

Historian

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WINTER 2023



# **Saveland Park Turns 100**

### BY RON WINKLER

Author's note: Most of this article was first presented by me at the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration for Saveland Park on Saturday, September 16th of this year at Saveland Park.

The plaque in the northeast corner of Saveland Park, 3700 South Second Street reads, "Saveland Park. Donor: John Saveland, 1923. To the public-spirited citizen, the people of Milwaukee County herewith express their sincere gratitude. The Milwaukee County Park Commission."

Saveland Park is in the Tippecanoe neighborhood of Milwaukee. Tippecanoe extends south from Morgan Avenue to Layton Avenue. The western border is Sixth Street and the eastern border is St. Francis. Tippecanoe and Bay View share a common border at Morgan Avenue.

Tippecanoe is also known as Town of Lake on many maps. Town of Lake was one of Milwaukee County's seven original townships when it was created in 1838. Tippecanoe was part of the last remnant of the old Town of Lake when it consolidated with Milwaukee in 1954.

Tippecanoe is also known as the Garden District which refers to the truck farming region that was centered around the intersection of Howell and Howard.

#### John Saveland

Saveland Park is named for Norwegian ship captain John Saveland. His father and four brothers were also ship captains who hauled goods on the Great Lakes. In 1868, Saveland opened a business on South Water Street which sold supplies to other Lake Michigan boat owners.

Eventually Saveland branched out into real estate. In 1887 he joined and became head of an investment group that purchased thirty acres in the Town of Lake bordered by Bradley Avenue on the north, Howard Avenue on the south, Whitnall Avenue on the east and Howell Avenue on the west. Many of his partners were also Great Lakes ship captains. They named the subdivision Bunker Hill. Included in this group was Milwaukee tanner Albert Trostel.

They soon purchased another thirty acres west of Howell Avenue, naming it Lincoln Park. In 1889, they named the entire area Tippecanoe which they carved into lots much larger than Milwaukee's typical city lots. They purchased some of their land from farmer Isaac Austin.

Saveland's dream was to attract wealthy citizens who would purchase estates in his quiet country subdivision and commute to their jobs in the city. For a sizeable



John Saveland's home still stands at 3723 South First Street.

sum, he even persuaded the streetcar owners to extend their line out into the country to his upscale residential suburbs.

Saveland moved to Lincoln Park in 1891 and his house still stands at 3723 South First Street next to Saveland Park. He also built a small artificial lake next to his home. The lake was large enough for a few canoes and small sailboats.

### Tippecanoe amusement park

When his real estate bonanza failed to materialize, he went to plan B, which focused on recreation. In 1894, Saveland and partners opened an amusement hall on the stone foundation of Isaac Austin's barn at today's 125 West Saveland Avenue around the corner from his home. Its second story promenade resembled that of a ship. The hall had a hardwood floor and huge fireplace. It was used for dances, graduations, weddings, funerals, recitals, and plays, but no alcohol was allowed. The entire area of the park, including the lake, was about six acres.



John Saveland's Tippecanoe amusement hall, built to resemble a ship.

The streetcar began bringing eager city folks to the Town of Lake for a day of boating and dancing. The last streetcar returned around midnight.

#### **Patriotism**

Saveland demonstrated his patriotism by naming the subdivision east of Howell Avenue Bunker Hill and the subdivision west of Howell Avenue Lincoln Park.

He chose the name Tippecanoe for his amusement park and lake because he liked the name and its connection to Benjamin Harrison, the U. S. President in 1893. Harrison and Saveland were Republicans.

Benjamin Harrison's grandfather was William Henry Harrison, U. S. President in 1841. The elder Harrison was the hero of the Battle of Tippecanoe in 1811. During his 1840 Presidential campaign, his slogan, "Tippecanoe and Tyler too!" was a reminder of his war exploits and included the name of his running mate, John Tyler. Saveland was stating his party preference by choosing the name Tippecanoe.

In the late nineteenth century, the slogan was the Republican Party's rallying cry. There were Tippecanoe Clubs all over the country to promote the party. This was still the Republican Party of Abraham Lincoln, not the Republican Party of today, whose ideals are vastly different.

The name of the lake soon came to describe the neighborhood surrounding the lake. By around 1900, it described the entire district around Howard and Howell Avenues.

#### **Saveland Park and Tippecanoe Park**

John Saveland was affected by the financial panic of 1904 and his Tippecanoe subdivision never developed the way he had hoped. To make matters worse, the St. Francis Seminary drilled a well two miles to the east that drained Lake Tippecanoe. When Saveland died in 1909, the area was finally attracting home seekers. However, they were middle class and blue-collar workers who wanted large lots. Between 1910 and 1930, almost 500 new homes were built in Tippecanoe.

In 1923 Saveland's daughter, Mrs. Helen Thompson, donated four acres of his six-acre property to the Milwaukee County Park System and stipulated that it be called Saveland Park.

When parks landscape architect Alfred Boerner designed the park in the 1930s, he included a pond as a remnant of Saveland's Lake Tippecanoe. The park has a Colonial red brick pavilion with white columns, picnic areas, a tot lot and wading pool. There is ice skating in the winter.

continued page 7



Grace Pelisek

**Bryce Richards** 

**Quinn Schwellinger** 

### **Board & Committee Contacts:**

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### Membership

\$20 Individual/\$17 Seniors (Age 65+) \$30 Household/\$25 Senior Household \$30 Non-Profit/Small Business \$55 Corporate Philanthropic Levels: \$100 Friend \$500 Leader \$1,000 Patron \$2,500+ Benefactor

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

Bay View Historical Society is a non-profit organization with 501(c)3 status operatingfor educational purposes.

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

### **President's Message**

Season's Greetings from the Bay View Historical Society! As we wrap up 2023, it's my pleasure to bring you the latest updates and highlights from our ongoing efforts.

#### **Annual Meeting**

In October we hosted our annual meeting, bringing together members to discuss the current status of the Society. Finances, membership, strategic direction, goals, etc. were all discussed. Thank you to those who attended and participated in the town hall style open floor discussion.

Also at the meeting, the membership approved three new board members: Nicola Ciurro, John Edquist, and Quinn Schwellinger. The three of them each have unique skillsets and bring many years of professional experience. The membership also re-elected Rebecca Schnabel, who filled a vacant seat in the 22-23 season and served as secretary. I'm thrilled to see what the new board accomplishes over the next year. A special thank you to Susan Ballje and Drew Formentini for recruiting our board nominees.

#### Trivia

We hosted our second trivia night at The Sugar Maple on September 27th. Dana Hansen and I hosted the event which was themed "Potpourri – a delightful mix of questions that'll challenge your wits and keep you on your toes!". We had a good turnout and are excited to host again on Nov. 29th, Jan. 31st and March 27th. Grab a group of friends and have a fun night with us!

#### Beet Street

On October 7th we participated in Beet Street, a block party hosted by Cactus Club, Goodkind and Palamino. The one day fall festival of music, food, art, and community was very well attended. We spent the day educating fellow neighbors about the BVHS and our mission. We sold a lot of merchandise and overall had a great time. Special thank you to Russ Grabczyk and Susan Herzfeld for helping me with the event.

### Meet & Greet and Book Signing with Author Anna Passante

On November 4th, Anna Passante (Author and President of the St. Francis Historical Society) joined us at our monthly open house to sign and sell her latest book. "Milwaukee's Historic Bay View Neighborhood, A compilation of stories published in the Bay View Compass newspaper" features 77 stories from the "Historic Bay View" and "Mystery Buildings" columns that were published in the Bay View Compass newspaper from 2007-2013 and 2020-2022. Anna was generous enough to donate 25% of the sales of her book to the BVHS. Thank you Anna!

Keep an eye out for our annual appeal letter that should be making its way to your home via mail and/or email. This is our largest fundraiser of the year and helps us to ensure the financial security of the Society and Beulah Brinton House. We sincerely appreciate all donations given as every bit helps.

Wishing you all a very happy holiday season!

Best,

Margaret Herzfeld

## **Evelyn Trisco**



Evelyn Trisco, a longtime member of BVHS and a hard-working Archives Committee member has died. Evelyn, nee Sather, passed away on Monday, October 16, 2023, age 91 years. Loving mother of the late Terry, Tom (Carol) and Rick (Diane).

Dear grandmother of Stacy (Zane Johnson), Rick Jr., Ted (Lucy Taliaferro) and Ben. Evelyn was a great grandmother to Ayden, Ruby and Parker and was also survived by many cousins, other family and friends. Evelyn was a retiree of the Cutler Hammer-Eaton Corporation after 25 plus years. She was a life member and life auxiliary member of the South Shore Yacht Club, a member of the Bay View Historical Society, the Interesting Women of Bay View and founding member of the Dancing Grannies. A thank you to the caregivers with Brighton Hospice for their care and concern for Evelyn and her family. Evelyn along with her husband, Rojett, enjoyed spending time traveling around North America by car, van or boat and of course, gambling along the way as well.

If desired, memorials to the the Bay View Historical Society, the Alzheimers Association or the charity of your choice are appreciated. She will be sorely missed.



### **Financial Statement** Year to Date 11/21/23

#### **Assets**

| ASSELS.   |  |
|---|--|
| Checking:   | \$1,903.98   |
| Business Signature Money  |  |
| Market Account (0.40% Rate):  | \$40.723.88  |
| Business 1 Year CD (4.89% Rate):  |  |
| Total Liquid Assets:  |  |
| Direct Public Support:  |  |
| Membership, Events & Donations:   | \$14 216 90  |
| Interest Income - Bank:   |  |
| Total Revenue:  |  |
|   |  |
| Iotal Revenue:  |  |
| Expenses:   |  |
|   | · · , ·  |
| Expenses:<br>• Insurance:   | \$1,442.00   |
| Expenses:   | \$1,442.00<br>\$4,522.81   |
| Expenses:<br>• Insurance:<br>• Printing & Publications:<br>• Restoration/Renovation:  | \$1,442.00<br>\$4,522.81<br>\$3,200.00   |
| Expenses:<br>• Insurance:<br>• Printing & Publications:<br>• Restoration/Renovation:<br>• Routine Maintenance:                | \$1,442.00<br>\$4,522.81<br>\$3,200.00<br>\$2,758.76                           |
| Expenses:<br>• Insurance:<br>• Printing & Publications:<br>• Restoration/Renovation:<br>• Routine Maintenance:<br>• Supplies: | \$1,442.00<br>\$4,522.81<br>\$3,200.00<br>\$2,758.76<br>\$201.65               |
| Expenses:<br>• Insurance:<br>• Printing & Publications:<br>• Restoration/Renovation:<br>• Routine Maintenance:                | \$1,442.00<br>\$4,522.81<br>\$3,200.00<br>\$2,758.76<br>\$201.65<br>\$2.087.17 |

# Total Expenses:.....\$17,894.26

### Who knows Evan Davies?

BY SHARON COOK



became a naturalized Citizen on January 5. 1877 in Milwaukee County after renouncing his allegiance to Queen Victoria. He declared his in Intention to do so in New York in 1870. I bought his naturalization Certificate recently on an on-line auction site with

the goal of connecting it to a descendant. And he must have some in Bay View or at least the south side.

Doing a little sleuthing, it appears he shows up in Census records as Davis (not Davies), worked at the Rolling Mill, was a bridge tender, lived on Superior and in Cudahy. I was delighted to learn he had a connection to our neighborhood. His wife was Alice, but by 1910 he is widowed. Children of Evan and Alice were George, William, Thomas, John and Mabel, Of course, with little corroborating evidence, I could be way off on my understanding of his existence in Bay View.

I'd be happy to get this certificate into the hands of an ancestor who would be delighted to have it. Contact: Sharon.d.cook@gmail.com

### 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 |
| Philanthropic Levels:      |      |

| \$100 Friend   | \$1,000 Patron       |
|----------------|----------------------|
| □ \$500 Leader | □ \$2,500+ Benefacto |

□ Also enclosed is a tax deductible contribution of

□ Enclosed is my check in the amount of

\$

| Ψ   |      |  |
|---|------|--|
| Please make checks payable to:<br>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.

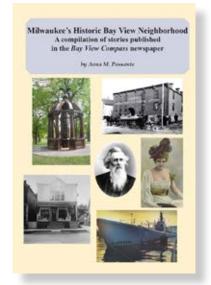
### Send your Membership Renewal to:

The Bay View Historical Society Attn: Membership 2590 S. Superior Street **Bay View, WI 53207** 

### NOW AVAILABLE!

Milwaukee's Historic Bay View Neighborhood: A Compilation of stories published in the Bay View Compass newspaper

Anna Passante will donate \$5 to the Bay View Historical Society for every order that comes through from the Historian. Order through the author at passante.anna@yahoo.com. Be sure to mention the Bay View Historian when ordering.



### **Calendar of Events**

Please check the BVHS Website BayViewHistoricalSociety.org for new TBD events.

### **BVHS Trivia Night**

at The Sugar Maple Free trivia, with teams or individuals Wednesday • January 31 • 7pm Wednesday • March 27 • 7pm

#### Monthly Open House

Come visit us and discover something new! 1<sup>st</sup> Saturdays from 1-4 pm Saturday January 6 Saturday • February 3 Saturday • March 2

- Saturday April 6

### **BVHS Board Meetings**

Board of Directors meetings are usually held the second Wednesday of the month at 6:30pm. The format is hybrid, meeting in-person at the Beulah Brinton House and via Zoom, and are open to members.

Wednesday • December 13 • 6:30pm Wednesday • January 10 • 6:30pm-Wednesday • February 14 • 6:30pm Wednesday • March 13 • 6:30pm



## **Passing, Seen**

### **BY BILL O'BRIEN**

Before iced coffee became a hot commodity and pumpkin spice reigned and rained, a proper cup of tea was best accompanied by a fresh scone. Bay View had no coffee shop to speak of, unless you count the vanished Ritz Restaurant, where memorably-shiny embossed Art Deco panels stretched behind its long grill.

The neighborhood teahouse and import shop was Bits of Britain, which Vera Thomas Olson opened in 1975 at 1201 East Russell Street. Vera Thomas was a native of Philadelphia - not in Pennsylvania, but Tyne and Wear in England – who came to America in 1946 aboard the RMS Franconia.

Vera was a "war bride" who landed in New York on November 29th and four days later married Gilbert Norman Olson, a native of North Dakota who had helped the 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division win its campaign streamers for Normandy, Ardennes-Alsace, Rhineland, and Central Europe. The couple became long-time residents of Saint Francis.

Vera maintained her loyalty to the crown and her heritage and was proud to open her store. In addition to tea, scones, and other foodstuffs, there were dry goods. porcelain, and souvenirs. I recall a much-celebrated royal wedding in 1981.

Jane Grav took the shop over in 1985 and was joined by her daughter Diana Edwardsen. They opened A Wee Bit More in Waukesha in 1995, which operated until 2001, taking on the Bits of Britain name after they closed the Bay View operation. Vicki Just opened the Village Tea House at 1201 in 1997 with tea and "ethereal" offerings, including tarot readings. My daughter recalls "lots of angels."



The half-timbered, brown-and-white "magpie" building is now a private residence. Its front door carries a large depiction of La Luna, an image from la lotería, a Mexican game of chance with a deck that resembles that for the fortune-telling tarot. For those inclined towards divination, the moon on card 23 in la lotería can be read as the lovers' lantern or a sign to seek brightness and clarity.

With the Internet availing all the new Coronation collateral that an Anglophile might desire, there is no longer a need to hunt out a quaint purveyor of such things. One memento of Bits of Britain endures tastefully and tastily, the scone recipe that June Gray shared in the June 23, 1988 Milwaukee Sentinel:



finely, then mix in sugar. Mix to a soft but not sticky dough with the milk. Turn onto lightly floured board and knead till smooth.

Roll out to 1/2 inch thickness then cut into 2 1/2 inch circles. Place on an ungreased, but lightly floured cookie sheet, brush tops with milk. Bake 10 to 15 minutes, or until done. Cool on a wire tray. Serve split and buttered. Makes about 7.

(We punch out scones with a short old Blatz glass, getting 9 pieces from this recipe, to which we've added another tablespoon of milk)

For the building's earlier occupancies as a confectionery, dressmaker, grocery, and Italian deli, see Anna M. Passante's Milwaukee's Historic Bay View Neighborhood. This new book from ElexDay Publications compiles the 77 columns that Anna wrote for the Bay View Compass between 2007 and the monthly paper's closure in 2022.



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



#### Answer to last issue's quiz (Fall 2023):

This is Bay View High School, but it's a difficult one. I must have passed it hundreds of times as a student and hundreds of more times since then. One day as I was admiring the school's 150 grotesques (gargoyles), I spotted the date 1918.

It's on the east (Lenox Street) side of the school above the second set of windows from the south (Montana Street) side of the school. The school was constructed



between 1917 and 1922.

### Leaving a Legacy

One generation plants the trees, and another gets the shade.

Chinese Proverb

This proverb has special meaning right now for the Bay View Historical Society since a new maple tree was recently planted in the back yard. As it matures, people who see it in years to come will benefit from seeing its beauty. Similarly, everyone can



generosity will live on after they are gone. One way to do this is by remembering the Bay View Historical Society in your will. The Bay Historical Society is committed to conserving, celebrating and sharing Bay View's rich heritage. Planning a gift for the Society will plant seeds to help assure its future growth.

If you would like further information on how to remember the Bay View Historical Society, write to: BayViewHistoricalSociety@gmail.com to request further information.





### From Pearl Harbor to Bay View

#### BY KAREN GERSONDE

While I was trying to think of what to write for this issue of the Bay View Historical Society, I only needed to look at my old family photos and my subject came to me right away.

December 7, 1941 was a day that went down in history. President Franklin D. Roosevelt delivered "The famous Infamy Speech" to a joint session of Congress on December 8, 1941. The previous day, the Empire of Japan attacked the United States military bases at Peral Harbor, Hawaii, and the Philippines, and declared war on the United States and the British Empire. In part of his speech, President Roosevelt stated that December 7, 1941 was "a date that will live in infamy." Immediately after the speech, Congress declared war against Japan and the United States was plunged into World War II.

I can't imagine what it was like living through a time period like this. Husbands, brothers, uncles and friends were all drafted or enlisted into the war, leaving all of their loved ones behind. Mothers, sisters, wives, all wept as their loved ones were sent overseas, thrown into the trenches of war through no fault of their own. But everyone came together to do their part and help the country get through these tumultuous times. As the men went off to war, women did their part by obtaining factory jobs to help their families and keep the war effort alive on the home front. Everyone pitched in to do their part. Truly a country that came together to protect our freedom.

Although these were uncertain times, I know my grandmother, Amelia Decesari and grandfather, August Decesari, who lived on South Superior Street at this



time, were proud that their two sons, Enzo (Andy) Decesari and Joseph Decesari, were drafted into the Army, to do their part in the war effort. I know my mother, Fausta Decesari and her sisters, were proud of their brothers, too, as is evident by the photos for this article. Likewise, many of the neighborhood boys went off to war, also. Bay View was such a close, tight-knit community, there was concern for all the neighborhood men that went off to war. And concern for them was valid, as not every man came back. Loved ones were lost, and with those losses, the entire neighborhood mourned for them and suffered in their hearts.

My uncles Andy and Joseph did live to return home from the war, as well as my father, who was also in the army. For that, I am grateful. For those who lost their lives in the war, let's take a moment to reflect on December 7 this year. This truly was a date that will live in Infamy, and it is a date that should not be forgotten. Thank you, Bay View, for your war efforts and sacrifices. You truly were a part of history.

I have toured the USS Arizona memorial in Oahu, Hawaii, as well at the "Punch Bowl Cemetery" there, and it truly is amazing and awe inspiring to see it. I have no words to describe it! Just very powerful! It is hard to comprehend how a place so beautiful could have had such tragedy. And the USS Arizona still leaks droplets of oil to this day. I did not believe it until I saw it firsthand; tears for the souls that were lost that day.

So, for this generation now, and everyone alive today, may these photos help you understand what Bay View was about in the 1940s. This is from my private collection of family photos and I am so honored and happy to share them with you. I will always hold a special place in my heart for Bay View!

- 1. Delia Decesari wearing an Army Cap
- 2. Andy Decesari
- 3. Lena Yaccarino-Ginger and Fausta Decesari and friend
- 4. Post card from Joe Decesari 1944-1945
- 5. Joseph Decesari in WWII Army Uniform
- 6. Fausta and Ginger Decesari and friend
- 7. Andy-Delia Decesari
- 8. Delia-Betty-Ginger-Fausta-Enzo Decesari
- 9. Amelia Decesari and Joe Decesari

10. Ginger and Dell Decesari-R-Fausta and Betty Decesari

### **Bay View "Mystery" Photo**

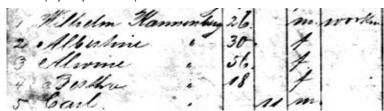
We are starting a new Historian series with photos that have been donated to the archives without any information or content. Please take a look at the photo and tell us if you know the "who, what, when, where and why" of this photo. Please send any responses to **jsarg3131@aol.com**. Thank you!



# A Family on Burrell (A Foray Into Genealogy)

BY JOSEPH SLIKER

On the 18<sup>th</sup> of March 1885, 26-year-old Wilhelm Kannenberg stepped off the ship "America" at the port of Baltimore, Maryland. He was accompanied by his wife, Albertina (age 30), her mother, Alwine (56), and Wilhem and Albertina's 11-month-old son, Carl. The party also included an 18-year-old young woman named Bertha\*. Although everyone on the passenger list was identified as "Kannenberg," Alwine's surname was, in fact, Bauman (or perhaps Baumann).



\*It is not clear if Bertha was a daughter of Alwine Bauman, or perhaps a sister to Wilhelm Kannenberg.

Wilhelm's wife must have been very near the end of the third trimester of her pregnancy, as her second child, a daughter named Anna Marie, was born in Wisconsin only four days later.

The paragraphs above represent a forgotten story that can begin to be told based on just a couple of online records, and some fragmentary memories and photos acquired from my remaining older relatives.

The core of genealogy begins with the stories and memories that one may have from one's own family. What were the names of our parents and grandparents? Where did they live when they were children? Who were those other people that we may have overheard mentioned as the grownups talked among themselves as we kids played--unconcerned with time--nearby? The task of putting that swirl of incomplete facts into some kind of organized story or document may seem like a task too daunting to take on. Who has time to find out where, and if, one might be able to access and peruse huge, dusty old volumes under the watchful eye of some county clerk?

But in this here modern world we have new tools that can make such an adventure much more possible for many of us. There are online databases and websites into which millions of documents have been scanned and transcribed and indexed, and a number of these sources are completely free to use. We have all seen advertising for Ancestry.com, which is a great tool. However, Ancestry.com does require paying a monthly subscription, and it may feel like wasted money while one "gets up to speed" with how to use such sites. A couple of (really) great places to start are FamilySearch.org, and FindAGrave. com. I strongly recommend that a raw recruit genealogist start by creating an account at FamilySearch and starting a "tree" that begins with yourself (there is no need/and may be unwise to enter a lot of your personal details or those of any other living relative) as an anchor point from which you can begin adding parents, and searching the many documents that can be found, from census records to birth/death certificates, from which you can glean an increasingly clear picture of the who's who that lead up to you!

Even social media sites can add to the stories you find. I'm not sure exactly how I came upon it anymore, but there is a Facebook page that was created specifically to record



information about the very earliest immigrant ancestor on my father's side of the family, including an actual photo of him!

In the beginning, arm yourself with whatever you can find within your own memory and old photos and documents, and those you can get by talking with older relatives (HINT: a great thing to do during holiday gatherings rather than gripe about politics!). Little details like dates (even if approximate) and places where parents and other ancestors lived, maiden names, etc. will be the breadcrumbs leading back to a more accurate picture of your family's past. With some

Peter Schleucher (b. @1812, d. 30 Oct 1901)

such information your searches into the online databases will become much more accurate and efficient.

Although online searching can be a breeze in many ways, you will still need to be mindful of what you find, and use your own natural intelligence to decide if you are headed in the right direction. An amusing thing that one notices after only a little while looking at the results of census record searches is that while those folk back in the "olden days" had beautiful, elegant handwriting, they often couldn't spell for squat. For example, the surname "Sliker" had evolved from the original German spelling "Schleucher," census-takers at times recorded it as "Schlosher," "Slagar," "Segar" and myriad other ways. So, if you can't find an ancestor with the exact/ correct spelling that you know, don't lose heart: while reviewing census records of households, ask yourself if the first names appear to be correct. Is the age difference between parents and each of the listed children correct or fairly consistent with earlier or later census records?

Getting back to the Kannenbergs; it seems that the family must have had some (currently unknown) reason for heading straight to Wisconsin from the Port of Baltimore as Anna Marie was apparently born almost immediately upon arrival in Milwaukee (March 22, 1885). At this point one can only speculate that they had been met and guided by someone, or arrangements had already been made to transport them (likely by train) to Milwaukee in such a short amount of time. The first verifiable record of the family's residence here in Bay View shows that they lived at the address 123 S Burrell Street. This was just half a block south of Lincoln Avenue. (While Burrell Street is still here, the houses along that half block were razed.)

Unfortunately a series of tragedies followed the Kannenbergs in the coming years. Wilhelm had been working in the William Franzen & Sons glassworks that was located between the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad tracks, and the Kinnickinnic river behind the house at 123 Burrell. According to a newspaper article Wilhelm was struck by a train on that track and killed on July 9, 1889. Albertina, at that time was pregnant with their fourth child (Richard, who was not born until October). Although a railroad bridge still exists over Lincoln Avenue at that location between Burrell and the river, looking at the Sanborn Fire Insurance map for 1894 it appears that the tracks may have been at ground level in those days, which could have contributed to the tragedy. (The 1910 edition of the same maps shows that a small depot had been built just south of the intersection and the tracks had by that time been raised onto a bridge.)

The Kannenberg's managed to carry on, however, and the data contained in the 1910 United States Census showed Albertina as head of the household still living at 123 Burrell and employed as a "washerwoman." Her firstborn son, Charles was now 17 and employed as an ironworker, while Anna (born just after arriving in Milwaukee) was now 15 and working in a cracker factory. The two youngest boys, William (13) and Richard (10) were listed as students. Albertina's mother, Alvina Bauman was



now 72 years old and continued to reside with the family. However, things must have been becoming difficult for her and the family: a death certificate for Alvina Bauman in 1906 shows that she died at the age of 78 of "senility" and myocarditis at the Milwaukee County Almshouse in 1906.

There was some joy in that by 1903 Albertina's daughter Anna now 18, married a glassblower, John Siebert, who was employed at the nearby glassworks. In July of the following year, Evelyn, the first of three daughters, was born.

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John Siebert with Anna (Kannenberg) and their daughter Evelyn, photographed at the Korn Studio here in Bay View.

### A Family on Burrell continued

The Siebert's luck was not to hold, however; their second daughter, Myrtle died after only three months in 1906. Esther, the youngest, was born three years later, in 1909.

Tuberculosis was common in much of the urbanizing United States in the late 19th and early 20th centuries and unfortunately it caught up with the Sieberts. Both Anna and John contracted the disease and Anna succumbed to it in January of 1911 when Evelyn was about 7 and Esther was 4. John was apparently also clearly becoming too ill himself to carry on. He left his two daughters in the care of grandmother Albertina when he returned to his parents home in New Jersey where he too died in May, just four months later. There is a letter written later in her life by (my grandmother) Evelyn in which she recalls the farewell as her father left on the train, too personal to share here.

Albertina Bauman Kannenberg managed to carry on through all of this. There are other stories to tell about many other challenges before and beyond this point. While still launching her remaining sons into their lives she managed to raise two young granddaughters.

While Esther never married, Evelyn did. She married Peter Molling in 1928 and the couple moved into the house just a few doors down Burrell Street (117) where they began their family of 5 children; Marguerite (this writer's mother), Peter Jr., Dorothy, Barbara. and David. The addresses were changed (across much of Milwaukee around 1930. According to the City Directory, 117 became 2327, and Albertina's house became 2335. The Mollings and Kannenbergs of Burrell were supportive of each other, with Peter seeing to it that his grand-mother-in-law had coal to heat her home in winter and Albertina providing child care when both Peter and Evelyn were working.

The pictures below show some of the Molling kids in front of 2327, with a view north, up to Lincoln Avenue. The following picture shows approximately the same view today (the houses along that side of the block were razed a couple of decades ago.

(Note: the building visible at the far right of each picture is across Lincoln Ave, the former Baby Boomer's tavern).







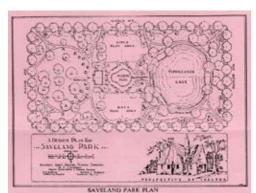
There is still one house from this era standing on the other side of the street: 2336 Burrell (formerly 118). (The girl with the doll is Esther Siebert.)



There are so many more parts of the story and details that have been impossible to include in this limited space, but I'd like to close with an image of my mother, Marguerite, being tended to by her great grandmother, Albertina (Bauman) Kannenberg, who had weathered so much to bring her family so far.



### Saveland Park Turns 100 continued





Top: Alfred Boerner's plan for Saveland Park. Bottom: Saveland Park lagoon and Colonial red brick pavilion, 1966

When the old amusement hall closed in 1915, it was turned into Tippecanoe Presbyterian Church.

Adding some confusion is Tippecanoe Park, located at the eastern end of the Tippecanoe/Town of Lake neighborhood. It is about one mile directly east of Saveland Park at Clement Avenue and Saveland Avenue (the park's southern and western borders). The park is actually addressed at 1400 East Warnimont Avenue, which is its northern border. The eastern boundary is Brust Avenue. Oddly, the area within those boundaries is not all parkland, as the borders contain homes, businesses and Clement Avenue School (3666 South Clement Avenue).

The park's fifteen acres were acquired between 1947 and 1953. Development began in 1957 with a playground, four football practice fields, baseball diamonds, and picnic areas. The pavilion and wading pool were built in 1967.

#### Tippecanoe/Town of Lake/Garden District

Tippecanoe's large lots give it a semi-rural and suburban atmosphere. It has a variety of architectural styles that became popular before and after WWII. House styles are quite diverse, with Bungalows, Colonials and numerous other types. Howell Avenue is its main street.

The area is characterized by large lots and beautiful gardens, which is why it was named the Garden District. It features community gardens on the east side of Sixth Street across from the Town of Lake Water Tower which extend north of Howard Avenue.

There are still old farmhouses scattered throughout the area. The homes of George Van Beck and Thomas Van Beck, still stand at 529 East Howard Avenue and 3954 South Taylor Avenue, respectively. Van Beck Avenue, one block south of Howard Avenue, pays tribute to this family.

Ray Van Beck grew up on his parent's farm at 300 West Layton Avenue and then operated his own farm on College Avenue in Oak Creek until 2006. His home was on East College Avenue across from the airport and his familiar stand was on the southwest corner of College Avenue and Pennsylvania Avenue.

# Bay View Historical Society 2590 SOUTH SUPERIOR STREET

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### Fifty Years Ago at the Brinton House

### **BY NANCY TAWNEY**

On August 11, 1973, Margaret O'Brien and Brad Dorn were married at the Brinton House. Along with their children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren, they returned to the house this August in celebration of their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.

In 1973, Margaret's parents, Robert and Genevieve O'Brien, were renting the house from Daisy Estes Tucker, great-granddaughter of Warren and Beulah Brinton. Margaret had already left home and was living in Colorado but she and Brad chose her parents' residence for their marriage site. That August day fifty years ago was very hot but their event was held outdoors on the grounds to the south of the house. Prior to the wedding, the bride and groom-to-be and helpers used milk crates and tabletops to "construct" a temporary stage for the ceremony and then covered it with white crepe paper. Once this project was done, they went into the house to dress for the wedding. All the women got ready in the front south bedroom and the men used the front north room. Margaret's father walked her down the stairs and out the front door to the lawn area. For this 2023 return visit, the family got a photographer to take pictures of the Dorns and their offspring on the front porch and various sites in the yard. Following this, they came in the house for a tour and re-visited the upstairs areas where they prepared for the big event, all of which evoked fond memories for the anniversary couple.

The Brinton House is now 151 years old. The Dorns were impressed with the good condition of the house on their return visit. May it continue to be a site for many more happy occasions.

