

# South Milwaukee Historical Society Newsletter

Volume I No. IV

WINTER - SPRING 1975

Published Quarterly

Meeting Place - So. Milwaukee Library Blue Room

Meeting Time - First Monday of Month - 7:30 P.M.

Refreshments served following each meeting

## Officers

Pres. Dennis Rankin 764-4044  
 V.Pres. George Hook 762-0635  
 Sec'y. Penny Rankin 764-4044  
 Treas. Lillian Dishong 762-4568

## Committees

Membership-Jan Schumacher 762-0818  
 Accessioning-Jackie Granec 762-7955  
 Oral History-Dora Lee Szew-  
 czuga 762-7828  
 Bicentennial-Richard Grob-  
 schmidt 762-8460  
 Sunshine-Lee Wendt 762-2971 6/13  
 Hospitality-Lillian Rankin 762-9534 - Mach  
 (Pat Abrahamson ( 764-0714  
 Newsletter (Ron Abrahamson (   
 (Lillian Dishong 762-4568

Get your Calendar out-  
 Please circle dates of the following  
 regular meetings of the South Milwaukee  
 Historical Society:

April 7  
 May 5  
 June 2  
 July 7

## SUNSHINE NOTES ---by Lee Wendt

I was happy to hear that Lillian Rankin made a speedy recovery from her surgery in December. Let's hope that the New Year brings her 365 days of sunshine and good health!

For a while Historical Society members were bumping into each other in the halls of Trinity Hospital. Some of them were there to visit Rose Marie Broskowski, who had undergone surgery and others were visiting Barbara Schouten's daughter Sherry, who was ill with a respiratory ailment. They have both recovered.

Please don't forget to call me at 762-2971 when you hear of a fellow member who is in need of a little sunshine.

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See you at the next meeting April 7th ?

## Lola Doe (Our Club Photographer) reports:

Since offering to take pictures of old buildings in town for our society, I have taken quite a few rolls of slides. Most turned out fine. However, I still have a long way to go. It helps if one or two people help me while I take pictures. One can copy down the address of the building and another can knock on doors asking permission. Some people think the worst if they see a camera aimed at their building. Can't say I blame them.

I have two films of slides (40) taken at our January 5th annual dinner dance and would be happy to show them at a future meeting. I need a sunny day or a fresh snowfall to get the best slides. It would be nice to get some opinions as to whether I should continue taking slides or switch to snapshots. If we are going to have an album for these buildings, slides do not make good snapshots. Let me hear from the members.

Did you know --

At the turn of the century, South Milwaukee was called the "Magical City" because from a simple farming community, it was suddenly transformed into a hustling manufacturing city.

And in 1908, South Milwaukee business men organized an Advancement Association to work together in promoting better business methods in South Milwaukee.

The first officers were:

Wm. Grobschmidt - Pres.

George Orth - Vice Pres.

Fred L. Hook - Sec'y.

Henry W. Donsing - Treas.

They also had a large board of directors consisting of many business men in the community.

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At the March meeting of the South Milwaukee Historical Society, we were entertained by Mrs. Annette Kerlin, who gave a very interesting and informative talk (with colored movies) of her recent trip to the Orient. The movies showed the main shopping areas of Hong Kong and Tokyo and many pictures showing how they celebrated New Year's Eve in Hong Kong.

Big plans are underway for the Annual Historical Society Convention of southeastern Wisconsin which our South Milwaukee chapter will host in August. This is quite an honor for a chapter as new as we are and we hope it will be a big success.

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ELECTION COMING SOON - -

The May 5th meeting will be annual election of officers. If you want to "stand up and be counted" be sure to come to the May meeting. Every vote counts!!!

POOR RICHARD' S ALMANAC

News from the Bicentennial Committee

TOWN HALL MEETING SUCCESSFUL

On November 13, 1974, the Bicentennial Committee sponsored an old fashioned Town Hall Meeting. The purpose of this meeting was to stimulate citizen's interest in planning Bicentennial activities. Nearly every organization in South Milwaukee sent one or more representatives to the meeting. Due to the success of this meeting, we were pleased to more than double the size of the Bicentennial Committee.

NEW MEMBERS ADDED TO COMMITTEE

As a result of the Town Hall Meeting the following new members were added to the committee: Rose Marie Broskowski, Don Dorance, Florence Johnson, Mary Mc Carrier, Bill Milz, Clarice Ryback, Joyce Van Dusen, Terri Domo, Jerry Willms and Jack Marcoe.

Bicentennial Projects Revealed

A number of Bicentennial projects are already under way. Mrs. Caroline Kotowicz has found sponsorship for a poetry contest for the school children of South Milwaukee. Entirely on her own, she took this idea from the planning stages right through to formal commitments to finance prizes for the contest. Just shows you what one individual can do! Another project endorsed by the committee will be held at St. John's under the directorship of Sister Jean Ackermann. This week of the Arts will take place from March 16 - 23rd and will follow the theme 'Horizons USA'. Another committee member, Don Dorance is writing a series of articles concerning the reading habits and literature of the Revolutionary Period. The series will be published by the So. Milwaukee newspapers.



NEWSLETTER

MARCH 1, 1975

Did you notice a few flags out on March 1? Did you wonder why? It is because March 1, 1975 marks the official beginning of the Bicentennial Era. The official Bicentennial 'year' stretches from March 1, 1975 through December 31, 1976.

WATCH FOR BICENTENNIAL POSTERS

Committee members, Jan Schumacher and Barbara Schouten are producing a series of Bicentennial posters to be placed in eye-catching spots around the city. Insets in these posters will be changed to announce coming events endorsed by the Bicentennial Committee.

BICENTENNIAL WORKSHOP PLANNED

On March 14 and 15, Rick Grobschmidt will be attending a Workshop in Madison. The workshop will be directed at helping the leaders of various Wisconsin communities with planning their Bicentennial projects and to answer planners' questions.

YOU CAN HELP

Should anyone have any questions or wish to pass along ideas or information concerning the Bicentennial, please contact Rick Grobschmidt at 762-8460 or Lee Wendt at 762-2971. All questions, ideas and suggestions will be presented to the entire committee for consideration.

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Annual single dues	\$3.00
Family dues	5.00
Retirees	2.00
Junior members	1.00
Business & Professional	10.00
Sustaining	25.00

Send to Jan Schumacher, 919 Madison Ave.

OUT OF THE PAST

(The following are news items and ads out of So. Milwaukee Journal dated 1893 through 1899)

News

Mrs. H.N. Fowle is visiting her daughter, Mrs. John Estes of Bay View. The many friends of Mrs. Irving Fowle will be pleased to learn that she has so far recovered from her recent illness as to be removed to her own home.

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The Milkmen of Milwaukee have 400 signatures to raise the price of milk from 5 cents to 6 cents a quart and cream to 25 cents a quart.

Dec. 2, 1893

Judge Oertel fined James Kinney \$10.00 and costs because he displayed too much of his beligerent nature toward Mrs. Anton Stosik. The fact is James became thirsty for drink and because of her refusal to indulge his craving, he sought to compel obedience to his behest by using his strong brute force. Consequently Mrs. Stosik presented a pair of unnatural black eyes.

Attendance at the Congregational Sunday School was 97 last Sunday.

Ads

So. Milwaukee Hotel opens to-morrow.

Girls wanted to spread glue - Apply at Glue Works, Carrollville.

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Dec: 30, 1893

1st Class Depot  
Waiting Room-Comfortable for Ladies  
Open to Public  
Main Building  
Ladies waiting room, train dispatch, ticket office and gent's room.  
Rockers and wood settees. Model of convenience. Lit by chandeliers but gas pipes can be substituted. Plumbing work complete in all particulars.