



MTHS Financial Statement

By Bob Blazich, President

The Mequon-Thiensville Historical Society has enjoyed a good financial year. This was due, in large part, to the generosity of our members.

MTHS bank balances as of November 1, 2018, totaled \$15,528.66.

Between November 1, 2017, and November 1, 2018, the historical society spent \$13,941. Here is a breakdown of how the money was spent.

- BMO Harris \$1,148.28
- PWSB \$14,380.38

- Rent 69%
- Utilities 8% Isham Day House & Internet Service
- Printing 7%
- Ink 7%
- Office 5%
- Misc 4%

During the same 12-month period, the historical society took in a total of \$14,071. Here is a breakdown of our revenue sources.

- Donations 78%
- Membership 20%
- Misc 2% Calendar and book sales, copy sales, etc.

MTHS MATCHING GRANT

An anonymous supporter of MTHS has once again offered to match all year-end donations to the society up to a maximum of \$4000. As you consider your year-end giving, please consider making a gift to our society. Here's a great opportunity to double your contribution. Each year, more members and friends are making donations to MTHS directly from their retirement accounts and avoiding tax implications. Please talk to your financial advisor about whether this way of giving is a good option for you.



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MT Historical Society 2018 Board of Directors

President: Bob Blazich
Vice-President: Fay Walker
Treasurer: Rachel Muchin-Young
Membership : Mary Sayner
Archivist: Bev Silldorff
Members: Sam Cutler, Jr.
Doug Hansen
James Schaefer
Paul Schreiber
Tom Streifender

Member Emeritus: Gordy Hinrichs
Don Molyneux

Contact Us

President: Bob Blazich, rblazich@gmail.com
262-242-4653

Archivist: Bev Silldorff, 262-242-3290

Membership & Volunteer

Chairperson: Mary Sayner, 608-881-9935
mcsayner@yahoo.com

Newsletter: Jennifer Hamm, 262-370-2232
ajhammfamily@gmail.com

Address: 216 Green Bay Road, Suite 102
Mequon, WI 53092

Website: www.mthistoricalsociety.org

Email: mthistory1839@gmail.com

MTHS Phone: 262-242-3107

Join Us

Join today. It's easy. Memberships also make great gifts!

Annual Membership:

Individual\$15
Family.....\$20
Contributing.....\$30
Business.....\$80
Sustaining\$100

Tax deductible 501(c)(3) donations are appreciated.

Send your check to: MTHS, 216 Green Bay Road,
Suite 102, Thiensville, WI 53092. Membership form
located on page 7 of this newsletter.

New Members

Thank you to our newest members!

Sue Boland
Steve Karthaus
Thomas Montaine
Marge Palleon
Sharon Pechium
James Schowalter

MTHS Wish List

Flat map files
Legal file cabinets
Volunteer to handle memberships
Volunteer to handle fund raising event
Volunteer to plan next annual meeting
Volunteer to plan and organize newsletters

Amazon Smile

If you are one of the growing number of people who shop on Amazon, this message is for you. Thanks to a program called Amazon Smile, a small portion of your purchase price can become a donation from the Amazon Smile Foundation to our MT Historical Society.

When you log on to your Amazon account, search for Amazon Smile and select the Mequon Thiensville Historical Society. It's that simple for you, and it will definitely help our organization.


You shop. Amazon gives.

Firehouse Update

Contributed by Bob Blazich, President, MTHS

The MTHS has been in discussions with the Village of Thiensville to gain occupancy of the second floor of the old firehouse and village hall building on the corner of Green Bay Road and Main Street. The upper floor housed the village offices until 1974 when the new village hall on Elm Street opened. The lower level has become a firehouse museum, but the upper floor has been vacant for the past 44 years.

As our discussions with the village progressed, it became clear that the village has several higher priority projects already in process including major improvements to the village park. The village would not be able to help fund the \$300,000 needed to update the upper floor and make it handicap accessible. Village participation in the renovation could be possible in 4-5 years, but not before.

With that reality, MTHS members came up with an affordable Plan B. Under this plan, the upper floor would be leased to MTHS for 10 years at \$1/year and converted to storage including full electrical service and a climate controlled room for storage of sensitive items. This proposal was presented to the village board in early November of this year and was very well received.

Only positive and supportive comments were made by board members. The village would pay 60% of the cost of the improvements from currently available funds, and MTHS patrons would pay 40% of the anticipated \$50,000 cost.

It is hoped that the details of our firehouse Plan B can be worked out with the village in the coming months and the improvements will begin in late spring.



Thiensville Firehouse on the corner of Greenbay Road and Main Street.



MTHS board members and others recently visited the upper floor of the old firehouse building. Those shown in this picture, from left, include Nina Look, Executive Director of the Jonathan Clark House Museum, MTHS board member Mary Sayner, resident Stan Smith, Village of Thiensville Public Works Director Andy LaFond, MTHS board members Fay Walker and Paul Schreiber, and Village of Thiensville trustee Ron Heinritz.

Old Church Congregation Found

Contributed by the late Don Silldorff, Founder of the Mequon-Thiensville Historical Society

Keeping with an MTHS Newsletter practice started earlier this year, we are republishing articles from The Mequon Historical Society's early newsletters. Here are two articles that were written by our founder, Don Silldorff, and included in newsletters from the Society's third year, 1989.

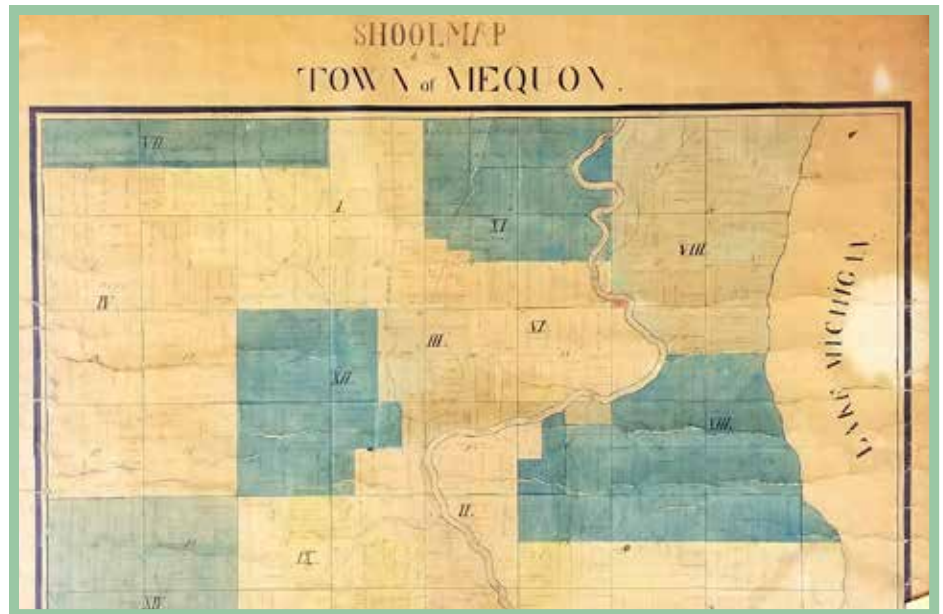
DID YOU KNOW:

Wisconsin was at one time claimed by the State of Virginia when the lands East of the Mississippi were ceded to America by the British in the Treaty of Paris in 1783 after the Revolutionary War.

Wisconsin, part of the Northwest Territory from 1787 to 1800, was ruled by Indiana Territory from 1800 to 1809, Illinois Territory from 1809 to 1818 and Michigan Territory from 1818 to 1836. On July 3, 1836, Wisconsin Territory was created. In 1836 Wisconsin Territory consisted of the present Wisconsin Area, all of the States of Iowa and Minnesota and most of the areas of the States of North and South Dakota. These lands, part of the Louisiana Purchase were attached to Michigan Territory in 1834 and remained part of Wisconsin until 1838 when all land West of the Mississippi was removed and became Iowa Territory. On May 30, 1848 all Territorial government was extinguished in the old Northwest Territory when Wisconsin became a State.

Evidence of an early pioneer church in Mequon was discovered late in 1988. Little was known of the church until the record of the incorporation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Town of Mequon in 1852 was discovered at the Register of Deeds office this last December. About a year earlier a list of the baptisms of 113 children of the area's original settlers in Section 36 and surrounding area was acquired by Don Silldorff from Mimi Bird, a historian associated with the Whitefish Bay Library. Section 36 includes the area bounded by the Milwaukee River, the Donges Bay Road, the Range Line Road and the County Line Road.

The Historical Society's 1867 plat map shows the location of a church east of the Milwaukee River about a third of a mile North of the Milwaukee County Line on River Road. The list of baptisms includes the names of children of the signers of the incorporation papers. The record covers the period of 1841 to 1861. For some reason the church ceased to continue after 1861. In 1863 a new church, St. Peters Evangelical Lutheran Church, was organized in East Granville (now River Hills), $\frac{3}{4}$ miles south on the same River Road. Further research has revealed the names of some of the same families in the St. Peters church records and also in the records of Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church of South Mequon, on the west side of the Milwaukee River.



1867 Plat Map of the Town of Mequon showing the 1873 school districts

Recent Acquisitions at the Don Sillardorff Archive

Contributed by Archivist Bev Sillardorff (262-242-3290 or 262-242-3107)

The Mequon-Thiensville Historical Society thrives on the generosity of donors and local organizations. Below is a list of recent acquisitions.

Sue Hilty: 1931 Mother's Washington High School Yearbook, Printouts from Mother's 1880 Autograph Book, Record of extended family relationship, News Graphic May 25, 2017 article WHY WE CAN NEVER FORGET, photos & info on PFC Lawrence Hilty killed in action in Manila February 19, 1945, correspondence between PFC Hilty and family members including letters returned following his death, courting letters from Jim Hilty to future wife and various other correspondence.

Nancy Perez: Milwaukee Journal and News Graphic—Publications honoring 20th Century Ozaukee County, 28 photos of Thiensville Floods 1918 & 1926, 21 Post Cards of Thiensville Scenes, 60th Wedding Anniversary tribute to Mr. & Mrs. Bruss (1843-1903), Hillmen Painting of Thiensville Firehouse, Schmidt & Bartelt advertising rain cap packet, and miscellaneous other photos and postcards.

Kathy Hoffman: Coffee Mug—Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church of South Mequon 1853-1998 with drawing of church on side

Bob Patton: Framed Oil Painting of Upper Milwaukee River in Thiensville

Bonnie Heintskill: 2017 – 2018 Ozaukee County Yellowbook

Barb Johnson: Newspaper articles—1998 News Graphic's "Post War boom built up Thiensville", April 23, 1982 "After life in the fast lane, Milwaukee is still home" about Reed Kailing, 1940 trophy-- Champs, Thiensville State Bank.

OCHS: 1977 Drawing of Seyfert Drugstore, Harold Leo Hiltger Obit, Copy—Pictures of "Good Fellows" at Memmler Hotel, Copy 1908 Cedaburg HS Graduates. Copy—1992 News Graphic article on Earle Raine, plus 5 other copied documents.



Framed Oil Painting of Upper Milwaukee River in Thiensville donated by Bob Patton.

Judy Helgeland: 24 post or greeting cards sent to Mrs. Enory Volland (Judy's mother) from German friends, copy of photo of Mequon Homemakers with quilt, 1980 article on Great Aunt of Judy's-- Amalia "Molly" Schmitt, death notice of Hugo Klessig and copy of 2018 News Graphic article "Women in History" OCHS annual luncheon at Oz. Country Club.

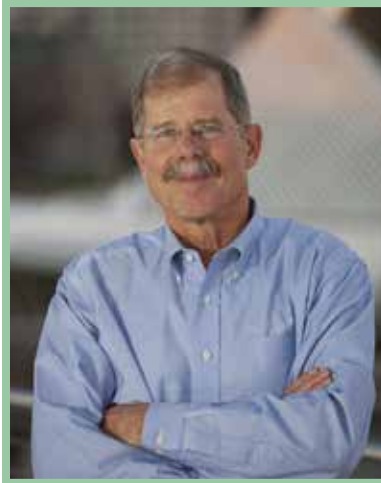
NOTE: As members and friends move, downsize, or reorganize, they should consider items of interest that we would like in the archive: church programs & bulletins; school announcements-schedules, year books, program news; pictures of historic buildings that are surviving or have been recently torn down or expanded; 1980 telephone books, family histories, etc."

MTHS News in Brief

HISTORIAN, JOHN GURDA, WOWS ANNUAL MEETING ATTENDEES

Milwaukee historian and author, John Gurda, was the featured speaker at the November 4th MTHS annual meeting. The event, sponsored by member Joyce Rosenberg, board member Fay Walker and Port Washington State Bank, drew a record crowd of over 150 MTHS members and friends to the Mequon Nature Preserve.

Mr. Gurda's presentation, *The Making of Milwaukee*, was very well received. He spoke without a single note for over one hour and followed up with a lengthy question and answer period and a very popular book signing.



John Gurda, historian, author and speaker at the MTHS 2018 Annual Meeting

MTHS BOARD MEMBER ELECTIONS

One of the main agenda items at the MTHS annual meeting was the election of board members. Our 11 board members serve three-year terms, and four of our members were up for reelection this year.

This year, the membership elected the following board members to new three-year terms: Fay Walker, Sam Cutler, Bob Blazich and Tom Streifender. Jim Schaefer, Doug Hansen, Rachel Muchin-Young and Ron Knaus have one year remaining in their terms, and Mary Sayner, Bev Silldorff and Paul Schreiber have two years remaining in their board terms.



Christmas Shopping circa 1900 This photo was taken in John Bublitz's general store at 121 South Main Street in Thiensville. John is shown with his son, Otto, and two unnamed customers. The Bublitz family arrived in the area in 1843 and was a major business force in the community for over 100 years including farming, banking, real estate and commerce. The building shown in this picture now houses Greg Mueller Upholstery.

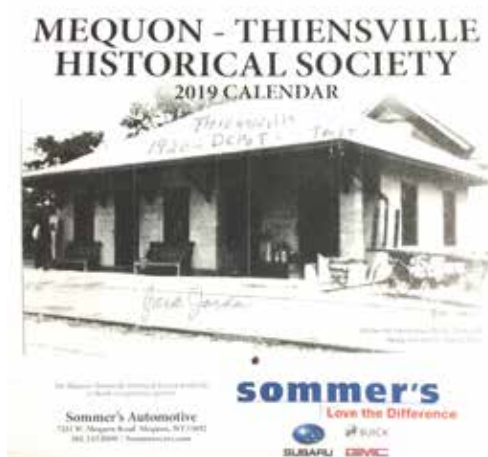
MTHS News in Brief

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THE PERFECT GIFT If you are still trying to think of the perfect gift for that friend or neighbor, consider giving them a year's membership in the MT Historical Society. Memberships start at only \$15 and include a free 2019 historic picture calendar and our great newsletters. An MTHS membership is truly a memorable gift that keeps on giving throughout the year. And when was the last time that you bought a gift that was fully deductible on your taxes?

DONATIONS SOUGHT It takes approximately \$1200 per month to keep the historical society viable, and we were counting on this fundraiser to help us meet our expenses. Please consider helping us make up this shortfall by upgrading your membership status, giving a gift membership to the society, or making a donation directly to MTHS. If you are over the age of 70-1/2, your financial consultant can show you how to donate directly from your IRA or 401K fund.

2019 MTHS Calendars Available



The 2019 edition of our popular MTHS Historic Picture Calendar is now available. Each member is entitled to a free copy of the calendar, and additional copies are available for only \$5 each. Special thanks to our good friends at Sommers Automotive for underwriting the cost of this year's calendar and to our member, Jenny Hamm, for doing the calendar layout work. Additional thanks to MTHS volunteers Kathy Hoffman and Chuck Conrad for selecting this year's photographs and calendar dates.

Calendars are available for pickup and sale at Port Washington State Bank on South Main Street in Thiensville and at The Thiensville Village Hall on Elm Street. If you need to have your calendar mailed or delivered, please contact MTHS at 262-242-3107 or by email at mthistory1839@gmail.com.

I Would Like A Mequon-Thiensville Historical Society Membership!

Name _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Amount Enclosed: _____

Tax deductible 501(c)(3) donations are appreciated.

I would like the newsletter sent by Mail Email

Email Address: _____

Annual Membership Levels:

- Individual\$15
- Family.....\$20
- Contributing.....\$30
- Business.....\$80
- Sustaining\$100

I am interested in volunteering for the Mequon Thiensville Historical Society Yes No

Please Mail Checks to: M-T Historical Society, at 216 Green Bay Road, Suite 102, Thiensville, WI 53092.

Megun-Thiensville Historical Society

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216 Green Bay Road, Suite 102, Thiensville, WI 53092

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Your Renewal is Due

Become a Volunteer!

Contact Mary Sayner, Volunteer Coordinator, at 262-242-3107 for more information.

Historic Times

Megun - Thiensville Historical Society's



2018 MTHS
Annual Meeting