



## Local Resources Available

For additional Information contact us the Reference Desk  
920-967-3690 | email: [reference@menashalibrary.org](mailto:reference@menashalibrary.org)

### Newspapers – Microfilm

Menasha Advocate. June 12, 1854 - September 25, 1856  
Menasha Conservator. May 14, 1856 - March 17, 1860  
Weekly Manufacturer. June 6, 1861 - July 24, 1862  
Island City Times. October 22, 1863 - January 15, 1870  
Winnebago County. January 22, 1872 - December 30, 1871  
Menasha Press. January 6, 1870 - September 19, 1896  
Menasha Evening Breeze. June 20, 1894 - March 15, 1904  
Menasha Citizen. May 18, 1904 to February 25, 1905  
Menasha Record. March 16, 1904 to September 17, 1949  
The Twin City News Record. 1950 May 1984  
Post crescent. 1976 – December 31, 2012  
The New York Times. 1968 - 1993  
Oshkosh Daily North Western. February 1987 - August 1998

### Newspapers – bound in the basement

Appleton Post-Crescent 1920 to 1938  
Appleton Post-Crescent with Twin Cities Record - June 18 1962 - August 31 1976  
Menasha Citizen. May 18 1904 - February 25th 1905  
Menasha Evening Breeze. June 20, 1894 - 1903  
Menasha Press. 1870-1893  
Menasha Record. 1904 to 1949  
Menasha Weekly Breeze. May 2, 1896 - 1900  
Milwaukee Sentinel Centennial Edition. July 14, 1937  
Oshkosh Daily North Western - Neenah and Menasha home edition. April 1962 to August 31, 1976  
The Paper for Central Wisconsin. January to December 13, 1970  
Star and stripes. One volume printed in France to boost morale of GIs during World War I  
Twin City News Record. 1952 -June 15, 1962

### Other titles on microfilm

Lawson, Publius. Bravest of the Brave / History of Winnebago County / Prince or Creole.  
MacKinnon, Captain. Atlantic & Transatlantic Sketches Afloat and Ashore.

### Photographs

700+ Menasha photographs from the library's pamphlet files depict the people, dwellings, businesses, transportation, and industry in Menasha from 1880 to 1980. More of this collection from the Elisha D. Smith Public Library historical photograph collection, is held at the University of Wisconsin libraries.

<https://uwdc.library.wisc.edu/collections/wi/menashalochist/> Also check the site [Recollection Wisconsin](https://recollectionwisconsin.org)  
<https://recollectionwisconsin.org>

### Yearbooks

The Nicolet. Menasha Highschool. 1916 to present  
St Mary Central Highschool. 1931 to present

### Cemetery Records

- St. John's Catholic Cemetery (#1) - Valley Rd, Menasha. Cemetery read from West to East, rows North to South by Sue Goodacre & Kathy Laabs (WGS members).
- St. Patrick's historic cemetery: the cemetery for the Catholic church on the island (called St. Charles Boromeo) and the German Catholics in Menasha, at Green Bay and Ridgeway Roads in the town of Menasha, Winnebago County, Wisconsin. by Martin, Sylvia Shea. 1997. Adult – Local History 929.5 S14p
- Index for St. Mary's Catholic Cemetery - Racine St. Menasha, WI 2013. Ask the Reference Desk
- Index to the Winnebago County Press 1870-1871 Excel. Ask at the Reference Desk

### City Directories

- Bunn's Winnebago county directory: a city directories of Oshkosh, Neenah and Menasha, and villages of Omro, Winneconne, Allenville, Butte des Morts, Eureka, Fisk, Larsen, Picketts, Rush Lake, Waukau and Winnebago. Adult Local History 917.756 W73 1900, 1905 & 1910.
- Fox Cities, Wisconsin Polk city directory. Adult Local History 917.7564 F79 1998-Present

- Neenah-Menasha, Wisconsin, city directory. [Adult Local History 917.7564 N29](#) Several years since 1928 -1995
- Wright's Neenah-Menasha city directory [Adult Local History 917.7564 N29](#). 1924

## City Maps

- Sanborn-Perris Insurance Maps of Menasha. 977.564 M53 Years 1884 1887 1891 1895 1900 1906 1913 and 1926
- Check the drawers in the History Alcove with other maps of Menasha dating from 1712 through 1950. Some of them are held at the Wisconsin Historical Society and available online.
- Online: Atlases and histories of Winnebago County. <https://uwdc.library.wisc.edu/collections/WI/OshkoshAtlases>
- Appleton, Green Bay, Oshkosh street atlas : full street detail maps of Green Bay, Appleton, Oshkosh, De Pere, Allouez, Ashwaubenon, Howard, Hobart, Wrightstown, Sherwood, Little Chute, Kimberly, Combined Locks, Kaukauna, Seymour, Hortonville, New London, Shiocton, Menasha, Neenah, Omro, and Winneconne. 2015 Local – Hist 917.756 A64 2015

## Newspaper clippings

The Menasha Public Library has on file several newspaper clippings related to people, businesses, organizations, and events that have contributed to shape the lives of our community. Most have been selected over 1910 – 2009.

**Online:** [Menasha Newspaper Index](#): Selective index of articles appearing in The Post-Crescent or the News Record newspapers dated 1999-2009. Joint project of Menasha Public Library and the Winnefox Library System.

<https://sql.winnefox.org/research/go.asp?lib=men&db=mni>

## Vital Records

- Index to Birth Records Winnebago County, Wisconsin, Volume 1, 1831-1886, Rev. Edition, Winnebagoland Genealogical Society, 2002. Local Hist 929.3 W834b v. 1 1831-1886
- Index to Birth Records, Winnebago County, Wisconsin, Volume 2, 1887-1891, Rev. Edition, Winnebagoland Genealogical Society, 2002. Local Hist 929.3 W834b v. 2 1887-1891
- Index to Birth Records, Winnebago County, Wisconsin, Volume 3, 1892-1895, Rev. Edition, Winnebagoland Genealogical Society, 2002. Local Hist 929.3 W834b v. 3, 1892-1895
- Index to Birth Records, Winnebago County, Wisconsin, Volume 4, 1896-1900, Rev. Edition, Winnebagoland Genealogical Society, 2002 Local Hist 929.3 W834b v. 4, 1896-1900
- Winnefox Vital Records - <https://vital.winnefox.org/>

Search vital records as reported in newspapers in 5 Wisconsin counties: Fond du Lac, Green Lake, Marquette, Waushara and Winnebago. Joint project of the Winnefox Library System and its member libraries.

## Videorecordings

Menasha Centennial Parade - July 4, 1953 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=68Xt7V8qUII>

Wisconsin hometown stories. Neenah-Menasha. Wisconsin Public Television, 2017. [Adult Local History 977.564 W81](#)

## Plat Maps

Land atlas & plat book, Winnebago County, Wisconsin. 2012 [Adult Local History 917.756 L25w](#)

Map and Plat Book of Winnebago County Wisconsin. Gorman & Soudea, 1909. [Adult Local History 917.756 G67](#)

Triennial atlas & plat book, Winnebago County, Wisconsin. 1969. [Adult Local History 917.756 A88w 1969](#)

We have other current plat books available for other counties. Ask Reference Desk

## Local and State Histories

Search by the Subject term: Menasha History | Neenah History. More than 60 items are available for research.

If we do not have a particular book or resource that is needed for your research we may be able to obtain it for you through our Interlibrary Loan service. Call or email the Reference Desk.

**Local Organizations - Menasha Historical Society (920) 840-4373 640 | Keyes St., Menasha, WI 54952**

Open Mondays 10am-1:00pm Visit them to access their collections and preserved documents relevant to our Menasha's history. Visit their new website at: <https://menashahistorical.wixsite.com/website>

The Historical Society looks to preserve collections and documents relevant to Menasha history. The Society has a well-kept small museum with several displays to learn about the traditions, contribution, businesses and people in Menasha. The museum is available on Monday mornings.

The Menasha Historical Society is a real treasure and the volunteers work very hard to preserve Menasha's past and to tell the community's story.

### **University of Wisconsin – Oshkosh Archives and ARM** <https://www.uwosh.edu/archives/genealogy>

800 Algoma Blvd. Oshkosh, WI 54901 | 920-424-7373 (Available Monday-Friday 8:30am-3:00pm)

Research your family history from Dodge, Fond du Lac, Green Lake, Marquette or Winnebago Counties. For questions about genealogy holdings, research and access policies and general operations questions. No research requests will be accepted via telephone or email. Please submit any requests for RESEARCH SERVICES with an online RESEARCH REQUEST form available at their website. Some fees will apply. <https://www.uwosh.edu/archives/request-form>

### **Neenah-Menasha Oral Histories**

<https://uwdc.library.wisc.edu/collections/wi/menashalochist/>

<https://bit.ly/2VuE94o>

These interviews took place in the late 1970s with UW-Fox Valley Professor Michael O'Brien. These recordings are owned by the Elisha D. Smith Public Library and the Neenah Public Library; they are held at the University of Wisconsin libraries but can be heard online. They include:

- Harold Bachman, who moved to Menasha in 1926 after graduating from Lawrence University. Mr. Bachman worked for the George Banta Company for 43 years, retiring as Veteran Services Director. He was a founding member and president of the Menasha Historical Society.
- Bernice Beck, who was a housewife who tried to maintain her Polish heritage. In the interview, she discusses her Polish grandmother, Eva Gavinsky, and the Polish traditions that she learned from her.
- Ebbe Berg, who was born in Norway and emigrated to the United States at age 19. He worked for many years at American Can and served as Treasurer for the Town of Menasha for 25 years.
- Giles Clark, who was a teacher and guidance counselor at St. Mary's High School and Menasha High School. He was also a local historian and author of several books on the history of the Fox Valley.
- Mary Corry, a former school teacher, lived in Menasha and was 68 years old at the time of her interview.
- Edward Fahrback, who was 85 at the time of the interview and living in Menasha, recalling growing up on a farm at the turn of the century near the current intersection of Airport Road and Highway 47 in the Town of Menasha.
- William Herziger, who was the Director of Curriculum for the Menasha Joint School District.
- Henry Jankowski, who was 87 years old at the time of the interview and had lived in Menasha for most of his life. He worked a variety of jobs and recalled working in his father's Racine Street tavern as a child.

- Al Kass, who was 80 years old at the time of the interview and living in Menasha. Mr. Kass worked at Menasha Woodenware and was involved in the labor movement. He discusses the Menasha Woodenware strike of 1933 and his relationship with Mowry Smith, the president of the company.
- William Kellett, who was 80 years old at the time of the interview and living in Menasha. He discussed his time working at Kimberly-Clark Corporation beginning in the 1920s and continuing into the early 1960s when he was president of the company.
- Harry Kind, who served as Clerk-Comptroller for the City of Menasha from 1960 to 1968. He was a veteran of World War II and worked previously for the State Tax Commission, now the Wisconsin Department of Revenue.
- Lawrence Kraft, who was 82 years old at the time of the interview and living in Menasha. He directed the Menasha High School band for 37 years, beginning in 1927.
- Richard Laemmerich, who was 54 years old at the time of the interview and owned a funeral home in Menasha.
- Reverend Walter Lichtsinn, who was 63 years old at the time of the interview and pastor of the Trinity Lutheran Church in Menasha, a position he had held since 1951.
- Sarah Loescher, who moved to Menasha in 1922 and was 79 years old at the time of the interview. She and her husband, Clarence Loescher, owned the Loescher Hardware Store in downtown Menasha.
- Gilbert Neff, who describes his experiences as a soldier in France during the First World War and his time as a yachtsman on Lake Winnebago.
- Amos Page, 75 years old at the time of the interview, and living in the Town of Menasha where he farmed for most of his life.
- John Pawlowski, who was 64 years old at the time of the interview. He discusses his Polish heritage in the interview in addition to his years working at Gilbert Paper Company and his service on the board of the Menasha Joint School District.
- Wesley and Ione Saecker, who were both 72 years old at the time of the interview. They owned the Menasha Furniture Store, which was previously owned by Wesley's father. They discussed how running a business had changed over the course of 40 years.
- John Scanlon, who was 84 years old at the time of the interview and served as mayor of Menasha from 1946 to 1956. Prior to serving as mayor he had worked in the railroad industry.
- Genevieve Schierl, who moved to Menasha in the 1930s and lived in the Town of Menasha at the time of the interview. Mrs. Schierl discusses the tension that existed between the Polish people in Menasha and other ethnic groups.
- Sila Spengler, who was born in 1898 and graduated from Menasha High School. He was an attorney for 50 years serving at various times as the City Attorney for the cities of Menasha and Neenah and Family Court Commissioner for Winnebago County.
- Florence Wilterding, who lived in Menasha since 1926. Her late husband, John Wilterding, was once president of the George Banta Company. She discusses the tension that historically existed between the communities of Neenah and Menasha.

## **Winnebago County Historical & Archaeological Society**

234 Church Ave, Oshkosh, WI 54901 (920) 267-8007

<https://winnebagoountyhistoricalsociety.org/>

The Society strives to represent, serve and involve community members by researching, preserving and communicating the history of Winnebago County, Wisconsin. The WCHAS is located in the beautifully preserved John R. Morgan residence near downtown Oshkosh, Wisconsin. Tours of the historic home are free of charge, but donations are appreciated. Large groups are encouraged to schedule tours with society staff prior to visiting.

## **Winnebago Genealogical Society**

<http://winnebagogenealogicalsociety.blogspot.com>

To provide assistance, the exchange of ideas and information, and to provide encouragement in genealogical research; to promote the highest standards of integrity in genealogical research; to promote an understanding with other organizations involved in genealogical research. Individual Dues - \$10 per year (11/1-10/31) Family Dues (couple) - \$13 per year (11/1-10/31)

Monthly membership meetings are held on the 2nd Thursday of each month at the Oshkosh Public Library, Lower Level meeting room at 7pm.

June & August are field trip or workshop activities. No formal meeting held in July.

## Wisconsin State Genealogical Society

<https://wsgs.org/index.php>

Includes resources for every county in the state such as cemetery transcriptions, county resources, and a quarterly newsletter.

## *State Vital Records Office*

**VISIT:** 1 W. Wilson Street, Room 159, Madison, WI 53703

**CALL:** 608-266-1373 for general inquiries; 608-267-7820 for appointments

**EMAIL:** [dhs vitalrecords@wisconsin.gov](mailto:dhs vitalrecords@wisconsin.gov)

The State Vital Records Office houses birth, marriage, death, and divorce records from the nineteenth century to 1938, 2002, and 1967, respectively. They also have indexes of these

records through 1984, 2012, 2015, and 1986, respectively. Their research room is open Monday through Friday from 8AM-10AM and 10:30AM-12:30PM. **You must make an appointment before visiting. You must bring personal identification, like a driver's license or state ID.**

### *Wisconsin Historical Society*

**VISIT:** 816 State Street, Madison, WI 53706

**CALL:** 608-264-6535 (Library) or 608-264-6460 (Archives)

**EMAIL:** asklibrary@wisconsinhistory.org or askarchives@wisconsinhistory.org

The Wisconsin Historical Society's Library and Archives contain pre-1907 vital records, newspapers, plat maps, census records, Civil War enlistment records, family histories, and more. Their vital records index and select digitized materials are available on their website, but all other materials are onsite. The Library and Archives are open Monday through Saturday, but their hours vary; check their website or call to confirm. Many of the records are available for transfer to the [Area Research Centers](#) network including two in the Northeastern Wisconsin area one at the University of Wisconsin Green Bay and the other at the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh. Materials available for use at the centers and for transfer include court records, manuscript collections, land records, probate records, etc. Each ARC also holds the pre-1907 vital records for the counties in their coverage area.

### **Online Resources**