

Mineral Point HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Dedicated to Preserving the Unique History of Mineral Point

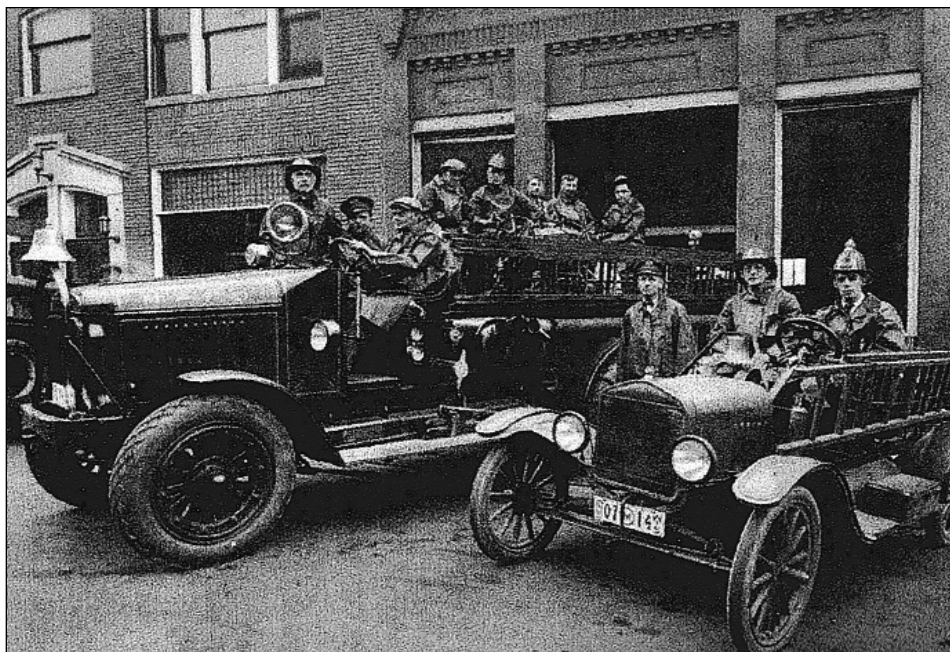
Fire Wells, Fire Walls and Fire MEN:

The Mineral Point Volunteer Fire Department

By Frank Beaman

WANTED:

Able-bodied men, all ages, to fight dangerous fires and perform rescue operations. Must be willing to risk life and limb, serve without pay, maintain a job elsewhere and respond to page by reporting to firehouse within three minutes. Training sessions each month, but without compensation. Clothing allowance \$1 per fire call.



What kind of man would jump at this opportunity?

Well, 34 men have answered the challenge, many of them following in the steps of their fathers and grandfathers, as members of the city's historic volunteer firefighting unit. The department has been similarly staffed since its beginnings, more than a century ago.

The firehouse safe yields a worn ledger that notes the Oct. 13, 1898 formation and funding of Hook & Ladder Company #1 and Hose Company #1. Before that year, local residents were protected by a more informal team — men who simply dropped everything and ran to a fire scene. **Cornish customs** also dictated fire safety practices far ahead of the times. Some early build-

ings were constructed with fire walls to halt the spread of flames in downtown structures, and fire wells were dug at downtown street intersections, so that volunteers would be able to pump a stream of water to battle a fire, instead of setting up a bucket brigade. These measures were aimed at preventing the kind of sweeping downtown fires that ravaged so many cities in the 1800s.

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But two serious 1897 fires, suspicious in nature, led to a formal structure for Mineral Point's fire department. At the old firehouse on High Street, two departments were formed, for city and for rural firefighting, and that unique arrangement is still in place today.

In December, 1964, the fire station located where the Senior Citizens' Center now stands was the victim of a blaze that began in the furnace room. Because the alarm systems were all inside the burning building, there was no way to notify the firefighters. Police Chief **Willard "Buck" Frontz** jumped into his patrol car and raced around the city, with siren blaring, to roust the men at their homes with a personal alert, a la Paul Revere. The only surviving fire truck was a pumper, used outside on that day to create an ice skating pond

Two years later, in 1966, the current fire station opened on Doty Street. The building is now maintained by the city, housing two city-owned trucks and a variety of other vehicles bought with fees charged residents in seven townships covering 200 square miles.

Tom Adams, Glen Reger and Ted Marr joined the fire department in 1960, '67 and '70, respectively. Capt. Marr's father had been a Chief before him.

Adams and Reger served as Chiefs from 1981 to 1993. They point out that the department's roster often reflects generations of local families. (One firefighter, **Bill Finley**, has two sons on the force.)

Asked why they stepped forward as volunteers, the trio of veteran firemen answer as one, "Dedication to the community...a chance to give something back."

One thing more: "Maybe you'll save a life."

No Mineral Point firefighter has been killed, and the volunteers have, indeed, saved some lives. In one fire, in an apartment above a commercial building, a fireman found an elderly woman standing, terrified, beside her bed. He threw the woman over his shoulder and carried her to safety.

Many of today's fire calls involve auto accidents, where the department must extricate crash victims, put out fires, and clean up gasoline spills. Grass fires are also common among the 80-90 calls handled each year.

Advances in technologies have made the job easier and safer. The pumper/ladder trucks, radio communication equipment, breathing apparatus and smoke-clearing ventilators are cited, along with better personal protective

work suits. "When I started," Reger said, "I had an old helmet, a rubber coat and a boot with a hole in it."

But one of today's electronic tools is not popular with the men. "Cell phones, in everyone's pocket, make it too easy to call in a false alarm for something that just looks like a fire."

The volunteers are summoned to the fire house by pagers, which they all wear. They are dressed and on the trucks, ready to go, in an average of three minutes.

They have sketchy information on what kind of fire they may face, but unexpected dangers are always there. It isn't something they think about often, or talk about.

And nobody talks about their salary, because there is no salary.

That isn't why they give this job so many hours, so much muscle and so much attention.

"If I was gettin' paid," one of them said, "I wouldn't be here." ●

The firehouse sirens? They are to remind motorists to pull over (anywhere in Mineral Point) when sirens sound, then wait five minutes to "give firemen the street" before resuming their drive. (Most people don't know the rule, and no one practices it.)

FIREMEN 2007 ROSTER

The Men of the Mineral Point Volunteer Fire Department



Firehouse leadership — Glen Reger, Tom Adams, Ted Marr

Dan Goninen
Paul Mohlmann
Tom Adams
Neil Wenger
Glen Reger
Mark Finley
Mike Gratz
Mike Palzkill
Ted Marr
Brian Busch
Bill Finley
Chad Whitford
Bob Ludlum
Brian Ludlum
Eldon Yanna
Trent Heins
Pete Walsh

Aaron Yanna
Scott Owens
Norb Schaaf
Terry Poad
Tim Schaaf
Fritz Aschliman
Mike Lynch
Jim Ludlum
Troy Ludlum
Brett Schmitz
Troy Finley
Brian Graber
Jay Oellerich
Dave Palzkil
Bruce Pautz
Bryan Marr
Chris Basye

HONORARY MEMBERS

Winford Mosely
Bob Mitchell
Les Grooms
Jack Thomas
Dave Cline
Greg Gorgen
Jim Laverty
Ron Fisher
Larry Weitzel
Doug Grooms
Dave Ray
Del Carey
Bill Schmitz
Mark Mitchell

“Way to Go!” A Cottage All Dahl’d Up

By Frank Beaman

The little stone cottage and the traditional farmhouse share a common wall, and also share a proud family heritage. **Chuck and Renee Dahl** follow an aunt and Chuck’s grandfather, who bought the home at **741 Ferndale Road** in the early 1900s when he came over from Italy.

In the five years they’ve owned the place, the Dahls have tended a large garden, held a pair of full-time jobs, and made a decision worthy of the Society’s “Way To Go!” award: they peeled off the stucco that covered the stone building and have revealed an architectural



gem made of local rubble, stone, horsehair and clay.

Renee said, “When we started to add new siding to the frame house, Chuck chipped away a bit of stucco and found stone underneath.” He spent two years with a pick and chisel, an air hammer, and he hired tuck pointer John Hubbard. Finally, the little building reflected its rough beginnings during the early mining years.

The cottage serves as a kitchen and family room today.

The Dahls are happy with all their work, and deserve our applause for restoring a bit of Mineral Point history. ●

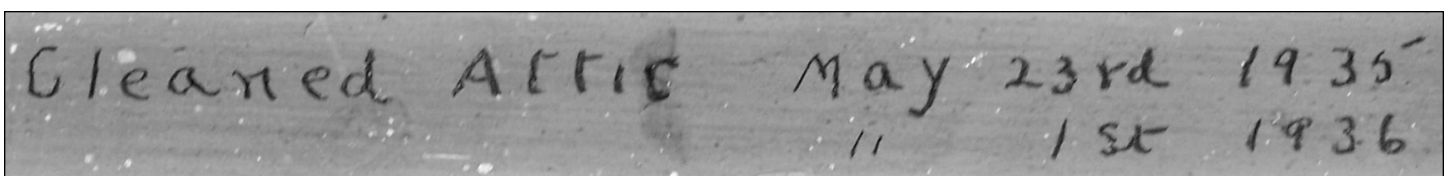
A Room With a View

A twisted wooden stairway in the Orchard Lawn attic leads to a bright and lofty room on the rooftop, enclosed on all sides with glass panels and offering a stunning view of the Gundry lawns, gardens and gazebo, with the city as backdrop. It’s the belvedere, a favorite architectural flourish found in many Italianate buildings.

The belvedere at Orchard Lawn provides interesting local history via the graffiti scratched into its wooden planking. Names and capricious designs are etched with pencils, pen knives and other implements, and speak of the people who have visited the place, and the times in which they lived.

George Branger, William Gundry’s chauffeur and assistant gardener and in later life the long-term Mayor of Mineral Point, left his dramatic entry, when he wrote his name, then “1936 — Last Day at Orchard Lawn.” The inscription may refer to his last day as a Gundry employee, or it may memorialize the city’s rejection of an offer by Margery Gundry, as she tried to give the property away. Days later, the founding of the Mineral Point Historical Society gave the 1868 mansion continued life.

In Italian, “belvedere” means “beautiful view.” True enough. And the stories told by the scribblers are a bonus. ●



Leaving A Legacy

Everyone wants to lead a good life, find work that satisfies the soul, earn enough money to live well, and gather the affection and respect of family, friends and the community. And most people, given the right opportunity, would like to leave a lasting contribution, a legacy that touches others and makes the world a better place.

Planned giving to a charitable organization is one way to make that lasting impression by providing support that perpetuates the organization's good works. Gifts made during a donor's lifetime, or through the donor's estate, are a good avenue to help a worthwhile cause or institution continue its efforts in future years.

And the rewards are shared by both the giver and the recipient.

A planned gift to the Mineral Point Historical Society, for example, may do more than pump dollars into the Society's treasury. It can also help reduce the donor's income taxes, lessen the impact of other taxes, and it may provide lifetime income for the donor.

So if you would like to say, "My life was important...I made a real difference," here are a few opportunities that may allow you to make a planned gift of great significance.

1. Donate Cash

It's the simplest and most direct way to help, and it can be earmarked for a specific purpose or left undesignated to be used in the area of greatest need.

Your out-of-pocket cost is less than the dollar amount of the gift because of the charitable income tax deduction. Thus, a benefactor in the 28% tax bracket can contribute \$1,000 at an actual cost of only \$720.

2. Avoid a Headache with Appreciated Securities

If you've owned a successful security for more than one year, and its value has gone up, you can avoid capital-gain taxation by donating the security to the Mineral Point Historical Society. Let's say you bought stock, years ago, for \$1,000 and they are now worth \$5,000. Instead of selling them, you donate the appreciated stocks to MPHS, claim a \$5,000 charitable tax deduction, and avoid taxes on the \$4,000 gain in value. That's worth \$600

at the 15% rate for long-term capital gains. MPHS can sell the stock without taxes, to further its good works.

3. Use a New Law for 2007 Generosity

The Pension Protection Act of 2006 provides new incentives for those age 70½ or older who would like to donate from potentially taxable Individual Retirement Accounts to their favorite charity.

For the rest of this year, the new law allows taxpayers to transfer up to \$100,000 directly from their IRAs to nonprofit organizations, without cashing out the IRA and paying taxes on the proceeds. The donation counts toward IRS minimum distribution requirements. And you pay no income tax on the donation.

So, if you've been paying more federal income tax because of mandatory withdrawals from your IRA — dollars you do not need — this may help you. Also, because disbursements from IRAs are subject to income and/or estate taxes, using your IRA assets for charitable giving may help reduce future tax impact on your heirs.

4. Donate that Insurance Policy in the Bottom Drawer

A frequently-overlooked asset is paid-up life insurance, when the original need for the insurance is no longer a factor in a family's financial planning. The policy's cash value can be put to good use by the MPHS.

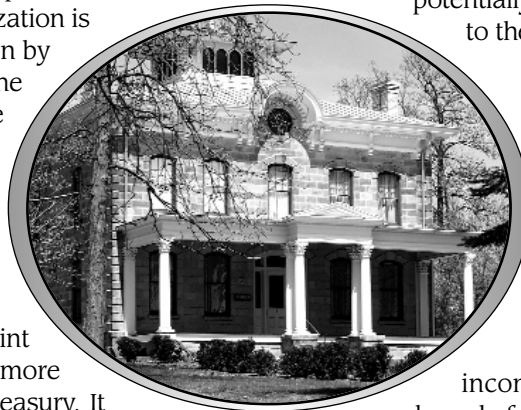
5. Donate Some of Your "Stuff"

Rare books, prized collections and antiques are items that can be donated to a charity, as long as they relate to the purpose of the institution.

6. Arrange for a Real Giveaway

Real estate — home, farm, or commercial/rental property — may also become a charitable gift, with double tax benefits: an immediate tax deduction and avoidance of capital-gain tax.

And, by using a variety of trusts and other legal strategies, your gift of real estate can be used to provide an attractive income to you, for the rest of your life. Income, an immediate tax deduction and big capital-gain benefits, all wrapped up in a single expression of your generosity. ●



"Money is a great treasure that only increases as you give it away."

— Sir Francis Bacon

We'll talk about more complicated forms of giving in subsequent newsletters. As in all money matters, you need to proceed with caution, and with the help of an attorney or qualified financial consultant.

And if you need more information about some of these possibilities, contact the Society at 608.987.2884 and we'll begin to explore options with you.

Gundrys Name a Holiday Mine

"Marnie & Nance down to meet us in big side-seated sleigh, such fun going up to house, clear frosty night, sleigh bells jingling. House looked so pretty as we drove up, all lighted up & Will and Mary Reed gave us such a welcome."

The words are from the diary of Margery, the youngest daughter of Joseph and Sarah Gundry, when the family lived at Orchard Lawn. Margery, her three daughters, her brother John (she called him Jack) and John's son Willoughby visited Orchard Lawn for Christmas in 1905. The train from Cleveland arrived on Dec. 23, and were met at the depot by Margery's nieces, for the sleigh ride to the big house on the hill.

The next day, with the thermometer hovering at zero, the visitors toured the Gundry mansion:

"...a beautiful and comfortable home. We are delighted with the new bath rooms, they are luxurious, beautifully appointed, tile floors, porcelain tubs, etc..."

On Christmas Eve, the family hung stockings in the library, and awoke the next day to what Margery termed "perfect Xmas weather — 10 below zero."

"Got up at 6:30 to see stockings...sat down to dinner at

2 o'clock...delicious...turkey from Kingwood...drank to Harry's health in sparkling moussel [sic] and to the people [family] in France. Went to the Parish House in the evening. An ideal Xmas day, everyone so happy."

The following day, while the children ice skated at Minor's dam, Margery visited friends, then hosted a dinner with Thomas Carkeek — the architect for the new North addition at Orchard Lawn. The rest of the week was a whirl of parties, dancing, charades, card playing, teas and dinners — a simple chafing dish supper and one big bash for forty people at the Snows. Oh yes, and a couple of candy pulls.

The younger generation was busy with their sleds in the snow.

The visitors stayed until January 5th. On January 3, Margery wrote about a discovery in Mineral Point:

"M.P. is mine crazy. They have struck a lead on Will's land on the Mineral Point hill and call the mine 'Merry Xmas.'"

A century later, it's still "The Merry Christmas Mine," standing off the roadway of the same name.

Aren't we fortunate to have Margery Gundry's "window into the past?" ●



Obtaining a Vintage Photo By Mark Speltz

Perhaps it's only fitting that a town as rich in history is blessed to have a rich photographic record of its past. An incredible variety of images—several thousand unique images, in fact—are available to anyone interested in having a look. Whether you're restoring a building, researching local history, or hoping to see what your house may have looked like 100 years ago, a wealth of visual resources exist in the **Mineral Point Room of Local History**.

MPHS glass plate negative collection

The Mineral Point Historical Society's glass plate negative collection, available to researchers in the Mineral Point Room, is full of delightful surprises. The collection provides a visual record of scenes throughout Mineral Point in the late 1800s – early 1900s.

No one knows who actually took the photographs, and the glass plates themselves sat in a box forgotten under the stairs in the old Gundry & Gray building on High Street for many years. Luckily, the box and its contents were discovered. The collection was eventually auctioned off and thanks to Ted Landon and others, the glass plate negatives became the property of the Mineral Point Historical Society.

How can you look through the images?

More than 1,300 images are accessible in two formats in the Mineral Point Room. Researchers can browse through binders of crisp black & white photocopies of the images suitable for

photocopying and low-resolution scans. Or, you can access the collection through a database developed by **Dean Connors**. The digitized images can be sorted by keywords, such as "High Street," "railroad," or "churches," and a quick search will reveal all the images associated with that keyword.

How to order prints

If you identify an image you want to take home, the Mineral Point Historical Society will be happy to have a copy made for you.

Just jot down the image number, fill out a "photograph reproduction request form" and **Mary Alice Moore**, curator of the Mineral Point Room, will forward your request to us. We'll contact you to confirm the details of the order, have the print professionally made, and deliver it to your door. It's as simple as that.

The future of the collection

We're excited to share our valuable collection of historic photographs with you and to both protect the collection and increase its visibility, the Society is working towards creating a high-resolution digital copy of all the negatives. Eventually, all of the images would be hosted on the society's website to allow research and online reproductions.

The minimal proceeds from each print ordered will directly benefit the digitization effort along with further acquisition, preservation, and maintenance of the collection. Please feel free to call or write with any questions. ●

Black Hawk War Marks 175 Years

It was a small and foolish war, as wars go. It was a collision of cultures, a muddle of misunderstandings. It lacked valor or heroism. By most measures it was an American embarrassment, best forgotten (which is exactly what most history textbooks have done).

The Black Hawk War of 1832 might easily have been avoided, headed off by negotiation or solid law enforcement. But it happened, and men, women and children died in the hills of Wisconsin and the river valleys of Illinois. It's fitting, therefore, to explore the battles of 175 years ago, to study a conflict that forever changed the way many white people viewed Native Americans.

The cause of the war came well before 1832, with growing pressure from white settlers to push the Indians from their ancestral lands and move them farther to the west. A series of treaties did just that, and in the Lead Region of Wisconsin the prevailing view was that the Sauk, Kickapoo and Fox tribes would quietly succumb to the white takeover of their fields and villages.

Black Hawk, the 65-year old warrior, had strong feelings about his homeland, however, and after a hard winter in Iowa he led a band of about one thousand Indians into Illinois to resume planting corn on land the tribes had lost to white expansion. A climate of fear produced what followed: the Governor of Illinois called it "an invasion" and militias were hurriedly mustered to drive out the "invaders."

The Lead Region was in the thick of the skirmishes. Three nearby forts — **Jackson, Defiance and Hamilton** — were quickly built. (See the 2002 signpost on Commerce Street in Mineral Point). The area sent **Capt. James Gentry, John Moore and John F. O'Neill** to the Iowa County Regiment of Militia

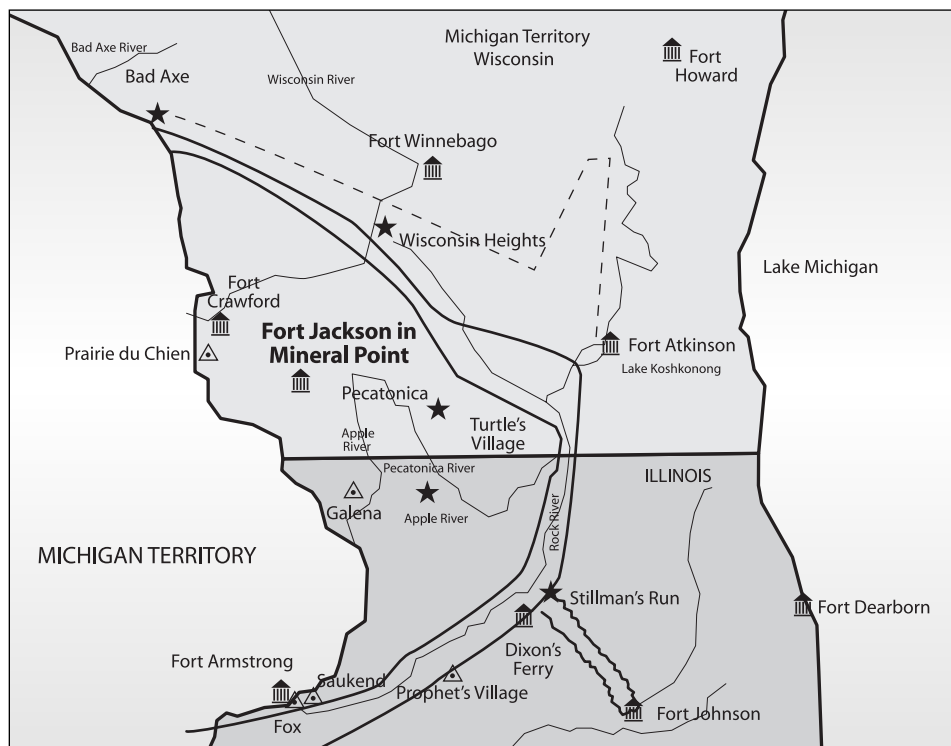


Volunteers. They served under **Col. Henry Dodge**, who, with Black Hawk, may have been the only heroes of the war. The recruits were "rough and ready" men, mostly miners — some Cornish, some southerners from Kentucky and Tennessee — a highly mobile squad dedicated to saving the mineral district from Indian control. They fought the Battle of Bloody Lake (Pecatonica) and later chased Black Hawk from Rock River Rapids (now

Hustisford, WI) through the four-lakes region (Madison) to the battlefield at Wisconsin Heights, and then on to the final clash at Bad Axe, on the Mississippi.

The end of the war brought a grudging realization that there was a dark side to the virtual annihilation of Black Hawk's band, and a new awareness that the white man's contempt produced a corresponding bitterness in the tribes, with tragic consequences.

The 1832 struggle with its ignorance and fear and hatred took popular belief into a new and different sphere. Before the Black Hawk War, the Indians were viewed as savages. After the last war to take place east of the Mississippi, Native Americans were seen as a noble and vanquished people. ●



There are many excellent reference works to draw upon, if you decide to learn more about the War. One good source is the nearby **Old Lead Region Historical Society**, founded in 2001 as a "center for learning, discussion and research."

Check out www.geocities.com/old_lead

And in April in Madison, **Bob Birmingham**, former State Archeologist, will teach a Continuing Education class on the War, with two Tuesday night sessions and an April 21 field trip for a \$41 fee. MPHS is planning car pools and will answer questions if you phone 608.987.2884 or use our website, www.mineralpointhistory.org.

The Haunting Hunt for Black Hawk

By John Sharp, "Amateur Historian"

Hunting a Shadow tracks 24 concluding days in the military campaign we call the Black Hawk War of 1832, marking the last valiant spasm of Indian resistance to the tide of white settlement in the Old Northwest.

In the broad scope of American history, the war is classified as a minor disturbance, but it holds a place of importance in Wisconsin history because it shattered what had been a peaceful process in Wisconsin; that is, the gradual displacement of Native Americans by Whites. And this book shows how the war was a sorry combination of mistakes.

Hunting a Shadow is a day-to-day eyewitness account, written from the point of view of the white participants, not the Indians. Author **Crawford Thayer** has used meticulous and dispassionate scholarship to organize first hand descriptions of the movements of the war in chronological order, beginning July 1, 1832. The language is that of letters, dispatches and military orders — terse and to the point. The accounts form a jigsaw puzzle of events, giving us an interesting glimpse of the war as we put the pieces together.

Before the final battle, white militiamen under Col. Henry Dodge mounted a chase for Black Hawk, who was hiding in the shadowy marshes along the Rock River — hence the title of the book.

Crawford Thayer has written two other volumes dealing with the Black Hawk War. In my view, *Hunting a Shadow* is a "must read" for anyone interested in Wisconsin history. ●

Hunting a Shadow: The Search for Black Hawk, edited by **Crawford Beecher Thayer**. Banta Press 1981.

Grounds Planner Uncovers Old Secrets

Phase II of the Gundry House restoration program includes work to bring back the home's formal lawn areas, historic shrubbery and other plantings.

The master plan for the Gundry grounds is evolving under the direction of landscape architect **Dennis Buettner**, who spent an October day at Orchard Lawn conducting field tests to determine the locations of garden areas, old foundations, drainage structures and pathways.

Buettner was accompanied by MPHS volunteers **Phil and Karen Crawford** as he moved about the Gundry acreage with measuring tools and marker flags. The team uncovered a number of landscape sites where buildings or garden boundaries had once existed, including evidence of the razed Carriage House and a puzzling circular ground pattern that suggested a small silo or crib. "This is a scientific approach to landscape planning," Buettner said, "designed to eliminate conjecture, and our discoveries will be incorporated into the restoration plan as Phase II work begins."



"But first," said Buettner, "we must take a step backwards, to allow us to move forwards. A number of volunteer trees, planted by nature and not by a careful Gundry diagram, must be removed. And old and sick trees are also being felled, to provide more growing space for other specimens within the lawn and gardens."

Board Member **Peter Pfothauer**, who chairs the Grounds Committee, put it this way: "Some people are upset when they hear the whine of a chain saw at a historic property, but clearing a few trees gives us a healthier group of prized trees and a more faithful restoration of the original Gundry landscape."

Homeowner Gundry, like many other well-to-do Victorians, studied exotic foreign plants that could survive a Wisconsin winter. He ordered items from the very few nurseries in the U.S. at the time, and planted a variety plant specimens on his eleven acres of Mineral Point land. His plan also featured a collection of fruit trees on the southernmost slope of the property, which gave the place its name, Orchard Lawn. ●

Many THANKS to the folks who helped with lawn and garden clean up this fall. Members of the Upland Garden Club and the Master Gardeners of Iowa County spent a day putting the formal garden to bed as well as other cleanup tasks on the grounds, the Mineral Point Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts spent a day raking, and Mayor Gregg Bennett was spotted several times raking leaves. Thanks to all. The grounds at Orchard Lawn are delightful because of the time and energy devoted to them by our volunteers.

Notes from the President

By Jim Stroschein, President, Mineral Point Historical Society

It's the time of the year for closing one book and opening another. Let's review a few chapters from the Book of '06 before looking at the table of contents for '07.

The January *Annual Meeting & Lyceum* was a milestone. We announced the successful fundraising results of the Phase II Restoration campaign and wished **Jim Kackley** a fond farewell as President.

Norman Risjord, Phd., took us back, way back, to the literal foundations of Mineral Point. His lecture focused on the fact that the Wisconsin Glacier missed our corner of the state, creating – no – *preserving* the Driftless Area. Since the lead deposits were not covered with tons of glacial till, explorers found the mineral right at the surface, and the first mineral rush in the United States was ON!

The February Lyceum set a record for attendance. Over 60 people packed the Alliant conference room to hear **David Lowe** discuss Native American rock art.

In March, **Bob Regan** and **George & Iva Bechtel** entertained and enlightened the crowd as they discussed their memories as Mineral Pointers.

The tour season opened on a rainy day in May. *Signs of the Times*, a new exhibit featuring historic signs from the Mineral Point business district, opened the same day. The show was curated by **Mark Speltz**. Also in May, we welcomed **Janet Lawinger** as the new manager of the society.

In July, **Frank Beaman**, **Carol Stevenson** and a crew of other volunteers, masterfully hosted the 1st Annual Founders' Day. It was a 1930s themed elegant affair that was an instant hit. The mystery around town in the days following was whether next year would be a 1920s or 1940s theme. (Answer: '40s. Start planning your wardrobe now.)

Throughout the summer, on the second Friday of each month, we sponsored *Jammin' on the Porch*. Board members **Lucille May**, **Allen Schroeder** and especially volunteer **Carole Spelic** made it happen.

An Evening with Edgar Allan Poe returned to Orchard Lawn in October for the 5th year to, again, record crowds. **Coleman** and an exceptional cast made it a memorable Halloween for many.

We launched a website: www.mineralpointhistory.org. The society's entry into cyberspace was created by board member **Nancy Pfothauer** and clearly is one of those developments that make you wonder how you ever got along without it.

OK. That was 2006. What's on tap for '07?

All of the above, plus more.



In spring, we'll launch a new regional publication with a distinctive graphic style that will contain interesting pieces of information about all things historical and cultural in the Lead Region. This is exciting stuff, but I will divulge no more until the rollout. (Oh, the suspense!)

We are working on a cooperative effort with the Mineral Point schools, to get kids interested in their hometown and its fascinating history.

Finally, the Phase II restoration of Orchard Lawn will be in full swing.

I have enjoyed my first year as President primarily because I have an outstanding board of directors who never fail to rise to the occasion when called upon. (Some continue rising so much that we have to hold them down.) I am also very appreciative of our volunteers and members who believe in what the historical society means to this community and the Lead Region. You show it with your efforts, enthusiasm and your checkbooks!

And we need all three.

Happy New Year! ●



Membership Annual Meeting

Our first lecture in the **MPHS Lyceum Series** is a part of our **ANNUAL MEETING**, slated for Jan. 28, 2007 at 2 p.m. at Orchard Lawn

Emily Pfothauer will share her year of research, cataloguing and photographing the work of local furniture makers and craftspeople.

THANKS TO ALL who have sent in their dues and additional gifts for 2007. As we went to press, the numbers are 125 memberships (16 of them new!), \$3,935 in dues and \$3,916 in additional gifts. With the anticipated match, the total is \$11,717.

NOTE: Our matching grant for additional gifts expires March 1. We have yet to hear from over half of our members. If you are one of them, please remember to send your dues and please consider helping with an additional gift. Thank you. ●

POE: Pleasurable and Profitable

Our annual Halloween event, "An Evening with Edgar Allan Poe," gave four Orchard Lawn audiences a mixture of thrills and chills — and a few chuckles, too.

Ten local actors recited the words of the poet and storyteller, bringing Poe's mad, macabre and mischievous world to the double parlor at the Gundry mansion. The event's creator, Coleman, directed the action and handled lighting and sound board chores.

The performance concluded — as it has in previous years — with a rendering of "The Raven," but this time the poem had a hip-hop setting and rap rhythm, as "The Nevermores," welcomed the ominous black bird.

In its fifth year as a major fundraiser for the Society, "Poe" played to good audiences, and earned a welcome sum of money for the MPHS treasury.

Our thanks to our volunteers, **Sandee Beaman**, **Judy DeVido**, **Matt** and **Denise Ostergrant** and **Jim Stroschein**, for their work on the show's receptions. ●



2006 MPHS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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NEWSLETTER EDITOR

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Mineral Point Historical Society Membership Form

January 1, 2007 to December 31, 2007

All members receive the newsletter and free tours of Orchard Lawn.

Please check one:

- Individual (\$15.00)
- Family (\$25.00)
- Business (\$50.00)

Additional Contribution \$ _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

E-mail: _____

Make checks payable to the
 Mineral Point Historical Society
 and return this form to:

Mineral Point Historical Society
 P.O. Box 188
 Mineral Point, WI 53565

Thank you again for your support!

2007 Calendar MPHS Upcoming Events

January 28 — 2 p.m. ANNUAL MEETING & LYCEUM

"Furniture & Furniture Makers in Early Mineral Point" — the research of Emily Pfothenauer in words and pictures.

Sunday, February 18 — 2 p.m. LYCEUM

"The Renaissance of 1975" Frank Beaman moderates a panel discussion on the growth of artistic expression in Mineral Point in the 70s.

Sunday, March 18 — 2 p.m. LYCEUM

"Mineral Pointers Remember" Jim Stroschein leads a panel to focus on bygone Mineral Point people and places.

June thru September — 2ND FRIDAYS

"Jammin' on the Porch" at Orchard Lawn. Informal concerts by local musicians — and FREE! Bring your own food & beverage.

June 1 thru September 30 — ORCHARD LAWN TOURS

The Gundry Home is open to visitors — free for Members. Includes the exhibit "Signs of the Times."

Thursday, July 26 — FOUNDERS' DAY II

The Second Annual Celebration of the Society's 1939 charter. This year's party will feature a 1940s theme with historical displays, music, drinks, food and FUN!

From a Gundry Family Album

This vintage photo of Orchard Lawn was sent to us by **Patricia Bernard**, who, at the age of nine, accompanied her grandmother, **Margery Gundry King**, for a three week visit in 1930. Her comment in the guest book says "I liked the food best." Sadly, "Ricia" passed away October 7, 2006. Our condolences to the family. ●



*Patricia King Findley
Bernard at Orchard Lawn,
1930*

Mineral Point
HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Dedicated to Preserving the Unique History of Mineral Point

P.O. Box 188 • 234 Madison Street
Mineral Point, WI 53565
Phone: 608.987.2884

**CHECK OUT THE FULL
2007 CALENDAR ON PAGE 9**

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DON'T MISS the
Annual Meeting and Lyceum
"Furniture & Furniture Makers
in Early Mineral Point"
Sunday, January 28, 2007 at 2 p.m.
In the Parlor at Orchard Lawn

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