



Recently, the Wisconsin Humanities Council awarded FOPPI with a \$10,000 major grant in order to complete a comprehensive humanities project regarding Plum and Pilot Islands. The project, which will run through February of 2011, will include two public programs on Washington Island, and the development of a curriculum to be incorporated into the Washington Island School system. The public programs will most likely feature a lecture and a discussion session where the history of these islands is discussed. The curriculum, developed by Washington Island School teacher Steve Waldron with the help of FOPPI, will center on the maritime, social, and political history of the islands and enable students to see how important these islands are in historical context.

While those are the events happening during the project, the main goal is to eventually complete a comprehensive history of the islands, for everyone to enjoy. While there are bits and pieces of each island's history located in various primary and secondary source material, no official history exists which focuses solely on the islands. This humanities project hopes to lay the foundation for that future work to be created.

In order to do a proper job on this project, we need all information that is available on both Plum and Pilot Islands. While information exists in monographs and at the Washington Island Archives, Door County Maritime Museum, Wisconsin Historical Society, and National Archives, most of the information that FOPPI desires is contained in **you**, the friends and members of FOPPI. While words on a page and objects in an image can tell us a lot, those of you that have lived or were stationed on Plum or Pilot Island contain the real essence of this project.

So if you have any personal histories, written documents, or photographs pertaining to the islands, please do not hesitate to contact Matt Foss at fossmh@gmail.com; (920) 535-0607. While not all the information you provide is ensured to be a part of the public programs or school curriculum, it will be given to the Washington Island Archives so that future generations can benefit from the knowledge and information we can gather today.



Image by T. Sheeran, USCGR