

SPRING 2017 VOLUME 28, ISSUE 2

### WITHOUT MEANS FOR LIFE OR DEATH

Sarah Smith, our in-house Maritime Consultant and Curator, along with Intern Beth Merrick Scheel will present a most informative program on the Ozaukee County Poor Farms and Potter's Field in Union Cemetery.

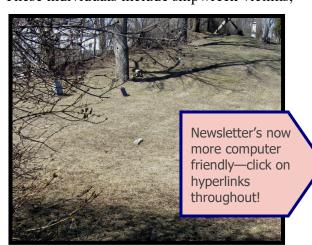
Poor Farms in Ozaukee County? Potter's Field? Ozaukee County is one of the richest counties in the state. How can this be?

Sarah Smith researched the systems of the Ozaukee County Poor Farms that operated from 1853-1890. Ozaukee County took the unusual step of using the 'contract system' for people who dealt with chronic poverty. Instead of a county-owned institution or farm, the county 'let' chronically poor individuals out to a contractor on a yearly basis. There were no accountings for physical disabilities, the elderly or the youth.

Beth Scheel has been working on identifying people, patterns and mortuary practices related to the Potter's Field in Union Cemetery. Two hundred fifty people who lived or died in Ozaukee County are identified and were interred in the Potter's Field. These individuals include shipwreck victims,

homicide victims, young children and individuals who did not have the means for a burial.

The PWHS and Cemetery Association are partnering to create a kiosk Potter's Field in the ceme-



tery that lists the names, ages, and death dates of all of those who are identified, that will serve as a memorial for those individuals.

The Quarterly Meeting will be at the Port Washington State Bank's Community Lakeview Room, 100 East Main Street, on Wednesday, April 19, at 7:00 pm. Doors open at 6:30 pm. The program will be followed with refreshments and a raffle. The public is invited. Mary Flierl, Program Coordinator

For those of you unable to attend the January Quarterly Meeting that featured Dick Liersch in the informative and entertaining program, Saving a Person's Life, you have a second chance to learn a bit about Liersch in the March 2, 2017, Good Living section of the Ozaukee Press. Kris Halbig Zheim interviewed Dick Liersch for the Press story. Liersch's CD, My Living Legacy, which offers tips on how to record life stories, is available at the Port Washington Historical Society's Resource Center.

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### Quarterly Programs

Mary Flierl

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Amy Clark

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#### Websites

portwashingtonhistoricalsociety.org portexploreum.com

#### Historical Perspectives

is published four times a year

# President's Message

It is springtime in Wisconsin and that brings increased activity for Port Washington and for the Historical Society. We start to see significantly more visitors to our community and hopefully many of those visitors will take a tour of one or all of our properties as part of their visit to Port Washington. We continue to work to make people aware of all the properties and combine tours of them, especially with school groups, rather than making a visit to just one.



Our April Quarterly Meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 19. A program about the Potter's Field at Union Cemetery will be presented by Sarah Smith and Beth Scheel. It should be a very interesting program.

This month marks the second anniversary of the *Port Exploreum*. The *Exploreum* continues to impress all who visit it, and the introduction of the Lake Michigan Learning Lab and associated educational programs just broadens its appeal. If you have not been to the *Exploreum* since the start of the newest exhibit, *To the Waters: Escaping Fire on the S.S. Atlanta*, I urge you to visit and check it out.

I am very excited about the newly established Port Washington Historical Society *Legacy Society*. The *Legacy Society* has been established to acknowledge and honor members and supporters who have made a planned gift as part of their estate plan to the Port Washington Historical Society. These planned gifts can take many forms, but the most common are a bequest in a will or trust, establishing a Charitable Remainder Trust or Charitable Gift Annuity, and naming PWHS as a beneficiary of an IRA or Life Insurance Policy. In addition to special recognition, members of the *Legacy Society* will be invited to special programs and lunches just for this group. This is an important step in ensuring the long-term sustainability of the Society.

Our need for volunteers is greater than ever. With the Memorial Day weekend opening of the Light Station on May 26, we especially need volunteers to serve as guides (docents) at the Light Station. You don't have to be a member to volunteer, so please encourage family members and friends who may have an interest to volunteer with the Society. It is an excellent opportunity for people who have recently retired or college students home for the summer to get a taste of volunteering! If you or someone you know is interested, please contact Kathie Gordon or make contact through our website.

Jeff Morgan, President Port Washington Historical Society Board of Directors

### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR UPDATE**

The first quarter of 2017 has been an exciting one for the Historical Society, as we have enjoyed several events and made progress on our two major initiatives. Starting



Opening night for the new exhibit "To the Waters: Escaping Fire on the S.S. Atlanta"

with our unveiling of the new exhibit at the Port Exploreum. "To the Waters: Escaping Fire on the S.S. Atlanta" on quarter has seen how our Society can pro-

vide education to our membership, a sense of wonderment for our visitors and a sense of purpose. The Educa-

tion Initiative development is near completion, and we hosted 75 students from Thomas Jefferson Middle School on March 24 to do a test run of the experiments and interactive technology. It is our hope that once the final adjustments are made, we can roll out the program to area schools by the end of the school year.

The Maritime Heritage program is in full swing as Sarah Smith and her team of interns are doing research and working on various projects pertaining to precat23@gmail.com.

Water flow experiment conducted by middle school students

serving our history. Plans are being made for the sum-

mer, with new interns being brought in to not only help with various Heritage projects, but also by sharing the 1860 Light Station with our visitors.

By now all members should have received a mailing which included our 2017 Membership form, a flier on renting the Port Exploreum, and finally, a pamphlet on ways members can become more involved as volunteers. Additionally, anyone whose membership expired before April 30 received an additional mailing reminding them to renew. Reaction to the mailings have been very positive, and besides renewals and two new memberships we have had interest in joining our volunteer base for the January 11, the Society. If you need further information on your membership, please contact Amy Clark at the Port Exploreum (262-284-2406 or pwhsevents@yahoo.com). Interested in learning more about volunteering? Contact Kathie Gordon at 262-284-2406 or email her at mom-

> Proving the old adage that all work and no play makes Jack (or Jill) dull, we held our inaugural St. Patrick's Day celebration. Members were invited to this event and were asked to bring friends or relatives who might be interested in joining us. We had over 50 attend, and thanks to the music of "Green Sails" all had a great time. We will be having more member events in the future, and we invite you to join us to either meet with old friends or make new ones.

Wayne Chrusiel, Executive Director

### **1860 LIGHT STATION NEWS**

Director Rick Smith has been getting the lighthouse proper ready for opening day, which is Memorial Day weekend, May 27-29, and we have already had inquiries for tours prior to the official season opener. That's great news and brings to mind the request that members talk up our little gem to friends, families, service groups and schools who are looking for a very worthwhile field trip. Just phone me at 414-460-0045 or the Historical Society office at 262-268-9150 to set up a tour time.

Three bids have been received for the repair of the north side of the Generator Building. We hope to select a contractor and begin the work by mid-April (weather permitting).

Lastly, Rick puts his creative flare on the LS for each and every holiday—Halloween, Thanksgiving, Christmas, Valentine's Day, St. Patrick's Day, Easter and, of course, Independence Day—by placement of appropriate decorations, changing the color of the floodlights on the LS grounds, and the light in the tower. We hear many positive comments from the public expressing their delight in watching the seasons and holidays change by viewing the LS décor. I hope you have taken the time to drive by or look up in the evening to appreciate the spirit of the season, and if you see Rick, tell him thanks! Kathie Uttech Gordon, Assistant Director 1860 Light Station

### **NEWS FROM THE PORT EXPLOREUM**

On January 11 of this year, the newest exhibit at the Port Exploreum opened to rave reviews and high levels of interest. This exhibit tells the story of the S. S.



Capstan cover from the S. S. Atlanta

on March 18, 1906. Titled "To the Waters: Escaping Fire on the S.S. Atlanta," this exhibit encompasses what it would have been like to be on the S.S. Atlanta as a 1<sup>st</sup> floor passenger and also the experience of being part of the

2<sup>nd</sup> floor group who were rescued when the Atlanta caught fire.

Atlanta, a passenger

steamship which sank just

north of Port Washington

With this exhibit, we are featuring five new glass display cases which house artifacts from the Atlanta. In the future, these cases will allow us to present arti-



Recovered items from S. S. Atlanta presented in new display cases

facts in a controlled environment, expanding and enhancing our visitors' experience.

Adding a local interest to the exhibit is the fact that the Smith Brothers fishing tug Tessler played a key role in rescuing passengers and crew from the burning Atlanta. Visitors can learn about the Tessler and how it helped avert an even bigger disaster from occurring.

Using artifacts, pictures and videos, visitors experience what travel and disaster was like at the turn of the century on Lake Michigan.

A special thanks and job well done to Sarah Smith who curated this exhibit for the Historical Society.



Large images of what the S.S. Atlanta looks like under water today



Telling the story of how passengers were rescued from the burning S.S. Atlanta

This exhibit will run through year's end. Wayne Chrusciel, Executive Director



Experience the view from the back of the S.S. Atlanta when leaving Port Washington

# **PWHS RESOURCE CENTER NEWS**

Dan Muller

Two new Resource Center exhibits, Dan Muller: Western Artist and Adopted Son of Bill Cody and Jack Weinrich: Artisan Model Boat Builder, are open to the

public and will be featured at an exhibit opening on May 11, 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm.

Dan Muller was born in 1889 in western Montana. At age nine, his father was accidentally killed by a stallion. His mother arranged for him to be legally adopted by Buffalo Bill Cody, his father's best friend. Muller lived in North Platte, NE, with Cody and his wife who he called Aunt Lou. Cody had a strong influ-

ence on Muller, encouraging him to go to school and continue sketching and painting. Eventually, Muller joined Cody and his Wild West Show as it toured across the country and abroad. For many years, Muller traveled with the show in America and Europe. After Cody died in 1917, Muller worked on selling his oil and watercolor

> paintings. He worked as a cowboy, ranch hand, horse trainer and artist in Wyoming and other western states. In 1930, he opened a sign shop in Chicago where he met and married Edna Groeschel, whose family was from the Port Washington area.

> In 1939, Dan and Edna moved to Port Washington to care for her ill father, living on her family's 18-acre farm in Knellsville. Mul-

ler turned the summer kitchen into his studio and painted there every day possible. During that time, he

(Continued on page 11)

### PWHS PROGRAM IN MARITIME HERITAGE

We've been busy this winter and spring with the launch of the *To the Waters* exhibit series at the Port Exploreum, grant applications and development of our three new projects for 2017. The PWHS will host three interns this summer, including our first intern from out of state. We are trying to arrange accommodations for this individual, and we would appreciate any leads our members might have on temporary housing in Port Washington. All of our interns will work on the new projects and put in some time guiding at the Light Station. As always, we continue to catalog and stabilize maritime objects and archaeological artifacts.

Summer 2017 projects include:

Women of the Lights and Lakes: An intensive research and curatorial project examining the lives of women involved in commercial fishing, shipping and lighthouses in Port Washington. The project will help create more inclusive histories, exhibits and tours at the

1860 Light Station and throughout the community.

Experiencing Poverty in Ozaukee County: The PWHS is currently investigating the lives of more than 290 people buried in the Potter's Field in Union Cemetery and the lives of the residents of the Ozaukee County Poor Farm. We are hoping to develop this project into the next exhibit at the *Port Exploreum*.

Walking Tour: The current Port Washington historical walking tour is being retooled to incorporate the everyday lives of the people who worked and lived in the highlighted buildings and neighborhoods. Project tasks include conducting interviews, researching family histories and photographs, searching newspapers and using other sources to build narratives of place. We are hoping to develop an audiovisual tour that works through an app on smartphones.

Sarah Smith, Curator

Program in Archaeology and Maritime Heritage

# RECENT INQUIRIES AT RESOURCE CENTER

#### Mold-Craft

The PWHS received an e-mail request for information about Mold-Craft in Port Washington. The person from Collinsville, OK, sent pictures of two pig statues purchased at auction. They were stamped on the back with, "Mold-Craft Inc. Port Washington Wisconsin." The writer indicated they appear to be a grading system for pigs that correlates with the USDA guidelines from the 1930s to the 1960s. Our archives show that Mold-Craft was noted for making Christmas decorations. Mold-Craft moved to Port Washington in 1952 and went bankrupt in 1962 when Heller Industries took over.

#### **Summer Pavilion**

We also received a question about the *Summer Pavilion* that once stood on the church hill. Several of our researchers tried to find the location of the pavilion. Rick Smith found the *Lakeside Beer Garden* at the curve of Johnson Street on the 1883 Lithograph of Port Washington. Lakeside Brewery of G. Biedermann & Co. was at the site of the original brewery built and started by Jacob Moritz in 1870. The brewery changed hands several times until G. Biedermann bought it in 1881.

Page 43 of the 1892 plat map shows at the same place on Johnson Street *Harmony Hall and Summer Garden* by M. Glesner. According to the information on

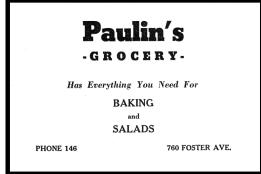
the plat map, Glesner was the manufacturer and dealer in homemade wines, Billiard Hall, Choice Wines, Liquors and Cigars.

#### Paulin Grocery

Interest was shown regarding the store at the corner of Foster Street and Coe Avenue. That store was *Paulin Grocery*, 464 W. Foster Street, phone #146. It opened on Christmas 1926 and closed in 1968. According to an *Ozaukee Press* article, Mr. and Mrs. Paulin, who live in the upper flat at the store building, said they have no definite plans for the future.

Mary Flierl, having lived on Michigan Street, one block to the south of the store, remembers often having to 'run' to the store for a loaf of Wonder Bread.

Mary Flierl, Resource Center Volunteer



Taken from 'Favorite Recipes' compliments of The *Port Wash*ington Hearld

# **LOCAL HISTSORY: THE RAILROAD HOUSE**

Newcomers to the historic city of Port Washington would not know where the Railroad House might be located. Yes, the railroad still passes through the western side of the city. It no longer carries passengers, just long cars of coal to Sheboygan for the power plant.

A description from an article from the Port Pilot newspaper, May 15, 1968, located the Railroad House "almost on top of the Chicago & North Western Railway tracks, just across from the Port Washington de-

pot." The problem now is that the depot was razed in 2002. So where was the Railroad House?

After the pioneer building succumbed to a wrecking crew in 1968, the *Red Barn* was built in its place in 1973. The Donut Depot replaced the hamburger fast food place. In 1995 Susan Runkel started Sweetheart Cakes at the Donut Depot. She ran a successful business until she tried a change to a down-

town location in 2014. Adam Brown and his son Josh are present owners of the building that is still in the original Red Barn shape. They have been providing barbecued specialties under the name of Wing It since 2015.

But what about the *Railroad House*? It is listed in an 1898 directory. An ad from 1899 lists George Greden as proprietor. A photo in the archives identified as taken 1940. It was called *Hank's Tap* in 1951 and the *Avenue* before World War I shows the front of the building facing the railroad tracks. The title on building reads RAILROAD HOUSE J.P.KNAFF.

A 1916-1917 directory indicated that Knaff was retired. Over the years several persons operated the Railroad House. In 1940 it became a tavern and changed hands several times.

The May 15, 1968, article included the following background information about the Railroad House: The building was well over a century old, according to the Decker family, the last owners. The square, two-story building alongside the tracks, "which rattled and shook every time a night freight train went barreling through town," was temporary home for many a railway worker, others who worked in nearby shops, and for soldiers

coming home from World War I.

Names of the early owners and operators are lost in antiquity, but around 1918 it was purchased by Governor Geo. Harrer of Milwaukee. He and his family found that it was an old place, even then, but it was "a going business." And they took it over.

One of the descendants, Olga Decker of Port, recalls they had as high as 15 roomers at different times, and her mother served from 25 to 40 dinners a day to men

> who worked along the North Western, or came from the foundries or shops for a noon meal.

For over a century the Railroad House was the most accessible hotel for railway travelers who had need for room and board for a night or two, and even though it was a far cry from a Conrad Hilton hotel, it had plenty of business.

The Deckers recalled that after World War I many soldiers stopped

there on their way home, and they could still remember the disinfectant smell of the uniforms, "like formaldehvde."

Later the rooming business dropped off, and then the place was just a tavern until recently when it was closed.

The archives show that Harrer's ran it as a tavern in Bar in 1955 and 1965. There is an undated picture where it is called Dayton Tavern.

The Railroad House is not among the oldest buildings in Port Washington but it did play an important role in the early rail travel history of our community. Mary Flierl, Researcher



#### **WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!**

Jim & Andi Baade Michael & Karen Meador

### PWHS LEGACY SOCIETY ESTABLISHED

The Port Washington Historical Society Legacy Society Cally for Legacy Society members. ety has been established as a way to honor and recognize those who have made a planned gift to the Port Washington Historical Society. Planned gifts are made to advance the mission of the Society and to ensure the long-term sustainability of the Society.

A planned gift can be made in a variety of ways. The most common and well known is a bequest to the Society in your will or trust. You may establish a charitable remainder trust or a charitable gift annuity. Naming the Society as a beneficiary of your retirement plan, IRA or a life insurance policy is another way to accomplish your planned gift. Gifts of real estate or stock can be used in your planned gift as well.

Donors who make a planned gift will be publicly acknowledged as members of the Legacy Society unless you choose to keep your planned gift anonymous. Your name appearing on the membership list of the *Legacy* Society will not only recognize your generosity, but it will provide encouragement to other members and supporters who may be considering a similar act of generosity.

In addition to recognition of their commitment to the Port Washington Historical Society through their generous planned gift, Legacy Society members will be invited to special programs and lunches planned specifi-

You should consult your attorney or estate planning advisor to determine what the best method of planned giving will be for your situation. If you would like more information about the *Legacy Society* please contact Bill Moren or Jeff Morgan for information and a confidential membership form.

If you have already named the Port Washington Historical Society in your estate plan or are considering doing so, we invite you to become a member of the PWHS Legacy Society.

Jeff Morgan, PWHS Legacy Society

You're invited to attend a reception at the Resource Center for the opening of the Dan Muller and Jack Weinrich Exhibits on May 11 from 4 to 6 pm.

# 2017 ANNUAL DINNER / GALA

Gala \ festivity, gaiety: a gay and lively celebration; festival. (from Webster's New International Dictionary). Why the definition? Because we want to dispel the thought that this is a fancy dress—and tuxedo-wearing event. On the contrary, the Gala is just that—a way to celebrate our Society's achievements, raise funds to continue our mission and to just have some good old fashioned camaraderie with fellow members.

We hope you will all save the date—Saturday, September 30, 2017—the day selected for this year's Annual Dinner/Gala, which is the Society's major fundraiser. Watch for details to follow soon on email blasts. Teaser: We're changing things up a bit this year, and we know you are going to have a fabulous time!

Amy Clark and I are looking forward to working with all who are interested in being a part of this year's planning. Consider this our call for volunteers. What we will require are several dedicated souls who can head up the following committees:

**Procurement** – responsible for contacting donors for items for our Silent and Voice Auctions

**Décor** – creating and placement of same at venue Marketing – helping with advertising the gala through delivery of flyers, posters, etc.

Clerical – helping with mailing of invitations, creating the Gala booklet and auction bid sheets

**Event Assist** – responsible for helping the day or evening of the event with particular tasks such as Auction Table Captains, check-out runners, etc.

The old adage "Many hands make work light" applies, and each committee chair is asked to bring on board several others who are willing to participate. There are perks to being a volunteer for the event. Ouestions? Comments? Please feel free to contact either Amy or me at the Port Exploreum: 262-284-2406.

Kathie Uttech Gordon Co-Chair, 2017 Annual Dinner/Gala

# PORT EXPLOREUM TO LAUNCH A NEW, INTERACTIVE CURRICULUM

The *Port Exploreum* will embark on a new mission with the Lake Michigan Learning Lab that provides an innovative, interactive set of learning experiences for students in sixth through ninth grades.

The Lake Michigan Learning Lab offers students an opportunity to study Lake Michigan ecology and maritime heritage as a scientist would – making predictions, gathering data, analyzing results, drawing conclusions and identifying relationships between concepts.

We are unveiling a new curriculum titled, "Follow the Drop - A Watershed Odyssey" which provides the opportunity for students to study an array of issues associated with both the natural and human factors affecting water quality for our region. Through this program, students have the opportunity to build understanding and expertise of the causes, effects and possible solutions for issues such as flooding, bluff erosion and water pollution using a set of three thematic, interactive exhibits, an eight-minute movie at the Port Exploreum and 18 pre- and post-visit lessons.



Students interacting with watershed simulation touchscreen

Saukville middle school students will have taken part in this curriculum. Over the next 12 months, our goal is to train 23 more teachers and involve 1000 more students from Ozaukee, Milwaukee, Sheboygan and Washington Counties. Tuesdays, when the *Port Exploreum* is closed to the public, it will be open for classroom visits.

The Follow the Drop – A Watershed Odyssey has been fully funded by grants and a gift totaling \$72,390 from the Brookby Foundation, the Jane Bradley Pettit Foundation, the Greater Milwaukee Foundation, Wisconsin Coastal Management, Sweet Water and Lynde Uihlein.

Bill Moren, PWHS Volunteer



Testing rainwater absorption rates of soil types

program has been designed to facilitate student understanding of science concepts, a macro level awareness of watershed issues and connections to local organizations where they can learn more and take action to improve water quality.

The guiding questions are:

The Water-

shed Odyssey

- How do natural factors and human actions affect how water travels through our environment?
- Where do the different types of water pollution come from and why are they a source of concern for our community?
- What can we do to improve and preserve our freshwater so it is a resource for future generations?

By the time you read this article, 71 Port Washington-



Identifying sport fish and invasive species with our Fish Daze game

# **PWHS ST. PATRICK'S DAY CELEBRATION**







# **Volunteer Opportunities**

**Archival assistance** Bartending at special events Bookkeeping assistance Clerical work including clipping, filing, typing **Docent at Light Station Docent Port Exploreum** Exhibit preparation assistance Gardening and lawn care at Light Station **Greeter at Light Station** Mailing assistance Maintenance - painting, yard work Photographer at special events Poster and flyer distribution Seasonal decorating of venues Special events planning and executing





# DONATIONS & MEMORIALS 🖇



#### **SOCIETY DONATIONS**

Gilbert Albinger
Nancy Bodenstein
Port Washington High School
Class of 1956
Fortune Brands (match for
Scott and Janice Hendrickson)
Scott and Janice Hendrickson
Illinois Tool Works Foundation
(for Kate Brown's volunteer
hours)

#### **MEMORIALS**

Bill and Pat Moren

In Memory of Paul Jushka:
Jon Eschleman
Forrest and Lori Feldt
Carol Ann JushkaArmstrong
Jim and Marge Blachowiak
James and Daun Boyd
Robert and Catherine Day
Mary Pat and Lindley
Gary and Trudie Kelly
Joseph and Lora Mirasola
Jackie Oleson
B. Olson
Lucille Ryan
Michael and Jo Ann Stiever
Maxine Towle

# SOCIETY DONATIONS FOR OPERATIONS

Pamela Westfahl

#### SOCIETY IN-KIND DONATIONS

Ansay & Associates, LLC Alice Horton Ron Knaus Bill & Pat Moren Geri Zehren

#### ANNUAL APPEAL

Tim Bink
Robert and Bernadine Bretl
Wayne and Margaret Hoffmann
Judy Jones
Dorothy Nowicki
Jack Rooney
Lincoln Smith
Jo Ann Stade

Roy and Geri Zehren
1860 LIGHT STATION

# LIGHT STATION IN-KIND DONATIONS

#### LIGHT STATION BRICKS

Rick Smith

#### 1860 LIGHT STATION REPAIRS

RESOURCE CENTER ARCHIVAL DONATIONS

# RESOURCE CENTER IN-KIND DONATIONS

#### 2016 EXPLOREUM PLEDGES

Charter Manufacturing
Company Foundation Inc.
Linda Mellowes, Pres.
Wayne and Ann Chrusciel
Fine Line Carpentry, LLC
Candy and Bruce Pindyck
Mark and Cathy Schowalter

#### **EXPLOREUM**

# LAKE MICHIGAN LEARNING LAB at the PORT EXPLOREUM

# EXPLOREUM IN-KIND DONATIONS

#### SPECIAL EVENTS 2016 25<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY GALA

(received since Winter 2017

### Newsletter)

#### **BRONZE SPONSOR**

Dr. Allon H. Bostwick

#### BOOKS/PAPERS/PAMPHLETS/ ABSTRACTS/MAPS

Nancy Bodenstein
Mary Downing
(Harborview Homemakers)
Jane Fellenz
Larry and Diane Verheyen
The Woman's Club

#### **FURNITURE/TOYS**

#### CD/DVD/VIDEO/RECORDS/ TAPES

Sister Joel Christy

#### **BUSINESS ARTIFACTS**

George Franks
Richard McGarty
Jackie Oleson
Todd and Kathie Gordon

#### PHOTOS AND NEWSPAPER CLIPPINGS/PRINTS/POSTERS/ POSTCARDS

Mary Downing
(Harborview Homemakers)
Barb Holt
Ned Huwatschek
Richard McGarty
Larry and Diane Verheyen

#### ANTIQUE METAL & WOOD/ GLASS/FABRIC

Nancy Bodenstein Teri Dupuis Jane Fellenz Jackie Oleson Rosemary Reid Jim Schuknecht



### IN MEMORIAM

Bea Krier and Dirk Verhey



(Continued from page 4

wrote and illustrated articles for numerous magazines and made yearly trips to Sedona, AZ, and Taos, NM, to work with art dealers that exhibited and sold his paintings. Muller always wanted to return to his beloved West, but knew it would not be the same. Muller wrote and illustrated four books, two of which were *My Life With Buffalo Bill* and *Chico, Horses*. Dan Muller died in December 1976 in Port Washington and is buried in Union Cemetery.

Stylistically, Muller's early works follow the <u>Impressionism</u> of C. M. Russell. Later works tended more toward <u>Realism</u> and a documentarian style. Art dealers felt that he was the Frederic Remington of modern times.

John Weinrich, known as Jack to family and friends, was a very talented wood carver. He developed a love of Port's fishing heritage as a boy, watching the tugs come and go in the harbor from a window in his classroom at St.

Mary's School. As a young man, Weinrich fished on the *Hope Smith* for the Smith Brothers family. He also operated two of their tugs, *Troller* 1 and *Troller* 2, marking the beginning of the sport fishing industry in Port.

Weinrich expressed his maritime interest by creating

models of many of the tugs that worked out of the Port harbor. What began as a hobby with the creation of his first tug in 1960, grew to document one aspect of the maritime history of this lakeshore fishing community.

When John wasn't building model boats, he often could be seen helping with the operations of his son's restaurant, *Newport Shores*. John Weinrich passed on December 3, 2016, at the age of 87. A sample of his tugs are displayed as a part of the exhibit.

Some artifacts from the Bienlein-Burke maritime exhibit were replaced with other items from the collection, giving visitors a sense of the work of a mariner and sharing more depth of the collection.

The south window of the Resource Center features enamelware artifacts from the *S.S. Atlanta*, featured in the new *Port Exploreum* exhibit "To the Waters: Escaping Fire on the *S.S. Atlanta*." The exhibit tells the fascinating story of the 1906 sinking of the *S.S. Atlanta* with

photos, videos, and recovered artifacts from the wreck.

Thanks to Rick Smith, Sarah Smith, Kathie Schaefer, Kay Goodwin, Jackie Oleson, and Geri Zehren for their assistance in creating these new exhibits.

Jackie Oleson and Geri Zehren, RC Co-Directors

# **CONGRATULATIONS TO PWHS MEMBERS!**

John Weinrich Exhibit

At the Port Washington Chamber of Commerce Annual Awards event January 26, two of our Society members were honored. They were: William Schanen III, Distinguished Service and



PWHS members Wayne Chrusciel, Geri Zehren, Jean and Bill Schanen

Geri Zehren, Citizen of the Year. We are fortunate to have them involved with the Society.





Bill Schanen III receives Chamber award for Distinguished Service

Geri Zehren, Citizen of the Year

### **CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS!**

In late January of this year I mailed a form to each of the Historical Society's 40+ volunteers, asking for an update on their contact information. Thanks to all who have responded thus far. Now I ask that all members consider volunteering—even if only for a few hours once every month or once a year—your helping hands are what make a difference to our success. We have cre-

ated a new brochure that outlines the numerous areas where volunteers are needed. The brochure is available at each of our three venues: The Light Station, *Port Exploreum*, and Resource Center. Pick one up, peruse it, and pass it on to someone who might be looking for a way to fill a few hours helping out.

Kathie Uttech Gordon, Volunteer Coordinator



#### Port Washington Historical Society

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

# **Upcoming Events**

QUARTERLY MEETING Wednesday, April 19, 7:00 pm

Port Washington State Bank Lakeview Community Room For a complete list of PWHS
events, click here to visit:
www.facebook.com/
PortWashingtonHistoricalSociety
or
www.portexploreum.com/calendar/

**1st Friday of the Month Movie Night** Friday, April 7, 6:00 pm, *Port Exploreum* 

**Port Exploreum Summer Hours Begin** Wednesday, May 3, 10-4 daily except Tues.

**1st Friday of the Month Movie Night** Friday, May 5, 6:00 pm, *Port Exploreum* 

**New Exhibit Reception** Thursday, May 11, 4-6:00 pm, R. C. **1860 Light Station Opens for Season** Friday, May 26, 11:00 am

**Free Ice Cream Social**Saturday, May 27, 12-3, Light Station

**1st Friday of the Month Movie Night** Friday, June 2, 6:00 pm, *Port Exploreum* 

**Citywide Rummage Sale** Saturday, June 3