

THE TIMES OF

Mineral Point

EDITION NO. 8

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MAY & JUNE 2010

PUBLISHED BY THE MINERAL POINT PRESS ❀ DEDICATED TO PRESERVING THE UNIQUE HISTORY & CULTURAL ARTS OF MINERAL POINT, WISCONSIN

MP Chamber
to Publish
Mineral Point
Times

by Frank Beaman, Editor

With this edition, the eighth issue in this newspaper's three-year run, we celebrate a positive transfer of the publication's ownership.

It's good news, as the *Times* gains both stature and stronger circulation as a vehicle for Southwest Wisconsin's tourism.

Joy Gieseke, the energetic Executive Director of the Chamber of Commerce, will add an editor's symbolic green eyeshade to the collection of hats she now wears.

Her experience as Editor of the city's striking Visitors Guide is testament to her skills as news-gatherer. And, during her ten years as Director, she has sharply honed her enthusiasm for the city as "a place defined by Art, Architecture and Ambience."

For my wife and I, the team who produce this tabloid, moving on is both painful and liberating. Faced with a few health concerns and an overload of deadlines and daily tasks, my decision to offer the newspaper to "a good home" was a natural thing to do.

Fortunately, Joy and the Chamber stepped up, giving my brief search for new ownership a quick and happy ending.

Moving publication of the *Times of Mineral Point* to a new life at the Chamber simply makes good sense. In 2007 we sought to print a newspaper with 19th Century styling, reflecting "history, entertainment, art, restoration and tourism." We hoped to make the *Times* an appropriate cultural record for the city. The Chamber, as publisher, will take this objective in hand and make the paper even more "appropriate."

"This is a welcome expansion of the Chamber's services to its members and the entire community," said Gieseke, "and we anticipate a continuation of all the popular features of the newspaper." As before, the *Times* will not compete with the Democrat/Tribune, but will seek to compliment that "hard news" weekly by concentrating on the city's "softer side."

As for Sandee and I, we'll take a breath or two, maybe a trip, dig in the garden, and try to keep in touch. I plan a variety of writing projects. My affection for the English language and my curiosity about the world around me will not diminish.

And perhaps I'll show up in print, from time to time, to tell you a story.



The Roots Go Deep

There is much to celebrate as we go to press with this edition.

It is that magical time of year, Late Spring, when seeds in the ground become shoots of green reaching for bright blue skies. Our trees, the subject of an article in these pages, sprout sudden color at the end of their branches; and, overnight, become the familiar friends of summer.

We blow the trumpets for two important ribbon-cuttings in our community. One, at our splendid old Opera House, is significant to our past. The other, at the new Hodan Innovation Kitchen, is important for our future.

We applaud the efforts of a very determined Dodgeville history buff, mounting a crusade for needed preservation of the state's only standing slag furnace.

We salute Sen. Gaylord Nelson, another crusader, who wrestled the country's environmental problems onto the national agenda.

We repeat eyewitness accounts of two devastating tornados that swept through the Driftless area.

And contributing writers let us hear the coyote's call, take us time-traveling, and explore the "six degrees of separation."

But the biggest headline is right next door, as we invest the future of this newspaper in the Mineral Point Chamber of Commerce. We think their treatment of our topics -- the old stuff and the new -- will keep our loyal readers coming back for more.

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CURTAIN RISES
AT THE
OPERA HOUSE

A Stirring Panorama of Colors,
Textures, Light, and etc.

Many Employed During Activity
All Results Quite Satisfactory

CHAUTAUQUA CELEBRATION

After a year of determined and well-organized construction, the 1915 vaudeville palace on High Street is open for public performances, and its sturdy volunteer group, sponsors, and advocates have put together a celebratory First Weekend of bold, exciting theatrical events. First, the sold-out Big Top Chautauqua with the Blue Canvas Orchestra. Sunday is a showcase for local talent, a pleasant sampling of what lies in store for patrons of this unique historic institution.

SATURDAY, MAY 1
10 A.M. - CHAUTAUQUA'S "ENCORE"
1 TO 3 - FREE OPEN HOUSE TOURS

SUNDAY, MAY 2
1 P.M. HIGH SCHOOL ENSEMBLES
2 P.M. "THE MISLEADING LADY"
DRAMA FROM THE SHAKE RAG PLAYERS
5 P.M. "AFTERNOON OF BALLET"
THE THEATRE OF BALLET ARTS
7 P.M. KELLY MITCHELL
7:45 P.M. POINT FIVE
8:30 P.M. RICK HARRIS
9:15 STEVE BROWN & GREG MERRICK
DONATIONS WELCOME AT PERFORMANCES

GREAT ASSET TO COMMUNITY!



Mark Twain Returns
to Opera House!

Jim Post's acclaimed one-man show, "Mark Twain and the Laughing River", returns to the renovated Mineral Point Opera House on Friday, May 7, at 8:00 p.m., as a benefit performance for the Shake Rag Alley School of the Arts. The Washington Post calls the performance "a one man tour de force--part musical, part drama and thoroughly entertaining."

Tickets at Shake Rag Alley
Phone 608-987-3292
or Berget's Jewelry.

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IN THE INTERESTS OF COMMUNITY
EDUCATION AND THE FURTHERANCE
OF HISTORIC UNDERSTANDING

Offices:
618 Maiden Street
Mineral Point, Wisconsin 53565

EDITOR/PUBLISHER
Frank Beaman

CURRENT EVENTS
Sandee Beaman

CONTRIBUTORS
Jude Clayton
Coleman
Katie Green
Ben Russell
Bill Spevacek
Judith Sutcliffe

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS
Mineral Point Historical Society
Mineral Point Room
Rick Terrien
Wisconsin Historical Society

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unless otherwise noted.

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The Times of Mineral Point
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and without advertising content.

We have enjoyed the support
and encouragement
of readers for three happy and
fulfilling years.

We are confident
Joy Gieseke and her Team at the
Chamber of Commerce
will bring readers a
newspaper that deserves a
careful and cheerful perusal,
a continuation of the
philosophies and practices
that have made this
publication
worthy of public attention.

Frank & Sandee Beaman



Comments, Queries, Contributions?
Wet the nib and write
Frank Beaman, Editor,
The Times of Mineral Point,
P. O. Box 169
Mineral Point, Wisconsin 53565



Mirages

In 1979, the President of the United States said his nation faced “a crisis of confidence.” It was called “his malaise speech,” although he never really used that word. He said American morale was rubbed raw by long lines at the gas pumps, soaring inflation, hostages captured in Iran, and a variety of cosmetic blemishes on the smooth veneer of our national abundance. He then suggested a number of ways we could break our dependence on foreign oil, improve our environment, and curtail wastefulness. But, he warned, some of his challenges would mean inconvenience and sacrifice for American consumers.

Well! We turned Jimmy Carter out of office at the very earliest opportunity! We junked his realistic perspectives on the national mood and his unpleasant prescriptions for constructive action, in favor of Ronald Reagan’s “Shining City on the Hill.” It was a fictional place, of course, but a lot of Americans moved into its dwellings in 1980, and many still live there, worship at the Church of the Almighty Dollar, and believe if we simply grab whatever we can, talk tough, free up the corporations to what they will, and put everything on the charge card, everything will get better.

September 2008 showed us otherwise. The nation is taking a cold shower after bathing in the comforting waters of delusion and denial.

And today, more and more, we have come to realize the Peanut Farmer had it right, and we ignored him at our peril.

We have, for three decades, followed the path that leads to mirages. My dictionary defines mirages as “optical illusions caused by atmospheric conditions, or something that appears real or possible but is in fact not so.”

“HAND ME MY ROSE-COLORED GLASSES!”

Americans, as Consumers of Anything, have learned to love mirages, the denials of reality—half-truths, spin, and outright lies.

Programmed to accept the sound bites from Madison Ave. and Wall Street, we came to believe the market value of our home would always go up; our stocks would continue to soar; and, thus, we could well afford that fake-stone mansion in the suburbs, the one with the tricked-out mortgage.

Today, foreclosure signs hang in front of those suburban fortresses. When we got close enough to see it clearly, we discovered that a bad loan based on bad credit was just a mirage, shimmering in a desert of deception.

Believing the illusions, we often act against our own self-interest. In the era of greed and glut that flowered in 1980 (as the antidote to “malaise”), we were all told that how you feel was more important than what you know. We were told to Buy Something; buy a gadget, a new home, a share of stock, or a point of view, a candidate, and his line of ideology.

We bought Everything. Our eyes were fixed on the mirage on the road as for-profit corporations orchestrated and manipulated our culture and transformed consumption into compulsion: a real need to go shopping.

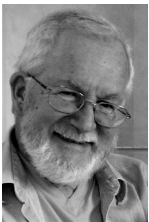
And, at the mall, or the stadium, or in front of the TV set, our language deteriorated; we began to think, and to talk, in slogans. Literacy, once sought-after by the American common worker and farmer, was replaced by the limited language of

situation comedy. With literacy in decline, fantasy and spectator sport rose, and a passive citizenry became “couch potatoes.”

Literacy, thrift, and a sense of the Common Good, once sacred components of the American dream, lost out as we moved toward self-interest, spectacle, and a celebrity culture based on pseudo-events.

The doctrine of Positive Thinking reached deeply into our lives, at home and in the workplace. The big corporations fired their accountants and brought in inspirational speakers to rev up the workers with a morning pep rally, even as the CEO cut salaries and pushed workers into the streets. The Rust Belt grew more rusty, as we stopped making things in our factories, in much the same way we had earlier stopped growing things on American family farms. Making things went overseas.

In factory towns, vast pools of broken people looked in vain for sensible answers.



NOTES ON OUR TIMES

by
Frank Beaman

We moved from Agriculture and Manufacturing into the alluring new world of Finance, a world without a real product, a world in which money is pushed from one place to another. In the span of a few years, the stock market became a Casino where most of the wagers—the daily bets—were hidden from the bewildered small investor.

In the nation’s schools, beset by monumental funding problems, because no one would dare to propose higher taxes, job training for the new world of money became the primary teaching objective. To create an army of computer wizards, stock traders and investment specialists, our schools curtailed history, civics, art, music, geography, literature, home economics, shop class, and other liberal arts subjects, as “discredited frills.”

The humanities were simply pushed aside. Little by little, brutal competition in both marketplace and social settings became commonplace and, almost, acceptable. The nation’s viewers applauded the televised “reality” shows, where the weaker of the species were “voted off the island.” Social solidarity, polite behavior, compassion, and intelligence were portrayed as weaknesses. And a loud vocal chorus in our society began to bombard the Educated Class with scorn.

“LIFE IS LIKE A BOX OF CHOCOLATES”

We now count 30,000,000 illiterate Americans, an estimated fifteen percent of us, and fifty millions more who are functionally illiterate and thus unable to take a role in the conduct of the nation because they cannot adequately comprehend political and social issues. They are not even equipped to cope with the complexity of daily life.

Two hundred years after creation of the U.S. Constitution, governance now operates in a stupor, stumbling about, dazed, taking its daily orders from the moneyed interests, who operate with the understanding that anyone, and any point of view, can be bought and sold.

The growth of corporate power has widened the gap between the Haves and the Have-Nots. Today we must deal with job loss, income inequality, and widespread poverty.

The problems of our Permanent Underclass are well-documented. They are a people on the make, looking for a job, a loan, a break.

Increasingly, they are less educated, the victims of discrimination, the off-shore payroll, poor schools, and a dumbed-down media. And, they are afraid.

“THE ONLY THING WE HAVE TO FEAR, IS . . .”

The Blind Optimism Industry has developed alongside the Blind Fear Industry.

We read best-selling books promising an onset of fame and fortune by merely thinking positively about a future centered on self; but then CNN breaks in with the latest Big Menace. Afraid to leave the house, we spend an hour with Letterman, but the laugh track fades as we tune to news of war and worry, dished up by Pundits, the noisy parrots of the most extreme views.

We have been seduced by our times. We find it hard to distinguish between fact and fiction, between entertainment and news. Uncertain, we grab an opinion from Rush Limbaugh or Rachel Maddow, based on an emotional tug; we check our email, pick up the latest chant, glue on the bumper stickers, and go forth into the real world to make dangerous decisions.

In a Mirage Culture, fantasy and spectacle have replaced the hard work that leads to Truth, many have become ignorant and fearful (ignorance and fear are always partners).

“AND SO . . . WHAT?”

AND SO. . . between false hope and groundless fear, between corrosive cynicism and naive idealism, between the mirage and the oasis, I dare to point to a stable spot. It is the midpoint, the mid-place. It is the “what is.”

The Middle Road to reality is as old as Buddha; indeed, as old as human history.

In straying from the center, we have overthrown cherished national ideals; but, in my view, rock-hard Yankee principles have not been lost, they have been mislaid. I suggest this pathway, to “Take Back Our Country”: we need, first, to make the education of our children our top priority. We need to view our current economic setback as the beginning of a cultural revolution aimed at the restoration of spending based on need, not desire. We need sensible civic participation and a cooperative spirit in the halls of Congress. We need a hard-working, serious mass media, providing all the facts and information necessary for an Informed Electorate.

We need to do “what works.”

And to stop doing what doesn’t work.

We need to honor and practice old-time honesty, integrity, frugality, conversation between friends, good common sense, and hard work.

We need to stop being loud and proud about our stupidity.

And to stop kidding ourselves.

“The best mind-altering drug is truth.”

- - Lily Tomlin

HEADLINES



FARMERS MKT OPEN!

Great local food. The liveliest place in Mineral Point every Saturday morning from 8:30 - 11:30, at Water Tower Park.

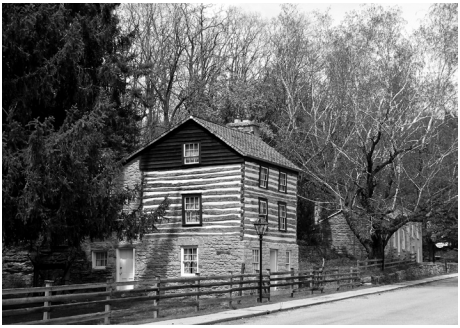
INDEPENDENCE DAY



A full day of Grand Traditional Celebration: The morning run/walk from Soldier's Park, the big 4th of July Parade, Chicken dinners in Library Park, the Ice Cream Social, Band Concert and, at sundown, the Fireworks!

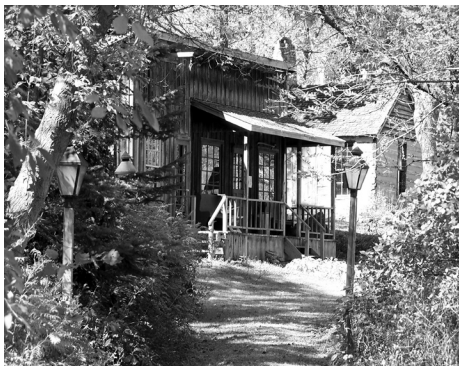
AVENUE OF FLAGS

On Memorial Day and the 4th of July weekend, 231 American flags will flutter in Graceland, St. Paul's, and St. Mary's cemeteries. It's a salute to our Veterans, thanks to the dedication and commitment of the VFW, the VFW Ladies Auxiliary, and the American Legion who began the project in 1996. The project gained support from the Boy Scouts, Wrestling Team, Lions Club and local firefighters, who help put up the poles and flags. Families who wish to honor a veteran may contact Shirley Chambers at 608.987.3200 to arrange a donation for the flag, pole, and brackets. A column in the Democrat Tribune, "Lest We Forget" has been published for 205 or the 231 veterans for whom a flag has been donated.



PENDARVIS OPENS

The Pendarvis State Historic Site opens its gates to the public on May 12, for a season that ends in October. The restored Cornish mining settlement conducts informative tours, led by costumed guides, daily from 10 a.m. to the final tour at 4 p.m. Visitor Appreciation Day is slated for June 6, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., when guests pay just \$2 per person to experience the fun and excitement of Wisconsin history. This event coincides with a free-admission day at Gov. Dodge State Park. The evening of June 19 will be filled with song, games and celebrations, as Pendarvis hosts Midsummer Pub Night from 7 to 10 p.m. in the cozy Kiddley-wink Pub, nestled below the rowhouse. And, as we noted on pages 8 & 12, Arborist Bruce Allison will be joined by members of the Mineral Point Tree Commission, at a June 19 Pendarvis symposium, "The Roots of History," from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.



Shake Rag Alley

Spring and summer weekends blossom with a fresh season of creative workshops at Shake Rag Alley School of Arts & Crafts. Classes in May range from colorful silk painting on scarves, taught by Cathy Kittto, to the blacksmiths ringing anvil in the barn, and in between you'll find a weekend of unusual classes - "Altered Art Attack," with several workshops to inspire creative reworking, and reusing everything from old tools and toys (assemblage sculpture with Michael Donovan) to handbags made from book covers (Sharon Stauffer). And, lots more.



The 9th Annual Woodlanders Gathering (Rustic Arts & Nature Crafts), runs from July 9-12, with thirty instructors (many new faces!) and a choice of sixty classes. Two of the rustic woodworkers who founded Woodlanders a decade ago are coming for the Midwest gathering to teach classes in tool use and maple walking sticks, and local woodcarver John Sharp's class will be carving a screech owl footstool this year.

Creative writing classes offer a great opportunity this summer. Dean Bakopoulos will be back from Iowa State University to teach a four-day intensive class July 15-18. And, there are writing classes from Marysa LaRowe (fiction/nonfiction), Peggy Stortzy (memoir), Kate Bucko (poetry) and Jane Guill.

Mosaic Madness returns for a wild weekend making concrete sculptures decorated with broken crockery or stained glass. That's June 11-13. It's followed July 23-25 by Mosaic ShishKaBob, with tall concrete sculptures, a class taught by Judy Sutcliffe and Heidi Dyas-McBeth. Judy and Di Sterba will teach a weekend of concrete/mosaic projects called Mosaic Cabaret, featuring five separate classes for making garden lanterns, small sculptures, carved planters, and leaf castings. The second year of blacksmithing at Shake Rag starts in May and runs through October, with instructors who are flexible in teaching the black art to any skill level. Stop by for a stroll around the grounds, and check the website for seasonal catalogs and class/workshop listings from Mineral Point's nonprofit art school, proudly headed for its sixth anniversary in October.

www.ShakeRagAlley.com



Town & Country Garden Tour

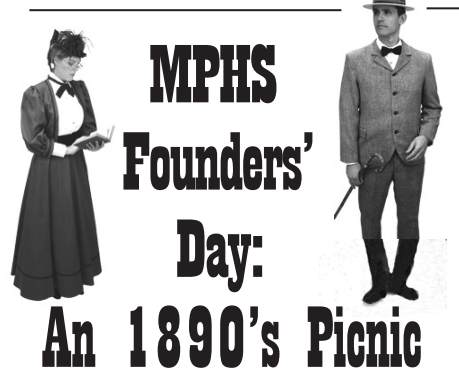
9 to 5
Saturday, June 19th

It's a pleasant countryside drive to explore some of the best private home gardens around, and "talk shop" with proud owner-gardeners. A guided 4-hr. bus tour for \$35, or self-guide for \$12. Tickets at Shake Rag Alley. Buy in advance to get a descriptive Garden Guide.



Historical Society

Orchard Lawn opens its doors on May 28 for a full season of weekend house tours, and trained guides will show visitors the historic Gundry residence and the ambitious restoration project taking place there. The 1868 Italianate building is a home museum operated by the Mineral Point Historical Society. The building is undergoing carefully crafted renovation work in several of its rooms. The Society will complete the second phase of the restoration in time to welcome members of the Gundry family visiting the city to enjoy the festivities at Founders' Day. Summer tours conclude on Sept. 26. The home is open on Fridays and Saturdays from 1 to 5, and Sundays 11 to 2. \$5 for adults; free for MPHS members.



GUNDRY FAMILY REUNION PLANNED — PHASE II RESTORATION ENDS

It's THE summer event, the 5th Annual gathering of members and guests on the lawn at the Gundry estate, and this year the historical society celebrates the Turn of the Century by inviting a costumed crowd to a social hour at 6 p.m., followed by an elegant picnic dinner. New inductees into the Gundry Legacy Society will be honored, and Orchard Lawn strollers can try their hand at horseshoe pitching and croquet while listening to period music. Founders' Day began as an event to honor those who saved the Gundry House from the wrecking ball back in 1939 and formed the Society. The founders' spirit continues today at "The Living Room of Mineral Point," the house museum with its innovative policy of "no velvet ropes".

THE 5TH MPHS FOUNDERS' DAY

Friday, July 30, 2010
Social Hour - 6 p.m.
Dinner - 7 p.m.
Advance Reservations Required
\$35 Tickets at Berget's or
www.mineralpointhistory.org

The Mineral Point Historical Society has sponsored four Lyceums, and recorded good attendance and continuing interest in the topics presented at these educational meetings. The fourth session, titled "Language Matters," was held in April as a partnership with the Public Library. Fifteen high school seniors presented three videos they produced as part of a statewide study of Wisconsin's remarkable language diversity. Mineral Point was selected for a close look in the study because language-use patterns converged here, and the area's languages—Cornish, Italian, German, and Welsh—have influenced our present-day language use.



What's Cooking? It's Ideas!!

The Wisconsin Innovation Kitchen, which has the potential for starting and growing hundreds of unique small businesses, will debut with a Grand Opening on July 11. Once a Dairy Queen on Ridge Ave. in Mineral Point, the kitchen and its retail store will begin a new life as a state-certified food processing facility. The Hodan Center's new kitchen will continue sales of Papa Pat's Farmhouse Recipes products, but the state-of-the-art center will also be available for public access as a community processing and marketing kitchen, and state certification means foods made in the center can be widely distributed. "The kitchen will be available on an hourly rental basis to food entrepreneurs and small businesses," said Rick Terrien, Executive Director of the Iowa County Area Economic Development Corp., who moved his office from Dodgeville to the center to better market the processing facility as an engine for business start-ups. "It's an Iowa County success story," he says.



Annette Pierce & Rick Terrien, on the day a truck brought the new sign.

The Innovation Kitchen was built with a \$750,000 Community Development Block Grant from the Wisc. Dept. of Commerce. Hodan Center, as the anchor tenant, will staff the kitchen with five employees and a corps of client-employees directed by Annette Pierce. A variety of "partnerships" will allow foodmakers to rent the facility and then select from a list of Hodan services: product and production testing, food washing, processing, drying, refrigerated storage, bottling, labelling and transporting. Hodan can use its buying power to secure food items for smaller partners, will provide advice on running a successful food business, and is planning weekend culinary classes. "I've never seen an easier or more affordable opportunity for starting your own small business than the Innovation Kitchen," says Terrien. Dignitaries have been invited to the Open House and Ribbon Cutting on July 11th. Tours of the building will reveal jawdropping food technologies. Cutting up 100 pounds of strawberries for jam, as an example, was an all-day project for one Hodan employee. Until now. The new mixer-chopper does the job in ten minutes.



The 'Pickle Law'

In February, Governor Doyle signed into law Assembly Bill 229, the so-called "Pickle Bill", which affects home canners with sales of less than \$5,000 per year, selling naturally acid, acidified or fermented canned foods (jams, jellies, maple syrup, pickles, salsa or sauerkraut) at farmers' markets or community events. Under the new law, a business does not have to be licensed and food can be processed in a home kitchen as long as the food is sold only in Wisconsin. There are standards and regulations that must be met, and rules about signs and labeling, so interested home canners should carefully read the law's provisions. But the Pickle Law offers new opportunities for small food processors in humble home kitchens.



Something is brining at the Brew Pub. See p. 7

TORNADO!!

LOCAL HISTORY IN GRITTY & GRUESOME DETAIL

MINERAL POINT STORM OF 1878

Wisconsin's weather makes news, as we all know, but historic accounts of a single weather event of 131 years ago make the melodramatic television coverage on today's popular cable Weather Channel seem timid.

The estimable History of Iowa County 1881 offers gripping details of the tornado of May 23, 1878, which swept through Iowa, Southern Wisconsin and Northern Illinois.

It first touched ground on the farm of J. W. Rewey, near Mifflin, and then blazed a fifteen-mile trail of devastated homesteads and businesses. Castle Rock, a natural barrier west of Mineral Point, probably saved this city from total ruin as the winds roared through the area.

As the funnel cloud surged around the big sandstone projection, the winds faltered, and the deadly tornado changed course.

But, the damage to life, limb and property was horrific, as noted in the pages of the 1881 history, from which we have pulled the narrative. Some passages have been edited to help modern readers grasp the account:

"Departing on a tangent from its previous course, the storm overwhelmed James Spensley's smelting furnace, and then lifted the J. Coleman house bodily into the air, injuring all the occupants."

The house owned by John Spensley, near Mineral Point, was uplifted and crushed, with the remains of the building distributed over a wide range of the country.

"At the time, there were twelve persons in the house. Seeing the black and portentous clouds approaching, with intermittent flashes of forked lightning, the family and their guests hastened into the cellar, running down a stairway leading from the dining room."

All of them gained the basement except Mrs. T.C. Roberts and Mrs. Maria Waller. The latter occupied a position on the stairs when it occurred to Mrs. Roberts that one of her four children remained upstairs. The ladies started together to recover the child as the storm struck the home, which oscillated and cracked violently, and the stairs swayed to and fro in an ominous way.

"The women retreated as the windows were blown in. Glass showered around the women like hail. The following instant, the house was torn into two sections, and the whirlwind, penetrating, seized Mrs. Waller, and bearing that hapless female through the air for 400 yards, dashed her lifeless body to the earth in a terribly bruised condition. The house was forcibly removed from its foundation, leaving the terrified women and children unharmed in the basement. A part of the house was, on the ensuing day, found one mile away, and a rafter was discovered over a mile distant, driven five feet into the soil."

The twister moved on to the farm home of George Leonard. Mrs. Leonard was carried off and almost instantly killed, her mangled body recovered in a ravine 100 yards from the house. A nearby house was also swept away, and another residence, a stone house, was unroofed.

Then, on to the Benjamin Bennet residence,

"Mrs. Bennet was the sole occupant of the home when the dreadful blast involved her in its folds. She was carried across an open area, and dashed with violence against a wood pile, but she escaped with trifling wounds."

The violent winds then tore into the German Catholic Cemetery, breaking monuments and tombstones, and the C. Gillmann brewery was the next target:

"Twelve persons were warned by the roar of the approaching hurricane and sought a timely refuge in the cellar. They all escaped save Miss Alice Zimmer, of Eden, who sustained injuries that ultimately resulted in her death. The brewery was completely prostrated, the roof borne away and shattered to pieces in the air, the stone walls overthrown, two barns were leveled to the ground, and the Gillmann family residence was obliterated, and his thriving orchard was denuded of foliage and bark."

The driver of the Arena stage coach lived to tell others of his amazing brush with death:

"He jumped down from his elevated perch as the winds hit him; and, seizing the spokes of the rear wheel, tenaciously clung to them with a vise-like grip. The stage was whirled around several times without relaxing the driver's grasp, or perpetrating any material injury. The mail bag was preserved, but a package was picked up out of the coach and carried into Walwick, a distance of twelve miles, where it was discovered the next day."

A neighboring schoolhouse was wrecked. "Miss McIlhon and fifteen scholars were inside the building, but, through some fortuitous circumstance, the majority of the pupils were rescued from the ruins unharmed," although one child was killed "when torn from the teacher's enfolding arms and dashed to earth."

William Cocking's house, barn and farm fields were all destroyed, and Cocking was found in an apple tree — unconscious.

The storm moved into Dane County, and the "Little Norway" region. "Ole Swansen's residence was completely demolished, \$100 in money blown away, and Swansen was found with a rail driven through his body, his head frightfully bruised. Mrs. Swansen was found dead about six rods from the house, with her baby, uninjured, clasped in her arms."

When it was all over, Iowa County listed thirteen fatalities, but feared many more would die of their injuries from the storm. Property damage was more than \$64,000, a monstrous total at the time, and many families lost all their earthly possessions.

But the catastrophe produced that strange sort of compassion, determination and gentle unity that these occasions seem to engender.

"The broad and liberal maxims of benevolence, which teach men to bury local enmities and assist each other in the moment of common danger, were observed in the darkest hour. The news of the terrible misfortune had hardly been promulgated, when, with magnetic influence and unsparing speed, the citizens set about repairing their shattered fortunes."

BARNEVELD TWISTER OF 1984

The northern Iowa County village of Barneveld wrote a chapter in Wisconsin weather history at midnight on June 8, 1984.

The storm is still known simply as "The Barneveld Tornado." It rode the crest of the natural escarpment known as Military Ridge (atop the forested Blue Mound) as the winds whipped through the geographic center of the village, following the railway right-of-way (now the Military Ridge bike path).

The entire area had been under an all-day assault of violent weather. Twenty-six tornadoes set new records as the storm crossed the Mississippi River from Minnesota and roared eastward as Barnevelters retired for the night.

Patti and Doug Salisbury were in bed when the lights went out, and Doug went to the window and looked out, then said, "Quick, let's get to the basement!" By that time, the house had started to shake. Doug shouted out to wake their two children and the four Salisburys ran through the kitchen as the windows began blowing out, sending shards of glass into their home.

Patti and the kids bounced down the steps, the stairway collapsed and the house virtually exploded. Doug, who had been at the top of the stairs, flew downward into the basement ahead of his family.

Cindy Schaller, at home after a school board meeting, awoke to the beep of a smoke alarm as the electric power went out in the lightning storm. Her daughter Melanie screamed "tornado!" as the glass began to break. Cindy later told interviewers, "There was a pressure, like a huge force pulling you apart. I can close my eyes and still feel it." She recalled, "Things were flying through the air and hitting me, and I could feel myself falling as something hit my back and kind of pushed me — probably part of the roof."

Mary Ann Myers had an odd premonition of disaster, an ominous feeling so strong she put all of her personal and financial effects in order before retiring an hour before the tornado hit the town. "I jumped up and made a dash for the hallway," she said, "and when I opened a bedroom door, that side of the house had already blown away, and all I could see was a tree bending in the wind."

Nine residents of Barneveld lost their lives on that terrible night. Two hundred people were injured. Property damage was pegged at \$40 million.

After the tornado consumed the village's business district it bore down on a nearby subdivision of a dozen or so homes and only one was spared. The belltower of the Lutheran church marks the place where the homes stood before the land was obliterated and debris was strewn across the fields and forests all the way to Black Earth.

And all the eyewitnesses, who later told their stories to news reporters and historians, employed the identical word: "terror."



Photo: State Journal-Register, in Madison, after the June 8, 1984 tornado in Barneveld.

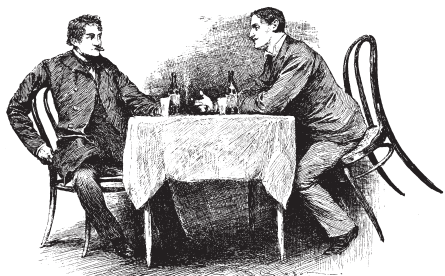
READ ALL ABOUT IT!

Eyewitness accounts for this article from "Tornadoes in Wisconsin," by Peter S. Felknor, in the Wisconsin Magazine of History 73:4 (1989-1990). Also, see "Wisconsin Tornadoes of May 23, 1878" by W.W. Daniells, in the Mineral Point Room.

Of two well-defined tornado alleys in Wisconsin, the first and most pronounced lies in the west-central part of the state, with New Richmond at its virtual epicenter. The second begins at the southwestern corner of the state and tracks due northeast toward Green Bay, passing over Belmont, Mineral Point and Barneveld, to mention three towns hard hit by the storms of history.



SPENSLEY'S FURNACE, southwest of Mineral Point — an early victim of the storm of 1878. Photo from the image collection of the Mineral Point Historical Society



KIDDLEYWINK

The 170-year old Cornish Rowhouse at the Pendarvis Historic Site contains a tiny room, almost hidden, chiseled into the hillside beneath the three residences. It's a charming place with a door, a window, a stone fireplace, and whitewashed walls that hold a few wooden shelves and a lamp or two. The Kiddleywink Pub was created by Edgar Hellum, who had visited a few pubs in Cornwall during the 1960's and thought Pendarvis should have a pub, too.

When Hellum and partner Robert Neal purchased the Rowhouse property in the 1950's, as part of the restoration project that gave Mineral Point much of its architectural character, the dwellings had suffered from a century of use as neglected rental housing units. After hauling away the clumsy building additions, while working in the southern lawn, Hellum and his work crew unearthed a lower level kitchen, and Hellum made the decision to reshape the cellar into an authentic Cornish ale house.

The name "Kiddleywink" can be traced back to 1825 in the United Kingdom when the government sharply reduced the tax on English-made spirits, making alcohol much cheaper to buy, and the tax break quickly produced drunkenness on a grand scale. To remedy the situation, the Beer Act of 1830 was passed by social reformers who sought to replace the heavy consumption of gin with beer, the weaker alternative. After posting a bond and paying two guineas, the Beer Act gave any householder a license to sell beer. The new law resulted in new ale houses in every hamlet in Cornwall. But, these now-legal beer houses also sold smuggled brandy, cognac, and whiskey, liquor that was often hidden away inside a kettle (which the Cornish call a "kiddley"). When a patron wanted to buy a mug of the illegal "strong stuff" rather than the legal beer, he would signal the owner with a wink of the eye. Thus, the "kettle-and-wink" became "Kiddleywink" and sometimes just "wink."

Beer is called ale in England and Cornwall. Ale mixed with lemonade or lemon water is called shandy, a popular drink in warmer months. Hard apple cider, called scrumpy, is sometimes considered the Cornish National Drink, and has been around for hundreds of years because most farms had a crop of small cider apples and a cider press.

As you might expect, every farm found a unique way to jump-start the long process of hard cider fermentation. Some farmers added wheat or barley to supply protein to the juice as the yeast did its job. Some added a bag of nails, or beef, bacon, rabbit skins, or even "a few clean dead rats." And in Cornwall & Its People, author A.K. Hamilton Jenkin speaks of dropping a live toad in the cask. The toad, he explained, would purify the mix as the liquid passed again and again through the creature's body. Indeed, he writes, no cider was considered up to its mark unless it had a toad to "work" it. Tradition also says the toad could live for twenty happy years in his fermented swimming pool, and that when the cask was empty the toad would be tipped out through the bung hole and the people would exclaim, "Mind the toad, mind the toad, and save 'un up for the next brewin'!"



Source: The pages of the Pendarvis Tour Guide



Straightpins

by Jo McDougall

Growing up in a small town
we didn't notice
the background figures of our lives,
gray men, gnarled women,
dropping from us silently
like straightpins to a dressmaker's floor.
The old did not die
but simply vanished
like discs of snow on our tongues.
We knew nothing then of nothingness
or pain or loss—
our days filled with open fields,
football,
turtles and cows.

One day we noticed
Death has a musty breath,
that some we loved
died dreadfully,
that dying
sometimes takes time.
Now, standing in a supermarket line
or easing out of a parking lot,
we realize
we've become the hazy backgrounds
of younger lives.
How long has it been,
we ask no one in particular,
since we've seen a turtle
or a cow?

"Straightpins" from Satisfied with Havoc, Copyright 2005 by Jo McDougall.
Reprinted by permission of the author and Autumn House Press.

JO GAROT MCDUGALL is a poet of the Arkansas Delta, a student of inaugural poet Miller Williams (oft-featured in these pages). Her hard-working words portray small-town life, rural families and the struggles and tragedies they face.

"I eavesdrop on people. I want their stories, the ones they tell and the ones they don't. I like a sense of place. I want to know, in a poem, where I am standing."

Her prize-winning poetry has been widely published in five print collections, an adaptation for film, and in magazines and anthologies. From her Kansas City home, she consults with poets as writer-in-residence and workshop teacher.

We've tucked in another poem—pure Americana—in the next column on this page.



Lines

by Martha Collins

Draw a line. Write a line. There.
Stay in line, hold the line, a glance
between the lines is fine but don't
turn corners, cross, cut in, go over
or out, between two points of no
return's a line of flight, between
two points of view's a line of vision.
But a line of thought is rarely
straight, an open line's no party
line, however fine your point.
A line of fire communicates, but drop
your weapons and drop your line,
consider the shortest distance from x
to y , let x be me, let y be you.

"Lines" by Martha Collins, from Some Things Words Can Do ©
The Sheep Meadow Press, 1998. Reprinted with her kind permission.

MARTHA COLLINS is the award-winning author of five collections of poems, chapbooks, translations and a recent book-length poetic work. A resident of Cambridge, she founded the Creative Writing Program at UMass-Boston, and for ten years served as Professor of Creative Writing at Oberlin College. She is currently editor-at-large for FIELD magazine and one of the editors of the Oberlin College Press.



MR. RUSSELL



MR. CARLIN

TIME CAPSULE

BY
BEN
RUSSELL

[Ed. NOTE: While reading these lines,
think of George Carlin]

WHERE DOES THE TIME GO?
TIME FLIES. TIME MARCHES ON.
TIME IS FLEETING.
DO YOU HAVE TIME?
I HAVE TIME. (I HOPE.)
WHAT TIME IS IT? IT'S TIME TO
MOVE ON.
TIME FOR CHANGE.
TIME TO TURN OVER A NEW LEAF.
IN THE MEANTIME...
IS IT TIME?
TIME WAITS FOR NO MAN.
SPRING TIME, SUMMER TIME,
WINTER TIME, ANY OLD TIME.
ALL THE TIME.
TIME OUT. TIME IN.
OUT OF TIME.
HE HAS LOTS OF TIME.
SHE HAS NO TIME.
DON'T WASTE YOUR TIME.
DON'T WASTE MY TIME.
WHOSE TIME IS IT? YOUR TIME.
MY TIME.
AT THIS POINT IN TIME.
TIME'S A WASTIN'.
NEXT TIME. PLENTY OF TIME.
TIME OF MY LIFE.
FAST TIME. SLOW TIME. SHOW TIME.
DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME.
TIME IMMEMORIAL.
TIME SENSITIVE.
TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE.
TIME ON MY HANDS.
MY TIME IS YOUR TIME.
WHEN'S A GOOD TIME?
NOW'S A GOOD TIME.
NO TIME LIKE THE PRESENT.
JUST BIDDING MY TIME.
TIME FOR A DRINK.
TIME TO EAT.
TIME FOR BED. TIME TO GET UP.
TIME TO WORK. TIME TO PLAY.
TIME'S FLYING BY.
IN NO TIME AT ALL.
TIME OF REMEMBRANCE.
WELL, TIME TO GO.
TIME'S UP.
SEE YOU NEXT TIME.



BEN RUSSELL is a local photographer whose bright landscapes capture the moods of the rolling hills of the Driftless territory. As an active community volunteer, he's the "man with the camera" for the Mineral Point Historical Society.

ANOTHER POEM by JO MC DOUGALL

When the Buck or Two Steakhouse Changed Hands

They put plastic over the menus.
Told the waitresses to wear white shoes.
They fired Rita.
They threw out the unclaimed keys
and the pelican with a toothpick
that bowed as you left.



The Woman in the Next Booth ©
Univ. of Missouri Press

Post-Presidential Pay & Perks

• The Truman Exemplar

Harry S. Truman faced a number of daunting decisions during his seven years in the Oval Office. He handled his challenges in a characteristically low key, blunt and honest style and earned both the lowest and highest public approval ratings ever recorded. But it is the way "Give 'em Hell Harry" left the Presidency that provides history with a true measure of the 43rd President's moral makeup.

Truman moved out of the White House without Secret Service protection or staff, rode a train to his home in Independence, Missouri, and lived out his life in the house he and Bess had shared for years with her mother.

As President, he had paid for all his own travel expenses and food. In retirement, he took apparent delight in self-sufficiency. Four months after leaving Washington, Truman accepted a speaking engagement in Philadelphia, refused the travel allowance, bought a new Chrysler, and without an escort and with Bess in the passenger seat, drove across the country—lunching in diners and sleeping in motels. The trip was a pop-culture sensation.

He refused all commercial endorsements. He declined all offers to join any corporation, as employee or board member, believing that taking advantage of financial opportunities would stain the nation's highest office. "You don't want me," he said. "You want the office of the President, and it belongs to the American people and is not for sale."

Because his earlier business ventures had proved unremarkable, he had no personal savings, and his only income was an old U.S. Army pension of \$112.56 per month.

He got a loan from a Missouri bank and signed a deal for a memoir of his time in office. The book was a commercial and critical success but enriched Truman by only \$37,000 after he paid taxes and expenses.

He sold some of his property to stay off relief and avoid financial embarrassment.

Congress, noting that he was paying for his stamps and licking them as well, granted Truman an "allowance." And in 1958, lawmakers passed the Former Presidents Act, saluting Harry Truman with a retroactive \$25,000 annual pension.

Now, fast forward fifty years.

George W. Bush left the Oval Office with an annual pension of \$186,000, travel funds, mailing privileges, office space, staff, and stationery expenses. And armed guards. He also departed at age 62 with a question, "What should I do with the rest of my life?"

Harry Truman would most likely have provided a short, explosive answer, but most of the more modern ex-presidents have, by their example, offered another: "Cash in on your experiences, and hit the lecture circuit."

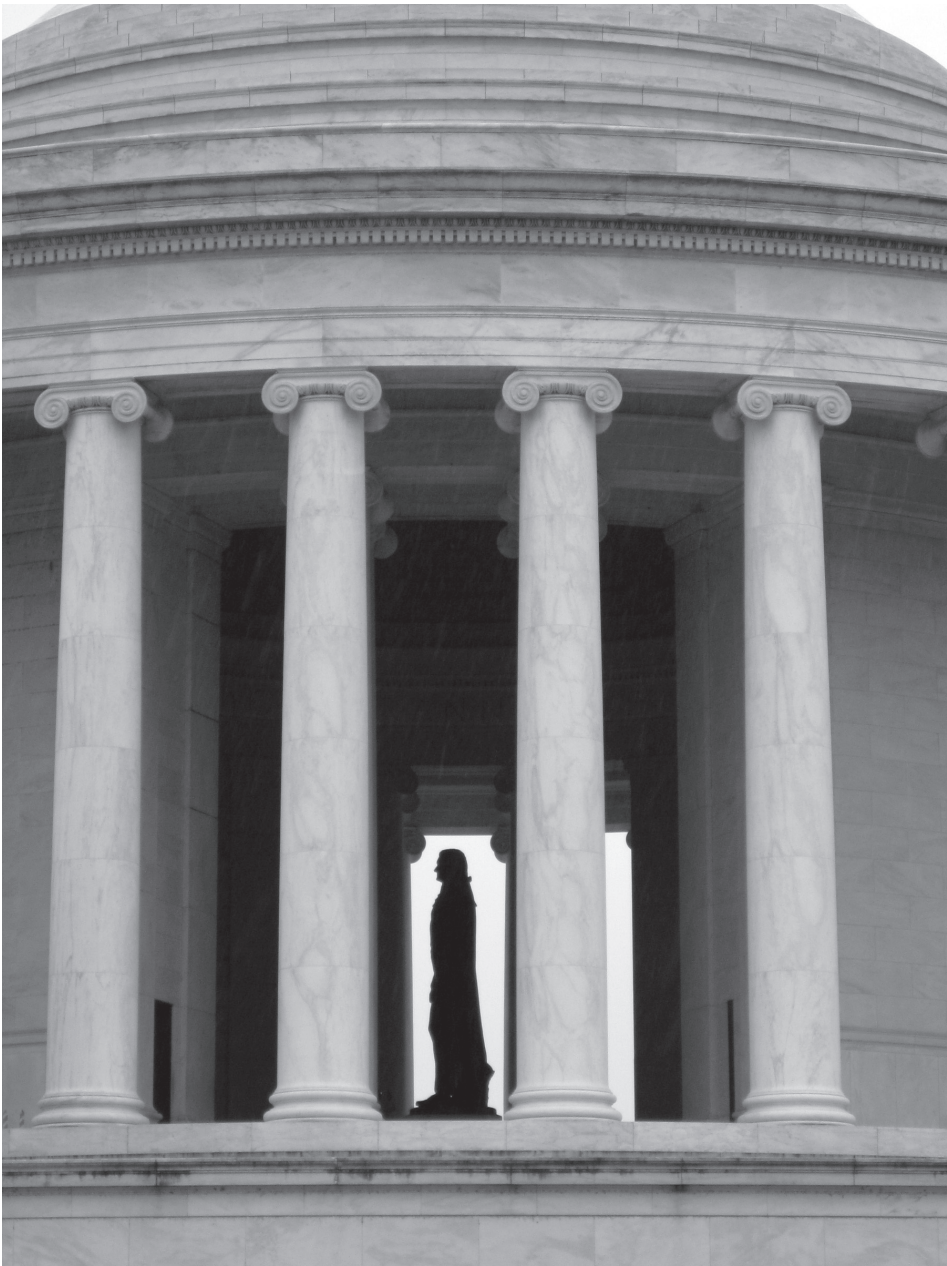
Bush is quoted as saying he would "likely replenish the ol' coffers" by making speeches, following the pattern of presidents Reagan, G.H.W. Bush, and Clinton, who parlayed their experiences into handsome speaking fees, even though the practice drew harsh public criticism.

With assets between eight and twenty million dollars, "W" doesn't need the cash.

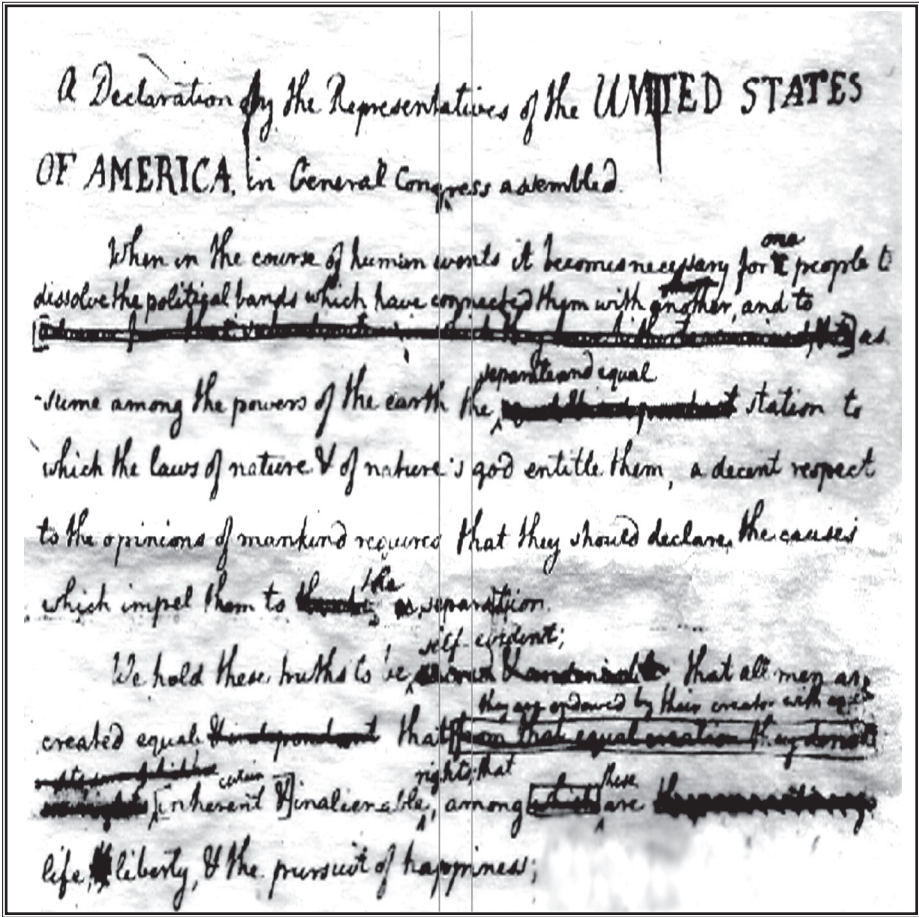
However, he could make good use of the central feature of the lecture circuit: the power of the podium. A speaker's platform gives ex-presidents an opportunity to repair a damaged image, to try to reshape history with their words. Mr. Bush hasn't launched a Post-Presidency Road Show, but it's an option he might be wise to take.

My choices in life were either to be a piano player in a whore house or a politician. And to tell the truth, there's hardly any difference.

Harry S. Truman



A COPY OF THOS. JEFFERSON'S ORIGINAL MANUSCRIPT OF THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE - 1776



NOBODY GETS IT RIGHT IN THE FIRST DRAFT.
NOT EVEN THOMAS JEFFERSON.
THINK ABOUT THAT BEFORE YOU CLICK ON "SEND".



The average American spent about 70% of the day's waking hours in 2009 as a consumer of information — 11.8 hours reading, viewing or listening to more than 100,000 words, 33.8 gigabytes of data — a University of California study says Info-Consumption is triple what it was in 1980.

Another study says young people, ages 8 to 18, spend literally every waking minute outside of school on the Internet, watching TV, plugged into an MP3 player, texting, or playing with some electronic device.

So are we . . . young or old . . . smarter than we were in 1980?

THIS JUST IN...
FACTUAL ERROR FOUND ON INTERNET !!



LINCOLN'S WATCH

The Mystery Solved!

After nearly 150 years, a steady hand and a jeweler's lens have put an old mystery to rest: a repairman really did engrave a secret message inside Abraham Lincoln's watch on the day the Civil War began.

Watchmaker Jonathan Dillon was working in a posh jewelry store in Washington, D.C. in April 1861, just after Lincoln was elected. And Dillon was assigned to fix the new president's beloved gold pocket watch, said to be the first watch the humble Lincoln had ever owned.

As he held the watch in his hands, the store's owner rushed up on that historic day and shouted, "Dillon, war has begun!" Dillon, a Unionist in a city torn by opposing loyalties, had always told his family he bravely opened the watch and secretly engraved the words: "The first gun is fired. Slavery is dead. Thank God we have a President who at least will try."

And in 1906, watchmaker Dillon, then an elderly man, also told his tale to a reporter from The New York Times.

At this point, the story leaps ahead more than a century, to March 2009. Dillon's great-great-grandson, Doug Stiles, was researching his family background when he unearthed the newspaper article. He learned that the fabled watch had been at the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History since 1958, so he called a curator there to ask if his ancestor's story was true.

Harry Rubenstein, manager of the museum's Lincoln collection, said "What story?" And, "We had never heard anything about a secret engraving in this gold watch before." So he decided to open the watch and look.

Smithsonian officials invited Stiles and a group of journalists to bear witness as a master watchmaker carefully opened the watch to reveal the inner workings. Sure enough, several words were lightly engraved onto the back of the watch face. He handed the magnifying goggles to Stiles — so he could have the honor of being the first man to read the 150-year old words his great-great-grandfather engraved in gold:

April 13-1861
Fort Sumpter [sic] was attacked by the rebels on the above date. J. Dillon.
Followed by his second etched inscription,
April 13-1861 - Washington. Thank God we have a government. Jonth Dillon.

"I think it just captures a bit of our American history that can transform you to another time and place," said the curator. "It captures the excitement, and the hope of a watchmaker in Washington."

The watch will go back on display at the museum with a new label to tell Dillon's story and show a photo of the inscription.



In one of their debates, Stephen A. Douglas accused Abe Lincoln of being two-faced.

"I leave it to you, my friends," Lincoln retorted, turning toward his audience. "If I had two faces, would I be wearing this one?"

Celtic Celebrations



Joe Kurth worked six years in the mines of the "New Diggins" area, near Shullsburg. He dug, blasted, and hauled ore alongside his father, and learned about men and minerals along the way. On St. Piran's Day, March 7, he told an audience about his adventures during a meeting sponsored by the Southwest Wisconsin Cornish Society. St. Piran is the patron saint of tinners; and in the rough stone smelters of Cornwall, tinning was both a love and a livelihood.



For information about the Society & its Events, www.Cornishfest.org

or contact Marion Howard, 604 Keep St, Darlington, WI 53530.

Brew Pub Brewer a Pickle Packer



Jeff Donaghue, master micro-brewer at Brewery Creek restaurant, says his current research with pickling, based on Japanese and Korean brining methods, is just for fun. And, for munching at lunch.

Thinly sliced vegetables, sprinkled with pickling salt, then pressed in a device called a Tsukemono, produce tasty snacks in just a few hours. Japanese eaters have these gadgets going all the time. Koreans add strong spices.

Jeff is also studying the fermentation of tofu layered in miso. "It's simple. I ferment things. With beer fermentation the brewer does everything he can to suppress the organisms which make 'sour' flavors, but for pickling (think sauerkraut, kimchi, etc.) the pickler encourages the souring bacteria."

How 'bout a "Pointer PickleFest"??

...and speaking of brewing:

In 1886, John Pemberton had a good thing going with his "Pemberton's French Wine Coca." But, Atlanta had just passed a prohibition law, and he had to come up with an alcohol-free formula. So he got busy and perfected a headache and hangover remedy, a blend of coca leaves and extract of kola nut, cooked up over a fire in his backyard. He sweetened the new elixir with sugar instead of wine, and advertised it as an "Esteemed Brain Tonic and Intellectual Beverage."

His bookkeeper suggested he name the beverage "Coca-Cola." The following year, the prohibition law was repealed, and Pemberton sold his interest in the formula and went back to making French Wine Coca.



MINERAL POINT ROOM

It's the city's leading historic resource, an invaluable aid to scholars, genealogists and the curious. Located in the lower level of the Public Library, the archives offer a collection of books, news files, photos, maps and letters.

HOURS: Thursday afternoons from Noon to 4 and Saturday from 10 to 4

For more information, call the Library 608.987.2447 or send off an email - minptroom@hotmail.com

OPERA HOUSE RENOVATION



View from the stage as the theater closed to begin renovation work in March 2009



Work in Progress: seats removed, scaffolding in place, structural framing under way



Mission Accomplished! New seating, new mechanical systems, wall, stage and lighting decor restored to 1916 splendor -- everything updated to today's building codes but with the theatrical authenticity of the vaudeville era. By the way, finished right on schedule!



The Opera House A-Team



This photograph was snapped at one of the on-site meetings of the Opera House restoration. Shown are, left to right, Fundraiser Lauren Powers; Opera House Chairman Phil Mrozinski; Jennifer Davel, the project's main architect/designer from Strang Architects of Madison; and Al Scappe, of Strang Co., the Construction Manager.

Haiku Happenings



Blackbird with red badge
Surveys his territory
Fence post to fence post.

JUDITH SUTCLIFFE, Mineral Point author/artist/teacher, here presents one of her Haiku celebrations of Spring 2010.

The bird is her creation, too;

"Songbird," is a font she designed.

Judy's book, *A Collection of Old Men*, is on sale in local stores and galleries.



WI

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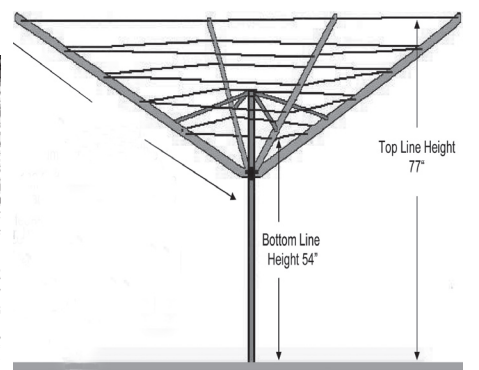
BREWERY CREEK
at 23 Commerce Street
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
at 225 High Street
M STUDIO
at 234 High Street
SHAKE RAG ALLEY
at 18 Shake Rag Street

Gayle Bull, proprietor of the Foundry Bookstore, hosts monthly Haiku workshops in her comfy "back room." Ask her about the sessions. And ask her about plans for the "Cradle of American Haiku Festival 2" slated for Sept. 10-12 in Mineral Point. It's a joint meeting with the Haiku Society of America, and its theme is "Transitions," as a tribute to the late Bob Spiess. Haiku pioneer Spiess was an award-winning poet, editor and essayist from Madison, who devoted his life to Haiku, and acted as mentor to many aspiring poets. The Festival will feature lectures, demonstrations, workshops, readings, and a Haiku/Nature Walk.

Contact Gayle Bull at 608.987.4363 or info@foundrybooks.com

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HISTORICAL SOCIETY 608 . 987.2884
HOSPITAL - UPLANDS, Dodgeville
GENL INFO 608 . 930.8000
PUBLIC LIBRARY 608 . 987.2447



ON LINE, TRUE - BUT IN AN OLD FASHIONED WAY

Alert readers will recall a recent issue in which the virtues of outside clothes drying were listed: utility cost savings, avoiding lint fires, longer life for garments, crisp fabric feel, fresher smells, natural bleaching and disinfection, and just a bit of outdoor exercise.

In an effort to practice what he preached, this Editor researched and subsequently bought a G&G Sunshine Solar Dryer. This device is an umbrella-style clothes line that boasts it can hold four to five loads of washing in the embrace of its wooden arms and rope lines while it rotates with the breeze. In making this purchasing decision, quality won out over price and Iowa got the business while China lost out.

G & G Industries works out of a small building in Parkersburg, a town of 1,800 Iowans in the middle of the state, west of Waterloo. The owner answers the telephone and tells you he's glad to take your order. He's also happy you recognized that a single center pole of steel, two inches thick, would be stronger than a spliced pole of smaller diameter and weaker gauge, and that five-foot arms of straight-grained wood would be stronger than flimsy aluminum tubing, and that steel hardware would be more reliable than plastic parts. Left unsaid is that he's glad you chose to pay a bit more to make a purchase from a "local" company with a good history. G & G developed the first of its umbrella outside clothes lines in 1915 (Patent number 1163639), and has, in all the years since, fabricated clothes dryers and flag poles by hand in a shop that employs three people. ("Five," he said, "if things get busy.")

For this American consumer, it was an increasingly rare treat: to buy something off line, after a real conversation with the boss himself, from a not-far-away-shop where the product is actually made. The sale was an exchange that proved to be both personal and satisfying. It was classic small-town retailing.

We'll hang our laundry in the sunshine, enjoy its freshness, relish a barely-visible dip in our utility bill, and count the minutes outside with birds and flowers. But most of all, we will remember the day we enjoyed a quick, warm human connection with the man who pounds out the product, then sells it with no telephone gates, no recorded voices or music, and without the unspoken guilt of the typical China-cum-Walmart transaction.

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦



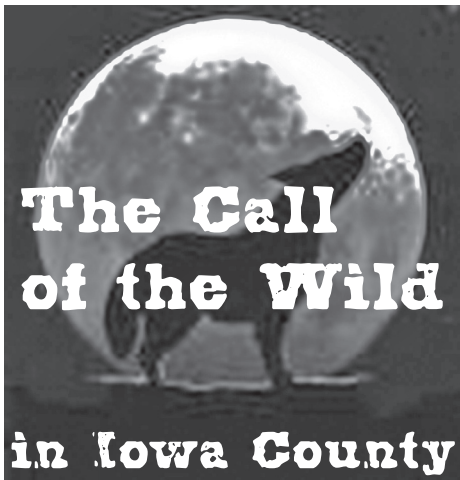
The iTunes store on Apple's online service has sold its 10-millionth recording since its debut in 2003. During the seven years, the record industry's total revenue fell from \$14.3 to \$6.3 billion. (44% drop)

Source: The Atlantic magazine

MINERAL POINT

VITAL CONTACTS

POLICE Dial 911 - Emergencies Only
Non-Emergencies 608 . 987.2313
RESCUE SQUAD Office 608 . 987.2752
THE OPERA HOUSE 608 . 987.2642
PENDARVIS SITE 608 . 987.2122
RAILROAD DEPOT 608 . 987.2695
SCHOOL SUPT. 608 . 987.3924
SHAKE RAG ALLEY 608 . 987.3292
SHERIFF, Iowa Cty 608 . 935.3314



By
Bill Spevacek

An ancient and complex society lives next door, in the fields and woods surrounding our houses, often within feet of our back doors. We rarely see the secretive members of that society, distant cousins of the terriers and spaniels and German shepherds curled up in the coziness of our homes. But they are known well to those of us who sleep with the window open, who tend to worry instead of sleeping, or who have other reasons to soak in the symphonic night sounds of rural Iowa County.

One evening last fall was a magical time when the air was still, but too cool for mosquitoes. A full moon was rising. I sat by our backyard fire pit thinking large and small thoughts and sipping a Spotted Cow. About 9 o'clock, the first member of that neighboring society spoke out. He couldn't have been more than fifty yards to the east. His message was half bark and half howl.

Soon, he was joined by three or four friends close by. Then a group of their neighbors, a couple hundred yards to the south, answered with their own chorus of barks, yips and howls. Another pack, farther away, joined in from the west. And in a moment, coyotes on all points of the compass were sharing news, or praising the moon, or praying to a canine deity, or perhaps just singing for the sheer joy of it. It lasted for maybe two minutes. Then, for the next few hours, a little night music was again provided by the crickets, owls, distant Holsteins and tiny creatures skittering among the leaves.

Coyotes are said to have thirty-three different vocalizations. I've never counted, but from the sounds of the packs around our house, that could be right. Wouldn't you love to know what they all mean?

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources estimates the state's coyote population at 17,000 to 20,000. Mated pairs raise their pups in spring and summer in settled and defended home ranges. This limits their numbers naturally. Hunting coyotes is sport for the hunters but has little effect on the population since territory vacated by the death of one is quickly refilled by another.

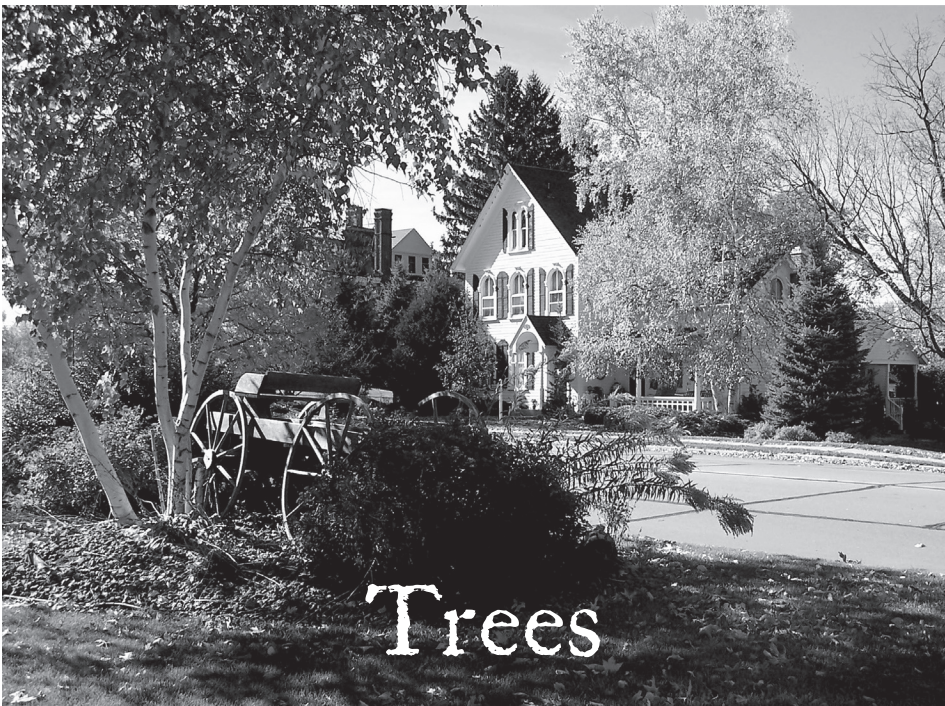
That territorial nature keeps the coyote population in check in rural areas, but causes problems in many suburbs as coyotes spread out in search of land to call home. Unfortunately, suburbia occasionally offers them meals in the form of house cats and small dogs. But, coyotes help maintain nature's balance by feeding on pests such as gophers, rabbits and mice. Claims of coyote predation on calves, lambs and fawns are heard now and then, but that threat does not seem to be a very serious problem in this part of the country.

As a youngster, spending summers on my grandparents' farm west of Mineral Point, I don't recall ever hearing a coyote or even the mention of coyotes. Settlers probably hunted them out of existence in this part of the state, and thus their return has come only in recent decades.

And maybe we're all richer for it.

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

One final note:
Is it "kahy-oh'-tee" or "kahy'-oh't"?
Random House, and Dictionary.com,
say either pronunciation is correct.



Trees define the Wisconsin landscape, covering nearly half of the state's surface with a tapestry of many colors and giving us a sense of place. Eighty percent of us live in an "urban forest" setting, and our neighborhood trees give us a treat for the eyes, a place to play, and a supply of fond memories.

The planting of a tree has long been one of our most treasured ceremonies; and the death of a great tree can throw an entire community into deep mourning.

Trees are important. They provide needed forest products. But, trees have also played historic roles—great trees seem to be associated with great historic figures.

Frank Lloyd Wright designed Taliesin, his Spring Green home, around a giant white oak, and often held court with invited dignitaries and his students in the oak's shade. Shortly after his death, the big oak was struck by lightning. A second tree, which had been stunted by the original, grew in its place and became today's Tea Circle Oak.

The John Muir Locust on the UW-Madison campus is said to be the tree under which the famed naturalist heard his first botany lesson in 1863. Muir later planted locusts wherever his travels took him. Older Madison residents remember the elms that once lined State Street, the pathway between the Capitol building and the campus. They can recall some twenty years of research by UW Prof. Eugene Smalley to find a disease-resistant elm.

Aldo Leopold, the Baraboo conservationist, found "a weekend refuge from too much modernity" at his cabin's "good oak."

In Janesville, an angry mob dragged an accused murderer from a jail and

hanged him; that tree was later cut down to discourage further lynchings.

Civil War soldiers enlisted under "Sign Up Trees," and prairie surveyors used "Witness Trees" to pinpoint the location of iron rods set to mark boundary lines.

The oldest tree in the state is said to be a burr oak in Waukeshaw County, some 400 years old, rising at the time Dutch settlers colonized Manhattan Island.

In Every Root an Anchor, writer and arborist R. Bruce Allison celebrates Wisconsin's most significant, unusual and historic trees. More than one hundred tales (some cited above) introduce us to notable trees in every corner of the state, some remarkable for their size or age, others for their intriguing histories.

Allison writes, "Trees humanize people. The shade, the warmth, the shelter and the nourishment they provide alleviate our discomforts and allow us to rise to higher, more human planes of thought and action. As a species, our evolutionary roots are in the trees. Our human development was profoundly influenced by tree environments and nurtured by forest resources. Each of us, from birth to death, is intimately connected with trees."

Allison also says, "Communities need to maintain an active Historic Tree Program, to inventory trees, tell their stories, and decide which deserve protection from storms, insects and diseases." He also advocates the use of plaques to mark special trees, the use of tree plantings as ceremony, and an ongoing repair discipline to save historic specimens. "We need to recognize our natural, inherent connectedness to trees by managing forest resources wisely for future generations."

Arborist Bruce Allison speaks and signs books at "The Roots of History." The event also features members of the Mineral Point Tree Commission. At 11:00 a.m. on Sat., June 19, 2010 at the Pendarvis Historic Site.

The Trees of Mineral Point

The community has been designated a Tree City for the past five years, an honor that must be earned each year by meeting criteria set by the Wisc. Dept. of Natural Resources and the National Arbor Day Foundation.

Mineral Point can point with pride to many large, mature, trees representing sixty species. Sugar, Norway and Silver Maples make up more than one-third of the total number, and Blue Spruce and Ash are also in the top five. Julie Marr, who serves on the city's Tree Commission, places the value of the city's trees at more than \$4 million. But the history of the trees, and the stories they evoke, are beyond monetary measure.

At Orchard Lawn, the home of merchant Joseph Gundry, the giant White Oak in the west pasture sprang from an acorn before the early lead miners came to Mineral Point in 1827. And the grounds of the estate boast outstanding examples of American Beech, Tulip, Fringe, Hemlock, Austrian Pine, and Kentucky Coffee trees. Gundry, an avid plant collector, paid 50 cents and had the Beech shipped in from Central Illinois. The large Japanese Tree Lilac near

the gazebo is native to Northern Japan.

Restorers Bob Neal and Edgar Hellum wanted a plot of land with a beautiful Birch tree on Shake Rag Street, but the owner of the land forced them to take the building, Polpero, along with the tree. Thus, it's possible their love for that tree launched their many efforts to fix up old stone cottages.

On South Wisconsin Street, the Star Magnolia that graces the home of Vic and Sue John is thought to be the oldest of its species in the state. Not far away is an Oak Savanna, lovingly restored a few years ago. Behind Trinity Episcopal Church stands a tall Larch. And so many more.

The Tree Commission focuses on tree care and plantings along streets and in parks. One of the commission's responsibilities is to review and act on applications to plant or remove "city trees," planted on right-of-ways or curbsides. Fortunately, more are planted than cut down, thanks to citizens and businesses who donate trees to be planted.

It's that kind of generosity that keeps Mineral Point "looking green." And all the other brilliant colors of spring and fall.



GRASSROOTS OF WISCONSIN

The Grassroots Citizens of Wisconsin Leadership Council has been working this winter to make 2010 an interesting year for engaged people in the Mineral Point, Dodgeville and Spring Green area. The organization has launched a new website to keep the citizenry informed and aware of civic opportunities in the area.

On the website www.grassrootswi.org browsers will find a new calendar of events, blogs, links to resources, descriptions of discussion and action groups, and a place to talk back to Grassroots.

Grassroots Citizens of Wisconsin is a non-partisan volunteer organization that promotes constructive dialogue, education, and informed positive change at the local, regional and national levels. Grassroots fosters in-depth investigation of current social issues, then establishes public forums and issue groups organized and managed by concerned individuals to create discussion, debate, and action.

Grassroots partners with other community organizations, governments and businesses to create events to provide training and development for its members and the community at large.

Since its founding in 2003, the organization has organized educational events on current issues, created many interest groups, coordinated key events, and produced an ongoing emailed newsletter, the Grassroots Gazette.

For more information, to sign up for the email newsletter, or to join hundreds of other members, just go to the website—it's a place to shop for the Common Good!



The Greenest Building is the One that Already Exists

The National Trust for Historic Preservation 2008 Sustainability Program endorses these principles to increase the stewardship of older buildings:

1. Re-use the building, if possible.
2. Reinvest in the city's existing neighborhoods, not in treeless suburbia.
3. Retrofit older buildings with up-to-date technology and renewable energy sources.
4. Respect the integrity of historic structures.

Know an old building you can fix up?



In case he needs any introduction, this is Stanley Kowalski, a character from Tennessee Williams' 1947 play, "A Streetcar Named Desire." It was the role that made Marlon Brando a star, and "Streetcar" also made theater history with its on-stage sexual violence.

In March, the New Orleans Literary Festival staged a "Stell-Off," in which contestants had three chances to imitate Brando in the famous scene under Stella's window, where Stanley rips his tank top and then passionately yells his wife's name to ask her forgiveness for an earlier beating. Women also took part in the contest, by shouting "Staaaaann-leeeee!!!"

Source: "Writer's Almanac," on NPR



WELCOMING HOME WISCONSIN'S VIETNAM VETS

Lambeau Field, home of the Green Bay Packers, will welcome a huge crowd months before the football season as the field opens for a May 21-23 gathering of Wisconsin's Vietnam War veterans. Dubbed "LZ Lambeau," the event is a tribute to the service and sacrifice of all veterans of the Vietnam era. Sponsors say as many as 100,000 could attend the homecoming. The event comes after months of planning by the Wisc. Historical Society, the state's Dept. of Veterans Affairs and Wisc. Public Television (WPT), as well as the Packers team, the host city and many other organizations, corporations and individuals.

The Welcome Home Weekend features reunions, tailgating and fellowship, and culminates as veterans and their families fill Lambeau Field on Saturday night, May 22, for a (ticketed) Memorial Ceremony for their fallen colleagues, capping a day of music, spoken word performances and video excerpts from the WPT documentary "Wisconsin Vietnam War Stories."

The celebration begins with a motorcycle rally from LaCrosse to Green Bay on Friday, May 21, along with the opening of Back in the World, an exhibit from the Wisc. Veteran's Museum, a Vietnam-era military vehicle exhibit, and the arrival of a Huey helicopter like those that ferried troops in and out of jungle landing zones (LZs). The Moving Wall, a traveling half-size replica of the Vietnam Memorial in Washington D.C. will also open on the first day of the event.

The gathering, entirely funded by private support, concludes on Sunday, May 23, with events on the football field.

For many veterans, this may be the warm Welcome Home denied them 40 years ago. Wisconsin led the nation in the number of servicemen and women deployed to Vietnam.

For previews, ticketing and detailed general information, visit the website at www.LZLambeau.org.

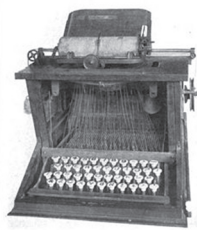


**WELCOMING HOME
WISCONSIN'S
VIETNAM VETERANS**
MAY 21-23, 2010
LZLambeau.org

GET YOUR 2010 WHS PASSPORT...

to enjoy day-trips to the 10 Historic Sites operated by the Wisc. Historical Society. \$70/Family or \$35/Indiv., a savings of 60% off regular admission rates. It's a ticket to a season of heritage travel!

BUY ONLINE TODAY!
www.wisconsinhistory.org



Lorem Ipsum Dolor

Oddities of the Typesetting Trade

The language of typography is, often, gibberish. Example: the paragraph below, known as "the LOREM IPSUM" in the world of publishing and graphic design. This is a name given to commonly used placeholder text, the substitute text that demonstrates the document's layout and graphic elements,

LOREM IPSUM DOLOR

Sed in ipsum vitae elit tristique tincidunt. Vivamus non eros at dui iaculis rutrum. Sed lorem lectus, scelerisque in, commodo vitae, suscipit sit amet, turpis. Suspendisse potenti. Morbi dapibus, enim bibendum imperdiet tristique.

Lorem ipsum text is not proper Latin, but typically a nonsensical list of semi-Latin words, a hacked version of a text by Cicero, with words/letters omitted and others inserted.

And, speaking of weird text, we now meet up with ETAOIN SHRDLU, two words that spell out the approximate order of frequency of the twelve most commonly used letters in the English language, and best known as a nonsense phrase that sometimes appeared in print in the days of "hot type" publishing due to a custom of Linotype machine operators. The letters on Linotype keyboards were arranged by letter frequency, so ETAOIN SHRDLU were the first two vertical columns on the left side of the keyboard. Linotype operators who had made a typing error could not easily go back to delete it, and had to finish the line before they could eject the slug and re-key a new one. Since the line with the error would be discarded and hence its contents didn't matter, the quickest way to finish the line was to run a finger down the keys, creating this nonsense phrase. If the slug with the error made it as far as the compositors, the distinctive set of letters served to quickly identify it for removal. But, occasionally, the phrase would be overlooked and get printed erroneously. It also became part of the lore of newspapers, and humorist Max Shulman once used Etaoin Shrdlu as the name of one of his characters in a novel.

Which brings us to KEYBOARDS—the old typewriter-style keyboards. We haven't seen many of them for the past thirty years, since the demise of that traditional high school graduation gift of yesteryear.

QWERTY (pronounced /kwerti/) is the most used modern-day keyboard layout on English-language computer and typewriter keyboards. It takes its name from the first six characters seen in the far left of the keyboard's top row of letters. The QWERTY design was patented by Christopher Sholes in 1874, when it first appeared in typewriters, and sold to Remington in the same year.

The successful 1873 model is shown in the photograph at the top of the page.

Sholes was a newspaper publisher and politician from Milwaukee who served in both the Wisconsin State Assembly and State Senate. He was the younger brother of Charles Sholes, publisher and politician who also served as mayor of Kenosha, Wisconsin.

Typewriters had been invented as early as 1714 by Henry Mill and were reinvented in various forms throughout the 1800s. It was to be Sholes, however, who invented the first one to be commercially successful.

Following a strike by compositors at his printing press, Sholes tried building a machine for typesetting, but he quickly abandoned the idea. He arrived at the typewriter through a different route. His initial goal was to create a machine to number pages of a book, tickets, and so on. He began his work on this in a machine shop in Milwaukee, along with fellow printer Samuel W. Soule, and they patented a numbering machine in November, 1866.

Sholes and Soule showed their machine to Carlos Glidden, a lawyer/inventor at work

on a "mechanical plow." Glidden wondered if the machine could not be made to produce letters and words as well. Further inspiration came in July 1867 when Sholes came across a magazine article about the "Pterotype", a prototype typewriter that had been invented in England. It was a machine featuring a keyboard literally resembling a piano. Sholes decided the pterotype was too complex and set out to make his own machine. He then used the name taken from the magazine piece: "the typewriting machine, or typewriter."

At this stage, the Sholes typewriter was only one among dozens of similar inventions. Realizing that stenographers would be the first and most important users of the machine, and therefore best in a position to judge its suitability, Sholes and a series of business partners sent experimental models to a few target stenographers. The reviews were mixed, some of them were harshly critical. Fifty or so machines were manufactured before the new idea was finally sold to E. Remington & Sons, then manufacturers of firearms, sewing machines, and farm tools. (Sholes sold his half for \$12,000, while business associate James Densmore insisted on a royalty, which would eventually fetch him \$1.5 million.)

It was Densmore who suggested splitting up the commonly used letter combinations to solve a jamming problem caused by the slow method of recovering from a keystroke: weights, not springs, returned all parts to the "rest" position. This concept was later refined by Sholes and the resulting QWERTY layout is still used today on both typewriters and English language computer keyboards, although the jamming problem no longer exists.

Around the turn of the century, along came George Blickensderfer, a man with a new idea. His typewriter was originally intended to compete with Remingtons, as a smaller, lighter, cheaper, portable machine with only 10% of the Remington's 2,500 parts. It also featured a ball-type wheel that was easily removed to change the typeface.

"The Blick" sported a revolutionary keyboard layout in which the bottom row of keys contained the most commonly used letters, DHIATENSOR, created to increase efficiency and avoid the problems of typebars jamming.

BLICK ENSDERFER
Typewriters
Unite the Good Points of
other makes at less than
1/2 the usual prices.

NEW
1906
MODEL
VISIBLE
WRITING
100,000
in use
Send for
Catalogue D
SALES DEPARTMENT
BLICKENSDERFER MAN'G CO.
OFFICE AND FACTORY—STAMFORD, CONN.

QWERTY won out over DHIATENSOR, and so we see the Christopher Sholes keyboard concept in most of the writing devices we use, and in today's Smartphones as well.

So, the next time you punch in a text-message on your BlackBerry, think of an inkstained-but-inspired old newspaperman from Milwaukee and his thirty year quest for a machine that would allow busy people to get their thoughts down on a sheet of paper.



Suffragettes to Stage March

JUNE 6TH EVENT PART
OF "MODEL A" RALLY

BIG PARADE RE-ENACTS STRUGGLE FOR THE 19TH AMENDMENT



Victoria Mecozzi • "Suffrage Firebrand"

Vintage car buffs and members of Friends of Wisconsin Historical Society gather again during "Model A Days" in Sharon, the historic village on the Ill.-Wisc. state line. The June 6th event will recreate a suffrage parade with a small army of dedicated women carrying signs and banners. The historic enactment concludes with a strong speech on women's rights in the Sharon town circle. Word has it that a nearby storefront will quarter the opposition—a group of men rallying against giving women the right to vote.

The event is a sequel to last year's popular "Everyday Life in the Great Depression" re-enactment, sponsored by the Friends of WHS. It's an educational blend of history and spectacle—well worth the drive over to Sharon.



TIME TO LOOK AT HISTORY

May 2010 is Historic Preservation and Archaeology Month, a time when Wisconsin communities stage events to mark their historic places, promote heritage-rich tourism, and instill local pride.

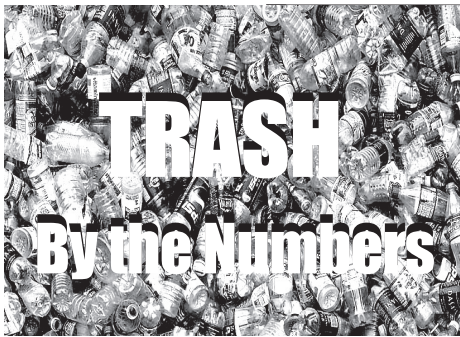
The month of May is also the setting for National History Day, an academic enrichment program that helps students learn about historical issues, ideas, people, and events.

The Wisconsin Historical Society staff has been working to add thousands of 1970-to-present day images to the society's Web site at www.wisconsinhistory.org/ahi.

A National Park Service "Preserve America" grant funded adding and digitalizing 53,000 photos from twenty-five counties in the state, to increase the already-huge WHS image inventory. Society staff and student volunteers have been working on the project for more than two years, and the results are beginning to materialize on the Web.



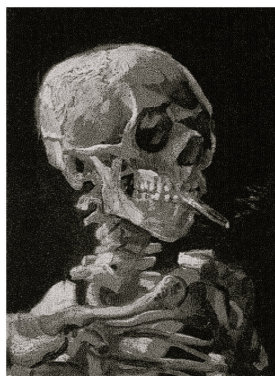
FRIENDS
OF THE
Wisconsin Historical Society



Photographer Chris Jordan experienced anger, shame, and then deep grief after a visit to Midway atoll, a tiny island in the Pacific near the Gyre (also called the Great Pacific Garbage Patch). He saw, and photographed, millions of birds killed by trying to eat chunks of plastic they thought was food. There were many other ecological horrors.

Jordan realized the devastating effect of discarded waste was “just one of the tragedies happening in our ThrowAway World”

His new book on the Midway catastrophe joins two earlier works, Running the Numbers and Intolerable Beauty. In their pages, he cites cultural statistics, but then uses photographic components, over and over, until an immense photo image is formed, sometimes filling a “frame” as large as thirty feet of wall space.



Example – Here’s the big picture, to point to a statistic: 200,000 packs of cigarettes is the number equal to the number of Americans who die from smoking every six months.



The smoking skeleton, when enlarged many times, is made up of 200,000 stacked packs, their colors arranged to form the big image.

Some of the current “U.S. Cultural Statistics” used by photographer Jordan in his immense photo layouts include:

100 million trees, cut down yearly to make paper for junk mail; 15 million sheets of paper, used in offices every 5 minutes; 410,000 hot-beverage paper cups, crumpled every 15 minutes; and 1.14 million brown paper supermarket bags, the number used in the U.S. every hour.

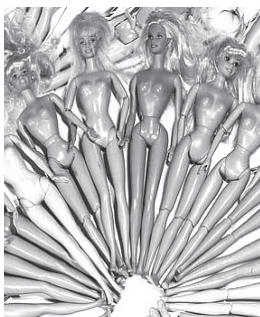
106,000 aluminum cans, tossed aside every 30 seconds.

60,000 plastic bags, the number used every 5 seconds; 1 million plastic cups, used by airlines every six hours; and 2 million plastic bottles, used every 5 minutes (see a paltry few of the 2,000,000 in the inset in photo behind our headline)

28,000 steel barrels (42 gallons each) equals oil consumed every 2 minutes (think of the flow of a mid-sized river).

166,000 overnight packages shipped by air, every hour. . . 38,000 shipping containers, moving through seaports in 12 hours.

426,000 cell phones, retired every day.



And finally, a photo made up of 32,000 Barbies, equal to the number of elective breast augmentation surgeries in the U.S., every month of 2006.

Scroll through the images at www.chrisjordan.com/current_set2.php

Earth Day + 40:

Gaylord Nelson's Legacy

Twenty million Americans hit the streets on the first Earth Day, transforming the voice of the environmental movement from a murmur to a roar. It was the largest public demonstration in the nation’s history; and, overnight, the nation became engaged in drastic and unprecedented measures to deal with the deterioration of the global ecology.

We often read about Wisconsin’s two great conservationists, John Muir and Aldo Leopold, but it is Gaylord Nelson, twice Governor and then Senator from the Badger State, who gave the environmental movement its most dramatic moment—the huge Earth Day Teach-Ins of April 1970.

Seven years earlier, in conversation with Attorney General Robert Kennedy, Sen. Nelson first proposed a nationwide demonstration to educate Americans on the need for action on the environment. In 1965, Ambassador Adlai Stevenson spoke of “Spaceship Earth”, to point out that human passengers are dependent on vulnerable supplies of air, water and soil as we ride toward an uncertain future.

But, in the 1960’s, the state of our natural world was a back-burner issue; in the presidential campaigns of 1968, not one of the three candidates considered the environment worthy of a major speech.

Nelson pushed his Earth Day idea through Congress, the media, and the nation’s college classrooms, and when the day arrived in 1970, twenty million citizens marched and tens of millions more listened in classrooms, symposiums and on the broadcast networks. Earth Day became an instant tradition, an important annual event, achieving landmark status in the politics, conversations, and literature of the country. And with only a few months of promotion!

Congress, at last, was listening; both Republicans and Democrats heard the shouts of the crowd, and during the next ten years passed twenty-eight major environmental laws, affecting the nation’s air, water, endangered species and wetlands.

The deteriorating condition of the planet had entered the political arena and became part of popular culture, a necessary part of the dialogue between political parties and their candidates for office. And, those who have historically believed that reform was possible gained new hope and new power.

Reflecting his small-town upbringing in Clear Lake, Wisc., and the influence of Bob LaFollette, Nelson summed up: “We need to look at the big picture. We live on a finite planet with a limited capacity to sustain life, with a thin envelope of air around it, and our goal is to see the Environment in its broadest and deepest sense. That is, as an environment without ugliness, without discrimination, without hunger, without poverty and without war.”

Now, forty years later, Americans are hotly debating the ethics, the science, and the politics of the natural habitat on our planet. The so-called Environmental Movement, which blossomed on that Earth Day 1970, provides contentious issues for noisy dialogue between scientists, elected officials, educators and the popular press. Their arguments often produce more heat than light, but much of the talk is constructive and hopeful—about rescue, not retreat.

Some of the students who left their classrooms to carry the signs on Earth Day 1970 now approach their Medicare years; but thanks to Gaylord Nelson and his followers, who grabbed public attention and awakened a slumbering Congress, much has been done to reverse 160 years of environmental decay,

Wisconsin has a long tradition of concern, and decisive action, in the fields of environment and conservation. Gaylord Nelson was the “go-to man” for many of the state’s outstanding laws and strongest initiatives. As Governor, Nelson pioneered efforts to clean up Lake Michigan and other waterways. But, it was his overhaul of the state’s natural resource program that earned him a national reputation as the “Conservation Governor.” He condensed a sprawling bureaucracy into a single Dept. of Resource Development and established a Youth Conservation Corps, which created green jobs for over 1,000 unemployed young people. He also fought to earmark \$50 million from a cigarette tax for the Outdoor Recreation Action Program, which acquired one million acres for public parks and wilderness areas. The broad popular appeal of his conservation measures catapulted Nelson into the U.S. Senate in 1962.



Gaylord Nelson the Nelson Institute at UW-Madison and the Evjue Foundation set the Society to work. The records have been organized and placed into an online site, available to Internet browsers on the WHS website, www.wisconsinhistory.org.

Reading about the life of this man, you learn he was one of only three U.S. senators opposed to the VietNam war, he was a strong advocate for civil rights, he battled poverty, and fought the abuses of the pharmaceutical industry. His love of nature included preservation efforts for the Appalachian Trail and his nine-year crusade to preserve Wisconsin’s Apostle Islands as a National Park. And, most notably, he planted the seeds for awareness and change in the nation’s environment with his singular vision for the first Earth Day.

Gaylord Nelson was tireless, but not shrill. He worked for sensible, attainable goals. He stood up for his ideals, but treated his opponents with respect. He recruited his rivals and brought them around to his side. That kind of bipartisan leadership earned him a nickname from his congressional colleagues: “Conscience of the Senate.”



Walt Kelly first used the quote “We Have Met The Enemy and He Is Us” on a poster for Earth Day in 1970.



Dodgeville Moves to Restore Old Slag Furnace

A one-woman crusade is gathering civic momentum, and Carolyn Meuer’s persistent activism may soon result in the restoration of the 1876 slag furnace in the historic “Dirty Hollow” mining center in Dodgeville.

It’s the only standing slag furnace in Wisconsin, and its preservation provides a monument to the heyday of mineral mining in the Driftless Region, when lead could be found in chunks atop the soil and trains chugged from town to town with loads of ore, wood, and finished mining products.

Meuer, long-time member of the Iowa County Historical Society, has been trumpeting the cause, amassing photos and documents, enlisting help from volunteers and city cleanup workers, and applying for grants. Her efforts have blossomed into a public invitation for construction bids on the work needed to bring the 1876 smelter to aesthetic and structural authenticity—tuckpointing the stones of the chimney, adding a weather-protection cover and installing lights and signage.

In the 19th century lead/zinc mining boom in the Mineral Point area, smelters were scattered throughout the region, but their Drummond furnaces left 20% of the lead in the smelted ores. The Dodgeville Mining Co. slag furnace, standing amidst a group of buildings along E. Spring St., salvaged the lead in the “slag” left behind. From 1876 to 1890, slag was brought to the furnace from eighteen area smelters. Teams of horses and the railroads carried in loads of wood, coke and charcoal, and then carried out the molded “pigs” of finished ore.

As the burned impurities in the slag emerged from the chimney in many bright colors, the furnace attracted a nightly crowd of spectators for the fiery light show.

The furnace was built by two Cornish stone masons (the pair who built the Dodgeville courthouse), but the furnace’s limestone walls and sandstone lining have deteriorated over 134 years; and, without repairs, the structure could become a pile of rocks.

A determined Women’s Club paid one dollar for the furnace in 1938, to save it from demolition, and tried to create a small park around the stone chimney. The Women’s Club maintained the property but the land shrank as developers came in. A fence was erected, to keep cattle away, and repairs were made in 1967 and 1983. The site was deeded to the city in 1996.

Then, Carolyn Meuer stepped into the project and recruited advocates on the Dodgeville Historic Preservation Commission, the City Council, and the Wisc. Historical Society. She worked with architect Amber Westerman to develop specifications and set up a bank account for citizen donations. And now, the project is out for builder’s bids.

In addition to repair work, Meuer hopes to place the furnace on the State Register and National Register of Historic Places, and she envisions beautification of the grounds and educational signage. “I’d like to provide museum-style materials, to tell people about the way Dodgeville was founded and about the glory days of mining here,” she says.

“What is history but a fable agreed upon?”
- - Napoleon Bonaparte



by Katie Green

This winter we chickened out (sort of) and took a long, moseying trip around the southern part of the country, driving our ancient van that refuses to quit. Everywhere we went, it seemed that we were being singled out for strange coincidences, or serendipity, or synchronicity. Or something. Whatever you want to call it, after a while I stopped looking over my shoulder to see who was orchestrating all these outrageous connections and relaxed into mild amazement. Then, as time went on, I gave over being amazed and began merely to assume that the famous seven degrees of separation were really only about two or three, and I got better at blurting out the right words that would trigger the link.

Our first stop was in Springfield, the Illinois capitol, to see the Lincoln Library. I phoned an old acquaintance living in that burg and was told that the Dana-Thomas House, the largest private home ever designed by Frank Lloyd Wright, was just down the street from the Disneyesque-but-still-very-moving Lincoln Museum. As Spring Green residents, we know something about Wright, but we didn't know about the Dana-Thomas House. My friend told us it was state-owned, in tiptop shape, with original furnishings and art-glass intact, open to the public for tours, and that we must go see it. Which we did. Stunning! And the staff members knew many of our friends at Taliesin. Of course.

From there we motored to New Orleans to join a crew of folk, some of them from Mineral Point, who enjoy fixing up other people's houses more than their own. Why is it so much more fun to labor at piddley or exhausting tasks for perfect strangers? I began to notice this phenomenon at about age 8; it still seems mysterious. Are birds and beasts built that way, too, and we just aren't capable of noticing it? Anyway, we worked under the Director of Disaster Relief in New Orleans, and he is, as it turns out, the nephew of a vastly trying gent who lived across the street from us in Vermont. Well, okay. The chances of that are more rare than the Taliesin link, but I can handle it without feeling part of a drama I didn't write.

Similar coincidences (?) amused us coming and going on the trip. Some were more striking than others but all gave my spirits a buoyant lift. They made the world seem small and intimate, consisting of the interwoven web of life the great teachers have always claimed it is, but one doesn't always get to see the weave up close.

In California we settled in for some weeks with a tolerant brother in a small house in a small town populated with

booklovers. That, in itself, is something of a coincidence, since we are members of the apparently vanishing tribe called Readers. The Friends of the Library's up-for-grabs bookshelves in the town library were so astonishing that I have to stop and fan myself a bit just writing about it. We drove home with almost as many new acquisitions as we arrived with, and this was a bookselling trip, mind you, during which I scattered a trail (four large cartons worth) of my latest work along the way. Among the books we purchased were several Wisconsin novels we'd been meaning to read and—get this!—two histories of Mineral Point! Naturally, I am going crazy trying to imagine for what purpose, under what circumstances somebody in that small Northern California town owned and then let go of books about our corner of Wisconsin. Another milder astonishment was to find a history of my own hometown in the Sierra on the giveaway shelves, a place not as far away as the Driftless Region, but a town more than a hundred miles distant from where we were.

Just before we decamped from the town, I went to a home to inscribe some copies of my book for a nice lady who had bought them for herself and a grandchild, and found myself in the middle of a small, impromptu reunion of the high school class of 1965. I was introduced as "from Wisconsin" and one gal looked interested. "Do you live anywhere near Mineral Point?" she asked. Turns out she was an old friend of Carol Spelic, of the Green Lantern Gallery, whom I have the privilege to know slightly, and to whom I subsequently carried personal greetings.

Finally, I am reminded of a similar spooky coincidence (?) that happened while I was working on my aforementioned latest book of Gold Rush history. I was browsing in Point's own Foundry Books and spotted a volume called *Journalism in California*. It contained a biographical profile of the brother of one of the characters in my book, if you can believe that, and revealed more about the family than my years of research had turned up previously. Who else but me would want that book? Need that book? Honestly, what's a body to make of all this? There are those who say there is no such thing as coincidence, and I am keeping my mind open to the thought, however nervous it makes me feel.

KATIE GREEN is signing copies of her latest book, "Deborah Whitney of Shady Flat", portraying an actual child growing up in the Sierra, dealing with the gold rush, and Life's, ups and downs.



An independent British think tank has published The Happy Planet Index 2.0 (HPI), a study that ranks 143 nations on their ecological health; that is, on how handling the environment efficiently can affect longevity and contentment.

The Index takes the global economy back to its absolute basics: "what we put in" (natural resources), and "what comes out" (human lives of different length and relative human contentment)."

The study shows that the world's many nations are far from achieving sustainable well-being, but the survey lays out a vision of what we need to do to get there.

The nations that top the Index are the middle-income and/or island countries like Latin America and Southeast Asia. They may not be the "happiest" places in the world, but the high-scoring locales show that it's possible to achieve long, happy lives without over-stretching the planet's resources.

The highest HPI score is 76.1, scored by Costa Rica. The lowest—less surprising than some other results—is Zimbabwe's at 16.6.

The U.S. came in 114th of the 143 nations.

According to the survey, high levels of resource consumption do not reliably produce high levels of human well-being; it's quite possible to live well without over-consuming; and there are different routes to achieving comparable levels of well-being.

The model followed by the major Western nations provides longevity and emotional satisfaction, but at a huge environmental cost.

The results reveal the world has a long way to go. All nations could do better. No country achieves an overall "high" score on the Index, and no single country listed has everything right. Yet, clear patterns do emerge that point to how we might better achieve long and happy lives for all while living within our environmental means.

Interestingly, since the first HPI study in 1961, the length of lives and the depth of human satisfaction have gone up 15%, but at a planet-shattering cost—an increase in the per capita "ecological footprint" of 72 per cent.

An Action Plan, accompanying the HPI, provides key goals to help the planet achieve long, good lives that do not cost the earth.



The New Economics Foundation (NEF) proclaims, "We believe in economics as if people and the planet mattered," and, "We aim to improve quality of life by promoting innovative solutions that challenge mainstream thinking on economic, environment and social issues."

To find out more about NEF, visit www.happyplanetindex.org



COSTA RICA Why "the Happiest Nation"?

Costa Rica is much more than a romp on the beach, a swing through a cloud forest, a peek at a volcano, and exotic birds and flowers; this Latin-American nation's beauty is much more than skin deep.

This tiny republic has wondrous biodiversity in its sweeping green mountains and valleys; but this land also has a robust "social capital"—its four million people.

The Unofficial Motto is "Pura Vida!"—literally "pure life," but in closer meaning "full of life" or even "This is the Life!" The motto conveys the state of happiness, peace, and tranquility that political stability and freedom has brought to Costa Ricans.

Domestic and international peace has long been a national priority. In 1948, the country abolished its military, and pumped-military funds into education and universal health care. In San Jose, the Peace Academy was built on grounds formerly occupied by an Army base; and, last year, a Ministry of Peace and Justice was created, to teach Costa Ricans and the rest of the world the dangerous role of conflict and crime.

Corporate taxes are used to pay local people to preserve their trees, water and soils; but Costa Rica is considered "business-friendly," and high-tech enterprises grow alongside the banana and coffee plantations.

The typical Costa Rican resident has an ecological footprint one-fourth that of the average person in the United States, reflecting pioneering land management, reforestation and alternative fuel policies. Oil drilling has been banned, and renewable sources provide 95% of the nation's energy, with a "net-zero carbon footprint" goal for 2021, the year of the country's bicentennial.

Life expectancy is 78.5 years in Costa Rica, in what is considered a "middle-income economy." The gap between rich and poor is not extreme, most residents can satisfy their basic monetary needs without a race for status and conspicuous consumption, and the way of life allows ample leisure time for good personal relations between friendly neighbors.

The Happy Planet Index (Story at Left) concludes: "People who live in countries with higher material wealth report less happiness than people in countries with less wealth but stronger social bonds."

Costa Rica proves that point pretty well. And this one:

Good lives don't have to cost the Earth.

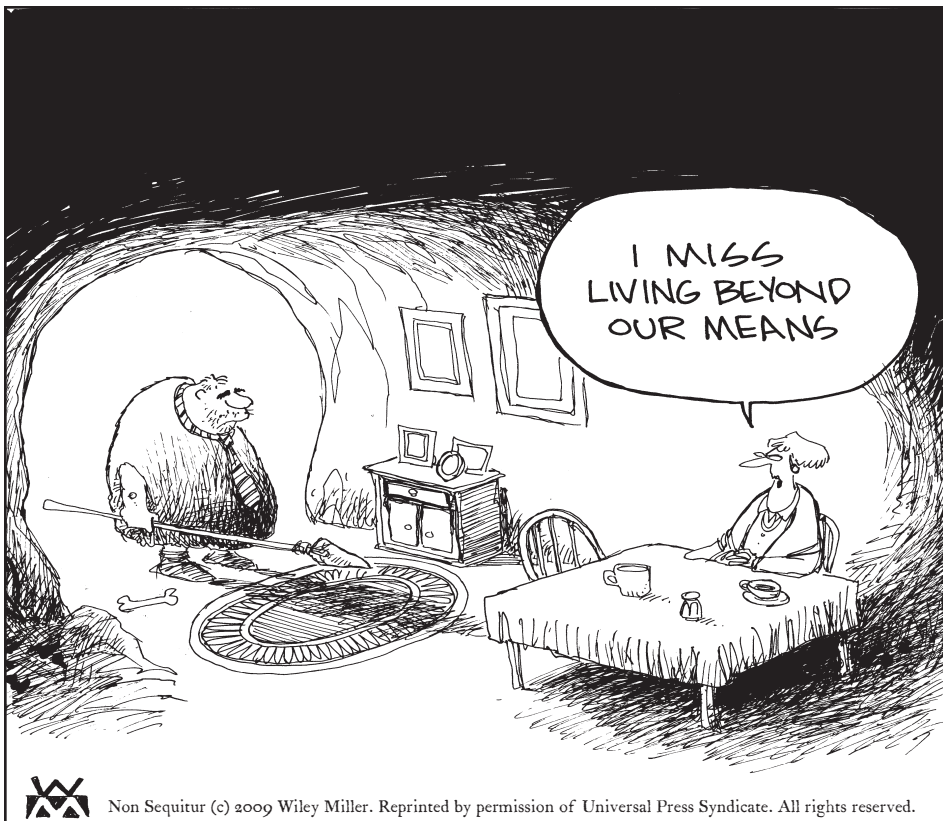
Novelist Trussoni Recognized

Danielle Trussoni, Shake Rag Alley's writer-in-residence in the fall of 2008, is attracting good reviews with her new book, *Angelology*, written while she and writer husband Nikolai Grozni and their two children lived in a High Street apartment. Danielle taught a writing workshop at the School of the Arts, and Nikolai celebrated his U.S. citizenship papers with a party at the Longbranch Gallery with the many friends he and Danielle made while here.

The family moved on to Bulgaria in spring of 2009. Not long after they left here, a movie option on her book was

picked up by Columbia Studios and actor Will Smith for a reportedly handsome sum. The book is now published and has hit the Best-Seller lists, with the movie yet to come.

The novel is about fallen angels, hybrid angel-humans, and the angelologists who study them. *TIME* magazine's glowing review says, "Trussoni is a bit of a fallen angel herself. In 2006 her memoir, *Falling Through the Earth*, put her in the upper echelons of the literary heavens, but with *Angelology* she has voluntarily consigned herself to the infernal realm of the commercial thriller."



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GOINGS ON, an Account of Current Events

May

1 MINERAL POINT, Opening Day: Outdoor Farmers' Market, Water Tower Park, 8:30-11AM, organic produce, eggs, beef, pork, cheese, honey, bread, syrup, flowers, plants, soap, candles, woven-ware, art, coffee & pastries. Want to be a vendor? Lois 608.987.2097. www.mineralpointmarket.com

1 MINERAL POINT, FIRST MINERAL POINT POTTERY TOUR "CLAY IN MAY" 10 AM-6 PM, 7 Potteries & 10 Potters: Joe & Christy Cole, Bill Grover, Bruce Howdle, Diana & Tom Johnston, Frank Polizzi, Harriet Story, Aaron Weaver & Krista Loomans, Maps & info at potteries & www.clayinmay.com. Also, 7 - 9 PM a bonfire & live music at Windy Ridge Pottery, 3095 State Rd. 39.

1 MINERAL POINT, Free Tours of Renovated Opera House, 1-3 PM, 139 High St, "Condensed Big Top Chautauqua" 10AM for students & public, \$5. Buy tickets at Bergets 257 High St 608.987.3218

1 DARLINGTON, Cinco de Mayo Festival, From 11AM on, Main St. Festival Grounds, Authentic Latin & American food, Music, salsa dancing, Mariachi Band & a Hispanic Orchestra

1 DODGEVILLE, Folklore Village, Barn Dance 7PM, Potluck 6:30PM, Bring a dish, Music by Jim Shank & The Chicken Reelers, Caller Steve Pike, 3210 County BB, 608.924.4000

1 DODGEVILLE, Farmers' Market Opens 8 -11AM, Lot below the Chamber every Sat., 178 N Iowa, 608.935.9200

1-2 MINERAL POINT, Shake Rag Alley Great classes. See www.shakeragalley.com for details & schedule, 18 Shake Rag St, 608.987.3292.

1 thru Oct 31 SPRING GREEN, Frank Lloyd Wright (FLW) Taliesin Estate Open for 1-4 hour Tours Daily, 9AM-4:30 PM, Tours begin at FLW Visitor Center, 5607 County Hwy 23, Make Reservs. at www.taliesinpreservation.org or 877.588.7900

2 MINERAL POINT, Grand Reopening Opera House Events Showcase 1-10PM, Free, 139 High St Donations appreciated, 1-2PM High School Ensembles, 2-4PM Staged Reading of "The Misleading Lady" 5-6 PM Ballet Arts Performance 7-10 PM Live Music w/Kellie Mitchell, Point Five, Rick Harris, Steve Brown & Gregory Merrick, Details at www.mpoh.org 608.987.3292

2 MINERAL POINT, Yarn Painting Workshop w/Sandy Jones, 1PM, La Bella Vita, 12 Fountain St, Call to Register 608.609.0038

2 MINERAL POINT, Haiku Workshop 2PM at Foundry Books, 105 Commerce, 608.987.4363

2 DODGEVILLE, Iowa County Humane Society 7th QuadruPedal 35, 55, 85 or 100 Century Ride. Full sag support, rest stops, meal & showers. Dodgeville Middle School, 951 W. Chapel St. Adults \$55, Youth \$30, Register at 608.9351381 or www.ichs.net

2 SPRING GREEN, Acoustic Jam, The General Store, 1-3:30 PM, 137 S Albany, 608.588.7070

4 MINERAL POINT, Tuesday's at Trinity, Therapist, Claire Holland, 7PM, "Who am I NOW?", Trinity Episcopal Church, 403 High St., Free; All welcome.

4 MINERAL POINT, Shake Rag Alley Children's (K-5) Classes "Nature Arts & Crafts" w/ Di Sterba, FREE, 3:30-4:30PM Tuesdays, 5/4, 5/11, 5/18, & 5/25, 18 Shake Rag St, 608.987.3292 or www.shakeragalley.com

4 DODGEVILLE, "Open Mic/Jam", Folklore Village, 7PM, \$5, 3210 County BB, 608.924.4000

5 DODGEVILLE, Farmers' Market 3-7PM every Wed. in Lot below the Chamber, 178 N Iowa St, 608.935.9200

6 DODGEVILLE, Community Fun 5k Run/Walk, 10k Run 6:30 PM & Kids' Run/Walk 6 PM, Honoring Nurses, \$20, Families (up to 4) \$55, Register at www.uplandhillshealth.org click "Special Events & Classes" or call Jodi 608.930.7112.

7 MINERAL POINT, Red Cross Blood Drive at the Mineral Point High School, 12-6PM, 705 Ross St, Make appts at 1.800.448.3543, www.givelife.com or call Darlene 608.987.3033

7 MINERAL POINT, Jim Post's Mark Twain & The Laughing River, 8PM, Min. Point Opera House, part musical, part drama, Adults \$18 Kids \$7. Tickets at Berget's Jewelers, 257 High St, or Shake Rag Alley, 18 Shake Rag, 608.987.3292 or www.shakeragalley.com

7 DODGEVILLE, Grassroots Citizens for Peace Meeting, 4 PM, 301 Virginia Ct, Help plan "Stones Into Schools" based on Greg Mortenson's book, 608.935.3007

7 SPRING GREEN, First Friday After Five, 5-9PM, Specials at shops, galleries & restaurants. Quilts on display 5/7-5/21/10

8 MINERAL POINT, Farmer's Market, Water Tower Park, 8:30-11 AM. See May 1 for details

8 SPRING GREEN, 4th Jeanene King Memorial Fitness Trail 5K Run/Walk, 8AM, River Valley Middle Sch, \$20, Can sign up race day 7-7:45 only. For details call Lisa at 608.588.

8 SPRING GREEN, Bluegrass Jam 3-6PM, Spring Green General Store, 137 S Albany 608.588.7070

8 SPRING GREEN, 100's of Homemade Quilts in the Courtyard, Shops & Galleries of Spring Green, 8AM-4PM

12 MINERAL POINT, Pendarvis Open for Tours with costumed guides 10AM-5 PM Daily, Last Tour 4PM, www.wisconsinhistory.org/pendarvis or 608.987.2122, 114 Shake Rag

14-16 MINERAL POINT, "Altered Art Attack" Classes, Shake Rag Alley, 18 Shake Rag, Register at 608.987.3292 & see all details at www.shakeragalley.com

15 DODGEVILLE, Annual Uplands Garden Club Plant Sale, 8-11 AM, Annuals, herbs Perennials, Vegetables & more. Harris Park, Ley Pavillion, All welcome.

15 MINERAL POINT, Farmers' Market, Water Tower Park, 8:30 - 11AM, See May 1st entry

15 DODGEVILLE, "Stitch, Spindle & Skein Workshops" Folklore Village, 9AM-4:15PM, Bosnian Crochet, Nalbinding, Spinning & Wool Jewelry, 3210 County BB, Details & to register, Call 608.924.4000 or www.folklorevillage.org

15 DODGEVILLE, Folklore Village, Sat. Night Social, 7PM, Potluck 6:30 PM, Music & Dancing All Welcome. Bring a dish - 3210 County BB, 608.924.4000, www.folklorevillage.org

15 MINERAL POINT, Make Silver Ear Rings w/Kay Rashka 1-5 PM. Shake Rag Alley, 18 Shake Rag St, Register at 608.987.3292 or www.shakeragalley.com

15 DODGEVILLE, Upland Counseling Assocs. presents "Surviving Your Teen: Self Care for Busy Moms" by Laura Gjestson, 10:30-11:45 AM, Upland Hills Health, \$5, 608.935.2838, Check in at Main Desk No reservs needed

15-17 Mineral Point, Fiddler on the Roof, HS performance 7 PM nightly & 1:30PM show on Sun., Min. Point Opera House, 139 High St, Tickets at 608.987.2321 Ext. 381 Open to public Adults \$5-\$6, students \$3-\$4

20-29 MINERAL POINT, Spring Rummage Sale, Trinity Episcopal, 9AM-4PM on 5/20-5/22, 12-4PM on 5/24-5/28, & 9-12 on 5/29.

403 High St, Clothing, appliances; bedding, cookware, & more. Call 608.987.3091

22 MINERAL POINT, Farmers' Market, Water Tower Park, 8:30 - 11AM, See May 1st entry

29 MINERAL POINT, Orchard Lawn Open For Tours thru 9/26/10, Friday & Saturday 1-5PM, Sunday 11AM-2PM, Adults \$5, Children 12-18 \$3. Tours free for Min. Point Historical Society Members. 608.987.2884 Last year to see restoration going on inside & out. Historic photos guiding the restoration are on display.

29 MINERAL POINT, Farmers' Market, Water Tower Par, 8:30-11 AM, See May 1st entry

30 SPRING GREEN, BOB FEST, Outside Spring Green General Store, 11AM-8PM, 25 bands play 9 hours of Bob Dylan songs. Buy food & drinks, bring lawn chair/blanket, 137 S. Albany, 608.588.7070

31 DODGEVILLE, Memorial Day Parade 10:30AM, Downtown

June

SHAKE RAG SCHOOL FOR THE ARTS has a full schedule of Adult Summer classes: Learn to make Jewelry, Art scarves, Felt, Bead, Cement, Glasswork, Draw, Paint, Metal Blacksmithing, Leaf & fish printing, Hypertufa Planters, Mosaic Madness, Rustic, Decorative Fiber, Computer, & Paper/Book Arts, Creative Writing, Mixed Media, Photography, Video, Make a Bent Willow Chair, Embellished Gourds, Collages, Leather Sculpting & more at 18 Shake Rag St, Full schedule at www.shakeragalley.com or 608.987.3292 to register.

CHILDREN'S SUMMER CLASSES AT SHAKE RAG ALLEY: Wild painted furniture, fairy houses, furniture & costumes, Music, paper mache creatures, twig picture frames, tie-dyed shirts, leaf prints, ceramic masks, birdhouses, hammered jewelry, create a peace mural, be in a Play, Origami, & Laura Ingalls Wilder Day. Full schedule at www.shakeragalley.com or 608.987.3292 to register.

1 DODGEVILLE, "Open Mic/Jam" at Folklore Village, 7PM, \$5, 3210 County BB, 608.924.4000

4 SPRING GREEN, First Fridays After Five, 5-8 PM, Art, Specials in shops, galleries, cafes

4-5 DODGEVILLE, Iowa Cty's American Cancer Society Relay for Life, Harris Park, 5 PM Register www.relayforlife.org/iowacountywi

4-5 DODGEVILLE, Garage Sale--proceeds to Iowa County Humane Society & We-Care, Fri. 4-8PM, Sat. 7 AM-3PM, Plymouth Congreg. Church, 115 W. Merrimac, 608.574.4706

5 MINERAL POINT, Farmers' Market Water Tower Park, 8:30-11 AM, See May 1st entry

5 MINERAL POINT, GALLERY NIGHT, 5-9PM, Galleries & shops serve refreshments & offer fine art, hand-made pottery, glass, furniture, jewelry, painting, photography, sculpture, printmaking, weaving & more, www.mineral-point.com/art/gallery_night.html

5 MINERAL POINT, Alley Stage presents Vocalist & Guitarist Adam Wyle, at Min. Point Opera House, 8 PM, \$15 (\$35 for dinner & show) Tickets at www.alleystage.com, 1.800.838.3006 or 608.987.3292. Tickets \$20 at door. No reerved seating Doors open 7:30 PM

5 DODGEVILLE, Annual Iowa County Dairy Breakfast, 6:30-11 AM At John & Cindy Reynolds' Farm, 3725 Reynolds Rd, Buy tickets at door, Adults \$6, Kids 6-12 \$3, 608.987.2478.

5 THRU Oct. 17, SPRING GREEN, American Players' Theatre Open, 5950 Golf Course Rd, Plays: "As You Like It", "All's Well That Ends Well", "Another Part of the Forest", "The Circle" "Major Barbara" & In the Touchstone Theatre: "Waiting for Godot", "The Syringa Tree" & "Exits & Entrances". Show times, dining options, ticket information at www.playinthewoods.org or 608.588.2361

6 MINERAL POINT, Pendarvis Visitor Appreciation Day 10AM-5 PM, Last Tour 4PM, All welcome, \$2 per person today only. Kids under 5 Free. www.wisconsinhistory.org/pendarvis 608.987.2122, 114 Shake Rag

6 DODGEVILLE, Lion's Flea Market, Antique & Collectible Show, 8:30AM-3PM, Ley Pavilion, Harris Park, 608.935.3926

6 SPRING GREEN, Acoustic Jam at the General Store, 1-3:30PM, 137 S Albany, 608.588.7070

9 MINERAL POINT, "Make a Splash--Read!" Summer Library Pgm for Preschool & Grades 1-6, 10:30AM, Library Park, "Wild, Wet, & Wacky with the Wonder Weaver's Storytellers, 137 High St.

9 DODGEVILLE, Lands End Summer Concert, 7PM, Harris Park, 600 Bennett Rd. Bring a lawn chair/blanket & food or buy food there.

10-13 DARLINGTON, Annual Canoe Festival, 35+ events, Canoe Race, tournaments, stockcar races, steak feed, dances, arts & crafts. chicken BBQ, carnival, parade, & Fireworks, 608.776.3067 www.darlingtonwi.org.

11 MINERAL POINT, "Jammin' on the Porch" w/La Barge at Orchard Lawn, 5:30-7:30 PM, Bring lawn chairs/blankets, a picnic dinner, drinks & a great outdoor event, 234 Madison St, 608.987.1180, www.mineralpointhistory.org

11-13 MINERAL POINT, Mosaic Madness Classes at Shake Rag Center for the Arts, Call 608.987.3292, details at www.shakeragalley.com

12 MINERAL POINT, Farmer's Market, Water Tower Park, 8:30-11 AM, See May 1st entry

12 DODGEVILLE, Dodgeville Fireman's Dance, Harris Park, Ley Pavilion, 8PM, Music, food, beer tent (608) 935-3035

12 SPRING GREEN, Bluegrass Jam 3-6PM, Spring Green General Store, 137 S Albany 608.588.7070

13 SPRING GREEN, Bach Dancing & Dynamite Society at the Frank Lloyd Wright (FLW) Hillside Theater, 2:30PM "Dangerous Liasons" & 6:30PM "The End of the Affair" County Hwy. 23, Tickets \$32, Students \$10, Read about guest performers & buy tickets at 608.255.9866, FLW Visitor Center, 608.588.7900 or www.bachdancinganddynamite.org

14-18 SPRING GREEN, Architecture Camp for Grades 5-12, Taliesin, 5481 County Hwy C, "Design Your Dream Space" 9-12 & "Wright in Nature" 1-4PM. www.taliesinpreservation.org, Register at 480.627.5355 or 608.588.7900.

16 MINERAL POINT, "Make a Splash--Read!" Summer Library Pgm for Preschool & Grades 1-6, 10:30AM, Library Park, 137 High

16 DODGEVILLE, Lands End Summer Concert, 7PM, Harris Pk, 600 Bennett Rd, Bring a lawn chair/blanket & food or buy food there

17 SPRING GREEN, Mixed Media Art Workshop w/Nancy Giffey, Frank Lloyd Wright Visitor Center, Hwy 23 & Cty Rd. C, 608.588.2511

or chamblen@franklloydwright.org

18 MINERAL POINT, Bach Dancing & Dynamite Society, "Brave New World", The Min. Point Opera House, 7:30PM, 139 High St. Adults \$32, Students \$10, Buy tickets at the door or get info & tickets at 608.255.9866, or www.bachdancinganddynamite.org.

19 MINERAL POINT, Farmers' Market, Water Tower Park, 8:30-11AM, See May 1st entry

19 MINERAL POINT, Town & Country Garden Tour, 9AM-1 PM, 5 Country Gardens & 3 In-Town Gardens tucked away in rolling, wooded hills. See garden & rustic art, & talk shop with owners, Rain or Shine, \$12, Buy tickets early or the 19th at Shake Rag, 18 Shake Rag, 608.987.3292 www.shakeragalley.com.

19 MINERAL POINT, Town & Country Garden Bus Tour with WI Public TV's "Wisconsin Gardener" Shelly Ryan, 9AM - 1 PM, \$35, See entry above for details.

19 MINERAL POINT, "Roots of History", Pendarvis, 10AM-4PM Arborist Bruce Allison, author of Every Root an Anchor, Wisconsin's Famous & Historic Trees & If Trees Could Talk, 11-Noon Tour Merry Christmas Mine Hill Prairie & discuss prairie plants & grasses 1-2PM, Min. Point Tree Commission Members 2-3PM discuss the Tree City USA program & 3-4PM Tracey Roberts talks about early lead mining in SW WI & tours the Prairie at Merry Christmas Mine Hill, 608.987.2122, 212 Spruce See www.pendarvishistoricsite.org

19 MINERAL POINT, Pendarvis Midsummer Pub Night, 7-10 PM, Song, games & celebration, Kiddleywink Pub. Live Music, \$10 Cash bar, 608.987.2122, 212 Spruce St. www.wisconsinhistory.org/pendarvis

20 MINERAL POINT, Annual Fly In/Drive In Breakfast, Hodan Center Fund Raiser, 7AM-Noon, Iowa County Airport, 3151 State Rd 39, \$6 at Hodan Center, 941 W. Fountain St, \$7 at the door, 608.987.3336

20 SPRING GREEN, Bach Dancing & Dynamite Society at the Frank Lloyd Wright Hillside Theater, "Brave New World" 2:30 PM & "The Sound & The Fury" at 6:30 PM, See 6/13 entry above for details & tickets

23 MINERAL POINT, "Make a Splash--Read!" Summer Library Pgm. for Preschool & Grades 1-6, 10:30AM, Library Park, 137 High

23 DODGEVILLE, Lands End Summer Concert, 7PM, Harris Pk, 600 Bennett Rd, Bring a lawn chair/blanket & food or buy food there.

26 MINERAL POINT, Farmers' Market, Water Tower Park, 8:30-11AM, See May 1st entry

26 MINERAL POINT, Annual Brat Feed, Auction, & Raffle Fund Raiser for the Mineral Point Rescue Squad, 4:30-7:30PM, Eat there or get Carry out. 907 Ridge St, 608.987.2752

26 MINERAL POINT, Alley Stage Opening Night with Eli Walker Palzkill in "Steps, A One Woman Show, portraying 4 diverse individuals, 8 PM, Tickets at www.alleystage.com, 1.800.383.3006 or Shake Rag 608.987.3292

26-27 SPRING GREEN, 41st Arts & Crafts Fair, Sat 9am-5pm, Sun 10am-4pm, Over 200 exhibitors, On Jefferson St, & dancing & Music, 608.588.7082 www.springgreenartfair.com

27 SPRING GREEN, Bach Dancing & Dynamite Society at Frank Lloyd Wright Hillside Theater, "A Tale of Two Cities" 2:30PM & "East of Eden" 6:30 PM, Read 6/13 entry above for details & ticket info.

30 MINERAL POINT, "Make a Splash--Read!" Summer Library Pgm for Preschool & Grades 1-6, 10:30AM, Library Park, 137 High Street.

IN JULY, WATCH FOR: FOURTH OF JULY ACTIVITIES in Mineral Point: Walk/Run, Big parade, Chicken in the Park, Ice Cream Social, Concert, & Fireworks at Soldiers' Park. See details at www.mineralpoint.com & WOODLANDER'S (A Summer Camp for Adults!) Choose from 60 workshops: rustic furniture, garden art, woodcarvings, natural art projects using twigs, branches, fresh bendable willow, gourds, stone, leather, plants, cement, metal, & more. At Shake Rag Alley 7/9-7/12/10. 608.987.3292 or for details, see www.shakeragalley.com



SANDEE SENDS OUT A WEEKLY EMAIL CALENDAR OF EVENTS EVERY WEDNESDAY. WANT TO RECEIVE THIS EMAIL? TO "JOIN UP," WRITE TO SANDEE AT sandeeb@charter.net