## Gillett Area Historical Society

Volume 9 Issue 1 **IUNE 2016** 

**Published Quarterly** 

# BEHIND THE TIMES

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#### HELP WRITE THE **NEWSLETTER!**

We are looking for people who have memories of Gillett. Stories of people (school teachers?); stories of places (library?) or about things (remember the old water tower in the park?), families (remember "growing up in Gillett"?),

Or any events that meant something to you.

Short stories would be great. Suitable for printing in this newsletter.

E-mail your thoughts to:

info@gilletthistorical.com

Or send to: **GAHS** PO Box 85 Gillett WI 54124-0085

### A STORY FROM THE MUSEUM ARCHIVES

#### THE STORY OF REIMUND HOLZHAY

January 6 1911 ~ O.C. Reporter-

Holzhay is well known to many residents of this county. It is believed that his first holdup was committed between Pulcifer and Gillett, when he robbed the mail carrier between these two places. Holzhay was at the time staying in Pulcifer. The post office was in a general store and a star route was maintained between there and Gillett. One evening Holzhay, with a number of others, was sitting in the store and chatting over current events when the mail carrier started for Gillett. Soon after he had left Holzhav started out of the store. In half an hour or so he returned the story is and resumed the conversation. and in a little while the mail carrier ran into the store, greatly ecited, and reported that he had encountered a highway-man who had robed the mail. No one suspected Holzhay, who was much the coolest man in the crowd and who started out with the others in search of the bold highwayman, who, however, was not captured that night. The road between Pulcifer and Gillett, soon after leaving Pulcifer, goes around a bunch of hardwood timber known as Milledge woods. It was owned by Ed Milledge of

Oconto. Holzhay, being familiar with the lay of the country, cut across the woods, diagonally, and headed the carrier off. After robbing two trains in Wisconsin—one on the Wisconsin Central and one on the Milwaukee road — holding up three stage coaches in Shawano County, and committing other crimes in this state, Holzhay shot and killed A.E. Fleishbein, a Minneapolis banker at Lake Gogebic, across the Wisconsin line in Northern Michigan. For this crime he was sentenced to the penitentiary for life.

~ The rest of continued in the booklet.



Side Note: Years Gone By in Gillett Times: "Gottlieb Naas was a pioneer mail carrier, transporting mail with horse and buggy from Mosling to Pulcifer. He was held up by a bandit near Horseshoe Hill on one of these trips."

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# YOUR GENEROUS DONATIONS ARE APPRECIATED!

#### \*REMEMBER!\*

Donations are accepted by credit card at www.gilletthistorical.com

Click on the

PayPal button

A small percentage goes to Paypal.

The rest is ours!

Do you order from Amazon.com?

Remember to go to:

Www.smile.amazon.com

Click on Gillett Area Historical Society as your charitable organization. A small percentage of your total order is deposited by Amazon into GAHS checking account!

WE Energies offers gift certificates

on their web site

Www.weenergies.com

Click on Give the Gift of Energies to download the form to fill in and mail with your donation!

As a member of THRIVENT:

You may donate your Choice \$dollar\$ to non profits!. Go to: www.thrivent.com/makinga-difference/livinggenerously/thrivent-choice GAHS THANKS YOU!

#### FISCAL YEAR ~ SEP 30 - OCT 1

2015-2016 DONORS

Remember—this is a tax deductible donation!

Total: 20

2015-2016 MEMBERSHIPS EXPIRE SETEMBER 30TH 2016

Total: 70

BENEFACTORS

1
CORPORATE, BUSINESSES,

1
ORGANIZATIONS

1
INDIVIDUALS

14
IN KIND

3 (1 WE Energies Gift Certificate)

PATRON
2
SUPPORTER
8
SPONSOR
8
FAMILY
13
INDIVIDUAL
16
SENIOR
27

#### CALENDAR

JUN

10 - SUNDAY—1PM-4PM
EVENT—TRACTORS; KNX
PARTY BAND; FOOD; &
MORE

JULY
4—LITTLE RED CAR AT AUTO
SHOW IN ZIPPLE PARK AFTER
PARADE

AUGUST
18 - 21 OCONTO COUNTY
FAIR 75TH ANNIVERSARY
www.ocontocountyfair.org

#### **Sunday July 10th Event**

Gillett Area Historical Society is holding its annual Ice Cream Social & Antique Tractor Show on Sunday, July 10, 2016, at the Museum, 110 West Main Street, Gillett, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. The show is open to all entrants. Parking will be available in Zipple Park on North McKenzie Street, with wagon rides to the Museum available. Otherwise, it's a 2-3 block walk. Brats, burgers, booyah, water, soda, and beer will be available for purchase at the Museum.

**The Ice Cream Social** will be held in the screen porch and tent behind the Museum. The KNX Party Band will play from 1 to 4 p.m.



**Tractors** will be displayed along Garden Street. After you vote for your favorite, the judging will be at 2:30 p.m. The winning tractors will be featured in a calendar for the coming year. All proceeds from the judging and sale of calendars will go toward sponsoring a scholarship for Gillett

High School seniors.

~ Submitted by Heather Fifield

——The attic in the Carriage House at the museum has taken on a slightly new look! A few volunteers did a bit of re-organizing. Be sure to ask to take a peek! Local business advertising memorabilia on display, along with some old "chairs" from the Catholic Church,

that were on the altar for the altar boys to sit.







#### ??????????????? WHATZITS ??????????????????



There are a few items at the museum that have not been identified! Can you name this "Whatzit"?

It appears to be made of cast iron, and is rather heavy — 10lbs?

The words "WATE-MATE" are stamped on top. There are holes on both sides going through the center.





# Yesteryears Jokes

-00-

One thing about a porch swing you never have to figure out how many miles per gallon.

#### A Loud Hint

Lady-Gracious, why are you yelling like that?

Boy—A nice old lady like you gave me a nickel yesterday to stop yelling like this.

#### Always Getting Stuck.

Stubb—What is Cogwood doing since he bought his new automobile?

Penn—Following the horses.

Stubb—Ah, playing the races, eh?

Penn—No, following the farm horses that tow his machine to town every time it breaks down.

And many a girl marries the wrong man because the right one failed to ask her.

#### Taking No Chances.

"Oh, the sorrow of it!" sobbed the fair maid. "Last night I refused Mr. Blank and this morning his body was found in the river."

"Poor fellow!" murmured her girl friend. "I suppose he was afraid you might change your mind."

#### Get Set! Go!

George: "The boss offered me an interest in the business today."

Phil: "He did?"

George: "Yes. He said that if I didn't take an interest in it pretty soon he'd fire me."

—Telephone News.

#### HIISTORY OF THE WOODENWARE INDUSTRY IN GILLETT

A short history of the woodenware/plywood industry, beginning in 1903 in Gillett, has been compiled from information from the museum archives, and other sources. The portable display stand was constructed by Don Pederson, and is currently in the Carriage House at the museum.

Can you name all of the companies that were in Gillett? Hint: At <u>least</u> 8, possibly 3 others, although they may have been short lived!

#### . THE WOODENWARE COMPANY—1903 TO WARVEL PRODUCTS—2013

TIME CARD Week ending 1939 W. W. SMITH CO.			
MON.	7 AM to 12	1294 M to 5	Hrs 9 4
TUE.	7 A.M. to 12	1230 P.M. to 5	Hrs. 9 12
WED.	7 A.M. to 12	1230 P.M. to. 5	Hrs. 9 5
THU.	630 AM 10/2	1230 P.M. to 5	Hrs. 10
FRI.	630 AM to 12	1230 P.M. to 5	Hrs. 10
SAT.	7 A.M. to/2	P.M. to	Hrs. 5
SUN.	A.M. to	P.M. to	Hrs
Over time requested Hes Altrs at 322 per H32 H3 Hrs at 49 per H32			
This is a true statement of actual time worked by the undersigned.			



Behind the Times Page 5

#### **NEWS FROM THE PAST ~ TIMES-HERALD JUNE 30 1963**

# Older Autos Sparkle In Gillett Museum

GILLETT — In one of the fair exhibition buildings in Gillett's City Park is a collection of o'ld cars & pleasing to the eye as are the mirror bright 1963 models in any showroom. The collection is that of Pete Warvel, owner of Warvel Products, Inc. Gillett. The antique car museum opened to the public on Wednesday.

Officers of the Gillett Industrial Development Corp. sponsors of the museum have announced that the museum is open daily including Sun., from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. It was also announced by G. D.C. officials that space has been provided for overnight trailer parking and tenting in the park or a one dollar per day fee plus fifty cents if electricity is desired. There will be a concession stand

open daily where popcorn, ice cream, soda and etc. can be purchased. All facilities in the park are open to the public.

Mr. Warvel is widely known for his collection of vintage autos, a collection which he started gathering more than 5 years ago.

More than 20 cars are on exhibit in the museum. They cover more than a half century of automobile history and some of its most exciting chapters.

Oldest vehicle in the gallery is a 1904 1 cylinder Reo. The price originally was \$650. There are other choice models, such as the 1910 Sears Auto Buggy, 1910 Reo Touring 1911 Cadillac, 1914 Model T Ford, 1915 Saxon Roadster, 1918 Metz Touring, 1920 Marmon Coupe, 1924 Model T Roadster, 1927 Chevrolet 4 door Sedan, 1928 Ford Model A Tudor, 1929 Ford Model A Coupe, 1930 Ford Model A roadster, 199 Ford V-8, 1936 Packard Convertible Coupe, 1930 Model 5 Dusenberg Convertible sedan, 1932 Buick Coupe, 1949 MG-TC English Sports Car and a 1950 Jeepster.

Mr. Warvel's Dusenburg finished 2nd in the grand classic at Indianapolis last year and placed second in Milwaukee last Sunday. The original price of this car was \$15,000.

The Jeepster that you'll see in the museum was America's last touring car and the MG-TC English Sports Car was the one that made the world sports car conscious.

Additional antique cars will be added to the collection during the summer, Mr. Warvel announced In addition to these older aulos, many other antique items will be seen in the museum.

All of these antique cars are in excellent running condition with the exception of the Cadillac. This car was not restored so that the public could view it as it was originally. Most of this fine res or alion work in these antique cars was done by employees of Warvel Products. Inc. in Gillett

vel Products, Inc. in Gillett.

Donald Pederson will be in charge of the museum and other concessions in the park. The admission fee to the Museum is adults 50 cents, 12 to 18 years olds 25 cents and children under 11 years old 10 cents.





#### RAILROADING THROUGH GILLETT



The Railroad Exhibit in the Carriage House at the Museum has several items relating to the railroad through Gillett, including a clock from the Gillett depot, signs from the tracks and several pictures taken during the time of the railroad in Gillett. Included in the exhibit is the original "Gillett" sign from the side of the depot.



A small booklet has been compiled of news items and photos of railroading in the Gillett area. Sillett Area Historical Society

110 W. Main Street PO Box 85 Gillett WI 54124-0085

Gillett Area Historical Museum Phone Number: 920 598 1910 Leave a message & we'll get back to you! Or

E-mail: info@gilletthistorical.com

#### **DISCLAIMER!**

All errors, such as misspellings, punctuation, misuse of words, and anything else you may find annoying, are the fault of spell check and our proofreader of whom we have none!



We're on the Web!

Insert Mailing Label Here

#### **BOOKLETS, BOOKLETS!**

The following booklets, related to the Gillett Area are available at the museum for perusing. Some of these can be re-printed for a donation!

Check out the "bookcase" in the front foyer closet!

Bullfrog Avenue **Bud Quade Remembers** The Frank Country School Gem Theater Memories Gentz Flower Shoppe Gillett Canning Company Gillett Cement Products History of Zahn's Garage John Klemp-Gillett's First Blacksmith Linwood Years Memories of Mosling Moonshine Stills of the Gillett Area Parkside Dairy Railroading Through Gillett Ramblings of a Rambler Memories of Paul Brandemuehl Service Station

Story of Benjamin Goldberg
The Sorensen Family History/Pop Factory

A Short History of Rodney S Gillett Francis Cook Bradbury Writings Gillett Fire Dept Records~1905 Gillett Fire Dept Records~1929-1930 Gillett Fire Dept Records~ 1948-1955 Herman Krueger Family History Back Home Again Birthday Party (Photo pages) Gillett Area Snippets Life & Times of Walter W Smith Paranormal Activity at the Museum Wagner Gas & Electric Warvel's Antique Cars (Photo pages) Backyard Gardens at 110 W Main (Photo pages) Jay Simpson ~ The Rest of the Story Gillett WWII Veterans ~KIA/MIA Harold Smith ~ from Hintz to Chicago Tribune WWII War Correspondent Reimund Holzhay Story