

Germtown Historical Society **Newsletter**



INCORPORATED – 1974

SEPTEMBER 2015

In Memory of Gordon Bast



Gordon Bast passed away on May 22, 2015. He had been a Board Member of the Germantown Historical Society for 17 years and Vice President for many of those years. He became more involved with the Historical Society when his aunt Sila's bell collection became a part of the Historical Society. He spent countless hours volunteering with the Historical Society including giving many tours and sharing his knowledge of the area with visitors. He was born and raised in Rockfield on the Christoph Bast Farm, the son of Seno J. and Evelyn Bast. Gordon worked for Mercury Marine for 46 years prior to his retirement in 2004. In addition to the Historical Society, he was a member of the Cedarburg Volunteer Fire Department, Wisconsin Antique Power Reunion and First

Immanuel Lutheran Church. His favorite hobbies were woodworking, the Green Bay Packers and working at the Ozaukee County Fair.

He is survived by his wife of 45 years, Judy, and daughters, Renee and Peggy. Also surviving are his sisters, Marlene Mallon and Evie (Jack) Slais; sister-in-law, Lila Bast; nieces, nephew, great nieces and nephews and great great nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his infant daughter, Margaret; brother, Seno E. Bast; and brother-in-law, Al Mallon.



From the GHS President –

Hello, It seems like I have to do this too often lately, but we lost another valued member of the board recently. Gordon Bast, a longtime member and valued friend passed away. He was a kind and gentle man with a heart of gold. Gordon often went out of his way to help us out and will be sorely missed. Rest in peace, Mr. Bast.

While writing this, I look out the window and notice the leaves are beginning to turn. This reminds me that our Oktoberfest is right around the corner. As you well know this is our biggest event of the year. So much of our yearly expenses are covered by our profits from it and we need you and your friends to come out and support us. All of our vendors are back. The entertainment is booked and we are getting the rest ready for you. We are adding two new sausages this year. We will have spicy Hungarians and Knackwurst on the menu. Even our wieners are being upgraded! The dog races are back along with all the other fun events that you have been looking forward to. I hope to see you there.

If you have been around the Settlement lately you must have noticed all the work being done on the Christ Church Museum of Local History. This summer the air conditioning project was completed. We had the roof on

the steeple repaired. This required having some of the timbers replaced due to rotting issues. In order to have this repaired properly we had to purchase 10x10 inch beams and have them cut down to the 8x8 size that was needed to fill in properly. (8x8 beams no longer measure to that size they are more like 7.5x7.5 inches). After the structure was rebuilt, it was time for the shingles. I think the pattern looks nice and reminds one of the old shingle pattern. Once the roof was done the repaired cross was installed. You can see this from miles away. Once we had the roof water tight we noticed that the stained glass windows were in dire need of repair. This involved removal, repair of the woodwork, leaded glass and frames, then re-installation. The entire framework was then repainted. Continuing with our top to bottom tour, it is on to the front stairs. Here we had the steps removed down to the ground. Then we dug down for poured frost footings. When these were ready a block foundation was built back to grade. The steps were then carefully put back. This completed the majority of the repairs and at this point we decided that it would be nice to get some new lighting on the building. After some trial and error we came up with what looks great to us. Come by and take a look for yourself. Thanks to everybody that helped.

Our tree planting seems to have (mostly) taken root. In spring we will see where we stand with our "forest." The final Bier Garden was held recently and I think overall it was a success. We fought some weather and a few other issues but we should be set to make next year bigger and better. A special thank you to George Radtke and the Pommersche Spaldeel for giving us some live entertainment. If anybody knows of someone who could help us out for next year let us know. We would love to have more live music next year and could use a couple of new sponsors.

That brings me to my final point. The Festhalle. We are still moving forward and are almost ready to go full steam ahead. We will have more to talk about at this year's event. I can't wait.

Jeff Dhein

Wolf Haus Genealogy Research Center

Bob Kohls has been busy at the Wolf Haus since it opened for the season on June 3rd. Bob taught his annual Genealogy class earlier this summer. We are pleased to announce that Jim Dix has been helping out in the Wolf Haus as well on Wednesdays. Thanks Jim and Bob for all of your hard work!



ATTENTION BAKERS!!

Bakers Wanted to help make our bake sale at Oktoberfest the best again! Goods can be packaged whole or individually. For more information call 262.628.3170. THANK YOU!!

TEEN/ADULT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Setup Friday, Festival Sat. & Sun,
Grounds Clean Up Thurs, Fri, & Festival Sat AM
Call Kevin Nash at 262-227-7908 to be scheduled.



SILENT AUCTION ITEMS & BASKET SUPPLIES

Please Drop Off ANY supplies/items at museum.

We are excited to welcome two new Board Members: Marge Miller and Judy Bast. Welcome! We are glad to have you.

The Christ Church Museum

The Christ Church Museum of Local History was built in 1862. In the last several years we have been working on many projects on the interior and exterior including: a new roof put on the church and the interior repainted. Over the last couple of months through generous donations we have been able to continue the work of restoring the church. We extend our thanks to the following for their contributions:

- The steeple has been reshingled and decorative shingles added to match the original design. This was made possible by donations in memory of Rollie Bast, and from Pearl Bast, Ron & Gail Bast, Rochelle Bast & Detlef Moore, Wendy Bast and RJ & Stacey Bast and Fritz & Eileen Gierach.
- Air conditioning has been added to the church thanks to a donation from Dennis Dhein.
- Electrical work related to the installation of the air conditioning was donated by Dan Wing.
- The church windows are now lit at night thanks to Jim Dix.
- The cross on the steeple is once again shining bright thanks to a donation from Bill Wetterau.
- Jim Dix and Bill Wetterau have added accent lighting on the steeple.
- The stained glass windows at the front of the church have been restored thanks to a generous donation from the Estate of Eileen Densow, one of our founding board members who passed away earlier this year. The work was done by Conrad Schmitt Studios who went above and beyond and did additional painting around the trim and windows.
- The front steps have been repaired thanks the Dix Family along with in kind donations to the project from Rockfield Short Pour and Pat Josten.

In memory of Gordon Bast, donations have been received from the following:

- Muriel Underwood
- Lila Bast
- Sue Pickering
- Richard Hugo
- Laura & Shank Koundinya
- Bill Wetterau
- Go Riteway—The Bast Family
- Sue Hickey
- Gail Loosen
- Doug & Linda Kohlbach
- Gene & Margaret Feld
- Mary Brownell
- Jim & Sue Dix
- Margaret Armstrong & Scott Zimpelman
- Sue Collins
- Molly McCarragher
- Clyde McDonald
- Harley Pufahl
- Jill Spielmann
- Sue Plater
- Angie & Tony Greenhill
- Sara Walker
- Al Bruederle
- MaryBeth Hajewski
- Irene & Frank Blau

A donation has been received for the Wolf Haus from Tim & Pat Petzold.

A donation has been received for the Church Steeple project in memory of Terry Kasten.

A donation has been received from Associated Bank in recognition of Peggy Bast being one of the company's Top 20 Volunteers for 2014.

In memory of Mark Lohmann a donation has been received from Frank & Irene Blau.

21st
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... Imagining the future

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& Germantown Tourism/Betterment fund

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SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26TH NOON – 11PM
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27TH NOON – 7PM

- Children's Activities
- 3rd Annual Barlympics
- Sunday Bake Sale
- Wisconsin Power Reunion Exhibit
- Silent Auction
- Sunday Classic Car Display 12-3pm

Saturday, September 26th
12:00 - 3:00pm GoodTime Dutchmen
3:00 - 4:00pm Dheinsville
Dachshund Dash
4:00 - 7:00pm Music Venders
7:00 - 7:30pm Pommersche
Tanzdeel Freistadt
7:30 - 10:30pm Copper Box

Sunday, September 27th
12:00 - 3:00pm River City Blaskapelle
3:00 - 3:30pm Pommersche
Tanzdeel Freistadt
3:30 - 7:00pm Austrian Express



Bring a canned good for 1/2 off admission to see 5,000 Bells!
Bast Bell Museum Sat & Sun 1-4pm

Volunteers Needed or BE A SPONSOR!
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