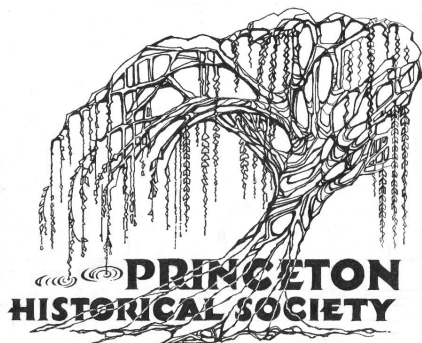


PRINCETON HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER



November 2022



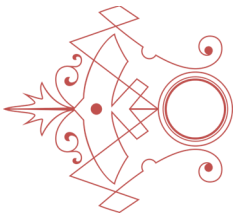
We have had a wonderful, busy year!
Thank you to all of those who helped make 2022 such a success.
We wouldn't be here without you!

In This Issue:

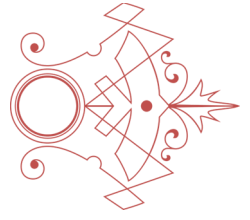
Holiday Events & Fundraisers
Sip'N'Shops and 40th Anniversary Potluck
Guests and Speakers at Our Meetings
Spring Cleaning at the Stone House Museum
Looking Back at 2022 Fundraisers

We Made it on TV!
Wisconsin Historical Society Conference
Local Author Writes Again
Historical Newspapers Now Online!
Phase II Museum Construction Begins

Princeton Historical Society and Folklore Museum
630-632 West Water Street • PO Box 71 • Princeton, Wisconsin 54968
920-295-9008 • princetonhistsociety@gmail.com



Holiday Events



VISIT SANTA!

A FREE EVENT AT THE

**PRINCETON
HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

**This Friday Nov. 25th
4– 6 PM**



We hope you can join us at our
upcoming holiday events!
Volunteers are still needed too.

Membership Meeting

Mon. Dec. 19th at Noon

Join us for lunch
and holiday
cheer at

Christianos

W1917 WI-23,
Green Lake, WI



Eat at Mrs. Claus's Kitchen!

Saturday Nov. 26th 9am—2pm

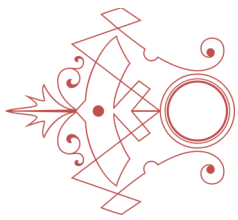
At the Holiday Bounty Craft Fair

Princeton School, 604 Old Green Lake Road

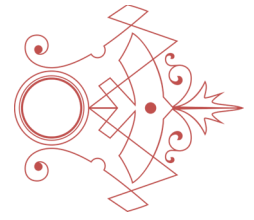
Breakfast, Lunch, Coffee, and Desserts

Made with love!





Tidings of Joy



Please consider supporting us at one of our fundraisers!

Princeton Historical Society Christmas Centerpiece Raffle

On display at the Princeton Public Library through November 25th

Tickets 1 for \$5 or 4 for \$15 or 7 for \$25

Drawing held Sat. Dec. 5th—Need not be present to win

Tickets can be placed in any basket(s).
Choose which one(s) you want to win!



Thank you to all those who worked so hard on creating these cards and centerpieces for our fundraisers!



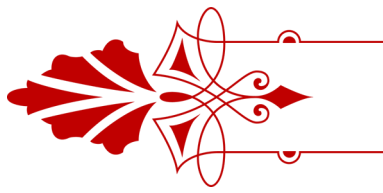
Buy your nostalgic holiday cards from us! Many different kinds are on sale at the Princeton Public Library, featuring historic scenes from our city.

Holiday Cards

Large \$2.50 each

Small \$1.00 each





SIP'N'SHOPS



We participated in both of the Chamber of Commerce's Sip and Shop events this year. On May 21st and September 17, we served wine and hors d'oeuvres in period costumes. It was a fun way to lure guests into the museum and we received some great donations! For those of you who asked, here's the recipe for the most popular snack of both evenings:

"Spicy Ritz Crackers" from the Frasier

Preheat oven to 300 degrees.

Line 2 cookie sheets with parchment paper.

Ingredients:

1 stick salted butter melted

2 tbs or 1 pkg Hidden Valley Ranch Mix (Dry)

1 tsp Garlic Powder

1 tbs Red Pepper flakes (or less to taste)

3 tubes Ritz Crackers

1/4-1/2 cup Grated Parmesan Cheese

In a large bowl mix butter, garlic powder, red pepper flakes and Hidden Valley Ranch mix. Stir to dissolve Ranch mix. Add in Ritz Crackers, toss to coat. Add Parmesan Cheese, toss to coat. Divide coated crackers onto cookie sheets and bake for 15 minutes. When cooled, divide if necessary.



CELEBRATING 40 YEARS

Summer Pot Luck: "Where Were You in '82?"

On June 12th, we celebrated the Historical Society's 40th Anniversary with a great little party! We shared memories of where each of us were in our lives in 1982, the year of our founding. Thank you to all who attended!



HONORED GUESTS

This year, we brought back the tradition of having speakers at our membership meetings— here are some of them! We were also pleased to host a few special events with community members. We'd love to hold an event with your family, business, or organization— please contact us!

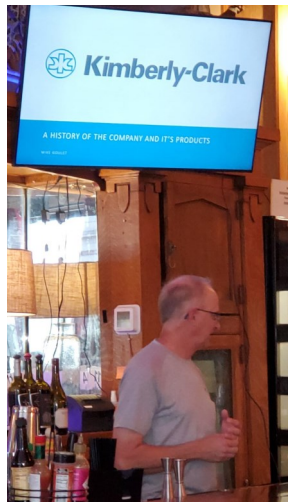
Wisconsin Historical Society's Southeast Coordinator, Kristen Leffelman, talked about "outreach" for nonprofits like us. Kristen also told us about some great resources, including an email listserve of local museums.



Professional genealogy researcher Brian Podoll talked about his work, especially on German immigrants. Mr. Podoll works for Ancestry.



In August, we gathered at Knickerbocker Landing for drinks and fellowship. Our very own board member Mike Goulet presented the fascinating history of the Kimberly-Clark company and its connection to Princeton. He presented attendees with free samples, and gave a book detailing the company's history to the public library.



Each year during Trick or Treat on Water Street, we host games for families. This year we had hundreds of kids come to see us! Thank you to the high school students who helped us with this event.



On September 19th, Ken and Kevin Soda spoke about the history of their family farm, established in 1863.

Their knowledge of Princeton's past is extensive, and their personal anecdotes from life on the farm were very entertaining. If you missed their excellent presentation, don't worry, we got it on video! Check out our YouTube channel to view it. Thank you to Mike Goulet for acting as host during this event, and thank you to Chris Goulet for being the camerawoman.

HONORED GUESTS (continued)



The Megow family reunion was held in Princeton July 29th –31st this year. We were excited to meet members of the family who visited the museum, Megow Park, and other Princeton sights with family connections. Lori Megow Cuifo organized the reunion.

On July 25th, we hosted members of the Princeton Women's Club at a private reception to celebrate their achievements of the years. We created displays from our collections showcasing the group's awards, scrap-books, and photos over the decades. We'd love to do the same for any local service organization- please contact us to set up a date!



We were pleased to see the Shaw family again this summer! They are still searching for more information about their ancestor, Colonel John Shaw (1783 - 1871), an early settler of Saint Marie. Unfortunately, they eluded our cameras.



The Princeton High School Class of 1977 met for their 45th reunion on October 15th this year! We were so pleased to meet some folks we hadn't seen in a long time, and welcome back some familiar faces.

Note: Betsy Schoebel Ladwig and Jeff Murphy were present but are not in this photo.



FUNdraisers



We worked hard this year– and had fun doing it!

Along with our raffles, we held a brat & burger fry fundraiser at Piggly Wiggly on Saturday, May 7th, and a flea market food booth fundraiser on Saturday, July 16th. Thank you to all who prepped food, hauled grills, served customers, and cleaned up!



Thank you also to Alan Detjen, owner of the Piggly Wiggly in Princeton, and the Chamber of Commerce for allowing us to do fundraisers in their facilities.

Extra special thanks to Mr. Detjen for including us in his charity “roundup” program at the grocery store!

Of course, we couldn’t do these fundraisers without the volunteers keeping our museum doors open. Many, many thanks to the docents who gave up their summer Saturdays to give people tours!

Probably the most entertaining of our fundraisers this year was an evening with Chad Lewis, paranormal investigator and author.

He gave a talk on "Wisconsin's Most Haunted Locations" at Knickerbocker Landing, on Friday, August 26.

A four-course dinner was served by "Who Dat BBQ," and a cash bar ensured the presence of spirits!



Thank you to the Princeton high school students who volunteered to set up, serve food, and clean up at this event. We couldn’t have done it without you!



SMALL TOWNS: Princeton's history comes alive through folklore museum



Yes, it's true, we're famous! Well, a little famous. We got our fifteen minutes of fame on Thursday, June 23rd this year when we were featured on WBAY Channel 2's "Small Towns" segment at 6pm. Host Jeff Alexander roams Wisconsin's rural areas, bringing wholesome and funny stories to TV audiences across the state. He focused on our Folklore Museum's mission to preserve the stories of individuals in our community, and the many people who have helped us in that endeavor. Filming took place on June 8th at the museum.



Mr. Alexander interviewed several Historical Society volunteers, including treasurer Vicki Wielgosh, mural painter Robin Wallenfang, and Norb Wianecki, who built our paddlewheel steamer (among many other things in the museum). Each had something special to add about our story.

You can watch the full video online at the following address:

<https://www.wbay.com/2022/06/23/small-towns-princetons-history-comes-alive-through-folklore-museum/>

This link is also posted on our Facebook page, and will be posted on our website as soon as it's live.



Learning & Growing

PHS board member Jim Frasier attended the 2022 Local History and Historic Preservation Conference at the Central Wisconsin Convention & Expo Center in Rothschild, Wisconsin on October 12th and 13th. This event, organized by the Wisconsin Historical Society, was an excellent opportunity to bring new ideas and resources back to our own museum.



Princeton WI Historical Society

@princetonwihistoricalsocie5771

6 subscribers



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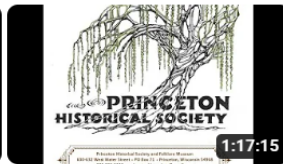
Ken & Kevin Soda: History of the Family Farm

158 views • 1 month ago



Summer '22 Wedding Attire Through The Ages

22 views • 3 months ago



Princeton WI Local History Field Trip May 2022

123 views • 6 months ago

Check Out Our YouTube Channel!

Did you miss our wedding exhibit, or another event? You might be able to see the video on our new channel!

On any internet browser, go to

www.youtube.com/

[@princetonwihistoricalsocie5771](https://www.youtube.com/@princetonwihistoricalsocie5771)

Local Author Writes Again

**Petrusky Family History — The First Three Generations in the U.S.
1876: From Poland to Wisconsin**

Joan Guckenberger (nee Petruske) had written a wonderful book memorializing Princeton's Canadian Club. Now she has again donated copies of her most recent book to the public library and the historical society.

Published in June 2022, the book relates the story of Michael and Catherine (Burchardt) Petrusky who immigrated from Poland in 1876 or 1877 with their two sons, John and Anton. John married Josephine Ronke, the youngest of fourteen children born to Andrew and Marianna Ronke.

The family lived on a farm just outside of Princeton. All of the related family lines are detailed in this easily navigated book. Check it out soon!

Joan can be reached at guckenberger@baldwin-telecom.net



HISTORIC PRINCETON NEWSPAPERS NOW ONLINE

We are very pleased to announce the completion of our historic newspaper digitization project! Our local newspapers dating from 1879 to 1993 are now available online for anyone to look at, putting historical and genealogical data within easy reach of the public. To see them, go <https://archives.winnefox.org>. You can also go to the Princeton Public Library's website, princetonpublib.org, then click "Newspaper Archives." There will also be a link on our own website in the future.

Over the years, many people have come to us asking to see articles, obituaries, and photos, which we could not easily provide. Now we can. We know that one local author in particular, Roger Bartel, has relied almost exclusively on microfilm scans of these newspapers, which were difficult to access and impossible to search efficiently. Thanks to this process, he and others will have history's headlines at their fingertips.

Princeton had six newspapers over the years. The digitized scans include editions from:

- Green Lake County Democrat 1879-1885
- Princeton Republic 1867-1937
- Princeton Republic-Star 1905-1906
- Princeton Star 1902-1905
- Princeton Times 1935-1937
- Princeton Times-Republic 1937-1993



Users are able to search all of these at once, or only one, or whichever they choose. The newspapers can be easily searched by name, keyword, and date (or date range). A short instructional presentation about how to use the database will be given at the Princeton Public Library on Monday, December 12th at 1pm and again at 6pm. Attendees will be shown the best methods for searching, quirks of searching including OCI errors, and interesting articles and headlines.

To celebrate this achievement, anyone who wishes can request a free photocopy of a historic front page of the Princeton newspaper published on their birthday (or the closest date to it). Please contact the Princeton Public Library at ptplstaff@princetonpublib.org or 920-295-6777 to request your printout.

This project took over a year to complete, and cost about seventeen thousand dollars. 98,563 individual microfilm images had to be scanned, cleaned up, coded, uploaded to a library system server, and made searchable. This process involved the technical efforts of the Princeton Public Library staff, the Crowley Company of Frederick, Maryland, NMT Partners of Onalaska, Wisconsin, DC Johnson of Ripon, Wisconsin, and Keetra Baker of the Winnefox Library System.

The digitization was made possible with contributions from us, the Princeton Historical Society, the Princeton Public Library, the Caestecker (Green Lake) Library's Tom Gnewuch Memorial Fund, the Wisconsin Humanities Endowment, and the Winnefox Library System.

PHASE II MUSEUM CONSTRUCTION UNDERWAY

We are so excited to be entering the next phase of our museum building's renovation! Plans have been drawn up, contractors consulted, and the work has begun. On October 15th, volunteers moved large piles of lumber out of the building in order to make space for our carpenters to work. Richard and Debbie May, owners of Whimsy Mountain and the former Handcraft building here in Princeton, have generously allowed us to store our supplies in their factory bays for the time being.

The back half of our museum is larger than the front half, and we hope that it will hold at least eleven permanent exhibits and at least one open area for rotating exhibits. To accomplish this, we will need to put in almost everything, including electricity, additional heating and cooling systems, and a partial floor. This huge endeavor has been made somewhat more doable by the generosity of an anonymous donor, who dedicated \$5,000 towards the project in memory of their spouse.

In the coming months, we will be seeking grants, donations, and volunteers to help us continue our work. Please consider sponsoring an exhibit or lending a hand!



**DON'T FORGET
TO PAY YOUR
MEMBERSHIP
DUES**



You should have gotten a beautiful Christmas card from us with membership information. If not, please let us know and we'll add you to our mailing list!

Contact Us!

Have a question about local history, genealogy, or our organization?

Interested in donating?
Want a topic featured in the next newsletter?
Please let us know!

princetonhistsociety@gmail.com

630 West Water Street

PO Box 71

Princeton, Wisconsin 54968

or call 920-295-9008

Don't Forget to "Like" Us on Facebook!



Princeton WI Historical Society

Volunteers Wanted

WE NEED YOU!

Please call 920-295-9008 for more information on volunteering to staff our museums, help with raffles and food booth fundraisers, speak at meetings, and more!

VISIT OUR GIFT SHOP



If we're closed, call 920-295-9008 and we'll let you in!

8X10"
prints of historic
Princeton
photos are only
\$5.00