

NEW BERLIN

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

FRANKLIN  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY



March 2015

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

— 2015 Spring Events —

**Community Fair** **Fri., March 20**  
at **Eisenhower High School** **& Sat., March 21**  
10:00 am

**Spring Membership Meeting** **April 15**  
at **New Berlin Library** 6:30 pm  
*The Story of Richard Bong, WWII Ace*  
(See flyer on back)

### **2014 Annual Meeting**

A crowd of around 50 people attended our Annual Meeting held at The Community Center on Cleveland Ave. Following a short slide presentation of our year in review, the Franklin Historical Society entertained us with *The Civil War in Song*. A narrator introduced us to a Civil War background followed by popular prewar songs and songs through the years until war's end. The attendees joined in a sing-a-long with the popular tunes. Everyone enjoyed questions that were asked along with the fellowship and treats after the program.

### **Volunteer Party**

This year 45 volunteers and guests joined us at Peach Tree Restaurant for a family style dinner. We enjoyed a fun evening with lots of visiting.

### **Christmas at the Park**

The Park looked very festive with the candle lights and trees in the windows of the houses; they went nicely with the Christmas tree trimmed with lights and red bows in the Gazebo. (Our thanks to John Martin and Friends who again put it up.)

### **Christmas Parade**

We had our float and fire truck in this year's Christmas parade. Two members rode in the sleigh this year in place of Mrs. Santa (Kay Jashinski who passed away).

### **Exhibits**

We will have a booth at the **Community Fair** in the Eisenhower High School Gym March 20th & 21st. The Society will have some new pictures of families and a slideshow titled "Rocks to Roads". We will have our Almanacks and books for sale. Be sure to stop by for a visit and see the rest of the booth displays; lots of samples will be given out.

### **Winter Projects**

This winter's weather has not been favorable to get much done. Quite a few of our members headed for a warmer climate...can't blame them. A few members have been working in the picture room redoing some family picture boards and cleaning up a showcase to put in a military display. Our intern has been digitizing some of the Swartz scrapbooks and indexing them.

### **In Memoriam**



**A Leader Lost—Don Hermann**, long time New Berlin Historical Society board member, passed away March 5th. Don served many years as treasurer and membership chairman of the Society. His contributions to the development of Historical Park from its beginning were many and notable. We are

grateful that Don chose to share so much of his time and talent with our Society in addition to his other community service. We extend our condolences to Jackie and the family.

**Gene Krahn** passed away February 20, 2015 at the age of 86 years, the youngest of 11 children. He was the first park supervisor in New Berlin and in charge of our Historical Park. We worked with him when the park was being laid out.

**Marian Koeppen** passed away January 3, 2015 at age 90. Marian was a charter member of our Society and also

a lifetime member. She remembered when we had no buildings and had to meet in the Melody Inn (now Asia Restaurant). She had donated many items from their Casper farm.

**Joyce Salzmann** passed away February 1st or 2nd and was around 89 years old. This is all we know. Joyce was very active in helping when we restored the Schoolhouse. She donated money toward the School-house and Winton/Martin House and farm items from the Jungbluth farm.

**Gardens**

Do you wait longingly for Spring to arrive so you can get outside in your garden? Do you not mind getting your hands dirty if it means you will have beautiful plants to enjoy? If this sounds like you, the Historical Society gardens may be the place for you this summer. If you would like to keep the Historical Park gardens blooming, please call Sue at 262-679-3461.

**THANK YOU to all of our Donors**  
*...since our last newsletter*

**GENERAL DONATIONS**

Mary Winton Green—\$250  
 New Berlin Lions Club—\$1,000

**ARTIFACT DONATIONS**

Vern Bentley—6-ft. long glass showcase with lights  
 Ruby Georguis—36 household items and clothing

**MEMORIALS**

*For Gene Krahn...* Don & Jackie Hermann \$10  
*For Joyce Salzmann...* Don & Jackie Hermann \$10  
*For Marian Koeppen...* from Jerry Bensing \$50, Clifford

the story of  
**Richard Bong, WWII Ace**



Richard Bong is credited with 40 combat victories as a P-38 pilot in WWII, making him the Ace of Aces. The year 2014 marked the 70th anniversary of his receiving the Congressional Medal of Honor. Although he survived combat, Bong did not live to see the end of the war. Hear the story of how this Wisconsin farm boy became an American Hero.

**Wednesday April 15 at 6:30 pm**

**New Berlin Public Library Community Room**  
**15105 Library Lane in the City Center**

Light Refreshments      Free and open to the public



Join John Dorsey, aviation historian and board member of the Wisconsin Aviation Hall of Fame, as he shares more fascinating, little-known facts about America's Ace of Aces and Medal of Honor recipient as part of the Wisconsin Aviation Hall of Fame's statewide commemorative tour. Stick around for a limited edition, collectible gift at the presentation's conclusion.

**Sponsored by the New Berlin Historical Society**

Call 262-679-3461 or visit [www.newberlinhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.newberlinhistoricalsociety.org) for more information  
 First Open House at New Berlin Historical Park will be held June 21, 1-4 PM

& Roseanne Peskie \$20; Jim & Rhoda Flagg; Cal Spano \$100; Patricia Campbell \$20; Ron & Pat Koeppen and Mark & Whitney Koeppen \$100.

**2014-2015 OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS**

President..... David Totten ..... (262) 643-8855	Tour Director ..... Joanne Erickson.....(262) 542-3643
Vice President..... Peggy Ament ..... (262) 544-4534	Assistant Tour Director ..... June Pelkola.....(262) 679-0891
Recording Secretary ..... Sue Hemmen ..... (262) 679-3461	Publicity ..... David Totten .....(262) 643-8855
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**Directors:** Roy Meidenbauer, Ron Hause, Allen Mueller, Vern Bentley, Carol Gorichanaz, Peg Ament, Don Hermann, Jackie Hermann, and Rhoda Flagg

**Newsletter Editor:** Jackie Hermann

[www.newberlinhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.newberlinhistoricalsociety.org)