

NEW BERLIN

*HS* HISTORICAL  
*S*OCIETY



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

March 2018

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

— 2018 Season —

**April 16th** ..... **Spring Membership Meeting**  
6:30 to 8:30 pm (see flyer on back)  
New Berlin Public Library

**June 17th** ..... **Open House**  
1 to 4 pm **How Does Your Garden Grow**

**July 15th** ..... **Ice Cream Social/Open House**  
1 to 4 pm **"Christmas In July"**

**Sept. 9th** ..... **Historic Day/Open House**  
Noon to 4 pm Parade at 2 pm

**Oct. 7th** ..... **Applefest/Open House**  
1 to 4 pm Pumpkin Decorating

**Nov. 12th** ..... **Annual Meeting & Program**  
**"The Great War Comes to Wisconsin"**  
New Berlin Public Library

### *Annual Fall Meeting*

A crowd of 60 people attended our Annual Meeting in November. President Dave Totten reported our "Year in Review". The membership elected five board members to fill expiring terms. Two of these, Cheryl Schober and Rip Edmundson, replace long time board members Al Mueller and Roy Meidenbauer, who chose "retirement". Following the meeting, Rochelle Pennington presented "A Christmas Miracle". This phenomenon is celebrated in Europe but is not well known here as it happened in 1914 and the US was not officially in the war yet. It is considered "the most extraordinary event in military history." 100,000 enemy combatants stopped the war for one day and "met in the middle" on Christmas Eve, singing carols and exchanging gifts. Rochelle presented original photos of soldiers from both sides with lit Christmas trees. She also displayed artifact items that were sent to the soldiers for Christmas. A very heartening story enjoyed by all.

### *Volunteer Party*

Thirty-five volunteers and guests enjoyed a buffet supper at Kat's Café during the holiday season. The food was good and visiting enjoyable. Kat's has been good to us for years, providing coffee for all of our Open Houses.

### *Christmas Time at the Park*

The houses were all lit with candles in the windows and lighted Christmas trees in their parlors. This year we had lighted wreaths on all of the new lamp posts lining the walkways. John Martin's Angels again put up a decorated tree in the Gazebo. The cabin is all wrapped up like a present until Spring – too bad we couldn't put a ribbon around it like a gift!



### *Tuesday Workday Activity*

When the weather cooperates, volunteers gather at the Museum. This winter 160 books were sorted and indexed, recorded and marked for computer input. The large backlog of acquisitions was photographed, recorded, and boxed up until they are ready to be put on display this Spring. The office space and lower storage area was cleaned. The barrel train is being repaired and painted. The file collection is getting new folders.

### *Swartz Family Donation*

The Swartz family in Cecil, WI donated a large granite stepping stone that was used by their family to get in and out of carriages. Bob Meyer, Peter Swartz's grandson, volunteered to go up to Cecil and bring the stone down to the Park. We can't thank him enough for doing that. This summer you will see the "stone" in front of the Museum next to a wagon to demonstrate how it was used. If you look closely you will see the name "Swartz" inscribed on the stone.

### *Facebook*

We have been getting lots of hits on our Facebook page. Some people say they really like being able to see what is happening at the Park and when our Open Houses are held. [www.facebook.com/New Berlin WI Historical Society](http://www.facebook.com/NewBerlinWIHistoricalSociety)

**Financial Audit**

Our books have been audited for 2017. We are in sound financial shape. We must thank the City’s Parks Department for all of the maintenance they do, which keeps our costs down considerably.

**Gift Shop**

Thank you to Deb Harmon and the New Berlin Library crochet group for handmade items donated to our Gift Shop.

**1920 Plat Maps For Sale**

We have had another Plat Map printed. We now have 1891 and 1920 maps suitable for framing. They can be found in the Gift Shop this season.

**Discover New Berlin**

Our group again participated in this annual event. This year it was held at Eisenhower High School on March 17th. We brought books and maps to sell and artifacts and photographs to share our history with visitors.



**Spring Meeting**

This year’s meeting will be held on April 16<sup>th</sup> at the Library. The speaker will be Michael Rehberg, the lead interpreter of Black Point, a beautiful building that is one of the State Historical Society’s properties. The presentation will be “Beer Barons on Geneva Lake and Their Milwaukee Neighbors”. Come and learn about six Geneva Lake Beer Barons and the four major Milwaukee brewers.

**THANK YOU to all of our donors since our last newsletter...**

There were too many items donated to list them all in this newsletter but here is a list of those kind people who gave them:

Barb Koeppen, Wayne Miller, Roy & Jo Meidenbauer, Sylvia Wilm, Wallace & Ruth Boyd, Jackie Hermann, Freida Hart Estate, Anne Marquardt, Paul Burns, Patricia Beres, Joanne Erickson, Wanda Prusak, June Pelkola, Robert Schultz, Ed Stein, Mary McDermodt, NB Police Dept., David Bochard, Al Mueller, April Hibbako.

**Beer Barons on Geneva Lake and Their Milwaukee Neighbors**



Conrad Seipps Estate

Presented by Michael Rehberg  
Lead Interpreter  
Black Point Estate & Gardens  
Lake Geneva



1893 Seipps Brewing Booklet

- Introduce yourself to the six beer barons of Geneva Lake and the four major brewers in Milwaukee.
- What do the **Seipps, Lefens, Wackers, Cooks, Maytags, Uihleins** and **Weiss'** have in common?
- Learn the difference between ale and lager beer...and the basics of brewing beer in the 19th century in this illustrated presentation.
- Learn also how the brewers responded to Prohibition.

**Monday April 16 at 6:30 pm**

**New Berlin Public Library Community Room**

**15105 Library Lane in the City Center**

Light Refreshments

Free and open to the public

Sponsored by the **New Berlin Historical Society**

Visit us on New Berlin, WI Historical Society or [www.newberlinhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.newberlinhistoricalsociety.org)  
Or call Sue at 262-679-3461 for more information

First Open House at New Berlin Historical Park will be held Sunday, June 17, 1-4 PM

**2017-18 OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS**

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**Directors:** Vern Bentley, Rhoda Flagg, Carol Gorichanaz, Jackie Hermann, Barbara Koeppen, Anne Marquardt, Rip Edmundson, Cheryl Schober

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[www.newberlinhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.newberlinhistoricalsociety.org)