November 11th Presentation at 7:00

World War I Through the Words of a Local Soldier

A great way to close Veterans Day—to hear the stories of World War I soldiers in their own written words. Noted local author Cynthia Furlong Reynolds returns to us with a brand new presentation —this will be a first look at her new book. This presentation will start at 7:00 at the historic Chelsea Train Depot—125 Jackson St.

Annual CAHS Potluck Dinner

Please join us on a Monday evening. December 9th, at 6:30, at the historic Train Depot, for the festive Annual CAHS Pot Luck Dinner…….. We supply the main dish and you bring along a side dish, dessert, or munchie. It’s a great opportunity to see old friends, meet new ones and catch-up… and a great reason not to figure out dinner on a Monday night. This is an all ages affair.

Holiday Historic Homes Tour

Saturday, December 7th from 1:00 to 4:00

The CAHS Holiday Homes Tour returns December 7th as part of Chelsea’ Hometown Holidays. This memorable event will showcase 5 wonderful, historic and remarkable downtown area homes for you to tour. All of them will be decked-out for the holidays and guides will be on-site in each home to tell you of the rich history of each home. All proceeds from this event will go CAHS! The tours will be open from 1:00 to 4:00.

Details can be found at the CAHS website (ChelseaHistory.org) and you can also purchase your tickets there as well. Or you can purchase your tickets in person soon at the Chelsea Hometown Pharmacy or the CAHS museum during their open hours of noon to 3:00 Saturdays and Sundays. For more details, contact us at 734-476-2010 or via our newly revised Website: Staff@ChelseaHistory.org.

Important Information Inside on Page 3

Our January 13th meeting is also our Annual Meeting. The positions of President and Treasurer are up for election. If you have any interest or questions about either position, please contact our Nominations Committee: Staff@ChelseaHistory.org
UPCOMING EVENTS
Mark your calendars for these special Events:
• November 11, 7:00, Chelsea Train Depot, presentation on World War I (more information on page 1).
• December 7, 1:00 — 4:00, Historic Homes Tour (go to CAHS website for details).
• December 9, 6:30, Annual CAHS Potluck Dinner, Chelsea Train Depot (more information on page 1).
• January 13, 7:00, Annual Meeting and presentation: “Rosie the Veterans.” More information on page 3.

Chelsea Community Foundation Awards CAHS A Major Grant
We are very pleased to be awarded this grant that will allow some major improvements at the CAHS Museum. These include:
• a small carriage house, nicknamed “The Firehouse”, being built at the rear of the museum driveway. It will house our antique fire wagon (which has been in storage since we had no place to display it) and a number of other items;
• expansion of the “Fireplace Room” to make it more of a meeting room and to allow for additional displays;
• technology upgrades including video displays in each room, new computers, video recording equipment, and software upgrades;
• a new wheelchair ramp at the rear of the museum.

Construction of the Firehouse is already underway – stay-tuned for the announcement of its Grand Opening!!

Chelsea Historical Museum is Debt-Free!
As you have hopefully already heard, in September we announced that the mortgage on the CAHS Museum was paid in full as a result of our successful Match Campaign. Thanks to all who donated and made it possible for your CAHS to be 100% debt free. We will still count on your generous support and fundraisers to meet our on-going expenses and plan for the future but the “monkey is off our back” and our Chelsea History has a very bright future!
Rosie the Riveters +++

the Annual CAHS Membership Meeting

Join us Monday evening, January 13th at 7:00 at the Chelsea Train Depot for a Live presentation of the famous WWII working women—"Rosie the Riveters". This is being presented by a local group dedicated to this story, and they will be in costume! This will be preceded by the brief annual CAHS membership meeting.

Check Out the Completely Redesigned CAHS Webpage at ChelseaHistory.org
September 18th Dedication and Presentation —  
Herbert Vogel and Elsie Swanberg

A good crowd was on hand for our September 16th dedication ceremony of the new front yard in recognition of Herbert Vogel and Elsie Swanberg. This was followed by a wonderful presentation on the career of General Herbert Vogel by Steve Wright.
CAHS in the News!

The latest November / December edition of Michigan Historical Society’s “Michigan History” magazine included a full page article on CAHS and our 1911 Flanders! This means state-wide attention for CAHS and our museum.
Cross-Country Motorcyclist Likes Iowa

by Cheryl Mullenbach

“The west certainly surpassed all my expectations, and Iowa is great,” Cy Woodman claimed after traveling from New York to Iowa on a Flanders 4 motorcycle in October 1912.

Ethel “Cy” Woodman had ridden cross country to follow through on a dare. The freelance journalist had been at the New York City Press Club one day when a fellow journalist dared her to ride a motorcycle from New York to San Francisco. The dare came after Woodman boasted that women were just as “gritty” as men. In September she headed west through Pittsburgh and Chicago, crossing the Mississippi River at Clinton, Iowa. “I hired one of those little boats and paddled all around, and took some pictures and just shouted. I wired back to my paper, ‘Hurrah, West at last, across the Mississippi,’” she said.

She said she had been treated “royally” everywhere except for one instance in Michigan. A stranger “slugged” her off her motorcycle. But Woodson, with the help of the sheriff, caught the fellow. Next day she sat in on his court appearance and witnessed the judge setting his fine at $50.

About 30 miles east of Des Moines Woodson had another mishap. And it set her back a couple of weeks. Flying down a steep hill on her motorcycle, Woodson hit a patch of sand at the bottom of the incline, causing her motorcycle to topple. She landed in a heap, badly battered. A man on a motorcycle came upon her and helped her back on her machine. She rode for about seven miles to the nearest town, where a doctor bandaged her injured eye and wrapped her tender ribs with adhesive plaster.

With one eye covered by the patch and her ribs aching with each jolt, Woodson made her way westward. Just outside Des Moines, the motorcycle’s engine killed. She had to push the cycle for about a mile to an automobile company. The employees took her to a doctor, who suggested she take a break from her journey. C.C. Clements from the automobile company suggested Woodson stay with his family while she mended. She accepted the offer.

Once again, Woodson was impressed with her experiences in Iowa. As she and Clements made their way home on a street car, two girls gave up their seats so the injured cyclist could sit. “Not a man offered to give me his seat in the car, but two girls got up, and I tell you I appreciated the courtesy,” Woodson remarked. “Let me tell you what I think of your Des Moines women,” she said. “They are fine women as ever I met.”

On November 13, still not completely recovered, Woodson decided to resume her journey to San Francisco. She was eager to complete the trek before Christmas, and it was getting cold. But Woodson didn’t complete her tour on motorcycle. In New Mexico she suffered another setback. After recovering from an appendectomy, she completed her journey by train. In California she spoke to a crowd at the Los Angeles Motorcycle Club. She summed up her experiences this way: “I now feel qualified to state that if a woman has a comb, toothbrush and a nail file, she can travel most anywhere in comfort—even on a motorcycle.”

Sources: “Accidents Do Not Deter This Woman,” Des Moines Register, Oct. 31, 1912.
“Girl Rides in Spite of Hurts,” Quad-City Times, Nov. 26, 1912.
“Hits Iowa and Cries ‘I’m in West at Last,’” Des Moines Tribune, Oct. 31, 1912.
“Miss ‘Cy’ Woodman Resumes Journey,” Des Moines Register, Nov. 14, 1912.

Cheryl Mullenbach is an contemporary Iowa author specializing in books and articles about Iowa ([www.CherylMullenbachink.com](http://www.CherylMullenbachink.com)) History and unusual happenings in her state. She wrote this article after finding about Cy Woodman and her adventure in 1912 with a Flanders 4 motorcycle. She used the sources listed above using a great government site, [https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/](https://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov/) that she describes as free, with a wealth of information. Use “Cy Woodman” and 1910 - 1920 to limit your search.