

Dedicated to
the four Rs...
Rescuing ... Recording ...
Restoring ... Re-creating ...
the *authentic*
New Berlin history

NEW BERLIN *Historical* SOCIETY



November 2023

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

MUSEUM OPEN DATES — 1-4 pm
Sunday, Nov 12th, Dec 10th

ANNUAL MEETING & PROGRAM
AT THE NEW BERLIN LIBRARY
Monday, November 13th

6:30pm: Annual Business Meeting &
Election of Board Members

7:00pm: "The Great Blizzard of 1947"
presented by author Matthew Prigge



Jon Theissen demonstrates blacksmithing techniques during Historic Day

Board Member Elections

At the Annual Meeting, the membership will elect four board members to fill three-year terms. The nominating committee will present the following slate of candidates: Peggy Ament, Sue Hemmen, Jim Liska and Rip Edmundson. The candidates' qualifications and service to the Society are printed on page 3. All members are encouraged to attend so that we may meet the required quorum.

We also will be voting on an updated version of our Bylaws.

Board Meeting Speaker Presentation

Following the Annual Meeting, we will welcome author Matthew Prigge. He will be sharing the amazing story of a major blizzard that hit Milwaukee in 1947 and shut the city down for several days.

Historic Day

We couldn't have asked for better weather. We had what appeared to be a record crowd. Visitors were able to watch a blacksmith, a spinning demo, a parade of historic vehicles, miniature horses and visit with representatives from our Library and our Landmarks Commission.

Applefest/Beer Garden

The weather was a bit brisk, but it did not deter our visitors. We believe we had more people than we did for Historic Day. MobCraft Beer provided liquid refreshment and our Gazebo was busy serving lunches and desserts. Kids shelled corn, pressed apples for cider, and visited with the miniature horses. All of the buildings were very busy and we received many compliments on our displays.



After shelling an ear of corn by cranking the corn sheller, this young man watches as the kernels are pulverized in the grinding mill

Special Thanks!!...to our 2023 Corporate Sponsors

• Culvers • Sprecher's Root Beer • Pick&Save • Walmart

Tours

On August 18th eight ladies from a Pewaukee church enjoyed a tour of the Museum.

On October 5th the Seniors group from Blessed Savior Lutheran Church enjoyed their tour.

Museum News

We were very pleased with the attendance when the Museum was open on Sunday afternoons. It has been decided that in 2024 the Museum will be open the second Sunday of every month from 1-4pm.

Membership Dues

September is the month that all members need to renew their membership (unless you are a Life Member). Our Society would be nothing without your support. Please mail in your \$15 dues check, payable to the New Berlin Historical Society before the end of September. That small fee covers everyone in your family. A renewal form is included with the Newsletter, or you can just send your check to Sue Hemmen, 21765 W. Edinborough Dr., New Berlin, WI 53146. Thanks!

In Memoriam

Grace Ehlenbach, Lifetime Member

Don Gorichanaz, 88 years old, passed away on Sept 20th. Survived by his wife Carol, both were very active Lifetime Members.



In late January 1947, Milwaukee was hammered with what remains the greatest blizzard in city history. What was forecast as an inch of snow turned into a two-day storm that left 20 inches on Milwaukee, literally freezing the city where it stood. It would be days before Milwaukee could get moving again and the city's street would not be fully cleared for nearly six weeks. Milwaukee historian and author Matthew J. Prigge will tell the story of the Great Blizzard of '47 - explaining how the storm came to so thoroughly shut down the city and how friends, neighbors, and total strangers came together to brave the elements and help each other through the storm.

Monday, November 13th at 7:00 pm

**New Berlin Public Library Community Room
15105 Library Lane in the City Center**

Free and open to the public

Light Refreshments

Matthew J. Prigge, author of [Damn the Old Tinderbox: Milwaukee's Palace of the West and the Fire that Defined an Era](#) and [Milwaukee Mayhem: Murder and Mystery in the Cream City's First Century](#), is a freelance author and historian from Milwaukee and the host of "What Made Milwaukee Famous," a weekly local history segment on WMSE 91.7. His work has been featured in both local and national publications and has won multiple awards, including the 2013 William Best Hesselstine Award from the Wisconsin Historical Society Press. Since 2011, he has led sightseeing historical tours of Milwaukee's rivers and harbor for the Milwaukee Boat Line. In 2013, he created the Mondo Milwaukee Boat Tour, an evening historical tour of some of the city's most infamous sights. He writes a history blog for Milwaukee's "Shepherd Express" and has also authored several articles for the "Wisconsin Magazine of History."

Sponsored by the New Berlin Historical Society

(In conjunction with its 2023 Annual Meeting, which begins at 6:30 pm)

Call 262-679-3461, visit www.newberlinhistoricalsociety.org or



New Berlin, WI Historical Society for more information

New Members

• Anna Bilda • Irene Hawkinson

Thank You!!...to all our donors since our last newsletter

• Sylvia Wilm \$185 • Ken & Julie Derra \$60 • Duane & Judy Miller \$35

2023 OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

President.....Anne Marquardt(262) 679-5402
Vice-President.....Peggy Ament(262) 544-4534
Recording Secretary.....Sue Hemmen(262) 679-3461
Treasurer.....Lu Ziemer(262) 544-6516

Tour DirectorJoAnne Erickson(262) 542-3643
Programs & PublicitySue Hemmen(262) 679-3461
Membership.....Sue Hemmen(262) 679-3461

Directors: Vern Bently, Ken Derra, Rip Edmundson, Wes Grueninger, Barbara Koeppen, Judy Menting, Marlyene Pfeiffer, Cheryl Shober, Frenchi Trottier-Wasielewski

Newsletter Editor: Sue Hemmen

Website: www.newberlinhistoricalsociety.org



New Berlin, WI Historical Society

CANDIDATE PROFILES

Board of Directors 2023 Election



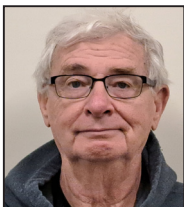
Peggy Ament is the current Vice President and has been on the board since 2009. She has been the vice president since 2014. Peggy is a lifetime member and a longtime volunteer. She is part of the Tuesday/Thursday work crew, was on the planning committee for the museum addition, a docent and helps maintain the gardens in the park.



Rip Edmundson has been a board member since 2018 and a member of the New Berlin Historical Society since 2015 when he started as a volunteer. Rip is a regular at the museum on Tuesday and Thursday work-days. He has been instrumental in having the Museum open the second Sunday of every month. He is caretaker of the Band Organ and helps with every Open House. He comes early to set up and stays late to clean up. Rip is an asset to the Board.



Sue Hemmen is currently the Secretary. She has been a member of the Society since 2002 and was elected to the Board in 2003. She trained as a docent and works in the Winton-Sprengel House at our events. Sue was elected to the position of Secretary in 2013. Her other duties include maintaining the membership records, creating four Newsletters annually, producing an annual Almanack, handling the publicity for events and helping to maintain the gardens at the Historic Park.



With the departure of Vern Bentley from the board, the nominating committee has chosen Jim Liska to be nominated for the board. Jim has been an active member of the New Berlin Historical Society since 2005 when the fire truck came to the museum. He has been very involved with the volunteer fire department display and can be seen in that area at any event at the museum. Jim was instrumental in the new military display along with many of the other projects at the museum. He attends the board meetings as a liaison to the volunteer fire department and he would be a welcome member on the board.

Submitted by the nominating committee