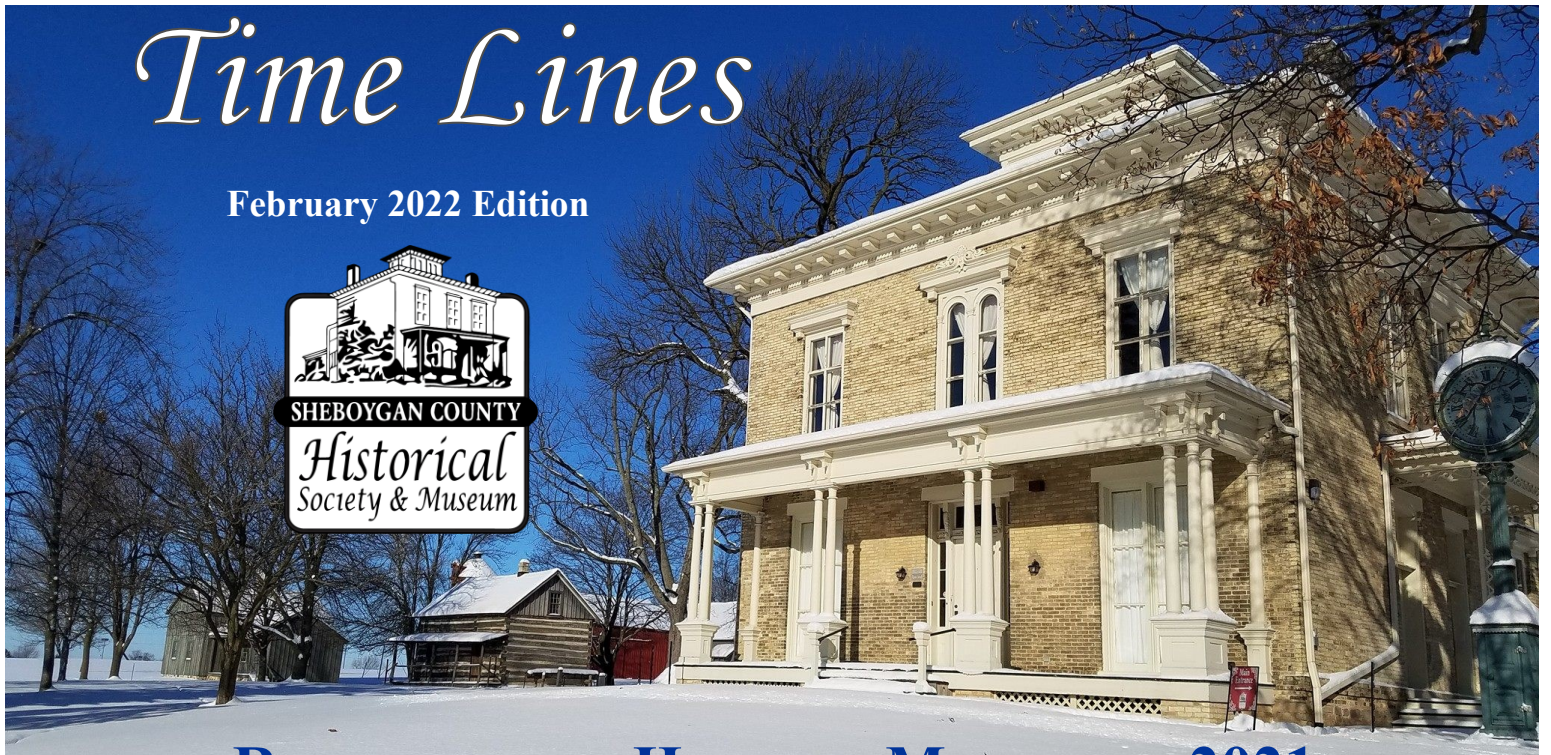


Time Lines

February 2022 Edition



REMEMBERING HOLIDAY MEMORIES 2021



Our mission ...to collect, preserve, and educate about the history of Sheboygan County.

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

Good Day,

We made it through another pandemic year! It sure feels good. The past year had us all quite ecstatic as we were able to reopen, albeit with some minor restrictions. We are overjoyed that many visitors experienced our Smithsonian traveling exhibit and we were especially joyous to welcome back visitors to our annual Holiday Memories event. We started 2021 with unprecedented lows in attendance but ended at nearly the level of pre-pandemic years. Our museum just is not the same without the excitement of our guests.

The upcoming year looks to be another great one and we are confident that it will go smoothly. We have two wonderful traveling exhibits coming to us that will be sure to pique excitement with fun and informative programs to strengthen our guests' experience. We will also resume our great programming, including the March speaker series. The pandemic halted our 2020 lineup so we will complete the Transportation series this year.

Our education programs came back from hiatus in fall. We were able to welcome back a few hundred students to our Full Day Education Programs while keeping our students, staff, and volunteers safe and healthy. We are now scheduling additional classes for the spring semester. One of the things we missed most was the energy and excitement of students making the connection to their community's past. There is nothing like the joy of a young student learning. We are also updating Indigenous Peoples of Sheboygan County, working with a Native American advisor, to more accurately tell the story of the first people in our area. These changes will make for a better program and demonstrate our respect and appreciation for the indigenous culture of our community.

Through a grant we received late last year, we will continue improving our collections stewardship. The project began in October and we have made good strides. It is a daunting task that will complete a mission we started nearly ten years ago to maintain our collection at a high, professional level. In the course of this project, we will be changing out one of our long-running exhibits and complete the Bodensstab Cheese Factory exhibit. Along the way, we will provide opportunities for visitors to experience what is involved in recording items into our collection and changing out exhibits. We know that in order to keep visitors returning to our museum we need to offer new exhibits highlighting our amazing collection. We are excited to be returning to a regular rotation schedule for collections exhibits.

We did have two staff members move on from the museum at the end of the year. Kiyohé Lopez left our maintenance position and Vicki Stopar left as our custodian. Kiyohé was with us a short time and we were sad to see her move on. Vicki spent three years with us, half of that time cleaning during a pandemic. Both were instrumental to our mission and we wish them well in the future.

Thank you — Travis

DON'T MISS IT ... *WORK, FIGHT, GIVE*

Work, Fight, Give: American Relief Posters of WWII will be the feature exhibit from February 1 through March 10. Relief agencies of World War II provided vital support to war-ravaged people and countries. The efforts of those organizations, in many cases promoted by artwork of some of the top American artists and illustrators of the time, raised millions in both dollars and goods to care for humanity during a tumultuous time. We are pleased to host this traveling exhibition, a program of Exhibits USA, a national division of Mid-America Arts Alliance, and the National Endowment for the Arts. Additional materials will be included to show the Sheboygan County connection to many of the featured relief agencies.

Two special activities will also be held in conjunction with the exhibit. First, the Museum will host a *Relief Drive* to support Safe Harbor of Sheboygan County. A list of needed items will be available at the Museum and online. Second, on February 23, at 9:30 AM we will host *Coffee with the Curator*. Following a video of the exhibit's curator Dr. Hal Elliot Wert explaining the project, Museum staff will discuss how residents of Sheboygan County supported the same relief efforts.



Unidentified artist, **United States Committee for the Care of European Children—Rescue and Refuge**, 1942-45, offset print, 22 x 17 inches. Courtesy of private collection.

PROGRAMMING

Valentine's Day Card Scavenger Hunt

Love is in the air...and at the Museum! Can you find all the special Valentine's Day Cards hidden throughout the Museum and buildings February 1–26? Valentine's Day Cards will feature artifacts and heart-felt Museum connections. Looking for a fun way to show a loved one how much you care? Take home a Museum edition Valentine's Day Card after your visit! The Valentine's Day Card Scavenger Hunt is included with general admission (members free).

2022 March Speaker Series

Join us for our first in-person Speaker Series since the Pandemic began! Every Tuesday in March, we will host presentations on the History of Transportation in Sheboygan County. All presentations start at 6:30 PM in the Museum's classroom and are free and open to the public.

Our March Speaker Series Line Up:

- Tuesday, March 1 — **Shipping**, Greg Lutz from the Wisconsin Maritime Museum
- Tuesday, March 8 — **Railroads**, local author Peter Fetterer
- Tuesday, March 15 — **The Interurban**, Evan Richards from the East Troy Railroad Museum
- Tuesday, March 22 — **Airplanes**, Dave Rudd from the Aviation Heritage Center of WI

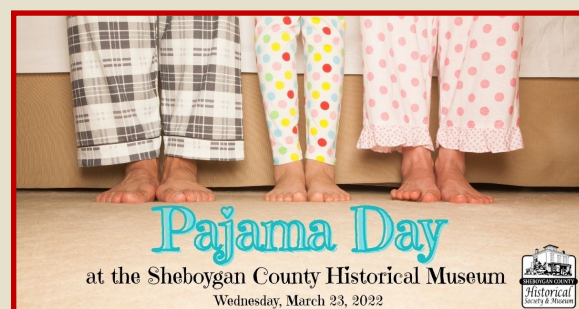
2022 Pajama Day

March 23 is the second annual Pajama Day at the Sheboygan County Historical Museum! Join us for our family-friendly pajama party to celebrate the "Pajamaversary" of the first Wisconsin Safer At Home Order in March, 2020. Anyone young or old who joins in the fun by wearing their pajamas to the Museum will receive a special treat to take home! Pajamas or not, everyone will receive free admission on Pajama Day! This is a perfect opportunity to bring your friends to visit the Museum.



Congratulations, Chloe and Josh!

Program Coordinator Chloe Seider will soon welcome her first son! She will be out on maternity leave starting in March and will have her hands full with a brand new program. If you have questions or would like assistance with programming during that time, please contact Executive Director Travis Gross. We look forward to welcoming Chloe and her bundle of joy back to the Museum upon her return!



MUSEUM MADNESS RETURNS — ONLINE

After a dominating run, the Garton Toy Kidillac returns for *Museum Madness 2022* with hopes of a two-peat! The competition will be stiff. Expect to see an internal challenge from another beloved Garton Toy, memorabilia from H.C. Prange, a famous dress, an award-winning board game, and more!

We need YOU to help choose the winner. Join us at sheboyganmuseum.org beginning March 13— Selection Sunday—as 16 Sheboygan County objects from our collection face off in a battle for the 2022 Championship! Voting starts on March 17 and the final round will take place in early April. The winner will be announced on April 4.



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

November Spotlight Volunteer, Phyllis Bloedow, a longtime K-12 educator, first discovered the museum with her second-grade class on what she remembers as “the best field trip ever.” The kids loved the hands-on activities and Phyllis was hooked! Prior to retiring from the Sheboygan Area School District in 2009, she helped develop curriculum for second grade teachers based on the Pioneer/Immigrant full-day education program.

Friends advised Phyllis to be careful about volunteering during her first year of retirement. Fortunately, she didn’t listen. Her neighbor (Education Program Development staff member, Angie Hullin) persuaded Phyllis to try volunteering as a full-day-education-program presenter. Phyllis began helping with other educational programs and eventually “branched out” to performing Bruce the Spruce and volunteering with Holiday Memories, Historic Home Tours, History Hill Music Festival, and the Cemetery Tour.

Phyllis started volunteering regularly after retiring because, she says, “I enjoy history, teaching, and working with kids. Volunteering at the museum gives me a chance to do all three!”



December Spotlight Volunteer, Robert Ziegelbauer serves on the Historical Society’s governing Board, a diverse group made up of twelve engaged volunteers. The Board of Directors guides the organization’s governance, links the Museum to its community, plans for the future, and raises funds to insure its sustainability.

Vice President Robert Ziegelbauer joined the Board of Directors in 2014 and has been Vice President since 2017. He also serves on the County Board of Supervisors and facilitates the unique collaboration between the County and its Museum. As he says, “We own the land and a nonprofit runs the museum that represents the County.” He adds, “I want it to be a win-win for both sides, to see what worked in the past and make it better in the future.” He wants to ensure realistic funding from the County for maintenance and “to move forward in an eloquent manner for long term support.”

Robert fondly coming to the Museum as a child and understands history as a valuable tool for education. He sees great value in bringing old and young together through public programming. His mother, Connie Ziegelbauer also served on the County Board and volunteered at the Museum. She instilled in Robert twin passions for service and for Sheboygan County. He likes to say, “My favorite place to go is home.”

January Spotlight Volunteers, Jerry and Linda Smith still enjoy spending time together after 52 years of marriage. Rather than finish each other’s sentences they listen intently, smiling with respect and admiration.

Linda’s passion for history goes back to age 14, when she began researching family history. Born in Sheboygan and descended from five founders of the town of Lima, she says, “this is my country.” An “Eternal Volunteer,” Linda set an example of service while raising their seven children, dividing whatever time she could spare between Maywood, Sunny Ridge, the Historical Society, and other nonprofits. She was recognized as “Volunteer of the Year” by the Historical Society in 2003.

Since Jerry retired from Kohler Co. in 2016, the Smiths began spending most of their days volunteering together. Recently, they helped with full-day education programming, setting up and putting away *Holiday Memories*, events, administration, and children’s activities. Asked why they volunteer, Linda answers simply, “I like to help people.” Jerry smiles and nods his agreement.

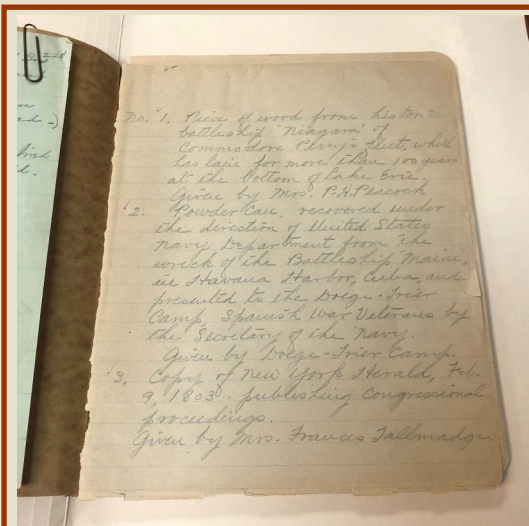


FULL DAY EDUCATION PROGRAMS

The museum had a lighter-than-normal fall schedule, in which we welcomed just over 150 students to learn about immigrants' and migrants' *Journey to Sheboygan County* in the mid 1800s. The education department is excited to be on track to offer a greater number of programs to the county's fifth graders in the coming months. With the uncertainty of the ongoing pandemic, some fifth grade teachers are taking advantage of our hybrid virtual/hands-on program *The Civil War and Sheboygan County*. Many other teachers are champing at the bit to return to in-person programming. As of mid-January, about 100 students are scheduled in-person, and 100 will be learning via the hybrid program. The museum developed four hybrid programs in 2020 and early 2021 with support from the CARES Act and the National Endowment for the Humanities.



COLLECTIONS SPOTLIGHT



The earliest objects in the Museum's collection are documented in a handwritten ledger—the first entry in the book reads *No. 1—Piece of wood from historic battleship "Niagara" of Commodore Perry's fleet, which has laid for more than 100 years at the bottom of Lake Erie.*
Given by Mrs. P.H. Peacock

With over 100 years of collecting under our belt, a complete collection inventory is no small task. Over the past century, thousands of objects were donated to the historical society and countless people have been charged with their care, documentation, and preservation. Coupled with the fact that the methods of documentation have changed dramatically over time, the collection and the Museum have had a few different "homes," and the collection is of a substantial size, we knew it would be a multi-year project requiring extensive planning and time.

Over the last several years, preparations for tackling an inventory project have included adopting a web-based version of PastPerfect museum software and entering basic information about all known donations into the database. Undertaking inventories for small pocket collections (for example, the 72 quilts in collection) provided valuable information about a logical process to follow, the most important data to record, and potential challenges. Perhaps most important, receiving an *Inspire!* Grant for Small Museums from the Institute for Museum and Library Services enabled us to hire a dedicated LTE staff member to focus on inventory work.



Collections Assistant Becca Schnabel and Curator Tamara Lange inventory objects in the Doctor's Office exhibit.

The project has already made incredible strides in a few short months. Over 346 objects have been inventoried and catalogued with basic description, dimensions, general condition, identification photo, and location. The initial focus has been on objects on exhibit and we now have eleven of the twenty-two designated exhibit spaces inventoried.

Of course, there have been challenges — multiple objects with the same number, whatchamacallit mysteries that have stumped everyone on staff, and more. We will be sharing more in a blog post in early February, including additional photos and maybe a whatchamacallit object or two! If you prefer to get up close and personal. stop by on February 17th during our Behind the Scenes work day!



To: Travis Gross <travis.gross@sheboygancounty.com>, Travis Gross
<travis.gross@sheboygancounty.com>, Tamara R. Lange
<tamara.lange@sheboygancounty.com>, grantsadmin@imls.gov
CC:
Sent by: Reagan Moore <RMoore@imls.gov>
Subject: IMLS Inspire! Grants for Small Museums Application IGSIM-249370-OMS-21

Body:

Congratulations! It gives us great pleasure to notify you that your organization has been selected to receive a FY2021 Inspire! Grants for Small Museums award for application IGSIM-249370-OMS-21.

The email informing Museum staff of receipt of the *Inspire!* grant. No paper copy and definitely not handwritten in pencil.

**Sheboygan County Historical
Society and Museum**

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sheboyganmuseum.org

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Mark Your Calendars



Please note that we currently require masks indoors, in accordance with recommendations from the Sheboygan County Health Department, Wisconsin Health Department and Centers for Disease Control. Events may be rescheduled due to inclement weather or other emergencies. Visit our website and follow us on Facebook page for updated information.

MUSEUM RE-OPENS ON FEBRUARY 1, 2022

Museum Hours

Monday—Friday, 10 a.m.—5 p.m.
Saturday, 10 a.m.—3 p.m.

FEB 1—26—Valentines Day Card Scavenger Hunt

FEB 3—MARCH 10—*Work, Fight, Give: American Relief Posters of WWII*, Temporary Exhibit. Included with regular Museum admission.

FEB 8, 5:00 PM—7:00 PM—*Members-Only Reception for Work, Fight, Give: American Relief Posters of WWII*. Light refreshments available.

FEB 17, 10:00 AM—3:00 PM—*Behind the Scenes Work Day, IMLS Inspire! Grant and Inventorying a Museum Collection*. Stop by to ask questions and learn more about the project!

FEB 23, 9:30 AM—*Coffee with the Curator*. Explore the history of the posters and organizations included in *Work, Fight, Give*. Light refreshments.

MARCH 1, 6:30 PM—*March Speaker Series—Transportation*, Speaker Greg Lutz on Shipping. FREE to all.

MARCH 8, 6:30 PM—*March Speaker Series—Transportation*, Speaker Peter Fetterer on Railroads. FREE to all.

MARCH 13—APRIL 4: MUSEUM MADNESS 2022—THE KIDILLAC DEFENDS THE TITLE! Online exhibit.

MARCH 15, 6:30 PM—*March Speaker Series—Transportation*, Speaker Evan Richards on the Interurban. FREE to all.

MARCH 22, 6:30 PM—*March Speaker Series—Transportation*, Speaker Dave Rudd from the Aviation Heritage Center of WI on Airplanes. FREE to all.

MARCH 23—Pajama Day at the Museum. Free Admission.

MARCH 23 5-7 PM—Annual Meeting—Members are invited to meet the Board and Staff and vote on Board nominations.

APRIL 2—JUNE 25—*Marvelocity: The Art of Alex Ross*, Temporary Exhibit. Included with regular Museum admission.

MUSEUM STAFF

Travis Gross, *Executive Director*; Susan Barnett, Nathan Chisholm, Angela Hullin, Tamara Lange,
Dale Robson, Becca Schnabel, Chloe Seider