



Sister Bay Historical Society

Fall 2019 Newsletter

"CELEBRATING OUR VOLUNTEERS" JOANNE PENNY

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Honoring our volunteers
- Christmas Sing-Along Dec. 6th
- How to help preserve Sister Bay History
- Saying "Yes" to support the Sister Bay Historical Society
- Sending best wishes to Susie Smith

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Pres. Fred Johnson
Vice. Pres. John Fletcher

Sec. Pat Wisner
Treas. Cathy Mangan

Past Pres. Jill Lhost
Curator Roberta Kutlik

Director Linda Johnson
Director Roberta Champeau

Director Karen Sunstrom
Director Robert Jischke

Director John Nelson
Village Liason, Scott Baker

The 2nd Annual Volunteer Appreciation Picnic was held on Sept. 19th in the Koessl barn at the Corner of the Past Museum. Without volunteers our SBHS would not be possible.

The following new volunteers were recognized and welcomed to our team: Pat Danielson, Patti Goff, Heidi Orsted, Trudy Jischke, Staci Stoehr, Yvonne Wiltse, & Debra Wolf.

All volunteers are keeping a record of the hours they have worked for the Historical Society, and will now send them to JoAnne Penny at the close of our season.

For those members and friends of the Society who may have missed the event in 2019, you will want to mark

your calendars for September 17, 2020 when we hope to recognize many more new



Pictured here on the left is JoAnne Penny, Volunteer Coordinator and Jill Lhost, SBHS board member.

volunteers.

We want to thank Fuzzy & Susie Sunstrom for grilling the burgers and chicken which was donated by the AC Tap, and the Piggly Wiggly for do-

nating the buns and lovely cheese platter.

Just days after recognizing our new and 2nd year volunteers, it was necessary to appeal for many more volunteers when our lead Docent, Susie Smith suffered a stroke at her home on September 27th.

Our season was scheduled to close on the weekend of Fall Festival. Darlene Kolp, our Docent Coordinator, let it be known that she needed volunteers for three weeks to fill in for Susie. Thank you to the following people who came forth: Kathy Springer, Cal Pierson, Beth Ferris, Debbie Wolf, Pat Danielson, Fred Johnson, John Fletcher, Darlene Kolp, and Roberta Kutlik. Since Susie is known for her outgoing style of welcoming guests they all did their best to

C O N S I D E R B E C O M I N G I N V O L V E D

This fall when Susie became ill it showed how the Society relies on volunteers to operate the museum. I thank those who stepped up to fill in for Susie and keep the museum open. It also showed our need for more volunteers. I urge all members to consider becom-

ing volunteers and consider being docents at the museum. There is a need to have at least two docents at the museum when it is open to watch the buildings and contents and to interact with the visitors. Being a history expert isn't required, you learn as you go,

and meeting and talking with visitors can be interesting and enjoyable.

Please consider becoming more involved and join the volunteers. Contact Darlene Kolp, JoAnne Penny or Roberta Kutlik.

Fred Johnson

CELEBRATING "LITTLE SISTER"

LINDA JOHNSON

On Thursday September 12 a special evening was enjoyed by 88 guests at Little Sister Resort.

To start the evening Greg Sunstrom offered a tour of the grounds which included some of the history of the resort. We were then treated to a delicious turkey dinner in the dining room served family style by the resort employees and prepared by Marc and Judy Paulson. The turkey

dinner was traditionally served on Saturday night when the guests arrived for their vacation.

Following the dinner a program, which included several old pictures of the resort, was presented by Greg "Fuzzy" Sunstrom (owner/manager) and Dwight Anderson (son of previous owner Roland Anderson). Mabel Peterson, who cooked at Little Sister and prepared many turkey

dinners for 30 years, and several former guests of the resort were in attendance.

Little Sister has been an important part of our community for 100 years. A huge thank you to Marc and Judy Paulson, Greg, Susie, and their employees for the wonderful evening. To Martha Lubber-Pelrine, Dwight Anderson and Greg Sunstrom for the pictures, information and history you shared.



Proceeds from the evening will benefit the continuing history of Sister Bay.

SUSIE & HER NEW FRIEND

"Thanks to the Door County Sheriff's Office Petunia is Safely home again."

On Friday July 5th, Susie, our docent, was opening the buildings when she thought she heard a tiny animal noise. As she approached the Birch Cottage, there huddled in the corner of the porch was a tiny shivering Chihuahua. Once she was safely in the cottage, the hunt was on.

Actually it didn't take long.

The owner, Shannon Pump, had notified the Sheriff's office that her Petunia was so frightened by the 4th of July fireworks that she ran away the night before.

Needless to say Petunia was very happy when Shannon came to rescue her. We couldn't have been happier that she chose the Corner of the Past for a refuge.



Susie Smith, Petunia & owner Shannon Pump

ABOUT OUR MEMBERS & FRIENDS

To the families and friends of the following members, we send our sincere condolences:

Docent, **Donald Berns**, passed on April 17, 2019.

Donor, **Rita Willems**, passed on April 26, 2019.

Member, **Conrad Grow**, passed on June 8, 2019.

Member **Bernice Sunstrom**, passed July 2, 2019.

Member, **Keith Bridenhagen**, Passed July 23, 2019.

Member **Bob Childer**, passed July 30, 2019.

Charter member, **Bonny Vahey**, passed on Aug. 19, 2019.

Docent, **Catherine "Kitty" Eagan**, passed Oct. 27, 2019.

Member, **Ray Kaercher**
Passed Aug. 20, 2019

Sending our "Get Well" wishes to the following:

Joan Champeau

Ed Schmidt

Nancy Davis

Susie Smith



Conrad & Marlene Grow

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS SING-ALONG FRIDAY, DEC. 6



Gladys Austgen, her grandson Logan, and helper Don Howard

The annual party will begin at **6 pm** at the **Old Anderson House Museum**. The goodies will be plentiful and the old house will be glowing with window candles, garland, and our beautiful Christmas Tree decorated with the many antique ornaments that our members have donated over the years.

Please make a note to bring some non-perishable food items, paper

goods, or cleaning supplies for the food pantry at the First Baptist Church in Sister Bay.

Let's fill up all the rooms of the Old house with the wonderful music of the traditional Christmas carols that we have been singing together for over 20 years. Don't forget to bring your family and friends too.

It will be a great way to begin the Christmas Season in Sister Bay!

"AMISH-STYLE BAKED OATMEAL"

This recipe was made for the vendors at Fall Festival & served by the SBHS team:

2 cups oats (not instant)

3/4 cup light brown sugar

1 cup walnuts or pecans

1/2 cup raisins or dried cherries or cranberries

1 t baking powder

2 t cinnamon

1/2 t salt

2 large eggs

2 cups milk

1 t vanilla extract

4 T unsalted butter, melted

2 tart baking apples, peeled & cut into 1/2" chunks (2 cups)

Oven: 325, Grease 8/9" dish

Combine oats, sugar, 1/2 cup nuts, raisins, baking powder, cinnamon, salt & mix well.

In another bowl, whisk eggs, milk & vanilla & mix well.

Add milk mixture to oat mix

along with melted butter. Pour apples in dish, pour oatmeal mix over top, spread, sprinkle rest of nuts on top. Bake for 40-45 min. until top is golden and the oats are set.

Serve warm or at room temperature.

Thanks Susan Armour.

"This would be delicious made ahead and baked on Christmas Morning"

FALL FEST 2019

Do you know that for the past three years you could buy a hot breakfast at the SBHS Booth at the Sister Bay Fall Festival?

Well, by the response we have had, it should go on for many more years. The menu has included Amish Oatmeal, breakfast hot pockets, fruit & yogurt parfaits, warm home-

made sour cream coffeeecake, hot coffee & hot chocolate. Sound good? It was all yummy even though we had to set up at 6 am to get the coffee going.

We had a great time. Thanks to Trudy & Bob Jischke, Susan Armour, Debbie Wolf, Pat Wisner, Roberta Champeau, Yvonne Wiltse, Gary Chaudoir, John Fletcher and Roberta Kutlik. As you can tell by



the picture, it was a bit nippy. Didn't stop the smiling faces of Yvonne Wiltse, Susan Armour and Roberta Champeau though.

Looking Ahead at 2020

Trivia Night TBA
 Rummage Sale May 16
 Opening Day May 22
 First Farmer's Market May 23
 Annual Meeting/Pot Luck June 24
 Garden Walk July 9
 Ice Cream Social July TBA
 Quilt Show Aug. TBA
 Volunteer Event Sept. TBA
 Christmas Sing- Along Dec. 4



Cal & Trish Pierson participate in the Saturday events with the Folk Musicians, and the Heritage Programs in and around the Koessler Barn during the weekly Farmer's Market. Cal & Trish sing as Trish plays the dulcimer. Cal is also the walking stick carver.

CURATOR'S CORNER

ROBERTA KUTLIK

The 2019 calendar was a very exciting one, as many events that we had never tried before were wonderful to look forward to.

The fun began early this year with the exciting **Trivia Night** at the Northern Grill, followed by the **huge rummage** sale in the barn, **opening day** and the **Farmer's Market** in May, **Heritage Programs** every Saturday, the **Annual Pot Luck**, the **Garden Walk**, the **Ice Cream Social**, the **Quilt Show** and the Fabulous **100th Year Celebration** for the **Little Sister Resort** Dinner in September.

It was a big action-packed summer that kept our members and commit-

tees engaged in planning and carrying out those plans every week until we wound up the summer with our **Hot Breakfast Booth** at the Sister Bay Fall Festival. A tremendous accomplishment!

And who was part of all that planning and activity? Our own **Susie Smith**. We are sorry to report that Susie suffered a stroke September 27th or 28th at her home. As of this writing, she is now receiving therapy at a rehabilitation facility.

Susie is a fighter and full of courage. She fought her way back to health a year ago and we are hopeful she can do it again. We wish her well.



Lead Docent, Susie Smith



Yvonne Wiltse, Susan Armour, Roberta Champeau, Fall Fest Food Booth



John Nelson interviews Jill Lhost for video



Pat Wisner and Debbie Wolf at the Food Booth, Fall Fest 2019



Pat Danielson, Jill Lhost, & Darlene Kolp At Volunteer Meeting



2019 SBHS Board Members meeting at The Sister Bay Fire Station



John Nelson interviews Fred Johnson for Future video



New member Patti Goff and Trudy Jischke



Joan Lonstine and Faye Sitte at the 2018 Christmas Party



Kristen Peil, Fred Johnson, Thea Thompson
At the Annual Meeting



Mark Kunstman, Tom Sadler, Darlene Kolp,
Linda Johnson & Kathy Springer singing
carols at the Christmas Party 2018.



Tom's picture of last winter at the COTP



Pat & Cathy Mangan pose for display photo
of their Chapel

HOW YOU CAN HELP PRESERVE SISTER BAY'S HISTORY

Jake Kodanko built a dock for my family 61 years ago. When Jake passed away last year I observed that part of his legacy was that dock and probably many others. A couple of weeks ago a heavy windstorm washed away part of the dock. In an instant that part of my family's history was gone...washed away forever. The mission of the Sister Bay Historical Society is to preserve Sister Bay's history. In the great fire of 1912, the original Bunda store burned.... lost forever. However, the Historical Society has preserved pictures of the store, the Wenzel & Mary Bunda family and accounts of the family. Jake's oral history is on file at the Historical Society. This is what we're all about.

Your donations are needed to support our mission. These donations can come in many different forms. One that has been largely responsible for sustaining the Historical Society is people freely donating their time. From the very beginning many people have, and continue to, donate countless hours. Cleaning the buildings, organizing fundraising events and a building crew that meets every Monday to maintain our 16 buildings are just a few examples. There is always a need for volunteers. It's a painless way to give and doesn't cost a dime. It brings with it the satisfaction that you are supporting a worthy cause.

Perhaps the most obvious form of support is a cash donation. A third of our budget relies on cash donations. As our volunteer base has aged and shrunk we have had to hire replacements. We now hire a full-time docent and lawn maintenance. In the ten years I've been on the Board this has resulted in a 33% increase in our expenses. The result is an increased need for monetary support to meet our day-to-day operating expenses. We also have three funds within the Door County Community Foundation available to receive cash donations: an Operating Reserve Fund available in the event we fail to cover operating expenses and an Endowment Fund which has a much longer focus to build capital to generate income (see below). A Building Fund has been established to raise money to build a History Center. Just a couple of reasons for the need of a History Center. Some of our artifacts are stored outside subject to weathering. We also need archival rated storage to preserve the many documents entrusted to us.

Several years ago the Historical Society was the beneficiary of a bequest provided in Peg Foster's will. It was in the form of a percentage of her estate. Not only has it helped with operating expenses, we were able to establish the Operating Reserve and Endowment Funds within the Door County Community Foundation. You can do the same as part of your estate planning. Proving a bequest for the Historical Society can take many forms: a percentage of the estate as in Peg Foster's will; a designated dollar amount; a specified piece of property; the proceeds from the sale of property; stock...the list could go on. This is an area where it is particularly important to work with estate planning and financial advisors because many issues need to be addressed. For example, let's say you want to make a bequest for a particular

purpose such as the renovation of the old Oliver tractor we have. What happens with the bequest if, after you have made this provision in your will, the tractor is destroyed? A professional can identify such issues and suggest solutions.

Your IRA and 401(k) are also avenues for charitable contributions. The Sister Bay Historical Society may be designated the beneficiary of all or a portion (percent or dollar amount) of either. More immediate is the availability of a charitable gift from your IRA. If you are 70.5 or older and have an IRA you are familiar with Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) requirements. You can make a qualified charitable distribution from an IRA directly to the Historical Society. It results in a double plus. You do not have to claim the amount as income on your tax return but it does count toward your RMD. There are limitations so consult with your advisors.

I probably should have mentioned this earlier. There are “donations in-kind”. Two businesses in Sister Bay have generously donated their facilities, food and staff for Historical Society events. These donations have a value which is available for the claim of a tax return charitable deduction. The cost of food and staff is readily apparent. But, the donation of the facility for our use also has a deductible value but costs nothing out-of-pocket. From my view one of the most obvious donations in-kind would be maintenance of our lawn. It’s not just the cost of the gas or fertilizer that is deductible, but the full value of the service, most of which costs nothing out-of-pocket.

The Sister Bay Historical Society is a 501(c)(3) qualified charitable organization under the Internal Revenue Code. Thus, donations to us are tax deductible. It goes without saying that there are rules to be followed and required documents. It is therefore important that you consult with your legal and financial advisors to assure that you are doing what is necessary to claim the deduction. Part of the onus is on the Historical Society to provide you with proper documentation. We encourage you to communicate your needs with us so you can take advantage of the benefits available to you.

John Fletcher

Corner of the Past Gift Store



The Sister Bay Historical Society has many items for sale that would make great gifts for Christmas. These items can be ordered on our website sisterbayhistory.org or by contacting Linda Johnson at 920-854-4798.

Price List:

Sweet Mountain Honey & Syrup from Washington Island:

Honey: 16 oz, \$12.00 and 1.5 oz. \$2.50

Syrup: 8.45 oz. \$10.00

Golden Jubilee Plates: \$10.00

"NEW" Sister Bay Canvas Tote Bag, \$12.00

Centennial Books: 1962, \$5 & 2012, \$15

Pioneer Women of Sister Bay: \$10.00

Hand-Carved Walking Stick by Cal Pierson,
\$30.00

Sister Bay Postcard DVD, \$20.00

Wisconsin Home Town Stories/Door County Almanacs, \$15 each; set of 4 \$45.00

Bernard Hagedorn Print, Roeser Dock & Saw Mill.ca 1960s, \$10.00 ready for framing.

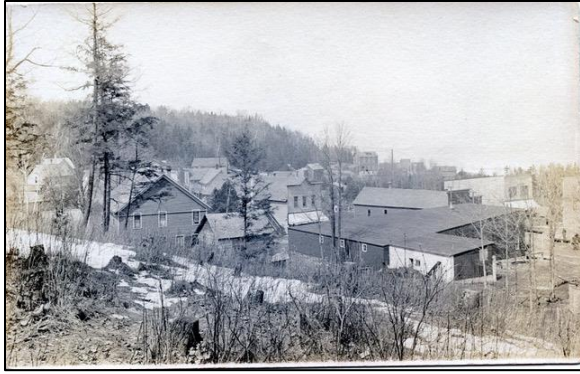
*THANK YOU
VOLUNTEERS!*



This is a picture of Oliver and Ema Collak. Oliver is the farmer on the right and Ema is hiding behind the funny face on the left.



There she is. Ema traded places with Oliver.



Looking north over the village from top of the bluff. Casper Nys home on the left. 1908-1910.

These pictures and many more are preserved in our two Centennial Books that are still available at the Sister Bay Historical Society. The Golden Jubilee 1912 – 1962 \$5.00. Sister Bay Centennial 1912-2012 \$15.00. Order on line, at sisterbayhistoricalsociety.org



Aerial view of Sister Bay, Ca 1958



The Casper Nys home survived the fire of 1912. This is looking down the hill to the Main Street four corners.



Sister Bay Hotel, before 1912 fire.



Another aerial view, turn of the century.

Fall 2019 SISTER BAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
MEMBERSHIP/DONATIONS REPORT
Eloise Lindem, Membership

My sincere thank you to all who have renewed their membership for 2019 and to members who have given monetary donations. The Sister Bay Historical Society is grateful for paid dues and the additional funds which enable us to pay our operating expenses.

A FRIENDLY REMINDER if you have not renewed your membership for 2019, please do so as soon as possible. Thank You!
RENEWALS WILL BE MAILED OUT THE LAST WEEK IN MARCH 2020. Our year goes from March to March.

NEWMEMBERS

We are pleased to welcome both Door Guide Publishing and Patti Goff as a single member.

BUSINESS

Door Guide Publishing LLC (John Nelson)
SINGLE

Patti Goff and husband Steve are from Sturgis, South Dakota and live on Meadow Lane in Sister Bay from May until October. We welcomed them at the Annual Meeting Pot Luck in June 2019.

New members are needed and can join anytime of the year. Please contact me if you know of anyone who would like to join our organization and I will be very happy to contact them. eelindem@gmail.com or 920-854-4458.

THE FOLLOWING DONATIONS

Received through October 2019:

PIONEERS-\$100-\$900

Ann & Fred Luber Foundation
Mike & Angela Spinello
Cal & Trish Pierson

Margaret Hendricks
Charles Beasley/ Fred Mann
Jim & Kathy Springer
Robert Kutlik
Sylvia Pratt
Dennis & Lynnea Hickey
Raelynn, Inc.
Fred & Fuzzy's Waterfront & Bar
Kellstrom-Ray Agency, Inc.
Don & Myrma Howard
Wm & Sheila Lundquist
Faye Sitte
Susan & Ray Kaercher
Nancy Davis
Eloise Lindem

EXPLORERS-\$10-\$99

Dan & Pam Fapp
Bob Childers/Jean Russell
Ken & Beth Ferris
Conrad & Linda Johnson
Dennis & Joan Lonstine
Anne Clark
Polly Cook
Margaret Graham
Audrey Grasse
Rosalie Kenkle
Missy Kjellenberg
Tom Knowles
Heidi Orsted
Lucille Sohns
Janal Suppanz
Mary Hoffman
Fred Johnson
Dr. Deborah Webber
Paul & Maureen Wycisk
Martha Newkirk
Yvonne Wiltse
Barbara Larsen
Dianne Kelnhofer

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Yes, I want to support the **SISTER BAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY!**

Amount \$ _____ Check _____ Credit Card _____

Card number _____ Exp. date _____ Sec. code _____

Name _____ on _____ card _____ Billing _____

address _____ City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Cardholder Signature _____ Date _____

SBHS is a designated 501.c3 non-profit charitable organization, donations to the society may be tax deductible.

Mail to: SISTER BAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY P.O. Box 34 Sister Bay, WI 54234 THANK YOU!

-----Please clip and mail-----

Having completed another event-filled season of the Sister Bay Historical Society and the Corner of the Past, we now start planning for next year! Of course, a very important part of our planning is budgeting for the projects, events, ongoing operations and the endowment funds.

Our inventory of new artifacts is growing and the existing collections are aging. Many are in need of repair and secure storage. The planned new History Center to house archival/artifact storage, office and exhibit work space, maintenance work area and restrooms continues to be a high priority. We also remain committed to keeping the Corner of the Past buildings and grounds beautiful and inviting to visitors.

All donations are important and appreciated. Please consider a year-end gift to the Sister Bay Historical Society in support of these wonderful means of preserving Sister Bay's history.

See you next year and THANK YOU!

Note Members and Friends of SBHS:

Tom Sadler is now taking orders for the placing of personalized bricks in the Brick Walk at the Old Anderson House Museum. There are still many locations available for your brick to permanently represent your family name or business. The bricks can be ordered in different sizes and Tom will be happy to advise you about size and price. Call Tom at 920-854-2896 and arrange to place your order for spring 2020.