

Ashwaubenon
 Historical Society
AND MUSEUM
NEWSLETTER

April 2013 Volume 5 Number 1



OUR MISSION

The Ashwaubenon Historical Society is a non-profit organization whose goal is the preservation of Ashwaubenon's past and present through the collection and interpretation of historical records and artifacts of the area.

Preserving the memories of yesterday for the generations of tomorrow.

18TH ANNUAL PLANT AND BAKE SALE MAY 11: PLEASE POT PLANT DONATIONS



Thinking spring? Come to the 18th annual Ashwaubenon Historical Society plant and bake sale. It will be held on Saturday, May 11, 8:00 a.m. to noon, at the Ashwaubenon Historical Society Museum, 737 Cormier Road. Select plants for your garden and yard. Take a break with a cup of

our 50¢ coffee and an item from our bake sale. Take a selection of bake sale items home.

Tim Bauknecht, village forester, will be on hand to answer any plant and tree questions you may have.

This sale is the Society's main fundraiser. Donations of potted plants, bulbs, tubers, small trees, seeds, and garden items are welcome. If possible, plants should be potted. Pots and soil are available at the Museum Wednesdays and Saturdays, 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. Society members are encouraged to donate items for the bake sale. Plant and bakery donations can be dropped off at the Museum on Friday, May 10, between noon and 3:00 p.m.

If you have any questions, please call Mary (437-3570) or Janet (339-9519).

**VINTAGE WEDDING GOWN DISPLAY AT MUSEUM
 OPENS JUNE 22 WITH RECEPTION**

Ashwaubenon Historical Society Museum volunteers are busy preparing a vintage wedding gown display. It will open with a reception on Saturday, June 22, 1:00-4:00 p.m. Gowns displayed will date back to the early 1900's and were worn by those married in Ashwaubenon or those who live here now. A featured item will be part of the wedding costume of Theresa Rankin, granddaughter of Chief Ashwaubomay. It is on loan from the Neville Public Museum which owns the entire costume. The show will run through December. Some of the gowns in the display include those worn by:

Myrtle Elsie Woodward Bakken	1901
Regina Gertrude Cornelissen Coenen	1936
Mildred Bertha Fonder Vercauteren	1938
Helen Marquardt Stummeier	1939
Alyce Mae Vandehei Berken	1952
Janice Mary Bougie Rottier	1963
Suzanne Jewell Schatt	1966
Judy Dugan Schroeder	1967
Gail Cormier Dhuey	1976

Needed are wedding photos in which either or both of the couple are in military uniform. The wedding must have taken place in Ashwaubenon or the couple must have lived here then or now.

More information will appear in the newspapers and on the Ashwaubenon Historical Society web site.

Still needed are dresses from the 1910's, 1920's, 1940's, and 2000's. Do you have one we can borrow? We'd need it for several months and would like to include a history of the dress, a photo, and wedding memorabilia. The dress should be from someone who was a resident of Ashwaubenon at the time of the wedding or now. If you can help, please call Mary Selner (437-3570) or Janet Klipstine (339-9519).

COMMUNITY CONSOLIDATION--NOT A NEW IDEA

In his state of the city address on March 20, 2013, Green Bay Mayor Jim Schmitt proposed the creation of a Greater Green Bay Metropolitan area by 2025. It would merge Green Bay and surrounding communities, including Ashwaubenon, into one governmental unit.

This is not the first time Ashwaubenon has been part of a merger proposal. In 1960, Ashwaubenon Township Chairman Leo Bordeleau proposed the incorporation of the City of De Pere and the townships of Ashwaubenon and Allouez. One reason for the suggestion was that, under state law, Ashwaubenon and Allouez had to join a high school district by September 1962. Bordeleau suggested that, under a merger, Ashwaubenon and Allouez each build a junior high school, with the De Pere high schools serving as the high schools for the merged community. He also stated the importance of a bridge linking Allouez and Ashwaubenon, lining up with the airport.

Bordeleau's proposal resulted in this action by the Ashwaubenon Town Board on April 13, 1960: *"Motion by (Frank) Larson, seconded by (Alfred) Klipstine to appoint all members of the Plan Board and all members of the Special High School Study Committee to a special committee to study Chairman Bordeleau suggestion that*

a consolidation with De Pere and Allouez may be to Ashwaubenon an advantage over a period of years due to changing legislation on the state level. Said committee to elect its own chairman. Progress reports to be made to the Town Board. Motion carried unanimously."

In May 1960, the De Pere City Council earmarked up to \$2,000 for a professional study of consolidation on the condition that the townships of Allouez and Ashwaubenon do the same. A GREEN BAY PRESS GAZETTE article on May 19, 1960, describes opposition by Allouez citizens. A search of the Ashwaubenon Township Board minutes 1960-61 found no further action. Ashwaubenon Plan Commission minutes are incomplete, missing the years 1951-1963.

DE PERE JOURNAL DEMOCRAT

"Merger of Three Areas Proposed by Chairman" 3/24/60 p.1
 "Journal-Democrat Comment...A United Community-Worthy of Real Study" 4/28/60 p. 2
 "City Committee Meets Tuesday to Discuss Proposal" 5/5/60
 "Council Okays Fund for Merger Study" 5/12/60 p. 1
 GREEN BAY PRESS GAZETTE
 "City, Towns Merger Study Talks Asked" 5/7/60 p. 6
 "Allouez Residents Hit at Merger Study Fund" 5/19/60 p. 19
 Township of Ashwaubenon Board minutes 1960-61
 Ashwaubenon Plan Commission Minutes

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Larry De Moulin
 Michael Hockers
 Kim Murphy

MEMORIAL DAY RECEPTION
 11:30 a.m. at the Museum following
 the Veteran's Day program at the
 VFW Memorial on Cormier Road

**ASHWAUBENON HIGH
 SCHOOL ART SHOW AT
 THE MUSEUM**
 Saturday and Sunday
 May 18-19 noon-4:00 p.m.

MEET OUR MEMBERS: DON AND MARY SELNER



Mary Selner grew up on a farm in East Green Bay. Her husband, Don, grew up in the Coleman, WI area where they lived for a time after they were married.

They moved to a home on Broadway in Ashwaubenon in 1965. Mary said she learned the history of the Broadway area from the stories told by neighbors while sitting on the porch of the Bosar house in the evenings. In 1990, Mary and

Don moved to an historic home on South Broadway in Ashwaubenon. It is a Sears home and was formerly the Constance Lemerond home, a boarding house for Cormier School teachers and sugar beet factory workers. For a time, Mary and Don offered tours of their home, which has many antiques that they have collected. Mary has been co-chair of the Ashwaubenon Historical Society Plant Sale for many years and has set up many of the Museum's exhibits. Don has helped with the exhibits and with whatever needs to be done. He also takes many of the photos of Museum activities. Both have been members of the Historical Society since 1999.

**REGIONAL MEETING IN SEYMOUR
SATURDAY, JULY 20**

This year's Wisconsin Historical Society and Wisconsin Council for Local History Regional Meeting will be held on Saturday, July 20, at the Seymour Community Museum, 133 Depot St., Seymour. The day will begin at 9:00 a.m. with registration and refreshments. In the morning, there will be a presentation on "Public Programming" and a workshop on "Adding Visual Interest to Your Exhibits." Lunch will be served outdoors and reflect Seymour's "Home of the Hamburger" status. The afternoon will feature the "Regional Roundtable" in which representatives of each historical society in attendance will have five minutes to tell about their activities. The day will conclude with tours of the Laske Homestead and Melchert Collection and the Seymour Community Museum and Old Time General Store.

Registration is \$15.00 per person, due by July 13. It should be sent to: Jennie Huettl, 413 West Pearl St., Seymour, WI 54165.



Seymour Community Museum

ITEMS DONATED TO THE MUSEUM

The Ashwaubenon School District donated a ledger titled "Treasurer of School District No. One, Town of Ashwaubenon." It lists school district expenses from 1872 to 1922.



Carol Selissen donated paintings of Rasmus Olsen and Kari Pedersdatter, the parents of Gurina Rasmussen, wife of Johan Eliason. The Eliason farm is part of the Ashwaubenon Historical Society Museum's "Our Agricultural Roots" farm family exhibit, which includes photos and narrative.

Carol Selissen, a descendent of the Eliason family, said that the paintings were carried over the mountains from Sweden to Norway during an upheaval in Norway in the 1800's. Gurina and Johan immigrated to Wisconsin in 1868 and moved to Ashwaubenon in 1869 after spending their first winter in Winneconne. Gurina died in 1901 and Johan in 1916. The farm was passed on their son, Hans. There have been descendents of Johan and Gurina living on part of the Eliason farm for six generations.

CHIEF ASHWAUBOMAY GRAVE MARKER SIGN REFURBISHED

The Ashwaubenon Historical Society has refurbished the brass sign attached to Chief Ashwaubomay's grave marker stone in Ashwaubomay Park. The sign was loose and was removed for the refurbishing. The sign is currently on display at the Ashwaubenon Historical Society Museum. It will remain there until improvements

at the grave site are completed by the Ashwaubenon Park and Recreation Department. Its goal is to make the site more visible and accessible to the public. Ashwaubenon gets its name from Chief Ashwaubomay. The approximate site of his grave was marked and dedicated in 1976 when the park opened.

COMING EVENTS

The calendar for the year is on the Society' website: www.ashhs.com

- May 4 8:30 a.m. Spring clean-up at Museum
- May 10 noon-3:00 p.m. Set-up for plant sale
- May 11 8:00 a.m.-noon Plant/bake sale
- May 17 3:00 p.m. Set-up high school art show
- May 18 noon-4:00 p.m. High school art show
- May 19 noon-4:00 p.m. High school art show
- May 20 3:00 p.m. Take down art show
- May 23 6:30 p.m. General meeting
- May 27 11:30 a.m. Memorial Day reception

- June 12 1:00 p.m. Executive Board meeting
- June 22 Opening of bridal gown display
- June 27 6:30 p.m. General meeting
- July 20 Regional Meeting-Seymour
- July 25 6:30 p.m. General meeting
- August 8 Newsletter deadline
- August 22 Newsletter publication date
- August 22 6:30 p.m. General meeting



AND MUSEUM

737 Cormier Road
Ashwaubenon, WI 54304

HOURS

1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Wednesdays and Saturdays
Closed January - February
Admission: \$1.00

Phone 920-429-2863

Leave message or call 920-339-9519
if the Museum is closed.

E-mail: ahshistory@att.net

Website: www.ashhs.com

OFFICERS

President: Janet Klipstine
Vice President: Mary Kugel
Secretary: Lorraine Petersen

Treasurer: Ray Rottier

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Lois McAllister
Judy Schroeder
Mary Selner

ALTERNATE BOARD

Betsy Johnson
Dave Johnson
Dave McAllister

MUSEUM CURATOR

Annette Aubinger

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Jackie Burkat

To join the Ashwaubenon Historical Society, fill out the form below. We invite your active participation and you will receive our quarterly newsletter, meeting agendas and minutes, and free admission to the Museum.

MEMBERSHIP FORM FOR 2013 (January 1 to December 31)

MAIL WITH DUES TO:

Ashwaubenon Historical Society, 737 Cormier Road, Ashwaubenon, WI 54304

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____ **E-MAIL** _____

Student \$5.00 Couple \$18.00 Supporter \$50.00 Corporate Member \$250.00
Individual \$10.00 Contributor \$25.00 Honorary Member \$100.00