

## **HEARTHSTONE HISTORIC HOUSE MUSEUM ANNOUNCES INDUCTION AND AWARD**

Hearthstone Historic House Museum is happy to announce that Henry Rogers, and William and John Van Nortwick will be inducted into the Paper Industry International Hall of Fame later this year. Henry Rogers' contributions to the development of the paper industry and to the city of Appleton will be recognized by the induction committee. He and his wife Cremora, along with their daughter Kitty, were the first residents of Hearthstone when it was built at 625 W Prospect Avenue in Appleton in 1882.

Founded in 1992, the Paper Industry International Hall of Fame (PIIHF) has honored and recognized more than 139 giants in the paper industry from around the world, whose accomplishments have truly revolutionized civilization. The PIIHF is the only one of its kind in the world and was created to foster a greater understanding of the paper industry - its values, heritage and its influence on our quality of life. The idea of a Hall of Fame for the paper industry began when a group of current and former paper industry executives met to discuss how the giants of the industry and the importance of paper could be recognized. (<https://www.paperdiscoverycenter.org/hofhistory>)

A formal presentation of the awards will be a part of next year's awards dinner, as no dinner will be held this year. "It will be a fitting way to honor these three men who played such an important role in the history of the paper industry," says George Schroder, Hearthstone Executive Director.

### **2020 Museum Exhibit Award**

Hearthstone Historic House Museum has also received the 2020 Museum Exhibit Award (Budget Less than \$5,000) for its exhibition "Kitty's Wedding: You're Invited - The 130th Anniversary of Kitty Rogers' Wedding."

Two awards for historical exhibits on Wisconsin themes are offered each year: one for an exhibition budget of \$5,000 or less and one for an exhibition budget greater than \$5,000. Each award is given to the organization that creates an exhibit that meets the award criteria and, in the opinion of the judges, made the most valuable contribution to public understanding of Wisconsin's past during the preceding calendar year.

Using the museum's collections and re-created decorations, "Kitty's Wedding: You're Invited - The 130th Anniversary of Kitty Rogers' Wedding" tells the story of one wedding from the engagement, through the ceremony, to the reception. By recounting that story, the exhibit shares a local story of love and wedding traditions. Relying on newspaper accounts of the day, Hearthstone Historic House was again overflowing with flowers and other decorations meticulously crafted by the curator and volunteers to the descriptions of the day. The exhibit includes a variety of Kitty's wedding gifts, as well as historic wedding attire from Hearthstone's collections. The exhibition includes an on-going, online synopsis that encapsulates the exhibit script and provides stunning photographic visuals.

(<https://wisconsinhistory.org/Records/Article/CS16360>)

The award represents the hard work and ingenuity of Ann Larson, Hearthstone Curation Director, and her volunteer curation staff. An online version of the exhibit can be viewed at [hearthstonemuseum.org/kittyswedding](http://hearthstonemuseum.org/kittyswedding)

Ms. Larson's presence on the staff brings an unprecedented level of professionalism and expertise to everything accomplished at the museum and, in particular, to wonderful exhibits like *Kitty's Wedding*. The award will be formally announced by the Wisconsin Historical Society.

WHS Press Release:

<https://wisconsinhistory.org/Records/Article/CS16385>

#### **ABOUT HEARTHSTONE:**

Friends of Hearthstone, Inc. is a non-profit, privately funded organization with the mission of preserving Hearthstone Historic House Museum and the contents within for the promotion of its unique place in history, architecture, innovation, and culture in the Fox Cities area to its members and all those in the State of Wisconsin.

Hearthstone Historic House Museum is a large, beautifully restored Queen Anne Victorian Style home built in 1882 by Henry J. Rogers, Superintendent of the Appleton Paper and Pulp Mill. On September 30, 1882, Hearthstone was the first house in the world to be lit by an Edison central hydroelectric power station. The house retains many unique, genuine features, including the original Thomas Edison electroliers and light switches. Appleton was one of the first three cities in the world to be lit by an Edison central power station, the other two being New York and London. This was all due to Mr. Rogers, who decided to invest in Edison's power station in order to light two paper mills and his home. Since it became a museum in 1987, Hearthstone's focus is to preserve the house and its artifacts to re-create a historical experience based on its Thomas A. Edison heritage for the cultural enjoyment and educational benefit of the public through its many exhibits and educational programs.

**Hearthstone Historic House Museum**  
**[www.hearthstonemuseum.org](http://www.hearthstonemuseum.org)**  
**625 Prospect Street, Appleton WI 54911**  
**Telephone: 920-730-8204**

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