

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

NEW BERLIN

*H*ISTORICAL
*S*OCIETY



March 2026

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

MUSEUM OPEN DATES — 1-4 pm
The 2nd Sunday of every month

**SPRING MEETING & PROGRAM
AT THE NEW BERLIN LIBRARY**

Monday, April 13th

7:00 pm: "Abigail Adams, A Lifeline
of Letters" by Jessica Michna

**OPEN HOUSE/BEER GARDEN
"MISS WISCONSIN DAY"**

Sunday, June 14th, 1-4 pm

**OPEN HOUSE & ICE CREAM SOCIAL/
BEER GARDEN**

"Liberty Tree" Dedication

Sunday, July 12th, 1-4 pm

**OPEN HOUSE & HISTORIC DAY/
PARADE / BEER GARDEN**

Sunday, September 13th, 1-4 pm

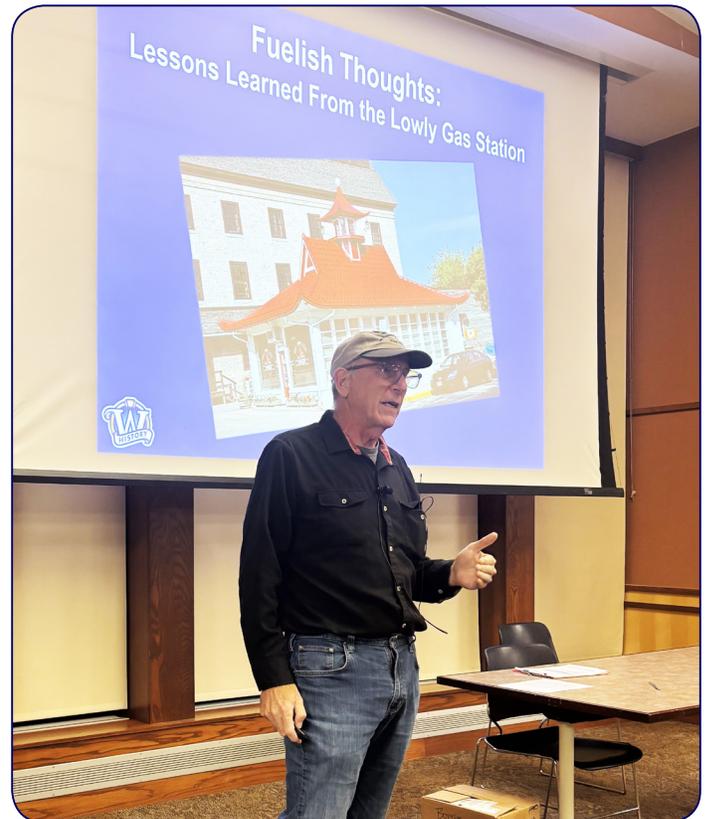
**OPEN HOUSE & APPLEFEST/
BEER GARDEN**

Sunday, October 11th, 1-4 pm

Spring Meeting

Our Spring Membership Meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 13th, 7 p.m.

Please check the flyer on the back page for full details. Following a very brief meeting, we will enjoy a presentation by Jessica Michna entitled, "Abigail Adams, A Lifeline of Letters." In this the 250th Anniversary year, she will discuss living through the Revolution and their early days in Washington, DC. This event is free and open to the public.



Jim Draeger gave a very entertaining presentation about Wisconsin gas stations at the Annual Meeting.

2025 Annual Meeting

The membership elected five members to fill three-year terms:

These were: Wes Grueninger, Anne Marquardt, Marlyene Pfeiffer, Cheryl Schober, and Lu Ziemer.

The election was followed by author Jim Draeger who shared his book "FILL'ER UP", *The Glory Days of Wisconsin Gas Stations.*



Jim Liska reads "The Night Before Christmas" at the Holiday Party as we once again enjoy Rosati's catering.

Holiday Volunteer Party

Once again, we had an enjoyable catered dinner by Rosati's and time to visit with the many volunteers who give so much of their time to the Society. Jim Liska did a nice rendition of "The Night Before Christmas" to put us all in the mood for Christmas.

Citizen of The Year

The Society had the pleasure of hosting the New Berlin Citizen of the Year ceremony at our Museum. The recipient was Laurie DeMoss, who was a Commissioner and Chairperson of the Landmark Commission for 21 years. She was instrumental in the restoration of the German Evangelical Protestant Cemetery which was rededicated in 2010. She is a member of the New Berlin Historical Society and was on the Civil Service Commission for the City. Laurie is also a consistent winner at the pie-baking contest held at the City's July 4th Festival.

Congratulations, Laurie!



Mayor Dave Ament presents Laurie DeMoss with the "2025 New Berlin Citizen of the Year" award.

Lions Parade of Checks

The New Berlin Lions Club presented the Society with a \$1,000 check for our volunteer hours spent selling corn at their State Fair corn stand in August. We thank them for their support of our mission to preserve New Berlin's history.



Anne Marquardt and Marlyene Pfeiffer were on hand to accept a \$1000.00 donation from the New Berlin Lions Club. THANK YOU, LIONS!



New Berlin Lions Club members enjoyed learning the history of the New Berlin Fire Department presented by Jim Liska.

Lions Meeting At The Museum

We were pleased to host both the New Berlin Lions Club and the Prospect Lions Club meetings at the Museum. Board member and author, Jim Liska, gave a presentation to the New Berlin Lions based on his book, "Service Is Our Only Product: A History of the New Berlin Fire Dept. 1954-2018."

Community Events

The Society participated in Winterfest/Discover New Berlin and the City Tree Lighting at the ARC. Being at these events helps to keep the Society's presence in the community known to our citizens.



Irene Hawkinson and Marlyene Pfeiffer represented the Historical Society at "Winterfest/Discover New Berlin".



Terry Kutz as Benjamin Franklin

Benjamin Franklin Presentation At The Museum

Local reenactor, Terry Kutz, did a splendid presentation as Ben Franklin to a group of about 40 at the History Museum in January. He explained in depth Franklin's interactions with other figures prominent in the American Revolution and his ambassadorial duties for our country with France, which became a strong supporter of our Revolution.

Book Release

Board member and author Jim Liska collaborated with another retired fireman, Jim Ley, to write and publish “The History of the West Milwaukee Fire Department.” Both men were at our Museum on February 8th to share their new book with visitors, of which there were many.



Author Jim Liska at the book signing

Welcome New Members

- Tom Ziesmer
- Cherie Finnie

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

- New Berlin Lions \$1000
- Woelfel Family \$100
- Marlyene Pfeiffer \$500

Abigail Adams – “A Lifeline of Letters”

After forty years of marriage, Abigail looks back to the days of her early marriage as a young wife and mother. Referring to the many letters written between the Adamses, she recalls the days of revolution and uncertainty. In this, the 250th anniversary year, the Revolution is discussed in more detail. After all, she lived through it. She reminisces about the friendships forged in France and England as a diplomat’s wife, the divisive election of 1800 and her management of the Adams’s farm. Mrs. Adams brings to life the early days of Washington, D.C. as seen from the windows of an unfinished White House.



**2026 Spring Membership Meeting
April 13th at 7pm in the Community Room**

New Berlin Public Library - 15105 W. Library Lane

Abigail Adams presented by Jessica Michna

Free and Open to the Public Light Refreshments

Sponsored by **New Berlin Historical Society**



In Memory of Frenchi Trottier-Waselewski

Frenchi passed away Jan. 13, 2026. A woman with enough energy for two people, she was never idle. She was a New Berlin Lioness and was also involved with the Prospect Lions Club, a former President of the Senior Citizens Club, a fixture at the New Berlin Farmer’s Market,

in charge of food sales at the NB Historical Society Open Houses, and was responsible for recycling plastic for various city organizations. She loved Bingo and had crochet needles in her hands whenever possible.

She left too soon and will be sorely missed.

2025 OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

President.....Anne Marquardt	262-679-5402	Tour Director	Anne Marquardt	262-679-5402
Vice-President.....Peggy Ament	262-544-4534	Curators.....	Peggy Ament/Rip Edmundson	
Recording Secretary	Sue Hemmen	262-679-3461	Programs & Publicity	Sue Hemmen
Treasurer	Lu Ziemer	262-993-6516	Membership	Sue Hemmen
				262-679-3461

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

Newsletter Editor: Sue Hemmen

Website: www.newberlinhistoricalsociety.org

Newsletter Layout: Wes Grueninger

 New Berlin, WI Historical Society