



Business Spotlight for July:

Waterloo Area Historical Society & Museum

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Board of Directors: Maureen Giese (President), Ruth Quade-Deppe (Vice-President), Rita Dow (Secretary), Kathleen Lawrence (Treasurer), Evelyn Kiesow, Jim Reynolds and Karen Turley.

The Waterloo Area Historical Society was organized at the end of 1976, during the bicentennial year of the United States. Many citizens wanted to protect and preserve Waterloo's early history as people were celebrating the nation's past. Many descendants of the early settlers valued their heritage. When the 1869 St. Joseph's Catholic Church Building came up for sale, Ellen Schwandt Perry bought the building (and the Rectory which was eventually sold). She then donated the Church to the newly formed Waterloo Area Historical Society.

This year we are celebrating the new entrance and the handicapped lift. Now we are accessible to everyone! We feature original artwork by early Waterloo artists Zula Kenyon and Adelaide Hiebel. Zula Kenyon was the FIRST woman calendar artist in the United States. Homecoming pictures of the early settlers, 1905-1935 and the Homecoming Book by Elaine J. Gorder tell the story of those early pioneers – "another FIRST for Waterloo," one newspaper printed. The Homecoming celebrations were held in the beautiful FIREMEN'S PARK, which was built by the early settlers in 1905. We have other historical books for sale (all written by Waterloo Historical Society volunteers): Historic One Room, One Teacher Schools in the WATERLOO Area, The History of Waterloo Utilities 1908-2008, Waterloo, Wisconsin and the Sesquicentennial 2009, Waterloo, Wisconsin.

The Museum is open on Sundays from 1-4pm from Memorial Day to Labor Day. You can call 1.608.831.0814 for other times by appointment. We also provide genealogy information for people researching their descendants from the Waterloo area. Cemetery lists, some tax and school records, family data collected by Ray Twining in the 1930s, plat and county maps are available for researchers. Waterloo City Hall (920.478.3025) has a list of phone numbers of volunteers who can open the Museum for researchers.



We are a non-profit, tax-exempt, charitable organization. All of our Directors volunteer their time and talents to keeping the Waterloo Historical Museum functioning. We exist on a small amount from the City of Waterloo to cover our insurance and upkeep. No admission is charged. Our 95 members, many who live out of state but have Waterloo ties, help us pay the bills. Please consider joining the Society or making a donation as we struggle to keep up with rising costs. Help us keep the history of the Waterloo area preserved for our future. We need to value our heritage in this global world!