



South Milwaukee Historical Society

717 Milwaukee Avenue, 53172

NEWSLETTER

JANUARY, 1997

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)

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



Mary Magnuson is Sunshine Chairperson. If any members are ill, contact Mary.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

A Happy New Year to all! I hope 1997 brings much happiness and good health to you! Our year of 1996 at the Museum was a good one. We showed off new displays, had fun on the Trolley ride and enjoyed a trip back to Germany via pictures at the September Pot Luck just to name a few things. Thanks go to all those who made our Bake and Craft Sale a success ...everything looked so good! Also, thanks to those who helped out and took part in Christmas at the Museum. 1997 looks like another good year for the Society. The Board of Directors is seriously considering a new landscape design and some new additions to the exterior of the Museum. We're also looking at new displays and exploring grant funding for possible new Society projects. As you know, 1997 marks the Centennial of South Milwaukee as a fourth class city. The Society already has an entry in the Heritage Days Parade set for July 26th. Our Curator Gertrude Endthoff is the Society's representative to the city's Centennial Commission. Just around the corner is our Annual Dinner set for February 15 at the South Milwaukee Community Center. Cocktails begin at 5:30 P M with dinner served at 6:30 P M. Final plans and the menu will be set this month. In the meantime, keep active, keep warm and hope to see you at the dinner.

Dean Marlowe, Jr., President



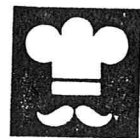
FOUNDED MARCH 1972 BY MR. AND MRS. DENNIS RANKIN

INITIAL DIRECTORS — DENNIS RANKIN • PENNY RANKIN • GEORGE HOOK • MARY MCCARRIER • BRUCE RAYESKE

DORA LEE SZEWCZUGA • WILLIAM SOMOE • LILLIAN DISHONG • CHESTER GEORSCHMIDT

1997 Calendar of Events

- Jan. 6, 1997 Board of Directors Meeting 7 PM, Museum
- Jan. Newsletter
- Feb. 15 Annual Dinner, S. M Community Center 6:30 PM, entertainment-
Steve's Lucky Day, Israel, Jordan, Turkey and Greece
- March 3 Board of Directors Meeting 7 PM
- April 4 & 5 Business Fair, S.M. High School, (5-9 PM Fri., 9-2 PM Sat.)
- April 7 Board of Directors Meeting 7 PM
- April Newsletter
- May 5 Pot Luck Dinner 5:30 PM First Congregational Church
- June 2 Board of Directors Meeting 7 PM
- June 5 & 6 Rummage Sale 8 AM - 2 PM Museum Aux. building
- June 13 & 14 Rummage Sale 8 AM - 2 PM
- July Newsletter
- July 7 Board of Directors Meeting 7 PM
- July 19 - 27 Heritage Days
- July 20 Open House at the Museum 1 - 4 PM
- July 24 & 25 Rummage Sale Days 8 AM - 2 PM
- July 26 Parade 1 PM
- July 27 Trolley Rides and Tours - Refreshments - Open House - 1 - 4 PM -
Rummage 8 - 2 PM
- Aug. 4 Board of Directors Meeting 7 PM
- Aug. 8 & 9 Rummage Sale Days 8 AM - 2 PM
- Sept. 1 Pot Luck Dinner 5:30 PM First Congregational Church
- Oct. 6 Board of Directors Meeting 7 PM
- November Newsletter
- Nov. 3 Board of Directors Meeting 7 PM
- Dec. 1 Board of Directors Meeting 7 PM
- Dec. 6 Craft and Bake Sale 9 AM - 2 PM Museum
- Dec. 7 City Christmas Tree Lighting 5 PM City Hall
- Dec. 14 Christmas at the Museum 1 - 4 PM



DUES ARE DUE IN JANUARY. THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT.

Senior, \$4.00, Single, \$5.00, Family, \$6.00, Life, \$100.00. Donations welcome.
ANNUAL DINNER RESERVATIONS: Menu: Pepper Steak, rice, green beans
 almondine, Dutch apple pie.

S. M. Community Center, Formerly B.E.Club, 5:30 social, 6:30 dinner, entertainment, S
 & L Schreiter

NAME Steve + Lois Schreiter
 STREET 104 Brookdale Dr.
 CITY S Milwaukee ZIP 53172

of dinners 2
 x \$12.50 = \$ 25.00
 Dues already paid

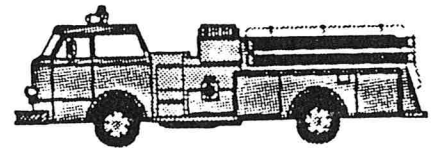
Mail to Fred Brutvan, 729 Monroe Ave., South Milwaukee, WI 53172
 (414)762-2073

paid



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**CURATOR'S CORNER**

by Gertrude Endthoff  
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HISTORIC QUILT'S STORY IN PEN AND INK

This is the fifth continuing article about the sketches on the quilt hanging in the SMHS Museum. Quilt and sketches were made by Dora Lee Sczewuga, former curator and resident artist, now living in Necedah, WI. She chose 24 structures and sites to depict the formative day of South Milwaukee.

9. CITY HALL AND FIRE DEPARTMENT 1893 - 1929

The City Hall and Fire Department for the new community was built in 1893 to house the tank wagon, fire horses, hose carts and other equipment.

A corps of firemen stayed at the Fire House to care for the equipment and horses and to be on call in case of fire. The call was done by ringing a large brass bell. Later a whistle was placed on a high pole near the building. Different clangs of the bell or blasts of the whistle told where the fire was. This told the volunteers where to report. At times of call, the volunteers dropped what they were doing and ran to the fire to help.

Some firemen were on duty around the clock and stayed at the Fire House.

There was a meeting place in this building for village and later city business. City officials had offices here. Council meetings were held here.

This building was used until 1929 when a larger building was built to accommodate a motorized fire department with better sleeping quarters for an enlarged fire department.

The upper floor provided a mayor's office, council chambers and various city offices such as: city clerk, city treasurer, city attorney and others.

Later an expansion was added on Monroe Avenue from funds and workers of WPA (Works Progress Administration) under President Franklin Roosevelt. In 1937, it served as an auditorium, meeting place and social gathering place for public and social events. The mantel on the outside declares it the Municipal Building, built in the 1930's. The building was also known as "The Annex" until the 1980's. The Health department and Police department used the lower level until the former Parkway School on Fifteenth Avenue was purchased in the 1970's and restructured to accommodate the City Administration Offices.

After the fire of 1990 gutted the former fire station and offices, the building was renovated and designed for living quarters, now known as the Civic Arms Apartments.

The Fire Department used these quarters until the 1980's when a new fire department building was built on Tenth and Marquette Avenues.

The new department houses the city ambulance and paramedic ambulances.

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 .

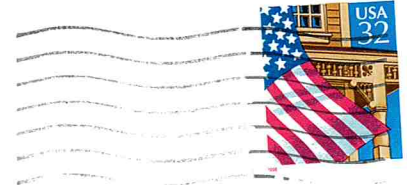
WELCOME NEW MEMBERS: John P. Otis, Esq

Thank you Mayor Kieck for wearing your green and gold S. M. Historical Society Sweat Shirt at the City Christmas lighting ceremony. The 9 oz. dark green shirt has a large gold circle with the historical society logo on the front. The shirts sell for \$15.00 M - L - XL (plus \$2.95 shipping outside of South Milwaukee) XXL is \$16.00, XXXL is \$17.00. Call Addie Becker (414) 764-2118 or send check or money order to S. M. H. S. Sweatshirts, 526 Sycamore Ave., South Milwaukee, WI 53172

Our computer still needs a bubble jet printer (\$225.00 approximate cost). Any size donation is welcome.

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

This Newsletter is published quarterly in Jan., Apr., July and Nov.
S. M. Historical Society Newsletter Editor: Lois L. Schreiter
Printing by Gertrude Endthoff
Labels by Stephen F. Schreiter



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South Milwaukee, WI 53172



M/M STEPHEN SCHREITER
104 BROOKDALE DR.
SOUTH MILWAUKEE, WI 53172

1/00

