



South Milwaukee Historical Society

NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 1981

OFFICERS

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

MEETINGS FOR 1981: Regular- September 14th and November 2nd
Board: October 5th and December 7th
7:30 p.m. at the Society Museum, 717 Milwaukee Ave.

MAY ELECTION

The same officers above who have been serving the society were re-elected at the May meeting, but two new members were added to the Board of Directors. Mrs. Lynn Rankin and Mrs. Anne Slaaen will each serve a three year term. We welcome them both and hope they will enjoy their service to the society.

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THE FIRST MEETING after summer will take place on Monday, September 14th at 7:30 p.m. at the Society Museum, 717 Milwaukee ave. The special program for the evening will be a slide presentation of a Scandinavian trip taken by Rick Grobschmidt in June. You are all familiar with the excellent pictures taken by Rick in the past and we're sure you won't want to miss these. So plan on being there. A business meeting will precede the program.

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ANOTHER MEETING YOU won't want to miss is the Metropolitan Regional Convention of the Wisconsin Council for Local History. It will be hosted by the Franklin Historical Society on Saturday, September 12th at the Franklin High School, 8222 So. 51st St. beginning at 9 a.m. There will be a luncheon served, cost \$4.50, and a bus tour of historic sites in Franklin, including the old village of St. Martins, with stops at the Sacred Heart Monestary, Holy Assumption church, Legend Park and the Franklin Historical museum. The bus tour will cost \$1.50 and will last from about 1:30 p.m. until 3 p.m.. You can make reservations by sending a check, payable to the Franklin Historical Society to: Mr. Jack Barr, S81-W13100 Hi View Dr., Hales Corners, Wis. 53130. The deadline for reservations is Friday Sept. 4th. So if you plan to attend, get your reservation in now. Total cost of luncheon and bus tour will be \$6.00. Very reasonable for an interesting time. Lets have a good turn-out from So. Milw.

OUR SOCIETY IS PLANNING a special program for our last Sunday Open House on August 30th. If you do any type of craft or hand-work we would like to see you there, demonstrating whatever it is you do. Do you crochet, knit, make hooked rugs, tat, do decorative painting, make patchwork quilts??? Come and share your expertize. Bring along samples of your work. We will try to have enough tables for display, but if you need something extra, call one of the officers beforehand and we'll see what we can do.

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THE SOCIETY WAS REPRESENTED AT THE South Milwaukee Art Fair on August 9th by Ruth Lewis, Otto Kuppert, Gertrude Endthoff and Laura Hook. Several "From Then to Now" books as well as note paper were sold before the rains came in the afternoon, causing these good people to pack up and head for home.

* * *

OUR EARLY JUNE RUMMAGE SALE was such a success that another one is being planned for September 26th, a Saturday. So start saving up your discards and plant slips, plant bulbs and whatever else you might like to contribute. Maybe you do some type of craft and would like to donate a sample or two. We'll have more discussion on this at the September 14th meeting. Keep in mind that we need workers, too. You need only put in a couple of hours, either setting up, marking items, helping at the sale or in the house, as we generally have the museum open for tours, too.

* * *

OUR SUNDAY OPEN HOUSES were not very productive this year. Last year was much better, maybe because everyone was concerned about the gasoline prices then, and more people were staying in town. However, we'd like to thank the following persons for spending part of their Sunday during the summer helping out at the museum: Ray and Kay Gladeux, Lola Doe, Otto Kuppert, Vance Chamberlain, Ruth Lewis, Lynn Rankin, Annette Kerlin, Anne Slaaen, Grace Broskowski, Ann Monson, Joe and Marie Frank, Harvey and Jo Johnson, Lois Schreiter, DoraLee Szewczuga and George and Laura Hook. If we missed someone, we didn't mean to. Thank you all, again, from the society.

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AS OF THIS WRITING the Rawson mansion at 1020 Rawson ave. has been slated for destruction. By now, it may, indeed, be just a memory. This house, built in 1893, was long a landmark of the city, a sign of the period when the village of So. Milw. started to grow. The Society spoke for its hopes of preserving it somehow, but there were none. The heirs of the Cyris estate said that it was just too costly to keep up. Rick Grobschmidt and DoraLee Szewczuga received permission to go into the house and photograph it from top to bottom, which they did. So the Historical Society will at least have a record of the way it was in 1981. DoraLee says that this home was destroyed in 1936, at least the interior, when Cyris tore it apart to make six or seven small apartments. That was the time preservation should have begun. We shall all miss it, won't we?? But at least we have the memory, what of those coming after us??? What will they have?

THE FINAL STEPS HAVE BEEN TAKEN IN the big project undertaken by our society, namely the remodeling of the exterior of our museum at 717 Milwaukee ave. Last summer we began with the siding, fascia and soffits, finishing with the gutters and downspouts last fall. In June of this year the doors, windows and exposed wood were puttied and painted, and in August the remaining window trim and storm windows and doors were added, as well as four attic vents in the roof. It looks WONDERFUL! Much credit goes to all of you who donated to the cause, as well as the City of South Milwaukee for including us in the budget. We'd like to thank also Fred Clausing, who did the siding work and S & S Painting who did the puttying, scraping and painting. A special thanks goes to our own George Hook, who spent many, many, many hours scraping and washing windows after they were painted. He also painted the cellar doors and the thresholds when he found time from weeding, trimming and generally cleaning up.

Now we suppose you'd like to know just how much all of this refurbishing has cost--well, here are the figures:

Siding, fascia & soffits	\$5421.00
gutters & downspouts	938.00
window trim, storms & vents	2500.00
painting	495.00
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	\$9354.00

Contributors

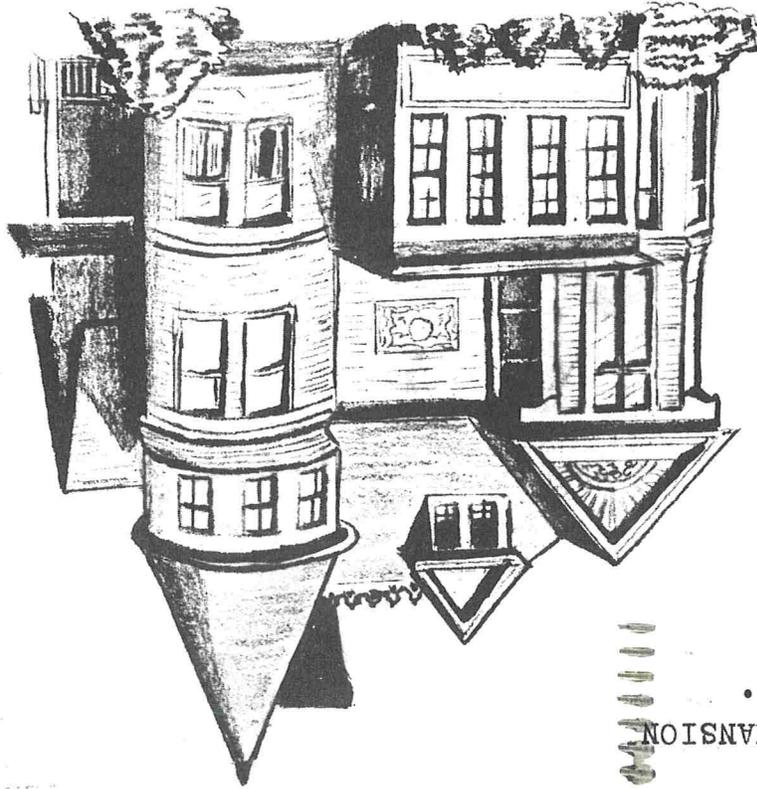
City of So. Milwaukee	\$3800.00
Donations from members & friends	2848.00
So. Milw. Historical Society	2706.00
	<hr/>
	\$9354.00

Here is a list of the latest contributors, with our many thanks.

City of South Milwaukee	Ed Kotchi
Miss Hildegard Markert	Mr. & Mrs. J. Frank
Dan Adamczyk	Dr. & Mrs. Gronewold
Vance Chamberlain	Mrs. Ruth Maddock
So. Milw. Kiwanis	Mrs. Leora Duwe
So. Milw. Lions	Robert Stewart
Mr. & Mrs. A. Kotowicz	Mrs. Hildreth Miller
Mrs. Lucille Siren	Gene Weber
Mr. & Mrs. Ray Thibadeau	Mr. & Mrs. S. Batovsky
Mrs. C. Bettinger	Mrs. Anne Slaaen
Louis Adams	Mrs. Hazel Gates
Mr. & Mrs. N. Barsamian	Mrs. Don Rasmussen
So. Milw. Women's Club	Mrs. Janet Smith
Ann Thronson	Mr. & Mrs. Ray Broskowski

This has been truly a big project for our young society. It was something that was badly needed, the exterior was in bad shape. Now it should be easy for us to maintain, and we can turn our attention to other projects, that is if the roof and the boiler hold out for a while.

R I P

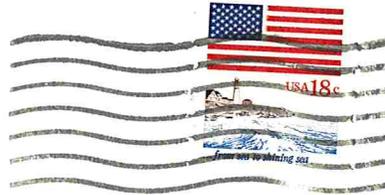


1861

1893

EDWARD RAMSON MANSION
1020 RAMSON AVE.
SO. MILW., WIS.

SOUTH MILWAUKEE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
717 Milwaukee Ave.
So. Milw., Wis. 53172



*Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Schreiter
104 Brookdale Drive
South Milwaukee, Wis*

South Milwaukee Historical Society
Annual

Dinner — Dance

Saturday, February 4, 1978
at

Grant Park Clubhouse

Music — Sing-along — Door Prizes

Punch Bowl — 6:30 p.m.

Buffet Dinner — 7:30 p.m.

\$6⁰⁰ per person

Detach and send to Laura Hook, 703 Minnesota Ave.
with remittance by January 24, 1978.

Name -----

street -----

city -----

Phone -----

Number Attending — Remittance —



Are you interested in preserving the history of South Milwaukee?
 Are you concerned about the loss and/or neglect of not only artifacts,
 but information about the settling of the area now incorporated as
 South Milwaukee?

The South Milwaukee Historical Society is interested, does care
 and is concerned.

The Society was incorporated in October, 1972 as an affiliate of
 the State Historical Society of Wisconsin. Its aims are to encourage
 the preservation of all information and artifacts relating to South
 Milwaukee.

We strive to arouse pride and community consciousness in the
 heritage to be found here.

Meetings are held on the first Monday of each month at 7:30 P.M.
 at the South Milwaukee Public Library. Occasional speakers and programs
 of interest are presented throughout the year. Refreshments are served
 after the meetings so that members can socialize and become better
 acquainted.

The Society publishes a quarterly newsletter which keeps members
 informed of individual and group activities, as well as giving notice
 of all meetings of the Society.

Some of the activities sponsored by the Society are: collecting
 and cataloguing pictures, articles of clothing, books and all types
 of written and printed material pertaining to South Milwaukee, its
 founders and present residents, and collecting on tape an oral history
 of memories and reminiscences of some of its elderly residents, as well
 as documenting happenings of today.

An application blank for membership, describing the various types
 of membership in the Society, is attached. If you wish to join, please
 detach and mail to our membership chairmen.

South Milwaukee Historical Society	+	Type of Membership
Laura Hook or Jan Schumacher	+	
703 Minnesota Ave. 919 Madison Ave.	+	<input type="checkbox"/> Regular Individual . \$3.00
South Milwaukee, Wis. 53172	+	<input type="checkbox"/> Family 5.00
	+	<input type="checkbox"/> Junior (to 18) . . . 1.00
Enclosed are my membership dues:	+	<input type="checkbox"/> Retired Person . . . 2.00
	+	<input type="checkbox"/> Business
Name _____	+	<input type="checkbox"/> Professional 10.00
	+	<input type="checkbox"/> Organization
Address _____	+	<input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining 25.00
	+	
City _____ Zip _____	+	

Your active support of our endeavors will be appreciated.
 Dues and contributions are tax deductible.