

# THE LIBRARY PAGE

Demmer Memorial Library, Three Lakes, Wisconsin 54562



Connecting people to the TRANSFORMATIVE power of knowledge by providing opportunities to explore, learn, create, and share.

## *A Thank You Valentine*

August 4, 2014 - when I started here the library foundation and board were in the middle of a building campaign and there was a “passing of the toilet plunger” ceremony from retiring director Janet Dixon. At least she purchased a new plunger for the event!

Over the next three and a half years the plunger did see action, right up until the “last flush” when the sewer line fatally backed up the day before we closed to move to our temporary location. It was a long 42 months waiting and hoping for the chance to remodel the poor, tired 1971 Demmer building.

Thank you to everyone who tirelessly responded to surveys, sat in meetings, came out to vote, spearheaded fundraisers or gave their hard-earned money, contributed their time and skills to help us move – twice, fostered books, or just walked into the building when it was all done and said, “Wow!” Or flushed a toilet without having to come to a staff member and say, “Uhhh...the floor in the bathroom is wet.”

The building project was a defining feature of my time at the Demmer, but there was also a pandemic, staffing

changes, and many old friends departing and new friends coming to join us. Through it all, plus with a new building,” “our Demmer” has stayed “our Demmer.” It is a building and a culture built around welcoming people in through the doors and out into the community. Thank you to all the organizations we have partnered with to present programs. Thank you to volunteers who have shown up to do everything from sort used books to cover new ones, to run a program, to shovel some snow. And thank you to everybody who simply said thank you to the staff who show up every day to welcome you.

I will miss the Demmer, but I am excited to see what new things come. I trust you all to keep it the place it has been since 1951 and Mrs. Frances Waite and the Women’s Club made it, then Barb Bauknecht, Ann Gerlach, Sue (Martin) Boers, Carol Lanich, Michelle Gobert, and Janet Dixon before me have kept it. I know it will continue long after – because this is the Demmer Library you want to see in your town.

*- Director (until February 15) Erica Brewster*

## **HOURS**

**MON/WED 9AM-7PM**

**TUES/THURS/FRI 9AM-5PM**

**SAT 9AM-2PM**

## **CONTACT**

Phone: 715-546-3391

Fax: 715-546-3914

[www.demmerlibrary.org](http://www.demmerlibrary.org)

[demmer@demmlibrary.org](mailto:demmer@demmlibrary.org)

# Three Lakes Genealogical Society



## Ask Your TLGS Genealogist

Do you need help with your genealogy research? Help is available at "Ask Your TLGS Genealogist." A TLGS member is in the Local History Room of Demmer Library every Thursday from 2-4 p.m. No appointments are necessary. Need help but can't make it on Thursdays? Email [familyhistory@demmerlibrary.org](mailto:familyhistory@demmerlibrary.org) or call Nancy at 715-479-8971.



## Genealogy Tip

The genealogy tip of the month is about how to narrow down your Google research:  
When using Google for genealogy research, try this idea to find certain page titles: Use allintitle: "Mallory,azariah." You can also search only the text and exclude the titles by using allintext: "mallory,azariah"



## Books the Other Channel Book Club

**Tuesday, February 28--6:30 PM**

**in person or via BlueJeans**

Books the Other Channel book discussion group will discuss *Winter Dance: The Fine Madness of Running the Iditarod* by Gary Paulson on February 28th at 6:30 PM.

Meet in person at the library or join online via BlueJeans. Email [demmer@demmerlibrary.org](mailto:demmer@demmerlibrary.org) to receive sign-in information if you don't receive it directly from the organizer.

Each book for the group may be checked out at the Demmer. Everyone Welcome!

To register call 715-546-3391 or email [librarian@demmerlibrary.org](mailto:librarian@demmerlibrary.org)

**Next Meeting:** Need to get rid of your winter doldrums? We can do that! The Three Lakes Genealogical Society is here to help you with your family genealogy research endeavors. Our meetings are at 1:00 p.m. on the fourth Mondays of the month. All levels of genealogists are invited to attend. The topic of this month's meeting is "What is GedCom?"

Ask Your Three Lakes Genealogical Society Genealogist is open for business every Thursday in the Local History Room of the library; no appointment is necessary.

Want help learning from the ground up? The Beginning Genealogy Course just began. However, the next session is Tuesday, February 7, and new members are welcome. Contact We Are Three Lakes at [familyhistory@demmerlibrary.org](mailto:familyhistory@demmerlibrary.org) in order to participate in a community genealogy website. All these events are at Demmer Memorial Library in Three Lakes.

Do you like to read? The Three Lakes Genealogy Book Club recommends a book every month for at-home reading. This month it is *The Whole Town's Talking* by Fanny Flagg. This book is a lot of fun to read.

In 2023, the TLGS Book Club recommends books for at-home reading. We don't meet in person but we wish to recommend a book for your enjoyment every month. The books are available at Demmer Memorial Library in Three Lakes, Walter E. Olson Memorial Library in Eagle River, Amazon.com and/or Kindle. Be sure to check the libraries first; they often have interlibrary loans.

The books recommended for the first half of 2023 are:

**January** – *The Wicked Trade* by Nathan Dylan Goodwin

**February** - *The Whole Town's Talking* by Fanny Flagg

**March** - *Ladies of the Lights: Michigan Women in the U.S. Lighthouse Service* by Patricia Majher

**April** – *The Sterling Affair* by Nathan Dylan Goodwin

**May** – *Badger Boneyards: the eternal rest of the story* by Dennis McCann

**June** – *In the Blood* by Steve Robinson

# Coffee and Kids

February 7th

10:00 am - 11:00 am

Demmer Tamarack Room

During Story Hour

In person or virtual w/BlueJeans

Find the groups monthly tips below:

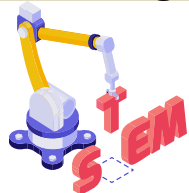
## What is Coffee & Kids?

It's a once monthly, parent led discussion group where parents can discuss concerns, share stories and ask questions centered around their children. Retired educators Ann Asbeck, Mari Lynn Garbowicz, and Beth Jacobson are able to provide guidance based on proven research and years of experience. They will share what is developmentally appropriate and relevant to today's learner. Coffee and Kids provides a relaxed atmosphere for give and take discussions.

## STEM

*(Caution...this information may cause your child to have fun learning!)*

By: Beth Jacobson



For years, schools have been using STEM activities with students. What is STEM?

The letters STEM stand for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math. (Sometimes you'll see STEAM which is the same thing, but adds the "A" for Art.)

Now, don't get worried...I'm not trying to imply that you need to teach your children these academic subjects at home! Many STEM activities, especially for young children, may not even look like math or science. Instead, the activities focus on the types of thinking needed to work on topics like these. STEM activities allow children to experiment with their "world", take in information, analyze that information, then use what they've learned to draw conclusions or solve problems. All of us do these things all day long! In other words, STEM activities help children develop skills they'll use the rest of their lives.

Children generally love STEM because the activities tend to be hands-on and fun. In addition, the children are "in charge". They make the decisions and take ownership of whatever it is they're working on.

The hard part for you as the parent is...not helping. The goal here is for your child to try lots of different ways to accomplish a task and figure out the best way to achieve their end goal. Are they going to make mistakes? YES. But, resist the urge to "fix" those mistakes for them. You can encourage them. You can ask questions. You can help them organize their thinking, but resist the temptation of getting too involved.

How can you provide STEM opportunities? One way is to put together a STEM kit. Again, DON'T PANIC. This is easier than you may think, and these activities are so much fun your child will never know they are learning!!

While there are many STEM kits available for purchase, you can easily make one using materials you will likely find around your house. Kits can be as simple or complex as you like. You can create a kit for almost any age level, and you can tailor it to the interests of your child(ren). Do you have paper and crayons? Legos? Toilet paper tubes and paper clips? If so, you can make a STEM kit! You will find several links below. On the Demmer Library website you will find a small list of links with some online resources to help you create your own STEM activities. HAVE FUN!!



**For the full list of links, please visit the Coffee and Kids Resource Page on the Demmer website.**



# EVENTS



## Story Hour Demmer Library Tuesdays@ 10 am

Story Hour is 30 to 45 minutes of reading books, playing games, songs, and interactive fun.

## DUNGEONS AND DRAGONS CLUB

Saturdays @ 10:00am

in person at the Demmer Maple Room or virtual

Fight Dragons, Goblins, and more! Join us as we use Roll20 to virtually play D&D. Email [librarian@demmerlibrary.org](mailto:librarian@demmerlibrary.org) to get your invitation to our game.



## Lego Club

Monday, February 13 @ 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

@Demmer Maple Room. Lego Club is for children of all ages. Come and free build with your friends or play Lego Creationary.



## **Pokemon Club**



Monday, February 20

3:15 pm

Demmer Maple Room

Join us as we talk about Pokemon and learn how to play the card game.

# DROP IN YOGA

**Mondays & Wednesdays**  
**11:15am**  
**Demmer Maple Room**



Beginners welcome.  
This FREE class is  
facilitated by yoga  
videos

## Demmer Crafternoon

**The 3rd Tuesday of each month**  
**2:30pm**  
**Demmer Libratory**

Learn to make a different craft each month!  
Registration is required.



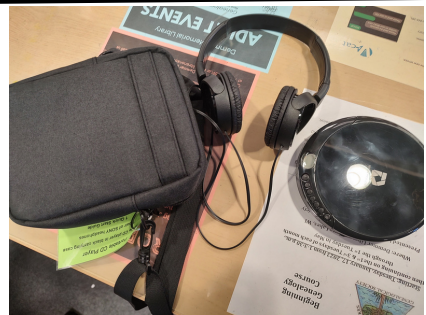
## Make your own Valentine Button **The month of February**



@Demmer Libratory. Stop by the Libratory during the month of February and make a button for your sweetie!

Need a portable CD player for your  
music or audiobook?

**\*\*Now available behind the front  
desk for check out!\*\***



## JOIN OUR TEAM



## Library Director

We're still seeking a skilled, motivated, community-minded leader to take the Demmer Library into it's next chapter. Are you or do you know an experienced librarian or administrator who is looking for the chance to live and work in a professional setting in Three Lakes?

To apply, submit a letter of interest and current resume to:  
[director@demmerlibrary.org](mailto:director@demmerlibrary.org),  
subject: Library Director  
Application

Read more at <https://demmerlibrary.org/employment/>



# Booking Ahead

High interest titles added to the catalog and released in February/March

Give us a call to put your name on the list - (715) 546-3391



*Secretly Yours* by Tessa Bailey

*The Writing Retreat* by Julia Bartz

*All That Is Hidden* by Rhys Bowen

*Hearts of Steel* by Elizabeth Camden

*The Friendship Breakup* by Annie Cathryn

*Lemon Curd Killer* by Laura Childs

*For Twice in My Life* by Annette Christie

*I Will Find You* by Harlan Coben

*A Calder at Heart* by Janet Dailey

*Meru* by S. B. Divya

*It's One of Us* by J.T. Ellison

*Hidden in the Pines* by Victoria Houston

*The Librarian of Burned Books* by Brianna Labuskes

*Never Never* by Colleen Hoover and Tarryn Fisher

*The Sister Effect* by Susan Mallery

*On the Line* by Fern Michaels

*Remember Me* by Tracie Peterson

*Good Dog, Bad Cop* by David Rosenfelt

*Arch Conspirator* by Veronica Roth

*The House Guest* by Hank Phillippi Ryan

*End of Story* by Kylie Scott

*Loyalty* by Lisa Scottoline

*Worthy Opponents* by Danielle Steel

*It Ends at Midnight* by Harriet Tyce

## Mitten Tree available at the Demmer Library

From now until spring the Reiter Center and the Demmer Library are collecting mittens and hats. Items will be available in the vestibule during open hours of the library and are free for the taking.

# Historical Clippings

Three Lakes Museum

February 2023

## Celebrating Basketball and Three Lakes

Basketball and Three Lakes both had their beginnings at the end of the 19th century, 120 plus years ago. As the popularity of the game spread across the country, Three Lakes was eventually playing the game at the high school level too. Blue Jays can take pride in the fact that both boys and girls participated in the sport. It must have been an exciting time!

Today Three Lakes is proud Blue Jay country. At the girls February 3rd game and the boys February 6th game, 100 years of basketball history in our community will be recognized. Come and celebrate this historical milestone with our teams and basketball alumni.

One hundred years ago during the 1922-23 school year, the Three Lakes schools were in transition. The two story wood frame building, located where the Demmer Library now stands, had served the town since 1894. A contract for demolition had been agreed to and the old wooden school was sold for \$5 to Eddie Danowski who dismantled it piece by piece and resold the materials.



It was being replaced by a new modern brick building built where our school stands today. This school had classrooms for 12 grades, a band room, a home economics room, and a gymnasium in the basement. The gym doubled as the cafeteria and was affectionately called "the Pit" with a wooden floor installed by the shop class and the basketball team. On the top floor was the Principal's office, the library, and art room.



As amazing as the fact is that the wood floor was installed with help from students is the fact that it lasted until 1976 and only had to be replaced due to water damage. That hardwood hosted years of basketball and community events.

It is believed that the completion date for the new brick school was to have begun at the start of the school year in the fall of 1922. For whatever reasons, students first entered the building in the fall of 1923. But the basketball craze sweeping the country had already reached Three Lakes and we had teams ready to take on neighboring communities before that new gym was ready.





The girls team postcard is from the Gene Step collection

School records from 100 years ago are incomplete, like a jigsaw puzzle missing pieces. Some of what we know about that first season of basketball is from museum archives and stories in *The Pine the Plow and the Pioneer, vol 2*. Newspaper articles show games were played on the road, but where did they practice and play at home while they waited to move into the new school during the 1922-23 season?

Local historian Les Anderson was able to find the following December 1922 *Eagle River Review* articles to provide a few more details.

**Basket Ball Teams Win.**  
Both basket ball teams from the Eagle River high school won their games last Friday evening with major scores. The regular team of boys who played Elcho in that village cleaned up with a score of 64 to 15. The Freshmen girls played at Three Lakes and won by a 32 to 5 score. The regulars will play Friday evening here against Argonne, while the second team plays Three Lakes.

Eagle River Review 13 Dec 1922

**TOOK BOTH THE GAMES**  
**Eagle River Teams Trim Argonne and Three Lakes in Good Games of Basket Ball Friday Evening.**  
With victories going to both basket ball teams last Friday night in the opera house in this village, it now gives them both a hundred percent record so far this year. So far the first team has been playing brilliant ball, and has found no team anywhere near their equal. In the Friday night game Argonne went down to defeat by a score of 39 to 2. The second team of Eagle River played the same evening, and cleaned up Three Lakes 17 to 12. It is said that a game between Crandon and Eagle River will be played here this evening.

Eagle River Review, 20 Dec 1922

There was a scrappy preliminary between the Three Lakes High and Eagle High's second team that resulted in another victory for the local school by a score of 17 to 12. During the first period the teams played to a tie, 6 to 6, with Three lakes having the better of it in teamwork and snappy playing. But Eagle came back strong in the latter half pulling out by a five point margin when time was called.  
It was Three Lakes' first basket ball game with an outside team, the four year high school having just been organized in the neighboring town this year. They have a good little team and when Eagle goes down there for a return game they will have to hump right along to make it a win.

Eagle River Review, 21 Dec 1922

1922 area high school basketball included

Three Lakes  
Eagle River 1&2  
Crandon  
Argonne  
Elcho

The December 20 article mentions playing at the opera house probably referencing a location in Eagle River.

Three Lakes also had a building called the Opera House that hosted community events. The December 13 article states the girls played in Three Lakes, and the December 21 article states Eagle River would play a return game in Three Lakes. When looking at the possibilities in town where a game of basketball could be played in December, the Opera House may have been the only one. That building, located in the empty Loonery lot next to the old railroad tracks, was lost to the tornado in September 1924.