



RECOLLECTIONS

APRIL 2012

Congratulations to our Centenarian Members

Florence O. Kennedy, 766 S. Gammon Rd., Apt. 103, Madison, WI. 53719-1359

Elsa Zimmerman, Monroe Manor, 516 26th Ave., Monroe, WI. 53566

Museum Notes

MARK YOUR CALENDAR: Our annual membership dinner meeting and election will be held Tuesday, May 15 at Monticello's Dining Room at 209 Main. Cost is \$25.00 per person which includes tax and tip. Social time begins at 6 p.m. with dinner to follow about 6:30. Reservations are required and must be received not later than May 7th. Send your reservation request with cash or check made payable to MAHS to the museum address, Attn: Jennifer Blumer.

The museum will open for the 2012 season Saturday, May 5. We will need docents for the summer so volunteer early.

Some members have wondered about the missing awning over the museum entrance. The fabric was torn beyond repair by one of our fall windstorms and had to be replaced. The Madison company that made our original awning still had the pattern on file and has made a replacement that will be installed during this next quarter, weather permitting.

The 75th annual Homecoming will include a quilt show on July 14. If any of our members have old quilts they'd be willing to loan for the display please contact **Mary Davis** for more details.

MAHS has been offered display space in the new Lions Club park shelter where we can display things during the "Garage Sale Days" fund-raiser this September. So far we've set aside our lightly used room air conditioner and small top-loading freezer from among our assets but are in need of donated items too! If you would have things to donate please email us or leave a message on the museum answering machine (608) 938-4216, No Clothing Please!

MAHS Museum

P.O. Box 463
204 N. Main St.
Monticello, WI, 53570
(608) 938-4216
MAHS@tds.net

Hours of Operation

Saturday 10 AM – 2 PM
or by appointment
Closed for the season
November – April

Board Members

President – Mary Davis
Vice-Pres. – Karen Brugger
Secretary – May Burgy
Treas. – Jennifer Blumer
Member - John Casey
Member - Michael Wayland
Member - Donald Kubly

Collection Manager

William Zimmerman

Collection Archivist

Karen Gempeler

Volunteer Coordinators

Docents - Bill & Kay Dickson
Programs - Donna Ferguson
Membership - Carol Schultz
Newsletter - Roger Dooley

Jules Cappelle has agreed to share the administration of the MAHS web site with Roger Dooley and William Zimmerman. They have more free time to update current pages and add new web content than he does since he already administers two other web sites and teaches full time at the school. For those of you who didn't know of or haven't been at our web site recently its address is: www.monticellohistoricalsociety.org.

Our annual activity report has been filed with the State Historical Society. We are now an affiliate in good standing for another year.

Donations

Tim & Terri Escher - Generous monetary donation in memory of Anna & Leo Gempler.

Rosemary Avery - Karlen & Steinmann clothespin bag, Karl Freitag Insurance award and numerous farm account ledgers from the Wittenwyler farmstead.

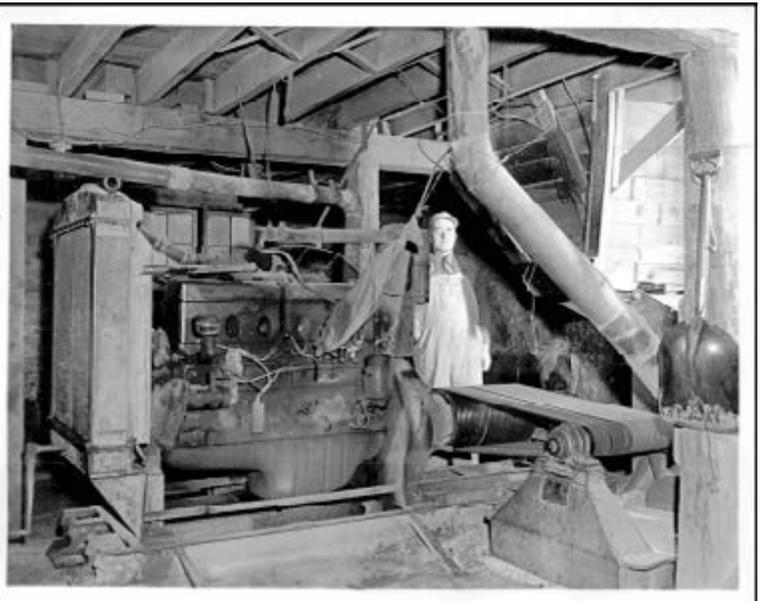
Merlyn & Helen Loveland - Photos and clippings relating to Judge William Loveland.

Jules Cappelle - Donated the annual fee for our web site. Jules has been doing this generous deed without fanfare for the past few years so it's high time we recognize his contribution to our society.

Don & Karen Roe - Monetary donation to the general fund.

Anna Klassy memorial - Monetary memorial donation.

Roger & Madeleine Dooley - Monetary donation to pay the museum utilities for the month of March.



Left: Max Schuett, owner and chief hamburger chef of the M & M Cafe, circa 1948.

Above: Kermit Kammerer and the engine that ran the Farm Bureau feed milling machinery. For those who don't remember, the Farm Bureau was in the valley east of our museum building, circa 1948

New Factory Local Farmers to Build Limburger Plant

Excavating for the cellar and foundation of the cheese factory in Washington township to be erected by the newly organized Town Hall Cheese company has been practically completed, and the drilling of a well on the factory site is now under way. Drilling operations are being conducted by Rudy Wenger, Monroe, and it is thought that the well will be completed by the end of the present week. Mason work on the cellar and foundations are scheduled to start early next week.

The site for the new factory is near the Washington town hall and is not only considered an ideal location for a factory, but centrally located among the farmers who will contribute the milk supply.

Farmers interested in the project are Anton M. Hefty, Ed. C. Hefty, Fred C. Marty, Edw. W. Marty, William Karlen estate farm, operated by Arthur Holcomb, and the Mrs. Anna Gettings farm, operated by Robert Zimmerman. It is expected that between 7,000 and 8,000 pounds of milk will be delivered to the factory in the flush season.

John Meier, veteran Green county cheesemaker, who for sixteen consecutive years has held sway at the Bontly-Schuler factory, about 3 miles west of the village, will be installed as maker at the new factory.

—Monticello Messenger, December 19, 1935



Ernie Moritz's bar in the basement of the Monticello House Hotel. It was commonly known, at least by some of the local wives, as "The Hole."

7 OFFICERS TAKE PART IN BIG RAID

Swooping into the village about three o'clock yesterday afternoon, a squad of six federal prohibition officers and one state agent, headed by a "spotter" who had been here three weeks ago getting the "lay of the land" staged one of the biggest raids ever pulled off in this section when they made a search of three local soft drink parlors.

The places visited were the thirst headquarters in the basement of the Monticello hotel, Sam Amstutz' establishment, and the Midway, now rented by Joe Broger from Jimmy Lobs.

Liquor of an alleged illegal alcoholic content, however, was found only in the Wyss emporium. Mr. Wyss was in Milwaukee, and the soft drink parlor, as usual, was in charge of Gottfried Buehler, the bartender. Mr. Buehler was instructed by the officers to be in Madison at 10 this morning to appear in connection with the raid. Although the officer who raided the Midway, inscribed the words, "nothing found," on a search warrant which he left with Mr. Broger, the latter was also instructed to appear at the same time.

A warrant, empowering the officers to search the person of James Hancock, who was tending bar at the Amstutz establishment when the "spotter" was in town recently, was also carried by the officers.

The place was in charge of George C. Legler when the raid was conducted, however.

Raid Carefully Planned

That the invasion of the prohibition men was cunningly planned is apparent from the fact that Thomas Dowling, a federal man, had been in Monticello for at least two days about three weeks ago to size up the local situation. Then he posed as a "horse buyer" and is distinctly remembered by local parties as having visited soft drink parlors here, anxious to get something with a "kick" in it. There was little left undone to pave the way for a successful raid. Search warrants were made out for the parties in charge of each establishment, leaving no legal subterfuges through which prosecution might be escaped.

—Monticello Messenger, Feb. 28, 1929



J. S. Fessenden's furniture store is to the right of the Peoples Supply Co. building in this photograph of Monticello's Main St. businesses. Fred Gerber purchased the business premises from Mat. Marty and, in 1913, replaced the old wooden structure with a new brick building. The brick building has gone through many owners since then including Fred Voegeli Furniture & Undertaking, Lynn Hardware, Disch Hardware, "Ott to Recover" upholstery business and Beth Stern's "Purple Raven" goldsmith and jewelry shop.

Quits Furniture Business

Mat. Marty, until recently the proprietor of the New Glarus hotel at New Glarus, will soon succeed J. S. Fessenden in the furniture and undertaking business in Monticello, the transfer having practically been made on Tuesday last. An inventory of the stock is now being taken and when the work is completed Mr. Fessenden will step down and out and the new proprietor will assume control. The business from which Mr. Fessenden is about to retire is a desirable business property, and while Jed's numerous

friends regret that he has decided to discontinue, they will be pleased to learn that the business will be under competent management in the future. Mr. Marty is almost as well known to the people of this vicinity as he is in his hometown, and for that reason he is certain to do a successful business from the start. In the way of success, The Messenger wishes him all kinds.

—*Monticello Messenger, Jan. 2, 1906*

Jared S. Fessenden, dealer in furniture, pianos and undertaking, Monticello, Wis., is native of Green county, and dates his birth from November 12, 1867.

His father, Elliott Fessenden, was born in the State of New York, and his mother, who prior to her marriage bore the name of Orilla Loveland, was a native of Pennsylvania. These parents moved to Green county a short time before the late Civil war, and settled on a farm in Washington township, where Elliott died in the year 1903. He enlisted in a Wisconsin regiment at the breaking out of the Rebellion, but owing to a severe wound received in battle, was discharged at the expiration of one year, and returned home

to recuperate. He was a successful farmer, a worthy citizen, and for a number of years took an active part in the Masonic brotherhood, of which he was an honored member.

The family of Elliott and Orilla Fessenden consisted of five children, four now living, namely: Ida May, who became the wife of Nelson Mallard, and lives in one of the western states; Jared S., of this review; Clara and Albert, the last named residing somewhere in the far West.

The boyhood of Jared S. Fessenden was spent at the home of his parents in the township of Washington. While the public schools were in session he pursued his studies with diligence, and made substantial progress and in the fields during the summer and spring months he early became familiar with the more practical side of life. When quite young he was taken by his parents to Iowa, where he remained for six years, at the end of which time he returned to Green county, and later learned the trade of carpentry, which he followed with success and profit for a period of twelve years. While engaged in mechanical work he took quite a few contracts for buildings in his own and other parts of the county, and the evidence of his skill as a carpenter may be seen today in various edifices erected under his supervision.

Mr. Fessenden early began taking an interest in political matters, and while still young he became one of the Republican leaders in Washington township. In recognition of his services to his party he was, in 1900, nominated for the office of sheriff, and in the election following defeated his competitor by a decided majority, and in due time entered upon the discharge of his official duties. The better to attend to the office he moved to the county seat where he continued to reside until the expiration of his term of office, meanwhile demonstrating ability and faithfulness as a public servant and proving one of the most capable and popular men ever elected sheriff of the county of Green.

Retiring from office at the end of the term, Mr. Fessenden engaged in the furniture business at Monticello, where he soon built up a prosperous trade and became proprietor of the largest establishment of the kind in the town. It was not long until he added undertaking to his regular business, and is now the leading undertaker in

Monticello, carrying a full stock of all kinds of goods required in the business together with a modern hearse and first class hacks, being amply prepared for all calls that may be made upon him, and in touch with the latest improvements in sepulture.

He is a wideawake, successful business man, courteous in his relations with the public, and by honorable methods and fair treatment has built up a prosperous establishment, the largest and most extremely patronized of its kind in the town of Monticello.

Fraternally he is a member of Lodge No. 155, Free and Accepted Masons, which he served three years as worshipful master, and in other capacities he has done much to advance the interest of the order in the place of his residence.

On November 30, 1899, Mr. Fessenden and Miss Mary E. Wright were united in marriage, the union being blessed with four children, viz.: Frances, aged eleven years; Elliott R., nine years; Ruth B., seven years, and Bernice, who is three years of age. Mrs. Fessenden is a native of Green county, Wisconsin, and was born in Monticello on the 27th day of November, 1875.

— *MEMOIRS OF GREEN COUNTY, 1913*

MARY

Somehow, she never seemed to be
A perfect housewife like the rest,
Although she always liked to see
A perfect home to greet a guest.
She never did have quite the knack,
The strength, or natural aptitude
The others had, but seemed to lack
The trick, or just the proper mood.

She never could catch up with things;
The corners always held some dust;
Her baking was not fit for kings,
Pans always had a little rust.
But still she made a home of it
Where love and truth and faith prevailed,
Where thoughts were high, not without wit;
Now, could you say that she had failed?

— *Excerpt from Bittersweet, a book of poems by Lea Kilgore-Nottingham*