

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

NEW BERLIN
HS HISTORICAL
*S*OCIETY



November 2025

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

MUSEUM OPEN DATES — 1-4 pm
Sunday, Nov 9th, Dec 14th, Jan 11th

**ANNUAL MEETING & PROGRAM
AT THE NEW BERLIN LIBRARY**
Monday, November 17th

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

7:00pm: "FILL 'ER UP! The Glory Days of
Wisconsin Gas Stations" presented by
local author Jim Draeger

Board Member Elections

At the Annual Meeting the membership will elect five members to fill three-year terms. The Nominating Committee will present the following Slate of candidates: Wes Gruening, Anne Marquardt, Marlyene Pfeiffer, Cheryl Schober, and Lu Ziemer. Information on each candidate is included. Please familiarize yourself with these candidates and attend the meeting so we meet the required quorum.

Annual Meeting Speaker Presentation

This year author Jim Draeger returns to share his book "FILL'ER UP! The Glory Days of Wisconsin Gas Stations". Jim is a very entertaining speaker as we learned in April when he shared his book on bars and breweries.

Historic Day And Applefest

We were blessed with perfect weather for Historic Day. There were lots of things to keep the kids busy, and the blacksmith and antique gun collector attracted crowds all day. Our Annual Historic Parade had cool cars, antique tractors and even Miss New Berlin Teen.

Applefest is always great because you can cross the street and buy freshly picked apples, and kids can ride the barrel train through the orchard. We were entertained by The Bluegrass All Stars while enjoying a beer from Component Brewing.



During Historic Day, Blacksmith Jon Theissen shows how it was done in yesteryear.



Sisters Laura and Tammy Simonson rode the velocipede in the Historic Day parade...and made it look easy!

Special Thanks!!...to our 2025 Corporate Sponsors
• **Culvers** • **Walmart**



Making applesauce at Apple Fest

Membership Dues

September is the month that all members need to renew their membership (unless you are a Life Member). Please mail in your \$15 dues check, payable to the New Berlin Historical Society before the Annual Meeting on Nov. 17th. A renewal form is not necessarily required. If your address, telephone number, etc., has changed, just add a note with your check. Please send your check to:

Sue Hemmen,
21765 W Edinborough Dr
New Berlin WI 53146

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

- Prospect Lions \$1000
- Sheboygan Pasty Company \$300
- Hemken Honey \$30
- Judy & Duane Miller \$35
- Ken & Julie Derra \$65



In Memory of Ron Rebatzke

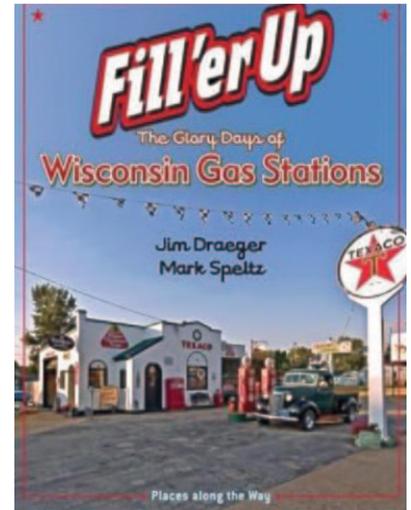
A long-time member of the Society, Ron Rebatzke passed away on Sept. 30 at the age of 82. He was a member of the New Berlin Fire Department for 36 years, served as Fire Chief from 1994 to 2001 and retired in 2004. He spent countless volunteer hours at

the Historical Society's Museum caring for the fire engine that is on display there and sharing our city's Fire Department history with visitors. Ron was a pillar of our community and will be missed.

JIM DRAEGER PRESENTS

Perhaps no building better symbolizes America's fascination with the automobile than the lowly gas station.

This presentation explores the rich social and cultural history of the automobile age by examining changes in station types and styles as illustration of broader trends in technological innovation and consumption patterns.



Monday, November 17th, 2025 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



Jim Draeger, co-author of *Bottoms Up* and *Fill 'er Up: The Glory Days of Wisconsin Gas Stations*, worked in the field of historic preservation and architecture at the Wisconsin Historical Society for more than 20 years, most recently as the State Historic Preservation Officer. From roadside architecture to Northwoods resorts, Jim celebrates the importance of ordinary buildings to our daily lives through his research, writing, and lectures.

Sponsored by the New Berlin Historical Society
(In conjunction with its 2025 Annual Meeting, which begins at 6:30 pm)

Visit www.newberlinhistoricalsociety.org or
 New Berlin, WI Historical Society for more information

2025 OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

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Directors: Ken Derra, Rip Edmundson, Mona Fillar, Wes Grueninger, Irene Hawkinson, Sandy Klingensmith, Jim Liska, Marlyene Pfeiffer, Cheryl Shober, Frenchi Trottier-Wasielewski

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New Berlin, WI Historical Society