



RECOLLECTIONS

JULY 2012

MAHS Museum

P.O. Box 463
204 N. 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
November – April

Board Members

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

Collection Manager

William Zimmerman

Collection Archivist

Karen Gempeler

Volunteer Coordinators

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

MAHS extends condolences to the family of **Alice Woelffer** who passed away this past quarter.

The **Capital Area regional convention** is in Oregon this year on July 11. If anyone wants to go, or for more info, they can call **Mary Davis** (527-3032). The sign up deadline is June 27th, before our general meeting, but I imagine if there is interest we could sign up later.

The May annual dinner and elections were well attended. **Karen Brugger** and **May Burgy** were unanimously re-elected to new terms on the board of directors. **Don Kubly** has assumed the vice-presidency from **Karen Brugger** while all other officers remain the same. We thank them for past and future service.

The museum opened for the 2012 season May 5th. This will be the second and last season for the "Sports of all Sorts" display. We will begin planning for a new display this fall. The display must be created, installed and be ready for the opening of the 2013 season. If you are feeling very creative and have an idea that you think might be developed into an interesting display, please let us know. We'd be happy to include you on the display planning committee.

There are still open dates for docent volunteers this summer. Contact Docent Coordinators **Kay & Bill Dickson** if you can volunteer for a few hours some Saturday.

The new museum awning was installed by **Don Kubly, Bill Dickson, Robert Voss** and **Al Bacher**. If you remember, the old awning fabric was destroyed by high winds last fall.

Reminder: We are still accepting donated items we can sell during the September garage sale fund raiser.

MAHS member **Roger Dooley** will give a history lecture with slideshow on the evening of July 14 at the Zwingli Church basement. It is a Homecoming event sponsored by the Zwingli Christian Brotherhood. The topic will be the history of Monticello's waterfront, from Bacon's mill pond through Lake Staedtler to Lake Montesian.

Donna Ferguson has asked for program ideas from the general membership. If you know of an interesting topic or person, contact Donna during one of our monthly meetings or call or email the museum.

Karen Brugger said she'd like some outside ideas for the museum window displays. Again, email or call the museum or contact Karen at one of our monthly meetings.

On May 18th we gave a museum tour to 24 interested people from the Monroe Methodist church and Monday May 21st we were visited by a group touring Green Co. historical museums for the county tourism committee.

Mrs. Denure's second grade class visited the museum last October. They gave us a nice poster which is currently in our front window plus a book of appreciation letters written/drawn by the children. If you want to see the museum through a child's eye look at their book, very entertaining!

Donations this quarter

Helen Loveland – Newspaper clippings

Carol Strause – Discus used by 1920's track and field team, photographs, pressure cooker.

Beth Tetzlaff - Historic postcards of Monticello

Estate of Hazel Kundert - Monetary bequest

Graves & Marlene Schmalbeck - Monetary donation



Aerial photo of downtown Monticello taken by Jules Cappelle, circa 1984.



Sewer Work Progressing

A. Scully, of the firm of Scully & Koontz, Chicago, with a crew of a dozen live-wire “trench” diggers, has been making remarkable headway in the construction of the local sewerage system during the past week. There was a lull in operations along the entire “front” of last Wednesday when the bulk of the crew struck and returned to Chicago, but Mr. Scully lost no time in hitting the trail back to the big town to round up a bunch of new recruits. The same evening a crew of ten, under the foremanship of a Mr. Dominick, arrived upon the scene, and the offensive was resumed Thursday morning on a more gigantic scale than ever. Yesterday the force of twelve men put in a total of 200 feet, and it is expected that the junction with the South Main street sewer will be made within the next eight or nine days. Thereafter the work on the disposal plant will be undertaken. Six extra men will be added to the force tomorrow.

MONTICELLO MESSENGER, MAY 30, 1917

Street Work is Progressing Paving of Main Street Completed – Crew Now on South Side

The work of paving the streets in Monticello is moving along swimmingly, regardless of the fact that the contractors, Messrs. Fess & Shaffer, have had a whole lot of “beastly” weather to contend with since starting operations some weeks ago. Not only have the contractors had to contend with unbecoming advances on the part of the weather man, but they have also been confronted with a shortage of man power during a great deal of the time. However, the “army” appears to be recruited up to full war strength at the present time and operations are moving along very nicely along the entire front.

The last batch of concrete was poured on Main street yesterday forenoon and the force is now operating on the south side, having started at the Benkert corner. It is thought that the work on the south side will be finished within the next two weeks unless unfavorable weather interferes.

Farmers coming to the village from the west

during the past week or two have been greatly inconvenienced because of the blockade on Main street and it is probable that present conditions will continue for some little time. The concrete is supposed to “age” for a period of three weeks before the street is thrown open to traffic and while a portion of the street may be opened before that time, it will be of no advantage to farmers driving in from certain directions.

MONTICELLO MESSENGER, JULY 11, 1917

Street Paving Finished; Main Street Opened

Messrs. Fess & Shaffer, of Madison, have practically completed their contract here, the last of the paving proper having been completed on South Main street Saturday afternoon. Main street was cleaned and town open to traffic on Monday of this week, while the several blocks on South Main Street and Prospect avenue will be opened for traffic a week from the coming Saturday. The firm will keep a small force of men on the job for a period of close to two weeks, as they have a few odd bits of work still on the mat, including several driveways on the south side for private property owners.

Despite the fact that the contractors were handicapped during most of the entire “siege” as a result of a shortage of help they have made commendable progress since the work was started a few weeks since. Both Mr. Fess and Mr. Shaffer were on the job all the time and at no stage of the proceedings did they show any inclination to slight the work in any particular. The work is a credit to the contractors and village alike and as far as we know it is highly acceptable to the state, county and village officials.

MONTICELLO MESSENGER, JULY 25, 1917

To Auto Drivers

A number of arrests are due to take place in the near future unless certain drivers of automobiles and trucks pay more attention to speed regulations from this date on. The limit is 15 miles per hour within the village limits. Complaint has been made that certain drivers are hitting as high as 25 miles. Drivers are asked to reduce speed or stand the costs of a session in

court.

The request is also made that auto owners park their cars more closely on Main street, especially on Wednesday and Saturday evenings. Fred Jordan, Village Marshal

—MONTICELLO MESSENGER, JULY 1923

Landing Field Plans Bright; Land Is Leased

U. S. Approval Necessary Before Project Sure Thing

With the owners of both tracts of land needed for the proposed federal government emergency landing field for airplanes agreeing to terms and signing contracts for the leasing of the property for 10 years, prospects for the realization of the project for Monticello are the brightest now that they have ever been since the local community was first considered as a site for the project several weeks ago.

Government approval is the sole obstacle which now stands in the way of locating the landing field here, but it is felt generally that federal sanction will be given because the local site is the best available in this locality since other tracts are too far off the course between Chicago and the Twin Cities. The Monticello field also closely maintains the government plan of “spacing” the emergency fields at 50-mile intervals between the two big city points, something which is impossible with other fields said to have been inspected near Albany and Brodhead.

There are a few drawbacks to the local tract as an emergency landing field, and the Government may balk at these shortcomings, but it is not considered likely in view of the Monticello field's advantages over others in this territory. Since the federal airways division plans to start establishing the emergency landing fields this fall if the negotiations for other landing...

Missing Text

....acres will come from Jacob H. Elmer farm, recently purchased by his son, John C. Elmer, proprietor of the Brown Swiss Dairy.

Under terms of the agreement, which, of course, must be approved at Washington, he will receive a yearly rental of \$850 for the tract of 47 3/10 acres.

The remaining land, amounting to slightly less than 18 acres, has been leased from Jacob Legler, who will receive \$550 for his tract. The acreage rentals on the two adjoining tracts are considered the same, Mr. Legler receiving an additional amount for inconvenience because the proposed field would cut up his farm much more than it does the Elmer Property.

At the last minute Tuesday when Mr. Morris was preparing to leave Monticello to definitely abandon the project because of his inability to reach terms for one of the land tracts, local citizens interested themselves and aided in bringing about an agreement.

Word Anxiously Awaited

While there is a feeling of confidence on the part of local citizens that the government will approve the Monticello site, because it is apparently very anxious to locate the field here in view of the length of time spent in the village by Paul Morris, junior civil engineer with the airways division of the department of commerce, there is still the possibility that the plan may not receive official sanction, and word from Washington is consequently awaited with keen interest here.

Should the emergency landing field become a certainty, it will take approximately \$2,000 to put the land into condition, according to Mr. Morris, who based his estimate on the cost involved in other fields he has established. Electric lighting equipment, including a towering beacon light would be installed at the field at a cost to the government of around \$5,000. If the village ever desires to operate the field, it can rent the equipment from the government at a yearly rental of only \$1.00, but must, of course, pay for the lease and the cost of maintenance.

A caretaker is employed at government emergency fields and his salary amounts to from \$20 to \$30 a month. On any jobs about the airport, such as cutting of hay, etc., bids must be submitted before the work is given to anyone. There are number of trees on both the Elmer and Legler tracts of land, and the respective owners

have already been employed by the government to remove them if the field is o. k.'d. Besides the financial remuneration, the owners also get the wood.

MONTICELLO MESSENGER, OCT. 15, 1931



Monticello Main Street parade, circa 1935. This photo predates the first Homecoming parade by two years.