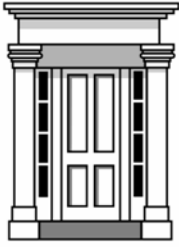


SHEBOYGAN COUNTY



HISTORICAL  
RESEARCH  
CENTER

# The Researcher

The Newsletter of the Sheboygan County  
Historical Research Center

Volume XXVIII Number 3 February 2018

## Weeks Architectural Collection Arrives at SCHRC



**Sheboygan County Courthouse,** was designed by William C. Weeks. The cornerstone was laid in 1933 on the site of the previous 1868 building which was razed during the construction of the new courthouse. It was completed in 1934, having provided 200 local workers with jobs in the midst of the Great Depression.



**Office of W. C. Weeks, Architect.** The office shown here was located at 720 Ontario in Sheboygan.

SCHRC has received the Weeks Architectural Collection from LJM architects. An outstanding collection, it consists of 16 drawers of drawings and information from 471 Weeks architectural projects beginning in 1905 with the Eliza Prange home on Erie Avenue. The last projects are from the 1980s.

The tradition of architecture began early in the Weeks family with Arvin (1810-1888). Arvin designed Sheboygan's First Baptist Church, now a part of Jake's Café and Thomas Blackstock's beautiful Italianate home on Washington Court among other things.

His son, W.C. Weeks (1856-1937) designed the Henry Detling home on Huron Avenue and the Henry Jung home at Fifth and Ontario.

William F. Weeks, nephew of W.C. designed the Sheboygan County Courthouse built in 1933 in the Art Deco style.

And finally, William F. Weeks designed many of Sheboygan's most prestigious homes including those of W.A. Reiss and H.C. Prange. Among his most notable works is the Plastics Engineering Company office.

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 Monday, February 19, 2018 through Monday, March 5, 2018.

Phone: 920-467-4667

E-mail: [research@schrc.org](mailto:research@schrc.org)

Website: [schrc.org](http://schrc.org)

**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.*

#### **SCHRC Board of Directors**

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**DON'T MISS SHEBOYGAN COUNTY HISTORY COLUMN IN THE SATURDAY SHEBOYGAN PRESS OR ONLINE FRIDAY THROUGH SUNDAY EACH WEEK.**



**YOU ARE INVITED!!**

### **Meet & Greet for Steven Rogstad**

SCHRC's New Director of Development

Wednesday, February 7, 2018

1:30pm to 4:00pm

Firehouse Pizza

109 Maple Street, Sheboygan Falls

R.S.V.P to SCHRC at 920.467.4667 or [schrc@att.net](mailto:schrc@att.net)

**Join us,** IF YOU CAN, FOR THIS AFTERNOON OF FUN AT FIREHOUSE PIZZA. THANKS TO DOROTHY SCHUEFFNER AND HER TEAM WHO WILL BE PROVIDING THE VENUE AND A TASTY SELECTION OF PIZZA APPETIZERS, SODA AND COFFEE. A CASH BAR WILL BE AVAILABLE. COME FOR A FEW MINUTES OR THE ENTIRE AFTERNOON.

**MEET AND GET TO KNOW STEVE. MEET OUR BOARD MEMBERS. VISIT WITH OTHER MEMBERS AND VOLUNTEERS.**

**R.S.V.P. IF YOU CAN. IT WILL HELP WITH FOOD.**

**See you on February 7th.**

#### **Second Saturdays**

**February 10, 2018 - Anything and Everything Wade House**

**Location: Plymouth Arts Center, 520 East Mill Street, Plymouth, WI 53083  
(920) 892-8409**

#### **Guest Speaker: Jim Willaert**

Wade House Curator of Interpretation and curator of the Wesley W. Jung Carriage Museum, Jim Willaert will discuss the Wade House site focus on the hotel, but also celebrates the world of plank roads and stagecoach transport, horse-drawn travel and a mid-1800s Wisconsin settlement. Jim will take us back in time, highlight the Wade House historic site's growth and accomplishments and talk about the crazy stories that also accompany the real history of this amazing site.



## “LET’S DEVELOP OUR CENTER”

Steven K. Rogstad  
Director of Development

Last month the Board of Directors approved establishing a new Director of Development position for the Sheboygan County Historical Research Center (SCHRC). This position is responsible for all organizational fundraising activities, including grant solicitation, community outreach, marketing, publicity, and donor development.

Our great executive director, Beth Dippel, and the Board approved my appointment shortly thereafter, and I couldn’t be more excited or happier to be here! I have known Beth and many of the Center’s members through the annual Lincoln Seminar I have taught in October for the last six years. I am a life-long resident of Racine and come to the Center with a passion for history and a rather extensive background in non-profit management. Currently, I serve as Chairman of the Board for the Racine Heritage Museum and as President of Preservation Racine, Inc.

When I began my duties as your new Director of Development on January 3, I was immediately impressed by the widespread support that the Center has in Sheboygan County. It becomes quickly obvious to even a new person in the area that the community is immensely proud of the organization, its activities, and its people.

The quality of its community outreach, public programs, and visibility is substantial. While our supporters may be aware of the numerous ways SCHRC engages the communities around the greater Sheboygan area, it is always useful to remind ourselves that the Center is responsible for educating individuals about regional history in many unique and distinctive ways.

**The Library/Archive.** Over 4,000 people come into the facility annually to conduct research, ask questions, or visit the bookstore. Other individuals – in Wisconsin, outside of Wisconsin, and even outside of the United States - submit queries for investigation by email, phone, or regular mail to the Library/Archives for processing.

**Public Programs.** The Center has a wide variety of lecture series, classes, and outreach programs that bring the history of Sheboygan County alive in an enthralling manner. These include “Second Saturdays Speaker Series,” “History on the Move,” “Celtic Christmas Tea,” “The Lincoln Seminar,” and genealogy classes.

**New Programs.** As we launch forward into 2018, I want to announce two new initiatives that I think you will find exciting. First, the Center will be hosting a 2-day historical symposium on August 16 & 17– *History Outside the Box*.

A great variety of historians and scholars will be educating and entertaining attendees on a wide range of subjects that are associated with a central theme. Second, a 4-day bus trip is being planned for the greater Springfield, Illinois, area for September. I will be coming along as the “traveling Lincoln historian,” to provide insights and mini-lectures about what we will be seeing. I think it will be great fun!

The SCHRC will soon be starting its annual fundraising campaign, and I encourage you to make a contribution as a commitment to support this organization’s mission and activities. Perhaps you are an existing member, who has supported this organization for years. Maybe you are just getting acquainted with the Center and the valuable work it does. Whatever your tenure is with the SCHRC, please renew your gift - increase your contribution if possible - and join the effort to promote the organization as we shift into overdrive for 2018!

I am looking forward to meeting with staff, volunteers, members, community organizations, businesses, and corporate donors this year in an effort to maintain sustainability, while looking for funding opportunities to propel us forward in many different ways. Exciting things are happening at the SCHRC!

As we prepare for the 2018 Annual Campaign, please know that your gift will make a considerable impact on future programs and events. You can help by renewing your membership, considering becoming a Legacy Member, contemplating sponsoring a new member in 2018, encouraging others to join the SCHRC, arranging a bequest on behalf of the Center, financially sponsoring events and programs, and volunteering. Share your passion for the Center with family and friends!

### A Useful Factoid

*If every SCHRC member sponsored one new member for one year at the \$40.00 level, the Center would raise \$34,000 just during just its Annual Campaign! Imagine what new programs and projects could be realized with just that one small effort.*

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](mailto:steverogstad@schrc.org).

I look forward to working with you in 2018 – a year that will be educational, rewarding, exciting and fun!



Abe and Mary Lincoln



# Olympic Wear

## Made in Sheboygan

Anyone who watched the Olympic Games in the 1960s and 1970s saw a little bit of Sheboygan craftsmanship each time the U.S. Olympic Team was featured. Sheboygan-made clothing was worn by the athletes from the spectacular opening ceremonies to the celebratory closing of the games. Two Sheboygan manufacturers, Lakeland Manufacturing and Wigwam Mills, stepped up and provided coats, jackets, socks and knit hats to our athletes.

Lakeland Mfg. beat out the competition to win the right to make coats and jackets in 1964 and 1968. Wigwam Mills provided socks to the U.S. Nordic and Alpine ski teams, figure skaters and other winter sports participants from 1960 to 1972.

A Sheboygan Press article from February 18, 1963 boasted that Lakeland Manufacturing Company had been selected by the U.S. Olympic committee to make the official parade coat for the U.S. participants in the 1964 Winter Olympics at Innsbruck, Austria

The article continued to say that the Sheboygan manufacturer presented its fall styles in February of 1963 by the unique means of a musical ice show, "Parade of Champions, a Salute to the 1964 Olympic Games at Innsbruck." An audience of more than 450 of America's top retailers, fashion experts and members of the press and wire services viewed the show, featuring the premiere display of the 1964 Olympic parade coat. The coats were made in an off-white woolen fabric with a bulky knit shawl collar to match, edged in blue and red to tie in with the colors of the Olympic emblem.

Lakeland produced the sports coats here in its Sheboygan plant. In all, 150 of the Olympic Parade models were donated to the U.S. Olympic committee by the local firm.

### Company Histories

Lakeland Manufacturing Company began in 1894 when H. J. Holman began the production of men's overalls. Herman Holman would go out and collect orders and, Sophia, his wife, would create them on her home sewing machine. The company grew and the clothing line added trousers, shirts and sports clothes for men and boys. In 1926, the company name was changed to Lakeland Manufacturing. Their old "Diamond" trademark was replaced with the new "Lakeland" label. The company moved into a new three story building at South 14th and Alabama. From the beginning there was an insistence on sturdy fabrics and fine workmanship. By 1979 the fourth generation of Holmans were producing more than 150,000 men's coats and jackets. Downturns in the economy plus foreign competition spelled the end for Lakeland in Sheboygan. The company closed in 1989 and was sold to a New York firm in 1990. Lakeland parade coats were worn by the U.S. Winter Olympics teams in 1964 in Innsbruck, Austria and 1968 in Grenoble, France. A travel jacket was used by the U.S. Olympic teams in the 1964 Tokyo and 1968 Mexico City Olympics.

Wigwam Mills began business as Hand Knit Hosiery in 1905. The first products were heavy woolen socks and liner mittens for lumbermen. Herbert Chesebro was the company president. A new building was built at the corner of 14th Street and Huron Avenue. The stock market crash of the 1920s and the following Great Depression took its toll on the hosiery business, but with the help of a local bank, the company stayed in business. During WWII Handknit Hosiery devoted 75% of its production to heavy wool socks for the Army. On January 1, 1957 the company changed its name to Wigwam Mills, Inc. and in 1969 the



Lakeland Label in 1964 Parade Coat used in Innsbruck, Austria.

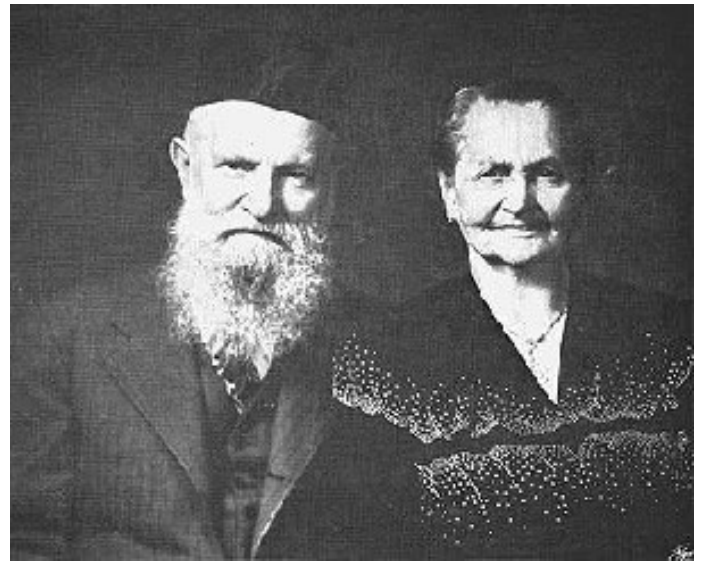


Parade coat worn by the U.S. Olympic Team during the opening ceremonies of the 1964 Winter Games in Innsbruck, Austria designed and manufactured in Sheboygan by Lakeland Mfg. Company.

company relocated to its Crocker Avenue facility. In 1968 Wigwam supplied socks to U.S. skaters for the Grenoble, France winter games. Peggy Fleming won a gold medal for figure skating that year. In 1972 Wigwam supplied socks and knit hats to the U.S. ski teams for the Sapporo, Japan games where Barbara Cochran became the first U.S. gold medalist in skiing in two decades when she won the women's slalom.



Wigwam Mills  
Company Logo



Herman and Sophia Holman



Frankfurt, Germany, January, 1964: Six members of the U.S. figure skating team strike a one-legged pose in front of the plane on which they just arrived from New York on their way to the Winter Olympics at Innsbruck, Austria. They are, left to right, Albertina Noyes, Tommy Litz, Christie Haigler, Monty Hoyt, Peggy Fleming and Scott Allen. Beneath the levity of the photo, though, was an undercurrent of sadness; since the last Olympics, the entire U.S. team had perished in a plane crash in Belgium in 1961. Allen, only 14 years old, sparked the rebuilding effort with a bronze medal at Innsbruck; four years later, Fleming captured a gold at Grenoble.



## Ballhorn Funeral Parlor



This the original Ballhorn Furniture Store and Funeral or Undertaking business. It was located on the corner of N. 8th and St. Clair, but was later moved (1927) to 1220 N. 14th Street and used as an office building. The move made room for the new facility which opened in 1928. The business was established in 1882 by John Ballhorn Sr., seen above.

### New Collection Coming to SCHRC

Another new and valuable collection is coming to the Research Center; Mark Zimmer, owner of Ballhorn/Zimmer Westview funeral homes is donating the old Ballhorn Funeral Home records. What a fantastic gift. Thanks Mark!

Established in 1882 by John Ballhorn Sr., the Ballhorn funeral and furniture business was one of the first in town. Ballhorn worked for Dillingham Furniture as a cabinet maker for a number of year while the company was still in Glenbeulah. Once the business was established in Sheboygan, the elder Ballhorn crafted coffins which were sold in the company store.

On the death of Ballhorn, Sr., the business was taken over by his son, John, who added his son, Milton, in 1924. The business was very successful, becoming one of the leading stores of its kind in the state. John and Milton replaced the aging store with a modern three-story funeral temple in 1928. Some 15,000 people attended the open house.

Always at the forefront of new amenities for funerals, the Ballhorns added in-house organ music in 1932 and crematory facilities in 1948.

John Ballhorn III took over in 1967, operating the successful business until 1999 when it was sold to a corporate entity. Happily, in 2014, Mark and Debbie Zimmer acquired the business, bringing local service back to Sheboygan. The facility was rededicated to a crowd of 500 in a ceremony in March of 2015.





Above: The new Ballhorn Funeral and Furniture building, located on the northeast corner of North 8th and St. Clair in Sheboygan, was built in 1928.

Below: A Ballhorn advertisement found in the Sheboygan Press in 1921.

**You Furnish the Girl**

**We Furnish The Home**

**JOHN BALLHORN FURNITURE DEALER**

**UNDERTAKING A SPECIALTY**

**PHONE WHITE 439**

**1201 - 1203 N. 8th St.**

**SHEBOYGAN, WIS.**

1921



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**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**



Thanks to Erik Jensen for this wonderful donation. It is a most valuable addition to our archive.

The Eliza Prange House, 605 Erie Avenue, is one of only 15 Mediterranean Revival style houses identified in the City of Sheboygan, all of which were built between 1923 and 1936.

Designed by William C. Weeks, the home was built in 1923,