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**Contact: Greg Loescher,** **onthelake2@tds.net****, or Lee Halverson, esuhalv@wi-net.com**

**Daily life in Waupaca County’s historic one-room schoolhouses explored at Iola Historical Society**

Today’s school children have it made compared to what children endured 100 years ago in one-room schoolhouses, which dotted Waupaca County.

Joan Paulson and Don Hansen, co-editors of *Country Schools of Waupaca County*, will be making a presentation about school life in country schools of Waupaca County, with an emphasis of rural Iola schools, on Saturday, August 23, 2014, from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. Their presentation takes place in the replica vintage one-room schoolhouse at the Iola Historical Society’s village complex on Depot Street east of Main Street in Iola.

Question and answer session will follow the presentation. The replica school house has an extensive display of pictures of vintage Iola area schools.

The presentation is free and open to the public. The Iola Historical Society’s village and museum will be open from Noon until 3:00 p.m. It is open on Saturdays from June to the end of August.

Local resident and former teacher Joan Paulson did attend grades 1-8 at the Dow School, located at Highway 161 and County Trunk E, just east of Iola – one of many such schools that dot Waupaca County.

“I did not teach in a rural school, but had a family of relatives who did at one time in their lives.  When I went to school in Stevens Point, there was still a rural school department there. I believe it was a good one, “she recalled.

In addition to the schoolhouse, the historic village area also includes including the Iola & Northern Railway depot, which is undergoing restoration to its original design. The other buildings include a 1930s log cabin used in the area by hunters; the original Helvetia Town Hall; The Machine Shed, filled with vintage farm and manufacturing equipment; and the historical society’s museum, which was recently updated with new display cases for exhibits of local history.

The Historic Iola Village buildings will be open for visitors. While there is no charge to explore the area, free-will donations are accepted.

The historical society’s next major event is Taste of Norway & Lost Arts Fair, held at the historic village complex on Saturday, Oct.4.

For more information, go to [www.iolahistoricalsociety.org](http://www.iolahistoricalsociety.org) or www.ischamber.com.

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