

# North Wood County Historical Society

# Mansion Newsletter

Marshfield, Wisconsin

## From the President

Hello folks,

I hope you have enjoyed your summer thus far, and continue to do so as we go into autumn. It's been a couple of busy months for the North Wood County Historical Society Board and all its volunteers, starting with our annual Pie and Ice Cream Social in coordination with the June Dairy Fest here in Marshfield. The weather was perfect and we had a wonderful turn out for this event, which made for a very successful celebration not only at the Mansion but throughout the city as well.

I want to thank everyone who contributed to our event from those who donated wonderful homemade pies, to our cast of numerous volunteers working night and day to prepare, and to all our servers who did an excellent job keeping up with the crowds.

I would also like to thank all the sponsors who contributed so generously to make it a success. Most importantly, I want to personally thank every community member and all the folks who came to town to help make this day a wonderful event. Without all your support and your generous donations, we couldn't have done it.

Hub City Days also was a blast, though our carriage display was smaller this year due to prior obligations and haying season. But, we still had a busy day and a number of interested visitors. We served a brat or hot dog plate as well as root beer and orange floats (yum). Our tour guides were running full force as we had a nice crowd being interested in the house and our local history. We look forward to continuing this tradition and if you haven't had a chance to come and check it out please put it on your calendar for next year. Again, many thanks to all those mentioned above for their efforts in making this a great activity for our community.

In the previous newsletter you read about our honey bee "friends" making a bit of a mess of things on the east side of the Mansion. We were able to open up the wall to remove them but we discovered more repairs will be needed to that wall, which are scheduled to be done soon. We also will be closing the house for tours during the month of January and into February so we may restore the restroom floor, repair the walls in the library and are hoping to have the parlor and library re-wallpapered as well. We've chosen the first two months of next year for this work so it wouldn't interfere with our preparations and decorating for Christmas, as well as hosting our annual Christmas open house on December 3 and 4.

NWCHS also will be having its annual potluck membership meeting on November 28 at 6:30 pm. The meeting/election will begin first followed by the meal. Please bring a dish to pass and a white elephant gift to exchange.

*Brad*



**President**  
**Brad Allen**

September 2022



**Upham House**

## NWCHS Board of Directors

**President** - Brad Allen

**Vice President** - Jerin Turner

**Secretary** - Chris Porter

**Treasurer** - Andrea Jackan

**Past President** - Don Schnitzler

### Directors

Kris Coleman

JoAnn Gougeon

Ana Jepsen

Tim Kraus

Mike Meyers

Geri Mirko

Laura Ptak

Nancy Sternweis

Shelby Weister

**Coordinator** - Kim Krueger

**Consulting Rosarians**

Tom Ptak & Tom Stram

### 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

*It has been a busy and wonderful summer at the Mansion*

**Pie & Ice Cream Social -2022**



We were also happy that Monie Upham, (far right) was on site as she was chosen as this year's Dairyfest Parade Marshal. Monie is the granddaughter of Wm. Upham and Grace (Upham) Hambright. Joining Monie for a photo are (l-r) Monie's great nephews Edwin, John, and their Mom, Becky.



A new addition to the bakery table was Holly Schnitzler's famous cupcakes!



Providing beautiful live music again this year was Joe Finamore who was accompanied by Jill Kupfer.

Each year the Pie & Ice Cream Social is the Historical Society's biggest fundraiser. This year we saw close to 400 people tour the Gov. Upham House, and many more enjoyed pie and ice cream.

We were blessed with amazing weather and everyone truly enjoyed their time. A huge thank you to all our donors and guests for helping make this 43rd annual social a success!



Working hard behind the scenes are (l-r) Laura Ptak, Terri Richards and Kris Coleman cutting and preparing pie slices to be taken outside for our customers.



This year again we featured our famous basket raffle as well as added a silent auction for those donated items listing for more than \$100.





Thank you to all those who donated so generously and helped make our 43rd Annual Pie & Ice Cream Social a success!

- Perkins Restaurant & Bakery
- Melody Gardens
- Bauman Nursery & Landscaping
- Baymont Hotel by Wyndham
- Hotel Marshfield—Libby McNeils
- H&S Manufacturing
- Gail Butler
- Edward Jones
- Joe Finamore & Jill Kupfer
- Marshfield Clinic Health System YMCA
- Marshfield Clinic Health System
- Marshfield Park & Recreation
- Partners Floral & Gift Shoppe
- Rembs Funeral Home
- Rose Bowl Lanes
- The many individuals and NWCHS Board of Directors who donated pies, time, and talents

THANK YOU!!!

## Fire Walk Tour Commemorates the 135th Anniversary of the Great Marshfield Fire



The first of three tours started at the intersection of Walnut and West 2nd Street at 11:49 am, the exact time the fire alarms began on June 27, 1887.

Those who joined the six block walk heard from Marshfield pioneers who had fought the fire and shared their first hand stories of the devastation.

All the folks had a beautiful day and the tours were well attended.

**Front row:** ‘Adolph LaBelle,’ portrayed by Vincent Dahlke

**Second row:** ‘Minnie Furstenburg’ portrayed by Kristin Hughes , ‘Michael Berg’ portrayed by John Berg

**Middle:** ‘Mayor William Upham’ portrayed by Tom Ptak

**Back row:** ‘Otto Scharman’ portrayed by John Armbruster , ‘Everett Upham’ portrayed by Dave LaFontaine, Don Schnitzler, Narrator

**Not pictured:** ‘Frank Upham’ portrayed by Jeff Johnson and ‘Lillian Upham’ portrayed by Theresa Bannach

## NWCHS Sponsors 4th Annual Horse-Power Carriage Exhibit During Marshfield's Hub City Days

Many people came out this beautiful day during Hub City Days to sit in the shaded Upham yard to enjoy a lunch, root beer or creamsicle float, and view carriages dating back to the 1800s. A large number also came in and toured the Upham House.

A big thank you to Dennis Raab and the Marshfield Fire & Rescue Dept. for exhibiting their rigs; and to Gary with O'brein Auto for assisting with transportation of the Marshfield Fire Wagon.



Marshfield's Fire Hose Cart #1—always a favorite! A huge thank you to Marshfield Fire & Rescue for allowing us to display it!



1890s Rural Route Post Buggy owned and operated by Alois (Al) Nikolai, who was a rural mail carrier from 1919 to 1957. Owner: Donated to the North Wood County Historical Society by the Helen Nikolai family in 2021.



Shelby & Jerin are ready for the \$5 lunch plate special to begin!



Dennis Raab brought an eight passenger replica waggoneer

## Recent Acquisitions

In July we received from Masonite (formerly Marshfield Doorsystems), items that were originally part of the Roddis Lumber and Veneer Company. Items included an office desk, 1935-1945 Underwood typewriter, and a Kodachrome image of Hamilton and Catherine Roddis. The desk replaces our old office desk and the typewriter now sits in an upstairs bedroom on an Upham manufactured desk .

Thank you to Faith Lovett-Wilson, Environmental manager at Masonite, for her initial inquiry and assistance in obtaining these historic artifacts!



**1935-1945 Underwood typewriter originally from the Roddis Lumber and Veneer Company in Marshfield.**



**Kodachrome image of Hamilton and Catherine Roddis.**



**This desk originally located at the Roddis Lumber and Veneer Company, now sits in the Upham House office.**

**Moving the desk are Kris & Mike Coleman, Chris Porter, & Brad Allen**



## Upham/Krueger Family Visit the Upham House

This summer on July 20th the grandchildren and great grandchildren of William and his second wife Grace (Upham) Hambright drove down from northern Wisconsin where they had gathered for the Upham/Krueger family reunion to visit the Gov. Upham House. The family enjoyed reminiscing as they toured the house and enjoyed a picnic luncheon on the porch. It is the first time the cousins have been together at the Upham House since the 1990s! Monie, John, and Edwin Upham are descendants of William (Bill) Jr. and BettyAnn (Dentz). Rick, Tim, Amy, and Pam (not pictured) are descendants of Frederick (Fritz) Upham and Jean (Krueger).



**Top (l-r):** Monie Upham, John Upham, Edwin Upham, Pete Pryharski, Colette Wrynn. **Middle (l-r):** Rick Upham, Amy & Allison Pryharski, Peter Pryharski. **Bottom (l-r):** MaryJo Upham, Tim Upham.



Gov. Upham "overlooks" Rick and Tim Upham (back row), Monie Upham and Amy Pryharski, Rick and Tim's sister, in the front. Missing is their older sister, Pam Evans.

### Other family members



Bill and Betty (Denz)  
Upham



Fritz & Jean (Krueger)  
Upham



MaryJo, Rick, and Tim look through Upham family pictures in the NWCHS' photo archives.

## NWCHS Annual Picnic - 2022

Monday, September 12 President Brad Allen welcomed old friends and new to the NWCHS' annual Potluck Picnic. He gave an update on the progress of repairs being done on and in the House and Don 'Schnitz' Schnitzler shared about the ongoing digital scanning project which started last December. The project consists of scanning thousands of negatives donated by the Marshfield News Herald taken back in the 1990s.

Some of our new guests are those folks who have spent many hours pouring over 4"x5" and 35mm negatives. Despite rain earlier in the day, the evening turned out to be very pleasant and everyone enjoyed the gathering.



### *Remembering Jan*

We were saddened to learn about the passing of Jan Thomas, a long term NWCHS member and Board Director. Jan passed away peacefully on August 29, 2022 at Wells Nature View Assisted Living in Marshfield.



A huge advocate for the NWCHS, Jan served for many years as the historical society's secretary and from 2017-2018 as vice president. She was involved in as many functions as she was able and enjoyed greeting people in the Upham parlor as they came through on tours.

Jan was a lifelong Marshfield resident and had many, many stories and memories, some of which she shared in her "Jan Thomas Remembers" articles for our "Mansion News" newsletter. She contributed stories from 2013-2019 and covered topics from her Aunt's Gingersnap gravy to her 1949 high school graduation, to "Uthmeier/Hintz Mercantile Store and Aunt Emma's Bed & Breakfast"

Jan has not been able to attend NWCHS functions for a couple years now, but she has often been in our thoughts and will be sorely missed. Rest in peace, Jan, we are so glad you shared part of your life with us!

*In loving memory*

**Janette Thomas**  
October 15, 1931  
August 29, 2022

~

**Mike Steltenpohl**  
January 21, 1962  
August 27, 2022

~

**Ron Moen**  
August 7, 1933  
July 19, 2022

## Restoration continues on the Upham Mansion

This spring after many rain events and honey laced water infiltrating a library window affected by bees in the wall, Ryan Niehaus with Kountry Home Builders took off exterior wall boards above the window. He extracted 10 honeycombs and patched up the wall until more work could be done.

In September Ryan and his work partner, Josh, were back to remove boards under the window and determine the extent of damage. Thankfully, the damage did not go beyond the initial area. Ryan replaced the older boards with fresh, new cedar boards which will withstand many more years of sun and weather.

The next phase for this restoration project is to fix the window frame affected by the bees and to replace wallpaper in the library and parlor. The present wallpaper was put up when the historical society restored the house 45 years ago. The Board of Directors outlined a plan to replace existing wallpaper and in 2018 an upstairs bedroom was the first room to be done. This bee incident helped decide which rooms were to be done next.

One fun find we discovered is an earlier, floral print wallpaper behind the book case under the 'bee window'. It is believed the bookcases were a part of the 1925 renovations Grace Upham did before she married her second husband, Harold Hambright in September of that year. The wallpapering is slated for January and February 2023.

**The anticipated cost for all repair work could be close to \$10,000. All donations and memorials will be much appreciated to help fund this project.**



**Water damage under one of the library windows.**



**Fresh new cedar boards replace the old ones.**

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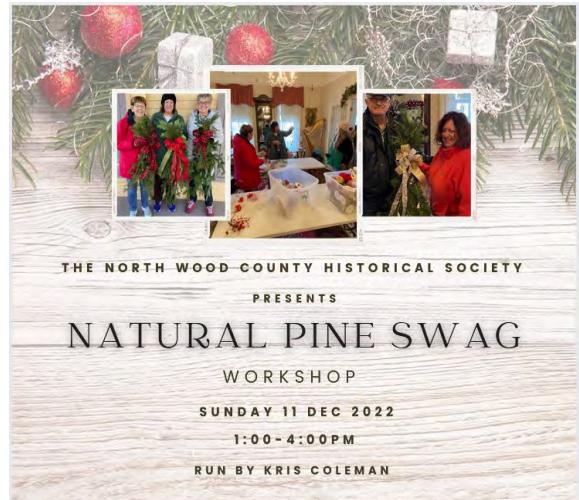
## Dates to Remember

**October 22 - Clean up Day - 10 am - Noon  
Volunteers needed.**

**November 28 - Annual Membership/Potluck meeting - 6:30 pm - Bring a dish to pass and a white elephant gift to exchange.**

**December 3 & 4 - Christmas Open House - "A Dicken's Christmas" 10 am - 3 pm**

**December 11- -4 pm - Swag Class (see details right)**



## Happy Holidays from the North Wood County Historical Society

***Fresh Wreaths and Garlands supplied by Bauman Nursery, Edgar, Wisconsin***

*The wreaths are made of mixed pine boughs,  
decorated with pinecones and a red velvet bow*

**Proceeds go to help support the North Wood County Historical Society!**

<b><i>Wreaths</i></b>	
<b><i>Outside diameter</i></b>	<b><i>Price</i></b>
24 inches	\$24
30 inches	\$34
36 inches	\$40
48 inches	\$50



*Example of a Wreath*

<b><i>Special Items</i></b>	
	<b><i>Price</i></b>
Door Swag (24" - 30")	\$24
White Pine Garland (25')	\$38
Frazer Fir Garland (25')	\$48
Small Centerpiece (~10 wide x 12-15" tall)	\$26
Large Centerpiece (~18 wide x 16-20" tall)	\$32

### ***New This Year***

<b><i>Wickless Candles</i></b> (Vanilla, Cranberry spice, Pine, Cinnamon, Cinnamon Pumpkin)	<b><i>\$7</i></b>
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***Centerpieces (Disposable container, mixed  
pine boughs, sticks and cones)***

Orders with payment are due by Friday, October 28<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm

*Please detach and return*

### **2022 North Wood County Historical Society Wreath Order Form**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Description	Quantity	Price	Total
24 " Wreath		\$24	
30" Wreath		\$34	
36 " Wreath		\$40	
48 " Wreath		\$50	
Door Swag		\$24	
White Pine Garland		\$38	
Frazer Fir Garland		\$48	
Small Centerpiece		\$26	
Large Centerpiece		\$32	
Wickless candle		\$7	
		Total	

**Orders with checks are due by Friday, Oct. 28 at 6:00 pm**

**Please make checks payable to NWCHS**

**Mail to:** North Wood County Historical Society  
P.O. Box 142  
Marshfield, WI 54449

**Questions** — reach us by Email:  
[nwchs@uphammansion.com](mailto:nwchs@uphammansion.com)  
or by Phone:

715-387-3322 (Upham House)  
715-207-6740 (Kris Coleman)  
715-383-9775 (Don Schnitzler)

**Pickup:**  
Mon., Nov. 28<sup>th</sup>    Wed., Nov. 30<sup>th</sup>    Sat., Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup>  
9 am—1 pm    9 am—1 pm    10 am—2 pm

**Governor Upham House 212 West Third Street, Marshfield**

## Spoken History Series

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 December. 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.

#### **September 8, 2022**

Everett Roehl Marshfield  
Public Library - 6:30 pm  
Felker Genealogy & Local  
History Room

**Program:** "Etched in Stone:  
Understanding the Symbols  
Used on Old Gravestones."

**Presenter:** Dennis Jacobs,  
Library Association from the  
Brown County Library, will  
explain the meaning behind  
that symbol along with the  
many other engravings used  
on old headstones.

#### **October 13, 2022**

Everett Roehl Marshfield  
Public Library - 6:30 pm  
Felker Genealogy & Local  
History Room

**Program:** "Genealogical  
and Local History Records  
Available in the Wisconsin  
Regional Archives"

**Presenter:** Brad  
Casselberry, UWSP  
archivist, will explain the  
many and varied archived  
records available for  
research. Naturalizations,  
probate, tax assessment

records are just a few of the  
many resources.

and suggest possible  
activities forward to the  
250th USA Anniversary on  
July 4, 2026.

### **Past Spoken History**

**Note: The following past  
Spoken History presenta-  
tions can be viewed on**

**YouTube channels North  
Wood County Historical  
Society and ERMPL  
Library (Everett Roehl  
Marshfield Public Library)**

The rail-rovers, loggers,  
sawmill operators, farmers  
and townspeople all  
depended on a black-  
smith'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 commu-  
nity.

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

**Program:** "Wisconsin in  
the Civil War."

**Presenter:** Local college  
student and Civil War  
enthusiast, Tim Kraus,  
will discuss the Civil War  
and how it relates to  
Marshfield. The talk  
focuses mostly on the 2nd  
Wisconsin Regiment and  
other famous Wisconsin  
Regiments.. "

#### **December 8, 2022**

Everett Roehl Marshfield  
Public Library- 6:30 pm  
Felker Genealogy & Local  
History Room

**Program:** "Marshfield's  
150th Celebration, Leading  
into an America 250th  
Celebration; Let the Planning  
Begin."

**Presenter:** Don Schnitzler  
highlights the years past  
events commemorating the  
City's 150th Anniversary, and

**Program:** "The Karau Family  
Business: Marshfield's Last  
Locally Owned and Operated  
Supermarkets"

**Presenter:** Jeff Kleiman

**Program:** "Marshfield's  
Early Blacksmiths"

Marshfield's history is due in  
large part to the railroad, and  
the industries and settlers who  
followed it.

**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 2023



### 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



## **Annual Potluck Membership Meeting**

**Monday, November 28 • 6:30 pm • Upham House**

The meeting/election will begin first and then followed by the meal.  
Please bring a dish to pass and a white elephant gift to exchange.

