

The Researcher

The Newsletter of the Sheboygan County Historical Research Center

Volume XXVIII Number 4 April 2018

An Exciting Year of New Adventures



This newsletter is long on information. Included is the 2018 Program Schedule which includes History on the Move, genealogy classes, Second Saturdays, special events like the Volunteer Ice Cream Social in June and the annual meeting in October.

Also included is information on two new events:

- 1) A fun and personalized bus tour to Springfield, Illinois On the Road with Lincoln, led by Steve Rogstad, punctuated with presentations by Springfield experts. This should be quite an experience. The price is basically all inclusive. Sign up early. The bus is filling fast.
- 2) History Outside the Box Symposium This is two days of great history presented by regional experts showcasing 8 great topics of history. You won't want to miss this. See the inserts in this newsletter for more info.

The Sheboygan County Historical Research Center is located at 518 Water Street in Sheboygan Falls.

Open Tuesday through Friday, 9:00am – 4:00pm and Saturdays from 9:00am to 12:00 noon.

Closed Saturday, May 26, 2018 for Memorial Day.

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The Researcher is the official newsletter of the Sheboygan County
Historical Research
Center, 518 Water Street,
Sheboygan Falls,
Wisconsin.

It is published six times per year in August, October, December, February, April and June.

The Research Center is the local history archive for Sheboygan County and areas surrounding the county. It is a repository for paper records of all kinds.

The Research Center is a sister organization to the Sheboygan County Historical Society and Museum which collects the artifacts of the county.

If you file it, it comes to the Research Center.

If you dust it, it goes to the Historical Society & Museum.

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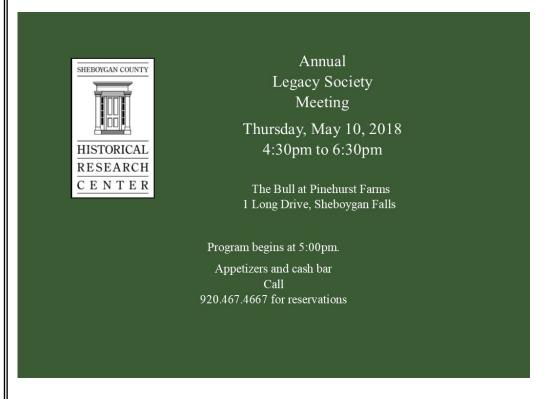
And SCHRC on Facebook

Go Paperless. Receive *The Researcher* via email. Save paper. Save postage and receive a more colorful newsletter. Contact Katie at research@schrc.org to sign up.

Don't miss Sheboygan County History column in the Saturday Sheboygan Press or online Friday through Sunday each week.

WISH LIST — PAPER TOWELS

Open to all Legacy Society Members and their families







March 1927

1928



"LET'S DEVELOP OUR CENTER"

Steven K. Rogstad Director of Development

I recently read a story about a girl who was sitting in her first day of Philosophy 101 class, when the professor arrived carrying a glass jar with three large rocks inside. He asked the students, "Is this jar full?" They readily answered, "Sure is, professor!" After responding, "Not quite," he pulled a bag of pebbles out of

his drawer and poured them in. "How about now?" he inquired. When nobody answered this time, the professor continued: "Again, no," he shared, and proceeded to pour sand in the jar, filling the spaces between the pebbles. "Now the jar is full," he told the class. "And do you know what that precious jar represents?"

For the professor of Philosophy, the jar represented our lives. For your Director of Development, that jar represents our Research Center.

As we begin another Annual Campaign, all of us need to be mindful that many different types of rocks – our donors - work together to fill our jar financially. There are the large-rock contributors: businesses, organizations that award us grant monies, and the wonderful members of our Legacy Society. Then there are the stone-sized contributors, who are the annual members that renew every year. Then we have the donors that are so numerous that they are like grains of sand – those individuals who give special gifts and memorials, provide immeasurable hours of volunteer work, assist with processing and preserving the Center's archive, and helping prepare the newsletter for distribution. Each stone in the jar, regardless of size, complement its fellow stones to fill the jar and make it whole. Each stone finds its niche – its role, or its place – and makes the whole thing work and look like a mosaic. Our Research Center is a mosaic and every stone is a valuable piece of the artwork!

While we are all engaged in the work of *developing* our Center, we may ask: What is *development*? Although we may all use the same *word*, we do not all mean the *thing*.

From a purely financial perspective, the work of development is fundraising. The Annual Campaign is that period of time when the Center solicits funds, encourages membership renewal, invites new members, and rouses a spirit of generosity to support the Center and its mission.

This year, the financial goal for the Annual Campaign is \$41,000.

Let us take a moment to understand what *small* things – *easy things* – we can do to reach that goal:

- If every member sponsors one new member for one year at the \$40.00 level, the Center would raise \$34,000!
- If 100 members decide to become new Legacy Society members with an initial payment this year of \$250.00, the Center would raise \$25,000!
- If 5 new businesses or organizations contribute \$500.00, the Center would raise \$25,000!

These are just three examples of what could happen during this campaign. So much more is possible. I am challenging you to help take the Center to the next level by making a gift; renewing your membership; sponsoring a new member; encouraging friends and family to join; making a pitch on behalf of the Center to a business or organization you know; making a difference.

The Annual Campaign is also an opportunity for the Center to recognize its previous achievements, its volunteers, its staff, its importance in the community and region, and its role as the leading organization in Sheboygan County for historical education and outreach programs. However, without adequate funding, the mission and programs of the Center cannot be fulfilled. Everything the Center owns and does costs money to operate.

Now is the opportunity to show our support; to demonstrate how much we love what the Center *has*, and what the Center *does*.

Development, however, is not just about fundraising. It is a broad-based activity that also involves the Center's programs, community outreach, publications, activities, publicity, and public awareness. All of us are developers and builders. We are helping develop our Research Center become a bigger archive, become a more significant presence in Sheboygan County, and become a more exciting organization by our volunteer work, how we talk to others about what the Center is all about, and how we encourage others to become involved. It is going to be gratifying and exciting to watch our Center propel forward this year with new growth and initiatives.

A Useful Factoid

Mark your calendars! The Center is hosting a new 2-day event this August. The 1st Annual Historical Symposium will take August 16-17. Eight speakers will be giving educational and entertaining visual presentations on subjects combining history and travel. The event will only cost \$60/ person for both days. If the Symposium attracts 400 persons, the event will raise \$24,000! This is an excellent opportunity to enjoy some fun continuing education, while supporting the Center. Consider bringing your children, grandchildren, neighbors, and friends, and family members.

Please feel free to contact me with your ideas, suggestions, and recommendations for enhancing our fundraising efforts. You can contact me at 920-467-4667, or email me at steverogstad@schrc.org.



Dillinger Raids Racine Bank

By Steven K. Rogstad

Author's Note

When I was a teenager in the 1970s I cut grass for a neighbor named Harold Graham – one of seven lawns I maintained during summers to make a little money. One day he showed me several scrapbooks he had kept for several years. He knew my interest in historical things – especially my fascination with Abraham Lincoln – and thought I would appreciate viewing his scrapbooks. He was not disappointed, and neither was I. I found them intriguing, especially because he had devoted them to one subject: John Dillinger. Graham had assembled a printed record of Dillinger's 1933 robbery of Racine's American Bank and Trust, but also chronicled Dillinger's life

after the Racine episode until authorities in Chicago gunned down Public Enemy No. 1.

Harold sat and said nothing as I started reading. Then I realized why he had maintained these scrapbooks – why Dillinger had become such a fascination; why he kept a scrapbook of the Racine robbery. Wide-eyed, I said, "You were the bank teller that day! The Dillinger gang shot you!" He smiled at me and said, "Do you want to see the scar?"

This article is based solely on Racine newspaper accounts published immediately after the crime.

Harold Graham kept working at the bank until he retired in 1964. He died at age 94 in 1994. I do not know what became of the scrapbooks.

On November 20, 1933, Elsie Delenbach crouched upon the floor of Wylie's Hat Shop, situated across the street from the American Bank and Trust Company in downtown Racine. Moments before, a spray of stray bullets smashed through the windows of the store, seared through the hat on her head, and shattered a mirror a few feet away from where she had been standing. Now sprawled quietly on the floor, Delenbach heard the closing of car doors, the acceleration of a car motor, and the muffled voices of the crowd that had gathered on the sidewalk outside the front of the bank. In the confusion, she thought she heard someone mention the name "Dillinger."

John Herbert Dillinger [June 22, 1903 – July 22, 1934] was dubbed Public Enemy No. 1 by the F.B.I. and had an extensive record of crimes to his credit prior to his arrival in Racine that November afternoon. Convicted at age 16 in 1924 for slugging a Moorsville, Indiana, grocer in an attempted robbery, he was sentenced to 10 to 21 years in the Indiana State Reformatory. On May 22, 1933, he was freed on parole after being transferred to Michigan City's Indiana State Prison as an "incorrigible" after two unsuccessful escape attempts.

Within a month after his release, Dillinger and a group of men that became known as the Dillinger Gang or Terror Gang began a reign of armed robberies in Kentucky, Indiana, and Ohio. By the time of the Racine robbery he had held up five banks, looted two police stations of weapons, an accumulated over \$115,000 in stolen cash.

Thirty minutes before the close of the American Bank and Trust on this Monday afternoon, Dillinger's confederate, Harry Pierpont, casually entered the Main Street entrance carrying a large Red Cross poster and scrutinized the positions of bank personnel. Bank president Grover Weyland was seated in his office. Assistant cashier Harold Graham was counting money in his teller's cage. Mrs. Ursula Patzke, a bookkeeper, was computing interest at the rear of the building. Only five customers were in the building conducting business.

Pierpont pasted the poster in one of the large front windows facing Main Street in such a way as to obstruct the view of the teller cages from the street. Then, he turned and drew a submachine gun from beneath his overcoat. Three additional men – John Dillinger, Charles Makley, and an unidentified man – entered the bank from the street. Makley and Dillinger, also armed with machine guns, examined their terrified audience while the third man carried large sacks toward the bank vault.

Makley approached Graham in his cage. The teller was counting when Makley snapped, "Hold 'em up!" Graham, annoyed at having his concentration interrupted, simply responded, "Step to the next window, please."

"Hold 'em up!" Makley repeated with impatience.

Graham's sudden movement to face his aggressor, coupled with not being taken seriously, angered Makley, who fired his .45 caliber revolver directly into Graham's lower body. The bullet ripped through the cashier's right elbow, tore through his pant belt, and chipped off a portion of his right hip. Falling to the floor, Graham triggered an alarm that

sounded in the Racine polic station a short distance away, but not in the bank.

Mrs. Patzke ducked under a desk upon hearing the shot. Grove Weyland and two other bank cashiers were escorted by Dillinger to the vault, while Makley kept watch over the remaining 18 employees. Some were made to lie on their stomachs. Others simply raised their hands.

Standing by the vault, Weyland explained to Dillinger that a dual lock mechanism had recently been installed and that he could not recall the opening half of the combination. On an initial attempt, the vault door would not move. "We'll get you some help," Dillinger impatiently replied and pointed his machine gun at cashier Loren Browne standing nearby. Between Weyland and Browne, the vault door was successfully opened and Dillinger began stuffing sacks with cash.

Cashier Leslie Rowan turned and sprinted down a hallway unseen. Stepping on another alarm button, he quietly opened the bank's rear door. Before him, quietly idling, was Dillinger's seven-passenger black Buick, with Dillinger's driver Russell Clark behind the wheel. Realizing his escape was impossible, Rowan quickly closed the door and wondered how the bandits had so blindly overlooked this convenient door for entrance and escape.

Police Sergeant Wilber Hansen and Officer Cyril Boyard sped toward the bank. Responding to the initial alarm set off by Harold Graham, the officers cut their sirens as they approached the bank.

Garrett Veenstra, a local businessman who approached the bank's front entrance, met the two policemen. Unaware that there was a robbery in progress, Veenstra preceded the officers into the bank, holding the door open for them. "You boys sure make a lot of noise getting here," Veenstra joked. Still blind to the situation facing him, Veenstra crossed the lobby and offered his money to a teller, who stood frozen with a pale stare.

"Get the cop with the machine gun!" someone shouted and Makley opened fire. Sgt. Hansen dropped to the floor wounded, and Dillinger confiscated his gun. Officer Boyard was disarmed at gunpoint.

Garrett Veenstra turned and found the nose of a submachine gun aimed at his face. Motionless, he noticed a crowd of passers-by peering through the windows from the sidewalk.

Racine detectives Rudolph Bergerson and Lester McEachern, after being informed of the action occurring inside the bank at a pool hall a few blocks away, hurried across Monument Square. Anticipating an opportunity to fire at a getaway car, one of the duo slipped into Wylie's Hat Shop, just across Fifth Street. Makley observed this action and emptied a barrage of shots from his machine gun through the bank window and through the window of the hat shop across the street, causing holed to appear in Elsie Delenbach's hat.

"Get back" the detective shrieked to his partner. The second officer disappeared into the Venetian Theatre. The owner of Mezinis Photography Studio rushed to his upstairs window and looked out. Makley spotted Joseph Mezinis and riddled a volley of shots at him, shattering another window and barely missing his target.

"We'll need hostages to get out of here," Dillinger yelled. Pointing to Weyland, he continued: "Mr. President, you're going with us – and your girls, too." Weyland, unimpressed with the notorious Dillinger and evidently feeling unafraid, retorted: "You wouldn't be so brave if you didn't have that gun." Dillinger lunged at the bank president and hit him in the face with the barrel of his gun, jamming his glasses down upon his nose. Blood gushed from Weyland's face. Pierpont grabbed Officer Boyard. Mrs. Patzke remained silent and tried to go unnoticed. "You in the red dress," Pierpont shouted at her, "come with us."

"You mean me?" Patzke sheepishly asked.

"Yes, you, and be quick about it," Pierpont retorted.

Ten minutes after the episode began, the bandits and their three hostages emerged from the bank. Because Dillinger and his gang overlooked the convenient back door, they were forced to leave by the Main Street entrance, weaving through a crowd of curious observers, who had collected on the sidewalk. Rounding the corner onto Fifth Street, they quickly ran down the street to the Buick still idling unobserved behind the bank. Guns and sacks of money were tossed into the back of the vehicle as Dillinger and his companions took their seats. Weyland, Patzke, and Officer Boyard were ordered to stand on the car's running boards as human barriers to protect them from any shootings by police.

Another woman, Helen Cespkes, was caught up in the action and almost became the fourth hostage. Temporarily asked to accompany the robbers, she later recalled: "There must have been a crowd of 200 as we reached the outside of the bank and started toward their automobile. As we neared the car I saw that Mr. Weyland and Mrs. Patzke were already on the running boards." Because of the press of the crowd and the commotion following the barrage of shots

across Fifth Street, Helen Cespkes ducked into the security of the crowd and another spectator, Jane Williams, was left standing on the sidewalk.

The escape had begun. As the Buick slowly backed into Fifth Street, a police car sped up the hill towards them, with an officer leaning outside of a side window with a Thompson submachine gun steadily aimed at Dillinger's vehicle. Bank president Weyland desperately waved his arms until the officer lowered his weapon. Bystanders and police alike watched in amazement as the gunmen sped away unscathed.

The getaway car sped east on Fifth Street, then south to Eighth Street, as the hostages clung precariously onto the car. More than once, Patzke recalled later, they drove at such a high rate of speed and so close to other vehicles on the road, that she felt her dress brush up against passing cars.

Turning west onto Eighth Street, they drove across the downtown area until they were stopped by a streetcar at Sixth Street and Lafayette Avenue [now Sixth Street and Memorial Drive]. There, Officer Boyard was pushed onto the sidewalk and ordered to wait five minutes before seeking help. He obeyed. The remaining prisoners were commanded to get inside the car, Weyland sitting in a jump seat, while Patzke was placed on a rear seat between Pierpont and the unidentified bandit. Resting her feet upon sugar sacks of money and weapons, she listened to the robbers discuss which roads to use for their escape.

The escape was as precisely planned as the robbery itself. While Dillinger and his companions were inside the bank, Russell Clark returned the car's speedometer to "0." The escape route was timed to tenths of a mile.

Dillinger avoided passing large groups of people to avoid being seen or remembered. The gang proceeded west on Kinzie Avenue. As they approached the old North Shore Railroad tracks [today West Boulevard], Dillinger noticed the gates down and anticipated a surprise police ambush. There was a great relief when the area was passed successfully and the car continued through west Racine on Highway 20.

Once outside the Racine area, the bandits retained their vigil for possible dangers or barriers. Though the November air was brisk, the Buick's windows remained wide open, prepared for a conflict of gunfire. It one point, the Dillinger clan was anxious as they approached a farm auction. The congregation resembled a police roadblock and gunmen were again relieved when it was satisfactorily passed with no incident.

After repeated assurances that they had escaped any and all attempts at being followed, tensions released and celebrations began. Weyland and Pierpont discussed hunting and fishing. In good humor, Dillinger inquired if Mrs. Patzke was a good cook. Perhaps she could be put to good use at their hideout. Humorous banter continued between Dillinger and his gang members, as more miles were put between them and authorities.

"Humph!" Makley exclaimed to interrupt the jovial scene. "Not as much here as we thought." Pointing towards Patzke, he continued: "Maybe we should hang onto you and see if the folks at home will pay to get you back."

Weyland attempted to appease Makley. "Just keep counting," he pleaded. "We're a small bank – you took all we have." A later examination disproved Weyland's statement. Dillinger and his companions overlooked an abundant sum. In their pursuit of exact detail in bank operations they missed an estimated \$30,000 stored in a vault drawer, inches away from another drawer they had looted.

Makley, however, wasn't content with the \$27,789 that they had snatched and cussed about their small haul. Pierpont reprimanded him, saying, "Cut it out, Mac, there's a lady in the car."

Although their crime of robbery had been ruthless and their celebratory language had been crude, Pierpont was cognizant that they were not acting or talking like gentlemen. In addition to curbing Makley's language, Pierpont tried to be kind by extended common courtesies. As the cold wind increased inside the car, Pierpont removed his overcoat and gave it to Mrs. Patzke. Weyland inquired whether he could knot the corners of his handkerchief and protect his balding head from the cold. Pierpont refused, explaining it would arouse unnecessary attention. Instead, he offered Weyland his own cap.

Around 5:00 p.m., the Buick pulled over near a wooded lot about seven miles south of Waukesha. After covering 40 miles with Illinois license plates, they were replaced with Ohio ones. Another spare set of Wisconsin plates were in the car in case of an emergency.

The two hostages were led from the vehicle, under a fence, and into the wooded area a few yards away. "Time for 'Ring Around the Rosie'," one of the gang said. The bank president and his employee were told to face each other on opposite sides of a tree, their hands outstretched. Their wrists were tied loosely together, assuring a relatively easy es-

cape.

"You'll be a little late for supper," Pierpont chuckled. "Are you sure you can get loose?"

"Yes, Weyland replied. "How long do you want us to wait? Ten minutes?"

"Better make it fifteen," Pierpont answered.

As Pierpont was returning to join his associates by the automobile, he suddenly turned around and approached the hostages. Weyland, feeling sure that he and Mrs. Patzke were about to be gunned down, breathed a sigh of relief as Pierpont snatched the hat he had loaned to Weyland off of the bank president's head.

"Guess I'll need this more than you," Pierpont snickered.

Dillinger was never caught for the Racine robbery, continuing to rob banks, elude authorities, and even escaping from a jail after arrest. Dillinger knew his future was bleak at best. "I'm traveling a one-way road, and I'm not fooling myself as to what the end will be," he confided to a friend. "If I surrender, I know it means the electric chair. If I go on, it's just a question of how much time I have left."

He was gunned down outside the Biograph Theatre in Chicago by authorities in an ambush on July 22, 1934.

ROBBERY ARTIFACTS

Racine has the Thompson submachine gun that Dillinger used during his robbery of the American Bank and Trust. The gun was recovered by authorities in Arizona on January 17, 1934. An appraisal that was conducted of the weapon in 1979 set its value at \$800.00. For years it was displayed in the lobby of the Racine Police Station at 730 Washington Avenue. It was loaned to the Racine Art Museum in 2004, where it was part of an exhibit on Racine's role in the life of John Dillinger. It gun was returned to the Racine Police Department in 2008, and is once again on display in the department's lobby. The name "John Dillinger" is prominently engraved on the weapon's butt stock. Another artifact on display is a single bullet, which was recovered from the American Bank and Trust after the robbery, and believed to have come from one of the Dillinger Gang.



Dillinger artifacts found in the lobby of the Racine Police Station at 730 Washington Avenue. Included are the Thompson submachine gun that Dillinger used during his robbery of the American Bank and Trust.



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Dillinger artifacts found in the lobby of the Racine Police Station at 730 Washington Avenue.

Included are the Thompson submachine gun that Dillinger used during his robbery of the American Bank and Trust



2018 SCHRC Program Schedule

All programs are open to the public. Most are free of charge. See schrc.org and our Facebook page for more information

Meet & Greet with Steven Rogstad

Firehouse Pizza, 109 Maple Street, Sheboygan Falls Wednesday, February 7, 2018 1:30pm to 4:00pm

Legacy Event

The Bull at Pinehurst Farms Thursday, May 10, 2018 4:30pm to 6:30pm

Volunteer Ice Cream Social

SCHRC, 518 Water Street, Sheboygan Falls Thursday, June 21, 2018 1:00pm to 3:00pm

History Outside the Box Symposium

Plymouth Arts Center, 520 East Mill Street, Plymouth Thursday and Friday, August 16 and 17, 2018
9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Speakers
11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Lunch
1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Speakers

Thursday, August 16

Doug Damman - Civil War Sites in Wisconsin Rochelle Pennington - Shipwrecked Shores: An Underwater Look at Lake Michigan and Lake Superior Mary Bergin - Food Joints in Wisconsin Ken & Barb Wardius - A tour of Wisconsin lighthouses

Friday, August 17

Chad Lewis - Gangster Sites in Wisconsin
Bob Birmingham - Native American Burial Effigy Mounds in Wisconsin
Sonja Barta - Circus Sites in Wisconsin
Steven Rogstad - The Lincolns in Wisconsin

On the Road With Lincoln

Springfield, Illinois Bus Trip Monday through Thursday, September 17 - 20, 2018

SCHRC Annual Meeting

Brunch Meeting Friday, October 5, 2018 (tentative)

(History on the Move) Cedar Grove Memorial Library

131 Van Altena Avenue, Cedar Grove, WI 6:00pm to 7:30pm <u>Tuesday, March 20, 2018</u> - Cancelled <u>Tuesday, May 15, 2018</u> - Shores of Sheboygan County

(History on the Move) Generations

1500 Douglas Drive, Plymouth, WI

1:30pm to 3:00pm

Wednesday, April 4, 2018 - One Room Schools, Part II

Wednesday, June 6, 2018 - Plymouth's Cheese and Dairy History

Wednesday, September 5, 2018 - Plymouth's Lost Businesses

Wednesday, November 7, 2018 - H.C. Prange, A Holiday Favorite

(Genealogy Classes) SCHRC

518 Water Street, Sheboygan Falls

1:00pm to 3:00pm \$15 members, \$20 non-members

Monday, April 9, 2018 - Land Records and Use of Plat Books and City Directories

Monday, May 14, 2018 - Personal Historian, Telling the Stories of Your People

Monday, September 10, 2018 - Getting the Most from Census Records

Monday, October 8, 2018 - Orphanages, Industrial Schools, Asylums and Other Such Resources

Monday, November 12, 2018 - Genealogy Essentials

Monday, December 10, 2018 - Who Lived in a House Like This? How to Research The History of Different Types of Homes

(Genealogy Class) Mead Public Library, Rocca Room

710 North Eighth Street, Sheboygan Saturday, February 24, 2018 10:00am to 12:00 noon Ancestry.com

Second Saturdays – Journeys Into Local History

Plymouth Arts Center, 520 East Mill Street, Plymouth 9:30am to 11:30am

April 14, 2018 - Dennis McCann - This Storied River, A Tour of the Upper Mississippi River - from Long-time journalist Dennis McCann takes us on an intimate tour of the Upper Mississippi River -- from Dubuque, Iowa, to the Minnesota headwaters, and dozens of places in between. Far more than a travel guide, "This Storied River" celebrates the Upper Mississippi's colorful history and the unique role the river has played in shaping the Midwest. McCann explores the stories of people and places linked by the Mighty Mississippi's past, informed by newspaper accounts, local historical society documents, and the shoe-leather research of an experienced reporter with a deep love for his subject. Each chapter includes a short list of must-see sites for the modern-day explorer.

May 12, 2018 - Mary Bergin - Wisconsin Supper Club Cookbook and filmmaker Holly De Ruyter's Old Fashioned: The Story of the Wisconsin Supper Club documentary.

The supper club is a tradition and now somewhat of a phenomenon found in the Upper Midwestern states of Wisconsin, Minnesota, Ohio, Michigan, Illinois, and Iowa. They are so retro that they are coming back in to vogue. Travel through the Badger State with Mary and discover what made these supper clubs and the iconic fare stand the test of time. With more than 60 recipes from 40 supper clubs, Wisconsin Supper Club Cookbook will uncover the secrets to the food and the drinks that keep people coming back to these landmark eateries any time of the day. Old Fashioned: The Story of the Wisconsin Supper Club - the film - will take us into this uniquely Wisconsin institution.

Second Saturdays 2018-2019

<u>September 8, 2018</u> - Ked Fairbank, Chicago Maritime Museum - <u>Lake Michigan Aircraft carriers</u> - In 1942, with the nation engaged in war against Japan, there was an acute need for pilots trained to land on aircraft carriers. Commander Richard Whitehead argued that the secure waters of the Great Lakes was the best place for training. The paddlewheel steamer Seeandbee was hastily converted into the aircraft carrier, USS Wolverine. A second Great Lakes paddlewheel steamer, the Great Buffalo, was converted in 1943 into the aircraft carrier, USS Sable.

October 13, 2018 - Michael Jacobs, UW- Sauk Center/Baraboo - The 1918 Influenza Epidemic - The toll of history's worst epidemic surpasses all the military deaths in World War I and World War II combined. And it may have begun in the United States. Commonly known as the Spanish Flu, the pandemic lasted just 15 months but was the deadliest disease outbreak in human history, killing between 50 million and 100 million people worldwide.

November 10, 2018 - Jerry Apps, author, historian - One Room Schools - Jerry will do a tribute to one of our national icons. Be prepared to bring your memories and relive your days as students.

<u>December 8, 2018</u> - Rochelle Pennington, author, - <u>An Old Fashioned Christmas</u> - Launch of new video - The pages of An Old-Fashioned Christmas: Tinsel, Gingerbread Men and Raggedy Ann beckon a remembrance of Christmas past and invite readers to take a nostalgic glance backward to a period of time when rotary-dialed telephones, cloth diapers, and percolating coffee pots were part of daily life.

<u>January 12, 2019</u> - John Eastberg, Exec. Dir. Pabst Mansion - <u>Victorians Going Over The Top: the Excesses</u> of the American Gilded Age and Lost and Found: The Best of Milwaukee's Victorian Architectural Past

<u>February 9, 2019</u> - <u>Sheboygan Symphony, 100th Anniversary</u> - The Sheboygan Symphony Orchestra is the oldest continually active orchestra in the State of Wisconsin, performing concerts since 1918. The Stefanie H. Weill Center for the Performing Arts is home to our Symphony.

<u>March 9, 2019</u> - James Kieselberg, Director - <u>Grohmann Museum</u>, the home to the world's most comprehensive art collection dedicated to the evolution of human work. The museum opened in 2007 and is located on the campus of MSOE in downtown Milwaukee.

<u>April 13, 2019</u> — Joel Greenberg, author - <u>Hope is the Things With Feathers: Americans and Three Birds</u> - which gives the history and contrasts the fate of three species, with a focus on the demise of passenger pigeons.

<u>May 11, 2019</u> — Dave Desimone - Director - <u>Black Point Estate and Gardens</u>, WHS - Black Point Estate & Gardens overlooking Geneva Lake, was the summer home for Chicago business mogul Conrad Seipp and four generations of his descendants. It is the Wisconsin Historical Society's newest site.

The Lincoln Seminar with Steven Rogstad - Traveling With Lincoln - A four-part series. Tuesdays- October 2, 9, 16, 23, 2018 6:30pm-8:30pm

Abraham Lincoln's Springfield, Illinois

SEPTEMBER 17-20, 2018



Join the Sheboygan County Historical Research Center and local Abraham Lincoln expert, Steve Rogstad, on this four-day excursion to historic Springfield, Illinois. Listen to Steve's captivating commentary and visit the sites where Lincoln lived, worked, and was buried. Take in the Old State Capitol and the current Illinois State Capitol building. Wander through Lincoln's New Salem State Historic Site, a reconstruction of the village where Lincoln spent his early adulthood. Listen, Learn and Love Springfield!

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 17 This morning we board our deluxe motorcoach and begin our four-day trip to Springfield, Illinois. With a mid-day arrival, our first stop is the **Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum**. The museum documents the life of the 16th U. S. president and the course of the American



Civil War. Combining traditional exhibits with 21st-century showmanship techniques, the museum ranks as one of the most visited presidential libraries. It contains life-size dioramas of Lincoln's boyhood home, areas of the White House, the presidential box at Ford's Theatre, and the settings

of key events in Lincoln's life, as well as pictures, artifacts and other memorabilia. With over 200,000 square feet, it is 50% larger than any other presidential library. We check into the President Abraham Lincoln Doubletree Hotel in downtown Springfield and have a little time to relax before our group dinner. This evening, Abraham Lincoln expert, Steve Rogstad, will share his knowledge of many details in the life of Former President Lincoln. **(D)**



TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18 & WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

Our itinerary for the next two days features a number of historic sites in Springfield. Not only do we have the expertise of Steve Rogstad as he travels with us, but a local guide will share his knowledge of the community as well.



Within the walls of the **Old State Capitol**, a great man rose to prominence. It is here Lincoln spoke the immortal words, "A house divided against itself cannot stand..." as the threat of a civil war loomed. He tried several hundred cases in the Supreme Court and swapped stories with other lawyers in the law library. The present center of Illinois politics, the **Illinois State Capitol** is topped by a 405-foot dome and is a combination of Renaissance Revival and Second Empire architecture. The **Lincoln Home National Historic Site** includes

the only home Lincoln ever owned, as well as a four-block neighborhood. The home has been completely restored to its 1860 appearance and reveals much about Lincoln as husband, father, neighbor, and politician. In 1861 Abraham Lincoln left his home of 17 years to serve as the 16th president. Nestled in Oak Ridge Cemetery is the **Lincoln Tomb**. Within the walls of this stunning granite

monument is the final resting place of Abraham Lincoln, his wife, Mary and three of their four sons. Of course as you enter, you will want to rub the nose on Mr. Lincoln's bronze bust, as it is said to give good luck. The Lincoln family rented a pew and regularly attended church services at the **First Presbyterian Church** from 1850 until they left for Washington, DC in 1861. Although Mrs. Lincoln became a member, Mr. Lincoln served as a trustee, but never formally joined the church. We will be able to see the actual Lincoln pew during our visit. **(2 B, 2 D)**



THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 20

Today we depart Springfield and travel a short distance northwest to **Lincoln's New Salem**. En route we stop at the **gravesite of Ann Rutledge, located in Oakland Cemetery**. Miss Rutledge was allegedly Abraham Lincoln's first love



while living in New Salem. Her death, at the age of 22, sent Mr. Lincoln into severe depression. Now, go back nearly two centuries in time as you walk the streets of

reconstructed New Salem, the village where Abraham Lincoln lived as a young man. See where he split rails, clerked in a store, and served as postmaster. Watch and interact as history comes to life through the costumed characters representing the people who lived there over 150 years ago. We make our way home through Northern Illinois, having a better understanding of the personal life and accomplishments of Former President Abraham Lincoln. (B, L)



MEAL CODE: B-Breakfast L-Lunch D-Dinner

ACTIVITY LEVEL: Average-You should be able to climb stairs, tolerate periods of standing, and walk reasonable distances.

TOUR PRICE: \$699 Per Person Double Occupancy \$899 Single Occupancy

TOUR INCLUDES:

- Deluxe Motorcoach Transportation
- * Hotel Accommodations for 3 Nights
- * Sightseeing and Attractions Per Itinerary
- Lincoln Expertise of Steve Rogstad
- * 3 Breakfasts
- * 1 Luncheon
- * 3 Dinners
- * Luggage Handling for 1 Suitcase Per Person
- * Services of a Personalized Tour Director & Local Springfield Guide



\$200 Deposit Due with Reservation Balance Due July 17, 2018

"PEACE OF MIND"

CANCELLATION PROTECTION:

\$69 Per Person

FOR INFORMATION & RESERVATIONS CONTACT:

Personalized Tours, Inc. W4928 Pheasant Valley Road, Waldo, WI 53093 920.528.7600 or 800.225.0608 www.GoPersonalized.com

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