

Hawks Inn Newsletter

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The Legacy of Lottie Lurvey



If you were at student at Cushing Elementary School in the 40s, 50s, 60s or early 70s, you may have fond memories of Lottie Lurvey as your teacher. Miss Lurvey started her teaching career in 1925 and retired in 1972, a tenure no longer seen. The Delafield City Council proclaimed "Lottie Lurvey Day" on May 18, 1972.

The Delafield History Center has just received a gift of her eight scrapbooks, carefully maintained from 1946 through 1985. With mostly newspaper clippings and other memorabilia such as programs, they are a treasure trove of documentation about events in Delafield and surrounding areas, plus notices relevant to the Lurvey family and their many friends.

Our digital archivist is in the process of scanning and digitizing every page of the scrapbooks. Book One (1946- 1951) is already available on our website under Digital Archive. https://hawksinn.org

The historical references are fascinating. For example, the first clippings are from September, 1946 and detail the 82nd birthday celebration for Dr. Michael Wilkinson, an Oconomowoc doctor for 57 years. He grew up on a farm near Government Hill and graduated from 8th grade in Delafield, later Whitewater Normal and from Northwestern University Medical School in 1893. His first house calls in Oconomowoc were made by horse and buggy. After serving in World War I, he returned to Oconomowoc and in 1929 established the Wilkinson Clinic with four of his sons. It was unique in the nation to have a family run clinic of that size.

Older generations will remember when the local newspapers carried notices of births, hospitalizations and residents' social activities, in addition to coverage of weddings and retirements. Lottie saved all that were relevant to her family, friends and colleagues, along with the obituaries of well known area citizens, including Lynn Fontanne of Genesee Depot. A small clipping notes the birth of Lottie's nephew, a few pages later is a longer article about his third birthday party, listing all the guests. Her siblings and their family travels to Valley Falls, Kansas were often noted. But more important for the Delafield archives, she saved the coverage of events relating to Delafield, as in the final run of the Interurban in 1951, the installation of mayors, the anniversary celebration of the library, the incorporation of the city in 1959.

We are so grateful to Lottie's niece, Jane Lurvey Schlosser, for making this extensive collection of 39 years of Delafield history available to the whole community. As physical scrapbooks become obsolete and newspapers lose readers, such sidebars adding context to our history may be lost forever.

Become a Friend & Donate

Your donation will help preserve the Hawks Inn and Delafield History's educational and cultural opportunities we offer for all.
You may mail a check to P.O.Box 180104 Delafield WI 53018 or donate through our website https://hawksinn.org/become-a-friend-donate/

Winter Magic in the Inn

December 4, 2026
7:00 pm - 9:00 pm
Hawks Inn & Delafield History Center



Step into the inn that has welcomed travelers for generations, set in peaceful Christmas ambiance.

Sip a Stone Fence or apple cider while soft guitar carols fill the room. An unhurried evening with friends, best enjoyed by adults, though younger guests are welcome.

Reservations appreciated – email: hawksinn1846@gmail.com

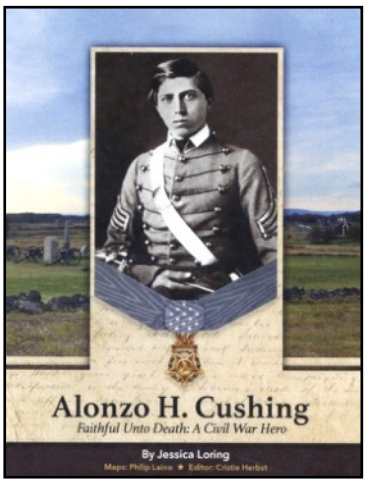
Donations happily accepted!



Wisconsin Handweavers Guild Holiday Market

December 4 _ 5 to 9pm
December 5 _ 10 to 4pm

Discover the magic of handmade this holiday season! The Wisconsin Handweavers will have beautiful, hand-woven treasures perfect for gift-giving. Families can also enjoy live demonstrations of weaving and spinning. Come see the loom and spinning wheel in action and see how these timeless crafts and artwork are created!



New Alonzo Cushing Book

If you're looking for a great Christmas gift for a Civil War buff, this would be perfect. Published in 2026 and written by Jessica Loring, Alonzo's first cousin three generations removed, it is undoubtedly the most comprehensive study of Cushing ever done.

Owing to the family connection, there are 31 letters, photographs and family history not published before. Kent Masterson Brown, author of the book Cushing of Gettysburg, writes that "Jessica Loring has taken the story of Alonzo Cushing to a new level ... it is an absolute gem."

Hawks Inn received a gift copy for our library as we provided, from our archives, a recruiting poster for Lt. Cushing's A Company, U. S. Artillery.

The book measures 9"x 12", has 488 pages and is meticulously documented with bibliography, appendices and index. President Obama's Medal of Honor address is included at the end. We have a limited number of copies available for only $35.00.

Winter of 2027 Sunday Seminars - $10 admission
3:00 pm to 5:00 p.m.

January 3

Capt. Brian Richards will share the history of the Lake Country Fire and Rescue from 1918 to the present.

February 7

Michael Rehberg from Black Point Speakers Bureau will present How to Taste a Beer.

Note: Reservations are required for this event.

March 7

Jason Rehorst will be giving a presentation on *The Last Ice Age and the First Arrival of Human Habitation in Wisconsin.*

Jason is a Wisconsin geologist/ paleontologist who also was with us at a seminar last winter.