



# South Milwaukee Historical Society

117 Milwaukee Ave., South Milwaukee, WI 53172  
NEWSLETTER APRIL, 1992

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OFFICERS 1991-92

President	Addie Becker	764-2118
Secretary	Anne Monson	762-1091
Treasurer	Lois Schreiter	762-5214
Past President	Richard Thinnes	762-6214
Curator/Historian	Gertrude Endthoff	762-8852



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BOARD OF DIRECTORS: (term expires)

Dr. Harold Hein	1994	483-4826
Mary Magnuson	1994	762-9428
Steve Czerwicznik	1993	762-2089
Arline Barsamian	1992	762-3624
Jewell Heise	1992	762-4650

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MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

APRIL 3-4 BUSINESS AND INDURTRY FAIR--FRIDAY EVENING AND SATURDAY--HIGH SCHOOL COMMONS--BUY A BRAT, HOT DOG, CUP OF COFFEE OR ORANGE DRINK AT THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY BOOTH. CAN YOU HELP? CALL ADDIE BECKER (ABOVE)

MAY 11 Monday - Pot Luck will be at the First Congregational Church 5:30 pm

JUNE 5-6 FRIDAY AND SATURDAY RUMMAGE SALE ONLY  
9 TO 3 EACH DAY Included in sale will be a Singer treddle sewing machine for \$75.00 and a black walnut desk for \$200.00.

JULY HERITAGE DAYS -- LIVING HISTORY--TROLLEY TOUR--ICE CREAM  
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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT:

It was good to see so many of our members, who attended the annual dinner in February. The food was plentiful and delicious as always. The program "An Exceptional Chorus" which is made up of young people from Hamilton High School was enjoyed by all. This was the second time I had the pleasure of seeing and listening to these young people. They really do an excellent job.

The Society will again have a booth at the Business and Industry Fair, held at South Milwaukee High School on April 3rd and 4th. We will be selling hot dogs, brats, coffee and orange drink. If you can stop by and offer your help it will be greatly appreciated. Let it be a 1/2 hour or 1 hour. Every bit helps. Or just stop by and say "hello".

The second Monday in May, which is the 11th, is the Pot Luck Dinner at 5:30 pm. Please note that the dinner will be at the First Congregational Church, 1111 N. Chicago Ave., and NOT at the Senior Center. So keep May 11th open. Come! Bring a dish to pass and enjoy.

Addie Becker,  
President

FOUNDED MARCH 1972 BY MR. AND MRS. DENNIS RANKIN

INITIAL DIRECTORS — DENNIS RANKIN • PENNY RANKIN • GEORGE HOOK • MARY McCARRIER • BRUCE RAYESKE  
DORA LEE SZEWCZUGA • WILLIAM DOMOE • LILLIAN DISHONG • CHESTER GROBSCHMIDT

TREASURERS CORNER

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Dues -- If you look at your address label, the number next to your name, is the month and the year you last paid your dues to support your society. We will be working with a budget for planned projects. The board has made a tentative wish list which they will evaluate and priortize. I have been very pleased with the members of the board and their willingness to study the financial overview of the society. Last newsletter we mentioned the Bucyrus Erie Foundation gives matching grants. Employees and Retirees of BE only have to call the corporate office for a form to fill in and send with their donation to the treasurer of the Historical Society. It is a great help to us. We also wish to thank Fred Hook who shared \$1000.00 of his paid up life insurance policy with our historical society to further historical projects.

This coming year we hope you all will:

1. find one more member.
2. pay your dues.
3. if you shop at Piggly Wiggly put you cash receipt in the historical society slot for 1% return to the society.
4. support the society's functions whenever possible.
5. remember the society in your will.
6. talk to your friends about the historical society.
7. purchase items for sale -- books, note cards, tie tacs cards, pewter spoons.
8. help at society events with donations of time.
9. share this newsletter with a friend or neighbor who might like to join our events.
10. know that we love and thank you.

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TWO LOTS in Forest Hill Cemetery FOR SALE Offers accepted for section 4, block 6, lot 2, spaces 1 & 2. This is an \$800.00 value. Talk to Gertrude Endthoff or write to the society address.

DOES ANYONE HAVE A SOUTH MILWAUKEE OR MILWAUKEE COUNTY PHONE BOOK FROM 1983 TO 1988. CALL LOIS (LEAVE YOUR NUMBER ON MY MACHINE).

WORK AT THE MUSEUM: THIRD SATURDAY of each month-- 10 AM TO 12 AM

Historical Marker at site of Oak Creek Mill and Mill Pond--Congressman Richard Grobschmidt and Senator John Pleva are trying to make it happen in the State Legislature.

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

ALL MEETINGS WILL BE HELD ON THE 2ND MONDAYS at Historical Society with the exception of the Pot Luck Dinners at First Congregational Church, 1111 N. Chicago Ave.

WELCOME TO THE 39TH ANNUAL NEIGHBORHOOD PARTY! ISN'T THAT GREAT!! WHAT A WAY TO CELEBRATE LIFE, FRIENDS AND THE PLACE WHERE YOU LIVE!!

STEVE AND I MOVED TO BROOKDALE DRIVE IN MARCH OF 1969. SOON AFTER MOVING IN WE WERE INVITED TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD PARTY; HOWEVER, BEING VERY BROKE AT THE TIME, WE DECLINED AND DECIDED TO PREPARE FOR THE FOLLOWING YEAR. WE MET NEIGHBORS WE KNEW AND SOME WE DIDN'T KNOW. WE HAD A TERRIFIC TIME. THE SECOND YEAR WE ATTENDED WE WERE APPOINTED TO THE PLANNING COMMITTEE FOR THE PARTY TO BE HELD THE FOLLOWING YEAR.

THAT YEAR THE COMMITTEE (3 TO 4 COUPLES) MET AT NEIGHBORING HOME. THEY SELECTED A DATE, BRAINSTORMED A LIST OF POSSIBLE PLACES, CHOSE A PLACE, SELECTED A MENU, SELECTED A THEME FOR THE INVITATION, PLANNED TABLE DECORATIONS, ASSIGNED TASKS AND A TIME SCHEDULE. THE REST IS HISTORY. WITH THE NEW COMMITTEE'S APPOINTMENT GOES THE CARE OF THE RECORDS FROM PAST YEARS. THERE ARE TWO SCRAP BOOKS, 2 SMALL SPIRAL AND 1 SMALL BOUND NOTEBOOKS, PLUS AN 9 X 11 ENVELOPE WITH LETTERS, MENUS AND NOTES.

SOMETIMES THE INVITATIONS WERE HAND PRINTED AND DESIGNED BY RESIDENT ARTISTS DIANE RICHARDS AND BARBARA NIGGEMANN, SOME WERE TYPED. LAST YEAR AL AND ANNETTE LOPER USED A COMPUTER.

THE THEMES VARIED, SUCH AS, OLYMPIC, ELECTION, CARTOON, MYSTERY, THE 50'S, EVEN AN UGLY TIE CONTEST.

THIS YEAR'S THEME IS SPRING TIME. THERE ARE 5 CHOICES ON THE MENU. AVERAGE COST FOR EACH ABOUT \$16.00.

THE KITZKE'S AND MC CARRIER'S HAVE THE HONOR OF BEING THE COMMITTEE.

SOMETIMES THERE WAS LIVE MUSIC AND

DANCING. ONCE I REMEMBER RON WRIGHT DID A ICE SCULPTURE ABOUT 3 FEET TALL THAT WAS BEAUTIFUL ON THE APPETIZER TABLE.

FLORENCE WARD REMEMBERS MOVING INTO THE NEIGHBORHOOD IN 1955 AND THE LADIES OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD HAD STARTED THE SPECIAL ONCE A YEAR GATHERING ONE OR TWO YEARS BEFORE THAT. "IT WAS JUST THE LADIES MEETING FOR A FEW YEARS THEN THEY DECIDED TO INVITE THE HUSBANDS TOO."

THE NEIGHBORHOOD CONSISTED OF LAKE DRIVE, COLLEGE AVE, BROOKDALE DR. BROOKDALE CT., BADGER AND FAIRVIEW (UP TO ST. SYLVESTER'S).

THE FIRST NOTEBOOK LISTS THE BEGINNING AS 1953. THE PARTY WAS HELD AT "THE BROKERS", RACINE, ON MAY 20, PRICE \$3.00, CHOICE OF TURKEY OR BEEF. TWENTY-ONE LADIES WERE PRESENT. GERANIUMS AND OTHER FLOWERS WERE RAFFLED OFF AS DOOR PRIZES. EVERYONE DONATED A 50 CENT PRIZE TO USE FOR PRIZES WHEN THEY PLAYED BUNCO. THE PAGE ENDS WITH ANN RAEKE'S HAND WRITTEN "WE DID SOME SINGING AND A GOOD TIME WAS HAD BY ALL."

GRACE PENNINGTON, HER SISTER LOIS MEYERS, MARION STRAVINSKI AND EVELYN LINDE WERE AMONG THE FIRST GROUP OF WOMEN WHO ATTENDED. THEY ARE STILL ATTENDING. GRACE SAID "I LIKED ALL THE PARTIES. IT REALLY GIVES THE NEIGHBORHOOD A SENSE OF COMMUNITY. YOU GOT TO KNOW THE PEOPLE AND WHO THEY WERE EVEN IF YOU ONLY SAW THEM ONCE A YEAR."

THAT'S 39 YEARS OF HISTORY AND NEIGHBORLINESS, AND I'M PROUD TO BE A PART OF IT.

4-92 SOUTH MILWAUKEE HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER, LOIS SCHREITER

CAROLINE S. KOTOWICZ LIVED ON FAIRVIEW AVENUE IN OUR NEIGHBORHOOD. IN 1980 SHE HAD TWO POEMS PUBLISHED IN THE SALESIAN MISSIONS BOOKLET CALLED "THE MAGIC OF LOVE".

TO SHARE JOY  
IS TO SHOW LOVE,  
TO SHOW LOVE  
IS TO KNOW GOD,  
TO KNOW GOD  
IS TO DO GOOD,  
TO DO GOOD  
IS TO SPREAD  
HAPPINESS.

Only a Moment

IT ONLY TAKES A MOMENT  
TO UTTER A SILENT PRAYER,  
TO KNEEL WITH UNDERSTANDING  
TO PROCLAIM SOUL IS AWARE;  
ONLY A LITTLE MOMENT  
BUT, OH, HOW RICH IT BE  
WHEN THOUGHTS GO REACHING  
TOWARDS GOD'S LOVE  
AND HIS GIFT COMES BACK TO ME.

THE NEXT POEM ENTITLED "A NEIGHBOR"  
BY VIRGINIA KATHERINE OLIVER WAS  
PRINTED ON THE 33RD NEIGHBORHOOD  
PARTY PROGRAM IN 1984.

FOR ONE TO BE A NEIGHBOR  
DOES NOT MEAN TO LIVE NEXT DOOR,  
BUT MEANS TO DO KINDLY THINGS  
THAT CAN MAKE LIFE WORTH MUCH MORE.

A NEIGHBOR HAS A FEELING  
FOR THE THINGS THAT COME YOUR WAY,  
AND CAN SHARE WHAT MAY BEFALL,  
KNOWING JUST THE WORDS TO SAY.

A REAL NEIGHBOR CAN REJOICE  
WHEN SUCCESS HAS MADE YOU GLAD,  
AND CAN LEND A SILENT STRENGTH  
WHEN A HEART IS STILL AND SAD.

TO REALLY BE A NEIGHBOR  
ONE MUST WILLING SERVICE LEND,  
FOR TO BE TRULY NEIGHBORLY  
ONE MUST ALSO BE A FRIEND.

JEANNE B. SCHREITER, MY SECOND DAUGHTER, ALSO WRITES POETRY. SH HAS WRITTEN MANY POEMS. ONLY ONE HAS BEEN PUBLISHED SO FAR. I PICKED THIS ONE CALLED "DISTANCE".

THERE ARE DISTANCES,  
FAR AND FEW  
RANGING FROM MILLIONS OF MILES  
TO JUST ONE OR TWO

SKYLINES THAT ROAM FOREVER,  
RETREATING WITH DARKS PURE LIGHT  
THE ENDLESS TRAIL OF BLOSSOMS,  
FROM BUTTERCUPS AND TULIPS DELIGHT

IN OUTER WORLDS WE DO NOT KNOW  
THE PATHS PEOPLE TAKE THE LOVE THAT  
GOES ON UNSHONE  
BUT IF THERE ARE FRIENDS  
AND FRIENDS ARE TRUE AS WELL  
WORRY NOT I SAY  
DISTANCES ARE NOT TO TELL.

VISIONS, GREEN THINGS, MAYBE EVEN  
LIFE  
DOMES AND CRADLES AND FORESTS,  
CANDLE STRIFE  
TOO SHORT IT IS  
THE ENDLESS FLOW  
ONLY WHEN THE DAWN TREADER CALLS  
WILL WE ALL, BUT KNOW.

JB SCHREITER



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SEND FAMILY HISTORY INFORMATION TO: S.M.H.S., 717 MILWAUKEE AVE.

News letter is published in Jan., Apr., July, Nov. each year.  
Newspaper editor: Lois Schreiter, 762-5214

DUES ARE DUE EACH JANUARY (unless you just paid them). THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT WITH TIME, MONEY AND ENCOURAGEMENT OF THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S PROGRAMS. THANK US--BY BECOMING A MEMBER. YOU ARE NEEDED.

Dues:

Seniors	\$4.00	Professional	\$10.00
Single	\$5.00	Life Membership	\$100.00
Family	\$6.00	HELP PRESERVE YOUR HERITAGE. YOU LIVE HERE.	

Send to Lois Schreiter  
104 Brookdale Dr.  
South Milwaukee, WI. 53172

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

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