NEW GLARUS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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2022 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Larry Klassy, President

Jim Hoesly, Vice-President

John Freitag, Treasurer/ Recording Secretary

John Eglsaer, Corresponding Secretary

John Colstad

David Hustad

Jackie Judd

John Lienhardt

Rebecca Forbes

BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORT

At the September Board meeting, members discussed the challenges with getting help at the museum this season. In addition, they noted similar challenges with securing contractors to perform building maintenance, including painting the Collectibles building along with two others in need of renewal. The Board has also identified a need to replace the aging shutters on the Collectibles building and Schoolhouse.

Treasurer Freitag noted a decline in attendance numbers and gift shop sales. The Board is considering working with downtown businesses to sell some items in those shops and exploring options for on-line sales during the off season.

Board member John Colstad is working with the Village of New Glarus arborist to select a tree for planting on the grounds of the museum, in memory of former Board member and President Peter Etter, who died earlier this year.

Jackie Judd reported that she is continuing to explore options to replace the panels on the Hall of History that provide statistics about Canton Glarus. New panels will be funded with the $20,000+ donation from the Canton in honor of the 175th anniversary of the founding of New Glarus.

DONATIONS

Mary Garvin of Minneapolis, MN contacted the Historical Society and donated an authentic Swiss tracht representing the Canton of Zug. The costume is pictured on the right. In addition, the Board is working with John Fritsch who plans on donating his carved bear collection. A native of Monroe, Fritsch has lived in Madison since graduating from the University of Wisconsin. John taught at Madison College and began his collection when he was a young man. His collection includes carved bears from all over the world. Several of the bears are pictured below.

HORROR OF 1888 AUTHOR EVENT

Article and photographs provided by Jeff Klassy

Just as people arrived, Jeff Anderson played a beautiful freestyle rendition of 'Old Susanna' on electric guitar to Freddy Lienhardt's 1937 movie footage of New Glarus. (This footage has been being played all summer long in the lobby of the museum). Kevin Lienhardt, grandson of Freddy Lienhardt, was in attendance. He loved the pairing.

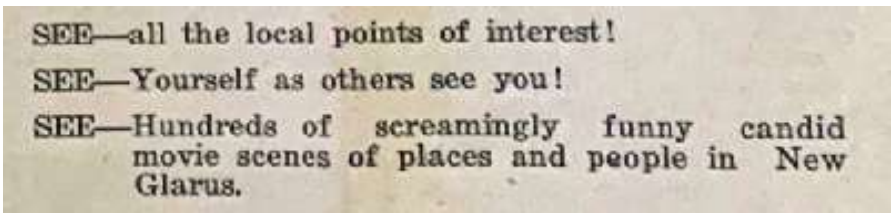
Betty Plombon, from Stanley, Wisconsin was very excited to be asked by the Swiss Historical Village to explain details about her book, *The Horror of 1888: The True Story of the Crime, Escape, and Capture of John Kuehni*. She explained more about why her great-great uncle murdered another cheesemaker and really went into great detail about her research. Betty also loved to tell people that her classmate was retired New Glarus High School teacher John Thompson.

The New Rose Boutique, located in New Glarus, had a Halloween inspired pop-up store on display. Many board members enjoyed the addition to the gift shop. Bryenna, the owner of the New Rose boutique, was grateful for this opportunity and is donating a portion of the proceeds of the sale to the Historical Society. Mike Hlubel from the Chalet Cheese Haus, had 4 samplings of different cheeses. Many thanks to Lounn Bodenman, Historical Society cashier for leaving the gift shop open while the book signing was going on.

Jeff also provided the image of the New Glarus Theater advertisement from a 1938 edition of the New Glarus Post newspaper and shared this additional information about the vintage film he showed at the author event.

The vintage film was obtained by Jeff from an unidentified source. Jeff paid a company to convert the film to a digital format. The "Home Town Movies" newsreel contains footage filmed at Fuhrman's Drug Store, the New Glarus Bakery, Tschudy's Shoe Store, Zentner's Store, and the New Glarus Lumber Yard. The MBM acronym associated with the cameraman has not been translated at the time of this newsletter publication.

The ad print at left reads: "See Yourself, your Neighbors, your Friends in the movies!" Here's the text in the small print:



Thanks, Jeff for your contribution.

PUBLIC LIBRARY ONLINE NEWSPAPER ARCHIVES

By Erica Loeffelholtz

The New Glarus Public Library is thrilled to announce that we are continuing with our project to digitize historic issues of the New Glarus Post. Currently, issues of the New Glarus Post from 1912 to 1933 are available online through the Archive of Wisconsin Newspapers. The library is now in the process of digitizing the years 1934 through 1979, and we anticipate that those issues will be available online by the end of this year. To access the Archive of Wisconsin Newspapers, visit the library's website at NewGlarusPublicLibrary.org/online-resources and follow the links provided. You will need to enter a valid Wisconsin library card number. Library cards are free to all Wisconsin residents with proof of address. If you live out of state and wish to access digitized editions of the New Glarus Post, please email staff@ngpl.org to ask about setting up a digital card.

HARVEST FEST 2022

Harvest Fest has been a long standing tradition for the New Glarus Historical Society and is considered its primary educational and fund-raising event. This year's attendance replicated the past several years with 431 paid admissions, despite the fact that the New Glarus Chamber of Commerce was unable to provide wagon rides from the downtown area to the museum. Several new exhibitors and demonstrators were among the 26 individuals that shared their time and talents at the event. We extend a special thank you to volunteers Sandy Colstad, Phil Hanna and Sharon Etter for manning the bake sale as well as Ruth Elmer and Jeff Klassy for making grilled cheese sandwiches to benefit the Historical Society. We also thank Hoesly's Meats for selling their delicious homemade bratwursts, with or without sauerkraut!

Harvest Fest is not complete without the presence of Marie Pagel, who began her teaching career in a one room school house and several generations of children from the same family in the New Glarus area. The Maennerchor and Yodel Club both performed for Harvest Fest visitors. The singers were joined by junior flag throwers and Damion Babler and Heinz Mattman who played their concertinas/accordions.

Kim Tschudy has long been responsible for offering hands on activities for children. Kim was in the print shop again this year demonstrating and offering a chance to make hand-printed flyers with the printer he donated to the museum. In addition, fall means corn grinding and the kids put lots of effort into trying this old-time task. Other demonstrators also showed their skills in rug weaving, bucket making and weaving. You can find more photographs of volunteers and the actvities of Harvest Fest 2022 on the Swiss Historical Village Museum's Facebook page.

DID YOU KNOW?

This is the time of year when many hunters are sighting in their guns for the deer-hunting season. But these sharpshooters, circa 1900, regularly practiced their target shooting. Left to right: John Theiler, S. A. Schindler, Jake Legler, unidentified, unidentified, Albert Schlatter, Dr. Henry Hoesly (dentist). The photo was taken at the Tell Shooting Park in New Glarus, where the structure is now on the National Register of Historic Places. Photo from the collection of the New Glarus Historical Society.

We thank The Bank of New Glarus for their support in publishing the New Glarus Historical Society newsletter.

The Bank of New Glarus
Powering Growth in Our Community

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