



# BAY VIEW Historian

VOLUME 2014, NO. 4

OCTOBER 2014

## UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS:

Monday October 13 | Monday November 11 | Buelah Brinton House | 2590 S Superior Street | 6:30 PM

## Bay View High School Through the Years

By Ron Winkler



Clockwise from top: 1. Before 1914, Bay View students attended South Division HS. 2. Bay View HS opened in Sept. 1914 in wooden barracks along Russell Ave between Pine and Logan. 3. Construction of Bay View HS in 1919. 4. Bay View HS in 1975. Continued on page three.



## BVHS "Doors Open" Event Highlights at Beulah Brinton House



Susan & Chip



Bill & Brandon



Chip & Amy playing croquet on BB House lawn





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

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**MEMBERSHIP**

\$20 Individual / \$17 Senior

\$30 Household / \$25 Senior Household

\$30 Nonprofit / Small Business

\$55 Corporate

Bay View Historical Society

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Bay View, WI 53207

www.bayviewhistoricalsociety.org

facebook: Bay View Historical Society

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

Hello Members and Friends!

The mission of Bay View Historical Society is to encourage a sense of community by preserving, celebrating and sharing Bay View's rich heritage. How do you think we're doing with this significant mission?

In September, the Board will have reviewed what we've been doing and plan for how to best serve our members and the community in the future. At this time the archives group is working continuously to preserve the area history while the Beulah Brinton House committee is preparing to have the porches restored. Our education team is involved with local schools to research "Our School, Our Community" and will exhibit projects in the spring while open house tours will carry on each month. Events like the Annual Dinner, Doors Open and the Avalon Theater opening are great times for celebrating; and our programs, walking tours, publications and web-based information is hopefully sharing much of what we value. However, we are aware that there more ways to honor Bay View's rich heritage! Please join us and offer any help you can to keep our mission alive!

Appreciating each and every one of you,

Susan

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

"I especially enjoy reading the articles in the Bay View Historian, especially when the stories feature landmarks in the community, such as the history of St. Augustine's parish or the lives of past residents. Someday I hope to join Ron Winkler on one of his walks in the KK neighborhood, especially when he describes Beck's stables behind 628 E. Otjen. That was my family home for about 100 years, so I have deep but distant roots in Bay View."

— Karen M. Beck, Springfield, Virginia

Send letters or comments to: Lisa Ann Jacobsen 2590 S Superior St Bay View, WI 53207 or email to: lisaann.jacobsen@gmail.com. We welcome your letters or comments!

## DON'T MISS "MONUMENTS MEN" PROGRAM

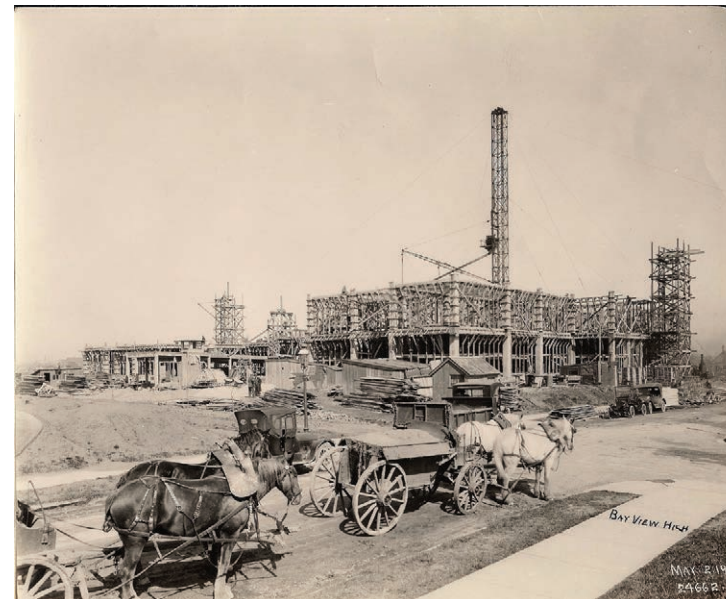
Bay View resident Charlotte Pearson Crysdale presents "ENROUTE TO THE RE-DOUBT," a presentation based on the book by her father, Col. Ralph E. Pearson. Col. Pearson and his troops recovered priceless pieces of art during WWII in operation "Task Force Pearson," including Michelangelo's "Ghent Masterpiece," and "Madonna with Child." Col. Pearson's book tells the REAL story, from a first-person perspective, the events as depicted in the recent movie "MONUMENTS MEN."

See details on back page.

BVHS memberships make a terrific gift!  
Like us on Facebook and join our group! Bay View Historical Society

# Bay View High School Through the Years, continued from Page 1

by Ron Winkler



Above: Construction in 1919, looking NW from corner of Lenox & Montana.



Above: Construction in 1919, looking SW from corner of Lenox & Montana



Above: Construction in 1921, looking SW from corner of Lenox & Russell. Below: The "Castle on a Hill."



Above: Completed in 1922, looking SW from corner of Lenox & Russell. Below: The "Box that Blocked the View" was added to north side of school, totally obliterating the magnificent north facade.





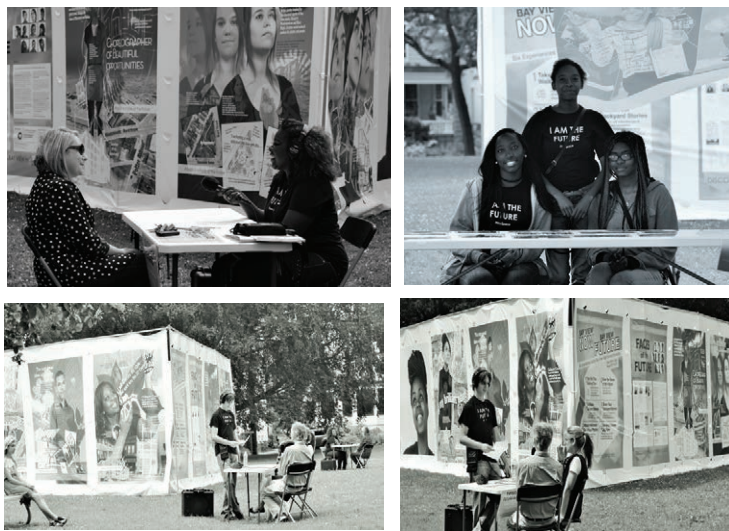
## Germanson Earns Zeidler Public Service Award

Kenneth A. Germanson was awarded the Frank P. Zeidler Public Service Award by the Milwaukee Common Council on September 3, 2014. Many friends and co-workers attended a reception on September 4 at Puddler's Hall in Bay View. Germanson served as president of the Wisconsin Labor History Society from 1992 to 2009, and now serves as President Emeritus. He helped plan and erect the State Historical Marker at Russell and Superior Streets, which heralds the events of the Bay View Tragedy, when seven people were killed while demonstrating in favor of the eight-hour work day. Each year, Germanson has helped to organize the commemoration of the Tragedy on the first Sunday in May.

In addition to being a longtime member of the Bay View Historical Society, Germanson has served on many local boards and statewide commissions and has labored tirelessly for workers' rights, access to health care, better education, and youth development. Due largely to his efforts, a state law was passed in 2009 requiring the teaching of labor history in Wisconsin schools.

Germanson resides with his wife Ann in the Tippecanoe neighborhood. They have four grown children and five grandchildren.

Students from Bay View High School joined Discovery World's NewSpace program and set out to build the future of Bay View and Milwaukee. Throughout the program, located at South Shore Park over the weekend of August 23-24, the students asked fundamental questions about Milwaukee and the Bay View neighborhood to understand how to develop a vision for Milwaukee and how young adults can contribute to an amazing future. They also worked with Discovery World staff and graphic designers to transform elements of their past, present, and future into stunning works of art. Great job BVHS students! We hope to see you again next year!



On our mailing list & plan to be gone for some of the winter? Let us know your email & we'll send you an electronic copy of the newsletters and

## "Grandma's Garden" at the Beulah Brinton House

Long ago and in times of keeping families well fed and communities thriving everyone had some kind of garden in their yard. This was very much the way of life for the Brinton's in Bay View.

Thanks to Betty at Heritage Flower Farm and her research on what would have existed in the late 1800's we now have a garden next to the Beulah Brinton House! She designed "Grandma's Garden" to represent this historic garden for the Bay View community to enjoy. We are so appreciative of Betty's help!

This spring the Beulah Brinton house committee got to work to make this plan a reality. The project evolved from clearing out old bushes and plants, cleaning the area of weeds, to finding the historic plants through Stano Landscape and creating a representative garden for what the Brinton's would have planted and maintained. With the support of the Neighborhood Improvement Development Corporation -Community Improvement Project grant from the City of Milwaukee and matching donation from the William Stark Jones Foundation we now see the beginnings of our "Grandma's Garden" on the west and south sides of the Beulah Brinton House! Please come by to see the changes and learn about the plants that were part of the history of this wonderful Brinton House!



Iona & Beulah



Below are listed the nominees for our upcoming Board election on Monday October 6 at 6:30 PM at the Beulah Brinton Community Center, 2555 S Bay Street, immediately followed by the "Monuments Men" presentation by Charlotte Pearson-Crysdale.

### Susan Ballie

Susan is an educational consultant with a wide array of experience as a teacher, lecturer, educational director, and coach, with event planning and writing skills as well. In addition to being a current BVHS Board Member, Susan is just completing her first year as the Society's President. In her capacity as President Susan has done an excellent job expanding the engagement of not only the rest of the Board, but also recruited many new activists. Her enthusiasm and commitment has helped to develop a number of key fundraising partnerships such as the soon-to-be-opened Avalon Theater, as well as to greatly expand the use of the Society's home for programs including 'Bay View Art Night' and 'Doors Open MKE.'

### Mary Fisher

Mary is a Charter Member of BVHS and has long been involved in many community organizations such as the Neighborhood Association, Immaculate Conception Church and the Shamrock Club. Mary is just completing her first term as a Board Member and looks forward to serving a second term. As a current Board Member Mary has been extremely active in a wide variety of Society events including providing staff support and nourishment for Board and Membership meetings plus activities at the BB House.

### Sonja Nelson-Gurda

Sonja has lived in Bay View for 35 years and has been involved in her neighborhood since the beginning of her residency, previously serving on the board of Bay View Community Center board and participating in Bay View Historical Society's Capital Campaign Committee. Recently retired from MPS' Department of Assistive Technology, Sonja is currently working toward certification for a postpartum doula. She and her husband, John, have three grown children and, recently, one grandchild.

### Marty Ziech

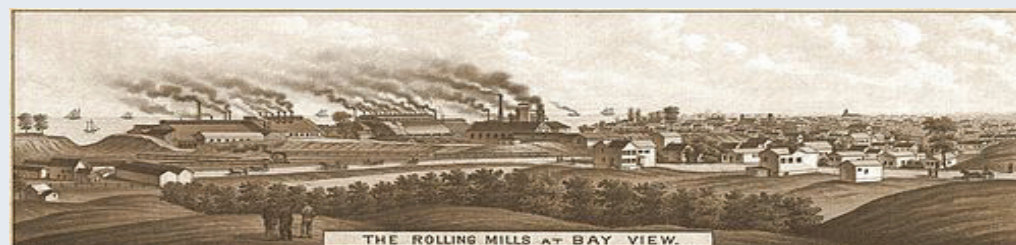
Marty is currently pursuing a Graduate Certificate in Geographic Information Systems at UW-Milwaukee and looking forward to pursuing a career in map-making. He has lived in Bay View for over a year and readily confesses to having fallen in love with the area, considering Bay View as a crucial purpose for the community and a great place to call home. Marty has become involved with BVHS and currently serves on the archives committee. Marty says that "My time getting to know the great volunteers in archives has been a blessing, and my involvement in this committee has drawn me to desire more involvement in BVHS. Serving on the board would be a great next step."

# The Street Where You Live

BY LISA ANN JACOBSEN

## IRON STREET

The founding of Bay View, which was originally called the "Village of the Milwaukee Iron Company," originated from the need for housing for those who worked in the production of iron at the Rolling Mills located on Lake Street. In 1887 Bay View was annexed by Milwaukee and, since the city already had a Lake Street, the location of the Rolling Mills was appropriately renamed Iron Street.





## 2014 BVHS EVENTS & CONCERTS:

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

Beulah Brinton House is also 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!

**October 4th** – Bay View High School 100th Celebration at Italian Community Center at 6:30 pm

**October 6th** – Board elections at 6:30pm and “Monuments Men” program by Charlotte Crysdale at 7 pm. This meeting will be at the Beulah Brinton Community Center 2555 S Bay Street

**October 13th** – Board meeting at 6:30 pm Beulah Brinton House

**October 19th** – Garlic Mustard Pickers at 4pm – Beulah Brinton House Concert. Donations to musicians appreciated!

Avalon Theater Opening – fundraiser for Bay View Historical Society in early November!

Email: bayviewhistoricalsociety@gmail or call Susan @ 414-333-5414 for tickets.

**November 10th** - Board meeting at 6:30 pm. Beulah Brinton House

**November 30th** - Lil Rev and Larry Penn at 4 pm – Beulah Brinton House Concert. Donations to musicians appreciated!

**December 13th** - Holiday Gathering at 4 pm with music by David HB Drake at Beulah Brinton House. Donations for music appreciated!

## Timeline of History: *Fur Trade & Settlement*

BY LISA ANN JACOBSEN

**1607** Jamestown, Virginia, established —first permanent English colony on American mainland.

**1611** King James Version of the Bible published in England.

**1633** Inquisition forces Galileo to recant Copernican theory.

**1634** Jean Nicolet traveled through the Great Lakes to Green Bay & claims all land in the area for France.

**1689** War broke out between France and England, interrupting the fur trade as far west as WI & MN.

**1754** The French and Indian War began. Most licensed traders and their voyageurs called east to fight the British.

**1760** New France conquered by the British. All trading rights and privileges became British.

**1803** Americans purchased the Louisiana territory from the French. Lewis and Clark expedition left in search of passage to the Pacific Coast.

**1775** Start of the American Revolution

**1781** British surrender at Yorktown

**1803** The Americans purchased the Louisiana territory from the French. Lewis and Clark expedition sets out in search of a passage to the Pacific Coast.

**1811** Battle of Tippecanoe

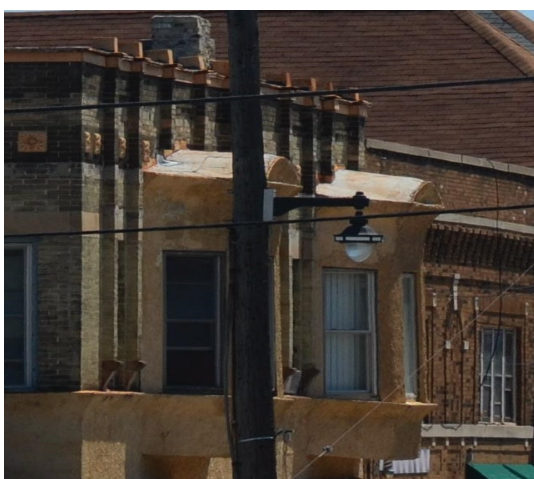
**1818** Solomon Juneau arrives in area and sets up trading post.

**1834** Settlers begin to arrive in Milwaukee, including George H. Walker and Byron Kilbourn.



French Fur Trading Route

## WHERE IN BAY VIEW?



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

**LAST ISSUE:** Balustrade at main entry of St. Lucas Evangelical Lutheran Church, 2605 S. KK

PHOTOGRAPHY BY  
LISA ANN JACOBSEN

### Welcome New Members!

We welcome new members who joined the Society since July 1:

**Audrey V. Merz**

**Donn Schmidt**

## Passing, Seen

BY BILL O'BRIEN

Psst! Down here! That's right, history underfoot. When the 3300 block of South Quincy Avenue was repaved last summer, I noticed that the job was finished with a single date stamp for the whole length of each of the new sidewalks. Since I am used to seeing a range of sidewalk dates and textures when the dog takes me for a walk, I wondered what I might find along other streets. Sidewalk dates are typically paired with City of Milwaukee and the name of a contractor. The oldest stretch I've seen is on Texas Avenue, with no contractor named and only the C of City still showing. The city name-date combination is also seen where streetlights have been repaired or inserted and where curbs and ramps have been reconfigured. Where long stretches of old concrete are intact,

the same stamp appears several times in a block. Inserted repairs have their later dates and generally smoother surfaces. A weathered but enduring lot of the walks around my house were poured in 1955: When the city name is arced and framed, it gives the stamp the appearance of a tombstone. It occurred to me that the most trafficked, more often repaved streets would also have the newest walks. My survey of Kinnickinnic, where I saw only single panels from 1979 and 1980, seemed to bear that out. Most of KK's walks are from the 1990s and recent years: 2005 (Marvin Gleason); 2006 (Louis Schmidt); 2010 (C.S. Constructing); 2012 (Dahlman Contruction). If you hunt for older, odder marks, be sure to look both ways before you cross the street, and give fair attention to what you traverse. You can reassure your family that this a safe sort of treasure hunt, since the panels are too large and too heavy to collect. They won't be adding to the great trove of rocks and fossils that has come home in the course of your vacations.



### 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.





Bay View Historical Society  
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BAY VIEW, WI 53207

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# Calendar 2014

## SATURDAY OCTOBER 4

Bay View High School 100th Anniversary  
Celebration Italian Community Center  
631 E Chicago Street  
6:30 PM

## MONDAY OCTOBER 6

BVHS Board Elections  
Beulah Brinton Community Center  
2555 S Bay Street  
6:30 PM  
"Monuments Men" Program  
Presented by Charlotte Pearson-Crysdale  
Beulah Brinton Community Center  
2555 S Bay Street  
7 PM

## SUNDAY OCTOBER 19

Beulah Brinton House Concert  
Featuring Garlic Mustard Pickers  
2590 S Superior Street  
4:00 PM

## UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS

Monday October 13  
With newly elected board members  
Monday November 11

Beulah Brinton House  
2590 S Superior Street  
6:30 PM