



Historical Perspectives

PORT WASHINGTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Volume 22, Issue 3

Autumn 2011

HISTORY OF THE PORT WASHINGTON LIBRARY PROGRAM FOR QUARTERLY MEETING

2011 marks the 50th anniversary of the W. J. Niederkorn Library. The program for the October Quarterly Meeting will be held at the W. J. Niederkorn Library Community Room. The guest speaker David Nimmer, Port Washington's librarian, will give a presentation on the history of the library from its beginning in the Courtland Drug Store located in what is now Biever Travel to the basement in the courthouse, the basement in the old City Hall, the Wisconsin Street School and finally to its present location at 316 W. Grand Avenue. The program will follow a short business meeting of the Society which will begin at 6:45 pm.



Wisconsin Street School, a previous location of the city library.



The City of Port Washington's beautiful library, the W. J. Niederkorn Library located at 316 W. Grand Avenue

HISTORY OF THE PORT WASHINGTON LIBRARY

Date: Wed., October 19th

Time: 7 pm

6:45pm Business Meeting

Place: W. J. Niederkorn Library
Community Room
316 W. Grand Avenue

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Board of Directors

Jackie Oleson, President
Angie Cope, Vice-President
Sue Bruner, Reporting Treasurer
Kathie Gordon, Secretary
Patricia Moren
Grace Eernisse
Michele Weiland
Mike Keller
Mark Dybdahl

Light Station Museum

Rick Smith, Co-Director
Linda Nenn, Co-Director
Kathie Gordon, Tour Coordinator
262-284-7240

Newsletter

open

Quarterly Programs

Mary Flierl

Membership

Ann Flierl

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ciety.org

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Society

Membership

\$20 Individual
\$30 Family
\$10 Student
\$75 Business
\$150 Lifetime

President's Message

This is a wonderful time to be part of the Port Washington Historical Society, a time that is so full of possibilities and involvement. We come off a summer that saw us in cooperation with the Eghart House for a Membership and Open House Day, participating in our local parades, manning the 1860 Light House, participating as a sponsor in the Maritime Heritage Festival and having our first, hopefully annual, rummage sale. As we head into fall we will have our annual meeting on October 19th and our annual dinner on November 5th. Please watch for details.

This summer brought the quest for the Fire Engine House more public with additional appearances before the Common Council and petitions to save the building from being sold. The latest offer to the city reaffirms our desire to lease and not own the building but also to make yearly payments that would cover the TIF taxes the building could potentially generate for the city. Since our agreement to stay at the house on Grand Ave ends in December of 2012, the Society is exploring other possibilities for a permanent location. As always we desire to be in a visible location where we can maintain a local history museum, have a research area and Society office.

Fall could also bring a decision on the old M&I Building and the Business Men's Club Building. It has been hoped that a resolution could be found to preserve this part of our history. Once these buildings have been lost we will be left with an empty spot, and only photographs and memories of what had been. After attending a Wisconsin Historical Society Preservation Conference in Stevens Point on September 23rd it prompts one to ask whether we have done enough to preserve one or both of these early 1900's buildings. I was amazed at what local communities around our state have done to rally around their old buildings to keep them from being demolished. Have we run out of options and time?

If you have an opportunity to stop in to visit the office, check out the panoramic photo of Dan Muller at a rodeo. The 10 x 72 inch photo was framed using proceeds from a Wisconsin Historical Society grant and the generosity of The Framing Gallery that did the framing for the cost of materials.

We have numerous individuals throughout the year that assist us in many ways. We thank them.

Jackie Oleson
President



Self portrait of author,
artist and Knellsville
resident Dan Muller.

CAPITAL FUND CAMPAIGN

by Jackie Oleson

The Board of Directors of the Port Washington Historical Society embarked in 2010 on a Cap Fund Campaign with the quest of a location that would provide room for a local history museum, research and office space and the ability to store artifacts and archives in a safe and dry location.

The Fire Engine House was under consideration as well as the possibility of other locations. As time went on, information was gathered, and discus-

sions were conducted with the city and other individuals; and it has become apparent that other possibilities need to be considered. With a timeline of 2012 as being when the Society needs a home, a decision and the need to get back to fundraising is approaching. We need a building in mind and a goal to reach it. Stay tuned for further information and how you can help.

The current Cap Fund Balance stands at \$99,885 plus an investment of about \$16,000.

PWHS ANNUAL DINNER

The Historical Society's second Annual Dinner will be held at The Patio Bar and Grille. This year we are honoring veterans and in particular wish to honor families who have lost a family member while he or she was serving our country—from the Civil War to Desert Storm. If you have information about a serviceman or woman from the Port Washington area who gave their life during their service, we need the information to commemorate their life. And if you are a veteran, we need to know that as well.

Saturday, November 5TH, 2011

**Patio Bar & Grille
601 North Wisconsin Street**

**Cocktails at 5:30 pm
Sit-down dinner at 6:30 pm**

**Program will honoring local veterans.
RSVP to Kathie G. 268-9734**

**~ SILENT AUCTION ~ DOOR
PRIZES ~ ENTERTAINMENT ~**

To register or share information about a veteran family member, please contact Kathie Gordon at 262-268-9734.

The cost is \$40 per person and this will be a "red, white and blue" veterans' night (feel free to dress patriotically). We promise good food and entertainment, a silent auction, door prizes and more. To register or if you have information to share about a family member, please contact Kathie Gordon at 262-268-9734.

NOTE: The first 40 reservations will be entered into a special drawing.

Light Station News

by Kathie Gordon

Another season comes to a close for the 1860 Light Station on the weekend of October 15-16, 2011.

If you or your visiting family or friends are looking for something to do of an interesting and historic nature, why not take advantage of the last few weekends we will be open. Admission is free for members and only \$3 per person and the view from the tower is worth that price alone! Since opening in mid-May we have had over 900 visitors and conducted 14 special tours.

As is always the case with a non-profit association, we are always looking for volunteer help. If you are interested in lending a hand, we have plenty of little projects where you can assist Rick who has done some of the touch-up painting on the main building and south wall of the generator building. What's in store for the



LS in the future? A new replacement rail around the tower is in the works as well as replacing the storm doors.

Many thanks to all the volunteer docents who have come through for us again this year—sometimes being called in at the last minute to do a tour. And speaking of tours, on three different weekends this summer our Luxembourg friends made the trek across the big pond to partake of the beautiful handiwork their country had donated (the light tower) and to take in-depth tours of the light station and surrounding city attractions. Thanks to all who helped make this season a success.

If you ever want to help out at the Light Station, please contact the Historical Society office: 268-9150 or Kathie: 268-9734.

PWHS BOARD OF DIRECTORS NOMINEES FOR OCTOBER ELECTIONS

This is the first year that the election of the Board of Directors is taking place at our October Quarterly Meeting rather than the April meeting. Each year our society has elections for positions on our Board of Directors. Board Members serve a three-year term and may serve a second three-year term.

Sue Bruner and Mark Dybdahl expressed their interest in continuing on the Board. Sue Bruner has taken the responsibility of Reporting Treasurer this past year. Mark Dybdahl is involved with the Membership Committee.

We thank Angie Cope for her service on the Board, most recently as Vice-President. Additionally, Angie has used her expertise as the editor of the Society's newsletter to produce a professional publication. In addition to the newsletter, Angie maintains the website, undertook the task of scanning and preserving the Dan Muller collection of photos and articles from his scrapbook and has helped in a variety of ways during her tenure on the Board.

ure on the Board..

The Nomination Committee is presenting Lee Schlenvogt as the candidate to fill the vacancy created when Angie Cope steps down when her term expires. Lee has served as the Town of Port Washington Board President and also serves on the Ozaukee County Board of Supervisors. Lee has been married to his wife Pam for 26 years. Together they have two daughters, Melissa and Megan (both away at college). Lee has many community and civic affiliations including :Lions member, Masonic Lodge member, County Board Supervisor, Farm Bureau member, VP Union Cemetery Assoc. His hobbies and interests include fishing, boating, collecting art, and of course, history. Lee's intentions as a member of the Board are: "To help where ever I can". We're sure he'll be a valuable addition to the Society and Board.

The election will take place at our Quarterly Meeting, 6:45 P. M., Wednesday, October 19, 2011 at the W. J. Niederkorn, Community Room.

2011 MARITIME HERITAGE FEST SUCCESS

by Geri Zehren

The Maritime Heritage Festival of August 2011 is now a fond memory. The sight of tall ships anchored in our harbor is a reminder of our good fortune to live in this city that offers such marvelous shoreline beauty. Thanks to all of the volunteers who mindfully watched our tent and programs. Special thanks to the presenters of the "Reflections on Port Washington" programs - Rick Smith, John Enright, and Jerry Baganz. We are extremely grateful to Ansay and Associates for sponsorship of the room, to Wal-Mart for their gift certificate to offset costs of the festival, and the Main Street program for our tent space.

Once again the festival was blessed with great weather and outstanding attendance. Gloomy clouds early Saturday morning, later to disappear into the horizon, caused the first Cardboard Box/ Duct Tape Boat Regatta to be postponed until Sunday. The good news is it caused a record attendance on Sunday as folks returned to catch

the enjoyable races. The response was great and it will be a part of MHF 2012. If you missed it this year watch for the event next year.

Strong festival attendance and activity on the grounds produced good sales at the PWHS tent. The programs plus Rick's great maritime displays in the room were enjoyed by all who attended. The docents at the

Light Station can attest to a busy weekend of activity as people flocked the grounds climbing to the tower for great views of the harbor as they toured the Light Station. We are one of the few Light Stations offering access to its tower and those who do the

Displays and talks featured Port Washington history in the conference room of the Harbor Inn, downtown Port during MHF.



Volunteers help visitors at the outdoor tent at MHF.

climb descend with smiles and raves of the scenery. If you haven't done it put it down on your list for next summer.

Once again, thanks to all who assisted to make the event a success for us. Volunteer help is the core to making our events successful and it is truly appreciated. Hope to see you all next year.

MUSEUM EXHIBIT AWARD



The award was presented to the Port Washington Historical Society at the July Quarterly meeting. The award is given yearly to permanent, temporary, and traveling exhibits that opened the previous year. One of the eligibility criteria is that the exhibition must have been organized by the applicant institution. We were the applicant institution and Rick Smith was the planner, facilitator and main work force behind it. Over 1,600 people, including classes of fourth grade students, visited the museum. This temporary museum showcased what could be if the Society had a permanent location with museum space. The Wisconsin Historical Society Museum award validates our efforts to fund raise toward that goal.

EARLY 20TH CENTURY VIEW



RUMMAGE SALE FUNDRAISER

The rummage sale on August 27 and September 3 was a success, raising \$890, a portion of which will be used to cover the Society's part of the matching State Historical Society grant won to preserve the Dan Muller collection.

Thanks to Wayne and Merton Lueptow for the use of their building which allowed us to set up for the sale and manage it the two successive Satur-

days.

A special thank you goes to Sally Ziegler, Geri Zehren and Pat Moren for organizing and executing the sale and to the numerous volunteers that worked. Important also is a thank you to all that donated the many items for sale. Consideration will be given to have an annual sale so continue to save your items. All items are considered a donation and tax deductible as allowed by law.

SUCCESSFUL PROGRAM ON CAR DEALERSHIPS AND FILLING STATIONS

by Mary Flierl

Thanks to Mike and Jim Schmit we had a fitting location at the Schmit Bros. Ford Showroom for the July Quarterly Meeting. The program on car dealerships and filling stations was well attended with standing room only in spite of the Highway 33 construction.

Additional information about dealerships and

filling stations that was garnered will be added to the power point for publication of a CD for those interested in purchasing one.

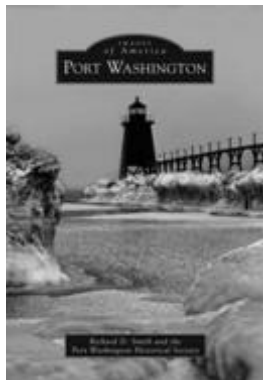
They say lightning doesn't strike twice in the same place. Ardy Ahsmann's ticket was drawn twice to win the raffle gift certificates to Ma Ma Mia's Restaurant and to Baltica's Tea Room. All proceeds of the raffle go to the operation of the historical society.

PWHS GIFT SHOP THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

by Geri Zehren

A REMINDER! It is never too early to start your Christmas shopping. PWHS has a variety of great ornaments to hang on a tree or tuck into a Christmas stocking. The new offering this year is the book, "Images of America, Port Washington" by Rick Smith and Kathie Gordon. Published by Arcadia Press, it reflects the rich history of our city with a wonderful variety of vintage pictures.

Pictures always make great gifts. Choose the Light Station print by Shirley Gruen, the Dave Hackett print of the historic buildings of Port Washington, or one of the old maps of early Port Washington.



Better yet, get them all as they are great reminders of our history.

We encourage you to stop and shop on Mondays and Thursdays, 1:00 to 4:00PM or call to make an appointment (262) 269-9150. If you are shopping on Franklin Street stop and shop at the Portico Gift Shop to see the selection of our items for your Christmas gift giving. Please say a special thank you to them for sponsoring the sales of our items throughout the year.



MEMBERSHIP

NEW ANNUAL MEMBERS

June Eastvold and Michael Frome
Steve Schlecht
Robert Scibby
Josh and Julia Stangl
Jan Young

NEW LIFETIME MEMBER

Bryon and Gwen Johnson
Margaret Lampert
Micheal John Niederkorn

We appreciate the promptness of members renewing their memberships. If you have overlooked renewing, please return the form below.

Members are scattered around the country from coast to coast--California, Texas, Colorado, Michigan, Illinois, Indiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, and Florida as well as one member in Luxembourg.

Port Washington Historical Society MEMBERSHIP FORM

MEMBERSHIP DUES:

☐ Annual Individual \$20

☐ Individual Lifetime \$150

☐ Annual Family \$30

☐ Business \$75 (special this year)

☐ Annual Student \$10

Membership year runs from January 1 - December 31

ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTION:

Also enclosed is a tax deductible contribution of \$ _____ to benefit the Society.

Name(s) (Please print) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____ Phone _____

_____ Please contact me! I'd like to volunteer for a project or committee.

ENCLOSED IS MY CHECK IN THE AMOUNT OF :

\$ _____

Please make checks payable to the Port Washington Historical Society

Send your renewal and/or memberships to:

Port Washington Historical Society

P.O. Box 491

Port Washington, WI 53074-0491





DONATIONS & MEMORIALS



With much gratitude for continued support:

In Honor Of:

Donation by Leroy and Joan Bley in honor of Lloyd Smith

In Memory of:

Donation by Lloyd Smith in memory of Mary Nash

Donation by Victoria Ott in memory of Muriel Altendorf

Donation by Rita Decker in memory of Muriel Altendorf

PWHS Operating Fund Donations:

Jim Fowler

Kathie and Todd Gordon

Light Station Restoration Fund Donations:

Linda Nenn

Fredric Gilomen

Commemorative Bricks

Linda Nenn in memory of Bill Ross

Eric and Jackie Oleson in memory of Bill Ross

Antony and Suzanne Benevenga in honor of Sue Ahner's birthday

Items Donated to the Society

Howard Bostwick Family LLC – 2 Portraits and Bostwick family artifacts.

Peggy Bostwick Scarpace – 1 Dining Room Chair

Deb Neulreich – portable signboard, 2 display cases, wood table and chair

Betty Savage – Marine Corps uniform from WWI and glass sign

Judy Moser Trump – Family items and memorabilia

BOOKS--SPECIAL PAPERS—PAMPHLETS

Sue Bruner

Kathy Noltze

Dr. Bob Schuknecht

Julia VerHaagh

Marguerite Lueptow

Gerald & Florence Rathke

Lloyd Smith

PAINTINGS—PICTURES

Carl Federspiel

Nancy Haacke

Lloyd Smith

Daniel H. Smith and Smith Family– Framed Oil Painting, West Harbor Scene

ANTIQUe METAL/GLASS ITEMS

Mary Flierl

Nancy Haacke

Jackie & Eric Oleson

Lloyd Smith

BOAT MODELS—FURNITURE

James Horstman

Capital Fund Donations

Gary and Marie Zirbes

Juliann Grasse

Wisconsin Energy Foundation Matching Grant

James and Susan Knauer

Friends of the W.J. Niederkorn Library

Jackie Dix Caffee

Port Washington/Saukville Rotary Club

Karen Morris

Bob and Bernadine Bretl

Beth and Randy Tetzlaff

Franklin Energy Services LLC

2 anonymous donations

Donated Goods or Services to support the campaign:

Wal-Mart

A. N. Ansay

Wayne and Merton Lueptow

Deb and Jim Neulrich

Lighthouse Development

Randy Buser

Bill and Laura Kirchien

The Framing Gallery

PLEASE PATRONIZE THESE BUSINESS MEMBERS

Tello's

Family Restaurant Grille & Café
*Hands down the best Mexican and
Greek Food in Ozaukee County*
We Cater
262-268-1133

Schooner Pub

114 N. Franklin Street
262-284-2258
Daily Drink Specials
Sandwiches & Appetizers
Private Party Room Large Selection of
Specialty Beers
Open 7 Days a Week

The Portico

N. Franklin Street
Port Washington, WI 53074



Sharbuno Jewelers

216 N. Franklin Street
Port Washington, WI 53074
262-284-4001
Third Generation Jeweler
Established 1950



Night Owl Services

Medical & legal transcription,
manuscript preparation—draft to final
copy editing, proofreading, general
secretarial assistance as well as event
planning/coordination.

262-268-9734

414-460-0045

Holiday Inn

135 East Grand Ave
Port Washington, WI 53074
262 284-9461

Wardrobe Safari

228 N. Franklin Street
Port Washington, WI 53074
262-284-3300

Fashion forward adventure

PLANNED GIVING

Leaving a legacy often means handing down what we value most. For many of us, that includes making certain that our children and grandchildren will inherit our precious history and heritage.

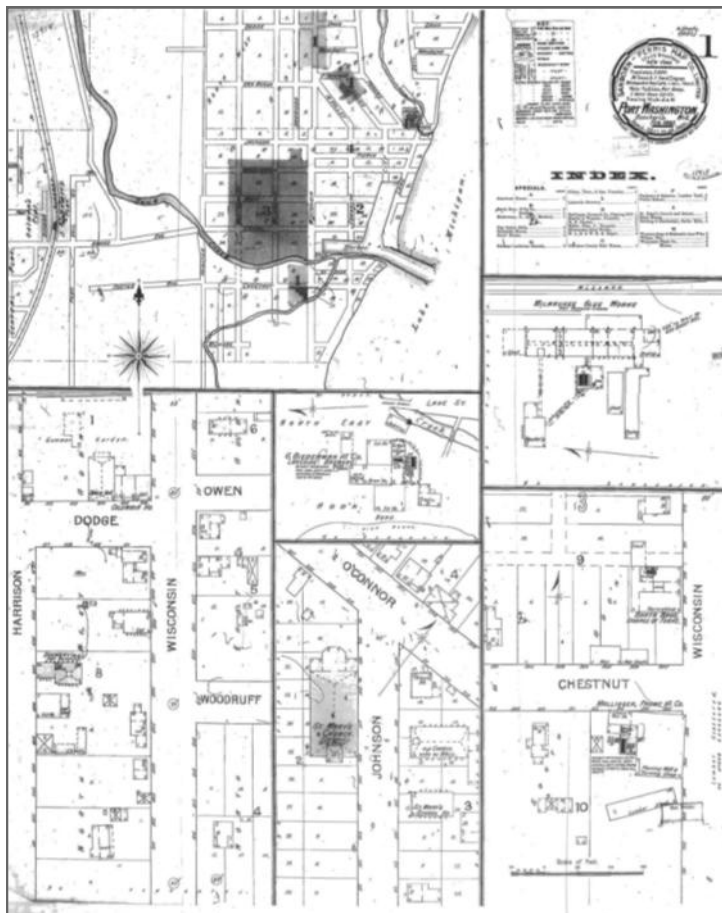
When preparing your estate plan, please consider the Port Washington Historical Society. Your efforts will help ensure that the Society can continue its mission to preserve local history and provide enriching educational opportunities for all generations.

We can show you how to leave a lasting legacy by making a “planned gift” to the Society. Current IRS incentives provide additional tax-related financial benefits.

A planned gift can help you: gain peace of mind; reduce income and or estate taxes; reduce or avoid capital gains taxes; increase your current income; make a larger donation than you otherwise could; or make a gift when you no longer need the assets.

The Port Washington Historical Society can talk to you about simple and affordable charitable gift annuities. You make a gift and receive an immediate income tax deduction for a portion of your gift and in return the Society agrees to make fixed payments to you for life. It’s possible this method will increase the yield you are currently getting from equities or CDs.

There are many options for making planned giving a win-win way to achieve philanthropic and financial goals. Contribute from your will or trust at no cost to you during your lifetime, use a charitable gift annuity that gives you guaranteed income for life or use a charitable lead trust that simply protects your assets. To learn more about these gift options, please contact Jackie Oleson 262-268-9150



1893 Sanborn maps are available at the Historical Society web page.

www.portwashingtonhistoricalsociety.org/historical_maps.htm

NEWSLETTER ASSISTANCE NEEDED

Someone to:

- Help decide what to include.
- Gather articles.
- Do first proofing.
- Work can be done from home or at PWHS Office.
- Newsletter issued four times a year.
- Layout and printing done by co-editors.
- Contact Jackie if interested: 262-284-9223



PORT WASHINGTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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

Society Calendar

QUARTERLY MEETING

Wednesday, October 19th, 6:45pm

W. J. Niederkorn Library Community Room
316 W. Grand Avenue

Public and guests welcome!

Annual Dinner

November 5, 2011

5:30pm Cocktails, 6:30pm Dinner

Patio Bar & Grille

601 North Wisconsin Street

Quarterly Meeting

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

7pm,

Place to be determined