

STURGEON BAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER - February 2020 - First Edition

Welcome to the First Edition of the Sturgeon Bay Historical Society Newsletter

The charter of the Sturgeon Bay Historical Society is to focus on preserving the past and ensuring the future of the historic elements of Sturgeon Bay. There are so many things happening this year that we are kicking off an email newsletter to keep everyone informed on the progress. We aim to delight you with news once a quarter. If you don't want to hear from us, we understand – just click the unsubscribe button at the end of the email.

A Word from our President: Christie Weber

Community Values

Historic preservation of our most unique structures is like a billboard to the world, reflecting our shared community values and celebrating our unique sense of place. It defines what is important to us, where we came from, what keeps us here now, and where we may be going in the future. And, most especially, it shows that WE CARE. It makes us a proud and special place, providing so much more than just the minimum needs of a functioning community.

I strongly believe that how a community cares for its past directly reflects how it will care for its people now and in the future. This is particularly true when it comes to environment and economics.

Environment: NO structure is more "green" than an older building in its second or third life cycle. It was likely built with little to no chemical additives, used no electricity for its production, and its old growth, slower-burning wood provides a safer structure in case of a fire.

If an old commercial building is repaired, versus being torn down and replaced, on average:

- A community sees more local jobs created
- Less garbage goes into our landfills
- Use of resources such as electricity, water, gas, etc... is minimized
- Fewer chemicals from today's building materials are introduced into the environment

Economic development: Most people prefer to visit, live in and work in a community that provides a sense of place and to which they feel a deep connection. Why would we ever risk becoming yet another "Anywhere, USA" by removing our most unique characteristics? Over the last 20 years, Sturgeon Bay's Comprehensive Plan community surveys consistently show that citizens overwhelmingly support protecting our small town character and charm as an important community value. We've made big strides in 2020 and our city government is beginning to understand how embracing our history positively impacts home sales, population growth, employment and community spirit. As always, the Sturgeon Bay Historical Society will continue to promote the protection of our past while moving us into a proud future.



Sturgeon Bay Historical Society Website is Live!

sturgeonbayhistoricalsociety.org

The Sturgeon Bay Historical Society Foundation website is live! We are so excited to have a place to share our goals and projects with the people of Sturgeon Bay and everyone who cares about the history and future of this exceptional area. You are able go online and see the architectural plans for the 1901 Teweles and Brandeis Granary, designed by the amazing firm of La Dallman Architects of Milwaukee, download the brochure which includes the history and explains how the granary worked for the community, and read about the restoration research and testing for the Potawatomi Tower. Plus we have a few projects that we are looking into for the future. We will be adding more photos and information as the projects progress, so keep checking back. We are also encouraging

everyone to submit suggestions for any places or structures that they feel are of historic interest. It's all about preserving the story of our community. *Nicola Kaftan, website designer*

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Granary News

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THANK YOU!

The 1901 Teweles and Brandeis Granary has inspired generous donations of time, money and ideas from people across the country. Closer to home there is a group of people that has moved mountains - or a granary, to honor



the past and secure the future of this historic structure. As we kick off 2020 and all the good things and new challenges it will bring, we want to say thank you to everyone that has contributed innovative ideas, the great gift of time, and incredibly generous financial support to make it all happen. We all know that money isn't everything, but we can't underscore enough the importance of your financial support in saving this historic structure. <u>Donations</u> may now be made on our website.

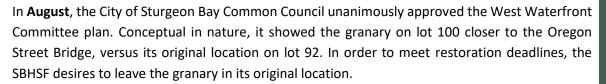
Volunteers, board members, and donors, at the December 30, 2019, "In With the Old" Event, Union Supper Pub, Sturgeon Bay

So much happening...

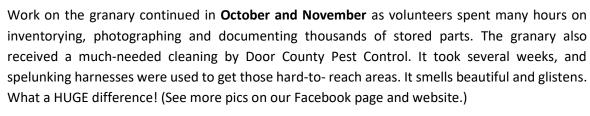
Things have been moving fast (and in the right direction!) for the 1901 Teweles and Brandeis Granary. On June 24, 2019, the historic granary moved back across the Oregon Street bridge to its original home on Sturgeon Bay's west waterfront courtesy of DeVooght House Lifters. Within weeks, sunflowers bloomed magnificently, welcoming it back to its rightful place. The move made the cover of the winter 2019 issue of "Structural Mover Magazine."



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September welcomed SMET Construction Services as they officially came on board to the Granary Restoration Project, joining architect James Dallman of LaDallman and Sturgeon Bay graduate Jeffrey Beane, engineer at Silman Structural Engineering.



We wrapped up 2019 with our "In With the Old" celebration on **December** 30. The granary architect, engineer, and construction company, as well as volunteers, donors, several city alderpersons, and the SBHSF board attended. It was a great time and enjoyed by all. We are aiming to make this an annual event.

As 2020 dawned, **January** brought more exciting news as GEI generously donated a laser scan of the building. Along with SMET construction and architect James Dallman they found the original beams and their locations. With the scan done, we can start rebuilding and designing parts for the reattachment more accurately. Our engineer, Jeff Beane, has completed the construction engineering plan for the restoration of the exterior walls, and SMET will start the repairs shortly.





<<<<<<<< > Potawatomi Tower News

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Still Fighting to Save the Tower

In spring of 2018, the Department of Natural Resources declared Potawatomi State Park observation tower unsafe due to significant wood decay and movement in its structural and non-structural components. To try and preserve this 90-year-old historic structure, the SBHSF commissioned Dr. Dan Tingley of Wood Research and Development, Oregon, to inspect the tower to see if it could be saved. Dr. Tingley and team found that the tower could be repaired in less than 10 days to serve another 90 years for a cost equal to or lesser than reconstructing or tearing it down. You can watch <u>Dr. Tingley's May 14, 2019, presentation</u> where he shares his findings and recommendations which were also shared with the DNR. On Feb. 12, 2020, the DNR announced the tower would come down but that they will continue to work with the SBHSF. We are not giving up and will continue to fight to save this piece of our history! Stay tuned!

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