

Fitchburg Historical Society



HISTORY IS YESTERDAY, TODAY, AND TOMORROW

FEBRUARY 2012

APRIL MEETING

Plans are underway for our Annual Meeting on April 15th in the Thermo Fisher Room on the second floor of the Fitchburg Library. The meeting will start at 1:30. After taking care of a few business matters, including election for the Board of Directors, we will feature a program showcasing how families entertained themselves in the days before television. Audience participation will be welcome although not mandatory. What do you remember about what amused you, your parents or your grandparents before the black box took over?

April is also time to renew annual memberships. Memberships now run from April 1st to March 31st. To renew your membership by mail please fill out the attached renewal blank and return it to Janet Maves at your earliest convenience. We would appreciate having your email address prior to the meeting so we can send email reminders thus saving on postage. You can do this by sending an email to woodedarchives@gmail.com. We realize not everyone is connected to the Internet. We can make arrangements to telephone reminders for those who do not have Internet connection.

Watch for details about a special program coming up on Saturday, September 29th. The FHS in conjunction with the Fitchburg Library will be sponsoring an antique appraisal program. It promises to be a delight. Stay tuned!

MEMBER NEWS

Richard Blaney, the former president of the FHS Board of Directors died on February 6, 2012. Rich had suffered a severe stroke over a year ago and has been in ill health since. We extend our sympathy to his wife Marge and his family.

We have learned that a long-standing member of the FHS will be celebrating her 100th birthday on March 2nd. Irene Ferguson Larsen grew up on what is now Grandview Road and attended the Stoner School. After her marriage she lived on Purcell Road. She is now a resident of Oregon Manor at 354 N. Main Street, Oregon 53575. Birthday greetings in the form of cards from members would be appreciated.

CENTURY HOME AND FARM APPLICATIONS

It is again time to make application for century home and farm awards. The Century Farm and Home Program began in 1948 in conjunction with the State of Wisconsin's Centennial Celebration. There are currently 8,445 Century Farms and Homes nestled throughout the Badger State. The Sesquicentennial Program originated in 1998 as part of the State's Sesquicentennial Celebration, and since that time 586 families have been honored. In 2010, 118 Century properties and 31 Sesquicentennial properties were honored for carrying on Wisconsin's rich family farming tradition. Applications for the awards are available through the FHS. To qualify for the award, families are required to provide proof of continuous family ownership of a property in the state of Wisconsin for either the last 100 or 150 years. All property owners will be honored at special Century and Sesquicentennial Farm and Home Award program held on Tues. Aug. 7, 2012 in conjunction with the Wisconsin State Fair. Honorees will receive complimentary Fair admission tickets and an invitation to the awards breakfast sponsored by Hillshire Farms. A commemorative photo, a certificate and an outdoor display sign will be provided by Hillshire Farms. To request an application leave an email or phone message to the FHS at

woodedarchives@gmail.com or 608-279-1783.

DONATIONS

We are still asking people to remember the FHS when they find interesting articles, photos or other memorabilia relating to Fitchburg and its residents. Now that we have a secure home and filing system we can build our historical inventory about the Fitchburg community. To paraphrase our motto, Fitchburg's history is yesterday, today and tomorrow. Recent donations include Dane county plat books dating as far back as 1935. We have also received scrapbooks and posters about the Swan Creek Sewing circle.

The Fitchburg Historical Society is now housed on the second floor of the Library. It has early records of Fitchburg, Fitchburg families, the one-room schools, photos and newspaper articles. It is compiling a list of obituaries of people from early times to present. The Fitchburg Room with books of Wisconsin interest is open when the library is open. The Archives of the FHS adjacent to the Fitchburg room are open by appointment. An archivist can be reached by leaving a phone message at 608-279-1783 or by email at woodedarchives@gmail.com.

DISPLAYS

The display case that the FHS has used at the Senior Center hallway had been

changed at the time of Veterans Day to honor those who served in various branches of service. This will perhaps be the last time we will use the case at the Senior Center. At the time of the Senior Center's open house to celebrate the new construction they put in a very interesting display outlining the Senior Center from its inception to the present. In the future we will concentrate our display efforts in our cases at the Fitchburg Room at the library. Be sure to stop in and see the latest pages from Bill McKee's scrapbooks that are on display in the Fitchburg Room. The pages in the scrapbooks are changed from time to time. The display case outside of the Fitchburg Room is now featuring an election display dating from Greenfield's (Fitchburg) first election in 1847 to the present time.



MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Name _____

Address _____

City State Zip _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

Single_(10.00)_____ Family_(12.00)_____ Business_(25.00)_____

Mail to Janet Maves 5781 Chapel Valley Road #206 Fitchburg WI 53711

FITCHBURG HISTORICAL SOCIETY
5530 Lacy Road
Fitchburg WI 53711

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR ANNUAL MEETING APRIL 15, 2012 AT 130 P.M.