

THREE LAKES LOCAL HISTORY RESOURCES @ THE DEMMER LIBRARY



Located in the beautiful Northwoods of Wisconsin, Three Lakes has been a bustling little town for over 125 years. Three Lakes had its beginnings as a richly forested lumbering community, populated by hearty pioneers who trapped wild animals for their fur and felled the abundant pines. It was the numerous lakes that made it difficult for early surveyors to forge a route for the railroad. After bumping into three lakes the name of Three Lakes stuck. When all the pines were felled and the lumber barons moved on, the town became known for its natural beauty. The railroad, one key to moving lumber, now brought people from Chicago and Milwaukee to resorts on the lakes for relaxation and renewal.

Today many of the descendants of those early people want to know what ever happened to the resorts and camps their ancestors stayed at. Others want to know how the different roads and lakes got their names.

The Edward U. Demmer Memorial Library in Three Lakes has a number of items that can aid in finding answers to those questions. Those sources are located in the Local History and Genealogy room of the library. An attempt has been made to put the items specifically about Three Lakes in one area. The items most useful in answering local history and genealogy questions are listed below.

599 JOH LH MOTHER IS A SAINT BERNARD, by Edith Lassen Johnson

Bernese the Saint Bernard took care of Carl Marty's woodland orphans. It gives insight into the Northernaire and Carl Marty. This book does not have a table of contents or index.

599 MAR LH NORTHERAIRE'S GINGER AND HER WOODLAND ORPHANS, by Carl Marty

Carl Marty, owner of the famed Northernaire and Show Boat in Three Lakes, as well as a noted conservationist, wrote this book about his wildlife preserve and the dogs that helped him run it. Pictures of the animals around the resort with Marty, reprints of articles from noted journals by noted authors, and stories by Marty himself give insight into a beloved Three Lakes attraction and personality. This book does not have a table of contents or index.

921 CAM LH SAM CAMPBELL : PHOLOSFER OF THE FOREST, by Shandelle Marie Henson

The life story of Sam Campbell, author and naturalist, who became a Three Lakes legend. The book includes a table of contents and bibliography.

BCS 977.525 PIN LH SAM CAMPBELL COUNTRY, by Pinery Road; Dorothy & Pete Lund

A musical tribute about the life and times of noted author and naturalist Sam Campbell.

DVD 35 LH SAM CAMPBELL FILM CLIPS

Silent, black and white video clips of Sam Campbell's wildlife and home.

921 MAR LH FOREST OPHANS, by August Derleth

Noted author August Derleth wrote this biography of local resort owner and conservationist Carl Marty. The book includes animal photos along with pictures of Marty and the famed original Northernaire. The book does not include an index or table of contents.

921 MAR LH MR. CONSERVATION : CARL MARTY AND HIS FOREST ORPHANS, by August Derleth

Another biography about Three Lakes resort owner and conservationist Carl Marty by noted Wisconsin author August Derleth. This book has a table of contents but no index.

929.2 FRA GEN FREDERICK FRENCH OF THREE LAKES, ONEIDA COUNTY, WISCONSIN & HIS 1897 MURDER AT PINE LAKE, FOREST COUNTY, WI : HIS FAMILY HISTORY TRAPPER, GUIDE, COOPER & CIVIL WAR SOLDIER, written & edited by Jeffrey D. Fraser

A history of Three Lakes pioneer, Fred French, written and edited by a relative. Includes newspaper articles, depositions and copies of public records related to French's murder. This book includes an index.

929.2 FRA GEN POMES FAMILY OF APPLETON & THREE LAKES, WISCONSIN, Jeff Fraser

A genealogy of the Nicholas Pomes family who came to Three Lakes in 1893. This book includes an index.

929.2 MAR GEN THE MANEY FAMILY GENEALOGICAL RECIPE BOOK, by Elizabeth Martin

A genealogy of the Maney family of Three Lakes, which includes favorite recipes of family members. The book includes some family pictures. It does not have a table of contents or index.

977.525 BLU LH THE BLUEJAY : THREE LAKES HIGH SCHOOL YEARBOOK

Years available: 1949, 1953-1960, 1962-1968, 1970, 1972-1978, 1981-1982, 1984, 1986.

977.525 EPL LH 80 YEARS IN GOD'S COUNTRY, by E. H. Epler

"This is the story of the Three Lakes area of Wisconsin's Northwoods from before the turn of the century to 1973, as it grew from a virgin timber lumber harvest to an enterprising recreational area with a great chain of lakes, outlying lakes and streams, and second growth timber on its way to maturity." (Taken from book). This book is not indexed, but it does have a table of contents.

977.525 HIS LH HISTORY OF THE THREE LAKES ROD AND GUN CLUB, 1967

This book gives an account of members, exchange of property, and activities of the organization from 1898 to 1967. Mention of the early ownership of the land the club is on, and of early Three Lakes' settlers is a plus. The book does not include a table of contents or an index.

977.525 IFT LH IF TOMBSTONES COULD TALK : REMEMBERING OUR EARLY RESIDENTS, Three Lakes Genealogical Society

Histories of 27 early Three Lakes residents, with a brief history of the Three Lakes Cemetery.

DVD 719 DOC 2008 THREE LAKES CEMETERY WALK, Three Lakes Genealogical Society

Life stories of some of those buried in the Three Lakes Cemetery.

977.525 PIN LH THE PINE, THE PLOW AND THE PIONEER : A HISTORY OF THREE LAKES AND CLEARWATER LAKE, WISCONSIN 1881 TO 1984, v. 1

977.525 PIN LH THE PINE, THE PLOW AND THE PIONEER : A HISTORY OF THREE LAKES, CLEARWATER LAKE, GAGEN, HILES AND MONICO, WISCONSIN 1881-1986, v. 2

These two volumes contain information about many of the early Three Lakes families, as well as, businesses, churches, schools and events of the area. Neither book is indexed, however volume 2 has a table of contents. Most of the family histories are in alphabetical order within their towns. Both books are great browsing resources for learning about Three Lakes area history.

BCS 977.5252 PIN LH THREE LAKES : ITS PEOPLE, ITS PAST, by Pinery Road

A history of Three Lakes set to music, written and performed by Pete and Dorothy Lund.

977.525 PER LH HISTORY OF LADYSMITH POINT AND VINDEN BEACH CAMPERS ASSOCIATION, 1904-1954, by Frances Brayton Person

977.525 PER LH ADDENDA 1955-1965 TO THE HISTORY OF LADYSMITH POINT AND VINDEN BEACH ASSOCIATION, by Frances Brayton Person

977.525 AND LH LADYSMITH POINT AND VINDEN BEACH : A COMMUNITY DIARY, 1966-1976, by Ruth Brosack Anderson

These three items give a very entertaining and concise history of what is commonly referred to as Preacher's Point in Three Lakes. They include the names of the early settlers and property owners through the years from 1904-1976, names of local people and the businesses they owned in town, and even a list of the wildflowers, fish, and animals prevalent to the area. The books do not include an index or table of contents, but the first and the last include maps that detail property owners along Big Fork and Little Fork Lakes.

977.525 STO LH THE STORY OF THE COMMUNITIES WITHIN THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF THREE LAKES : A FOURTH GRADE LOCAL HISTORY UNIT, prepared by Tom Bredeson, Scott Cunningham, Beth Jacobson, Jean Miazga

The cover title of this book is MY LOCAL HISTORY BOOK : SCHOOL DISTRICT OF THREE LAKES. Locally produced by personnel from the School District of Three Lakes, this book includes history of Wisconsin, excerpts from THE PINE, THE PLOW AND THE PIONEER, along with other documents and pictures about the early days of Three Lakes.

977.525 WHE LH THE ENCHANTED ISLE O'DREAMS, by Adele G. Wheeler

A history of the Graves, Wheeler and Clowes families from Wheeler Island in Three Lakes, Wisconsin. As summer residents, the author talks about the family's interactions with local businesses and year round people. The book is not indexed and does not have a table of contents.

VILAS COUNTY NEW REVIEW (THREE LAKES NEWS) OBITUARY INDEX, 18 DEC 1998-14 APR 2010

Three-ring binder with name, date of death, place of death and date of newspaper obituary can be found.

THREE LAKES COMMUNITY CEMETERY INDEX, compiled by Three Lakes Genealogical Society

An alphabetical index to the Three Lakes Cemetery, dating from the 1880s to the present, including the locations of those buried there corresponding to the map posted in the Three Lakes History and Genealogy Room.

NORTHWOOD GENEALOGICAL INDEX, 1892-1921, compiled by Craig Moore

An index of birth, marriages, and deaths of area residents found in the Eagle River Review for the dates listed.

THREE LAKES HISTORY 3-RING BINDERS

Four 3-ring binders with miscellaneous Three Lakes history articles, booklets, leaflets and family histories; one never knows what one will find while browsing through this information.

THREE LAKES ECHO, JUNE 29, 1889

EAGLE RIVER REVIEW, JUNE 28, 1890-JULY 15, 1904; MARCH 1906-DECEMBER 1914

FOREST ADVANCE, 1908; 1911

THREE LAKES SWAP, FEBRUARY 1943; MARCH 1944

NORTHERN SON, 1974-1979

Local newspapers available on microfilm. The THREE LAKES ECHO is the newsletter of the Three Lakes Historical Society. The THREE LAKES SWAP was a newsletter written about Three Lakes World War II soldiers.

WISCONSIN STATE CENSUS, 1875 (OCONTO COUNTY); 1895, 1905 (ONEIDA COUNTY)

WISCONSIN FEDERAL CENSUS, 1880 (LANGLADE COUNTY); 1890 VETERANS AND WIDOWS (FOREST COUNTY); 1900, 1910, 1920, 1930 (ONEIDA COUNTY)

Census data for Three Lakes on microfilm. Three Lakes was part of these counties: Oconto—prior to March 3, 1879; Langlade—March 3, 1879-February 19, 1881 (New Langlade County, attached to Shawano County); Langlade—February 19, 1881-April 14, 1885; Forest—April 14, 1885-April 29, 1897; Oneida—April 29, 1897.

THREE LAKES NEWS, 18 DECEMBER 1998—TO DATE

The library has copies of the Three Lakes News for the above dates.

