As I write this in 2020, little did I know that 2019 would be the last normal year for the museum and that we would soon be facing a pandemic. To add even more unknowns to the mix, I decided that I would be retiring in January of 2021. After a few months more than 34 years as Curator and then Director and a total of 43 years in the museum field it is time to let go of the reins. My firm belief is that a museum should have a new Director every ten years. A fresh viewpoint and open mind is necessary, especially now that the museum is at the precipice of great things, including national recognition as being a change maker. This trend can only increase with the right leadership. I wish the best of luck to the new director and will be here if needed. Next year’s Director’s address will hopefully be by a new Director, someone from outside who will give a fresh perspective and direction to an institution that gets better every year.

I had hoped that when I retired, the museum would be in better condition than it had ever been before. In so many ways it indeed is better, but the pandemic has left us in a bit of a financial quandary. Fortunately we have the reserves to cover the shortfall in revenues that the closure and decreased attendance caused. Otherwise, we have made so many gains in each of the last ten years of my being director. This is due to a dedicated staff who are willing to try new ideas, sometimes succeeding spectacularly and sometimes failing, but always learning.

2019 was a banner year for us in so many ways and I hope that this type of year again returns for 2021. If you don’t believe me just look at the following department reports. I have worked in museums for so long and wanted to since I was 12, that I am not sure that the adjustment will be smooth. However, I will be doing the many things I like to do – kayaking, canoeing, boat building, blacksmithing, reenacting, traveling, reading more, building just about anything, remodeling the old house and the unending list of things that I think of.

I hope that next year’s annual report, summarizes 2020 as a learning experience to which the museum responded with creativity and imagination, making it a good year despite itself!

As with the fourth book of the “trilogy” - Hitchhiker’s Guide to the Galaxy – I say “So long, and thanks for all the fish.” By the way, Adam’s was wrong, the answer is not 42. It’s definitely 47.

Dan Joyce
Executive Director
Museums Development

LISA DRETSKE, DEVELOPMENT MANAGER

The Development Division oversees all fund raising functions for the Museums and works with the Friends of the Museums and the Museums Foundation to strengthen the financial future of the museums. The department has one full time and one part time position.

OPERATING FUNDS

Annual Fund .............................................. $48,378

- 121% to budget  
- $6,940 over the previous year

CWM Veterans Bricks & KPM Jubilee Bricks ............. $800

Fundraising Events ....................................... $10,940

- $3,005 over the previous year

Total Operating Revenues Contributed .................. $60,118  
(124% of goal)

SPECIAL FUNDS

- Bader Philanthropies, Inc., SPARK! Alliance Conference held at the Kenosha Public Museum and Civil War Museum in October 2019 - $8,500
- LaFave Grant from Kenosha Community Foundation, update teacher resource materials in education department - $1,900
- Donation in memory of Joanne Van Boven,  
  Fund for education programming - $10,000
- Milwaukee Civil War Round Table and Iron Brigade Association,  
  Civil War Museum programming - $1,000

Sponsorships provided by the following individuals and companies:

- Educators Credit Union  
- Leonard Iaquinta and Dan Simoneau  
- Snap-On Inc.  
- Schaeffer Financial Group

HIGHLIGHTS

- Led the implementation of a new donor database,  
  Altru by Blackbaud
- Held a VIP exhibit opening event for 200 donors and members to view From Curiosity to Science
- Held a donor appreciation event highlighting the exhibit Hold Your Horses! The 1st Wisconsin Cavalry
- Held Veterans Day and Pearl Harbor events with the Navy Club at the Civil War Museum

ATTENDANCE

ALL THREE MUSEUMS:

349,346  
↑ up 27% over 2018

Visitors from 47 states and 20 countries
Top referral sources include family/friends  
and the internet

KPM: 224,411 - up 49%  
CWM: 76,130 - up 1%  
DDM: 48,805 - up 2%
External Relations

KRISTINE CAMILLI, EXTERNAL RELATIONS MANAGER

The External Relations Division directs all marketing and advertising efforts, recruits and orients all volunteers and coordinates all facility rentals for the Museums. The department has one full-time and two part-time positions.

Facility Rentals

201 Facility Rental Events
$76,508 in revenue 118% to budget
20,965 attendees

- 105 Events at KPM ($35,715)
- 92 Events at CWM ($34,225)
- 4 Events at KPM and CWM ($5,975)
- 15 Weddings generated $26,225 (34%)
- 104 Meetings generated $24,835 (32%)
- 40 Parties generated $17,330 (23%)
- 14 TWSA events generated $4,625 (6%)
- 7 Other events generated $2,900 (4%)
- 21 City department events
- Another $593 (1%) was collected for deposits and canceled events

476 rental requests were taken via phone, email and in person

Advertising

93 print ads targeted Kenosha residents, Racine residents, Wisconsin residents, Illinois residents, Milwaukee residents, Chicago residents, and visitors to the area

- 28 full page print ads promoted exhibits, programs, camps, CWM and the three museums in general
- 7 half or quarter page print ads promoted workshops, rentals
- 58 smaller print ads promoted the memorial fund, From Curiosity to Science, SPARK! and The Grand Review
- 11 paid Facebook ads promoted workshops, exhibits, Wino Dino, Museum Crawl, History on Tap, Family Wizardpalooza and Adult Wizardpalooza
- 5 program schedules were printed and mailed to members and donors, with additional copies distributed throughout the region
- 50 weekly radio spots on WLIP-AM1050 were used to promote exhibits, events, programs and workshops

- Yearly online profiles were renewed for KACVB (targeting visitors), Circle Wisconsin (adult tour groups), TheKnot.com, WeddingWire.com, Eventective.com (facility rentals), and CitySpark calendar (events/programs/exhibits)
- Postcards promoting the opening of From Curiosity to Science were mailed to members/donors and to additional VIPs
- Museum staff represented the museums at 11 First Friday events at the travel plaza
- Details regarding all exhibits, programs, workshops, and camps were uploaded to 14 regional online calendars and sent to media contacts throughout the country
Volunteers

97 volunteers were active throughout the year
8,453 volunteer hours

- The equivalent of 4 full-time employees
- 21 new volunteers
- 4 new interns

Volunteers helped with:
- Greeting visitors at all three museums
- Special events and education programs at all three museums
- KPM Field Station, Trading Post, Curiosity Stations,
- Facilitating school and adult groups at all three museums
- CWM research
- Gallery greeting for two temporary exhibits
- Summer camps
- Scout groups
- Internships with Collections and Education departments

Social Media

4,689 people like the KPM Facebook page
- 19% increase from 2018: 207 posts
- 1,496 average number of people reached per post
- The highest reach was from a post announcing closure due to snow (31,836 people)
- 17 average number of clicks per post
- The highest click rate was from a post promoting History on Tap (132 clicks)

3,184 people like the CWM Facebook page
- 8% increase from 2018: 141 posts
- 694 average number of people reached per post
- The highest reach was a photo of Fiery Trial mannequins wearing Packers/Bears jerseys (2,645 people)
- 6 average clicks per post
- The highest click rate was from a post promoting History on Tap (35 clicks)

3,566 people like the DDM Facebook page
- 17% increase from 2018: 108 posts
- 1,365 average number of people reached per post
- The highest reach was from a St. Pa-T-rex Day meme (5,616 people)
- 14 average number of clicks per post
- The highest click rate was from a post promoting Dino Egg Hunt (92 clicks)

18 Total Facebook Events
- 5,483 average number of people reached per event
- The highest reach was for the Hogsmeade Marketplace (21,400 people)
- 252 average number of clicks to view the event
- The highest click rate was for the Hogsmeade Market (1,200 clicks)

1,054 people follow the Kenosha Museums Instagram page
- 15% increase from 2018
- 66 posts
- 562 average number of people reached per post

Websites

44,294 visits to KenoshaPublicMuseum.org
- 3,691 average visits per month
- Top referral sources include facebook.com, yelp.com, visitkenosha.com, wikipedia.org, . duckduckgo.com, theknot.com

34,298 visits to DinosaurDiscoveryMuseum.org
- 2,130 average visits per month
- Top referral sources include facebook.com, visitkenosha.com, chicagoparent.com, mommynearest.com, milwaukee.citymomsblog.com

25,555 visits to TheCivilWarMuseum.org
- 2,130 average visits per month
- Top referral sources include facebook.com, visitkenosha.com, sparkprograms.org, duckduckgo.com, travelwisconsin.com, discoverwisconsin.com

1,739 total online transactions
- $39,823 revenue from online registrations, memberships, donations
- 45% increase from 2018 online sales

“The Dinosaur Discovery Museum is a great place for young and old. Small in size, but huge in content! An amazing collection of dinosaurs! Well worth visiting.”
- Alan B.
**Interpretation**

The Interpretation Division consists of the Collections, Exhibit and Education Departments.

**COLLECTIONS DEPARTMENT**

**GINA RADANDT, CURATOR OF COLLECTIONS**

The Collections Department is made up of the Curator of Collections (full-time) and the Registrar (part-time). We hired Samantha Machalik as our new Registrar at the end of January. It was a busy year and we accomplished much including handling new donations, loan arrangements, collections care, inventory work, cataloging, packing and unpacking, artifact preparation for exhibition, research requests, and professional development. The Registrar co-created and co-hosted five *I’ve Heard of Her* programs.

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**Kenosha Public Museum**

- 11 accessions (donations and acquisitions) totaling 175 objects
- 238 items cataloged for the KPM permanent collection
- 5 incoming loans totaling 325 items
- Identification research and inventory of large decorative art clock collection completed
- 31 decorative art clocks deaccessioned from the permanent collection
- Concluded the hard work in opening the *From Curiosity To Science* permanent exhibit at the end of February

**Dinosaur Discovery Museum**

- 2 outgoing loans processed, totaling 79 specimens
- Custom built shelving added to storage room allowing numerous large specimens and boxes to be rehoused
- Carthage College Institute of Paleontology 2018 field season report completed by Dr. Megan Seitz

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**Civil War Museum**

- 30 accessions (donations and acquisitions) totaling 235 objects
- 287 items cataloged for the CWM permanent collection
- Over 300 additional collection records updated
- 3 incoming loans totaling 5 items, 1 outgoing loan processed, totaling 4 artifacts
- 33 book donations totaling 925 books, magazines, AV media, and ephemera
- 3 exhibit permanent exhibit case changes

**Additional:**

- Along with the Exhibits Department, worked on 13 temporary exhibit installations and deinstallations
- Supervised the work of 1 volunteer and 2 interns, hosted 6 onsite researchers
- Answered 192 specialized telephone and e-mail inquiries
EXHIBITS DEPARTMENT
RACHEL KLEES ANDERSEN, CURATOR OF EXHIBITS

2019 was a year of historical context, environmental education, cultural awareness, and growth. Staff completed the major permanent exhibit, From Curiosity to Science, evaluated and improved Little Clint—The Story of a Baby Dinosaur, and enhanced all permanent exhibits with new content, lighting, electronics, and repairs. Temporary gallery exhibits included 2 rentals and 11 curated in-house.

Visitors interested in history engaged with three exhibits developed with CWM collections and loans, and one traveling exhibit exploring the Civil Rights movement. Museum visitors seeking art discovered national and international artists. A significant photorealism collection completed its tour at KPM before joining the Milwaukee Art Museum collection. Student artists and skilled watercolor painters drew throns of admirers. The tradition of artistic innovation was explored through KPM’s 18th century English print folio, a loan of Japanese woodblock prints, and new digital works by local artists. A Wisconsin collector revealed the history of the mystery genre through his unique collection of books and illustration art, while two award-winning Wisconsin artists uniquely shared their Oneida stories and traditions through fine art.

In July we welcomed our first Exhibit Preparator, Martin Antaramian, whose skills, professionalism, and enthusiasm have been great additions to the Exhibits department.

2019 Permanent Exhibits
From Curiosity to Science, opened February 22, 2019, at the KPM

2019 Temporary Exhibits
CWM ANTARAMIAN GALLERY:
For Honor and Family—Three Families in the Civil War, 4/21/18–1/6/19
Object Lessons: True Stories of Civil War Artifacts, 1/19/19–6/2/19
For All the World to See: Visual Culture and the Struggle for Civil Rights, 6/16/19–8/11/19; Mid-America Arts Alliance NEH On the Road
Hold Your Horses! First Regiment, Wisconsin Cavalry, 8/24/19–Extended 2020

KPM TEMPORARY GALLERY:
In the Royal Court of Henry VIII, Etchings from Paintings by Hans Holbein, 9/1/18–3/3/19
Photorealism Watercolor: The PieperPower Collection, 11/17/18–2/24/19

Continued next page
The Kenosha Public Museum is very lovely and offers much to see. Being near the lake makes a lovely view and the exhibit of the mammoth was amazing.
- Edward L.

KPM TEMPORARY GALLERY:
Kenosha Unified Schools 48th Annual District-Wide Student Art Exhibit, 3/22/19–4/28/19
Transparent Watercolor Society of America 43rd Annual National Juried Exhibition, 5/4/19–8/4/19
The Rivers: A Celebration of Life and Work on America’s Waterways, Paintings by Daven Anderson, 8/17/19–10/6/19
The History of Mystery–Original art, comics, and books from the Hagenauer Collection, 10/19/19–1/12/20
EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
DOUG DAMMANN, CURATOR AND EDUCATION DEPARTMENT MANAGER

The current Education Department consists of the following personnel: Curator/Department Manager Doug Dammann; Educators Jenn Edginton, Nick Wiersum, and Anna Wolff; Education Services Coordinator Caitlin Manwaring; Education Clerk Mari Pavelich; Program Staff Kelly Drumm; Resource Center Clerk Rory Larson; and Museum Aides Pam DeVuyst, Jasa Miller, Kendra Voelz and Lydia Baas.

2019 was a year of growth and transition for the Education Department. Nancy Mathews retired from her position as Director of the Interpretation division of the museums. The Department added Anna Wolff as a full-time Curator of Art Education, a new position that provides expertise and oversight of art-related school, family, and public programs at the Kenosha Museum Campus. Caitlin Manwaring moved within the Department to her present role as Education Services Coordinator. Rory Larson was hired in 2019 to be the Resource Center Clerk.

School and Adult Group Programs

In March 2019, school group program called **Hometown Heroes** was developed and implemented at the Civil War Museum. This program is designed for 3rd grade classes to learn more about Kenosha and the Civil War by learning to read local maps, handling artifacts, creating their own company flag and touring the exhibit.

The Dinosaur Discovery Museum debuted a new set of **school group tours** in September 2019. The new programs changed the format of the school tours to focus on more inquiry-based, hands-on experiments and activities.

The school programs team recruited and trained new volunteers for the **Anishinaabe and Kwetkemek programs** at the KPM as well as for the **Midwest in the Civil War** and **Stories of the Underground Rail Road programs** at the CWM. All Racine Unified School District first grade students came to the KPM to participate in the Kwetkemek program.

In May 2019, the CWM expanded its annual **Field Day programming** to include 8th grade students from KTEC as well as from Washington and Lincoln Middle Schools of the Kenosha Unified School District.

To better serve teachers and students, Education Staff surveyed teachers who completed a museum visit to get feedback on the program. The **2019 school year surveys** helped identify the need for a robust volunteer training curriculum which was put in place in September 2019 and continued through March of 2020. It also helped us adapt the Civil War Museum’s **King Cotton program**.

Educators Jenn Edginton and Nick Wiersum presented at three sessions at **National Science Teachers Association Annual Conference** in St. Louis.

Artist Dan Simoneau was the featured artist who taught a day-long seminar on acrylic painting and color mixing for 18 Kenosha Unified art students from Bradford, Indian Trail, Temper and Reuther as part of the annual **High School Art Experience**.

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**Group Tours By the Numbers**

- **231 groups** made visits to one or more of the museums at the Kenosha Museum Campus. This brought a total of **10,015** people to the museums.
- **40%** of the group were from Kenosha or Racine counties.
- **62 groups**, or **21%**, came from out of state.
- **110** visited the CWM, **76** the KPM, and **30** the DDM.
- Group tours brought in **$49,679** in gross revenue.
- Education staff put on **23 outreach programs** at a variety of venues including schools, churches, libraries, and civic groups.
Workshops

- In 2019, 84 workshops and camps were held with a total of 872 people attending. Workshops and camps brought in a gross revenue of $31,136.
- Twenty-one summer camps for children ranging from age 3-10 ran at the KPM in 2019. An additional three cooking camps and four one-day camps for kids age 11-16 were offered. Campers were introduced to themes of art, science, paleontology and archaeology using fun camp themes like fossils, wizards and outer space.
- A new evening workshop at the Civil War Museum called Victorian Spiritualism created great public interest in 19th century mysticism, spiritualism, and the occult.
- Jenn Edginton and Dan Joyce taught blacksmithing classes at the KPM where attendees completed a variety of projects including meat skewers, wine openers, and candle stands.
- A new tour program at the Civil War Museum focused on the history and artifacts of women on the home front and on the battlefield.
- Watercolor painting, fused glass themes, fossil hunting, basket making, pottery, and cartooning were popular workshop themes at the Kenosha Public Museum.

- Due to popular demand, the Dinos in the Dark tour program at the Dinosaur Discovery Museum was expanded to two weekends in 2019.
- Noted Civil War author and historian Dave Powell taught a workshop on The Shenandoah Valley and Grant’s Grand Strategy for 1864 to coincide with the release of his book on the same topic.

Civil War Museum Seminars

The 12th Annual Great Lakes Civil War Forum had over 100 registered attendees for its four programs on the Gettysburg Campaign. Dr. Peter Carmichael, Director of the Civil War Institute at Gettysburg College, was the keynote speaker.

Leslie Goddard portrayed Amelia Earhart at the annual Women in History Tea for 35 guests.

The Milwaukee Civil War Round Table continued its long standing sponsorship of the Civil War Museum’s 2nd Friday Lecture Series.

Scout Programs

In October 500 Cub and Boy Scouts participated in the Three Harbors Scoutopoly Program. All three Kenosha Museum Campus locations hosted activities for the scouts. The KPM was also the check in and check out location for the event.

Girl Scouts—from Daisy Scouts to Juniors—participated in museum overnights, a forensic science program, a citizen science journey, fossil programs, a Victorian tea, and cartooning classes.
Public Programs

In February, the KPM hosted the opening of a new permanent gallery called *From Curiosity to Science*. The Education Department developed hands-on curiosity stations on topics such as ecosystems, animal teeth and skulls, bird beak evolution, and human tools to support learning in the exhibit.

In March, KPM hosted the 6th Annual Women in Science community program. Scientists from Carthage College, UW-Parkside, and the Milwaukee Public Museum all presented activities.

In April, 136 children and adults participated in a Dino Egg Hunt at KPM.

Mr. Bill Kurtis presented a program on his journalistic coverage of the events and leaders of the American Civil Rights movement as part of the lectures, outreach programs, and community discussions designed to support of the *For All The World To See* exhibit hosted at the CWM.

Jenn Edginton and Samantha Machalik created a new public program that debuted in 2019 called *I’ve Heard of Her*. This free program focuses on women in history commemorating the 100th anniversary of women’s suffrage.

The Education Department participated in the 21st Annual Pike River Rendezvous by running an activity tent with an archaeology station, corn husk dolls, and a table of hands-on activities that taught visitors about the history and objects of the fur trade.

The Education Department set up Polynesian stick maps, a touch table of oceanic specimens, and a community mural project at the Kenosha Harbor to support the City of Kenosha’s Tall Ships Festival in early August.

KPM’s Museum Munchkins program saw well over 1,000 preschoolers and adults throughout the year and presented 50 individual programs on animals and natural science.

Over 7000 people visited the museums for the Victorian Christmas and International Holiday performances, interactive activities, vendor booths and food. These events were held in conjunction with the Harbor Holiday International Market and Festival on December 7 and 8.

SPARK! Conference

In October, the Civil War Museum and the Kenosha Public Museum hosted the 6th Annual SPARK! Conference, bringing together cultural institutions who provide programming for people with memory loss.

Manassas Virginia Bus Trip

The Civil War Museum sponsored a Campaign Tour of the Manassas, Virginia, Battlefield Sites in October. The group toured sites on the First and Second Bull Run Battlefields, Gainesville, and Cedar Creek.
Community Collaborations

The African-American Read-In was hosted at the KPM in February. Thirty adult and youth readers read selections by African-American authors at the community event. Contributing partners included the Coalition for Dismantling Racism, the Kenosha Public Library, the Kenosha Literacy Council, Bradford Community Church, and the American Association of University Women.

The Kenosha Public Museum partnered with students from Bradford High School for Dia de los Muertos programming. The students worked with Education staff members to showcase Hispanic culture through exhibitions of Ofrendas, identity murals, and games.

The Civil War Museum partnered with Kenosha’s Navy Ship Club 40 to present a Veterans Day program and a concert by the Brass Ambassadors from the Great Lakes Naval Base.

Education Department staff worked with the Coalition for Dismantling Racism to host community discussions and workshops on race, identity, and education throughout 2019.

Nancy Mathews coordinated activities and workshops with the Southport Quilters Guild for their exhibit Stitches and Stories.

Jenn Edginton collaborated with the Kenosha County ADRC, KAFASI, Alzheimer’s Association and other memory care professionals to promote the SPARK! program.

The Kenosha Public Museum collaborated with the Kenosha Clergy Association and hosted the Holocaust Remembrance Day program in May.

The Cordelia Harvey Theater program traveled to the Milwaukee Public Museum’s Nickelodeon Theater as part of their Wisconsin History Day event in April.

Nick Wiersum traveled to the Children’s Museum of Fond du Lac for an Outreach program about fossil excavation and the evolutionary connection between dinosaurs and birds.

The Education Department staff taught fossil sorting, water color painting, and scientific illustration as part of the Kenosha Boys and Girls Club summer camp activities at Roosevelt Elementary School.

Additional Public Partners:

Lake Forest Academy • University School of Milwaukee • American Association For State and Local History • Wisconsin Federation of Museums • The Milwaukee Civil War Round Table • The Chicago Civil War Round Table • Brown County Museum • American Alliance for Museums • National Science Teachers Association • The Indian Community School • The Sculpture Walk Community • Carthage Institute of Paleontology • Pringle Nature Center • Kenosha History Center • 17th Corps Field Hospital • Urban League • Lighthouse Lacers • UW-Parkside • Transparent Watercolor Society of America • Milwaukee County Zoological Society • The Kenosha Pops • American Library Association • National Endowment for the Humanities • United States Navy • Gateway Technical College
“You must expose your kids and grandkids to museums to open their minds. Kenosha’s museums are free, have accessible parking and you can feel great about a 20-minute visit to start”

- Margaret H.

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Curator of Collections Gina Radandt had some fun in the CWM main exhibit for the Packers vs. Bears game in December 2019: “The rivalry is tough and goes back farther than you know!”

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Bill Zimmer

* No longer with museum
Kenosha Public Museum
5500 First Avenue
Kenosha, WI 53140
(262) 653-4140
kenoshapublicmuseum.org

Kenosha Museums System Mission
To enrich the lives of Kenoshans, guests and visitors through a variety of experiences that educate and stimulate curiosity

Civil War Museum
5400 First Avenue
Kenosha, WI 53140
(262) 653-4141
thecivilwarmuseum.org

Vision Statement
To be the center of cultural life in Kenosha and the catalyst for meaningful collaboration

Dinosaur Discovery Museum
5608 Tenth Avenue
Kenosha, WI 53140
(262) 653-4450
dinosaurdiscoverymuseum.org