

Fitchburg Historical Society

APRIL
1990



APRIL GENERAL MEETING

The next general meeting of the Historical Society will be Sunday, April 29, beginning at 1:00 p.m. in the Swan Creek Craft Room (downstairs) at the Fitchburg Community Center.

The turn out for "Picture Day" at our annual meeting in February was so fantastic, persons brought such wonderful pictures, and the slides are so great, we thought we would let everyone take a look at the April meeting. It was impossible to get around to everyone that Sunday and see all the pictures that were proudly submitted, so now that the slides are back we thought it would be fun to show them.

The official slide program will not yet be completed (we actually probably have enough slides for several programs based on different aspects of Fitchburg history), but this will be an opportunity to see the pictures up close on the "big screen." It will also allow us to make sure we have assigned the correct names, dates and places to specific slides.

Make sure you join us --- we will supply the popcorn, soda and cookies for this "sneak preview." See you Sunday, April 29!!!!



THANK YOU, THANK YOU

Many thank-yous are in order for our members. First, thank you to all of you who renewed your membership for 1990. Thank you to all of you who brought pictures to "Picture Day" at the annual meeting, and to Tom Capp and Shiela Reaves for the time spent taking the slides of those wonderful pictures.

Also, a round of applause please for outgoing Board member, Margaret Eby, who has worked so diligently on our behalf the last three years. Plus, a bouquet of thanks to Dick and Marie Sweeney for their donation to the Historical Society. Also, thank you to Phil Fox for providing us with a copy of the Fox family history.



RUMMAGE SALE FUND RAISER

This year's one and only fundraising event for the Historical Society will be a rummage sale on Saturday, May 5 at the Fitchburg Ridge Shopping Center on Fish Hatchery Road. The merchants have graciously allowed us to take part in this spring "Ridge" event, and we need to seize this opportunity to increase our funds if we want to continue our many activities, like the slide presentation, displays, speakers, and programs.

We are seeking donations of "re-saleable" items from all our members as well as the community in general. We need items like used books, children's clothing, furniture, small appliances, dishes, etc. Now that you are doing that spring cleaning, perhaps you will find something you no longer can use, but for which someone may be willing to spend money. Items need not be "historical" ---only in good re-sale shape.

Because the date is so close---May 5 ---we are asking persons to bring the items they wish to donate to our April 29 meeting. If you have any questions about the re-sale event, please call Patricia Delker (273-2179), Arlene Ace (271-3497), Bill Stoneman (271-7981) or any Board member. We can arrange to pick up items you can not deliver.

Remember, this will be our major fund-raiser and we need your help to make it successful. Take a look in your closets or your garage, or the back porch today!!!



ELECTION OF 1990 OFFICERS

The Board of Directors met on February 22 to hold our yearly election of officers. This year's officers are:

President - Patricia Delker
Vice President - Eric Amlic
Secretary - Janet Keenan
Treasurer - Ellen Green

Special thanks to our outgoing Vice President, Bill Stoneman, for serving us so well in 1989.



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



DID YOU KNOW?

In Our Own Words: The Best of the Dunn's Marsh News, a new book edited by Mary Mullen has recently been completed. The book tells the story of the Dunn's Marsh neighborhood, on the northern border of Fitchburg, both through historical research and articles from the neighborhood newsletters. Below is an excerpt from the book:

"The very earliest part of the neighborhood to be planned was the Rosedale plat, (sub-division), an area that today still bears flower names on the east/west streets...On the original final plat the present Milford, Whenona, Danbury and Seminole were respectively labeled Barberry Boulevard, Arbutus Trail, Aster Avenue and Rosedale Road. That development---extending from Milford south to Clover---was recorded in the County Register of Deeds office on January 27, 1917. All 149 lots, with the exception of 3, were just 40 feet wide and most were 120 feet deep, reflecting house lot standards of the time.

Land records show that the Rosedale plat and what would later become the Belmar and Allied plats and a bit of the Arboretum just east of Seminole Highway (described as the road from Madison to Stoner Prairie) were part of a 409.11 acre parcel purchased for \$511.39 by one Elisha Starr on December 9, 1836 from the U.S. government. He bought the entire north half of Section 5 of Fitchburg, whose original northern limits lay on the present Milford Road and whose southern limits cut through Dunn's Marsh. He also bought another 692 acres of land in Fitchburg and Madison for the same \$1.25 per acre."

Copies of the book may be obtained from Mary Mullen, 4337 Milford Road, Madison, WI 53711 for \$3.00, plus \$1.50 postage.

COMMUNITY CENTER DISPLAY CASE

"Clearing the Land-Building a Home" is the theme of the display currently being assembled in the Community Center display case. Connie Darling would like to have interested members lend a hand in putting the finishing touches on the exhibit.

The majority of the items to be displayed are on loan to the Historical Society from Fitchburg resident, Larry Aaron. Others who have contributed to the display are Bruce Cass and Al Colvin.

The Board of Directors, at the March meeting, decided to form a sub-committee of interested Board members and members at large to plan upcoming exhibits. We would like to be able to change the display case about 4 times per year, and to do so we need to do some advance planning. If you are interested, or have some ideas about presentations we might offer, please contact Connie Darling (274-5375), Winnie Lacy (845-7594) or Patricia Delker (275-7141).

1990-91 MEETING DATES

Below are the tentative dates for meetings of the general membership of the Fitchburg Historical Society. Mark your calendars---we don't want to miss you.

April 29, 1990 - Sunday - 1 p.m.
June 10, 1990 - Sunday - 1 p.m.
September 12, 1990 - Wednesday - 7 p.m.
November 11, 1990 - Sunday - pot luck
February 10, 1991 - Sunday - Annual Mtg.

Most meetings will be held at the Community Center. Look for a newsletter prior to each meeting for additional information on time, place and program.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Board of Directors were elected at the annual meeting in February. This year's Board members are:

Arlene Ace	Carole Kinney	Ed O'Brien
Stan Cross	Eric Amlie	Connie Darling
Winnie Lacy	Patricia Delker	Ellen Green
Janet Keenan	Bill Stoneman	Joy Anderson