

Museum Notes

by Kristen Parrott, curator
for the week of August 23, 2017

Summer is drawing to a close, and you are probably looking for opportunities to spend time outside before the cold weather. Well, you will have that opportunity this Friday, August 25, at our pork chop dinner. It will be held outside on the lawn of the Sherry-Butt House at 795 N. Main St. in Viroqua. The dinner begins at 4PM and goes until 7PM, or until the food runs out, whichever comes first. Dinners are \$10 each, and the proceeds benefit the Historical Society. Each dinner includes pork chop, baked potato, baked beans, cole slaw, bread, and dessert, all prepared by Historical Society volunteers.

The historic Sherry-Butt House continues to be open for tours on Saturdays and Sundays from 1 to 5PM through Labor Day weekend. The house will also be open on Labor Day itself, Monday, September 4. Then it will close for the season except for a special one-day opportunity – Saturday, October 21, from 1 to 5PM – to coincide with a Wisconsin history conference in La Crosse. The house will also be open by appointment through October 21. So, you still have a few chances this year to visit the house and the temporary quilt exhibit found throughout the house.

The museum's hours will also soon be changing with the seasons. Beginning September 1, the museum will be open Monday through Friday, noon to 4PM. These hours last through the end of October. Like the Sherry-Butt House, the museum will also be open on Saturday, October 21, from 1 to 5PM.

Fall brings the return of the museum's monthly program series. The next program will be held on Tuesday, September 5, at 7PM at the museum. Local author Marilyn Leys will talk about her 2015 book, *Denting Goliaths: Citizens Unite Against Regional Low Level Flights*. In the mid-1990s, low-level flight training was proposed over southwestern Wisconsin and northeastern Iowa. A diverse coalition of local people, worried primarily about the noise, successfully opposed the plan. This program is free and open to the public. More details next week.

A couple months ago I mentioned the Wisconsin Veterans Museum's online World War I database, which lists basic information about each of Wisconsin's WWI soldiers. The veterans museum's website was recently revised, and that database is now much easier to find. Go to wisvetsmuseum.com, click on "Research," and then choose the "World War I Roster." Next I usually type in the soldier's first initial, last name, and county, and then click on "Search." The information from the database then pops up right at the bottom of the page.