Dear Friends,

The stories of America’s past possess tremendous value. This season, we will pause to consider the means by which the past is preserved. How do we remember?

Our 2021 themed programming carries the central idea of handing history down through time. Delivering history to the next generation involves a multidisciplinary approach and is as varied as it is fascinating and colorful. Get ready for engaging events, hands-on workshops, and educational programs exploring the links that tie the past to the present.

Learn more at agencyhouse.org/2021-remembering.

Keep an eye on agencyhouse.org/events for details and updates as they become available.

We look forward to a fantastic season of “remembering” with you!

Respectfully,
Adam Novey
Executive Director and Curator

The National Society of the Colonial Dames of America in the State of Wisconsin (NSCDA-WI) has engaged in historic preservation, educational, and social service projects since 1896. As such, its members’ contributions to the state of Wisconsin and to our nation as a whole have been notable. Please enjoy this short video documentary as we commemorate this milestone year for NSCDA-WI and the Historic Indian Agency House: agencyhouse.org/nscda-wi

2021 SEASON UNVEILED
A TIME OF “REMEMBERING”

The Antiquarian Society of Wisconsin (ASW) has generously sponsored many of our 2021 season’s offerings in remembrance of Olive “Cissy” Bryson.

Mrs. Bryson passed away on March 11, 2020, at the age of 93. She graduated from Bryn Mawr College and went on to become a devoted volunteer in her community in Milwaukee. She served as President of Green Tree Garden Club (1975-77), Collectors’ Comers of the Milwaukee Art Museum (1981-83), and the ASW (1988-90). She served on the board of Milwaukee Institute of Art & Design; was a regent for the Kenmore House in Virginia and was a member of the DAR and the National Society of the Colonial Dames of America in the State of WI (HIAH’s governing board).

Cissy was dearly loved and respected by her family, friends, and her devoted caregivers. We honor her in our season of “Remembering.”

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Calling all Scouts
Scouting weekends honor historic connections

The Historic Indian Agency House has a unique and personal connection to Scouting. John and Juliette Kinzie, who lived and worked in the Indian Agency House in the early 1830s, were the grandparents of Juliette Gordon Low who founded the Girl Scouts. Juliette Gordon Low was inspired at least in part by her grandmother’s adventurous spirit and resourcefulness on the frontier.

Girl Scouts Day is slated for Saturday, August 28. A special guest plans to join us for some fabulous frontier storytelling, too! Come for a day of history, hiking, and crafts. Girl Scouts Day is sponsored by Community Bank of Portage.

Scouts BSA “Camping & Cultures Weekend” will be held September 4-5. The story and location of HIAH provide a great backdrop as troops from across the state converge at this ancient gathering point for a weekend of camping, hiking, history, hands-on cultural activities, and more. Camping and Cultures Weekend is sponsored by Associated Bank in Portage.

We remember
In commemoration
Donors honor loved-ones
In 2021 we remember the following individuals whose loved-ones have donated in their honor:

- Olive (Cissy) Bryson
- George and Ruth Chappell
- Boo Greeley
- Carol James
- Doug Kammer
- Eloise and Domenic Raali
- Edward (Ted) Rebholz
- George and Minnie Zamzow

In Memory:
- Olive (Cissy) Bryson
- George and Ruth Chappell
- Boo Greeley
- Carol James
- Doug Kammer
- Eloise and Domenic Raali
- Edward (Ted) Rebholz
- George and Minnie Zamzow

In Honor:
- Barbara Collings
- Dr. Anne Vravick

If you would like to donate in honor of someone special to you, complete the form at agencyhouse.org/donate.

Two living history reenactments on the docket

The Historical Timekeepers Civil War-era reenacting group will set up an encampment on June 5 and 6. Learn about the Civil War from the perspective of those living on Portage, Wisconsin’s home front in 1863—the third year of the war. Interact with skilled reenactors all weekend.

Praise on the Prairie (Free) & Preservation Fundraiser
June (Date TBD)

Juliette Kinzie’s Christian faith and sense of charity were central to her life. Bring a lawn chair and enjoy a Sunday afternoon of live Christian music, a visit from an 1830s circuit-riding preacher, and more! If you bring a blanket to donate to the Orphan Grain Train (ogt.org), you will receive a coupon for a free family tour of the museum. Our exciting new edition of Rau-Bun will also be available for purchase to raise funds for the continued preservation of HIAH. Help us carry on the legacy!

ENDURING SKILLS WEEKEND
August 14-15

Historical skills which may otherwise have been lost to the annals of time are often preserved through modern practice, as in the case of blacksmithing, soap making, basket weaving, and more. In other instances, historical methods must be carefully re-created through experimentation and research. We are working on organizing a fantastic lineup of enduring skills stations at which adults and children may try their hand all weekend! agencyhouse.org/enduring-skills

STORIES OF WISCONSIN: DUGOUT CANOE PROJECT
Last Friday of the month, May - September

Join us for a series of relaxing evenings listening to stories of Wisconsin’s early days around a unique campfire as work progresses on a fire-wrought dugout canoe. Together, we will learn about and experiment with this ancient historical skill. A hot dog fundraiser will be held each evening, so come with an appetite for history...and hot dogs!

agencyhouse.org/dugout-canoe

FAMILY HEIRLOOM WORKSHOP
June 26

A must-attend event for those who desire advice on how to best preserve antiques and heirlooms from textiles to ceramics, paper documents to furniture, and more. Explore practical, low-cost, and accessible solutions with collections care expert, Nicolette B. Meister. Admission is free.

agencyhouse.org/events

HIKE & LEARN
History and nature
On Saturday, May 1, enjoy a guided history hike along the historic Fox River on the Marquette Trail. The time when the leaves are budding offers the best opportunity to experience this recreational gem along the historic Fox River.

Join us again on Saturday, July 31, to explore some of our 180 acres of natural beauty with Groundswell Conservancy Conservation Specialist Tony Abate. Hikers will traverse three ecosystems during a 1.2 mile educational walk.

Prairie on the Prairie (Free) & Preservation Fundraiser
June (Date TBD)

The Historic Indian Agency House, 1490 Agency House Road, Portage, WI 53901
608-742-6362 — www.agencyhouse.org — historicindianagencyhouse@gmail.com — Follow us on Facebook
BOOK LAUNCH

Be among the first to get a copy for yourself, family, and friends!

The Historic Preservation Edition is available in both hardcover and paperback.*

Saturday, May 8, 2021
Drop in any time between 1 and 3 pm
Historic Indian Agency House
1490 Agency House Road
Portage, WI 53901
agencyhouse.org

*Also available as an ebook through online book sellers

Introducing...

Wau-Bun
Historic Preservation Edition

First published in 1856, Juliette Kinzie’s firsthand account of life in the Early Day of the upper Midwest remains captivating, thought-provoking, heart-rending, enlightening, amusing, and inspiring.

Even if you’ve read this fascinating classic before, don’t miss our 2021 edition loaded with EXTRA FEATURES!

agencyhouse.org/wau-bun

NEWSLETTER INSERT

Made possible by a grant from the Cissy VD Bryson Fund at the Greater Milwaukee Foundation

**NSCDA**
WISCONSIN

The Historic Indian Agency House in Portage, Wisconsin, was the home of Indian sub-agent John H. Kinzie and his wife, Juliette, in the early 1830s. The history recorded by Mrs. Kinzie in Wau-Bun happened here. Come experience it!
agencyhouse.org/wau-bun

The Historic Preservation Edition of Wau-Bun is available in our gift shop all season. Proceeds will contribute to the continuing preservation of this nationally significant historic site for the benefit of generations to come.

The fate of the Winnebago (Ho-Chunk) Nation after their forced removal from their ancestral lands
The endeavors of the Kinzies after leaving Fort Winnebago in 1833
The rescue of the Historic Indian Agency House—now a museum on the National Register of Historic Places

This edition also features an introduction and footnotes by renowned historian Louise Phelps Kellogg.

Wau-Bun: Garrison life and native customs; everyday affairs and extraordinary frontier exploits; a rich and complex convergence of cultures; wars, privation, and struggles for survival; compassion, generosity, and sacrifice; beauty juxtaposed with danger in the wilderness; weighty issues and critical decisions that would reverberate for generations....back when Chicago was a prairie...when indigenous tribes inhabited the lands of their fathers...when prominent figures in the annals of history had not yet risen above obscurity...when John H. Kinzie served as Indian sub-agent at Fort Winnebago in frontier Wisconsin.

Now discover the rest of the story!

• The fate of the Winnebago (Ho-Chunk) Nation after their forced removal from their ancestral lands
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