

## **Fennimore Museums Open May 25 for 2019 Season**

The Fennimore Historical Railroad Society Museum, 610 Lincoln Avenue and Fennimore Doll and Toy Museum, 1135 6<sup>th</sup> St, will begin their 2019 season, Saturday, May 25. The museums are open seven days a week from 10 a.m. through 4 p.m. through Labor Day.

### **Fennimore Historical Railroad Society Museum**

The Fennimore Railroad Historical Society Museum features memorabilia from Fennimore's unique narrow gauge railroad past. The narrow gauge rail line operated in the area between 1878 and 1926, far longer than most 3-foot gauge lines in Wisconsin. During that time a narrow gauge train affectionately known as the "Dinky" chugged through the winding Big Green river valley from Fennimore to Woodman, on the Wisconsin River.

Children will be sure to enjoy riding on the operational 15" gauge rail with 700 feet of track that sits south of the railroad museum. Miniature train rides are available for a small fee weekends only - weather permitting. Tickets for train rides are \$1 each and are available at the museum. There is no set admission fee to tour the museum; donations are appreciated and are used to help Railroad Society members cover operational costs and maintenance of the museum. 608-822-6144.

### **Fennimore Doll & Toy Museum**

The Fennimore Doll and Toy Museum, located just a block east of the Railroad Museum, showcases collectible dolls and toys from around the world. The museum incorporates heirloom dolls and toys which are both owned and on loan to the museum. Special features for the 2019 season includes two complete sets of Dionne Quintuplets newborn and toddlers in their original clothing. Note: see about the Dionne Quintuplets below

One of the newest cases in the center of the Museum showcases a variety of children's dishes from the 1900's to 2,000; additional dishes are also displayed randomly in many of the other toy cases.

Another featured case is a very complete and well marked collection of tootsie toy cars. The detail on the larger models are incredible. Now in its second year of display this has been a very

popular addition to the museum. Another popular display that is now on permanent display is the large collection of cast iron toys including cast iron fire equipment.

A visit to the Fennimore Doll and Toy Museum is like taking a walk down memory lane for girls and boys from youth to grandparents.

The Fennimore Doll and Toy Museum's admission is just \$3 for adults or \$1.50 for students; under 4 years admitted free. The Doll and Toy Museum is air conditioned and handicap-accessible. For additional information call 608-822-4100 [www.dollandtoymuseum.com](http://www.dollandtoymuseum.com)

Group tours are welcome at both museums, call ahead to make arrangements 608-822-4100.

## **About the Dionne Quintuplets**

The Dionne Quintuplets were born May 28, 1934 to a French Canadian family. Born two months premature, the five identical girls were at the time the first quintuplets known to have survived their infancy; all survived to adulthood. After four months with their family, they were made wards of the state for the next nine years under the Dionne Quintuplets' Guardianship.

Unfortunately the Ontario provincial government and those around them began to profit by making them a significant tourist attraction.

**Happy 85<sup>th</sup> Birthday to the Dionne Quintuplets  
May 28, 1934 – May 28, 2019**

**Annette Lillianne Marie Allard & Cecille Marie Emilda Langlois...are still alive**