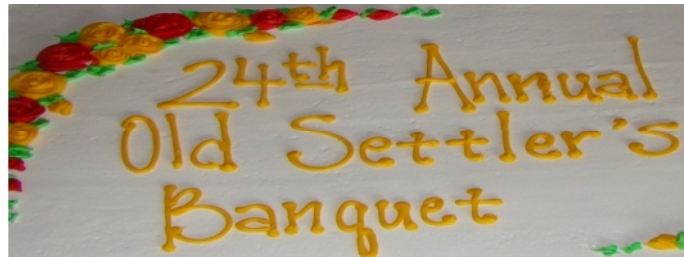


Germantown Historical Society Newsletter



INCORPORATED – 1974

1ST QUARTER 2011



The 24th Annual Old Settler's Banquet was held at BuB's Irish Pub in Germantown on Sunday, February 20th. Fifty people braved the non-stop snow to attend the banquet, and everyone had a great time. Prior to the start of the banquet guests could socialize and browse the various displays including: the Sila Lydia Bast Bell Museum, The Valentine Wolf Haus, The Christ Church Museum of Local History, Germantown Historical Society's Annual Oktoberfest, Washington County Historical Society, Germantown Historic Preservation Commission and Leadership Germantown. We hope to have the displays for the three museums and Oktoberfest in the Church throughout the season.



The banquet started with a welcome by Kevin Nash. Then everyone was able to eat a delicious lunch catered by Aldo's Pizza and Catering. After lunch, there was a presentation of the History of Germantown video narrated by Irene Blau. We

welcomed the Pommersche Tanzdeel Freistadt dancers and musicians for an extraordinary performance that was enjoyed by all. The event wrapped with a few closing remarks by Kevin.



The banquet rotates alphabetically through all thirteen communities in Washington County and next year will be hosted by Hartford.

The Germantown Historical Society wishes to thank for their support and assistance with the banquet:

- BuBs Irish Pub and Scott Pecore for providing the banquet facilities.
- Catering was provided by Aldo's Pizza and Catering, Judy Ketterer.
- Washington County Historical Society Staff
- Germantown Historical Society Board of Directors



“2010 Christmas in Rheinsville”

On Sunday, December 5th, the Christ Church Museum of Local History was filled to capacity with the young and young at heart for the annual Sinter Klausen Christmas Concert. Beverly Wilke played several songs on Sila Bast's organ. Harris Wilke led the crowd of about 180 people in traditional Christmas Carols. Germantown High School German teacher, Linda Wall, again worked with not only her high school German students but the children at Amy Belle Elementary School to provide the choir of singers. Carols were sung in both English and German. The favorite song of the day was Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer which even had an encore performance.



After the music selections the sound of jingle bells led to the arrival of Sinter Klausen who spent time with the children and gave them special treats. Cookies and punch were enjoyed by all.



Christ Church Museum Renovation

The Germantown Historical Society is in the initial stages of a major renovation project at the Christ Church Museum of Local History. Due to strong winds and storms in 2010 the church's roof was severely damaged making this the first part of the restoration project. Murphy's Roofing of Germantown will begin working on the roof as soon as the snow clears. The new roof will include fifty year shingles. Insurance will pay for part of the repair costs and the remainder will be paid for by a generous bequest from the Estate of Dorothy Naab, who was a dedicated member of the historical society and volunteer for many years.

Mary Brownell is the chair of the committee for the Church Restoration project and has already spent countless hours at the church cleaning and organizing in preparation for an upgrade to the displays in the church.

After the completion of the roof, the next step will be to have the interior of the church painted which hasn't been done since 1976. The ceiling of the church hasn't been painted since approximately 1915-1920.

Please stay tuned for more exciting developments in the restoration of the Church.

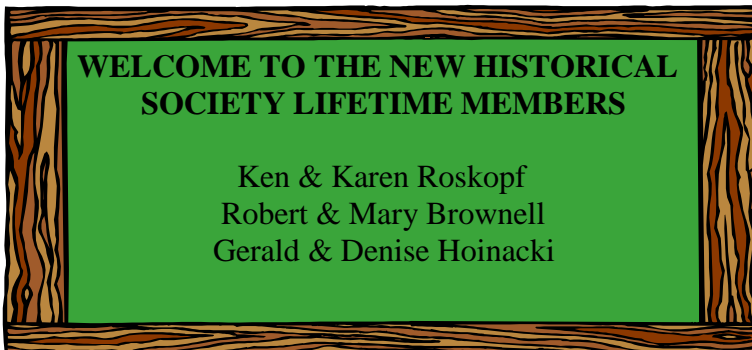
Stories of Interest

Board Member – Gordon Bast

Gordon Bast became involved with the Germantown Historical Society in 1998 shortly after his aunt Sila's bell collection became a part of the Historical Society. Gordon was born and raised in Rockfield on the Christoph Bast Farm. He attended Belle Grove School, a one room school where there were three students in his class and nineteen in the entire school. He has been married to Judy for forty-one years and they have two daughters. They reside in Cedarburg.

Gordon worked for Mercury Marine in Cedarburg and later Fond du Lac retiring in 2004 after 46 years of service. In his retirement, Gordon has taken up woodworking recalling how he had made wooden bowls in high school. He makes everything from pens and bowls to toys including a bulldozer and excavator.

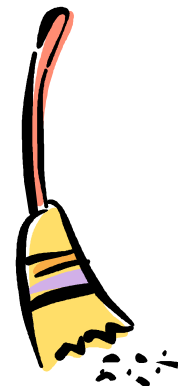
Gordon is also a member of the Cedarburg Volunteer Fire Department and the Wisconsin Antique Power Reunion. Gordon and Judy enjoy traveling to visit friends in Hayward in northern Wisconsin and Asheville, North Carolina each year. They also spend time volunteering at the Bell Museum.



April 2011	
SATURDAY	
16	Annual Meeting – 3:00 pm @ Aldo's All Welcome – Please Join Us



Please join us on Saturday, April 30 for our annual spring cleaning weekend to help make the museums sparkle and shine for the upcoming season. Come for an hour or stay for the day! For more information please call (262) 628-3170 or info@bastbellmuseum.com. We hope you will be able to come and help out!



2011 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 16th : 3:00 p.m. – Annual Meeting

May 7th : 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m – Bell Ringing and Wine & Cheese

June 1st – Season Opens for Sila Lydia Bast Bell Museum, Wolf Haus & Genealogy Research Center and Christ Church Museum of Local History

June 1st : 2:00 p.m. – Bell of the Month Program

June 4th : 1:00 p.m. – Germantown Historical Society Anniversary Party

July 6th : 2:00 p.m. – Bell of the Month Program

August 3rd : 2:00 p.m. – Bell of the Month Program

September 7th : 2:00 p.m. – Bell of the Month Program

September 24th : Oktoberfest

September 25th : Oktoberfest

October 1st : Wolf Haus & Genealogy Research Center closes for the season

October 1st : Christ Church Museum of Local History closes for the season

October 5th : 2:00 p.m. – Bell of the Month Program

November 1st : Sila Lydia Bast Bell Museum closes for the season

December 4th : Sinter Klausen Christmas Concert