



South Milwaukee Historical Society

717 Milwaukee Avenue
South Milwaukee, WI 53172

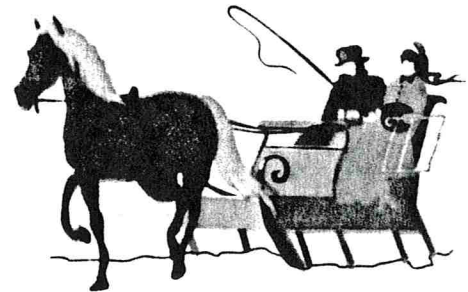
NEWSLETTER November, 2008

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From the President's desk!

Thank you to all of you who made our Open House, Mini Classes, Jam, and Ice Cream Social a great success. The new paint and display cabinet redos looked very nice. Steve Schreiter, "the Midwest Pottery man" helped unbox all of society's collection from storage for the display. There were more than eighty pieces. Since July, Sue Ziarek has found two Midwest Pottery oriental pheasants and another set of birds in three different cities, accented by different people. Wow! What successful hunting after a half hour class. (Steve Schreiter's report of the mini classes follows.) Alfred Lawson, the aviator, should be recognized in our city for his part in promoting aviation. His magazines and enthusiasm helped to set the scene in America to advance flight. And he stood on OUR hallowed SM ground. The mini classes were fun to give, and I hope, fun to attend also. Two big buckets of ice cream disappeared and some jam. The treasurer cheerfully deposited a couple of hundred dollars. Thank you teachers and participants.

At our September Pot Luck, Sargeant Mike Leffel gave a slide presentation of pictures he took while in Iraq, Afghanistan and Honduras. Mike didn't mention that when they needed drill bits in a hurry for a construction project, Steve Schreiter was able to get a hundred at cost at our own South Milwaukee Ace Hardware and shipped them to Afghanistan. Well done, Mike, Thank you!

The Metropolitan Region Local History Convention on September 13 was a wonderful event. We were honored to have Elsworth Brown, Director of the State Historical Society, and Rick Bernstein, State Field Services Southern Region Local History, as speakers. Mr. Brown spoke about what is currently happening in the State Historical Society; Mr. Bernstein presented a plan for establishing museum collections. Our third speaker, Bucyrus International Engineer and Historian Dave Lang "wowed" us with a masterful, entertaining and sometimes humorous presentation about Bucyrus and the Panama Canal. Who can forget the photo of Mr. Lang, wearing his Bucyrus T-shirt sitting behind the controls of an original Panama Canal steam shovel in a park in Costa Rica?

FOUNDED MARCH 1972 BY MR. AND MRS. DENNIS RANKIN

INITIAL DIRECTORS — DENNIS RANKIN • PENNY RANKIN • GEORGE HOOK • MARY McCARRIER • BRUCE RAYESKE
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Thanks go to the preconvention helpers Dave Lang, Robert Pfeiffer, Barb Mueller, Linda Daly and James Rothschadl who helped get everything ready. Sue Ziarek, Carol Braby, Judy Balestrieri, Jenny Stopa, Theresa Aghbashian, who helped during the convention, and Steve Schreiter, for a history and street tour of the Lawson Building, Nels Monson's talk about the Seven Bridges National Trail at the Grant Park Club House and Richard Thinnies who conducted tours of the S. M. Historical Society Museum after the convention. Sue, Carol, Judy and Lois were joined by members of the South Milwaukee Yacht Club in rearranging the yacht club after the event.

Thank you everyone!

Coming up in the next couple of weeks are a few events I'd like bring to your attention.

Nov. 1 -- Starry Night 6 to 11 PM at O'Donnell Park, Miller Room featuring dinner, auction and entertainment to benefit South Milwaukee Mill Pond. Call Nancy Wucherer, 414 571 1191

Nov. 22 --Christmas tag and bake sale at the Museum 9 AM to 2 PM Bring gently used Christmas items Saturday, Nov 15 for set up and pricing. We will be having the bake and jam sale also. Sale is for the benefit of the SMHS. Call Sue Ziarek 414 520-1959

Dec. 13 -- Old Fashioned Holiday Tea 11:30 AM to 2 PM at the Grant Park Club House on Hawthorne Ave. \$15.00 per person. Bring a friend. Call for reservations 571-1191 or 762-5214. This event is a joint effort with Friends of the Mill Pond & Oak Creek Watercourse and the South Milwaukee Historical Society. Seating is limited so sign up early.

Feb 14 or 21 will be our annual dinner meeting. Keep the date open. More details will come in the next letter.

Preserving the Proud Past,
Lois Schreiter, president

WELCOME to new members. Bob and Lucy Yocum, Nancy Dzidzan, Lavon Smith, Gretchen Goelz, Jeffery and Mary Beth Javorek, Betzel and Rosie Smith, Richard Heinrich, Imperial Enterprize, LLC, Ralph and Sharon Vander Bloomer, Sharon Worm and Pat Anders,

South Milwaukee Historical Society—July 2008 Mini Classes Report by Steve Schreiter

On Sunday, July 27, we held our 2nd annual mini classes, this year combined with the "Ice Cream Social" –2 scoops, 2 toppings, 2 bucks.

Although no one kept track of how many people attended both events, we had nice attendance for the combined event. Members who helped out were: Addie Becker, Jewell Heise, Bob Pfeiffer, Euncie Hahn, Theresa Aghbashian, Estelle Haack, Dick Thinnies, Dean Marlowe, Lois and Steve Schreiter. We did not keep records on how many new members were as a direct result of the events but the Society has had 13 new members since June. Two canopies were set up on the east side of the museum, one for classes and one for ice cream. Tables were available for seating between the canopies and the garage. It was good to see both adults and children enjoying the ice cream and utilizing the seating area.

Class subjects were: Midwest Pottery Company, Model Railroading, and Alfred Lawson, aviator. A tour of the seven bridges area was also planned but had to be cancelled because of damage from the June 9th rain and flooding. In advance of the event, all of the Midwest pottery in the Society's collection was displayed in two display cases inside the museum. As a result to recent donations by Judy Balestrieri and Lois Schreiter, our collection of Midwest lamps number 6 and were displayed. One of the lamps donated by Judy includes the original pottery finial, a rare item today since the lamps were made over 50 years ago.

The model railroading class by Bill Bedell, attracted between 20-25 attendees, and it was interesting that very few were Society members. Bill brought his passion for creating scenery and displaying model railroads to his mini class. Obviously, enthusiasm for a popular subject will draw visitors. Midwest Pottery also drew 20-25 attendees, including a collector from Mequon who had heard about the class from his mother, a South Milwaukee resident. She came to the Museum for a visit some weeks later and told us about her son and his collection. She wanted to see the 2 cases containing all Midwest Pottery items.

Genealogy by Steve Schreiter: One hour of genealogy for anyone with the new \$10.00 membership. Basic information forms must be filled out and returned to Addie Becker with dues. See membership form or the Internet at www.ci.south-milwaukee.wi.us

Images of America, South Milwaukee, a picture history book is for sale at the SM Historical Society. Authors are Nels Monson and Dean S. Marlow, Jr. \$20.00. *Then to Now* by Gert Endthof is \$10.00

The South Milwaukee Historical Society would like to extend our wishes, condolences or congratulations to its members. 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.

Piggly Wiggly Grocery is changing their program of sharing with the community. They are offering a 4% return on scrip. Jewell Heise will continue making her great strawberry rhubarb jam. She needs your clean jelly jars with covers. Call Jewell at 762-4650.

South Milwaukee Historical Society Membership form: 2008

Name: _____ Date: _____

Street: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone Number: _____

Type of membership: _____ amount: _____

Dues: Single, \$10.00; Family, \$15.00; Life, \$100.00; Business, \$25.00; Make checks payable to South Milwaukee Historical Society. Send membership dues and dinner reservations to Membership Chairperson, Addie Becker, 526 Sycamore Ave., South Milwaukee, WI 53172 (414) 764-2118.

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

News Editor and printing: Lois L. Schreiter, Addresses: Stephen F. Schreiter

**The South Milwaukee
Historical Society
Christmas
Tag Sale**

Gently used Christmas items
at give-away prices!
717 Milwaukee Ave

Saturday, November 22
9:00 - 2:00

(\$2 bag sale at noon)
Don't forget the bake sale including
our famous homemade rhubarb jam!

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