



The Society
 Historical Society

Sept 1977

Meeting 1st. Monday of the month, So. Milwaukee Library Blue Room, Time 7:30 p.m.

- | | | | |
|-----------------------------|----------|------------------------------------|----------|
| President - Ron Abrahamson | 764-0714 | House Restoration - Lillian Rankin | 762-9534 |
| Vice Pres. - Lois Schreiter | 762-5214 | Save the Depot - Lois Schreiter | 762-5214 |
| Secretary - Pat Abrahamson | 764-0714 | Book Sales - Ron Abrahamson | |
| Treasure - Laura Hook | 762-0635 | Accessioning - Florence Johnson | |
| <u>Committee Chairmen</u> | | Newsletter - Pat Abrahamson | |
| Sunshine - Mary Mc Carrier | 762-4833 | Laura Hook | |
| Building and Grounds | | Ron Abrahamson | |
| Don Brockowski | 762-1467 | | |
| Membership - Laura Hook | 762-0635 | | |
| Museum Curator - Florence | | | |
| Oral History - Johnson | 762-3673 | | |

Birthdays

At a recent meeting the members present gave us their birthdays for publication in the newsletter. Give an old or new friend a call or send them a card. Lets all get better acquainted! Send us your birthday to get on the roster.

- May 20 - George Hook
- May 31 - Bonnie (Rankin) Coley
- May 23 - Lois Schreiter
- June 30 - Penny Rankin
- Aug. 8 - Dr. W. Coley
- Aug. 9 - Sloan Alison Coley
- Aug. 21 - Mary Holm

Book

This is a great time of the year to purchase copies of So. Milwaukee Then To Now by our own Gertrude Endthoff. Remember--

- Graduations Weddings
- Communions Confirmations
- Hostess Gifts Etc.

- Available at...
- Voice Journal
 - Harvest Hut
 - The Gift Hutch - Oak Creek
 - Journal Printing
 - So. Milw. Marine Bank

Home State Bank
 Books available gift wrapped free of charge for all occasions. Call 764-0714.

In Memory of

The Society gratefully acknowledges gifts in memory of Lillian Dishong.

From the President

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the members who have helped out in various capacities throughout the past year. I feel that the Society has grown and will continue to progress under the guidance of our new officers.

- President - Lois Schreiter
- Vice. Pres. - Dora Lee Szewczuga
- Secretary - Gertrude Endthoff
- Treasurer - Laura Hook

SAVE THE DEPOT !!

Lets all begin to
Preserve part of So.
Milw. Historic Past

LET'S STOP tearing
down and building
something new

Save what little
we have left

Call Lois Schreiter
+ Volunteer to help!

THE SOUTH MILWAUKEE-CHICAGO NORTHWESTERN TRANSPORTATION CO. DEPOT
LOCATED AT 11TH AND MILWAUKEE AVE., SOUTH MILWAUKEE, WI

OUR PROGRESS ON THE DEPOT

The Public Service Commission of Wisconsin conducted a hearing for the application of the Chicago Northwestern Transportation Co. Abandonment of Facilities in South Milwaukee on March 22, 1977 in the City Hall Annex at 9 a.m.

Since South Milwaukee is a "point of departure" city the PSC must approve the action of moving the depot to the Oak Creek location. After this approval is granted the C.N.T. Co. may sell or dispose of the buildings and properties as they wish.

The rumor has it that Bucyrus-Erie Co. wishes to buy the land, remove the buildings and use the land for parking lot.

The P.S.C. may rule in the event of a historical building that the building may not be torn down but renovated and would not approve the abandonment until suitable plans and agreement had been reached by all parties. They are doing this in the case of Middleton and Monroe Center R.R. Stations (circa 1850)

The South Milwaukee Historical Society contends that we do not have "old buildings" in our city. Most buildings have been torn down to make way for new buildings, and the railroad station is probably the last remaining building of any historic value left in our city.

In our letter of March 24, 1977 to the P.S.C. we asked for time to gain local support for the purpose of saving the depot as a historical museum.

Mary Holm and Lois Schaefer found the original deed filed at Milwaukee county that sold the parcel of land to the Chicago and Northwestern Railway Co. from the South Milwaukee Co. on May 31, 1893 for one dollar....."on the condition that said above described property shall be used for passenger depot and other railroad purposes."

The parking lot next to the depot was sold by the C.N.T. Co. to the City of South Milwaukee for \$81,500 on January 31, 1966. The City of South Milwaukee sold the parking lot to Bucyrus-Erie for an undisclosed price on September 5, 1968.

The State Historical Society sent us a copy of their letter to the PSC on March 31, 1977, which says "Based upon the information supplied by the South Milwaukee Historical Society we feel that this Railroad Station is a significant historical site and if the picture reproduced in the newspaper clipping is an accurate representation of the station, it also has some architectural merit. Based on these tentative observations, we feel that this structure is worthy of preservation and could be nominated to the National Register of Historic Places."

Buildings listed on the National Register may receive matching funds for restoration. We are in the process of nominating the depot for the National Register of Historic Places.

The State Historical Society informed us of three laws passed in the last two years which make funds available for preservation of historic or architecturally significant stations.

We have started to circulate petitions for local support to save the depot.

The Junior American Citizen's Club has made SAVE DEPOT posters.

We have sent a letter to the Railroad president asking for the depot as a gift.

We need your help and support!!!!

Please make yourself known and volunteer to help where you can.

Chairman of Depot Committee
Lois Schreiter

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1976-77 PROGRAMS

Looking back over the year I have spent as Program Chairman, I believe we have had excellent and varied subjects for our meetings.

July - "Williamsberg Restored" was the first library film to be shown.

August - Dr. Boyd Nirschl talked about the early days in South Milwaukee and showed us some of his excellent pictures.

September - The Telephone Company presented slides and comments about the telephone, telegraph and the railroad and their role in shaping our country.

October - Fred Puttkamer showed some of his prize slides in his presentation about our Bicentennial heritage.

November - Ireland and the Erin Islands became alive for us when Pat McCarrier shared his slides and stories about his trip with us. His comments made us think we were travelling with him.

December - Fred and Amy Hook took us to Africa with them through slides.

January - The Grant Park Clubhouse was the site of our annual dinner-dance-sing-a-long night. This beautiful event was planned and cared for by Ray and May Thibadeau.

February - The Milwaukee Electric Traction Club brought us John Galloway and Milton Schrot with their slides and information about horse drawn carts, trolleys and railroads.

March - The South Milwaukee Senior High School String Ensemble and Blue Grass Band brought 18 musicians who played a little classical, dinner and hill billy music for us.

April - We viewed the Society's own slides of some of the older homes in South Milwaukee. The slides were taken by Lola Doe.

May - Our election meeting. Also Florence Johnson will share with us some of her ways of doing research for the articles she writes.

I hope all of you have enjoyed these programs as much as I have. Attend our meetings - bring a friend or anyone interested in the Society, with you.

Lois Schreiter
Program Chairman

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Our revised by-laws were accepted by the State Historical Society and we were commended for offering a membership to a "school classroom", giving such a group one vote in our Society.

SOCIETY CURATOR CHOSEN

Florence Johnson was recently selected to be the curator of our house museum. Her duties will include over-all supervision of the museum and the organization of exhibits. Please give her your cooperation and help.

ANNUAL DINNER MEETING

Our January 8 dinner meeting was attended by 71 members and guests. The brightly lighted clubhouse in Grant Park was a welcome sight on a very chilly night. Hot cider and punch was served. The tables were decorated with candles, news clippings, old tickets and other memorabilia. A delicious buffet dinner was served followed with a sing-a-long and dancing with concertina Millie. Mr. and Mrs. Ray Thibadeau are to be commended for the excellent manner in which they handled this function.

SUNSHINE NOTES

Sunshine Chairman Mary McCarrier sent cards of cheer to the following members since the first of the year: Misses Alice Caveney, Maude Hook, Mmes. Laura Hook, Violet Hanley, Angie Hook, Barbara Schouten, Messrs. Steven Batovsky, Harold Reed, and Don Broskowski.

We hope all have recovered and will now enjoy the coming summer months.

A congratulatory card was sent to Lee and Jeffrey Wendt, now of Kohler, Wis. on the birth of their second son.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO MRS. BARNES

Her 100th birthday was celebrated by one of our members, Mrs. Marguerite Barnes, who was born April 5, 1877. Congratulations from the Society were sent to her. We wish her continued good health and happiness. Mrs. Barnes lives with her daughter, Mrs. Leo M. Duwe.

HOUSE RESTORATION

Decorator Wilbur Meyer has completed the wallpapering in the Society house. Papered in traditional Victorian era style, it is beautiful. Some painting is still to be done before it can be opened for viewing. Could we have more volunteers so it can be finished soon? We would appreciate receiving furnishings - even just one dish, chair, other pieces of furniture, documents, etc. Can't each of us contribute at least one item to make our project memorable?

ORAL HISTORY

The Society has recorded several interesting people in the community. Florence Johnson will be assuming the chairmanship of this committee. Please call her if you know someone who should be put on tape.

Following is a short summary of the taped interview of Gertrude Endthoff. The interview was May 10, 1976. Barbara Mueller was the interviewer.

Gert started teaching in South Milwaukee in 1952. She was to teach a unit on the history of the community. The third grade teachers started searching for information for a grade school text. Information was gathered from the Milwaukee Historical Society, the South Milwaukee Library, and from speaking to the older residents of South Milwaukee at a tea.

The first book was mimeographed. 300 copies were made and sold for \$1.25 and then \$1.50

Revision of the book began in 1974. Ruth Howes and Vance Chamberlain offered many hours of assistance proofreading. The industry and church sections have been extended. The dateline was updated. The original sketches, done by Gert, were retained at the urging of many. Her very excellent hard cover revised edition was released in June 1976, titled South Milwaukee-Then to Now.

(Copies of this book may be purchased from Ron Abrahamson, 1618 Manitoba Ave., South Milwaukee, WI 53172. Mail orders will be filled. Price \$7.50 tax included. Make checks payable to South Milwaukee Book.)

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A REPORT FROM CURATOR FLORENCE JOHNSON

Gertrude Endthoff and I spent Monday, April 11 and Tuesday, April 12, at the house trying to get some order out of the chaos in the back room. Not one of the people who volunteered to help us on Tuesday showed.

On Wednesday night I was there again, with Don Broskowski, Rick Grobschmidt, Harvey Johnson, Barbara Mueller and Barbara Schouten helping.

We have made a start and have most of the newspapers sorted and filed according to dates and kinds. The closet in the back room will be designated as the "reference room". Does anyone have any wide boards that could be used for shelving? We could use at least six more shelves, so the reference material can be used without moving large boxes.

There are some very valuable items in our house. Yet there is no way to lock it. There is no door on the front room. Anyone entering the outer door to go upstairs, or for any reason, can walk right into the house. We must have a door that can be locked. The kitchen door is also left unlocked as it is used by the upstairs tenant to gain entrance to the basement. There is an outside cellar entrance.

No displays will be set up until the house is adequately locked.

Another thing that immediately became obvious was the fact that many pictures are listed in the accessioning, but there are very few pictures there. Where are they?

Loan cards have been made out for many people, but there is no record that all of the items were returned. Do you have pictures belonging to the Society? Have you borrowed items that have not been returned? PLEASE!!!! Return them.

When the dining room and back room ceilings are repaired, the bathroom and kitchen fixtures cleaned and repaired, all the items catalogued and put away, the house will look quite nice.

Another appeal. Anyone know of a merchant going out of business or getting new display cases? Ask him to donate the old ones to the Society. We are also very much in need of files - especially legal size, but all are needed - and could really use a desk. Many factories are willing to donate such items they no longer use if they are approached. How about contacting the office manager where you work?

Gertrude Endthoff has consented to help with the job I have undertaken and the members of the Horizon committee (formerly Bicentennial committee) are also helping. I certainly appreciate this.

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The 1977 Roster of members is attached. Please help us keep it accurate by reporting any change in address to our membership chairman Laura Hook, 703 Minnesota Ave., South Milwaukee, WI 53172

SOUTH MILWAUKEE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

1977 ROSTER

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Phone No.</u>
Allen, Caddith	706 Williams Ave.	762-0047
Abrahamson, Mr. & Mrs. Ron (Patricia)	1618 Manitoba Ave.	764-0714
Adamczyk, Daniel A. (Marquette Pharmacy)	1401 Marion Ave.	764-5427
Baker, Mr. & Mrs. John (Caroline)	804 Fairview Ave.	762-2370
Banker, Mrs. Arlene	715 Minnesota Ave.	762-0715
Barnes, Mrs. Marguerite A.	248 Hawthorne Ave.	762-0134
Barsamian, Mr. & Mrs. Nick (Arlene)	501 Drexel Ave.	762-3624
Batovsky, Mr. & Mrs. Steven (Katherine)	1811 Monroe Ave.	762-1383
Bergmann, Mrs. Anna	811 Monroe Ave.	762-2103
Bettinger, Mrs. Christine	707 Michigan Ave.	762-2549
Bloom, Mrs. Mary Ellen	919 Madison Ave.	762-0818
Bridge, Carl J.	620 West St. Keene, N. H. 03431	
Broskowski, Mr. & Mrs. Donald (Rosemarie)	725 Clark Ave.	762-1467
Brutvan, Mr. & Mrs. Ferdinand (Bernette)	729 Monroe Ave.	762-2073
Buege, Mr. & Mrs. Marvin (Margaret)	614 Hawthorne Ave.	762-3477
Bulley, Mr. & Mrs. Donald K. (Joyce)	637 Edgewood Ave.	762-7605
Caveney, Miss Alice	919 Madison Ave.	762-0818
Caveney, Mrs. Iraleen	617 Elm Street	762-1611
Chamberlain, Mrs. Vance	2419 Ninth Ave.	762-3281
Coley, Dr. & Mrs. Neil (Bonnie)	281 Fisalia Court Fremont, California 94538	
DeRidder, Mr. & Mrs. A. J. (Kathryn)	703 Walnut Circle	762-5720
Doe, Mrs. Lola	826 Marquette Ave.	764-2679
Domoe, William	416 North Chicago Ave.	762-7619
Donsing, Miss Hilda	919 Minnesota Ave.	762-2193
Drews, Mr. & Mrs. Arthur (Gladys)	402 Fairview Ave.	762-2989
Duwe, Mrs. Leo (Leora)	248 Hawthorne Ave.	762-0134
Endthoff, Mrs. Gertrude	1520 Menomonee Ave.	762-8852
Fabinski, Mr. & Mrs. Felix (Sylvia)	5206 Woodbridge Lane, S. Greenfield, Wis. 53221	
Fax, Mr. & Mrs. Daniel (Cheryl)	717 Milwaukee Ave.	762-7979
Fowle, Chester	c/o 6195 Rivertrail Road Milwaukee, Wis. 53225	353-6522
Gates, Mrs. Hazel	927 Madison Ave.	762-1313
Gladfelter, Mrs. Ella	424 Montana Ave.	762-0436
Grobschmidt, Mr. & Mrs. Chester (Lenore)	910 Seventeenth Ave.	762-2519
Grobschmidt, Mr. & Mrs. Richard (Barbara)	1513 Mackinac Ave.	762-8460
Hein, Harold W.	2549 So. Kinnickinnic Ave. Milwaukee, Wis. 53207	483-4826
Hertz, Mrs. Carmen	608 Montana Ave.	762-0822
Holm, Mrs. Martha Mortensen	3914 N. Frederick Ave. Milwaukee, Wis. 53211	962-6592
Holm, Mrs. Mary and Corinne	1232 Minnesota Ave.	762-6307
Holm, Mr. & Mrs. Paul (Dorothy)	605 Aspen St.	762-0687
Hook, Mrs. Ray (Angie)	1608 Lake Drive	762-0397
Hook, Mr. & Mrs. Frederick (Amy)	12153 North Ridge Terrace Hales Corners, Wis. 53130	425-0521
Hook, Mr. & Mrs. George O. (Laura)	703 Minnesota Ave.	762-0635
Hook, Miss Maude P.	330 W. 20th St. Idaho Falls, Idaho 83401	
Howes, Miss Ruth	1216 Memorial Drive	762-0132
Jagadzinski, Harry	1411 Mackinac Ave.	762-4560
Johnson, Mr. & Mrs. Harvey (Florence)	802 Marshall Ave.	762-3673

Kalb, Mrs. Norma	1209 Fifteenth Ave.	762-2737
Kane, Dr. & Mrs. Melroy (Joan)	1011 Michigan Ave.	762-1198
Kerlin, Mrs. Annette	1023 Carrington Ave.	762-1998
Kern, Mr. & Mrs. John (Joyce)	240 Hawthorne Ave.	762-1904
Kimble, Mrs. Ariel	8541 South Chicago Road Oak Creek, Wis. 53154	762-0636
Kleist, Mr. & Mrs. Richard (Esther)	514 Madison Ave.	762-1217
Klipfel, Mrs. Barbara Rankin	1915 Nicholson Ave.	762-2136
Kotowicz, Mr. & Mrs. Adam (Caroline)	215 Fairview Ave.	764-4276
Kuppert, Otto	806 Minnesota Ave.	762-1263
Lange, Mrs. Louis (Ethel)	418 Hawthorne Ave.	762-2216
Last, Mr. & Mrs. Elmer (Erma) & Donald	1010 Milwaukee Ave.	762-0725
Maddock, Mrs. Ruth A.	700 Madison Ave.	762-5735
Malicki, Mr. & Mrs. Michael	3204 Fifteenth Ave.	764-4627
Mang, Leo	727 Milwaukee Ave.	762-1147
Martinson, Mrs. Harriet (Roz)	919 Madison Ave.	762-0818
McCarrier, Mrs. Mary	320 Parkway Drive	762-4833
Miller, Mrs. Hildreth	706 Madison Ave.	762-1764
Molthen-Bell & Sons Funeral Home	700 Milwaukee Ave.	762-0154
Monson, Mrs. Anne	1413 Marquette Ave.	762-1091
Mueller, Mr. & Mrs. Ron (Barbara)	305 Michigan Ave.	762-2712
Mullins, Mr. & Mrs. Robert (Kathryn)	920 Michigan Ave.	762-0088
Nolan, Dr. Robert	921 Madison Ave.	762-5440
Palasz, Mrs. Rose	1412 Missouri Ave.	762-3191
Procter Agency, Inc.	2422 Tenth Ave.	762-8900
Quirk, Mr. & Mrs. Robert (Marlene)	1632 Mackinac Ave.	762-6575
Rankin, Mr. & Mrs. Dennis (Penny)	2215 Eighteenth Ave.	764-4044
Rankin, Mrs. Lillian	613 Mackinac Ave.	762-9534
Rasmussen, Mrs. Gertrude	6260 South Lake Drive Cudahy, Wis. 53110	762-0978
Reed, Mr. & Mrs. Harold (Mae)	912 Lake Drive	762-2810
Reingans, Mrs. Agnes	608 North Chicago Ave.	762-3161
Repa, Mr. & Mrs. Henry J.	1407 Mackinac Ave.	762-1612
Saxler, Mr. & Mrs. Harold (Frances)	1206 Lake Drive	762-0705
Schouten, Mrs. Barbara	914 Madison Ave.	764-2315
Schreiter, Mrs. Lois	104 Brookdale Drive	762-5214
Simbach, Mrs. Conrad J.	1315 Fifteenth Ave.	762-0074
Sirin, Mr. & Mrs. Walter (Lucille)	923 Milwaukee Ave.	762-2834
Slaaen, Mrs. Anne	3852 East Klieforth Ave. Cudahy, Wis. 53110	769-6086
Smith, Mrs. Howard J. (Janet Lewis)	3029 Knoll Drive Falls Church, Virginia 22042	
South Milwaukee Savings & Loan Assn.	1015 Marquette Ave.	762-7600
Springer, Mrs. Adhalia M.	623 Mackinac Ave.	764-0921
Stuart, Robert	3426 South Chicago Ave.	762-2055
Szewczuga, Mrs. Dora Lee	610 Lakeview Ave.	762-7828
Thibaudeau, Mr. & Mrs. Ray (May)	1212 North Chicago Ave.	762-0866
Turgai, Dr. Valerio	908 Milwaukee Ave.	762-1945
Ward, Mr. & Mrs. James E.	116 Brookdale Drive	762-2969
Warner, Mrs. William (Esperance)	601 Montana Ave.	762-3497
Weber, Gene	324 Hawthorne Ave.	762-1030
Wedor, Mr. & Mrs. Donald	1410 Missouri Ave.	764-1286
Weiland, Miss Gertrude	801 Hawthorne Ave. Apt. 11	762-1090

we, the undersigned, would like to see the South Milwaukee Depot remain where it is. The Depot, built in 1893 on land sold to the Railroad for \$1.00 for the purpose of establishing a passenger depot in South Milwaukee, and having some significant historical and architectural value should not be torn down but retained, refurbished and used as a historic and beautiful site.

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY

Fold and tape or staple and mail to Mrs. Lois Schreiter
104 Brookdale Drive
S. Milwaukee, Wis.

THIRD ANNUAL DINNER MEETING
of the
SOUTH MILWAUKKEE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

AN EVENING IN THE
SPIRIT OF '76

6:00 P.M. Hospitality hour
7:00 P.M. Dinner
8:00 P.M. Music & Entertainment

Guests of Honor Mr. & Mrs. Felix Fabinski

Society Officers Bill Domoe President
Ron Abrahamson Vice-President
Barbara Schouten Secretary
Lillian Dishong Treasurer

Spirit of '76 Committee

Kitty Batovsky
Barbara Schouten
Jan Schumacher
Mr. & Mrs. Ray Thibadeau
Jacquie Granec