

2022 MWHS Accomplishments

Membership

MWHS membership grew from 135 to 252

Engaged additional members to share their talents or documents in supporting our mission

Leadership

Launched a new strategic planning retreat led by an outside facilitator

Several MWHS leaders attended the Local History Conference in October

Recognized 4 new inductees to the MWHS award for Leaders of Historic Preservation and John McFarland as an emeritus MWHS board member at the NLDC

Fundraising

Delivered 13-month report on a \$50,000 fundraising results

Accepted donation from Barbara McFarland of Giclee prints of Sarah Vance

YouTube Videos, Podcasts, Archives and Facebook

240 YouTube subscribers to MWHS Channel

Added 30 new YouTube videos or podcasts to the MWHS Channel

- 5 historic videos
- 3 videos produced jointly with WJFW Channel 12
- 3 videos from Zoom presentations
- 3 oral histories
- 16 podcasts

Collected raw video of 10 Youth Conservation Corps alumni for archives

Continued to add to our digital archives:

- 1,077 digital records in PastPerfect
- 259 added since last retreat (24% of total)
- 54 records update

3,162 online searches from January to October 9, 2022

Directed 3 summer interns building digital archives

Experimented with Jim and Jerry Wilke on capturing drone footage for YouTube presentations

Exploring new podcasting, webpage and digital video standards

Shared a rare Northwoods 1909 novel *The King of Nobody's Island* with area historical societies and libraries by creating a YouTube video to help folks download the files from the Library of Congress

Continued updating our archival storage area at the town hall and Koller Library

Worked with leadership at Koller Library to consolidate MWHS documents and technology

Upgraded computer for "Mothership" PastPerfect Archives in February

Grew the MWHS Facebook page up to 1,571 Followers

Partnerships/Collaboration

Forest History Museum

Submitted a National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) \$150,000 grant with the NLDC on developing a concept for a Northwoods Forest History Museum, including architectural drawings

Used \$1,000 grant from Antique Association, creating a Northwoods Forest History display on the YCC, build by Mike Patek and Jess Christensen

Co-chaired the Northwoods Forest History Museum partnership and developed building models, display concepts, and site location

Presented by Zoom to the Wisconsin Forestry History Association regarding progress on the Northwoods Forest History Museum

Camp Mercer

Cleared trails at Camp Mercer with support of ICORE

Co-sponsored with River's Edge the Grand Opening of the Camp Mercer Interpretive Trail

Planned and raised monies for mound sign and timbered gate project for the Camp Mercer Trail entrance in collaboration with the DNR, WHS, ICORE, and others

Conducted a two-day FE University Course on Camp Mercer

Presented to MW Women's Service League on Camp Mercer at Rivers Edge

WI YCC tour of Camp Mercer led by Iron County Natural Resources

Others

Collaborated with cranberry growers led by Mike Bartling to document the history of cranberries in the area

Completed project with Federal Bureau of Investigation, WIS DOT and Wisconsin Historical Society to create a State Historical marker for fallen FBI agent Carter Baum; installation near the town hall set for spring of 2023

Collaborated with Trout Lake Limnology Research Station on wild rice research project

Supported the Wisconsin Historical Society's legislative outreach event

Conducted a ZOOM presentation in February to Wisconsin Library Systems on MWHS collaboration and best practices with Koller Library

Presented Best Practices to Bridges Library System in Waukesha and Jefferson counties

Presented at St. Charles (IL) Library regarding Frances Badger

Presented at Turtle River Chain of Lakes History and Science event

Supplied dozens of quality historic images, maps and articles to Manny's to promote their new restaurant

Collaborated by presenting to businesses, community groups, historical societies, government, and libraries:

- North Lakeland Discovery Center
- Winchester Library
- Manitowish Waters Athletic Club
- River's Edge
- DNR
- WJFW Channel 12
- Mercer Library
- WHS
- Camp Jorn
- Iron County Outdoor Recreational Enthusiasts
- Natural Resource Foundation
- Wisconsin Historical Society
- Aurora Borealis
- Wisconsin Library Systems
- North Lakeland Elementary School
- Little Bohemia
- Blue Bayou

- St. Charles (IL) Library
- Bridges Library System
- Rice Lake (Iron County) Lake Owner's Association
- Lady Yakkers
- Forest History Association of Wisconsin
- Koller Library
- Manny's
- MW Women Service League

Signs

Supported the Forest History Association of Wisconsin with the Landmark Pines sign on County HWY M

Created 8 historic signs for Camp Jörn to be installed in 2023

Led DNR Trout Lake interpretive sign project creating 9 signs to be installed in 2023

Oral Histories

Continued to record several oral histories and post on-line

March 26	David Bergen
May 6	Ralph Hewitt
May 28	Don and Jan Rayala

Oral histories under production

David Dunn
Fred Copp's grandson

Outreach

Conducted 3 Zoom presentations in February, April and December:

- Early History of Railroads (February)
- Exploring History and Legacy of Alder and Wild Rice Lakes (April)
- Gangsters in Manitowish Waters (to come in December)

Created 3 MWHS newsletters with articles and calendars

Archeological Work

Assisted DNR foresters in locating logging camps, ensuring site preservation from during timber harvest

Updated several historic sites on the Archeological Site Inventory for preservation and protection

Conducted public pontoon tours, hikes, van tours and outdoor events:

Event	Number of hikes or tours
Rest Lake Pontoon Tour	4
Dillinger Pontoon Tour	8
MW Boat Show Tour	2
Alder & Wild Rice Lakes Pontoon Tour	4
Spider and Island Lakes Pontoon Tour	5
Clear, Fawn & Stone Lakes Ponton Tour	4
Manitowish and Little Star Lake Tour	3
Big Lake Pontoon Tour	3
Manito Island Mystery & Pontoon Tour	2
Turtle Flambeau Flowage Pontoon Tour	3
Toy Lake Hike	1
Plum Lake Hemlocks Hike	1
Forest History and YCC Driving Tours	2
Time Traveler hike Trout to Palette Lakes	1
Camp Mercer Interpretive Trail Hike	7
MW Pub Crawl Hike	1
6 Pause Portage and Logging Ice Road snowshoe	2
Kayak Tours	2
NLDC fundraising pontoon and TFF fishing trips	8

Added new pontoon tour curriculum for Manitowish and Little Star lakes

Led Dillinger tour with North Lakeland Elementary School and Mrs. Wallace's class

Conducted Dillinger tour for Valley New School Appleton, WI

Led an historic kayak trip for ICORE yakkers

Conducted 12 private historic pontoon tours

Conducted Roy Case Family Pontoon Tour on Big Lake

Miscellaneous

Responded to dozens of documents and photo requests