

TIME LINES

April 2023 Edition

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Do you like to meet people? Do you have a few hours to spare on a regular basis? Why not volunteer with us at Sheboygan County Museum? We are looking for volunteers to help with all sorts of programs and events. Love working with children? Help with our Education Programs! Want to be involved in planning the goings-on at the museum? Join a committee; we have lots. Budget, endowment, financial development, marketing. We would love to have your input. Only available in the mornings, we would love to see your smiling face at the front desk greeting our visitors. If you or someone you know might be interested, let's talk. We'd love to hear from you! Reach out to Liza Rosenthal at (920)-458-1103 ext. 7111 or email us at museum@sheboygancounty.com.

FIVE MILES HOUSE BY JEAN CORNB
SOLDIER'S HAND BOOK U.S.A. REVISED
YEARS 100 OBJECTS
A Century of Collecting
FEBRUARY 18 - OCTOBER 22, 2023
Historical Society & Museum



WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Recently, it has come to our attention that our monthly email blasts are getting sent to your spam folders automatically. On Friday April 14th the museum will be sending out a test email blast to try to solve this problem. If you are willing, please check your spam folder that day and if the museum email is present in your spam please mark it as "Not Spam." If you have any questions please feel free to reach out to Liza via phone, 920-458-1103 ext. 7111 or email us at museum@sheboygancounty.org. Thank you for your help!

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

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

Hi There,

As spring is starting to seep into our routine at the museum, it also sheds light on some changes coming to the museum. We are always excited for spring to arrive as the campus takes on a totally different appearance and feel. Our 100th spring is no different.

We have welcomed four new board members to the museum, a turnover we have not experienced in a while. As we say goodbye to long time board members Maggie Heyn, Ken Ristow, John Van der Vaart and Bob Zeigelbauer we also are saying hello to our new members. We are looking forward to working with Frank Carcara, David Gallianetti, Kyle Karstaedt and Jim Renzelmann, our newest members. You can read more about each of them later in the newsletter. I think you will agree that we added some strong individuals who can continue to help move the organization forward. Please welcome them to our museum family when you see them.

We are also in the beginning stages of implementing something the Society has not done in several decades, a rebranding of the Society and museum. You may have noticed the new logo on the front page, we are excited to hear the response from you, our members, on the new look. We hope you approve. The logo is a big part as it represents the path we will be heading on into the future. With the advent of technology making our world a smaller place, we have changed parts of our strategy and philosophy at the museum. We will obviously still be completely focused on our great local history, but we will be bringing new aspects and ideas in how we collect, preserve and educate on Sheboygan County history. With new cultural groups coming to Sheboygan, it is our responsibility to represent them in our history. We will still celebrate those communities that have been a part of Sheboygan County since its earliest days, including our original inhabitants, but we will also start adding the stories of those who have arrived in the last few decades. As a community organization, it is our duty to represent our community in its entirety. We are beginning with small, internal changes right now; please watch for more to come from this new branding.

Finally, I am also happy to be changing our flagpole. You may wonder why I am excited about this change; here is my answer. With the generosity of Brad and Sharon Abel, we were able to receive and raise the flagpole that once graced the entrance to the Sheboygan Municipal Auditorium and Armory on the museum campus. We did, however, say goodbye to our former pole which flew our nation's flag for several decades on the campus. With the addition of the Armory flagpole, we are also going to move some other items on our campus closer to our main entrance so they can be enjoyed by all our guests. Watch for those changes in the future as well.

We are excited for the change of seasons as much as we are excited for the changes occurring at the museum. And like the seasons moving to spring we believe the changes we are embarking on will blossom like the trees and flowers. I hope you join us in welcoming our new endeavor.

-Travis



CONTRIBUTORS

The Sheboygan County Museum relies on its members and contributors to maintain its ongoing operations. We apologize to those we might have forgotten in our Annual Report. The following individuals, businesses and institutions helped us accomplish our mission: *to collect, preserve, and educate about the history of Sheboygan County.*

H.C. Denison Investments

Jean Bohnoff

Jim Brotz

Bonnie Olshanski Doyle and Jerry
Doyle

Shirley Kohl

Marilyn Mondloch

Joseph Richardson III

Judy Theisen

Carol Zoran

BEST WISHES BECCA!

We are sad to be saying goodbye to Becca Schnabel, who has accepted a full-time position as Education and Collections Manager at the Wisconsin Museum of Quilts and Fiber Arts in Cedarburg. Becca first joined the Museum in 2019 as a summer intern, where she researched, designed, and installed our long-term exhibit *Harmonizing Heroines: Sheboygan's Chordettes*. She returned the following summer as intern, assisting with both the acquisition of artifacts from the Armory and with preparations for transitioning to a new version of the Museum's Collection and Donor Management Software. These experiences made her a perfect fit for the limited term position created to begin work on a Collection Inventory when the Museum received an IMLS *Inspire* grant in 2021.

Becca's dedication and hard work has had a significant impact on the documentation of the Museum's collection. Through her efforts, all objects in the Museum's long term exhibits, with the exception of the Schuchardt Barn, are documented in Past Perfect. In August 2021, there was only one exhibit that had all artifacts documented, including base descriptions, identifying photographs, and general condition notes; today, there are 20. She tackled the Museum Loft storage area to provide the same level of documentation for several significant collections, including the locally made furniture items and the Prange's mechanical animation. Working through this space alone, Becca has verified, documented and ensured proper storage of nearly 700 objects, many of which had little to no information recorded in our collection management software. In all honesty, it would take the majority of our newsletter to share the many impacts of her work!

Becca was always a team player, always willing to provide a helping hand with exhibit installation, event staffing, and more. Her dedication to the Museum and her efforts will be greatly missed, but we are so excited for her as she takes on this new role and wish her nothing but the best!



COLLECTIONS SPOTLIGHT

Our March Collection Spotlight continues the celebration of the Historical Society's Centennial! With music such an integral part of Sheboygan County history, there are several related objects in the *100 Years/ 100 Objects: A Century of Collecting* exhibit. Among them is the sheet music for Lili Marlene featuring Sheboygan County born Hildegard.

Before there was Madonna or Cher, there was The Incomparable Hildegard. Born in Adell in 1906 as Hildegard Loretta Sell, Hildegard became an international star. The first celebrity to be known by a single name, she found some success on the New York vaudeville scene, but even more in Europe. It was there that Hildegard made her name as a cabaret star. Throughout her career, she was regularly recording a variety of popular songs and was among numerous artists that recorded Lili Marlene, a German love song popularized during World War II. Her popularity, along with the popularity of the song, at the time was likely one of the reasons she was featured on sheet music versions of the song. Certainly, she was performing the tune at the time of publication in 1943.



The Sell family moved from Adell to New Holstein when Hildegard was a small child. At age 12, she moved with her family to the Milwaukee area, eventually studying briefly at Marquette University to become a concert pianist. After spending several years performing with silent movies and vaudeville acts, Hildegard moved to Paris in the 1930s. In Europe, she performed for the likes of King Gustav of Sweden, King George V at his 1935 Silver Jubilee, and King George VI coronation in 1937. It was also during this time that Hildegard's agent secured her a long-term contract with BBC Radio. Her popularity led to a 1939 feature in Life Magazine and "Hildegard" shades of lipstick and nailpolish by Revlon. By the late 1940s, Hildegard was traveling the world, reportedly as the highest paid cabaret singer earning nearly \$150,000 per year. As musical tastes changed, she transitioned seamlessly to performing in supper clubs and recording. She continued to perform well into her 80s, before passing away at the age of 99. Although she moved from Sheboygan County as a youth, Hildegard always had a soft spot for her hometown roots.



Interested in hearing Hildegard's version of Lili Marlene? YouTube has several recordings available including the one found here - <https://youtu.be/Tr6UbqprvG4>.

MEET OUR NEW BOARD MEMBERS!

We are pleased to announce that Frank Carcara, David Gallianetti, Kyle Karstaedt, and Jim Renzelmann have joined the Museum's Board of Directors.

Frank Carcara though, an Illinois native, now calls Sheboygan home. Frank attended Northwestern Business College and received a degree in Accounting. He has lived here since 1999 and works for the Sheboygan Area School District in PC Support. His background in business and numbers makes him a strong addition to the board. Frank has gregariously taken on the role as board treasure and given his background, it is no wonder why. We are thrilled to have him as part of our board and very excited for him to be part of the changes occurring here at SCM.



David Gallianetti is an active community member who has worked as a communications professional for more than 30 years, including 11 years in newspaper and 20+ years in higher education. He moved to Sheboygan in 1993 and worked at the Sheboygan Press for seven years before joining Lakeland University staff in 2000. He currently serves as Director of External Relations at Lakeland. He has served on the SASD Board of Education for 20 years, including many years as board president. David also serves on the Board of Directors for United Way of Sheboygan County, the Weill Center, and the Elkhart Lake Chamber of Commerce. He formerly served on the boards of the Sheboygan Symphony Orchestra, and the Sheboygan Historical Research Center, including as president of both those boards. David's extensive background and involvement makes him a wonderful addition and we are thrilled to have him here at SCM.

Kyle Karstaedt is a partner of Abacus Architects located in Sheboygan. His architectural knowledge is great to have on our board given the number of different buildings SCM houses. When Kyle is not working he is passionate about building and designing furniture inspired by the Arts and Crafts Movement of architecture. His appreciation for the past makes him a great addition to the board. We are so excited to have Kyle and his extensive knowledge join the board here at SCM.



Jim Renzelmann is a lifelong Sheboygan resident. He completed his undergraduate degree at UW-Stevens Point, majoring in Elementary Education with a minor in Health Education. In 2015, Jim switch from teaching to administration, serving one year as Associate Principle at Fransworth Middle School and three years as Principal at Grant Elementary. For the last four years Jim has served SASD as a Coordinator of Instructional Services. Jim's knowledge and variety of roles in education serve as a great assets and addition to the SCM board. We look forward to having his input as we continue to evolve our education program here and can't wait to see what the future holds.

THANK YOU COLLECTORS!

Thank you to all who participated in Collectors and Collections. It is because of you that this event was so successful. Special thanks to the following individuals for sharing their collections, Charles Born, Sandie Colby, Mike Q. Hanlon, John L. Mattern, Jeff Michaels, Jerry Michaels, Matt Seider, Randy Stache, David Weinhold, and Mark Zimmer.



April 28, 9:30–10:30, Members Exclusive

Be surprised and find connection in SCM's newest member exclusive. Experience a rarely seen object from the collection, get context, and discuss how such materials permeate and affect our culture today. At the first Object Exposure, expect a spring theme. Then, be the first to make a 2023 May Basket at the making station to ring in spring.

COMMUNITY DAY 2023

Free monthly Saturdays in 2023 celebrate history through hands-on experience. This spring, Community Days will focus on SCM's Full-Day education Programs and include a gathering of regional history organizations.

April 8 | Uncover pioneer life in *Journey to Sheboygan County* with interactive food preservation, travel trunks, a spinning wheel, and wooden toys.

May 13 | Find the grit and games of *Historic Jobs of Sheboygan County*. Make a wooden nail, use a grist mill and saw mill, and visit the "general store".

June 10 | The **Local History Expo** gathering is revived to share the wide network of Sheboygan County museums and people in the area as we grow, change, and offer creative opportunities.

BEHIND-THE-SCENES PRESENTATION: PRESERVATION MONTH AND YOUR BASEMENT

May 11, 5:00–6:30, Free for Members

You've got stuff. Some delicate, some bulky, some for generations to come. Turn your hands into the best possible hands to keep that "stuff" with knowledge shared by SCM Curator of Collections and Exhibits, Tamara Lange, as we celebrate preservation month! Focus will be broad and basic with time for questions. Light bites served so leave objects at home (this time).

MAY BASKETS | SPREAD MOMENTS OF CARE TO YOUR NEIGHBORS

Free for Members

Reconnect with neighbors far and near with handmade care by giving a homemade May Basket. Stop by the front desk of the museum to get a "May Basket" of historic materials about this special tradition and enjoy convivial fun at drop-in making workshops.

April 28–May 31 | Visit SCM's Making Station to create a May Basket during regular hours

May 1–3, May 24–26 | Drop-in May Basket Workshops 3:00–4:30, all ages

EDUCATION PROGRAM UPDATE

The educational programs for the spring semester 2023 are in full swing. We have 48 days of programming being offered through the end of the school year. The Sheboygan Area School District is represented with 13 different schools and 33+ classrooms. There are 4 Sheboygan private schools in attendance representing 10 classrooms. Sheboygan County has 8 different schools attending programs covering 11 classrooms.

We have recently completed the *First Peoples of Sheboygan County* for grade 4 and *Sheboygan County and the Civil War* for grade 5. The remainder of the semester will be focusing on *Journey to Sheboygan County* for grade 2 and *Historic Jobs of Sheboygan County* for grade 3.

We are so thankful for all of the volunteers that help to make these programs a success. We are always looking for more people to help out. Please contact us for more information if you might be interested.

The Educational Department is also in the process of developing a program that will benefit students in the Middle Schools. This will likely focus on the Industrial Revolution in Sheboygan County. There is a chance that something will be in place as a pilot program by next fall.

The staff is also helping to bring back an interest in participation in the National History Program. Due to the recent pandemic, student participation from the county, state and across the country has dropped off significantly. The Museum has been a supporter of this fantastic program in the past, and hopes to regenerate interest with middle and high school students in the county. The National Contest, held in June at College Park Maryland will be in person this year after 3 years of having to go virtual. Check out nhd.org for information.

Sheboygan County Historical Society & Museum

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sheboyganmuseum.org

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Dr. Patrick Marsho, Director
Jim Renzelmann, Director

Calvin Wheeler, Honorary

Travis Gross, Executive Director

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



Mark Your Calendars!



Museum Hours

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

Admission

- Members – Free
- Adult (18 – 61) – \$10
- Seniors (62+), Active Military – \$7
- Youth (6-17) \$5
- Child (5-) Free

Memberships and other financial contributions support our mission, “to collect, preserve, and educate about the history of Sheboygan County.” Memberships support preservation, educational programs, maintenance, exhibits, events, and other necessary expenses.

Check out the SCM website and Facebook for Pop-Up Events throughout the year!

Telling the Full History Project Presentation, April 6, 6:00pm-7:00pm

Community Saturday, Journey to Sheboygan County, April 8, 10:00am-3:00pm

Object Exposure, Members Only, April 28, 9:30am-10:30am

Make a May Basket!, April 28-May 31, anytime the museum is open

Community Saturday, Historic Jobs of Sheboygan County, May 13, 10:00am—3:00pm

Member Picnic, June 7, 4:30pm-7:00pm

Community Saturday, Local History Fair, June 10, 10:00am-3:00pm, sponsored by Rudnick Jewelers

MUSEUM STAFF

Travis Gross, Executive Director; Matthew Bayens; Nathan Chisholm; Heather Hanlon; Tamara Lange; Dale Robson; Liza Rosenthal; Becca Schnabel; Tom Wiegand; Rick Wojnarowicz