



# South Milwaukee Historical Society

717 Milwaukee Avenue, 53172

NEWSLETTER April, 2005

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## OFFICERS

President	JB Bulley	762-7605
V. President	Addie Becker	764-2118
Secretary	Judy Balestreieri	762-6382
Treasurer	Theresa Aghbashian	762-5623
Past President	Don Bulley	762-7605
Curator		

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS (Term Expires)

Eunice Hahn	2007	764-3689
Dolores Kowalski	2007	762-4231
Betty Chovanec	2006	762-3428
Cecelia Pomahac	2006	768-0167
Jewell Heise	2005	762-4650
Barb Mueller	2005	762-2712
Barb Mueller is Sunshine Chairperson		762-2712



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**Dates to Remember:** Monday, May 9<sup>th</sup> Pot Luck Dinner at the First Congregational Church, 1111 N. Chicago Ave. Doors open at 5 PM. Serving at 5:30 PM. Entertainment: BMC Daniel Haney of the Milwaukee Coast Guard Station. Slide presentation on Homeland Security on the Ocean.

July 16 Heritage Days

July 17 Open House Tours and Rummage (help needed)

July 23 Heritage Days Parade

July 24 Open House Tours and Rummage (help needed)

**Wisconsin Historical Society Membership opportunity:** Sign up at the Pot Luck Dinner for the State Society and get 50% off admissions at 9 State Museums, 10% off gifts, a great quarterly magazine, *Wisconsin Magazine of History, and Columns*, a bimonthly newsletter and our local society gets a \$5.00 rebate. Senior Citizen/individual is \$30.00; Senior Citizen/Family is \$40.00. Pick up a form at the Pot Luck Dinner and sign up.

## From the President:

Dear Members,

Spring is here, seeds are planted and lawn mowers again can be heard. It is time for our Spring potluck. It will be at the Congregational Church located at 1111 N. Chicago Avenue with parking in the church parking lot. This is an important meeting, as we will be electing our officers for the coming year.

This Summer the museum will be open every Sunday with the hours of 2 o'clock to 4 o'clock. Volunteers are needed for this from Memorial Day to Labor Day. Some orientation for your afternoon at the museum can be given if needed. Just call me at 762-7605. Other summer activities are planned, you will see as you read further on in this newsletter. Hope to see you at the Spring Pot-Luck with your favorite dish to pass.

Happy Summer  
"JB" Bulley, President

**Museum Visitations:** Call J.B. Bulley at (414)762-7605 allow 45 minutes. The South Milwaukee Historical Society Museum is open Sundays, Memorial Day to Labor Day, 2 to 4 PM and by appointment. Visitors, school groups, scouts, families, clubs and individuals are welcome. Your support of our Historical Society is appreciated.

Last Fall the S.M. Historical Society sponsored a "Tea" for the widows groups from Divine Mercy Church. It was a great success and we wish to offer more of these to groups with a maximum number of 12 at a time. Contact JB Bulley for more information.

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The Gertrude Endthoff Memorial Garden will be started soon at the Historical Society Museum. It will be to the right of the front walkway and will feature older varieties of plants. To offer plants or help call Judy Balestreieri 762-6382.

South Milwaukee is sponsoring a Clean Up Day on Earth Day Saturday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>. It's a great time to help the city with spring cleaning or do a spring clean up in your own yard.

Cudahy Historical Society has acquired a piece of land south of the depot from the City of Cudahy which they are developing with gardens and a sculpture of an immigrant family. The project will cost \$250,000.00 to complete. They have received a Community Development Block Grant of \$30,000.00. They are selling memorial bricks with your name printed on them to further support the project. Bricks are \$50.00 each. Contact Betty Chovanec 762 3428 for more information, or see Betty at the Pot Luck Dinner.

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Piggly Wiggly grocery receipts have netted the SM Historical Society \$400.00. Our thanks to Jewel Heise and her crew of helpers who worked on cash register tallies. The Piggly Wiggly grocery store has given 8 (\$50.00) prepaid credit cards to our society. These will be available and for sale for \$50.00 each at the Pot Luck dinner. If you "shop the Pig" bring your cash or check to purchase one. This allows the Society to get \$50. cash and you to get \$50. of groceries.

*Images of America, South Milwaukee*, a picture history book by will be for sale at the Pot Luck Dinner. Authors, Nels Monson and Dean Marlowe, Jr., are presenting their first royalty checks to the SM Historical Society at the Pot Luck Dinner, May 9th.

**Our Sympathy** to the family of Carolyn R. Haack, who passed away March 9<sup>th</sup>. Carolyn was a genealogist and a very active member of both the Oak Creek and South Milwaukee Historical Societies.

The South Milwaukee Historical Society would like to extend our wishes, condolences or congratulations to its members. If you know of someone who should be remembered, please contact Sunshine Chairperson Barbara Mueller, 762-2712. If you leave a message, please indicate if the card should be sent to their home, hospital or nursing home. The name of the hospital or nursing home would also be appreciated.

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The City of South Milwaukee has appointed South Milwaukee Historical Society Member, Nels Monson, as City Historian. Congratulations!! Monson is the son of the late Anne Monson, who for many years was the Historical Society Secretary and promoter of local history. Nels has researched the Yellow Stone Trail and recently compiled and published a picture history of South Milwaukee. Nels discussed his book *Images of America, South Milwaukee* in March at the South Milwaukee Library. The book can be obtained through the Historical Society for \$19.99 ( plus shipping if needed).

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**Membership:**

Senior, \$6.00; Single, \$8.00; Family, \$10.00; Life, \$100.00; Business, \$15.00;

Make checks payable to South Milwaukee Historical Society. Send membership dues to Membership Chairperson, Addie Becker, 526 Sycamore Ave., South Milwaukee, WI 53172 (414)764-2118.

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Support your Historical Society-----It is the best bargain around!

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**Jelly Jars with covers wanted--Call Jewell Heise, 762-4650.**

SAVE grocery receipts from Piggly Wiggly for Historical Society. Mail to Jewell Heise, 1822 Manitoba Ave., South Milwaukee, WI 53172. Thanks for the added effort.

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*I WAS BORN IN Cudahy? Town of Lake? Silverdale?*

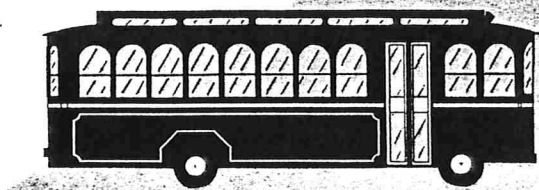
Lois' friend said she was born in and grew up in Cudahy. But her family home did not appear in any census of Cudahy nor was it listed in the Cudahy City Directory. Why? Well, as I later found out, the city of Cudahy annexed a portion of the Town of Lake that was called "Silverdale" in 1950 and her census information and city directory information is all listed under Town of Lake. The exact area annexed was from Grange Ave on the north, Lake Michigan on the east, and College Ave on the south and the railroad tracks west of Packard on the west.

An article about Silverdale appeared in the Cudahy Reminder Enterprise of April 7, 1983 called "Silverdale, A Nice Place to Have Lived" by Eileen Bourget.

I have searched the Silverdale area for a sidewalk that still bears an old inscription and only found one, on Wanda Ave near Kirkwood - It reads "Town of Lake, 1941".

When the United States was surveyed, land was divided in 36 square mile areas called Townships. The township identified as Town of Lake originally was bordered by what is now Greenfield Ave on the north, Lake Michigan on the east, College Avenue on the south and 27<sup>th</sup> street on the west. The Town of Oak Creek was south of Town of Lake and Town of Greenfield was west. As cities became incorporated they took land from the townships, so that now there is nothing left of Town of Lake, Oak Creek or Greenfield. The last change occurred in 1957 when the city of Greenfield absorbed what was left of the town of Greenfield. Town of Lake went out of existence in 1950 when it was absorbed by the cities of St Francis, Cudahy and Milwaukee.

Steve Schreiter 762-5214, sfs@execpc.com

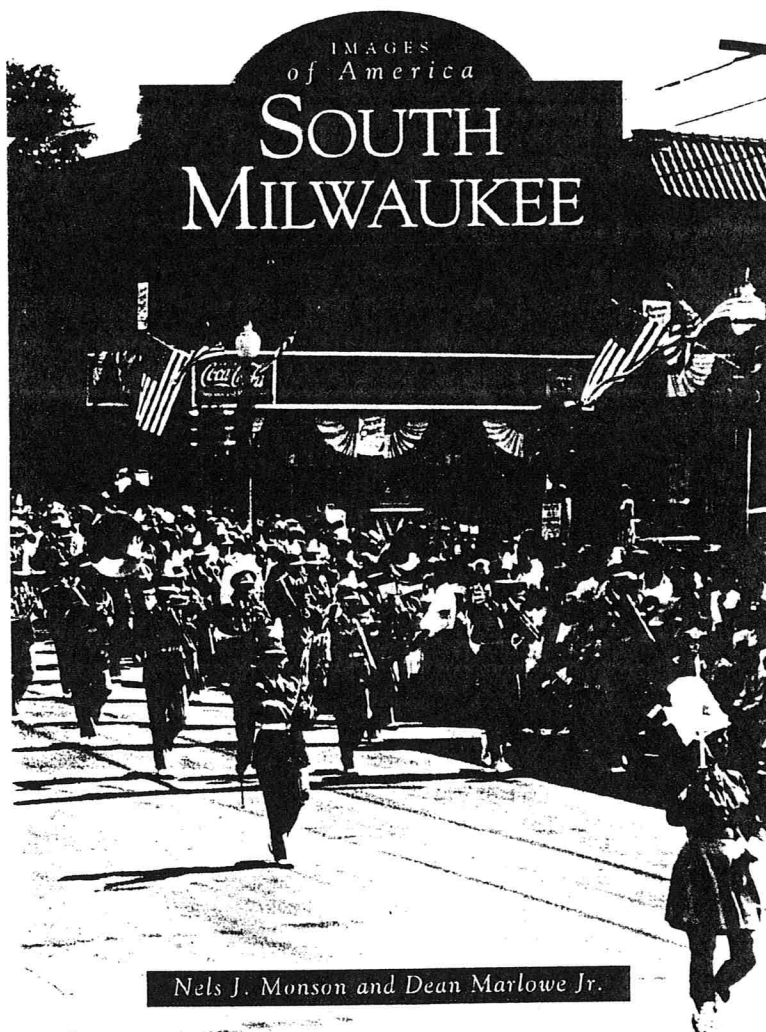


Newsletter published quarterly in Jan., Apr., July, and Nov.

News Editor: Lois L. Schreiter

Labels by Stephen F. Schreiter

Printing: Lois L. Schreiter



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