



## The Mukwonago Historical Society

Summer 2017

### Coming Events

July	9	Museum Tours 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
	23	Museum Tours 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
August	13	Museum Tours 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
	27	Ice Cream Social 50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
Sept.	10	Museum Tours 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
	23	Fall Fest
	24	Museum Tours 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
Oct.	14	Victorian Tea 1:00 p.m.
Dec.	2	Midnight Magic Museum Tours 4:00 to 9:00 p.m.

### The Mukwonago Historical Society is 50!

The beginning of the Mukwonago Historical Society starts with the history of the Red Brick House. In 1834, Sewell Andrews came to the territory of Wisconsin from Andover, Vermont to seek his fortune. He must have liked the forest and lakes, as he made several trips back to Vermont in order to bring goods for a store here in Mequanego. In 1842, Sewell Andrews had grown prosperous enough to build a proper dwelling for his family. Stone houses were native to Vermont, but the stones were not found as easily in this area. Andrews used brick made from a rich deposit of clay found on the banks of Stockman Lake, known today as Phantom Lake. Several buildings in Mukwonago were made of this brick, but Sewell was the first to build a house with it. The brick was a light yellow color and someone painted the house red later on and the practice was continued.

The McNulty family bought the Red Brick House in the 1890's. When the last McNulty died in the 1950's, the house went through a period of many renters and was neglected. However, it was because of Arthur Grutzmacher, internationally known as the oldest and best Indian artifact dealer and collector, that the old house was to be preserved and restored for all generations.

When Arthur Grutzmacher died, he left \$25,000 to the Village of Mukwonago to house his priceless Indian artifact collection that he left to the Village. The Historical Society was founded in 1967 to assume the responsibility of a museum and to act as caretakers of the artifacts and other historical items from Arthur Grutzmacher.

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#### Officers

President

Jeff Vanevenhoven

Vice President

Janine Coley

Secretary

Robert Bartelt

Treasurer

Donna Whalen

The Historical Society wanted the Red Brick House for a museum. In a letter written by Marge Wright, she requested that the Village of Mukwonago “look into the possibilities of purchasing the Andrews-McNulty property, to be used not only as a museum but restore to a certain extent the nostalgia history of this home which has witnessed the unfolding of almost the entire history of Mukwonago.” While the Village Board was hesitant to buy the house, the members of the Historical Society were persistent. Permission was given to purchase the house. The Historical Society began raising money with auctions and bake sales in order to restore the house. The community responded generously and the Museum opened to the public in August 1970, just five years after the death of Arthur Grutzmacher.



### 2017 Exhibit

The 2017 exhibit features the people and events of the beginning of the Historical Society.

### Membership

It is that time of year to renew your membership and tell family and friends about the Museum. Membership continues to be a good investment and supports the Museum’s mission of preserving objects significant to the development and culture of Mukwonago and the surrounding areas. Your donation supports the programs that benefit the many visitors we have each year.

Individual	\$10.00
Family	15.00
Seniors (62 or older)	5.00
Student	5.00
Sustaining	\$ 25-\$49
Sponsor	\$50-\$99
Patron	\$100 and over

Membership applications can be found on our website: [www.mukwonagomuseum.org](http://www.mukwonagomuseum.org)

The Museum continues to have free admission and is open the second and fourth Sunday during the months of June – September from 1:00-4:00 p.m. We welcome anyone interested in becoming a docent. A docent book with information on each room is available to use as a guide. Volunteers are always welcome!

Please join us for our monthly meeting the first Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the Museum.

### Master Gardeners

The Museum is fortunate to have the continued support of the Master Gardeners. Visitors are often seen walking outside admiring the flowers and well-manicured gardens.



*Thank you, Gardeners!*

## Events - Past and Future

### Midnight Magic 2016



The Museum was beautifully decorated in a Victorian Christmas theme for the Midnight Magic Open House. Light refreshments were served for the nearly 300 visitors.

### *2017 Victorian Tea*

You are invited to attend the Annual Victorian Tea on Saturday, October 14<sup>th</sup> at 1 o'clock in the afternoon. Linda Stahlhut will share her collection of Antique Valentines.



Tickets cost \$25.00 and may be purchased at Miller Pharmacy or contacting Ann Kwaterski at 363-8681. (Advanced ticket required)

### Fall Fest

The Museum will be open on Saturday, September 23 from 11:00-2:00 p.m. for the Annual Chamber of Commerce Fall Fest in downtown Mukwonago. Activities include shopping, pumpkin carving, dance performances, and crafters.

While enjoying the festivities in the downtown area, stop and enjoy the Museum and the gardens.

### Ice Cream Social

Sunday August  
27<sup>th</sup>  
1:00 – 4:00 p.m.



Come and enjoy a dish of ice cream! In past years over 100 people have attended the Ice Cream Social. A tent is set up with chairs in order to relax and enjoy conversations with friends. It is another opportunity to enjoy the gardens.

Visit us at [www.mukwonagomuseum.org](http://www.mukwonagomuseum.org)



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