



**WAUKEGAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
ANNUAL REPORT  
June 1, 2009 – May 31, 2010**

## **PRESIDENTS REPORT**

The fiscal year ending May 31, 2010 was a banner year for the Waukegan Historical Society. The highlight, of course, was the publication of the book, "Waukegan – A History" in January 2010. This major undertaking of the Society chronicles our city's story in words by Ed Link and photos and items from our archives. It capped the celebration of our 150th year as a city and is a great addition to our historical record.

The Membership in the Historical Society continued to grow this year with our membership now exceeding four hundred. Also we welcomed an increased number of visitors and researchers to both the Waukegan History Museum and to the Raymond Library filling requests for information either in person or over the telephone or the Internet.

As we move forward into this new fiscal year, we will be focusing on a second major project, the building of a new addition to the Museum site. A joint effort of the Society and the Waukegan Park District, this new building will provide substantially more space for our large archive collection, a bigger, more usable research library and will greatly expand our ability to creatively display Waukegan's history.

The Society is working with the Park District to secure the necessary funding for this project and to this end has established the Heritage Preservation Fund to receive gifts and memorials for this building.

We recognize that this is a significant undertaking for the Society, but we are confident it will immeasurably advance our mission and be a wonderful addition to the Bowen Park Heritage Circle.

Sara Griffin  
Outgoing President

Dennis Moisio  
Incoming President

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

### **Officers**

*President*  
Sara Griffin  
*Vice President*  
John Stein  
*Treasurer*  
Yvonne Sylvester  
*Secretary*  
Ellen Frew

### **Directors**

Betsy Alleman  
Harry Came  
Gretta Dieck  
Tim Hagan  
Jim Maguire  
Dennis Moisio  
Denyse Waters

## **STAFF**

*Museum Supervisor*  
Ty Rohrer

*Research Librarian*  
Beverly Millard

*Museum Intern*  
Kirsten Lampi

## **EXHIBITS, PROGRAMS AND SPECIAL EVENTS**

- The year began with a successful Tour of Homes in July 2009. Over 600 people attended with a large percentage from towns outside of Waukegan.

- Two special exhibits at the Waukegan History Museum prepared in 2008 were continued this fiscal year. The first exhibit titled *Treasures of Our Collections: Celebrating 150 Years of Waukegan History* celebrated the 150<sup>th</sup> birthday of the City of Waukegan. The second exhibit titled *Abraham Lincoln's Memorable Visit to Waukegan*, honored the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Abraham Lincoln's birth and his visit to Waukegan in 1860. An exhibit titled *What's In a Name*, gave the story of six roads in Waukegan and for whom they were named after. This exhibit was first shown during Waukegan Main Street's Wine and Art Stroll. Using photos from our archives, the Society also mounted a display at a vacant storefront of our early downtown.

- Lincoln's watch was featured on the program at our fall membership meeting. Waukegan attorney Doug Stiles, a descendant of the jeweler who inscribed the watch, told the story of how the hidden inscription was finally revealed.

- In 2006 the Board of the Waukegan Historical Society instituted the Historic Marker Program in order to bring attention to residential and commercial buildings that have architectural or historic merit. This past year three additional markers were added. Each marker is manufactured in Waukegan showing the name of the person who built, or was associated with, the building and the approximate date it was built. The date is shown boldly so that it can be read from the street. Approximately 25 have been installed to date. Applications are available on the Society's website.

- Other events in which the Society participated were the Oakwood Cemetery Walk in September 2009 and the Annual American Independence celebration in Bowen Park.

## Museum Supervisor's Report

The past fiscal year was busy at the museum and with our education outreach program. We had over 1,500 visitors to the museum the past year with strong numbers from school groups and special events.

Our comprehensive education outreach program that includes activities in Bowen Park, programs for community groups and education programs and tours for local school children experienced the most growth this year. I gave 113 programs this year to community groups and in the Waukegan schools. In total 2,500 Waukegan students learned about various aspects on the history of Waukegan through these programs.

For the third year in a row the Raymond Research Library provided resources and direction for high school students participating in the regional Metro History Fair. One of this year's groups captured a first place at both the regional and state level and proceeded to the national competition. A second team

came very close to qualifying for the nationals as well.

I anticipate our education outreach program will continue to grow. Developments are already underway to add to more programs to be presented in the future.

The museum volunteer crew and I are very close to starting Phase II of the inventory of the Society's collections. Phase II will be the inventory of all textiles such as clothes, hats, etc. The inventory of the collections has been a long process but we are starting to finally see the end in sight!

The museum is now on Facebook, so check that out as well as our website, [www.waukeganhistorical.org](http://www.waukeganhistorical.org) for frequent updates on what is going on.

Ty Rohrer  
Museum Supervisor-Waukegan History Museum

### Haines Museum Visitors

Walk-ins - 337  
(71 children/ 266 adults)  
Scheduled Tours - 558  
(259 adults/299 students)  
Special Events - 697  
(Tour of Homes - 250)  
(Cemetery Walk - 250)  
(Independence Day - 197)

Total Visitors - 1,592

### Community Outreach Programs

To Adult Groups - 11  
(Attendees - 431)  
To Children's Groups - 2  
(Attendees - 39)

### School Outreach Programs

To Waukegan Schools - 91  
(Attendees - 2,421)

### Total Community Outreach

Attendees - 2,891

### Raymond Research Library Visitors

Metro History Fair - 119  
Other Walk-ins - 408  
Total Walk-ins - 527  
Email inquiries - 102

### Volunteer Hours

Museum - 862.5  
Library - 1,570

\*For Waukegan Park District fiscal year ending 4/31/2010

## **FINANCIAL DONORS**

### **\$1.00 TO \$100.00**

R.P. Bhatt  
John Bower  
Harry Came  
Cribb Fine Foods  
Vernon Dale  
Elaine Eagon  
Sherrill Eichler  
Friends of the Waukegan  
Public Library  
Carmen Falkerson  
Ann Hughes Johnson  
G. Johnson  
Christine Keil  
Norma Krause  
Charles Lange  
Owen McHugh  
Peter Popet  
Mary Redmond  
Steve Rosswurm  
Nancy Salmela  
M. and E. Simrad  
Shiela Somers  
Rosita Villareal  
Ray and Pat Vukovich  
Jean Windberg  
Waukegan Women's Club  
Rita White  
Frank Zeller

### **OVER \$100.00**

Robert and Michelle Crombie  
Rotary Club of Waukegan

WAUKEGAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
BALANCE SHEET  
Year Ended May 31, 2010

**ASSETS**

Current Assets

Cash	\$ 16,863
Investments	<u>63,911</u>

Total current Assets	\$ 80,774.00
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Fixed Assets

Equipment	\$ 4,552.00
Accumulated depreciation	<u>(4,552.00)</u>

Total fixed assets	-
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Inventory	<u>7,831.00</u>
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Total Assets	<u><u>\$ 88,605.00</u></u>
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**LIABILITIES AND EQUITY**

Current Liabilities	\$ 960.00
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Long Term Liabilities	<u>9,000.00</u>
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Total liabilities	\$ 9,960.00
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Equity	<u>78,645.00</u>
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Total liabilities and equity	<u><u>\$ 88,605.00</u></u>
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WAUKEGAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
INCOME AND EXPENSE STATEMENT  
Year Ended MAY 31, 2010

**INCOME**

Contributions	\$ 2,217.00	
Membership Dues	1,771.00	
Sales & Royalties	19,145.00	
Research Services	380.00	
Program Income	4,875.00	
Interest	963.57	
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Total Income		\$ 29,351.71

**EXPENSE**

Publication Cost	\$ 18,832.93	
Postage	750.16	
Events and programs	3,315.66	
Materials and Supplies	1,291.35	
Maintenance	1,372.97	
Insurance	1,104.00	
Fees	10.00	
Donations, Gifts	636.98	
Dues and Subscriptions	215.00	
Miscellaneous	188.37	
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Total expenses		<u>27,717.42</u>
Total net income		<u>\$ 1,634.29</u>

Value of In-Kind Contributions - \$113,851.09