

Marshfield, Wisconsin

May 2022

From the President

Happy Spring to you all!

Winter's clutches are finally letting loose, so soon we should be outside enjoying the sunshine and fresh air again. With the annual arrival of spring, comes the routine cleanup of our yard and gardens at the Upham House. We anticipate this to be accomplished soon. This year though, as a likely consequence of having such wonderful inviting gardens in the yard, we will have to address another issue. Honeybees.

At some time, a few honeybees found a small opening into the east wall of the Upham Home and established a colony there. Last year with the help of a local beekeeper, we tried to relocate the colony. Unsuccessful, the bees continue to claim the wall cavity as their home.

Recent rain events combined with the organic material produced by the bees – honey and their waste products – have created a situation where liquids are dripping inside the house from above a window in the library. Moreover, when it's raining heavily outside, let us just say the drip becomes a steady stream of brownish liquid.

Our only remedy now is to take the siding off the house to expose the wall cavities and physically remove the bees and the hives they created. A local beekeeper will place the exposed honeycombs in boxes and safely move the bees to a new location. We will not know the full extent of the affected area until the work begins, nor all the expenses related to the removal and then subsequent restoration. As an unplanned expense, we have to ask our members, friends and community members to help cover the costs of saving the bees and the necessary restoration effort. A donation may be made by mail to the NWCHS, P.O. Box 142, Marshfield, WI 54449, and by PayPal at our website, Uphammansion.com if you would like to help us. Just add the tagline Bee Removal.

On a good note, we are all excited about two upcoming events, Business After 5 and the return of the traditional June Dairyfest celebration. Thanks to the generous support of Paul Rogers, the NWCHS is one of the sponsoring organizations for Business After 5 on May 26 at the American Legion in Marshfield. We always look forward to collaborating with our local civic and business leaders and this event will be extra special, as we will share for the first time, a movie made by J.P Adler of the 1937 Marshfield Homecoming Parade, then commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the Great Marshfield Fire of 1887. We invite all our members to join us for this debut showing, the opportunity to see recent improvements at the American Legion Hall, and to congratulate Paul on Rogers Cinema's 50th Anniversary.

Then just around the corner Dairyfest returns with all its usual activities around town and here at the Upham House. We have some exciting things planned for everyone here, and of course, we hope you will join us for the Pie and Ice cream social, live music, and games in the yard of the Upham House. We also hope you visit inside to look at our "Stitches in Time" historical clothing exhibit. The hats, which were recently added, are already getting a lot of attention. We look forward to seeing everyone enjoy the 2022 Dairyfest, as well as some tasty treats at our annual Pie and Ice Cream Social on Saturday, June 4.

I extend a special thank you to our staff person, volunteers, and members. Your support makes this place a wonderful destination for tourists, local residents and their children. I hope you will join the community and us as we celebrate the yearlong Marsfield Sesquicentennial and enjoy the history of this great area.



**Brad Allen
President**



Upham House

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Tour Hours

Wednesday - 1:30 - 4:00 p.m.

Saturday - 1:30 - 4:00 p.m.

Or by appointment

Office Hours

Monday - 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Wednesday - 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Thursday - 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Phone - 715.387.3322

Email - nwchs@uphammansion.com

www.uphammansion.com

Brad

Pie and Ice Cream Social: 43 years of serving the community

The North Wood County Historical Society will hold its 43rd annual Pie and Ice Cream Social, June 4, from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m at the Governor W. H. Upham House, aka Upham Mansion.

The Pie and Ice Cream Social began in 1979, when the Marshfield Area Jaycettes decided during its monthly meeting to put on a pie social at Upham Mansion. In 1982, the event became part of Dairyfest "Cheesetown USA." The annual Pie & Ice Cream Social has proven to be the North Wood County Historical Society's largest fundraiser.

Following the Dairyfest Parade people are invited to come to the Governor W. H. Upham House located at 212 W. 3rd Street. The Pie and Ice Cream Social will offer a variety of delicious pies and ice cream and visitors are welcome to choose their favorite pie while they listen to live music from our newly restored front porch.

Also included will be carnival games for the kids as well as baskets for raffle will be on the front lawn.

Inside the Upham House, people can view the "Stitches in Time" clothing exhibit which features men's, women's, and children's garments and hats worn by people who lived in Marshfield from the 1800s on.

The exhibit has no fee; however, donations are greatly appreciated as they help continue to preserve the area's history.

History of Marshfield's Pie & Ice Cream Social

1979 – Jaycettes decide to hold a P&I Social at the Upham Mansion (*newspapers.com*)

1980 – P&I Social Social held by the Marshfield Jaycettes

1981 – June 1, Motion to approve Jaycettes to hold P&I on NWCHS behalf

1982 – May 24, Jaycettes in conjunction with Cheese Town USA Dairy Fest

1983 – May 23, Marshfield Jaycettes P&I Social at the Mansion

1984 - May 21, P&I Social to be held June 2nd

1985 - June 1st, Jaycettes P&I Social to be held June 1st

1986 - May 31, Jaycees sponsor P&I social



1987 - June 3, Sponsored by the Marshfield Altrusa Club

1988 - June 4, Sponsored by the Marshfield Altrusa Club

1989 - June 3, Sponsored by the Marshfield Altrusa Club

1990 - June 2, Sponsored by the Marshfield Altrusa Club

1991- June 1, Sponsored by the Marshfield Altrusa Club

1992 - June 30, Sponsored by the Marshfield Altrusa Club

1993 - June 5, Held by NWCHS
(*In conjunction with Heritage Rose Garden opening*)

1994 - June 4, Held by NWCHS and every year since on June Dairy Day Saturday.



“Happy Birthday, Marshfield!”

It was on April Fool's Day in 1872 that the first tree was felled on the Marshfield townsite. Wielding the axes were Louis Rivers and his brother, Frank. The scene of the community accouchement was the corner of N. Chestnut Avenue and W. Depot Street. At that time Marshfield was known as Section 32, the label applied by the Wisconsin Central Railroad, then engaged in laying light iron from Menasha to Lake Superior, via Stevens Point.

Contributing to the construction of the railroad was Congress' displeasure with Canada, whose sympathies had leaned toward the southern cause in the recent Civil War. The railroad could provide a direct military artery toward our good neighbor of the north. However, this was a later filip to the opening of these Wisconsin wilds. The land grants originally were authorized in 1846 and were designed by Congress to encourage the development of the Fox and Wisconsin Rivers and make possible steamboat navigation between Green Bay and the Mississippi.

The huge railroad land grant came in April 1866, for the construction of rails from Portage City to Lake Superior and amounted to 2,387,000 acres. Withdrawals and reassignments of grants left the Wisconsin Central with a handsome 888,288 acres along the line from Menasha to Ashland. Louis Rivers, Marshfield's founding father, had built up a considerable reputation as proprietor of the Juneau Hotel in Necedah, and the original owners of the grant here offered him three lots as an inducement to build a boarding house for railroad crews.

This first Marshfield structure was a 1-story log hotel, dwelling, store, saloon and, at a later date, post office. When the railroad reached the clearing — reportedly on July 4, 1872 — Marshfield had a more or less permanent population of seven: Rivers and his wife and their daughter, Della, his brother, Frank, and Mr. and Mrs. Peter Johnson and their year-old daughter. The Johnsons arrived from Necedah a month after the Rivers, he to assist with construction work and operate the business.

One of the guesses on how Marshfield got its name would have it that the town was named by John J. Marsh of New York City, in memory of his uncle, Samuel Marsh, one of the incorporators of the improvement company. A better guess is that railroad influences named it for Marshfield, Mass., since many other communities along the route of the Wisconsin Central, now Soo Line, have names duplicated in Massachusetts — for instance, Auburndale, Waltham (original name for Spencer), Chelsea, Dorchester and Medford.

Marshfield was never technically a village, graduating from town straight to city status, but the first plat for the "village" was filed at Haverhill, Mass., by the proprietors, including John J. Marsh, on Aug. 31, 1875. Certificates of affidavits attached were executed by the clerk of Circuit Court, county of Rockham (sic), N. H., and recorded in the Wood County Courthouse Sept. 9, 1875. The town of Marshfield was formed Dec. 3 that year by the simple expedient of taking Town 24, Range 3, from Seneca and Sigel and Town 25, Range 3, from Auburndale. The first meeting of the electors of the 12x6-mile township was held in Rivers' hotel-dwelling-store-saloon-post office April 6, 1876.

By 1880, this 72-square mile township had a population of 1,001, with 669 living in the unincorporated village. The next five years saw Marshfield's most prolific growth. Despite the fact Town 24, Range 3 was detached Nov. 18, 1881, to create the town of Richfield, and the remaining area split by a north-to-south line to create the city and town of Marshfield, the population "exploded" to 2,090 by 1885, when a state census was undertaken. The final division came on Nov. 17, 1903, and effective Dec. 7 that year, when the nine southern sections were broken off to form the town of Cameron. That left Marshfield within its basic 3-mile-square area which, except for bulges in the towns of Cameron, Lincoln and McMillan, exists today. Meanwhile, back in boom-town, the move was on to elevate Marshfield to city status.

There were a lot of other arguments, both for and against, but the city bill was eventually introduced and passed by the Legislature. And on April 2, 1883, 11 years and one day after Louis Rivers first yelled "Timber!" Gov. Jeremiah Rusk signed the bill, and Marshfield officially became a city with the bill's formal publication April 4.



Marshfield's first hotel. (circa 1872)

(Taken from the Marshfield News-Herald, 1 April 1967, page 5)

Scanning Our Past Images

More than several years ago, the Marshfield News-Herald donated a collection of their photograph negatives to the historical society. Likely as many as 300,000 negatives. Some of the images captured on these thin strips and sheets of plastic film appeared on the newspaper pages of the day, and others have never seen the light of day.

Together though they provide a pictorial history of the people, places and events of Marshfield and the surrounding communities. The collection represents 50 years or more of local history, dating 1940 through the mid-1990s.

At the beginning of this year, we pulled these safely tucked away treasures from their shelves to start a digitization project. Affectionately coined "Scanning Our Past," we anticipate the project will take years to complete. But the first steps have been taken and a "system" developed to change the negatives into usable digital images.

Scanning Our Past might be described as a Herculean effort. Definitely, more work than what a handful of people can accomplish over a few weeks. With that in mind, and knowing that people do things more quickly and easily when working together, we invite you to join us by becoming part of the Scanning Our Past team.

Team members are scanning negatives Wednesdays and Saturdays at the historical society, and have already digitized more than several thousand images. The process is fairly simple, but converting each negative into a digital image does take time. Overall, probably as much as five minutes for each image from start to finish.

The time goes by quickly though, and whether you're sorting, scanning, matching, identifying, filing or storing negatives back away, there is always time to enjoy good company and pleasant conversations. The topics sometimes prompted by the now rediscovered images of our past.

The first of these News-Herald negatives were digitized before 1997 and appeared in the Marshfield History Project's publications for the City's 125th Anniversary. More recently some of the digitized images have been posted on the historical society's Facebook group, Marshfield & North Wood County History, and included with this newsletter is just a sampling of images discovered while scanning negatives from 1968.

The saying, "a picture is worth a thousand words," seems a fit description for these old Marshfield News-Herald images. They provide a glimpse into our past, rekindle forgotten memories and spur community conversations about the people, places and events that shaped our Central Wisconsin Heritage.

The North Wood County Historical Society, and the Scanning Our Past team members hope that you enjoy the images, and again, we invite your participation as a member of the scanning team. Contact the North Wood County Historical Society, by phone: 715-387-3322 or by email at nwchs@uphammansion.com to learn more.



Makes A Clean Sweep

Bey's Bar, the dominant team in city cage circles for at least a decade, made it a clean sweep of 1967-68 laurels last night by winning the annual city tournament to go with the Classic League title It won earlier.

Members of the team are, left to right in front row, Ron Aslakson, Don Wagner, Joe Vogel, Don Baasch, Larry Johnson. Back row, Tom Bump, Ron Doine, Dick Huther, Gary Koehler, Pinky Wilcott, and Bill Schallock. *(from the Marshfield News-Herald, 22 Mar 1968, Page 10)*

Scanning Our Past Continued...



50-Year Members of Legion

These 50-year members of the American Legion were among 32 World War I veterans who attended the annual Old Timers Night dinner held last night by Lesselyong-Sadowska Post 54. Seated, from left are Henry Felhofer, Henry Huth, E. L. Buchmiller, Art Laemle, Walter Mueller, Charles Kennedy, George Wood, Howard Quirt, Hubert Weber, Herbert Weber and Tony Proell. Standing, from left, are J. Rusk Jurgensen, Al Vaughn, Ray Theby, George Buckman, Bud Schultz, Kenneth A. Pucker, I. W. Wendt, Glenn D. Tinkham, Peter Oster, George Schroeder, Carl Geisler, Chris Rasmussen, and Robert Krause. (from the *Marshfield News-Herald*, 3 May 1968 page 5)



Awaiting Start of the Pipeline

Acres of 34-inch pipe—currently enough for 19 miles—are being stored on Greater Marshfield Inc. property on E. Fourth street, awaiting the beginning of construction of the area segment of the crude oil line which will extend from western Canada to Indiana. Headquarters will be set up here next week by Mannix Ltd. of Calgary, contractor for the 88-mile section from Marshfield to a point 17 miles north of Ladysmith. About 300 men will be employed locally on the project, which is part of a \$108 million expansion program being undertaken this year by Interprovincial-Lakehead. (from the *Marshfield News-Herald*, 6 Apr 1968, P. 7)



Women's Club Style Show

The climax of the 1967-68 year for the Marshfield Woman's Club was a style show, which has become an annual program. The moderator, Mrs. Emerald C Baxter, finished the show by saying, "all the fashions are designed to make today's women look younger." Modeling were Mrs. Jerry M. Hardacre, Mrs. Roy Schwery, Mrs. Don Weber, Mrs. John Stauber, Mrs. Edward W. Raber, Mrs. Francis N. Lohrenz, Mrs. Russell Lewis and Mrs. G. J. Fehrenbach. (from the *Marshfield News Herald*, 8 May 1968,

Scanning Our Past Continued...



Miss Marshfield 1968 Elected

Miss Karen Marie Reigel (center) reigns today as Miss Marshfield 1968 following her coronation at the Miss Marshfield Pageant Saturday night in the Columbus High School auditorium. With Miss Marshfield above are, from left to right: Miss Lanie Hanrath, Miss Glenda Mae Grassman, first runner-up, and Karol Geanne Jepsen, second runner-up. Miss Reigel will compete in the 1968 Miss Wisconsin Pageant which will be held next month in Oshkosh. (from the *Marshfield News-Herald*, 13 May 1968, Page 1)



Pittsville School Forest Thriving The heart of the conservation education program in the Pittsville School District is a 140-acre, well-developed school forest complete with a man-made pond. School forests in Wisconsin are not uncommon, but the Pittsville District is making extraordinary use of its facility. Monday was "outdoor classroom" day as the entire high school student body was transported in groups to the forest area, near Babcock, for a tour of seven major demonstration areas. Faculty members and Martin Kodrich, Wood County forester, explained effects of disease on various tree species, planting techniques, and relation of trees to wildlife and aquatic life. (from the *Marshfield News-Herald*, 7 May 1968, Page 9)

Upham House Front Porch Available for Musicians

The North Wood County Historical Society will participate again in Marshfield's Annual Make Music Day event. We invite our members, friends and family to take advantage of the lovely Upham House's front porch. The perfect stage to share your musical talents. Make Music Marshfield is a free, citywide, mostly outdoor day of music held annually on the summer solstice. Initiated in Marshfield by Chestnut Center for the Arts in 2020, our festival is part of the larger Make Music Day, an international summer solstice music celebration occurring in 1,000+ cities across the globe.

It all started 40 years ago in France. In 1982, France's Ministry of Culture dreamed up an idea for a new kind of musical holiday. They imagined a day where free, live music would be everywhere: street corners and parks, rooftops and gardens, store fronts and mountaintops. And, unlike a typical music festival, anyone and everyone would be invited to join and play music, or host performances. The event would take place on the summer solstice, June 21, and would be called Fête De La Musique. (In French, the name means both "festival of music" and "make music!")



Amazingly enough, this dream has come true. The Fête has turned into a true national holiday: France shuts down on the summer solstice and musicians take over. Almost 8% of the country (5 million people) have played an instrument or sung in public for the Fête de la Musique. Four decades later, the holiday has spread throughout the world and is now celebrated in more than 120 countries. Fourteen years ago, the Fête de la Musique crossed the Atlantic with the debut of Make Music New York. On June 21, 2021, 98 North American cities organized 3,334 free concerts at over 1,000 locations... all on a single day.

This year, Make Music Marshfield will return Tuesday, June 21st. From 11:30am to 4pm, Chestnut Center for the Arts will feature family-friendly interactive music activities. People are encouraged to sign up ahead to play music on the front porch at Upham House for those same hours. The organizers are looking forward to coffee shops, restaurants & bars, businesses, parks and people's front porches across Marshfield filling with music for anyone to enjoy! If you are interested in sharing music as a performer, please visit www.makemusicday.org/Marshfield. Call 715-389-8999 or email marshfield@makemusicday.org with questions. Check the website for a schedule that grows as people sign up with more hands-on activities, performances, and as they register events!

Marshfield's 150: Honoring Heroes and Leaders, Past and Present

Celebrate 150 years of Marshfield History by helping us honor 150 amazing people! Nominate someone who has made an impact in Marshfield in the past 150 years, no matter how big or small. They can be a current Marshfield mover and shaker, or someone from our storied past. We are hoping to gather a wide variety of people, so think of those with influence on education, government, religion, business, athletics, arts or community in Marshfield.

Nominations can be submitted by family members, friends, co-workers, organizations, former students, anyone with first hand knowledge about the nominee and his or her qualifications. Nomination forms, both for an online or print version, can be found on the Everett Roehl Marshfield Public Library website's navigation bar under the heading "150th". Follow the link <https://marshfieldlibrary.org/marshfield-150th-anniversary/> to fill out the form and write a statement (750 words or less) to support your nomination. This nomination statement is the "sole basis of consideration," and should be as complete as possible for consideration. If you choose to submit a print nomination, you can return it to the Information Desk at Everett Roehl Marshfield Public Library. A committee will review the submissions and select people throughout 2022 to be a part of the illustrious 150. Submissions may be edited for clarity and accuracy.

You can use the Nelson's nomination below or any of those already named to the honor roll, as an example of how to start with your own nomination. Need help researching? Please don't hesitate to reach out to the Information Desk staff at the Everett Roehl Marshfield Public Library. Follow the weekly announcements of individuals named to the honor roll in the Hub City Times, the Marshfield's 150: Heroes and Leaders, Past and Present Facebook page and the Marshfield and North Wood County History Facebook group.

Nelsons nominated for Marshfield's 150 membership

The North Wood County Historical Society nominate Dennis and Carol Nelson for membership on Marshfield's 150: Heroes and Leaders, Past and Present Honor Roll. The Nelsons were influential members in the early growth and success of the historical society. Their efforts were critical to opening and operating the City's first historical museum in 1972, instrumental to acquiring the former William H. Upham home and having it listed on the National Register of Historic places in 1977, and they contributed to its restoration, operation and ongoing care as Marshfield's only historic house museum.

After organizing in 1952, the historical society sought a building or room to use as a permanent museum space. While the society searched, temporary exhibits were created and displayed in Central Avenue store windows, exposition building booth spaces, and in 1971 a locally manufactured mobile home at the Central Wisconsin State Fair. The Nelsons often planned and coordinated these exhibits.

Anticipating the City of Marshfield's centennial celebration in 1972, the historical society established a building committee consisting of Carl Dregne, Robert Breseman and Dennis Nelson tasked to find a permanent museum space. Nelson took the lead and when no suitable space was found, he guided the society through a building project to create a permanent museum where the community's history could easily be shared. Plans called for a 24x54 foot dual purpose building to serve as both the historical society's museum and a tourist information center at the entrance to the city. The new museum was dedicated and opened to the public on June 11, 1972. During the dedication, then society president John Parkin, paid special tribute to the many members of the community who had given generously of their time to make the construction possible. He also recognized the efforts of the building committee, and specifically those of Dennis Nelson.

Even before the museum doors opened to the public, as chairperson of the building committee, Nelson was challenged, along with Lloyd Zimmer and John Parkin, with raising \$10,500 to retire the remaining debt on the new building. A year later during the first anniversary celebration, with the money successfully raised, the museum mortgage was burned.

In early 1975 with the passing of Grace Upham Hambright, the former home of William H. Upham became available for the historical society to buy. Nelson guided the society's evaluation of the building's structural integrity, potential value as a historic resource for the community, and the likely costs for restoration and renovation work preparing the house as a museum. During this time, Nelson also arranged financing and the fundraising to make the sale possible. The purchase was completed during December 1976, with restoration work continuing through the summer of 1978. The new North Wood County Historical Society Museum in the renovated Gov. William H. Upham house opened to the public June 24, 1978 with approximately 600 people attending the ceremonies.

The Nelsons remained active members of the historical society for many years. Dennis, closely associated with the care and upkeep of the Upham Home as the house manager and Carol filling the different leadership and key committee positions for the society. Together they were simply extraordinary supporters of Marshfield history and the mission of the society.



Continued on p. 8)

Nelsons Nomination Continued

In December 1990, a “Special Friends Night” was held at the Upham House. Then Mayor David Koepke attended to recognize the Nelson’s work on behalf of the North Wood County Historical Society and proclaim the next week as the “Carol and Dennis Nelson Appreciation Week” in Marshfield. A well-deserved acknowledgment for all their efforts on our behalf.

While their efforts here were significant, it is also important to note that they represent only a portion of the Nelson’s greater service to the entire community. During the 1970s, Dennis served as a member of the Marshfield Common Council, and later as a member of the Marshfield Fire and Police Commission. In the 1980s as the downtown adjusted to competition from a new northside mall and the loss of important stores in the downtown area, Nelson was elected president of the newly organized Downtown Business Association. In that position, he guided the business community through difficult times only to have it emerge as a stronger more cohesive alliance.

About that same time, Carol served as president of the local chapter of Americans Abroad Program of the American Field Service. She managed routine operations of the chapter, and provided assistance and support to both AFS students and the host families during their exchange experience. More than once the Nelson family welcomed exchange students into their home as the host family.

Besides those organizations already mentioned, the Nelsons were active with the boy scouts, girl scouts, Marshfield Athletic Club, Marshfield Music Parents (of Marshfield High School) and likely others. Dennis and Carol owned and operated Nelson's Shoe Store in Marshfield together for 51 years. Until Dennis’s passing in 2007. During that time, the couple operated Nelson's Biking and Camping as well as Nelson's Hobby Store. Carol continues today to serve customers at Nelson’s Shoe Store now in its 65th year of business.

None of what the Nelson ever did was to gain any special recognition. Yet, as the city celebrates its 150th anniversary and we reflect on those who contributed to the character of the community, it seems only appropriate to recognize Dennis and Carol Nelson for their extraordinary efforts on behalf of the City of Marshfield by adding their names to the Marshfield’s 150: Heroes and Leaders, Past and Present Honor Roll.

Committee Works on Marshfield Memories Volume II

Seeks Photo Submissions For the Hub City Times

In conjunction with Marshfield’s 150th anniversary, a committee has been formed to gather content and publish a second volume of Marshfield Memories. The first volume was produced as a collaboration between Hub City Times, Pediment Publishing, Marshfield Historic Preservation Association, Marshfield Public Library, and North Wood County Historical Society (NWCHS.) Marshfield Memories Volume II will serve as a fundraiser for the North Wood County Historical Society, in association with Hub City Times. All proceeds will benefit the historical society.

The Marshfield Memories II committee is seeking Marshfield city photos from specific categories and between the years 1940 and 2000. If you have photos that fit into that time frame and for the following categories, you can submit them via this link:

<https://forms.gle/JNS6HqNAURjPvVS56>

Photo categories include:

- Neighborhood Corner Grocery Stores
- Marshfield Brewery
- City Bars
- Businesses
- City Parks
- Wildwood Zoo
- Marshfield Fairgrounds Activities
- Neighborhoods and Streets
- Schools, School Activities, Students, Facilities
- City Sports
- City Activities and Celebrations

Collection will continue through July 15. Please note, we will not be able to use each and every submission, however, we will notify individuals directly if one or more of their images are selected for the Marshfield Memories II book. The committee anticipates pre-sales this fall, with publication in November. For more information, contact the NWCHS at 715-387-3322.



Chris and Erin Howard presents with 2022 Restoration Excellence Award

During the recent Wisconsin Association of Historic Preservation Commission annual meeting of Marshfield residents, Chris and Erin Howard, received the 2022 Historic Preservation Restoration Excellence Award. This award goes to private individuals for the significant restoration of their local historic property. The Howards are being recognized for their restoration of the Deming Building at 201 – 207 S. Central Ave.

Shortly after the great Marshfield fire of 1887, Joseph Rumenopp started rebuilding his store at 201 S. Central Ave. He had only completed the foundation when he died in November of 1890. The foundation sat vacant until 1898 when E.M. (Edgar) Deming purchased the property to erect a new building. Upon its completion in late 1900, Attorney Edgar M. Deming opened his offices on the second floor and rented the lower level to Brill's Big Daylight Store. Over the next 100+ years, this building has housed a vibrant history of successful businesses, including Home Stores, Kaye's 5&10 Store, F. W. Woolworth's Store, and many more.

Since 2017, local residents and developers Chris and Erin Howard have been restoring the Deming Building. Beneath layers of carpet, tile, and glue, the Howards found the original wood floor and restored it. By removing layers of modern drywall, ceiling tile, and dust, the original pressed metal ceiling was found and restored. The Howards created space for 10 businesses, including a restaurant, a local newspaper, and office space. The final space was completed for The Bleu Plate Deli in the spring of 2021.

As the Howards restored each interior space, businesses moved in one at a time. Mojo's Pasta House and Cajun Cook Shack has been there the longest. Other businesses and organizations in the building include Hub City Times, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Wisconsin, Holistic Empowerment natural health consulting, Marshfield Area Habitat for Humanity, Golden Lamb Skin Studio, and Elite Massage.

The façade restoration included cleaning and restoring the brick, and installing new signage and awnings. While the restoration of the outside of the building is perhaps the most visible improvement for those driving by, it is indicative of the improvements and restorations that were completed inside the building. "The facade is the icing on the cake," said Chris. "For three years, our contractors worked to restore the interior of the building. The facade restoration represented the completion of a lot of hard work." Congratulations Erin and Christopher Howard and Howard Properties for outstanding restoration efforts in downtown Marshfield.



Then and Now

201 S Central Ave (previous to 1941, also 201 S Central Ave)
Upstairs—207 S Central Ave (previous to 1941 201½ S Central Ave)

The Deming Building, 201 S. Central Ave., was constructed for Edgar M. Deming, a well-known Marshfield lawyer during the late 1800s. Mr. Deming planned the ground floor as one large store with professional office space upstairs and a basement corner as a barber shop. The I. Brill's Son Store opened in the new building September 1, 1900. Successor businesses included D M Glassner Merchandise Co., and The Home Stores Company Store which changed its name in 1916 to the Kaye Store. A few months later, in November 1916, the F.W. Woolworth store leased the space for their new Marshfield store. The Woolworth store remained at this location until 1966 when they moved to their new building on the opposite side of Second Street. Since then the Deming building was home to Coast to Coast store, American Images and MainStreet Color. Today the Central Avenue storefront is occupied by the MoJo's Pasta House & Cajun Cook Shack.

Spoken History Series/Up Coming Events

Those interested in learning more about the area's rich history are invited to attend the monthly Spoken History presentations virtually via a Zoom platform or in person in the Felker Family Genealogy and Local History Room at the Everett Roehl Marshfield Public Library. These monthly presentations will be offered the second Thursday of each month at 6:30 pm. Dates of upcoming presentations and speakers are listed here through June. The presentations are FREE and open to the general public. Pre-registration is necessary and required to join the Zoom presentations. As the Zoom links are created and finalized, the titles, descriptions, and registration links will be shared with members by email, future issues of the Mansion News, and Society's website and Facebook Page.

Please plan to attend or sign in to the following virtual and live presentations in coordination with the 2022 Calendar of Events for Marshfield's 150th Anniversary

April 2022

W.H. Upham House
212 W Third Street
"Stitches in Time."

Exhibit will now include an added feature of hats

as they tour the cemetery and meet noteworthy citizens of "Marshfield's Past."

June 4, 2022

10:00 am – 3:00 pm
W.H. Upham House
212 W Third Street
North Wood County Historical Society's Annual Pie & Ice Cream Social and Basket Raffle

Celebrate Marshfield's DairyFest at the home of former Governor William H. Upham. Enjoy hotdogs brats, pie and ice cream in the governor's yard and gardens, then tour the home and view the current exhibit "Stitches in Time."

Program: "Marshfield's Early Blacksmiths"

Marshfield's history is due in large part to the railroad, and the industries and settlers who followed it. The railroaders, loggers, sawmill operators, farmers and townspeople all depended on a blacksmith's skills to forge from iron, or steel, a wide array of objects needed for everyday life. This presentation will introduce you to those essential members of the early Marshfield community.

Presenter: John Berg, a retired teacher, author, local historian and blacksmith.

June 27, 2022

Walking Tour, "Retracing the Path of the Great Marshfield Fire of 1887."
11:45 am, 2:30 pm. and 5:30 pm.

Tours begin at the corner of West Second Street and Walnut Avenue. Commemorate the 135th Anniversary of the

Marshfield Fire by tracing the path of the fire with local volunteers performing the roles of people who witnessed the inferno and later helped rebuild Marshfield.

July 14, 2022 - 6:30 pm

Everett Roehl Marshfield Public Library, Felker Genealogy & Local History Room
Program: "Wisconsin in the Civil War."
Presenter: Tim Kraus

July 30, 2022

W.H. Upham House
212 W Third Street
10:00 am – 3:00 pm
4th Annual "Horse Power" Exhibit, featuring horse drawn carriages, wagons, carts, and buggies from the late 1890s and early 1900s. Also available \$5 lunch plate, Brat or Hot Dog, with chips, soda and cookies. Guided tours of the historic Upham Home will be available.

May 12, 2022 - 6:30 pm

Everett Roehl
Marshfield Public Library
Felker Genealogy & Local History Room
Program: "The Many Buildings and Homes Designed or Built by Gus Krasin and Family"

Presenter: Carol Krasin, granddaughter-in-law of Gus Krasin

May 27, 2022

8:30 - 11:00am and

12:00 - 2:30pm

Hillside Cemetery, 1110 N St. Joseph Avenue
Marshfield Cemetery Tours
The public is invited to join Marshfield school children

June 9, 2022 • 6:30 pm

Everett Roehl
Marshfield Public Library
Felker Genealogy & Local History Room

Please Note: Check for additional updates and additional events on our Facebook and Web sites.



Thanks to the Marshfield Clinic Print Shop, we are now able to send all our newsletters in color. They have graciously agreed to print our quarterly newsletter as a donation to the Historical Society.

Now accepting memberships for Year 2022



Membership and Donation Form

212 WEST THIRD STREET, P.O. BOX 142
MARSHFIELD, WISCONSIN 54449

Phone: (715) 387-3322 E-mail: nwchs@uphamansion.com Web Site: www.uphamansion.com

Preserving North Wood County history since 1952

Please make checks payable to NWCHS. Send to: NWCHS P.O. Box 142, Marshfield, WI 54449

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Acknowledgement of donations will be emailed for those who provide an email address.
End of year receipts for all donations will be mailed out in January the subsequent year.

I/We wish to support the NWCHS –Governor W.H. Upham House for the year 20__

- Individual \$35
 Student \$10 (High School & College)
 General Gift \$ _____
 Family \$50
 Business \$100
 House Restoration \$ _____

Memorial—In Memory of _____ \$ _____

All memorials will count as General gifts unless otherwise designated:

North Wood County Historical Society Needs Your Help

- This is our **Wish List** and areas where members and nonmembers can **Volunteer** to help the Society
- **Funds for purchasing archival boxes for garments.** We have numerous garments that should not be hung and need garment boxes for safe storage. Please contact Kim at nwchs@uphamansion.com or 715-387-3322 for more information.
 - **Donate postage stamps** to help cover mailings
 - **Join the Society** by sending in your application with your yearly dues
 - **Guide at Upham House-** occasional Saturday afternoons (We will train you!)
 - **Garden and yard care** - seasonal work
 - **Help with special events** - Dairyfest, Hub City Days - Carriage Exhibit, Christmas Open House
 - **Identify and classify photographs** - meet one Saturday afternoon a month
 - **Artifact care and accessioning** - Wednesday or Saturday afternoons
 - **School partner** - work with projects with education liaison and students at Upham Mansion
 - **Research exhibits** - develop exhibit material and historical data for the Exhibit Committee
 - **Help design exhibits** - layout and display of artifacts with the Exhibit Committee
 - **Sponsor an event** - ideal for businesses, groups of members, families

North Wood County Historical Society
PO Box 142 (Mailing Address)
212 W. Third St.
Marshfield, WI 54449

North Wood County Historical Society's
43rd Annual Pie & Ice Cream Social

Upham Mansion -212 W. 3rd Street

June 4, 2022 • 10am - 3pm

Pie & Ice Cream • Live Music • Kids Carnival Games • Tours
• Annual Basket Raffle

