



WESTPHALIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Volume 8 | Issue 5 | Number 45 | October 2019

LIGHT PARADE

This year is our 5th light parade! As always, it will be held the first Saturday of December at 6:00 PM. We've had some great and clever entries. If you've been thinking about entering, this could be your year. Get your family, friends, neighbors or co-workers together and start planning.

God willing, St. Nick will again be present. This year's honorary tree lighter will be Debbie Weber, daughter of Clare and Dora Weber.

Following the light parade, we will raffle a beautiful handmade statue of St. Nick crafted by Glenn Fink. Other drawings will be for items such as gift certificates donated from local merchants. There will be multiple winners. Tickets will sell for \$1.00 each.

See you December 7th!

CEMETERY WALK

The Sixth Annual 2019 Cemetery Walk was very successful. Our best estimate was that we had about 440 attendees.

Big thank yous go out to the actors representing the honorees: Rich Schmitt, his dad Izzy Schmitt; Luke Pohl, his great, great, grandfather Johann Pohl; Kim (Wirth) Keilen, her grandmother Carolyn Wirth; Mike Gross, his dad Leo Gross; and A.J. Schneider, who represented druggist Louis Bertram. Another note of thanks goes to the golf cart and Ranger drivers who donated the vehicles and their time.

Mother Pauline, the founder of the Sisters of Christian Charity, came through again this year with the weather. Two of her pictures were tacked to the trees to keep rain away and it worked. We had a window between morning and evening rains. Thank you, Mother Pauline!

If you have names of notable Westphalians for us to consider featuring at next year's walk, let us know. Additionally, John Nobach has finished the DVDs and are available for \$15.00 each.

Last Chance: *The last opening of the Weddings Exhibit will be Wednesday November 6th. It will then be dismantled.*

If you have any suggestions for next year's exhibit let us know.

Better yet if you would like to coordinate next year's exhibit let us know.

IMPORTANT DATES & INFO

MEETINGS:

3rd Tuesday of the month at 6:00 PM at Fabianos across the street.

Reminder: You need not be a member to attend; however, we are always looking for new members to carry us down the road; we hope to see you there!

OPEN DAYS & TIMES

Wednesday, October 16, 5 - 8 PM

Sunday, November 3, 1 - 4 PM

****Special and Last Opening this Year****

Wednesday, November 6, 5 - 8 PM

HAIR CARE CLOSES THEIR DOORS

For a good many women in Westphalia, and especially we senior women, there are 2 very important events in our life, getting to church and getting our hair done (not necessarily in that order). There is now one less place for us to go. Ann Rademacher took down her shingle on May 23, 2019.

Thirty three plus years ago, Ann and Tom Rademacher bought the building from the Tillie Thelen estate in December 1985. It was a residence and their first thought was to use it for a rental. Ann was pregnant with her fourth child, Don, also born in December. They later changed their mind and decided to open a beauty shop, which was always a dream of Ann's. They were able to use the rooms without major remodeling. They opened April 1, 1986. Deanne Rockey was hired first and soon after Jan Bierstetel. With 4 little ones, Ann did hair 3 days a week, plus she did the bookkeeping, laundry and cleaning.

They first had two stations and the hair dryers were in the front room. They became very busy, so they added a third station and moved dryers into the middle room. Ann expanded her retail products and moved them into the back room. They also had a play room for children, which was ideal for the families and kids coming after school.

Some of the stylists that worked there through the years were Margie Thelen Gove, Becky Thelen Miller, Wanda Zenk, Denise Cook, Jamie Fandel, Linda Luna and Luann Simon. Linda and Luann worked for her the longest. Linda retired, but came back to help Luann for a few weeks. Luann is now currently working for Wanda Zenk in Pewamo.

Ann states things have certainly changed over the years. They no longer teach backcombing (teasing) and more and more children are coming in, where in the old days, mothers or aunts (think Martha Pung) used to cut hair.

Ann and Tom have 6 children, Charlene (Jim Paul), Lorie, Dan (Brooke), Don (Morgan) Ryan (Brienne) and Bryan (fiancé Katie Simon). Ann states she plans to spend more time at the lake and babysitting her 2 newest granddaughters. They have 4 grandkids and one on the way.



I wish to Thank Ann and all her stylists, for working wonders on my hair for the last 17 years. I only wish they could have done something about the wrinkles and the extra pounds....Congratulations Ann on 33 years of beautifying the fine heads of Westphalia women, men and children. We hope you and Tom enjoy your kids and grandkids and the cottage on your retirement journey.

~Margie Wirth

MCKIM SCHOOL, 1933-1934

We need your help. Do you recognize any of the students in the picture below? They are youngsters who attended the McKim Country School, which was located on the northeast corner of Cutler and Clintonia Roads in Westphalia Township. The picture was taken in 1933 or 1934.

Carolyn Smith Wirth and her brother are in the picture. Who is the teacher? Could it be Agnes Pike? Cora Schueller? Mary McCrumb? If your name is Hengesbach or Meyers you may be able to identify an older relative.

The McKim School was in District 5/5 Fractional, meaning children from districts of Portland, Danby and Eagle Townships attended this school, along with children from Westphalia Township. If you're able to name any of these students call Evelyn at 587-6838 or email us at westphalia1836@gmail.com.



Front Row: [] [] [] [] []

Row 2: [] []

Row 3: [] [] [Carolyn Smith Wirth] [Teacher] [] [] []

Back Row: [] [Smith] [] []