger, president of the Grafton Historical Society, "We're happy to be here...on this historic date."

## A Look Back in History:

On May 30, 1824, James Monroe was in his last spring as the nation's 5<sup>th</sup> president. Wisconsin had been a part of Michigan Territory since 1818. In what became Ozaukee County, we know mainly that American Indians lived along the Milwaukee River and that the U.S. Army at Fort Howard (Green Bay), received most of their supplies from down south, contracting, e.g., with William Hamilton (son of Founding Father Alexander Hamilton) to make his way north the next year with 100 head of cattle from Illinois, passing through what is now Grafton. Another key contract they had was for someone to bring in the mails from other forts farther east or south.

On May 30, 1924, Calvin Coolidge was in his first spring as the 30<sup>th</sup> president and the Jazz Age was swinging. People in these parts were listening on Victrolas to music that would soon be recorded in Grafton by Paramount Records of New York. Farmers and travelers were shifting from horse-power to engine-power. John J. Blaine was governor, helping to secure laws to benefit industrial workers and to grant equal legal rights to women. Grafton's population was roughly 1,000 people. Lime production was ebbing, while canning, radios, and gasoline sales were growing. Baseball fans in 1924 marveled at Rogers Hornsby of the St. Louis Cardinals, who set the all-time record that year, batting .424. Some prescient fans might've foreseen that the failing Boston Braves (who finished the year with the worst record, by far) might leave Beantown, maybe for Milwaukee someday. They did, in 1953 – the first such baseball-team move in a half-century.

## Grafton and the Zip Code Day (continued)

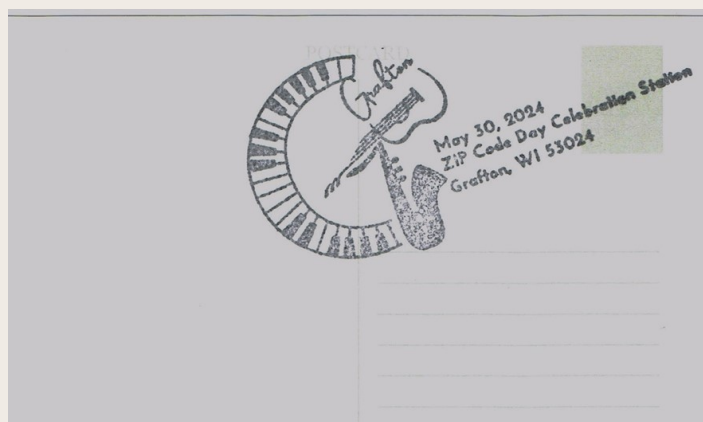
The Post Office established the Zone Improvement Plan (ZIP) in 1963. Before that date, according to a 1954 Directory of Post Offices housed at Ohio State University (viewable via Hathitrust), Wisconsin had state-code 56, and Grafton was No. 33200, Unit 2359 (whatever that meant; p. 633 of an 862-page book). Since the 1964 edition, on p. 923 of 1,180 pages (housed at University of Michigan), things make sense: Belgium was 53004, Port was 53074, and Cedarburg was 53012 .

On May 30, 2024, with nearly 13,000 residents, Grafton is full of colorful as well as historic scenes. The Chamber of Commerce designed the familiar city logo, incorporating a piano keyboard, saxophone, and vinyl record, which Donald from the Post Office stamped on any of 4 color postcards available as a set that day for \$1.00. The watercolors on those cards were created by Leslie Conover of the Chamber. The rest of the tables and booths spanned a nice range of for-profit and non-profit:

- PWSB had a mini-safe with a combo that scrambled the numbers 53024; the first lucky spinner/guesser won the \$125 inside, representing the number of years they've been in business.
- Handing out information were Village Pointe Commons, the U.S.S. Liberty Memorial (Grafton Public) Library, Ascension Columbia St. Mary's Hospital, K Komfort heating and cooling, American Family agent Mika Lawrence, Triple-A, Vineyard Church, and others.
- Blain's Farm & Fleet let people guess the number of candies in 3 jars in hopes of winning them.
- The Boy Scouts' detailed regional map showed us just what terrain the zip code covers, and the boys also listed all local parks. Kids could climb into a real fire truck.
- Mr. Balloon Man inflated and twisted balloons shaped like turtles, lions, horses, etc. Kids from 1 to 10 stood in line, while nonagenarians smiled nearby.
- Blooming Olive sold gifts, and T-shirt sales reading 'Grafton, Wisc. 53024' were brisk.
- The Stillery handed out tiny cocktails, while popcorn or a lapel button cost \$1.00 to support the High School band and choir trip to New York next spring.
- Village President Dan Delorit was on hand, and a cheerful policeman, and guitarist Matt Tyner (with his dog) for live music from 5 to 7 p.m.

Zip Code site, two years from now, when 5.30.26 will be marked. Then it's off to Hartford on 5.30.27. Modeling their event on Grafton's, they could do very well.

Grafton's town logo, coupled with the official USPS 'Celebration Station' stamp



## Grafton and the Zip Code Day (continued)

### What will last from this event?

The Time Capsule of donated items is being packed as you read this. The Chamber and the Historical Society have a lot to choose from: among the donations that day were a 1970s Grafton Elementary (Indians) School t-shirt for a 2nd-grader; the day's News-Graphic; newsletters from churches, the Lions Club, etc.; a new photo booklet about Poetry on the Sidewalks around town; a personal letter to the next resident of a home on Cherokee Dr., including pictures; a wooden coin from the Fire Dept.; tourism brochures; and business cards, for example. The Capsule will be opened on May 30, 2124.

Excellent weather bolstered an excellent idea, bringing the townsfolk together at many levels. Fifth-generation locals strolled alongside recent immigrants. For Grafton, it was “one and done,” said Rose from the Historical Society, but if you enjoy the postal part of such camaraderie, maybe you attended Cedarburg's back on 5.30.12 ... or you can head up to Greenbush, the next National Zip Code site, two years from now, when 5.30.26 will be marked. Then it's off to Hartford on 5.30.27. Modeling their event on Grafton's, they could do very well.





# Celebration of a Living Symbol

## Written by: Lindsey Harness, PhD

On June 15, 2024, the Ozaukee County Historical Society celebrated Flag Day at Stony Hill School in Fredonia, Wisconsin. Attendees enjoyed music from the American Spirit Quartet and 132D U.S. Army Reserve Band, lemonade and cookies supplied by Miriam's Amish Bakery, actors portraying Bernard Cigrand and his mother, tips on flag etiquette, and a walk among the Avenue of State Flags.

At 19 years old, in his one-room schoolhouse, schoolteacher Bernard Cigrand placed a flag in a bottle and challenged students to write an essay responding to the question, "what does the flag mean to me."

In 1916, Bernard Cigrand requested an audience with Woodrow Wilson to discuss the possibility of making Flag Day into a national holiday. It would take another 40 years before Congress would do so.

In 2004, Waubeka, Wisconsin was named the national birthplace of Flag Day. As Bob Eichner portraying Bernard Cigrand at this year's Flag Day Celebration claimed, "It doesn't matter if the flag is giant or small, the symbolism stands for the same thing."



**Attendees listening to the American Spirit Quartet**



**Attendees watching the Flag Raising Ceremony**



# OCHS: Flag Day Celebration (continued)

With approximately 100 participants, the event had a steady flow of attendees. When asked her reason for joining the celebration, Rosemary Nielsen remarked “I love history, and the flag.”

Jonathan Beaumia from Octoto, Wisconsin learned about the Flag Day Celebration in the book *Oddball Wisconsin* by Jerome Pohlen. It’s a book that offers offbeat travel destinations and little-known historical tidbits. Jonathan wanted to learn more about this historic celebration.

For many attendees, the flag is a living symbol of the patriotism and lives that define their local communities. To support celebrations of the symbol is to support the people who made Ozaukee County a home, the people who keep its history alive, and the people who will call Ozaukee County home in the future.



132D U.S. Army Reserve Band



Avenue of Flags

Thank you to the volunteers, sponsors, and participants for celebrating this important event with us!

## 2024 STONY HILL FLAG DAY CELEBRATION

**SATURDAY  
JUNE 15<sup>TH</sup>**

**GROUNDS &  
SCHOOLHOUSE  
OPEN 12-4PM**

**12:30PM  
American Spirit Quartet**

**1:00PM & 3:00PM  
132nd US Army Reserve Band**

**Tour the Recently Renovated Schoolhouse!**  
Meet “Bernard Cigrand”, Stroll the Avenue of Flags,  
Flag Etiquette

**STONY HILL SCHOOL**

W5595 HWY I, FREDONIA, WI

Free Flags & Refreshments



For more information on Stony Hill School, visit  
our website at [www.ochs.co.ozaukee.wi.us](http://www.ochs.co.ozaukee.wi.us).





# OCHS Event: Fire Up The Forge

Ozaukee County Historical Society sponsored Fire up the Forge on Sunday, July 7th at Pioneer Village. The event's description promised "Experience Sparks Flying, Hammers Smashing, Anvils Clashing, and Smithy's Working! Hands on Demonstrations, Make & Take items, Upper Midwest Blacksmith Association, Storm Cloak Forge and OCHS team up with blacksmith demonstrations, hands-on instruction, tour the village, brat fry and BBMA Bluegrass Jam. Meet Tom Wilson, one of Milwaukee's finest Blacksmiths "



Kayla Beegle is on the Board of Directors of UMBA Upper Midwest Blacksmith Association and a 4th generation blacksmith.



Abbi and her mom Cory Richter made iron hearts.



Jeffery Beegle firing up the forge

Ozaukee County Historical Society  
N57 W6406 Center Street -PO Box 206  
Cedarburg, WI 53012-0206  
www.ochs.co.ozaukee.wi.us

Hazel Wirth Archives Research Center  
262-377-4510  
E-Mail: ozaukeearchivist@gmail.com

## ~2024 Membership Application ~

Membership ~ January 1 thru December 31, 2024

Sign me up! I'm ready to be a part of history!

Enclosed please find my: ☐ Renewal ☐ New Membership

☐ Individual \$25 ☐ Husband/Wife/Family \$50 (incl children under 18)  
☐ Sustaining Individual \$50 ☐ Sustaining Family \$100

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_ (Your Email & Phone Number will never be shared!)

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of Children (under 18): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ ***Yes!, Count me in! Please contact me when you need volunteer help!***

*I want to make a contribution to history. Enclosed please find my additional tax-deductible contribution specified for:*

☐ Hazel Wirth Archives Research Center  
☐ Acquisitions & Collections Maintenance  
☐ Stony Hill School Upkeep  
☐ Ozaukee County Pioneer Village Upkeep  
☐ General: Where Needed Most

☐ Interurban Depot Preservation Fund  
☐ Memorial: In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Celebration: In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Sponsorship of an Event: \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Ozaukee County Historical Society  
N57 W6406 Center Street  
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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

