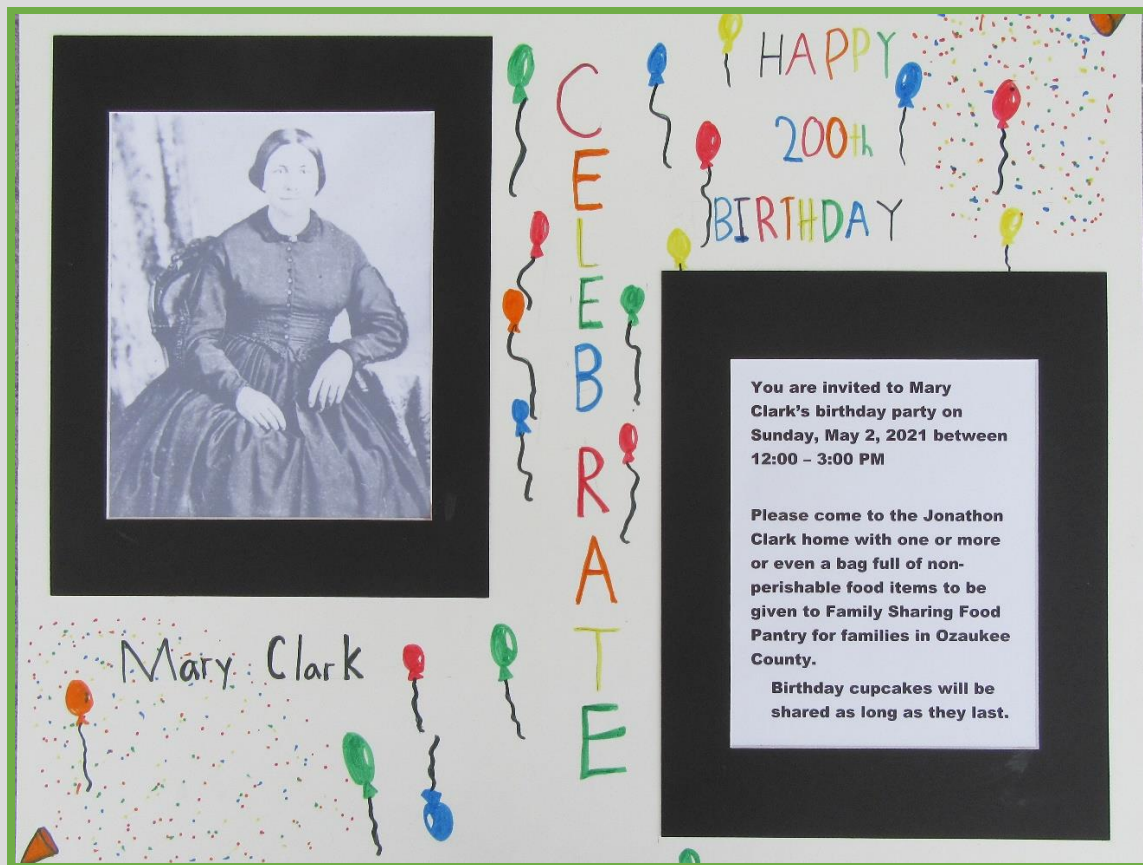


**Friends of Jonathan Clark House**  
**April 2021 Newsletter**  
**We Bring History to Life**  
**on the Corner of Bonniwell and Cedarburg Roads in Mequon**

**Our mission:**  
**To collect, preserve and share the history of the Jonathan Clark House**  
**and the early settlers of Mequon Thiensville**



I hope you like the birthday card that I designed for Mary Turck Clark's 200<sup>th</sup> birthday party. Join me at the Clark House on Sunday, May 2, between 12:00 and 3:00. Bring along a bag of groceries for the Ozaukee Family Sharing Food Pantry. Cupcakes while they last!

JCH Young Historian *Clara Klimczak*



### **Weyenberg Library Exhibit**

Our “Become a Young Historian” education project was highlighted in the Weyenberg Library lobby in the month of March. It included the “**Find the Red Fox**” contest. Three \$20 **Culver’s** gift cards were awarded to three contestants whose names were drawn from the entries. The contest managers were Young Historians Kate and Kolby Zellmann pictured on the right in their historic 1850 stone home.



### **A Unique Opportunity to Advance the JCH Mission**

The Friends of Jonathan Clark House Board of Directors have posted a position for a part-time Executive Director to begin mid-summer. Applications are due **April 30**, and full details are available from Nina at [jchmuseum@gmail.com](mailto:jchmuseum@gmail.com)

#### **Position Summary**

The Executive Director will report to the Board of Directors and work closely with the Board President. The part-time Executive Director will take the place of the current volunteer Executive Director. The Preservation Manager and Curator positions will continue with volunteer status and staff. Responsibilities include areas of administration and fund development, finances, programming and education, and marketing and public relations.

#### **Skills, Experience and Qualifications**

- a. Foundational knowledge of non-profit and/or educational organizations, including grant writing.
- b. Experience planning and implementing fund development activities and engagement events
- c. Ability to self-motivate and work independently
- d. Demonstrated ability to effectively communicate in writing, by phone and using information technologies
- e. Ability to travel within the Ozaukee County region
- f. A bachelor’s degree in a related field such as history, museum studies, education, public relations, or three to five years of directly related experiences, or an equivalent combination of education and experience.

Please pass this posting on to others who may be interested in this unique opportunity.

***Gary Heckendorf, President***

## Three Local History Organizations = Three Valuable Community Resources

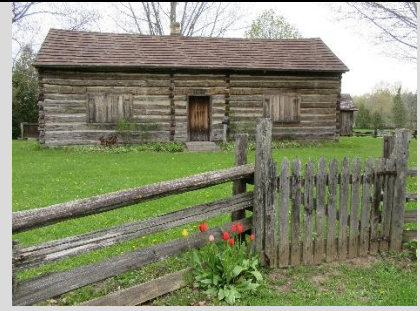
Have you ever wondered what the difference is between our three local history organizations? The missions of the Jonathan Clark House Museum, the Mequon Thiensville Historical Society, and the Trinity Freistadt Historical Society all address collecting, preserving, and sharing local history. In addition, as you can see from the chart below, they each have unique purposes.



The JCH Museum serves as a house museum that interprets the life of our early settlers with hands-on experiences through family friendly events and docent-led museum tours. The era of interpretation is 1840 to 1860. "Young Historian" volunteers help us educate other young people.



The Mequon Thiensville Historical Society is a historic collections research center for community history through photographs, maps, family, and business history. We also operate the Mequon River Post Office and Stamp Museum in the 1839 Isham Day house across from Mequon City Hall.



The Trinity Freistadt Historical Society's historic site has 12 buildings to explore, including a blacksmith shop, a bake oven and changing displays of times gone by. This year we will host the "Neighbors Past and Present: The Wisconsin German Experience". Join us for our 2021 "Fourth of July in Freistadt" celebration.

### We Share Successes and Challenges

In 2016, Terry Schoessow, Co-President of the Trinity Freistadt Historical Society, brought together representatives of all the Ozaukee County history and culture organizations. The result was the "Ozaukee County History Co-Op" which meets periodically throughout the year to share successes and challenges. Of course, overlap and shared projects such as the "Become a Young Historian" unite our missions.

Do you have artifacts or collections to donate or have scanned for future research?

- . JCH collects artifacts that tell the story of our early settlers in the era of 1840 to 1860  
Contact Nina at [jchmuseum@gmail.com](mailto:jchmuseum@gmail.com)
- . MTHS collects area history that includes maps, photographs, and family and school history  
Contact Bob Blazich at [mthistory1839@gmail.com](mailto:mthistory1839@gmail.com), 262-242-3107
- . TFHS collects artifacts related to the early days of the Trinity Freistadt settlement  
Contact Terry at [historical@trinityfreistadt.com](mailto:historical@trinityfreistadt.com), 262-242-0724





**Meet the Turck Family  
- Part Two –  
by Young Historian Spencer Holloway**

Welcome back for more about the Turck's, an influential family who had industrial, political, and agricultural influences on the Mequon Thiensville area. Today we are discussing Peter Turck's first influence on the area in an industrial manner covering the first sawmill in Mequon, built in the 1830's.

The photos I present were documented on an examination of the remains of Peter Turck's sawmill. The base is still intact, almost 200 years later, with mortar and round stones. There are also "cream city" bricks found around the ruins which would have been added later, possibly between the 1840s and 1850s. The creek remains, but at one point in time it was believed to be higher, although this could be seasonal as well.

The mill was situated at a creek bend cut into limestone. The creek would have been directed towards a notched grate to adjust the flow of the water into the mill. We believe the design was of a one or two band cutter probably manned by hand. For any analytical readers out there, it was most likely a 252 frame saw with a blade mounted in a sash that was moved by a notched frame that forced the momentum up and down. Credit for some background information goes to Mequon Thiensville Historical Society members Les Rehm and Dick Bayley.



Peter Turck also shipped mortar and produced bricks for early homes in the Mequon River area (later Thiensville), as noted by Dick Bayley. Peter also supplied lumber for the Trinity Freistadt Lutheran Church. It is speculated he supplied wood to certain piers in the local area. Keep in mind, this was all in addition to being a Baptist minister, a surveyor, justice of the peace, coroner, assessor, and even census taker for Washington County in 1840. Further mention could be made of many more possible seasonal changing positions and government party influences.

Peter also served as a delegate for his area for the democratic Whig party. In a territorial convention, there was a heated debate over the boundaries and founding of Michigan, Wisconsin, and Iowa. There were many conflicting ideas of the expanding regions of each of these newly forming states. There are too many aspects to share here of Peter Turck's interesting life, but one more impactful story. Many people would be intrigued to find he was a man of good integrity, heavily opposing slavery at the time.

**Thank you** to my readers for viewing and to my JCH Mentor Reed Perkins. In the future I hope to have more information on the general impact of other members of the Turck family and, of course, more details on the intricacies of a man from the Mequon Thiensville area, Peter Turck.

### Become a Young Historian



Explore Wisconsin History right here in your own back yard

Visit and photograph a local historic site

Experience the life of our early settlers

Take a walking tour of local historic sites

Interview a local historian or craftsperson

Study old maps, photographs, and newspapers

Watch a demonstration of early settler skills

Check our website for more details [www.jonathanclarkhouse.org](http://www.jonathanclarkhouse.org)

Message from your JCH Education Team *Margaret Bussone and Judy Button*

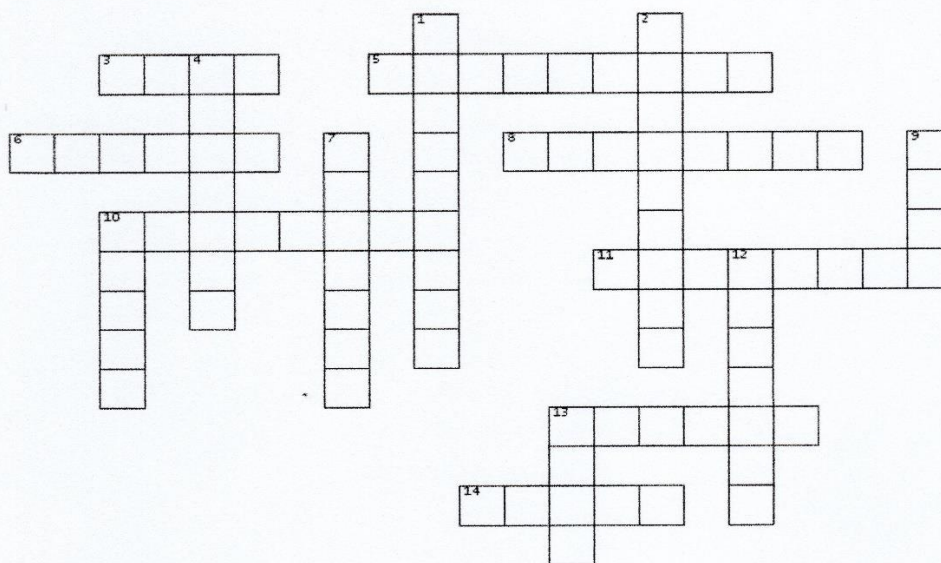
We are pleased to lead the 2021 Education Team. Please contact us if you would like to join our team of enthusiastic volunteers who love working with children. Watch our June newsletter for details on our 2021 Heritage Days events.





You may have seen Young Historian Silas Toppe (pictured on the left) at the JCH Heritage Days events demonstrating his Schnitzelbank skills. His latest skill is that of a crossword puzzlemaker. See if you can complete the puzzle below and then look for the answers on our website.

[www.jonathanclarkhouse.org](http://www.jonathanclarkhouse.org)



#### ACROSS

3. At 21, Jonathan Clark enlisted in the \_\_\_\_\_.
5. Jonathan Clark House is on \_\_\_\_\_ Rd. and Cedarburg Rd.
6. Jonathan Clark was a \_\_\_\_\_ and a businessman.
8. \_\_\_\_\_ Clark built the house.
10. The Clarks had 8 \_\_\_\_\_.
11. Instead of an indoor bathroom, the Jonathan Clark House had an \_\_\_\_\_.
13. JCH is located in \_\_\_\_\_.
14. Jonathan married Mary \_\_\_\_\_.

#### DOWN

1. Jonathan Clark House served as a \_\_\_\_\_ meeting place.
2. Jonathan Clark house is on Bonniwell Rd. and \_\_\_\_\_ Rd.
4. Jonathan Clark house was a community \_\_\_\_\_ place.
7. Jonathan Clark House was born in the state of \_\_\_\_\_.
9. Jonathan Clark built his \_\_\_\_\_ in Mequon.
10. The museum is named after its inhabitants, the \_\_\_\_\_ family.
12. Jonathan Clark House is a great local \_\_\_\_\_ museum.
13. Jonathan Clark married \_\_\_\_\_ Turck.

## **News of Recent Grants, Donations and Sponsorships**

**Thank you to our recent donors:**

**Curt and Mary Gielow** - Sponsorship of Parlour wool braided rug

**Harold Schnell** - Sponsorship of D. R. Dimes Continuous Arm Windsor Chair

**Junior Woman's Club of Mequon Thiensville** - Sponsorship of braided rug in Jonathan's Office

**Nina Look and Fred Derr** - Sponsorship of apron in memory of Margaret Dineen Swan Baehler

**Ron and Pat Heinritz** - General Donation

**Sam Cutler** – General Donation

**Ozaukee County Historical Society Board of Directors** -

In honor of "retired" OCHS Archivist Dr. Nina Look

**Thiensville-Mequon Rotary Foundation** – Educational programming

### **Friends of Jonathan Clark House 2021 Board of Directors**

Gary Heckendorf, President

Linda Chay, Vice President

Margaret Bussone, Secretary

Diana Hetzel, Treasurer

Judy Button, Director

Justin Racinowski, Director

Dr. Patrick Steele, Director

Dan Umhoefer, Director

Joel Willems, Director

### **Volunteer Staff**

Dr. Nina Look, Executive Director

Margaret Bussone, Education Director

Anne Bridges, Assistant Director

Fred Derr, Preservation Manager

Shaw, Bridges, Technology Director

Reed Perkins, Historian

Jean Hill, Photographer

## **An Opportunity to Invest in your Historic House Museum**

Would you like to sponsor a museum artifact or project? Contact Nina for details.



Hand-Forged Froe  
\$75



1850 Pine Dry Sink  
\$1,200



Girl's Cotton Dress - \$100  
Apron - \$25    Corn Broom - \$50

### **Friends of Jonathan Clark House**

P. O. Box 634, Mequon, WI 53092

[www.jonathanclarkhouse.org](http://www.jonathanclarkhouse.org)

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

262-618-2051



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