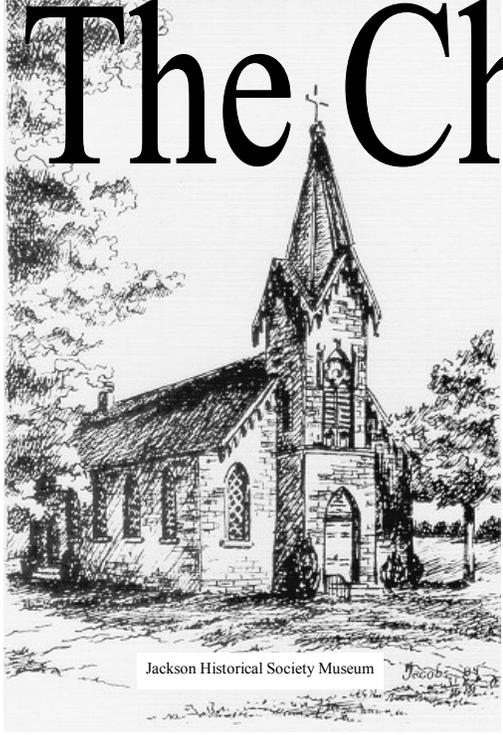


The Church Mouse



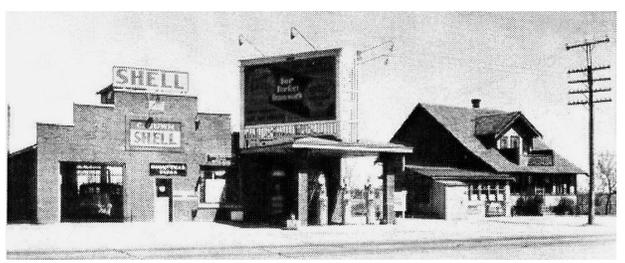
Jackson Historical Society Museum

Volume 19 Issue 2 Jackson Historical Society July 2014

GUMM'S CORNERS STILL A JACKSON LANDMARK

Gumm's Corners was established at the intersection of Highway 15 and 55, Jackson (now Highway P at Sherman Road) in 1920. Originally built as a garage to service people who traveled from the cities to the surrounding lakes. It soon became a popular restaurant which today continues to be a Jackson landmark.

In 1924, a restaurant and tavern were built and became well known to area residents and motorists and frequently became a haven for motorists who found overnight shelter there when roads closed in during severe snowstorms.



During the early days of the restaurant space, the Kaehny girls helped out. Later the five sons of Clarence and Helen Gumm all played a role in helping the family conduct the garage and restaurant-tavern business at Gumm's Corners.

In the late 1930's, Helen and Marvin Gumm attended Red Cross classes to become certified in first aid. After they completed their training, Gumm's Corners became a certified first aid station, which helped many accident victims, both in-house and on-call.

John Gumm, Marvin's brother, took over the garage business in 1945, after his return from service in World War II, selling Kaiser-Fraser cars and home appliances including the first TV's in the area. This facility was eventually rented out.

The senior Gums operated the restaurant-tavern business until their retirement in 1960 when Clarence and Helen's son, George, and his wife Betty Gumm took over.

Clarence and Helen, who at times, maintained a keen interest in county affairs, followed a tradition started in the late 1800's by Peter Gumm, father of Clarence, of remembering the county war dead on Memorial Day with a flag placed at each veteran's grave at six neighborhood cemeteries. Their son, George and his family, carried on the tradition.

Clarence Gumm senior passed away on Memorial day, May 30, 1966. Helen Gumm died November 20, 1975.

Betty and George Gumm operated the new restaurant which was built in 1962, until it was leased to Wayne, Betty Gumm's brother, and his wife, Jeanne Heidel, in 1969. The Heidels had worked for the Gums since 1962.

In June of 1970, the Heidels purchased the restaurant from the Gums and the name was changed to Heidel's.

(LANDMARK Continued on page 3)

MEMBERSHIP DUES

Your annual **\$15** dues cover a calendar year starting in **January**. The current year for your membership is shown on The Church Mouse address label to the right of the zip code.

Your dues include a subscription to the Church Mouse and help us preserve Jackson history.

JHS MEETINGS TIMES

The Jackson Historical Society meets the 2nd Monday of every other month, Jan/Mar/May/Jul/Sep/Nov, at 7:00pm.

JHS meetings are held at 1860 Mill Road, Jackson, in our restored, Karl Groth log home. Visitors are welcome.

JHS OFFICERS

- Nancy Ebeling—President
- Jerry Prochno—Vice President
- Lenore Kloehn—Treasurer
- Jim Kliese—Secretary

BOARD MEMBERS

- All JHS Officers, Russ Hanson,
- Royal Natzke, and Elmer Kloehn



JACKSON MUSEUM'S FUTURE UP IN AIR

Landmark Shows its Years

This article by Mary Beth Winkowski appeared in the West Bend Daily News on Wednesday, July 13, 1994. It shows what could happen if people who are concerned about their local history fail to support their historical society. Fortunately this historic landmark was rescued through the efforts of many local people. Read on to learn what almost happened.

The 120-year old landmark church museum on Mill Road that once welcomed eager history-seekers to its collections now attracts only raccoons and rain.

But, a few active members of the once-busy Jackson Historical Society are hoping they won't have to disband or abandon the carpenter-gothic church that has been a repository for family and Jackson community history.

"It's reached a point where something has to be done or the building will be beyond repair," said Ray Dausman, President of the society.

The town owns the property which includes the former Immanuel Lutheran Church, its cemetery and an 1886 log school, once used for living history lessons for local school children.

The town has leased the buildings to the society and maintained them, but Dausman said town funding for their maintenance is it question.

Society members plan to meet with the Town Board to discuss what the town intends to do, or not do, with the property.

Town Clerk Gordon Hoffmann said that the discussion is on the agenda for Thursday's 7:30 p.m. meeting at the Town Hall.

"If something isn't done, everything we collected in the last 19 years could be lost," said Dausman, pointing to curling paint and water spotted walls inside the church. While some of the more valuable artifacts are stored at member's homes, the artifacts and papers inside the building are deteriorating rapidly from the elements.

Water has seeped in from leaks in the roof, ruining an old piano, and leaving a gaping hole in the choir loft wall. Moisture has curled up some of the fading old photos. And raccoons left their footprints on the altar and up to the stained glass window behind it.

Dausman said he and other feel that more people would be concerned about the museum's plight if they knew about it.

"We have to have more than a few members to do the work," said member Mary Hanson

The building is sound, but the roof needs replacing and interior painting and plastering is needed.

The church was originally founded by German Lutherans who came to Kirzhayn from Pomerania. They built a log church in 1853 and later the brick church out of bricks they made by hand on the site.

Organized in 1975, the society published a local history, held ice cream socials, and compiled an extensive history of the area, including hundreds of photographs and pioneer belongings and books.

Dausman said the society wants to reorganize as an active educational group and to move the valuable archives out of the museum into a climate controlled building that will protect them. A reading room and

facilities such as heating and plumbing and lighting would also make the site more attractive to users.

Dausman said that people who are concerned about the museum and the society's future should call him at 677-xxxx or call Mary Hanson at 677-xxxx.

"I want to find out if people want to get involved, so they can decide what to do with their own history," said Dausman.

In 2014, the condition of our buildings is no longer a major concern. The buildings were brought back to health and have been maintained and improved. A restored two-story log home has been added. We have an excellent historic site.

What concerns the society today is our need for additional active members to help guide the society. It is again time "to find out if people want to get involved, so they can decide what to do with their own history". The people responded in 1994 and saved the society.

To continue the Jackson Historical Society into the future, we need your help once again in 2014. Become an active member. Join us!

JOIN JHS!

History is important, as knowledge of the past helps us to understand the present and provides us guidance into the future.

Help guide your Jackson Historical Society. Become an **active** member. E-mail jhsheritage@sbcglobal.net, call Russ Hanson—262-677-3888, Nancy Ebeling—262-677-3957 Jerry Prochnow—262-338-8867, or join JHS at the annual **Raspberry Festival** on Sunday, September 7th.
JOIN JHS.



JACKSON MARSH WILDLIFE AREA TURNS 62 YEARS OLD

Jackson Marsh was approved as a State Wildlife Area in 1952 because of its value for wildlife and hunting opportunities it provided. Land acquisition has proceeded slowly since then with 2,312 acres now under state ownership. The core of the property is the 1,571 acre Jackson Swamp Natural Area consisting of lowland hardwoods, cedar and tamarack. Around the perimeter of the woodland, two areas have been developed as dike flowage areas, and several additional potholes have been constructed. Upland fields, previously farmed, have been planted to trees and grassland or are sharecropped to provide wildlife food and cover.

(LANDMARK Continued from page 1)

An open patio garden area behind the main bar was enclosed in 1972 to increase the banquet facilities. A 3 1/2 car garage was added in 1974.

In February 1975, construction began to add an upper floor to the residence which is connected to the restaurant. The project yielded four additional bedrooms, a bath, and library-study area.

For the past 32 years, Wayne and Jeanne have operated Heidel's Restaurant. The business has expanded by adding off premise catering and two sand volleyball courts that provide summer activity and enjoyment for area residents. A wedding gazebo was added to accommodate on premise weddings.

**Heidel's Restaurant has recently been purchased and is now called Domans Restaurant.*

Article by Amy Swanson—West Bend Daily News of February 25, 2002



Sept 1

2
0
1
4

Labor Day



**SUNDAY
SEPT. 7th—12-5pm**

RASPBERRY FESTIVAL

**SERVING OUR EXCELLENT
AMISH MADE RASPBERRY PIE**



**HONEY GROVE
ICE CREAM**



**HOT DOGS
& BRATS**



FRESH RASPBERRY PIE

HONEY & HONEY PRODUCTS

FARM FRESH PRODUCE

**HOT BUTTERED
SWEET CORN**

**TOUR OUR
RESTORED 1850'S
KARL GROTH LOG
HOME**



MUSIC

**ATTEND A CLASS IN SESSION IN
OUR ONE-ROOM SCHOOLHOUSE**

**SILENT AUCTION
12:30—3:30PM**

JACKSON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

1860 Mill Road
Driving, take Division Rd. south off Hwy. 60 at round-about to Mill Rd.- turn West to festival site. Or, take Maple Rd. south off Hwy. 60 to Mill Rd.- turn EAST to festival site. Parking in back.



**SILENT
AUCTION
ITEMS**

The Jackson Historical Society's silent auction to be held during the Raspberry Festival on September 7th is our annual fund raising event. It's success relies on your donating items for it. Please check your attic, basement, and garage and see what "treasures" you have to donate to JHS. We are currently accepting donated items.

Please contact Lenore Kloehn (262) 377-2142 if you have items you wish to donate.

Your donations help the Jackson Historical Society preserve your history. Thanks.

**JHS DISPLAY AT
WEST BEND LIBRARY**

Music is the subject for a display at the West Bend Library.

For personal entertainment in the park, we have on display our Modernola "picnic portable" phonograph. It plays 78rpm records, no electricity needed. Just wind it up! Easy to use and secure to carry, it was purchased about 1920.

The Sears and Roebuck catalogue from the early 1900's included an inexpensive line of musical instruments. Our Marceau & Co. coronet,

purchased about 1920, may have taken part in



many local band concerts.

Both items are on display at the West Bend Library. Stop by and relive a bit of area history.



WHO REALLY ARRIVED FIRST AND WHEN?

Who were our earliest inhabitants? The story continues.

At the end of the 1800's large skeletons were discovered in Wisconsin and across the country with features that did not match those of early arrivals from Asia. Did all our earliest inhabitants come across the land bridge from Siberia to Alaska 11,500 years ago or had there been still earlier arrivals from some other parts of the ancient world? Archaeological sites continue to be discovered that seem to indicate that possibility. Perhaps people from Europe should be included in the early inhabitant category. Two interesting sites in eastern United States, Meadowcroft Rockshelter in SW Pennsylvania and Cactus Hill in northern Virginia seem to support that suggestion. Let's take a look.

MEADOWCROFT ROCKSHELTER

A group of archaeologists arrived at the Meadowcroft Rockshelter site in 1973, and found the remains of camp fires. A little bit of digging revealed more fire pits and colonial era glass bottles. Apparently, human beings had been gathering at this site for quite some time.

Digging deeper, the archaeologists found more fire pits, and bits of animal bone and basketry, as well as fragments and flakes from the making of stone knives, arrowheads, and spear points.

Judging from the archaeological record, the first humans appeared at Meadowcroft anywhere from 16,000 to 12,000 years ago. They travelled in small bands, dressing themselves in the skins of animals. In the cold climate of a dying Ice Age, they took shelter in the natural rock formation that provided protection from animal predators, human enemies, and the elements.

The rockshelter at Meadowcroft is a natural formation carved out of brown sandstone. It is located in the southwestern corner of Pennsylvania, not far from the Ohio River, a major route of travel for the peoples of ancient America. While not a "cave" the rockshelter's walls and overhang provided plenty of protection from the elements.

Carbon-14 dating on charcoal and bone fragments recovered from its ancient fire pits suggests that humans may have occupied this site as early as 16,000 years ago. If that is the case, then it is one of the oldest sites of human occupation this far documented, pushing back the 11,500 year-old-date generally associated with the Clovis site in New Mexico.

Like other Paleo-Indians, these earliest humans that took shelter at Meadowcroft were probably nomadic hunter-gatherers who traveled in



small bands of about 20-30 people. The workmanship evident in the tools and tool fragments they left behind indicates that they were skilled craftsmen as well as hunters. They fashioned stone projectile points for spears and relied on



cooperative techniques to harvest what they needed from the land and rivers.

For thousands of years, the Meadowcroft Rockshelter offered advantages to these nomadic peoples of northeastern America. It was large enough to shelter small groups of people against the elements and their enemies. It did not require the time-consuming construction of man-made shelter and its permanence meant that it could be used year after year, over millennia.

CACTUS HILL

Cactus Hill, discovered in the mid 1980's, is located on a terrace of the Nottoway River in northern Virginia about 45 miles south of Richmond. Earliest human occupations apparently



date to between 20,000 and 18,000 years ago, again predating the Clovis culture.

Archaeologists have proposed the Solutrean model, named after an archaeological site near a village in eastern France. They suggest that the famous Solutrean cave painters, who also made highly sophisticated stone tools, were likewise sea hunters like the Arctic Inuit people, could have crossed the

(ARCHAEOLOGY Continued on page 6)



8th GRADE MATH IN 1928

**Are you as smart
As an 8th grader?**

Mel and Eunice Hecken-
dorf donated a *Stryer-Upton Arith-
metics for the Higher Grades* book to
the society.

Wishing to keep our mem-
bership's math skills up to date, I
have included some math problems
from the book for you to complete.
Good luck!

Mr. Pearson has a 50 acre
farm and uses horses for plowing
and sowing.



1) His horses were valued
at \$185 each. By investing his
money in horses, he lost 5% inter-
est yearly on the value of each. He
also lost 8% yearly of the value of
each through the depreciation of
the horses. How much per horse
did he lose in interest and deprecia-
tion every year?

2) The yearly expenses for
feeding and keeping each horse
were: [1] 3 1/4 tons of hay at \$16 a
ton; [2] 56 bu. Of oats at \$.48 a
bushel; [3] 52 bu. Of corn at \$.68 a
bushel; and [4] shelter, care, shoe-
ing, etc. \$54 a year. Find the total
yearly expenses of feeding and
keeping each horse.

3) Each of the horses aver-
ages 960 hr. of work yearly. Find
the hourly cost for the labor of a
horse.

4) A man who Mr. Pearson
hired plowed 1 4/5 acres with a 2-
horse team in a 10 hour day. How
much did the labor of the horses

cost for the day?

5) The hired man was paid
\$2.50 a day. What was the total
cost of the plowing? What was
the cost per acre?

Mr. Pearson went on to
purchase a new tractor and sell



the horses, but we'll save those
compilations for another day.

Answers to these horse
questions will be located on page
6. No peeking. Pencil and paper
(and eraser) only.

The book will be on dis-
play at the Raspberry Festival for
those seeking additional math
problems.

KEOWN'S CORNERS

One man's vision

Keown's Corners was a
vision of Edward Butler who had
dreamed of a town growing along
the road (Hwy. NN & Maple Rd.).
It is named after Patrick Keown,
who married Barbara Stransky,
and first settled the 120 acres of
government land in 1844.

Keown's land had a lot to
offer ad there was waterpower for
a sawmill. Butler convinced sever-
al families to settle in the small
community, including the Bick-
fords and Passmores.

The area continued to
grow to include a cheese factory,
blacksmith shop, tavern, general
store, post office, and a sawmill.

Charles Quade built the

cheese factory on the northeast cor-
ner of Maple Rd. and Highway NN.
The cheese factory was operated by



Charles Koein, John Babler, Ben
Boden, Mike Thelen, and Andrew
Schmidt.

Sebastian Casper and John
Schwinn ran the general store, post
office, and saloon with a dance hall
above.



In 1913, Theodore Weinand
and Nick Weinand bought the tave-
rn property and then sold it to
Robert Blau. The store which was
named Artistic Gardens was re-
modeled with booths and lattice
covered with artificial flowers and
vines.

Other owners of Artistic
Gardens included George Berger,
Joseph Schaefer, Hans Meister, Earl
Schroeder, Art Buch and Alois Lau-
fer.

After the Weinand's sold
the store and saloon, they built a
garage in Keown's corner just
southwest of the store and saloon,
to sell International and Lindsay
Brothers farm implements.

In 1936, the Laufers held
roller skating parties as well as

(KEOWN Continued on page 6)

AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETIES EVENTS

RICHFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY July 26th, Art at the Mill; August 17th, Vintage Baseball & Car Show, Sept. 20-21, Threshere Contact www.richfieldhistoricalsociety.org for information on events.

GERMANTOWN HISTORICAL SOCIETY July 25th-26th-27th, German Fest. September 27th & 28th, Oktoberfest. Contact the Germantown Historical Society at germantownhistoricalsociety.org for more information.

POMMERSCHER VEREIN FREISTADT For information on events, Please contact—information@pommerschervereinfreistadt.org.

WASHINGTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY Please contact the historical society at <http://www.historyisfun.com> and click EVENTS for more information.



The Editor welcomes comments on the newsletter. Please mail all suggestions for articles, etc., to The Church Mouse, 1921 Hwy. 60, Jackson, WI 53037, or phone (262) 677-3888, or e-mail jhsheritage@sbcglobal.net. Russ Hanson, Editor

(ARCHAEOLOGY Continued from page 4)

North Atlantic on pack ice to the east coast of North America and eventually to Cactus Hill.

Archaeological data recovered from Cactus Hill document that the site contains a full chronological sequence of human occupation dating from as early as 20,000 to 18,000 years ago up through the latest prehistoric time periods. Early Cactus Hill-like points from elsewhere have

been reported. The fact suggests that the earliest occupants at Cactus Hill were not merely a founding population-or the first ever in the area, but established hunter-gatherers who had intimate knowledge of the Nottoway River Valley and possible beyond. The implication is that Cactus Hill is not the oldest human site in the Americas.

If you'd like to pursue additional information on who our earliest inhabitants were, when they arrived, and where they may have come from, Google site locations mentioned in this article or glacial periods such as the Oldest Dryas, Older Dryas, and Younger Dryas periods. Glacial "ice ages" often accelerated the movement of people seeking a warmer climate. Discoveries continue to be made. The search continues.



(KEOWN Continued from page 5)

dances and the new name was Artistic Roller Rink. Wednesday night was "sweetheart night". A boy could pay 25 cents and could bring his girl free. The Laufer family also performed in skating competitions.

In 1949, a new hall was constructed around the old hall. Several fires at Artistic Roller Rink resulted in other remodeling.

In 1962, a fire destroyed most of the Keown residence. The old cheese factory, garage and blacksmith shop, have since disappeared. The tavern and roller rink were destroyed by a fire January 1, 1989.

Article by Amy Swanson—West Bend Daily News of January 7th, 2002

**HELP!
VOLUNTEER
DRIVERS
NEEDED!**



The snows of winter are now a memory. They have given way to the rains of spring and the warmth of summer. Our lawn at the Jackson Historical Society continues to grow rapidly and needs to be mowed weekly. Your Jackson Historical Society needs your help mowing its lawn. Our lawn tractor is gassed up and ready to mow.

Give us a hand. Drivers needed!

If you can occasionally volunteer a couple of hours during this summer to help mow our lawn, please contact us. Call Jerry Prochnow at 262-338-8867, Nancy Ebeling at 262-677-3957, or Russ Hanson at 262-677-3888. Our e-mail is jhsheritage@sbcglobal.net. We're waiting to hear from you.

Math Book Answers

- 1) Interest \$9.25; depreciation, \$14.80; total loss, \$24.05
- 2) Expenses \$168.24; Total cost, \$192.49.
- 3) 3) \$.20
- 4) \$4.00
- 5) \$6.50 Total; \$3.61 Cost/acre

WHAT HAPPENS TODAY WILL BE HISTORY TOMORROW!