



# The Pinery

PUBLISHED NOW & THEN BY THE PORTAGE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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## Reviewing the Year REVIEWING THE YEAR

We thought there should be a second number of the Pinery this year so we are going to use it to give a bit of a review of the year County Historical wise. The year hasn't seen as many accomplishments as some years but we have made progress and history.

## MEETINGS

The General Meeting at the Almond high School on March 19th was one of great interest. Local history relative to the village and the telephone company was given, also the local bank known as the Portage County Bank. Also to observe the Civil War Centennial excerpts from the Civil War diary of Jerome Adams were read by a descendant. This proved to be most interesting.

In June a group of Society members met at The Antlers, 12 miles north of Stevens Point on Lake DuBay, for dinner. Before dinner the group assembled at the Mariana across from the supper club for a discussion of the Du Bay trading post once located on a point of land now covered by the waters of the Lake. The discussion was led by Malcolm Rosholt, Society President.

November 14, a general meeting was held in the Demonstration Room of the County-City Building in Stevens Point at which Dr. Leland Pomainville of Wisconsin Rapids was the speaker. Coffee and doughnuts were served before and after the meeting.

These general meetings are always a fine opportunity for meeting your Society friends. Why not plan to attend them in 1968?

## MARKERS PLACED THIS YEAR

Two long planned Markers commemorating historical spots became a reality this year. The first one was erected in June in Stevens Point on the Public Square. It tells the history of the public square. The State Historical Society authorized the plaque; Malcolm Rosholt of the Portage County Historical Society prepared the wording; the Stevens Point Chamber of Commerce paid for it and the City Street Department put it up. The inscription reads: "The first land entry affecting Stevens Point after the Indian treaty of 1836 was made by Andrew Mullarkey in 1844. This land was purchased by Mathias Mitchell who in 1847 platted four streets and the Public Square. A liberty pole with homemade flag stood in the center. Here recruits for the Civil War enrolled and community celebrations took place. Since 1870 it has been used for a Farmer's Market, famous for its Old World flavor." At its top the plaque bears the insignia of the Portage County Historical Society.

The other marker erected is the DuBay Trading Post Marker which was erected late this fall on Highway 51 north of Stevens Point near Lake Du Bay. This Marker was suggested by our County Society some time ago, and its text was also written by Mr. Rosholt with other members of the society giving suggestions. This is a state historical marker and bears the insignia of all state markers. The text of the marker is: "Du Bay Trading Post. In 1834 John Batiste Du Bay established a trading post on the Wisconsin River one mile west of here for the American Fur Company. His wife was Princess Madeline, daughter of Oshkosh, Chief of the Menominee Indians. According to tradition, Du Bay's father

John Lewis Du Bay, a French-Canadian voyager, spent the winter of 1790 on the same site, which was known to the Chippeas as Nay-osh-ing, meaning 'the Point'. Because of an underwater ledge, this was the first place north of Petenwell Rock where the river could be forded on foot and therefore became a strategic Indian crossing to the Black River hunting grounds to the west. In the 1860s stagecoaches operating between Stevens Point and Wausau took on passengers here. Lake Du Bay, created in 1942, covers the original site of the trading post. A monument marks Du Bay's grave in Knowlton Cemetery 2 1/2 miles north of here."

WISCONSIN CALENDARS FOR 1963

Start 1963 right with a Wisconsin Historical Calendar. We have a shipment, they may be secured at the Public Library, the College Library, or from anyone of the Board of Directors. Here are their names and telephone numbers:

Stevens Point

- C. D. Swanson DI 4 4033
- Nels Kampenga College Library
- M. J. Willett DI 4 6078
- A. M. Anderson DI 4 4572
- C. W. Nason, Jr. Res. DI 4 5510
- Off. DI 4 4520
- L. M. Burroughs DI 4 6862
- Marie Swallow DI 4 2622
- Mrs. Win Rothman DI 4 4004

County

- Winifred Harvey Amherst
- Alice Gordon Nelsonville
- Mrs. M. Jacklin Almond
- Malcolm Rosholt Rosholt
- Elmer Ross Plover DI 4 2565
- or DI 4 5100

They will make a splendid gift or Greeting Card for the New Year.

EXHIBIT

The current exhibit is the Society case at the Courthouse is an interesting one especially for children. Mrs. Win Rothman loaned a doll and a set of dishes she had played with as a little girl. The other doll belongs to the Society. It was the gift of Mrs. Alice Rogers Chapman and had belonged to her Mother, Mrs. George Rogers.

THE NOVEMBER MEETING

Dr. Leland Pomainville, Wisconsin Rapids, was the speaker at a General Meeting of the Portage County Historical Society November 14.

Dr. Pomainville, chairman of the advisory committee for the Wisconsin Council of Local History, addressed the group in the Demonstration Room of the County-City Building. The 15 member advisory committee is made up of a representative from each of the seven regions of the state, members of the state historical board of curators who have been presidents of their local societies, and the director and supervisor of the Office of the Local History of the State Society.

Dr. Pomainville, Chairman of the South Wood County Corporation, spoke on the early history of Wood County as it related to Portage County. He traced the history from Portage County's early boundaries which were from the Michigan line to below the present city of Portage and told how the counties were formed from this. He showed the likeness of the two counties in the lumber industry and told how saw mills were built because of the swift water. He explained that all of this was made possible by the Indian Treaty of 1836 when land 3 miles deep and 40 miles long on each side of the river was ceded to the whites.

He spoke of the relation of Plover Portage to the Wisconsin River, Waupaca, and Black Rivers.

Dr. Pomainville invited members to attend the meeting of the Seventh Region at Wisconsin Rapids, March 23rd.

DO U OWE YOUR 1962-63 Dues

Please check your last membership card and see if it reads: For the year ending April 1, 1963. If it does you are a member in good standing. If it does not want you sent your dollars for an up to date membership right away to Mrs. Win Rothman, Treas.

Portage County Historical Society  
550 Briggs Street  
Stevens Point, Wisconsin

On April 1, 1963 it will be time for 1963-64 dues.