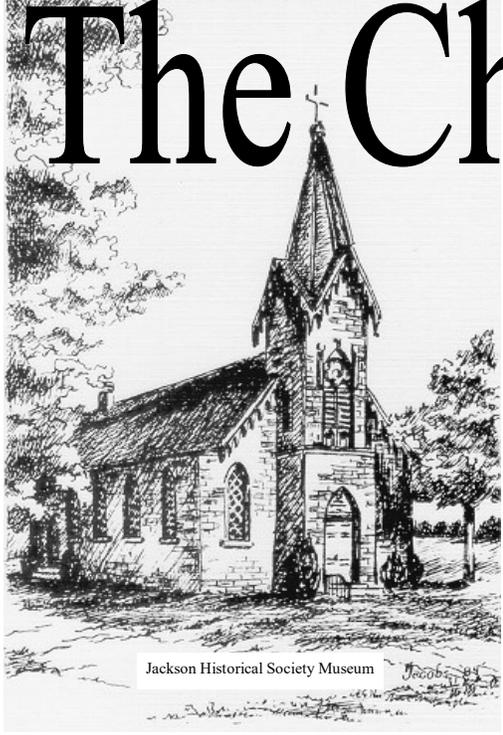


The Church Mouse



Jackson Historical Society Museum

Volume 23 Issue 3 Jackson Historical Society November 2017

MOVERS AND SHAKERS IN WISCONSIN'S HISTORY Some Folks Who Made a Difference.

There is an old saying that "Some people watch things happen," while "others wonder what happened," and still "others make things happen." *Movers and Shakers* make things happen.

Movers and Shakers came into the language in 1874 as part of an ode written by a British poet, Arthur, O'Shaughnessy (See Ode page 2). However, the phrase did not come into common use until later in the 20th century and is still being used today.

We often discover *Movers and Shakers* inadvertently. We drive on a road named after them, or perhaps into a community or county bearing their name. Yet, when we do, we seldom associate their name with their deeds. Wisconsin history has it's share of *Movers and Shakers* who are worthy of a look back to see why they achieved that recognition. Here are a few of my *Movers and Shakers*.

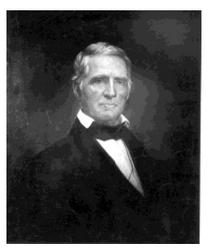
Andrew Jackson was a war hero, war of 1812 and 7th President of the United States 1829-1837. He served in the Revolutionary War, was Military Governor of Florida, and a U. S. Senator. Town Ten, Range 20 East, was incorporated as the Town of Jackson in 1846. Now, although I have not seen a document proving that Jackson was named for Old Hickory, President Andrew Jackson, the odds are pretty good that it was. President Andrew Jackson was a *Mover and Shaker*. However, if you were driving through the Town of Jackson in Burnett County, WI, you'd discover that it was named for Stonewall Jackson, Confederate Civil War General.



Now, if we drive slightly west, we enter the Town of Polk. The Town was named for James Knox Polk, 1795-1849, the 11th President of the United States. Known as "Young Hickory" and a protégé of Andrew Jackson, Old Hickory, he served in the U.S. House of Representatives, was elected Speaker of the House, and was Governor of Tennessee. The Town of Jackson recognized President Polk by naming a post office on the corner of Church St. and Western Ave., the Young Hickory Post Office. *Mover and Shaker?* Sure!



Looking at counties in the United States, 31 are named Washington, including ours, 26 Jefferson, 24 Jackson, and 4 Dodge of which three are named for *Mover and Shaker* Henry Dodge, Henry County, IA, Dodge County MN, and Dodge County WI. Henry Dodge was born in Indiana and came to Wisconsin in 1827. Dodge took a prominent part in the Black Hawk War of 1832 as Colonel of the Iowa County militia, and was appointed the first Territorial



(*Movers & Shakers* continued on page 2)

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

- Rob Mielke—President
- Jerry Prochnow—Vice President
- Lenore Kloehn—Treasurer
- Nancy Ebeling—Secretary

BOARD MEMBERS

- JHS Officers, Russ Hanson,
- Elmer Kloehn, Gordon Ziemann

MOVERS AND SHAKERS

Although the term is in common use today to mean people who make things happen, its history began in 1874 in an ode composed by British poet of Irish decent, Arthur, William, Edger O'Shaughnessy, for a book he was writing. The phrase entered the lexicon in the 1930's, but didn't become popular until the 1960's and later. It is in common use today. Here is that O'Shaughnessy ode.

We are the music makers,
And we are the dreamers of dreams,
Wandering by lone sea-breakers
And sitting by desolate streams;—
World-losers and world-forsakers,
On whom the pale moon gleams:
Yet we are the movers and shakers
Of the world for ever, it seems.

With wonderful deathless ditties,
We build up the world's great cities.
And out of a fabulous story,
We fashion an empire's glory.
One man, with a dream, at pleasure
Shall go forth and conquer a crown.
And three, with a new song's measure
Can trample an empire down.

We, in the ages lying,
In the buried past of the Earth,
Built Nineveh with our sighing
And Babel itself with our mirth.
And o'erthrew them with prophesying
To the old of the New World's worth.
For each age is a dream that is dying,
Or one that is coming to birth.

(Movers & Shakers continued from page 1)

governor of Wisconsin. He would go on to serve as a delegate to Congress and U.S. Senator.

Some influential Jackson folks have been written about in previous Church Mouse issues but not identified as the *Movers and Shakers* they were. Here are a couple of Jackson residents who qualify.

Franz Reis emigrated to the Town of Jackson from the Hunsrück area of Prussia about 1848. He arrived with few "Thalers" in his pockets. He worked hard, saved his earnings and bought land, much of it where the Village of Jackson stands today. In fact, as the small community grew, it was called Reissville. When Franz learned that the railroad was planning to build a line through the area, he gained community support,



offered the company right-of-way through his land, and gave them land for a depot. The growth that followed, led Reissville to become the Village of Jackson in 1912. His actions qualify Franz Reis as a *Mover and Shaker*.

Some years later, Reuben Schmahel helped the Town of Jackson continue to move forward.

Reuben served 44 years on the Jackson Town Board, 38 years as Board Chairman. He also



served 20 years on the Jackson School Board. Later, he served on the County Board of Supervisors, 22 years as Board Chairman. Reuben was a strong advocate for area history and historical societies. Working for the area at both the local and county level, Reuben got things done. Reuben's home is a Washington County Historic Marker Site. Reuben is another of our *Movers and Shakers*.

While driving into West Bend, I often travel on E. Kilbourn Avenue and wonder why Byron Kilbourn was so honored. I know he was a Yankee, who came to Wisconsin in 1834 from Ohio and bought some land west of the Milwaukee River where he founded Kilbourntown. With Solomon Juneau, Juneautown on the Eastside, and George Walker, Walkers Point to the south, he founded Milwaukee. Kilbourn was Mayor of Milwaukee twice. But, why would West Bend name an avenue after him? In 1845, the Wisconsin Territorial Legislature authorized the building of a road connecting Fond du Lac and Milwaukee. Byron Kilbourn, one of the highway commissioners and Jasper Vliet, a

(Movers & Shakers continued on page 6)



A BIG CROWD ON A BEAUTIFUL DAY!

Raspberry Festival 2017 could not have asked for a nicer day, not too cool, not too hot with bright sunshine, a *Goldilocks* kind of day. The entertainment tent was set up and ready for music of The Barn Band and a special performance by the Pommersche Tanzdeel Freistadt. Other tents with benches for sitting and eating were in place for our many guests. Our tents and servers were ready to begin serving our famous Amish made raspberry pie alamode with Honey Grove ice cream. Last year our supply of raspberry pies ran out earlier than expected, so this year we increased our supply by almost 50%, and guess what, we ran out a little early again. They're that good! Brats, hot dogs, and roasted sweet corn were also on the menu. Other tents were set up by special vendors, including fresh vegetables, and for special displays. Antique cars and trucks, antique engines and water pumps, old lawn mowers and miniatures. Wisconsin Amateur Radio Club set up an operating ham radio station. Historical demonstrators operated a spinning wheel, a hand powered drill press, foot powered lathe, washed clothes with a washboard, and made sausage. All our historical buildings were open for tours. Our silent auction in the church museum offered many excellent values on a variety of items. Shortly before noon our parking lot and Mill road parking was filling up and Raspberry Festival 2017 began. And so it remained all afternoon. All our guests had a good time and so did we. Thanks for making the 2017 Raspberry Festival one of our best. See you at the 2018 Raspberry Fest.





ONE-ROOM SCHOOL VISIT

Teacher Doris Koeller welcomed third graders from First Immanuel Lutheran School in Cedarburg as they stepped off their large



yellow school bus on October 6th, and stepped back in time to the 1860's. Thirty-eight students came to see the Jackson Historical Society Museum, the restored log home, and the old one-room schoolhouse.

Girls put on long skirts and pinafores, and boys wore suspenders and kerchiefs. Once they were seated in the old-time desks, they read from McGuffey Readers, wrote math problems on their slates with chalk, and used a quill made from a goose feather to write their name with ink.

Parents who came along helped dictate words for a spelling bee, and helped with indoor recess games. Children took turns playing Blind Man's Bluff, marbles, and

jacks. Once outside, we were able to play Annie, Annie, Over, and Game of Graces (tossing hoops with attached ribbons and catching the hoops with sticks).



We also had fun keeping metal hoops rolling, running after them with sticks. One third grader was willing to show us how to bob for apples.



We enjoyed eating our old fashioned lunches at the picnic tables, using metal lunch pails



with burlap covering that had been stitched with colorful thread.

Students also spent some time in the restored log home and

FAMILY GENEALOGY BOOK DONATED

Royal Natzke, former JHS President, continues his good work producing historical reference books. His book, *Pioneer Church Records Speak* remains a popular seller for the Jackson Historical Society and is available this Christmas.

His latest book is a beautifully done family genealogy. It covers the Michael Natzke and Bertha Wilke families. He has just donated a copy to the society for future reference.

Thanks Royal.

REFERENCE

The Jackson Historical Society has available for reference in our museum, a number of family histories/genealogies.

We also have copies of Land Patents for land purchased within the Town of Jackson from the Federal Government.

If you feel that this material may be of help with your family research, please send us an e-mail at jhsheritage@sbcglobal.net and let us know what you're looking for. We may be able to help.

in the church museum learning how people lived in the 1860's.

Stepping back in time helped us all realize how thankful we can be that we no longer need to share a ladle with a pail of water, and we get to use a modern restroom!





Looking for something special to give as a Christmas gift? We've got a couple of great ideas for you.

Why not give a copy of **THE HISTORY OF JACKSON, WISCONSIN 1842-2001**. It's 200 pages full of information about Jackson way back when! Good reading! Good reference!

Or, consider giving a copy of **PIONEER CHURCH RECORDS SPEAK 1847-1974**. It's a 220 page story of Immanuel Lutheran Church of Jackson, through its church records. It's also an excellent genealogical resource.

Either book is available for \$20 (\$25 if mailed in a padded envelope)-Please contact the Jackson Historical Society—Royal Natzke @ 1-262-334-9811 or rdnatzke@yahoo.com The books are also available for pickup in Jackson at the Village Hall, the Community Center, and at the Jackson Town Hall on Division Rd. In West Bend, stop by The History Center Gift Shop. Or, contact the Church Mouse editor for help.

Holidays are on the way and you're probably looking for some special gifts. Give them one of our books. They'll appreciate it!

THE JACKSON HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

FACEBOOK

Check out the Jackson Historical Society's Facebook page for what's happening at JHS.



LOST CEMETERIES

As I drive through Jackson and surrounding areas, I often catch a glimpse of a small cemetery with a few monuments, often not very well maintained, sometimes in a wooded area, and I wonder about it's history. Who is buried there? When? Family cemetery? Church cemetery? Has it been abandoned or is it still maintained? What is the rest of the story that is buried there?

JHS Board Member, Gordon Ziemann wonders as well and will begin a column in the next Church Mouse exploring the history of Lost Cemeteries.

If you have information on our area's Lost Cemeteries and would like to share it with him, please send an e-mail to Gordon Ziemann <gordyozy@att.net> so he can discover the rest of the story. Thanks.

HELP NEEDED

The Jackson Historical Society could use some help putting our office in better order. If you'd like to give us a hand, we would appreciate it. Please e-mail us at jhsheritage@sbcglobal.net. if you're able to volunteer some time. Thanks.

Russ Hanson—Editor

JACKSON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

ONE-ROOM SCHOOLHOUSE CLASS VISIT

For many years, school was taught in one-room schoolhouses throughout Washington County

Let your students experience school as it was for their grandparents and great-grandparents

Arrange a class visit to the Jackson Historical Society's fully restored one-room schoolhouse

Contact the Jackson Historical Society at jhsheritage@sbcglobal.net or Royal Natzke at (262) 334-9811 or rdnatzke@yahoo.com

Jackson Historical Society, 1860 Mill Road*
*On the Hwy. 60 round-about at Division Road (G), go south to Mill Road, turn west to site.

FAVORS REQUESTED

Please send an e-mail to jhsheritage@sbcglobal.net so we may more easily keep you up-to-date on JHS happenings.

Also, it would be helpful if you would let me know what kind of articles you'd like to see in a future issue of The Church Mouse. Suggestions are welcome. Thanks.

Russ Hanson, Editor

HELP! VOLUNTEER DRIVERS NEEDED!



Although lawn mowing is finished for 2017, your Jackson Historical Society would appreciate your help mowing the lawn next year, 2018. We'll even provide the riding lawn mower. If you can occasionally volunteer a couple of hours during next summer to help mow our lawn, please contact Jerry Prochnow at 262-338-8867, or Elmer Kloehn at 262-377-2142 and sign up. Our e-mail is jhsheritage@sbcglobal.net. Thanks.

AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETIES EVENTS

RICHFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY Christmas at the Historical Park, December 2, 2017, Noon to 3pm. Richfield Historical Park, 4399 Pleasant Hill Road, Richfield, WI 53076. Please Contact www.richfieldhistoricalsociety.org for more information on events.

GERMANTOWN HISTORICAL SOCIETY Please contact the Germantown Historical Society at germantownhistoricalsociety.org for information on future events.

POMMERSCHER VEREIN FREISTADT Weihnachtsfest, December 8, 2017, 6:30pm, Lindenwood Community Center, Mequon. A special celebration of Pomeranian Christmas Traditions. For reservations call Vaitls @ 262-781-7155 or e-mail vwaitl@wi.rr.com.

THE HISTORY CENTER The Making of an Exhibit: The Zinn Dollhouse Edition, December 7, 2017, 11:30am—12:30pm, Old Courthouse Museum, 320 S. 5th Ave., West Bend, WI 53095, www.historyisfun.com. How are museum exhibits made? Join Curator of Collections and Exhibits, Janean Van Beckum, as she explains how by using the, now decorated for Christmas, Zinn Dollhouse exhibit.



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

(Movers & Shakers continued from page 2)



Paving Hwy. 55 through Jackson



2 horsepower earth mover

surveyor, were responsible for determining the route of the highway. They were also assigned to identify a halfway point, or rest stop, for travelers. The road they laid out was Hwy. 55, then Hwy. 45, now CTH P, and that rest stop is present-day West Bend. Byron Kilbourn founded West Bend! In 1857, he also founded Kilbourn City, now Wisconsin Dells. Busy guy! However, for some *Movers and Shakers*, there can be a dark side. In the late 1840's and in the 1850's, Kilbourn became involved in the rush to connect Milwaukee with the Mississippi River via a railroad. Kilbourn's public career was ruined when he allegedly became involved in a bribery scandal, charged with using railroad bonds to bribe public officials. Never sentenced to prison, he retired to Florida in 1868 and died there in 1870.

Another street I used to drive on when I went to school in Madison was Doty St. Another *Mover and Shaker*, James Duane Doty was a Yankee, born in New York, who emigrated west. He was active in the Territory of Michigan, holding a number of offices. In 1823, he was appointed a Federal Judge for the northern and western part of Michigan Territory which included the future Wisconsin. He actively promoted the creation of the Territory of Wisconsin and in 1836, campaigned to be appointed its first Governor, losing to Henry Dodge. He was a land speculator, purchasing thousands of acres across the Territory of Wisconsin. Some of that land was the isthmus between Lake Mendota and Lake Monona. Doty had the land surveyed and platted for a new city. Although a temporary Capitol had been created at Belmont, Doty championed his new city for the capitol. Doty named the city Madison, after President Madison, and used numerous tactics to ensure that it would be made capitol city, wooing legislators with plans for canals and railroads

and offering legislators who voted to make Madison the capitol choice lots in the new city. Madison was declared permanent capital in November, 1836, and construction at



Wisconsin Capitol Building 1863

the new city began in 1837. In 1838, Doty was elected Wisconsin Territory's Congressional Delegate and appointed the territory's second Governor in 1841. After Wisconsin became a state, Doty was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives serving from 1849-1853, after which he retired.

Movers and Shakers come along all the time. Some "flame out" and disappear, some grow in stature to gain space in a history book or historical society newsletter, while others have a road, city, or county named after them. Most all are worthy of a further "look-see" to determine why. So the next time you see a name listed on some public entity and wonder why, check it out. You might learn how a rest stop on a new highway became the City of West Bend!