

# THE DEPOT DISPATCH

e-mail: behistoricalsoc@gmail.com



## 2015 Calendar of Events

April 17-18: Garage sale at the Depot Call 767-2281 for drop off/pick-up.

May 24: Depot Museum Opens 1:00-4:00pm Docents needed.

July 23 & Aug. 29: Saturday Brat Fry's at Shoe Box volunteers?

Aug. 8: 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Depot-to-Depot Run/Walk

Dec. 6: Santa Sunday Open House at 1022 Blue Mounds Street 2-4pm.

WATCH FOR UPDATES IN THE NEWS-SICKLE-ARROW. THANK YOU!

## Executive Officers

President Paul Skalet  
Vice Pres. Wayne Barsness  
Secretary Jan Cowan  
Treasurer David Cooper

### Board of Directors

Term Expires 2018

Wayne Barsness

Ruth Haglund

Paul Skalet

Term Expires 2016

David Cooper

Shirley Danz

Jan Schroeder

Shirley Williams

Term Expires 2017

LaVonne Clasen

Harold Miller

Steve Webber

Archivist

Ruth Haglund

### Annual Dues

Personal	\$10.00
Family	\$20.00
Business/Patron	\$35.00

For those who itemize taxes,  
the Black Earth Historical  
Society is a not-for-profit, sec.  
501(c) (3) corporation.

## President's Message

Greetings members and supporters of the society, and Thank You! I hope you have enjoyed our winter weather now that spring is here.

Our annual meeting was held on January 25 due to the Packers failed post-season run. Our program on the Badger Army Ammunition plant was excellent and informative. Verlyn Mueller Archivist for the Badger History Group will be making another presentation on April 13 for the Cross Plains Berry Historical Society if you missed him. *More info on page 2.*

The Society invites everyone with an interest in the heritage of Black Earth area to share their time, skills and experience through volunteering with the Society in the preservation of Black Earth history in many different forms.

We will need help setting up and staffing the April Garage Sale, docents at the Depot Museum during the summer, our two Brat Fry's, and maintenance of the Society's properties and collections.

Your membership dues for 2015 are now due. If you have not made payment as yet please do so now. Please also consider a special gift contribution to support the Society in addition to your membership. You will help us safeguard Black Earth history for future generations.

Many Thanks for your past and continued support.

Paul Skalet, President

## SANTA SUNDAY & ANNUAL MEETING



Girl Scouts at Headquarters

Santa Sunday continues to be a local favorite event. Again the girl scouts entertained with a selection of carols while the crowd arrived. It was a chilly day but we had a good turn out.



One of many wagon rides on a chilly day

The Havens brought a 2-horse team of Norwegians for the wagon rides and made many trips around the neighborhood.

While many of the children were horsing around, Santa arrived for his annual visit. There were anxious children waiting with their wish lists while parents waited patiently. There was plenty of hot chocolate and cookies downstairs to take the chill off from wagon rides or before leaving for home.



Santa is always popular

There was a larger crowd than last year and everyone seemed to have a good time. Thanks to the Girl Scouts for their caroling and the goodies they brought. And thanks to all the children and parents for making this a popular holiday event in the Village of Black Earth every year.

Our new boiler kept everyone warm while inside headquarters enjoying the entertainment, decorations, Santa, and the goodies.

## JANUARY 25<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEETING



Verlyn Mueller Archivist for Badger History Group

Originally scheduled for January 11<sup>th</sup> our Packer Pride had us reschedule our Annual Meeting with the hope the Pack would be back in the Super Bowl. What? Never mind.

Verlyn Mueller, Director of the Museum, discussed the history and progress made at the 7,500-acre property formerly known as the Badger Army Ammunition Plant on Highway 12 in Sauk County and the reclamation of the prairies, woodlands, and preservation of the cemeteries on the property.

It was a wonderful presentation and he will be presenting at the Cross Plains-Berry Historical Society in April. The scheduled date is April 13, 2015 in the basement of the New St. Martin's Lutheran Church at 7:00 PM. The address is 2427 Church St., Cross Plains, WI 53528. Please call 608-798-2147 or check the News-Sickle-Arrow for any questions or changes.

## FRIDAY & SATURDAY, APRIL 17 & 18, 2015

The annual garage sale is fast approaching – spring is here! We will, once again, hold our garage sale fundraiser at the Depot Museum. Please keep us in mind as you clean closets, garages, basements, attics for any items that are still in good condition but which no longer are being used by you and your family – we ask you to consider donating them to the historical society for our sale. One man's trash is another's treasure.

We will accept household items, glassware, pottery, ceramics, holiday decorations, home décor, books, games, puzzles, antiques, furniture or collectibles in good condition. If you would like to donate a box full or several boxes of items, please contact David Cooper at 767-2281 to arrange a drop-off or pick-up time. He will be happy to assist you.

**We ask that you NOT donate computers, printers, other electronics, or clothing.**

This is a wonderful way for you to assist us in raising funds necessary to continue our efforts to collect, preserve, share and educate the community on the history of the Black Earth area.

The funds raised are used to pay for the utilities and needed repairs (this year we had to replace one of the boilers at a cost of approximately \$6,000).

The Black Earth Historical Society receives NO funds from any source other than through the generosity of our members and friends in the community and donations from individuals who are seeking information about their early Black Earth relatives.

We are, therefore, grateful for the donations of items for our annual sale. Please stop by to say hello and see what we have to offer.

The Depot Museum will be opening for the season on May 24, 2015 and will be open each Sunday from 1:00 to 4:00 pm thru the end of September.

We invite you to stop by to view the many interesting items and displays assembled for you to enjoy, ranging from early kitchens, barber shop, military items from the Civil War and forward, a one-room school room, the depot ticket office, and a new exhibit this year which includes hand-made farm toys and farm buildings loaned for display by Wm. Rettenmund, a Black Earth native.

We invite you to bring your friends, neighbors, children, and grandchildren to spend time with us. The children always have interesting questions regarding the exhibits.

If you are unable to visit on a Sunday afternoon, please e-mail or call us a week in advance. Unscheduled visits? Call our president, Paul Skalet, at 767-2289 to arrange a time, if possible.

We are excited to greet and visit with you at the depot museum!

### REMEMBER E-MAIL NEWSLETTERS ARE IN COLOR AND SAVE MONEY!

Please let us know if you tried the links in the last issue for additional information. We hope you have.

[behistoricalsoc@gmail.com](mailto:behistoricalsoc@gmail.com)

### DONATION OF ITEMS TO BEHS COLLECTION

If you have photos, historical items or other archival materials you feel we may like for our collection please call Ruth Haglund, 608-437-3083, archivist for the society, to discuss or arrange for a time to meet. Or send us an e-mail and we can put it on the agenda for our next meeting. Thank You!

### Membership Dues

Please Pay Dues as soon as possible. The fiscal year runs Jan. 1 through Dec. 31.

Newsletter of the Black Earth Historical Society

# THE DEPOT DISPATCH

The Black Earth Historical Society

P.O. Box 214

Black Earth, WI 53515-0214



**The Depot Museum will open for the Season on May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2015.  
Don't forget our Garage Sale on April 17 and 18. Please consider us  
for donations and if you're looking for items.  
Call 767-2281 to arrange for drop-off or pick-up of donations.**

**THANK YOU!**

Volunteers, members, and friends who contributed funds, time, and equipment, we need and appreciate your support.