



## Frank Lloyd Wright Tour

Explore the world of America's Architect with our 3-day tour of Taliesin, Oak Park & Chicago

**May 18-20, 2014**



*Frank Lloyd Wright's Taliesin in Spring Green, Wisconsin, numbers among America's premier historic sites.*

### **At a Glance:**

3-day, 2-night tour aboard Cardinal Motorcoach  
Tour fee of \$599\* includes transportation, lodging, three dinners and two breakfasts, all admission fees, taxes and gratuities.

### **Attractions include:**

- First Unitarian Meeting House in Madison, Wisconsin
- Guided tour of Taliesin
- Guided tour of the Frank Lloyd Wright Home and Studio in Oak Park, Illinois
- Guided bus tour of Frank Lloyd Wright structures in Oak Park
- Guided tour of the Frederic C. Robie House in Chicago

Our annual motorcoach tours have become so popular that we decided to add a second, shorter tour for 2014: a Frank Lloyd Wright architectural tour.

Our annual 8-day tour will run in September as usual. This year we'll head east for the "Hudson River Valley Tour," but in the spring we're looking west to Wisconsin and Illinois.

Our May 2014 tour explores the life and legacy of "America's Architect," Frank Lloyd Wright. The tour visits several iconic structures significant to Wright and his career, including his home and studio in Oak Park, Illinois; his Wisconsin home and studio, Taliesin; and one of his masterpiece homes in Chicago, the Frederick C. Robie House.

We depart the History Center at Courthouse Square in Berrien Springs bright and early on Sunday morning. Our travel route takes us through the beautiful Wisconsin scenery toward Madison.

Lunch will feature a dining adventure at one of the interstate highway system's finest fast-food emporiums. We will probably have time along the way for one of Bob's Useless Trivia Games, in which you can win a fantastic prize and awe everyone aboard with your command of worthless knowledge.

We'll arrive in Madison that afternoon for our first tour: the First Unitarian Meeting House. The First Unitarian Society commissioned Wright (the son of one of its founders) to design the building in 1946. Construction began in 1949 and was completed in 1951. Architectural historians the world over recognize the Meeting House as one of the world's most innovative examples of church architecture. In 1960, the American Institute of Architects designated it one of seventeen buildings to be retained as an example of Wright's contribution to American culture. It went on the National Register of Historic Places

*\*Members' price, per person, double occupancy*

## Berrien County Historical Association Board and Staff

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Kathy A. Cyr, Executive Director  
Robert Myers, Curator  
Kristen Patzer Umphrey, Museum Services Coordinator

### BCHA Mission Statement

The mission of the BCHA is to collect, preserve and interpret the history of Berrien County through exhibits, tours, publications, and educational and community outreach programs for public benefit.

Learn more about the BCHA by visiting [www.berriehistory.org](http://www.berriehistory.org)

## The Docket

Fall 2013, Vol. 29, No. 4

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#### Editorial Staff

Kathy A. Cyr, Executive Director  
Robert C. Myers, Curator  
Kristen Patzer Umphrey, Museum Services Coordinator

*The Docket* is a benefit of membership in the BCHA. Annual membership dues to the BCHA are: \$20 for individuals, \$30 for families, and \$40 for institutions. Supporting memberships are: \$40 Contributing, \$50 Sustaining, \$100 Patron, and \$500 Benefactor.

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## Director's Comments

By Kathy Cyr

Dear Friends,

On Thursday, December 5 the History Center participated in the Berrien Springs community "Kindle Your Christmas Spirit" event. The History Center hosted the Trinity Lutheran School childrens' program and the Trinity Lutheran Church Praise Team singalong in the Courthouse. All the buildings were decorated for the holidays, including the grounds, which were decorated courtesy of the Berrien Springs/Eau Claire Rotary Club. Guests could view the exhibits in the Courthouse, hear Bob Myers talk about Pioneer Christmas Traditions in the Log House near a roaring fire, watch David Francis demonstrate blacksmithing techniques in Bennett's Forge, view the sheriff's office and shop for unique Christmas gifts in the Sheriff's Residence. A special thank you goes to Karen Campbell, Jenny Branch Sailor and David Francis for volunteering their time to assist us with this event. Although it the weather was cold, a good time was had by all (guests, volunteers and staff)!

I am coming up on my nine-month anniversary and it hardly seems possible that I have been here that long and have implemented all the programs and events for 2013. The staff has already made many plans for next year, but we would like to add new programs, exhibits and events. If you have any suggestions or ideas for new activities, please contact me at the History Center as we would like to expand our programming and schedule activities for all twelve months of the year. Please know that your suggestions are most welcome and we look forward to hearing from you!

The History Center's annual meeting will be April 22 and will include the fourth presentation of the Frank J. Ward Memorial History Award. This annual award honors an individual, organization or business that advances the cause of local history through research, writing, historic preservation or programming. You can nominate an individual, organization or business for consideration of this honor by using the form included in this newsletter.

We have two bus tours planned for 2014. The first is scheduled for May 18 - 20: a three-day trip to tour Frank Lloyd Wright designed structures (homes, churches, schools) in Illinois and Wisconsin. The second trip, September 6 - 13, is an eight-day tour of New York's Hudson River Valley. Please consider joining us for one or both of these fun-filled historical learning excursions. We're now taking reservations for the Frank Lloyd Wright tour, and details about the second trip will be posted as soon as Bob completes the planning. If you sign up for both trips you receive a \$100 discount per person for the second trip.

As you make out your Christmas giving list, please be sure to remember the History Center in your end of year gifts to your favorite non-profits, for without your continued monetary support we would not be able to bring you the programming you have come to expect.

I hope you all have the Merriest of Holidays! And safe travels if you are planning to visit family.

*Kathy A. Cyr*

Executive Director

in 1973, and in 2004 the National Park Service declared it a National Historic Landmark.

Although now engulfed by the city, when erected Wright's "country church" stood on a knoll overlooking university farmland and Lake Mendota. Taliesin Associated Architects designed two later additions: the Religious Education Wing (1964) and the Lower Meeting House (1990). The Meeting House is still an active church, but we've arranged a special group tour.

We head out for dinner after our tour of the Unitarian Meeting House at The Old Feed Mill in Mazomanie, a restaurant located in a stone gristmill building on the National Register of Historic Places. Parts of the building date back to 1857. Owners Dan and Nancy Viste bought the crumbling mill in 1992, restored and renovated it, and opened it as a restaurant and bakery. They even mill their own flour there! Past guests on our tours know that we almost always arrange dinners at locally-owned restaurants, not "chains."

We then drive west toward Frank Lloyd Wright's estate, Taliesin, in Spring Green, Wisconsin. Lodging tonight is at the Best Western in Dodgeville. Hotels are few and far between in the Spring Green area, but we booked a nice Best Western that includes a continental breakfast.

Taliesin (the name is Welsh for "radiant brow") is enveloped in scandal and murder. Taliesin is situated just south of Spring Green on land that originally belonged to Wright's mother's family. He built the house after his affair with Mamah Borthwick, the wife of one of his clients, hit the newspapers and forced him out of his home in Oak Park, Illinois. Wright and Mamah moved into Taliesin after its completion in 1911, but just three years later a disgruntled employee murdered Borthwick, her two children and several workers and set fire to the house.

Wright rebuilt Taliesin (dubbed Taliesin II), but used it only sparingly as he worked on construction projects in foreign countries. He returned to the house in 1924, but a fire destroyed the living quarters the next year. Wright rebuilt the house and made his home in Taliesin III for the rest of his life, although he wintered at Taliesin West in Scottsdale, Arizona upon its completion in 1937. Taliesin was donated to the Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation after Wright died in 1959.

We'll spend much of the day at Taliesin, where we've booked two tours for our group. The House Tour takes us through the home where Wright lived for many years and which he kept changing until he died. The Hillside School Tour is a professionally-guided tour of the Drafting Studio, the Theater that Wright used for musical and theatrical performances, the Assembly Hall and the exhibit room. We'll depart Taliesin in the afternoon for an overnight stay at the Hampton Inn in Elgin. Dinner tonight is at the nearby Elgin Public House - a great place with excellent food.

Oak Park, Illinois, is the site of the Frank Lloyd Wright Home and Studio (1889/1898), Wright's private

residence and workplace from 1889 to 1909—the first 20 years of his career. Wright used his home as an architectural laboratory, experimenting with design concepts that contain the seeds of his architectural philosophy. In 1898 Wright added a studio that a fellow architect described as a workplace with "inspiration everywhere." There he and his associates developed the new Prairie style of architecture and designed 125 structures, including such famous buildings as the Robie House, the Larkin Building and Unity Temple. The Frank Lloyd Wright Preservation Trust has restored the site to its appearance in 1909, the last year that Wright lived in the Home and worked in the Studio.

After our special guided tour of the Home and Studio we'll meet a step-on guide for our motorcoach who will take us on a driving tour of the many Frank Lloyd Wright structures in Oak Park.

Our afternoon features a tour of a true Frank Lloyd Wright gem: the Frederick C. Robie House. Situated on the University of Chicago campus, the Robie House numbers among the most important buildings in the history of American architecture. Wright designed the house in his Oak Park studio in 1908 for businessman Frederick C. Robie. Completed in 1910, the building is both a masterpiece of the Prairie style and renowned as a forerunner of modernism in architecture. Tours of the site offer both a first-hand experience of its modern-looking interior and the restoration work that is returning the house to its original appearance.

The Robie House is the last architectural stop on our tour, but not the final destination. Popolano's Restaurant in Chesterton has great Italian food and we're stopping there for dinner. We should be back in Berrien Springs by 9:00 p.m.

We're looking forward to a wonderful trip - please join us! A reservation form for the trip is on page 4.



*The Frederick C. Robie House in Chicago*

## Curator's Corner

### Recent Donations to the Museum Collections

- Loraine Pschigoda . . . . . Daniel Pschigoda Papers, Whirlpool Corp. memorabilia
- Galien Township Schools . . . . . Galien School uniforms
- Tom & Carol Kent . . . . . Postcard album
- Frances Lister . . . . . Photograph
- Carol A. Malich . . . . . Photograph, postcard
- Florence Strong Estate . . . . . Crazy Quilt, 1932
- Suzanne Irion . . . . . St. Joseph High School memorabilia, photographs, St. Joseph brochures
- Ruth Handy Wigington . . . . . Plaque honoring Rep. Gail Handy



Who are we? Where are we? Frances Lister donated this photograph to our archives, but we only know that it was probably taken in 1923 and that it may be in the Buchanan area. If you can help identify the photograph, please email curator Robert Myers at [rmyers@berrienhistory.org](mailto:rmyers@berrienhistory.org).

## ***Yes! Sign me up for the History Center's Frank Lloyd Wright Tour!***

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

A \$100 per person deposit will reserve your place on the tour. Balance will be due at the reservation deadline, April 15, 2014. Deposits are fully refundable 60 days before the tour.

Reservations at members' price, \$599 per person     Reservations at non-members' price, \$649 per person\*

Single supplement, \$100 per person

Enclosed is a check in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Please charge \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to my Visa/Mastercard

Card No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Join the History Center Today!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Membership categories:**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <i>Basic</i>                                | <i>Supporting</i>                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual \$20    | <input type="checkbox"/> Contributing \$40 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family \$30        | <input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining \$50   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Institutional \$40 | <input type="checkbox"/> Patron \$100      |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor \$500  |

Additional donation: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Amount enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Mail or fax to: BCHA, PO Box 261  
Berrien Springs, MI 49103  
Phone: (269) 471-1202 Fax: (269) 471-7412

*Please make checks payable to the Berrien County Historical Assn.*  
or

*Please charge my credit card: (circle one)*

Mastercard      Visa      Discover

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Enjoy Our Local History!

<i>The Story of Buchanan</i> (\$14.95)	Quantity:	Total: \$
<i>Autotram: Clark' Equip's Aluminum Railcar</i> (\$16.95)	Quantity:	Total: \$
<i>Greetings from Benton Harbor</i> (\$27.95)	Quantity:	Total: \$
<i>Locomotives Along the Lakeshore</i> (\$24.95)	Quantity:	Total: \$
<i>Greetings from St. Joseph</i> (\$27.95)	Quantity:	Total: \$
<i>Greetings from Berrien Springs</i> (\$21.95)	Quantity:	Total: \$
<i>Greetings from Buchanan</i> (\$24.95)	Quantity:	Total: \$
<i>The Story of Buchanan</i> (\$14.95)	Quantity:	Total: \$
<i>The Heyday of Hinchman</i> (\$18.95)	Quantity:	Total: \$
<i>Twin City Trolleys</i> (\$8.95)	Quantity:	Total: \$
<b>SPECIAL: <i>Greetings from Buchanan &amp; Story of Buchanan</i></b>	Quantity:	Total: \$ _____
<b>Get both for \$29.95!</b>		
		Subtotal: \$ _____
Discounts (Library 20%      BCHA Members 10%)		\$ _____
State sales tax (6% for Michigan orders only)		\$ _____
Shipping (\$3.95 for 1st book, \$1.00 each additional book)		\$ _____

Save on shipping and pick up your books from the History Center Store!

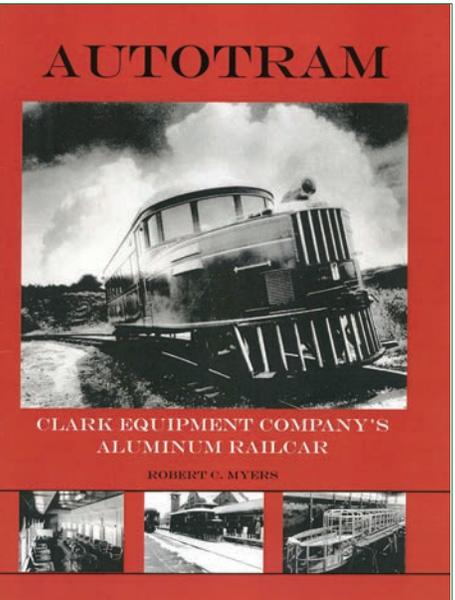
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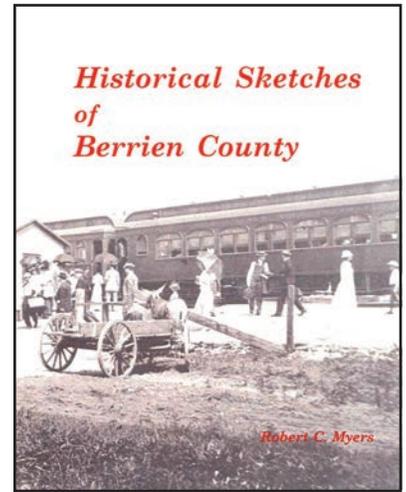
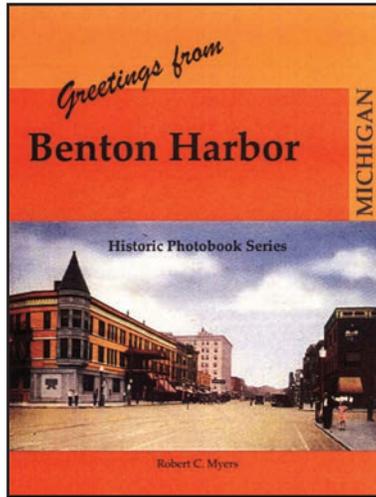
Signature:

### Back by Popular Demand

Two of our history books are at the printer's and should be available again around January 1.

*Greetings from Benton Harbor* is a 39-page history of the city illustrated with hundreds of photographs, and retails for \$27.95. *Historical Sketches of Berrien County*, at \$23.95, features scores of short stories about our local history, ranging from the Colonial Era to the present time.

Call us at (269) 471-1202 to check on the books' availability.



### Frank J. Ward History Award

The History Center is once again soliciting nominees for our annual Frank J. Ward Memorial History Award.

The award is named for Frank Junior Ward, a long-time member of the Berrien County Historical Association and benefactor of the History Center at Courthouse Square. Mr. Ward passed away several years ago and included the History Center among his bequests.

The History Award is presented annually to honor an individual, organization or business that advances the cause of local history through research, writing, historic preservation or programming. The History Center will accept nominations for the award until February 28, 2014.

A committee consisting of BCHA Board members, staff and members will select the recipient. The award will be presented at the History Center's annual meeting on April 22, 2014. The Berrien County Historical Association Board of Directors and staff are not eligible to receive the award.

Nominations may come from the BCHA membership or the greater Berrien County community. Please complete the form below and attach a one page (or less) document to inform the committee about your nomination.

The History Center at Courthouse Square  
Frank J. Ward Memorial History Award Nomination Form  
P.O. Box 261  
Berrien Springs, MI 49103

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

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

Nominee \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

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

*Please complete this nomination form and submit it with a document of one page or less about your nomination to the above by February 28, 2014.*

# Kindle Your Christmas Spirit at the History Center

Over 500 people visited the History Center during the “Kindle Your Christmas Spirit” event on December 5.

The event included musical performances in the courtroom, blacksmithing demonstrations in the Bennett Forge blacksmith shop, and Christmas stories in the Murdock Log House. Visitors also enjoyed many activities in town, including carriage rides, making gingerbread houses, face painting, and much more.



Blacksmith Dave Francis demonstrated the blacksmith's art in Bennett's Forge. He made sleigh bells and explained the intricacies of hand-forging over a charcoal fire.



Students and members of Trinity Lutheran School and Church in Berrien Springs perform at the “Kindle Your Christmas Spirit” event.



Museum Services Coordinator Kristen Patzer Umphrey and volunteer Jenny Branch Sailor staffed the Museum Store.



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## CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

### Continuing and Upcoming Events

**Ongoing:** *The Marxochime Colony: Music for the Masses*. Exhibit at the History Center. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., Mondays - Fridays.

**April 22:** History Center Annual Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Tues.

**May 8 & 9:** "Springing into the 1830s" Pioneer Day, 9-11 a.m. & 1-3 p.m., Thursday & Friday

**May 18 -20:** Frank Lloyd Wright Tour, Sunday-Tuesday

**June 1:** Tour, Israelite House of David as Reorganized by Mary Purnell, Benton Charter Township. Time: TBA.

**June 26.** "Thursdays at the History Center" program series, 6:30 p.m.

**July 3.** "Thursdays at the History Center" program series, 6:30 p.m.

**July 10.** "Thursdays at the History Center" program series, 6:30 p.m.

**July 17.** "Thursdays at the History Center" program series, 6:30 p.m.

**July 24.** "Thursdays at the History Center" program series, 6:30 p.m.

**Aug. 11-16:** Visit our booth at the Berrien County Youth Fair, 11 a.m. - 10:30 p.m.

**September 6-13:** "Hudson River Valley Tour." Our annual fall motorcoach tour.