

## Minister's Story Pieced Together

Jim Woodburn Sr. of Burbank, California, has for some time been interested in piecing together the story of his great great-grandfather, the Rev. James Donald who settled in Springdale Township in the summer of 1855. This past winter Jim hired Brian Bigler to take on the challenge of tracing the minister's life history. Brian stated that, "Although the project at first seemed a bit daunting it became absolutely fascinating. The amount of material on Donald that exists in the Historical Society's archives is unbelievable."

Brian started by gathering all the material he could find. The letters in the collection date back to 1819 and reveal the background of the Rev. James Donald while he was living in his native Scotland. Brian uncovered the struggles that Donald would endure. "It seems it was who you knew that landed you a job as a minister in those days," as he read through countless rejection letters that Donald had received while searching for a permanent position. Further, after Donald's marriage to Margaret Strong, and the family's subsequent three boys were born, this created a burden on the minister's chances of finding employment. "In those days," Brian added, "a minister was paid from \$300 to \$500 per year, and this was often split in two payments. When Donald's family became larger, the various parishes felt they could not offer a wage great enough to support a family of five individuals." It was this later fact that Bigler believes drove Donald to the realization that he would have to find an extended way to care for his family while pursuing his career as a Presbyterian minister. After moving from parish to parish in various New York/Wisconsin locations, the minister made a bold decision. In the late spring of 1855 he loaded his family and a few possessions in an ox-drawn covered wagon and headed for Springdale Township, Dane County, where he arrived in summer of that year. In Springdale Donald was able to trade his oxen and wagon for a 40 acre plot of land. With an additional outlay of cash he bought 40 more acres. This would allow the family to have a small farm that would provide food and some income. Donald would become the preacher of two Presbyterian parishes, one at the soon to be Mount Horeb located where the Union Cemetery is today and the other located near Verona along what was to become Highway G.

The burdens of the farm and the care of aging parents would fall on 14 year old John, the youngest of the Donald children. Robert and William, the Donalds' other two children, would leave soon after their arrival in



Rev. James Donald and Margaret Strong Donald about 1859

Springdale for college educations in New York. John would take his father to Sabbath services every Sunday. The Rev. Donald would write all of his sermons out in long hand in his second level farmhouse library. "Already by 1859," noted Brian, "the family was busy building one of the area's earliest sawed lumber houses." This work also was delegated to the youngest son John who hauled materials from as far away as Madison and as close as Mount Vernon. The house still stands along Highway 92 between Mount Horeb and Mount Vernon. As John grew older he amassed a sizable collection of livestock. John married the neighbor girl, Ellen Sweet, in April 1868, but tragically he fell victim of typhoid fever and died just seven months later, and three months before his son, John Sweet Donald, was born. John Sweet Donald was the father of Delma Donald Woodburn, and was Jim Woodburn Sr.'s grandfather.

As Brian delved further into church records, archives at Mt. Horeb and at the Wisconsin Historical Society, even examining the family's material possessions housed in the Society's museum collections, he found that he was able to breathe more into the minister's life account. As Brian recalled "as I got into the research I slowly came to realize that the story would not only become that of the Rev. James Donalds but rather a family's life struggle – a rare account from birth to death of one individual and his family's accomplishments that played a role in the early settlement period of this area."

When the project is completed, a copy will be filed at the Mt. Horeb Area Historical Society archive.

## CCC Project Falls On Hard Times

"It is ironic" stated President, Brian Bigler, "that in these difficult times even an exhibit about a similar time not so long ago would fall prey to the budget ax." Brian was referring to the recent bad news that the Historical Society Board received regarding its application for a Dane County Cultural Affairs grant that would have allowed the Society to publish a book and produce an exhibit dealing with the Depression-era CCC camp that was located just south of Mt. Horeb.

In February of 2009 the Society applied to the Cultural Affairs office for a \$7,900 grant that would have partially funded the production of a book titled "Louis Roedell and the CCC in Wisconsin" and an exhibit by the same name. When the Board received news that the Society would only get \$1,000 from the Commission, it struggled with possible ways to raise the additional funds for the project. At the Board's special fundraising meeting held in April it was decided to postpone the project and continue to focus on the Society's Heritage Center fundraising instead. "It was a heartbreaking decision," added Bigler, "one that I never thought we would face." "We [the Board] just needed to stay focused on the major fundraising at hand and not try to solicit even more money for this project."

After the bad news arrived, Karen Crossley, the head of the Cultural Affairs Commission, paid a visit to the Society's museum in a mission to become more familiar with the Historical Society's operations. She was most impressed with what she experienced on her museum tour and expressed not giving up hope in the future for another round of grants. She added that the Cultural Affairs Commission had to make some drastic cuts due to the amount of applications they had received during the grant cycle.



Above: A page from a Mt Horeb camp souvenir book, and a camp photo. A recent donation of camp member Louis Roedell.

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## National History Day Finalists

The annual event of National History Day is a great way to get students involved in the process of history. Students work for months to create historical research projects around an annual theme. The theme for 2009 was: The Individual in History: Actions and Legacies.

Out of the many students who participated, 50 Wisconsin students made it into the finals on May 2 at Madison. The finalists will represent the Badger State at the national event June 14 -18 in College Park, MD.

**Several students from Mt. Horeb made it into the May 2nd competition and we are proud to make mention of them here.**

In the Senior Individual Exhibits category, Cooper Patton received 3rd Honorable Mention for his display Frank Lloyd Wright and Organic Architecture, 4th Honorable Mention went to Spencer Seiler for Milton Hershey: Sharing the Sweetness. In Senior Group Exhibits, 4th Honorable Mention went to Astrid Lavell and Randy Zander for Satchmo: The Father of Jazz. Senior Individual Performance category found Generika Matt with a 2nd place Honorable Mention for her portrayal of Robert La Follette's Opposition to World War I.

**The Mt. Horeb Area Historical Society congratulates all of the participants.**

## MUSEUM MUSINGS

by Laurie Boyden

As we reported in the last newsletter, Phase 1 of the repair and restoration project of the front of the building was completed in December by Blue Mounds artist and restorationist, Mike Gross. Phase 2 of the project will involve re-caulking and some additional work on the boardwalk. The work should be finished in May. A final coat of paint will complete the project.

The museum opened on May 1 and as always we look forward to the many new visitors and many returning visitors who discover and support the history of Southwestern Dane County. Of course, before our opening day we held our annual sign-up meeting for volunteers on Saturday, April 25 at the museum. We had a great response and have a nearly full schedule. These wonderful people are essential to the continuation of our goal to preserve and present our local history to people who visit the museum from all over the world. There's always room for more so please contact me with questions or for additional information on volunteering at 437-6486 or 437-8901.

We'd like to remind everyone that the Museum Shop is a great place to find unique gifts and books. Each year we try to add to the variety of Wisconsin and heritage items, cookbooks, reproduction wares, household decor, prints and troll figurines. We'd like to thank the following people for donating items to be sold in the gift shop. Wally Keller gave two of his iron sculptures and Jim Kirchstein gave six CDs of Wisconsin Folk music artists. Stop by and see what's new!

**The hours for the Mount Horeb Area Museum and Shop are Friday and Saturday 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. and Sunday 12:30 - 4 p.m. Visit us at 100 S. 2nd Street, Mt. Horeb, WI. For more information, check our website: [www.mounthoreb.org](http://www.mounthoreb.org)**

## Thanks

The Historical Society would like to thank Kathy O'Donnell, one of our volunteers, for organizing the binder of Wisconsin Decorative Arts website material. We would also like to thank Emily Pfothenhauer of the Wisconsin Historical Society for sending us those website materials.

## Distinguished Visitors Tour Museum

Even in the off-season the museum plays host to school groups from as far away as Sauk City and as near as Mt. Horeb. The staff of the Mount Horeb Library also toured the Museum and took a behind the scenes tour of the museum collections and archive on Jan. 26th. However, our off-season visitors are not always children or library staff. On Feb. 24th Dane County Executive, Kathleen Falk and a member of her staff toured the museum and the future site of the Southwestern Dane County Heritage Center. Falk was most impressed with the museum and the progress the society has made on the current fund drive. Dave Zwiefel, editor emeritus of The Capital Times newspaper toured the Museum, archive, and museum collections on February 26, and was astounded by what he discovered. His subsequent online newspaper column gives a glowing account of what we have to offer and is a feature in this issue of Past Times.



## Society Wish List

The Historical Society is looking for the following items that may still reside in someone's attic or storage area. Two glass light shades and a brass shade holder for a kerosene fixture recently offered to the museum. The fixture hung in the East Blue Mounds Lutheran Church. If anyone has sentimental attachment either to the fixture or the church we are also soliciting funds for the fixture's restoration. The lighting device will be added to the current exhibit "Ethnic Evolution and Contribution in Southwestern Dane County" when it is restored.



## Gifts of Transportation Past

Two early horse-drawn vehicles were recently added to the Museum's collections. Descendents of Torkel Martinson donated a circa 1901 fringe top two-seat carriage. The vehicle was purchased by Springdale farmer Torkel in 1901 and was manufactured at a plant operated by Simeon G. Gay in Ottawa, Ill. around 1900. The acquisition of a fancy buggy of this sort would have been a big deal for a local farm family at the end of the 19th century. It represents the status the family was achieving during the boom years of the dairy business in the Mt. Horeb area. The importance placed in this newfound wealth is most likely why the carriage survived, stored away at the family farm and later lovingly restored by Torkel's descendants. Torkel's heirs used the surrey in area parades that celebrated milestone anniversaries, such as Mt. Horeb's 1961 Centennial, and Mount Vernon's 150th in 1996, when the family joined forces and had the carriage completely restored for the occasion.



A farm wagon manufactured by the Stoughton Wagon Works was amongst articles recently gifted by Louis and Ruth Roedell. The wagon was used on the Thompson farm in Blue Mounds Township, and Ruth recalls her father hauling hogs to market with it. This vehicle dates to about 1899. Along with the wagon the Roedells gifted numerous items that were also used on Ruth's family farm and at Mount Horeb Hardware. These items augment materials previously offered by the Roedells. Amongst these later additions are an oak desk and door from the hardware store office, a cart for hauling barbed wire rolls and unsold implement parts that the Roedells had found in the attic of the former hardware store. A well water pump, assorted tools and a bobsled from the farm, and a large circa 1880 kerosene light fixture from the old East Blue Mounds Lutheran Church, were also offered.



## Anniversary Preparation

At the May Board of Directors meeting, several fundraising options were narrowed down in a voting process. One of these options will be developed over the next two years – a picture book celebrating the 150th anniversary of the Village of Mt. Horeb.

The book titled "The Mt. Horeb Area: Then & Now" will show pictorially the development of the village from its ethnic and agricultural roots to the present. Using historic photos from the Historical Society's vast holdings as its basis, contemporary photographers will be asked to shoot the same view as it appears today. These two views will be set side by side in the book to give the viewer an interesting perspective of the changes in the area's built and social environment.


It was decided to choose the Mt. Horeb area, as its original agricultural basis was the life-blood of the development of the village of Mt. Horeb. The book will feature farms, businesses, and people at work and play. Local high school sports teams will be asked to pose in the same manner as their 1920s counterparts. Farmers in the year 2010 will stand proudly by their large combines alongside a 1904 threshing crew. Mt. Horeb street scenes of the 1930s will reveal their stark new developments, while contemporary views will be shaded with mature trees and filled lots. Children in 1890 enjoy a wooden wheeled coaster wagon while a contemporary youth shows his skateboarding prowess. These are just some of the possibilities for subjects in this unique way of relaying local history.

The Board is now forming a committee that will oversee the development of this project. **If you have any interest in locating or being a photographer, selecting photos, finding a printer, writing grants, doing graphic design, editing or making phone calls then we need you. Contact Brian Bigler at 608-437-7776 to volunteer.**

Meetings will be held sparingly in the last half of 2009 and will slightly increase in 2010. It is hoped that the book will premiere in December 2010 and will be available throughout 2011 the village's sesquicentennial year.

Right - ad from 1922  
Mt Horeb Berohbok  
school annual.

**MICKELSON**  
JEWELER..



**Victrolas**  
With a Victrola in the home  
every musical longing  
is satisfied  
**PRICE:** \$15.00, \$25.00, \$40.00,  
\$50.00, \$75.00, \$100.00



## Trolls Exhibited at Chamber of Commerce

With the recent renovations to the Mt. Horeb Area Chamber of Commerce Welcome Center at 300 E. Main Street, two large display cases were added and available for exhibit space. The Historical Society was offered use of one for a temporary exhibit and jumped at the chance to display a few artifacts from the museum collections and archives. We decided to revisit a pivotal time in Mt. Horeb's recent history with an exhibit titled "A Friendly Exchange" that followed the development of the "Trollway," "Troll" theme and claim of Mt. Horeb as "The Troll Capital of the World." Two trolls brought from Norway in 1985 were the main feature of the display along with photos, letters, news articles and additional information pertaining to the exchange of trolls between Mt. Horeb and Rjukan, Norway. Unfortunately, the exhibit materials were returned to the archives on May 12, and will be reinstalled the middle of June for the summer. Future exhibits are being planned for when the display cases become available.



Above - Gov. Anthony Earl had a chance to shake hands with a local troll at Master's Cribbage Tournament, 1984. Photo by Judy Kleinert.

## Internet Site Reaches Out

The Wisconsin Decorative Arts Database, which includes 73 objects from our holdings, has proved to be useful for a graduate student in the Center for Historic Architecture and Design at the University of Delaware. Anna Blinn Cole, a graduate research assistant, contacted us with the request for permission to use the image "Wafer Iron, Torgrim Fjeld, Mount Horeb, 1873-1886" in her masters thesis. Permission was enthusiastically granted and in return we should be receiving a copy of the thesis for the archives.

The "Wafer Iron" or "Krumkake Iron" was used to make a traditional Norwegian cookie. The cooking tool was made between 1873-1886 by Torgrim Johnson Fjeld (1847-1923) of Mt. Horeb. It is comprised of two long wrought iron handles and two flat cast iron plates. One plate features a grape and vine motif, the other a sheaf of wheat encircled by the Norwegian phrase "Giv Os I Dag Vort Daglige Brod" ("Give us this day our daily bread"). One handle is stamped "T.J. FJELD." Fjeld, also known by the Americanized name "Tom Field," was a blacksmith and performed wagon repairs at his shop in "Old Town." He produced the special wafer irons and sold them from his wagon shop.

This image and many more are available for anyone wishing to study these objects and their histories. The collection can be viewed online at the Wisconsin Decorative Arts Database which is a collaborative project of the Wisconsin Historical Society, the Chipstone Foundation and the University of Wisconsin. Explore the database at [www.wisconsinhistory.org](http://www.wisconsinhistory.org) or <http://content.wisconsinhistory.org/decorativearts>.

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Try our Soda Grill when you want a real good lunch or a  
Delicious Ice Cream Soda

DANCE WHILE YOU WAIT

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*"WE MAKE THE BEST BREAD BAKED"*

Carry a full line of Candy, Fruits, Canned Goods,  
Tobacco and Velvet Ice Cream

• • "TRY A MEAL AT OLSON'S" • •

Above - ad from 1922 Mt Horeb Berohbok school annual.

## High Praise From The Press

The Following article appeared on The Capital Times website on 3/09/2009.

### Dave Zweifel's Plain Talk: Mount Horeb does history right

My hat's off to the good people of Mount Horeb for having what has to rate as one of the best local history museums in Wisconsin, if not the country.

Jane Burns, one of our hardworking staff members, put me on to the museum a few weeks ago and urged me to visit. A proud native of Mount Horeb, Jane worked at the Des Moines Register and the Minneapolis Star Tribune before coming home to The Capital Times a few years ago. She recently bought a house in her native town and was quickly tabbed to join the board of the Mount Horeb Area Historical Society.

That's not unusual, because part of what makes the museum so special is that people in the community are encouraged to take part either by volunteering time or contributing money or artifacts to the museum so it can continue to grow.

The museum is located on Second Street, just off the village's main drag (the famous Trollway) and across the street from the popular brew pub, the Grumpy Troll. It's closed from January until the first of May, but several of the directors, including board President Brian Bigler, met me on a rainy February Thursday to give me a personalized tour. I figured it would be a quick in-and-out visit to what commonly is a one-room museum filled with bits and pieces of local history, but I wound up staying two hours and hardly put a dent in all that's there to see and read.

For this is a museum of not just the history of Mount Horeb, but the eight towns that make up southwestern Dane County -- Springdale, Vermont, Blue Mounds, Perry, Cross Plains, Primrose, Montrose and Verona. You go from room to room tracing the rich history of the area, beginning with the days it was inhabited by the Ho-Chunk Indians and the arrival of the first white settler, Ebenezer Brigham, in 1827, more than 20 years before Wisconsin became a state. Each room displays a significant theme that takes you from those pre-statehood days up through today.

There are exhibits about the many ethnic groups that settled southwest Dane County. While Mount Horeb has long been known as a "Norwegian town" -- the high

school nickname, after all, is the Vikings -- there were considerable numbers of Irish, Germans and Swiss, all of whom brought their own customs, tools and idiosyncrasies from their old country.

"I guess you could say that the people here were great savers of things," Bigler told me, "because their attics were full of artifacts that their ancestors brought here and they were good enough to donate or lend them to our museum."

Indeed, the collection is astounding. In just 34 years, the museum has acquired more than 30,000 artifacts, so many that the historical society can't come close to displaying them all on its two floors. Many are stored on the third floor of the nearby Municipal Building on Main Street. Stored items include equipment from a hospital that once operated there, the village's first water fountain, the first television set sold to a Mount Horeb family (a Zenith), some 25,000 historic pictures, newspapers and news articles, period clothing and much more. All has been cataloged by volunteers over thousands of hours.

Many of the pictures, incidentally, were donated by Jane Burns' family after her father, professional photographer Cyril Burns, passed way. Among the photos are several of visits to Mount Horeb by John F. Kennedy and the king of Norway.

There are no public hours for the archives, but folks are welcome the second and fourth Wednesday afternoons each month to do research. School classes often use the materials to study area history and prepare papers.

The museum itself is open to the public Fridays through Sundays from May through December. More than 2,000 people visited this past year, according to the museum's one paid part-time staffer, Laurie Boyden, who is the day-to-day museum director and also runs a little gift and book shop there. Proceeds from the shop help pay utilities and other expenses.

Separate displays are devoted to two of the area's most prominent politicians, John S. Donald and Robert M. La Follette, both Progressive Republicans. In addition to several issues of La Follette's Weekly (today's Progressive Magazine) and family papers and letters, the museum has the banner that draped the side of Fighting Bob's car when he campaigned for U.S. president in 1924. It is obviously one of a kind.

Donald, a farmer, not only was active in local politics, but went on to serve in the Assembly, the state Senate and as secretary of state. A contemporary and friend of La Follette, Donald is credited with helping develop

Wisconsin's railroad network in the late 1800s and early 1900s. The Dane County park near Mount Vernon is named in his honor.

Although the museum has been cited by the Wisconsin Historical Society and many others for its authenticity and historical importance, the Mount Horeb Historical Society isn't about to rest on its laurels. Bigler and the other directors who gave me the tour -- Al Colvin, Shirley Martin and Peter Riphahn -- outlined plans for a big expansion they hope to undertake in the next few years. The group purchased a lot just a door away from the museum and plans to build a two-story heritage center. Eventually, behind that center, it plans to open a stable designed like one from Mount Horeb's early days and also display some machinery and other large artifacts.

Of course, that requires money and the society is embarking on a campaign to raise at least \$400,000.

These might be difficult economic times to do that, but judging from the commitment that the Mount Horeb community has already made to protect and promote its history, in donations of time and money and artifacts, I've got hunch the drive will be a success.

\*Dave Zweifel is editor emeritus of The Capital Times.

\*\* Special thanks the Capital Times for allowing us to reprint this article.



Society archivist Marlyn Grinde keeps track of newly acquired documents.

## A Vermont Street in Mt. Horeb?

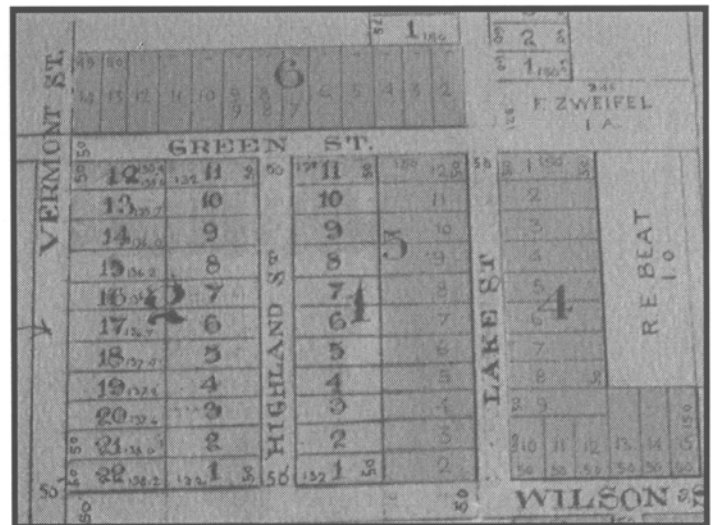
The following email letter from Bonita Guarino was recently sent to Society President, Brian Bigler.

Hi Brian

I am writing again as I am still searching for Vermont St. It is obvious that you have done an outstanding job of organizing the historical society and gathering information. I hope someday you will accept all my genealogy work for most of Mt. Horeb, along with pictures of my relatives who lived in the Vermont area. Also, my brother would like to donate all his military stuff from Vietnam someday.

But back to my problem, in the 1930 census I can account for all the streets except Vermont St. You referred me to another person but I have lost that name and e-mail. I am wondering now if the alley between Grove and Washington Streets could once have been a street called Vermont. As you read the 1930 census it starts out by the UNION cemetery and goes across town at all the numbered streets until you get to Washington and then Vermont but then back to Thompson street. I am sorry to be such a bother but it is a small piece of my family history that we cannot understand.

To answer Bonita's question Brian and Museum Director Laurie Boyden first turned to the Museums stored collections for clues. There, on a large framed 1904 map of Mt Horeb, they found it. On the far northern edge of the map was Vermont Street and next to it the name it would thereafter become -- Oakridge Street. Another mystery was solved.

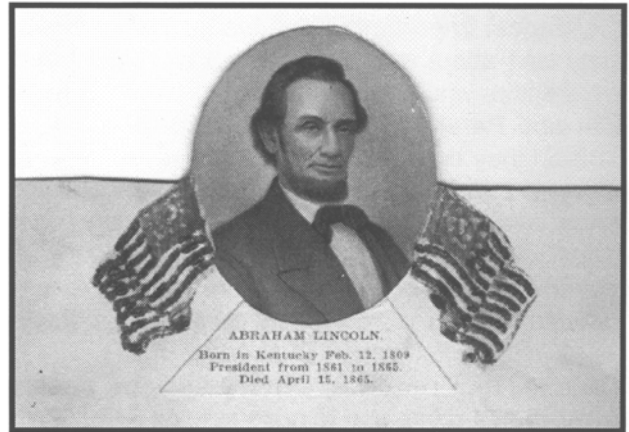


## More Lincoln Artifacts Revealed

This is the last of a two-part series on artifacts from the museum and archive that feature the likeness of Lincoln, and in celebration of the Lincoln Bicentennial year we offer two more examples of mementos of the former president. In the days before the telephone and Internet the only form of communication of such a major event as the shooting of a U.S. president was telegraph, newspaper, magazine or handbill. All of these modes of communication were slow, but efficient.

On the evening of April 14, 1865 President Abraham Lincoln was enjoying a performance at Ford's Theater, when actor John Wilkes Booth entered through the door leading to the president's viewing box. Booth aimed a one-shot brass revolver at the president's head and fired. The shot would be fatal. The New York Herald newspaper edition we are featuring came out the following Saturday morning, April 15 at 8:10 a.m. By the time this newspaper arrived at the James and Margaret Donald farm in rural Springdale, the news had already become history. Nevertheless, the family held onto this edition as a cherished keepsake of the tumultuous years of the Civil War.

The memorial tribute to Lincoln is believed to be a table card or favor handed out at a local event held after the president's assassination. The card is hand made with painted and detailed American flags flanking an engraved photo of Lincoln. The card was also amongst the possessions of Rev. James and Margaret Donald.



Above - 1865-66 hand crafted memorial card depicting the late President Abraham Lincoln

Below - Original April 15th 1865 edition of The New York Herald announcing the shooting of President Abraham Lincoln



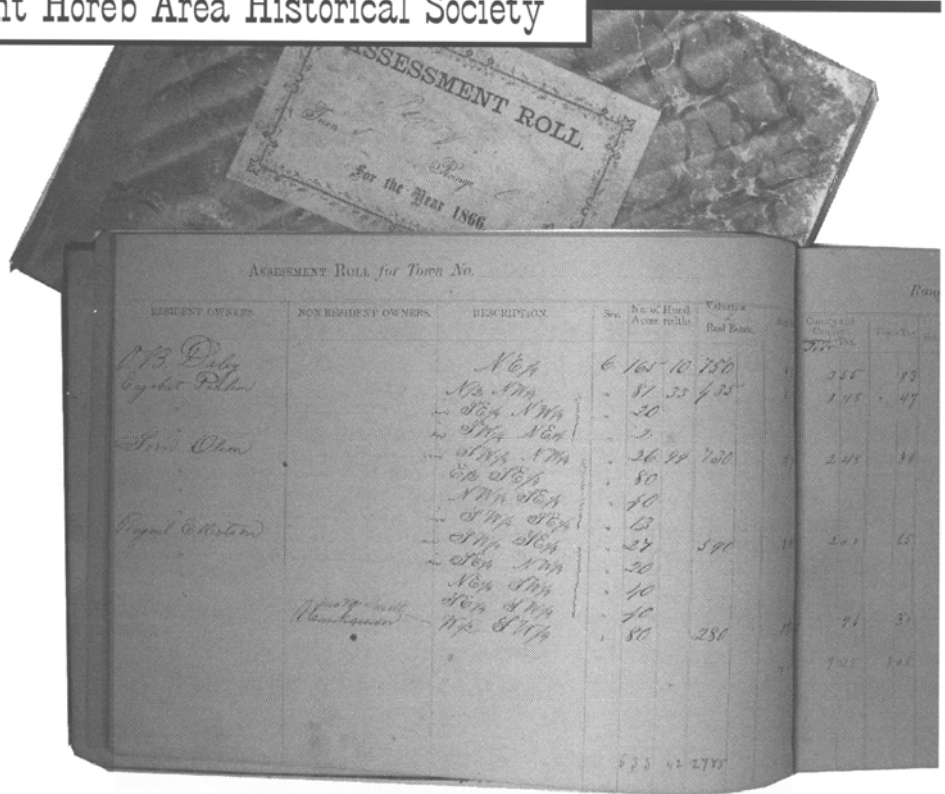


# The Mount Horeb Area Historical Society

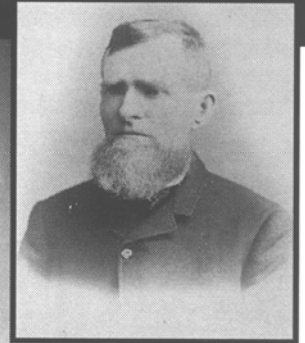
## Perry History Added to Archive

The Perry Township Preservation Commission recently turned over to the archive the assessor's records for the township dating from the mid 19th century through to the early 20th century. These records will prove invaluable to the many researchers who are seeking information on their relatives who owned property in southwestern Dane County. Besides hundreds of individuals, the record books contain the names of operating business places in the township, including cheese factories and stores.

The town of Perry was named after Commodore Perry, a young American officer, who, in 1812, won fame and distinction in the naval battle of Lake Erie. The township was originally part of the town of Primrose up to 1854, when it was organized as an independent town and elected Anders Sanderson as chairman, and O. B. Dahle as town clerk, town treasurer, justice of the peace, and superintendent of the schools. The first permanent settlers in the town were there in 1846 when John Brown moved in from the East, and the Keller Brothers arrived from Germany.



Above - an example of one of the many Perry artifacts recently donated to the society's archives. Note O.B. Dahle's entry. Below is a photograph of Dahle, and his store in the village of Daleyville.



## What Became of Mister Mandt?

Recently a visitor to the Society's website sent us this article that appeared in The Richland Center Rustic, Feb. 9, 1889. The article is in response to the shooting of the editor of the Dane County Sun newspaper published out of the Mt. Horeb home and print shop of G.G. Mandt, which was located at the present site of the former Schubert's Restaurant in 1887. Mr. Mandt was a strong supporter of the Temperance movement and at least one of his readers was adamantly opposed to his beliefs. At this time we are not sure what happened to Mr. Mandt, but believe he made a recovery as our records indicate the Sun was incorporated with the Mt. Horeb Progress in 1895 and then became known as the Mt. Horeb Times.

### Dane County Tragedy

G.G. Mandt, editor of the Mt. Horeb Sun, who had been waging war against the saloon keepers through the columns of his paper, in consequence of which an attempt was made to assassinate him last night on Wednesday night. He had worked late in the office and about midnight went to his bedroom situated in the rear of the printing office, to retire. When ready to go to bed he heard a knock at the kitchen door. When he opened the door an unknown person shot him, the bullet entering his right side between the fifth and sixth ribs and lodging in the tissues of the right lung. He is alive yet, but the chances of his recovery are slight. Two weeks ago Mr. Mandt received the following threatening letter, and this reply to it is supposed to have been the cause of the brutal attempt on his life:

Mr. Mandt you hev preeched temperance long nough in your damned dirty papers stop it or it may cost your sole look out we meen bizues Jack the Ripper

In the next issue of his paper, Mr. Mandt made the following answer:

The liquor element we are glad to note, does not like our temperance "biznes" as one of our anonymous contributors chose to put it. We received, last week, a letter of this kind which is verily worthy of notice. The writer goes on to say we have preached temperance long enough in our "dirty" papers, and we may have to stop it or it may cost our "soul." We have always tried to send out clean papers but sometimes they are soiled in going through the mails. This man must have been a non-subscriber and found our paper on the saloon table, in which case it would have of course been dirty; it could not be helped. If he would go into a respectable place and pick up our paper, he will, in most cases, find that it is clean. What is most remarkable about this man is his ignorance as to the true nature of temperance work. He says it may cost your "soul." If we had not seen the oaths in the begin-

ning of his letter, we might have taken him for a man of religion as he seemed concerned about our soul. We can inform a temperance editor stands a greater chance of getting there than does a drinking sneak and a coward. This appears, that we might get hurt. Well, well! that shows what we can expect from the saloon element. That shows what the licensing of saloons leads to. That shows that it robs men of their manhood and makes sneaks and cowards of 'em. That shows the true nature of the saloon element. In the name of everything that is good and pure, in the name of justice, and clean out the stink holes we have among us to foster sneaks, cowards, criminals and everything else! Wake up once and take a look at yourselves and behold the mark of inconsistency branded on you.?

Inconsistent as true men and true citizens! Inconsistent as Christians and do-ers of justice! How long shall this be tolerated? How long shall we sit like bumps on a log and do look at this disgraceful method of curse of this description. Let s be men for once in our lives and do our simple duty. We assure you there is no danger of losing your souls. The meanest sons of liquor and all the cowards combined can not touch your soul.

Richland Center Rustic  
Feb. 9, 1889



G. G. Mandt

## Letter From The President

It has been some time since I have had the opportunity to pass along my sincere thanks to the wonderful volunteers both behind the scenes at the archive and museum collections and greeting people from all over the world at the Museum. I really can't emphasize enough how important and appreciated your time spent is to the Mt Horeb Area Historical Society. It takes more than 40 individuals to make everything run smoothly.

I would also be remiss in not expressing my gratitude to our 13 member board. It is challenging at times to keep crunching numbers and seeking creative ways to raise the much needed finances that help make the Society one of the more respected small history organizations in the state, yet everyone carries out these challenges with grace and persistence.

It is the support of our many members and contributors that continue to remind us we are doing the right thing. Support that is now taking the Historical Society into its 34th year. This same devotion has expanded the holdings of the Society creating a high-class educational resource with more than 25,000 photographic images, 20,000 artifacts with regional connections, and countless documents, maps, books, film and visual recordings. The many museum visitors and researchers owe their many compliments to all that are involved. Consider Dave Zweifel's column, which appears in this issue of Past Times, dedicated to you.

Of course, as always, we face several challenges. Although we are rounding the corner in our land purchase for the site of the Southwestern Dane County Heritage Center, we still have nearly \$30,000 left to pay

on our loan from the Village of Mount Horeb. We would love to see this debt removed by the end of 2009. We also face the challenges of coming up with new and creative ways to get Phase II off the ground with as much success as Phase I.

The Board is excited about these challenges, and is moving forward on the final architectural renderings for the Heritage Center and these will be unveiled soon. The Board is also brainstorming ways to raise money for Phase II, and, in part, is targeting the 150th anniversary of Mt. Horeb in 2011 as a date to make the Center a reality.

It is my sincere hope that everyone will continue to spread the word about the important work we are doing. The Board, and those involved in the planning feel that the Southwestern Dane County Heritage Center, will create a great asset for the area and will greatly improve the tourist possibilities in this part of the state. I am sure we all could not agree more.

Sincerely,

Brian J. Bigler

**F. Y. I.** Your membership expiration date is printed on the mailing label of this newsletter. Please check to see if you are up to date through Jan. 10 or beyond. If not, your membership is due. We appreciate your renewal and don't want you to miss a single issue of our newsletter or any important information about Historical Society events.

## Generations Of Memories

The Mt. Horeb Area Historical Society

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Society Membership Levels

☐

Individual

\$15.00

☐

Household

\$25.00

☐

Individual Lifetime

Membership \$250.00

☐

Benefactor

\$500.00

☐

Building Fund

Donation \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to:

Mt. Horeb Area Historical Society

138 East Main St.

Mt. Horeb, WI 53572

All contributions to the Society are tax deductible.



*Also in this newsletter :*

*A victim of temperance temper, Hard times revisited, President Lincoln remembered, An early area minister revealed, Street history mystery, Perry archive addition, VIP museum visitors  
Praise from the press, Museum musings, National History Day, Archive Acquisitions and much more*

**Mt. Horeb Area Historical Society  
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Lee J. Underwood  
Donna Read  
Marietta Gribb – Costume, Textiles, Dolls

**Operations:**

Laurie Boyden - Museum Director /Coordinator  
Tim White - Newsletter and Website Editor

**Archives Hours:**

2nd & 4th Wednesday each month 12:30 – 3:00  
3rd floor of the Municipal Building  
138 E. Main St. Mt. Horeb WI  
608-437-6486

# Agricultural Implements!

WAGONS, BUGGIES, CARTS,  
As well as a general line of

**Hardware, Stoves, Tinware**

PAINTS, OILS, GLASS and BUILDERS' MATERIAL. Also the  
Celebrated

## DEERING MACHINES.

NOW IS THE TIME FOR MOWERS AND BINDERS.

Remember, the Deering Machines now, as in the past, are to the front and in the lead. They are generally found alone with dealers who handle them. Its superior qualities over all others have spread its fame in every clime. Come and give us your attention for a few moments, and we will cheerfully give you an inside view of their construction.

## Headquarters for Harness,

**AND DO NOT FORGET IT.**

**The Quality of our Goods is our best advertisement. Give us a trial and use your own judgment.**

Are in shape to Repair Buggy Tops, Covers or replace Dashes. Buggy Trimmings always on hand. Oiling and Repairing Harness done at reasonable rates.

→ A Fine Stock of Summer Goods Have Just Arrived. ←

Fly Nets of different kinds and grades and a beautiful line of Lap robes. Call early and get your selection.

**J. N. DAHLEN, MT. HOREB, WIS.**

100 years ago the above advertisement appeared in the Mt. Horeb Progress newspaper. It speaks of the importance of the horse in transportation and agriculture. Two recent donations of early horse driven transportation are now part of the Historical Society's museum collections. Read more about these additions on page 4 of this newsletter.