

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 Dornoe
- 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
RICHARD THINNES
STEVE SCHREITER, GENEALOGY

BOARD OF DIRECTORS (TERM EXPIRES):

LEE LOVEALL	(2014)	301-9171
CAROL BRABY	(2014)	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

**INSIDE THIS
ISSUE:**

F R O M T H E P R E S I D E N T ' S D E S K

Garden Tour	2-3
Upcoming Events	4
Membership Renewal Form	4
Past Events	5
Tids & Bits	6-7

Hope everyone had a good summer. Thanks to Steve, Lois and Costandi Kuttab, a young man from the high school who did a reading of the civil war letters, recently transcribed by Judy Balestreiri and Lois Schreiter, at our Fall Potluck. Great turn out. Check out the pictures from the Potluck on Page 5

The Board approved a new boiler and air conditioning for the museum. This will help preserve the materials in the museum as well as make it available during the hot summer months. We are also installing a new floor, toilet and sink in the bathroom. We're all looking forward to the museum updates!

I invite everyone to join us the second Monday of each month for the Board/ membership meeting. They're held at the South Milwaukee Library and we even serve refreshments.

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 sziarek@wi.rr.com and I'll add you to the list.

Sue Ziarek

GARDEN TOUR

The 5th Annual South Milwaukee Historical Society Garden Tour was held on June 20, 2012. Weather was near perfect and only positive comments were heard from the happy crowd. Eight beautiful gardens were on the tour this year. We had attendees from all over Milwaukee county and even a few from out of state. Several of the successful bidders on the Channel 10/36 Auction picked up their tickets from Richard Thinner who manned the ticket booth at the Museum. Many thanks also to Parkway Floral who have sold tickets each year. Nona's Café also sold tickets this year and Ida advised that some of the touring gardeners had lunch at the Café. Attendance was slightly greater than last year and a substantial deposit was made to the Society treasury.

Volunteers who manned the stations at each garden contribute greatly to our success. They were Rita and Jerry Potter, John and Kathy Koplinski, Don and JB Bulley, Carol and Lee Loveall, Barb Mueller, Tanya Nahaie-Ghanad, Rose Nosacek, Judy Balestreiri, Theresa Aghbashian, Jennifer Stolpa, Jan Schumacher, Mary Haidarian, Suzanne McKinney, Pat Bordak, Kathy Leffel and Lisa Foyer.

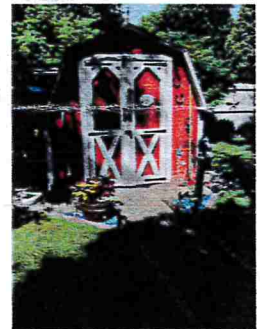
A special thank you to Jim and Jill Recely for the volunteers' and gardeners' luncheon held a week before the event in their delightful garden.

I am at home recovering from a badly broken left arm and have decided that this year will be my last as Chairperson of the Garden Tour. I have had a wonderful 5 years meeting all these gardeners—it's been great! We need a volunteer to step forward—all my files and information are available to my successor and of course, I will be happy to help him or her. If your neighbor has a great garden and lives in South Milwaukee ask them to show their garden. Same for you if you have a nice garden.

Here's a sampling of what you would have seen on the tour this year.....

Lois





UPCOMING EVENTS

Join the
Friends of the Mill Pond & Oak Creek Watercourse, Inc
 and the
South Milwaukee Historical Society
 for an
Old Fashioned Holiday Tea



Saturday, December 8, 2012
 11:30 am - 2:00 pm

at the
Grant Park Golf Clubhouse
 100 Hawthorne Avenue - South Milwaukee

Enjoy a delicious lunch with tea and dessert
 in this beautifully decorated Historic building

Cost: \$18.00 per person. Invite a friend!
 For reservations please call 571-1191 or 762-5214
 or send payment to:

Friends of the Mill Pond & Oak Creek Watercourse, Inc
 810 Hawthorne Avenue
 South Milwaukee WI 53172

Save The Date!

**The current
 plan is to hold
 the 2013
 Annual Dinner
 on Saturday,
 February 16.**

**Details will be
 in the Winter
 Newsletter....**



South Milwaukee Historical Society — Preserving the Proud Past

2013 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 Sycamore Av, South Milwaukee WI 53172

All Payments due by 2/16/2013

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

Name: _____ Phone: _____

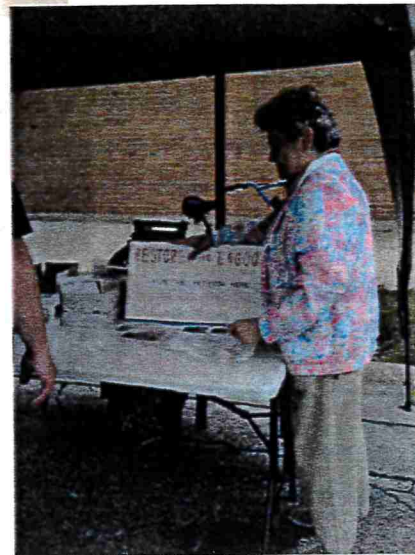
Address: _____

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

Email Address: _____

PAST EVENTS

Long time Historical Society member Mary Nelson started a petition over the summer in an effort to restore the lagoon. Steve & Lois set up the tent at the Farmer's Market in August to help get signatures.



The Fall Potluck was held at the First Congregational Church on September 10.



Vicki & Mary helping Richard get his lasagna ready for the table



Yellowstone Trail themed centerpiece made by Lois



A little last minute prep from Lois



Everyone patiently waiting to eat!



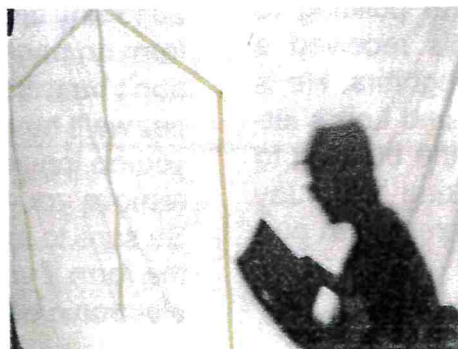
Finally! Let's EAT!



Mary Haidarian's homemade börek fresh out of the church oven!! Wonder if we can get her to share the recipe??



Steve & Lois talking with Costandi before dinner



After dinner, Steve & South Milwaukee High School student, Costandi Kuttub read some of the Civil War letters recently rediscovered at the museum. Sitting behind a sheet, backlit, with the outline of tent on the sheet helped to give the performance an air of authenticity. Everyone agreed it was very moving.

LOTS OF TIDS AND BITS

Sue found a couple pieces of Midwest Pottery at a Racine resale shop! New to our collection are this pair of dogs.



Nancy Dzidzan gave us a 1988 St. Adalbert's Community Cookbook. Thanks Nancy!



The Society was recently able to purchase a 1929 plaque from the City of South Milwaukee Police and Fire Station. We're still deciding how best to display it.

Tanya Nahaie-Ghanad attended the Regional Conference representing the Society. She learned a lot regarding photo collections and shared her information with us at the July member meeting.

Steve, Lois, Judy & Richard cleared out the bathroom on Saturday, Sept 8 and work on the bathroom began on Oct 8th! The boiler replacement project is expected to start on Oct 9th!! We'll keep you posted as the two projects progress.

In 1984 Lois, as president of the Society, sent a letter to Mr. Lloyd Schantzen regarding the Milwaukee Avenue Railroad Gate Tender's Shelter which Mr. Schantzen owned and had in the back yard of his home at 1223 Milwaukee Ave. She



asked that he consider donating the building to the Historical Society. Recently Lois received a call from one of Mr. Schantzen's daughters. He is now deceased and his daughters found Lois's letter in his home. They have offered the building to the Society. Bob Pfeiffer is checking with Jay Benkowski to see if he might be interested in putting the shelter near the depot.

Be on the lookout! The antique cultivator in the front yard of the museum was recently stolen! A police report was filled out but we don't have much hope of recovering it.

On Tuesday, September 17th, Steve gave a presentation at the South Milwaukee Library on tracing your family history. Just a reminder that all new Historical Society members are entitled to one hour of genealogical research from Steve. If you haven't taken advantage of that yet give Steve a call. You can download the basic information form from the Contact Us page of our website if you have access to a computer.

We're in the process of putting together a display highlighting the Civil War letters recently transcribed by Lois Schreiter & Judy Balestrieri. The display is expected to be in the South Milwaukee Library in January, 2013. Former Historical Society member Greg Meka is working on creating a couple of dioramas for the display including a battle, a hospital and a factory (Mattie Rawson got to know these young men when they worked at the basket factory in South Milwaukee and came to the creek behind her home to soak the reeds). The display will be housed on the second floor of the library for the entire month.

It's that time again....

You can renew your membership for 2013 any time now. Use the renewal form on page 4. Unfortunately, if we don't hear from you by the Annual Dinner we'll have no choice but to assume you no longer want to be a member and remove you from the membership list. Be sure to include your email address on the form if you'd like to switch over to the electronic newsletter.

TIDS AND BITS –CONTINUED

Below is an excerpt from the most recent Yellowstone Trail Newsletter:

“SO, NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Dodge County Board of Supervisors hereby extends congratulations to the Yellowstone Trail Association on the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Yellowstone Trail and requests county departments to take appropriate steps to commemorate the centennial of the Trail, thereby helping to promote public recognition and understanding of the critical importance of public highways for the well-being of all communities and citizens of Dodge County; All of which is respectfully submitted this 17th day of July, 2012.”

The Yellowstone trail was the first trail that went from Boston to Seattle. The portion that ran thru South Milwaukee was well known as a stop thanks to the campground in Grant Park. It's reported that in one year 1,000 travelers camped there.

Watch for the yellow signs throughout South Milwaukee to guide you thru our small part of this historic trail.



If you'd like to learn more about the Yellowstone trail in South Milwaukee, check out the article by Nels Munson on the web at <http://www.southmilwaukee.org/yt/history.htm>

The Historical Society would like to extend our wishes, condolences or congratulations to its members. Please contact sunshine chairperson Barbara Mueller at 762-2712. Be sure to leave a detailed message or a number where she can contact you.

A reminder that the Society has a number of things for sale including postcards and ornaments. You can also order a South Milwaukee Historical Society t-shirt. These are red with the Society logo in white on the front and are available in sizes Small to XX-Large. The t-shirts are printed to order, cost \$10 for any size and must be paid for in advance. Stop by the museum or give Lois a call.

The Historical Society is still in need of docents to staff the museum during open house hours the first Thursday of each month (1pm-3pm). You don't have to commit to every month but any help would be appreciated. If you are interested you can contact Lois Schreiter. Training will be provided.

The 2012 South Milwaukee Commemorative Ornaments have arrived! This year's ornament features the Mill Pond Dam. They're available at the museum and the cost is \$12. We also have some past year ornaments available.

We're still looking for more gently used Christmas items. If cleaning out the attic is one of your fall projects, please keep us in mind if you run across anything we could use. But please remember...no broken knick-knacks or strings of lights with missing bulbs or overly weathered outdoor decorations. We need *gently used, quality*, items. Contact Sue (520-1959) or Carol (870-7857) to arrange a pick up or drop off.

We recently got three new members and I'm happy to report that all three of them signed up for the electronic newsletter! If anyone else wants to give it a try send me an email. With all the garden tour pictures this is a good one to test it out. You can always change your mind if you decide you want to go back to the paper version.

Finally, I'm always on the look out for contributing editors. If you'd have a story or old pictures you'd like to share with our members please contact me and we'll work something out. You can call me at 414-520-1959, or email me at sziaiek@wi.rr.com.

COMING EVENTS

Our monthly meetings are now held at the South Milwaukee Library. Meetings begin at 6:00PM and are held on the 2nd Monday of each month. We'd like to invite ALL our members to attend. As an added incentive, we'll be serving refreshments.

UPCOMING BOARD/MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS
Oct 8, Nov 12, Dec 12
Everyone is Welcome!

Dec 8 Old Fashioned Holiday Tea
Grant Park Golf Clubhouse—Details inside

Feb 16th 2013 Annual Dinner
Watch for details in the Winter Newsletter



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MRS & MRS STEPHEN SCHREITER (L2)
104 BROOKDALE DR
S MILWAUKEE WI 53172



SOUTH MILWAUKEE HISTORICAL SOCIETY
717 MILWAUKEE AV
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MILWAUKEE WI 532

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