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BESTSELLERS

Studying Wisconsin
The Life of Increase Lapham, early chronicler of plants, rocks, rivers, mounds, and all things Wisconsin
Martha Bergland and Paul G. Hayes

This tribute to Wisconsin’s first scientist explores the remarkable life and achievements of Increase Lapham (1811–1875), who mastered botany, geology, archaeology, limnology, mineralogy, engineering, meteorology, and cartography. Told in compelling detail through Lapham’s letters, journals, books, and articles, Studying Wisconsin chronicles the life and times of Wisconsin’s pioneer citizen-scientist.

Hardcover: $26.95
424 pages, 75 b&w photos and illus, 4 maps, 6 x 9
ISBN: 978-0-87020-648-1

From the Top
Brief Transmissions from Tent Show Radio
Michael Perry

From Scandihoovian Spanglish to snickering chickens, New York Times bestselling author and humorist Michael Perry navigates a wide range of topics in this collection of brief essays drawn from his weekly appearances on the nationally syndicated Tent Show Radio program.

Paperback: $15.95
160 pages, 5½ x 8¼

The Romance of Wisconsin Place Names
Robert E. Gard

In this reprinted edition with a foreword by well-known author and rural historian Jerry Apps, Gard meticulously records morsels of trivia and Wisconsin hometown lore in an alphabetical listing of places in every corner of Wisconsin, including the stories behind their often-unusual names.

Paperback: $19.95
320 pages, 10 b&w photos, 6 x 9
The War of 1812 in Wisconsin
The Battle for Prairie du Chien
Mary Elise Antoine

In The War of 1812 in Wisconsin, author Mary Elise Antoine brings a little-known corner of Wisconsin’s history to life. Prairie du Chien, located just above the mouth of the Wisconsin River, was the key to trade on the upper Mississippi. Whoever controlled the prairie commanded the immense territory inhabited by thousands of American Indians—and the fur they traded. When war broke out between the United States and Great Britain in 1812, British and Americans fought to maintain the ever-shifting alliance of the tribes.

This is the story of the battle for the control of Prairie du Chien and the western country, which began many years before the three-day siege in July of 1814 for which the Battle of Prairie du Chien is named. It is also the tale of the people, Euro-American and Native, who lived in pre-territorial Wisconsin and how the contest for control of the region affected their lives and livelihoods. The outcome of the War of 1812 would determine what Manifest Destiny would mean to all who called these lands home.

Mary Elise Antoine is president of the Prairie du Chien Historical Society and former curator at Villa Louis. She has written numerous articles and books on Prairie du Chien, including two volumes with Arcadia Publishing. She is co-editor, with Lucy Murphy, of Frenchtown Chronicles of Prairie du Chien: History and Folklore from Wisconsin’s Frontier, forthcoming from the Wisconsin Historical Society Press.

May 2016
Hardcover: $28.95
240 pages, 39 b&w illus, 6 x 9

E-Book Edition Available
**Milwaukee in the 1930s**

**A Federal Writers Project City Guide**

Edited by John D. Buenker

What would it be like to take an intensive tour of Milwaukee as it was during the late 1930s—at the confluence of the Great Depression, the New Deal, and the run-up to World War II? That is precisely what the participants in the Federal Writers Project did while researching their *Guide to Milwaukee*. The fruits of their labors were ready for publication by 1940, but for a number of reasons the finished product never saw the light of day—until now.

Seventy-five years after the work’s completion, the Wisconsin Historical Society Press and historian John D. Buenker present this guide—now serving as a time machine, ready to transport readers back to the Milwaukee of the 1930s, neighborhood by neighborhood, building by building.

Buenker’s thoughtful introduction provides historical context, detailing the FWP’s development of this guide, as well as Milwaukee’s political climate leading up to, and during, the 1930s. Next, essays on thirteen “areas,” ranging from Civic Center to Bay View, delve deeper into the geography, economy, and culture of old Milwaukee’s neighborhoods, and simulated auto tours take readers to locales still familiar today, exploring the city’s most celebrated landmarks and institutions. With a calendar of annual events and a list of public services and institutions, plus dozens of photographs from the era, *Milwaukee in the 1930s* provides a unique record of a pre–World War II American city.

John D. Buenker, Ph.D., is professor emeritus of history for the University of Wisconsin–Parkside, where he taught for thirty-three years. He is the author or editor of fifteen books, including volume IV of the Wisconsin Historical Society Press’s *History of Wisconsin: The Progressive Era, 1893–1914*. He has published more than 250 book chapters, articles, and book reviews. Buenker has received fellowships from the John Simon Guggenheim Foundation, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the Institute for Research in the Humanities; awards from the state historical societies of New Jersey, Illinois, and Wisconsin; and the Marion G. Ogden Prize of the Milwaukee County Historical Society.

May 2016

Paperback: $18.95

260 pages, 86 b&w photos, 6 x 9

ISBN: 978-0-87020-742-6

E-Book Edition Available
Jews in Wisconsin
Sheila Terman Cohen

Unlike the other cultural groups covered in the People of Wisconsin series, the Jews who have made their home in Wisconsin are united not by a single country of origin, but by a shared history and set of religious beliefs. This diverse group found their way to America’s heartland over several centuries from Germany, Russia, and beyond, some fleeing violence and persecution, others searching for new opportunities, but all making important contributions to the fabric of this state’s history. Through detailed historical information and personal accounts, Sheila Terman Cohen brings to life the stories of their various trials and triumphs. Jews in Wisconsin details their battles against anti-Semitism, their efforts to participate in the communities they joined, and their successes at holding onto their own cultural identities.

In addition to excerpts of Cohen’s many interviews with Wisconsin Jews, Jews in Wisconsin also features the compelling journals of German immigrant Louis Heller, a tradesman who established himself in Milwaukee, and Russian immigrant Azriel Kanter, who details the perilous journey his family embarked on to escape anti-Semitism in his home country and make a new life in Wisconsin.

Sheila Terman Cohen is a journalist and author who has written three Badger Biographies for the Wisconsin Historical Society Press: Mai Ya’s Long Journey, Gaylord Nelson: Champion for Our Earth, and Sterling North and the Story of Rascal. Her books have received recognition from the Council of Wisconsin Writers, the Midwest Independent Publishers Association, and the national book award group Next Generation.

April 2016
Paperback: $12.95
96 pages, 35 b&w photos, 6 x 9
ISBN: 978-0-87020-744-0

E-Book Edition Available
NEW TITLES

The Silver Man
The Life and Times of Indian Agent John Kinzie

Peter Shrake

In The Silver Man: The Life and Times of Indian Agent John Kinzie, readers witness the dramatic changes that swept the Wisconsin frontier in the early and mid-1800s, through the life of Indian agent John Harris Kinzie. From the War of 1812 and the monopoly of the American Fur Company, to the Black Hawk War and the forced removal of thousands of Ho-Chunk people from their native lands, John Kinzie’s experience gives us a front-row seat to a pivotal time in the history of the American Midwest.

As an Indian agent at Fort Winnebago—in what is now Portage, Wisconsin—John Kinzie served the Ho-Chunk people during a time of turbulent change, as the tribe faced increasing attacks on its cultural existence and very sovereignty, and struggled to come to terms with American advancement into the upper Midwest.

Through John Kinzie’s story, we gain a broader view of the world in which he lived—a world that, in no small part, forms a foundation for the world in which we live today.

Peter Shrake is a lifelong resident of Wisconsin. He earned his master’s degree from the University of Wisconsin–Eau Claire, focusing on Jacksonian Indian policy in Wisconsin. He also earned a master’s degree of library and information studies from the University of Wisconsin. Shrake served as the executive director of the Sauk County Historical Museum for eight years. For three years he worked as a reference archivist for the Wisconsin Historical Society Library and Archives. Since 2011, he has been the archivist at Circus World Museum. He lives in Baraboo with his wife, Kim, and his sons, Ethan and Ben.

April 2016
Paperback: $14.95
176 pages, 28 b&w photos, 6 x 9

E-Book Edition Available
Some Like It Cold
Surfing the Malibu of the Midwest
William Povletich

Some Like It Cold chronicles the true story of twin brothers Lee and Larry Williams, whose love of surfing evolved in the most unlikely of geographies: off the shores of Lake Michigan. From their boyhood home in Sheboygan, Wisconsin, the brothers trekked to the local beach with their longboards and their dreams to master the waves at spots like the Elbow and the Cove. The next six decades proved that their zeal for catching grinders and barrels was much more than a hobby.

Surfing in the cold has its challenges, and Lee and Larry recall stories of freak storms, ice-encrusted beaches, and near drownings, along with the usual hypothermia, helped but not cured by their customized cold-water wetsuits. Despite living nearly 2,000 miles from either coast, Lee and Larry have made a lifestyle out of freshwater surfing, recreating their hometown as “The Malibu of the Midwest” and gaining international fame as hosts of the Dairyland Surf Classic.

With humor and wit, author William Povletich brings their tale of revolutionizing surf culture to the page.

Native Wisconsinite William Povletich is the author of Green Bay Packers: Trials, Triumphs, and Tradition and Milwaukee Braves: Heroes and Heartbreak as well as numerous magazine articles on sports and entertainment. The Emmy Award-nominated and Peabody Award–winning documentary filmmaker is the producer of E!’s Botched and the Food Network’s Trisha’s Southern Kitchen.

April 2016
Paperback: $16.95
224 pages, 46 b&w photos, 5½ x 8½
ISBN: 978-0-87020-746-4

E-Book Edition Available
NEW TITLES

Fran and Frederick Hamerstrom
Wildlife Conservation Pioneers
Susan Tupper

Learn how the husband and wife team of Fran and Frederick Hamerstrom worked to save the greater prairie chicken from extinction in a new book for young readers in the Badger Biographies series, Fran and Frederick Hamerstrom: Wildlife Conservation Pioneers. The Hamerstroms dedicated their lives to understanding and preserving wildlife. As students of the famous Wisconsin naturalist Aldo Leopold, they helped establish new ways for humans to think about habitat conservation. Together, Fran and Frederick spent over thirty years mentoring many future scientists and working to save the greater prairie chicken, and other animals, from extinction.

Susan Tupper was a library media specialist for twenty-six years and is a recipient of an Excellence in Teaching Fellowship Award from the Herb Kohl Foundation. She lives in Amherst Junction, Wisconsin, where she can often be found working in her garden.

February 2016
Paperback: $12.95
136 pages, 55 b&w photos and illus, 7 x 9

Sterling North and the Story of Rascal
Sheila Terman Cohen

Childhood adventures inspired Wisconsin writer Sterling North to write one of the best-selling children’s books of all time, Rascal. Rascal was the name of Sterling’s childhood pet, a raccoon he befriended as a young boy in the early 1900s. Together, Sterling and Rascal witnessed changing times in their hometown of Edgerton, Wisconsin, including the effects of World War I, the Spanish flu, and the invention of the automobile. They enjoyed camping, fishing, and racing the streets of Edgerton on Sterling’s trusty blue bicycle. Sterling North and the Story of Rascal is a new addition to the Badger Biographies Series.

Sheila Terman Cohen has written three Badger Biographies. Mai Ya’s Long Journey was awarded first place in juvenile nonfiction by the Council for Wisconsin Writers and the Midwest Independent Publishers Association. Gaylord Nelson: Champion for Our Earth won a first-place Indie Book Award. Cohen studied journalism at the University of Wisconsin and has written articles for newspapers in Madison, Wisconsin, where she and her husband live and raised their family.

January 2016
Paperback: $12.95
128 pages, 63 b&w photos, 7 x 9
ISBN: 978-0-87020-735-8

For more on the Badger Biographies Series visit www.wisconsinhistory.org/whspress
Cream City Chronicles
Stories of Milwaukee’s Past
John Gurda

A collection of lively stories about the people, the events, the landmarks, and the institutions that have made Milwaukee a unique American community. From singing mayors to summer festivals, from blueblood weddings to bloody labor disturbances, Cream City Chronicles offers a generous sampling of tales that express the true character of a hometown metropolis.

Paperback: $18.95
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Milwaukee Mayhem
Murder and Mystery in the Cream City’s First Century
Matthew J. Prigge

From murder and matchstick men to all-consuming fires, painted women, and Great Lakes disasters—and the wide-eyed public who could not help but gawk at it all—Milwaukee Mayhem uncovers the little-remembered and rarely told history of the underbelly of a Midwestern city.

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How One City’s History of Segregation and Struggle Shaped Its Schools
James K. Nelsen

Educating Milwaukee traces the origins of the modern school choice movement, which is growing in strength throughout the United States. Author James K. Nelsen follows Milwaukee’s tumultuous education history through three eras—“no choice,” “forced choice,” and “school choice.”

Paperback: $24.95
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Photographs of Milwaukee’s Polish South Side
Christel T. Maass
Introduction by John Gurda
Photographs by Roman B.J. Kwasniewski
Hardcover: $19.95
160 pages, 167 b&w photos, 1 map, 10 x 10

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How Milwaukee Became America’s Tenpin Capital
Doug Schmidt
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288 pages, 87 b&w photos and illus, 8 x 9

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A Pictorial History of Milwaukee’s Movie Theaters
Larry Widen and Judi Anderson
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Words by Rick March

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Photographs by Loyd Heath

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Rural historian and celebrated Wisconsin storyteller Jerry Apps has been writing about Wisconsin farm life, gardening, and the environment for more than forty years. He has published more than thirty nonfiction and fiction books and countless articles for adult and young readers.

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—Michael Perry, author of From the Top: Brief Transmission from Tent Show Radio, Population 485, and Truck: A Love Story

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Robert A. Birmingham
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Bill Berry
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R. Bruce Allison
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Milton J. Bates
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Candice Gaukel Andrews
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**Building Taliesin**

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