



BAY VIEW Historian

VOLUME 2011, NO. 6

DECEMBER 2011

NEXT MEETING: February 6, 7:00 pm, Beulah Brinton Community Center. Department of City Development Commissioner Rocky Marcoux will give a presentation on the history of development in Milwaukee. Don't miss this engaging speaker!

Bay View Historical Society Receives Wisconsin Historical Society's Highest Award

BY RON WINKLER

On Monday, October 3rd, the Bay View Historical Society received the Wisconsin Historical Society's prestigious Reuben Gold Thwaites Trophy. Wisconsin Historical Society State Preservation Officer Michael Stevens made the presentation during our membership meeting at the Beulah Brinton Center.

In presenting the award, Stevens referred to our Society's mission statement which "encourages a sense of community by conserving, celebrating and sharing Bay View's rich heritage." He also noted that our vision statement encourages us to "serve as a portal, and archive, for celebrating Bay View's history and promise for the future." He praised those statements, stating that they stress outcomes such as a sense of community, which is rooted very strongly in the present. To illustrate the ways in which the BVHS accomplishes these tenets, Stevens cited the following examples:

- Awareness of importance of place: our

work in historic preservation which ranges from landmarking properties to our purchase of the Beulah Brinton House

- Serving as a community center: annual beer and wine-tasting event, farmers market participation, and involvement with local organizations
- Programs designed to encourage people to interact with history, such as the walking tours.
- Community involvement such as the Bay View Bash.

The Reuben Gold Thwaites trophy is the Wisconsin Historical Society's highest recognition of distinction awarded annually to a "historical society for continued excellence for its overall service to its community over a period of at least five years." Historical societies are eligible to receive the award every 25 years. The Bay View Historical Society received the award



Bay View Historical Society President Nancy Tawney accepts the Reuben Gold Thwaites Trophy from Michael Stevens, State Preservation Officer with the Wisconsin Historical Society. Ron Winkler, who nominated the Bay View Historical Society for the award is holds the accompanying certificate.

25 years ago, seven years after the Society's inception. The Bay View Historical Society was nominated for the 2011 award by society member Ron Winkler.

Holiday Party and Bay View Book Debut

Everyone is invited to attend the Bay View Historical Society's Holiday Open House on Saturday, December 17. It will be held at the Beulah Brinton House, 2590 S. Superior Street, from 1:00 pm - 6:30 pm. Stop in at any time throughout the afternoon and early evening for some holiday cheer. Enjoy the beautifully decorated house, have cookies and refreshments and hear holiday music.

A new book about Bay View, written by Ron Winkler and produced by Arcadia Publishing, will also make its debut on this day. Copies of this book will make great holiday gifts! The book will be available for purchase, and the author will be present to personally sign copies. People who have pre-ordered books can pick up their copies at the event. Those who have pre-ordered books to be delivered will receive their copies in the mail. Don't miss this festive day at the Beulah Brinton House!



ENJOY THE MUSIC OF LIL' REV AND LARRY PENN ON SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27

Lil' Rev, a Midwestern traveling musician and storyteller, and singer-songwriter Larry Penn will perform an afternoon concert at the Beulah Brinton House on Sunday, November 27 at 2:00 pm. (The Packers do NOT play on this afternoon.)

Refreshments will be served at the performance, and a free-will offering will be taken. Plan to attend this entertaining event at the Brinton House, 2590 S. Superior Street.

The Bay View Historian
is published six times a year by
The Bay View Historical Society.

President

Nancy Tawney

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Susan Ballje

Mary Fisher

Karla Iseler

Shemagne O'Keefe

Donna Pogliano

David Reinelt

Sheila Semrou

Committee Contacts:

Archives

Janis Liedtke, 414-481-2648

Beulah Brinton House Management

Stephanie Harling, 414-744-5343

Fundraising

Nancy Tawney 414-744-5674

Historian Lead Editor

Jenn Kresse, 414-531-0225

jkresse@gmail.com

Nominating

Leslie Bachhuber, 414-294-4377

Landmarks

John Manke, 414-304-5039

Programs

Ron Winkler, 414-744-9404

Sunshine

Nadine Barthuli, 414-744-8535

Membership

\$20 Individual/\$17 Seniors (Age 65+)

\$30 Household/\$25 Senior Household

\$30 Nonprofit/Small Business

\$55 Corporate

Bay View Historical Society

2590 S. Superior Street

Bay View, WI 53207

www.bayviewhistoricalsociety.org

The Bay View Historical Society is
a nonprofit 501 (c) (3) organization.

Your donations and in-kind gifts are
tax-deductible as allowed by law.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

BY NANCY TAWNEY

The holiday season is here, and it is interesting to think about what Christmas was like in the early days of Bay View. If the walls of the Beulah Brinton House could talk, I wonder what we would learn about how Beulah and Warren Brinton and their family celebrated Christmas. We'll never really

know, but we do know that the house now has a very special charm when decorated for the holidays. Please plan to attend the Holiday Open House and Bay View Book Debut on Saturday, December 17, and get transported back in time for a few hours. Happy Holidays to all!



**Pre-Order Ron Winkler's *Bay View*
and Pick Up Your Copy on
December 12th**

Ron Winkler has written a history of Bay View for Arcadia Publishing's Images of America series, and now you can pre-order your very own copy complete with photo archive! The 128-page text is packed with over 200

photographs, maps and illustrations from BVHS archives and numerous private collections never before published.

Beginning with a historical overview of the neighborhood, the book covers Bay View's early pioneers, steel mill, churches and schools, 'Little Italy', highways and byways, as well as recreation and entertainment of the era.

The book will be published in December. Books are \$21.99 each, and may be picked up on Saturday, December 17th at the Beulah Brinton House between 1:00 pm and 6:30 pm. For \$25, the book will be sent to you via mail. All profits from the book's pre-order will benefit the Bay View Historical Society.

Please make checks payable to the BVHS. Pre-order forms must be received by December 1.

Name _____

Phone _____

Number of copies to be picked up _____ x \$21.99 = _____

Number of copies for delivery _____ x \$25.00 = _____

Shipping Information:

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

We welcome the following new members who have joined the Society since September 1st:

Trevor G. Berman • Sharon Cook • Lindsey Grady

Barbara A. Karges • David Radonski • Debbie Steidl • Ricardo Trinidad

Bay View Gets Facelift

BY RON WINKLER

Northern Bay View along Kinnickinnic Avenue is getting a facelift. Part of that facelift involves demolition of several properties. The first area affected is the intersection of Kinnickinnic Avenue, Lincoln Avenue and Howell Avenue, where the German-American Bank building at 2301-11 S. Kinnickinnic Avenue was demolished to make way for a new Alterra Coffee Roasters shop.

The Neoclassical German-American Bank building was constructed in 1907 for the Merchants Investment Association for \$50,000. It was designed by Herman Esser and George Raulf, Jr. as the German-American Bank until it moved to 2685 S. Kinnickinnic Avenue, where it eventually became the First Wisconsin National Bank. Today that building houses Joyce Parker Productions.

In 1930, the German-American Bank building was converted to ten stores. It was home to Kinnickinnic Federal Savings & Loan, which became Maritime Bank.

Alterra purchased the property with hopes of using the building as-is. With time, it became apparent that renovation would be too expensive. The building was razed, and a 13,000-square-foot building with a café and bakery is scheduled to open in July, 2012. Plans include a patio with outdoor seating. Alterra also plans to construct a bus shelter to replace what was previously a bus stop. There will also be more sidewalk space on Lincoln Avenue in front of the building.

Along with construction of the new building, work is also underway on the reconfiguration of the triangular intersection of Kinnickinnic-Lincoln-Howell. It will include moving the two traffic islands to the north. A monumental sculpture will be part of the reconfiguration. Artists can submit designs that incorporate solar, wind and even "people power." Deadline for submissions is January 6, 2012.



The Neoclassical German-American Bank building was constructed in 1907. It housed Kinnickinnic Federal Savings & Loan which then became Maritime Bank. Today the site is a vacant lot awaiting construction of the new Alterra Coffee Roasters shop.

South of the Alterra lot, on the southeast corner of Kinnickinnic and Conway, is another construction project. Five buildings were demolished in September to make way for Dwell Bay View, a 70-unit apartment building and retail complex. Snap Fitness Bay View is the first retail tenant. The building is expected to be ready by July, 2012.

The first building to be demolished was the Lonefeather Trading Post built in 1924 at 2432 S. Kinnickinnic. It was the former site of William J. Hertz Cities Service Gas and Koolmotor Oil filling station. A house at 625 E. Conway, adjacent to Lonefeather, was also razed.



This Colonial Revival-style apartment building at 2438-44 S. Kinnickinnic was the second to be demolished. The original owner was John Julian, who paid Elias Stollenwerk \$7,000 to construct the building in 1907, according to the plans of architect Nicholas Dornbach.



This American Foursquare style duplex was built in 1912 at 2452 S. Kinnickinnic.



This Queen Anne home at 2460 S. Kinnickinnic was built in 1890. The house in the rear, which was also demolished, was originally a carriage house.

IN MEMORY

Sylvester Sijan, a longtime member of the Bay View Historical Society, died on September 9, 2011, and we mourn the loss of this friend.

THANK YOU, ANNUAL APPEAL DONORS!

The Society is deeply grateful to those members and friends who promptly and generously responded to our request for the 2011 annual appeal. If you have not yet participated, please consider making a special contribution with your membership renewal. Your generous gift will help us support our day-to-day operations and maintain the Beulah Brinton House as an asset to BVHS and the community.

AMENDMENT OF BYLAWS CORRECTION

The October 2011 issue of the Historian included suggested revisions to the current bylaws of the Bay View Historical Society. All members were asked to read the suggested changes and then submit votes for approval or disapproval of them, using the form included with the revisions or cast their vote online. We apologize that the wrong address was given for sending an online vote. To vote online, please send an email to: bayviewhistoricalsociety@gmail.com with the subject line "Bylaws". In the body of the email simply write "I approve the amendments" or "I do not approve the amendments" and include your name. Please submit your email vote by December 31, 2011.

FOR SALE

Ethan Allen dining room set in mint condition: table, eight chairs, two additional leaves, extending table to 12 feet, protective pads.

This dining room set is currently at the Beulah Brinton House. Call 414-744-5674 for an appointment.

WANT AD

The Beulah Brinton House is in need of restoration in many places. Carpenters, woodworkers and handy-people are being sought to begin restorative projects.

If you have skills that could assist with this work, please call 414-744-5674.

2011 Membership Renewal Form

Please renew my membership in the Bay View Historical Society for 2011!

MEMBERSHIP DUES:

<input type="checkbox"/> Individual	\$20.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Household	\$30.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Senior (65 or older)	\$17.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Senior Household	\$25.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Nonprofit/Small Business	\$30.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Corporate	\$55.00

ALSO ENCLOSED IS A TAX-DEDUCTIBLE CONTRIBUTION OF \$ _____

FOR: Annual Appeal Capital Campaign for the Beulah Brinton House

ENCLOSED IS MY CHECK IN THE AMOUNT OF: \$ _____

Please make checks payable to the Bay View Historical Society

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

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

SEND YOUR RENEWAL TO:

Bay View Historical Society

ATTENTION: MEMBERSHIP
2590 SOUTH SUPERIOR STREET
MILWAUKEE, WI, 53207



BVHS memberships make a terrific gift!

Just include the information on an additional sheet of paper with your renewal.

Visioning Session Targets Ideas for Historical Society's Future

Forty members of the Historical Society as well as representatives of various community groups assembled for an evening of idea sharing about possible future Society directions at the Beulah Brinton House. Led by facilitator Shemagne O'Keefe, attendees produced a myriad of ideas that were synthesized into eight themes to be used as guides in determining the future work of the Historical Society:

1. **Community Events:** the BVHS and Beulah Brinton House can serve as a gathering place for informed community dialogue for all ages.
2. **Cultural Programs:** the BVHS may be utilized as a center for cultural programs in Bay View.
3. **Educational Programs:** the Society can host educational opportunities for youth to understand the essence of the work of Beulah Brinton in a way that is relevant to their lives.
4. **Neighborhood/Community:** the BVHS can act as a clearinghouse for accessing history of neighborhood homes and buildings.
5. **Physical Spaces and Resources:** historically accurate restoration and renovation of the Beulah Brinton House and grounds can be physically accessible to all. Also, the BVHS can set up an endowment fund to sustain the house and educational programs.
6. **Tourism:** the Brinton House can serve as a tourist destination and as the Bay View Visitor Center.
7. **History:** the Society can create a feeling of community for Bay View residents by highlighting the neighborhood's history and roots.
8. **Reputation:** the BVHS can be a leader and model for community historical societies everywhere.

FEBRUARY 6 MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM FEATURES COMMISSIONER FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF CITY DEVELOPMENT

Rocky Marcoux, Commissioner for the Department of City Development, will be the speaker for the February 6 Membership Program. He will give a presentation on the history of development in Milwaukee.

Described as part bulldog and part evangelist, Marcoux is an engaging speaker who is an advocate for Milwaukee's future and a passionate promoter of the city's assets and opportunities. This program will be held at the Beulah Brinton Community Center, 2555 S. Bay Street at 7 pm on Monday, February 6. Refreshments will be served.

BAY VIEW HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBER PROFILE: JOHN UTZAT

Bay View has a very rich history. A person who has done much to record and preserve this history is Mr. John H. Utzat.

Mr. Utzat was a writer for the *South Side News* as well as other South Side papers. He's written countless articles about many facets of Milwaukee life, including specific accounts about Bay View. Collections of some of these stories are available at the Milwaukee Public Library in the book *Southside in the SUN*.

Along with Ray Bethke, the first president of the Bay View Historical Society, Mr. Utzat used his encyclopedic knowledge of Bay View to design six walking tours of Bay View. These popular tours have been taken by many people over the years and walking tour attendance continues to thrive today.

As a founding member of the Bay View Historical Society, Mr. Utzat was on the Society's program committee in its early days, and we have him to thank for solving the mystery of the location of 1835 Stewart Allis Cemetery.

Currently, Mr. Utzat serves as a member of the Society's Historical Landmarks Committee, where he drives the Committee's annual decision of designating historic Bay View sites. He is also serves as the Master of Ceremonies at the designation event every year.

The BVHS is grateful for his presence and participation in the Society.



John Utzat with former Mayor of Milwaukee, Frank Zeidler.

See Your Name in Print!

Write an article about Bay View history or of historical interest to BVHS members and we may run it in *The Historian*! Word documents are ideal and articles must be 1,000 words or less — photographs are a plus!

Contact Jenn Kresse at jrkresse@gmail.com or 414-531-0225 to find out more!



Calendar 2011-2012

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27:

Concert with Lil' Rev and Larry Penn
Beulah Brinton House
2590 S. Superior Street
2:00 - 4:00 pm

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17:

Beulah Brinton House Open to the
Public & debut of new book about
Bay View
2590 S. Superior St.
1:00 - 7:00 pm

SATURDAY, JANUARY 21:

Beulah Brinton House Open to Public
2590 S. Superior St.
1:00 - 4:00 pm

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 6:

General Membership Program
Speaker: Rocky Marcoux
Beulah Brinton Community Center
2555 S. Bay Street
7:00 pm

Upcoming Board Meetings:

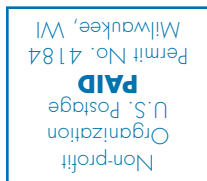
- Tuesday, December 13, 6:30 p.m.
Beulah Brinton House
- Tuesday, January 10, 6:30 p.m.
Beulah Brinton House
- Tuesday, February 14, 6:30 p.m.
Beulah Brinton House

Board meetings may be subject to change.

SIX

ENCOURAGING A SENSE OF COMMUNITY BY PRESERVING, CELEBRATING AND SHARING BAY VIEW'S RICH HERITAGE.

Return Service Requested



Bay View Historical Society
2590 SOUTH SUPERIOR STREET
BAY VIEW, WI 53207

