

# South Milwaukee Historical Society

## 717 Milwaukee Av

### 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	DON BULLEY	762-7605
V. PRESIDENT	LOIS SCHREITER	762-5214
SECRETARY	SUE ZIAREK	520-1959
TREASURER	JUDY BALESTREIRI	

**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
ROSE NOSACEK	(2015)	762-4279
BOB PFEIFFER	(2015)	764-1135
ADDIE BECKER	(2015)	764-2118
JB BULLEY	(2015)	762-7605
BARB MUELLER	(2015)	762-2712
SUNSHINE CHAIRPERSON		



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**FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK**

Heritage week has arrived and much is either going on or gone on already. The Historical Society will participate in "Evening on the Avenue" and in the, "Heritage Day Parade" on July 26<sup>th</sup>. "Around the Corner with John McGivern" is coming to South Milwaukee and they will be filming at the Market Place on July 31<sup>st</sup>. The Mayor urges us to fill the street starting at 3:00 P.M. Thanks to a donation, we will be donating copies of our book, "Letters to Mattie" to about ten local schools. A tree limb is threatening the shed at the museum and needs to be trimmed. Some fencing is also being discussed. Its show time.

*Don Bulley*

**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](mailto:sziarek@wi.rr.com) and I'll add you to the list.

*Sue Ziarek*

## 5TH ANNUAL GARDEN TOUR

The 6th Annual South Milwaukee Historical Society Garden Tour was held on June 28, 2014. 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, Green Bay, Wauwatosa, Bayview, Waukesha and New Berlin to name a few. Attendance was slightly greater than past years and a substantial deposit was made to the Society treasury.

Many thanks to Parkway Floral who was very busy selling tickets for us. A big thanks also goes out to the vendors who set up on Milwaukee Avenue in front of the Historical Society to sell their garden art, all of the local business who donated items for the raffle and to Miron Construction Company for all their support from the early planning stages right up to the day of the tour!

Volunteers who manned the stations at each garden and the Historical Society contributed greatly to our success. They were Sam Krstic and Janet Rasmussen, John and Kathy Koplinski, Carol and Lee Loveall, Barb Mueller, Jennifer Stolpa, Tanya Nahaie-Ghanad, Rose Nosacek, Addie Becker and Jan Schumacher, Judy Balestreiri and Richard Thines, Annette Loper and Carol Zick, Alexis Bergeson and Katie Horrigan, Kathy Leffel and Lisa Foyer, Peyton Bergeson and Abbey Narloch.

If your neighbor has a great garden and lives in South Milwaukee please pass along the information we are already busy looking for gardens for next year's tour.

Happy Gardening!



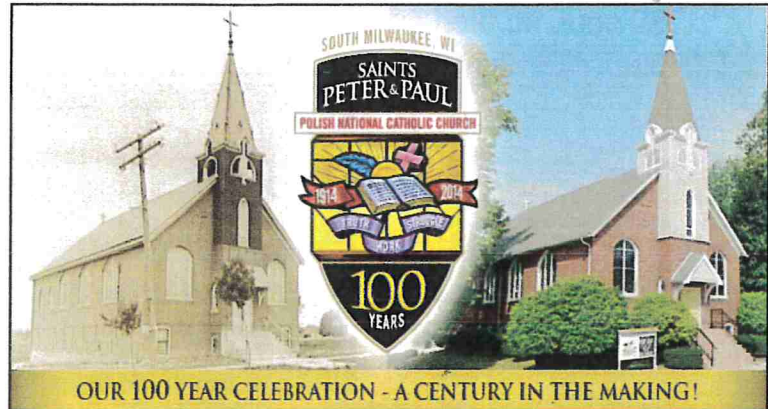
# GARDEN TOUR CONT'D....



## Saints Peter & Paul Polish National Church—100th Anniversary

In January 1914, Polish descendants who settled in South Milwaukee fostered the hope of founding a parish of their own to worship in their native Polish language, gain a voice in parish matters, and observe traditional Polish customs. During a meeting at White Eagle Hall, they unanimously agreed to organize under the Polish National Catholic Church, founded in Scranton, Pennsylvania by Bishop Franciszek Hodur in 1897. On

June 14<sup>th</sup>, 1914, the first service was held at Sts. Peter and Paul Polish National Catholic Church in its current location of 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Cedar. Today, under the spiritual leadership of Rev. Bogumił Czaja and Deacon Jonathan Meus, Sts. Peter and Paul Parish embodies the values of devotion, family, and perseverance and is open to people of all nationalities. From September thru May, Mass is celebrated in the Polish language at 9 a.m. and in English at 10 a.m. During the summer months of June, July and August, Mass is celebrated in English at 9 a.m.



On Sunday, September 7<sup>th</sup>, Sts. Peter and Paul will host an Open House and Taste of Poland from Noon til 3 p.m. The official Centennial Celebration will take place on Saturday, September 20<sup>th</sup> with Holy Mass celebrated at 11 a.m. followed by a banquet at 1 p.m. at the Knights of Columbus Grand Hall located on Badger Avenue in South Milwaukee. The Centennial Mass will be celebrated by the Prime Bishop of the Polish National Catholic Church, The Most Reverend Anthony Mikovsky and Diocesan Bishop, Right Reverend Stanley Bilinski. All are cordially invited to attend the Centennial Mass. Reservations for the Banquet can be made by emailing [stspeterandpaul100@gmail.com](mailto:stspeterandpaul100@gmail.com) or calling Liz Kaniewski at 414-529-1388. Deadline for banquet reservations is September 6<sup>th</sup>.



**Fall Pot Luck meeting**  
**Monday, September 9th**  
 at the First Congregational Church,  
 1111 S Chicago Av, at 5:30pm

***Don't forget to  
 Bring a dish to pass!***



TIDS AND BITS

The Spring Pot Luck meeting was May 12 at the First Congregation Church. As always, good food and fun. Spring is election time and all current officers and the two board members up for re-election agreed to continue.

The 2014 Christmas Ornaments have arrived. We have a limited number available for sale at the museum.

**Concrete work is done!** The contractor poured the new concrete at the Museum in the beginning of May. The patio area is slightly larger and the walk on side of house is slightly wider. Steve, Lois, Judy & Richard filled in the gaps along the new areas and planted seed. By the time of the Garden Tour at the end of June everything looked fantastic! Next step in the Museum makeover: we're looking into a couple sections of privacy fence along the east property line and some serious tree trimming.



Letters to Mettie is also available at the museum. Cost is \$7.50 plus \$2.50 S&H. To order send a check for \$10 to the Historical Society with your name, address and a number where you can be reached if there are questions. Please Contact the Society for S&H charges if you are ordering more than one book.

Just a reminder that all new Historical Society members are entitled to one hour of genealogical research from Steve Schreiter. 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.



Sue & Judy continue to work their way thru the basement. They've uncovered a number of "treasures" but also quite a lot of unnecessary *stuff*. Still have a lot to do but they're definitely making progress.



Before

After

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.

The Society will have a table at Evening on the Av, Thursday July 24 where we'll have books, ornaments, postcards, etc for sale. Be sure to stop by and say HI!

Lois & Addie will be riding in the Heritage Day parade on Saturday, July 26. Give them a shout out and maybe they'll toss some candy your way.....

As always....I'd like to encourage anyone who's able but hasn't done so yet to sign up for the electronic version of the newsletter. You get it sooner, the picture quality is much better, it saves the Society money on printing & postage and it helps the environment! If you'd like to give it a try send an email to [sziarek@wi.rr.com](mailto:sziarek@wi.rr.com). If you change your mind I can always put you back on the list for paper copies.

On Thursday, July 31 John McGivern will be at the grand re-opening of the South Milwaukee Downtown Market filming *Around the Corner*. Be sure to stop by to show your support of the market and help fill the street during taping!

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 In 1912— *Captain John Wexstaff had a saloon at 10th & Madison Av. Every morning he called the weather station in the Federal Bldg in Milwaukee for the day's weather report then ran 'weather flags' up a huge pole in front of his business so area residents knew what the forecast was for the day.*  
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## 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.

### 2013-14 BOARD/MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS AT THE LIBRARY

Aug 11, Oct 13, Nov 10, Dec 8

- July 24** Evening on the Av
- July 26** Heritage Days Parade
- July 31** Grand Re-Opening of the Downtown Market
- Sept 8** Fall Pot Luck Meeting - First Congregational Church  
Bring a dish to pass!

Look inside for details on all these events

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



South Milwaukee Historical Society  
717 Milwaukee Av  
South Milwaukee WI 53172

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