



RECOLLECTIONS

JULY 2011

MAHS wishes a Happy Birthday to Hazel Kundert!
Hazel will be 100 years old on July 26th.

Send birthday wishes to Hazel at 203 East Wisconsin Ave.,
 Monticello, WI. 53570

Excerpt from Kay interview with Hazel

"...After graduating I was hired at the At-
 taught for four years. educator, doctor, law-
 mediator and so on. ness in the com-
 applied for the posi-
 the barnyard to meet
 members and he said:
 to the barnyard to apply
 I received \$100.00 a month.



Dickson's oral history Kundert.

from Normal School
 tica school where I
 A teacher was
 yer, psychologist,
 There was a close-
 munity. When I
 tion I went into
 one of the board
 "Any girl who comes
 for a job gets the job."

My fifth year of teaching was at the Voegeli school. When I
 resigned because I was being married, my sister applied and was
 given the position. In those days when a woman married she
 could no longer teach, there were too many single girls who needed
 jobs.

I taught in Monticello for 34 years and earned my BE degree
 and 40 credits beyond in summer schools, night schools and corres-
 pondence courses.

I enjoyed teaching and continue to appreciate the opportunity
 to visit with my students as I see them."

MUSEUM NOTES

Reminder- There will not be a monthly meeting in July.

MAHS Museum

P.O. Box 463
 204 Main St.
 Monticello, WI, 53570
 (608) 938-4216
 MAHS@tds.net

Hours of Operation

Saturday 10 AM – 2 PM
 or by appointment
 Closed for the season
 December – April

Board Members

President – Mary Davis
 Vice-Pres. – Karen Brugger
 Secretary – May Burgy
 Treas. – Jennifer Blumer
 Member - John Casey
 Member - Michael Wayland
 Member -

Collection Manager

William Zimmerman

Collection Archivist

Karen Gempeler

Volunteer Coordinators

Docents - Bill & Kay Dickson
 Programs - Donna Ferguson
 Membership - Carol Schultz
 Newsletter - Roger Dooley

Stop by the museum and see **Steve Buehl's** collection of vintage Kodak cameras! This has attracted a lot of attention to our museum windows.

The annual membership dinner meeting was enjoyed by 40 plus members and guests. The speaker was Mr. **Ron Spielman** who spoke on the history of the Monroe Clinic and Hospital.

Mary Davis and **Jennifer Blumer's** terms of office were up but they both agreed to remain on the board so we quickly re-elected them before they could change their minds.

John Stenbrotten resigned from the board of directors at the meeting, but no replacement was discussed. Thanks for your service, John!

Alice Voegeli is passing the Docent Coordinator job to **Kay and Bill Dickson**. She put up with the scheduling headaches far longer than most of us would have and we applaud her strength of character. Have a good retirement, Alice!

Donna Ferguson has arranged for the September meeting to be held at the old stone church building in Attica. There will be a talk on the history of the building by Mr. Wayne Albertson. Please mark your calendars for this event. If you would like to attend but don't have transportation or don't like driving at night please contact Mary Davis (527-3032 or 558-7387) and she will arrange for you to ride with someone.

The new biennial display "SPORTS OF ALL SORTS" is developing nicely. **Kay Dickson, Madeleine Dooley, Karen Brugger** and **Mary Davis** have been working very hard to pull together photographs and artifacts for the show. They hope to have the display ready for the public by Homecoming.

The second floor renovation is moving forward. Snowbird **Bill Dickson** came back from wintering in Arizona just in time to begin applying sealer to the whole floor area. It will soon be ready for the 32' of used metal storage shelving that we purchased, thanks to a generous money donation from **Donald Lewis**.

DONATIONS THIS QUARTER

Becky Schmalbeck- Country school desk and chair.

Elda & Linda Schiesser- Photo album containing articles and pictures of various area ministers.

William Escher- Sidway brand wicker baby carriage purchased by Fred and Elfa Voegeli for their baby son Frederick S. Voegeli.

Donald Lewis- A generous monetary donation which we used to purchase storage shelves.

Julie Woelffer-Ishida- Vintage clothing items from the Woelffer and Bindschaedler families including several bathing suits, beaded dresses, and nurses pins, caps and cape and American Legion memorabilia from her aunt Betty Jane. Betty Jane served as an army nurse during WW-2.

Karen Brugger- "Ponys" cigar box, "Laddies" cigar box and medicine bottle from Dr. Bongiorno who had part-time Monticello office hours in rooms on the second floor of our museum building.

Elsa Zimmerman- Record books from Monticello's Royal Neighbors of America Society. The Royal Neighbors of America is the women's branch of the Modern Woodsmen of America.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

Carolyn Hilliard - Life member

Mark Langenfeld - Annual member

The Naming of Marshall Bluffs

Since there was some interest, some time back, on how the Marshall Bluffs were named, I thought I would give the information I have. They were named after my husbands great-grandparents as told by a daughter, Sarah Amelia Marshall-Crouch.

Josiah Hill Marshall, born Dec. 18 1818, died Dec. 20 1890, son of Zechariah and Sally Marshall of Oswego, Orleans Co., New York, and wife Elizabeth O. Wood, born May 18 1821, died Aug. 16 1881, came to Wisconsin via the Great Lakes then overland by covered wagon to a place near Palmyra, WI. They later moved to the farm east of Monticello by the Marshall bluffs, hence the name. The farm later became the Moser farm.

The following children came with them from New York: Sarah Amelia, who married Samuel Crouch; Mary (Ross); Adelaide (Clarke); Albert J. (Burt). Albert served in the 5th Wis. Battery from Dec. 1863 to the end of the war then was in missionary work in India for 9 years.

The following children were born in WI. to Josiah and Elizabeth: Lucy (Potter); Jenny (Shaw); Minnie Estelle, also known as Little Lucy, who drown in a spring on the farm while still in her infancy; Effie (Magee); Lorraine (Brown), died in child birth at age 30.

Mr. J. H. Marshall taught music every winter but followed farming as a business. The 20th of Feb. 1883, he married Ella Turner.

The Marshalls are buried in the old Monticello church cemetery.

Mrs. Josiah Crouch, Jr.
March 19, 1998

New Glarus- The Montgomery, Ward & Co.'s advertising car and electric carriage made a stir in town last Wednesday afternoon. They did not make any sales, as the people will most likely wait until we get electric lights first.

—Monticello Messenger, 1897

Before Blast Closed Cavern Portal



George Graf, Monticello, peers into the opening leading to chambers in the large cave discovered on the Henry C. Elmer farm near Monticello last week. The opening was closed after the picture was taken when quarry workmen dislodged loose rock.

Monticello Envisions Tourist Boom With Cave's Discovery

MONTICELLO — This Green county village was speculating Saturday on the possibility of becoming a tourist center after blasts uncovered two extensive caves on the Henry C. Elmer farm 1 1/2 miles west on Highway C.

Some were dubious over the prospect of being swamped with visitors, because successive blasts at the Elmer quarry last week closed the opening formed by the first explosions and no one knew exactly how far the various rooms of the cavern extended into the hillside.

Recall Mounds' Success

Almost all, however, recalled that similar quarry blasts had opened the Cave of the Mounds near Blue Mounds only a few years ago, and that the Mounds caves have since received national recognition, with hundreds of thousands of visitors.

The J. P. Ryan Construction Co., Janesville, first opened the underground rooms with a blast at the Elmer Quarry. A second blast, which had to be set off because the dynamite

was already placed, opened up a second room. Then successive blasts closed the first opening after it was reported that the rooms contained stalagmites and stalactites rivaling those at Cave of the Mounds.

Ceiling Loosened

The blasts opened the rooms under Indian hill, which is large enough to contain a whole series of caves. The narrow hole leading to the rooms was only about 2 feet in diameter, and the floor of the cavern is about 8 feet below. This first room is about 25 feet long and 8 or 10 feet wide, and the ceiling has been loosened by the blasts.

The second room—as far as the explorers had gone before the opening was sealed—is reached by a tunnel about 3 feet wide and 5 feet high. The room is about 40 feet long and from 8 to 15 feet high, and contains the rock formations found in most southern Wisconsin caves. Dripping water has left limestone patterns hanging from the roof and built up similar formations from the floor.

The discovery recalled how, on Aug. 4, 1939, workmen set off a blast in a quarry on the C. I. Brigham farm and opened a passage into what became Cave of the Mounds. The Mounds cave is from 30 to 36 feet below the surface, and varies from 30 feet to 6 feet in depth. It had no opening before the blast and had been sealed from all animal life for centuries. Visitors have passed the half-million mark.

-Madison newspaper article summer of 1947

(The birth of the Peoples Supply Co.)

STORES TO CONSOLIDATE

Important Change in Business Circles After February 1 Next

An important change in the business circles of the village will transpire on or about the first of February next, when the stores owned by Dick & Staedtler, E. J. Blum and J. C. Steinmann will consolidate. The consolidation of the firms above mentioned has

been talked of for some little time, but not until last Tuesday evening was any definite action taken in the matter, when a meeting of the parties interested was held.

The new firm will be incorporated under the laws of the state of Wisconsin and the incorporators will be E. J. Blum, Fred Blum, Jr., J. C. Steinman, Geo. C. Steinman and John Dick. Jr. Henry Staedtler, Jr., of the present firm of Dick & Staedtler, will not become a member of the new enterprise, it is stated, owing to his desire to engage in another line of work. It is understood that the new company will incorporate for \$30,000.00

This will be one of the most important business changes that has taken place in this part of the county for years. The express purpose of the promoters in consolidating their several interests is because of the fact that united under one management they will be better enabled to successfully compete with the mail order houses of the large cities. The advantages of such a move is at once apparent under the new order of things, merchandise can be purchased in much larger quantities than had been possible heretofore. Thus securing the advantages of price concessions that invariably go to the large buyer, operating expenses will be reduced to a great extent and in many ways the consolidation will bring about changes that will result to the mutual advantage of the owners and their patron's as well. For the next two weeks Monticello promises to be the Mecca for bargain hunters. Commencing the last of this week, the three stores entering into the new arrangement will have reduction sales running full blast and these sales will continue at the respective stores for a period of at least two weeks. The object of the merchants in holding the sales is to reduce their stocks as much as possible before taking inventory, and there promises to be something doing when the big bargain events get under way.

Each of the firms will issue special sales bills, which will be distributed within a day or two.

-Monticello Messenger, January 2, 1906



Above. Men gossiping on Monticello's Main St., circa 1900. The store, far right, was E. J. Blum's drygoods emporium and is now our museum. The Post Office is located in the building in the center of the picture.

Below. Main St. Monticello, Wisconsin. Photo by W. E. Trukenbrod, Monroe, circa 1900. It might have been a Saturday shopping day. Note the elevated board sidewalks and muddy road.

