Mt. Horeb Past Times February 2015

A Publication of the Mt. Horeb Area Historical Society

# **MHAHS 40th Anniversary** RETROSPECTIVE

Inspired by a grade school teacher, a 4-H leader, and school trips, Brian Bigler started a nature trail and museum on the family farm in the early 1970s. In 1973, while working in the school library, senior Bigler had a chance encounter with the 1961 Centennial History of Mount Horeb. "I remember looking at the old

photos of Mount Horeb for hours," he reminisces, "and so after graduation I gave up the family farm museum and approached local librarian Gladys Martin with the idea of a local historical society." Martin began a search for individuals in the community she thought would make a good core group and came up with a Wisconsin Historical Society curator, an attorney, and community individuals with long and short roots in the area's history.

The first meeting was held on a snowy evening in March 1975 at the Mount Horeb Public Library with about fifteen enthusiastic people in attendance. With "Robert's Rules of Order" in hand (a present from Martin), Brian was given the job of acting president. Other who have since served in this role include first elected President Bob Pekowsky, Richard Horn and Karen Brickner. After the sudden death of Karen Brickner in 1995, Brian took over the presidency of the organization until October of 2014, when current President Tony Zalucha stepped into the role.

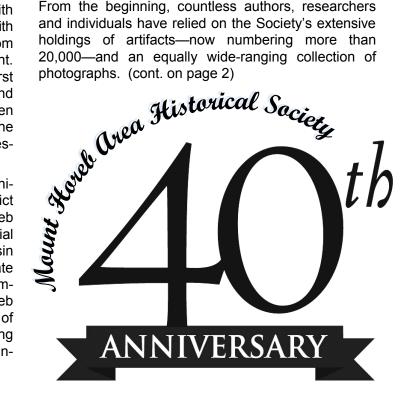
The first Board of Directors set the tone of the organization, and it was decided to mark the school district as the Society's collecting boundary and Mount Horeb Area Historical Society was chosen as the official name. The group incorporated with the Wisconsin Historical Society in June of 1975. An immediate search for museum space took precedence with temporary exhibits held at the State Bank of Mount Horeb and the library. In 1977 the Society was given use of the third floor of the Mount Horeb Municipal Building where it established its first museum. From the beginning the collections effort not only included historic

objects, but contemporary history as well, a practice that gained the Historical Society a cutting edge reputation amongst regional historical societies and a special feature in Mary Bergin's book "Sidetracked in Wisconsin."

By 1995 through the generosity of hundreds of individuals the Society outgrew its 4,500 square foot space in the Municipal Building. In 1996 the Museum was moved to its present location on South Second Street. "Alva Webber's Small Town Wisconsin," the premier exhibit, drew more than 300 visitors during its two day opening.

Through the years the Society has tackled cuttingedge themes and integrated unique interpretive formats, like "Sympathy & Sorrow: Victorian Mourning Customs" which featured a funeral in a Victorian era parlor, and an exploration of Sedition in another exhibition that revealed the darker side of history. These efforts garnered the Society the highest awards bestowed by the Wisconsin Historical Society and have brought attention from near and far.

From the beginning, countless authors, researchers and individuals have relied on the Society's extensive holdings of artifacts-now numbering more than 20,000-and an equally wide-ranging collection of



It's the Year of the Anniversary! (Read about it on Page 2)

# The Mount Horeb Area Historical Society

("RETROSPECTIVE" cont. from front) The archive is utilized by genealogists and professional and amateur historians who are tracing their roots, researching their

home or business, or even looking to add historic photos to their walls. The Society has published three books, written numerous articles on area history and contributed to a variety of other works. In addition to these tireless efforts, the Society, its volunteers and staff have provided invaluable service to local historical societies seeking information and instruction on such diverse topics as starting an organization, to exhibit fabrication and proper collections storage practices.

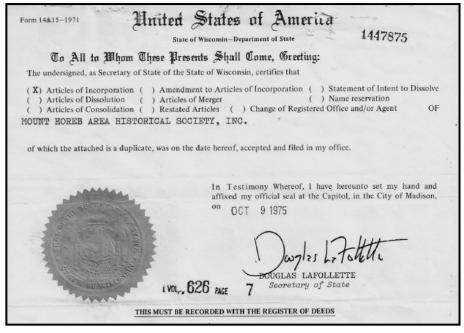
The Historical Society has assisted with several regional milestones that include Mount Horeb's 125th and 150th anniversaries, and similar celebrations in Mount Vernon, Blue Mounds and Springdale.

From its inception the Historical Society has relied on public support for its operation budget. Numerous estate remnant,

bake sales, concerts, raffles, and auctions have been held.

In 1995, Harold Peterson was the first to list the

Historical Society in his estate planning and several important gifts have followed. A generous bequest by Louise Kindland in 2000 allowed the Society to restore the Museum building's historic facade. A large bequest by Delma Woodburn in 2001 supplied the seed money for the purchase of land for the new Southwestern Dane County Heritage Center. In recent years small and large bequests from donors and foundations have advanced the fundraising for the planned Heritage Center and have aided the Society's collections. The continuation of such bequests in the future will help ensure that the Society will be able to continue its topnotch programing and preservation efforts. In 1998 the Society launched its first website which in recent years has grown to include on-line resources that rival institutions with much larger resources.



The original October 9, 1975 document, signed by then, and still, Wisconsin Secretary of State Douglas La Follette accepting the Articles of Incorporation of the brand new Mount Horeb Area Historical Society.

> In 2005 Laurie Boyden was hired as the first paid employee and in winter of 2014 Destinee Udelhoven, the organization's first Executive Director began working fulltime.

> Through these forty years the Society has received little in state or public funding and has relied on hundreds of dedicated donors and volunteers to carry out our mission of protecting and sharing the stories of the people, places and events of southwestern Dane County. The Mount Horeb Area Historical Society thanks you for helping us reach this milestone, and looks forward to another forty years of community supported success!



## MHAHS'S "Year of the Anniversary"

The Mount Horeb Area Historical Society has declared 2015 **"The Year of the Anniversary."** In association with this theme, we will soon be unveiling a special exhibit featuring our own 40 years of collecting and sharing the history of Mount Horeb. We are also planning a partner event honoring the 75th anniversary of the opening of The Cave of the Mounds, and a June Civil War weekend commemorating the 150th anniversary of the end of this momentous conflict and the public launch of a new online Civil War research database. (Stay tuned for more information about these and other Society efforts.) Are you or your business celebrating an anniversary in 2015? Let us know about it!

The Mount Horeb Area Historical Society

# MHAHS WELCOMES NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

My name is Destinee Udelhoven and, as of December 12, 2014, I am proud to state that I am your new Director at the Mount Horeb Area Historical Society.

To quickly cover those mundane details that you probably aren't really interested in anyways: my husband, Wade works at Agrace Hospice in Fitchburg and is originally from Platteville; we have two kids—Max, 6, and Mia, 1; I grew up in South Dakota on a small dairy farm, met my husband in graduate school in North Carolina, and have formerly worked here in Wisconsin at the Sauk County Historical Society and Portage's Historic Indian Agency House. If you are curious about anything else, call me; as most folks will tell you, I'm not one to turn down a chat.

If I was a sports person I'd craft some sort of witty and currently relevant analogy about a coach who came aboard already poised for success because of the already talented and extremely passionate team in place at his/her arrival. But a sports person I am not, so let me just say that I walked into a support system made up of a truly amazing assortment of tireless volunteers



Udelhoven and baby bovine/ daughter Mia.

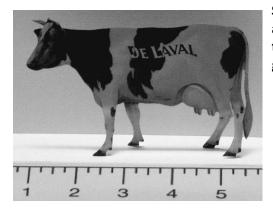
and history enthusiasts who are revved up and ready to move forward. With their passion and institutional knowledge as a foundation for my efforts, our vision for increased programming, strengthened ties with area historical and educational entities, and a new community-centered facility will become reality.

In closing, I look forward to this new adventure of living and working in a region steeped in an awesome mixture of natural and human history. And I want to meet YOU! Reach me at (608) 437-6486 or by email at mthorebhistory@mhtc.net —and let's talk some history!

# New Exhibit to Highlight Extraordinary Depth of Society's Collection

An exhibit featuring the Historical Society's long dedication to collecting the tangible history of Southwestern Dane County will be featured in the Museum's foyer for the 2015 season.

Society staff and volunteers are gathering unique items from the Museum's holdings that relate to the social, cultural and technological influences that have shaped the region's environs. The items will be both common and rare and will include pieces from the



Society's archive, textile, photographic, business, art and technology areas.

One case will feature all the inventions from decades past that can now be found on an individual's cell phone. Another will contain examples of objects that reflect pop cultural and socializing influences on the area's youth from the beginning to the end of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. There will be examples of art and folk objects, the collecting of contemporary history, costume and textiles and rare pieces from the archive that include a court case over the future site of Madison, rare land deeds, and numerous photographs.

As a special bonus one of the very first exhibits that the Society presented at the State Bank of Mount Horeb in 1975 will be recreated.

The exhibit will premiere at the Museum in late April.

This tiny De Laval advertising piece, collected by the Society in 1977, is a small, yet potent example of area history—think the mechanization of family farms, community cheese factories, 4-H and County Fairs, and so much more. For 40 years, the Society has recognized the ability of the artifact for both preserving the physical remnants of history and providing a tangible and meaningful link to the past.

Happy 40th Anniversary, Vance & Darneli

# **Summary of Support & Giving**

January 1-December 31, 2014

#### **MHAHS Dues-Paying Members**

#### Individual

Shirley Archer Eleanor Arneson Carol & Lois Arneson Delma Baker Frances Barman-Paulson Donna Bigler Phyllis Boyden Beverly M. Briggs Barbara Brown Jane Burns Johnna Buysse Nine Cheney Maxine Dimick Barbara Gordon Furstenberg Linda Gerke **Dorothy Handrick** Gertrude Henderson Pixie Hiser Alice Johnson-Hulburt Dolores Kahl

Betty Kalbacken Lois Kaplan Shirley Keller Winifred Lacy Sylvia Nelson Douglas Norgord Kathy & Patrick O'Donnell John Pare Ed Post Rebecca Nelson Selby Vivian Stone Shan Thomas Mary Walsh Audrey Zander

#### Household

Joel & Merel Black Jim & Gloria Davies Ray & Sherry Einerson Eddie & Cheryle Goplin Chuck Haig Duane & Patsy Hofstetter Phil & Sue Krejci Don & Winifred Losenegger Vernon & Sylvia Lowell Russell & Vergeane Martin Guy & Martha Martin Doug & Janet Nesheim Jeffrey & Kathleen Schultze Donald & Carol Schwarz Wayne & Mary Sutter Gary & Connie Jo Zwettler

#### **Contributing**

Eileen Hanneman John & Karen Ranum Ruth Schulien-Richardson Beverly Schwierske Ron & Jennifer Spielman Pearl Vierima

#### **Sustaining**

Lucille McKee Joyce Schultze Alren & Elaine Spaanem

## **Monetary Donations**

Nancy Albert -- in memory of June Underwood Jeffrey & Annette Anderson Eleanor Arneson -- in memory of June Underwood Eleanor Arneson -- in memory of Walter Durtschi Elmer & Normal Baker -- in memory of Beverly J. Brager Frances Barman-Paulson Brian Bigler Dave Boyden -- in memory of Beverly J. Brager Beverly M. Briggs -- in memory of Beverly J. Brager James & Dixie Burns E LeRoy Collins -- in memory of Beverly J. Brager E LeRoy Collins - in memory of Steve Eckel E LeRoy Collins -- in memory of Don Frisch E LeRoy Collins - in memory of Lowell Moehlman E LeRoy Collins - in memory of Robert Murray E LeRoy Collins - in memory of LeRoy Schilmigen E LeRoy Collins –in memory of Betsy Thronson E LeRoy Collins -- in memory of June Underwood Henry & Beverly Eckel Neal & Joan Fargo - in memory of Clarence Thronson Timothy & Susan Frank --in memory of Beverly J. Brager Eddie & Cheryle Goplin **Dorothy Gummer** Anita Gurda Anita Gurda -- in memory of Lois Marty Anita Gurda -- in memory of June Underwood

Lee Haag / LeRoy A. & Esther J. Haag Trust -- in memory of Esther Haag Steve Haroldson Gertrude Henderson -- in memory of Arlene Disrud Gertrude Henderson -- in memory of Lois Kaplan Gertrude Henderson -- in memory of Obert Scwenn Meda Heywood James & Bernadine Jones -- in memory of Delores Mickelson James & Bernadine Jones -- in memory of Ruth Roedell Betty Kalbacken Mona Kirsop Phil & Sue Kreici Owen & Delma Larson Pete & Ellen Lesar Guy & Martha Martin - in memory of Beverly J. Brager Russell & Vergeane Martin –in memory of Beverly J. Brager Lucille McKee Lucille McKee -- in memory of Beverly J. Brager Michael & Mary Ann Merklein -- in memory of Clarence Thronson Sylvia Nelson **Douglas Norgord** Tony & Darlene Nowak -- in memory of Beverly J. Brager Jonathon & Susan Powers –in memory of Beverly J. Brager Peter Riphahn Don & Leslie Roach

The Mount Horeb Area Historical Society is the grateful recipient of financial support in many forms—every penny of which we use to fulfill our mission of preservation and education. We would like to take this opportunity to list by name those folks who help keep YOUR history alive. Add your name to this list by contributing TODAY!

DISCLAIMER: Due to organizational transition, please forgive any omissions or errors you may find. Notice of any needed additions or corrections is welcomed. Call (608) 437-6486 to report such oversights.

## **Monetary Donations (continued)**

Nancy Robinson - in memory of Beverly J. Brager Max & Betty Rosenbaum -- in memory of Beverly J. Brager Saundra Roth -- in memory of June Underwood Rebecca Nelson Selby Paul & Jo Scheffel --in honor of Marlyn Grinde's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday Joyce Schultze Beverly Schwierske Cletus & Jane Schwoerer Jo Ann Six -- in memory of June Underwood Vivian Stone Mary Lou Underwood -- in memory of Beverly J. Brager Mary Lou Underwood --in memory of Lowell Moehlman Mary Lou Underwood --in memory of Janis Munson Mary Lou Underwood -- in memory of Clarence Thronson Mary Lou Underwood --in memory of June Underwood Chester & Lee Underwood -- in memory of Robert Scott Beat Chester & Lee Underwood --in memory of Beverly J. Brager Chester & Lee Underwood --in memory of Ralph "Doc" McGrew Teri Vieriman Ron Waldsmith --in memory of Clarence Thronson Robert & Alice Wirth --in memory of Beverly J. Brager Ron Wirth -- in memory of Lois Arneson

Ron Wirth –in memory of Joyce J. Baertschy Ron Wirth –in memory of Mildred "Mickey" Deneen Ron Wirth –in memory of Pepper Fink Ron Wirth –in memory of Donald P. Frisch Ron Wirth –in memory of Deborah Field Hackler Ron Wirth –in memory of William R. Leigh Ron Wirth –in memory of Ruth J. Helmeid Moll Ron Wirth –in memory of Janis G. Monson Ron Wirth –in memory of Vernon J. Oimoen Ron Wirth –in memory of Ruth Roedell Ron Wirth –in memory of June Underwood Audrey Zander Gary & Connie Jo Zwettler –in memory of Esther Haag

#### **Organizations & Estates**

MHASD 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Class MHASD 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Class Meriter Health Services Beverly Brager Estate Children's Community School Board of Directors Grumpy Troll Brew Pub Mount Horeb Evangelical Lutheran Church WELCA

#### **Artifact & Archival Donations**

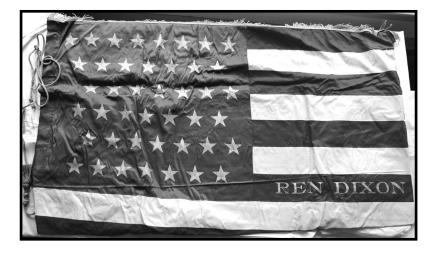
Normal Baker Mark Banczak Lawrence Berge Brian Bigler and Ken Scott Merel Black Julie Boyden Laurie Boyden Mary Jo Brinkman Jane Burns Ron Cook Brad and Emily Cunningham for Edna Rhiner Estate **Beacher Daniels** Dick Dickman Mrs. Harland Erfurth Marilyn Festge Lynn Forshaug (Gaye Fredrick Marietta Gribb Darlene Groenier Anita Gurda Eileen Hanneman Helen Hefty Karen Helgelson Don and Gertie Henderson & Family **Delores Jelle** Douglas Johnson Paul Jordan-Becker Arlene Larson Elmer Magnuson Michael Marks and Sharon Grady Shirley Brechler Martin Mary Jo Nelson Post Sarah Paust Mark Ranum Donna Read

Randy Rodell Jackie and Rod Sale Jack Scheidegger Donna Skogen Ruth Marie Sftestad Arlen and Elaine Spaanem Ron Waldsmith Scott and Jennifer Winner Ruth Zwald Connie Jo Zwettler

Organizations & Other Entities American Legion & Auxiliary Childrens Community School G.A.R. Post 1885 Hands All Around Club Little Norway Town of Perry Board Village of Mount Horeb

## **Spotlight on Donations**

This gorgeously preserved silk U.S. flag, donated by the Mount Horeb G.A.R. Post 1885 (also known as the "Ren Dixon" Post) in June 2014 has 43 stars indicating a manufacture date of 1890. The Grand Army of the Republic was established as a volunteer assemblage of men who had served in the Civil War and a forerunner of the modern American Veterans association. 2015 marks the 150th anniversary of the end of the Civil War.



# The Mount Horeb Area Historical Society

## **Heritage Center Project** Capital Campaign Donors – 2014

Curator (\$1,000,001 or more)

Archivist (\$500,001 to \$1,000,000)

Preservationist (\$100,001 to \$500,000) Steve & Marianne Schlecht

#### Historian (\$50,001 to \$100,000)

#### Donor (\$35,001 to \$50,000)

Founder (\$20,001 to 35,000) Madison Community Foundation James Woodburn, Sr.

#### Researcher (\$10,001 to \$20<u>,000)</u>

#### Friend (\$5,001 to \$10,000)

Jack & Annette Slocum Bob Woodburn

**Original Mount Horeb House.** with livery barn in back.

#### Docent (\$1,001 to \$5,000)

American Transmission Company David & Laurie Boyden, in memory of Sam Martin Ralph L. Buechner Jane Burns, in honor of Brian Bigler Jane Burns, in memory of Sam Martin Maxine Dimick Eileen Hanneman, in memory of Sam Martin Sam & Shirley Martin, in memory of Mildred "Millie" Kelly Sam & Shirley Martin, in memory of Esther Haag Shirley A. Martin, in honor of Brian Bigler Shirley A. Martin, in memory of Sam Martin Lucille K. McKee Anthony & Darlene Nowak, in honor of Brian Bigler Anthony & Darlene Nowak, in memory of Sam Martin John & Karen Ranum, in honor of Brian Bigler John & Karen Ranum, in memory of Norman Thomson State Bank of Cross Plains, in memory of Sam Martin Vivian Stone, in honor of Brian Bigler Gary & Connie Jo Zwettler, in honor of Brian Bigler Gary & Connie Jo Zwettler, in memory of Sam Martin

#### Contributor (Up to \$1,000)

Anonymous (3) Eleanor Arneson Frances Barman-Paulson Frances Barman-Paulson, in memory of Simon & Anna Marie (Kleinheinz) Keller, 1850s Settlers of Perry Township R. Scott & Janet D. Beat, in memory of Sam Martin Carl P. Brechler, in memory of Sam Martin Nina Cheney Linda J. Day, in memory of Ellen W. Wright Tom & Ruth Dobson

Ray & Sherry Einerson Arthur & Beth Elver, in memory of Sam Martin Gerald B. Fredrickson Friends of Donald Park Eddie & Cheryle Goplin, in honor of Brian Bigler Steve & Tamara Grahn Marlyn Grinde, in memory of Sam Martin Ruth D. Haglund, in memory of Sam Martin Gertrude Henderson, in honor of Brian Bigler



Ellen Holk Dorothy Johnson, Janet Beat & Shirley Martin, in memory of Beverly Brager Dolores H. Kahl Vern & Sylvia Lowell Michael & Sharon Grady Marks, in memory of Margaret Marks Guy & Martha Martin, in memory of Sam Martin

memory of Sam Martin

Douglas & Janet Nesheim, in memory of Sam Martin Donna J. Read, in honor of Brian Bigler Pete & Carol Riphahn Pete & Carol Riphahn, in memory of Pepper Fink Pete & Carol Riphahn, in memory of Sam Martin Saundra S. Roth, in memory of Sam Martin Cletus & Jane Schwoerer, in honor of Brian Bigler Sons of Norway Specialized Electric of Wisconsin David & Sandra Stanfield Brian J. & Lois M. Strassburg Wayne & Mary Sutter, in honor of Brian Bigler Olive Thomson Mary Lou Underwood, in memory of Sam Martin Ron Wirth, in memory of Sam Martin Audrey M. Zander Larry & Patricia Ziemer

#### Payments Received on Pledges Made in Prior Year

David & Janet Anderson Rayne Arneson & Michael Losenegger James & Susan Brice Jane Burns Diego & Judy Camacho Arthur & Beth Elver Patricia Rooney Fannon, in memory of Edwin & Elizabeth Rooney David & Patricia Flom Gerald Glaeve Kalscheur Family Foundation Larry Kruckman & Carolyn White McNall Family Trust The Mertz Family Miller & Sons Mount Horeb Rotary Club

## Heritage Center Project Capital Campaign Donors – 2014 (continued)

Walter Naujeck Anthony & Darlene Nowak Karla J. Ott John & Karen Ranum Jonathan Gray Rooney, in memory of Edwin & Elizabeth Rooney Mark B. Rooney Vivian Stone Shan Thomas James Tomb John and Jodie (Roth) Tonner Larry & Pat Welo Roland & Becky Wilson

#### WINTER FUN!

A young museum-goer shows off her imaginatively decorated Popsicle sled, crafted during the Society's first annual "Winter Weekend," held at the Mount Horeb Area Museum on January 30 through February 01 in conjunction with the Village's eclectic and popular Scandihoovian Festival. Check out our Facebook page for more fun snapshots of this event, and catch up on other Society news and happenings.



# Heritage Center UPDATE

ing of all our future constituents. To this end, the Society is conducting a review of potential funding sources to make sure we are shaking all the right trees and barking up all the right alleys.

Speaking of bricks-and-mortar, the Building Committee recently contracted with local Premier Building Solutions to help the Society finalize the building plans and begin the process of seeking out the most cost effective methods of meeting our goal of a worldclass public history facility. We are pleased to be able to work with these Dane County natives with a reputa-

This community-driven project continues the process of vision to reality.

The Fundraising Committee is pleased to announce that they closed out 2014 with a total to date of approximately \$840,000 in cash and pledges invested by people and businesses like YOU! (For a complete listing of this year's donors, see the "2014 Donor Report" in this newsletter.) That is certainly something to crow about!

#### But, of course, we still need to keep

this momentum of caring, passion and generosity moving. In 2015, the Society will seek additional individual and corporate donations and bricks-and-mortar grants to help us finance the construction of your Heritage Center and the vital endowment dollars needed to ensure its future sustainability. The Center will serve a wide population, and we need assistance in finding innovative ways to secure the financial back-



tion for excellence.

In addition, new Executive Director Destinee Udelhoven is currently working with preservation consultants, Peter Dajevskis and Ann Clausen of Interpretive Solutions (whose impressive resume includes work with Harpers Ferry, New York Public Library and Wisconsin-endeavor, the Fox-Wisconsin Heritage Parkway),

who will guide a confirmation process of the interior functions and space usage. This review will be based on the Society's needs and financial capabilities, public input gathered at the Public Information-Gathering sessions (see article on back page), and the goal of eventual American Alliance of Museum accreditation—the gold seal of the museum world.

Want to hear more? Call (608) 437-6486.

Mount Horeb Area Historical Society 100 S. Second St. P.O. Box 238 Mt. Horeb, WI 53572 www.mthorebhistory.org

WE ARE ALWAYS AVAILABLE BY APPOINTMENT. Call (608) 437 - 6486 or Email mthorebhistory@mhtc.net

#### Mount Horeb Area Historical Society Board of Directors

Tony Zalucha-President John Swartz-Vice President Ashley Green-Secretary William Thousand-Treasurer

Andy Burkart Marlyn Grinde *(Honorary)* Shirley Martin Doug Nesheim Peter Riphahn Rusty Smith Lee Underwood

#### **Operations:**

Destinee Udelhoven-Exec Director Johnna Buysse-Curator of Collections & Education Jane Burns-Newsletter Editor

#### Volunteer Curators:

Brian Bigler Marlyn Grinde Lee Underwood Marietta Gribb

Mt. Horeb Area Museum & Archives 100 South Second Street Mount Horeb, Wisconsin 53572

# Heritage Center Project COMMUNITY LISTENING SESSIONS

# WE'RE ALL EARS!

What do YOU want the Heritage Center to be? We want to hear all about it at these low-key, group discussion meetings.

DATE	TIME	LOCATION
Tues, Feb 24	7 p.m.	Mount Horeb Community / Senior Center (107 N. Grove St., Mount Horeb, WI)
Tues, March 10	7 p.m.	<b>Blue Mounds Village Hall</b> (11011 Brigham Ave., Blue Mounts, WI)
Tues, March 24	7 p.m.	<b>Perry Town Hall</b> (10084 County Hwy A, Mount Horeb, WI)
Tues, April 7	7 p.m.	Cross Plains / Pine Bluff Community Center (3734 County Road P, Cross Plains, WI)
Tues, April 21	7 p.m.	<b>Vermont Lutheran Church</b> (9886 Vermont Church Rd., Black Earth, WI)
Tues, May 12	7 p.m.	<b>Springdale Town Hall</b> (2379 Town Hall Rd., Mount Horeb, WI)

Attend one or all. The valuable input gathered from these listening sessions will be used to assist in decisions about long-range planning, public programming development, and fine-tuning of the building design. Help us get it right from the start! Call (608) 437-6486 for more information.