

The Herald

Milton Historical Society, Milton, Wisconsin

Summer 2010

18 S. Janesville St., P.O. Box 245, Milton, WI 53563 • Phone: (608) 868-7772 • Email: miltonhouse@miltonhouse.org • Website: www.miltonhouse.org

Arts & Crafts on the Lawn

Sunday, August 15
9 a.m.-4 p.m. Rain or Shine!

- Over 100 juried arts & crafts vendors
- A fantastic Ice Cream Social
- "The Great Hat Affair" exhibit
- Discounted Tours of Milton House
- Italian beef, brats, hot dogs at family friendly prices.
- Raffles, Gift Shop

This is one of our biggest fundraisers. Come support the Milton House and have fun, too!

Reminder

Starting in early August, a society representative will be calling members for donations of a cake or a pie for the ice cream social.



The Great Hat Affair!

Now on display in the Goodrich Wing, "The Great Hat Affair" temporary exhibit displays roughly 110 hats from our collection of over 300, dating from the 1800's to the 1970's until this October. This exhibit reminds us of the days when women never left the house without their gloves, hat and parasol! Please come in to enjoy the beautiful accessories that women cherished daily. A special thank you to Phil Watson, Tom Sveum, Joan Steinmetz, Pat Wagner, Joyce Garvoille, and Gail Nordlof for all your time and effort to make this display possible.



Joan Steinmetz, Gail Nordlof, and Pat Wagner model hats from the exhibit.



**Milton Historical Society:
Milton House Museum and
Goodrich Wing**
18 S. Janesville Street
Milton, WI 53563

Mailing Address:
Milton Historical Society
P.O. Box 245
Milton, WI 53563

Phone: (608) 868-7772
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miltonhouse@miltonhouse.org
Website:
www.miltonhouse.org

Board of Directors:
President: Guy Thomas
Vice-President: Rod Hilton
Secretary: Serena Westlund
Interim Treasurer: Jennifer Nordlof

Directors:
Martha Gammons
Betsy Lubke
Gordy Nelson
Gail Nordlof
Joan Steinmetz
Angie Sveum
Tom Sveum
Phil Watson

Staff:
Executive Director: Cori Olson
Assistant to the Director:
Sheila Martin

Mission Statement:

The Milton Historical Society is a non-profit, private organization. The Society was formed in 1948 not only to preserve the Milton House, but also for the preservation, advancement and dissemination of the history of Milton.

From Our Executive Director Cori Olson

Summer has brought people from all over the world through our doors, but the one thing I love to hear is, "I have driven by this building for years and never knew this is what it was!" I love to hear people from our area discover what we are for the first time. It is sad to think how many people in this community do not understand what the Milton House has to offer, but when they do come to take the tour they are so impressed! Our goal is to educate everyone who walks through our doors about Joseph Goodrich, the Milton House, building the community of Milton, and the Underground Railroad. It is rewarding to hear people say, "Wow, we never knew this was here!" It is fun during our daily summer tours to see how many people we can enlighten, and how far they have traveled to see us.

The Arts & Crafts Fair on the Lawn is on Sunday, August 15 from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. We have had a wonderful turn out of craft vendors for this year's show. This is the second year we've had a "juried" show. Each of the over one hundred crafters attending the fair have proven to us that they actually made the items they are selling, ensuring that you will be buying truly unique, handmade items. We have had a great response since we started jurying the show, and we look forward to the fair growing even more in the future.

The Ice Cream Social at the fair will be in the Tomah Room on the 2nd floor of the Goodrich Wing. While you are upstairs enjoying a sweet treat, you can admire the "100 Years of Scouting" exhibit displayed around the Tomah Room. We have items from our collection celebrating the 100 Anniversary of the Boy Scouts, but decided to bring out our Girl Scout items too. In addition, be sure to check out the great food at family friendly prices in the Stable.

We had to say goodbye to another wonderful volunteer and docent, Hulda Melvin. It is hard to say goodbye to those that help do so much or have a strong will to help educate our future generations. Hulda came back after every illness, surprising us every time! She loved to guide school tours, we will always be grateful, and will never forget her smile! Thank you Hulda, for your friendship and volunteerism not just here, but throughout the community of Milton.

In other news, we are happy to welcome a new assistant to our administrative staff, Sheila Martin. If you haven't gotten the chance to meet Sheila, please stop in and say hello. As always, the door is always open... if you have thoughts or ideas, please to not hesitate to let me know. We look forward to you joining us for our new fall vintage film series!



The Goodrich Cabin is completed!!

We would like to say thank you to everyone who has helped with the Goodrich Cabin: donations, fundraising, volunteering, and bringing friends & family in to educate them about what we have here! It would be impossible for me to list everyone one of you, but you know who you are!

THANK YOU all for making the Goodrich Cabin renovation possible to continue to educate our future generations! We encourage everyone to stop in and take a look at the Goodrich Cabin!

Vintage Film Series This Fall



At the Membership Picnic in July, area film enthusiast and collector Ken Regez showed selections from his collection that included a World War II newsreel, a recruiting film, a political cartoon, patriotic sing-a-longs and more. Everyone had a great time and Ken's knowledge of film and history made it a very special event. We're bringing him back for a series of 3 film evenings this fall. The series is free for members and only \$3 for non-members. (memberships will be available at the door). Free popcorn & beverage! Come with a friend and encourage them to join the historical society!

COMEDIES - Thursday, September 9 at 6 p.m.

-WRONG AGAIN, (Roach, 1929)

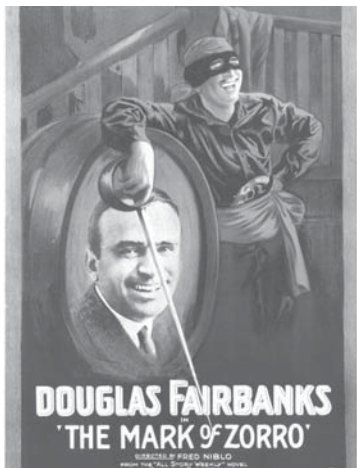
This is a rarely seen Laurel & Hardy silent comedy with the now recovered original 1929 music and sound effects track.

-DANGEROUS FEMALES, (Christie, 1929)

A glorious send-up of Victorian melodrama starring Marie "Tugboat Annie" Dressler in her first "talkie".

-MICKY'S MEDICINE MAN (Darmour Productions, 1934)

Starring the thirteen year old Mickey Rooney in one of the last of the "Mickey McGuire" comedies that launched his career.



HIGH ADVENTURE - Thursday, October 14 at 6 p.m

-THE ADVENTURER (Mutual, 1917), one of the best of Chaplin's early comedies presenting Charlie as an escaped convict.

-THE MARK OF ZORRO (Fairbanks/United Artists, 1920)

The film that invented the action/adventure genre and changed Fairbanks career. This very first Zorro movie is a brilliant piece of swashbuckling comedy/drama. Showcasing a great theatre organ sound track by Gaylord Carter, "the dean of

theatre organists." This screening is made possible by the kind permission of David Shepard and Film Preservation Associates.

VETERANS DAY - Thursday, November 11 at 6 p.m.

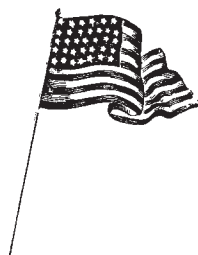
A Patriotic program not yet finalized, but you will see a variety of patriotic films from the 1940s including:

-OUR AMERICAN HERITAGE (RKO, 1947)

The film shown on the Freedom Train that toured the US in the late 1940s.

-ARMY-NAVY SCREEN MAGAZINE No. 41 (1944) showing American fliers recently liberated from a Nazi POW camp, and a Christmas program with Leopold Stokowski and Marian Anderson.

-Various newsreels and musicals to be announced.



One of My Favorite Things

by former MHS Executive Director David McKay.

I still give tours.

It's been three years since I returned to teaching, but there is just something about the Milton House that stays with you. So every spring when the school tours rev up again, there I am with my stories and my white cotton gloves, ready to go through the museum again.

After you've led enough tours you end with a stack of favorite stories, moments and artifacts.

One of the objects I love most in the building is a small white china cup with pink markings. It doesn't look like much from the outside – one more teacup in a world of teacups, just slightly out of place among the sturdier items on the table in the dining room of the Inn. It's only when you look inside that you realize that there is anything out of the ordinary about it.



Inside there is a small ledge that runs across one side of the cup, with a gap right in the middle where the liquid can come through when you tilt the cup that direction. This is why it is called a "mustache cup" – so you can sport one of those glorious nineteenth-century mustaches that became immensely popular in the United States after the Mexican War in the 1840s and not have it filter your coffee or drip tea onto your cravat, or – worse – have the steam from your tea melt the wax holding your mustache in place.

Who knew drinking could get so complicated? Or so technologically demanding?

The mustache cup was invented in 1830 by an English potter named Harvey Adams who clearly had time on his hands. His cups caught on quickly, though, and soon potters across Europe were making the things.

Continued on page 6

Moments in Time

Items from the MILTON EXPRESS 1882

“Over 200 students at the college now.” - Milton Express (ME), January 11, 1882

“Sparks from the railroad set fire to and burned a stack of straw belonging to S. B. Hazard.” - ME, February 15, 1882

“Young men and maidens sent the usual number of comic and sentimental valentines yesterday.” - ME, February 15, 1882

“A bill has been introduced into the Assembly providing for the removal of the State capital to Milwaukee. The same bill provides for using the present capital for an insane asylum. The man who introduced the bill would make a good subject for the proposed asylum.” - ME, February 15, 1882

“A person can walk from the Junction to this village very easily in twenty minutes, but it often takes two days for a letter or postal card to travel the same distance. Why is this?” - ME, March 8, 1882

“Mrs. Henry Williams and Mrs. D. E. Thorpe, of the Junction, spent a few days at Madison last week. It is surmised that they were using their influence with the legislature in favor of woman suffrage.” - ME, March 15, 1882

“Having sold the office of the Milton Express, I now offer for sale my residence and office building, together with the lot, corner of College Avenue and Main Street. Will be sold for much less than the property is worth. W. C. Brown” - Milton Express, March 29, 1882

“The Seventh Day Baptist Society of this village, has decided to build a new church at once. The new structure will occupy the same site where the old edifice now stands. It will cost about \$4,000. Three thousand dollars has already been pledged.” - Milton Express, March 29, 1882

“A company of young gipseys (sp) passed through the Junction, begging and telling fortunes. They camped on the hill south of the village.” - Milton Express, April 26, 1882

“Flies will soon be the pest of your life unless you go to S.O. Soper's and get one of those handsome wire screen doors which he is selling so cheap. They are a good article to invest in.” - Milton Express, April 26, 1882

“There is considerable talk of building a sidewalk between the two towns. The public money and private enterprise could be employed in no better way than to make the talk bring forth the walk.” - Milton Express, May 3, 1882

“We understand that a few miles south of here wolves are becoming very troublesome to sheep. One night last week twenty-nine lambs from Mr. Martinsen's field were killed.” - Milton Express, May 3, 1882

Thank you, Rod, for some really fun reading!

The Questers Help Restore Historic Wagon

The Carrie Jacobs Bond Questers were awarded an International Quester grant at the International Convention in Arizona this May. Tom Sveum, Cori Olson and Joan Steinmetz worked on the grant to restore a horse drawn wagon owned by the Milton Historical Society. It is a large wooden wheel box wagon that post beetles were destroying. This was the type of wagon the slaves were transported in to the Underground Railroad, covered with hay. The Questers were awarded a grant for \$2800. The chapter will donate the additional \$1100 left to finish the \$3900 project.

Historically, our research shows that drivers of these wagons went into the Milton House Inn and were told not to look back. Freedom seekers entered the cabin and dropped down a hole in the floor, then crawled through the narrow hand dug three foot high dirt tunnel connecting the cabin to the Milton House cellar. Saving the type of wagon probably used, is very exciting.

After receiving the grant, the Questers went to the Tom Sveum farm on June 4 to view the work that would be done on the wagon by Tom, who is a wheelwright. They loved the Sveum historical family documents, and other historic items Tom and Janet had on display. Even the family horse liked the Questers. As Tom showed them the out buildings, the horse walked along on his or her side of the fence wanting a pet!!

In Memoriam



Hulda Melvin
Jack Gallun
Louis Sunby

If we have missed anyone, please let us know so we can acknowledge them in the next newsletter.

Calendar of Events-Fall 2010

“A Hat Affair”

Free late summer/fall exhibit

featuring hats from the MHS collection and the community.

Watch for special events.

Red Hat Ladies encouraged!

Clip this calendar out and keep in on the refrigerator door!

Arts & Crafts on the Lawn

Sunday, August 15 from 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Fundrasier, free entry. Over 100 juried arts & crafts booths, ice cream social, food booth, tours and more.

Fall Vintage Film Series

Thursdays at 6 p.m.: September 9, October 14, November 11. Members free / Non-members \$3.

Free refreshments. Historic film, including early comedy, adventure and WWII movies with commentary by Ken Regez.

Twilight Tour

Saturday, September 18 from 7-9 p.m.

Charming tours by lamplight at our regular low price. Wine & food pairing available. Live music.

Heritage Day

Saturday, October 2 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Free family event. Historic crafts - woodcarving, blacksmithing, spinning, etc. Fiddle music, dulcimers. Bring the kids and learn the Virginia Reel!! Food available.

Dracula @ Old Main Hall

October 22 & 23 at 7 p.m.

Tickets available in advance and at the door.

Performed by Creative Outlets Touring Theater Co. from Whitewater. Tickets: \$15 in advance / \$18 at the door. This is a benefit for the Milton Historical Society and the Milton College Preservation Society. Hair-raising refreshments. 30 years ago Milton College put on a production of Dracula!

For more information, call 608-868-7772 or visit the website: www.miltonhouse.org

2010 Plant Sale Report

The 2010 Annual Plant and Bake Sale was another success. We netted \$1321.75 - and this on a day when the weather was really dreadful! Thank you to all who came to buy plants and our donated baked goods. A special thank you to the members and volunteers who helped with the planning and set up, brought plants and baked goods for us to sell, stayed to clean up and perform all the many tasks that go along with any kind of fundraiser.

We also received wonderful support from so many area greenhouses & nurseries including: Patty's Plants, Klehm's Song Sparrow, Bonnie Plants, Flower Factory, Oak Village, The Berry Basket, Koepke's and Sal's Garden Center and Landscaping. We really appreciate their support. Thanks to board member Gordie Nelson for soliciting these businesses for us.

Without our members and volunteers this just wouldn't have been possible!

New Rock County Organization of Historical Societies Meets at Luther Valley Historical Society in Footville



Luther Valley Historical Society at the old Footville State Bank, a portion of their telephone collection, and Cori Olson visiting with representatives of other Rock County Historical Societies.





Favorite Things continued from page 3

Eventually the idea came to the States, where most of the potters who made them put deceptive marks on them so people would think they were buying English china rather than American goods. Even back then, imports had a certain snob appeal.

They were still being made in the early 20th century, though the end of the Golden Age of the Mustache eventually relegated them to the dust-bin of history. By the time of the Great Mustache Revival of the 1970s and '80s, the mustache cup had long been forgotten. This is a shame, really.

The mustache cup was an admirably simple solution to a concrete problem, and every time I show it to a new group of visitors to the Milton House they gasp. We often forget that the people who came before us were every bit as clever as we are and possibly more so, and the fact that we no longer use the solutions they came up with for problems we still have probably says more about us than it does about them.

I need a mustache cup.



Membership Benefits

Don't forget that along with your membership you get several benefits including a 10% discount at the museum gift shop (excluding consignment items).

In addition you get FREE admission to the Milton House (or reduced rates at special occasions), half-price admission for your guests (excluding special occasions), and a quarterly newsletter.

This year, members get in free to our Vintage Film Series this fall. Non-members pay \$3/person. More information about the series is on page three of the newsletter.

Financial Update

By Betsy Lubke, Treasurer

As of June 30, 2010, here is the status of our cash accounts:

General Operating Account	\$16,865.77
NOW Account	\$12,890.92
Renovation Account	\$25,172.77
Total	\$54,929.46

The money in the Renovation account will be used in the next month or so to pay for the final bills for the Cabin Restoration – thanks to all of you for your support of that important project!

Through the end of June, our General Operating account budget is \$3,401.34 under budget for income for 2010, but our expenses are \$10,150.99 under budget so we are doing a good job of controlling our expenses while we continue to find ways to increase our incoming funds.

Please continue to support the Milton Historical Society through the payment of your annual membership, supporting our fund-raising events, and your consideration of additional gifts to help maintain our operation and further our mission!

The Wish List

The items on the wish list are your “help-us-out-and-save-us-some-money” items. Drop them off weekdays between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Swiffer duster refills
 Stamps
 Good Flashlights
 Scrubbing Bubbles Toilet Bowl Wipes
 White out (tape type)
 AA batteries

Please Patronize Our Business Sponsors

American Awards And Promotions	Milton High School
Bank of Milton	Milton Savings Bank
The Berry Basket and Greenhouse	Northleaf Winery
Bonnie Plants	Oak Village
Carpets Plus	Patty's Plants
Chas H. Anderson Agency	Prairie Hill Farm
Dave's Ace Hardware	Rock Paint Distributing Corporation
First Community Bank	Sal's Garden Center and Landscaping
Flower Factory	The Flower Guy
Goodrich Hall	
Hammer Chiropractic	
Hidden Valley RV Resort	
I.G. Hall Implement	
Kitchen Culture	
Klehm's Song Sparrow	
Koepke's	
MACCIT	

We're selling ads!

Advertise in this space, put a coupon here, announce an upcoming sale or a new service!

We're also looking for sponsors for our website.

We can design your ad or work with the ads you already have.

Call 868-7772 for information and prices.

Milton Historical Society Membership

Renewal _____, New _____, Gift _____

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

For office use only:
Date Rec'd _____
Check # _____
Amount _____
Expires-12/31 _____

_____ Agent—Individual	\$12 / \$10 over 62
_____ Agent Family	\$20 / \$15 over 62
_____ Conductor	\$30.00
_____ Stock Holder (Business)	\$50.00
_____ Station Master	\$100 - \$249
_____ Abolitionist	\$250 - \$499
_____ North Star Friend	\$500 and over
_____ Additional Gift	_____
TOTAL Amount Enclosed	_____

Volunteer opportunities available in many areas including docent, clerical, special activities, etc.

_____ Yes, I would like to volunteer, call me.

Please send this form and your check to:
Milton Historical Society
 P.O. Box 245
 Milton, WI 53563

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Milton, WI 53563

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If your address label does not read 2010
or later. Your membership is over due.

Hours:

Memorial Day to Labor Day
(through Sept. 6)
Office and Tours: 7 days a week
from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Last tour at 4 p.m.

Labor Day to Memorial Day
(starting Sept. 7)
Public office hours:
Monday-Friday
from 1-4 p.m.
Tours: by appointment

The Milton Historical Society presents



The Great Hat Affair!

A free summer & fall exhibit of antique hats from the
Milton Historical Society collection and the Milton community.

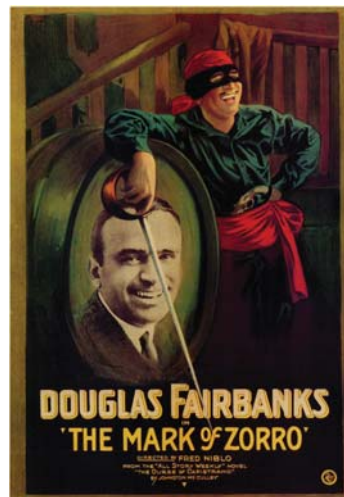
Free. Open Daily from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Located in the Goodrich Wing of the Milton House Museum
18 S. Janesville St. (Hwy 26), Milton, WI 608-868-7772

2010

**Come to the Vintage
Film Series This Fall!**

Historic film, including early comedy,
adventure and WWII movies
with commentary by Ken Regez.



For
more
information,
see page 3
inside the
newsletter!