



# South Milwaukee Historical Society

717 Milwaukee Avenue, 53172

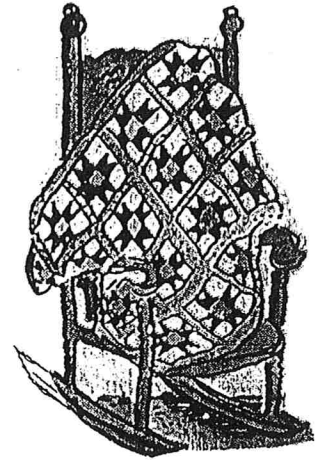
NEWSLETTER JULY, 1996

## OFFICERS

President	Dean Marlowe, Jr.	768-8790
V. President	Addie Becker	764-2118
Secretary	Dolores Kowalski	762-4231
Treasurer	Ferdinand Brutvan	762-2073
Past President	Lois Schreiter	762-5214
Curator-Historian	Gertrude Endthoff	762-8852

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS (Term Expires)

Fran Saxler	1999	762-0705
Anne Monson	1999	762-1091
Jewell Heise	1998	762-4650
Don Broskowski	1998	762-1469
Lunice Hahn	1997	764-3689
Mary Magnuson	1997	762-9428



## EVENTS CALENDAR FOR 1996:

- JULY 21 1 - 4 PM HERITAGE DAYS -- OPEN HOUSE AT THE MUSEUM  
JULY 28 12 - 4 PM HERITAGE DAYS -- OPEN HOUSE AT THE MUSEUM  
JULY 25, 26, 8 AM TO 2 PM RUMMAGE SALE DAYS  
JULY 28 TROLLEY RIDES/ TOURS, HOT DOGS/ SNACKS, GIFTS  
JULY 28 8 AM TO 4 PM RUMMAGE SALE  
SEPT. 9 POT LUCK 5:30PM First Congregational Church, Pine and Chicago  
OCT. 7 & 8 OPEN HOUSE AT MUSEUM (Sesquicentennial City of Milwaukee)  
DEC. 7 CRAFT AND BAKE SALE  
DEC. 15 CHRISTMAS AT MUSEUM -CHRISTMAS CRIB DISPLAY - PLEASE REGISTER BY NOV. 1st IF YOU WISH TO DISPLAY YOUR CHRISTMAS CRIB.

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

Many thanks to Lois Schreiter for serving as President of the South Milwaukee Historical Society for the last year. Under Lois, the Society's finances have grown despite unforeseen repairs to the museum's basement and curator's office. In addition, many new ideas were brought forth and much work done. Thanks for a job well done.

Thanks also to Greg Meka for his many years of service to the society. Greg completed his term as Secretary last month.

Please join me in welcoming our new board members. Fran Saxler is new on the board of directors. Fran fill the position left by Dolores Kowalski, who is our new Secretary. Fred Brutvan is the new Treasurer of the Historical Society. Thank you for volunteering your time and talents.

FOUNDED MARCH 1972 BY MR. AND MRS. DENNIS RANKIN

INITIAL DIRECTORS -- DENNIS RANKIN • PENNY RANKIN • GEORGE HOOK • MARY McCARRIER • BRUCE RAYESKE  
DORA ELLI ZEWOCZUGA • WILLIAM DOMOE • LILLIAN DISHONG • CHESTER GROSCHMIST

Much work lies ahead in the coming months and I'm excited about the many challenges that work holds.

The Business Fair held at the high school was well attended and a success! Thanks to Ann Monson, Jewell and Ken Heise, Eunice Hahn, Greg Meka, Dolores Kowalski, Debra Baer and Gertrude Endthoff for their help. A good time was had by all.

Our Pot luck held at the First Congregational Church was an enjoyable evening. Good food, good fun and a very interesting program by Gertrude Endthoff were on the agenda. Gert's button collection was displayed and she gave a very informative talk about it.

Our first Rummage Sale of the year was on May 31st and June 1st. Thanks to Jewell and Ken Heise, Gertrude Endthoff and Bill and Mary Maguson. Things went so well, Gert and Mary started a "Bag Sale" of goodies the following week. Look for the Bags at the Rummage Sale during Heritage Days Week.

Speaking of Heritage Days, the museum will be open on July 21 from 1 to 4 PM and July 28 from noon to 4 PM. Gertrude will again hold trolley tours on the historic sites of South Milwaukee on July 28th from noon to 4 PM. Tours will run every half hour. Rummage sales will be held Thursday and Friday July 25 and 26 from 8 AM to 2 PM and on July 28 from 8 to 4 PM. Come join the fun. Also, please look for the Historical Society's entry in the Heritage Days parade.

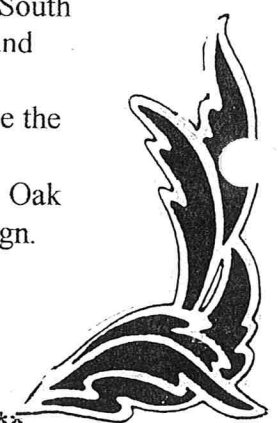
If anyone is interested in helping with planning the Society's participation in the South Milwaukee Centennial Celebration please contact me. Your ideas are encouraged and welcome.

The Society will be open from 2 to 4 PM on October 7th and 8th to help celebrate the Sesquicentennial of the City of Milwaukee.

A big thank you goes to fellow member Gene Stark (treasurer and past president, Oak Creek Historical Society) for the beautiful geraniums planted around the museum sign. The flowers look and smell great.

Hope to see you at the museum during Heritage days!

Dean Marlowe, Jr., President



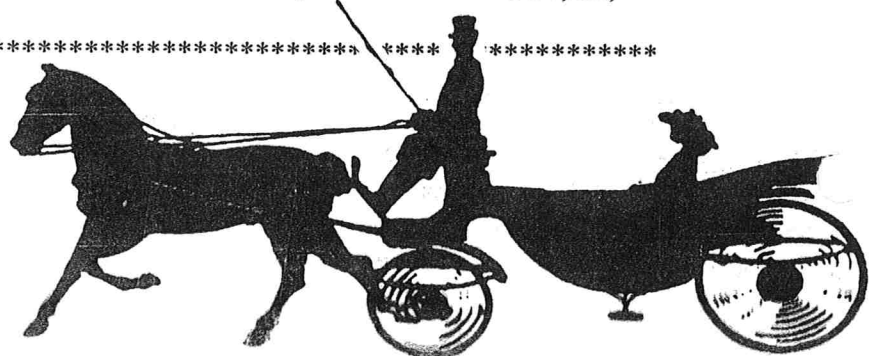
**On February 21, 22, 1997** The State Historical Society of Wisconsin with the Wisconsin State Genealogical Society will present **Genealogy '97 in Middleton, WI. Titled, "They Came in Ships: Tracing Your Immigrant Ancestors"** This conference will feature speakers, vendors of genealogical books and supplies. (Middleton is a burb of Madison)

If you are interested in car pooling or bus-ing call Lois at 762-5214

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WELCOME NEW MEMBERS: Thomas and Barbara Ludka, Edwin H. Marlowe, Jr., GET WELL SENT TO: James Ward

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Nancy and Pat Browne, thank you for the Word Perfect for DOS program for our computer.

Thank you, Steve Schreiter, for the computer power cord and mouse pad.

The donations are very much appreciated. We still need a bubble jet printer (\$225.00 approximate cost). Any size donation is welcome.

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The Museum office is painted, thanks to Lois Schreiter for the painting and Fred Brutvan and Dean Marlowe, Jr. for moving the furniture. Dolores Kowalski washed the curtains and ordered the blinds.

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WANTED--JAM AND JELLY JARS WITH COVERS -- CALL Jewell Heise, 762-4650 DEPOSIT grocery receipts from PIGGLY WIGGLY into Historical Society slot at store.

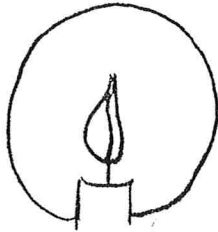
We have received \$700.00 from this source in the past few years. **Thank You.**

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### LET THERE BE LIGHT

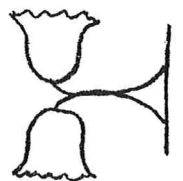
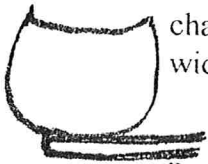
Candle sconces were scarce and thus valuable in the 1700's in North America. The sconces were attached to a wall and featured a glass chimney which kept the candle out of wax wasting drafts. Sconces also had a metal backing which reflected the light to increase brightness. Later, glass and mirrors replaced the metal for better reflecting. In the early Twentieth Century, some of the early sconces were electrified, at which time owners may have chosen to add lamp shades.



Chandeliers are an elegant way to showcase light. In the Colonial and Federal Periods, chandeliers were made from wood and metal. They were simple, airy, and spacious. Many featured turned wooden center posts and spindly candle-bearing arms made of tin, copper or iron. Fancy glass chandeliers appeared in 1850. Gas-powered chandeliers were popular from approximately 1850 to 1887.

Brass Chandeliers become available in the late 1800's. They had a central stem of brass globes from which emanated curved metal candle holders. These elegant chandeliers were first designed for churches. They were imported from England and were inspired by Dutch craftsmen.

By 1876, the dramatic centerpiece of a stylish Victorian Period Room was the gasolier chandelier. Early gasoliers had large round globes to enclose the flame. A shorter, wider flame-encasement base was developed in 1876.



Pressed glass was the earlier type of glass followed by the etched glass.

The Fixture and Decorative Bronze Department of the Edison General Electric Company (later GE) advertised "the latest in electric lights and combination gas fixtures" in 1890. These combination fixtures worked two ways. Not only did they burn gas, but they also had electrical elements. These fixtures did double duty because electric service was limited to certain hours of the day and was only offered in limited areas. So the chandelier had gas fixtures facing the ceiling and incandescent bulbs pointing downward, allowing use at any time.

**DUES ARE DUE IN JANUARY.**

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT.**

Senior, \$4.00; Single, \$5.00; Family, \$6.00; Life, \$100.00. Donations welcome.

**Membership Chairperson is Addie Becker, 526 Sycamore Ave., South Milwaukee, WI 53172**

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S. M. Historical Society Newsletter Editor: Lois L. Schreiter  
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