

Marcus Historical Center



President

Sherree Ogren

Vice President

Jim Nielsen

Secretary

Maxine Shea

Treasurer

Faith Specht

Other Board Members

Bonnie Husman

Linda Spieler

Marcus Historical Society

Box 321

Marcus, IA 51035

Contacts

Sherree Ogren

712-376-4465

Jim Nielsen

712-376-4356

Maxine Shea

712-376-2301

Bonnie Husman

712-376-4451

Email:

gennote@hotmail.com

MARCUS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

SUMMER 2014 NEWSLETTER

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

We hope to keep you interested and informed about all of the plans and activities going on with the Marcus Historical Society. First all, we have had to make some changes in leadership for two of our major annual projects. We are sorry to report that Arlene Hollenbeck, our Newsletter Editor and Chairman of our Annual Cemetery Walk, has moved to Oregon—to be closer to family living there. She will be greatly missed! She always did an excellent, efficient job: being responsible for these two major projects for the past several years. Fortunately, we already have very good replacements for these two important jobs! Thank you to Caryn Barry, who has accepted the position of Newsletter Editor and Linda Wheeler who will take over as Chairman of the Cemetery Walk. (Thank you, Linda!) Linda has much experience with being involved in planning previous Cemetery Walks. Nancy Heir, who is also very experienced in History, will be assisting Linda. This year the Cemetery Walk will be held on Sunday afternoon, October 5th. They already have four families lined up to present their family histories. There will be a detailed presentation of their family's history in the Social Hall of the Methodist Church following the Walk and Trolley Ride through the Cemetery. Coffee & refreshments will be served at the church. Larry & Phyllis Rapagnani have offered to help also.--Phyllis will be the narrator and Larry will do the video recording.

On July 1st, Sherree Ogren and Mary Peterson met with Pam Buckholz of Estherville at the Historical building. Pam writes books for children ages 2 to 12. She was accompanied to Marcus by her large dog. The ladies were hesitant to allow the dog inside the building but Pam explained that the dog is the narrator of her stories and she needed pictures of him for the book. The dog was well mannered and enjoyed having his picture taken lying next to many of the displays. We will be one chapter in her book, which should be out in about a year.

Changes to our Board Members-- Mary Peterson was nominated to be on the Board to replace Arlene Hollenbeck. Maxine Shea and Jim Nielsen have consented to have their names placed for another term. Ballots are attached to this newsletter and may be mailed back by September 15th or dropped off at the Fair Booth.

A report on our current Fund Raising Projects—

The Society's "Book of Memories" has been sent to the publisher and we are hopeful that we will be selling the first copies off the press during the 2014 Marcus Fair. Forbes & Sons, Printers of Aurelia is the publisher.

The price of a copy will be \$15. The mail order price is yet to be determined but should not exceed \$20. The book has 37 stories of varying length and includes photographs.

A sampling of story titles are: "Some Sow" by Nancy Hier, "A City Girl Marries a Farmer-What an Adventure!" by Sherree Ogren, "Ramblings of Three Marcus Kids" by

Jim McGee, "A Storybook Romance" by Faith Perrett Hanson Specht, and "Rural Justice" by Fred Dorr. There are many other stories by Marcus residents both past and present including a few pages by Bob Reed. A tremendous amount of credit for compiling and production of the book goes to Arlene Hollenbeck. Arlene recently moved out of state and the Society truly misses her endeavors.

The Spring Dance Party, held on Saturday night, March 29' at the Marcus Community Center, was a Great Success! We had a good crowd and the music, provided by Steve & Linda Smith, was great! We thank them for their donation of Time & Talent! We also thank them for paying the rent for the use of the Community Center! We received over \$1000.00 in donations (instead of charging admission at the door)! In addition, we received many donations of gift items and gift cards from many businesses to give away to all those present whose names were drawn! We also had a contest for the "Best Dressed Couple" who came dressed in outfits from "The Good Old Days"! Jack and Maxine Shea were the winners!!



It doesn't really seem possible that it is nearly a YEAR already since we first "Opened Our Door" of the new building in August 2013 during the Marcus Fair! It was a Great Grand Opening! We had over 800 people come in to view our collection of Marcus History! We continue to receive "new" contributions of antique Marcus Items! Be sure to stop in again during the Marcus Fair to see the recently added items.

Just a little Update on a few of the recently received items! ---



A hand-stitched quilt, which was made by Margaret Rebecca Ward-Barr in the late 1800's or early 1900 was donated. Margaret was born in 1857—married to Gabriel Barr in Marcus in 1876—she died in 1922. According to the Cherokee County Township History Book, the Barr Brothers had the first Clothing Store in Marcus. There is lots of history of the Ward families and the Barr families in the Quasque Centennial Book! Margaret's Great Granddaughter, Angela F. Marvin, who lives in Bethel Park, PA. sent this quilt to us. The name of the quilt pattern is "Grandma's Garden".

Another new special item we have received is a 1968 Marcus High School Band uniform. It was donated by Vickie Rainboth and is a very special addition to our school items.



Another very interesting treasure has been received from Ervina Scott- the FIRST Marcus High School Annual. It was printed in 1921! It is given in honor of Ralph Scott who was a sophomore in 1921. This annual, which includes lots and pictures, stories, and information, is a must see and read for everyone interested in Marcus School history. It even has a list of all of the graduates of Marcus High School going back to 1900.

Be sure take a tour of our building! It is amazing!

The Marcus Historical Society building will be open to visitors the 2nd Sunday afternoon of each month from 2:00 until 4:00 P.M.

**You are always welcome to schedule a tour for yourself, your family, or a group.
Contact a board member to set up a time.**

The Marcus Historical Society has a memorial plaque containing 23 names. If you or your family would like a name added to the plaque, you may do so by donating at least \$500.00. It is a wonderful gift to the Historical Society in memory of a loved one. If you have given money in the past and would like to contribute more to add up to \$500.00, we would be pleased to add your name to the plaque.

