



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

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BAY VIEW Historian

VOLUME 2014, NO. 3

AUGUST 2014

UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS:

Monday, August 4 | Monday, Sept 8 | Beulah Brinton House | 2590 S. Superior St. | 6:30 PM

The Iron Company Walk

BY RON WINKLER

The Iron Company Walk will be this year's August Walk on Saturday, August 2nd. It will start from the Beulah Brinton House, 2590 South Superior Street, and will again be led by Ron Winkler and Greg Wernisch. Registration will start at 9:00 am and the walk will begin at 9:30 am. The cost is \$5.00 for Bay View Historical Society members and \$7.00 for nonmembers.

We will walk to the official start at the State Historical Society Marker for the Bay View Rolling Mill on the northeast corner of Superior and Russell. The Bay View Historical Society dedicated this marker on June 2, 1985. It commemorates the rolling mill that stood at this site and extended onto Jones Island from 1867 to 1939. It is also a memorial to the "Bay View Tragedy" which occurred on May 5, 1886, when seven people were killed as the Wisconsin State Militia fired on a crowd of workers who were on strike and

marching toward the rolling mill. The strikers were part of a nationwide movement in support of an eight-hour workday. On the first Sunday each May, the Bay View Historical Society and the Wisconsin Labor History Society hold a remembrance at the site.

We will talk about the rolling mill and its impact on Bay View and Milwaukee. In addition, you will learn about Little Italy, the community of Italians who settled in the area bounded by Russell Avenue, the railroad tracks and the steel mill during the first two decades of the 20th century.

When we arrive back at the Beulah Brinton House, you can purchase lunch at the hot dog sale and take a tour of the Brinton House. **For more information contact Ron Winkler at rawinkler@sbcglobal.net.**

HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2014 BAY VIEW SOUTH SHORE WATER FROLICS



Calendar 2014

SATURDAY, AUGUST 2

Walking Tour with Ron Winkler

Beulah Brinton House
2590 S. Superior St
9:30 AM
Hot dog/brat sale after the walking tour from 11-1pm

SATURDAY, AUGUST 16

Open House – Open to the Public

Beulah Brinton House
2590 S. Superior St
1:00 – 4:00 PM

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

"Town of Lake" With Ron Winkler

UW-Milwaukee
Call for Details

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

Bay View Bash

SAT – SUN SEPT 20-21

"Doors Open Milwaukee"

Beulah Brinton House
2590 S. Superior St

UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS:

Monday, August 4

Monday, Sept 8

Beulah Brinton House
2590 S. Superior St
6:30 PM

ARCHIVES SEEKS OLD ISSUES OF HISTORIAN

Volunteer Diane Piedt is in the process of indexing the articles that have appeared in the Bay View Historian over the years. This will enable us to quickly search and find valuable articles and other information.

Thanks to the diligent work of past Archives volunteers, we do have a complete set of newsletters. However, we would like to have a second set. That way, we can have one set to keep for posterity, and another set for people to handle in the library. To complete our second set, we need the following editions:

- Volume IV, No. 1 (January 1983)
- Volume VII, No. 1 (1986)
- Volume IX, No. 5 (1988)
- Volume XV, No. 1 (1993)
- Volume XV, No. 2 (1993)
- Volume 1994 (December 1994)
- Volume 2003, No. 5 (October 2003)
- Volume 2011, No. 4 (August 2011)

Should you wish to donate any of these copies to the Historical Society please contact Kathy Mulvey at kfmulvey@yahoo.com, or by phone at 414-744-0408.

Thank you!

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

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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.

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE:

Hello Members and Friends!

THANKFUL...so many wonderful people who have helped at our events over the past few months. Bay View Historical Society is very fortunate to have dedicated members and friends contribute their time, resources, and energy for Bay View Gallery night, the Risking Everything exhibit, the Beulah Brinton House repairs & painting, lawn care, landscape plans, 4th of July parade, South Shore Frolics exhibit and parade, volunteers for events and house parties, hot dog sales, and keeping history alive through archives, books, newsletters, and social media! WHEW...so much to appreciate!

As we continue to learn ways of connecting with our community and grow interest in making history relevant and exciting, we invite your suggestions and participation for making BVHS the place for everyone to feel a sense of belonging to Bay View, whether you live here or elsewhere. Being a new comer to the area in 2000 and wondering for a few years as to where I wanted to spend the rest of my life...it's great to be able to say "I'm here, and it's home!" Feeling very thankful...and looking forward to seeing you all really soon.

Susan

2014 Membership Renewal Form

Please renew my membership in the
Bay View Historical Society for 2014!

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
<input type="checkbox"/> Also enclosed is a tax deductible contribution of \$ _____			

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.

Last Chance to Order History of Bay View High and the World – The Last 100 Years



BY RON WINKLER

This is your final opportunity to order Oracle Centennial Edition, the history of Bay View High School and the world from 1914 to the present. The book is a limited edition which will NOT be available through the Bay View Historical Society; it will NOT be available through Bay View High School; it will NOT be available in stores. It is only available NOW by ordering with the form that you are holding in your hand.

Ron Winkler and former Bay View High School teacher John Giove are coauthoring the book that not only covers the school's history, but what life was like in the world, the nation, and Milwaukee during the past 100 years. It will document changes at the school during the barracks days from 1914 to 1922, followed by the events in the red brick, Collegiate Gothic "Castle on the Hill" from 1922 to the present. It will then describe what the world was like 100 years ago and the events during each decade between 1914 and 2014.

This book, titled Oracle Centennial Edition, after the school's newspaper and yearbook, will use images from the school's yearbooks,



newspapers, and archives to illustrate student life, sports, faculty, principals, and special events. Other images will show changes in fashion styles, music, automobiles, advertisements, and life in general over the past 100 years.

There will be 200 pages, produced in a high-quality hard cover edition, just like the Oracle annuals that Bay View High's students have purchased over the years. The cost is \$35.00 and it can be shipped for an additional fee.



Even if you didn't graduate from Bay View High, you will want a copy. Don't be disappointed; send in your order today!

Photos Clockwise:

- Image 1 (student styles 1943)- Bay View students in 1943.
Image 2 (students 1966)- Students in 1966 adhere to Bay View High's strict dress code.
Image 3 (style show teens)- Bay View students in the bungalow days
Image 4 (SGA 1979)- Students in 1979- girls can now wear slacks.
Image 6 (class commission 2011)- Students in the 21st century- (almost) anything goes!

ORDER YOUR CENTENNIAL ORACLE EDITION NOW!

We are accepting pre-orders for this beautiful 200 page Centennial Oracle, written by author and Bay View Grad, Ron Winkler (Class of '68) and retired Bay View teacher, John Giove (Class of '60). It will encompass 100 years of Bay View High School history along with community and iconic events throughout the world.

The Centennial Oracle will be available for delivery on October 4, 2014 or, if you live in the Milwaukee area, the book will be available for pick up. Cost of this once-in-a-lifetime Oracle is \$35 each. If you would like your copy mailed, add an additional \$6.95 for shipping.

Please fill out form to the right and mail with your check or money order payable to:
Bay View 100th and send to:

Sonia Hass
Bay View 100th
PO BOX 320502
Franklin, WI 53132

NUMBER OF BOOKS ORDERING: _____
X \$35.00 = _____
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Grand Total \$ _____
Check here if picking up book _____

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E-mail _____

Remembrances of the Avalon Theater:

BY STEPHANIE HARLING, NIECE OF TONY LAPORTE, RECEIVED THIS STORY FROM KEITH, POSTED TO HER BLOG ON DECEMBER 28, 2003 AT 4:55 AM:

I am the artist hired by Tony Laporte in 1961 to paint the Day-Glo murals on the topside walls of the Avalon's auditorium. I was 15 years old at the time and I hope my telling of the tale will make up a little for the deed itself. Ever since childhood, I was mad for the movies. We lived in the suburb of West Allis and I attended the Avalon (or the Pix) when my folks visited an aunt who lived on Homer Street just up from where the Avalon side exit was located. Imagine my youthful enthusiasm when Dad bought a house on Dover Street, just two blocks away! And then imagine my complete glee when we moved to yet another house right on Homer, just a half-block from the theater!

I was so mad for the movies that with rare exception I was usually the first person in line at the Avalon box office nearly every Sunday at noon from 1953 until 1964, when I graduated from Bay View High School. This did not go unnoticed by Tony Laporte, who often arrived to find me standing alone waiting for the box office to open a half-hour hence. There was something about walking into that cavernous emptiness and having my pick of the seats. I always sat about a dozen rows from the screen, the better to be enveloped by the movie experience.

Now you must understand that this majestic alcazar with spiral pillars, life-size statues, crystal lobby chandeliers, and a massive curved staircase leading up to its balconies, had more than one sort of magical grip on my senses. To begin with, my father's employer, Nordberg Machinery, held a family day at the Avalon nearly every Christmas. The employees and their kids would show up and a party of sorts would ensue with the management distributing door prizes to the wives and candy baskets to the kids. After about an hour of that an amazing thing would happen. The parents would all leave and the kids would be left in the theater for six hours of uninterrupted cartoons! Yippee! Somewhere along the line, I stopped being a kid but I never lost my affection for motion pictures. I had to be there. Every week.

At mezzanine level over the staircase, glass double doors led from the business office onto a miniature observation balcony overlooking the lobby. From there Tony, the manager, could survey his domain. Tony was a charismatic guy, a great source of conjecture among my friends. We thought Tony dressed like a movie gangster. He was short but stocky. His dark pinstripe suits were imposing. Add to this Tony's fedora and his stubby cigar, which was always jutting out of the corner of his mouth.

Then figure in the Dragon Lady! That's what the older guys called her. She was either Tony's wife or girlfriend, no one knew, but she was stunning! I thought she was a dead-ringer for Katy Jurado, who played Helen Ramirez in "High Noon." But I was smitten and nearsighted, so...when she appeared on that little balcony, all eyes turned heavenward. She wore black slinky evening gowns! With her jet black hair and full crimson lips, she was the crown jewel of the Avalon. Guys would actually loiter in the lobby in the hope that she might appear during intermission!

I could not then have predicted that in my fifteenth summer I would find myself fidgeting in her presence. One Sunday, as I approached the ticket booth a half-hour before opening, Tony drove up and came right over to me. He said, "Hey, kid. You're here first in line every week for years, right?" I nodded. "One of your pals says you're an artist, right?" I nodded again. "He says you're a real good artist. I have a job for you. Come on in. The movie's free for you tonight." And there we were in the theater office: the artist, the gangster, and the Dragon Lady! I was so intimidated that I could barely focus on the job offer. I was sure they both knew that I was forcing myself not to look at her. On their private observation balcony she was distantly beautiful, but up close she was flawless!

Continued on pg. 5

The Street Where I Live

BY LISA ANN JACOBSEN

HERMAN AVENUE

Herman Mann was born in Prague in 1817 and emigrated to the United States in 1843. He returned to his native land two years later to marry Clara Weiss, with whom he returned to this country, also accompanied by his five brothers and a sister as well as his parents and the parents of his bride, all of which settled in Milwaukee. Mann and his brothers started grocery stores which would come to be named Mann Brothers, one of which was located at 336 Main Street, now Broadway in East Town. Herman Mann increased his business investments by starting to manufacture pails, tubs and chairs and, when joined by his brothers, they

became the most extensive dealers in pails and tubs throughout the United States. Herman Mann and his brothers also acquired an interest in the Peshtigo Pail and Tub Factory with one branch in Peshtigo and another in Chicago, located on the same property that housed the Mann family lumber-yard. In 1871 the famous Chicago and Peshtigo fires destroyed both these cities, including all of Mann's facilities. The Herman Mann family would come to name a total of eight streets in Bay View...details about which will be in the next issue of The Historian.

Remembrances of the Avalon Theater: *Continued*

That's how I got to paint two 75-foot (?) murals on either side of the theater walls above the walkways leading to the private boxes. That job granted my fondest wish many times over. For two weeks I spent every weekday completely alone in the Avalon. It was wonderful. I listened to Paul Glass on a small, portable Victrola and worked on a ladder thirty feet above the floor, slopping fluorescent paint onto the walls just below the arcing curve of the theater's ceiling, a starry night of blinking lights against a blue-black field. I was Michaelangelo, at least until the clean-up crew arrived.

It was Tony who suggested a floral motif (I chose Narcissus flowers) and he also requested the fluorescent paint. Maybe he was influenced by the Hippie movement, but it would be a few years before I grew into that myself. At the time, I hung with the older beatnik generation that frequented the Cafe Unique or the Avant Garde, sipping Latte and snapping fingers to Dave Van Ronk or Spider John Koerner. I remember that the "black-light paint" was a challenge unto itself, since it required that I first had to apply brilliant white under-paint to everything that was intended to glow. Without a white base the Day-Glo simply would not glow. But this also facilitated the final color painting process because anything that accidentally dripped onto the black wall would not reflect light! During those two weeks the theater's side lights were left off during projection so as to subdue the odd appearance of the unfinished portions of the work.

I will never forget the first time I entered the theater alone. It was scary. I had the keys to the boxes over the stage area where I would be storing my painting supplies during the course of the job. I remember unlocking the door and feeling about for a light switch. When I flicked the toggle I was standing face-to-face with a life-size statue of a goddess holding her hand out to me. I just about came out of my skin! I let her hold my brushes during the course of the job!

Perhaps the best thing about that episode in my early career was that it lead directly to my career. Tony allowed a young artist to see how it might be possible to get "there" from "here." And now I am there. I eschew the Day-Glo paints now, in favor of oils, and I have just retired from a three-decade career in graphic design and illustration to return to my original pursuit of fine art. With any luck I may someday catch up with it.

See my work online at [Hypermodern Realism](#).



From left: Ron Winkler, John Grove, and Tiffany Ogle discussing Bay View High School's 100th Anniversary on WTMJ-TV, Channel 4's "Morning Blend."

BAY VIEW 100TH ANNIVERSARY DINNER

*Please join all Bay View Alumni to celebrate
Bay View High School's 100th Anniversary Celebration*

Saturday October 4, 2014

Italian Community Center - Grand Ballroom
631 East Chicago Street
Milwaukee, WI 53202

Social hour & cocktails 5:30 to 6:30 PM | Dinner 6:30 to 8:00 PM
DJ and former radio personality Mike Miles 8:00 PM to midnight

Cash Bar | Buffet Dinner | Music from the 40's to present

_____ Yes, I will be attending

The cost for the dinner, dance, and keepsake package is

_____ \$60.00 single _____ \$95.00 per couple
(1 keepsake package)

Make check or money order payable to: **BVHS 100th**

Mail form and payment to:

Sonia Hass
PO BOX 320502, Franklin, WI 53132

Name _____

Spouse/Guest Name _____ Bay View Graduate? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Maiden Name _____

Home Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Occupation _____ Year Graduated _____

Military ☐ Yes ☐ No What Branch? _____

What was the funniest thing that happened in high school? _____

Permission to use your name and photo on our website. ☐ Yes ☐ No

For more information please contact Sonia Hass at 414-379-3541 or basketbabe53207@yahoo.com

**Please visit our web site at www.BVHS100.com (work still
Or visit us on Facebook – BV 100th Birthday Celebration**

2014 BVHS EVENTS & CONCERTS:

Beulah Brinton House Tours – every 3rd Saturday of each month!

Beulah Brinton House is available for your private party or special event! Host a party, reunion, reception, meeting, or shower. We are now taking reservations for groups of up to 50 guests. Contact us at bayviewhistoricalsociety@gmail.com to make your request!

Aug 2 – Walking Tour with Ron Winkler – Iron Company Walk begins at 9:30 AM from Beulah Brinton House – There will a hot dog brat sale following the tours return to BB House from 11 – 1 PM.

Aug 4 – BVHS Board Meeting 6:30 PM

Aug 10 – Beulah Brinton House Concert
4 PM with Blaine Schultz and Riverwest Aces

Aug 16 – Open House at Beulah Brinton House 1–4 PM

Sept 8 – “Town of Lake” Presentation with author Ron Winkler at UW-Milwaukee

Sept 8 – BVHS Board Meeting 6:30 PM

Sept 13 – Bay View Bash

Sept 18 – Oct 16 – More Guided Autobiography – Part II
10 AM – 12 PM at Beulah Brinton House (5 Thursdays)

Sept 21 – 22 – (Times TBD) Historic Milwaukee – Doors Open
at Beulah Brinton House and walking tour with Music by Matt Tyner & Carpetbaggers

Oct 6 – Annual Meeting & “Civil Rights Activism in Milwaukee: South Side Struggles in the 60’s & 70’s” by Paul Geenan 6:30 PM

Oct 19 – Beulah Brinton House Concert 4 PM with Don Lawson/GMP

Nov 30 – Beulah Brinton House Concert
4 PM with Lil Rev & Larry Penn

Dec 13 – Holiday Gathering
4 – 6 PM at Beulah Brinton House with *Music by David Drake.*



Milwaukee from the Bay c. 1912

Timeline of Bay View & Milwaukee in US History: Immigration & Growth

BY LISA ANN JACOBSEN

- 1846 9,508 residents living in Milwaukee.
- 1850 Milwaukee population grows to 20,000.
- 1860 Population continues to rise to 45,246.
- 1868 Milwaukee Iron Company becomes largest blast furnace in the northwest.
- 1885 30,000 Poles, and 50,000 Germans emigrate to Milwaukee.
- 1886 Bay View Massacre.
- 1889 Rioting against Chinese Laundrymen in Milwaukee.
- 1890’s Population skyrockets as immigrants flood into Milwaukee.
- 1895 Milwaukee City Hall completed.
- 1914 WWI begins, many Germans change their names to avoid anti-Germanism.
- 1918 1,980 Milwaukee saloons would be closed due to Prohibition.
- 1929 Mass layoffs occur due to crash of stock market and ensuing Depression.

Passing, Seen

BY BILL O’BRIEN

If you drive along Stewart Street between Hilbert and Allis, you can catch a glimpse of the last remnants of the Stowell Yard of Canadian Pacific’s Jones Island line. The runaround track and four spurs have been pulled up, so all that remains are piles of cross-ties and iron hardware scattered in the weeds. Before the ties are recycled for landscaping or become fuel in a regeneration plant, take a close look at their ends. You will note that many have S-irons hammered in to keep the timbers from splitting; a few have date stamps from when they were first treated before installation (the 36 for 1936 appears more often than other, mostly later, numbers).



When you head north to Barnacle Bud’s and cross the track on Hilbert Street, you will see a switch stand that no longer directs trains into the yard. You might recall trains that worked the yard or remember the long-parked cars of the Milwaukee Great Northern. Collector Henry Castro’s MGN stock included an F-7 engine, a couple of post office cars, a baggage car, a Pullman sleeper, a diner, an observation car, a caboose, a small switcher, and a Railway Express Agency car that was originally for troop transport. Although most of the equipment was original to the Milwaukee Road, much of it was painted in the yellow and grey “livery” of the Union Pacific, dating from a period when our local company operated the UP passenger service between Chicago and Omaha in the 1950s and 1960s.

A restaurant, then a bar, operated in several of the cars from 1987 until 2002. The equipment was sold to the Kansas City Southern in 2004 for use in a museum, a plan that did not pan out. The cars have been further scattered since. The engine went to a line in West Virginia in 2008. The immobile baggage car and REA car were scrapped in 2009. The dining car survives and is in good shape, kept in storage in Kansas City.

To refresh your memory of the Milwaukee Great Northern, or to simply gain a sense of it, several albums of pictures are available online.

An inventory and recollections

<http://my.execpc.com/~jruess/mgn.html>

The cars in situ, 2004

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/22338037@N04/sets/72157613727287100/>

The cars being towed from the yard, 2004

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/loadstone/sets/72157632565468259/>

Diner-Lounge #170 in storage, 2012

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/33672589@N08/7218882872/>

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 Lisa Ann Jacobsen,
414-610-5678 or lisaann.jacobsen@gmail.com.



BayView Historical Society Gallery Night

WHERE IN BAY VIEW?



*Where in Bay View
was this photo taken?
Look for answer in
Where in Bay View?
in the October issue
of Historian.*

PHOTOGRAPHY BY
LISA ANN JACOBSEN

Welcome New Members!

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

William McClaren,
Manda & Jeff Meilander,
Kate Pruitt,
Jason Rae & Phillip Bailey,
and Mary Beth Valoe

In Memory of:

Bob Fennig
Toshiko Paradowski