



BAY VIEW Historian

VOLUME 2013, NO. 2

APRIL 2013

NEXT MEETING: *Bay View Historical Society Presents* Speakers Kathleen Mohr and Anna Passante, Monday, April 1 at 7:00 pm at the Beulah Brinton Center, 2555 S. Bay Street.



Top: Kathleen Mohr as Betsy Ross.
Above right: Anna Passante's latest book, *Dick Wiken, Milwaukee Architectural Sculptor*.

Double Bill for April 1st Meeting

No fooling.... there will be two presentations when the Bay View Historical Society meets next on April 1.

Bay View resident Kathleen Mohr, will present "Brave Deeds of the Petticoat Patriots".

Costumed as Betsy Ross, she will speak in the person of the seamstress credited with making the first American flag. Betsy will recall a time when our country was new and learning to stand up for its freedom. Her program focuses on the American Revolution and the part that women such as Molly Pitcher, Nancy Hart and Sybil Ludington played in it.

Then local author Anna Passante will speak about her latest book: *Dick Wiken, Milwaukee Architectural Sculptor*. Wiken

(1913-1985) was born in Milwaukee, attended Bay View High School and was a self-taught sculptor, designer and craftsman. Ms. Passante's book covers the accomplishments of his life and she will speak about them.

Passante has also authored two other books: *Anarchy in Bay View's Little Italy, September 9, 1917* and *the Shocking Aftermath* and *A God-given Talent: Peter J. Brust, Architect: His Work and Legacy, 1906-2006*.

This event will take place at the Beulah Brinton Community Center, 2555 S. Bay Street, at 7:00 pm. All are welcome to attend and refreshments will be served. If you need a ride to the meeting, please call 744-5674 and arrangements will be made.

Education Initiative with BVHS

BY SUSAN BALLJE

Community: A Place Where We All Belong

Bay View Historical Society is dedicated to further building community through knowledge of the area's significant history. With BVHS mission in focus, we are building relationships with four area schools and studying the Port of Milwaukee. This project is funded by the Wisconsin Humanities Council mini-grant awarded in June.



Historian John Gurda at the *Thinking Like a Historian* workshop in February.

The grant has several components that are designed to bring students from Bay View schools into the community in order to study area history and get a sense of community. Members are involved as resources and support the students' study to keep their interests alive and relevant.

The Education Committee for BVHS (including Susan Ballje, Nancy Tawney, Kathy Mulvey, Ann White, Stephanie Harling and Robin Kitzrow) has reached out to Clement Avenue, Fernwood Montessori, Humboldt Park, and Trowbridge schools. During the summer, BVHS members and staff from the four schools met to study Peter Block's book *Community: The Structure of Belonging* and the Port of Milwaukee. We enjoyed a field trip through the port and were amazed with the history, commerce,

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Encyclopedia
of Milwaukee

ENCYCLOPEDIA OF MILWAUKEE

UWM professor Amanda Seligman spoke to members of the Bay View Historical Society on February 4th about the creation of an encyclopedia of Milwaukee. Projected to be launched in 2017, this will be a comprehensive work covering the Milwaukee metropolitan area. It will have approximately 720 entries with illustrations, maps and photographs as well as a comprehensive bibliography and footnotes.

Subject areas will include: arts and culture, business, industry, labor and agriculture, education, gender and sexuality, health and medicine, media and communications, natural and built

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

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Bay View Historical Society
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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

Because we have endured and survived another Wisconsin winter, the miracle of spring and the new life that it brings is especially appreciated. Spring will also bring much activity at the Bay View Historical Society. The Annual Dinner, which will be held at the South Shore Yacht Club on April 27, is a wonderful opportunity to socialize with fellow society members. The annual yard sale

on May 18 will be your chance to acquire a wide variety of items at great bargains. The Pryor Well, just half a block west of the Brinton House, will be designated as a historic landmark on Saturday, June 15. These events as well as member meetings and the monthly open house are all ways to be involved with the Historical Society and support its efforts. We always look forward to seeing you!

A Reminder from the Archives Committee

BY KATHY MULVEY

We would like to remind all members and visitors that nothing may be removed or borrowed from the Beulah Brinton House unless it has been signed out. The borrower's name and contact information must be recorded in the red binder, which is kept in the kitchen.

We especially are concerned about several issues of the **Bay View High School Oracle** which are missing. The books that are in the library upstairs may not be removed under any circumstances; however, there are some yearbooks for which we have duplicates. The duplicates are shelved in the library downstairs and are available for purchase at \$5 each.

Thank you all for your cooperation.

ENCYCLOPEDIA OF MILWAUKEE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

environment, neighborhoods and suburbs, politics, law and government, race and ethnicity, religion, sports and leisure, third sector and organizations, transportation, infrastructure and public services.

Encyclopedias have already been produced for the cities of New York, Chicago, Cleveland and Louisville. The Milwaukee encyclopedia will be produced in a print version and a free online version hosted by UWM. A promotional website about this project is being developed and is expected to be running this spring. Questions and comments about this endeavor may be sent to Professor Seligman at seligman@uwm.edu

AUTHOR TALK

Author Dean Strang has a new book, *Worse Than the Devil*, which is about the tragic 1917 bombing of a Milwaukee police station in the Bay View area, set against the backdrop of World War I during a time of terror and patriotism in America. Dean will be speaking at Boswell Books, 2559 N. Downer Avenue in Milwaukee on April 5 at 7:00 pm.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

We welcome the following new member who joined the Society since January 1st:
Josie Newcomb, Susan G. Stein, Chester Trojanowski & Betty Gonia Voigt

SAVE THE DATE

The Pryor Well will be given a historic landmark designation on Saturday, June 15 at 2:00 pm. Following the ceremony, a reception will be held at the Brinton House.

The Annual Yard Sale Will Be Here Soon!

BY ANN HAHN

Start finding wonderful things to donate to the Bay View Historical Society's Annual Yard Sale! The date is Saturday, May 18th from 9:00 am until 3:00 pm, at the Beulah Brinton House, 2590 S. Superior Street. Proceeds from the sale will go towards the upkeep of the house.

Spread the word about the sale to your friends, neighbors and relatives, and please

be sure to mark the sale price on your items. As always, we cannot accept donations of clothing or holiday items.

Donations may be dropped off at the Brinton House garage during the week of May 13th between 1:00 and 5:00 pm, or on the morning of the sale between 7:00 and 9:00 am. You may also call to schedule a pick up of your donated item.

The sale could use plenty of help, too! If you would like to join in the fun and volunteer for set up, donation collection, packing and/or clean up, we'd love to have you! Please contact Annie Hahn at 769-7173 or Donna Pogliano at 324-5690 for further information.

Bay View High School to Celebrate 100th Anniversary

BY RON WINKLER

Bay View High School will celebrate its 100th anniversary in 2014 with a celebration during the weekend of October 3-5, 2014. Events being planned are a Friday evening icebreaker and Saturday football game and tours of the school. The highlight of the weekend will be the dinner on Saturday evening at the Italian Community Center in Milwaukee's Historic Third Ward. The Italian Community Center was chosen because of its capacity, location and ample free parking. Ray Dietrich is planning to conduct the Bay View High School Alumni Choir as part of the evening's entertainment.

Ron Winkler and John Giove will coauthor a picture book that will combine the school's 100 year history with current events and popular culture. Giove is a 1960 alumnus of Bay View High who started his teaching career in 1965 at John Muir Junior High School. At the request of Principal Arthur Showers, he "came home" to Bay View High where he spent the rest of his career from January, 1967 to 2001.

The anniversary committee is comprised of an enthusiastic, multigenerational group of alumni. It includes 1972 alumna Robin Kitzrow who was principal at Fritsche Middle

School before she finished her career as principal of Bay View High School.

Planning is in the early stages, but updates will be released to the media and will be published in future Historians. You can also find information and updates by visiting the anniversary's Facebook page: <http://www.facebook.com/BV100thBirthdayCelebration>.

ANNUAL BAY VIEW TRAGEDY COMMEMORATION WILL BE HELD ON SUNDAY, MAY 5

The Wisconsin Labor History Society will observe the 127th anniversary of the Bay View Tragedy on Sunday, May 5th at 3:00 pm. On the fifth of May in 1886, thousands of Milwaukee workers marched peacefully to the Bay View Rolling Mills as part of a nationwide effort to bring about the eight hour work day. As marchers approached the mill, the state militia fired upon them, killing seven. This was the bloodiest labor disturbance in Wisconsin's history and began a new struggle for a more humane workplace. One hundred twenty five years later, the annual commemoration of this historic event will be held on May 5th at the State Historical Marker grounds on the corner of Superior Street and Russell Avenue.

Immediately following the commemoration, everyone is invited to proceed two blocks south to the reception at the Beulah Brinton House, 2590 S. Superior Street. Beer, soda and hot dogs will be available for purchase.

PLEASE JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE

The Bay View Historical Society's Annual Dinner

Saturday, April 27 at the South Shore Yacht Club

Cash Bar 5:30 p.m.

Dinner 6:30 p.m.

Silent Auction

Entertainment

RSVP by April 18th

Tickets \$50

THIS IS YOUR INVITATION TO THE ANNUAL DINNER. A SEPARATE INVITATION WILL NOT BE MAILED

Name _____

Phone _____

Please reserve:

Chicken Marsala Orange Roughy Vegetarian Pasta

In addition to or in lieu of tickets, I would like to make a tax deductible contribution of \$_____ to the Bay View Historical Society.

Please make checks payable to the Bay View Historical Society. Mail your reservation to:

Erin & Bob Lenz
2440 S. Burrell Street
Milwaukee, WI 53207

Questions? Contact Nancy Tawney at 744-5674

Education Initiative with BVHS

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intermodal transportation, and opportunities that exist.

During the fall, Historical Society members and school staff were connecting with resources that are of interest to students and the history of the Port of Milwaukee. BVHS provided a workshop in December that included a treasure chest of materials and books for classrooms about the port. BVHS members visited schools to support student interests and needs.

In February, the education committee hosted a workshop *Thinking like a Historian* for school staff at the Beulah Brinton House featuring John Gurda. Participants discussed how a historian works and what is of particular interest to students in their classrooms. John shared very significant information about the port and people including the Kashubian immigration to Milwaukee in the late 1800s and the many ethnic groups that followed. Staff had the opportunity to request specific resources and activities for students to use this spring.

The culmination of the project, "Community: A Place Where We All Belong", is an exhibition of student work. Students will share what they've learned with their peers and members of the community and will have time for conversation and feedback from visitors. The expected date for the student exhibition is Sunday, May 5th from 1:00 until 3:00 pm at the Beulah Brinton House prior to the Tragedy of Bay View Commemoration.

We greatly appreciate participation from area schools, Bay View Library, historical society members, and the community... it makes a big difference to have you!

Annual August Walk to Feature Tippecanoe Neighborhood

BY RON WINKLER

Mark your calendars for this year's August Walk to be held on Saturday, August 3rd starting at 9:30 am. This year's walk will be in the area centered around Howell and Howard, known as Tippecanoe. It will be a preview of *Milwaukee's Town of Lake* which will be published by Arcadia Publishing Company in December.

This is where pioneers James Howard, Isaac Austin and Morgan Burdick had their farms. It is where the Lake Town Hall was located (now the site of Tippecanoe Library). We will see the new Lake Town Hall on 6th and Howard, St. Veronica Catholic Church, Resurrection Lutheran Church, Woodlawn

Cemetery and the homes of Tom Van Beck, Morgan Burdick and John Saveland. We will also see Saveland Park adjacent to John Saveland's home and Tippecanoe Presbyterian Church, built on the foundation of John Saveland's dance hall, which itself was built on the foundation of Isaac Austin's barn. The area north of Howard Avenue was John Saveland's real estate development which features a diverse housing stock with the lots east of Howell Avenue being some of the largest in the city.

Look for more information in the June *Historian*.

Historical Figures Will Be Resurrected at Forest Home Cemetery

BY RON WINKLER

Several long-term residents of Forest Home Cemetery will be resurrected for a day as the cemetery presents its free Memorial Day program on Monday, May 27th from noon until 3:00 pm. This year's program will take place in the Victorian Gardens in the northwest corner of the cemetery, located at 2405 West Forest Home Avenue. The historical figures will include Fred Usinger, Henry Harnischfeger,

Horace Chase and beer barons Jacob Best and August Krug. Meat packer John Layton will be portrayed by the Bay View Historical Society's Ron Winkler. These historic figures will be at their headstones as they present entertaining "autobiographical" talks. There will be plenty of free parking and refreshments will be available for purchase.

Milwaukee's Town of Lake to be Published

BY RON WINKLER

Arcadia Publishing Company will publish *Milwaukee's Town of Lake* in its "Images of America" series this coming December. Ron Winkler is writing the text about this colorful area that went out of existence when the last nine square miles consolidated with the City of Milwaukee on April 6, 1954.

The Town of Lake's original borders were from Greenfield Avenue on the north to College Avenue on the south between 27th Street and Lake Michigan. Within its borders are found the Forest Home Cemetery, Mitchell International Airport, St. Francis Seminary, Patrick Cudahy Company and the Art Deco

water tower on 6th and Howard. It includes the cities of Cudahy and St. Francis as well as the Bay View and Tippecanoe neighborhoods. Lake was the birthplace of Grebe's and Gardetto's Bakeries and had the Lakeside power plant until it was razed in 1987. The area also contains numerous churches, schools and parks. All of this and much more will be a part of the illustrated history of an important part of Milwaukee County.

A book signing will be held in December. Look for further information and an order form in future issues of the *Historian*.

THANK YOU CAPITAL CAMPAIGN DONORS!

\$5,000 and above

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THANK YOU

Throughout the snowy winter, Stano Landscaping has come to the Brinton House many times to remove the sidewalk snow. They have done this as a community service at no charge and we are most grateful to them for this assistance.



Calendar 2013

MONDAY, APRIL 1

Bay View Historical Society Presents:
Betsy Ross and Dick Wiken Presentations
Beulah Brinton Center
2555 S. Bay Street
7:00 pm

SATURDAY, APRIL 20

Beulah Brinton House
Open to the Public
1:00 - 4:00 pm

SATURDAY, APRIL 27

Annual Dinner
South Shore Yacht Club
5:30 pm

SUNDAY, MAY 5

Bay View Tragedy Commemoration
Corner of Superior St. and Russell Ave.
3:00 pm

SATURDAY, MAY 18

Annual Yard Sale
Beulah Brinton House
9:00 am - 3:00 pm

MONDAY, JUNE 3

Bay View Historical Society Presents: Show
and Tell and Paul Jakobovich, City of Milwau-
kee's Department of Historic Preservation
Beulah Brinton Center, 2555 S. Bay Street
7:00 pm

SATURDAY, JUNE 15

Beulah Brinton House Open to the Public
1:00 - 4:00 pm

SATURDAY, JUNE 15

Pryor Well Landmark Dedication
2:00 pm

Upcoming Board Meetings:

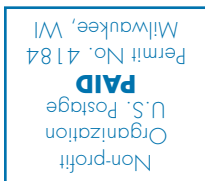
- Monday, April 8, 6:30 pm
Beulah Brinton House
- Monday, May 13, 6:30 pm
Beulah Brinton House

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

