



South Milwaukee Historical Society

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717 Milwaukee Ave, South Milwaukee, WI

Meetings are held the second Monday of each month at the Museum
Please join us to learn more about South Milwaukee's history.

The Museum is open on the first Thursday of the month from 1pm to 3pm
and on the third Saturday of each month from 10am to 3pm.

You may also call 414-762-6214 for questions or to arrange for a private tour.



From The President's Desk—April, 2023

Hello Friends of the South Milwaukee Historical Society!

Introducing the new South Milwaukee Historical Society Newsletter! Judy, Sandy, and Sue have volunteered to give publishing the newsletter a try. They are hoping that, working as a team, they will be able to add some new features such as "What is It?", premiering in this volume. The Board would like to give a huge thank-you to the previous editors. Your hard work over the past few years is greatly appreciated!

Your Historical Society is moving forward in other areas as well! Inside you will find details on many of them. Our Open House Saturdays have been well received and the number of visitors to your museum has increased each time we are open. We are working with the Bucyrus Museum, matching their hours for our Open House Saturdays. Both museums are full of wonderful displays. Please come and enjoy these treasures of South Milwaukee's past, present and future. We are working on updating the Society's Bylaws which have not been reviewed for some time and we are in the process of having our website professionally updated. Also, we have filed a letter of interest for the Bucyrus Civic Grant program and will be submitting our application prior to the April 30th deadline. If we receive the grant money we plan to continue improving awareness of our presence in the community.

Our free Canopy Class History Talks are again being offered this spring/summer. We have some exciting topics planned - see the schedule on Page 3. Please come – enjoy, learn, and spread the word!

Hope you all have a safe and happy spring. Come and visit us!

God Bless

Richard Thinner – President

Preserving our Proud Past since 1972

Founders: Dennis Rankin, Penny Rankin

Initial Directors: George Hook, Mary McCarrier, Bruce Rayeske, Dora Lee Szewczuga, William Domoe, Lilia Dishong, Chester Grobschmidt

We, the Board of Directors, would like to express our appreciation to all members of the Society who have supported us through these difficult years. Please continue to maintain your membership. Encourage your friends to join and talk up our digitization projects, Garden Tour, summer Saturday Museum hours and Canopy Class History Talks!

NEWSPAPER DIGITIZATION UPDATE

Files of scanned newspapers from 1921 to 1943 have been received from the Wisconsin State Historical Society Microfilm Lab and are being prepared to be added to the existing online newspapers. We expect this to be completed by April 30, 2023. The remaining scans (1944 to 2006) are on schedule and should be online this summer. At that time the entire run of the South Milwaukee newspaper will be accessible online and searchable by key word. Thanks to all those who donated to this joint Historical Society and South Milwaukee Library project and to the Society and Library representatives who have worked to make this project successful.

The collection can be viewed by going to www.smlibrary.org/localhistory

South Milwaukee Historical Society 2023 Goals

In January, 2023, the following goals were established and are being implemented:

1. Create and increase awareness of the South Milwaukee Historical Society
2. Continue to preserve the materials entrusted to the care of the Historical Society
3. Begin a formal volunteer program at the Museum

Are you Interested in becoming a volunteer? Please contact us!

At the March Meeting, it was the Board’s decision to sponsor the South Milwaukee Little League Organization for the upcoming season (look for our banner on the fence at the baseball diamond), the 2023 Heritage Days Parade (wave to the dinosaur riding with our VP!) and the South Milwaukee Police Department K-9 program. It is our privilege to support these organizations.

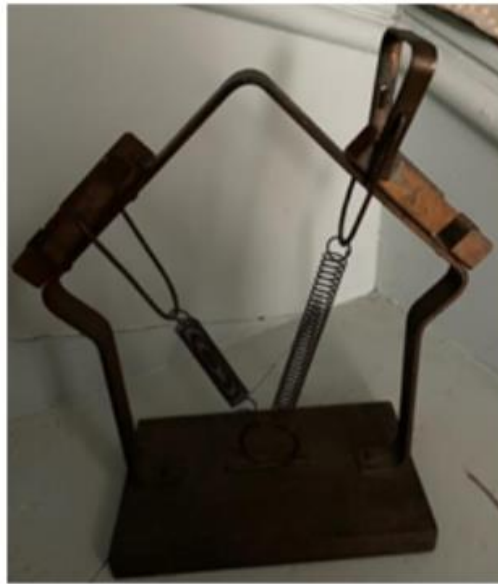
It's back!

The annual South Milwaukee Historical Society dinner will be returning this year on Thursday, September 28th. The event will be held at the Bucyrus Club. Details regarding time, menu and cost will be in the next newsletter. Bucyrus Museum officials have generously offered to open the Museum to us for an hour prior to the dinner. Please reserve this date for an evening of fine food, fun and socializing.

Museum Displays

The Historical Society Museum is home to hundreds of items gifted to it by local individuals and families. A few of the current displays include the Spectacle of Music, local sports items, Midwest Pottery, military memorabilia, Smith Hospital and Grant Park. Displays change periodically, and are constantly being tweaked! If you haven't been here recently it is worth another visit.

What is it???



One of the items at the museum is pictured above. We have no idea what it is! Do you???

Canopy Class History Talks

10:30am to 11:30am at the museum

April 15—Soap Making

April 29—Daffodil Walk—*held off site**

May 13—Loretta's Field—History & Future plans

July 1—Wingfoots— Housing for WWII Veterans

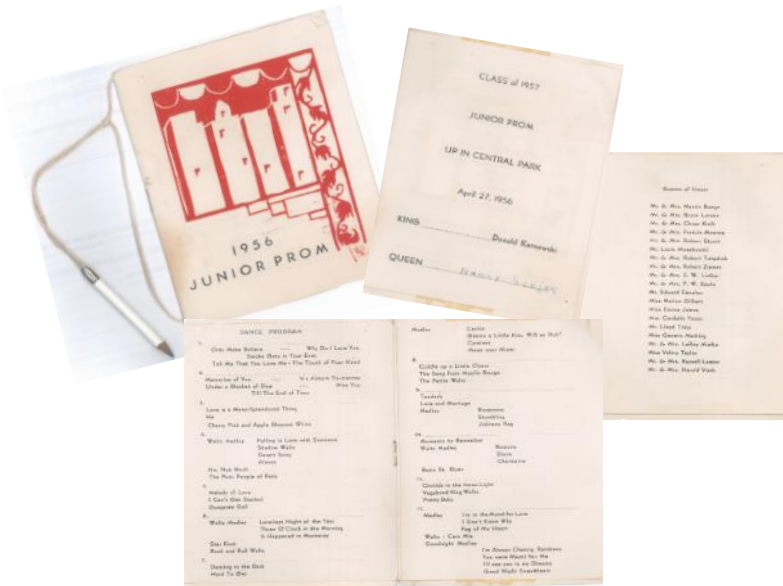
July 15—South Milwaukee Radio History

August 5—Bucyrus Erie-The Factory Changes Gears for War

Join us at the museum for one or all of these free brief talks held under the canopy in the backyard-weather permitting! Talks will move indoors in bad weather and the museum will be open to tour for an hour after the talk.

**Join our own Lois Schreiter for a guided tour of her park-like backyard to check out thousands of daffodils and other spring blooms. Come prepared to do a lot of walking in possibly muddy areas. It will be worth it!! (104 Brookdale Drive in South Milwaukee)*

Do you remember when....



Tours

The Museum is available for tours to Scout Groups, Civic Organizations and School Groups. It is also available to individuals for research or tours. For more information or to arrange a tour, please call Lois Schreiter at 414-762-5214

Reminder to New Member...

Your membership comes with one hour of free genealogy research. Contact Steve Schreiter at 414-762-5214 for details.



Avon Calling...



Calling card for Mrs F. M. (Caroline) Fowle – Representing The California Perfume Company (forerunner of the Avon Products Company) Circa 1909 – making Caroline Fowle one of South Milwaukee’s first Avon ladies!



Come on in... we're open!

Upcoming Saturdays
10am—3pm

April 15

May 20

June 17

Visitors to the museum get a coupon for \$5 off admission to the Bucyrus Museum good thru the end of June.

Hope to see you there!

Available at the museum

South Milwaukee Then to Now

By Gert Endthoff — \$10.00

Images of America, South Milwaukee

By Nels Monson & Dean S. Marlow, Jr. — \$20.00

Letters to Mettie – A Collection of Letters from

Four Civil War Soldiers to Marietta Rawson — \$7.50

Growing Up Polish In South Milwaukee

By Carol Wagner DeMarco — \$15.00

City of South Milwaukee Christmas Ornaments \$7.00/each

2023 South Milwaukee Garden Club & Historical Society Garden Tour

- ◊ Local artisans sprinkled throughout the gardens selling their handcrafted garden related items and more!
- ◊ Guest musicians at each of the gardens.
- ◊ Raffle prizes and other surprises on the tour!

& Art Fair

Saturday, June 24, 2023

Garden Tour 9am-2pm

Tickets \$10

Visit 4 beautiful gardens and enjoy the wonderful Artisans & Musicians that will be located throughout the gardens. For more information contact Patti Bergeson | 414.768.9549 | pbergeson55@gmail.com

Mark your calendars for the 2023 Garden Club & Historical Society Garden Tour & Art Fair on Saturday, June 24. Tickets are \$10.00 each and may be purchased prior to the Tour at Mari's Flowers (905 Milwaukee Avenue). They may also be purchased on the day of the Tour at Mari's or at the Historical Society Museum.

We don't want to lose you, but if you haven't paid your dues yet for 2023 we'll have to take you off our mailing list. Don't let this be the end! Fill out the membership form and mail it in today!



MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name _____
 Address _____
 City/State/Zip _____
 Telephone: _____
 e-mail: _____

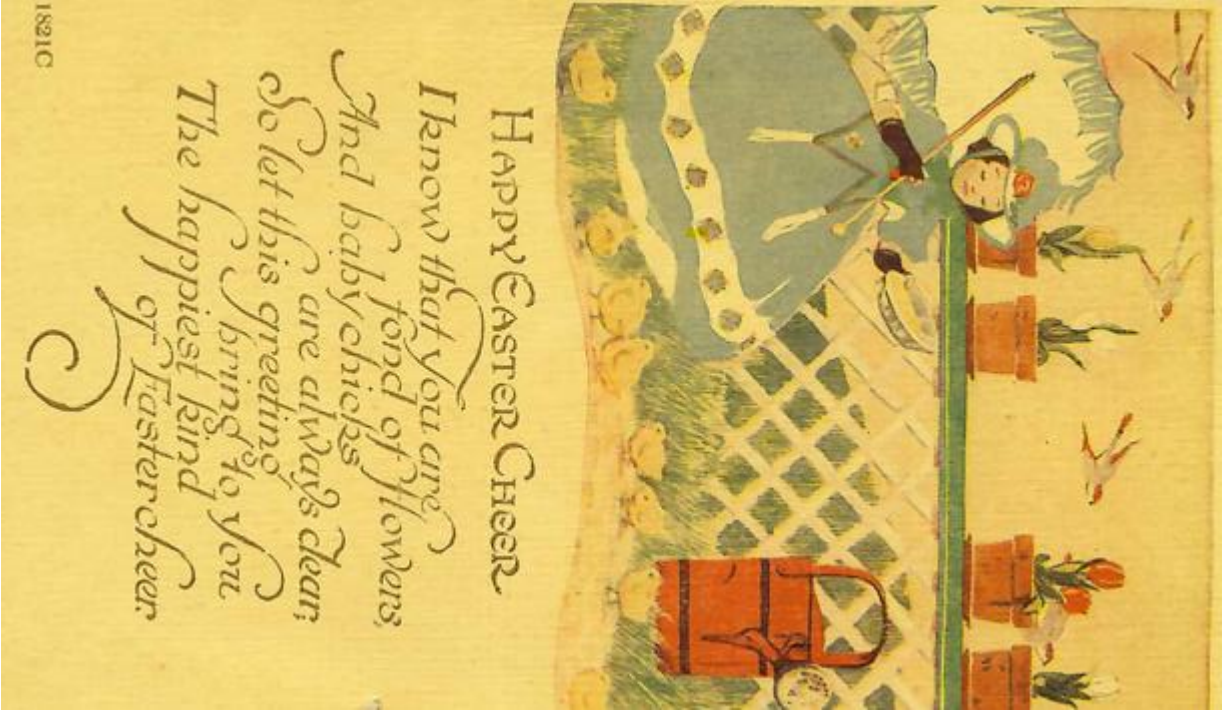
Individual: \$10.00 - Annual
 Family: \$15.00 - Annual
 Business: \$25.00 - Annual
 Individual Lifetime: \$100.00
 Additional Donation: \$ _____

Please send completed form and check to:

South Milwaukee Historical Society
 717 Milwaukee Avenue
 South Milwaukee WI 53172

Thank you for supporting your local Historical Society!

The South Milwaukee Historical Society is a 501.c.3 organization whose mission is "to preserve, honor and promote South Milwaukee's rich history for generations to come."



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