

# CUDAHY HISTORICAL SOCIETY



NOVEMBER 2015

4647 S. KINNICKINNIC AVE., CUDAHY, WI  
MAIL: PO BOX 332, CUDAHY, WI 53110

*The Purposes of this organization are exclusively educational and shall be to preserve, advance, and disseminate knowledge of the history of Cudahy Wisconsin.*

## From the President's Desk... Jill Gestwicki



Greetings and welcome to a new year of Cudahy Historical Society fun! I have accepted my new position as President and I'm excited to take on this awesome responsibility.

A big THANK YOU to former President Dan Vnuk. He received a beautiful plaque at the September meeting recognizing his years of service. Dan will remain on the Board. Thank you Dan!

Just a little bit about me... As a lifetime member of the Cudahy Historical Society I have held offices of: Membership Chairperson, Secretary, and Vice President. I am married to Wayne. We have 2 daughters, Joanne (married to Robert) and Julie. We share our home with a Boxer dog named Elli Joy and a Bearded Dragon named Coral Ann. I'm a life-long Cudahy resident and I work as a school secretary for the School District of Cudahy. I am also a saxophone player and singer with the band "Sensations".

Our biggest concern this year is our financial stability. The Board will be working hard to come up with solutions (fundraising opportunities, grants, etc.) to keep our bills paid, our building secure, and our grounds beautiful. The Immigrant Park Fiduciary account has run out so all future costs of upkeep for Immigrant Park and the Depot will be the responsibility of the Cudahy Historical Society.

The Annex building next to the Depot is available for rent. It is the perfect location for a small business or office. If interested, submit your information by letter to the Cudahy Historical Society, P.O. Box 332, Cudahy, WI 53110.

The Friends of Cudahy Library will not be hosting the annual Christmas party this year. We will look forward to next year when it is our turn to host.

We're bringing back Pie-A-Palooza this year. Please consider baking a few pies and freeze them for our sale. This is a 100% profit opportunity and a great way to start off the holiday season. Please stop by on November 20 and get your delicious pies for the season.

Christmas at the Depot will be our biggest fundraiser this year. Please bring your baked goods for our bake sale. Call Sharon Vaccaro for bakery pick-up at (414) 483-0361. We'll be having a chili dump for lunch. Invite your family and friends to visit Santa and have their picture taken.

We thank our amazing Docents, Ruth Raczka and Dan Vnuk for opening the Depot to guests on the last Saturday of each month and sharing our beautiful resources.

I look forward to seeing you on November 17 at the General Meeting! This is going to be a great year! We encourage more members to get involved with helping hands.

**Together Everyone Accomplishes More!**



## UPCOMING EVENTS

**November 17, 2015**

General Meeting, 7:00 pm

**November 20, 2015**

Pie-A-Palooza  
Southshore Credit Union  
Noon—5:00 p.m.

**December 05, 2015**

Christmas at the Depot  
10 am — 2 pm

**January 19, 2016**

Board Meeting, 7:00 pm

**February 16, 2016**

General Meeting, 7:00 pm

**March 15, 2016**

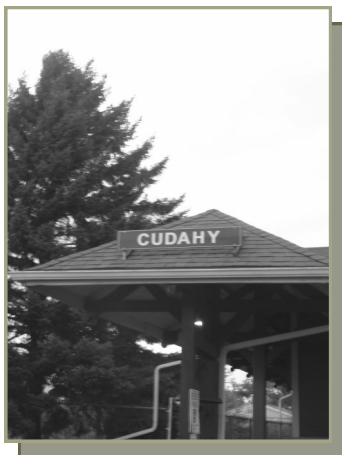
Board Meeting, 7:00 p.m.

**April 18, 2016**

General Meeting, 7:00 p.m.

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"ALONE WE CAN

DO SO LITTLE...

TOGETHER WE CAN

DO SO MUCH".

HELEN KELLER



## *Officers / Board*

### OFFICERS:

President	Jill Gestwicki	414-481-7341
Vice President	Kathy Lorum	414-281-4548
Secretary	John Zodrow	414-769-7677
Treasurer	Phil Lorum	414-465-9583

### BOARD MEMBERS:

Charlene Peltier	414-744-7272
Ruth Raczka	414-384-8129
Jane Czarneski	414-519-3010
Dan Vnuk	414-481-6416
Dave Jalowiec	414-281-4548
Seat 6—OPEN	
Seat 7—OPEN	

Buildings & Grounds: Dave Jalowiec 414-281-4548

Membership: Jill Gestwicki 414-481-7341

Newsletter: Jill Gestwicki 414-481-7341

Nominations Chair: Phil Lorum 414-465-9583

Publicity: OPEN

Socials: Edie Litkowicz 414-481-1372/ Karen Rose 414-769-7229



Thank you to TiPrint, Inc. for printing our newsletters each month. We appreciate your professional work and your generosity. We wish you continued success! Cudahy Historical Society members—be sure to stop in at TiPrint for all your printing needs. Thank you!

### **Annex Building For Rent**

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## *Speakers: Rich & Joanne Hehn—on SSgt. Roy H. Little*



Sargent Roy Little, a native of Cudahy, was lost in the North Sea on 12/31/44 in an incident known as the "Piggyback Flight" and "Breeding Dragonflies." Two planes became locked together while returning to England from a bombing mission over Hamburg. Rich Hehn, Roy Little's cousin, has done research on this incident along with meeting someone who witnessed the collision. Hear how several men survived this incredible event, once again showing the dedication of our military men. He was part of the 100th Bomb Group known as the "Bloody 100th" due to the high loss rate. Rich & Joanne brought some of Roy Little's items to an Open House last summer. They felt the Historical Society would honor and protect the memorabilia that includes medals, including a Purple Heart, some flier's scarves that are actually maps of Europe, along with Roy Little's diary. All of the items will be on display on the 17th.



## *Memberships—DUE*

The Cudahy Historical Society membership year runs September 1—August 31. Yearly dues may be mailed (see back of newsletter), paid online ([www.cudahyhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.cudahyhistoricalsociety.org)) or paid at the general meeting. Checks are made payable to Cudahy Historical Society. Membership cards will be given upon request. If you have any questions please contact Membership Chairperson Jill Gestwicki at (414) 481-7341. Thank you!

## *Welcome New Members*

**Kent & Luanne Peterson—Family Membership (July 2015)**  
**John O'Malley—Lifetime Membership (September 2015)**



## *How Can I Help?*

- ♦ Pies—Bake & freeze pies for Pie-A-Palooza
- ♦ Bakery—Drop off at Christmas at the Depot
- ♦ Volunteer Time—Help out at Pie Sale or Christmas at the Depot
- ♦ Board Member—We need 2 Board Members
- ♦ Buy a Brick—Purchase a brick for your family or business
- ♦ Attend our meeting on November 17—Bring your ideas and enjoy our fabulous speakers.
- ♦ Find a fabulous small business to rent our Annex.



Frozen  
Homemade Pies!

## PIE-A-PALOOZA

Friday November 20, 2015

Noon-5:00 p.m. (or until sold out)



Southshore Credit Union (lobby)  
4580 S. Nicholson Ave., Cudahy

Get your favorites!  
They sell fast!

*\*Members—please bring your FROZEN pies at 11:45 a.m.*

# CHRISTMAS AT THE DEPOT

Saturday, December 5, 2015

10 AM—2 PM

Cudahy Historical Society Depot

4647 S. Kinnickinnic Ave., Cudahy



**\*Visit Santa**

**\*Pictures with Santa**

**\*Hot Lunch - Café**

**\*Bake Sale**







## Depot's Jukebox Back in Tune

The old juke box in the Depot was back in operation for the last open house of 2015 thanks to a fortunate meeting following the band concert last summer.

For most of the year, the old growler is loaded with 45 rpm records from the 1950s to early '60s. For the Christmas at the Depot event, I replace those with Christmas tunes from the same era. When I changed the records back in spring, however, I messed something up causing the same record to play over and over again.

A little bit of history: This 1951 Seeburg was the first juke box made to play 45 rpm records. It was donated to the Society several years ago by Cudahy resident John Sulik along with ample funds for its restoration. This juke, made in Chicago, had spent many years entertaining patrons in a bar that John's brother had owned in Cudahy on Squire

Ave. The box was lovingly restored to as-new condition by my son Jonathan in 2012.

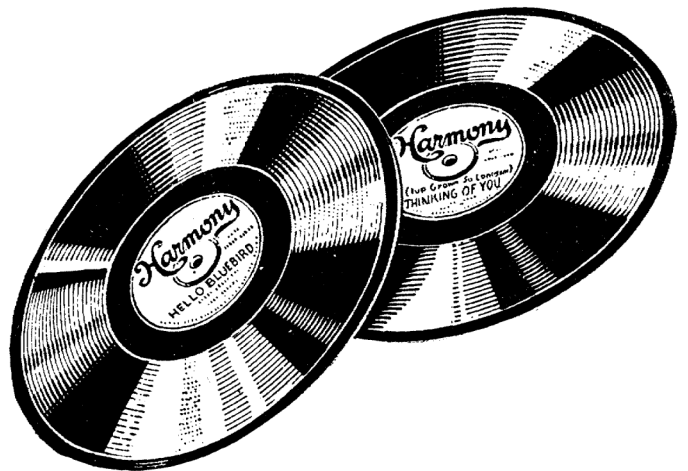
Both my sons like to find and restore juke boxes as a hobby. While they have had many Wurlitzers, AMIs and Rock-Olas over the years, the Seeburg is Jon's least favorite to work on. Although he tried to fix what I broke, he was ready to call in someone else to look at it.

Then I met Christopher Hastreiter. He was one of the musicians at the concert who stopped by to tour the Depot after the event. He spent a lot of time looking at the Seeburg and I asked him if he knew anything about them. Turns out they are his favorite boxes and I think he said he even has one in his bedroom!

Christopher, who is a product engineer in controls and switchgear products of the Cooper Power Systems division of Eaton in South Milwaukee, was the perfect person to get the Seeburg back in operation. He promised to come back with some tools and test equipment. He did, and had everything up and running in about 45 minutes. Many thanks to him for getting it "back in tune."

So this year I guess more care will be taken when it comes time to unload, load and reload the juke box.

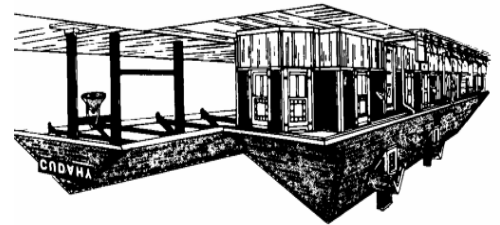
Dan Vnuk



Cudahy, WI 53110

PO Box 332

Cudahy Historical Society



*Clip and Mail this form to: P.O. Box 332, Cudahy, WI 53110*

## MEMBERSHIP FORM

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**City, State, Zip** \_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Donation to Statue/Park Maintenance

\_\_\_\_\_ \$3 Student Membership

\_\_\_\_\_ \$10 Individual Membership

\_\_\_\_\_ \$15 Family Membership

\_\_\_\_\_ \$25 Business Membership

\_\_\_\_\_ \$100 Lifetime Membership

\_\_\_\_\_ Additional Donation

I am interested in serving as:

\_\_\_\_\_ Baker

\_\_\_\_\_ Gardening

\_\_\_\_\_ Newsletter

\_\_\_\_\_ Publicity

\_\_\_\_\_ Officer/Board Member

\_\_\_\_\_ Social Helper

\_\_\_\_\_ Fundraising

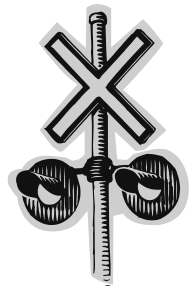
\_\_\_\_\_ Depot Maintenance

\_\_\_\_\_ Other (special talent) \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

NEW: \_\_\_\_\_

RENEWAL: \_\_\_\_\_



The Cudahy Historical Society meets 5 times per year—February, April, June, September and November. Meetings are held the third Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at the Depot. A newsletter is sent to members prior to each meeting.

**\*Checks are payable to Cudahy Historical Society**

**\*Membership runs September 1 thru August 31\***