

Official Publication of the Portage County Historical Society of Wisconsin

Creating Community Through Local History

Sue Koehl

The April 6 and 7 kickoff events honoring Portage County's role in World War One were a wonderful celebration of the efforts of our veterans and the local community supporting their efforts. Just like in 1917, it took a whole community to pull off all of these events and we are grateful for all the support and assistance with these events, from working behind the scenes to being on stage. Community support from all over Portage County made these events a reality. Thank you Portage County!

The book series on the Portage County story will continue with several books in process. Watch future newsletters for details. Check out the titles we have in publication. Visit the Synagogue bookstore, the Heritage Park bookstore, the selection at Mission Coffee House in Plover or email the Society.

The six building museum exhibit at Heritage Park will open Memorial Day weekend and we hope you will visit the park this summer to learn more about the Portage County story. More details later in the newsletter. Like other parts of this project, many hands from all over the community were involved with this exhibit; building the trench, crafting mannequins to fit the World War One era uniforms, sewing curtains to enhance the exhibit space, arranging and displaying artifacts and writing display panels and finishing a grand display space (and beautiful bathroom) in the barn. Truly your PCHS community and friends have created an exhibit to be proud of.

Through this project, PCHS has connected with people from all over Portage County and from around the country and these connections are strengthening our research data base. Through the expertise of Paul Valasek, our Polish Army speaker in October, we have been able to help people get connected to stories about their family history and through them we have strengthened our knowledge of Portage County's role in the Polish Army.

In our research on Vice Admiral Grant, not only did we locate his family to bring them into our PCHS family and celebrate the Admiral's role

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Society Events

June 17 & 18: Heritage Days.
Saturday 10-4; Sunday 11-4.

Murder on Main Street! Walking Tour

October 2017 - Date to be set.

Book Store

Located in the Synagogue will be open for business during the Synagogue's regular hours of operation.

Synagogue

Open Memorial Day to
Labor Day
Saturday & Sunday 1 - 4pm
By appointment 715-600-4930

Historic Fire House No. 2

Open Memorial Day to
Labor Day
Saturdays
9 am - 1:30pm
By appointment 715-600-4930

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President's Report

After two years of research and work on the Portage County World War I project called "Over There", the project committee (Sue Koehl, Sarah Scripps and Tim Siebert), the Society board and several dozen supporters have begun to present the results of that work. The project has involved a wide variety of people from the county including high school students, university students, several community organizations and business groups as well as interested individuals. In its early stages the project received a boost from the Sentry Insurance Foundation committing an initial \$3,000 and the use of the Sentry theater without cost, Bernie Patterson, President of the UWSP along with the History and Art Departments of the UWSP and financial support from the Community Foundation and the Laird Youth Leadership Foundation. Without this early assistance it would have been difficult to bring the project to fruition.

The result of the work put in by all of these people has been the ability to publish a series of books, a video, a reader's theater, a park dedication, a speaker series and displays at Heritage Park which try to bring the feelings and experiences of the people of Portage County at that time to those of today.

Two of the books are transcriptions of letters written by the men and women who joined the military, nursing corps or one of the support organizations such as the YMCA. The letters were written home to family who then submitted them to the local newspapers. The two books give an insight into the feelings and thinking of the young men and women in the war effort. A third book is a discussion of the raising and training of Portage County's volunteer cavalry unit-Troop I. This unit would, when federalized, become the 120th Field Artillery still located in Stevens Point. Congressional Medal of Honor recipient, Clayton Slack, is the subject of a fourth book (put together by Anton Anday) discussing Slack's life but also, in his own words, talking about his life in the army and how he won the medal. Rationing was not an imposed rule in the war but people were asked to cut back or save various types of food so the troops could have more. The Society has reprinted two cookbooks of that time with recipes that try to show how to save food and still have a wholesome meal. Songs of the Trenches is a book of poetry done by a British Captain in 1915 which gives a very intense look at life in the trenches. Ernestine Schuman-Heinke was the premier opera singer in the world from about 1890 to about 1930. She had one son in the German army and three in the U.S. military. She would travel the U.S. trying to raise funds for the war effort and became known as the mother of the American Legion. She had family in Stevens Point and considered it her second home. She would travel here and visit her family as well as give concerts for the people living in the area. The

(Continued on page 3)



Heritage Park

Open Memorial Day to
Labor Day
Saturday & Sunday 1 - 4pm
By appointment 715-600-4930

June 17 & 18: Heritage Days.
Saturday 10-4; Sunday 11-4.

Rising Star Mill

Sat./Sun. May 27-28 - RSM Art
Show and Sale

All concerts start at 7 PM.

Friday June 16, 2017- Art Ste-
venson and Highwater

Saturday, July 22 - Green Bay
Pickers (Eddie Beibel plus 3)

Friday, August 18 - Dekorra

Open House Oct. 6-7 - 8 "Barns
of Portage County"



The Pinery

Official Publication of the
Portage County
Historical Society
of Wisconsin.

Published 4 times a year;
March 20th, May 20th,
Sept. 20th, Dec. 20th.



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The Pinery Society has published a short biography of her put together by Diane Peplinski. Paul Collins was a pilot in the Great War (his father was a professor at Stevens Point Normal School) and would, later, become one of the early air mail pilots. A book, Tales of an Old Air Faring Man, by William Clark is a biography of Collins and the Society has reprinted it. The Society also received permission from authors Elaine Dorland and Terrance McGarty to reprint a history of the U.S.S. Grant. The Grant was a destroyer during World War II that was named for Portage County's only admiral, Albert Weston Grant. There are two more books yet to be published. One is a biography of Carl Jacobs (Hardware Mutual Insurance/Sentry Insurance) based on his letters home as a private in the trenches. Finally, the Society will publish a book which will bring together a wide variety of issues and topics revolving around the war that are not covered in the other publications.

Thanks to the efforts of Assistant Professor Sarah Scripps of the UWSP History and International Studies Dept. and several of her classes have been able to produce a half hour video on the role of Central Wisconsin in the Great War entitled Great War, Great Change for the Society. The video was premiered as part of a larger production put together by Sue Koehl and staged at the Sentry Theater, April 6th. The reading theater used letters, speeches and other materials read by current local people who hold the same position today as the people whose letters or materials they were reading. The production was done twice. In the afternoon, it was put on using high school students from around the county and done for students from all five districts in the area. The evening production was done for the community members interested in learning about the role of the county in this history changing war. After the reading theater finished its portion the Great War, Great Change video was shown.

The next day, April 7th, the Society, in conjunction with the City Parks Department (Tom Schrader) and Mayor Wiza, was able to have a park dedicated to Admiral Grant along the Wisconsin River just south of the Clark St. bridge. The event was attended by 17 of the Admiral's descendants from all over the east coast of the U.S.

On Memorial Day the Society will open its museums in Heritage Park using six of the buildings and a trench mock up to portray various aspects of the role Portage County would play in the Great War. The Church/Museum focuses on the military aspects of the conflict, the Franklin House the sacrifices involved, the Bancroft Depot is being used to give a sense of saying goodbye, the Hie Corner School will display how propaganda was used to promote patriotism and the war effort, the milk house portion of the Agricultural Museum (Pierce Building) to show what the young men left behind and the Precourt Blacksmith Shop has a similar theme. The park will be open every Saturday and Sunday from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm until Labor Day.

On the third weekend of June, the 17th & 18th, Heritage Days will be at the park. We will host a Great War camp reenactment. Ruthie Engford and Frank Clark will also be at the park to talk about their life in the circus.

The Society has also been the recipient of a book put together by Marilee Kort called Pioneers and Prominent People of Stevens Point and the Surrounding Area. This is a terrific resource culled from a wide variety of sources. The book took about two years to compile. Ms. Kort has donated all the proceeds to the Society and we wish to extend our deep thanks to her for this gift. The book is available from the Society for \$25.

Diane Peplinski has given the Society permission to print a book she put together from newspaper articles on the murders of Portage County. The title of the book is just that-Murders of Portage County and is available from the Society for \$25.

(Continued on page 4)



(Continued from page 3)

The Pinery

Assistant Professor Sarah Scripps is now the new curator of the Synagogue Museum and, with her work on the Great War project, has become a great asset to the Society. We would like to thank her for taking on this complicated project.

The new curator for the Fire House No. 2 is David Simonis. He has already done a great deal of work on the interior of the structure by fixing brick walls, painting and repairing a variety of things on the main floor. Along with being the Vice President of the Society Mr. Simonis has also become a great asset to the working of the Society.

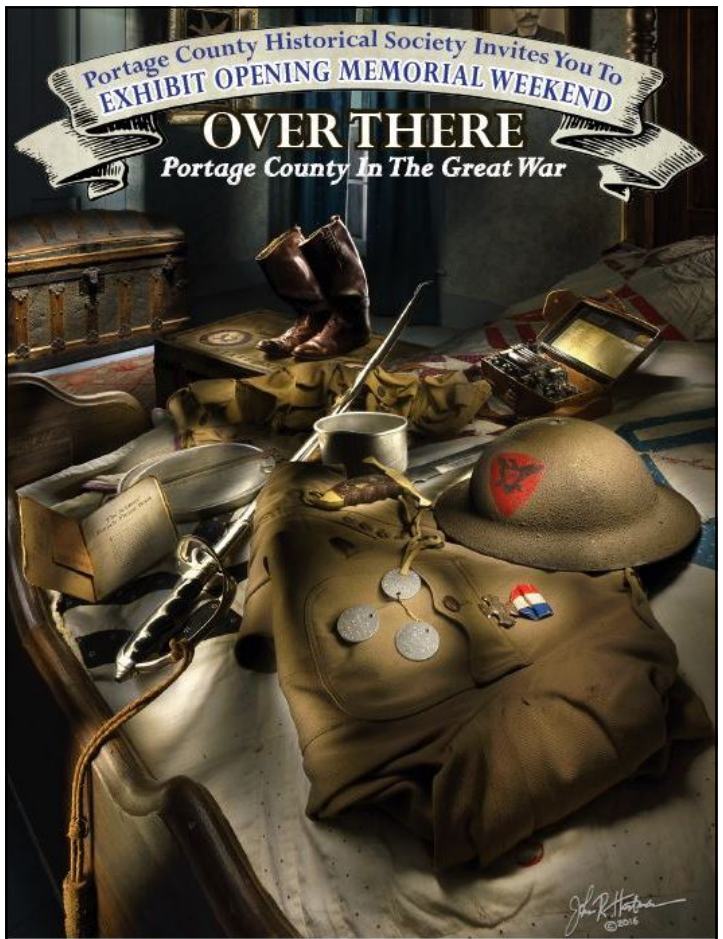
The Society has received a memorial fund in the name of Mr. Reid Rocheleau in the amount of, roughly, \$2,200. Mr. Rocheleau had expressed an interest in the preservation of the Fire House No. 2 and it will be up to the board of directors to determine how the funds will be used on that project.

The annual meeting of the Society was held on April 6th and the membership elected to renew three board members Mr. Terry Wick, Mr. Jerry Rohlinger and Ms. Mary Egle and one new member Ms. Mary Beth Anday. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all four of them for their efforts on behalf of the Society and for agreeing to serve on the board of directors.

The election of officers was held at the May 10th Board of Director's meeting. Elected to serve a two year term were:

- President: Tim Siebert
- Vice-President: Dave Simonis
- Secretary: Jerry Rohlinger
- Treasurer: Janet Zblewski

The Portage County Historical Society would like to announce that a book store located in the Synagogue museum will be open during the same times as the museum itself is open this summer. The book store will have available, roughly, 60 books and booklets on County history along with some city directories and school annuals. The offering will include all of the books recently published regarding Portage County in The Great War, Ms. Kort's book on Pioneers and Prominent People of Portage County and Ms. Peplinski's book on Portage County Murders. Other, smaller items, Civil War hat replicas, post cards and a variety of other offerings will also be available.



Portage County Historical Society Invites You To
EXHIBIT OPENING MEMORIAL WEEKEND

OVER THERE
Portage County In The Great War

HERITAGE PARK
Saturdays & Sundays 1:00PM-5:00PM
OPEN MEMORIAL WEEKEND thru LABOR DAY WEEKEND
The Corner of Willow Drive and Washington Avenue in Plover, Wisconsin
Thank You to Our Sponsors:

Visit Us During

HERITAGE PARK DAYS

June 17-18, 2017







FREE ADMISSION



(Continued from page 1)

The Pinery in shaping the modern navy, but we made new connections. We met Beatrice Danielski, whose husband Emil served on the DD-649 USS Albert Grant during its last mission in World War 2, serving as an escort ship with General MacArthur's campaign to Japan. Beatrice is 93 years old and a lifelong resident of Stevens Point and shared her husband's memorabilia with us. Thanks to the research efforts of Jerry Rohlinger, we learned about the book DD-649 USS Albert W. Grant, co-authored by Elaine Dorland, which is a history of the service of the ship named in honor of Admiral Grant. Tim secured permission for the Society to print this book so it is available as part of the World War One book series. Tim also received the flag which was flown over the ship (and lowered) when President Roosevelt passed away in office. Thank you Elaine, another member of our extended PCHS family.

This project has created connections that we couldn't dream of when the project kicked off in 2014 and we are excited to see what other connections we will make during the course of the exhibition. Thank you for your support of this project!

RISING STAR MILL

The Rising Star Mill is about to launch its 2017 season by first hosting a "Clean-up Day at the Mill" on Saturday May 13 from 9 AM to 12 noon. Volunteers and Friends of the Mill will spend a few hours getting the mill into shape for upcoming school tours and the cultural events that follow, throughout the summer.

The nomination report has been completed and submitted for the Rising Star Mill to be placed on the National Registry of Historical Places. Now we must wait for the process to be completed in Washington D.C. and Madison.

Also, the first planned stage of painting the Mill, will begin in May and several volunteers will begin removing and disposing of clutter from the basement. Busy and exciting time of year.

Jim Walker

"Over There" Program

The "Over There" program was presented in two performances at the Sentry theater. The Society would like to thank Sentry Insurance for providing the theater free of cost.

The afternoon program was geared to high school student participation. This included student readers and a band with members from all five area school districts. The script and video were the same as the evening program. The students did a marvelous job.

In the evening the program was presented using adult readers, many representing the jobs that the original writers held. This included such jobs as mayor or sheriff. The Northern Gateway Chorus Stevens Point Barbershoppers sang a number of period songs before and after the program. The readers' theater lasted about 30 minutes and the Video took about 30 minutes.

The evening program had about 500 people in attendance.

"Over There" Presentation Program April 6, 2017 at Sentry Theater

OVER THERE
Portage County In The Great War Program

Presentation of the Colors
American Legion Post 543 - Plover
John Paul II Polish Legion of American Veterans Post 185

Pledge of Allegiance
Richard Weston Grant III, LT, USN

**Northern Gateway Chorus
Stevens Point Barbershoppers**
"Star Spangled Banner"

Welcome
Patty Dreier, Portage County Executive
Todd Kuckkahn, Portage County Business Council

Project Overview/Thank you
Tim Siebert & Sue Koehl, Portage County Historical Society

**Northern Gateway Chorus
Stevens Point Barbershoppers**
"Over There"

"Voices of Portage County"
Readers theater presentation

Documentary Introduction
Sarah Scripps, University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point

"Over There"
Documentary presentation

Invitation to Visit Heritage Park
Tim Siebert

**Northern Gateway Chorus
Stevens Point Barbershoppers**
"You Belong to me" "God Bless the USA"

"Voices of Portage County"
In Order of Appearance

NARRATOR Jim O'Connell
President Wilson Dave Bakken
Senator Bob LaFollette Erik McFarland
J. Roe Pflfner Brian Formella
Enlist Now article Patty Dreier
Daniel Frost Dan Mahoney
Mayor Walters Mike Wiza
Don C. Hall Justin Isherwood
Lieutenant John Deptalo Stan Potocki
King George letter Paul Munck
Chief of Police Hoofsos Anthony Zblewski
Restricted Area Small article Craig Gerlach
F.W. Leahy Gene Kemmeter
Prohibition ad Marc Christianson
Bertha Glennon Quinn Casey
Frank Hyer, Jr. Anthony Abel
UWSP in War Effort article Lee Willis
Congressman Browne Joe Nowinski
Candidate Michael Eberlein Dennis Raabe
C.S. Orthman Bill Schierl
Madame Schumann-Heink Maxine Hogan
George Chapman Sam Kulick
Women's Role - Home Front Erin Andrews
Sara Buck Nicole Harsh
Selma Voight Memorial Meg Erler
Carl Jacobs Erich Jacobs
Bertha Glennon Quinn Casey
Frank Hyer, Jr. Anthony Abel
George Nelson, McGlachlin School Dedication David Chrisinger
Admiral Grant, Commendation William Jenkins
Clayton Slack, Medal of Honor Citation Daniel Kontos
Flanders Field poem Anton Anday

Technical Support Crew
Nathaniel Springer, Pat Hogan, Renee Davis, Leslie Rusek,
Eric Manz, Melissa DeBot, Cherith Bevers & Rick Whipp

Major Sponsors








*Thank You Thank you
for supporting this project*

THANK YOU
**To Our Volunteers and
Our Supporters Who Made
This Project Possible!**



Learn more about **OVER THERE**,
Portage County in The Great War
Visit Heritage Park
Open Memorial Weekend thru Labor Day Weekend
Saturdays and Sundays | 1 p.m. - 5 p.m.

*Heritage Park is located on the corner of Washington Ave.
and Willow Dr. in Plover, WI.*

Admiral Grant Park Dedication

Albert Weston Grant, Portage County's only Admiral, was one of the key people in the evolution of the modern American navy. Admiral Grant is seen as the father of the submarine service, he was responsible for the beginning of the use of electricity on naval ships and commanded the Atlantic Battle Fleet during the Great War. He also wrote a book that would be used as a standard text at Annapolis for several decades.

With this in mind the Society and the City of Stevens Point (thanks to Mayor Wiza and Tom Schrader of the Parks Dept.) set aside the piece of park land along the Wisconsin River to be named for the Admiral. Seventeen members of the Grant family came from all over the east coast to attend the park dedication. His Great grandson Lt. Grant (U.S.N.) gave a key speech discussing the Admiral's accomplishments. William Jenkins (U.S.N. Ret.) also talked about the Admiral's impact on the modern navy. Several color guard units were present as well as a firing squad.

A thank you to Sgt. Tony Zblewski of the Stevens Point Police Dept. for setting up the Color Guards and Firing Squad. After taps was played a reception was held at Scarbachio's for the members of the Grant family and other guests.



Grand Opening Heritage Park WWI Displays

On Friday, April 7, after the Admiral Grant Park dedication many of the dedication attendees went to Heritage Park for a ribbon cutting.

This took place in front of the Church/Museum and initiated the Society's two summer long remembrance of the Great War and the county's role in that conflict. The group cutting the ribbon included The Great War committee members, Plover officials and members of the Albert W. Grant family. The park will officially open for the general public during the Memorial Day weekend.



A Huge Thank You!

The Society thanks the dozens of people, institutions, organizations and business groups that helped make not only the April 6th program become a success but also the displays, books and speaker program possible.

On behalf of the Great War Committee and the Historical Society I wish to thank you for all of your help. Your financial help, volunteer time and various skills made all this possible.

Tim Siebert

OVER THERE

Portage County in The Great War

MAJOR SUPPORTERS

Portage County Historical Society
Sentry Insurance
University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point
Community Foundation of Central Wisconsin

FINANCIAL SUPPORTERS

Amy & Dave Bakken	Laird Youth Leadership Foundation
Lucky & Cheryl Copps	Ray & Mary Nass
Tim Copps	Steven & Jeanne Regnier
DigiCOPY of Stevens Point	Rotary Club of Stevens Point
Ellis Stone	Dr. Jay & Leslie Rusek
Drs. Fred & Jeanne Groos	Don & Tina Peters
Heritage of Portage County, Inc.	Debbie Schumer
William & Teri Jenkins	John Seramur
John Paul II Polish Legion of American Veterans Post 185	Tom & Deb Stafford
Kiwanis Club of Plover	Stevens Point Area Retired Teachers Association
Knight of Columbus	Team Schierl Companies
St. Bronislava Council 13880	Dr. Tim & Becky Wirtz
Dr. Paul & Sue Koehl	Auto Select

PROGRAM SUPPORTERS AND VOLUNTEERS

Jim Abredaris	Justiceworks	Jerry Rohlinger
Almond Bancroft High School	John Kedrowski	Rosholt High School
Amherst High School	Kaylyn Kluck	Mary Sadler
Anton & Mary Beth Anday	Marilee Kort	Shulfer's Sprinklers & Landscaping, Chris & Liane Shuller
Judy Anderson	Greg Kurtzweil	Mark Seller
Cherith Bevers	Rita Kurzinski	Shannon Semmerling
Boys & Girls Club of Portage County Art Club	Lincoln Center Donna Calhoun	Tim & Judy Siebert
Jim Bucholz	Gordon Miller	Sentry Insurance, Jim Weidman, Ken Eriks,
Bushman Signs	Mission Coffee House, Russell Ehlinger	Carolyn Davis, Nathaniel Springer, Renee Davis, Jenny Martin & Sharon Lockens
Bailey Wright & Bev Clayton	Janice Mullaney	Julita Szczepanska
Contemporary Photography, John Hartman	Muzzy Broadcasting	Paul Valasek
Crossfit Stevens Point, Staci Galloway	Wendell Nelson	Stevens Point Area High School
Beatrice Danielski	Dr. Gene & Gena Numsen	Stevens Point Brewery, Julie Birenschott
Melissa DeBot	Jim Oliva	Stevens Point City-Times, Brandi Makaski
DigiCOPY, Inc.	Pacelli Catholic High School	Stevens Point Journal, Nathan Vine
Craig Sieder, Brent Bergeron, Nicky Brillowski & Tonya Janacek	Diane Peplinski	Kris Wessell
John Eckendorf	Joan Piedmonte	City of Stevens Point, Mike Witas - Mayor
Meg Eriks	Mike Pohl	Sgt. Anthony Zblewski & Tom Schrader
James Evans	Village of Plover, Tom Davies-President & Dan Mahoney-Administrator	Stevens Point Visitor Center, Sara Brish & Melissa Sabel
Family of Vice Admiral A.W. Grant	Portage County Business Council, Todd Kuckahn	Annette Whelihan
Duane Greuel	Portage County	Whelihan Glass, Todd Whelihan
Kathy Hansel	Patty Dreier-Executive, Veteran's Service Officer Michael Clements & Bert Nitzake	YMCA
Heartland Custom Homes	Portage County Gazette, Gene Kemmiller & Heather McDonald	David Morgan, Joe Seubert, Mike Printz, Rose Clark & Tiffany Prager - Teen Program
Best Excavating, Jim Hopp	Portage County Public Library	
Ed & Myrna Horgan	Paula Pratt	
CWSO, Ann Hunston	Kass Raabe	
Shelly Johnson	John Regnier	
	John Riggs	

RESEARCH PARTNERS

University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point Area Research Staff
Portage County Library
Wisconsin Veterans Museum Archives Staff
Sentry Insurance Archives
Polish Museum of America Archives Staff
Swarthmore College Peace Project Database

FIRE HOUSE No. 2 EVENT

The Portage County Business Council held an event at the fire house to recognize young professionals. The event came under the heading of Ignite.

The idea being to showcase people with new, innovative ideas. Food was provided by Mobile Chef, a bar was available and an area business provided both music and a variety of lighting for the main bay of the fire house. The event drew about 100 people from around the area and the society was able to showcase the fire house. A thanks to Mr. Simonis who did a great job getting the site ready for the program.



Top two photographs are of the Portage County Business Council Event.

The remaining photographs are of Dave Simonis' restoration of the entrance room and backroom





Agricultural Museum Pierce Building

The building is rapidly approaching completion. We will be reclaiming more wood to finish both the East and West walls. Windows on the North side are complete. As soon as we can get the remainder of the wood picked up the interior will be complete.

I am happy to say that it will be completed under time and under budget. At that time we will begin building and setting up displays. I want to thank everyone involved for making this project a success.



One-Room School Experience at Heritage Park

Mary Beth Anday

By the time you read this, thirty classes of third or fourth graders from around Portage County will have made their way to Heritage Park in Plover. When they arrived, the boys and girls got into separate lines outside the school. The girls filed in first, and when all the students were seated in the straight rows of desks, they used McGuffey readers, chalk and slates, and good manners as they portrayed what school was like in the early 20th century. This experience would not be possible without the wonderful work of the volunteer "school marms and school master". Our thanks go out to Eileen Payne, Barb Clementi, Fran Vollrath, Sue Fee, Santha Bickford, Dave Blado, Arlene Meyerhofer, and Kathleen Nicholson.



The other part of the students' visit to Heritage Park was a tour of several of the other buildings including the Bancroft Depot, the caboose, the museum, the circus house, and the new barn museum. Many displays in these buildings commemorate the 100th anniversary of America's entry into WW I. These tours were led by Carl Whittaker and Anton Anday.

We invite all these students and their families to come back to Heritage Park this summer.



The Pinery

Is the official publication of the Portage County Historical Society, Inc. of Wisconsin published March 20th, May 20th, Sept. 20th and Dec. 20th of each year.

Officers

President: Tim Siebert
Vice-president: Dave Simonis
Secretary: Jerry Rohlinger
Treasurer: Janet Zblewski

Directors

Jim Abbrederis Anton Anday
Mary Egle Milo Harpstead
Dan Hoppe Diane Lang
Eric McFarland Mary Beth Anday
Sarah Scripps Beverly West
Terry Wick
CWMR, Ltd

A monthly business meeting is held the second Wednesday of each month, except for December, at the Synagogue Museum, 1475 Water St. Stevens Point, WI., unless otherwise announced.

An Annual Meeting is held the second Wednesday of April at a location to be announced. An annual report and election of Directors occur at this meeting

The membership and public are welcome to attend any meeting.

Visit our website at:
www.pchswi.org

Visit us on Facebook



"The purposes of this organization are exclusively educational and shall be to preserve, advance, and disseminate knowledge of the history of Portage County, Wisconsin."

Joining the Historical Society couldn't be easier! Just fill out the form and mail it today. Membership runs from January - December of the calendar year. Please circle the level at which you are joining or renewing.

Student (ages 17-21)	\$15/year	Senior (62 & older)	\$20/year
Individual	\$25/year	Family	\$40/year
Business	\$50/year	Pioneer	\$100/year
Patron	\$200/year	Sustaining	\$300/year
Benefactor	\$400/year	Life	\$500

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City/State/zip: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email address: _____

- | | |
|------------------|---------------------------|
| General Funds | Heritage Park |
| Synagogue Museum | Historic Fire House No. 2 |
| Rising Star Mill | Other - specify |

No thanks, I don't want to become a member, but here is my tax deductible donation to the Society \$_____ Please circle your preference.

I'm interested in Volunteering, please call me at:

I have an artifact I'd like to donate, please call me at:



Mail this form with check made out to:

Portage County Historical Society

P O Box 672

Stevens Point WI 54481

Or contact us at:

Phone: 715-600-4930

E-mail: pchswi@gmail.com



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www.pchswi.org

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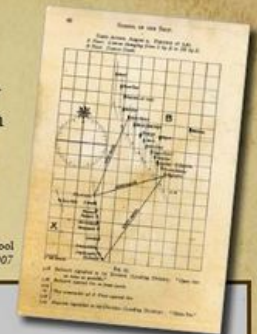
VICE ADMIRAL ALBERT WESTON GRANT

April 14, 1856–September 30, 1930



Capt. A. W. Grant, circa 1914

Albert W. Grant, born in East Benton, Maine, grew up in Stevens Point and was appointed to the Naval Academy in 1873. During his career he supervised pioneering work in the application of electricity in naval ships, a development which greatly advanced ship design and functionality. His book on naval tactics, *The School of the Ship*, became a standard textbook for the Academy.



A page from School of the Ship, 1907



DISTINGUISHED SERVICE

Grant was awarded the Navy Distinguished Service Medal in 1918:

...for exceptionally meritorious service in a duty of great responsibility as Commander of Battleship Force ONE, and further for the efficient manner in which he commanded the Atlantic Fleet in the Western Atlantic in the absence of the Commander-in-Chief during September, October, November and December 1918.



In 1943, the U.S. Navy destroyer USS Albert W. Grant (DD-649) was named in honor of Admiral Grant.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

During the Spanish-American War, Grant participated in the Battle of Santiago, Cuba. In 1915 during World War I, he was appointed Commander Submarine Force, Atlantic Fleet. In 1917 he was given command of Battleship Force ONE, Atlantic Fleet, with the rank of Vice Admiral. He is considered "Father of the American Submarine Force."

This sign donated by the Family of Vice Admiral Albert Weston Grant

