



3505 Halverson Road

www.stoughtonhistoricalsociety.org



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Stoughton Historical Society Newsletter

Winter / Spring 2024

2023 Project Slides Digitized

Volunteers have scanned and digitized all slides formerly preserved and stored in slide carousels.

Additionally a TB external hard drive was purchased to store all digitize files in one location and copied all DVDs, USB's and research topic transcripts. Word files on this external hard drive added the descriptions and keywords into the digital images searchable index mentioned above.

With Stoughton's rich history documented in the slides images and research transcripts these files are now in one location.



Pictured are two of our technical volunteers

New Sign

New sign added to the Stoughton Pioneer house. Thank you Landmarks Commission. Also, thanks to Dean Hansen and Tom Swobda for the installation.



Eagle Scout Project

Picture is Vivian Metcalf with fellow scouts working on research at the Stoughton Historical Museum. Vivian has organized and developed a plan for her scout project. We are grateful she picked us! Thanks to all.



Membership Renewal

Another year is in the record books and it is time to renew our memberships.

Per our bylaws, memberships are valid for one year and run from 1 Jan, expiring on 31 Dec. Please complete the membership form enclosed in this newsletter and return it along with your check to the Stoughton Historical Society, c/o Catherine Haynes, Treas., 121 S Page St, Stoughton, WI 53589 .

Members may join/renew online on the website at stoughtonhistoricalsociety.org, click on the Join/Renew button on the home page. This requires a Paypal account.

Questions regarding membership may be sent to membership@stoughtonhistoricalsociety.org

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Stoughton, WI 53589

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THANK YOU TO ALL WHO VOLUNTEERED THIS SEASON.
WE COULD NOT HAVE DONE IT WITHOUT YOU!

Museum's Fire Truck

In 1971, our Stoughton Historical Society received the biggest donation of all - a fire truck. This truck was built in Stoughton in 1925 and was sold to the City of Dousman where it served their community for almost 50 years.

In the early 70s, the Dousman fire department contacted the Stoughton fire department to see if there would be any interest in buying the truck and there was.

Using no tax paper money, our volunteer fire department bought the vehicle. The carriage house was built to house the vehicle along with housing the ever growing museum collections.

The keys were turned over to the Stoughton Historical Society President, Kermit Edison, with an understanding that the fire department could use the truck for parades, which it did for many years.

Today, the truck no longer is seen in parades, but is enjoyed by many at the museum. One of the most asked questions is how did we get the truck into the carriage house? Hrrrrrrrrrrrr, that's a secret. Come visit us this upcoming season to see if you can figure it out.



Fundraising for 2024

1. Looking for volunteers to help with "Raise the Flag". We have been participating on Flag Day for the past few years. This year Flag Day will be on June 14, 2024. Call Nancy if willing to help.

2. Big "Vintage Sale" on September 7 at the Pioneer House and part of Division St. Actively looking for participants to host a table for this event. All profits from table sales will go to the participating parties. To have a table would cost a museum members \$10 and other community participants table \$20. Historical Society will pay for all advertising, we will sponsor an ice cream social and historic walks. More info. to come. Questions-call Nancy at 873-1943.

Norsk Rosemaling Preserving and Promoting the Art

Did you know that Stoughton has played a very unique role in preserving the art of Rosemaling and introducing that art to America?

Three Stoughton citizens have been awarded gold medals in Rosrnaling from Vesterhein - Norweigan American Museum in Decorah, Iowa. Three of Stoughton's prominent Rosemaling artists have been inducted into the Stoughton Hall of Fame.

Mark your calendars for our annual Stoughton Historical Society meeting to learn more about Stoughton's proud tradition of Rosemaling and those who have and still continue to keep this beautiful tradition alive.

Location is Son's of Norway Lodge at 6:30, on April 2nd, 2024. All are welcomed and refreshments provided. Don't miss this meeting!!

THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS, WE COULDN'T HAVE HAD A SUCESSFUL 2023 WITHOUT YOUR HELP.

Welcome New Members

Marcia and Jim, Bruce and Vicky

Remembered

Pictured is George Thode, a lifelong member who passed away this past summer. George served as the Vice-President of the Stoughton Historical Society for many years.

He and his wife Kathy were involved in many museum projects including "Project Memories". This collection of residents stories from Stoughton and the surrounding area are housed at the museum's lower level and enjoyed by many visitors.

Although, health issues did not allow the Thode's to be active at the museum these past few years, the passing of George is a sadness that is shared by many. We are thankful for all his years of volunteering and dedication to our town.



New Museum Show in 2024

The Art of Rosemaling in Stoughton Through Time (main floor).

Thank You!

Thank you Phil, Kathy and Nancy for helping with the fall cleanup.



2023 Attendance

Museum - 774 visitors
Depot - 212 ,:visitors

We do private tours if you have a group that might be interested. Call 873-1943 to arrange.

Mark Your Calendar for the 2024 Season

FEBRUARY 13 - Officers meeting
MARCH 9 - Start of general meetings at Pioneer House. First Tuesday of each month at 6:30 till October. All welcomed!
APRIL 2 - Annual meeting - 6:30 at Sons of Norway lodge. Presentation: "Preserving and Promoting the Art of Rosemaling: Stoughton's role?"
APRIL 20 - Spring clean at the Museum. 9:00-???
MAY 17 - Syttende Mai - Museum opens for the 2024 season.
AUGUST 31 - end of 2024 Museum season.
SEPTEMBER 7 - VINTAGE SALE at the Pioneer House!!!

Check out our web page: www.stoughtonhistoricalsociety.org for items for sale. We have books, t-shirts, notecards and more.