

**MARCUS HISTORICAL**

**NEWSLETTER AUTUMN 2023**

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

**Spotlight on Obituaries!**

**Have you ever wondered who is related to whom and how in our community? Visit the Marcus Historical Building and browse the extensive obituary collection, the family histories and the books prepared for the Marcus Centennial, the Quasquicentennial and the more recent Sesquicentennial to find answers to your questions.**

**The obituary collection was begun by Arlene Hollenbek and maintained through the efforts of Bonnie Husman, Amber Rassel, Linda Wheeler and Ila O'Brien. Most appeared in area newspapers or on funeral bulletins. To date there are more than a thousand, with more added each year. There is an index. Anyone with an interest in genealogy, history of Marcus, or who just likes to read obituaries and history is invited to come in and browse.**



**Help!!**

**The Marcus Historical Society is looking for volunteers to assist in its operations. In the last year the Historical Society lost three faithful members. Two were officers, Julie Sand, President and Faith Specht, Treasurer. Jack Shea was a dedicated member of the maintenance crew. Currently about ten members, median age 75, are carrying the responsibility of the many collections. Anyone with an interest in the history of Marcus' founders, businesses, or its growth is welcome.**

**President**

**Vice President**

Phylis Rapagnani

**Secretary**

Maxine Shea

**Treasurer**

**Other Board Members**

Brian Nelson

Ila O'Brien

Amber Rassel

**Marcus Historical Society**

**Box 321**

**Marcus, IA 51035**

**Contacts**

Maxine Shea

712-376-2301

Brian Nelson

712-261-0767

**Email:**

[Historicalsocietymarcus@gmail.com](mailto:Historicalsocietymarcus@gmail.com)

## Landscape Improvement

New landscaping was installed in May around the Historical Society building. The edging around the grass was plastic and required constant repair. The decision was made to replace it with concrete edging. Student volunteers removed the plastic edging. The rock that was contained in this area was removed so new concrete edging could be installed. Doug Dreckman used his tractor and loader to remove the rock and saved the members a lot of manual labor. He then did dirt work to reshape the area. The new edging was poured by Down 2 Earth from Sioux Center. The Historical Society project required 250 feet of concrete and the fair board decided to do similar edging around the church and added another 150 feet. Several members worked on this project to complete a job well done! Stop by the building to see what an improvement this change is.



Two third grade classes came to the Historical Society the last week in May. They loved all of the exhibits and the boys loved Doc Joynt's car the best. We encourage all elementary students to come and visit us at the Society.

Phyllis Rapagnani and Linda Spieler exchanged information with historians from Cherokee.



## FREE TOUR

The Historical Society will be sponsoring a tour of Jr. Pearson's barns on Sunday, October 29 from 1 until 3 P.M. The public is invited and admission is free. The Barns are located near the horse arena in Marcus.

## Fall election

There are four Marcus Historical Society Board positions open for election this year. Write-in candidates are also accepted. 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.

Please vote for four:

\_\_\_\_\_ Phyllis Rapagnani

\_\_\_\_\_ Clark Rainboth

\_\_\_\_\_ Rod Ogren

\_\_\_\_\_ Dan Ohlendorf

\_\_\_\_\_ Write-in \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Write-in \_\_\_\_\_

Please return ballots to the Marcus Historical Society at Box 321 by Nov. 20, 2023

To join the Marcus Historical Society or renew your membership, 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.

The Marcus Historical building is located just west of the Fairgrounds. Meetings are held there at 7 pm on the 4th Tuesday, monthly, except in December, January and February. For information, contact us on Facebook or at our website, [www.marcushistoricalsociety.org](http://www.marcushistoricalsociety.org)