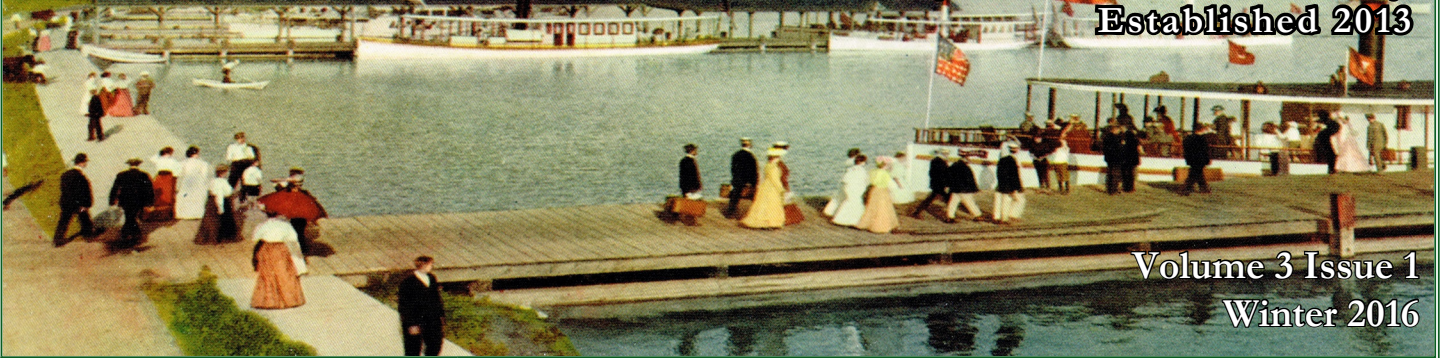


SHADES OF THE PAST

Williams Bay Historical Society

Established 2013



Volume 3 Issue 1
Winter 2016

HISTORICAL SOCIETY INFORMATION QUARTERLY PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

March 8th – Tuesdays at 2 pm
Geneva Lake Museum
History of “THE BAY” --
Williams Bay Historical Society
President Judy Bausch has all the
inside facts and it is more than just
Yerkes!!!

June 18th – Ice Cream Social
Edgewater Park

**June 25rd – Third annual fund-
raising garage sale**

July 30-31 Art in the Park
Edgewater Park

Wonders of Williams Bay Tour
Additional information available
soon.

Board of Directors

President - Judy Bausch
Vice President - Pat Grove
Secretary - Phyllis Janda
Treasurer - Doreen Collins

Directors

Maggie Gage
Henry Kenyon
Sue Vavra

Breezes from



Here's to thee, O Fair Geneva!
We would oft they praises sing,
Tribute bear in song and story
Till thy very woodlands ring.

Thine the oak crowned bluffs and hilltops,
Thine a hundred tangles dells,
And through many a charming vista
Babbling brooks they glories tell.

O'er all they landscape peace is written,
Rest each shady lodge invites,
Music sweet thy waves are chanting,
Full and deep are thy delights.

So, Hail again, thou gem of beauty,
Sunlight on thy waters blue,
Flashes back, the heaven's glory,
Brings thy crystal depths to view.

When thy shores lie in deep shadow,
Fitting mirror of the night,
Moonlight on thy placid bosom
Gleams like Delphic water bright.

Then fare thee well, O, Dear Geneva!
Thou with rippling waters sweet,
Peace, till with the summer breezes
Once again they shores we'll greet.

George C. Blakslee, 1892

*Presented to Mrs. Blakslee on her birthday when she was a young lady who spent her summers at Belvidere Park,
where her father was one of the founders.*

Reprinted from Bay Leaves & Lake Geneva Observer, Vol. 7 No. 49 December 14, 1939

Third Annual Williams Bay Historical Society Valentine's Day Luncheon



The third annual Williams Bay Historical Society Valentine's Day Luncheon on Saturday, February 13 was enjoyed by more than 25 men and women. The staff at Sherwood Lodge at the Atrium prepared a delicious soup, salad, and sandwich lunch followed by dessert and coffee.

A wonderful musical program was presented by our own Sandy Johnson accompanied by Joe Harris on guitar.



For comments or questions please contact:

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Or

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SHADES OF THE PAST

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MISSION OF THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY:

The purpose of the Williams Bay Historical Society is to assist in the preservation and exhibition of items of historical interest that are within the boundaries of Williams Bay, and the immediate surrounding area. It will seek to provide the public with educational opportunities to learn about our unique local history. It will also seek to organize and assist in the commemoration of significant dates and events in village history.

Some Notes on the Weather of 1936

Written by Mary Ross Calvert, (January 1937)

The weather during 1939 with its great extremes of heat and cold, rain and drought, dark days and sunny skies was decidedly unusual. But when we consider the temperature for the entire year we find that the extremes in cold were balanced by the extremes in heat, the mean or average temperature for the year 46.5 degrees was very near 0.9 of a degree below the 18 year normal. But this tells very little of the story of the weather for the year. There were thirty-five zero days, while the average number is sixteen. The very cold weather prevailed during the last half of January and the first three weeks of February and broke all records here for duration and for the intensity of the cold. The average temperature for the week of January 22-28 was 10.6 degrees below zero--the coldest week shown in our records of 33 years. Minimum temperatures of 20 degrees below zero and lower were recorded on five dates--three in January and two in February. At the other end of the thermometer, there were thirty-seven days during the summer when the temperature reached 90 degrees or higher--two in June, 19 in July, and 16 in August. The average number for a summer is 16. On nine days in July temperatures of 100 degrees or higher were recorded, On July 14 a maximum temperature of 110 degrees was reached--the

highest ever recorded at the Observatory since its weather observations began in 1903. We have not forgotten the summer of 1934 however--it's maximum temperature of 108 degrees on two days, its ten 100 degree days, and its forty-four 90 degree days! The temperatures during the last part of December were unusually high. The last week was 17 degrees warmer than the average for that time of year. And still the average temperature for the 12 months of 1936 stands in the records as very near normal. The precipitation (rain and melted snow) for the year showed almost the same extremes as the temperature. Six months of the year (March, April, May, June, July, and November) were decidedly dry. But this deficiency of moisture was balanced by an excess of rain and snow in the other six months. The total precipitation for the year -- 32.19 inches-- was 0.49 of an inch more than the average for the past 33 years. One of the records for the year however, does stand out as "unusual." The total snowfall for 1936 was 63 inches--twice the average amount. In 1923 we had 60 inches. If we take the total snowfall for the season 1935-1936 we find that the record for the last winter was 75 inches. This is considerably more than our former high record of 64 inches for the winter of 1925-1926.

(Continued on page 4)



Snowplow February 1936



Photo Credit: Carol Stenstrom Ortiz



Photo Credit: Carl Hanley



Oak & Birch Road Cedar Point
Photo Credit: Dear Neighbor - A Cedar Point Memoir 1925-2000



Ice Fishing Circa 1925
Photo Credit: Lisa Hanson Brellenthin



Mary Ross Calvert circa 1924
University of Chicago Photographic Archive, apf6-00220r, Special Collections Research Center, University of Chicago Library.



Ice Boating circa 1937



Walworth Avenue
Photo credit: Carl Hanley



Lions Club Skate Race
Photo Credit: Susie Spruce Eland



View of Williams Bay circa 1897
Photo Credit: University of Chicago Photographic Archive, apf6-00826, Special Collections Research Center, University of Chicago Library.



Arriving via Chicago & Northwestern Railroad for Winter Sports
Bay Leaves, Vol. 7, No. 5 (February 2, 1939)

Williams Bay is Ready for Winter Sports

The Village Board, Men's Community Club, The Chicago & Northwestern Railway, and everybody else concerned is ready for winter sports.

The ski jump has been put in order, the toboggan slide has been worked on to make it real sporty.

Beauvais Boat Co. is busy building some beautiful ice boats

The Village will keep places open for skaters and have the shelters on hand.

Reprint from Bay Leaves Vol 6 No. 46, December 15, 1938

Weather of 1936 *(Continued from page 3)*

January, while not so unseasonably warm as the last half of December, has had no extremely cold weather. Thus far we have had an unusual amount of rain this winter and very little snow. The rain during the last week of December amounted to 2.47 inches, with 1.90 inches in the first week of January--a total of 4.37 inches. An inch of rain is equivalent to from eight to twelve inches of

snow depending on whether the snow is wet and soggy or dry and very fluffy. If the temperature had been a little lower during these two weeks and this 4.37 inches of rain had come in the form of snow--well you can figure out for yourself how our countryside would look now!

Reprinted from Bay Leaves, Vol. 5 No. 3, January 21, 1937

About Mary Ross Calvert (June 20, 1884-June 25, 1974)

Mary Ross Calvert was an American astronomical computer and astrophotographer.

In 1905, she started work at Yerkes Observatory, as assistant and computer for her uncle, the astronomer Edward Emerson Barnard (1857-1923), who was also

professor of astronomy at the University of Chicago, and the discoverer of Barnard's star. In 1923, when Barnard died, she became curator of the Yerkes photographic plate collection and a high-level assistant, until her retirement in 1946.

She died in Nashville in 1974.

