

NEWSLETTER- SOUTH MILWAUKEE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

DECEMBER 1979

Officers

President	DoraLee Szewczuga	762-7828
Vice President	Gertrude Endthoff	762-8852
Secretary	Ruth Lewis	762-2361
Treasurer	Laura Hook	762-0635

DATES TO REMEMBER

JANUARY 7--Monday. Next meeting of the Society. Held at the So. Milw. Senior high school at 7:30 p.m.
FEBRUARY 2--Saturday. Date of our annual dinner/dance. More information further down in newsletter
MARCH 3--Monday Meeting of the Society
APRIL 7--Monday. Board meeting at the house. 7:30 p.m.
MAY 5--Monday. Meeting of the Society. Election of officers.

Our annual rummage sale held on Sept. 29th was a huge success. We had a good variety of things for sale this year, and a perfect day; so we were able to take in about \$230. The board recommended to the meeting of the society last month that the proceeds be given to Gert Endthoff as payment on the printing bill still owed to her on the "South Milwaukee-Then to Now" books. We have been whittling away at this obligation for some time now and it would please us all to finally clean up this debt. Gert has been very patient. At the meeting a motion to add \$70 more to the amount was made and seconded, and we were able to give her \$300.

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Walter Siren and George Hook spent quite a few hours earlier this fall working around the Society house putting windows, putting up storms, replacing broken windows and generally cleaning up around the premises. Tenant/caretaker Bruce Szewczuga put in the storm doors and straightened the flag pole after someone tried to bend it over. They didn't get the flag this time!

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The Society sent a letter to the city requesting to be put on the budget for \$2,000 which would go towards painting or siding the exterior of the house. As of this printing no word has been received about the request. In spring a renewed effort will be made to try to have something done about making our museum more presentable. Any idea along this line would be appreciated.

ON NOVEMBER 15th members of the Society and Mayor Grobschmidt attended the formal unveiling of the Jagodzinski FDR collection at the GoldaMeir library of the UWM. Harry was a charter member of the society. He began his collection of Roosevelt memorabilia about 35 years ago and donated it to the university shortly before his death on July 31st. Those attending the dedication were Don and Rosemarie Broskowski, Barbara Mueller, DoraLee and Mayor Grobschmidt. Slide pictures were taken of the exhibit and Mrs. Jagodzinski and her daughter so they can be shown to society members at a future program.

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A SHOW AND TELL program was held at the last society meeting. Some of the interesting items brought by members included a hand tailored suit jacket and vest from the early 1900's that was shown by Mr. & Mrs. Walter Siren. It is not often that we see mens clothing from the earlier years. Anne Slaaen brought a cut glass spoon holder which she incorporated in the evenings treat display and George H ook brought a telegraph key that was once used at the So. Milw. Depot. Richard Grobschmidt wasn't able to attend the meeting but he left a framed page of a 1876 book showing a plat of So. Milw. Lynn Rankin brought a photo of early Fowle relatives and told a little about them, and Otto Kuppert had some pics of early automobiles. Harold Hein brought several books about Lincoln which he donated to the Society. We already have a nice collection of Lincoln books thanks to Mr. Hein. The program was interesting and most of those attending asked if we could do it again sometime. (We will)

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Our historical society received some nice items recently thanks to the sleuthing of Irma Loeffler, president of the SM Women's Club. She had recalled that the club had some old time clothing that was stored in various members attics and then finally donated to the Oak Creek historical society 7 or 8 years ago with the stipulation that if ever So. Milw. had a historical group it would be returned. Mrs. Loeffler looked through the minutes of the club until she found the entry. She then called Oak Creek and DoraLee and arranged a meeting. The original items were not clearly defined so Oak Creek showed some of their excess items and DoraLee selected those she thought our society could use. They were: two hats; a lace collar; chiffon neck piece; a white dress c. 1910; a hand sewn blouse, c. 1900; maroon velvet dress c. 1920's; a black embroidered apron and a black velvet suit top, c. 1900. Thank you, Mrs. Loeffler, the Women's Club and Oak Creek Historical Society.

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JUST THOUGHT you'd like to know that we have had 106 visitors to our museum since January 1st.

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FROM THE STATE SOCIETY, Office of Local History: This year's Winter Workshops will be held in various parts of the state. The instruction will be on Advanced Oral History; Advanced Photographs; Museum Exhibits and Local Society Administration. There will also be workshops on beginning Photographs and Beginning Oral History. Those nearest to Milw. will be held at Madison on January 19th and at Waukesha on March 22. These workshops are limited to two persons from each society (one, at the advanced level) for each subject. If you are interested in attending, let one of the officers know. DoraLee plans to attend Advanced Photographs at Madison and either Museum Exhibits or Administration at Waukesha. Maybe a car pool can be arranged.

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THIS YEAR the Annual Dinner will be held at the Bucyrus-Erie Club on Saturday, February 2, 1980. The dinner theme will be "Streets of Old South Milwaukee." This year the board of directors will try a new format for our dinner, since most of the work seemed to fall on the same persons for the past few years. There will be only the Club cash bar for those who wish a before dinner drink and there will be no dancing since we will be dining in the executive dining room. Details of the program are still to be worked out though. Also, since there is limited seating (60 persons) we suggest that you make your reservations early. The cost will be lower this year, too. Only \$5.00 per person. AND WHILE YOU ARE SENDING IN YOUR CHECK, WHY NOT ADD YOUR DUES FOR 1980? They are still \$3 per person and \$5 a family. Special rate for senior citizens, \$2.

SO. MILW. HISTORICAL SOCIETY ANNUAL DINNER \$5.00 per person
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 1980
BE CLUB-EXEC. DINING ROOM

I have enclosed _____. Please make a reservation for _____ persons.

I have also enclosed _____ for my 1980 dues.

(signed) _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Make checks payable to So. Milw. Historical Society
Mail to: Laura Hook, Treasurer
703 Minnesota Ave.
So. Milw. 53172

ONE OF THE SOCIETY'S projects this year is to start a clipping file on various subjects. Items of interest are clipped from either or both of the local newspapers, church bulletins, program guides and so on and then put into folders, some were passed out at the last meeting. These items will then be collected and put in files at the Historical house so that anyone wishing to do research on subjects in the future will have information ready at hand. These items should be dated when clipped out, also. The subjects that still need someone to clip for are: City Officials, City Government, Public Schools, Golden Agers, Knights of Columbus, So. Milw. Businesses, and for the Churches we still need someone for St. John's, SS Peter & Paul, St. Adalberts and the Methodist and Armenian churches. If anyone would like to help on this project call Doralee and she will see that you get a folder. This is a project that many can share in and help be a part of the organization.

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THE TURNOUT at the Workshop for Archival Management sponsored by the Society last October 18th was not as good as hoped for. Although the subject sounded a bit dry, Mr. Michael Kohl, project archivist with the Milw. County Library, made it most interesting. The small group that attended learned some of the problems of preservation and how to deal with them.

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HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM ALL OF US TO ALL OF YOU ! See you Jan. 7th

SO. MILW HISTORICAL SOCIETY
717 Milwaukee Ave.
So. Milw. Wis. 53172