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**Marcus Historical  
Center**



**President**

Julie Sand

**Vice President**

Phylis Rapagnani

**Secretary**

Maxine Shea

**Treasurer**

Faith Specht

**Other Board Members**

Brian Nelson

Ila O'Brien

**Marcus Historical Society**

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**Marcus, IA 51035**

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[www.marcushistoricalsociety.org](http://www.marcushistoricalsociety.org)

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**MARCUS HISTORICAL  
NEWSLETTER WINTER 2019**

***"THE PURPOSE OF THE MARCUS HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY SHALL BE TO PRESERVE FOR PUBLIC  
BENEFIT AND EDUCATION THE HERITAGE OF OUR  
COMMUNITY"***

The Historical Center is a cool attraction during the Marcus Community Fair. Not only are there displays of items and photos sure to be of interest to almost everyone but the temperature is moderate inside. Heat, humidity, rain, etc. are kept at bay by the building's geo-thermal system. There was good attendance at the Fair and at the Historical Center. During the fair the Center always has some first time visitors some of whom are local, out-of-towners here for the fair or for a class reunion, as well as those who visit nearly every year. It's entertaining for both visitors at the building and for Historical Society members who take their turn hosting.

**Presentation on E. J. Edmonds House**

On September 22, 2019, Ray Scott of Darlington, Wisconsin, gave a presentation on the E. J. Edmonds house. This house is one of two homes



built by the Edmonds family in Marcus. Mr. Scott is a distant relative of the Edmonds family and has done extensive research into his genealogy. E. J. Edmonds was a banker and prominent citizen of Marcus in the late 1800's and early 1900's. Approximately 60 people were in attendance and enjoyed the information and pictures shared during the presentation.



## Upcoming Sesquicentennial

A committee has been formed to begin planning the Marcus Sesquicentennial, the celebration of the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the city. This celebration will take place in the year 2021 and will probably coincide with the Marcus Fair. Members of the Historical Society will be working with this committee to plan this special event.

## Family Information Sought

Donald W. Hanham Jr. is seeking information about his family history. His contact information is-685 Canyon Oak Lane, Lincoln CA 95648. email: [dwhanham@gmail.com](mailto:dwhanham@gmail.com)

The first indication of John Hanham and Family in Marcus is the deed below dated 1888.

**02 April 1888:** John Hanham bought Lot Numbered Three (3), in Block Number Eight (8) in the first addition to the town of Marcus, Iowa, from C. Barwick and Josephine Barwick, wife for \$ 700.00 dollars. Barwick and wife were of Cherokee Co., Iowa, while John Hanham is shown from Jackson Co. Deed on page 441, Town Lot Deed "E", Cherokee County, Iowa. On record in Cherokee Co. Records' office,

**25 February 1891:** Son George Henry Hanham married Viola Cave.

**July 1896:** A disastrous fire wiped out 4 building in an hour, John Hanham's wagon shop, Heath Brothers blacksmith shop, A.B. Olson blacksmith and Mr. Brandt's house. Damages are estimated at \$6,000.

**16 April 1910:** Shown living on Block 7 in Marcus IA. I believe they left Marcus shortly thereafter.



Thanks to everyone who joined us for the Chamber coffee.

## Fall election

There were four Marcus Historical Society Board positions open for election this year. These positions were held by Pat Ducommun, Faith Specht, Phyllis Rapagnani, and Julie Sand. All ran unopposed and were reelected. The Board consists of seven members and Board terms are for two years. Terms are staggered and four members terms expire one year and three members terms expire the next year. Members whose terms will expire at the end of 2020 are Brian Nelson, Maxine Shea, and Ila O'Brien.

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.