



MENASHA CITY SQUARE 1888

MENASHA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

2010

LOOKING BACK

What a wonderful evening we had for our first meeting of the year. Perfect weather, a minimum of bugs, excellent food, an attentive crowd, and information concerning our outstanding and historical park, all made for a memorable evening. We hope you didn't miss it.

LOOKING AHEAD

On Thursday, October 14, at 6:00 p.m. in the Elisha D. Smith Public Library Co. E Room, we will have the opportunity to honor our veterans and hear their life stories. Perhaps you have seen our posters around town announcing the occasion. The public is invited to view a sixty minute documentary on the World War Two experiences of three Menasha residents. This free event is sponsored by our Society. Copies of the documentary will be available to anyone making a ten dollar contribution to the Society. **Be sure to note place and time: Public Library Company E Room at 6:00 p.m.**

The November meeting will be at the Memorial Building at 7 p.m. and will feature Tim Sweet, media specialist in the Clintonville School System and son of our own Carol Sweet, presenting a program about Wisconsin's oldest lighthouse. More details in the November letter.

DUES

Your dues are now payable. Reminder -- The dues have been changed this year to \$15.00 per person and \$25.00 per couple. Please pay Nancy Ropella, treasurer, at the October meeting or send your check to the Mensha Historical Society at P.O. Box 255, Menasha, WI 54952

NEW ADDITIONS

Several new finds have been added to our historic collections. Menasha Brewing Company memorabilia have been donated by Steve and Kathy Mertz, a picture of "The Flats and Sharps Orchestra" is from Ralph Kuhr, and Don Peterson has presented the Civil War Diary of Peter Decranier, his great-grandfather. Wes and Carol Zimmer have given various historic items. Thank you all. You have added another layer to the history of Menasha and the world.

HELPERS

We are still looking for helpers, especially in the field of computers. Please contact Nancy Barker, Katie LaMore, or Jean Chew. And don't forget to visit our web site at www.menashahistorical.webs.com.

Remember we are also looking for information concerning former Menasha dairies.

Any memories of facts?

FROM "MEMORIES OF MENASHA"

This excerpt is from an article entitled "The Cow That Liked Music" written by Robert A. Bryan.

"In order to provide food for the family, they had a cow, which the children helped take care of. In addition to supplying milk for the family, the milk was sold to other families and was delivered to their doorstep by the children on their way to school. Some of the milk was exchanged with farmers for poultry and meat, which they raised on their farms, some of the same farms Peter had built. The cow was put out to pasture behind the house and was fastened with an iron stake.

"It was the custom in the summertime to have a band concert in the Menasha town square, where the young and old people would gather to listen to the band. On one of those nights, the cow heard the music, broke loose and decided to go to the band concert. When the Bach girls saw the cow coming, they were quite embarrassed, and one of them was selected to take the cow home."

Was this our first dairy?