

28th Annual Meeting
BLACK EARTH HISTORICAL SOCIETY



2:00 PM SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2020

1022 Blue Mounds Street

Black Earth, WI 53515

Agenda

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call of Board Members
3. Minutes of February 10, 2019 Annual Meeting
4. Treasurer's Report – David Cooper
5. Proposed 2020 Budget – David Cooper
6. Election of Directors – Four Seats, Three Year Term Each
Harold Miller
LaVonne Clason
Jan Cowan
Vacant
7. Other Business
8. Adjournment of Business Meeting



BLACK EARTH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

OFFICERS - FEBRUARY 2019 - FEBRUARY 2020

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

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

<i>Term expires February 2020</i>	<i>Term Expires February 2022</i>
Lavonne Clason	David Cooper
Harold Miller	Gary Ballweg
Steve Webber (standing down)	Jan Schroeder
Jan Cowan	Shirley Williams
<i>Term Expires February 2021</i>	ARCHIVIST
Wayne Barsness	Carolyn Shaffer
Rita Miller	
Paul Skalet	

2020 Annual Meeting Program

Author Jennifer Rude Klett will discuss her non-fiction book, *Alamo Doughboy: Marching into the Heart of Kaizer's Germany During World War I*. Klett is a long-time journalist and regular contributor to the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel newspaper. She is editor of the Depot Dispatch and a member of BEHS. "Please come with questions and family stories about World War I to share," she said. Signed paperback copies of *Alamo Doughboy* will be available for \$19.95 after the talk, along with refreshments.

Annual Membership dues for the 2020 calendar year will be accepted following the presentation. Please See David Cooper

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

I would like to support local history as a member of the BLACK EARTH HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

Please enroll me as a

New Renewing or Gift member in the following category:

Select one: Personal \$10 Family \$20

Business \$35 Patron \$35

Additional donation: \$_____

for: Bldgs./grounds (new boiler-2014);

Technology General Fund/Operation or:

BLACK EARTH HISTORICAL SOCIETY, and mail with this form to:

Box 214, Black Earth, WI 53515 0214

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State ____ Zip _____

Telephone: _____ or Cell _____

I would like to receive my newsletter via e-mail or by:

U.S. Mail. _____ e-mail: _____

Thank you for your support, we depend on you! BEHS is a 501(c) (3) tax-exempt organization

If questions please e-mail behistoricalsoc@gmail.com

I would like to become a volunteer of the BEHS to serve as:

Museum Docent Brat fry volunteer

Word Transcriber(from home) Collection volunteer

Archivist Assistant Other (suggest below)

Suggestions and requests for information are best by e-mail.

Thank you

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Welcome to the 28th annual meeting of the Black Earth Historical Society. Our mission is collecting and preserving historic artifacts, photographs and documents as well as, to serve as a resource and research facility for local history.

Paul Skalet has elected to step down due to continuing health issues. Paul was president for eight years and we all thank him for a job well done. Although Paul will no longer be president, he will remain on the board of directors. We look forward to Paul's continuing involvement and his many contributions to the success of our society.

Another change for 2020 is new society member, Jennifer Rude Klett, has taken over as editor of our newsletter, The Depot Dispatch. Jennifer is an author, long-time journalist, and a regular contributor to the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel.

We again were very happy to have Bill Rettenmund's heritage farm on display at the Depot Museum. It is a hit with all who have seen it. Bill spends many Sunday afternoons there and we thank him for sharing it and his knowledge of farming history.

A wedding dress display was and set up for the 2019 Museum season. It proved to be a very popular exhibit and will be on display again this year.

An addition to the Museum is the World War II Army uniform jacket of local veteran Marshall Anderson. Marshall's memoir of his service years was also donated to the Society and may be provided to anyone who would like to read it.

As always, we thank you for your past support of time and money. Our annual garage sale, brat fries and the food sale at the concerts in the park are our main fund raisers but we still rely on member donations to help meet our yearly expenses. Please continue your annual membership, and also consider a special gift contribution to help us maintain the history of the Black Earth area for future generations.

Wayne Barsness, Vice President

Minutes of 2019 Annual Meeting

February 10, 2019

Paul Skalet welcomed our guest and opened our Annual Meeting by introducing the Board Members: Wayne Barsness, David Cooper, Steve Webber, Harold Miller, Janice Schroeder, LaVonne Clason, Shirley Williams, Rita Miller, Carolyn Shaffer, and Jan Cowan, Ryan Reader (not attending).

Paul invited the reading of the minutes. Steve Webber made a motion for the guests to read them to themselves. Jan Cowan second. Motion carried. Paul moved to approve minutes from last year's annual meeting. Motion carried. Steve/Rita.

Treasures Report for 2019 by David Cooper. Motion was made to accept the report. Motion carried. Janice Schroeder/ Shirley Williams.

Paul reported that the following Board members terms expire in 2019: David Cooper, Janice Schroeder, Shirley Williams and Ryan Reader (standing down). The first three agree to accept another 3 years.

Paul said we need to approve the changes in the By- Laws. Steve Webber sent a copy to every member and were asked to make comments. He received only a few replies and all approved. A motion was made to accept the By-Laws. Motion carried. Janice Schroeder/Harold Miller. Harold asked everyone to applause Steve Webber for all his work on the By-Laws.

Shirley Williams made a motion to adjourn the business meeting. LaVonne Clason 2nd. Motion passed.

Paul welcomed our guest speaker Dr. Author Patrick Jung who gave a presentation on his 2011 book The Battle of Wisconsin Heights.

Conversation and refreshments followed in the lower level.

Jan Cowan- Secretary

WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP THE BLACK EARTH HISTORICAL SOCIETY?

We hope individuals and families will join the Black Earth Historical Society (BEHS). There are many ways to contribute to the preservation of Black Earth area history. Donating time and money is the best way. We are a 501 (c) (3) tax-exempt organization, we are tax deductible and qualify as community volunteering at school and on your resume. Below are ways you may contribute:

- Volunteer at BEHS events: Brat Fries at the Shoe Box as cooks and servers. Set-up and work at our annual garage sale to help raise money to support our objectives.
- Do you like to type? We have an ongoing Deed of Gift (DOG) project that you can do from home if you have a computer and Internet connection. It involves transcribing handwritten DOGs and Accession Worksheets from pdf files. It's tedious but you can do it whenever you wish and it will aid us in a continuing effort to computerize and organize our collection.
- If you don't type you can work with us organizing our collection and finding out what we have and where we have it. However, you'll need to work on a schedule with our Archivist or a Board member.
- Contribute to *The Depot Dispatch*, our newsletter: If you like to write about Black Earth area history, we'd love your contributions as word processing files, e-mails or even hand written.
- Donations are always appreciated. If you have something of historic significance to your family or the Black Earth area email us. You can donate anonymously or by Deed of Gift if the donation may be valuable. Donations that are duplicates may be sold at our garage sale or transferred to another organization. Railroad related items are of special interest. See the application blank and email address on the back of this page and thank you for your interest.

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LOOKING AHEAD:



Photo from 12/1/2019

OPEN HOUSE/SANTA SUNDAY:

Typically, the first Sunday in December. On December 6, 2020. This is a fun event for all the children in and around Black Earth to experience a visit with Santa and enjoy a hay-wagon ride as well.

We also want to thank the Wisconsin Heights Singers that entertained us with songs of the season, the BE Chamber for cookie crafts and Kwik-Trip for the support that they provide.

We encourage you to participate in various activities of the Black Earth Historical Society and to join or renew your membership. You are the only way we can continue with our mission to collect, share, and preserve the history of the Black Earth area. Questions?

Email: behistoricasoc@gmail.com

GIFTS TO THE BLACK EARTH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Black Earth Historical Society is a 501(c) (3) tax-exempt organization so gifts and monetary donations are deductible. We thank our members, volunteers and friends for their continued support.

BRONZE DONATIONS:

\$101 to \$299

BE Chamber of Commerce
John & Barbara Bird
Kwik-Trip
Harold Miller
Joan & Paul Skalet
The Shoe Box

CRYSTAL DONATIONS:

Up to \$100

Gary Ballweg
Eileen & John Bonine
Glenda & Leroy Brandt
LaVonne & Robert Classon
Jennifer Klett
Jerry Moors
Mary Nelson
Carol & Maynard Smith
Advanced Steel Construction
JoAn & Gary Turk
Walt's Garage
Jo & Tom Webber
Pat & Dennis Wood

Please check out our website:
<http://blackearthhistory.org>

LOOKING AHEAD

GARAGE SALE - Held in conjunction with the village-wide sale on April 17 & 18 2020. This is a fundraiser for the society. Donations of items in good condition including dishes, books, knick-knacks, toys, sports equipment, tools, furniture, etc. We do not accept clothing, electronics and/or computer equipment.

If you have questions or items to donate, please contact David Cooper, 767-2281, to arrange a time to pick-up or deliver your items.

Also, please consider volunteering a couple of hours to help with set-up, work during open hours, or take down. It is fun—we meet some really great people and get to show off our museum.

DEPOT MUSEUM: Will be open from Memorial Day weekend (May 24-25) through the last Sunday in September—9/27. We encourage you to visit the depot museum with your family, friends and neighbors. If you would like to schedule a time to visit other than on Sunday afternoon, please call Wayne Barsness at 767-2502 or send an email to: behistoricalsoc@gmail.com

Have you Boy or Girl Scouts in your family? Arrange a visit for their leaders and troops to visit the depot.

MUSEUM DOCENTS:

Consider becoming a museum docent - it requires 3-hours on a Sunday afternoon to greet visitors and share whatever info you can. Questions that can't be answered immediately—take their name, phone number and email address and we will have someone get back to them to try to answer their questions.

BRAT FRIES AT THE SHOE BOX: Saturday, June 29 and Saturday, September 31, 2018.

Volunteer for a couple of hours to sell brats. It is a fun and fast day to meet lots of interesting people.

We thank Steve Schmitt for the opportunity to use his facility for these fundraising events.

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RECEIPTS	2015 ACTUAL	2016 BUDGET	2016 ACTUAL	2017 ACTUAL	2018 BUDGET	2018 ACTUAL	2019 BUDGET	2019 ACTUAL	2020 BUDGET
SALES	\$113.00	\$50.00	\$30.00	\$32.00	\$50.00	\$71.15	\$50.00	\$10.00	\$25.00
BRAT SALES	\$1,214.79	\$1,000.00	\$1,311.13	\$1,330.49	\$1,200.00	\$756.28 [†]	\$1,200.00	\$1,150.41	\$1,200.00
DEPOT/DEPOT	\$1,750.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	\$1,550.00	\$1,500.00	\$322.69	N/A	N/A	N/A
DONATIONS	\$4,435.00	\$1,500.00	\$2,718.53	\$2,602.53	\$2,000.00	\$5,311.68	\$2,000.00	\$1,690.47	\$2,500.00
DUES	\$755.00	\$500.00	\$370.00	\$590.00	\$500.00	\$440.00	\$500.00	\$490.00	\$450.00
INTEREST	\$154.37	\$150.00	\$156.51	\$157.81	\$150.00	\$193.68	\$320.00	\$328.64	\$300.00
GARAGE SALES	\$510.65	\$750.00	\$1,147.30	\$1,667.59	\$1,000.00	\$625.86	\$700.00	\$549.20	\$600.00
CONCERT/ANN.	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$1,224.79	\$700.00	\$1,225.59	\$1,100.00
GRANTS	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$662.00	\$-	\$-	\$-
MISC.	\$2,000.00	\$-	\$2,000.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,525.83	\$2,525.00
TOTALS	\$10,932.81	\$5,450.00	\$9,233.47	\$10,430.42	\$8,900.00	\$12,108.13	\$7,970.00	\$7,971.14	\$8,700.00

EXPENSES	2015 ACTUAL	2016 BUDGET	2016 ACTUAL	2017 ACTUAL	2018 BUDGET	2018 ACTUAL	2019 BUDGET	2019 ACTUAL	2020 BUDGET
DUES	\$65.00	\$65.00	\$75.00	\$20.00	\$50.00	\$90.00	\$100.00	\$65.00	\$90.00
UTILITIES	\$838.87	\$1,000.00	\$956.14	\$1,229.73	\$1,300.00	\$1,183.68	\$1,300.00	\$1,293.01	\$1,350.00
HEAT	\$2,182.79	\$2,500.00	\$1,569.59	\$1,738.73	\$1,800.00	\$2,127.31	\$2,130.00	\$2,338.26	\$2,300.00
INSURANCE	\$669.00	\$669.00	\$719.00	\$744.00	\$744.00	\$760.00	\$760.00	\$781.00	\$800.00
BUILD/GROUNDS	\$210.00	\$400.00	\$6,081.34	\$678.00	\$400.00	\$111.25	\$300.00	\$2,148.28	\$500.00
POSTAGE/PRINT	\$241.39	\$500.00	\$185.76	\$219.39	\$200.00	\$277.09	\$210.00	\$359.43	\$400.00
ACTIVITIES	\$415.00	\$450.00	\$350.00	\$300.00	\$400.00	\$200.00	\$300.00	\$200.00	\$300.00
ARCHIVING	\$173.98	\$750.00	\$-	\$111.80	\$700.00	\$1,802.85	\$700.00	\$-	\$700.00
MISCELLANEOUS	\$2,055.69	\$100.00	\$2,049.00	\$2,542.33	\$2,500.00	\$2,547.99	\$2,500.00	\$2,557.62	\$2,550.00
COMP/SUPPORT	\$771.11	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$-	\$500.00	\$222.43 ^{††}	\$500.00	\$34.95	\$250.00
TOTALS	\$7,622.83	\$7,434.00	\$11,985.83	\$7,583.62	\$8,594.00	\$9,322.60	\$8,800.00	\$9,777.55	\$9,240.00

	CHANGE	BALANCE		CHANGE	BALANCE		CHANGE	BALANCE
2014	\$(5,986.99)*	\$21,922.20	2017	\$2,846.80***	\$25,326.62	2019	\$(1,806.41)	\$26,305.74
2015	\$3,309.98	\$25,232.18	2018	\$2,785.53 ^{†&††}	\$28,112.15	2020	\$(540.00)	\$25,765.74 (EST.)
2016	\$(2,752.36)**	\$22,479.82	***Depot chimney repair 2017					
*New Boiler fall 2014			† Brats lost in flood 2018					
**Depot roof & heating issues 2016			††BEHS Web Site Hosting & Domain					