

Documentary demonstrates Dames' dedication

NSCDA-WI commemorates 125 years of service



The National Society of the Colonial Dames of America in the State of Wisconsin (NSCDA-WI) has engaged in historic preservation, patriotic service, and educational projects since 1896. As such, its members' contributions to the state of Wisconsin and to our nation as a

whole have been notable. Please enjoy this short video documentary as we commemorate this milestone year for NSCDA-WI and the Historic Indian Agency House: agencyhouse.org/nscda-wi

LEARNING RESOURCES

Educational offerings for kids and adults

HIAH cultivates learning and growth for all ages

TOURS AND FIELD TRIPS

Tours of the museum and historic house are offered May 15 - October 15. We also provide engaging school group tours (in-person or online) and free teacher packets with fantastic supplemental materials.

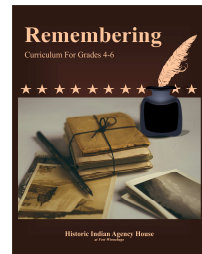
agencyhouse.org/tours

EVENTS AND PROGRAMS

HIAH offers a plethora of educational programs and events for all ages. Many of them are child-friendly, so families may learn and grow together!

agencyhouse.org/events

EDUCATIONAL CURRICULUM



The Agency House website presents helpful resources for teachers and families. Each season, we develop an exciting new curriculum based upon the season's theme. Our latest curriculum provides enthralling, hands-on activities on the topic of historic preservation and stewardship.

agencyhouse.org/educational-resources

ONLINE LEARNING

Our website is replete with learning opportunities for adults, as well. Enrich your understanding beyond a tour! agencyhouse.org/learn

HISTORY ON THE MOVE

Thanks to a generous grant from the Community Foundation of South Central Wisconsin, we have produced a multifaceted mobile exhibition and programming. "History on the Move" takes our story on the road, bringing a high-quality interactive and personalized museum experience directly to you! It allows us to serve schools too distant for in-person field trips; nursing home residents who are facility-bound; and more. "History on the Move" is available Nov. - April.

agencyhouse.org/community-outreach

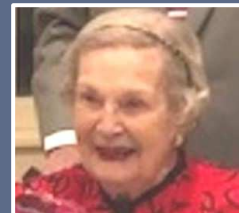


Remembering "Cissy"

The Antiquarian Society of Wisconsin (ASW) has generously sponsored many of our 2021 season's offerings in remembrance of Olive "Cissy" Bryson.

Mrs. Bryson passed away on March 11, 2020, at the age of 93. She graduated from Bryn Mawr College and went on to become a devoted volunteer in her community in Milwaukee. She served as President of Green Tree Garden Club (1975-77), Collectors' Corners of the Milwaukee Art Museum (1981-83), and the ASW (1988-90). She served on the board of Milwaukee Institute of Art & Design; was a regent for the Kenmore House in Virginia; and was a member of the DAR and the National Society of the Colonial Dames of America in the State of WI (HIAH's governing board).

Cissy was dearly loved and respected by her family, friends, and her devoted caregivers. We honor her in our season of "Remembering."



STAY IN THE LOOP



Website:
www.agencyhouse.org



Facebook:
www.facebook.com/historicindianagencyhouse/



Instagram:
www.instagram.com/agencyhousewi/?hl=en



Twitter:
www.twitter.com/AgencyHouseWI



Wau-Bun Express

The Newsletter of the Historic Indian Agency House

Volume 21, Issue 1

March 2021



90th SEASON

The Indian Agency House officially opened as a museum in 1932. As one of Wisconsin's most time-tested museums, we are pleased to embark upon our 90th season!



Promotional video

Take a look, and please share!
https://youtu.be/sQq_ejoL2zY

"History Rediscovered"

This year's online history series, "History Rediscovered," launched in January. Dust off the Agency House archives with us! Explore curiosities from old scrapbooks, fascinating documents, and more. Posts are added twice per month.
agencyhouse.org/explore-history

Exhibit held over

Enjoy an extended opportunity to investigate our special exhibit on archaeology and blacksmithing!

Pandemic policies

COVID-19 precautions remain in place for the safety of our patrons and staff. Visit our website for details: agencyhouse.org/covid-19

2021 SEASON UNVEILED

A TIME OF "REMEMBERING"

Dear Friends,

The stories of America's past possess tremendous value. This season, we will pause to consider the means by which the past is preserved. How do we remember?

Our 2021 themed programming carries the central idea of handing history down through time. Delivering history to the next generation involves a multidisciplinary approach and is as varied as it is fascinating and colorful. Get ready for engaging events, hands-on workshops, and educational programs exploring the links that tie the past to the present. Learn more at agencyhouse.org/2021-remembering.

Keep an eye on agencyhouse.org/events for details and updates as they become available. We look forward to a fantastic season of "remembering" with you!

Respectfully,

Adam Novey
Executive Director and Curator

EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

in our
2021 lineup:
“Remembering”



Hands-on, interactive programming abounds

COMMUNITY ARCHAEOLOGICAL DIG
July 10-11 & July 17-18

History is often preserved right in the ground beneath our feet. Through archaeological excavation, we are able to reconstruct some aspects of history for which there is no written record.

Join us for year two of our community archaeological dig. Unearth artifacts that may have last been touched by human hands 200+ years ago. Adults and children ages five and up are welcomed to participate alongside the professional archaeologists. Live blacksmithing

demonstrations add to the experience.
agencyhouse.org/archaeology-2021

ENDURING SKILLS WEEKEND

August 14-15

Historical skills which may otherwise have been lost to the annals of time are often preserved through modern practice, as in the case of blacksmithing, soap making, basket weaving, and more. In other instances, historical methods must be carefully re-created through

experimentation and research. We are working on organizing a fantastic lineup of enduring skills stations at which adults and children may try their hand all weekend!
agencyhouse.org/enduring-skills

STORIES OF WISCONSIN: DUGOUT CANOE PROJECT

Last Friday of the month, May - September

Join us for a series of relaxing evenings listening to stories of Wisconsin's early days around a unique campfire as work progresses on a fire-wrought dugout canoe. Working together, we will learn about and experiment with this ancient historical skill. A hot dog fundraiser will be held each evening, so come with an appetite for history...and hot dogs!

agencyhouse.org/dugout-canoe

FAMILY HEIRLOOM WORKSHOP

June 26

...a must-attend event for those who desire advice on how to best preserve antiques and heirlooms from textiles to ceramics, paper documents to furniture, and more. Explore practical, low-cost, and accessible solutions with collections care expert, Nicolette B. Meister. Admission is free.

agencyhouse.org/events

July Speaker Series

Every Tuesday night in July, join us for fascinating lectures on unique aspects of the ways in which Wisconsin history has been passed down through the generations. Learn about the contributions of Frederick Jackson Turner, Milo Quaife, Increase Lapham, and the oral history tradition of the Ho-Chunk Nation. This series is co-sponsored by The Museum at the Portage and is free to all.

Celebrate Flag Day

On June 14, 1777, the USA adopted the stars-and-stripes as its official flag. The flag has flown as a symbol of our nation and all it stands for over the past 244 years. Come on June 12 for a flag raising by the Scouts BSA and the Pledge of Allegiance led by American Legion Post 47. Then listen to a riveting story relayed by a genealogist who traced an ancestor's journey with Wisconsin's renowned Iron Brigade from Portage, Wisconsin, to the war-torn fields and farm lots of Gettysburg.

Calling all Scouts

Scouting weekends honor historic connections



Girl Scouts Day is slated for Saturday, August 28. A special guest plans to join us for some fabulous frontier storytelling, too! Come for a day of history, hiking, and crafts. Girl Scouts Day is sponsored by Community Bank of Portage.

Scouts BSA “Camping & Cultures Weekend” will be held September 4-5. The story and location of HIAH provide a great backdrop as troops from across the state converge at this ancient gathering point for a weekend of camping, hiking, history, hands-on cultural activities, and more. Camping and Cultures Weekend is sponsored by Associated Bank in Portage.

The Historic Indian Agency House has a unique and personal connection to Scouting. John and Juliette Kinzie, who lived and worked in the Indian Agency House in the early 1830s, were the grandparents of Juliette Gordon Low who founded the Girl Scouts. Juliette Gordon Low was inspired at least in part by her grandmother's adventurous spirit and resourcefulness on the frontier.

Our historic site has also enjoyed a longstanding relationship with local Scouts BSA troops who have both camped on the property and helped care for it for decades.

We are pleased to offer two events for our Scouting friends. Our hope is that they, too, will be inspired by the stories and lessons of this special place.

Praise on the Prairie (Free!) & Preservation Fundraiser June (Date TBD)

Juliette Kinzie's Christian faith and sense of charity were central to her life. Bring a lawn chair and enjoy a Sunday afternoon of live Christian music, a visit from an 1830s circuit-riding preacher, and more! If you bring a blanket to donate to the Orphan Grain Train (ogt.org), you will receive a coupon for a free family tour of the museum. Our exciting new edition of *Wau-Bun* will also be available for purchase to raise funds for the continued preservation of HIAH. Help us carry on the legacy!



Holiday Festivities

Enjoy a 19th century yuletide at the Agency House and our 15th annual Kiddie Christmas. Details forthcoming!

HIKE & LEARN

History and nature

On Saturday, May 1, enjoy a guided history hike along the historic Fox River on the Marquette Trail. The time when the leaves are budding offers the best opportunity to experience this recreational gem along the historic Fox River.

Join us again on Saturday, July 31, to explore some of our 180 acres of natural beauty with Groundswell Conservancy Conservation Specialist Tony Abate. Hikers will traverse three ecosystems during a 1.2 mile educational walk.

HISTORY ALIVE

Two living history reenactments on the docket

The Historical Timekeepers Civil War era reenacting group will set up an encampment on June 5 and 6.

Learn about the Civil War from the perspective of those living on Portage, Wisconsin's home front in 1863—the third year of the war. Interact with skilled reenactors all weekend.

Have you ever wondered how people entertained themselves on a remote

corner of the frontier? Join us on September 18 when the Galena Living History Society reenacts the amusements of times gone by. As you watch a live melodrama, participate by booing at the bad guy and cheering for the hero.

Living history events help keep the substance and lessons of history alive for each generation.



We remember

In commemoration Donors honor loved-ones

In 2021 we remember the following individuals whose loved-ones have donated in their honor:

In Memory:

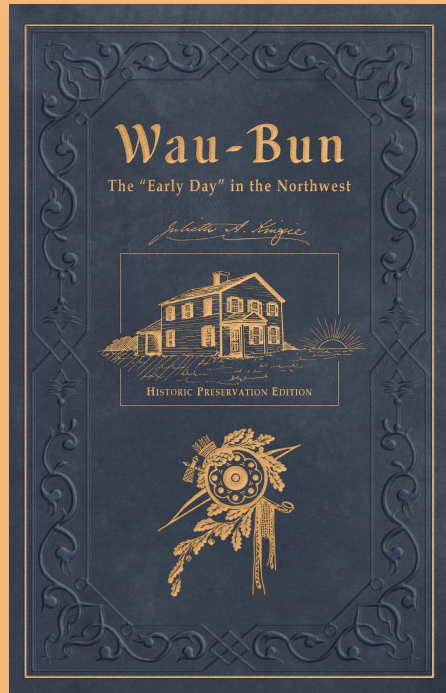
- Olive (Cissy) Bryson
- George and Ruth Chappell
- Boo Greeley
- Carol James
- Doug Kammer
- Eloise and Domenic Reali
- Edward (Ted) Rebholz
- George and Minnie Zamzow

In Honor:

- Barbara Collings
- Dr. Anne Vravick

If you would like to donate in honor of someone special to you, complete the form at agencyhouse.org/donate.

NEWSLETTER INSERT



Introducing...

Wau-Bun

Historic Preservation Edition

First published in 1856, Juliette Kinzie's firsthand account of life in the *Early Day* of the upper Midwest remains captivating, thought-provoking, heart-rending, enlightening, amusing, and inspiring.

Even if you've read this fascinating classic before, don't miss our 2021 edition loaded with **EXTRA FEATURES!**

agencyhouse.org/wau-bun

BOOK LAUNCH

Be among the first to get a copy for yourself, family, and friends!

The Historic Preservation Edition is available in both hardcover and paperback.*

**Saturday,
May 8, 2021**

Drop in any time between
1 and 3 pm

Historic Indian Agency House
1490 Agency House Road
Portage, WI 53901
agencyhouse.org

*Also available as an eBook through online book sellers



It's all here in *Wau-Bun*: Garrison life and native customs; everyday affairs and extraordinary frontier exploits; a rich and complex convergence of cultures; wars, privation, and struggles for survival; compassion, generosity, and sacrifice; beauty juxtaposed with danger in the wilderness; weighty issues and critical decisions that would reverberate for generations. ...back when Chicago was a prairie... when indigenous tribes inhabited the lands of their fathers...when prominent figures in the annals of history had not yet risen above obscurity...when John H. Kinzie served as Indian sub-agent at Fort Winnebago in frontier Wisconsin.

Now discover the rest of the story!

- The fate of the Winnebago (Ho-Chunk) Nation after their forced removal from their ancestral lands
- The endeavors of the Kinzies after leaving Fort Winnebago in 1833
- The rescue of the Historic Indian Agency House—now a museum on the National Register of Historic Places

This edition also features an introduction and footnotes by renowned historian Louise Phelps Kellogg.

The Historic Indian Agency House in Portage, Wisconsin, was the home of Indian sub-agent John H. Kinzie and his wife, Juliette, in the early 1830s. The history recorded by Mrs. Kinzie in *Wau-Bun* happened here. Come experience it!

The Historic Preservation Edition of *Wau-Bun* is available in our gift shop all season. Proceeds will contribute to the continuing preservation of this nationally significant historic site for the benefit of generations to come.

agencyhouse.org/wau-bun



Made possible by a grant from the Cissy VD Bryson Fund at the Greater Milwaukee Foundation