

# RHM 2009 Annual Report

We are dedicated to preserving the material culture and telling the special story of Racine County – their diversity, inventive genius, productivity, craftsmanship and entrepreneurial spirit.

## Operations

Thanks to Racine County for their continued support of the Museum's operation, the generosity of the SC Johnson Fund, our sponsors, members and friends, we were able to achieve the strategic objective of stabilizing our financial status in 2009. Furthermore, we expect to achieve our stated goal of a balanced budget in 2010.

Revenues listed are audited figures and include a major grant from the SC Johnson Fund, Inc, supporting new exhibits and programming in 2010.

Revenue and Support:	\$336,714
Expenses:	\$333,978
Assets as of 12/31/09:	\$462,246
2010 Program Support:	\$71,000



RHM's Endowment Funds, secured against market losses in 2009 using operating reserves, were restored by year's end. Our Endowment Fund stands at \$143,418. The 1888 Schoolhouse Endowment stands at \$12,783. These assets are managed by the Racine Community Foundation.

## Education

2009 programming highlights:

- With the opening of the new exhibit *The Spirit of Innovation* came a new orientation space for groups.
- New programs were offered to schools, scouts, homeschoolers throughout southeastern Wisconsin, high points include:
  - *The Mummy*, *The Belles* and *What Is an Artifact* outreach programs were expanded.
  - Tours for school-age students of local sites were created.
- RHM expanded our Kenosha and Franklin outreach programming.
- RHM hosted a Homeschoolers Day at the 1888 Schoolhouse.
- Girl and Boy Scout programs were offered for the badges *Museum: Go See It*; *Through the Years*; and *Local Lore*.
- In-Museum as well as outreach programming for adults including English as a Second Language courses, continuing education course at UW-Parkside and other group programs.
- RHM wrote its fourth Newspapers in Education series for the Journal Times that is used in schools throughout southeastern Wisconsin. This series focused on women's history.
- New activities in the Museum's lower level area were created for our younger audience.
- Activity and Mystery sheets were developed and made available to any visitor.
- Internships through UW-Parkside were offered.
- RHM's *Waterways* exhibit received a new look, including an interactive funded by Racine's Junior League.
- The continuation and expansion of: a week-long third grade program at The Prairie School teaching local history, including its first "Night at the Museum" in 2009; History Mysteries 3 week-long summer camp in partnership with Racine Public Library and Racine Art Museum; a partnership with Carthage College to teach future teachers how to use local history resources in their classroom; the freshman history awards for Racine Unified School District; and successful programming at RHM's 1888 Schoolhouse.

## Collections

60 pallets of Case Company archival materials, stored for seven years in space generously loaned by Merchants Moving and Storage, were finally transferred into Racine Heritage Museum storage spaces in 2009. Racine County's 2008 construction of a warehouse-style storage building exclusively for Racine Heritage Museum's use made this transfer possible.

Any influx of such a vast quantity of materials becomes the axis around which all other collections work spins. Every available cubic inch of storage space owned by RHM is now in use, while some of the museum's larger, more portable (i.e. rolling) collections pieces remain in loaned or rented facilities.

Some of the Case Archival Collection has already been processed for inclusion and use in the Museum's Archives. With the extensive remainder, an assessment is taking place, identifying priorities, damages and concerns. After that, the integration of this remainder into the Museum's Archival Collection will begin, a process anticipated to be underway within five years.

62 new artifact collections were donated in 2009. 588 researchers visited the Archives/Research Center, and 277 inquiries were answered.

## Volunteers

There are over 240 generous and talented people that comprise the Museum's volunteer workforce. Our wonderful volunteers serve on the Board, share history, care for visitors, raise funds, and deliver success and smiles throughout the Museum's operation. Once again, over 6,000 hours were contributed by volunteers in the past year!

## Sponsors

Special thanks to the following, for their outstanding financial support of our 2009 Programming:

Racine County  
The SC Johnson Fund, Inc.  
Dr. H. Fisk Johnson  
The Helen Bader Foundation  
Runzheimer International, Inc.  
Educators Credit Union  
The Arch W. Shaw Foundation  
Institute for Museum and Library Services  
Mary Wackerhagen  
The African-American Business Council  
Case New Holland  
Johnson Bank  
The Junior League of Racine  
The Kiwanis Club of West Racine  
Downtown Rotary Foundation  
Racine Community Foundation  
Membership of Racine Heritage Museum

**Racine Heritage Museum**  
**701 Main Street Racine WI 53403**  
**[RacineHeritageMuseum.org](http://RacineHeritageMuseum.org)**

## Board of Directors

Marilyn Blood, Chair  
Mike Pilger, Vice Chair  
Unette Lemke, Secretary  
Pamela Hoadley, Treasurer  
Darryl Babu  
Angie Burwell  
Mary Harper  
Cecilia Millard  
Oliver Nielsen  
Michael Rehberg  
Daniel Sharkozy

## Staff

Christopher Paulson, Executive Director  
Karen Braun, Curator & Assistant Director  
Richard Ammann, Ph.D., Archivist  
Patty Wagner, Curator of Education  
Cheryl Maraccini, Assistant Curator of Education  
Sally Orth, Marketing & Program Director  
Mary Kay Mandli Nelson, Research and Program Assistant  
Bev Buenker, Volunteer Liaison & Administrative Assistant  
Craig Aude, Custodian  
Andrew Kogutkiewicz, Museum Assistant & IS  
Matt Spencer, Jessica Behling, Christopher Behling & Winston Bohorquez, Museum Assistants