

April 2016

**HERITAGE** is a newsletter for Captain Frederick Pabst Mansion, Inc., a historic house museum dedicated to the restoration of the Pabst Mansion and the preservation of the Pabst family legacy.

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# HERITAGE



**T**he winter months are typically our time to catch up on projects and set the agenda for the year ahead. This year is no different and all of us at the Pabst Mansion have been busy on a multitude of fronts, setting our goals and beginning our planned improvements for the year.

You will notice several restoration projects are making progress, both on the interior and exterior of the Mansion. Historic tile restoration has just been completed in both the Regency Room Bathroom and Elsbeth's Bathroom. This is enabling us to move forward with the decorative painting of the walls in Elsbeth's Bathroom later this year.

We have just placed the order for new custom-built oak-framed windows for the Pavilion hallway. This will be a tremendous improvement for our Pavilion gift shop and will mark the beginning of the restoration work on the Pavilion itself.

Thanks to a leaking pipe on the second floor, which thankfully caused minimal damage to the old area of the servant's quarters known as the Maid's Pantry, repairs will have to be made to the plaster ceiling in this space adjacent to the Servants' Dining Room. Because of this, we are exploring the reintroduction of original cabinetry that once housed the Mansion's dry goods in an effort to further interpret the servant's areas of the Mansion. Thanks in part to television programs such as *Downton Abbey*, our visitors are more curious than ever regarding our servant's quarters and we are looking for ways to further develop these spaces throughout the Mansion.



*Stenciling in Elsbeth's Bathroom.*



*Restored tilework in Regency Room's Bathroom.*

Most importantly, this year we are looking at ways to further develop and improve our guest experience at the Pabst Mansion. Everything from our website, our events, our guided tours and our outreach to you, our supporters, are being evaluated in an effort to make your, and our guests, involvement with the Mansion a rewarding and enjoyable experience. I invite you to contact me at [john@pabstmansion.com](mailto:john@pabstmansion.com) to share any ideas you might have for making the Pabst Mansion just that much more special than

it already is. As we move happily out of winter and into spring and summer, I look forward to seeing you soon at the Pabst!

John C. Eastberg  
Executive Director

## Membership

Pabst Grand  
Circle \$500+



Beer Baron	\$250
Brewmaster	\$125
Blue Ribbon	\$60
Philanthropist	\$40

### Benefits

- Free admission
- Gift Shop discount
- Event discounts
- Christmas Gala Discount
- Heritage newsletter

... and more!

*Your membership contribution is vital and helps maintain and restore the Pabst Mansion. If you are not yet a member please join today.*



## Gift Shop

The Pabst Mansion Gift Shop, located in the pavilion, offers a variety of unique gift items. All proceeds from gift shop sales help restore the Pabst Mansion. Admission is not required to visit the Gift Shop.

You can also visit the gift shop on the Pabst Mansion website.

[www.pabstmansion.com/shop](http://www.pabstmansion.com/shop)

## Public Grand Tours

### March – September

On this docent-led, in-depth tour travel through all five floors while learning the history of the Mansion and the Pabst family.

Grand Tours are available March through September on the select dates listed below. Individual reservations are taken on a first come first serve basis. A maximum of 10 people per tour. For reservations order tickets by phone, 414.931.0808, or online at [www.pabstmansion.com/shop](http://www.pabstmansion.com/shop).



### 2016 Public Grand Tour Dates

Thursdays at 10:30am

March 3, March 17, April 7, April 21, May 5, May 19, June 2, June 16, July 7, July 21, August 4, August 18, September 1, September 15

Saturdays at 12:30pm

March 12, March 26, April 16, April 30, May 28, June 11, June 25, July 16, July 30, August 13, August 27, September 10, September 24

## William Zito Retires



After 16 years as the Pabst Mansion Gift Shop Consultant, William Zito will retire. Prior to working at the Mansion, Bill ran his own shop for 30 years. In 2000, when he took over the Gift Shop, he focused on creating affordable and memorable merchandise for the Mansion. Bill will miss seeing the restoration of the house and the product development, but is looking forward to his free time. He will be using his talents as a volunteer at St. Vincent de Paul in Waukesha where he is in charge of their jewelry and collectibles. The Board of Directors and Staff thank him for his work. He has made the Gift Shop the success it is today.

## Featured Gift Shop Item

Just in time for summer, a Pabst Blue Ribbon beach towel. A replica of a popular item produced by the brewery in the 1970s and featuring a can of PBR.

A unique and fun item that will last for many years. Take it to the pool, the beach, or the lake.

Through April 30, 2016, use the code PBRTOWEL in our online gift shop to receive 10% off on this item.

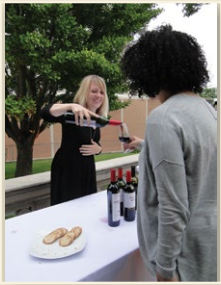


## Events

### GRAND TOUR DAY

May 15, 2016 12:00pm - 4:00pm

Celebrate the lady of the house, Mrs. Maria Pabst, on her 174th birthday with a Grand Tour. A full access self-guided tour of the Pabst Mansion from basement to attic and all stops in between. A lovely deal to celebrate a lovely lady. Tickets are \$15 adults, \$9 children 6-17, and under 6 are always free. No reservations needed.



### A FINE TIME FOR WINE

June 24, 2016 6:00pm - 8:00pm

A summer wine tasting on the Mansion's front terrace - what could be better. Wines selected by Downer Avenue Wine and Spirits and food sampling. Tickets are \$35 for members and \$40 for non-members. All advance tickets are \$5 off!

## 2015 Events



*Board Member Deborah Dakich and Todd Michalek held their wedding ceremony at the Mansion in September 2015.*



*Retro Beer Night, October 2015.*



*Christmas Gala, November 2015.*

## Special Event Calendar

GRAND TOUR DAY  
May 15, 2016

A FINE TIME FOR WINE  
June 24, 2016

RETRO BEER NIGHT  
October 7, 2016

GRAND TOUR DAY  
October 8, 2016

CHRISTMAS GALA  
November 17, 2016

A GRAND AVENUE CHRISTMAS  
November 18, 2016 -  
January 8, 2017

TWILIGHT TOURS  
November 25, 2016  
December 23, 2016

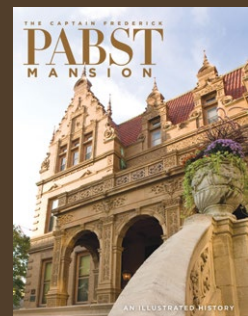
DINNER AND A SHOW  
TBA

For tickets visit  
[www.pabstmansion.com](http://www.pabstmansion.com)  
or call (414) 931-0808.  
Events subject to change.

## The Book

*The Captain Frederick Pabst Mansion*, an illustrated history by John C. Eastberg, is available online or in the Gift Shop for \$49.95.

- 9 x 12 hard bound book
- over 270 pages
- 235 color images
- 150 historic photos





## Mansion Highlights

### Rentals

The Pabst Mansion offers a unique and elegant setting for special events.

### Group Tours

Docent led tours are available for groups of 15+ at special discount rates by booking in advance. Ask about:

- ~ Group Tours
- ~ Behind-the-Scenes
- ~ Holiday Tours
- ~ Scout Programs
- ~ School Groups



### Volunteers

The Pabst Mansion always has a variety of volunteer openings including docents, gift shop, and events. If you would like to find out more about volunteering, contact Brenda at (414) 931-0808.

## In Memoriam

The Pabst Mansion is sad to announce the loss of Donalda Hammersmith and Kay Repp. Donalda was one of the Mansion's founders and part of the team who saved the house from demolition. She also was the founder of Arnell-Hammersmith Interiors and Donalda's Boutique. For many years her firm ran the Schlitz Circus Parade in Milwaukee.



Kay Repp was a longtime volunteer. Born in 1909, Kay volunteered over 30 years continuing until she was 104 years old. Working every Thursday in the Gift Shop, she accumulated over 20,000 hours of service. Once she retired, she continued to visit every Christmas season with her family. The Pabst Mansion is grateful for both their efforts. These women are an inspiration to us all and will be greatly missed.

*(Above) Kay Repp visiting December 2013.*

*(Right) Donalda sitting at the table before the Preservation Ball in May 1978. With her from left to right are Leon Arciszewski, Florence Schroeder, and Lyle Larcheid.*



## Lifetime Achievement



Pabst Mansion volunteer Dan Emmer received a Lifetime Achievement Award for his years of service. He is not retiring yet, but his dedication could not be overlooked. In 1995, Dan began his volunteer service, and donated thousands of hours to the Mansion. In addition to helping as a docent, he ran the *Voice of the Volunteer* newsletter. On a few special occasions, Dan has been known to dress up as Captain Frederick Pabst. His research was instrumental in developing the free lecture service, Speaker's Club for the Pabst Mansion. He donates his time providing slide presentations about the Pabst family, Brewing Company, Pabst Mansion,

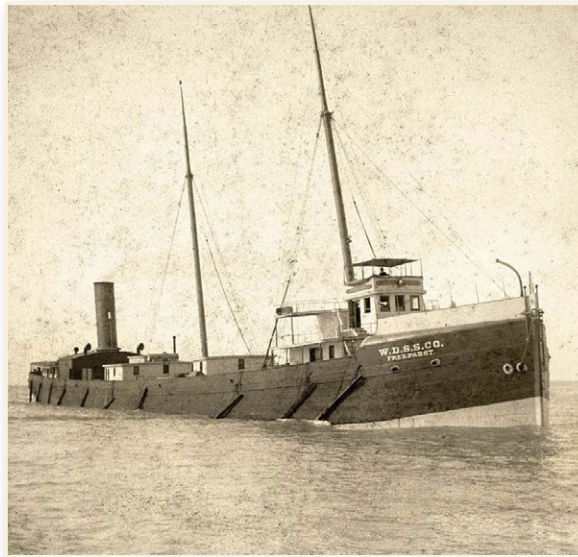
and new in 2016, Pabst Farms. The Mansion staff, Board of Directors, and volunteers are grateful for his years of service, extraordinary acts of generosity and kindness, and his commitment to the future of the Mansion.

## From the Archives

By John C. Eastberg

### “I Christen Thee, *Fred Pabst!*”

By 1890, Captain Pabst was riding high and well on his way to becoming Milwaukee’s representative citizen during a period known as the “Pabst Decade”. The name of the Phillip Best Brewing Company had been changed the year before to the Pabst Brewing Company and the name of Pabst was already well-established throughout the city. An honor was extended to Captain Pabst in 1889 when Wolf & Davidson, Milwaukee’s leading ship builder, decided to name its new wooden bulk freighter after Pabst. Wolf & Davidson, founded by William Wolf and Captain Thomas Davidson in 1858, began a program in the mid-1880s to build four large steam vessels for hauling coal. The first, the *William H. Wolf* was launched in 1887, followed by the *Thomas Davidson* in 1888. The *Fred Pabst* was the third ship and at the time, the largest ship to have ever been built on Lake Michigan. She measured 310 feet—the length of an average city block, was built of oak and iron and could carry 3,000 tons of coal, costing \$155,000 to build.



As the ship was named after a former Great Lakes steamship captain, now beer baron, who never lost his love of the lake, Captain Pabst must have been beaming with pride on the day the ship was launched. On April 6, 1890 a crowd of eight to ten thousand gathered at the Wolf & Davidson shipyard, located at the confluence of the Milwaukee and Kinnickinnic Rivers. At 2:32, with all the support blocks holding the hull cleared, the final ropes were cut and with a quiver, the *Fred Pabst* began to slide down the ways and hit the water “with a tremendous splash sending the spray hundreds of feet in the air”.

Following the launch, the vessel continued to be fitted out and was put into service the following month. Sailors in the 19th century were often known for keeping pets aboard ships for amusement. The crew of the *Fred Pabst* were no different. However, their mascot was more unusual than most—they had a pig! The *Fred Pabst*’s distinction as the largest vessel built on Lake Michigan was short-lived. The fourth and final freighter built by Wolf & Davidson, the *Ferdinand Schlesinger*, was thirty-eight feet longer than the *Fred Pabst*, and launched the

following year. In an interesting note, Captain Pabst and a group of his friends sailed aboard the *Fred Pabst* on a “pleasure cruise” through the chain of Great Lakes before docking in Buffalo, New York in August of 1892. One can imagine him taking the wheel of the ship and recalling his career almost thirty years prior on the waves of Lake Michigan.

The *Fred Pabst* served its owner well, transporting coal for the Northwestern Fuel Company

for years. Finally, on October 11, 1907, the *Fred Pabst* collided with the steamer *Lake Shore* in the St. Clair River, near Point Edward, Ontario, Canada and the *Fred Pabst* sank close to shore. As she was not in deep water, the crew retreated to the pilot house where they were later rescued. The ship’s passing came at a time when the wooden hulled vessels of the 19th century were being replaced by the newer steel hulls of the 20th century. While the coal trade on Lake Michigan was greatly reduced in the advancing decades of the century, the Port of Milwaukee still takes delivery of coal and the memory of the *Fred Pabst* is a reminder of that long legacy.



## A Perfect Fit

Captain and Mrs. Pabst purchased *Still Life of Flowers and Strawberries* by Jean Baptiste Robie while traveling in Europe in 1894-95 and gave it pride of place in the Pabst Mansion's Dining Room upon their return. The family enjoyed the painting for generations, but in the early 20th Century the original Victorian gilded frame was considered passé and was replaced with a dark Dutch frame to harmonize with the Jacobean interior of the Fred Pabst, Jr. residence where it hung for over fifty years. Thanks to the generosity of the Pabst family, the painting returned to its original place in the Mansion's dining room.



Historic frames are now appreciated for how they enhanced works of art, as many artists themselves chose the frames their paintings were to be placed in. A historic site, like the Pabst Mansion, is further enhanced when its paintings are framed in their period appropriate manner.

Working with Lowy Frames and Restoration in New York City, an almost identical 1890s frame was found. In January 2016, the painting was properly placed in the frame and returned to its rightful place in the Dining Room.

## Collections Object Update

In 2013 Joseph R. Pabst donated a piece of artwork original to the 3rd floor Library back to the Pabst Mansion entitled *Champion Trinkets Chief* painted by John Martin Tracy. The oil on canvas painting, featuring the favorite pointer of Gustave Pabst, hung in this location during Gustave's residency, but eventually left to adorn the walls of his Highland Boulevard mansion in the late 1890s. As decades passed by, the painting, which remained a favorite among Gustave's descendants, was reframed to change with styles, but in 2015 it was brought full circle when an 1890s gilded frame was secured and the canvas placed within giving it the look and feel Gustave Pabst opted for so long ago.



## Under Construction



Thanks to the generosity of our Volunteer Council, the roundel windows in the Captain's Study are undergoing restoration. One window was completed in Fall and the second will be restored in Spring.



A mirror above the mantle in the third floor Primary Guest Suite was removed to uncover the original wallpaper. Featuring wreaths, birds, and swags this sample can be recreated to restore the bedroom.



Elsbeth's Bathroom received a new marble basin and the tile work from the first floor guest bathroom was removed to restore the floor where a modern bathtub was installed during the Archbishop's residency.

## New Arrivals

*By Jodi Rich-Bartz*

With the one year anniversary of the opening of the 3rd floor on April 1, many new objects are being brought into the collection to fill the mantles, walls, and floors of five additional rooms. Below are a few of the items to look for next time you visit.

On August 27, 1892, a writer for the Milwaukee Journal produced an article covering the annual Milwaukee Exhibition and stated "...this picture of two finely drawn horses drinking from a trough. This is his latest work and is deserving of the highest admiration." It was referencing the painting *Hard Toilers* by Richard Lorenz which was purchased for and displayed in one of the prominent mansions of Grand Avenue. Over 120 years later it is on display again in a "Grand Avenue" mansion thanks to the generosity of the Van Antwerpen family.



*The Newspaper Boy* was painted in 1899 by Karl Witkowski, and was donated to the Pabst Mansion by Nancy Riesen Laitinen, a relation of Milwaukee's Usinger family. Prior to its arrival, both the canvas and original frame underwent extensive restoration bringing the piece to the stunning appearance you see today!

These colorful antique Mettlach steins were made by the Villeroy & Boch Company during the height of the company's popularity (1880-1910), and are an excellent addition to the Mansion's pre-existing Mettlach collection. They are from the estate of Michael and Margaret Stern, and were donated by John and Laurale Stern along with a modern commemorative stein (front row center) and Mettlach reference book.



Donated by Carl Wallenmeyer in 2015, this porcelain and brass lamp was converted from kerosene to electric, but still retains its original duplex burner. It is marked P+A for Plume and Atwood Manufacturing Co. The business was incorporated in January 1880, and produced a full line of lamps and lamp trimmings at its factory in Waterbury, Connecticut, with warehouses in New York, Chicago, and Boston in the 19th century.



Captain Frederick Pabst Mansion, Inc.  
2000 West Wisconsin Avenue  
Milwaukee, WI 53233-2043

414-931-0808  
WWW.PABSTMANSION.COM



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

May 15, 2016


GRAND TOUR DAY | MRS. PABST'S BIRTHDAY



Details pg. 3

## MEMBERSHIP

*Yes, I want to be a member of Captain Frederick Pabst Mansion, Inc.!*

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/>  Pabst Grand Circle \$500+ | <input type="checkbox"/> Beer Baron \$250 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Brewmaster \$125  | <input type="checkbox"/> Blue Ribbon \$60 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Philanthropist \$40   |   |

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks out to Pabst Mansion. To pay securely by credit card, visit [www.pabstmansion.com/shop](http://www.pabstmansion.com/shop)

*I am currently a member but would like to make an additional contribution to the Mansion. Enclosed is my contribution for \$\_\_\_\_\_.*

Detach and mail to: Pabst Mansion  
2000 West Wisconsin Avenue, Milwaukee, WI 53233

### HOURS/ADMISSION

Monday – Saturday 10am - 4pm  
Sunday noon - 4pm

Tours at: 10, 11, 12, 1, 2, 3

(Closed Wednesdays mid-Jan. – Feb.)

Adults: \$12  
Seniors/Students: \$11  
Children ages 6-17: \$7  
Under 6 years of age: Free

### A GRAND AVENUE CHRISTMAS

(November 18, 2016 - January 8, 2017)  
Monday - Saturday 10am - 4pm  
Sunday noon - 4pm

*Self guided tours.*

Adults: \$13  
Seniors/Students: \$12  
Children ages 6-17: \$8  
Under 6 years of age: Free

*Prices and hours subject to change.*

Located on 20th  
and Wisconsin Avenue.  
Limited parking is available.  
Wheelchair accessible.