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NEWSLETTER OF THE OZAUKEE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY



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OZAUKEE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

SUMMER QUARTERLY MEETING

Monday, August 1st

Membership Update 7:00 - Presentation 7:30

Location: St Mary's Church

W4790 County Highway H, Little Kohler

Free and open to the public.

All are Welcome!



Discover the history of the former Catholic Church and surrounding village of Little Kohler in northeast Ozaukee County. Little Kohler was named after some of the first settlers (Martin and Theresa Koller), who arrived there in the 1840's. St. Mary's was established in a log building in 1849 and moved into the present building in 1868.

Our speaker will be Jim Dieringer, a local resident who was born in Campbellsport in 1935 and grew up on a farm near Holy Cross. A member of St. Mary's since 1957, he and Laneille McPherson were married there in November of 1963. They have seven children, fourteen grandchildren and five great grandchildren. After fifty-six years of service to the Jor-Mac Company, Jim is now retired.

Consider arriving early to walk through the cemetery by the church. The church is now owned by the St. Mary's Foundation and they have allowed us to use the church for this meeting.

Refreshments compliments of Wayne & Linda Luft & OCHS



***Thank you to our
Past President,
Jean Steinke.***

A surprise party was held for Jean Steinke on June 8th to thank her for all the contributions she made to sustain and improve our historical society and preserve our county's history. Jean served as our president for over 10 years and in a variety of other roles. She was involved in our oral history program, school tour program, gift shop coordinator, newsletter editor and Pioneer Village food service coordinator. Her family has also served as dedicated volunteers throughout her tenure. Her husband, Phil, donated the time and talents of his construction company and was instrumental in the building of the Pioneer Village Hall, as well as other projects at the village. Her children and relatives were always volunteering for events at the village.

***We wish Jean well and
hope she will continue to
enjoy OCHS as "just" a
volunteer in the future!***



**Barbara Roob, Carol Stephenson, Jean Steinke,
Linda Ziebell, Donna Smith & Sally Punzel**

Greetings From the President:

Hello!

I am honored and grateful for the opportunity to serve the OCHS Board of Directors, OCHS members and community as your new president. Most of you know me for the roles I have had over the past years as event coordinator, fundraiser, grant writer and for projects at the village. I feel that these areas are where I can make the most difference to the organization.

OCHS is an amazing organization with a group of incredible historians and individuals that give generously of their time and talents. The people I've meet in OCHS are the reason I am committed to do my very best in this new role; however, I need your help! Your energy and your ideas are needed. I would sincerely like to hear from YOU, our members, with improvements we can make, programming you'd like us to provide and new ways to accomplish our mission of sharing history with future generations.

We are looking for more board members, more members, more volunteers and I hope you will invite your relatives, friends and neighbors to join us! It takes ALL of US to continue to make this an amazing organization!

I look forward to serving you and feel free to give me a call. 1-262-377-4545

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
Judy Jepson, Quarterly Program Chair
Dick Liersch, Director
Tom Oliver, Director

SUPPORT STAFF

Jane Butz, Archivist
Chris Fricke, Archivist
Don Engelbert, Membership
Patrick Jentges, Stony Hill School Caretaker
Jim and Sally Punzel

Ozaukee County Pioneer Village Caretakers
Eugene Durben-Resident Blacksmith

TOUR GUIDES/DOCENTS

Dennis Beder **Barbara Roob**
Donna Smith **Carol Stephenson**
Ina Wenzler **Linda Ziebell**

CONTACTS

Village Management-Allen Buchholz
Village Hall Rentals-Allen Buchholz
Website-Mary Ann Velnetske
Marketing-Becky Miller
Videographer-Dick Liersch
Newsletter-Mary Ann Velnetske
Gift Shoppe-Jean Steinke

EVENT CONTACTS

WWII Kick Off Concert-Mary Ann Velnetske
WWII—Becky Miller
Flag Day-Keri Eichner
Car Show-Becky Miller
Fire Up the Forge-Mary Ann Velnetske
Harry Potter at the Village-Keri Eichner
Bluegrass-Mary Ann Velnetske
Train Show—Mary Ann Velnetske
Autumn Farm Days- Ken Albinger

EVENT RECAP MAY



May 14th—WWII Kickoff Concert - The Radio Rosies (Photo Courtesy of Sam Arendt)



May 21st—WWII—Special Honored WWII Vets (Photo Courtesy of Sam Arendt)

EVENT RECAP JUNE



June 12th Flag Day

(Photo courtesy of Laura Bruderle)



June 25-26th Rummage Sale



June 12th Car Show

(Photo courtesy of Laura Bruderle)

EVENT RECAP JULY



July 10th Fire Up the Forge - Blacksmith - Sam Laturi

UPCOMING EVENT—JULY

The Ozaukee County Historical Society is holding **Harry Potter at the Village** on July 30th. The event is from 10am-4pm and will showcase one of the largest lego displays called “The Harry Potter Experience”. Magician Caleb Hyatt, the Schlitz Audubon Owls, the 4-H Reptile project, puzzles, games, and an escape room are all special features of the event. Festival favorite highlights include the house sorting station, wand decorating, special treats, quidditch lessons, and a costume contest. Several special Harry Potter guests (character actors) will be joining festival goers throughout the grounds.

Ozaukee County Historical Society Presents

HARRY POTTER

At The Village

Saturday, July 30, 2022
10am to 4pm

Eric & Emily Krans' LEGO Creations Display, Magician Caleb Hyatt, Schlitz Audubon Presentation, Costume Parade, House Sorting Station, Wand Decorating, Potions, Puzzles, Games, Treats, Quidditch and more!

ADMISSION: \$15 • FREE for OCHS Members & Children 5 and Under
*Some event activities require additional purchases.

Ozaukee County Pioneer Village
4880 Highway I, Saukville, WI

For more information and to purchase tickets, go to our website
www.ochs.co.ozaukee.wi.us or follow us on FaceBook.

*Warner Bros. Entertainment & J.K. Rowling are not associated with, endorsing, or responsible for this event.

UPCOMING EVENT—AUGUST

For over fifteen years, Bluegrass at the Village has grown to be our biggest fund-raising event. Because of community support, this event has entertained an audience of over 900 people each year and we are hoping this trend continues. This year it will be held on August 14 at Ozaukee County Pioneer Village in Saukville, WI.

This year's lineup includes, Genesee Ridge, The Milbillies, Pickin' Up Speed, Chicken Wire Empire and the Henhouse Prowlers, this year's featured band. The Henhouse Prowlers have traveled the world as the "Ambassador's of Bluegrass". The Prowlers have a wonderful teaching outreach program where they share their music with many impoverished nations, most recently Uganda and Pakistan. They provide workshops, school programs and they, in turn learn about ancient instruments from the people they visit. They have been playing music for 17 years, have released numerous CDs with their signature harmonies and classic tradition.

The event includes a wide variety of food, desserts and beverages including a beer/wine tent. We will also be holding a live auction of items provided by local area businesses.

OZAUKEE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY PRESENTS

Bluegrass at the Village

SUNDAY, AUGUST 14, 2022

OZAUKEE COUNTY PIONEER VILLAGE
4880 HWY I, SAUKVILLE

RAIN OR SHINE—UNDER THE BIG TENT!

GATES & CONCESSIONS OPEN AT 11:00AM • MUSIC: 11:30PM to 5:45PM

BANDS:

11:30	Pickin' Up Speed
12:30	The Milbillies
1:30	Genesee Ridge
2:15	Intermission-Live Auction
2:45	Chicken Wire Empire
4:15	Henhouse Prowlers

ADMISSION: Advance Ticket Prices: \$12.00 Adults, \$10 Seniors/Students
\$15.00 Day Of Event
Kids 5 and Under & OCHS Members Free

Grand Sponsor:  **PORT WASHINGTON STATE BANK**
Member FDIC

Thank you to our sponsors:

			
			
			
			

Over 500 seats under the tent: Lawn Chairs are welcomed. **No food/drink carry-ins & No Pets** - Free Parking





To purchase tickets or for more information visit: <https://www.ochs.co.ozaukee.wi.us/>

UPCOMING EVENT—SEPTEMBER





TRAIN SHOW

Presented by the Kettle Moraine Railroad Heritage Association, Inc.
Home of the Kettle Moraine Ballast Scorchers

SAVE THE DATE!

September 10, 2022

9AM-4PM

Train Skit by Kerry Kaemer of the Plymouth Arts Center
Fundraising Auction • Live Music • Great Food
Operating Model and Prototype Displays
And ALL the Bells & Whistles!

*All proceeds benefit the 1940 Milwaukee Road
Caboose Restoration Project!*

**OZAUKEE COUNTY
PIONEER VILLAGE**

4880 Highway I • Saukville, WI 53080
For more information, go to our website:
www.ochs.co.ozaukee.wi.us



UPCOMING EVENT—OCTOBER

New! “Autumn Farm Days” October 1st and 2nd featuring pumpkins, Fall activities, historic demonstrations, antique tractors and engines, The Spudmobile, agricultural exhibits, fall favorite foods and more. Watch our website for more Information!



Donations March—June:

Jeff and Janel Gelhaar

Sue Duffy

Jane Dobesh

Nancy Roozen

Emeline Johnson

Thomas Ingram

Event Sponsorships:

Newman Chevrolet

BMO Harris Bank—Thiensville

Paul Davis

MidState Insurance

Wayne's Drive-In

Velnetske Law Offices, LLC

Kolb & Associates

Jon & Sandy Dehlinger

MacGillis Agency

Ted Grob Corporation

Grants:

National Railroad Historical Society

Thank you to all who make great things happen for OCHS!

Welcome Center Project – Project Oversight -Allen Buchholz

For over sixty years the entrance and admission location of Pioneer Village has been in the small, dimly lit Trading Post with limited exhibit space. It is our intention to move this to a larger space in a half timber house, called the Draeger House, in which we can house our admission desk, a small gift shop and permanent and temporary exhibits. The building will be restored and reconfigured for this purpose and will become ADA accessible with a well-lighted entry.

Restoration aspects of the project entail bringing new electrical service to the building, widening the doorways, creating a secure, gated entry point and building a boardwalk and ramp to enter. The wooden parts of the exterior will be refurbished and painted and the interior floor will be refinished. Display cases will be added to the two exhibit rooms. Another addition will include the installation of internet service to provide credit card processing and wi-fi accessibility.

Rotating themed exhibits will showcase various collections of artifacts and will provide a preview of what visitors will experience when they enter the rest of the village. Two of the first temporary exhibits will feature our Native American collection from a Saukville farm and a glass negative photo collection of over 300 images from the Grafton area.

Come and see the progress! The beautiful boardwalk entry was recently completed and lantern lighting was installed along the pathway. The wi-fi is now fully operable and has been used for our events. ***Donations are gratefully accepted for this project.***

Over the past two weeks volunteers planted and mulched the landscape around the Draeger House under the direction of Sally Punzel.

More improvements to come.....



Bob & Cathy Cabelka, Phyllis Wattleworth & Sally Punzel

Caboose Restoration Project 2022-2023

Project Oversight- Mary Ann Velnetske

The OCHS 1940 Milwaukee Road rib-side caboose is one of only nine that are still in existence. The Milwaukee Road built 315 rib-side cabooses between 1939 and 1951. In 1940 there were only 25 cabooses built with stock numbers 01875-01899. OCHS owns number 01887. Cabooses of this era are getting quite rare and our society is dedicated to preserve this one. In 1995, several OCHS Board members were determined to acquire a Milwaukee Road caboose to compliment the Milwaukee Road Cedarburg Train Station that it had acquired 12 years prior. Several cabooses were considered, but the one that was decided upon was at Volkmann Railroad Builders, Inc. in Menomonee Falls, WI.

The cost of the old caboose was \$3,500.00 and the cost to move it to Ozaukee County Pioneer Village was \$1,800.00. Track needed to be installed in front of the train station and required the ground to be graded, filled and a pad of gravel laid down before installing the track and caboose on the site. OCHS received a generous grant from Bob and Eileen Williams, as well as a sizable matching grant from Ameritech to fund the purchase, move and install the caboose at its new location. Bob Williams, a board member at the time, considered this a grand opportunity. The caboose was loaded on a flat railcar using a crane and was transported to Fredonia, near Saukville. In 1996, the caboose was primed and painted, but there were no additional funds to restore the interior.

The project entails restoration and preservation of the 1940 caboose. This will be a two-phase project spanning 2022-2023. **Phase One:** The caboose needs to be sandblasted, needs metal reconstructive work to repair rusted areas, the exterior needs to be coated with industrial metal primer and painted with the original Milwaukee Road orange color. The lettering needs to be painted in the original maroon paint. The roof has a hole that needs to be patched and welded, the entire roof needs a protective coating. Several of the windows have fallen down because the window frames are rusted and deteriorated. New window frames and glass need to be fabricated and installed. Finally, new exterior doors need to be made and installed. **Phase Two:** The interior is in very poor condition. All interior components need to be removed while new walls and ceiling must be assembled. The floor will either need to be sanded and painted, or may need to be entirely replaced. New lockers, conductors' desk, bunks, sink, toilet compartment and icebox need to be crafted, using the original items as authentic patterns for the new ones. The bench seats also need to be re-upholstered in heavy vinyl, along with the bunks. A stove, similar to that which was original, need to be acquired and installed.

Our September 10th Train Show Event is to raise funds for the restoration project. Donate NOW and please attend and help to make this happen!



How Well Do You Know OCHS ?

Play the game and match up the events with the time of year.
Then check the answers below :

1. Bluegrass at the Village	a. 12-5 PM May through October
2. Autumn Farm Days	b. August
3. School Tours	c. Tuesday AM, 1 st Saturday AM or by by appt.
4. WWII	d. June
5. Closed-unless the Village Hall is being rented	e. July
6. Archives	f. October
7. Flag Day at Stony Hill	g. May and October
8. Pioneer Village opens for the season	h. May
9. Caboose Fundraiser	i. September
10. Harry Potter Festival	j. January

So, How did you do? How many answers did you get correct?

9-10: You must be a Member and Volunteer at several events! Thank You!

6-8: Glad you knew most of OCHS events. Volunteers are always welcome. Hope to see you soon?

4-7: Do you still enjoy Living History & educating our youth? Please volunteer. Call, email or text a Board member today!

0-3: Let's reconnect. There's so much that you are missing!

This puzzle and challenge was submitted by Keri & Bob Eichner. Keri is one of our creative board members who wants you to get involved!

Answers: 1b, 2f, 3g, 4h, 5j, 6c, 7d, 8a, 9i, 10e

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

~2022 Membership Application ~
Membership ~ January 1 thru December 31, 2022

Sign me up! I'm ready to be a part of history!
Enclosed please find my: ☐ Renewal ☐ New Membership

☐ Individual \$20 ☐ Husband/Wife/Family \$40 (incl children under 18)
☐ Individual Lifetime \$225 ☐ Husband/Wife Lifetime \$350

Name: _____ Spouse: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

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

Phone: _____ Number of Children (under 18): _____

☐ Yes! 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
P.O. Box 206
Cedarburg, WI 53012-0206

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED





You are Invited to Milwaukee Irish Fest Summer School Event

Genetic Genealogy: Tips and Techniques Instructor: Richard Hill

Richard Hill was the first adoptee to identify his birth family through genetic genealogy DNA tests. He shared his story in an award-winning book, "Finding Family: My Search for Roots and the Secrets in My DNA." He has founded two websites on DNA testing, most recently DNAFavorites.com. Richard gives presentations on genetic genealogy topics both virtually and in person Price: \$100.00 Tickets Available at the following link <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/milwaukee-irish-fest-summer-school-2022-registration-343456506657?discount=GenealogyEarly2022>

Course number is W01

Location: CelticMKE Center, 1532 N Wauwatosa Ave, Milwaukee, WI 53213 Date: Fri, August 19, 2022 9:00 AM – 11:30AM (Website gives later end time but this will end about 11:30AM)

Description: Genetic Genealogist Richard Hill will compare the best DNA tests for genealogy and share highlights of these top tests and some popular third-party tools. His second presentation during this block of time, will dive into the challenges of DNA ethnicity testing and compare the results for one person on multiple tests.

His focus is not specific to Irish, so invite your friends and family who may be interested in all things DNA.