

Bay View's Submarine Force BY R. J. DECESARI, CAPTAIN, USN (RET)



John Philip Holland, U.S. American engineer 1841-1914

Submarines in Milwaukee? Denizens of the deep plying the waters of Lake Michigan, off Bay View? U-Boats on the Milwaukee River? Can this all possibly be true? The answer is an astounding "Yes!"

Not realized by many of the current Bay View and Milwaukee residents is that, over the past century plus, Milwaukee harbor and Bay View have been host to an early developmental submarine and 5-diesel-electric World War II vintage submarines. Four were United States navy boats¹ and one belonged to the German Navy! It all started, amazingly, about 120-years ago, by a Wisconsinite by the name of Richard Radditz. Here is how it goes!

Richard Radditz was a degreed engineer and inventor located in Oshkosh. In about 1890, he was intrigued by some of the developmental work going on with "submarine boats," namely the work being done by John P. Holland. Not to be outdone, but with little experience in the field, he designed a small submarine, about 30-feet long and 5-feet in diameter, powered by a human drive system using bicycle components. Incredibly, the submarine was made primarily of wood! And equally incredibly, it even worked – with qualifications of course. Never-the-less, from what he learned from this endeavor ultimately led to an all metal submarine about 40-feet long. This particular vessel became a test platform for many new ideas, such as electric drive propulsion, a kerosene engine for battery charging, and even air purification gear. The boat also grew to 60-feet long as well. Work and testing was done in a closed building in which a pool had been installed, and the work was not widely publicized. It was his hope to sell the design to the Navy in competition with Holland. Actual "sea tests" were done primarily in the Fox River and it was unveiled to the newspaper and public by making a dive in the river and surfacing about a half mile downstream. This work in Oshkosh proceeded through about 1895. Shortly afterwards, his business was purchased by the Edward P. Allis Company and the submarine was moved to Milwaukee in 1898. It was moored at the Old Milwaukee Drydock Company on the Kinnickinnic River! It actually operated in

U.S.S. COBIA (right) and U.S.S. TAUTOG (left) taken sometime after the COBIA arrived in Milwaukee on August 15, 1959 and before the two submarines were torn from their moorings during a storm the night of February 20, 1960. Used with permission from the Wisconsin Maritime Museum.

Milwaukee harbor for several years, undergoing further development and giving demonstrations to government and other interested parties. In 1903, it was hauled out of the water and put in a shed on what is now Jones Island, and in 1905 it was scrapped for unknown reasons – probably because the US Navy was leaning more towards John Holland's submarine. This was Milwaukee's, and Bay View's, first encounter with submarines. The next wouldn't be until World War II.²

At that time, one of the larger shipyards on the Great Lakes was established in Manitowoc. With the



U-505 U-boat in tow in Milwaukee River. Used with permission by Milwaukee Public Library

outbreak of World War II, and the desperate need for Navy ships, the Manitowoc engineers figured out a way to side-launch larger vessels into the narrow Fox River. Consequently, they were selected by the Navy to build "fleet submarines." One of the visitors to Milwaukee, built in Manitowoc, was the USS Mero (SS-378). In 1944, it proceeded south on Lake Michigan, on her way to the Illinois barge canal and the Mississippi river, to the Gulf of Mexico, and ultimately to the open ocean. As the Saint Lawrence Seaway was non-existent at this time, this was the best way out of the Great Lakes to the oceans. On her transit to the canal, a port of call was made in Milwaukee. The sub was moored on the Milwaukee River, south of what is now part of the River Walk area. Several days were spent here before the continuance of her journey to deep waters. The Manitowoc Shipyard built over 28-fleet submarines during World War II, some of which were to never return. Due to the urgency of getting these boats into action, Mero was the only one known to make a port of call here, as the war was nearing its conclusion when she was built.

After the cessation of World War II hostilities, the United States had a surplus of ships and aircraft in its arsenal. Many of the older ships were taken out of

Continued on Page 4

ONE

PLEASE JOIN US The Bay View Historical Society's Annual Dinner

"CONTINUING THE STORY"

Saturday, April 25, 2020 South Shore Yacht Club

Social/Silent Auction 5:30PM • Dinner 6:30PM Featuring a Presentation by David Mayo, Architect "Continuing the Story: Designing for Historical Context"



Return Registration by Saturday April 4 Cost: \$65/person

DINNER CHOICES: Coffee Crusted NY Strip 14oz. NY strip seasoned with coffee and grilled to medium Atlantic Salmon Grilled salmon served with salmoriglio sauce

Quinoa Stuffed Peppers Bell peppers stuffed with diced root vegetables, quinoa and balsamic glaze

Name	
Name	
Name	
Phone:	
Total meals	@ \$65 each =

In addition to or in lieu of tickets, I am making a tax-deductible contribution of \$_____

Questions? Contact Heather Taylor at 414.218.9598

Please reserve by April 4th Please make checks payable to Bay View Historical Society.

Mail your reservation to:

Bay View Historical Society | Attn: Heather Taylor 1103 Fairview Avenue | South Milwaukee, WI 53172

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

President's Report

Hello Friends and Fellow Bay View Historians,

With 2020 now more than a month old, we are entering a new year and a new decade. But as time passes, some things change and some remain the same.

A great example of the latter is our Annual Dinner. Please join me on Saturday, April 25 for our Annual Dinner at the South Shore Yacht Club. I hope you are able to join us for an evening of friendship, great food, wonderful music and a STELLAR Silent Auction. The invitation for the Dinner is located to the left. Please sign up as soon as you can – this event sells out quickly!

2020 brings other topics "that remain the same" – our ongoing Archival work to capture "Bay View Stories," our management of the newly renovated Beulah Brinton House as an event space, and our commitment to documenting and celebrating Bay View's past.

To that end, I would like to re-emphasize my comment from last year - that if you know someone who would be a great interview subject for our Archives Group, or if you want to "tell your Bay View story" yourself, please send us a message or stop by the Beulah Brinton House during our monthly Open Houses or BVHS-sponsored Events. Their dates for this Quarter are listed in this Newsletter.

As always, thank you for your commitment to the Bay View Historical Society.

Jane Taugher

BVHS Archives Committee Will Present a Program at the April 6, 2020 Membership Meeting.

The Archives Committee of the Bay View Historical Society is pleased to present a brief presentation of the Committee's functions at the Membership meeting on April 6, 2020 which we hope will be both interesting and entertaining. The first part of the program will be a brief explanation by Kathy Mulvey regarding which donations the Society accepts and why some donations are rejected. She will also explain the Deed of Gift form which must be completed with every donation and how a donation impacts both the donor and the Society.

The second part of the program will be short presentations by several volunteer Archivists. Bradley Wiles will talk about the Society's Oral History project and perhaps present some interesting soundbites from the interviews conducted last year. John Sargent will talk about the Pastperfect software that BVHS uses in its efforts to catalog and document its collections and opportunities for volunteers who enjoy working with computers. Gail Germanson will talk about the Society's library and photograph collection and will present some the more interesting photographs in our Collection and describe the internet research she has performed to identify people, situations and locations in these photographs. Janis Liedtke and Frank Mulvey will talk about the Society's Clippings files. John Sargent and Kathy Mulvey will present some of the Society's more interesting artifacts. The audience will be invited to guess the function of some of these items and this presentation should be lots of fun because creative silliness will be encouraged! If technical issues can be resolved, Caleb Westphal will share a virtual exhibit slide show about the Bay View Rolling Mill and will discuss the Society's plans for future virtual exhibits to illustrate what Archives hopes to achieve in the very near future for its members and guests. Hope to see you there!



VOLUME 2020, NO. 1



"Traditions to Remember" on December 14, 2019

BY SUSAN BALLJE | Photos by Bryce Richards

Our 5th year of gathering for the holidays was a BIG success! Joining members, neighbors and friends were the PTA families from Riley Elementary School. Delightful to have so many children present for the fun and festivities! We loved having Jean-Andrew, storyteller, and Jim Winston, Hanukah singer, along with David Drake as Gnorman the Gnome in a sing-along and Paul Akert as Father Christmas. Super thanks to Jane Taugher, Nancy Tawney, Jane & Jim Winston, Bill O'Brien and Katie, and Russ Grabczyk for all the help with decorating. Heather Taylor organized food and beverages, very appreciated. John Fisher provided Old Fashions with excellent help from Kevin Petajan. We had a strong turnout with about 80 visitors!!!



BAY VIEW HISTORICAL SOCIETY 2019

ASSETS	12/31/19
Checking	\$6,540.00
J. J	
Internet	\$313.00
Money Mkt	\$116,115.00
Total Liquid Assets	\$122,968.00
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Direct Public Support	
	* =••••
Donations at House	\$782.00
Capital Campaign	
Annual Appeal	\$3,385.00
Other Public Support	\$312.00
	φ312.00
Total Direct Public	
Program Income	
Walk	\$130.00
Membership Dues	\$1,173.00
-	
Interest Income-Bank	\$138.07
Rent	\$912.00
Bay View & Town of Lake Bo	ok Sales
Special Events	
	Φ Γ 000 00
Annual Dinner	\$5,083.00
House Events	
May Workers Memorial	
Music Event Income	\$261.00
Raffle-Annual Dinner	φ201.00
Rame-Annual Dinner	
Memorials, Legacies, Bequ	ests
Grants Received	\$1,043.00
Sale Inventory	. ,
Other Revenue	¢1 172 00
	\$1,173.00
Total Revenue	\$14,392.07
EXPENSE	
Accounting Fees	
Administration	\$357.00
Annual Fund	\$3,172.00
Archives	\$125.00
Bank Charges	\$15.00
Bay View Bash	
Community Events	\$1,269.00
	φ1,209.00
Conferences & Meetings	
D & O Insurance	\$1,922.00
Dues and Subscriptions	\$544.00
Frolics Expense	1
	¢0 170 00
Fund Raising Annual Dinner	\$3,172.00
Hospitality	
Insurance	\$1,922.00
Internet Provider	
July 4 th Parade Expense	
Landmark Events	
Media/Technology	
Printing & Publications	\$3,979.00
Restoration - Renovation	\$64,642.00
Routine Maintenance	\$3,159.00
Supplies	\$331.00
Utilities	\$3,089.00
Walk Expense	
Web site Maintenance	
Total Expense	
	\$87,698.00



Submarines continued from page 1





service and preserved in the so-called "moth ball fleet." In addition, many ships, old and new, were transferred to the Reserve fleet and used for training of Naval Reserve personnel. Milwaukee was the beneficiary of three naval vessels after the war. Two mine-sweepers and one submarine ended up in Milwaukee. The submarine was the USS Tautog (SS-199). Tautog was the second in the series of Tambor class submarines, and was built by the Electric Boat division of General Dynamics in Groton, Connecticut. She was launched in 1940.

Tautog had one of the most impressive World War Il service records of any United States submarine. Under the guidance of three different Commanding Officers, she made 13 combat patrols in the Pacific and sank 26 ships for a total of 72,606 tons of enemy shipping, the second highest number of ships sunk by US submarines. She was also credited with downing the first Japanese aircraft of World War II at Pearl Harbor on December 7th, 1941, while she was moored at the sub-base there. In 1947, she was transferred to the fleet reserve, and was towed from the east coast to Milwaukee.

Tautog's first mooring location was on the north side of the Milwaukee River, between the North Water Street bridge and the Broadway bridge. The two mine-sweepers, previously mentioned, were also on the north side of the Milwaukee River, but between the Broadway bridge and the rotary railroad trestle. In the mid 1950's, the submarine was moved from the Milwaukee River to the foot of Russell Avenue, in Bay View, just forward of the water pumping station (not there anymore) and the north end of South Shore Yacht Club. More important, this new location put her within walking distance of the then newly constructed Naval Reserve Center, still present in Bay View and the south end of Jones Island.

In 1955, Tautog visited Chicago for the General Motors "Powerama" exhibition. As Tautog's propellers had been removed in order to comply with a US-Canadian treaty involving warships on the Great Lakes, she had to be towed to and from Chicago, an ignominious trip for a submarine that had traveled the length and breadth of the Pacific Ocean several times!

In 1959, the Navy decided to decommission the Tautog and replace her with a slightly newer submarine, the USS Cobia (SS-245). Cobia was also a World War II veteran, having made 6 patrols and credited with sinking over 16,000 tons, earning 4 battle stars as well. For many months, the two submarines were moored side by side at the Russel Avenue birth while crews were preparing the Tautog for decommissioning, and ultimately scrapping. In 1961, tugs came along side Tautog for the last time and towed her across the lake to a dismantling yard in Michigan for the ultimate scrapping process.

Cobia served as a reserve training vessel until 1970, when it was decided by the Navy to decommission

her. However, she was luckier than Tautog as she was towed to Manitowoc where it has become part of the Wisconsin Maritime Museum, Cobia is still serving in that capacity and can be visited at the museum in Manitowoc. Amazingly, she has been restored by veterans groups and volunteers to her original configuration. Even her diesel engines have been returned to running status!

In 1959, the Navy conducted a goodwill exercise to celebrate the opening of the Saint Lawrence Seaway, which allowed ocean-going merchant vessels to visit and conduct business with Great Lakes ports. Known as Operation Inland Sea, a task force of Navy ships, headed by the heavy cruiser USS Macon (CG-132) toured the Great Lakes and made ports-of-call in numerous Great Lakes cities, including Milwaukee. A total of four submarines were included in the task force. To accommodate the demanding visit schedule to numerous cities, the task force split and only two of the four submarines visited Milwaukee. They were the USS Torsk (SS-423) and the USS Corsair (SS-435). Both were diesel-electric submarines that had been updated to the standards of the time. The submarines were moored at Jones Island for several days, and even made excursions into the lake with dignitaries on board, including limited dives off of the city.

Another submarine that visited the city was that of the enemy! U-505, the German, diesel-electric "U-boat," that was taken in-action, as a prize of war, by the US Navy in the North Atlantic. U-505 was being towed to Chicago to become part of the Museum of Science and Industry. She made a port-of-call in Milwaukee on the way south, and was moored for several days on the Milwaukee River, ironically not too far from where the Tautog had been moored. This mooring site is now part of the Milwaukee River Walk. At that time, still visible in her "conning tower" were bullet holes from the intense combat action during the boarding and capture operation. The U-505 is now a permanent out-ofwater display at the Museum of Science and Industry in downtown Chicago.

There are no longer any Navy submarines in the Milwaukee or Bay View area, nor have any visited since the 1950's. But the Tautog and the Cobia were part of the Bay View landscape for over two decades, and were responsible for the recruitment of several Bay Viewites into the Navy if not the submarine service as well! The author can say this with certainty as they were certainly instrumental in his decision to become a Naval Officer as well as a submariner!³

About the Author:

Robert J. Decesari was a 1967 Bay View High School graduate. He accepted a Naval Scholarship to Marquette University, and graduated with both a degree in electrical engineering and a commission in the United States Navy. Following a tour on a destroyer and action in Vietnam, he volunteered and was accepted for submarine training. After qualifying as a submariner, he made patrols on three nuclear powered Continued on Page 7



Tribute to John Utzat

BY RON WINKLER

In the December "Historian" we announced the passing of John Utzat, historian, lecturer, author, and a founding member of the Bay View Historical Society (BVHS). He died last November 6, 2019, two days after his 82nd birthday. His funeral was held on November 14 and he is buried in St. Adalbert Cemetery.

Author's Note: I would like to thank two people for providing information for this tribute to John Utzat. The first is Mike Nemeth, John's nephew, and the second is Louise Parve his "step-daughter." Louise explained that her mother, Donna Laufenberg, met John around 1979 when they were neighbors living in the same apartment building at 728 East Lincoln Avenue. Donna was his companion until her death in 2009. Although John and Donna never married, Louise said that John considered her his step-daughter. Louise said that she remained in contact with him after her mother's death and took care of him during the last three years of his life.

Early Life

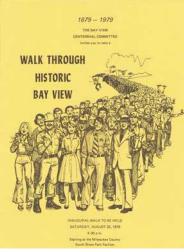
John Utzat (November 4, 1937 to November 6, 2019) was born in Milwaukee, the oldest child in a family that later produced two girls, Gloria and Sharon. The family lived at 2025 West Grant Street and the children attended St. Adalbert's grade school, 1923 W. Becher Street. John went on to attend high school at the old St. John Cathedral for boys, operated by Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist on Jackson Street across from Cathedral Square in downtown Milwaukee.

Historical Society Founder

John's forte was the history of Milwaukee's South Side, particularly Bay View. Although the BVHS was the brain-child of Audrey Quinsey and Paul Kohlbeck back in 1979, Utzat was one of the founders who shaped the fledgling society. He quickly found his niche, working on the society's walking tours and landmarks committee.

The society's first walking tour was held on August 25, 1979 as part of Bay View's centennial celebration. Ray Bethke, Walking Tour Committee Chairman, printed a brochure titled, "Walk Through Historic Bay View," in which he thanked Utzat for his contributions. The walk became an annual event and Utzat worked with Bethke until the walks ended in 1992 due to Bethke's health.

Utzat also worked with fellow charter member John Manke on the society's Landmarks Committee through 2015. At each landmark ceremony, Utzat related the history of the landmark. The two historians were good friends



Brochure for Bay View Historical Society's first walking tour.

and usually sat together at the BVHS's meetings.

In the acknowledgments section of my 2011 "Images of America, Bay View" book, I recalled that my enthusiasm for resurrecting the society's walking tours in 2003 was inspired by the society's second walking tour brochure titled "Walking Tours of Bay View." In that pamphlet, it stated that the walks were "initiated and conducted by Ray Bethke and John Utzat in

Continued on Page 7

Passing, Seen

BY BILL O'BRIEN

I've crossed the South First Street bridge across the Kinnickinnic River many times, but was only recently struck that the ship moored east of the bridge on the south bank floats anonymously, evoking no hint of its notable past. Above its red-brown hull a rusted white superstructure bears only a stenciled "official number" of 1030383.

That was the craft's designation while under construction at Marine Iron & Shipbuilding in Duluth, Minnesota. Built for the U.S. Lighthouse Service as a twin engine, 122-foot-long inland buoy tender, it was launched in April 1939 as the Maple (WAGL-234) and long served Coast Guard assignments at Buffalo and Ogdensburg, New York and Detroit, Michigan.



Credit: Wisconsin Marine Historical Society

The Maple was the first vessel to traverse the American stretch of the Saint Lawrence Seaway, testing the locks in July 1958 and days later hosting President and Mrs. Eisenhower for their tour of the waterway.

Decommissioned in 1973, she was transferred to the Environmental Protection Agency and christened the R/V Roger R. Simons. The first large craft to monitor Great Lakes water, biology, contaminants, and radioactivity, the Milwaukee-based research vessel (R/V) worked two decades with NASA, NOAA, Argonne National Laboratory, and American and Canadian universities.

Sold in 1995, the vessel then berthed at Saint Ignace, Michigan as a museum ship. Returned once more to Milwaukee waters a decade later, the ex-Maple, ex-Simons rises and falls with the tide and namelessly awaits a long-proposed conversion to a yacht.



The Coast Guard has a newer USCGC Maple (WLB-207), a 225-foot seagoing buoy tender built in Marinette and commissioned in 2001. Operating out of Sitka. Alaska until 2017, it is now based in Atlantic Beach, North Carolina.

The WMHS has more historical images of the ship, some with Dwight and Mamie Eisenhower aboard:

https://www.facebook.com/WisconsinMarineHistoricalSociety/

Historian

Is it Time to Renew Your Membership?

Please look at your Bay View Historian mailing label to see when your membership will expire.

All yearly membership terms run from January 1 thru December 31. Any new memberships will be current through the end of the calendar year (one year plus pro-rated months). Members receive our newsletter, *The Historian*, with interesting articles and the latest information on all our events as well as discounts at a variety of Bay View merchants. Thanks for supporting the programs of the

Bay View Historical Society!

PLEASE RENEW MY MEMBERSHIP IN THE BAY VIEW HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Membership Dues

Individual\$20		
Household\$30		
Senior (65 or older)\$17		
□ Senior Household\$25		
Nonprofit/Small Business\$30		
Corporate\$55		
Also enclosed is a tax deductible contribution of \$		
Enclosed is my check in the amount of \$		
Please make checks payable to:		
Bay View Historical Society		
Name		
Address:		
City:		
State:ZIP:		
Phone:		
E-Mail:		
□ Please contact me! I'd like to volunteer for a project or committee.		
Please save a tree and send The Historian to the email address above.		
Send your Membership Renewal to:		
The Bay View Historical Society		

Attn: Membership 2590 S. Superior Street Bay View, WI 53207

South Shore Yacht Club to Receive Landmark Status

BY RON WINKLER

The South Shore Yacht Club (SSYC), 2300 East Nock Street, will receive landmark status from the Bay View Historical Society (BVHS) on Saturday, June 13 at 2:00 pm. The landmarking will be followed by the SSYC's Review of the Fleet at 3:00 pm. The yacht club was founded in 1913 and its current clubhouse dates from 1935.

The society's inaugural landmark was the Beulah Brinton House in 1983, four years after the society was founded. SSYC will be the BVHS's twenty-seventh landmark.



Celia (left) and Elizabeth Williams are sitting on the dock of the bay next to the Lily E, the South Shore Yacht Club's floating clubhouse from 1915 to 1921.

Where in (Historical) Bay View?

BY RON WINKLER

Do you recognize this Bay View landmark? Look for the answer in the next issue of The Historian.

Answer to last issue's quiz (December 2019):

This was the old Otjen Home that stood at 2501 S. Kinnickinnic Ave. (KK) until 1962 when it was razed and replaced by two Contemporary style apartment buildings. Theobald Otjen and his brother Christian, were natives of Michigan. Following their mother's death, they lived with the family of Milwaukee Iron Company founder Eber Brock Ward. Ward brought them to Milwaukee in 1870 to work in his rolling mill.

Theobald became Bay View's village attorney and Christian was village treasurer. Theobald continued his political career as Bay View's alderman from 1887 until 1894, followed by a seat in Congress in 1894 until 1906.

In 1881, the brothers founded the law firm of Otjen and Otjen which also dealt in real estate. It is still in business today. Theobald Otjen's elegant Victorian Gothic home doubled as the offices for Otjen and Otjen. Otjen Street was named for the brothers in 1883.





Your Historic Legacy

Your reading Bay View Historian shows that you have a strong interest in the Bay View Historical Society (BVHS) and the history of Bay View. BVHS exists to encourage a sense of community by preserving, celebrating and sharing Bay View's rich heritage. This is achieved through the efforts of faithful volunteers along with the financial generosity of dedicated people. By remembering BVHS in your will or some other way in your estate planning, you will secure your historic legacy and help assure the continuation of the vital work of BVHS for generations to come. For further information, please contact Nancy Tawney, (414) 744-5674; ntawney@aol.com



Submarines continued from page 1

submarines during the height of the Cold War. After these tours, he became involved with the Navy's deep submergence program and was the Engineer Officer of the deep diving submarine rescue submersible, DSRV-1. Transferring to the Naval Reserve, he qualified as an engineering duty officer, and ultimately had command of four Navsea engineering units. He retired as a Navy Captain, with over 30 years of active and reserve service. He and his wife, Susan, now reside in San Diego.

Note 1. - Although modern submarines are larger than many surface ships, they are still called "boats," as they used to be small vessels. This has become a Naval tradition. Another tradition with seafarers is to refer to all ships in the feminine context; hence subs and ships are all "she's."

Note 2. - If one were to Google "Submarines in Milwaukee," one will find a picture taken showing a "World War I" submarine on the Milwaukee River, taken in 1919. This is in error. The boat in the photo is a WWII fleet boat and is probably the USS Mero, photo taken in 1944.

Note 3. - By naval tradition, this word is properly pronounced "submarine-er," which we Navy-types like to think refers to a cool, calm, debonair, James Bond kind of guy! A "sub-mariner," on the other hand, is simply a below average sailor!

John Utzat continued from page 5

1979 on the One Hundredth Anniversary of the founding of the Village of Bay View, Wisconsin."

In 2012, the BVHS honored Utzat with a Lifetime Achievement Award at the society's annual dinner. In 2019, he appeared in the BVHS's documentary titled, "Bay View Historical Society: Celebrating 40 Years of History" produced by Kevin Petajan.

Author of History

In 1982, Utzat and Ruth Ruege, head librarian of the old Forest Home Library, published "Southside in the Sun," a collection of articles originally published in the old "Southside Urban News" between 1977 and 1981.

Utzat also authored a series of essays about Bay View's history titled "Red Skies of Bay View." The topics include the Milwaukee Iron Company, Puddler's Hall, and labor history. One article is titled, "Stewart Allis Cemetery," about a cemetery that once existed at the intersection of Allis Street, Howell, Kinnickinnic and Lincoln Avenues. At the end of the article, Utzat wrote that this old burial ground had no name and that, "The name Stewart Allis was given to this site by Robert J. Felber of the Wisconsin Old Cemetery Society and historical author John Utzat."

"Red Skies of Bay View" exists in manuscript only and it's not clear why Utzat never had it published, but I would suggest that the necessary steps be taken to publish this manuscript which contains a wealth of Bay View's history and would be of interest to fans of Bay View's history.

Utzat contributed to the "Bay View Compass" and one of his best articles was printed in the October 2007 edition and titled "Bay View's past replete with newspapers."

Life beyond history

Utzat was a fan of the old Milwaukee street cars and knew all their routes. That included the old North Shore interurban that ran between Chicago and downtown Milwaukee until January 1963. He was fascinated by trains, especially steam locomotives. This love for trains was highlighted by his model train that was displayed during his visitation and funeral at Prasser-Kletzka Funeral Home on Howell Avenue.

Although Utzat was a very quiet person, he could be quite outspoken when he felt the need. He was also very generous and contributed to several children's charities such as the Shriners.

Utzat earned his living as an employee of the Milwaukee County Parks Department. His interest in history included World War II. He traveled extensively with his lifelong companion Donna Laufenberg. They traveled to Europe and visited London and Paris. In the United States, they toured California, the Kennedy Estates in Florida, and Graceland.

A quirk of the BVHS is that we have had an abundance of experts named John- Gurda, Ebersol, Manke, Steiner, Sternkopf, and last, but not least Utzat. John Steiner is deceased and now we've lost John Utzat. Rest in peace John and thanks for the memories.



John Utzat's business card advertised his availability as a lecturer.



This image from John's funeral card is of Old Smoky, which stood on East Conway Street opposite DeMarinis restaurant from 1957 to 1974.

List of Board & Committee Contacts:

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\$30 Household/\$25 Senior Household
\$30 Non-Profit/Small Business
\$55 Corporate

Bay View Historical Society 2590 S. Superior Street, Bay View, WI 53207 www.bayviewhistoricalsociety.org

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

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Return Service Requested

Upcoming Events

BVHS Board Meetings Wednesday, March 11 6:30pm Beulah Brinton House

Wednesday, April 8 6:30pm Beulah Brinton House

Wednesday, May 13 6:30pm Beulah Brinton House

BVHS Open Houses

Saturday, March 28 1-4pm Beulah Brinton House

Saturday, April 18 1-4pm Beulah Brinton House

Saturday, May 23 1-4pm Beulah Brinton House

House Concerts:

David Drake~ The Irish Sets Sunday, March 15 3-5pm

Holly Haebig & Jeff Bray Saturday, March 21

7:30pm Info & Reservations: www.houseconcertsmke.com

Juli Wood & Paul Silbergleit Jazz Saturday, May 9 7:30pm Info & Reservations: www.houseconcertsmke.com

Membership Meetings & Presentations

Membership Meeting: Archives

Presentation Monday, April 6 6:30pm Beulah Brinton House

Beevangelist CharBee Koenen Monday, April 13 6:30pm Beulah Brinton House

EIGHT

David HB Drake – The Irish Fest Sets

Sunday March 15, 2020 at 3pm Suggested Donation: \$10 at the door

Milwaukee folksinger David HB Drake performed for over 25 years at Milwaukee's Irish Fest onstage as a solo, with the Rose and Dragon trio, and roaming the grounds as the troubadour "Carrie O'Tunne" singing requests for the crowds. David will revisit those grand old ballads, contemporary maritime songs from Stan Rogers and Gordon Bok, and the sea shanties and fo'castle songs featured by the trio in this recreation of his Irish Fest Set-Lists. David will also do requests if he can remember the words!

Information and reservations: beulahbrintonhouseconcerts@gmail.com • 414.702.6053

Face Book Event address: https://www.facebook.com/events/122505769038016/

Website: http://www.organicarts.info/

BVHS Presentation: Beevangelist CharBee Koenen

April 13 at 6:30p.m. Beulah Brinton House

Meet Beevangelist, CharBee Koenen, in an exciting discovery of the planet's principle pollinators. Learn the role insect pollination plays in Bay Vew and beyond, the difference between wasps and bees, what's happening to them and what you can do to help. He will have products for purchase and perhaps live bees on display to behold.

Charlie "CharBee" Koenen has been working with bees for nearly two decades. He hosts hives at the Sisters of St Francis grounds and throughout greater Milwaukee. His organization BeeVangelists advocates and educates about pollinators through beesentations, products and practice.

www.beevangelists.org • beevangelist@gmail.com