

Time Lines

A newsletter published by the Sheboygan County Historical Society / February 2014



Holiday Memories 2013

It was a very busy Holiday Season at the Sheboygan County Historical Museum in many ways. We were open 32 days, seven days a week and saw 4,242 visitors come through our doors. There was something for everyone; toys, music, sweets and the Prange animation, to put people in the holiday spirit.

Ken Blindauer made over 900 sail boat kits for children to put together and the Garton Toys, always a big hit with the younger set, were again available for them to ride. These are a big attraction for the little people and they often stop at the Museum throughout the year inquiring if they can ride the pedal cars.

Our Music Elf, Judy Straus, contacted many of the area's musicians to play for our guests and, when there weren't performers, many adults and children sat down at the player piano to try their hand at playing Christmas carols with Jane Abromaitas.

The traditional cookies, bars and punch were provided by many of the Museum's members and the Prange animation was set in all new settings. This year Bernie Markevitch, took on the role of lead elf and, with the help of the Lake Shore and the Ivy

League Garden Clubs and many museum volunteers, decorated the Museum and the Taylor House using the theme, *The Gifts of Christmas*. It was centered around the large "candy holidays" of the year. The Prange animation, always a favorite with young and old, began with Valentines Day and worked its way through the year to Christmas.

While this event was going on, the Museum was acquiring and relocating Santaland from the Boston Store in Sheboygan.



Visit us on the web for information on coming events, membership forms and more.

Do an internet search using *Sheboygan County Museum* or type in

<http://www.sheboygancounty.com/government/departments-f-q/historical-museum>

Director's Message

Coming up on my first anniversary, I caught myself reflecting on the past year. We are in the midst of Institutional Planning that will guide the Society and Museum into the future. This is no small task and will involve some fundamental changes. But know that the changes that will occur are for building a stronger future for the museum.

Continuing collaborative work with other organizations, the museum will be working with Debbie Beyers and the U.W.-Extension's Natural Resources Department, to collect oral histories of the Sheboygan River. If you have a story you would like to share, please come to the Museum on March 8th at 10:00 a.m. for an informational program on the project. Whether it's fishing, paddling, swimming or just relaxing on its banks, we all have fond memories of our river.

I would like to thank all the past and present volunteers that help keep the Museum an exciting place to be. If you are interested in helping out, please contact the Museum to find out about available opportunities.

Finally, I have experienced many firsts in my life this past year. But the one that affected me the most was the acquisition of Santaland from Boston Store. I was blown away by the outpouring of community support in preserving this part of my hometown's history. I have received many 'Thank you's' from people on the topic, and would like to extend a 'Thank you' back. This experience has strengthened my belief that we live in a community that values its past and knows that that is what builds an even stronger community.

Thank you.



The Acquisition and Relocation of "Santaland"

The museum received a very nice gift this holiday season when Bon-Ton Corporation donated the Santaland exhibit from its downtown Sheboygan Boston Store location. It is a bittersweet moment for us, we get to preserve a large part of Sheboygan's history but also realize that we probably have seen the last of the downtown department store in Sheboygan.



The relocation took place over two days and included twenty willing and excited volunteers filling approximately twenty-five truck loads to move the exhibit.

We are gradually going through all the pieces to catalog and find those



Larry Last and Rollie Schoenenberger unloading one of the many truck loads

in need of repair. We hope to have some available for Holiday Memories 2014. I know Bruce the Spruce is excited to be in his new home.

Holiday Memories Raffle Winners

Five tabletop decorations, provided by the Lakeshore Miniature Club, were included in this year's Holiday Memories raffle. Winners of those items were Myra Schneider (2), Tippy Jung, Joyce Nery and Kelley Post. Ann Wusterbarth, New Holstein, won the Polar Express train set and Gordy Hauman, also of New Holstein, won the American Girl doll. The Museum would like to extend a very special thank you to Barb Kurten for donating the American Girl dolls throughout the years.



Ann Wusterbarth and Gordy Hauman

"Third Saturday" Program Coordinator, David Reese



We would like to welcome David to the museum staff. Dave has been an intern at the museum for some time, having done some

cataloging, exhibit development and has also assisted on many other projects. Besides the museum, he is also working on a History degree from U.W.-Green Bay. Dave brings his researching abilities as well as an exciting and fresh perspective to our Third Saturday programs. We are excited to be able to positively advance this already excellent program. Please give him a warm 'hello' when you see him.

New Members

Please welcome the following new members: Cheryl and David Kohl, Cleveland; Edith Rohrbeck, Kohler; Sylvia Hemauer, Mia and Robert McMillan and Scott Reichardt, of Plymouth; Jeremy Rowe, Rodney and Mary Eissens, Allen Brotz, William and Cindy Fale, Dan Worth, Horizons 4 Girls, Kirk and Sheri Nick, Robert and Jean Braun, Roland and Marie Neumann, Margaret Heyn, Doris Muesegades, Maureen Slotke and Beth Gotwald, all of Sheboygan; John and Kathleen Brown, Phil Ongna and Mary Ter Maat, all of Sheboygan Falls; Bob and Mry Neeb, Waldo and Mary Muesegades, Phoenix, AZ.

It's not too late to renew your membership! The Museum has 461 paid members. Memberships make up 19% of the Museum's operating budget.

January "Third Saturday" - *More Sheboygan County History Flicks*



Betty Krick and Marge Mattern share a moment

One hundred Eighty guests enjoyed eight different historic films on Sheboygan County for our first program of the 2014 season. Deb Beyer from the U.W.– Extension hosted films on the Sheboygan River. Ron Nytes and Denny Moyer hosted films on Joe "Unser Choe" Hauser and the Sheboygan A's Baseball organization, respectively.

Betty Schultz nee Krick was joined by her friend Marge Mattern to host a film on Betty's family involvement



Denny Moyer and Scott Stangel

in The Cycling Kirks. Margaret Born hosted a film on the Sheboygan County Fair from 1941-1942. Finally, Collections Coordinator Tamara Lange hosted the films on Prange's as well as "The Sheboygan Story." It was a great start to the season.



"Third Saturday" Presenters, Volunteers and Staff at day's end

Spring 2014 Intern

Please extend a warm welcome to David Strange, who will be completing a curatorial focused internship this spring.



David is a graduate student in the Museum Studies and Anthropology programs at UW-Milwaukee. After working with staff this fall for a class project, David inquired about completing his required internship with the Museum. We were thrilled to have him back.

David's first project is assisting with documenting the H.C. Prange Company nativity that is displayed each year during Holiday Memories. Once the pieces are detailed and extensively photographed, they will be traveling to Middleton for conservation work.

2014 Seasonal Exhibit Underway

Despite what the weather indicates, spring is on the way, which means plans for the seasonal exhibit are moving into high gear. 2014 marks the twentieth anniversary of the Sheboygan County Veteran's Memorial just to the north of the Museum. In addition to several collaborative programming efforts, the main building will feature a related temporary exhibit featuring the many ways residents of Sheboygan County have served the nation, both on and off the battlefield.

As we move into the design phase of the exhibit, a major step in developing an exhibit is identifying materials in the collection to tell this important history. While there are already many objects to choose from at the Museum, there are several areas where we are hoping to find new donation or loans. In particular, we could use more objects made by local industries to supply and/or support the military, uniforms, memorabilia and/or recollections post-World War II and uniforms, memorabilia and/or recollections related to women in the military or auxiliary units throughout history.

If you might have materials we are looking for, or if you know someone who does, we would love to talk with you. It is best if you contact the Museum prior to dropping by to ensure a staff member will be available to talk with you regarding the items.



\$250 presented to the Museum by the Kettle Moraine Corvette Club

*Sheboygan County
Historical Society
and Museum*

3110 Erie Avenue
Sheboygan , WI 53081
(920) 458-1103



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Calendar of Coming Events

Please call host sites for details.

- Sheboygan County Historical Society (SCHS).....920-458-1103
- Sheboygan County Historical Research Center (SCHRC).....920-467-4667
- Wade House.....920-526-3271
- Random Lake Area Historical Soc. (RLAHS).....920-994-4682
- Lutze Housebarn.....920-693-3454
- Aviation Heritage Center of Wisconsin (AHCW).....920-783-3333
- Plymouth Historical Society (PHS).....920-893-1876

- Feb. 15, Third Saturday, The Business of Photography, SCHS**
- Feb. 15, Hearth Side Dinner, Wade House**
- March 6, Beechwood, Batavia and A Few Lost Communities, SCHRC**
- March 8, Women in the Military, SCHRC**
- March 10, Irish Research - From Ireland to America, SCHRC**

- March 15, Third Saturday, At the Crossroads: Sheboygan County Villages, SCHS**
- March. 15, Hearth Side Dinner, Wade House**
- April 5, German Genealogy Mini-Conference, SCHRC**
- April 12, History of a Model City, Madison, WI, SCHRC**
- April 19, Third Saturday, 75 Years and Going Strong; Sheboygan County Companies, SCHS**
- April 26, Hearth Side Dinner, Wade House**
- May 10, Lighthouses of Wisconsin, SCHRC**
- May 12, Family Tree Maker - Getting the Most out of it, SCHRC**
- June 15, Wings & Wheels, AHCW**
- May 17, Third Saturday, Serving Those Who've Served; Sheboygan County Veteran's Organizations; SCHS**
- May 17-18, At Work and at Play, Wade House**
- June 21 Third Saturday; Badges of Courage and Safety; Sheboygan County Policing, SCHS**

- July 19, Third Saturday; Hometown Sports Champions, SCHS**
- Aug. 16, Third Saturday; Spares and Strikes at the Alleys, SCHS**
- Aug. 24, 54th Annual Arts and Crafts Fair, Wade House**
- Sept. 20, Third Saturday; An Apple a Day; Public Health in Sheboygan County, SCHS**
- Sept. 27- 28, 24th Annual Wade House Civil War Weekend, Wade House**
- Oct. 11-12, Autumn Celebration, Wade House**
- Oct. 18, Third Saturday; Still More Collectors and Their Collections, SCHS**
- Nov. 11, Annual Meeting of Sheboygan County Historical Society and Museum, SCHS**
- Nov. 28, Holiday Memories 2014 opens to the public, SCHS**



MUSEUM & TIME LINES NEWSLETTER
Travis Gross, executive director; David Reese, Angela Hullin, Nancy Koeppen, Tamara Lange, Allen Price, Dale Robson, staff members. Museum phone (920) 458-1103 Museum e-mail: nancy.koeppen@sheboygancounty.com
Museum website: <http://www.sheboygancounty.com/government/departments-f-q/historical-museum>

STAFF

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SHEBOYGAN COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY MISSION
... has as its primary mission to collect, preserve, and educate about the history of Sheboygan County.

ENDOWMENT TRUST
... is designed to support the mission of the Society through interest earned and designated donations to support special projects, exhibits, restoration projects, updating office equipment, and other pressing needs outside the "operating budget."

KENNETH W. CONGER EDUCATIONAL ENDOWMENT FUND
... provides funds for Society programs for the education of children, introducing programs to meet those needs, developing new audiences and securing a solid financial base to support this mission.

We invite your support of the both endowments through financial donations of cash, investments or property.