



From the President

Fall Greetings

As always, the house and property have been buzzing with activity. In late July, we had the Hub City Days event where we had a "car show" of our own featuring various horse drawn carriages and where we celebrated the "sweet 16" of the neighborhood's designation as an historic neighborhood. I would like to thank Ken Wunrow, Dennis Raab, and O'Brien Automotive for helping with the carriage show, and I would like to thank John Berg for providing the blacksmithing demonstration. Additionally, we did a little bit of fundraising during the event, and I would like to thank Hiller's Hardware for providing the tools for the fundraising efforts that were a part of the day's activities. It is fun to have events on the grounds of the Upham house that promote the preservation of history by sharing it with participants, while at the same time helping raise money that is so needed to keep the house and collection of historic artifacts in good condition.

In August, we also had fun with our members' summer picnic. This has recently included other organizations, which is always fun. It is nice to have groups interested in preserving the past come together over a shared meal. Seeing the front yard of the house buzzing with talk and comradery is great, after all, that is why front yards were so large in the past! In August, we had several people working at the Central Wisconsin State Fair, where we displayed historic information for fairgoers to view. A big thank you to Don Schnitzler for spearheading the efforts, and another big thank you to everyone who helped work, whether for one shift or many.

In September, I had the privilege of joining Kris Coleman in presenting a little bit about our organization to the Conservation, Education and Economic Development (CEED) Committee of the Wood County Board. As I sat there, I thought about what we do. We are a Preservation, Education, and Economic Development organization. We preserve the past, through the incredible property and collection. We educate people about the past, including the youth through our annual 3rd grade tours. We also provide economic development, as we continue to grow the activities at the property, as well as when we partner with other organizations. We are a great organization in this city.

We are gearing up for the annual Winter Business Meeting and Potluck. I look forward to seeing many members at the house on December 2, as we share a holiday meal, have our elections of officers and directors as well as some fun with our white elephant exchange. I would like to remind everyone that memberships, as outlined in the bi-laws, run from January through December. If you have not renewed for the 2025 calendar year yet, or if you have let your membership lapse, please consider renewing your membership in the next couple of months, or at the annual meeting. Additionally, as you look at year-end donations to various organizations, please consider the North Wood County Historical Society.

I again want to thank the volunteers who continue to help, whether in preserving the house and the collection, or connecting with the community, or working through fundraising efforts. I also want to thank those who are new to assisting the organization. It is fun to meet new volunteers when I pop in the house. You all play a very important role to this organization, and I personally want to thank you all!



Tom Witzel



Upham House

NWCHS Board of Directors

President - Tom Witzel

Vice President (interim) -
Kris Coleman

Secretary - Chris Porter

Treasurer - Melissa Sinha

Past President - Brad Allen

Directors

Kris Coleman

JoAnn Gougeon

Tim Kraus

Mike Meyers

Laura Ptak

Nancy Sternweis

Shelby Weister

Coordinator - Kim Krueger

Consulting Rosarian

Tom Ptak

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

Tom

Look what's brewing at the North Wood County Historical Society



Dear Members & Friends of NWCHS,

One of the ways we would like to have more timely communication regarding upcoming events with our membership is via an email format which will allow us to share more information with you. That is why we have launched a mailer early this year called *Community Connections* which will give our email subscribers the upcoming events happening each month at the Upham House. If you do not see it in your inbox, check your spam folder (as it is a new platform). If you chose not to receive further information from us, there is an unsubscribe option at the bottom of the email. Thank you, and we look forward to sharing the rest of our exciting news with you each month! If you wish to subscribe the link is: io/7yndF4.

October - December 2024 - Save the Date

Program: A Mayflower Passenger descendant's pilgrimage of giving thanks.



Wednesday, November 13, 2024 • 6:30 pm
Everett Roehl Marshfield Public Library

Program: Marshfield News-Herald -- Holiday Recollections Column



Wednesday, December 11, 2024 • 6:30 pm
Everett Roehl Marshfield Public Library

Both presentations are part of the NWCHS's Spoken History Series.



You are Invited



Annual Meeting / Elections and Potluck

The NWCHS Annual Meeting and Potluck will be **Monday, December 2 at the Upham House**. This is open to all members, and friends of the NWCHS. A potluck meal will follow the meeting and elections of directors and officers. Please bring a dish to pass as well as a white elephant gift to exchange. Memberships must be up to date to vote. You can pay your membership dues that evening.

"Railroads & Trains" - Christmas Open House at the Upham House - Saturday, December 7 and Sunday, December 8 from 10am to 3pm both days. Join the NWCHS this Christmas holiday as we feature the trains and railroads that served Wood County. On display will be model trains, maps, photos, and stories of the iron horses and lines that helped create Marshfield and surrounding areas. Hope to see you there!

NWCHS Community summer events

Hub City Days - July 27-



Thank you! THANK YOU! Thank you! NWCHS wants to thank all of our sponsors, volunteers and staff who made Hub City Days possible and successful. The day included "horse power vehicles; our favorite blacksmith, John Berg demonstrating his black smithing skills; delicious brats, hot dogs; a "Sweet 16" celebration cake, and even a silent auction down town. Can't wait to see you next year!

Potluck Annual Picnic



On Monday, August 26 the NWCHS held its annual Members and Volunteers' Potluck picnic. Despite the very warm weather, it was a beautiful evening and close to 30 people came out to enjoy a great variety of food and enjoy each other's company. The annual potluck picnic is held each summer to thank NWCHS members and volunteers for investing their time, talents, and support to the Society's mission to preserve area history. A huge thank you to everyone who attended

Going to the Wisconsin Central State Fair



More than 1,000 fair attendees visited a display of local Marshfield area history during the 2024 Central Wisconsin State Fair. Thirty-five panels containing more than 250 photographs attracted them to stop, look at the images, read the captions, and share their finds with friends and family. Thank you everyone who stopped by to visit this year's display. The display is a collaborative effort of the City of Marshfield Historic Preservation Commission, Marshfield Historic Preservation Association and the North Wood County Historical Society with the support of the Central Wisconsin State Fair and Marshfield History Project funds through the Marshfield Area Community Foundation.

The Traveling Trunk is Back



The North Wood County Historical Society is proud to announce that the Traveling Trunk Tour is up and running. This past spring the Trunk visited Wells Nature View facility (*second photo on left*). On Wednesday, June 12 the Trunk was at Wesley Respite Care Center in Marshfield and many wonderful artifacts from the past were shared with all attendees and was culminated with a delicious luncheon provided by the church volunteers immediately following. *Guess that Decade* and *Do you remember this Song* were games that were played as part of the morning entertainment. This was the second time that the Tour was enjoyed in Marshfield and will be followed up by another outing in the coming weeks. The Traveling Trunk Tour is designed to make connections with the elderly community by use of artifacts, stories, music and memories and is paid for by a generous grant from the Marshfield Area Community Foundation.

Fall Family Fun Food Drive



A huge thank you goes out to all who attended and helped with the Fall Family Fun Food Drive on Oct. 2! Despite a little rain, fun was had by all. Congratulations to the Mandy Tomkowiak family - winners of the Golden Basket. We kept the food drive going all week long and are very grateful for those who have dropped off non-perishable food items. Monetary donations were also accepted, and we received \$65+ through the event. However, while packing NOW bags for hungry kids, we were informed that Soup or Socks is nearly empty due to the devastating fire in Loyal that destroyed its whole food pantry. Our community is sharing food with theirs and needs to be replenished to meet the needs of our own community. Please help replenish our Soup or Socks or St. Vincent DePaul if you are able. Please share this with anyone who may wish to help.

Save the Date

Funeral Display at the Upham House - now until Oct. 31

Learn about the history of funerals with our month-long exhibit: "Remb's History and Home Funerals of the Past Display" which will be at the Upham House now until October 31.

You can visit the display at the House on Wednesdays 1:30 - 4 pm and on Saturdays from 1:30 - 3:30 pm. Bring your family and your friends and tour the Upham House.



Halloween Bash & Dance Chestnut Center - Marshfield

The Chestnut Center welcomes the Marshfield and area communities to help us celebrate our 20th year. The fundraiser features DJ Hammer entertainment, cash bar with special drink offers, raffle baskets, a 50/50 raffle, a costume contest, a "Horror D'oeuvres" contest, and a photo backdrop. Invite your friends to have a fun, "spooky" evening. **Tickets are \$10 in advance (go to our website) and \$15 at the door.**



An End of An Era: SJH Auxiliary - 62 Years of Giving - Part II

Submitted by JoAnn Gougeon - former Auxillary /Partners member

Editor's Note: *As many of you know or heard that the Gift and Floral Shoppe at Marshfield Medical Center Hospital (formerly Saint Joseph's Hospital) has closed its doors. The Gift Shoppe was owned and operated by SJH Hospital Auxillary which began in 1962. Its name was changed to Partners in 1997. This is the **second** in a series of articles that traces the history of the Auxillary and its service to our Hospital and the Community.*



Partners with Saint Joseph's Hospital (1962 - 2024)

(Formerly Saint Joseph's Hospital Auxillary)

Partners Mission Statement

Partners is an organization that is committed to supporting the mission of Ministry Saint Joseph's Hospital and the community it serves through volunteerism, financial assistance and educational programs.

(Continued from Summer Newsletter)

Executive Officers were elected for one term of three years in the positions of president, president-elect, past president, and three years for secretary and treasurer. Directors were elected to the Board for one three year term and could be re-elected for two additional terms for a total of nine years, after which they must leave the Board for one year before they can serve again. Members at Large were one year terms.

How did Partners Benefit Ministry Saint Joseph's Hospital?

Because the patient population became much greater, Partners projects and programs were of a much larger scale with most of their income being generated by the Gift Shop and Coffee Café, both of which were owned and operated by this organization.

Since its inception in 1962, Partners with Saint Joseph's Hospital continued through the past 62+ years to make significant contributions to the Hospital, either by purchasing equipment or other needed items, room furnishings and remodeling, or simply by pledging dollars to fund a very large project. Up until the late 70s, the main source of income for the Auxillary came from patient TV rental profits, the Gift Shop and various fundraisers such as pie and cake sales. After that time, income from the Gift Shop, and most recently the Coffee Cafe made the following major donations possible.

The Auxillary's early major donations:

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| <p>1969 - \$3,100 donated to purchase six special beds for the Coronary Care Unit</p> <p>- \$5,000 donated to purchase a sterilizer for the ER, an infant incubator and 4 Bennett respirators for the Nursery</p> <p>1979 - \$21,000 pledged to purchase the Hospital closed circuit television system.</p> <p>1985 - \$8,000 pledged to remodel Pediatric Unit</p> <p>1986 - \$8,000 pledged to support Hospital's Life Line project</p> <p>1989 - \$10,000 donated each year (to the present) during the Children's Miracle Network broadcast</p> | <p>1992 - \$25,000 that helped purchase the Foundation's first Tree of Life as well as the newest copper colored addition.</p> <p>1996 - \$60,000 pledged for the "Auxiliary Park" in the new Pediatric addition.</p> <p>2001 - \$75,000 pledged for the construction of Hope Lodge (free lodging for cancer patients and their caregivers during treatment at the Hospital and Clinic.) The Lodge opened in February 2003.</p> <p>2009 - \$75,000 pledged to the House of the Dove building campaign. (Accommodates end of life patients) The House opened in 2011.</p> |
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Check our next newsletter for Part 3 of the Auxillary's History

Upham Manufacturing Company Logging Railroad - The Marshfield & Texas Railroad

The Upham Manufacturing Company owned a locomotive, ex-Wisconsin Central #47, for several years prior to 1887. This locomotive was a third-hand well-used switcher built in 1847. At one time known as "C. Vanderbilt" on the New York Providence and Boston Railroad it was affectionately called "Old Van" by the Upham logging crew.

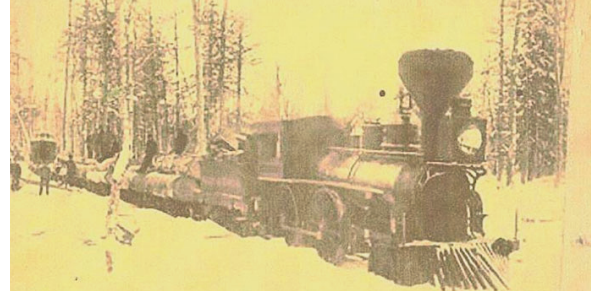
In the fall of 1887, Upham with the help of Wisconsin Central aid, built a logging line running from near the Wisconsin Central depot, through the Upham Mill, then south along Spruce and Oak Avenues, through the present Wildwood Park, thence southeastward to a terminus in Richfield Township, a total distance of about ten miles. Officially known as the Marshfield & Texas Railroad, it enabled Upham to tap the rich pineries of Cameron and Richfield Townships.

The people of Pittsville expected the line to be extended to connect with George Hiles' Railroad at Vesper for a Pittsville connection. They also expected to then become the county seat of Wood County. Apparently Major Upham had no intention of extending the track, and the Financial Panic of 1893 effectively killed Pittsville's hopes.

By 1897, no logging camps were to be found along the Marshfield & Texas line. In the fall of 1900 these rails were removed south of the city limits and shipped to Athens for Upham's Abbotsford & North Eastern Railroad extension to Goodrich. Later the track was removed beyond the Marshfield Electric & Water Department Power Plant.

The power plant received approximately ten cars of coal per week until its closure in the mid-1990s. The last customer on the Marshfield & Texas line was the Marshfield Canning Company. The entire line was abandoned by 2000 when its right-of-way was dedicated for purposes of trail and bike paths through the city.

(From the Marshfield Story, 1872-1997, as written by George Winkler)



The Upham Manufacturing Company bought "Old Vanderbilt" about 1882 from the Wisconsin Central Railroad. "Old Van" was used by the company until 1899. Stop by the Upham House this Christmas to see Marshfield's Railroad history highlighted in ornaments and other decorations.

(NWCHS V106.14)

Spoken History Series

Those interested in learning more about the area's rich history are invited to attend the monthly Spoken History presentations in person in the Felker Family Genealogy and Local History Room at the Everett Roehl Marshfield Public Library. These monthly presentations are offered the second Wednesday of each month at 6:30 pm. The presentations are **FREE and open to the general public.**

Wednesday, November 13, 2024 • 6:30 pm

Program: A Mayflower Passenger descendant's pilgrimage of giving thanks.

Speaker: Natalie Kruse

Wednesday, December 11, 2024 • 6:30 pm

Program: Marshfield News-Herald -- Holiday Recollections Column -- Readings and sharing of holiday memories.

Moderator: Don Schnitzler



Thanks to the Marshfield Health Systems 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 North Wood County Historical Society.

Now accepting memberships for Year 2025

Fill out form below and mail or apply online using Historical Society Web Site.



Preserving North Wood County history since 1952

NORTH WOOD COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC

Membership and Donation Form

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

Phone: (715) 387-332 Email: nwchs@uphammansion.com Web Site: www-uphammansion.com

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:

I/We also wish to contribute by helping with one or more of the following:

- Bake cookies/pies for Dairyfest, Christmas Event
- 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 & 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 Exhibit - *ideal for businesses, groups of members, families*
- Sponsor an Event - *ideal for businesses, groups of members, families*
- Speakers or Topic for “Spoken History” lecture series
- Take a Leadership role- *Board, Committee Member, Publicity, Fundraiser*

The North Wood County Historical Society is a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization, donations are tax deductible.

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

NWCHS Upcoming Community Events

Now Until October 31 - Funeral history display sponsored by Rembs Funeral Home. Stop by the Upham House Wednesday 1-3 pm and Saturday 1- 3:30 pm

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December 7 & 8 - "Railroads & Trains" - Christmas Open House at the Upham House - Saturday and Sunday, 10am to 3pm both days. Light refreshments will be served.

December 11 - Wednesday • 6:30 pm Spoken History - Felker Family Genealogy and Local History Room at the Everett Roehl Marshfield Public Library. **Program:** Marshfield News-Herald -- Holiday Recollections Column -- Readings and sharing of holiday memories. **Moderator: Don Schnitzler.**



December 25- The Board of Directors of NWCHS wish all the members, their families and friends of the Society a Merry Christmas and a Joyful New Year!

