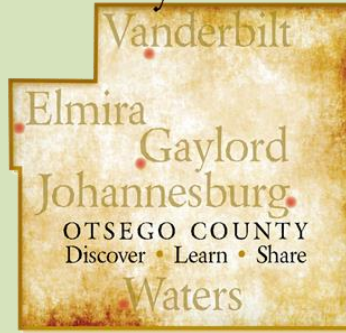


History Matters



Update # 1

January 6, 2018

Welcome to the first History Matters Update. As you see at the top of this page, we now have a logo! A big thank you to Dona Wishart and her graphic artist at the Otsego County Commission On Aging for creating this in the shape of our county and including our 5 main communities. Also note our 3 key pillars: **Discover ♦ Learn ♦ Share**

Our Steering Committee has put together a 2 page overview that briefly describes the History Matters program. This and other background information can be found on our web site [Link](#)

We are now recruiting energetic Volunteers to join the History Matters Team. These history detectives will do research, conduct interviews, design exhibits, write news articles and much more to help make history come alive. If you or someone you know would like to join the History Matters Team, please contact me by January 20, 2018.

Discover - here are a few ideas to explore in January

1. Take a look at the incredible collection of Otsego County postcards that Jan White has put on-line [Link](#)
2. If you're on the snowmobile trail just east of the Fairview Cemetery, check out the railroad history sign
3. The one and only Gaylord Car is on exhibit at the Visitors' Center across the street from our Museum

Learn – there are so many interesting things to learn about our past...

1. We think it's cold now – did you know on February 9, 1934 it was -51 in Vanderbilt? Actual, not wind chill!
2. Looking for a good book to read as your curl up by the fire? “Early Times of Otsego County, Michigan” by Bill Granlund (now in its 3rd printing) will get you up to speed on our county's history. Excellent reference.
3. Sticking with the winter theme, did you know that the first U.S. Patent for a modern type snowmobile was granted to Ray Muscott of Waters, Michigan in 1916? Google it – U.S. Patent 1,188,981.

Share – One of the coolest (or should it be warmest?) and very generous gifts!



The Hayes Grange quilt is now on display at our Museum. More details soon on our web site.

Susan Mulder (center in right photo) of Belding, Michigan contacted Hayes Township Supervisor Mary Sanders (far right) to donate a quilt made in 1904 by the Hayes Grange Ladies Aid Society. Squares on the quilt include the family name of each quilter. Susan's great grandparents lived in Hayes Township in the late 1800s and early 1900s.



Share your knowledge of the Granges and the important role they played in Otsego County.