



**WAUKEGAN HISTORICAL SOCIETY**  
**ANNUAL REPORT**  
**January 1, 2021 – December 31, 2021**

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Officers**

*President*

Josh Bill

*Vice President*

Chris Lanning

*Treasurer*

Patrick Cosgrove

*Interim Secretary*

Lori Nerheim

**Directors**

Julio Argueta

Harry Came

Diana Dretske

Vicki Mattson

Dane Morgan

Sandra Pokett

Maryfran Troha

## **PRESIDENT'S LETTER**

The Waukegan Historical Society is happy to report that we were able to return to some in-person events. The membership of the Waukegan Historical Society should be proud of how we adapted to meet the unprecedented global pandemic. Programming shifted to a virtual platform, and the planning for the Waukegan History Museum at the Carnegie, as well as the exhibits that will be housed inside, continued.

Membership, as well as the general public, should start seeing construction on the Waukegan History Museum at the Carnegie by the writing of the next annual report. Nationally-renowned Harboe Architects, in consultation with the Waukegan Historical Society and our partner, the Waukegan Park District, have completed the construction document phase. Every detail has been attended to professionally; you will love the results you see. Once opened, the Waukegan History Museum at the Carnegie will feature exhibits designed by the Waukegan Historical Society, numerous community partners, and the award-winning design firm of Luci Creative. The museum will be a regional attraction for tourism, but we are most proud that Waukegan Public Schools students and visitors of all ages will have a facility that instills a sense of pride and vibrancy right downtown.

This fiscal year also came with profound loss for the society. The Waukegan Historical Society was deeply saddened at the passing of our longtime head research librarian, Beverly Millard. While it goes without saying, because I know everyone reading this likely had encounters with Beverly over the years, she was one of the most kind and generous people I've ever met. She selflessly gave her time, wisdom, thoughtfulness, and care to all of us. There was no research question you could bring to her that she could not answer. On the rare occasion that she might not have known the answer, she knew where to look and allowed you the joy of drawing research conclusions with her expert guidance. I know you all share our grief, but that you are also smiling for the time we were blessed to have Beverly with us. The Historical Society will miss Beverly dearly.

In happier news, life member and longtime volunteer, Harry Came was awarded the Waukegan Park District Jack Benny Arts and Humanities award winner this fiscal year as well. Harry has worked on behalf of the Waukegan Historical Society for decades in different capacities. Currently, he is taking an active role in the renovation efforts related to the Carnegie Library. Congratulations on this well-deserved honor, Harry!

The Waukegan Historical Society is also happy to announce that upon publication of this annual report, the Waukegan History Museum has returned to normal operations. For the past several years, the museum has only been open by appointment, but with health protocols loosening, the Waukegan History Museum welcomes walk-ins once again. Once the Carnegie Building is open, our current museum space will remain, but it will have a new name. This year, the Waukegan Historical Society Board of Directors voted to rename the museum space to the Haines House Museum at Bowen Park. In this space, we hope to be able to tell a comprehensive history of Bowen Park through the years.

As I close my final presidential letter, I am very optimistic about the future of the Waukegan Historical Society. Our membership and board of directors have worked hard to get us through the pandemic, continue our operations, and create wonderful opportunities for the future. Thank you to all the members for another great year!

Josh Bill

## **PROGRAMS AND EVENTS –**

**February 1, 2021** – To celebrate Black History Month, the Waukegan Historical Society app features the many contributions to the city of Waukegan by Black individuals in the city. The app also allows users to take a self-guided tour of sites to help tell those stories.

**February 3, 2021** – Josh Bill and a team of community volunteers helped to organize a virtual historical tour of Waukegan for 30 Lake Forest College students. The video tour stopped at several historical sites throughout the city, including videos from inside the Waukegan History Museum and the Raymond Research Library.

**April 1, 2021** – On Major League Baseball's Opening Day, the Waukegan Historical Society's companion app helped to get people excited by featuring local historical stories of baseball players and teams rooted in Waukegan.

**June 12, 2021** – Waukegan History Museum's Companion App launched "Waukegan Quests" as a way to allow users to interact with different historical spaces. For June, users sought different places within Ray Bradbury Park to explore while using the app.

**June 19, 2021** – The Waukegan Historical Society proudly sponsored the Juneteenth Celebration. The Waukegan History Museum was a stop on the Juneteenth Journey. An exhibit featuring the African American community's successful effort to integrate Whittier Elementary School was among the many elements of African American history showcased during the tour.

**June 30, 2021** – The Waukegan Historical Society sponsored a tee at the 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Partners in the Park Event. Historical Society Board President Josh Bill, and Museum Supervisor Bryan Escobar challenged golfers to use historical clubs and shared information about the Carnegie Building at the event.

**July 2, 2021** – In partnership with the Lake County Audubon Society, the Waukegan History Museum's Companion App featured the "Sharing Our Shore" program as this month's "Waukegan Quest."

**July 17, 2021** – The Kohl Children's Mobile Museum arrived at Bowen Park for four Saturdays, allowing visitors to the Waukegan History Museum to engage in various STEAM educational activities and explore Waukegan History.

**July 24, 2021** – Waukegan History and Lakefront Walking Tour was led by the Waukegan Historical Society and the Lake County Audubon Society.

**August 10, 2021** – The renowned architecture of William Ganster was featured as the August “Waukegan Quest” within the Waukegan History Museum Companion App.

**August 14, 2021** – The Waukegan History Museum led the public down the same paths trod by the internationally-celebrated Waukegan-born author Ray Bradbury during the Green Town Guided Walking Tour.

**August 21, 2021** – President of the Waukegan Historical Society Josh Bill spoke at the City Club of Waukegan’s gala held at Glen Flora Country Club. Members of the public partook in a silent auction to benefit the Carnegie restoration and were provided information about plans for the adaptive reuse of the building.

**September 2021** – Education outreach began virtual presentations.

**September 15, 2021** – Local Latinx historical events and prominent individuals were featured on the Waukegan History Museum’s Companion App in celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month.

**September 26, 2021** – After the Covid-19 pandemic cancelled the Oakwood Cemetery Walk last year, the Waukegan Historical Society and the Waukegan Park District safely brought the event back. The Oakwood Cemetery Walk featured stories from the Waukegan Public Library with a special emphasis on the Carnegie Library.

**October 1, 2021** – To continue celebrations of Hispanic Heritage Month, the Waukegan History Museum showcased several Day of the Dead artifacts on loan from the Bess Bower Dunn Museum in Libertyville.

**October 6, 2021** – The Waukegan Historical Society partnered with Waukegan Public School District #60 to celebrate Indigenous People’s Day at Bowen Park’s Council Circle.

**October 12, 2021** – In addition to ongoing virtual educational outreach, the Waukegan History Museum again welcomed 4<sup>th</sup> grade students from the Waukegan Public Schools to learn about Waukegan’s history.

**December 7, 2021** – The Holiday Open House returns as an in-person event. The Waukegan Historical Society hosted members of the public for a tour of the decorated Waukegan History Museum.

The renovation and transformation of the old Carnegie Library into the Waukegan History Museum at the Carnegie continues to be a major focus. We have partnered with nationally renowned Harboe Architects and begin construction soon. As we move forward with this project, fundraising continues to be a major focus of the Society. An additional \$37,600.75 was added to the Carnegie Fund this year through donations.

Donors this fiscal year to the building fund as well as general support of the Society are as follows.

**\$10,000+**

Russell & Linda Bartmes (in honor of Sally Zeit)  
Dennis & Marilyn Moiso

**\$1000 to \$5000**

Raj & Rose Bhatt  
Mary Hamming (in memory/honor of Margaret Rose)  
Chandra Sefton (in memory of Waukegan families,  
Louis Brochon (Waukegan),  
Chase Webb (Waukegan),  
David Simpson (Waukegan),  
Frank Pustaver (North Chicago),  
Alfred Sefton (Waukegan, Zion))  
Lee Swank  
Philip & Sandra Tobin

**\$500 up to \$999**

Joshua & Alice Schultz Bill (in memory of Beverly Millard)  
Harry Came (in memory of Beverly Millard)  
Ann Darrow (in memory of Bev Millard)  
Lida Gail Dever (in memory/honor of Thomas C. Dever)  
Charlotte Gissel (in memory of Gar & Charlotte Leaf)  
Dan & Gail Hamilton (in memory of Beverly Millard)  
Network for Good

**\$100 up to \$499**

Gregory Alloian  
Theodora Anderson  
Anonymous (2)  
Joshua and Alice Shultz Bill  
Mildred Boothe  
Monica Burmeister  
Charlotte Callahan Wozniak  
Margaret Capitani  
Janice & Scott Castillo  
Patrick Cosgrove  
Rose Coulson (in memory/honor of Robert E. Coulson)  
Robert & Michelle Crombie  
Helen Darsnek  
Diana Dretske  
Daniel Drury  
Sarah Foster  
Sara Griffin  
Neal Kjos & Timothy Helke  
Patricia Hogan  
Michael & Vicki Hohf  
Benjamin Hughes  
Mary Rose Strubbe & Kevin Kane  
Sharon Labelle (in memory of Bob Labelle)  
Reginald Matthews  
Lori Mivshek  
Marsha Nolan  
Katherine Oldham  
Partners in Parks (various donors)  
Douglas & Marianela Peterson (in memory of Harry Peterson)  
Sandra Petroschius  
Steven Rosswurm (in memory of Ed Link)  
Michael & Emily Savage (in memory of Florence Dart)  
Lynn Schornick  
Kris Seegren  
Mauricio Solano  
Taylor Enterprises, Inc  
Paula & Michael Trigg  
Maryfrances Troha  
Thomas & Eleanor Vick  
Rosita Villarreal  
Michael and Jane Drew Waller  
Laura Wideburg

**\$50 up to \$99**

Frank & Linda Cisek  
Jimmy & Sherry Cohn (in memory/honor of Nellie Eustace Reid)  
Dorothy Evenhouse  
Alicia Giles  
Linda Gallu (in memory of Elaine J. Eagon)  
Christine Kiel  
Vicki Mattson (in memory of Beverly Millard)  
Mary Michael  
Peter & Ellen Popit (in memory of Beverly Millard)  
Charlotte Renehan (in memory of Beverly Millard)  
Michael Rodriguez  
Martha Sherer (in honor of Beverly Millard)  
Diane Verratti  
Janet Young  
June Zaragoza

**Up to \$49**

Anonymous (1)  
Benevity Community Impact Fund  
Faith Clark (in memory of Henry I. Clark III)  
Kathy Hansen  
Patricia Hentosh  
Tim & Sally Lacey (in memory of Beverly Millard)  
Jane Leonowitz  
Richard Ribando (in memory of Bev Millard)  
Ann Rippel (in memory/honor of Ethel Rippel)

# FINANCIAL REPORT

## 2021 Fiscal Year

### INCOME

#### ***UNRESTRICTED***

Membership Dues	\$ 945.00
Contributions (General)	\$ 15,852.50
Community Programs	\$ 75.00
Sales	\$ 159.89
Royalties	\$ 0
Museum Donation Box	\$ 0
Library (Research)	\$ 0
Bank Fee Reimbursement	\$ 17.50
Interest (First Midwest Money Market)	\$ 2.58
Interest (Federal Savings 18-month CD)	\$ 3,559.96
Unknown Source (Stripe)	\$ 80.00
<b>Total Unrestricted Income</b>	<b>\$ 20,692.43</b>

#### ***RESTRICTED***

Carnegie Project Contributions	\$ 37,600.75
Endowment Contributions	\$ 11,150.00
<b>Total Restricted Income</b>	<b>\$ 48,750.75</b>

<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$ 69,443.18</b>
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## EXPENSES

### ***UNRESTRICTED***

Museum Cleaning Service	\$ (170.00)
Programs	\$ 73.92
Mailings	\$ 89.94
Online Stripe Fee	\$ 63.49
Donations/Sponsorships	\$ 537.00
Memberships/Subscriptions	\$ 218.00
Bank Fees	\$ 24.50
Park District Museum/Library Rent	\$ 481.00
Historical App	\$ 228.00
Insurance	\$ 2,013.00
Squarespace Website	\$ 288.00
Library	\$ 260.88
State of Illinois Annual Report	\$ 10.00
<b>Total Unrestricted Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 4,117.73</b>

### ***RESTRICTED***

Exhibits (Luci Creative)	\$ 49,845.00
<b>Total Restricted Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 49,845.00</b>

**TOTAL EXPENSES** **\$ 53,962.73**

## CASH ASSETS

	<i>Restricted</i>	<i>Unrestricted</i>	<i>Total</i>
<b>12/31/2020</b>	<b>\$ 185,238.60</b>	<b>\$ 32,190.38</b>	<b>\$ 217,428.98</b>
Income	\$ 48,750.75	\$ 20,692.43	\$ 69,443.18
Expense	\$ 49,845.00	\$ 4,117.73	\$ 53,962.73
<b>12/31/2021</b>	<b>\$ 184,144.35</b>	<b>\$ 48,765.08</b>	<b>\$ 232,909.43</b>

## IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS

Margaret Martin	\$1,750
Waukegan Park District	\$90,000