
**Marcus Historical
Center**



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MARCUS HISTORICAL NEWSLETTER

FALL 2018

"The purpose of the Marcus Historical Society shall be to preserve for public benefit and education the heritage of our community."

2018 MUSEUM DAY

The 2018 Museum Day was held on Sunday, May 6th. The venues included were the Historical Building, Junior Pearson's Barns, Blacktop Memories by Stan and Jan Scheitler, Milt Wurth Memorabilia, and Jerry Galles' Vintage Machinery. Attendance was good but not as well attended as previous years. We enjoyed a beautiful spring day with our guests and will continue to look for ways to share our treasures from the past in the future.

2018 MARCUS FAIR

The Historical Building was open to visitors during the 4 days of the Marcus Fair and was well attended. We had several guests from the class of 1968 as they celebrated their 50-year reunion. We had hung a plaque in their honor as they have donated in memory of 3 classmates that had passed away in the last few years. We wanted to show our appreciation that they thought of our Society as a way to remember them.

We also enjoyed the talents of Steve Smith on Saturday and Sunday afternoons as he played the organs we have on display. The music added so much! Very enjoyable and we want to thank Steve for sharing his time and his gift. Hopefully we can get him back again!



“The Good Old Days”

Ask a second grader when were the “good old days” and they would probably respond kindergarten. It was a real learning experience, therefore, when the 2nd grade classes of Mrs. Kris Irwin and Mrs. Melinda Utesch toured the Marcus Historical Society building on May 31, 2018.

They were divided into four groups and lead through the exhibits by a member of the Historical Society. They got to see numerous articles that their grandparents and great grandparents used back in the “olden days”. Some of the highlights of the tour were Dr. Joynt’s restored car wanting to know if it would run and how old it was. Also, looking at his black Dr.’s bag they couldn’t imagine that a Doctor would actually come to their home when they were sick. Another favorite place were the graduation pictures dating from the 1920s to the 60s. “Is my mom or dad up there?” Probably not but many grandparents were. They had a lot of fun picking out people they knew. The antique children’s toys were also interesting to them. Last but not least were all the old wall telephones. Used to the latest cell phones they couldn’t imagine having to talk to a real telephone operator and giving a number. “They are so big” and “how do you carry them around?” were some of their questions.

All in all it was a good experience for the children. They were very attentive, asked good questions and learned about Marcus history. The Historical Society encourages teachers of all grade levels to visit our museum. We would be glad to give them a tour.

Marcus Historical Society Field Trip

July 17, 2018 found a dozen or so members and friends on their way to tour Yesterday's Memories & Vander Haag's Truck Museum in their new facility in Sanborn, Iowa. John and Ruth Vander Haag were waiting with coffee and cookies to give us the grand tour.

Vander Haag's, Inc., which began as a junkyard in the early nineteen thirties, evolved into full service truck dealerships in Spencer, Des Moines, and Council Bluffs, IA, Kansas City, MO, Sioux Falls, SD and Winamac, IN. Along the way John began to collect vehicles that interested him, and the Truck Museum came into being. It includes over 250 fire trucks, semis, pick-ups, touring vehicles, tractors, autos and related memorabilia. His knowledge of their history and the back stories of their acquisition made the tour interesting for everyone.

Ruth, nee Garvin, guided us through Yesterday's Memories, an astounding group of lit showcases and rooms housing thousands of toys, household items, political campaign buttons, posters, etc., clothing, and furniture, all of which is labeled. Of special interest were the displays that featured wedding dresses, baptismal gowns and quilts used by the Garvin family.

It sounds trite to say there is something to interest everyone, but there truly is something to catch everyone's eye.



Yesterday's Memories & Vander Haag's Truck Museum is available for self – guided tours Tuesday to Friday, April – October, from 10 am. to 4:00 pm. Staff-guided tours are available by appointment. From November to March the Museum is open by appointment. There is an admission fee of \$10 for adults. Children 12 and under are free. Schools & Care Facilities are free. Call 712-729-3268 for information, or go to antiques@yesterdaysmemories.us



To join the Marcus Historical Society, please mail a check or money order with your name/address/email/phone information and mail to:

PO BOX 321, Marcus IA 51035.

Individual: At least \$10/year (due yearly at fair time - first week of Aug.)

Family: At least \$15/year (due yearly at fair time - first week of Aug.)

If you wish to give more for your membership, both your donation and membership dues will be greatly appreciated.

There are three positions open for the Marcus Historical Society Board. Please check 3 and return your ballot by Oct. 23rd.

_____ Maxine Shea

_____ Brian Nelson

_____ Ila O'Brien

_____ Write-in _____

_____ Write-in _____