

Historical Perspectives

PORT WASHINGTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

www.portwashingtonhistoricalsociety.org

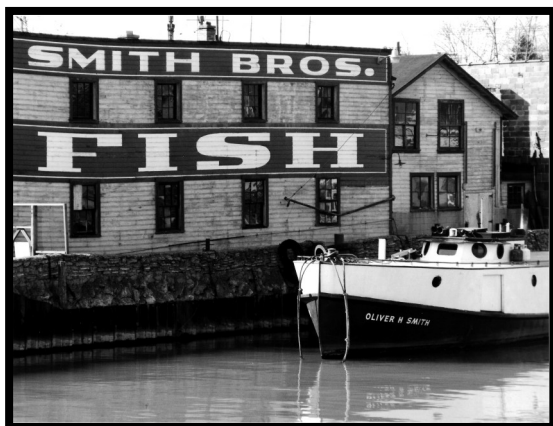
VOLUME 26, ISSUE 1

WINTER 2015

COMMERCIAL FISHING IN PORT WASHINGTON WITH A FOCUS ON SMITH BROS. AND EWIG BROS.

Mary Flierl

With Ewig's being the last of the famous fisherman names left in Port Washington, it is fitting to



look at the impact that commercial fishing has had on the city over the past decades. Rick Smith and Mary Flierl will present a program that includes

photos and interviews with Lloyd and Dan Smith and Eugene Ewig.

Lloyd Smith as well as Jeff Ewig will be present for commentary. It

is hoped that some who were involved with the fishing businesses will also attend and offer input to the program.

The Quarterly Program will take place at the newly remodeled Wilson House at 100 E. Main Street at 1:30 pm, Saturday, January 17, 2015. Refreshments will be provided. The public is invited to attend.



Jeff Ewig



WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THIS PICTURE?

This postcard shows the entrance to Schwin's Grove. Where was it located? Does anyone know anything about it? Let us know!

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Newsletter

Michele Weiland

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Mary Flierl

Membership

Ann Flierl

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portwashingtonhistoricalsociety.org

Historical Perspectives

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 by the Port Historical Society

President's Message

It has been an exciting period of time these past years, and I thank you all for letting me be a part of it. I began in 2006 as a board member, spent three great years working with Geri Zehren as Vice-President and then assumed the President position in 2010. As they say, a lot of water has flowed over the dam.

After five years at 429 W. Grand Ave. through the generosity of Shirli Flack, we took on the Blake building at 205 N. Franklin St. in 2012. We now have a wonderful example of restoration, all due to the generosity of members and friends who donated funds and many hours to transform the building into the Resource Center. Generous donations of over \$450,000 have meant no debt on the building. Tens of thousands of dollars were saved because of volunteer hours to rehabilitate the building.

The year 2012 also brought a fantastic opportunity to create a unique, engaging museum of a different sort and ultimately saved two buildings from demolition. April 2015 will bring the opening of the Port Exploreum, a museum that will be an asset for the community and the area. A large number of volunteers have been working very hard these past two years to complete this vision for the City of Port Washington.

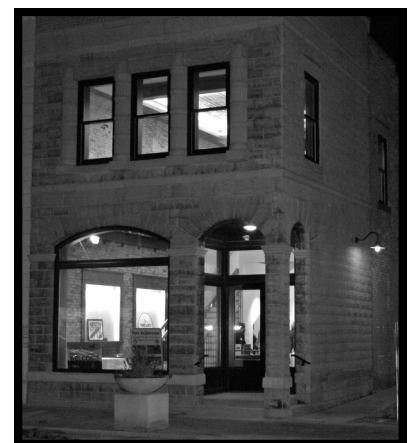
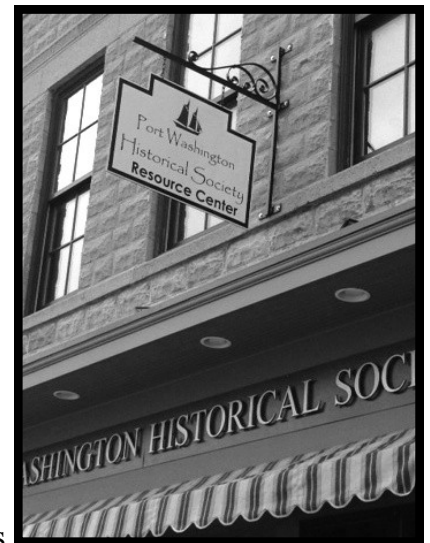
Volunteers have also helped us take on new tasks to preserve and share the history of Port. Whether we work to create historic markers within the community, assist people with their research, work with city leaders to preserve and promote the city, volunteers are what makes it work. I and the Society thank you for your generous gift of time.

As we move toward the opening of the museum your support will continue to be needed in numerous ways. Funds need to be found, volunteers will be needed to help both with the museum as well as the Resource Center and the Light Station. Consider where you might help as we preserve and share the history of the area. I look forward to sharing the load with you all.

Jeff Morgan, a board member for the past two years, has graciously agreed to take over as President of the Board of Directors. Jeff will be overseeing a 15-member board of directors that will be managing three buildings, expanded programming, increased membership and budget, and the addition of employees. The job of President will need someone focused on those demands. Jeff comes with a lot of experience with non-profits and providing direction.

I welcome the opportunity to focus on the work of the Resource Center, the archives and the collections, and helping to support the museum and its exhibits. Thanks, Jeff, for stepping up to help in this way.

*Jackie Oleson, Past Board President
 PW Historical Society Board of Directors*



PORT EXPLOREUM SET TO OPEN APRIL 21: PAVE OUR WAY TO THE FUTURE

Our opening date, April 21, 2015, is set. Building renovations are 99% completed. Over the next two months the “magic,” the interactive content, projectors and movie screen, and the exhibits will be installed. Already our curator has reassembled Vern Bieber’s darkroom on the first floor. It’s going to be wonderful.

The promise of the Exploreum is already unfolding. On November 10, Milwaukee Public Television broadcast an episode of the program *Next Avenue* from the Exploreum. Go to their website for a link to this program on financial security planning for those approaching retirement.

On Friday, December 5, 84 sixth graders from Thomas Jefferson Middle School visited the Exploreum to preview what’s coming next April and tour the building. Their enthusiasm and excitement was wonderfully contagious.

After starting our planning more than two years ago, we are now in a race to the finish line. Jackie Oleson is leading more than a dozen volunteers researching Port’s



stories to tell at the Exploreum. A marketing committee has been formed to plan and promote our grand opening. Our technology leader, Brian Barber, has found alternate hardware solutions that have saved more than \$21,000.

And our fundraising continues non-stop. We have raised \$2,209,597 –just \$230,403 short of our goal of \$2,440,000.

You’re probably asking how you can help the Exploreum reach our goal. Well, I do have a suggestion. Make a year-end gift or a start of 2015 gift – a gift to pave our way to the future. Become a permanent part of the Port Washington Historical Society Port Exploreum. Name one of the pavers in the compass rose garden of the Exploreum. Your gift of \$1,000 will purchase a large paver. Smaller pavers cost \$500. The form for the purchase is included in this issue.

Thank you for your support.

Merry Christmas!

Happy New Year!

*Bill Moren, Port Exploreum
Advisory Board Chair*





Port Exploreum

PORT WASHINGTON, WISCONSIN



Help Pave the Way to the Opening of the Port Exploreum this April, 2015

Become a permanent part of the Port Washington Historical Society's new Port Exploreum by purchasing a paver in the Compass Rose Courtyard outside the building. Please join our fundraising efforts by purchasing one of the pavers in the courtyard, which is located on the East side of the Exploreum. Purchase either a \$1,000 paver (8"x13") or \$500 paver (8"x6 1/2") which can feature business or family names, tributes or memorials. What a fitting way to recognize the organizations and individuals that have made Port Washington such a great place to live and work!

Yes, I/We will support the Port Washington Historical Society's Port Exploreum by purchasing a Paver in the Compass Rose Courtyard.

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Indicate what you would like engraved on your Paver
Large Paver (\$1000) = 4 lines of 20 characters - Small Paver (\$500) 2 lines of 12 characters

NOTE: Spaces count as characters

Mail to: Port Washington Historical Society, P.O. Box 491, Port Washington, WI
Additional naming opportunities exist within the Port Exploreum
For More Information, please contact Bill Moren at billmoren65@gmail.com

2014 PWHS ANNUAL GALA UPDATE

The PWHS Gala, held on October 24 in the Ozaukee County Courthouse historic boardroom, was a huge success. Elegant decorations and candlelight created an ambience that complimented the circa 1902 stenciled cove ceiling. The



140 attendees enjoyed a delicious cocktail buffet prepared and served by the Port Hotel Restaurant and Inn. Throughout the evening everyone enjoyed bidding on numerous auction and raffle items. Auctioneer Pete Didier auctioned off nine wonderful items.

Gary Haseley provided three hours of an array of keyboard music. Guests had an opportunity to learn more about the workings of the PWHS via a PowerPoint program created by Bob Wilke. The Gala raised about \$12,000, which will be used to continue the work that the PWHS does for our community.



The Gala Committee wishes to thank the many donors (too numerous to list) who gave hundreds of items for the Silent Auction, Raffle, Super Raffle, and Voice

Auction. Thank you to the Event sponsors and Gala Committee for their support of the 2014 PWHS Gala Fundraiser:

Event Sponsors: Ozaukee County, Port Hotel Restaurant & Inn, Port Washington State Bank, Ozaukee Press, Eernisse Funeral Homes, Anderson Tackman &



Co. P.L.C., Between the Greens, Didier Appraisals, Marc & Grace Eernisse, Gary Haseley, Jeff and Rose Morgan, and Linda Nenn.

Gala Committee: Kathie Schaefer, Chair; Grace Eernisse, Co-Chair; Kathie Gordon, Co-Chair; Ann Flierl, Mary Flierl, Jackie Oleson, Donna Rasche, Jean Schanen, Maggie Schmit, Cindy Sieklik, Karen Weber, Bob & Holly Wilke, and Geri Zehren.

Thank you to everyone that supported the Gala in numerous ways including those that attended the event. We hope you will continue to support the PWHS through volunteer work, donations and attending fundraising events in the future.

Kathie Schaefer
2014 Gala Chair



WHERE THERE IS A WILL, THERE IS A WAY

Would you like to know a way to make a very significant difference in the future of the Port Washington Historical Society? A powerful way is to make a bequest to the Port Washington Historical Society in your will.

The Port Washington Historical Society is a thriving organization that is dedicated to preserving the historical significance of the community and the stories of its people. You can help assure a strong future for the Society by remembering it in your will.

You can bequeath to the Port Washington Historical Society a specific amount, a percentage of your estate, or all or part of what remains after other bequests are

distributed.

Your attorney or other qualified estate planner can help ensure that your promise to the Port Washington Historical Society is fulfilled by appropriate instructions in your will.

If you already have a will, it can be updated with a simple amendment called a codicil.

A bequest of any amount is important to the Society's future. Indeed, where there is a will, there is a very significant way to remember the Port Washington Historical Society.

For further information, please call Board President Jeff Morgan at 262-284-3886.



DONATIONS & MEMORIALS



PORT EXPLOREUM CAPITAL FUND DRIVE (DONATIONS AND PLEDGES SINCE FALL NEWSLETTER)

* * * * *

**GOAL: \$2.4 MILLION
RAISED TO DATE:**

\$2,207,097

* * * * *

\$1,000,000 AND UP

\$500,000 TO \$999,999

\$250,000 TO \$499,999

\$150,000 to \$249,999

\$100,000 TO \$149,999

\$50,000 TO \$99,000

Port Washington Tourism Council
Bill and Jean Schanen (add'l. gift)

\$20,000 TO \$49,000

Bruce and Candy Pindyck

\$10,000 TO \$19,999

\$1000 TO \$9,999

Mark Dybdahl (additional gift)

Scott and Jan Hendrickson

(additional gift)

Masonic Lodge

Jim and Karen Vollmar

\$250 TO \$999

Mary and Ted Flierl

Linda Nenn

Michele Weiland and Lee Olsen

Pear & Simple

UP TO \$250

Lee and Pam Schlenvogt

Nicholas and Patricia Spencer

MEMORIALS

For the Light Station in memory of
Arthur and Helen Nenn
Linda Nenn

SOCIETY DONATIONS

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Barbara and Walter Karst
Mary Kay Schuknecht
Carl and Cleo Smith

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Jo Ann Buivid

Mark Dybdahl

Betty Jane Ewig

James R. Fowler

Franklin Energy Services, LLC

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Shirley Schanen Gruen

Carol Heinen

Frank and Michelle Ryer Hince

Wayne and Joan Houpt

Bryon and Gwen Johnson

Judy Jones

Kathleen Kernan

Erik and Carol Moeser

Bill and Pat Moren

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Patty and Babe Ruth

Betty L. Savage

Fred and Kathie Schaefer

Lois Olinger Schmidt

Ron and Betty Schowalter

Ken and Karen Semon

Lu Steinert

Paul F. Tutas

Lenys Walden

The Wiggins

Robert and Holly Wilke

Roy and Geri Zehren

RESOURCE CENTER IN KIND DONATIONS

Jackie Oleson

Bob Wilke

Geri Zehren

Sally Ziegler

SPECIAL EVENTS – GALA

Nancy Arcara

Sara and John Dahmen

Michael and Ali Didier

Marc and Grace Eernisse

Kathie Gordon

Bill and Pat Moren

Lonnie Ross

Bill and Jean Schanen

JoEllen and Rick Schlereth

Geri Zehren

1860 LIGHT STATION

Linda Nenn

Lloyd Smith

LIGHT STATION BRICK

Carolyn Reynolds

RESOURCE CENTER

John and Ann Enright

Johnson Controls Foundation

(requested by John Enright)

Drews True Value

BOOKS/PAPERS/PAMPHLETS/ ABSTRACTS/MAPS

Eugene Burke Collection

Shirley Groothousen

Herbert Johl

FURNITURE/TOYS

Nancy Bodenstein

Luxembourg American

Cultural Society

PARAMOUNT PHONOGRAPH

Mova Mijal/Jessica Mijal

in memory of

Howard Barnum Bostwick

MARITIME ITEMS

Kevin Killeen

CD/DVD/VIDEO/RECORDS

Charlotte Barnich Arendt

BUSINESS ARTIFACTS

Nancy Bodenstein

Lloyd Smith

PHOTOS AND NEWSPAPER CLIPPINGS/PRINTS

Shirley Groothousen

Herbert Johl

Paul Lampert

Linda Nenn

Daniel Witkowski, DDS

ANTIQUA METAL & WOOD/ GLASS/FABRIC

Nancy Bodenstein

Lenys Walden

MEMBERSHIP

The Society welcomes the following new members...

ENHANCED MEMBERSHIPS

Member Plus

Amy Bley

Premium

Leroy & Joan Bley



IN MEMORIAM

Bill Klein

Ed Weyker



MEMBERSHIP NEWS

As mentioned in the October newsletter, the 2014 memberships have been extended to early 2015. A new dual membership form has been developed and sent to all members. The standard membership is still offered for members who may not be able to take advantage of the Port Exploreum but still want to support the mission of the Society, be aware of its activities, and share in the historic data available for research.

The first section of the dual form indicates the standard regular one-year membership with the many benefits that are incorporated in all membership levels. The second section offers enhanced memberships which include Port Exploreum benefits. In the third section are supporting memberships with benefits for both the PWHS and Port Exploreum. New for 2015, the membership expiration date is 12 months from the date the membership is taken out or renewed.

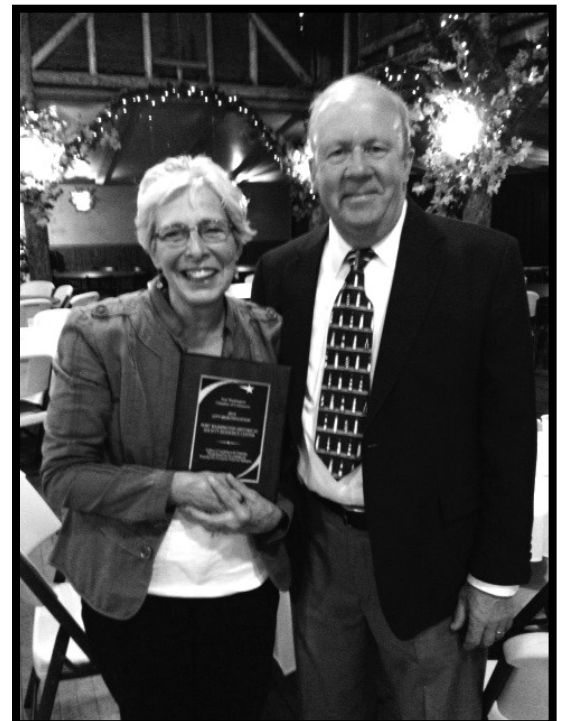
PWHS members not only gain the many benefits but also assist to maintain the Society's three interesting historic buildings and grounds. The newly renovated office and resource center allows areas for properly accessioning donations, storage of several thousand photographs, a research area, a boardroom, space for rotating exhibits, a small gift shop, and storage areas.

Operating costs have increased and consequently it was necessary to raise the membership fees. The *Historical Perspectives* newsletter keeps members abreast of events taking place, exhibits and activities of the Light Station and Resource Center, and the opening of the Port Exploreum. The Board of Directors and volunteer staff appreciate members' past and continued support of the Society's mission to preserve and share our city's unique history.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BEAUTIFICATION AWARD

The Chamber of Commerce awarded the Port Washington Historical Society a 2014 Beautification Award for its restoration of the Resource Center. We are proud to accept this recognition on behalf of the donors, volunteers, and contractors that brought this 1852 building back into its historic setting.

The building stands as an example of what can be done to restore the historic character of a building. Congratulations to the Society for a job well done.



EUGENE BURKE COLLECTION DONATED

Have you been into the Resource Center to see some of the Burke Collection on display? Eugene Burke has a passion for maritime history which began while living on the west coast. This summer Eugene Burke donated his vast maritime collection to the Society in memory of his late wife, Donna Bienlein. The collection consists of maritime artifacts, books, and prints. Burke's donation has substantially ex-



panded the maritime collections of the Society.

This generous donation is enabling the Society to create impressive historic exhibits that depict an important part

of the history of the community. Several pieces of the donation will be a part of the maritime level of the Port Exploreum. An exhibit of the Burke Collection will be on display January into summer of 2015. Stop in at the Resource Center to appreciate some of these wonderful items.

Our deepest thanks to Eugene Burke for his generosity and commitment to preserving maritime history.



NEW BOARD OF DIRECTORS

After the October Annual Meeting, three additional Board members were added to the Board of Directors to make the total number of the Board of Directors fifteen. Grace Eernisse and Lee Schlenvogt chose to continue as members of the Board. Mark Dybdahl's position left a vacancy.

The four new members are: Missy Bleichweh, Kurt Blum, Brian Barber, and Mike Didier. At the November

meeting of the Board of Directors Jeff Morgan was elected President. The other officers elected were: Vice - President, Bill Schanen; Secretary, Kathie Schaefer; and Treasurer, Bob Wilke.

The Society is fortunate to have the leadership of a Board of dedicated members who give of their time and talents to carry on the mission of the Port Washington Historical Society.

NORTHERNER MARKER AT PARK

The Port Washington Historical Society worked with Eagle Scout Eric Drewitz to create an historical marker for the *Northerner* shipwreck. Eric worked with the Society, the City of Port Washington, and the Wisconsin Historical Society to establish a marker that recognizes the shipwreck that lies to the south of the city. It is located on Coal Dock Park just off the southeast part of the boardwalk. The Society worked with Eagle Scouts in the past and is excited about enriching the historical aspect of the community and helping this next generation be a part of preserving that past. Thanks Eric for your wonderful addition to Coal Dock Park.



THANK YOU, 2014 VOLUNTEERS!

Like most volunteer organizations, we exist because of the generosity of our volunteers giving countless hours to run committees, do the jobs necessary so that the organization runs smoothly, and do the jobs no one else wants to do. There is a lot of behind the scenes work being done that makes the Port Washington Historical Society successful. We wholeheartedly thank each and every one.

Leroy Bley
Sharon Brown
Phil Block
John Enright
Jim Fowler
Don Gilmore
Todd Gordon
Carolyn Heatwole
Alice Horton
Elaine Nulph
Jackie Oleson
JoEllen Schlereth
Karen Semon
Ken Semon
Cindy Sieklik
Sarah Smith
Mary Smittkamp
Lu Steinert
Joyce Trepel
Howard Vrankin
Marcia Vrankin
Holly Wilke
Geri Zehren
Sally Ziegler
Jeff Morgan
Bill Schanen
Bob Wilke
Kathie Schaefer
Brian Barber
Missy Beichwehl
Kurt Blum
Sue Bruner
Mike Didier
Grace Eernisse
Deb Neulreich
Lee Schlenvogt
Karen Weber
Rick Smith
Kathie Gordon

Mark Dybdahl
Linda Nenn
Bob Bretl
Kate Brown
Wayne Chrusciel
Mary Flierl
Ann Flierl
Trudie Kelly
Eric Oleson
Pat Moren
Mark Schowalter
Marlene Reichart
Michele Weiland
Bill Moren
Geri Zehren
Joan Meyer
Jim Vollmar
Lefty Bichler
Sigrid Degner
Terry Wozny
Diana Gutzman
AnnGail Smith
Cindy Zozakawitz
Andrea Fhryland
Carol Jushka
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Pat Baganz
Sister Joel Christy
Diane Singer
Bethanne Scheel
Shirley Kimla
Karen Morris
Mary Downing
Dick Liersch
Nancy Haacke
Ardie Ahsmann
Linda Verhey
Leroy Bley
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Joan Groh
Angie Fowler
Lonie Ross
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Bea Funke
Paul Carufel
Richard Bergshulz
Judy Jones
Mark Mitchell
Mike Sauer
Lora Sauer
Ron Voigt
Karen Vollmar
Fred Schaefer
Diane Pike
Missy Larson
Kristen Nett
Allyson Olivier
Patty Ruth
Angel Sikowski
Daniel Solorzano
Melissa Suddendorf
Lynde Uihlein
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Vance Coisman
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Dan Laurence
Tom Didier
Nick Suddendorf
Jordy Schwanz
Doug McManus
Vicki McManus
Bim Lemahieu
Ruth Lansing
Dan Becker
Paul Neumyr
David Brown
Irene Taylor
Andy Bretl
Carole Blaney
Jean Schanen
Rosie Weyker
Wayne Hoffman
Marge Hoffman
Doug Ahsmann
Donna Rashche
Bob Rasche
Maggie Schmit
Nancy Arcara
Jackie Jushka
Bonnie Knaub
Donna Nehrbuss

We apologize if anyone was inadvertently missed. Please let us know so we can correct it.

CHECK OUT THE NEW PWHS WEBSITE

The Port Washington Historical Society is proud to present its newly revised website. You can access it via the address: <http://www.portwashingtonhistoricalsociety.org> or by typing Port Washington Historical Society into your search engine. Our thanks to Carole Blaney at CM Management Solutions (262 618-4185). Carole donated much of her services to make the project possible.

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<http://www.lakefg.com/>

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appear here.

10-27-14

On Oct 13th, my husband, daughter & I stopped in Port Washington on our way home from Door County. We saw the old light house but it was closed. Then a very nice man with a big dog said he could give us a tour. It was wonderful! He told us all the history and pointed out the lovely furniture and took us all

the way to the top. We were very impressed by the museum and him. We have since told all of our friends here in Ill that they should stop there and visit when in the area. We don't know his name, but wanted to thank him for a great tour.
Don, Connie & Denise Hyde

LELAND STANFORD'S TIES TO PORT

In spring of 2014 Daniel Ewig expressed a desire to create a marker to acknowledge Leland Stanford's time in Port Washington from 1848 to 1852. Society researchers worked to document the facts surrounding Stanford's presence in our city. Some interesting facts were discovered.

Stanford owned numerous plots of land in the city. The attorney had a law office in the first block of Franklin Street in 1852. The block burned in 1852, taking Stanford's office with it and likely contributing to his decision to leave the city later that fall.

The Stanford building at 113 Main Street could not be documented as having been the location of a law office for Stanford. The plot of land was owned by Stanford and sold in 1852.

Efforts by Anna and Viola Ubbink to have the Stanford building recognized on the state register for historic places did not succeed and the building was torn down in 1973.

A Wisconsin Historical Society marker has been placed on Main Street across from what had been the location of the Stanford building and recognizes that Stanford had a law office in the block across the street.

The marker was a cooperative effort between the Society and Daniel Ewig. The Society thanks Ewig for his contribution recognizing this part of Port Washington's history.



**PORT WASHINGTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

P. O. Box 491
Port Washington, WI 53074-0491
www.portwashingtonhistoricalsociety.org

Upcoming Events

QUARTERLY MEETING
Saturday, January 17
1:30 p.m.

Wilson House Community Room

Quarterly Meeting

Wednesday, April 15, 2015
7:00 p.m.

Port Exploreum Opening

Tuesday, April 21, 2015

**For more events,
visit our Facebook page at:**

*[www.facebook.com/
PortWashingtonHistoricalSociety](http://www.facebook.com/PortWashingtonHistoricalSociety)*