



BAY VIEW Historian

VOLUME 2012, NO. 6

DECEMBER 2012

NEXT MEETING: Board of Directors Election and Holiday Gathering, Monday, December 3 at 6:30 pm at the Beulah Brinton House, 2590 S. Superior Street. This very important membership election of board members and budget meeting will be followed by a festive holiday evening with music, refreshments and social time will follow . . . plan to join us!

BEULAH BRINTON AWARDS DINNER A GREAT SUCCESS

BY NANCY TAWNEY



Emcee John McGivern lent his signature style to the Beulah Brinton Awards event.

On the beautiful autumn evening of October 4, 180 people filled South Shore Park Pavilion for the Beulah Brinton Awards Dinner.

Sr. Edna Lonergan, President of St. Ann Center for Intergenerational Care, and John Gurda, local

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South Shore Yacht Club Centennial Event to be Held January 30th

BY NANCY TAWNEY

In honor of the 100th anniversary of the founding of the South Shore Yacht Club, Ron Winkler will be presenting a special program at the Club on January 30, 2013 at 7:00 pm. This event will also be open to Bay View Historical Society members. Ron will be talking about what Bay View was like in 1913 when the SSSYC began its life at the bottom of Nock and Iron Streets.

Society members are also invited to the \$7.00 all-you-can-eat spaghetti dinner which precedes the program from 5:00 until 6:30 pm. This is a fundraiser hosted by Junior SSSYC Sailors to support sailing instruction for the younger crowd. No reservations are required, walk-ins welcome, and the menu includes spaghetti, salad, rolls, and dessert.

Please join our neighbors at the SSSYC on January 30. If you haven't seen the Queen's Cup, here's your opportunity to see it and help the SSSYC kick off its anniversary year.

A Brief History of the Pryor Avenue Well

BY RON WINKLER

One of Bay View's most famous landmarks is the Pryor Avenue Iron Well in the 1700 block of East Pryor Avenue. Because it is the only artesian well left in Milwaukee, people come from all over the county to fill jugs with fresh spring water. The well was one of six drilled in Bay View to provide fire protection. Drilled in 1882-83, the well has a depth of 1551 feet. According to legend, there was so much pressure built up where the well was drilled, that the water shot fifty feet into the air. Today a pump brings water to the surface and the Milwaukee Health Department monitors the water quality several times a year.

Official Designation

On March 13, 1980, the well was officially named "The Pryor Avenue Iron Well" by the City of Milwaukee's Common Council. The BVHS worked with the city to have a plaque placed on the well which reads "Pryor Avenue Iron Well Dedicated by the Bay View Historical Society 1980." That leads

many people to believe that the well is a BVHS landmark, which it is not. In fact, the BVHS's first landmark was the nearby Beulah Brinton home – now the Society's headquarters - which was designated on May 15, 1983.

In 1980, the BVHS refurbished the area around the well and laid the red bricks which came from Clement Avenue. Society member Wally Oleson added the first planter while Paul Kohlbeck added benches and flower tubs.

City of Milwaukee Landmark

In 1987 when the city wanted to re-drill and reconstruct the well, the BVHS opposed the reconstruction plans, which would have radically altered the well's appearance. The Milwaukee Water Department re-drilled, but did not reconstruct the well. It was then designated as a City of Milwaukee Landmark on November 17, 1987. At that time, the city added a second planter.

The BVHS maintained the flower boxes until 2004 when it teamed up with the Bay



The Pryor Avenue Well inscription reads, "Pryor Avenue Iron Well dedicated by the Bay View Historical Society 1980." The well is a City of Milwaukee landmark, but not a Bay View Historical Society landmark.

View Garden and Yard Society to maintain the area around the well. That society was founded by Bay Viewite Dan Austin in 1996.

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The Bay View Historical Society.

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Nancy Tawney

Vice-President

Candice Owley

Secretary

Karla Iseler

Treasurer

Denice Laack

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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.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

BY NANCY TAWNEY

For ten Tuesday mornings this fall, people have been gathering around the kitchen table in the Beulah Brinton House for a Guided Autobiography class. The sessions give attendees the opportunity to create a personal history and share their unique life journeys.

As one of those in the class, I have found this to be a rewarding experience as we recall things from our past and write them down for posterity. This is a fitting activity to be held

at the Brinton House since it encompasses the Bay View Historical Society's mission of conserving heritage. No matter how ordinary a life may seem, we all have extraordinary stories to tell and I encourage you to share yours.

Recently I saw a bumper sticker that read: "Have a Bay View-tiful Day!" It is my greeting to you, too.

BEULAH BRINTON AWARDS DINNER A GREAT SUCCESS



Left: John Glaser and award recipient John Gurda at the Beulah Brinton Award dinner.

Center: Beulah Brinton award recipient Sr. Edna Lonergan addresses the crowd.

Right: Society president Nancy Tawney mingles with Marty and Elaine Schrieber during the festivities.

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historian, writer, lecturer and columnist, were the award recipients. Upon accepting their awards, both reflected on the good work that Beulah Brinton did in this community over one hundred years ago and how her legacy continues. It was a festive evening in honor of these two exceptional Bay View residents and emcee John McGivern further enhanced the event with his distinctive style.

Through the generosity of the sponsors, donors and attendees, this dinner netted over \$20,000 for the Bay View Historical Society. All proceeds will be used to support the work of the Society. Beulah Brinton's historic home was purchased by the Bay View Historical Society, resulting in a

significant mortgage. Money raised from events such as this enables the Society to continue to pay for the house and once again make it a vital center to Bay View and beyond.

Very special thanks to the sponsors of this successful event:

Martin Schreiber & Associates, Inc.

Gary Grunau

Milwaukee Forge

Pastiche Bistro & Wine Bar

Catholic Financial Life

Mueller Communications, Inc.

Wheaton Franciscan Healthcare St. Francis

Wisconsin Labor History Society

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

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

Joanna & Larry Dupuis • Robin A. Kitzrow • Briana Lawrie • Hart Lührssen

Joyce Plewa-Richards

Bay View Historical Society – Board of Directors election and holiday gathering

*The very important membership election of board members and budget for 2013 will be held on Monday, Dec. 3rd at 6:30 pm at the Beulah Brinton House -2590 S. Superior Street
A festive holiday evening with music, refreshments and social time will follow . . . plan to join us!*

The Bay View Historical Society's Nomination Committee comprised of Leslie Bachhuber, Susan Ballje, Amy Mihelich and Kathy Mulvey, have thoroughly reviewed and vetted each nominee. After months toward this effort, we are pleased to nominate the following people to fill the four available Board of Directors positions:

Nancy Tawney – Nancy has been serving as President and an outstanding member who believes and lives the mission of BVHS to engage the community. In every effort, Nancy shows her full commitment to the goals and vision of BVHS while caring and respecting every member. With Nancy's very capable leadership, so much has been accomplished toward fundraising, leadership development, programs, use of technology and education. Her interests for continuing to serve on the Board are in fundraising, community involvement, support for education, and the newsletter. We thank Nancy for so much dedication, and appreciate all of her efforts and willingness to again serve on the Board!

Annie Hahn – Annie is a lifelong member of the Bay View community, with professional expertise serving children and families in Milwaukee. She has learned how to collaborate with many diverse people and issues through her work with Milwaukee Public Schools and an antique business. As a BVHS member, Annie has co-chaired the very successful Wine and Beer Tasting and Annual Yard Sale for several years. Annie's interests are in event planning, arts/architecture, education, and landscaping/gardening while serving on the board. We look forward to enjoying more of Annie's talents as a Board member, whose commitment and interests help the people of Bay View be more involved and aware of the rich history.

Anne Maedke is a local professional and business owner with expertise in property management, event planning, business

development, and landscaping. Her professional background includes experiences as a very successful business owner in Bay View, Board member on the Riverwest Business Association, and president of school/governance councils in education. Anne wants to be of service to BVHS and work with the community by maintaining the Beulah Brinton house, establishing landmarks, and supporting families who believe in public education. We are excited to have Anne on the Board as a problem solver, who is willing to listen with an open mind and see the broad view of any issue.

Kevin Petajan is a media and graphic professional with business and nonprofit experiences, along with specialized training in the arts, technology and marketing/public relations. Kevin has been on the Board and produced promotional videos for Bay View Historical Society as well as landmark dedications. He is particularly interested in working with the archives, research and website by using technology to help establish memories and access more history. While supporting education interests in the community, Kevin would like to produce more videos based on the many oral histories that have been collected. We appreciate and value Kevin serving another term on the Board!

To clarify the election process, BVHS will follow the by-laws for the annual election of board members. They are:

ARTICLE V. ELECTION Section 1. Directors

a. At the last business meeting of the year, members shall elect directors from voting members of the Society in good standing. One third of the directorships shall become vacant each year. Elections to these vacancies shall be held each year and will be for a term of three years. Only two consecutive board terms shall be permitted.

BOARD POSITIONS AVAILABLE FOR THIS ELECTION:

Nancy Tawney is completing her first term and nominated for a second term on the board.

Stephanie Harling, Shemagne O'Keefe, and Donna Pogliano have completed terms ending in 2012.

CONTINUING BOARD MEMBERS:

Candice Owley (Vice President) – first term ends in 2013

Denice Laack (Treasurer) – first term ends in 2013

Karla Iseler (Secretary) – first term ends in 2013

Susan Ballje – first term ends in 2014

Mary Fisher – first term ends in 2014

David Reinelt – first term ends in 2014

Sheila Semrou – first term ends in 2013

We so appreciate and thank those who are leaving the board at this time!! They have generously offered time, talent and support in so many ways to Bay View Historical Society. Looking forward and valuing your continued involvement in the important mission to serve the community.

b. Vacancies among directors occurring before the expiration of a term shall be filled in an election by the board of directors and those so elected shall serve until the next business meeting at which time a general election shall be held to fill the unexpired portion of the term(s).

c. A nominating committee for directorship

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MY LIFE ON HERMAN STREET

BY RUTH SIMOS

A couple of years before I was born, my family moved to Milwaukee and my mother's father died. Then my grandma came to live with us and took care of me while my mother worked. My mother was working for Dr. Baxter, a dentist on the corner of Kinnickinnic and Allis Streets on Lincoln Avenue. At that time, we were living on 4th and Hayes (then Greenbush Street). When I was 9 months old, we moved to Herman Street where I still live.

In September of 1930, I entered first grade at Immaculate Conception School. When I started school, Grandma would take me in the mornings so she could go to Mass. I could hardly wait: at last I would learn to read and could get a library card and I wouldn't have to wait for someone to read to me. I remember walking to school with a classmate and she said, "Oh good. No school tomorrow; it's Saturday!" That was terrible news to me because I would have gone seven days a week.

Our classroom was the first one on the right at the front of the building. The floors were made of wood and squeaked when walked on. Mr. Cialdini, the janitor, sprinkled them

with treated sawdust before he swept them. It had a distinctive smell that became familiar over the years. On rare occasions in winter when the weather was especially cold, I could take my lunch to school. The lunchroom was in the basement and we could order milk (sometimes chocolate) if we stayed. That was a big event. A couple of times when we had severe weather, school closed because the furnace just couldn't do its work.

We had recess in the morning at 10:00 am and we spilled out the doors onto the playground which was covered with fine gravel. We ran around or played ball or used a jump rope. After about 20 minutes, Sister Mary James came out to the front steps with a large brass bell which she rang to announce that recess was over. We studied religious history, which gave us a whole new history and a vocabulary we would not have learned otherwise and the nuns were sticklers for grammar. I'll always remember my 8th grade teacher, Sister Mary Lydia, telling me "Young lady, if you can't diagram a sentence, you'll never make it in high school!" To this day, if hard put, I can

probably (almost) diagram a sentence and tell you the parts of speech.

During Lent and Advent, we attended 8 o'clock Mass and when we got to 6th grade, we became the choir for the daily masses. The Sunday 9:00 was the children's mass and woe unto you if you showed up at a different time. We were all very impressed by Father Pearce who was a big man with a deep voice and what he said was what happened! He was very good to the nuns and they sang his praises. I was telling my grandma in an awestruck manner how great they thought he was and she said, "Huh - he's just another Irishman." And since she was a little 90 pound Irishman herself, I figured it must be true and I learned not to be intimidated by him, which was what he loved, because he would be gruff on purpose to see what one's reaction would be. People who didn't know this about him didn't always like him but he was a good man and a good pastor, even if he was just another Irishman.

Bay View Historical Society – Board of Directors Election and Holiday Gathering

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candidates shall be formed at least 60 days before the election of directors. It shall be comprised of no more than 7 volunteers and shall include no more than two current directors who shall not be the current board president. The committee shall thereupon set its schedule and appoint its chairperson.

d. The nominating committee shall prepare a slate of board candidates for vacancies to be filled at the next regular election of directors. An opportunity for nominations from the floor shall follow the presentation of the slate. The names of the candidates shall be published in the Bay View Historian prior to the election. The slate shall contain at least as many names as there are vacancies.

e. The chairperson of the nominating committee shall conduct the election and announce the results.

ARTICLE VI. MEETINGS

Section 2. Meetings of the Membership

a. There shall be two general membership business meetings held each year. The last business meeting of the year will be for the election of board members and to present the annual budget for membership review. Twenty-five (25) members, at least one of which must be an officer, shall constitute a quorum at any meeting of the membership. The president may call special meetings of the membership with

concurrence with the board of directors or upon the written request of at least twenty (20) members. When a special meeting of the total membership is called, each member shall be notified by mail or email at least one week in advance as to the time, place, and purpose of the meeting.

To further clarify the election process from the floor, the Nomination Committee is using the following guidelines.

In the event of nominations for the Board of Directors from the floor at the annual meeting, the following policy shall be implemented:

After presenting the slate of nominations from the BVHS Nominating Committee there will be an opportunity to nominate members to be considered for future election to the Board of Directors. Nominees from the floor will be required to have a second, as well as confirmed membership and interest in serving as a Board member. The annual election will be held for those nominated by the nominating committee, as these candidates have completed the application process and have been included in the Historian prior to the election meeting.

All candidates need to complete the nomination process including the BVHS Board Director Application and Board Member Participation Commitment. When another election or vacancy occurs on the Board those nominated from the floor will be considered for election.

2013 Membership Renewal Form

Please renew my membership in the
Bay View Historical Society for 2013!

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.

IN MEMORY

Rojett Trisco died on September 28, 2012. He was the husband of Evelyn Trisco and the father of Tom (Carol) Trisco, who are all Bay View Historical Society members. Our sympathy goes out to the Trisco family.

BAY VIEW AUTHOR RON WINKLER ON THE ROAD

Ron Winkler has written a book about Bay View for Arcadia Publishing. The book is available for \$21.99 at Ron's events, Bay View Historical Society events or from the society's website at bayviewhistorical society.org.

Learn more about Bay View from Ron at the following events which are open to the public. For additional information about any of these events contact Ron at rawinkler@sbcglobal.net

Wednesday, November 28, 2012

Free slide show lecture 6:30 pm
Tippecanoe Library, 3912 S. Howell Avenue

Wednesday, January 30, 2013 at 7:00 pm

Bay View in the Early 20th Century
South Shore Yacht Club, 2300 East Nock St.
Program at 7:00 pm
\$7 spaghetti dinner from 5:00 – 6:30pm

Thursday, March 21, 2013

Free slide show lecture 6:30 pm
St. Francis Library, 4230 S. Nicholson Avenue
Topic: Bay View, Cudahy, St. Francis;
the Emergence of Three Communities

Ron was interviewed for Channel 10's *I Remember* by host Jim Peck. Watch the program at www.mptv.org (*I Remember* Program #1813).

Ron was interviewed by Dan Harmon on WUWM's (89.7 FM) *Lake Effect*. Hear the complete interview at www.wuwm.com. Click *Lake Effect* and then search for *Ron Winkler*, then select "Bay View Tackles Turf Wars and Building Bridges."

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 2012 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.

Calendar 2012-2013

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 25

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

MONDAY, DECEMBER 3

Membership Meeting and Holiday Party
Beulah Brinton House
2590 S. Superior Street
7:00 pm

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15

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

SATURDAY, JANUARY 19

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

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 30

Talk about Bay View in 1913
South Shore Yacht Club
7:00 pm

Upcoming Board Meetings:

- Monday, December 10, 6:30 pm
Beulah Brinton House
- Monday, January 14, 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

