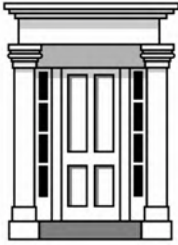
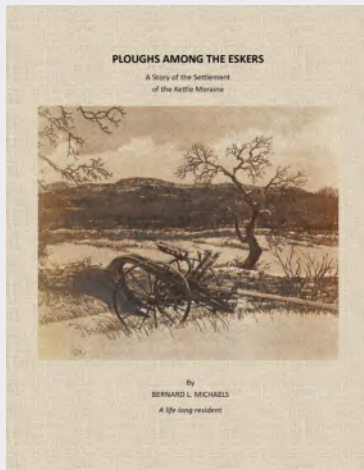


SHEBOYGAN COUNTY



HISTORICAL
RESEARCH
CENTER

Ploughs Among the Eskers



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**2020
SCHRC
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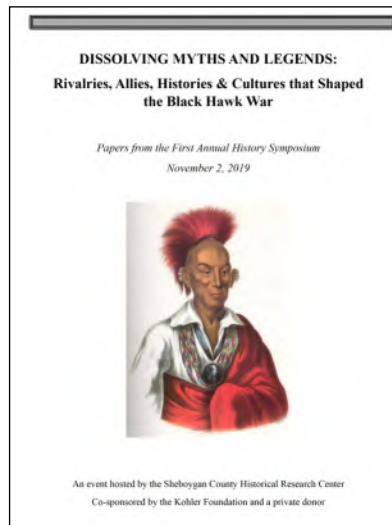
The Researcher

The Newsletter of the Sheboygan County
Historical Research Center

Volume XXX Number 5 June 2020

The Researcher is sponsored by Jay Christopher of Christopher Farm & Gardens.

New Books Available at SCHRC



The Black Hawk War has long been the subject for historians, who have often simplified its origins and outcomes. Recent scholarship has shown, however, that a proper understanding of the conflict requires an understanding of racial consciousness, military incompetence, intertribal dynamics, and cultural practices of the Sauk and other tribes of the Upper Mississippi region. The new information that has been gleaned from previously untapped oral histories, original sources, and revisionist interpretations has allowed present-day scholars and biographers alike to take a fresh and enriched examination of the last Indian war that was fought in Illinois and Wisconsin, and provide needed insight to both sides of the struggle.

provide needed insight to both sides of the struggle.

The papers contained in this volume were delivered on Saturday, November 2, 2019, as part of a Black Hawk War Symposium entitled, "Dissolving Myths and Legends: Rivalries, Allies, Histories, and Cultures that Shaped the Black Hawk War," hosted by the Sheboygan County Historical Research Center. Each paper offers information that enhances our understanding of why the conflict occurred and how it was militarily conducted. In *The Path to Glory is Rough: The Causes and Course of the Black Hawk War, 1804-1832*, Dr. Patrick J. Jung positions the Indian uprising within a century of American Indian Anti-Colonial Resistance and provides a detailed and comprehensive discussion of several causes, a revealing profile of Black Hawk, and the intertribal complexities associated with the conflict. The role of the Rock River Ho-Chunk band during the 1832 crisis is the subject of *Protectors of the Corn Moon: How the Rock River Ho-Chunks His 1,200 Fugitive Indians and Mired U.S. Troops During the 1832 Black Hawk War*, by Dr. Libby Tronnes. She maintains that the Ho-Chunks attempted to thwart violence by playing both sides in the conflict by guiding both United States troops and Sauk Indians. Dr. Kerry A. Trask discusses the importance of Sauk culture, ideologies, and economics in his paper, *The Centre Cannot Hold: The Collapse of Sauk Society and the Black Hawk War*. Pg 8

The Sheboygan County Historical Research Center is located at 518 Water Street in Sheboygan Falls.
Open Tuesday through Friday, 9:00am – 4:00pm.

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Website: schrc.org

The Researcher is the official newsletter of the Sheboygan County Historical Research Center, 518 Water Street, Sheboygan Falls, Wisconsin 53085.

It is published six times per year in August, October, December, February, April and June.

The Research Center is the local history archive for Sheboygan County and areas surrounding the county. It is a repository for paper records of all kinds.

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SUMMER PROGRAMMING

TAPROOM HISTORY

Fat Cow Pub & Eatery
4-6 Broadway Street, Sheboygan Falls, WI
6:30pm

Thursday, July 16, 2020

Among the Badgers, Stories of Wisconsin with Steve Rogstad

Thursday, August 20, 2020

Torture and Execution Among the Europeans and Native Americans with Patrick Jung

HISTORY ON THE MOVE

Generations
1500 Douglas Drive, Plymouth, WI
2:00pm

Thursday, August 5, 2020

A Bit of the Old Sod, Irish Settlement in the area

Thursday, September 2, 2020

From Kames to Kettles, Kettle Moraine history

SECOND SATURDAYS

Plymouth Arts Center
520 East Mill Street, Plymouth, WI
9:30am

Saturday, September 12, 2020

The History of Wisconsin Baseball with Tom Armstrong

APRIL 2020 RESEARCHER

Because of the COVID19 issue, SCHRC's April newsletter was done in a digital format. You can access it at schrc.org on the main page or under newsletters, or if you want a paper copy, please call 920-467-4667.

THE RESEARCH CENTER IS OPEN AGAIN

Just FYI - Added cleaning and sanitizing is done on a regular basis. Masks are available, but optional. Hand sanitizer and gloves are also available.

About 1/4 of our volunteers have returned. Many are working from home. So space is also available. We are using the entire building to make sure we're not crowded. So, if you're comfortable, we're here and open.

The Researcher is sponsored by Jay Christopher of Christopher Farm & Gardens



“LET’S DEVELOP OUR CENTER”

This past March we closed the doors to the Center in response to the global pandemic that caused us serious alarm and concern. As I stated in my April message, the Center is very concerned about the people we serve and the individuals who serve us. The health of our staff, volunteers, and customers must be a priority during this temporary troublesome time. There-

fore, the Research Center was closed for nearly three months, although the staff worked remotely from home. Regular programs and services were suspended.

But we are back! The Center re-opened to the public on June 9, and we are gradually seeing volunteers return, individuals stopping by to conduct research, and the business of the Center resuming. We have started the process of re-scheduling events, launching campaigns, and planning activities through early next year.

The first priority is our Annual Campaign. It normally begins in April, but it was delayed until now as a result of the concern over the health crisis. Even though the Center was closed and not open for business, the costs associated with operating the business have still been there. We now need *your* help more than ever before. A goal of raising \$51,000 has been set to help the Center continue its mission of preserving the documentary and photographic history of Sheboygan County. *Your* money also supports the important and entertaining programs that the organization offers through Second Saturdays, Journeys in Local History, History on the Move, Lincoln Seminar, Genealogy Seminar, Taproom History, genealogy classes, and the new Annual History Symposium. I hope you will support the Center this year by reaching a little deeper and supporting the organization a little bit more. Will you do that? You can send in a check, or pay on the Center’s website, www.schrc.org.

And now a few words about upcoming developments and events:

A New Building. It was announced in the Sheboygan Falls *News* on June 19, that the Center has purchased the former Sheboygan Falls utility building across from the Center, at 511 Adams Street. So, we will be renovating this building, which will primarily be used for collection storage and classroom activities.

2019 Symposium Papers Now Available! The papers from the SCHRC’s First Annual History Symposium have

arrived and are for sale through the website or in the book store for \$15.00 a copy. The book entitled, *Dissolving Myths and Legends: Rivalries, Allies, Histories & Cultures that Shaped the Black Hawk War*, contains the four lectures that were delivered last November by Dr. Libby Tronnes, Dr. Patrick Jung, Dr. Kerry Trask, and myself. It is great scholarship on a regional topic.

Taproom History Has Returned! We have adjusted the schedule for this year’s sessions. On June 18, author Chad Lewis delivered an entertaining virtual program about UFO lore in Wisconsin. On July 16, I will be talking about a few of the stories contained in my forthcoming book, *Among the Badgers: Re-Discovering Sites Associated with Abraham and Mary Lincoln in Wisconsin*. On August 20, Dr. Patrick Jung will be discussing the morbid, yet fascinating subject of torture and public execution in Europe and Native America. All of the programs are being hosted again by The Fat Cow on Thursday evenings in downtown Sheboygan Falls, starting at 6:30 pm. Thursdays are \$3.00 burger nights, so bring a friend and your appetite! Check out the website for details about all three programs.

The Annual Bus Tour is Scheduled for October 19-23, 2020. Although the current health crisis had temporarily suspended almost all traveling, the Center is still moving forward with plans for another bus tour this year. The itinerary has been set and reservations are being accepted. It will be a five-day tour that explores historical sites in southwestern Wisconsin, northwestern Illinois, and southeastern Iowa. It includes a dinner cruise, dinner-theater, Herbert Hoover Presidential Museum, Ronald Reagan Boyhood Home, John Deere Historic Site, a trolley tour of Galena (Yes, there will be shopping!), Rock Island Arsenal, a couple of unique Lincoln sites, and – of course – the renowned Trappist Caskets company! Contact Personalized Tours for information and reservations at **920-528-7600**, or check out the tour flyer at our website, www.schrc.org.

The 2020 History Symposium. As a result of the current pandemic, this year’s Symposium will be put off until early 2021. The decision to delay it was based on not knowing (1) what requirements and recommendations will be in place for larger gatherings for the rest of this year, (2) whether speakers will feel comfortable participating, (3) whether venues will be open and available, and (4) whether people will be comfortable and safe attending an in-person event. As all large events in the state have been cancelled for this year, it only makes good sense to behave similarly. We may entertain the option of arranging a virtual conference, but we still hope we can gather in person for the next symposium.

The Research Center is Still on the Air! We are continuing our radio presence on WLKN, 98.1 FM, Mondays, about 8:10-8:12 a.m. These 2-minute conversations about the Center and its activities allow us to reach a younger audience who may not be familiar with us. Past programs are also available on our website.

Cont. on p. 7

This article was requested as a repeat.



WAUKEGAN ONCE GO-TO FOR WISCONSIN'S ELOPING COUPLES

On May 31, 1946 a Chicago-area newspaper headline announced, "Waukegan Nuptials, Not Romantical, but Speedy". This humorous, if misspelled, title accurately characterized the once busy marriage mecca of the Midwest.

Waukegan, situated just 110 miles south of Sheboygan in Lake County, Illinois, was for decades a place where eloping was big business; there was no waiting, little cost and no questions were asked.

The word elope dates back to 1338, when it was defined as the act of a wife leaving her husband to run off with a new paramour. Eventually by about 1800, it changed to describe a couple running off to marry each other, often to avoid parents' objections and other social strictures.

For centuries, prior to marrying, custom demanded that on the three Sundays prior to a marriage ceremony, the names of every couple be read aloud by the parish priest in order to give the public fair warning. This was known as the reading of the banns. The intent here was to prevent bigamy or other illegal marriage.

Perhaps the most famous marriage haven in the western world was Gretna Green, Scotland. Just two miles inside the Scottish border with England, it had extraordinarily liberal marriage laws. Almost anyone could legally conduct a marriage ceremony. The town became famous for its blacksmiths or anvil priests who would marry couples for a dram of whiskey. One blacksmith wrote to the London Times in 1843, boasting that he alone had performed around 3,500 marriages over 25 years. Marrying was indeed big business.

For couples from Wisconsin, Waukegan was their Gretna Green, albeit with a few more rules.

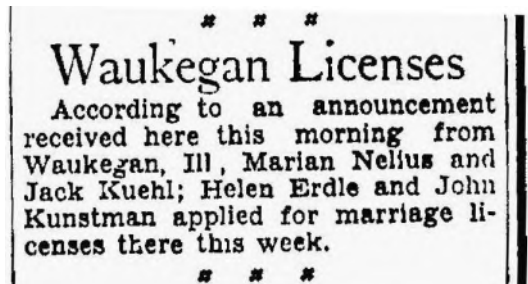
Couples ventured south as early as the first decade of the 1900s. The Sheboygan Press printed a recurring piece called Waukegan Licenses because so many couples married in Illinois. Miss Selma Marohn of Sheboygan and Mr. Ira Kruizinga of Gibbssville married there in June 1915.

Prior to autos being available, the Chicago, Milwaukee and North Shore Electric Railway brought couples directly to Waukegan.

An article in the Waukegan Daily Sun, dated 31 December 1925, stated that "Waukegan, as a marriage ground, more than held its own through 1925, showing an increase of approximately 434 marriages, which is healthy to say the least." The article noted that a change in the Michigan law, demanding a five-day notice that was also in effect in Wisconsin, has "boomed" the local marriage business. Scores of Chicago couples who once went to Michigan to get wedded now choose between Crown Point, Indiana and Waukegan."

Marriage licenses doled out in 1930 averaged seventeen a day with about 8 marriages a day from Wisconsin. A record was set in June of 1919 with 300 marriages.

Questions arise. The answers are simple. Why Waukegan? Waukegan, like Gretna Green, was the first town across the Illinois border from Wisconsin. No five-day waiting period was needed. It was a town that catered to young couples, making it easier for them to





find love.

And why elope? Perhaps a couple was older, a second marriage, or it was a May-December couple wanting to avoid traditional clergy. Perhaps they wanted something small and inexpensive. They may have been a couple of mixed background, either racial or religious, or divorce may have been part of the formula. No paren-

Taxi Drivers To Lose Split With Parsons

Waukegan, Ill.—(UP)—Justice of the Peace Walter D. Wright explained today why he had refused to sign an agreement with nineteen pastors and five other J. P.'s not to "split" fees with taxi drivers who bring them couples who want to be married.

Waukegan long has been a Gretna Green for eloping residents of Wisconsin, where it takes five days to get a marriage license, and during the last year it has become a favorite marrying place for citizens of Chicago. Marriages in 1930 averaged seventeen a day.

Wright says it was because he was "getting most of the business" that the nineteen pastors and five competing justices of the peace met last night and signed their agreement not to "lower the solemnization of marriage to the level of a commercial transaction" by offering inducements to taxi drivers to bring couples to them.

"I'm no hypocrite," Wright said today in explaining why of all the persons in the city authorized to perform marriages, he was the only one who did not sign the resolution.

"The rest of them have been splitting fees with taxi drivers, too," Wright said. "It's good business."

"The regular state fee is \$2, but elopers always give you \$5. I give the taxi drivers \$2.50 for bringing a couple to me. The rest have been paying only \$2. Naturally, the drivers brought me the trade. And that's what the resolution is about. They're just sore."

tal consent was needed. Any couple outside the norm would have found Waukegan's rules refreshing and easy.

Justice of the Peace, Emil W. Lindvahl, seemed to be the star of Waukegan. His convenient marriage parlor was situated right between a photo studio and a tavern. Couples could make a call—dialing Majestic 2755—from the tavern's pay phone and within five minutes they could be on their way to wedded bliss. The parlor, described as gloomy at best, with its walls a combination of dark red and battleship gray, did nothing to dampen the spirit of couples.

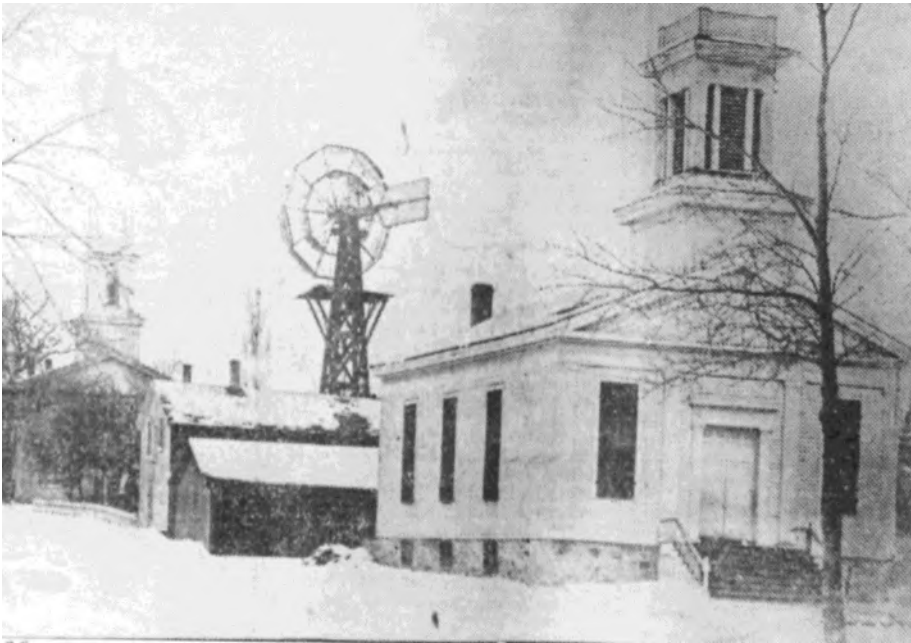
In the days before penicillin, syphilis was a major cause of blindness in newborns. A blood test was required in order to detect syphilis prior to marriage. Conveniently, Lindvahl had his own technician to alleviate waiting. The whole thing, from license to blood tests to ceremony complete with pictures, could be done in three to four hours.

Business was so competitive that Justices, photographers and jewelers in the city vied for the attention of couples by bribing taxi drivers to steer couples their way. In 1931, Waukegan clergy publicly complained that men like Lindvahl were stealing their business, reducing the sacrament of marriage to mere business transactions.

Marriage rules and regulations changed over time, and for a short period from 1937 to 1943, Waukegan lost its status as the Gretna Green for Wisconsin. Illinois, wanting to stem the tide of border crossing love, passed a law requiring three days wait before the issuance of a license. But, during the height of WWII, most likely from pressure by GIs seeking to tie the knot before leaving for service, the law was repealed.

In the years since, Las Vegas has surpassed Waukegan as a quick wedding destination. But, for thousands of Wisconsin couples, it was the place where their lives together began, for better or worse.

THE POWER OF WINDMILLS



Wind power has been used as long as humans have put sails into the wind. For more than two thousand years wind-powered machines have ground grain and pumped water. Wind power was widely available and not confined to the banks of fast-flowing streams, or later, requiring sources of fuel.

The earliest known wind powered grain mills and water pumps were used in Iran around A.D. 500-900 and by the Chinese in A.D. 1200. The first windmill manufactured in the United States was designed by Daniel Halladay, who began inventing windmills in 1854 in his Connecticut machine shop.

Very early image of windmill in Sheboygan Falls. The Baptist Church is at front and the Methodist church is at rear.

Between 1850 and 1970, over six million mostly small (1 horsepower or less) mechanical output wind machines were installed in the U.S. alone. The primary use was water-pumping and the main applications were stock watering and farm home water needs. Very large windmills, with rotors up to 18 meters in diameter, were used to pump water for the steam railroad trains that provided the primary source of commercial transportation in areas where there were no navigable rivers.

Locally, in 1879, Pierce Bros. & Co. which was located one door west of Wolf's shoe store on Pine Street, sold farm machinery, dairy implements, barb wire fencing and windmills.

S.T. Jackson, also of Sheboygan Falls, made windmills primarily for pumping water from about 1890 to 1910. Jackson came to Sheboygan Falls from New York State in 1847. For many years he manufactured wagons and was also the station agent, in Sheboygan Falls, for the old Sheboygan and Fond du Lac Railway. Later he built, sold and setup windmills for farmers in the area. His shop was located on Pine street where the Fasse Paint Company is now located. He retired in 1890s and died at the age of 82 on Dec. 18, 1903.

Kohler, Hayssen and Stehn Company of Sheboygan manufactured Champion Power and Sheboygan brand windmills in the 1890s and early 1900s.



The business of windmills faltered when electricity and gasoline became cheap—circa World War I—and continued through the Depression. In the late 1930s, rural electrification crashed demand. Manufacturers came out with budget versions of popular models. The Fairbury Windmill Company produced a “New Deal Special.”

The William and Anna Fiebelkorn family of rural Cascade poses for a family farm picture. This windmill is certainly for pumping water from a well.



Upper left: Klompenhouwer's Oostburg decorative windmill. About 20 feet tall it was a part of William Klompenhouwer's yard. The catwalk was located about 7 feet off the ground. Klompenhouwer (meaning wooden shoe hewer) also made wooden shoes.

Lower left: 1930 image of the TeRonde windmill on Windmill beach, town of Holland.

Upper right: Barn with windmill on top and pumping structure inside the barn.

During World War II, some windmill manufacturers built war-related products. Afterward, when the market for windmills did not improve, many started turning out other products or closed their doors.

Continued from page 3

A Final Word About Safety. The building is open to public once more and we want you to feel comfortable and safe if you choose to visit. Therefore, we have masks, gloves and sanitizer available for you to use if you choose to do so. It is not a requirement for admittance. Some volunteers are now visiting the Center daily to provide assistance for the management and care of the collections. It is good to see them again, and they are so happy to be back! Please stop by if you feel comfortable coming into the Center to conduct research or to volunteer, and we will accommodate you to the best of our ability.

We are trying to slowly and methodically schedule activities and events in a safe and healthy manner. We are looking forward to an exciting and fun-filled last half of the year at the Center! I look forward to seeing you at our future events. *Please check the website for information and possible schedule changes.*

Please feel free to contact me with your ideas, suggestions, and recommendations for enhancing our development efforts. You can contact me at 920-467-4667, or email me at steverogstad@schrc.org.

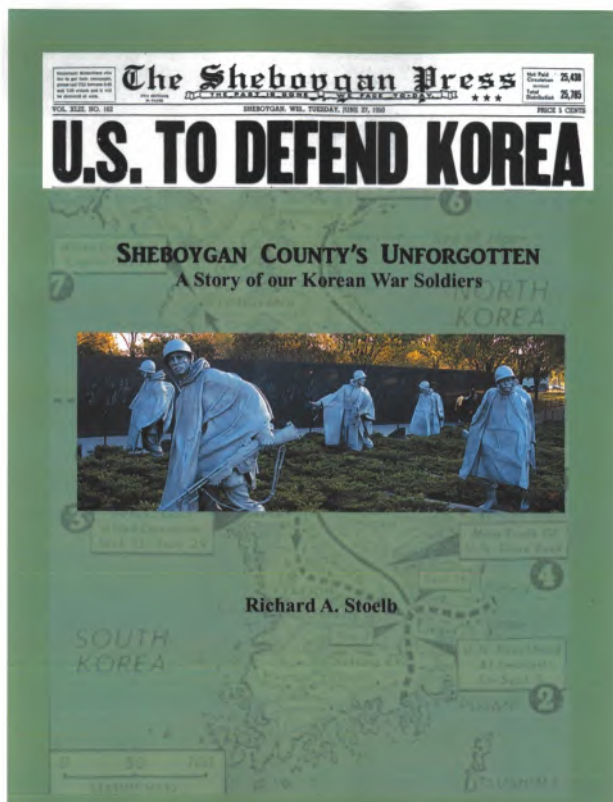
Thank you for all you do to support and help develop our Research Center!
Please remain safe, healthy, prudent, and vigilant!

Sincerely, Steven K. Rogstad

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Showing how rapid improvements in hunting technology replaced a vital government-run trading system between Indians and American settlers, Trask makes the argument that the fall of the Sauk economy led to a downward spiral that nearly eradicated Sauk culture and traditions even before the war.

These essays reflect the latest scholarship on the Black Hawk War, a subject that has captured the attention of historians and the general public alike for generations.

The second book, Sheboygan County's Unforgotten, A Story of our Korean War Soldiers tells of the Korean War conflict of 1950-1953. In Sheboygan County, 960 young men were called up by the local Selective Service Board for assignment to military service. 700 of these men served in Korea. 7 were Killed in Action, 5 died in POW camps, 1 remains listed as Missing in Action, and 2 died in non-combat events.

This book remembers Sheboygan County's casualties, its prisoners of war, those still missing, soldiers of the occupation and others whose stories have impacted their lives forever. This book is available after July 10, 2020.

Both are available in the Millhouse Store, online at schrc.org/shop and by phone, 920.467.4667.