



www.monticellohistoricalsociety.org

RECOLLECTIONS

Monticello Area Historical Society News

Year 2023, No. 2



Inside:

"The Old Swimming Pool"

MAHS Board of Directors

- President - Mary Davis
- Vice-Pres. - Kay Frietag
- Secretary - Sue Rieder
- Treas. - Karen Brugger
- Member - John Casey
- Member - Don Kubly
- Member - Kim Buehl

Coordinators

- Programs - Paul Rieder
- Newsletter - Jules Cappelle
- Window Display—May Burgy
- Membership - Carol Schultz

Collection Archivist

Jules Cappelle
 jules.cappelle@gmail.com

Dear Friends,

On May 25, 2023 we held our annual membership meeting at the Pink Heifer. A brief business meeting included the re-election of two members to the board of directors: Sue Reider and Mary Davis.

Danielle Benden of Driftless Pathways presented the program highlighting our progress on curating our collections that she has been assisting with at the museum. Many seasoned and new volunteers have begun the process of accessioning, photographing, appropriate labeling and storage of our many items. After the meeting, those who wished, were invited to a rare “behind the scenes” tour of the second floor of the museum to see what more shelving, consolidation, and labeling can do.

The museum is in the process of adding internet to our operation. It will enable volunteers to work off-site with curating process, and offer advantages to those wishing to do research on our collections.

The summer seems to have started. Visitors are discovering our museum. Thank you to all who have volunteered to be docents on Saturdays. Stop by Homecoming Saturday, July 8, for FREE popcorn!

Gratefully,

Mary Davis
 (608) 558-7387

Museum Open

Saturdays May thru October
 from 10 am - 2 pm

Our docent coordinators

Bill & Kay Dickson welcome all
 volunteers.

Call them at 938-4315.

"The Old Swimming Pool" by Karen Brugger

From Monroe Times-

April 1941

Monticello Plans For Pool Now Definite--To the particular delight of the youngsters, Monticello Village Board has approved plans for construction of a municipal swimming place. It will be near the Little Sugar River channel directly east of the Village Hall and will be supplied with the overflow water of the village well, located in the basement of the Village Hall. A dam will be built at the east end of the stream where the river and grist mill flume meet, making the pool about 200 feet long and 40 feet wide. No water will enter the pool from Lake Staedtler. Sides of the pool will have a rip-rap effect. Concrete will be placed over the stones at a later date. The place will be dredged late this month. The dam will be built in a manner to allow complete drainage of the swimming place. The pool will be ready for swimming this summer but all planned improvements will require three years to complete. The State Board of Health has granted approval to the project.

May 1941--

Swimming in Monticello's new pool may start July 1st according to C. M. Stauffer, Village president. With the draining of the old mill flume this week, preliminary work started on the project. The pool will follow the course of the old river bed. Depth will graduate from one foot in the children's end to 9 1/2 feet for diving. The latest equipment in ladders and diving boards will be installed. A dam which can be opened to drain the pool water into the Little Sugar River will constitute the east end of the pool. Part of the water, however, must be pumped out as the depth of the pool will be below normal water level.

September 1941--

Village boys and girls have already used the completed pool waters. Final pouring of concrete ended this week

but many used the pool while workmen were busy completing the final steps. Springs of gushing water delayed the finish of the project for a number of days. The pool is 120 to 130 feet long, 45 feet wide at one end and 30 feet wide at the shallow end. Water to measure one foot deep to gradual depth of nine feet. Three ladders will be attached to walls on both sides. Steps have been built at the shallow end for small children.

July 1942--

Monticello's new swimming pool. mecca of Hot, dusty and tired adults and youngsters since the start of summer



was dedicated at appropriate ceremonies Sunday. Village President, C.M. Stauffer gave the brief dedicatory address, telling of the difficulty in building the pool and of the Village pride in the project. The Monticello school band played several selections. Highlight of the afternoon was the swimming, diving and life-saving exhibition by a group of Monroe aqua-enthusiasts accompanied by Don Huddleston, Recreation park supervisor. Various swimming strokes and diving techniques as well as clown diving. Irwin Kissling is the lifeguard at the local pool.

Note: This pool was demolished in 1987 when the new pool was opened. There were many problems through the years with flooding and muddy waters at that location.

Illinois Central System Shows How Shippers Can Improve Transportation Service

Ordinarily this is a slack period of the year for transportation. However, that is not true of this year. The railroads are doing the heaviest business that they have ever done in their history at this period of the year. In the week ended June 9, the loading of 1,013,249 cars came within less than one-half of 1 per cent of the record week's loading in the history of the railroads of the United States, which was in the week ended October 14, 1920, when the total number of cars loaded was 1,018,539. Notwithstanding the heavy business which the railroads are doing at the present time, there is no car shortage. The heavy traffic is being moved with more ease and greater efficiency than ever before.

The indications are that the railroads will be called upon to handle a much heavier traffic this fall than they are handling now. Shippers have it within their power to help themselves and the public generally, as well as the railroads, by anticipating their needs and placing their orders for transportation at a time when the railroads are in a position to serve them best. In a few weeks the farmers will be needing cars to transport this year's crops. When farm crops are moving to market in the fall, the other traffic of the railroads, including the carrying of coal, is also at its height. We realize that some of the other traffic must move during the fall, but we believe there is much of it that can be transported during the summer, when railway equipment and facilities are idle because the demand for transportation does not equal the capacity of the railroads.

Coal is one of the principal factors in making traffic seasonal. The Illinois Central System is now engaged in storing coal at central points throughout its territory to release equipment for the use of its patrons later on, when the rush of traffic sets in. We hope to have at least a million tons of coal in storage by September 1. Our patrons, familiar with the price of coal, can make their own calculations as to the large amount of money involved in storing this million tons—a storage now being made for the sole purpose of releasing cars for our patrons' use when the heavy traffic begins this fall. By laying in their coal supplies now, when there is plenty of transportation, coal consumers will avoid future inconvenience and at the same time materially help to improve transportation conditions. Moreover, if the demand for coal exceeds the supply that can be transported in the fall months, the effect in all probability will be to increase the price of the coal.

The Illinois Central System is buying large quantities of other materials required in the operation of the railroad and is storing them, so that the movement of this traffic will also be out of the way this fall. We believe that all those who have commodities to be shipped, either in closed or in open-top cars, should seriously consider the advantages to be gained by shipping such commodities at once, even if they have to be stored, rather than to wait until fall.

Stone, gravel and cement dealers and those having to do with the construction of hard roads are to be commended for the successful efforts they have made, and are making, to have road-building material moved while transportation is plentiful. The example so well set by them should be emulated, as far as possible, by all shippers.

This statement is prompted by a desire on our part to see the best possible service rendered those who are depending upon the Illinois Central System for their transportation. We have in mind particularly the farmers who will need transportation this fall, but we believe that an increased movement of traffic immediately will be in the interest of all classes of our patrons.

Constructive criticism and suggestions are invited.

C. H. MARKHAM,
President, Illinois Central System.

Street Concert and Dance Brought 'Em Out

Ideal weather prevailed last evening and the result was that a large number of visitors were in town for the street concert by the Monroe Municipal band. The band put on an exceptionally good program and one that sure struck a responsive chord with the good-natured throng that was in evidence on Main street. High spots in the program were selections in which Miss Charlotte Young and George Van Wageningen appeared as vocalists.

The dance at Karlen's hall was a most successful affair, close to 100 dance numbers having been sold. That Boyd's Studio Quartet made a hit with the dancers here a few weeks ago was evidenced by the large number who greeted the musicians on the return date. Several from Madison were included among the dancers.



Monticello Messenger July 1923

WELTHA BABLER A BRIDE

Married To Rhinehart Theiler at Monroe Tuesday Morning

Miss Weltha Babler, popular Monticello girl, became the bride of Rhinehart Theiler, a well known Monroe young man at a wedding ceremony which was performed at the parsonage of St. John's Evangelical church, Monroe, at 10 o'clock on Tuesday morning of this week. Rev. P. A. Schuh spoke the words that made them one. There were no attendants. The bride's frock was a charming creation of rose marquette crepe covered with Spanish lace.

The bride is the second daughter of Mrs. Henry Babler, living on Prospect avenue. She graduated from the Monticello high school some years ago and subsequently completed a course at the Green county normal, Monroe, since which time she has been successfully engaged in teaching in rural schools near Monticello. She is possessed of a most congenial and friendly disposition and is held in universal esteem by all who know her.

The groom, while a resident of Monroe, is well known to many in this vicinity. He is a son of Mrs. J. H. Theiler, a former resident of Washington township. He obtained his education in the Monroe schools and since the first of the year has been located at Janesville, where he is connected with the Community Theatre company. He obtained his knowledge of the movie business while associated with the Monroe Amusement company and has been making a creditable showing since accepting the Janesville position.

Mr. and Mrs. Theiler are now enjoying a wedding trip to Chicago and other points. They will return to Janesville in the near future and will be at home to their friends at apartment 103, Black Hawk building.

The Messenger joins with the friends of the couple in wishing them an abundance of prosperity and happiness throughout their married life.

Anderson, Iowa
HOUSE FOR SALE - At a sacrifice. Widow forced to sell at once. Beautiful home and furnishings. Due to death of husband, must have cash to meet other obligations - apply - Mrs. CL Dacing, 462 Maple Ave. L.I.C.

That notice might be in this paper.

That house might be your house.

That widow might be your wife.
 but

That could never happen if you took out adequate insurance in

THE EQUITABLE
 LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY
 of the
 UNITED STATES
Chas. Deininger
 Local Agent

Monticello Messenger July 1923

FLORENCE

OIL COOK STOVES



For Better Baking

Do all your baking with a Florence Oil Cook Stove. Cookies, cakes, pies, and all the good things you make turn out right.

The Florence is equally

good for all cooking. It is easy to keep clean. Burns kerosene—a cheap fuel.

Come in and see why the Florence insures better cooking of all kinds.

DICK L. ZENTNER
 The Keen Cutter Store

Just Received.—A new shipment of Victrolas, also the latest Victrola records. New German records also. A. Wuilleumier.

Our straw hat line is now complete. We have all the newest styles and shapes from which you can make a suitable selection. Call now while the assortment is complete. People's Supply Co.

Past newsletters can be found on our website:

www.monticellohistoricalsociety.org

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Monticello Area Historical Society is the acquisition, documentation, preservation and exhibition of artifacts relating to the history and culture of the Monticello area. This collection will be located in our museum, the former Woelffer Drug Store on Main Street in Monticello, Wisconsin.

VISION STATEMENT

The Monticello Area Historical Society strives to promote an interest in the uniqueness of the Monticello area by collecting and displaying artifacts that tell our community history. We further endeavor to enrich the community by connecting them to the past and saving the present to enhance the future.

New on

Main Street



Tri –Insure moved from across the street where it was located from 2008-2023. The site of the building was a mill

which is responsible for the mill pond that started it all to make Monticello the beautiful community it is today. Mr. Smith purchased the mill from Staedtler, razed the old wooden building and had this brick mill building built on the site. This building was later purchased by the village and used as a village hall/fire station for the villages two fire trucks. As an aside, village treasurer, Otto Bontly, hung himself in the basement (see his obituary on our website).



MPPM Mutual Insurance

built an all new structure. The site was home to Monticello's Doctor and later a shooting with the death of Monticello's police officer. The Portman family was the last family to live at this location.





MEMBERSHIP

Mail this form and payment to the museum address or give them to our membership chairperson.

Membership year: May—April

Individual dues - \$20/yr
Family dues - \$30/yr
Lifetime dues - \$500

CASH CHECK PAYABLE TO MAHS

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

EMAIL: _____

PHONE: _____

YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN

THE MONTICELLO AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MEETINGS ARE HELD THE 4TH THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH, **EXCEPT** JULY, NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER, IN THE NORTH ROOM OF ZWINGLI CHURCH AT 7:00 PM. THE PUBLIC IS WELCOME.

MAHS Museum

P.O. Box 463
204 N. Main St.
Monticello, WI 53570
Phone: (608) 938-4216
Email: mahs@tds.net

Hours of Operation

The museum will be open
May until October
but can be open by appointment for anyone or a
group wishing to stop by.

For special group or individual tours,
call the museum at (608) 938-4216 or send your request to
jules.cappelle@gmail.com.

Admission to the museum is free and
a quarterly newsletter from Monticello
Area Historical Society is included with
your membership.

Please consider including the
Monticello Area Historical Society in
your will.

A guided tour of the museum can be
arranged for all groups anytime.

MAHS Museum

P.O. Box 463
204 N. Main St.
Monticello, WI 53570

