

# South Milwaukee Historical Society

## 717 Milwaukee Ave

### South Milwaukee, Wi. 53172

P R E S E R V I N G   T H E   P R O U D   P A S T

**FOUNDED  
MARCH  
1972**

**Founders**

- Dennis Rankin
- Penny Rankin

**Initial Directors:**

- George Hook
- Mary McCarrier
- Bruce Rayeske
- Dora Lee Szewczuga
- William Domoe
- Lillian Dishong
- Chester Grobschmidt

**OFFICERS:**

PRESIDENT	ROBERT PFEIFFER	764-1135
V. PRESIDENT	LOIS SCHREITER	762-5214
SECRETARY	SUE ZIAREK	520-1959
TREASURER	RICHARD RAATZ	761-3941

**BOARD OF CURATORS**

JUDY BALESTREIRI	762-6214
RICHARD THINNES	
STEVE SCHREITER, GENEALOGY	

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

	(TERM EXPIRES):	
ESTELLE HAACK	(2011)	762-8124
CAROL BRABY	(2012)	870-7857
ADDIE BECKER	(2013)	764-2118
JB BULLEY	(2013)	762-7605
BARBARA SCHOUTEN	(2013)	764-2315
BARB MUELLER	(2013)	762-2712
SUNSHINE CHAIRPERSON		



HONORARY BOARD MEMBER  
BETTY CHOVANEC

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I hope that everyone had a great holiday.

A special thanks to the Board and Curators for all of their hard work this past year. The Curators have been hard at work organizing the files at the museum.

We lost several Historical Society members this year. They have contributed many hours to making the Historical Society a success. The Society received a donation of money from Eunice Hahn's estate.

On February 19, the South Milwaukee Historical Society and the South Milwaukee Public Library Foundation will host a desert reception after the John Gurda talk at the South Milwaukee Performing Arts Center on February 19, 2011. Program details can be found on page 4. Tickets are \$5 each and are available at the Library circulation desk.

We will not be having a dinner in February this year. We hope to have an informal get together for a fish fry at the Knights of Columbus hall on February 25th. More details about that can be found on page 5.

As always, we invite all our members to join us at the monthly board meetings at the library starting at 6 pm. Meetings are held on the second Monday of each month.

Lastly the Historical Society relies on membership dues to keep the organization running. Please don't forget to renew your membership dues. This will be the last newsletter you will receive if the dues are not paid by the end of February. For your convenience, a renewal form can be found on Page 7.

*Bob Pfeiffer*

**P.S. From the Editor/Secretary:**

Help?? Do you have a memory of South Milwaukee you'd be willing to share with our readers? How about an interesting picture of a place or event from our city's past that we could use. Maybe you'd like to try your hand at writing a short article for the newsletter? Give me a call or drop me a line. I'd love to hear from you. And, as always....If you'd like to sign up for the electronic newsletter just send an email to [ziarek@wi.rr.com](mailto:ziarek@wi.rr.com) and I'll add you to the list.

*Sue Ziarek*

**Back in August I received an email from John Romanski.**

"At General Mitchell International Airport, during a trenching operation, a glass bottle was excavated. It is an old soda bottle, made in South Milwaukee, under the brand "Cherry Sharkle" (or Sparkle). It's pretty beat up, but intact. Do you have any knowledge of the company, or would you care to examine it?"

I emailed John back to let him know I'd pass the info on to our curators and see what happened. Steve Schreiter did some checking and found listings for the Cherry Sparkle Bottle Co at 1125 Marquette Av in the 1925, 1927 and 1933 city directories. He also found the following ad in the South Milwaukee Centenary Booklet (1835-1935)

TELEPHONE 38

"THE BEST THERE IS"

*Cherry Sparkle Bottling Co.*

1125 MARQUETTE AVENUE

SOUTH MILWAUKEE. WISCONSIN

DISTRIBUTORS OF STORCK'S SLINGER BEER

And while we had bottles from Orange Crush, Eagle Soda Co. and Geo. Ziegler Co, we didn't have a Cherry Sparkle bottle. John was kind enough to drop the bottle off with Bob Pfeiffer at the library. Our thanks to John for his time and effort. The bottle is a wonderful addition to our collection.

**In December I received an email from Al Marifke.**

"After my mother (Marion Marifke (Knox)) passed away last year, we found several cook books that may be of interest to the South Milwaukee Historical Society. They are:

Community Cook Book Published in 1935 by the South Milwaukee Journal with the cooperation of the Service Club of the Congregational Church.

Delicious Dishes Compiled by The Naomi Circle on the First Methodist Church in 1959-60."

By the time I made it to Al's house to pick up the cookbooks he'd found a few more treasures. I now have a handy copy of the Centenary Booklet and hope to share articles from it with you in future newsletters. He also donated two homecoming booklets from 1963 and 1964. If anyone knows the story behind the squirrel on the front of the 1964 program, please let me know! Last but not least is a Senior High School Student Handbook from the early 1960s. Looking thru that....boy times have changed! How about this under "Use of School Property":

**Telephones**

Pay telephones are provided for general use in the front lobby of the school and in the gym lobby.

Do not abuse the privilege and the convenience of this fine service.

Our thanks to Al for thinking of us. All of these items will be added to our collection at the museum.... after I get done with them!

# RECIPE BOX

If you read the "Curator's Corner" article you saw that we were given a couple old cookbooks from Al Marifke. I thought it would be interesting to share some of the recipes in them with you. Well, after paging thru the "Community Cookbook" what I found most interesting is that the contributors apparently thought anyone reading their recipes would know exactly what to do! See for yourself...

**NUT BREAD**

1 egg	1 t. salt
1/2 c. sugar	2 c. milk
1 c. chopped nuts	4 c. flour
4 t. B. P.	

Pour in loaf pans. let stand 25 min. before baking.  
Mrs. H. Wegwart.

**DROP CAKES**

2 eggs	1 level t. soda
6 tb. sweet cream	Flour to thicken enough to
1 pt. sour milk	drop from spoon into hot
1 t. salt	deep fat or lard

Fry until done. Take out and place on brown paper to drain.  
Serve with maple syrup. Mrs. F. L. Hook.

**DARK COOKIES**

1 c. sugar	1/2 c. sour cream
1 c. lard	3 t. soda
3 eggs (save 2 whites for icing)	2 t. cinnamon
3/4 c. dark molasses	2 t. nutmeg

Salt and flour to make soft dough

Put in icebox over night and roll. When baked, frost with boiled icing. This dough will be softer than regular cookie dough.  
Mrs. Carl Stiehl.

*Icebox??*

And how about these recipes.....

**DUCK OR GOOSE DRESSING**

1/4 lb. veal	1/4 lb. lean pork and giblets
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Grind the above together and add 2 eggs, salt, 10 cents chopped almonds, little onion and enough soaked bread to fill fowl. Fry and put into fowl while hot.  
Mrs. M. A. Gredler.

How many chopped almonds do you think you could get for 10¢ now days???

**LIVER DUMPLINGS**

1 lb. beef liver, ground	1 med. onion cut fine
1/4 lb. kidney tallow, ground	Dash nutmeg, pepper, and
6 crackers rolled fine	salt to taste
2 eggs	

Mix well and drop by tablespoons in beef soup, made of soup bone. Season well. Cook about 20 min. Serve dumplings with soup.  
Mrs. Philip Knoll.

Beef liver and kidney tallow). I'm thinking you would definitely have to "season well"

## JOHN GURDA AT THE SOUTH MILWAUKEE PAC

### THE MAKING OF MILWAUKEE

On February 19, John Gurda will present his fast-paced PowerPoint program, *The Making of Milwaukee*.

Gurda's most ambitious effort captures the full sweep of the community's history, from its wilderness past to the complex patterns of the 21st century. It is the first full-length history of the community published since 1948. MPTV created an Emmy Award-winning documentary series based on the book in 2006.

Milwaukee was known as "good land" to Native Americans, a place of abundant natural resources. It became, over the decades, a major Great Lakes port, a stronghold of industry, a capital of ethnic diversity, a model of good government and one of the most livable large cities in America.



John Gurda is a Milwaukee-born writer and historian who has been studying his hometown since 1972. He is the author of 19 books, on subjects including histories of Milwaukee-area neighborhoods, industries and places of worship, as well as life insurance, Frank Lloyd Wright and historic cemeteries.

In addition to his work as an author, Gurda is a lecturer, tour guide, and local history columnist for the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel. Gurda is an eight-time winner of the Wisconsin Historical Society's Award of Merit.

Meet Mr. Gurda after the lecture at a dessert reception sponsored by the South Milwaukee Historical Society and South Milwaukee Public Library Foundation. Tickets may be purchased through the Box Office or online.

901 15th Ave. • So. Milw., WI 53172 • Box Office 414-766-5049 • [www.southmilwaukeepac.org](http://www.southmilwaukeepac.org)

*The Historical Society Board decided that because this program, which we are co-sponsoring, was so close to when we hold our annual dinner that this year we would skip the dinner. We realize this maybe not be a popular decision with some of our members but hope that you will take the opportunity to attend this wonderful program. Tickets are also available at the South Milwaukee Library and the cost is \$5 per person.*

## SPECIAL EVENTS!!



We realize that many of you look forward to the camaraderie of our annual dinner, as do we, and we do regret that the timing of the John Gurda program interferes with that dinner. But the suggestion was made to have an informal fish fry 'meeting' at the Knights of Columbus on Friday, February 25 at 5:30pm. This is a "dutch treat" event; everyone will be expected to pay for their own meal. If you are interesting in getting together with us that evening, please call Lois Schreiter at 762-5214. She'll get a head count of how many people there will be and will ask the hall to put some tables together for us.

We will not be selling tickets; we will not be asking you to buy raffle tickets. Our only order of business will be an evening of good food and fun for all!

Their Friday fish fry menu includes:

- Baked Haddock; Beer Batter Haddock, Tilapia, Blue Gill & Perch. You can even get a sampler platter!
- All dinners come with your choice of potato and the salad bar.
- Prices range from about \$9 to \$15 per dinner.

## Pysanky The Ukranian Art of Egg Decorating

Are you interested in decorating eggs Ukrainian Style?

Addie Becker and Lois Schreiter will demonstrate and teach Pysanky at the South Milwaukee Historical Society Museum on March 3rd and April 7th from 1-3PM. They'll bring the supplies; you bring about 4 fresh eggs and a willingness to learn. Call Addie Becker at 764-2118 by February 21st to sign up. What a fun project to do this Easter!



## TIDS & BITS

### Fourth Annual Holiday Tea was held on Dec. 11, 2010 at the Grant Park Club House

Thanks to Rita Wiskowski for sharing her photos with us!

Thanks to all who attended the Fourth Annual Holiday Tea co-sponsored by the South Milwaukee Historical Society and the Friends of the Mill Pond.

Approximately eighty people attended the Tea and were served delicious sandwiches from Charlie's Catering Co. This year the dessert cookies were made by the talented bakers from the Historical Society and Friends of the Mill Pond; coffee was provided by Fixx Coffee House.



Cookies were also available for purchase after the tea



Everyone enjoyed the Musical Interlude provided by talented musicians Mary Beth & Katie Garrett.



Mrs Claus [aka J. B. Bulley] also attended our event - keeping tabs for her boss on who was being naughty or nice!



Another highlight of the tea was the door prize baskets - many of them containing items donated by the estate of Eunice Hahn. It was a nice remembrance from a fine lady who was a long-time member of both groups. Many of our guests took chances on our raffle. Thank you to everyone who donated these wonderful items

Finally - **thank you** to all of the volunteers from both groups who worked so hard to make this such an enjoyable event. We're all looking forward to the Fifth Annual Holiday Tea!

A number of people requested the recipe for the *Holiday Tea Jello Salad* so here it is:

### Holiday Tea Jello Salad

1 can (20oz) Crushed pineapple, undrained  
2 pkg (3 oz each) Raspberry Jello  
2/3 cup chopped walnuts (optional)

2 cans (16 oz each) whole berry cranberry sauce  
1 apple, peeled and chopped

Drain pineapple, reserving juice. Add enough water to make 2-1/2 cups, pour into saucepan. Bring to a boil. Pour over gelatin mixes in large bowl; stir 2 minutes until completely dissolved. Stir in pineapple, cranberry sauce, walnuts and apple. Spoon into 24 paper lined 1-1/2" muffin cups

## TIDS AND BITS (CONTINUED)

The **Christmas Tag & Bake Sale** was held on November 20. Sales were down this year but as you can see from the pictures below, we had quite the collection of baked goods and Christmas items. Thanks to Barb Mueller, Estelle Haack, Carol Braby & Sue Ziarek for their work on the sale. Special thanks to Dick Thinnes & Dave Bartosevitch for their help cleaning up afterwards!



**Membership dues for 2011 are due NOW!** As noted in the President's letter, if your dues are not paid by the end of February we'll have no choice but to assume you no longer want to be a part of the Historical Society and will remove you from the membership list. Use the renewal form below or hunt up Addie Becker at the John Gurda program. If you haven't already signed up to receive the newsletter electronically be sure to check the box on the renewal form or send an email to [sziarek@wi.rr.com](mailto:sziarek@wi.rr.com)



*South Milwaukee Historical Society — Preserving the Proud Past*

### 2011 Membership Renewal Form

Please renew my membership at the following level:

Individual (\$10)     Family (\$15)     Business (\$25)     Individual Life Member (\$100)

Make checks payable to South Milwaukee Historical Society and mail to Addie Becker, 526 Sudamore Av, South Milwaukee WI 53172

**All Payments due by 2/28/2011**

*If payment is not received by then you will be removed from our mailing list*

Name/Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Check here if you would like to receive your newsletters by email and write the address below

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**COMING EVENTS**

Our monthly meetings are now held at the South Milwaukee Library. We'd like to invite ALL our members to attend. As an added incentive, we'll be serving refreshments. **UPCOMING MEETINGS ARE:** March 14; April 11; May 9; June 13

**Feb 19     John Gurda's *The Making of Milwaukee***  
South Milwaukee PAC

**Feb 25     Informal Fish Fry "meeting"**  
Knights of Columbus

**Mar 3       Pysanky Demonstration/Class**  
**& Apr 7**     Historical Society Museum

**May 9       Spring Pot Luck Meeting**  
First Congregational Church

**Look inside for more information on all these events!**



53172+1215

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SOUTH MILWAUKEE HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
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MILWAUKEE WI 53172