



# South Milwaukee Historical Society

717 Milwaukee Avenue  
South Milwaukee, WI 53172

NEWSLETTER April, 2019

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V. President	Lois Schreiter	762-5214
Secretary	Sue Ziarek	520-1959
Treasurer	Judy Balestreiri	630-8604

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Stephen Schreiter

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Don Bulley	2019
Stephen Schreiter	2019
Vicki Bartoshevich	2020
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## Welcome New Members

Kathy and John Koplinski	Lori Lackowski
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Brian Suchorski	D.H. Karnowski

## The President's desk!

## Spring is in the Air (Finally)...

I hope some of you had a chance to attend this year's South Milwaukee Historical Society joint program, hosted by the St. Francis Historical Society, on Thursday, April 11, with Carl Baehr, talking about the early history of the Irish in Milwaukee. As some of you may remember, last year's joint program, hosted by the Oak Creek Historical Society (with planning assistance from yours truly), was a chance to tour the Little Brick Church, with our host Fr. Patrick O'Loughlin, Pastor, at St. Matthew's Parish in Oak Creek. I do enjoy these joint programs with other local historical societies. These joint programs are a chance to meet some new people who enjoy local history in their community and the surrounding area.

Speaking of Spring, can the Summer Canopy Classes be that far off. Lois Schreiter has something for everyone this year, as she does every year. We'll be starting off the classes with Home Brewing, Everything you want to Know, followed by a talk on the Oak Creek Township (1840-1890), the South Milwaukee Railroad Depot, and ending with the 1860 Sinking of the Lady Elgin. I hope you'll have time to attend one, if not more of these talks.

Now that spring has arrived, along with an occasional April shower, who doesn't like to take a walk and discover something new in South Milwaukee. This year, my Spring Walk Historical Discovery was the Saint Haroutune Armenian Cemetery, at 1434 Rawson Avenue, that one enters through the parking lot of St. Mark's Episcopal Church.

Thanks to a little internet research, I was able to find out that Armenians started to arrive in South Milwaukee as early as 1910, to work at Bucyrus-Erie and other local factories, and grew to more than 300 families in the community. Until 1924, St. Mark's Episcopal Church was the site where visiting Armenian priests conducted liturgy. Then in 1924, Soorp Haroutune Armenian Apostolic Church was founded (the first Armenian church in Wisconsin), by purchasing the former St. Luke's Church at 909 Michigan Avenue. Until 1948, Armenian burials were done in St. Mark's Cemetery, by the cemetery's west side fence. Then in 1948, the Armenian community had purchased a plot of land adjacent to St. Mark's cemetery and founded the first Armenian cemetery

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in the US: Saint Haroutune Armenian Cemetery. On February 7, 1960, a fire struck the Soorp Haroutune Church, destroying the altar. It was decided, by the membership, that a new church would be built. On April 15, 1962, the new Soorp Haroutune Church was consecrated, and in 1963, Holy Resurrection Church became the new name of the Soorp Haroutune Church.

For those of you who enjoy the rest of the story, it seems that there is no Armenian Saint Haroutune, because Haroutune means Resurrection in Armenian, and thus the Soorp Haroutune Church translates to Holy Resurrection Church!

When you have a chance, take a walk in South Milwaukee and discover some of our community's rich history. It's there for the exploring.

Todd

P.S. Don't forget this year's 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Garden Tour & Art Fair on Saturday, June 22.

#### 2019 Events Calendar:

April 11 at St. Francis Historical Society 7:30 pm, Carl Baehr, speaker and author about the Irish, From the Emerald Isle to the Cream City . A joint meeting of our 2 societies at St. Francis City Hall.

<sup>22</sup>  
June 23 South Milwaukee Historical Society Garden Tour, Vendors will be on the Street at 717 Milwaukee Ave, 9am start, Gardens open 10am to 3pm

Rumors are about that a Green County bus full of Gardeners is coming to our Garden Tour this year. Welcome to all.

2019 Canopy Class schedule at 717 Milwaukee Ave, start at 10 am

We like to do these classes outdoors in the back yard, if the weather is nice. If it is too Hot that day, or raining, we will have them in the air condition museum.

If you would like to help set up chairs come 15 minutes early.

Many hands make light work.

Our calendar looks like this:

Saturday, June 29<sup>th</sup> at 10 am, Bob Hansen and Home Brew, Everything you want to know  
Saturday, July 6<sup>th</sup> at 10 am, Steve Schreiter will reprise his Oak Creek Township, 1840-1890  
Saturday, July 13<sup>th</sup> at 10 am, George Becker will tell us the story of the S.M. Railroad Depot  
Saturday, July 20<sup>th</sup> at 10am, Gretchen Goelz, the 1860 Sinking of the Lady Elgin  
Saturday, July 27<sup>th</sup> Heritage Parade

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The Oak Creek Historical Society is working toward a Commemorative Plaque at Drexel Town Square noting that Delco Electronics built the navigation system for Apollo Space Craft, getting astronauts to the moon and safely back to our planet earth, and a new gyro to work in a vacuum, the HRG (Hemispherical Rotating Gyro). The HRG is in every satellite above the earth and has never had a failure. This year is the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the moon landing. This is a good year to honor the



men and women who worked on all of these technical projects. This project will involve the State Historical Society, the City of Oak Creek and take at least a year or more to complete.

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Look for our table at the South Milwaukee Farmer's Market in June. Come and say hello.

The South Milwaukee Historical Society would like to extend our wishes, condolences or congratulations to its members. Please contact Sunshine Chairperson, Vicki Bartoshevich, 764-2836. 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.

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 with dues to South Milwaukee Historical Society, 717 Milwaukee Ave., S.M. 53172  
Books on Sale at the Museum – First Thursday of Month, 1:00pm to 3:00PM *Images of America, South Milwaukee*, a picture history book by Nels Monson and Dean S. Marlow, Jr. \$20.00.  
*Then to Now* (History of South Milwaukee) by Gertrude Endthof is \$10.00, *Letters to Mettie* Civil War Soldiers letters to Mettie Rawson, \$7.50, *Growing Up Polish in South Milwaukee*, by Carol Wagner Demarco, \$15.00

Did you hear about the cannibal who was expelled from school?  
He was buttering up his teacher.

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A recipe for Bread Pudding from the 1876 Home Cookbook  
Put a pint of scalded milk to a pint of bread crumbs, and add the yolks of 4 eggs well beaten, a tea cup of sugar, butter the size of an egg, and the grated rind of a lemon, bake and then beat the whites of the eggs into a cup of powdered sugar and the juice of one lemon, cover the pudding with it and set it in the oven till it is a brownish yellow.

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Newsletter published quarterly in Jan., Apr., July, and Nov. Interim editor: Lois Schreiter

Contact us at southmilwaukeehistory@gmail.com

South Milwaukee Historical Society Membership form: 2019  
WHAT A GREAT DEAL!!!! Only \$10.00.

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 to S.M. Historical Society, 717 Milwaukee Ave., S.M. 53172

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