

# 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	BOB PFEIFFER	764-1135
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
ROSE NOSACEK	(2015)	762-4279
PHARIS BROOKS	(2016)	
ADDIE BECKER	(2015)	764-2118
LOIS SCHREITER	(2016)	762-5214
JB BULLEY	(2015)	762-7605
BARB MUELLER	(2015)	762-2712
SUNSHINE CHAIRPERSON		



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**FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK**

Over the past decade, the South Milwaukee Historical Society has undergone a major renaissance and become a very active organization in our community. In addition to major improvements at the museum, participation in Evening-on-the-Avenue and the Heritage Day Parade, members have stepped forward to create a highly successful garden tour, plant exchange and an egg decorating class. They have also published an important book.

This year we hope to add a "Walking Tour", "Rhubarb Leaf Casting", a picture preservation project and to open the museum to the public more often. We would like to open the museum every day during Heritage Week - if we can find volunteers. If you have an afternoon available Monday July 20<sup>th</sup> through Saturday July 25<sup>th</sup>, please call me at 414-762-7605 and volunteer. You don't need any special knowledge about the collection.

***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 our new Historical Society address: [southmilwaukeehistory@gmail.com](mailto:southmilwaukeehistory@gmail.com) and I'll add you to the list.

***Sue Ziarek***

# ANNUAL DINNER

The 2015 Annual Dinner was held on February 14th at the Knights of Columbus Hall. Turn out was good. Food was great. The dinner committee was able to score some wonderful prizes for the raffle!



Addie Becker greeted guests at the door



Raffles prizes included items from Donn Powers Jewelers; Wal-mart, Spirits Bar & Grill and McDonald's.



Mayor Brooks spoke to the crowd about future plans for South Milwaukee.

Former Mayor Chet Grobschmidt talked about restoring the plaques at the Mill Pond. He found someone who is able to powder coat them and the Society agreed to cover the cost



Thanks to Barb Mueller & Lois Schreiter for a great job putting it all together. Thanks also to Lancer TV & Video for lending us a TV/DVR to use after dinner.



# UPCOMING EVENTS



*Presents*

## *2nd Annual Plant Swap*

*Saturday, May 30, 2015  
9 a.m. - 11 a.m.  
South Milwaukee Historical Society  
717 Milwaukee Avenue*

Back by popular demand....the 2nd Annual Plant Swap hosted by the South Milwaukee Historical Society. This is a FREE EVENT and is an excellent opportunity to network with other gardeners. To participate, bring divided or no longer wanted/needed perennials, shrubs vines, etc from your yard in pots marked with the type of plant & whether it is sun/part sun/shade. Then swap them out for the same number of different plants! The more variety the better. The Plant Swap isn't limited to just plants. You can bring seeds, bulbs or even garden tools.

Please RSVP to either Patti Bergeson at 414.768.9549, email pbergeson@wi.rr.com OR Vicki Maloney at 414.530.6020, email vmaloney@wi.rr.com

Get your tickets NOW to this year's fabulous event!

The South Milwaukee Historical Society Presents:

*7th Annual*

# GARDEN TOUR

June 27, 2015 \* 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
*Rain or Shine!*

ADMIT ONE



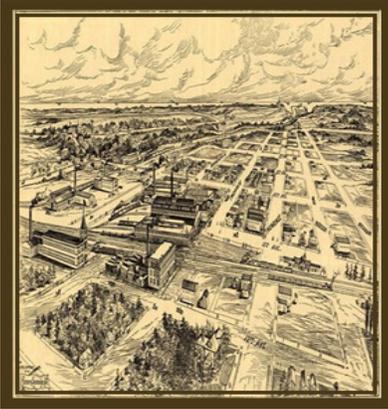
For more information or to purchase advanced tickets please contact:

Patti Bergeson 414.768.9549 pbergeson@wi.rr.com	Vicki Maloney 414.530.6020 vmaloney@wi.rr.com
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- \* Eight *beautiful* gardens
- \* Great way to *network* with other gardeners and *support* our South Milwaukee Historical Society
- \* *Hand-crafted garden items* created by local artisans will be on sale at the South Milwaukee Historical Society Museum (717 Milwaukee Avenue) 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

*Advanced Tickets \$8 \* Day of \$10*

**MORE EVENTS!**



Downtown South Milwaukee circa 1890

**South Milwaukee Historical Society**

*Downtown Walking Tour*

Lace up your walking shoes and join us on Saturday June 20 for a walking tour of Downtown South Milwaukee led by City Historian Nels Monson.

Tour starts at the Railroad Depot 1:30 on Saturday June 20 and is expected to last about 2hrs

Cost is \$5 per person.

Children under 12 and seniors over 80 are *FREE*



**SPRING POT LUCK MEETING**

**MONDAY, MAY 11, 2015**

AT THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH,  
1111 S CHICAGO AV, AT 5:30PM

*BRING A DISH TO PASS!*



As Don mentioned in his letter on the front page, the Society is toying with the idea of a 'picture project' this year. The basic idea is that people bring pictures that we scan creating a Historical Society Digital Photo Archive. From 4:45 to 5:15, BEFORE the potluck, we'd like to do a sort of test run. Bring an old picture of buildings, events, businesses, sports etc. along with your dish to pass. Be sure to identify who or what is in the picture. We will scan the picture and send it back home with you. But please, bring only one picture per person as time will be limited.

**HOW TO MAKE A CAKE**

*From the Earl W Luther Elementary School cookbook, year unknown*

1. Light oven; get out utensils and ingredients. Remove blocks and toys from table. Grease pan, crack nuts.
2. Measure 2 cups of flour; remove Johnny's hands from flour; wash flour off him, re-measure flour.
3. Put flour, baking powder and salt in sifter. Get dust pan and brush up pieces of bowl Johnny knocked o floor. Get another bowl. Answer phone.
4. Return to kitchen. Remove Johnny's hand from bowl. Wash Johnny. Answer doorbell. Return. Remove 1/4 inch of salt from greased pan. Look for Johnny. Grease another pan. Answer phone.
5. Return to kitchen and find Johnny. Remove hands from bowl. Take up greased pan, find layers of nutshells in it. Head for Johnny who flees, knocking bowl off table. Wash kitchen floor, table, walls and dishes.
6. Call baker.



# TIDS AND BITS

Nels Monson, one of the locals appearing on *Around the Corner with John McGivern*, talked with a visitor to our table after the program while member Nancy Wucherer looked on. Thanks to Judy and Nancy for manning the table that night.



Lois Schreiter & Rose Nosacek taught a Pysanky (Ukrainian Egg Decorating) class at the Library before Easter. The class is always popular and a lot of fun for everyone who attends. Timing of the class makes it tricky to get the word out in the newsletter so be sure to watch the SM Community Calendar and our website for details.

We have a pretty ambitious schedule of events this summer. The potluck and plant exchange in May; a possible rhubarb leaf casting class, the Downtown Walking Tour and of course the Garden Tour in June; multiple events connected with Heritage Days in July AND we'd really like to open the museum to visitors two Sundays each month throughout the summer. To do all that we need your support. We hope you'll attend at least some of the events but we're really hoping you'll volunteer to help out at some of them. No special skills or knowledge are needed, just a couple hours of your time. If you're willing and able to help out, give Don a call and he'll get you set up with the appropriate person.

## Museum Open House Dates

As of this printing we hope to have the museum open on the following dates:

June 7, June 21

July 5, July 19

July 20-21-22-23-24

August 2, August 17, August 30

The society has been asked to create a display for the cabinets at city hall. We'll be showcasing some of our Civil War items as a way to help promote our book, *Letters to Mettie*. The items will be on display from about mid-May to mid-June. Be sure to stop by and check it out.

Work continues on our new website. The Events tab now has two parts: a link to the South Milwaukee Community Calendar and a Society Events section with printable flyers for all our events. If you haven't checked it out lately, take a look. You can use the Contact Us tab to email your suggestions and comments. Apologies in advance if you don't receive an immediate response to your emails....we're still getting used to checking it!

Facebook Fanatics: anybody out there interesting in getting the Society set up on Facebook??? Send us an email thru the website and we'll talk.....

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.

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.

As always...I'd like to encourage anyone who's able but hasn't done so yet to sign up to receive electronic notification of the newsletters. You get access to 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 our new Society email address: [southmilwaukeehistory@gmail.com](mailto:southmilwaukeehistory@gmail.com) You can always change your mind.....

## 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.

### 2015 BOARD/MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS AT THE LIBRARY

Jun 8, Jul 13, Aug 10, Oct 12, Nov 9, Dec 14

- May 11 Spring Potluck
- May 30 2nd Annual Plant Swap
- June 20 Downtown Walking Tour
- June 27 7th Annual Garden Tour

Look inside for details!



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