REMEMBERING THE SMITH FAMILY

Who doesn’t remember when Port Washington was so busy on a Friday night that a policeman directed traffic? Part of that busyness on the weekend were residents and visitors who came to sample the fish and mile-high lemon meringue pie of Smith Bros. Or maybe to pick up some smoked fish from the local fishermen. Smith Bros. was a part of the community from 1889 until 2001, one of a number of fishing families that had their tugs in the harbor and their net houses and smokehouses along the shore. They were an enterprising family business that extended back generations, developing restaurants, fish-related products, and a reputation for quality.

In October we lost two members of the Smith family, Lloyd and Lincoln, both of whom were actively involved in the Smith family enterprises. Lloyd was involved with managing the restaurant (Continued on page 6).

Over the years Lincoln provided financial leadership.

Smith Bros Fish Shanty was a part of a vibrant downtown.

Lloyd was an integral part of the family business.
President’s Message

Dear Members,

My name is Jim Pauly, and I have taken over the Presidency of the Port Washington Historical Society. I am honored and privileged to take on this role for the Society.

The year 2020 has been and continues to be a challenging year with the worldwide pandemic. Like all nonprofit organizations, the pandemic has deeply affected our operations with lower revenue production and fewer contributions. I am enormously proud of our members, the Executive Director and her staff, volunteers, and the public to keep the organization moving forward.

Our largest fundraiser is our Gala, which was held virtually in late September because of the pandemic. The Gala was a rousing success, far exceeding expectations. I thank all those who worked so hard to put the virtual Gala together and those donors and sponsors who contributed silent auction items and support dollars to the Gala.

My term as President is short. However, the Society has short-term operational planning and a strategic plan for long-term sustainability. I look forward to working on those goals, now and into the future, beyond my short term as President.

Sincerely,
James J. Pauly, President
Port Washington Historical Society
Board of Directors
**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S UPDATE**

While we expected to still be living amid the pandemic come fall, I will admit to hoping we would not be experiencing a continuing surge. We have learned to take each day as it comes and while volunteers at the Resource Center have returned, tourists have remained scarce. Admissions at both the *Port Exploreum* and the *Light Station* have been reduced significantly. That said, the visitors who came have been respectful, patient, and kind and for that we are thankful.

While the year had its challenges, I consider our September Gala, *An Historic Evening – An Historic Year*, a great success of which we can all be proud. We missed the gathering but owe a big thank you to everyone who volunteered and participated in the silent auction and Paddle Raise. We are honored and humbled by the support.

By the time you receive this newsletter, we will have entered the Holiday Season – a time to give thanks for loved ones and to celebrate the joy that connection with others can bring. Our gift to you is keeping you connected to history, to others, and to many new sources of inspiration.

Wishing you and your families continued health and safety.

*Dawn St. George, Executive Director*

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**PORT EXPLOREUM REPORT**

Things have been a bit quiet at the *Port Exploreum*. Unfortunately, with the pandemic, most private events have been canceled or postponed to next year. However, we did have a small wedding of 32 people on October 17. All of the proper precautions were taken. The wedding party and all guests were masked and socially distanced. Seating for the wedding and tables for the reception were also properly distanced. It worked beautifully. The bride and groom were very pleased!

As admissions have been slow at the *Port Exploreum*, we have decided to limit our open hours to Saturdays and Sundays, 12pm - 4pm. The *Port Exploreum* will be closed for the holidays from December 21 to January 2.

As the new year is quickly approaching, we are brainstorming some fun and exciting possibilities for 2021 PWHS events!

We wish everyone a safe, healthy, and joyous holiday season from all of us at the *Port Exploreum*.

*Amy Clark*
Manager/Event Coordinator

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**Gala Report:**

Though we were unable to party in-person this year, your contributions made our virtual Gala successful beyond our dreams. This year’s goal was $75,000 and we raised over $120,000.

A special thanks to all our sponsors, especially our Presenting Sponsor, *Port Washington State Bank*, Mike Ansay and Ansay and Associates, Bill and Jean Schanen, all our donors, especially Shirli Flack, Paul and Judy Trump, Kathy Bink, Lynde Uihlein, and Bill and Pat Moren, and Board members, past and present, who generously supported this year’s online Gala.

Our sincerest thanks go to Jeff and Rose Morgan for not only their generous financial support, but their energy and enthusiasm in putting together and hand-delivering the much-appreciated Gala Boxes, the Gala Committee, and Bob Wilke who crafted the wonderful website that supported the silent auction and Paddle Raise.

Though this year’s virtual Gala was a huge success, we have our fingers crossed that in 2021 we will once again be able to raise our glasses in person. To that end, we are already planning next year’s Gala to be held at the *Port Exploreum* in June. Mark your calendars!

*Dawn St. George, Executive Director*

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**THANK YOU TO THE GORDONS!**

We want to send a huge thank you to Todd and Kathie Gordon who are stepping away as Co-Managers of the 1860 Light Station. Todd and Kathie report their future plans are somewhat up in the air (like everyone else’s). But they have enjoyed the last 15 years since they moved to Grafton and joined the Society. Through their mutual love of history, they have made many new friends in Port Washington. They look forward to continuing to be active members, especially while Todd remains on the Board of Directors.
It has been a while since the last Light Station update, but a lot has happened during this time. Our regular tours had to be modified due to the COVID-19 situation. We started out trying to use the same open days as we have in past years. This proved to be ineffective as we had very few visitors and some days no one came. We then decided to do it on a request-only basis and that proved to be more effective. We had about 75 people tour the Light Station, we received about $65 in donations and sold several books. We are currently having discussions as to how we can best provide proper tours in the next season. More information will be forthcoming in the months ahead.

Other happenings at the Light Station this past summer included cleaning up the yard. We removed the old well and relocated the bricks to provide a much better path to the oil house. Additionally, we relocated some other items (see the pictures).

In the coming months, we will finalize plans for relocating the lifeboat. Currently, we plan to have it housed under a roof (open on all sides) along the walkway on the east side of the lighthouse. We are meeting with designers and city officials to provide a structure that will properly display this historic artifact.

The generator building is still in the planning phase. We intend to eventually have it serve as a museum displaying marine artifacts of historical importance.

The lighthouse is also undergoing some repairs, water leaks, painting, and some needed tuckpointing. These repairs are normal considering that the structure of the building is over 160 years old.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our lighthouse volunteers who made the last season, such as it was, under the most difficult of conditions, a very worthwhile experience for those who took the time to visit the 1860 Light Station. I would also like to give a shoutout to those volunteers who helped clean up the yard. They made it a more visually pleasant area for our visitors. Thanks to all.

Pat Curtiss,
1860 Light Station
COVID-19 has been the story at the Resource Center, as it has for the rest of the world. We adapted with projects at home, worked on getting exhibits ready, and developing protocols for keeping everyone who volunteers and visits safe. Now, volunteers are back to having limited time again at the RC, which is now closed to the public through the end of the year.

We hope you caught the Wisconsin Historical Society’s traveling exhibit on the Women’s Suffrage Movement that was here in July.

The Woman’s Club exhibit and Sailing Vessels and Their Lights exhibit opened this summer and will be around until next summer. Kate Brown put together a tribute to this often-overlooked service organization that has served the community since 1898 when the group established the first community library in the back of a local drug store. The group has gone on to support a wide range of community needs. The Sailing Vessels and Their Lights exhibit showcases a number of items from the Bienlein-Burke Collection with a focus on maritime lights, a critical component for vessel safety.

The Resource Center will be closed to the public through the rest of the year. We hope to open for winter hours in January, Mondays and Thursdays 1pm - 4pm, but all will depend on the threat level of the pandemic. We can be reached at 262-268-9150 or portwashhistsoc@att.net for special appointments or questions. Patience is appreciated with us at this time.

Our thanks to the volunteers that donate time in so many ways at the Resource Center, including those that volunteer so that the building can be open additionally on Fridays and Saturdays during the summer and early fall hours. A special shout out to Leroy Bley who has faithfully volunteered his Fridays since 2013.

If you missed the chance to acquire one of our 2021 calendars, we still have them available. Calendars can be purchased for $10 and orders can be left on 262-268-9150 or through email portwashhistsoc@att.net. We will arrange pickup. The calendars are filled with historic photos and available through the generosity of Kate Brown. Thanks, Kate!

Jackie Oleson and Geri Zehren
Resource Center Managers

All vessels whether they sail big waters or small, need to be seen, and their lights come in all sizes.

The Port Washington Woman’s Club celebrates more than 120 years of contributions enriching the lives of residents.
and later the hotel, and Lincoln was involved with managing the company finances.

The Fishermen’s Memorial on Rotary Park, the iconic fishnet house preserved on the west slip, and the neon sign high on the Duluth Trading Building, remind us of not only the Smiths but the fishing legacy of Port Washington and its numerous fishing families.

Jackie Oleson
Resource Center
Co-Manager
Due to rising regional and national cases related to the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic and an earned revenue deficit, the Port Washington Historical Society will temporarily close the Port Exploreum to the public starting Monday, December 21. The Resource Center is currently closed. Due to the changing nature of the situation, we are not announcing reopening dates at this time.

Port Washington Historical Society’s Mission Statement

To create opportunities for inspirational discovery through preservation, education and exploration of the Port Washington area’s history and its maritime environment.

IN MEMORIAM
Jim Poull
Lonie Ross
Lincoln Smith
Lloyd Smith

SEASONAL HOURS

Port Exploreum
118 North Franklin Street
Open Saturday and Sunday
12pm to 4pm
Through December 20
Then closed to the public through the end of 2020
Phone: 262-284-2406

Resource Center
205 North Franklin Street
Open Monday and Thursday
Volunteers & Staff Only: 12pm to 4pm
Currently closed to the public through the end of 2020
Phone: 262-268-9150

1860 Light Station
311 Johnson Street
Closed for the season

Facilities will be closed on holidays
Refer to pwhistory.org for specifics

The Perfect Holiday Gift!
The Port Washington Historical Society
2021 Calendar. A year of PW History!
Order yours today by calling (262)284-2406
1 for $10.00
2 for 18.00
3 for 24.00
Happy Holidays!!
HAVE YOU SEEN OUR AMAZING NEWSLETTER? (Hint: You’re reading it now.)

Four times a year the Society creates a newsletter that gets distributed to members, friends and visitors. Contributions to the newsletter are written by a number of individuals, including the Society Board President, Executive Director, managers of the 1860 Light Station and Resource Center. The newsletter also includes special features and acknowledgment of donations.

Behind the scenes, planning determines what the newsletter will look like, the assortment of articles and photos, and the timeline for collecting and publishing. For a number of years this planning was the job of Ann Flierl. This year Majka Drewitz has been working with Ann to take over this responsibility. Majka is now becoming the engine behind the production of pulling together and editing all of the pieces that go into the creation of the newsletter. There are lots of moving parts involved in getting everyone to that final due date.

The next large component is the actual meshing of all of those pieces into a final product, and that has been the job of Michele Weiland for more than the last decade. Michele expertly creates a product that is not only informative and interesting but is visually attractive. Under Ann’s leadership, the inclusion of photos has increased, and with the increase in members who take the newslet-

Newsletter volunteers Diana and Trudi

Newsletter volunteers Jan and Carol

Volunteer Holly (missing are Pat and Ann)
Give From Your IRA (No Matter Your Age)

An IRA is an appealing way to save for retirement. Make a contribution and enjoy tax savings. But eventually that tax bill comes due - when you take your annual distributions and again when you leave your assets to heirs. If you want to avoid the tax bite and make a positive impact on our mission, please consider a gift to the Port Washington Historical Society from your IRA. There are two easy ways do this.

Magnify Your Impact Long-Term

Regardless of your age, you can give from your IRA by naming the Historical Society as a beneficiary of your account. This is a great option for extending support from your IRA beyond your lifetime. Here’s how:

- Decide what percentage (1–100) you would like the Port Washington Historical Society to receive.
- Contact your IRA administrator for a change-of-beneficiary form, or simply download a form from your provider’s website.
- Name the Historical Society and the gift percentage on the form.
- Return the form to your IRA administrator.
- Let us know about your plans so we can thank you.

Make Your Impact Today

If you are age 70-1/2 or older, you can use the IRA charitable rollover to make a tax-free gift to the Historical Society. The law allows you to transfer any amount up to $100,000 annually directly to a qualified organization without paying income tax on the distribution. Additional benefits include:

- You will see the difference you’re making today.
- Your direct transfer doesn’t generate taxable income or a tax deduction, so you benefit even if you don’t itemize your tax deductions.
- Your gift can satisfy all or part of your required minimum distribution.

Whether you make your impact today or after your lifetime, your gift matters.
### Donations & Memorials

#### Society Donations
- Dr. Sylvia and Dick Ansay
- Regina Bares
- Robert Barr
- Crescent Moon Antiques & Salvage
- Samuel DeMerit
- Mark Dybdahl
- Kristine Edwards
- Dr. Carl S. Eisenberg
- John and Geri Gerold
- Kay Goodwin
- Carol Jushka
- Kathleen Kernan
- Lou Heller Kirschling
- Mark and Barb Matera
- Erik and Carol Moeser
- Diane Pike
- Port Washington State Bank
- Annagail L. Smith
- Nicole Sova and Dave Garacci
- Lawrence and Diana Verheyen
- Dr. Michael and Karen Weber
- Illinois Tool Works Inc.

    Match for gift from Karen Brown

#### Light Station
- Grace Eernisse

#### Port Exploreum
- Julia Cartright

#### Legacy Society

##### 2020 Gala Sponsors

#### Presenting Sponsor - $7,500
- Port Washington State Bank

#### Platinum Sponsor - $3,000
- Ansay & Associates, LLC
- Jeff and Rose Morgan
- Bill and Jean Schanen

#### Diamond Level - $2,000
- Anonymous
- Mark and Nina Koenig

#### Gold Level - $1,000
- Patrick and Yvonne Curtiss
- Tom Didier ReMax
- John and Vici Dohrwardt
- Robert F. Henkle, Jr.
- Thomas and Nancy Holley
- Legacy Trust Company

#### Silver Level - $500
- Eric von Schledorn Auto Group
- Todd and Kathie Gordon
- Linda Nenn
- Jim and Mary Jo Pauly
- Port Washington-Saukville Rotary Club
- Dawn St. George

#### Bronze Level - $250
- BMW of Milwaukee North
- Car Maid Service, XLR8 Inc.
- Eernisse Funeral Homes
- Elegant Estates
- Mary Flierl
- Jack and Patti Rooney
- Todd and Angela Sikowski
- WhisCut American, Inc.

#### Paddle Raise Match
- Shiri Flack

#### Paddle Raise
- Mike Ansay
- George and Mary Jo Bichler
- Kathleen Bink
- LeRoy Bley
- Diane Burkhalter
- CSD Structural Engineers
- Mark Dybdahl
- Marc and Grace Eernisse
- Ann Flierl
- Todd and Jackie Gordon
- Michelle and Frank Hinca
- Ross Leinweber
- Frank and Barbara Metz
- Bill and Pat Morgan
- Jeff and Rose Morgan
- Tom and Marlene Richart
- Mike Ryder and Kelly Centofanti
- Dawn St. George
- Mark and Cathy Schowalter
- Ronald Schowalter
- Steven Schowalter
- Judith and Paul Trump
- Geri Zehren

##### 2020 Gala Auction Donations
- Allure Salon and Spa
- Ansay & Associates, LLC
- Barber, Brian and Andi
- Brad Bertler
- Bruce and Mary Becker Family
- X-Cel Tooling
- Bernie’s Fine Meats
- George Bichler
- Jim Biever
- Big Apple Bagels
- Blue Harbor Resort
- BMW of Milwaukee North
- The Bog
- Kate Brown
- C & M Auto Services, LLC
- Cheel
- Chocolate Chisel
- Cousins Subs
- Patrick Curtiss
- Dubbel Dutch Hotel
- Marc and Grace Eernisse
- EverClear Property Care Services
- Feith Family YMCA
- Fire House Subs
- Fire Ridge Golf Club
- First Watch Café
- Flierl, Ann
- Flipside Café
- Barb and Don Gilmore
- Michael Goebel & Associates
- Todd and Katie Gordon
- Harbor City Plumbing
- Harborview
- Highland House
- Michelle and Frank Hinca
- Inventors Brew Pub
- Kopp’s Frozen Custard
- Kwik Trip, Inc.
- Pat and Ken Kozak
- L.A. Hair Design by Amy, LLC
- Meijer
- Memories Dinner Theater
- Morel, Bill and Pat
- Morgan, Jeff and Rose
- Oleson, Jackie & Eric
- Oostburg Bakery
- Ozaukee County Planning and Parks
- Ozaukee Dairy Promotion
- Palermo’s
- Papa Murphy’s Pizza - Grafton
- Papa Murphy’s Pizza – Saukville
- Pear & Simple
- Port Washington Fire Department
- Port Washington Historical Society
- Prime Minister
- Professional Services
- Sahale Ale Works
- Schmit Bros. Dodge, Jeep, Chrysler
- Schmit Bros. Ford
- Sherpers
- Starbucks Coffee Company
- Steve’s Hair Port
- The Stilt House
- Studio 231
- Sunshine Winery
- Tello’s

(Continued on page 11)
Please Join Us!

The Port Washington Historical Society receives no financial help from the City of Port Washington or the State of Wisconsin. As a 501 (c) (3) organization, we rely on our generous donors and Society members to provide the day-to-day funding we need to fulfill our mission. Thank you for your support!

Become a member of the Port Washington Historical Society. A Family Membership can pay for itself in just a few visits!

Society Membership Levels & Benefits

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<th>Membership Level</th>
<th>Individual Amount</th>
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<td>Discounts in gift shops in all locations</td>
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<td>Free Admission to annual Society Gala</td>
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Four Ways to Join

- Online: pwhistory.org
- On-site: Port Exploreum
- Mail: P.O. Box 491, Port Washington, WI 53074
- Phone: 262-284-2406

Gift Shop Donations

- 1860 Light Station
- Light Station in Kind Donations
  - Pat Curtiss
  - Resource Center
  - Resource Center in Kind Donations
  - Lynn Cosentine
  - Ray Meyer
  - John Gerold
  - Pat Krainz
  - Port Washington High School
  - Jack Rooney
  - Jo Ann Stade

Paintings

- Furniture/Toys
  - Richard and Debra Dobrogowski

MEMORIALS

In Memory of Carl and Loretta Federspiel
- Ardy Ahsmann

In Memory of Lloyd Smith
- Ardy Ahsmann
- Art Buser and Pamela Greacen
- Paul and Arlene Erickson
- James and Beverly Mehring
- Bill and Pat Moren
- Eric and Jackie Olson
- Daniel Smith
- Geri Zehren

Society in Kind Donations

- Mark Kuehn
- Bill and Pat Moren
- August Peter
- John Weinrich
- CD/DVD/VIDEO/RECORDS/TAPES/SLIDES
  - Joseph McGinty

Business Artifacts

- Michelle Hinca
- Pat Krainz
- John Weinrich

Photos and Newspaper Clippings/Prints/Posters/Postcards

- Lynn Cosentine
- Jane Runkel Frederick
- John Gerold
- Dennis Mayer
- James Nuzzo
- Port Washington High School

Antique Life Jackets

- Don and Christine Lindeman

Antique Metal & Wood/Glass/Fabric

- Gerald Gantner
- John Gerold
- John Weinrich

MEMBER INFORMATION

Choose Your Membership Level

Membership Level Amount: $___________
Additional Gift Amount: $___________
Total Amount enclosed: $___________

Name(s): ___________________________
Address: __________________________
City: ___________________________
State: _________ Zip: ______________
Phone: ___________________________
Email: ___________________________
Check payable to: Port Washington Historical Society $___________

OR Charge my credit card $___________
Card Number: _______________________
Exp. Date: _____/____ CVV Code: _______
Billing Zip Code: _____________________
Signature: __________________________

☐ Yes, I’m interested in volunteering. Please contact me.

Return the form to: PWHS PO Box 491, Port Washington, WI 53074

Questions? 262-284-2406
Upcoming Events

COMING VISIT OUR NEW EXHIBITS!

Port Exploreum Exhibits
- Port Washington’s Brewing History: A Long Tradition
- From the Coal Dock to the Soo Locks: The Photography of Paul G. Wiening

Resource Center Exhibits
- A Celebration of 121 Years of the Woman’s Club
- A Look at Maritime Lights

For a complete list of PWHS events, click here to visit:
www.facebook.com/PortWashingtonHistoricalSociety
or
www.pwhistory.org

Note: There are an array of private events as well as group tours and school groups throughout the year. View our website www.pwhistory.org or call the Port Exploreum for information.

The Port Washington Historical Society is a non-profit 501 (c) (3) organization.