



# South Milwaukee Historical Society

717 Milwaukee Ave., South Milwaukee, WI 53172  
NEWSLETTER August, 1989

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## OFFICERS 1988-1989

President	Rick Tangen	762-2199
Vice President	Patricia Bordak	764-4394
Secretary	Theresa Aghbashian	762-5623
Treasurer	Laura Hook	762-0635
Past President	Addie Becker	764-2118

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## BOARD OF DIRECTORS: (term expires)

Arline Barsamian	1992	762-3624
Lorraine Fuhreck	1992	762-1915
Dr. Harold Hein	1991	483-4826
Mary Magnuson	1991	762-9428
Gertrude Endthoff	1990 also Curator	762-8852
Steve Czerwiczuk	1990	762-2089

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## EVENTS:

JULY 31	POT LUCK, 6 PM, ST. FRANCIS HIST. SOC., THE AUTO--100 YEARS OF CHANGE
AUG. 5,12,19,26	OAK CREEK LIBRARY EXHIBIT, WOMEN AT WORK ON FARMS IN WISCONSIN--68 PHOTOS
3RD SAT. SEPTEMBER, OCT. & NOV.	9AM TO 12 NOON WORK/PARTY AT MUSEUM.

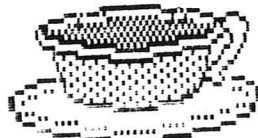
## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT:

THANK YOU TO THE RUMMAGE SALE WORKERS. WE MADE ABOUT \$200.00. THANKS TO YOU MEMBERS AND FRIENDS OF THE SOCIETY WHO SUPPORT OUR RUMMAGE SALE, BUSINESS FAIR FOOD BOOTH AND BAKE AND CRAFT SALE. THIS IS HOW THE SOCIETY PAYS FOR SUPPLIES AND NEEDED REPAIRS TO THE MUSEUM. THANKS ALSO TO RICHARD THINNES WHO MAINTAINS THE MUSEUM GROUNDS AND KEEPS THINGS RUNNING SMOOTHLY.

THANKS TO GERTRUDE ENDTHOFF FOR PREPARING AND EXHIBITING HER CARNAVAL GLASS DISHES.

REWIRING OF THE MUSEUM SHOULD BE DONE BY AUGUST. OUTDOOR LIGHTING ON THE FLAG AND SIGN AND TRACK LIGHTING IN THE LIVING ROOM WINDOW WILL ALSO BE INSTALLED.

CLEANING OF THE HOUSE WILL BE DONE ON THE THIRD SATURDAY IN SEPTEMBER SO DISPLAYS CAN BE DONE IN THE BASEMENT. CATALOGING OF CLOTHES, BOOKS, RECORDS, NEWS ARTICLES AND SUCH NEED TO BE DONE. MANIKINS ARE ALSO NEEDED.



continued

WE'RE STILL LOOKING FOR HOUSESITTERS AND GUIDES FOR AUGUST. CALL ME.

COMMENTS ARE NEEDED ON THE NEW/OLD STREET LIGHTING IN THE 900 BLOCK OF MILWAUKEE AVE. IN FRONT OF PARKWAY FLORAL.

Richard Tangen, President

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HOUSESITTERS: JULY 16, CLOSED FOR THE CIRCUS PARADE,  
JULY 23 RICK TANGEN AUG. 20 \_\_\_\_\_  
JULY 30 LOIS SCHREITER AUG. 27 \_\_\_\_\_  
AUG. 6 \_\_\_\_\_ SEPT. \_\_\_\_\_  
AUG. 13 \_\_\_\_\_

WE NEED TWO HOUSE SITTERS FOR EACH OF THE DATES ABOVE. PLEASE CALL RICK TANGEN TO SCHEDULE YOUR TIME.

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WORK AT THE MUSEUM: Starting with the 3rd Saturday in September, members will again meet from 9 a.m. to 12 noon on the third Saturdays of each month to work on items at the museum. Coffee and planning will take place at 9 a.m. promptly and will be followed by action at 9:15. Inventory, filing, cleaning and museum drudgery will be intertwined with conversation, comraderie, laughter and radio music. If you are able to help -- come!

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THANK YOU TO AGNES REINGANS of Livonia, Mich. on her interesting comments on the TMER & CO. (Transit Milwaukee Electric Railroad and Light Company), which were read at the spring pot luck dinner meeting. They were a very fitting and timely addition to John Miller's presentation. Agnes lived in South Milwaukee for 90 years before moving to Michigan. She said, "I never drove a car. Rode the street cars and buses plenty and no complaints."

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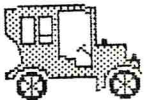
HAVE YOU SEEN the latest issue of the QUAD CITY COMMUNITY SHOPPER NEWS? Check it for a history of GRANT PARK. Started in 1910 when the first land was acquired. Named for the then PRESIDENT U. S. GRANT in 1920.

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WOMEN AT WORK ON THE FARM IN WISCONSIN EXHIBIT at Oak Creek Library on four Saturdays in August 5, 12, 19, AND 26. The Library is located on the corner of Puetz and Howell, 8620 S. Howell Ave. The traveling exhibit consists of 68 historical photographs with images of the family farm, dairy chores, caring for poultry and livestock and field work during the 1800's and early 1900's. The exhibit is sponsored and set up by the Oak Creek Historical Society. Admission is free.

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POT LUCK AND AUTOMOBILES at St. Francis Historical Society meeting, Monday, July 31, 6:00 p.m., St. Francis Community Center, 3476 E. Howard Ave. To participate in the "Pot Luck" dinner, bring a dish to serve 8. A special presentation called "The Automobile and American Society: 100 Years of Change" will be given by Mr. Matt Joseph, owner and operator of MATT CO.-- Martinsville Antique Transportation Technologies Company, a published automobile historian, and former assistant Professor of History at 4 of the U.W. campuses.



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CREATIVE VIDEO: Turns slides and home movies into video tapes with music--If you are interested call Rick Tangen.

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LINDENHURST FARMS OF SOUTH MILWAUKEE: Does ANYONE have any information about this farm dairy? Call Gertrude Endthoff. The lavender colored milk bottles were once clear. Age and "bad" glass caused the color change.

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OUR SYMPATHY goes to the family of Norma Kalb, one of our members who died in June.

We send GET WELL FAST messages to members Ruth Maddock who was recently hospitalized and to board member Lorraine Fuhreck who broke her leg and sprained her ankle.

If you know of any members that are ill, please call Mary Magnuson, 762-9428 with the information, so she can send them a card.

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WISCONSIN BLUE BOOKS:

The BLUE BOOKS have been inventoried. Where we had duplicate books we shared with the Oak Creek Historical Society. We do not have books for the following years: 1901, 1903, 1905, 1907, 1909, 1911, 1913, 1917, 1919, 1921, 1923, 1931, and 1933. We do have books dated before and after these years. Thank you for your generous cooperation.

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BUS TRIP TO MINERAL POINT: Cornish American Heritage Society sponsors this trip to Pendarvis, a lead mining village restoration operated by the State Historical Society. Date of the trip is Aug. 10 -- Contact Arlene Barsamian by July 28 for details.

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DEPRESSION GLASS EXHIBIT: South Milwaukee Historical Society Museum, Sunday afternoons from 2 to 4 p.m. The exhibit is part of the private collection of Gertrude Endthoff. Over 100 pieces of Depression Glass are exhibited and the patterns identified, most patterns are not duplicated. Some of the plates are exhibited on the Museums plate rail which circles the dining room. The dining table and early American side board contain many other pieces. A full page article on Depression Glass is contained in this newsletter. \*\*\*\*\*

HOUSE: Upstairs kitchen water pipes have been repaired. Now the Downstairs kitchen ceiling needs repairing.

Electrical rewiring proposal by Chris Herwick, master electrician and society member has been accepted by the Board of Directors. Cost of \$2500.00 also includes \$750.00 of donated electrical materials, outdoor lighting, timers, smoke alarms, conversion of fuses to circuit breakers, 3- 20 amp and 1- 30 amp installations and more.

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INFORMATION NEEDED ABOUT: call Gertrude Endthoff  
Carl A. Swigart-came to Milw. (1899-1909) may have worked at B.E.  
Jos. R. Swigart-came about 1895-may have worked at B>E> 1900-1925.  
Harry M. Swigart came between 1915-1917 was later president of Oil Gear Corp. in 1922.

John or Harry Raszeja-- Do you know the whereabouts of either?  
Andreas Dresen, wife Grabrinda/Gertrude-lived here, applied for naturalization in South Milwaukee.

John Bakken--who lived in area 1925- May have worked at B.E.-Lived at 1224 S. Chicago Ave. in 1925.

Received a photo from Wilfred Jones of people taking a flight to Hawaii aboard the DOLE FIGHT TO HAWAII. Know anything about it?

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## DEPRESSION GLASS

Compiled for DEPRESSION GLASS EXHIBIT, SOUTH MILWAUKEE HISTORICAL SOCIETY, Summer, 1989, Gertrude Endthoff and Lois Schreiter

During the depression era, (1925-39) American glass manufacturers produced an inexpensive line of mostly pastel colored glass dinnerware, which has come to be termed DEPRESSION GLASS. Among these were MACBETH EVANS GLASS CO., JEANNETTE GLASS CO., LIBERTY WORKS, AND U.S. GLASS CO., HAZEL ATLAS GLASS CO., IMPERIAL GLASS CO., INDIANA GLASS CO., HOCKING GLASS CO., FEDERAL GLASS CO., PADEN CITY GLASS CO., AND ANCHOR HOCKING GLASS CO. Others were HEISEY, CAMBRIDGE, DUNCAN AND MILLER, WESTMORELAND, FOSTORIA which employed the "POT GLASS" method--that is, glass was melted in a pot furnace, a clay crucible, in which only fine lead glass, colored or otherwise was melted. Two methods of production were then used--hand-blowing into a mold, or hand-pressing into a mold, both of which were distinctive of fine glassware.

Another type of glassware was machine made, primarily by the "TANK" method, and in this category falls DEPRESSION GLASS. This type of glassware is referred to by the trade as PRODUCTION glassware or TANK glassware--that is, glass melted in a tank furnace usually holding one ton of molten glass and used where quality was less important than quantity.

From the "tank" the glass was fed through a complex of machinery, which either presses or blows the glass into a desired shape or pattern, depending upon which molds are affixed to the complex machine units.

To produce economical glassware for the American public, glass with impurities was often used. In decorating DEPRESSION GLASS three types of techniques were used: PROCESS ETCHING, which yielded a lightly stippled pattern in light relief on top of the surface; the CHIP-MOLD process, which resulted in an intaglio design on reasonably thick glassware (chipped out in appearance); and the MOLD or PRESSED ONLY method, usually in an optic-type pattern to diffuse light refractions covering up tiny bubbles and imperfections. These fancy designs added to the attractiveness of this dinnerware.

DEPRESSION GLASS was cast in transparent colors of pink, topaz, amber, green, azure blue, cobalt, ruby, crystal (clear), and opaque colors of ebony, jade, ivory, blue and white opaque and all color variants between. There were well over 200 popular DEPRESSION GLASS PATTERNS.

Expensive high quality glassware made by CAMBRIDGE, POSTORIA, HEISEY, AND OTHERS during the depression era was continued through the 1950's. This glassware was sold in fine jewelry and department stores unlike traditional DEPRESSION GLASS which was given away as a premium at gas stations, theatres, store opening and in boxes of breakfast cereal and laundry soap. Sears, Roebuck and Co. catalogs featured a complete settings for 8 of Depression glass for \$1.99.

### SOURCE MATERIAL USED:

Olander, Sandra Stout, DEPRESSION GLASS IN COLOR  
Mebane, John, and Catherine Murphy, ed. ANTIQUE TRADER PRICE GUIDE FOR



DO YOU HAVE any family history that you can share for our files?  
 If you've traced your family or compiled a page or book--please  
 place a copy of it in our files. When older family members are  
 gone or no longer lucid--the information they can give is lost to  
 ALL OF US. Family Photos with names attached would also be  
 appreciated. SEND INFORMATION TO: S.M.H.S., 717 MILWAUKEE AVE.,  
 SOUTH MILWAUKEE, WI 53172

For Genealogy research a nominal fee will be charged.

Newspaper editor: Lois Schreiter

Published in Jan., Apr., Aug., Nov. each year.

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Dues are due each January. If dues are not received by March the  
 members name will be removed from the mailing list. THANK YOU NOT  
 ONLY FOR YOUR SUPPORT IN THE WAY OF MONEY, BUT ALSO FOR YOUR  
 TIME-SUPPORT AND ENCOURAGEMENT OF THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S PROGRAMS.

Dues:

Seniors	\$3.00	Professional	\$10.00
Single	\$4.00	Life Membership	\$100.00
Family	\$6.00	THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT.	

Send to Laura Hook  
 703 Minnesota Ave.  
 South Milwaukee, WI. 53172

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 Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Street \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_ I can help with \_\_\_\_\_  
 Type of Dues \_\_\_\_\_

South Milwaukee Historical Society  
 717 Milwaukee Avenue  
 South Milwaukee, WI 53172



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