



April-May 2022

**Join Us for “SIX OUTS TO GO: A Baseball Anthology”
May 11, 7 p.m., Hales Corners Library / Hunt Room**

Doug Schmidt, Baseball Author and Writer for United Press International and the Associated Press, will take us on a journey through 130 years of professional baseball in Milwaukee, starting with the original Brewers at Borchert Field.

Doug recalls, “I saw my first professional baseball game at age three, when the Milwaukee Brewers were playing at Borchert Field, long before the current Brewers were formed. I don't remember much about the game, but I enjoyed myself, because my mom documented it in my baby book: ‘Doug had two hot dogs, one ice cream, one candy bar and some peanuts and said, ‘Now I'm thirsty for a beer.’”

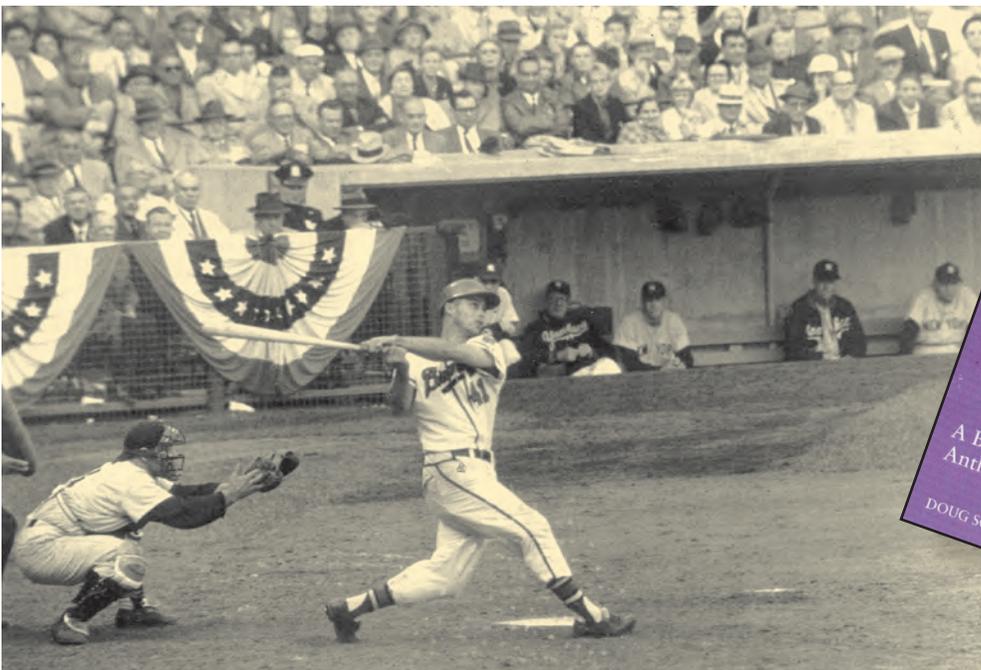
Doug has been a long-time Brewers fan, verified by this remark, “By the time I was four, I had my own miniature Brewers uniform. Clearly, my dad

hoped I would grow up to be a ballplayer, but things don't always go as planned.”

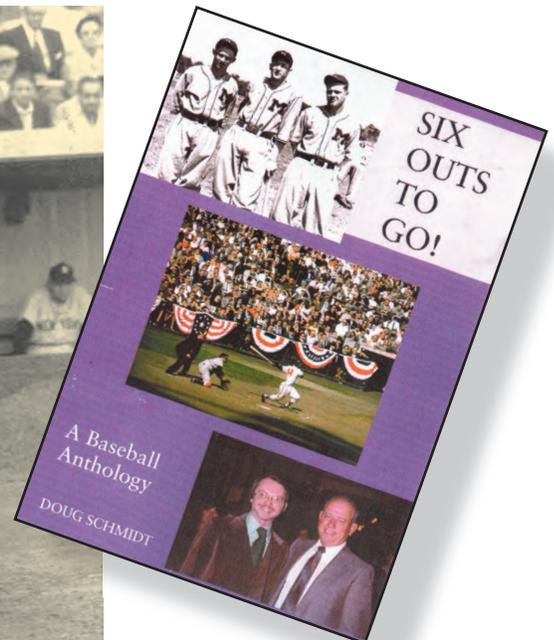
However, Doug's interest in baseball grew with the arrival of the Braves in 1953. A huge Braves fan, Doug will discuss that era at County Stadium and the team's move from Milwaukee to Atlanta after just 13 years.

Doug took to writing about baseball and sports in general through his high school newspaper. After receiving a B.A. degree in communications from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee in 1973, he became managing sports editor for 21 suburban weeklies in the Milwaukee area.

Last of all, Doug will talk about his experiences behind the scenes with the Brewers from the clubhouse interviews he accumulated as a baseball correspondent at Milwaukee County Stadium from 1976 through 1994.



Eddie Mathews, 1957



Doug Schmidt's latest book will be available for purchase.

HCHS Members Toast “The History & Evolution of Brewing”

Okay, the toasts were raised with nothing stronger than bottled water, but there still was plenty to celebrate on March 23rd when HCHS members gathered to attend our first program since March 2020: “The History & Evolution of Brewing.”

Our featured presenter was **Greg Jenks**, a home brewer and retired educator who also is a speaker for the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute. Greg’s entertaining and informative 90-minute presentation focused not just on the history of beer, but also of wine and spirits. Greg began his presentation with a quote from Abraham

Lincoln: “I am a firm believer in the people. If given the truth, they can be depended upon to meet any national crisis. The great point is to bring them the real facts, and beer.”

Some other highlights were:

BEER

- The oldest evidence of brewing dates to about 11,000 B.C., although beer is probably much older. The first beer was a soup-like unfiltered substance containing little alcohol. It was used in ritual burial feasts to honor the dead and the gods.

- “Ground zero” for brewing beer was the Fertile Crescent between the Nile and the Euphrates rivers. Brewing began in Egypt about 5000 B.C. and in Mesopotamia about 4000 B.C. Egypt established the first state-run brewery so that beer could be made as payment to the laborers building pyramids, temples, etc.
- Between 800-1200 A.D., German monks changed the way beer was made – they used hops.

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Greg Jenks, guest speaker



HCHS programs for 2022 began with “The History & Evolution of Brewing.”

1849: 22 Breweries In Wisconsin
 1856: 29 Breweries in Milwaukee
 1859: 200 Breweries in Wisconsin
 1859: 40 Breweries in Milwaukee

Two slides from the presentation depict the increase in Wisconsin breweries and types of beer ingredients.

Lots of Beer Options

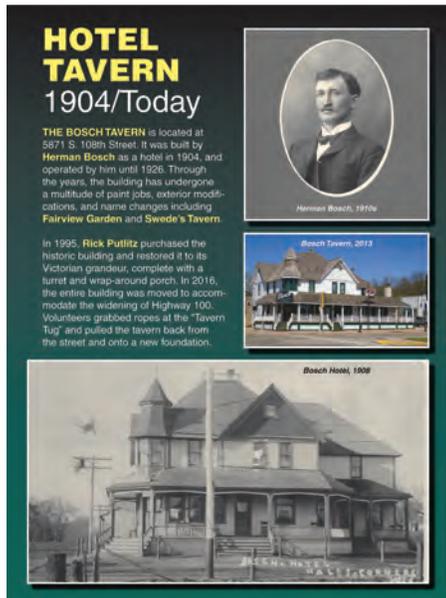
- Malts -150 varieties
- Yeasts – 200 varieties
- Hops - 80 varieties
- Additions-Endless!

“From the Collection” - Taverns and Beverage Stores

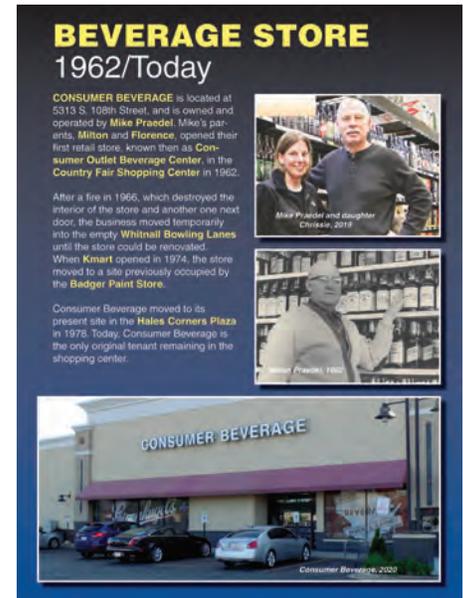
At our March program, we introduced a new feature called “From the Collection.” As a number of us volunteers have continued to work on organizing the Society’s wealth of materials, objects, and artifacts, we’ve realized that many of our members have rarely or never had the opportunity to view them.

Our goal with “From the Collection” is to showcase materials that relate to the programs being presented. We were not aware of any breweries in Hales Corners history (which was confirmed by guest speaker **Greg Jenks**) -- at least not LEGAL ones. Instead, we concentrated on taverns and beer and liquor stores, of which this Village has had plenty!

- **Annie’s Place** - 1900
- **Bosch Tavern** - 1904
- **Conrad’s Tavern & Opera House** - 1908
- **Triangle Inn** - 1915
- **Hales Corners Liquor & Beer** - 1933
- **Schubring’s Bar** - 1940s
- **Sweeney’s Silver Dollar Bar** - 1946
- **Consumer Beverage** - 1962



Bosch Tavern poster

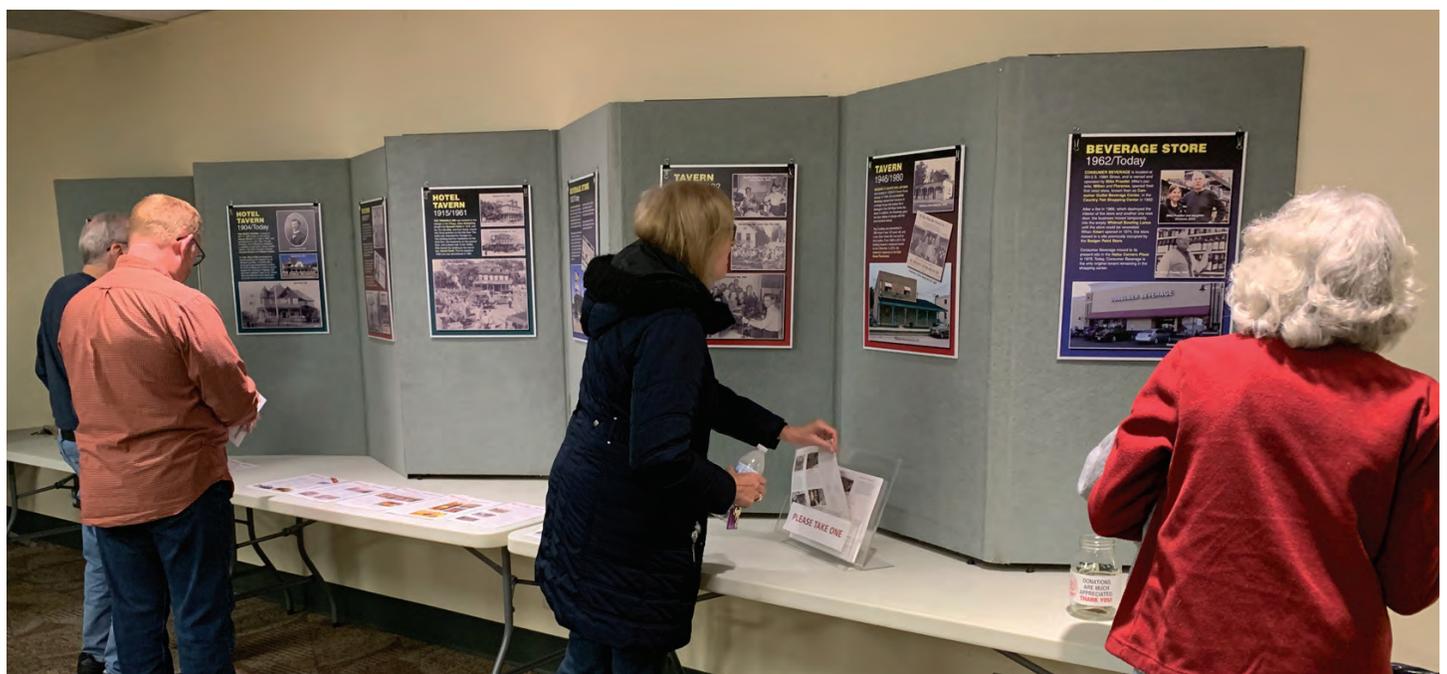


Consumer Beverage poster

We created posters showcasing ten such businesses, four of which are still around. It is interesting to note that eight of those establishments were on Forest Home Avenue between Lilac Lane and the Triangle.

Here are the ten properties:

- **Hotel Dreyfuss** - 1834
- **Schubring’s Grocery & Tavern** - 1854



“From the Collection” display of ten posters highlighting taverns and beverage stores in Hales Corners

TALES OF THE CORNERS - APRIL

From the files of the *Tri-Town News and Hub*

90 YEARS AGO (1932)

- Plans are made to open the new Hales Corners fire station with a Saturday night dance. The station was rebuilt after being destroyed by fire.
- Area barbers meet and agree to reduce their prices in view of economic conditions.
- Teachers from the two Hales Corners schools are rehired for next year at a 10 percent salary reduction.
- Dredging machinery arrives at the new county park (Whitnall Park) to dig three lagoons. Sixty men are working for \$4.00 a day on the project.
- Worn out light bulbs can be exchanged for new ones without charge at John Ludwig's store. A complete line of electric appliances is displayed there by Schewe Electric.
- The biggest sellers at the monthly stock fair are pigs. Some Rockford buyers reportedly load up a truck with 200 porkers.
- Webb Schultz, who pitched for the Chicago White Sox in 1924, is slated to pitch for the Elkhorn Grays against the Hales Corners team.

80 YEARS AGO (1942)

- Local registration for sugar rationing is slated to be held at Hales Corners School.
- Whitnall Park Lutheran Church is dedicated.
- The Valley View PTA is planning its annual basket social. Baskets will be auctioned to the highest bidder.

70 YEARS AGO (1952)

- Workers are rolling up the overhead trolley wires on the old Rapid Transit right of way.
- Construction begins on the new Hales Corners State Bank. The new bank will be about 40 by 64 feet.
- Walter Fehr is elected the first president of the Village of Hales Corners. Fehr receives 376 votes, while his opponent Luverne Barnard has 289.
- The first official meeting of the Hales Corners Village Board is held at Hales Corners School. The board accepts an offer by Clerk William Holz to turn over the breezeway of his home as a temporary Village office.

50 YEARS AGO (1972)

- Classified ad: Three-bedroom ranch, Hale Park, family room, natural fireplace, central air, full basement, three-quarters of an acre, \$36,900.

Research by Katy Galewski

Congratulations to HCHS Directors

The ballots for our slate of HCHS Directors for 2022-2025 have been tabulated, and the nominees were unanimously approved. Thanks and congratulations go out to **Katy Galewski**, **Chris Schachtlie**, and **Don Schwartz**. Also, thank you to all our members who voted in the election.

BREWING continued from page 2

- Settlers in Jamestown, Virginia needed to create beer because they weren't certain they had a safe water source. By boiling water to make beer, they were also producing clean, healthy water.
- George Washington and James Madison were good brewers, as were many of the founding fathers. Ironically, Samuel Adams was not a brewer, yet a beer is named after him.
- German brewers who came to Wisconsin in the 1800s brewed lagers, which were lighter, and chilled, not the heavier, room-temperature beers that were common before.
- Although there have been no breweries in Hales Corners, the Gross Brothers Brewery was located in Franklin from the 1850s to 1896.

WINE

- The first wine was made in 5800-6000 B.C. in Georgia (near Russia).
- English investors in the Jamestown Colony wanted to find a source of wine grapes in the New World because England was getting most of its wine from Spain. However, most grapes in the Jamestown region were table grapes rather than wine grapes. Colonists tried to import wine grapes, but the plants succumbed to cold weather and disease. It then took more than 200 years to establish a

Continued on next page

significant wine industry in America. Thomas Jefferson spent 20 years trying to grow wine grapes at Monticello, but failed.

- Nicholas Longworth of Cincinnati is known as the Father of U.S. Winemaking. He used Catawba grapes to make the first successful wine in the U.S. In 1842, his Sparkling Catawba was considered so good that it was exported to Europe.
- Elmer Swenson (1913-2004) was determined to develop grapes in Wisconsin that would survive the winter and produce good wine. He successfully developed six varieties of grapes that are used by vintners across Wisconsin.

SPIRITS

- As far back as 300 B.C. in China, liquor was created through the distillation process.
- In the 1650s, American colonists were introduced to rum, which contains molasses. In 1733, the British Molasses Act began taxing any molasses the colonies purchased from non-British islands or areas.
- The 18th Amendment (Prohibition) took effect in January 1920. It was not illegal to drink intoxicants, only to manufacture or sell them. This resulted in lots of home brewing and winemaking. Cocktails were invented during Prohibition, as the flavorings used in them helped to disguise the harsh taste of low-grade alcohol.

TALES OF THE CORNERS - MAY

From the files of the *Tri-Town News and Hub*

90 YEARS AGO (1932)

- About half of the primary students at Hales Corners schools have the measles.
- Gust Sanders plants 146 new shrubs and transplants 46 trees to the Hales Corners School grounds (which was on the triangle in the center of the Village).
- Grace Cusick makes plans to open a millinery shop called the Park Hat Shop. The new business will be located next to the park entrance on Forest Home Avenue in the former shoe repair shop.
- All the girls at Hales Corners School are invited to Beverly Getz's birthday party at her father's drug store.

80 YEARS AGO (1942)

- Several hundred enlisted men are being temporarily quartered at the Civilian Conservation Corps barracks in Whitnall Park. They are being trained at Mitchell Field.
- During the four days of sugar rationing registration, the Hales Corners District reports 1,257 applications for War Ration Books, and 979 books are issued. Each ration stamp is good for one pound of sugar every two weeks (a half-pound per person weekly).
- A meeting for local Air Raid Wardens is scheduled at Hales Corners School. Dr. Wolf will instruct them in first aid.

70 YEARS AGO (1952)

- The town of Greenfield refuses to grant a request from the new Village of Hales Corners for an advance on the pending division of assets. The Village is currently operating without any funds.
- The Hales Corners Village Board passes ordinances regulating peddlers and transient merchants at the monthly fairs.
- Barczak Bros. Food Mart advertises boneless ham for 49 cents per pound, 43 cents for a dozen large eggs, and summer sausage for 69 cents per pound.

60 YEARS AGO (1962)

- Four drivers and a pit mechanic are hospitalized after an accident at the Hales Corners Speedway. As 6,000 fans watched, a race car hurtled from the track into the pits.

50 YEARS AGO (1972)

- Traffic signals are installed at the corner of 116th Street and Janesville Road.
- Thomas Lambrecht and Susan Sanders are named Whitnall High School's valedictorian and salutatorian.
- The State Division of Library Services accepts the Hales Corners Library Study Committee's plan for a Village library.
- The theme of this year's Whitnall High School Prom is "Casino Royale." The king and queen are Don Meyer and Sue Anderson.

Research by Katy Galewski

Badger State Carvers return to the Ben Hunt Cabin

On April 4th, a tradition was reinstated at the Ben Hunt Cabin after a two-year hiatus caused by the Covid-19 pandemic. For many years, the Badger State Carvers met at the cabin in spring and fall to share their carving projects and work together on them. We were delighted in late March when **Kathy Ellenbecker**, President of the Carvers, reserved the April date for the meeting. It was wonderful to see the group assembled again, and they plan to return in October.

HCHS welcomes groups that wish to reserve a visit to the Cabin. There is no charge, but we encourage donations. For more information, call 262-349-4208 or email celine.elizabeth@sbcglobal.net.



Badger State Carvers (l to r): Kathy Ellenbecker, Mary Reykdal, Jean Zachariazen, Richard Wawrzyniak, Klaus Zunker

Ben Hunt Cabin reopens Saturday, May 7th, 1-3 p.m.

In 2022, the Cabin will be open on the following dates:

- Sat., May 7, 1-3 p.m.
- Sat., June 4, 1-3 p.m.
- Mon., July 4, noon-3 p.m.
- Sat., August 6, 1-3 p.m.
- Sat., September 3, 1-3 p.m.
- Sat., October 1, 1-3 p.m.
- Sat., November 5, 1-3 p.m.
- Sat., December 3, 5:30-7 p.m. for the Village tree lighting

Group tours are also available by reservation.

HALES CORNERS HISTORICAL SOCIETY

5885 South 116th Street, Hales Corners, WI 53130

414-529-6150, Ext. 24 • info@HalesCornersHistory.com

www.HalesCornersHistory.com • www.facebook.com/HalesCornersHistory

WELCOME, NEW* AND RETURNING 2022 HCHS MEMBERS!

Bette Arey
Kenneth J. Augustine
James Bain
Mary Bennett
Joan Berg
Dan & Diane Besson
Robert Burnham
& Patricia Laughlin
Clavette Insurance Agency*
Esther Demerdash
Ronald & Kathleen Dondlinger
Matthew Eternicka & Lauren Klich*
Mike & JuDee Fischer
Robert & Mary Forecki
Katy Galewski
Jean Hancock
David & Margarete Harvey
Michael Holmes
Frank & Judith Humpal
Jeffrey & Mary Javorek
Mike Jedrzejewski
& Sybil Grandeck
Gregory S. Jenks*
Celine Kashishian
James & Jacqueline Keuck
Bob & Dottie King
Gary Kohls & Karen Niessing
Scott & Judy Kruger
Gregory & Romaine Krystowiak
Mary Long
Frank & Rose Mary Matusinec
David & Kathleen O'Brien
Jerry & Marjorie Pagel
Mike Praedel
Frank & Audrey Reineck
Cornelio & Colleen Resendiz
Scott & Maureen Riemer
Mary Ellen Robertson*
Richard & Carol Ann Rose
Randy & Sandy Sannes
Chris & Caroline Schachtlie
Mel & Elaine Schmidt
Don & Suzanne Schwartz
Rosemary Selep
Joe "Chuck" Sem
Walt & Nancy Sievert
Marjorie Stahl
Daniel & Kayellyn Strasburg
Al & Ruth Strekow
Mark Thiel
Brian & Laura Touhey
Tom Ueberroth & Delene Hanson
Fred & Rose Mary Walecki
Patricia Warchol
Janice Zeit
Kathleen Zellmer

Membership roster current as of April 2022.