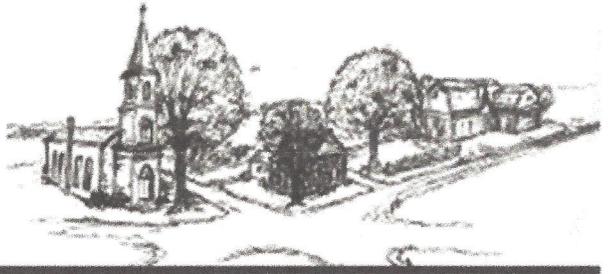


# Germanatown Historical Society Newsletter



INCORPORATED – 1974

JANUARY 2016

Hello everyone!

Another year has come and gone, I guess you could say it is history. Once again we lost some good friends, but we also made some new ones. I hope we can keep finding folks that want to be active in our little (six-way) corner of the world.

We are so close to finishing the work needed on the Christ Church museum that I can almost taste it. We hope to concentrate on wrapping things up and getting our displays in order in time for next season. The rest of the energy will be spent on the Wolf Haus. There is much needed to help organize the items that are in our care. We promise to work on that.

Our park, I know it is technically the villages but we have adopted it, is slowly turning to a park. We planted seedlings last year and are adding more this year. The gardens were a big hit again. Even our archery area was well used.

We are still in the early stages of fund raising for the new pavillion, which we will call the Festhalle. If you know me, you know I am not overly patient. Dealing with this pace may give me ulcers. Hopefully we will have a go fund me page in the near future. Watch for it. We do have a certificate of understanding with the village, which allows us to move forward with this project. Look in this letter to see how you can donate. We will need a big pile of money. We now have an anthill. If anyone out there has any helpful ideas please let us know.

We will be continuing with the bier garden this year. These will be on the last Saturday of the months of May, June, July and August. We are seeking music sponsors to help cover the cost of live entertainment. It looks like \$500 will cover our costs per each event. If you can't help with the payment, save your money, and come on out to see us and get to know some of our neighbors. I hope to see you there.

We recently lost two very good friends of the society, Pearl Bast and Harold Kloehn.



Pearl and her late husband Rollie were always interested in the doings of our group. They, along with their children, have always made a point of helping us whenever needed. I, on behalf of the board, would like to thank all of them for their generosity. "Miss" Pearl, I will miss seeing your smiling face each year at Oktoberfest.



Harold was also quite a big help. As most of you know, he was a carpenter by trade. Many of you don't realize just how many things he has worked on over the years. The pancake wagon was brought to life through his caring guidance, the hexagon pavilion was constructed under his supervision. I see his work in every building here at the park. Heck, he was such a nice guy that he even helped me sip a few Old Styles over the years. Thanks Harold.

May both of you rest in peace in God's hands.

Finally, I need to remind you of our 22nd annual Oktoberfest. It will be Sept. 24 & 25. As I've been told, Oktoberfest is in September, that's a fact you must remember!

**Jeff Dhein**  
President

We are excited to welcome new Board Member, Keith Ceman. Thanks for joining us Keith! We look forward to working with you.

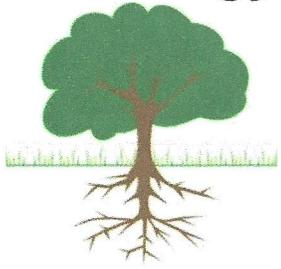
**Board of Directors:**

Jeff Dhein - President (2014-2017)  
Peggy Bast - Treasurer & Secretary (2015-2018)

Mary Brownell (2013-2016)  
Sandi Dhein (2013-2016)  
Mike Raab (2014-2017)  
Oliver Schowalter (2014-2017)  
Marge Miller (2015-2018)  
Judy Bast (2015-2018)  
Keith Ceman (2016-2019)



## Genealogy



Our Genealogists, Bob Kohls and Jim Dix, will be starting their season on June 1<sup>st</sup>. Over the winter, we have had the 48 drawers of index cards containing the names of over 75,000 individuals that are featured in the collected manuscripts, records and documents of the Germantown Historical Society scanned. The next step of the project will be to index the cards so they can be located easier.

### Dates to Remember:

**Annual Meeting**

**Tuesday, April 19<sup>th</sup>**

**Bell Ringing & Wine & Cheese**

**Sunday, May 7<sup>th</sup>**

**Bier Garden**

**Saturday, May 28<sup>th</sup>**

**Bier Garden**

**Saturday, June 25<sup>th</sup>**

**Bier Garden**

**Saturday, July 30<sup>th</sup>**

**Bier Garden**

**Saturday, August 27<sup>th</sup>**

**Oktoberfest**

**September 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup>**

**We Hope to See You!**



### Memorials & Donations

- In memory of Gordon Bast a donation has been received from Harris and Beverly Wilke.
- In memory of Sila Lydia Bast on what would have been her 115<sup>th</sup> Birthday, a donation for the Sila Lydia Bast Bell Museum has been received from her niece, Muriel Underwood.

As Jeff mentioned, Pearl Bast, a longtime member of the Germantown Historical Society passed away on November 11, 2015 at the age of 94. The Germantown Historical Society and the family wish to thank the many donors who have given memorials in her name.

# **Help Us Build the FESTHALLE**

## **Donation Levels**

- 1. Naming Rights - \$100,000 (and up)**
- 2. Gründer - \$5,000 - \$99,999**
- 3. Pionier - \$1,000 - \$4,999**
- 4. Siedler - \$500 - \$999**
- 5. Städter - \$400 (and under)**

# **Thank you!**

**For more information, please visit our webpage or  
give us a call.**

**[Germantownhistoricalsociety.org](http://Germantownhistoricalsociety.org)**

**262.628.3170**



## Volunteers Needed



Are you looking for a new opportunity to volunteer this year? We are looking for volunteers to assist with group tours at the museums. We usually have 6-10 group tours during the season which runs June 1<sup>st</sup> thru November 1<sup>st</sup>. The groups range from 20 – 60 people, and we need up to 3 volunteers for the larger groups to assist our museum employee with the tours. Responsibilities include guiding the groups between the three museums and sharing with them the history of the area, the settlers and the museums. Tours are booked weekdays usually between 10:00 am – 3:00 pm. Each tour last approximately 2 hours. If you would be interested in being added to our list of volunteer docents (guide), please contact Peggy at 414.418.6496 or [psbast@cs.com](mailto:psbast@cs.com). We will be hosting an informational/training session prior to the start of the season on Saturday, May 7<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am at the Bast Bell Museum. Please stop in to find out more, even if you may only be available for one or two tours a season – WE NEED YOUR HELP.

A special thank you to volunteers who have helped with tours in 2015: Judy Bast, Peggy Bast and Jim Dix.

We often have miscellaneous things to be done at the Historical Society. Whether you are an individual interested in helping out or have a group, please contact us and let us know. We will arrange to match you up with waiting work. \*Note, if you do not call ahead and let us know you are coming, the person working may not know what to have you do.

We are still looking for people to help arrange the displays and information in the Christ Church museum. If you are able to assist, please let us know. We would truly like to have displays updated for this season.

Thinking ahead, we will need items and baked goods for Oktoberfest Sept 24 & 25th. Items to put together for silent auction baskets and goods for the Sunday bake sale. Cookies, pies, breads, cupcakes... Plan time the week before to bake a batch!



# 2016 Calendar of Events

April 19—Annual Meeting

May 7—Information Session for Tour Training

May 7—Bell Ringing & Wine & Cheese

May 28—Bier Garden

June 1—Wolf Haus Opens for the Season

June 3—Bell Museum Opens for the Season

June 5—Christ Church Museum of Local History Opens for the Season

June 25—Bier Garden

July 30—Bier Garden

August 27—Bier Garden

September 24 & 25—Oktoberfest

September 25—Christ Church Museum of Local History Closes for the Season

September 28—Wolf Haus Closes for the Season

October 30—Bell Museum closes for the season

The Wolf Haus & Genealogy Research Center will be open on Wednesday from 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm from June 1<sup>st</sup> thru October 1<sup>st</sup>.

The Christ Church Museum of Local History is open on Sundays from 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm from June 1<sup>st</sup> thru October 1<sup>st</sup>.

The Bast Bell Museum is open Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm from June 1<sup>st</sup> thru November 1<sup>st</sup>.

---

GERMANTOWN HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
P.O. BOX 31  
Germantown, WI 53022  
262-628-3170