

# Fitchburg Historical Society

April  
1989



## APRIL GENERAL MEETING

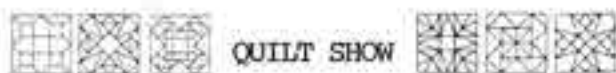
The April 12 (Wednesday) general meeting will be held at 7:00 p.m. in the Oak Hall Room of the Community Center.

Our guest speaker is Historical Society member, Sheila Reaves, who will present a slide program based on her book, Wisconsin: Pathways to Prosperity. The book features many stunning historical pictures detailing commerce in Wisconsin and Sheila will provide commentary about a selection of these photographs.

We also encourage members to offer their own stories regarding their family members' contributions to Fitchburg and Wisconsin commerce.

The new membership directories should also be available at this meeting. They will have a new look this year thanks to the efforts of Arlene Ace.

See you Wednesday -- April 12.



## QUILT SHOW

The Fitchburg Historical Society will be sponsoring a quilt show at the Community Center on Sept. 23 & 24. The show will feature new and heirloom quilts and we are currently looking for quilts to display. If you have made a quilt, or have a family treasure you would like to display, please contact Patricia Delker at 275-7141. We are asking the articles be quilted and not tied.

In conjunction with the show, we will also be sponsoring a raffle. Tickets should be available in June. 1st prize is a hand-made quilt, 2nd prize will be two quilted pillows and 3rd prize, a cross-stitch design.



## ROCK'N'ROLL

The Historical Society participated in the Cabin Fever Music Festival "Sock Hop" March 17 by selling concessions. We had a great time listening to "The New Rebels" play 50's & 60's rock'n'roll and we made a little money for the treasury as well. Thank you to Joy Anderson for organizing the concessions and to members Jerry & Jeanie Sieling, Eric Amli, Marge Beebe, Darrell & Arlene Ace, Peter & Linda Rusch and Tom Capp for working during the evening.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

At the annual meeting the 1989-90 Board of Directors was elected. Members are:

|                 |                |
|-----------------|----------------|
| Arlene Ace      | Eric Amli      |
| Joy Anderson    | Connie Darling |
| Patricia Delker | Margaret Eby   |
| Ellen Green     | Janet Keenan   |
| Carole Kinney   | Winnie Lacy    |
| Ed O'Brien      | Bill Stoneman  |

We also wish to extend out appreciation to outgoing Board members Phil Fox, Anna Fox and Stan Cross for all their efforts on behalf of the Historical Society.

## PORTRAIT PROJECT

Many members attended the Feb. 12 dedication ceremonies in the City Council chambers for the Past Town Chairmen and Mayors Portrait project. It was a memorable event which included comments and stories from descendants of the honored individuals as well as first hand insights from recent Fitchburg leaders.

A special thank-you and recognition is in order for the committee who worked so diligently on the project--Kay Harty, Ellen Green and Jim Green--as well as Frank Lindl, who matted, framed and hung the display.

If you have not had the opportunity, you should take time to visit the Fitchburg Room at the Community Center and view the distinguished collection.

## NEW OFFICERS

At the February 15 Board of Directors meeting the officers for 1989-90 were selected. They are:

|                             |
|-----------------------------|
| President - Patricia Delker |
| Vice-Pres. - Bill Stoneman  |
| Treasurer - Ellen Green     |
| Secretary - Janet Keenan    |

Both past president, Arlene Ace and vice-president, Margaret Eby, deserve high praise for their work, not only this past year, but throughout their memberships.

The general meeting dates for the year were set also. The general membership will meet on:

|                                      |
|--------------------------------------|
| April 12, 1989 - Wednesday           |
| June 11, 1989 - Sunday               |
| Sept. 13, 1989 - Wednesday           |
| Nov. 12, 1989 - Sunday               |
| Feb. 11, 1990 - Sunday (annual mtg.) |





FITCHBURG HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
2421 West Hill Dr.  
Fitchburg, WI 53711



#### DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know that at one time a portion of Syene Road was on the other side of the railroad tracks? Maps indicate that Syene was on the east side of the tracks from Lacy Road south to the first big curve in the road north of Irish Lane.

Bill Stoneman recalls that one day his mother and sister, Edna, were walking to the Blaney farm. Edna got her foot caught between the railroad tie and track and was freed by her mother only a short time before a train passed.

Bill continues that his mother later related the story to Professor Hibbard, who owned the Stoneman farm at the time. He talked to Professor Taylor (both gentlemen were members of the Dept. of Agriculture at the UW) who owned the land immediately to the north of Hibbard---now Tarpleywick and part of Marc Jones' farm. Because of the potential danger they decided they would donate the land if the Town would change the road. The transfer of land to the Town took place in November, 1921.



#### FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Historic Madison is sponsoring a workshop titled "Genealogy and Oral History for the Novice" on Saturday, April 8 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Madison Senior Center.

Topics are: Saga of the Sugar Bowl---How to Trace Your Ancestors, Oral History Skills---Tips & Techniques, Care & Feeding of Recording Equipment & How to Preserve Tapes, plus a tour of the Dane County Historic Records Center will be offered.

Cost is \$6.00 which includes lunch. To register, contact Mrs. Lorraine Orchard, 901 Cornell Ct., Madison, WI 53705.

#### HISTORICAL SOCIETY LOGO

The logo we are using on our newsletter was designed by member Connie Darling. The three houses honor the three houses in Fitchburg that are on the National Register of Historic Places---the McCoy House, Fox Hall and the Mann House.

#### MEMORIAL APPROVED

At the March 8 Board of Directors meeting the Board approved a memorial to honor deceased members who have made a significant contribution to the Society.

The action authorized the purchase of a plaque on which the name of the honored member will be placed, followed by the date honored, and if the person was a charter member this, too, will be indicated. The plaque will be displayed in a prominent place at the Community Center.

Guidelines for the memorial are as follows: 1. Person shall have been a charter member of the organization or a member in good standing for two or more years. 2. Persons shall be recommended by another member of the Society. Recommendations shall state the reasons why the person should be a member of the honor roll and tell of the individual's contribution. (Monetary contributions will not be a factor.) 3. Recommendations shall be submitted to the Board of Directors. To be approved for the honor roll a person must receive favorable vote by at least 60% of those present at the time of the voting.

In addition, recommendations and a short biographical sketch and photo of the honored individual will be kept on file in an official Society notebook.



#### WE NEED YOU

We need volunteers to help in many aspects of the organization. Currently, we are searching for someone to take over the duties of the chair of the Membership Committee. If you are interested and would like more information, please call Patricia Delker, Stan Cross or contact a member of the Board of Directors.

Connie Darling, who is in charge of the exhibits in our display case at the Community Center, would also like some help in putting together future displays. We have also discussed exhibits that would feature a tribute to early Fitchburg settlers and their efforts to clear the land and establish farms and homes. If you have old tools, small farm machinery or agricultural related items, please contact Connie at 274-5375.

