



South Milwaukee Historical Society

717 Milwaukee Avenue
South Milwaukee, WI 53172

Newsletter July/Aug. 2020

OFFICERS

President	Richard Thinnes	762-6214	Curators: Judy Balestreiri
V. President	Lois Schreiter	762-5214	Richard Thinnes
Secretary	Sue Ziarek	520-1959	Stephen Schreiter
Treasurer	Judy Balestreiri	630-8604	

BOARD OF DIRECTORS (Term Expires)

Don Bulley	(2021)
Stephen Schreiter	(2021)
Vicki Bartoshevich	(2021)
Carol Muni	(2021)
Kris Schell	(2021)

The President's desk!

Greetings friends of S.M. History! It has been very lonely here since we last wrote to you. Not much has been going on during, April, May, June or July. -No meetings, we were closed because of the virus. However, our Wed. Ladies (Sue and Judy) have been very busy in reorganization of your museum. We have five different file cabinets for our office that Sue acquired and they have moved our records and pictures etc. Into them- which makes us more efficient.

Steve Schreiter is making great progress on our framed picture project and the digitization project. The Wisconsin Historical Society is back up and running and that, hopefully, means we will have some of the newspapers on dvd's soon.

We miss having our open house on Thursdays, the annual Garden Tour and Heritage Days. Those were so much fun for us all! We look forward to 2021.

We also are working on restarting our board meetings, if all goes well, in either August or September. We miss all of you so much, and hope you are all healthy, wealthy and wise! Stay safe.

Richard G. Thinnes, president

Please note:

South Milwaukee Historical Museum is closed until further notice.

Any questions contact us at southmilwaukeehistory@gmail.com

"Keep in your prayers the family of Jackie U'ren, who died Saturday. July 25th, Jackie was a great supporter of the South Milwaukee Historical Society, We will certainly miss her."

DIGITIZATION REPORT

After being closed for an extended period, an email from the State Historical Society has been received with encouraging news. The microfilm lab has been reopened and according to its director microfilm of the South Milwaukee newspaper has been requested to be removed from the vault. They will use the original microfilm for the digitization rather than use the copy held by our Public Library. According to our Society's treasurer, we have \$13,186 in our Digitization fund Thanks to all those who donated to this project.

54 PHOTOS PROJECT

The Society and Museum has received a donation of 54 framed photos of old South Milwaukee scenes from the owner of the Gourmet House restaurant (now closed) One possible use is a video of the photos together with a brief verbal explanation of each scene.

We have developed a technique for copying a photo while not requiring disassembly of the frames and are going to experiment with creating the program with just 5 photographs Anyone who is experienced in creating such a program please call Steve @ 414 762 5214

Old World Copper

Some of the Historical Society members have visited "The Adventure Mining Company Mine" of Greenland, Mi. Evidence of copper mining in upper Michigan dates 5,000 - 3000 yrs. ago. The origin of copper found globally can be determined by its purity. The copper found in other parts of the world has been determined to have come from upper Michigan. Our guide at The Adventure Mine told us that "copper from the mine has been found in The Pyramids of Giza". Some studies show that the 10 tons of copper oxhide ingots removed from the Uluburun shipwreck (1300 BC) off the coast of Turkey was more than 99.5% pure and that it was not the result of smelting from ore. The oxhides are all brittle "blister copper", with voids, slag bits, and oxides, created when the oxhides were made in multiple pourings outdoors over wood fires. Only Michigan Copper is of this purity, and it is known to have been mined in enormous quantities during the Bronze Age.

Copper material excavated from an ancient burial site near the town of Oconto, Wi. Is dated at 5,000 - 6,000 B.C.

The copper is shaped as a fishhook, bracelet, awals, cresents and various other shapes.

Forty-five individuals were found buried at the ancient cemetery. The copper from the site can be seen at the Oconto Co. Hist. Society and the Copper Culture Historical Association.

Copper collections in Wisconsin and surrounding states, both public and private, contain old world and fur trade artifacts. The Milwaukee Public Museum website contains in-depth information about old copper culture.

Submitted by Jim Anderson

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STEVE & LOIS SCHREITER (L)
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Donation

\$ 500.00 was donated to
CHS (Cudahy Depot)
to help with the damages
that occurred late February
2020 from SMHS.