

## History of Loveland School

We are pupils of District No. 1, Washington Township. We will give the history of our school, the Loveland, 10 miles north of Monroe. I am Richard Smith.

According to records, the oldest found in our district, dates back to April 17th, 1849, and reads as follows:

Town Clerk's office,  
April 17, 1849,  
To A. Sires, Esquire.

Sir:

You are hereby notified that you have been and are hereby appointed moderator for school district No. 1 which consists of the following bounds to wit: Sections 15 thru 22, 27, and 28 thru 34. It now becomes your duty to proceed as soon as practicable to notify every Elector within your District that there will be an election held at some place specified by you at a certain time for the purpose of organising said district for electing the necessary officers in order to secure to your district the benefit of the law and the public funds and make due returns on this writ at such time and place.

Hereof fail not under the penalty of the law.

Given under my hand this 17th day of April, A. D., 1849,

William Tucker, Town Clerk.

The first school meeting of the qualified electors met according to notice, April 23, 1849. Alexander Sires was elected to the Office of Moderator. Elias Wright was elected Treasurer. William Tucker was elected Director.

Resolved that the board be requested and authorized to raise \$100 for he purpose of building and furnishing a school house for said District.

### DARRELL HILLIARD

Copy of report of school census reads as follows:

Number of Male Children 18

Number of Female Children 31

None have attended school during the year. No school having been taught. No money received. 1/2 acre obtained for site of schoolhouse, price \$6.00 \$100 voted to build schoolhouse.

Resolved that a hewn log schoolhouse be built, instead of frame. It was agreed that members of the district furnish logs, at the rate of \$1 per log, to apply on their taxes.

Resolved that the school board be instructed to hire a male teacher, John Brown (if qualified) to teach school for the term of 3 months at \$10 per month, said money to be raised by direct taxation if not otherwise raised. School to begin on Monday, December 3rd, 1849. A school month consisted of 22 days, excepting holy days.

Value of log schoolhouse was \$45.

There follows a list of property, subject to taxation, both real and personal. A 160-acre farm was

valued at \$480, some land valued at from \$10 to \$12 per acre. Personal property was valued from as low as \$6 up to \$400.

Number of pupils attending school in 1850 was 24, none over 20 years.

3 months of school was taught, at \$10 per month. Average attendance per pupil, 2 1/2 days. \$115 voted to be raised by tax for building schoolhouse and furnishing same.

Text books: Sanders Spelling and Reading Books, Adams Arithmetic.

### ELISA GRABER

At this time a meeting was held and the Clerk ordered to make out his warrant for taxes remaining unpaid.

Mary Ann Spencer taught school 3 months in the winter of 1851-1852 for the sum of \$25 and 3 months school in summer, also for the total sum of \$25. The next year her wages were raised to \$10 per month.

Records show that sums received from town Supt. at this time were about \$25, which was applied to teacher's wages. Amounts raised by district about \$17 or \$18. There was not much regularity about the kind of books used, Sander's readers and spellers, mostly. No maps or blackboards.

In 1852 the name of Crouch appears as a school director. Descendants still own land in our district.

In 1859 the school tax raised was \$70, Teacher's wages for year - \$125. The 1st U. S. map bought - \$3. Fuel for year at this time was from \$4 to \$7. Number of pupils attending from 35 to 40. Those attending during winter term were often 18 to 20 years of age. Geography and History books were added. The Loveland name now appears in the district; also Baumgartner and zumBrunnen. There were now 4 months of school, held during season pupils were least needed at home.

We found a teachers contract signed by a Miss Mary Gould, dated 1860, in which she contracted to teach 3 months of school beginning the 14th of May; wages \$6 per month. Such names as Frautschy, Bieri, Seltzer, Harper, Fessenden, Benkert, and Isely now appear on the register. By 1870, the school tax was raised to \$200. They decided to have 4 months winter school and 3 months summer, a male teacher in winter and a female in summer. First blackboard in 1860. No library.

### EUGENE HEFTY:

3 young men from our district served in the Civil War, 1861-1865. They were Fridli Elmer, Gottlieb zumBrunnen, and Frank Loveland. At this time a selectee could hire another man to go in his place.

Reading from the minutes of a school meeting held in 1860: On motion it was ordered that John Isely furnish 8 lights of glass, 1 sheet of tin, and 2 lengths of stovepipe, in connection with 2 joints now in use and not paid for.

Dry wood was furnished at \$2.50 per cord. At this time, the teachers received \$12 per month plus board.

The log schoolhouse accommodated 35 pupils. There were no outhouses.

In 1868 a special meeting was held to consider the building of a new schoolhouse, and to authorize the board to borrow money for that purpose.

### RALPH BRUNNER:

The new building cost \$800. We find in the minutes the following statement: "Anyone who breaks a light, cuts any desk, or does any damage, shall pay for same". The new building was insured. This schoolhouse was to accommodate 40 pupils, but often 60 attended during the winter terms.

12 voters were in favor of building a new schoolhouse and 7 against it. Argalus Loveland drew a plan and made an estimate of the probable cost. It was to be 22 by 30 feet. Descendants of Argalus Loveland are present landowners in our district.

The old log schoolhouse was sold to the highest bidder, Mike North. He moved it to his farm, now owned by Harvey Gempeler, and used it as a dwelling.

Water was taken from nearby springs, and later carried from the farm now owned by Clarence Loveland, 1/4 mile away. There was 1 pail and 1 dipper. Later, about 1915 or 16, a well was drilled on the school grounds. Many objected, there being a graveyard adjoining the playground.

### FRITZ GRABER

No shoes or stockings were worn by pupils, young or old, during warm weather. Slates were used by all. Some of the old pupils tell us how they washed them with spit and an elbow.

The games played were crack-the-whip, town ball, and holey ball; The balls were home made, of yarn and string firmly sewed together. Bats were made of a board, also home made.

Wages paid for cleaning schoolhouse usually around \$2. By 1871, the treasurer was required to give a bond. The Clerk now received \$5 per year. Wages paid to teacher for winter months \$30 per month and \$18 for summer months. 45 to 50 pupils attended in winter. The stove was near the center of the room. Those sitting near it were too warm and those farthest away were too cold. Of the pupils, about half were Swiss and half were Yankees.

### RONNIE HILLIARD

By 1874, the grammar was put on the list of text books. Only the very advanced pupils studied grammar. About 20 pupils between the ages of 15 and 20 attended school in winter. The County Supt. visited the school once a year. The 1st dictionary was bought in 1879. Penmanship books and one on Civil Gov't. were begun. By 1880 the school has a map of Wisconsin.

The names of Lemon, Wiesenberg, North, and Smith now appear on the records. Also Marty and Ritschard.

In 1884, Kate O'Conner taught the school. Old pupils say of her: "She taught us, and gave us liberty". She was short and jolly, many of the young boys towered over her. On a given signal, all would grab their tin dinner pails, hammer on them with sticks, making a terrible noise. She was wise enough to know that all she could do was laugh and consider it a joke. Trying to whip them for disorder would have been an impossibility.

### PAUL:

Another story some of the pupils who attended our school over 60 years ago tell, is that they hooked a wire under the back seat, made a hole in the floor and pulled it under the floor to the teacher's desk, and hooked it there, with a stone on the end. Every so often, some one would jerk it and make a tapping sound under the teacher's feet. She could never figure out what it was.

### RICHARD AMMON

Attendance was not compulsory in those days. When skating was good, attendance was bad!

In later years improvements made were the building of a woodshed, painting both inside and outside, blackboards, maps, library, World Books, and new dictionaries, radio, playground equipment, electric lights. The District now furnishes the textbooks. We have hot lunches in winter. Each Mother takes her turn to bring it at noon. The older pupils serve and wash dishes.

KAREN:

During the years, the District bought an additional 1/2 acre for playground and erected a merrywhirl.

The District now raised \$2300 per year to run the school. We now have 17 pupils attending, 5 girls and 12 boys. School has been maintained in our district for 102 years.

ELISE:

Richard Smith, how many generations of your family have attended Loveland School?

RICHARD:

My grandfather, Roscoe Smith, my father, Richard Smith, and at present, my brother Kenny and I.

ELIZA:

Eugene Hefty:

EUGENE:

My grandfather, Henry Hefty, my father, Wilbert Hefty and at present, my 2 brothers, Paul and Maynard, and I.

ELISA:

Ralph Brunner

RALPH:

My grandfather, Josiah Crouch; my mother Lorraine Crouch-Brunner, and I.

ELISA:

Karen Gempeler

KAREN:

My father, Harvey Gempeler, and my sister, Elaine, and I.

ELISA:

There are also 2 generations of Holcombs, Nancy, 2nd grade, and her father, Robert Holcomb, 2 generations of the Braun family, Bobby Hare and his mother Virginia Braun-Hare.

4 generations of the Loveland family have attended this school in the past. Merlyn, whose daughter will soon attend, and will be the 5th generation; Clarence, our County Chairman, his father, Otto Loveland, and his grandfather, Frank Loveland. Our teacher, Mrs. Edna zumBrunnen, has taught 2 generations of Smiths, Lovelands, Brauns, Holcombs, Heftys, and Gempelers.

In the early 1880's, about half of the pupils spoke Swiss on the playground; 70 years later we still have two, Elisa and Fritz Graber.