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# DANE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

## NEWSLETTER



The Dane County Historical Society Office and the Otto Schroeder Records Center are located in the lower level of the Lussier Family Heritage Building on Lake Farm Road just south of the Beltline near Lake Waubesa.

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Volume XXV

Winter 2006

Number 4

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## The Anne Short Papers

By Stacey Erdman

*Stacey Erdman began working with the Dane County Historical Society as an archivist intern from the UW-Madison. She graduated earlier this year with a Masters degree in Library and Information Studies.*

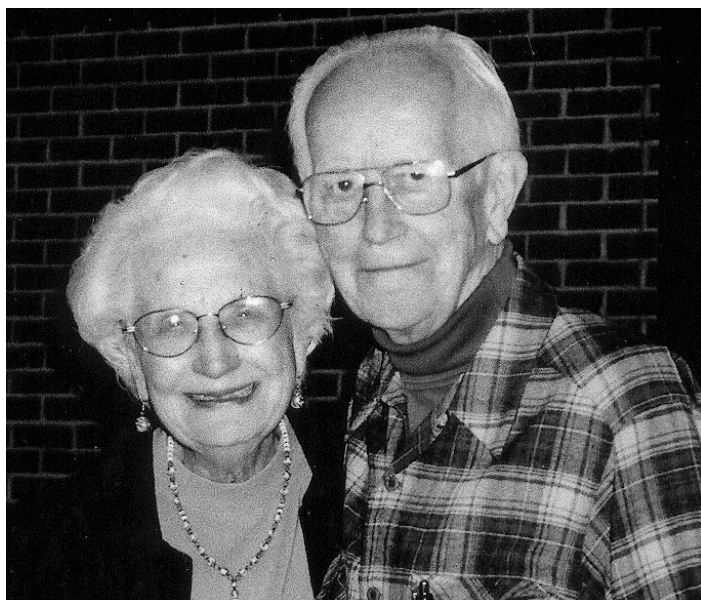
In October of this year, I commenced work on the Anne Short Papers, a collection of various research materials donated over a period of 20 or so years by former Dane County Historical Society board member Anne Short. For the past month, I have been actively engaged in processing the items and writing a finding aid for the collection. As I am reaching the end of this project, I am now able to offer some reflections on the work I've been doing, and on the collection itself.

When processing a collection, an archivist must decide how to best arrange the materials given the resources and time they have to do so. An archivist often organizes a large collection into *series*, groups of similar records that are related due to their having been

created, received, or used in the same activity. Examples of common series include correspondence, speeches, published works, financial records, and subject files. Once series have been determined, then items can be arranged within them chronologically, alphabetically, or by some other manner. The final step in processing a collection entails writing a guide for the collection commonly referred to as a *finding aid or register*. These documents assist users in gaining access to and understanding the materials more fully.

Processing the Anne Short Papers and writing the finding aid for this collection have given me the opportunity and pleasure of getting to know Anne Short. Not only have I gotten to know her by reviewing her papers, but I've also gotten to meet and visit with her in person as well. I feel fortunate that we were able to meet, as many archivists do not get this luxury when processing a collection of personal papers. Meeting Anne helped me

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Anne and John Short

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## The Anne Short Papers (*Continued from page 1*)

understand the context of her materials better, and she also provided me with salient biographical details that I was able to incorporate into the biographical note in the finding aid. Although space limits me from repeating that in entirety, I can provide a brief summary of Anne's background.

Anne was born in Sheboygan in 1920 to Ida and Hubert Burkart, and moved to Madison to attend the UW in 1937. She majored in journalism, but switched to history after taking an inspiring course with the famed Civil War historian, William B. Hesseltine. Anne taught high school social studies for several years, and then married John Short of Manitowoc. Their lives were disrupted by John's call to service in WWII, but the two eventually moved back to Madison in 1946 with their young family, and made a home in the "Garden Homes" section of Shorewood Hills.

Anne was a stay-at-home mother until 1952, when she took a job teaching high school history correspondence courses through the UW Extension. She initially had to follow the lesson plans and study guide booklets provided for the course, but was able to rewrite these to her own specifications in the mid-1960s. In 1974, she graduated from the UW with a master's degree in history. Soon after this, she began giving historical field trips around Wisconsin for UW-Extension, and continued doing this for other organizations upon her departure from Extension in 1983.

During the 70s and 80s, Anne also did a lot of freelance writing for many local publications, such as *Madison Magazine* and *Wisconsin Trails*, sometimes also shooting the photographs that would accompany her local history articles.

During the late 70s, she joined DCHS, and served as a board member for about 25 years. She was a very active member over the years, as she worked on the historical marker committee, edited the newsletter, spearheaded the fundraising for and edited *Forward! A History of Dane, the Capitol County*, instituted the DCHS website, and developed a slide show tour of the county. In 1990, she received a prestigious Award of Merit from the State Historical Society of Wisconsin.

Anne now lives with her husband, John, in Madison, and currently teaches courses on reminiscence writing at the West Madison Senior Center, something she has been doing for about 20 years. They have 5 children, 10 grandchildren, and 4 great-grandchildren.

The Anne Short Papers will be a wonderful asset to The Society's Otto Schroeder Records Center. The materials in the collection encompass various formats, including a large collection of locally relevant books, pam-



Stacy Erdman processes Anne Short's extensive slide collection.

phlets, maps, and slides, assorted personal papers (including teaching materials), and some DCHS related records. The collection is an attractive one for scholars and casual researchers alike, as it draws together a rich variety of materials that are extremely relevant to Dane County history, and Wisconsin history in general.

Included in the collection are items that can help DCHS with ongoing outreach projects, including Anne's extensive slide collection. The collection is also unique and relevant for researchers interested in 20th-century women's history, as it provides a wonderful record of a modern woman who balanced a career with an active family life. She is also unique for returning for a graduate degree after she had raised her children, and then embarking on such an active period of professional work.

Her life has been one that has emulated the Wisconsin Idea, one of service to the state and to the residents of it in times both past and present. I am proud to have worked with this collection, and am grateful to have met this remarkable woman.

### NEW AND RETURNING MEMBERS

*Welcome Aboard!*

The following members are either new or returning members to Dane County Historical Society since the last newsletter. We are pleased to welcome them and appreciate their support.

Allen Co. Pub Library  
Mary Borenz (2007 renewal already!! Thanks, Mary)  
Maxine Dimick  
Solveig M. Lee  
Prof. Philip H. & Elizabeth Lewis  
Mary Lynn Miller  
Diane Mueller

Anne Short continues to teach reminiscence writing at the West Madison Senior Center. Following is one of Anne's own reminiscence articles, which was published in *NEWmonth* magazine, December 1980. It is reprinted here with permission of the author.

## Necessity gives birth to a cooky custom

By Anne Short

"Are you going to be around at Christmastime?" My grandson popped this question on a hot muggy August day.

"I surely hope so," I told him, "but whatever brings Christmas to mind on a day like this?"

"I was thinking about your Christmas cookies, Grandma. They are the greatest." Johnny knows the way to a Grandma's heart.

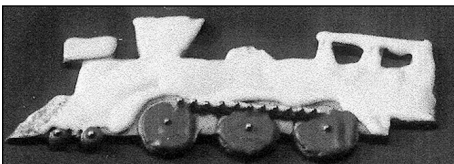
Those Christmas cookies seem like a lot of work during a busy December, but Christmas just would not be Christmas without them. Originating in Northern Europe, the custom of creating intricate designs with cooky dough is centuries old. Every family has its traditional favorites, but we like to think ours are special, if not unique.

Both my husband and I grew up in Wisconsin. Neither of us had ever spent a holiday season away from our own family circles until 1943, the year we were married. John was stationed at Lincoln Army Air Field, Nebraska, and we had set up housekeeping in a one-room efficiency apartment in the shadow of the State Capitol at Lincoln.

We wanted our first Christmas together to be as traditional as possible in this unfamiliar setting, including Christmas cookies. But there were problems. It was wartime. Butter and sugar required ration points. My limited assortment of kitchen paraphernalia lacked essentials like cooky cutters and baking sheets, and there were none to be had.

Trivial concerns, to be sure, at a time of world crisis, but family traditions die hard, and they are especially precious at such a time.

So we improvised, and launched a new tradition. Instead of shaping cookies with metal cutters, John carved them free hand with a paring knife. He came up with a great variety, no two exactly alike. For a cooky sheet, I turned my one and only cake pan upside down.

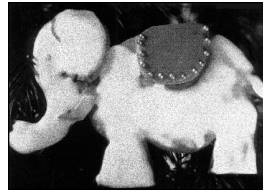


I hoarded the sugar allotment, reserving it for cookies. Butter was more of a problem. It was available at the base commissary, but required sixteen ration points for every pound, while vegetable shortening took only two. Reluctantly, I substituted shortening, feeling like a trai-

tor to my native state.

I must confess that the dough was easier to handle than it was with butter, and I have used shortening for rolled cookies ever since. There is some sacrifice in terms of flavor, but my customers never complain.

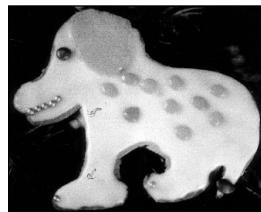
The sugar supply could not be stretched far enough to use it for frosting, so we decorated with "painted" designs, using food coloring—mixed with a little egg yolk applied with a fine artist's brush. We had the most elegant cookies ever.



Once the war was over, cooky cutters were again readily available at stores, but by then we were committed to custom crafting our own creations, and we continued to make them each year. As the family grew, so did the size of the operation.

John supervised the design-cutting part, I mixed and rolled the dough and tended the oven. Each of our five youngsters became quite ingenious in thinking up designs. When they were too little to handle the paring knife safely, they rolled balls of dough of assorted sizes and flattened them with their hands. Cooky dough is not all that different from modeling clay.

Powdered sugar no longer requires ration points, so it makes the icing that serves as glue for all manner of decorations—cut-up gumdrop jewels, chocolate bits, coconut, silver dragees, or whatever comes to mind. The decorating sessions inspire as much creativity as the carving.



Even though the finished products are almost too pretty to eat, they manage to disappear before the holidays end. Sometimes the cooky monsters raid before Christmas Eve. One year, when we opened the box before our customary buffet supper, it was nearly empty. A quick look around the circle of faces easily identified the culprit. No punishment was necessary. We scheduled an extra production line that year.

Another time we moved into a new home in July, before the house was finished, and the basement windows had not been installed. A mouse family moved in at the same time. We thought it

had been evicted, but an escapee with gourmet tastes found the cookies.

Now, all but one of the children are married and settled in homes of their own, but the cooky factory is gearing up and soon will be back in production. With seven grandchildren, the incentive is greater than ever.

After all, Johnny has been waiting since August.

### **Grandma's Christmas Cookies**

The recipe comes from Grandma Burkart. There were nine children in my family, and she operated on a grand scale, mixing dough in a dishpan and storing the cookies in bushel baskets. Even then, never a crumb was left by New Year's Day.

Three-fourths cup vegetable shortening  
One and one-fourth cups light brown sugar

Two medium eggs, unbeaten  
One teaspoon vanilla; one and one-half teaspoons lemon juice  
One teaspoon baking powder  
Three and one-half cups flour  
One-half teaspoon salt

Cream shortening with sugar until fluffy, beat in eggs one at a time, add flavorings; then add dry ingredients which have been sifted together. Mix thoroughly. Chill before rolling. Work dough with hands until pliable, then roll to one-eighth inch thickness directly onto cold, ungreased cooky sheet. Cut designs, then peel off unused dough. The dough can be re-rolled several times. If it sticks to the sheet, a bit of flour can be used, but this is not usually necessary. Bake at 375 degrees, eight to ten minutes, until golden color, lightly browned at edges.

### **Decorator Frosting**

Two egg whites, beaten to soft peaks with pinch of salt  
Two and one-half cups powdered sugar  
One-fourth cup white corn syrup

Add sugar to beaten egg whites gradually. When the sugar is dissolved, add syrup. Beat another minute or so until frosting holds its shape but spreads easily. Divide into portions, according to number of desired colors, add food coloring to each portion, reserving a goodly portion of white. Frost cookies, add trim before frosting dries.

The recipe will cover about six dozen cookies, depending on size. If any is left, it keeps well in a tightly covered jar in the refrigerator.

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# Who is Otto Schroeder?

By Mary Clark

If you have been a member of Dane County Historical Society for any length of time, or if you have read our newsletter, you will undoubtedly have seen that the Dane County Historical Society's Library and Archives are officially known as the Otto Schroeder Records Center. But have you ever wondered just who is Otto Schroeder?

Otto Schroeder was born in the small farm town of Elben, Hessen Province, Germany on September 26, 1899. He grew up in his native land, and at age sixteen he served in the German military during World War I, assembling Fokker tri-planes for the Red Baron's squadron. He had to serve as a non-combatant during the war, because he had two older brothers who were living in the United States. After the war, he received a degree in mechanical engineering from the Technical University of Ilmenau and began employment in a steel manufacturing plant at Kassel, Germany. He married in 1926 and moved with his wife to San Francisco, where he worked for the Soule Steel Company. The Schroeders moved to Napa, California in 1941 where Otto worked in the Basalt Rock Company's Napa Shipyard. While there, Schroeder is credited with having

invented a manufacturing process that revolutionized steel pipe production throughout the world. After World War II, Schroeder worked as an international consultant, supervising the establishment of pipe manufacturing plants in Germany, France, Belgium, Italy and Japan. Otto Schroeder died in Napa at age 92 in 1991.

Mr. Schroeder led a very interesting life, but as far as we know, he never lived or visited in Dane County. So why, you might ask yourself, is the DCHS Records Center named for him? In 2002, when the Society was searching for a permanent home for its archives collection, a fundraising effort was undertaken. The major donor to that fundraising effort was Otto Schroeder's granddaughter, Amy Gilliland; she donated a large share of the funds that allowed the Society to proceed with the move to our current home in the Lussier Family Heritage Center. With the dedication of the new center, Ms. Gilliland asked that the room housing the archives be named the Otto Schroeder Records Center, after her grandfather. Ms. Gilliland wanted to name the new center after her grandfather because of his love of history and how he had instilled that love in her.

## Dane County Bookshelf



Occasionally, the Society hears about new publications related to Dane County. If anyone knows of additional new publications about Dane County, its history or its people, please pass them on to us. If anyone would like to donate books, town or family histories, or other publications about Dane County to the records center, please let us know.

Across the Fence by Howard Sherpe. 204 p. Prairie Viking Press, 2006. A collection of the author's popular newspaper columns. Sherpe's column about growing up in rural Wisconsin runs in several Dane County newspapers as well as others around Wisconsin and the Midwest.

Dear Mom: Why Raising Four Boys Was Neither Boring nor Monotonous by Jean Willett. Madison: Goblin Fern Press, 2005. A memoir encompassing 26 years of letters to her mother, by a Madison woman in the 1950s-70s. Autographed copy given to DCHS.

Madison by Zane Williams. 128 p. photos. Madison: Franklin Press, 2006. Noted local photographer presents 210 photographic images that he feels "render the city distinct" from other cities.

Tradition and Vision: Library and Information Studies at the University of Wisconsin: a Centennial History compiled by Louise S. Robbins, Anne H. Lunden and Michele Besant. 289 p. Madison: School of Library and Information Studies, 2006. A history of the UW library school, with many photographs of the early days. DCHS counts many current and retired librarians among our ranks, so this should appeal to them.

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# Records Center Highlights “Cross Plains Souvenir”

By Debbie Kmetz, Electronic Cataloging Project Coordinator

Anniversary dates often prompt people and organizations to reflect on the passage of time and mark an occasion with a special activity. The Dane County Historical Society's Otto Schroeder Records Center counts among its holdings numerous publications issued during the 50th, 75th, 100th and 150th anniversary years of the founding of various communities and organizations. Though formats and size vary, these volumes share a common trait -- they often prove to be very valuable resources for genealogists and historians.

In 1928, St. Francis Xavier Parish in Cross Plains celebrated its 75th anniversary with a five-day commemorative program of events. That year also saw the publication of a 71-page “Souvenir of Diamond Jubilee of St. Francis Xavier Congregation, Cross Plains, Wisconsin, 1853-1928,” by Pickering Printing in nearby Black Earth.

The souvenir booklet opens with a foreword that reads, in part, “we feel that the noble deeds of the past generation are not and should not be dead facts, but a living inspiration...” Published just ten years after the close of World War I, this booklet chronicles a time that witnessed much change. The modern era was well underway with electricity powering lights in public buildings; an increasing number of automobiles taking to the roads; and a recent invention, the radio, bringing a new kind of communication into the home. Yet, there were still people alive who had vivid memories of the horse-powered and kerosene-lit 19th century when walking was still a major mode of transportation. There were even more people who could remember stories told by their parents and grandparents recounting firsthand experiences of that earlier era.

Throughout Wisconsin, the advent of this modern age coincided with efforts by people and groups to document the early Euro-American settlement period in their communities. Perhaps it was clear that an era had come to a close, and that those who could recall it themselves or even remember the family stories would soon be fewer and fewer. To preserve that past, the authors of this publication included a “historical sketch,” so that the often strenuous efforts and sacrifices of the preceding generations would not be forgotten. Because these writers had access to primary documents as well as the memories of earlier generations, the result is a publication full of interesting stories and fascinating detail.

The publication is divided into several sections. It begins with a set of photos that includes portraits of the congregation's first and then current pastor and various views of the church. Thirty-five pages of text and photo-

graphs follow that address the early history of Cross Plains; the development of St. Francis Xavier Parish including the church, school, choir, societies and other groups; and also the former pastors and vocations from the parish. A schedule for the Diamond Jubilee celebration held on June 6-10, 1928, lists religious services, a banquet, a homecoming picnic, a school exhibit, a motion picture and a drama in five acts by the school children. The last section of the booklet is devoted to Cross Plains businesses: four pages of text followed by 18 pages of advertisements.

The publication also abounds with detailed lists: the names of many of the early settlers; the Catholic sisters who taught in the school; trustees of the church from 1853-1928. There is even a list of some of the successful plays produced by the Dramatic Club. As a souvenir of 1928, the booklet also documents parish members that year. Several pages list the names of families then living within the parish as well as the names of children attending the parish school. The family listing also notes those who had been baptized at St. Francis Xavier and provides, where applicable, many women's maiden names.

The publication contains photographs taken at various dates throughout the years: several landscape views of Cross Plains; individual portraits; and photos of parish groups. Examples include St. Cecilia's Choir in 1900; parish members assembled for the 50th anniversary in 1903; and the St. Francis school children in 1928. Captions for several of the smaller group photos identify those in the photos.

The written history is rich with specific information. The authors cite primary sources: an early settler's diary, church records, and correspondence. The text includes an excerpt from a letter written February 14, 1853 by Father Adalbert Inama, a Norbertine monk from Wilten in the Tyrol, who established the earliest Catholic missions in the area. It reads:

“...Seven miles south in the towns of Cross Plains and Middleton is situated the third mission district, consisting of 33 families, almost all of which are farmers from Cologne, largely immigrants of last year. A benefactor donated 15 acres of land for a church and a priest, on which land the people have constructed a church this winter. ... The community is in a state of lively development.”

The following pages list by name settlers who had so recently emigrated from Europe. A few came to the area as early as 1848. A large group arrived in 1850, followed by others in 1852 and 1853. In addition to the many

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farmers, Jacob Korth and Jacob Conrad are listed as carpenters; Joseph Schiefer as a shoemaker; and Herbert Keller, a farm machinery salesman. A widow, Mrs. Adolph Stumpf, is noted as arriving in 1850 with her six children. Readers learn that she is the benefactor who donated the land for the church.

The authors draw much information for the early years from the diary of John Wahl, Sr., one of the settlers who arrived in 1852. They use the diary to describe the construction of the first church, recounting a meeting held in October, 1852 at Wahl's home. The text names the thirteen men who gathered there. The men discussed a Catholic church for the local residents and formed a building committee consisting of: John Wahl, Gerhard Ripp, Jacob Korth and the Stumpf brothers, whose mother donated the land. The authors quote Wahl as saying at the meeting, "Bring your axes tomorrow morning and we'll fell trees on the government land in section 1 of Cross Plains" According to the diary, the men were still cutting logs on January 3, 1853. Another passage from the diary, written in German, indicates that the log walls of the church were erected by January 11, 1853.

The publication offers some fascinating glimpses into parochial education. It notes that families paid 25 cents per month per student for education at the parish school in 1857. During the years 1857-1885, the teaching staff alternated between male teachers and Catholic sisters. From 1885 through the time of the booklet's publication in 1928, the School Sisters of Saint Francis, from Milwaukee, had charge of the school.

Another passage explains that though there were initially many students in the school, by 1870 enrollment had declined. In the late 1860s, many of the younger families had moved to Minnesota. In the early 1880s, another wave of residents moved to the Dakotas. Attendance would grow again in following years.

The pages also record the development of a new stone church beginning in 1868, citing many of those responsible for the design and construction. For instance, a man from Sauk City named Ross provided the building plans, parishioners themselves transported the locally-quarried stone, and Frank Schmitt and Frank Breit of Chicago were hired as the contractors. However, the contractors took much longer than expected and when a new pastor, Father Friedl, arrived in 1873, he found the recently erected stone church with an unfinished interior and a discouraged congregation. A trained builder, Father Friedl provided hands-on leadership. He also designed and crafted the altars, pulpit and communion rails himself. Mr. Irsch assisted him. The church was ready the following year.

The book describes the parish's social and cultural organizations, among them, the church choir, the dramatic club, and various societies such as Christian

Mothers. The names of World War I veterans are also listed. Two pages present photographs from "Some of the Successful Plays Produced" by the Dramatic Club, organized in 1923 with 35 members. Readers can also see how times change. Text for the choir reads, "Up to about 1880 only male choirs sang and the men reluctantly gave way to a mixed choir." In 1928, Rose Worringer is named as the organist who directs a choir of four men and four women.

The section on "Cross Plains Business Enterprises" offers similar detail though it limits the featured businesses to those of the earliest days and those current in 1928. The businesses range from Saeman's Lumber and Livestock to Cross Plains Electric Co. to the Hotel Adler. Endres' Dance Hall is "used as a general place of amusement, such as: dancing, roller skating, basketball, and plays." The description of Vasen's Store says it was built in 1910 as a variety store with an ice cream parlor. "In 1911 a stock of groceries and a small stock of dry goods were added and Farmers' Produce, butter and eggs, was taken in trade." The authors also record, where possible, the dates that the business buildings were constructed and the various occupants over the years. The locations of some buildings that were no longer standing are also noted.

The 18 pages of business advertisements are themselves full of interesting details. The Pick Brothers' Cross Plains Roller Mills offers flour grinding at "All Hours." Endres-Coyle Co. advertises expertise in plumbing, heating and tinning, pumps and windmills. Dahmen's Store, established 1857, says it has, "Served the first and every succeeding generation of the members of the St. Francis Xavier Congregation." Werner B. Esser advertises ten flavors of "Nu Icy," each bottled with Silver Spring water. Geo. H. Esser offers his hearty congratulations on the St. Francis anniversary.

This publication, like many other souvenir volumes, offers readers and researchers a wealth of detail about the establishment and growth of a community organization. It also offers insight into the perspectives of the authors themselves as they seek to document an institution and an era that holds great significance for them. Through primary documents and the memories of those who could recall experiences and events, the souvenir booklet can bring today's researcher a step closer to understanding life in the 19th and 20th centuries, offering a sense of some of the challenges faced by people who crossed an ocean to settle in the wooded hills and valleys of a new country.

### **Cross Plains Indexes Available**

For many genealogists researching Cross Plain families, a book such as "Souvenir of Diamond Jubilee of St. Francis Xavier Congregation" may prove to be a wonderful asset. However, like many local histories, it has no index. To locate some of the names within the text, a

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researcher would need a well-honed strategy and/or the time and opportunity to read the whole book.

In an effort to enhance access to information contained in this and other publications, the Dane County Historical Society began an indexing project. Volunteer Virginia Nichols has been patiently and systematically indexing local histories, line by line, page by page. Gini, herself a professional genealogist, has completed a 21-page index of the names of people, places and businesses that appear in "Souvenir of Diamond Jubilee of St. Francis Xavier Congregation." Included also are the names that appear in the photograph captions and business advertisements.

Additionally, Gini has created an index for "Memoirs of My Life: An Autobiography" by George Esser and is in the process of completing an index for "Centennial

History, Township of Springdale, Dane County, Wisconsin."

Copies of the Cross Plains indexes will be offered to the Rosemary Garfoot Public Library in Cross Plains, the Max Kade Institute for German-American Studies, and the Wisconsin Historical Society. Copies are also available to DCHS members. If you are interested in obtaining an index, please contact the Dane County Historical Society at (608) 244-3605 or by email at danecountyhistory@sbcglobal.net

If you would like to volunteer to help with the indexing project, please contact Debbie at the above email or phone number. There are many more publications that hold a similar wealth of information! We could really use your help.

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## The *Madison Mirror* is Going Online!

The Dane County Historical Society, which houses the only known full-run original copy of Madison Central High School's student newspaper, The *Madison Mirror*, is preparing to scan the paper to make digital copies of the full text available for free on the World Wide Web. The *Madison Mirror* collection consists of twenty bound volumes with approximately 2600 pages of newsprint. Plans are for issues from 1924 through 1969 to be posted in their entirety.

The DCHS board of directors has been discussing and planning for this project for over two years now. There have been starts and stops along the way as we have struggled to understand the technology and what it takes to put a treasure such as The *Madison Mirror* online for all to enjoy. At first, we planned to have the State Historical Society microfilm the bound volumes for preservation purposes. However, some board members rejected that idea, when it was learned that the bound volumes of the newspaper (which were originally bound and kept as the official copy by Central High School) would have to be sliced apart in order to get an accurate film copy, thus ruining the artifactual value of the volumes in the process. The mission of the Dane County Historical Society includes both "preservation" and "access." It is important not to let one of those goals outshadow the other.

Finally, after much discussion and background research, it was learned that accurate digital copies could be created without disbinding the volumes. This is the route now chosen for our little student newspaper.

There are many steps involved in getting a publication such as The *Madison Mirror* from its brittle, bound newsprint format into a usable format that can be made available on the World Wide Web. The steps include:

1. Understanding and communicating the project to the vendor; getting a realistic estimate of the cost.

2. Physically transporting the print publication to the site of the scanning service.
3. Creating a scanned image of the item—page by page.
4. Creating a PDF image of each page for viewing on the web.
5. Applying Optical Character Recognition (OCR) technology to the scanned image, so the images of the print paper can be searched by the text on the written page. This will allow individual names within the text to be searched.
6. Creating a microfilm master negative from the scanned image. Microfilm is still the best preservation method around. From the scanned image (access), a microfilm copy (preservation) can be made.
7. Delivery of the digital files to the DCHS in a format that can be read locally (CD, DVD or acid free paper copies bound as facsimiles of the original) for use by researchers and the public.
8. Identification of software that can deliver the PDF files or images in an interface that can be available from the DCHS web site.

There are commercial companies who can do this scanning. The Society has gotten some estimates for the various services that need to be done. Fundraising is currently underway to support this project. The project is expected to cost approximately \$5,000 to \$7,000; and the Society hopes to have the project finished by the end of 2007.

PLEASE HELP! Donations or memorial gifts in any amount will be greatly appreciated. Your donations to the Society can be specifically dedicated for The *Madison Mirror* project. Gifts in honor or in memory of a friend or family member, who attended Central High School, will be noted in the DCHS newsletter and on the website.

# NewspaperARCHIVE: A resource for historical research

By Stef Morrill

December 24, 1918. A blizzard was sweeping through Madison, interrupting railroad service. A jewelry store in Minneapolis was robbed of \$50,000 in diamonds. Nine hundred people in Madison were looking forward to tomorrow, not just because it was a holiday, but also because a new order, relaxing restrictions on “enemy aliens” would go into effect on December 25th. They could move back within 1/2 mile of arsenals and munitions factories.

All of these events were reported on the front page of the December 24th *Capital Times*. And with NewspaperARCHIVE, you can see exactly what Madison residents saw when they picked up their newspaper that day, reliving these historical events.

NewspaperARCHIVE is an online resource that has the full-page images of over 2,500 newspapers (local, national and international). Coverage for each paper is different, but the collection ranges in date from 1759 to 2006. The entire text of the NewspaperARCHIVE collection is searchable by keyword, and browseable by location, newspaper, or date.

Papers from several Dane County communities are available in the database:

- Cambridge: *Cambridge News*
- Madison: A large number of Madison Papers are available, from *The Advocate* to *The Wisconsin Enquirer*. The *Capital Times* and *Wisconsin State Journal* are both included in the collection.
- Mount Horeb: *Mount Horeb Grit*, *Round the Mounds*
- Stoughton: *Stoughton Journal*, *Stoughton Signal*
- Sun Prairie: *Sun Prairie Star*

NewspaperARCHIVE is a service of BadgerLink, a statewide project from the Department of Public

Instruction and the Wisconsin Reference and Loan Library. BadgerLink is free for any Wisconsin resident to access from their home, office or library.

1. Go to <http://www.badgerlink.net>
2. Click the “NewspaperARCHIVE” icon

The screenshot shows the BadgerLink website interface. At the top, it says "WISCONSIN'S CONNECTION TO THE WORLD OF INFORMATION" and "BadgerLink" with a logo of a badger. Below that, it says "WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION - DIVISION FOR LIBRARIES, TECHNOLOGY, AND COMMUNITY LEARNING". The main content area is titled "Resources for Wisconsin Residents:" and lists several databases: EBSCOhost, ProQuest, African American Biographical Database, NewspaperARCHIVE (highlighted with a red circle), TeachingBooks.net, and LitFINDER. To the right, there is a sidebar with links like "About BadgerLink", "Support Request Form", "Library Card Access", "BadgerLink FAQ", "Registered ISPs", "Training & Documentation", "Promote BadgerLink", "Email List", "Ask?Away", and "Wisconsin.gov". At the bottom, there are sections for "Resources by type" and "Resources for:".

If you live in Dane County, you can easily access this and other historical research resources through the South Central Library System using your library card:

1. Go to <http://www.scls.info/resources/name.html>
2. Choose “NewspaperARCHIVE”
3. Enter your library card number

The screenshot shows the South Central Library System website. At the top, it says "South Central Library System" and "Helping Libraries Serve the Public". Below that, there is a search bar and a link to "SCLS Home Search". The main content area is titled "Online Resources by Name" and lists several resources: African American Biographical Database, Ancestry Library, BadgerCat, EBSCOhost, HeritageQuest, Literature Resource Center, LitFinder, LISTA, netLibrary, NewspaperARCHIVE (highlighted with a red circle), Overdrive, Proquest, ReferenceUSA Business, Serials Solutions, TeachingBooks.net, What do I Read Next?, and WorldCat. At the bottom, there are footnotes: "1 Access to this resource is provided as part of the BadgerLink project.", "2 Available in library only.", "3 This service is intended for in-library use and home-use only.", and "More Information".

If you have questions about using this database, you can contact your local public library for assistance.

**DANE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER:**  
The Dane County Historical Society Newsletter is published quarterly (Spring, Summer, Fall, Winter), with submissions due 15 days earlier. Reader reviews, testimonials, flak and flattery, are also welcome. Send to: Howard Sherpe, Editor, DCHS Newsletter, 1017 Chieftain Lookout, Madison, WI 53711. E-mail: [skjerpe@chorus.net](mailto:skjerpe@chorus.net)

Mary Clark, President,  
DANE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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# Dane County Historical Society

## 2007 Membership Form

*Thanks for your support!! Your membership helps the Society carry out its mission of preserving Dane County's heritage for tomorrow's generations.*

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership is for the calendar year (January to December 2007)

<b>Level of Membership:</b>	<b>(Circle One)</b>	<b>Type of Membership: (Check One)</b>
Individual membership:	\$17.00	<input type="checkbox"/> New member
Family	\$23.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Renewing member
Contributing	\$45.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Returning member
Sustaining	\$65.00	
Business/Professional	\$80.00	
Student	\$10.00	

I am enclosing an extra donation in addition to my membership dues.

Amount of gift: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Check a category below to indicate how you would like your extra donation/gift used.

- Use my gift wherever it is needed
- Central High School, Madison Mirror digitization project

Make checks payable to: Dane County Historical Society

Mail to: **Dane County Historical Society**  
3101 Lake Farm Road  
Madison, WI 53711

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# Dane County Historical Society

## Volunteer Opportunities

Do you have a couple hours a week to volunteer with the Dane County Historical Society? The Society has many opportunities available for volunteers to help with our mission.

Indicate an area in which you would like to volunteer. If you indicate an interest, someone from the Society will contact you.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Email (if available) \_\_\_\_\_

**I'm interested in the following:**

- Cataloging or indexing
- Clipping local newspapers
- Annual membership meeting planning
- Fundraising
- Answering genealogical/historical research inquiries  
(indicate your area of expertise)
- Other (give us your ideas)

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- I am interested in serving on the Board of Directors

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# DCHS Initiates Communications with Other Area Historical Societies

By Barbara Furstenberg

The Dane County Historical Society has established a Networking Committee to help the Society better understand the variety of programs offered by community-based historical societies around the county. Twenty-two area historical societies participate in the Wisconsin Council for Local History; and are affiliated with the Wisconsin Historical Society. These affiliations enable local societies to participate and share on a regional and statewide basis; yet, there has traditionally been very little formal interaction or communication among the organizations right here in Dane County. The DCHS board of directors sees an opportunity to communicate and collaborate with other area societies on projects of mutual interest.

In the past few years, Dane County Historical Society has made good progress on settling the Otto Schroeder Records Center into its new facility at the Lussier Family Heritage Center and in establishing its electronic cataloging project. There appears to be potential for collaborative projects that could mutually benefit all area societies by making their archival collections more widely known and available to the public, while identifying, enhancing and preserving the individual strengths of

each local society archive.

As a starting point, DCHS sent a questionnaire to all area historical societies, in an attempt to identify the programs and distinct characteristics of their archives. Response to the questionnaire was impressive. Fifteen societies returned the questionnaires revealing a wide array of books, photos, correspondence, diaries, and other records relating to Dane County. The responses have been collated into a summary report that has been sent to all the participating area societies.

A meeting of representatives from the various area societies has been planned for the Lussier Family Heritage Center on Saturday, March 3, 2007, 9:00am to 12noon. The purpose of the meeting will be to discuss the results of the questionnaire, to assess archival needs of the various societies, and to brainstorm other networking possibilities. Representatives of all societies in Dane County are invited for a continental breakfast, tour of the Dane County Historical Society facilities, a presentation on the PastPerfect cataloging system in use at DCHS, and informal discussion. Further information is available from DCHS board member, Barbara Furstenberg, at [bfurst@mailbag.com](mailto:bfurst@mailbag.com).

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## DANE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY PRESENTS *FORWARD! A HISTORY OF DANE: THE CAPITAL COUNTY*

FORWARD traces the history of Dane County through the twentieth century. As home to state government, Dane County history provides background and insight into the development of Wisconsin throughout this period. The book was researched and written by Allan Ruff and Tracy Will. Tracy Will is well known to many Wisconsinites as one of the hosts of the popular television series, *Wisconsin Stories*, developed cooperatively by Wisconsin Public Television and the Wisconsin Historical Society. The first published history of Dane County in nearly 100 years is replete with fascinating details and rich graphics. It has over 400 pages of text, hundreds of pictures, complete index, maps, photos, and graphics enliven the text.

***Great Holiday Gift!***

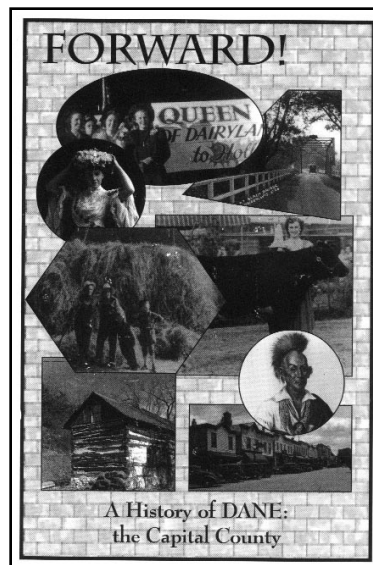
I would like to order \_\_\_\_\_ number of copies:

Historical Society Members Copies @ \$26.95 each    \$ \_\_\_\_\_

OR Non-Members Copies @ \$29.95 each                \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Shipping and Handling: Add \$3.00 per copy            \$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL ENCLOSED    \$ \_\_\_\_\_



**MAIL TO: DCHS, 3101 Lake Farm Rd., MADISON, WI 53711**

*If you wish to pick up the book in person to save shipping and handling charge, please call DCHS (224-3605)*

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Dane County Historical Society  
3101 Lake Farm Rd.  
Madison, WI 53711

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## President's Message



Mary Clark

You will notice right away that this issue of the newsletter contains a few extra pages. We have much to communicate to the membership; and we wanted to fill this issue with as much content as possible, since 2006 is a shortened subscription/membership year.

First — PLEASE renew your membership in the Dane County Historical Society for 2007!! You may remember that we have changed the membership year to coincide with the calendar year. So don't wait; even if it seems like you just sent in your 2006 membership, please renew NOW for 2007. A convenient membership form is included with this issue. DCHS is a membership organization; we depend on your membership dues to survive. And tell a friend!!

Second — If you would like to send an additional

tax-deductible donation to DCHS to help us continue with our mission, it would be much appreciated. We have a big year planned for 2007. We are continuing with our strategic planning initiative; we have a digitization project planned; we will be spearheading a networking initiative to facilitate communication and sharing among area historical societies; we are planning our 2007 annual meeting and historical marker dedication in Sun Prairie; and we continue to organize, catalog, and add new collections to the archives.

As the end of 2006 approaches, I want to take this opportunity to thank all those involved with DCHS, for their support and dedication. This includes everyone, from the membership, to our volunteers, to the board of directors, to those working on special projects, to the Dane County Board of Supervisors, to our fabulous donors! We obviously all agree that preserving the history of Dane County for future generations is very important!

*Mary Clark, President*

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*The Dane County Historical Society Newsletter is published quarterly by the Dane County Historical Society and printed by The Printing Place. To subscribe please write the Dane County Historical Society, 3101 Lake Farm Rd., Madison, WI 53711.*