

---

# *Germanatown Historical Society* **Newsletter**



---

**INCORPORATED – 1974**

**2<sup>ND</sup> QUARTER 2012**

---

Hello everyone and thank you for taking time to check out our newsletter. Quite a lot has happened since the last letter. We have had our community garden opening. It looks like we have a full plot and I hear that there are so many on the waiting list that next year we will have to move to a new location that will allow for greater expansion.

Our Christ Church Museum of Local History has reopened with its new paint job and many other updates. We will be continually adding and changing the exhibits to keep things fresh. Hopefully you will notice something different every time you visit. We are selling some of the larger pews that were from the Church. Please see more info further into the newsletter if you are interested.

We just finished our first annual Rendezvous. We had a modest beginning but hope to continue to grow and expand our offerings at this event.

The fest tent area has had some work done to expand the size of our music and beverage venue. We are also working with the village and other groups to possibly make some major changes to the park and hopefully increase the usage of our park. I will keep you posted.

We were also fortunate to get a donation from Best Buy to help with our quest to get more things put on the computer. They gave us an external hard drive that has 2 terrabytes of memory. (I am not sure what that means but my son says that is a lot of memory.)

We will again be in the 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade with Copper Box on our float. If you know anyone interested in walking with us to pass out candy and Oktoberfest flyers, please contact Jeff Dhein.

Finally and most important, we have hired our new summer museum director. I am proud to announce that we have Dana Bertelsen to help us this year. She seems to be a perfect fit for us. She is bright, energetic and comes to us with a great amount of experience. Stop by to say hello. I know she will do a good job for us.

Thanks again for taking time out of your busy schedules to check us out. Don't forget, if you can help us in any way please let us know. We are open for any help that is offered.

Sincerely,  
Jeff Dhein  
President and Oktoberfest Chair

# Stories of Interest

## Board Member – Carol Barkow



Carol Barkow has been a board member and volunteer at the Germantown Historical Society for many years. She briefly retired from the historical society a couple of years ago but couldn't stay away. Carol is a genealogist and can be found every Wednesday from June 1<sup>st</sup> – October 1<sup>st</sup> from 1:00pm – 4:00 pm at the Wolf Haus with Bob Kohls the historical society's other genealogist. Carol created the card system used for tracking all of the information in the archives. Carol and Bob have a passion for genealogy and are excited when they receive new information and records.

## New Museum Director - Dana Bertelsen

Dana Bertelsen, a resident of Greenfield, accepted the position of Museum Director for the Germantown Historical Society in May.

Dana attended the University of Wisconsin—Eau Claire and received her BA in History and Women's Studies in 2008. She worked as the Site Manager at the Burwell School Historic Site in Hillsborough, North Carolina for two years from 2008-2010. Her experience at the Burwell School gave her a love of interpreting history. This Fall Dana will begin pursuing her master's degree in History at the University of Wisconsin—Milwaukee, with an emphasis in Public History.



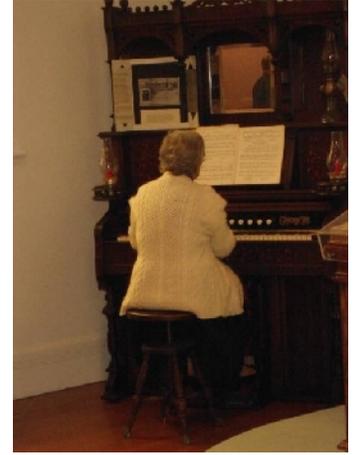
Dana's goal for the Germantown Historical Society's 2012 season is to bring more people of all ages to the Dheinsville Settlement. She is excited to cultivate youth programming for the site and assist with historical exhibits and special events. Dana is eager to meet all GHS members. Stop by the Bell Museum Friday through Sunday, 1-4 p.m., to introduce yourself to our new Director!

# *Christ Church Museum of Local History*

If you were hearing beautiful music on Saturday, May 5 chances are you were at the re-opening of the Christ Church Museum of Local History. We were excited to have visitors see the newly re-painted church. We continue to work on the displays for the museum.

Beverly Wilke performed a selection of music on Sila Bast's organ for our enjoyment. While guests sipped punch, we all visited and had a lovely afternoon. At 5:00 pm,

Oliver Schwalter and his assistants opened the summer season with the ringing of the bells.



During the repainting and reorganizing, this 1908 map was re-discovered. It is on display at the Museum.

## **Christ Church Cemetery –**

The Board for the Cemetery Assoc. has the responsibility to ensure the Trust Fund interest will be of a sufficient amount to provide care for their cemeteries' long term future. The main expenses are lawn maintenance and liability insurance.

As interest rates are low, the Board is hoping those who have a loved one buried in the cemetery, or have burial rights, would consider a donation to Our Saviour's Cemetery Trust Fund. It is a tax deductible donation.

They are also asking for your help in compiling names and addresses. We are searching for those who have burial rights, or are relatives or friends of those whose remains/cremains are interred in the cemetery.

If you are able to use this opportunity to help us achieve our goal, send your donations and names/addresses of concerned individuals to: Our Saviour's Cemetery Association, W172 N12533 Division Rd., Germantown, WI 53022. Please include Donation Amount and Memorial Designate.

## Join us at the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade:

As mentioned in Jeff's opening letter, we will again be having float in the Germantown 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade, which is at Noon on Wed, July 4<sup>th</sup>. If anyone is interested in walking the parade route with us and some dachshunds, to pass out flyers and candy, please contact Jeff Dhein.



## Community Garden update:

All plots for this year have been taken. They are looking to expand the garden next year. Contact the Germantown Parks and Rec Dept. for info.

## Church Pews for Sale:

We will be selling some of the larger church pews from the Christ Church Museum of Local History. \$75 each or best offer. Contact Mary Brownell if interested.

## Board of Directors Update:

At the Annual Meeting on April 17<sup>th</sup>, Peggy Bast was elected for a new 3 year term to the Board of Directors.

Jeff Dhein 2011 – 2014, President

Gordon Bast 2010 – 2013, Vice President

Peggy Bast 2012-2015, Secretary & Treasurer

Carol Barkow 2010 – 2013

Mary Brownell 2010 – 2013

Eileen Densow 2010 – 2013

Sandi Dhein 2010 – 2013

Mike Krull 2011 – 2014

Oliver Schowalter 2011 – 2014

## DONATIONS:

We are excited to announce the newest donation to the Germantown Historical Society. The newest donation reflects the Irish contribution to Germantown. Kellie Brock, a direct descendent of William and Elizabeth Connell, has gifted the bedroom set from her grandparents farm. Completing the set is a handmade quilt and a crocheted pillow and bed cover. In addition, a reading chair was donated which is a typical 1890 – 1910 style. Kellie wanted the bedroom set to be somewhere where it could be enjoyed by many for generations to come.



For all genealogy lovers, also donated is the Connell and Kingston Family tree along with numerous photos, a valuable resource for the community.



The bedroom set and chair are located in the Christ Church Museum of Local History.

Thank you Kellie for this wonderful donation!

Additional Cash Donations received from Charles Hargan and Gerald & Denise Hoijnacki.  
Thank you!

## 2012 Season and Hours:

Valentine Wolf Haus & Genealogy Research Center  
– Open Wednesdays  
June 1<sup>st</sup> – October 1<sup>st</sup>  
1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Christ Church Museum of Local History  
– Open Sundays  
June 1<sup>st</sup> – October 1<sup>st</sup>  
1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Sila Lydia Bast Bell Museum  
– Open Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays  
June 1<sup>st</sup> – November 1<sup>st</sup>  
1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

## Remaining 2012 Calendar of Events

**September 29<sup>th</sup>** : Oktoberfest

**September 30<sup>th</sup>** : Oktoberfest

**October 1<sup>st</sup>** : Wolf Haus & Genealogy Research Center closes for the season

**October 1<sup>st</sup>** : Christ Church Museum of Local History closes for the season

**November 1<sup>st</sup>** : Sila Lydia Bast Bell Museum closes for the season

**December 2<sup>nd</sup>** : Sinter Klausen Christmas Concert