



The 'Traveling Lohmillers' lining up for another road trip in 1936: Harry J., Edward, Robert, William and John with their vehicles.

★ SHAWANO COUNTY ★
Historical Society
 BRIDGING THE PAST TO PRESENT

Annual Meeting

Monday, October 21, 2024

Shawano City Hall

127 S. Sawyer St., Shawano, WI

5:30 PM Registration and Snacks

6:00 PM Meeting Begins

Members, guests, and the general public are welcome!



Speaker:
Tammy Borden

Tammy Borden, the author of a World War II historical novel sharing the remarkable true story of her mother's life growing up under the Nazi regime. Named after her mother, *Waltraud: A True Story of Growing Up in Nazi Germany* represents an often untold perspective of World War II - that of a German girl. Through the years, Tammy recorded her mother's remarkable life of heroism, heartache, and hope. Information at: tammyborden.com

Business Meeting:

President's Report

Treasurer's Report

Curator's Report

Board of Directors Election

Other Business

One of the attractions at Heritage Park operated by the Shawano County Historical Society is periodic displays of Shawano County history in the Sikora Archives building. Earlier this year an exhibit of automobile travel at the beginning of the 20th Century was featured.

In the early 1900's travel between cities for agriculture, industry and recreation was primarily by railroad with local movement remaining hitched to the horse. However, a new phenomenon was developing which eventually became an economic driver and significant element of the "American Dream" – the gasoline engine powered automobile.

Scientific American first used the phrase "automobile carriage" in May 1898, followed by the *New York Times* shortening it to automobile in a column in January 1899. "Car" is generally considered short for cargo.

Though we all are somewhat familiar with the names Henry Ford, R.E. Olds, Louis Chevrolet and the Studebaker brothers, there were hundreds, if not thousands of entrepreneurial inventors developing their own version(s) of putting people on a four wheel chasis powered by a gas engine throughout the country and the World. It is estimated there were more than 1900 automobile makers at the turn of the century in the USA.

Travel by "horseless carriage" was difficult as the roads were not fit, the vehicles undependable, service and other accommodations sparse. However, in a classic case of continuous improvement all those problems were quickly remedied.

To venture off on a motor trip in the 1900-20 period meant following trails, or "marked

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As summer draws to a close we begin to take stock and look back at the highlights. It began with 4th grade school tours in May, then the start of the Depot Saturday Spotlight tours at the beginning of June. Rhubarb Fest was our biggest event of

the season, but let us not forget the Shawano County Fair, Roll Back Time, and Headstones. Not to mention that throughout the summer the society has been abuzz with artifact/archive donations and weddings in the Old Tabor Church. I would say that as a whole the summer of 2024 was very good to us.

after they see one of our artifacts or learn something on the tour. It makes up for the small sacrifice of time from your daily life.



JESSE BORLEN

With that said however, our great events and successful summer came at a cost. There are many needs at the society, both small and large, that are falling short or not being achieved, due to lack of manpower or skills. One of our biggest struggles, like any non-profit, is the availability and retention of volunteers. Every highlight of the summer could have been better and more successful with extra volunteers. There are so many opportunities for individuals at the society whether you love people or prefer to work by yourself.

If working with people isn't your thing, perhaps a "job" behind the scenes would be a good fit. We have such a great collection of artifacts and archival items, which take time to process and take care of. It would be amazing to have an amateur photographer to photograph our artifacts or perhaps someone, who loves learning tidbits of Shawano History, to help sort and file documents and newspaper clippings. The collections at the society are one of our biggest assets and I hope one day to be able to house and showcase them in a new museum building. This building would have an area to house our textile collections and archival collections, together with a space for rotating exhibits and larger artifacts, something we currently lack.

The 4th grade school tours in May are a wonderful way to connect and teach growing minds using tales of Wisconsin and Shawano County History. Teachers and students alike enjoy their time and adventures at Heritage Park. However, in recent years a few schools have decided not to participate due to our inability to provide them with afternoon activities due to the lack of volunteers. I believe this is something we can remedy and bring back. Who doesn't love playing old time games or making homemade ice cream (both things we used to do).

To achieve many of these goals and be more successful, comes down to marketing and community relations. This is one key area where we struggle the most. We are currently limping along with a few volunteers who have little to no background in marketing. They do a wonderful job, don't get me wrong, but if we had someone or a few people with marketing tools and know-how, just imagine what the society could achieve.

It has also been a struggle to find willing volunteers to docent on Saturdays at the depot. I'll be completely honest and confess that I'm not an extrovert, but there is something about connecting with people on a tour that is enjoyable. I'm always amazed at the stories I hear from people



SHAWANO COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

2024-25 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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(*current term ends in 2024)

Jim and Pat Kasten
Newsletter

GUIDING THE SOCIETY

VISION STATEMENT

The vision of the Shawano County Historical Society to "enrich people's lives through history".

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Shawano County Historical Society is to "preserve the culture and history of Shawano County by creating a vibrant learning experience and serving as a resource for current and future generations".

Headstones - Korean War Vets

Several hundred people participated in September at Woodlawn Cemetery in a “Muster Call” of Shawano County Historical Society’s “Headstones” program honoring Korean War Veterans of Shawano County including families of the tributees:

- ★ **PFC Floyd “Twig” Hartwig**, Army, wounded, Purple Heart
- ★ **2nd LT Orle S. Bergner**, Marine Corps, KIA
- ★ **SGT Oliver W. Hottenstine**, Army, KIA
- ★ **PVT Orline W. Heling**, Army, KIA
- ★ **PFC Frederick W. Mehlhorn**, Army, KIA

The Korean War, sometimes referred to as a “police action” under the auspices of the United Nations, lasted 3 years. Following the end of WWII the Korean peninsula was divided North and South at the 38th parallel. On June 25, 1950 armed forces of North Korea crossed into the South armed with Russian munitions. U.S. President Harry S. Truman feared it was an initiative of Russia (with the support of China) for Communist takeover of the World. In August 1950,



A caisson stood on the grounds during this year’s Headstones – Korean War, a grim reminder of military lives sacrificed for national freedom.

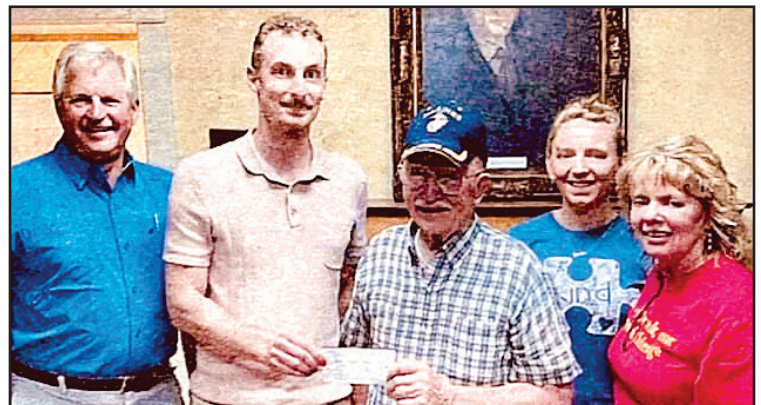


SCHS board member and Headstones program coordinator Tom Aumann presents a biography at a veteran’s gravesite, Woodland Cemetery, attended by family and friends.

the U.S. Congress authorized funds for “military action”; the U.S. now committed.

When the war ended July 1953 the U.S. counted 37,000 military casualties, mostly Army and Marines with significantly fewer Navy and Air Force personnel losing their lives.

SCHS has conducted the “Headstones” program for a number of years. This year with the support of AMVETS Post 10, American Legion Post 117, VFW Post 2723, Shawano County Veterans Service Office and City of Shawano Park and Rec Department.



Shawano AMVETS Post 10 donated \$5,000 from their Honor Guard Fund to SCHS to support programs to honor military veterans such as the Headstones program. Left to right: Tom Aumann, SCHS board member and Headstones Coordinator, Jesse Borlen, SCHS President and Curator, Dennis Bohm, AMVETS Commander. And Headstones volunteers Stacie Robbins and Amy Cassetta.

Shawano at 150 Years - Back Then

(As the City of Shawano records its 150th year, more about the early years adapted from an article in the *Shawano Evening Leader*, October 1946. See *Preservation Press Spring 2024 for part 1.*)

In 1843 Samuel H. Farnsworth paddled up the Wolf River from New London and came upon a Menominee village along the pond (where the Shawano Lake outlet meets the Wolf River). Farnsworth saw the area as home to, perhaps, the finest stands of white and Norway pine in the World. The site was in the territory then mapped as Oconto County. He subsequently shipped machinery to the location to build a sawmill. He engaged Charles D. Wescott to build a water-power mill on what was then an immense beaver dam in the pond. The ensuing construction of spillways, sluice gate and road connected the north and south shores of the pond (area now known as "Monkey Island" adjacent to Heritage Park).

After the mill was running satisfactorily, Charles Wescott brought his family to live in Shawanaw; Menominee language "to the south". The spelling was changed to Shawano in 1864, though we assume both spellings were pronounced the same at the time. These first white settlers lived on the waterway just north of the dam in what is



THE MURDOCK HOUSE - SHAWANO, WISCONSIN
Located at the SW corner of Main and Green Bay Streets
Scanned and preserved by the Shawano County Historical Society
Tom and Karen Grover Collection

now known as River Heights.

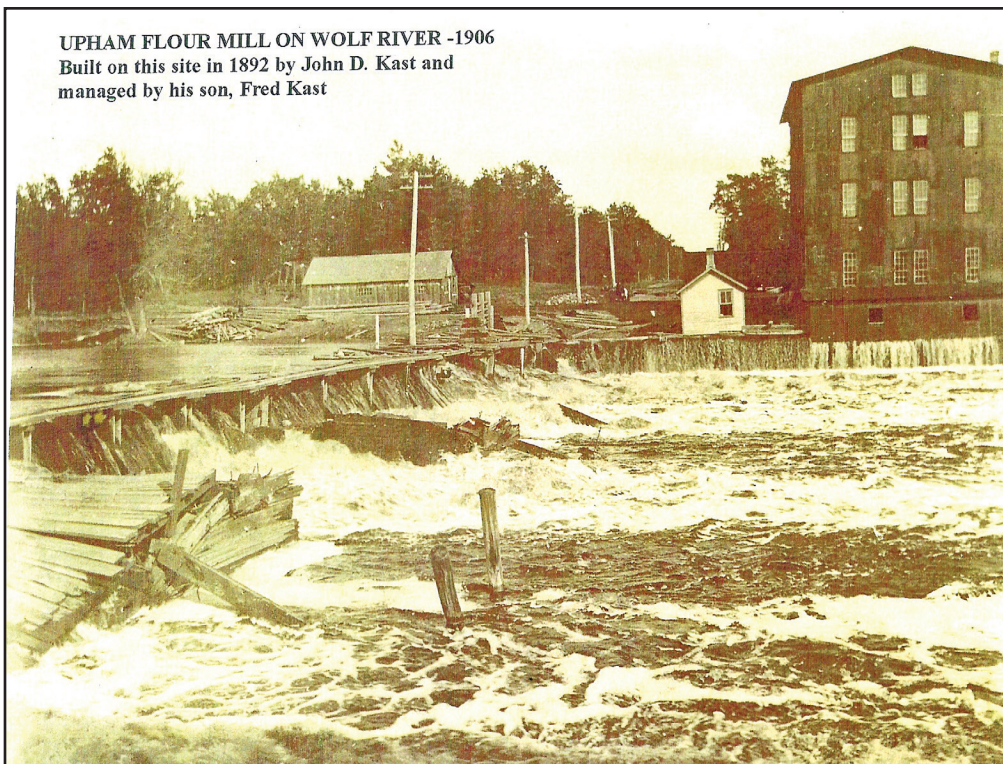
In 1850, Joseph Maurer, first known attorney in the area, arrived building a home in South Shawano, now the Athletic Park, along what would become Main Street.

In 1852-53, the United States government moved the Menominee Tribe north to the present reservation/county under the direction of Elias Murphy with spiritual guidance overseen by Father Bonduel. There was a government doctor named Wiley on the reservation who also received patients from the white settlement if they could negotiate the rough "roads", actually forest paths, to his office. Dr. Wiley later moved to Shawano, building a home and office on Main Street just north of the present day U.S. Post Office.

The first post office was actually located in a building Dr. Wiley's brother, Charles, built as the first pharmacy (just north of where Stubborn Brothers Brewery is now located).

It was here that the first Dr. Cantwell trained as a pharmacist before qualifying as a physician. Frank Naber later bought the property as a drug store and base for developing other businesses in the community.

In 1863 Hiram Wescott settled in Shawano building its first hotel, the Wescott House, subsequently the Murdock House. After it burned April 18, 1948 and the site cleared, the replacement building was called the Woolworth Building, eventually housing Spurgeons Department Store and currently The Stock Market.



UPHAM FLOUR MILL ON WOLF RIVER -1906
Built on this site in 1892 by John D. Kast and managed by his son, Fred Kast

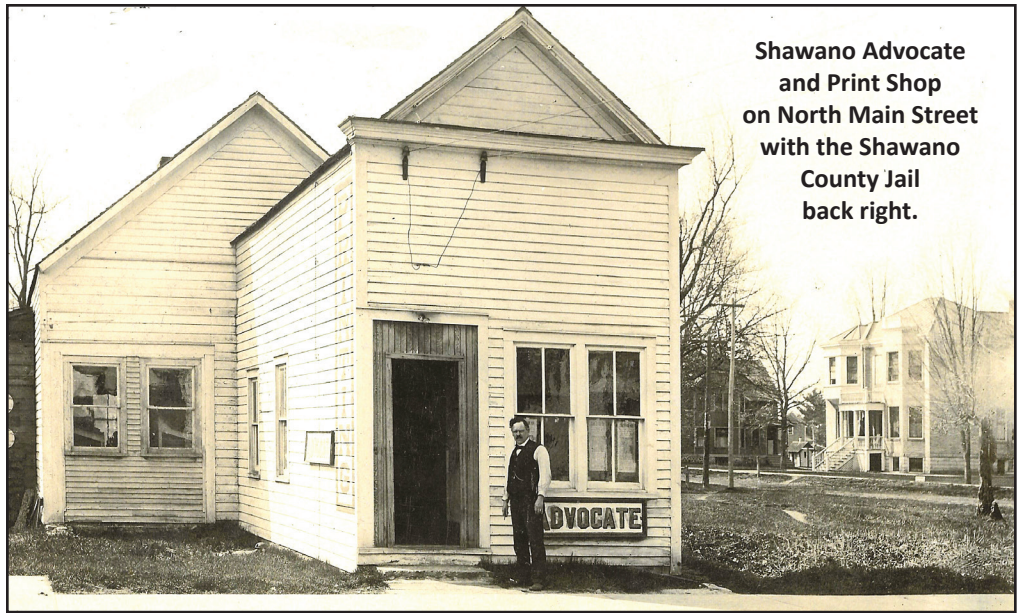
**Whats A Little Controversy
Along With the Growing Pains**

There was some controversy about establishing Shawano as the County Seat; county separated from Oconto County Territory and was established February 16, 1853. The area north of the pond was in competition with a settlement in the area of the current Highway 22 bridge known as Powell's Landing. To settle the argument, the County Seat was established at a mid-point and subsequently the Powell Trading Post was moved 'up to Shawano' by Herman Naber.

In 1854, the first road was built connecting Shawano to another settlement – a "tote" road to New London. Shawano's supplies were hauled by tote teams from New London until the Milwaukee Lake Shore and Western Railroad was completed to Clintonville enabling delivery of supplies via stage coach on a shorter route.

The year 1858 was a significant time in Shawano's development:

- Charles Upham opened his first store on Main Street.
- The first newspaper was started, a weekly



Shawano Advocate and Print Shop on North Main Street with the Shawano County Jail back right.

called *The Venture*, which became *The Journal*.

- The first bridge was built spanning the pond, now North Main and Highways 47-55.
- For a brief time Shawano Bank operated in the settlement facilitated by the State of

Wisconsin "Business Banking Act" in 1857. After two years the Chicago banker who started it vacated the venture. It took until 1881 before another bank was established: Shawano County Bank by F.W. Humphrey.

In 1867, the first church building began construction. It took three years to build as "Catholics and non-Catholics contributed to and worked on it in their spare time".

It was erected where Sacred Heart Catholic Church stands today. When the first protestant church was built up the street a few years later it included a bell tower which rang for fires, deaths and community celebrations.

Shawano was incorporated as a village in 1871 and as a city in 1874.



First Methodist Church was constructed on Main Street starting in 1866; the first protestant church in the community following the building of Sacred Heart Catholic Church a few years earlier. The bell tower was a community landmark with tolling for deaths, fires, weddings and community celebrations.

**Anecdote –
Different Times**

Practically all the territory was once designated as the county seat with Philetus Sawyer and George Andrews buying up the land.

It was platted into ten acre lots for small farms initially, then later into small parcels as more settlers arrived. Andrews refused to "...deal with anything but petticoats, asserting that they at least knew what they wanted....". Mrs. Naber, Mrs. Klosterman and Mrs. Scheers all bought from Mr. Andrews as he refused to sell to their husbands.

Sources: Shawano Evening Leader, October 29, 1946, reporting of a presentation by Caroline Nikolay to the Junior Woman's Club. Archives, Shawano County Historical Society

Early Motoring

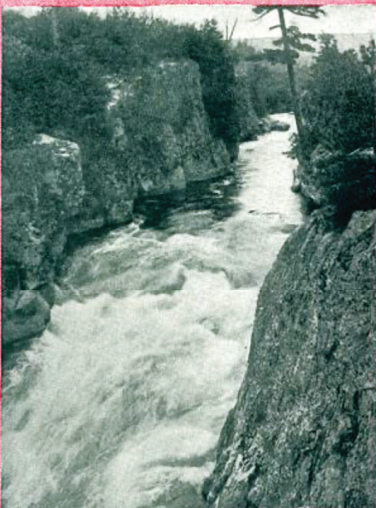
FROM PAGE 1

roads" charted by competing automobile clubs, tire manufacturers, oil companies and tourist associations. These entities erected signs along their routes which would meet their self-interest(s). Some cities and recreation areas even paid a fee to have the marked route run to/through them. They were called "auto trails".

Travel maps, brochures and manuals to guide motorists proliferated. One was a handsomely produced leather book: *King's Official Route Guide*. Shawano was on Route 221 in the 1917 edition. Two Shawano stops on early 1900 era maps were the Murdock House hotel and Schweers Hardware and Garage, a.k.a. Wolf River Auto.

In 1917, the Wisconsin State Legislature enacted a law prohibiting the marking and

WISCONSIN'S PLAYGROUND
Shawano Lake and Menominee Indian Reservation.
 STATE TRUNK HIGHWAYS
 29 - 22 - 47 - 55

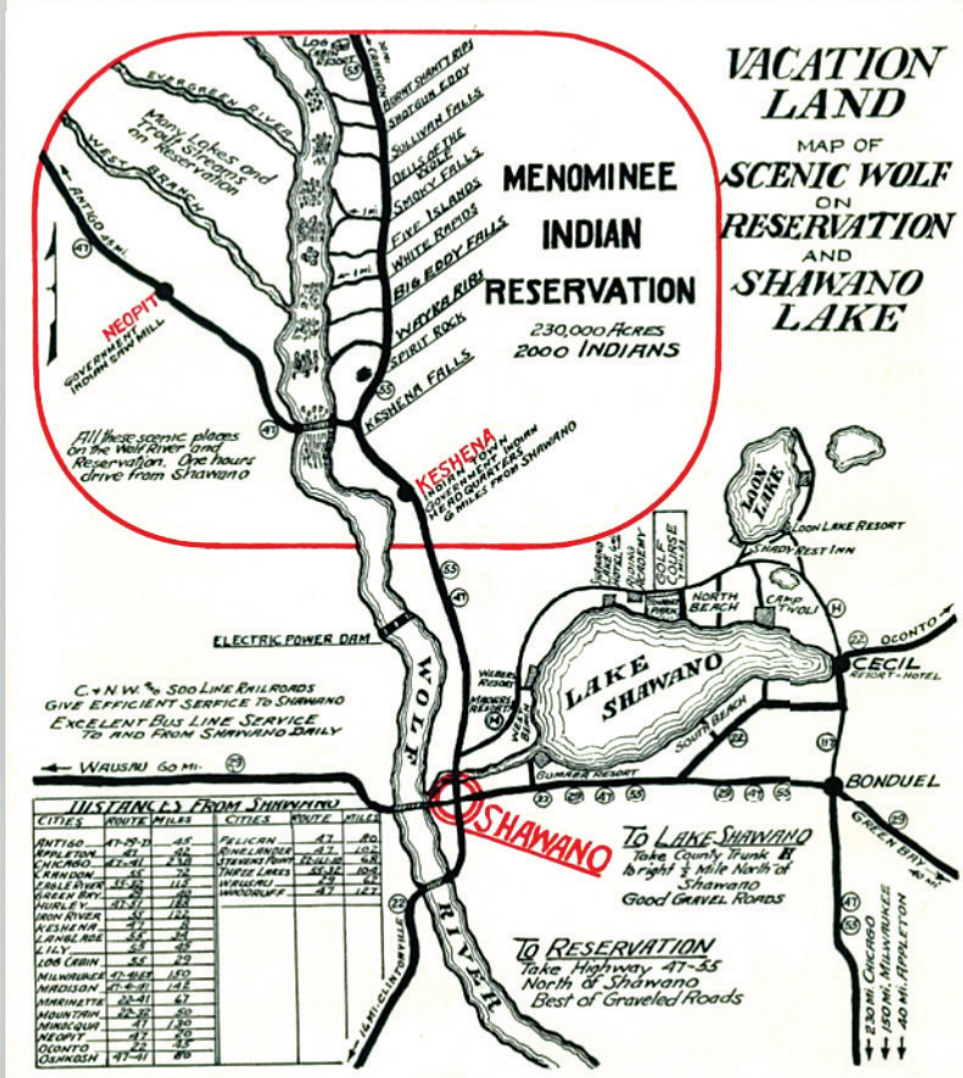


Dells of Wolf River on Indian Reservation
 Published and Distributed
 by the
CHAMBER of COMMERCE
 SHAWANO, WISCONSIN

Shawano was in the game distributing brochures with photos and descriptions highlighting the natural recreational attractions of Shawano County and Menominee Indian area.

VACATION LAND
 MAP OF
SCENIC WOLF RIVER RESERVATION AND SHAWANO LAKE

MENOMINEE INDIAN RESERVATION
 230,000 ACRES
 2000 INDIANS



All these scenic places on the Wolf River and Reservation. One hour drive from Shawano

C + N W & S O O LINE RAILROADS GIVE EFFICIENT SERVICE TO SHAWANO EXCELLENT BUS LINE SERVICE TO AND FROM SHAWANO DAILY

TO LAKE SHAWANO
 Take County Trunk #1
 (right 1/2 mile North of Shawano)
 Good GRAVEL Roads

TO RESERVATION
 Take Highway 47-55
 North of Shawano
 Best of GRAVEL Roads

DISTANCES FROM SHAWANO					
CITIES	ROUTE	MILES	CITIES	ROUTE	MILES
ANTIGO	47-29-2	45	FELICIAN	47	80
APPLETON	47	82	FRANKLIN	47	102
CHICAGO	47-55	232	STANLEY	47	82
CRANDON	55	74	TRAVELERS	47-55	108
LELA RIVER	55-50	112	WAUSAU	47	82
BARKEN RIVER	47-55	122	WOODRUFF	47	122
HURLEY	47-55	122			
IRON RIVER	55	122			
KESHENA	55	20			
LADY LAKE	55	20			
LILY	55	25			
LOG CABIN	55	25			
MILWAUKEE	47-55	152			
MONROE	47-55	122			
MORNINGSTAR	22-41	67			
MOUNTAIN	22-52	50			
MUSKOGEE	47	120			
NEOPIT	47	70			
OCONTO	47-55	85			
OSHTOSH	47-41	80			

From the Shawano Chamber of Commerce brochure promoting tourism-motoring in the area.

posting of auto trails within the state. That same year statutes were promulgated authorizing the creation and signing of a numbered highway system. Thus, Wisconsin became the first in the World with a system of route-marked highways. That first system covered 5,000 miles; by the end of 1918 it was completely signed.

Motoring in Shawano

(From Ila Moede's *Shawano - A Humming Good Town*) The story is told about the first automobile owner, Ed Sperberg. He drove down Main Street one shopping day and his vehicle was so noisy that the farmers' teams were so scared they went over the hitching posts and started for home. One team's wagon pole went through the plate glass window of Brauer's Saloon.

The city then passed an ordinance prohibiting Ed and others from driving an auto on Main St. and Green Bay St. Other streets were so narrow and muddy that City Attorney Charles F. Dilleth thought the problem was solved. Believing the law to be unconsti-

tutional, discriminating and a nuisance Sperberg flaunted the law driving his "chugging gasoline monstrosity" down Main and continued to scare the horses. He was arrested and brought before Justice Herman Butth several times. Horse owners on the jury were quick to convict Sperberg. However, businessmen such as John Gallagher refused to convict believing the automobile was here to stay. Some time later Judge Goodland threw the case out of court and the ordinance was repealed in the mid-1920s.

The oddity of this story is that Frank Schweers, who was a member of the City Council, worked for the prosecution of Sperberg and later became one of the area's leading automobile dealers. He built a large garage and hardware facility on the corner of Main and Green Bay streets. Schweers Garage and Hardware sold Studebaker, Dodge and Overland while his Wolf River Auto Co. sold Buick. Other dealers: Shawano Auto Co. sold Ford, Marotz Brothers sold Oakland and Pontiac, and Jos. Popp and Sons sold Willys-Night.

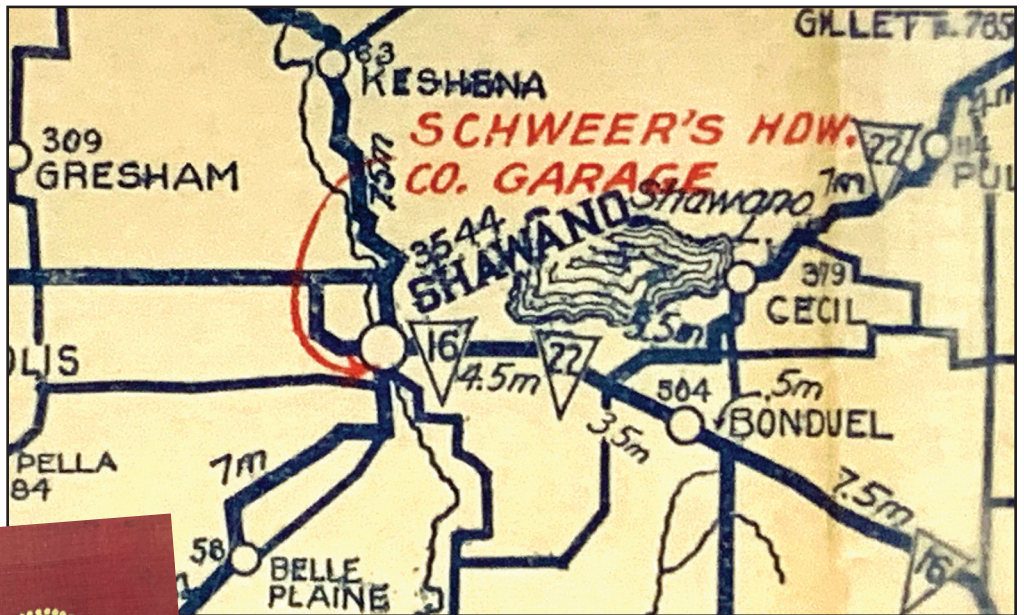
The cars were called "Flivvers" or "Tin Lizzies" and were enclosed with isinglass curtains which were put on if the weather called for them.

Albert Engel, Bill Eich, Herman Reichel, Jim Vomastic and Shorty Krenger were a few of the gasoline dealers at the time operating "filling stations".

On April 1, 1924 the City passed an ordinance giving car owners directions where they should stop: "That Main Street from Fourth Street inclusive to Richmond Street.....Green Bay Street from Franklin Street to Main Street.....Green Bay Street from Andrews Street to Main Street shall be designated and known as an Arterial Highway and it shall be unlawful for any person driving his motor car, truck or other motor vehicle to cross any portion of such streets without coming to a dead stop before reaching the street intersection".

Stop signs were yet to be used. Fines for the first offense ranged from \$5.00 to \$25.00 or ten days in the Shawano County Jail.

Road maps and numbered roads were not yet in place. The route from Shawano to Bowler according to a AAA tour book dated 1913: "Turn left on Main Street, Right-handed road; turn right around white house. End of road; jog left and immediately right across long iron bridge and RR. 4-corners creamery on right; turn left with poles, turning right with road. Left-hand road; poor road ahead; turn left with poles. Caution for RR crossing. Cross RR going ahead with poles through Thornton. 4 poles, church and parish on left, turn right past creamery (on left) and cemetery (on right). 4 corners, turn left around signboard, away from poles running through woods on very sandy road. Pass creamery and brick church picking up poles. 4 corners; turn right with poles swinging left and right with road just beyond. At Tilleda turn left passing hotel barn (on right) cross iron bridge around mill race. Follow winding, sandy road with poles through woods, avoiding left hand road. Caution for numerous rocks in road on winding grade through the woods. Pick up poles, passing school on left through Bowler."



A map from King's Guide 1917 showing Shawano on Route 221.



The King's Guide, printed in Chicago and bound in red leather, was one of the premier travel guides available to motorists before states had numbered and signed highways.



The Heiden family of Milwaukee preparing to motor in their "convertible." Mr. Heiden was a stone/brick mason laborer; motoring was not limited to doctors, lawyers and businessmen. A mason's wages were about \$0.30 per hour. A vehicle nominally between \$400 and \$800 with gas about twenty cents per gallon.

Wisconsin—Route 221	
<p>The MURDOCK HOUSE H.M. SANDERSON, PROP. SHAWANO, WIS.</p>	Rates \$2.25 American Plan With Bath \$3.25 European Plan, Rooms 75c, \$1.00 With Bath \$1.50
	<p>Make your trip through the Menominee Indian Reservation The sights are worth while. Visitors Welcome. Fine Trout fishing around Shawano</p>
25.0 Through cross roads 25.6 Pass road and brick school on right 26.2 Pass cemetery and large brick church on left, through cross roads 27.2 Pass cemetery and brick	<p>Shawano to Antigo, Wis., 44.4 Miles Via Keshena, Keshena Falls, Neopit and Phlox, Through Menominee Indian Reservation Stretches of gravel, dirt and sand on the graded road</p>

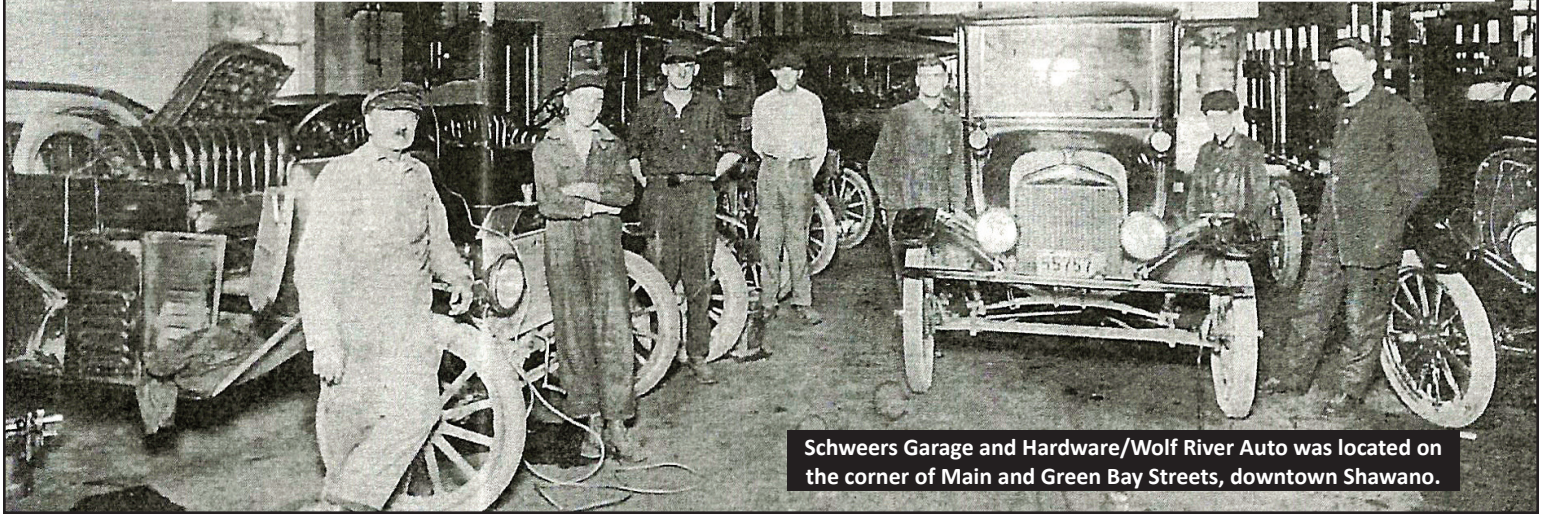
The guides and maps were revenue vehicles as well as necessary travel route resources.

AHOOGA

This was the sound of many vehicles 1908-30, principally on Ford Model T, but also many General Motors autos. The "ahooga" horn was invented by Miller Reese Hutchinson who thought the existing squeeze bulb horns and other devices were too timid, too melodic. He set out to develop a more garish sounding horn after almost hitting a pedestrian.

What gave the klaxon horn, as it was called, the unique sound? There is a diaphragm that gets struck by teeth on a rotating wheel. An electric motor drives it, as the wheel comes up to speed you get the aho, and as it slows back down, the ga.

Hutchinson, who worked closely with Thomas A. Edison, also invented the electronic hearing aid. One can readily imagine the correlative comments made at the time.



Schweers Garage and Hardware/Wolf River Auto was located on the corner of Main and Green Bay Streets, downtown Shawano.

VOLUNTEER SHOUT OUT!

DEAN PROPER – ZACHOW HISTORIC SOCIETY

Dean Proper began his life journey in the village of Zachow, eastern Shawano County. While his professional career took him to many of the fast-paced business metropolises of the United States and his avocational pursuits found him and his wife sailing to ports of call throughout the hemisphere, his attachment to the sights, sounds and people of Zachow never faded in his almost ninety years.

Dean is the man behind the presence of the Zachow Depot at Heritage Park. He, along with life-long friend Leon Westerfeld, formed and continue to guide the Zachow Historic Committee, official sponsor of the depot. With his own resources and supporting financial contributions Dean designed, contracted for construction and supervised the building of the depot to be a precise and exact replica of the Zachow C&NW Standard No.3 Depot erected in the village in 1906; to include the outhouse and baggage cart. He also placed permanent signage at the exact location of the depot in Zachow which was razed many years ago.

Inside the depot the freight room is dominated by a diorama (to scale) depicting Zachow, circa 1949. It could be said this was the genesis of the depot project. Dean and Leon wanted to construct a diorama based on an aerial photo on the back wall of the Farmers State Bank. However, neither the Bonduel Archives nor Heritage Park, Shawano, had room to place it. So, the depot was conceived and built; completed in 2012

Dean can be found at the depot most summer weekends as facility docent. And, it doesn't take much persuasion to get him to provide private group tours anytime.

Dean is also on the Board of Directors of the Shawano County Historical Society. A big SHOUT OUT to volunteer-extrordinaire Dean Proper; keeping history alive through passionate stewardship.



Roll Back Time on a Bike

On a beautiful late summer afternoon several hundred people attended a program on the grounds of Heritage Park discovering the history of bicycling. A Shawano County Historical Society Board Member observed: “.... it was great to see so many folks on our grounds participating in a community event reliving history and experiencing what we have to offer.....”

The Wisconsin Wheelmen, sponsored by local cycling group Shawano Pathways exhibited antique equipment and presented a narrative about bicycles titled: Roll Back Time.

Although some version of the two-wheeled vehicle date back to the mid 15th Century in Europe, the first bicycle in the evolution was the Velocipede developed in Germany in 1817. In 1870, the Penny Farthing, the first apparatus to be called a “bicycle”, was introduced in England.

The Wheelmen offered visitors a hands-on look at bikes through the ages as well as stories about their development, uses and foibles. Program guests also learned that some terms they have heard and probably used have bicycle etymology:

- taking a header* – falling forward over the handlebars
- flying by the seat of your pants* – the act



Local biking enthusiasts and the history-curious took in Shawano Pathways and SCHS Roll Back Time program at Heritage Park. Shawano Pathways is a local organization to promote and improve walking and biking routes, trails and safety.

of falling off a bike, particularly the Penny Farthing style with the large front wheel and elevated seat

- crash and burn* – some early bicycles had kerosene lamps on them causing flames to erupt and spread when the rider tipped over

(Editors note: other vocations and avocations have their own stories and

definitions of these terms)

Shawano County has its own history in the evolution of bicycles. Wood “tires” with metal spokes were manufactured in the Town of Morris, just east of Wittenberg, by the Buckstaff and Sprague Company in the later part of the 19th Century. They claimed at the time to be the World’s largest manufacturer of bicycle wheels.



Wisconsin Wheelmen presenters informed and entertained; pictured here with an example of a Penny Farthing bicycle. The Wheelmen is a national organization dedicated to the enjoyment and preservation of our biking heritage.

Destination Shawano: Be Part of It!

In recent years you have probably noticed that the streets of Shawano have experienced increased traffic. Downtown merchants have revitalized Main Street and activities at the parks have kept the area humming. Shawano's reputation as a "destination" is growing.

Shawano County Historical Society offers a great opportunity for area citizens to be part of the action TODAY, TOMORROW, and with lots of YESTERDAY thrown in.

Like all volunteer organizations SCHS is successful only with the time and talents of individual community members and community organizations:

Consider joining in: a few hours – a few ideas.

Some of the tasks include receiving/cataloging items of historical value, general office, computer input, maintenance, gardening, hospitality.

The Society's major fundraiser is Rhubarb Fest – as it successfully grows more folks are needed to greet, feed and entertain our guests. (See yellow sidebar.)

The Society maintains limited regular office and access hours at the Sikora Archives, 517 North Franklin Street, Shawano, in Heritage Park. Hours: 9 a.m. – Noon. Stop in for a visit – we'll show you around and review what we do – the opportunities for you to be part of it.



One of the activities of SCHS annual Rhubarb Fest is the Pie Baking Contest. This year's winner was Joann Stein, also a valuable Society volunteer. These three had the task and pleasure of sorting through (tasting) the entries: Charlie Ptaschinski, Travis Lubinski and Rosie Salzman.

Rhubarb Fest 2025 is scheduled for Saturday, June 21.

**We are looking for an EVENT COORDINATOR
and Chairpeople for promotion and hospitality activities.**

If interested, contact Lana:

715-304-7550 or at rhubarbfest@shawanohistory.com.

Rhubarb Fest is one of Shawano's major summertime entertainment events. Volunteers are needed to assure that 2025 will continue its successful run. Please contact us with your enlistment by Nov. 1, 2024.



SCHS each year participates in the Shawano County Fair with a historical display in the Farmers Exhibition Building. This year the space was used to replicate an agriculture produce exhibit from the early 1900s.

16th Annual

Rhubarb Fest

Event Sponsors



Scott & Debbie Parson Family

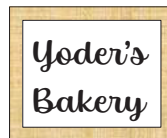
Tom & Lois Aumann

GOLD Sponsor



Jon Aumann, AAMS, Financial Advisor

In Kind



★ SHAWANO COUNTY ★
Historical Society
BRIDGING THE PAST TO PRESENT

OUR THANKS FOR THESE DONATIONS

(received March 16, 2024 – September 16, 2024)

Memberships

New Members

Kazuko Rand – Premier
Steve Hammond - Premier

Guardian - \$250

Bonnie Splitt & Joe Skalesky

Premier - \$100

Tom & Karen Grover
Wilson Abbott
Mary Martzke
Lloyd & Carolyn Gutt
Randall & Mary Bohm
Town of Grant
Bonnie Sperberg
Lawrence Gueller

Cash Donations

\$100+ Stacey Bartz
\$1,000+ Shawano Woman's Club
\$5,000+ Dean Proper
AMVETS Post 10

(Our apology to Tim & Barb Schmid for misspelling their name in the previous issue of PP)

Memorials in memory of

Daniel Van De Loo
Maxine Braun
John Valaskey
Teresa Tauchen
Charles & Cleida O'Brien
Robert Wohler
Richard Martzke



Rent a Church for Your Event!

Use it for weddings, reunions, anniversaries, memorial services, meetings, concerts special events.

The Old Tabor Church located in Heritage Park
524 N. Franklin Street, Shawano, Wisconsin
Comfortably seats 60 adults

For more information on rates and availability, contact the
Shawano County Historical Society at 715-526-3323
or email us at office@shawanohistory.com

SHAWANO COUNTY
HISTORICAL SOCIETY
524 N. Franklin St.
Shawano, WI 54166

Phone: 715-526-3323
Email: Office@shawanohistory.com
Web: www.shawanohistory.org

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WAYS YOU CAN HELP US FINANCIALLY

- **Membership*** Consider upgrading to a higher membership level when you receive your annual renewal information by mail. Encourage friends and family to join.
- **Cash Donations*** Monetary donations help us maintain historical documents and artifacts, adhere to professional museum and archival standards, maintain museum buildings, and pay operating expenses.
- **In-kind Donations.** Donations of goods and services allow us to keep operating expenses low and use the funds we raise for our programs and historic preservation.
- **Other Ways to Donate**
 - Utilize employer donation matching programs to benefit SCHS, such as Benevity Causes (Prudential), Thrivent Your Cause, Prevea Circle of Giving, ThedaCare community volunteer program.
 - Designate SCHS to receive merchant charity donations, such as Thrivent Choice Dollars.
 - Memorials on behalf of a missed loved one
 - Community Foundation grants
 - A gift of appreciated stocks, bonds, or real estate to the SCHS eliminates federal taxes on capital gains.
 - Use your required minimum distribution from your IRA as a tax free gift.
 - Make the SCHS a beneficiary of a percentage of your IRA, 401k, annuity, will, or trust.

**Membership and Donations available online at www.shawanohistory.org*