



HISTORY IS YESTERDAY, TODAY, AND TOMORROW

APRIL 2011

Spring is here and not a moment too soon. The time for the Annual Meeting of the Fitchburg Historical Society is approaching although it will be about five months later than usual. We will meet at the new Fitchburg Library after its opening in July. Our meeting will be held on Saturday, July 30th at 1:30 in the afternoon in the Thermo Fisher Conference Room on the second floor of the library. This will give those attending a chance to see what the building has to offer and a chance to see where the Historical Society will be located in the building.

The FHS will have office space and a room for local history, The Fitchburg Room, which dedicated to the founding families of Fitchburg. There will also be storage space for our collections in the climate-controlled basement. Contributions designated for the Fitchburg Room can be sent to the Fitchburg Public Library Capital Campaign Committee, Box 404, 2935 S. Fish Hatchery Road, Fitchburg WI 53711. All contributions will be acknowledged in the FHS location.

Perhaps because of the delayed Annual Meeting several members have not sent in their membership renewals. This can be done before July by contacting Janet Maves at 5781 Chapel Valley Road, # 206, Fitchburg, 53711. Dues are \$10.00 for a single member and \$12.00 for a family membership. A small x on your mailing label indicates we have no record of your membership for 2011. If this is in error please

accept our apologies and contact Janet. It is an added benefit to include your email address. The society only uses the email addresses of members to send out short reminders between mailed newsletters.

The Annual Meeting will be relatively short, and the program to follow will feature a musical presentation by The Special Edition Trio. They will perform a series of tunes that span the years that represent the 175 years of Dane County. The meeting is open to members and non-members alike. Guests are always welcome.

Among several important items on the meeting's agenda will be a vote to accept the newly revised by-laws. A preview of the revisions follows:

The Board of Directors of the Fitchburg Historical society has decided to update the Bylaws that were originally written in 1987 when the Society was established, and updated in 1998 and 2009. It is required that we notify the members, so we are sending you the revisions of the Bylaws for your review. Members present at the Annual Meeting on July 30th, 2011 at 1:30 p.m. in the Fitchburg Library will vote on the following amendments:

The membership year shall begin on April 1st. New members joining after January 1st shall remain members through March 31st of the following year without additional charge.

The annual meeting of this organization shall be held in the month of April. Other regular meetings of the membership shall be held upon notification of membership.

Presented by Board of Directors of the Fitchburg Historical Society

Another important item on the meeting agenda will be a vote for members of the Board of Directors. The Board meets six times a year, on the first Saturday of February, April, June, August, October and December.

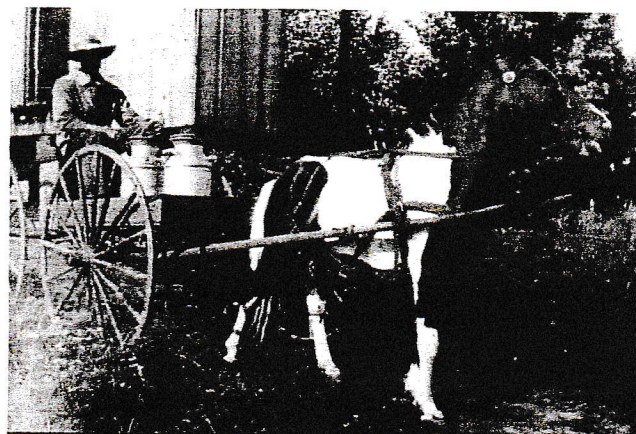
Several things the board has discussed recently are the placements of photos on kiosks in the area. The Dane County Historical Society has asked permission to highlight Fitchburg on their kiosk at the Dane County Airport. This will be the second in the series of communities they will feature throughout the year. The kiosk is located at the far end of the airport concourse, near the escalator bringing incoming passengers to the main floor. Be sure to check the highlights of Dane County as it celebrates its 175th year Anniversary. The Fitchburg section will appear soon and will be in place for only a short time. However other communities will be featured throughout the year.

The Illinois Central railroad tracks from Freeport to Madison have now been turned into a "Rails to Trails" bike route. There is a possibility the DNR will be installing a historical marker at the Wendt Road site of the former stop at Fitchburg Station. Hopefully we will be able to provide cyclists and walkers with a bit of history of the area.

May is Historic Preservation month and the Wisconsin Historical Museum would like to

invite you to a special Taste Traditions of Wisconsin Event. It will be an evening with award winning author of rural history and chronicler of country life Jerry Apps as he examines the role barns have played in Wisconsin's farms and pastoral culture. The event will take place on Wednesday, May 11th from 6:30–9:00 p.m. at the WHS Museum. The museum is located at the corner of State and Carroll Streets. Barns present distinctive architecture that expresses the pride and practicality of Wisconsin farm families. See why these special buildings are being saved, repurposed, and honored for their faithful and sturdy service at a time when barns as we know and remember them are in danger of fading into the past. Underground Food Collective Catering will create a menu using products from local farms to complement this evocative glimpse into Wisconsin's bucolic past, present, and hopeful future. Cost to attend will be \$31.50 for WHS members and \$35.00 for non-WHS members. Registration is due by Monday, May 2. Email museum@wisconsinhistory.org or call 608-264-6563 to reserve your space. It sounds like an interesting way to spend an evening.

News from our neighbors: On April 16th The Mount Horeb Area Historical Society will be celebrating the 150th anniversary of their village. The event will unveil two new exhibits in their museum: Ethnicity & the Civil War, and Stories in Stitches: Quilts of Southwestern Wisconsin. A newly published, limited edition book, *Then and Now*, a past and present look at Southwestern Wisconsin will also be featured. The museum is located at 100 S. Second Street, Mount Horeb. All are invited to attend.



Illinois Central RR Milk Stop at Stoner Prairie