

The Marathon County Historical Society  
Invites You To Attend Our  
**18th Annual Valentine Tea**



Thursday, February 9, 2017  
At 2:00 pm  
Woodson History Center  
410 McIndoe Street, Wausau



Relax & enjoy an elegant  
afternoon tea with delicious  
sweets & savories,  
flowers, linens and a special  
program to  
top off your afternoon.

Members \$25.00

Non-members \$30.00

Space is limited

**Reservations are required**

Call us at 715-842-5750  
and talk to Sara or Janet  
about reserving your  
spot today!

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Sandy Block, Outreach & Program Coordinator  
Ben Clark, Archivist

## PRINTING OF THE WANIGAN

Editor: Sara K. Goetsch  
Co-Editor: Anna Straub



The Marathon County Historical Society  
is supported in part by  
City of Wausau Room Tax Funding.

## Welcome To Our New Members

William Bertram & Karla Kieffer  
Gerald W. & Mary K. Frickenstein  
Lynn Patterson & Daniel Mahaffey  
Thomas & Elaine Schneider  
Brent Zinkel & Dawn Follendorf  
Aaron & Jessica Pince  
Bob & Sally Reinertson  
Sue Anne Loka  
Mr. & Mrs. Orlando Alfonso  
Tracy Hoefs  
Sue Nowak  
Jane Kieffer  
Robert A. Mantz

### • THANK YOU •

- ◆ To Craig Shulta of Hi-Lo Service Company, Inc. and Rib Mountain Glass for reinstalling our chimney cap that blew off this fall.
- ◆ To our reenactors and volunteers that helped make our Christmas at the Houses event so special.
- ◆ To all of our members who attended the Members Only Holiday Reception and made it the most successful to date!
- ◆ To the E.F. Jablonski Family Foundation, Inc. for the donation of an off-site property.
- ◆ To Dianne Ames for the donation of a small step stool for Anna & Sara to use.
- ◆ To Joe Staub, Brendon Goetsch, Alaina Goetsch and Julia Goetsch for their help at the Members Holiday Reception
- ◆ To our volunteers who helped decorate the two houses for Christmas.
- ◆ Darryl & Kathleen Westlund for their donation of copy paper

## Misc...

### Can You Help?

We are looking for anyone who worked at the Fromm Farm. Whether it was as kitchen staff, warehouse help, fox tending or ginseng gathering, we are looking for you. We know the Fromm's were one of the largest employers in the area, so if you didn't work for them, maybe you know someone who did and you can put us in contact with them. The experience you have in your memory will help us create one of the important stories of Marathon County through our Oral History Project.

We don't want these stories to slip away!  
Please contact Sara at 715-842-5750 or at [events@marathoncountyhistory.org](mailto:events@marathoncountyhistory.org) if you or someone you know can help us with this venture.



The Marathon County Historical Society Curators are busy preparing for our next exhibit "Rural Electrification: Outlet for Change." In early December, Kelly Zagrzebski, right, presented a check for \$7,000 from the Wisconsin Public Service (WPS) Foundation to Linda Forbess, left, and Kathy Volkmann for the exhibit. WPS also has been supporting Linda and Kathy with artifacts and local experts as they prepare for the exhibit, which will open in the spring of 2017.

This exhibit will tell the stories of how farm life changed after electricity arrived in rural areas of Marathon County. Through photos and historical artifacts, the exhibit will depict life before and after electricity reached farming areas, as well as the enormous impact it had on the agricultural industry. The introduction of electricity into farming and resulting technologies affected issues such as work hours, size of herds, milk production, life of a farm wife, the family as a whole and how their lives changed economically, time management, education and family time.

#### • GIFTS RECEIVED •

- ◆ Donation from Cyrus Y. Hagge in honor of his brother Rob Hagge
- ◆ Donation from Bert & Leigh Tuckey in honor of Rob & Elke Hagge
- ◆ Donation from Rick & Joyce Lohr in memory of Patricia Prehn
- ◆ Donation from Kathleen Volkmann in memory of Warren Doede
- ◆ Donation from Dave & Jane Johnson in memory of Richard LaCerte
- ◆ Donation from Dave & Jane Johnson in memory of Patte Prehn
- ◆ Gift from the H.J. Hagge Foundation Fund within the Community Foundation of North Central Wisconsin
- ◆ Gift from Robert S. Hagge, Jr. as administered by Wilmington Trust

## Upcoming Events

### 2017 Civil War Book Club

7:00 pm at the Woodson History Center

Led by Prof. Brett Barker-University of Wisconsin Marathon County

On the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the Month (All of the books are paperback):

January 26, 2017: Eric Foner, *Gateway to Freedom: The Hidden History of the Underground Railroad*.

ISBN-10: 0393352196

ISBN-13: 978-0393352191

February 23, 2017: Craig L. Symonds, *The Civil War at Sea*.

ISBN-10: 0199931682

ISBN-13: 978-0199931682

March 23, 2017: Frank R. Freeman, *Gangrene and Glory: Medical Care during the American Civil War*.

ISBN-10: 0252070100

ISBN-13: 978-0252070105

April 27, 2017 Martha Hodes, *Mourning Lincoln*.

ISBN-10: 030021975X

ISBN-13: 978-0300219753

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## Mother & Child Tea

Saturday, February 11, 2017

2:00 pm

Woodson History  
Center



A special afternoon for mothers  
& their son or daughter.

Learn proper tea etiquette, make a special craft  
to take home with you and enjoy gummy sweets  
& treats.

\$25 per mother & child/\$5 each additional child.

**Reservations are Required**

and can be made by calling  
715-842-5750.

Please ask for Sara or Janet.

## Quilt Exhibit Extended

Pieces of the Past: Quilts Tell a Story

The main floor gallery  
features a selection of  
quilts from our  
collection, along with  
stories of the people  
who made them. This  
exhibit has been  
extremely popular and  
will continue through  
August 2017. Don't  
miss this extended  
opportunity to check  
out this exhibit!



## Upcoming Events



# 2nd Annual *Houses in Bloom*

March 7-March 12

This event was so popular last year that our daily attendance quadrupled! This exciting floral event at both the historic Yawkey House and Woodson History Center will be sure to cure the winter blahs and give you a whole new reason for visiting! Immerse yourself in the sights and scents of the awakening season of spring as local florists and creative experts fill the ornate rooms of our grand homes with their unique creations.



### Event Hours

Weekday tours on the hour starting at 9:00 am, last tour at 3:00 pm.

Weekend tours at 1:00, 2:00 & 3:00 pm

### Special Weekend Programming

Woodson History Center

Saturday, March 12 & Sunday, March 13  
1:00, 2:00, 3:00 pm

Be sure to check our website after March 1st for a full list of topics related to flowers, gardens, landscaping, and all things spring!

### Members Only Sneak Peek

Tuesday, March 7  
5:30-7:30

Both houses will be open for members to get a first look at all the fresh designs. You'll be able to talk with local florists about their creative ideas and enjoy light refreshments.

Watch the mail for your personal invite.



# Upcoming Speakers



The Marathon County Historical Society continues its popular lecture series *History Speaks*, which includes a wide variety of topics, including several of our well-liked genealogy workshops, presented by local experts and history enthusiasts.

Our past lectures have received great reviews and amazing attendance. We have planned a full year of presentations, programs that range from genealogy topics to presentations based on current exhibits to some just for fun.

All lectures are presented at the Woodson History Center, have no admission fee, and no registration is required. However, donations are always appreciated. **All presentations begin at 2 pm, unless otherwise noted.**

## **Sunday, January 29 They Came from Norway: Searching for Your Norwegian Roots**

Gary Gisselman will feature the immigration of Norwegians to Marathon County and show the resources available to track your Norwegian ancestors.

## **Sunday, February 19 Civil War Quilt History**

Pat Gaska will explain how women quilters supported the war efforts in the North and the South during the Civil War.

## **Sunday, March 5 Seven Things You Never Knew Happened During the Civil War**

Moving beyond the familiar leaders and battles of the Civil War, in this presentation, Brett Barker, associate professor of history at UW-Marathon County, will reveal the more obscure, bizarre and even comical aspects of the Civil War. Find out why battles stretched across the globe; how adversaries used bank robbery, poisoning and arson; and when the Union army used a "torpedo mule" as a weapon.

## **Sunday, March 26 Cranes & Cultures: China, Vietnam and Bhutan**

Rick Lohr will discuss his travels with the International Crane Foundation in the 1980's to study Siberian, Sarus, and Black-necked Cranes in their natural habitat. His role was to visit schools, village councils and interested groups in rural communities to talk about the value of cranes to their society.

## **Saturday, April 22 The Fromms: Ginseng and Fox Farming**

Ben Clark outlines the history of the remarkable Fromm family and their lasting impact on the world of fur farming and fashion.

## **Sunday, April 30 Rural Electrification in Central Wisconsin**

Gary Gisselman talks about how federal state advancements brought electricity to the rural areas of central Wisconsin in the first half of the 20th century.

# Inauguration Facts

January 20 will be the 58th inaugural ceremony for the president of the United States. This does not in any way mean to show a particular political leaning. We at the Historical Society are “Switzerland”...completely neutral. Therefore, enjoy these interesting facts from past inaugurations.

## INAUGURAL FIRSTS:

- ◆ In 1793 in Philadelphia, George Washington delivers what remains to this day the shortest inaugural address – 135 words.
- ◆ In 1801, Thomas Jefferson became the first president inaugurated in Washington D.C.
- ◆ In 1809, James Madison held the first inaugural ball. Tickets were \$4.
- ◆ In 1825, John Quincy Adams became the first president to wear long pants, instead of knee breeches, for his swearing-in.
- ◆ In 1837, Martin Van Buren became the first president who was not born a British subject.
- ◆ In 1845, James Polk’s inauguration was the first covered by telegraph.
- ◆ In 1865, at Abraham Lincoln’s second inauguration, African-Americans participated in the inaugural parade for the first time.
- ◆ In 1897, William McKinley’s inauguration was the first recorded by a motion picture camera.
- ◆ In 1921, Warren G. Harding became the first president to ride to and from his inauguration in an automobile.
- ◆ In 1929, Herbert C. Hoover’s inauguration was the first recorded by talking newsreel.
- ◆ In 1937, Franklin D. Roosevelt became the first president sworn in on Jan. 20.
- ◆ In 1949, Harry S. Truman’s inauguration was the first to be televised.
- ◆ In 1961, John F. Kennedy became the first – and so far the only – Roman Catholic sworn in as president.
- ◆ In 1963, Lyndon Johnson became the first, and only, president to be sworn in on a plane.
- ◆ In 1974, Gerald R. Ford became the first unelected vice president to be sworn in as president.
- ◆ In 1997, Bill Clinton’s inauguration was the first to be broadcast live on the Internet.
- ◆ In 2005, for George W. Bush’s swearing-in, officials designed anti-counterfeiting security into the tickets for the first time.
- ◆ In 2009, Barack Obama became not only the first African-American to be sworn in as president, but also the first to be born in Hawaii.

The longest inaugural address was delivered by William Henry Harrison. It was 8,445 words, nearly two hours long and -- if that wasn't bad enough -- likely killed him. In April 1841, one month after he was sworn in, Harrison died of pneumonia, believed to have been brought on by exposure to the elements on a cold and rainy Inauguration Day.

As for Inauguration Day weather, the snowiest on record was in 1909, when 10 inches of snow fell while William H. Taft was sworn into office. The wettest on record was in 1937, for Franklin D. Roosevelt’s second inauguration, when 1.77 inches of rain fell.

George Washington dined alone after his inauguration in 1789. The first president to be honored with a Congressional luncheon was Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1953; some 50 guests gathered in the Old Senate Chamber. In 1981, the tradition began of holding the lunch in Statuary Hall.

Contrary to popular misconception, Theodore Roosevelt—*not* the dashing John F. Kennedy—was the youngest man inaugurated, at 42 years of age. Ronald Reagan was the oldest man inaugurated, just 17 days short of his 70th birthday.

No one throws a party like Abraham Lincoln, whose inauguration was so wild, the police had to be called in.



Marathon County Historical Society  
410 McIndoe Street  
Wausau, Wisconsin 54403

*Return Service Requested*

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Wausau, WI  
54403  
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***Our Mission Statement***

*To collect, preserve, advance, and disseminate the knowledge of the history of Marathon County and the State of Wisconsin*



**LOCATIONS AND HOURS**

**WOODSON HISTORY CENTER**

410 McIndoe St., Wausau, WI 54403  
Office: 715-842-5750 Library: 715-848-0378  
Fax: 715-848-0576  
Library Hours: Tuesday through Friday  
9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.  
Web site: [www.marathoncountyhistory.org](http://www.marathoncountyhistory.org)

**YAWKEY HOUSE MUSEUM**

403 McIndoe St., Wausau, WI 54403  
Hours: Tuesday through Friday  
9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
Saturday and Sunday  
1:00 - 4:30 p.m.  
Yawkey House tours are offered on the hour,  
last tour starts at 3:00 p.m.  
Closed on Mondays and Holidays.