

THE LAMPPOST

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SOCIETY'S YEAR IN REVIEW

The Waupun Historical Society had a busy year, filled with events and new exhibits for the public to enjoy. In May, Heritage Museum volunteers unveiled the first of what will eventually be three permanent exhibits on the main floor. "If the Walls Could Talk: A History of Wisconsin Corrections at Waupun" overviews the history of Wisconsin's corrections system, centering on the Waupun Correctional Institution which opened in 1851 as the Wisconsin State Prison. Elizabeth Loomer, a public historian and museum studies graduate student at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee guided this project. Throughout the year, the Museum welcomed over 2,000 visitors during open hours and special events. Volunteers made great progress on properly caring for objects in the collection, which require archival materials. The Society closed the year with "A Christmas Past" open house during downtown's holiday parade, welcoming over sixty visitors. What are we expecting in 2023? Read further! **(Photo: Intern Beth Loomer, Society President Zac Dickhut, and Society Executive Director Kyle Clark cut the ribbon on "If the Walls Could Talk" last May.)** ||

BOARD PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The Historical Society is proud to introduce "The Lamppost" to show the community more about what we do! The annual meeting of the membership is set to take place on January 21st when two seats on the Board of Directors are up for election. Standing for election are Tracie Nichols, Chris Nord, and Pam Garcia. Once elected, those two members will join the full board of seven in electing the executive officers for 2023. This meeting is open to the public, and anyone who becomes a member can cast a vote for the Board in-person. ||



NEW MUSEUM SIGN SOON

A new sign for the front of the Waupun Heritage Museum is in the works, thanks in part to a grant from the Beaver Dam Area Community Foundation. The old sign that was put up in the 1970s was woefully out of date, and a new sign will be more visible and able to be edited to keep up with changes. Any donations toward the building of the new sign will be greatly appreciated! ||



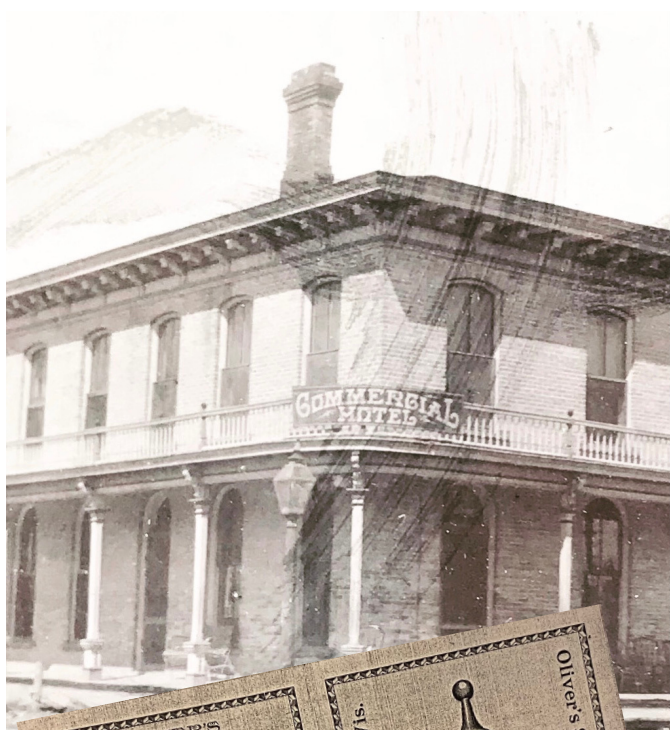
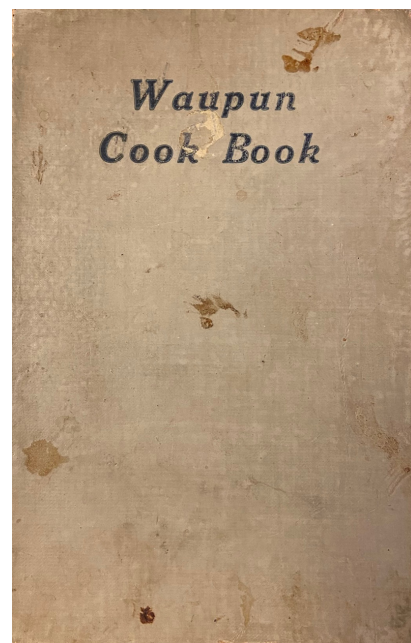
A RECIPE FROM THE ARCHIVE

The Waupun Heritage Museum holds several cookbooks from long ago featuring recipes from families in Waupun. We thought we'd feature one here for you to try at home! The following recipe appears in the 1909 Waupun Cook Book:

"Black Bean Soup"

One and one-half pints of black or red beans, one wine glassful of Sherry, one gallon of water, two carrots, one stalk of celery, two hard boiled eggs, one-quarter of a pound of salt pork or fresh beef, two tablespoonfuls of butter, two teaspoonfuls of salt, one-half of a lemon, six cloves, one onion, one red pepper.

Soak beans over night and boil with onion, carrots, celery, cloves, salt, pepper, and meat for six hours. Put the sliced lemon, eggs, and butter In tureen with wine, add beans and soup after pressing through sieve, and add a little more water when reader to serve if too thick. -Mrs. Luman Pryor." ||



ARTIFACT SPOTLIGHT

We are happy to feature an artifact for the public to enjoy. The first artifact we want to feature is the object that the Waupun Historical Society uses to represent the mission of our organization--the Oliver Street Lamp. Patented in the late 1880s, William G. Oliver's special lamp allowed for the lamplighter to pump a certain amount of oil into an upper canister. Consequently, only a set amount of oil would burn each night, thus self-extinguishing in the wee hours of the morning. The Oliver Lamps Illuminated a dark world. Museums and historical societies exist to educate and help people learn about their connections to the past and to each other. In this way, the Waupun Historical Society exists to be a source of light in the world. (Photos: Oliver Lamp Advertisement and an Oliver Lamp outside the Commercial Hotel c. 1895.) ||



LOOKING AHEAD:2023

The Waupun Historical Society is preparing to implement better collections management protocols for caring for the thousands of objects we hold for the community to enjoy. We will be ramping up our membership efforts, and we plan to host a number of historical presentations on local topics! Stay tuned! ||