



by Douglas H. Frazer

The Legacy of Past Village Presidents: Reinhart and Dengel

A study of the tenure of Village Presidents John Reinhart and F. R. Dengel brings to mind this well-known passage from the Hebrew Bible.

שָׁמְנֶשָׁה תַּחַת, שְׂדָח-לֵב וַיֵּאָר; הַשְּׁעֵשִׁי אוֹה, הַשְּׁעֵנֶשׁ-הַמּו, הַהִיֶּשׁ אוֹה, הַהִיֶּשׁ-הַמּו.

What has been will be again, what has been done will be done again; there is nothing new under the sun. Ecclesiastes 1:9.

Many of the issues that Presidents Reinhart and Dengel grappled with while on or leading the board are identical to the issues we grapple with today.

John M. (Jack) Reinhart. Reinhart served as a trustee 1964 to 1978. He was elected board president in 1978 and served through his death, at age 58, on July 31, 1982. Senior trustee Daniel W. Howard succeeded Reinhart as acting president.



Reinhart was born in Fond du Lac. His family moved to Milwaukee when he was a young boy. He received a degree in economics from Marquette University in 1943. After serving as a lieutenant in the navy during World War II, he

went to the University of Michigan and received his law degree in 1949.

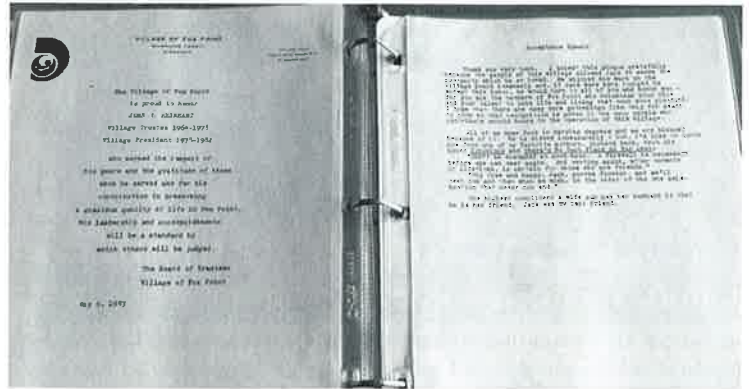
Reinhart joined the Milwaukee law firm that became Reinhart, Boerner, Van Deuren, Norris & Rieselbach, eventually serving as its senior partner.

Besides Fox Point, Reinhart served in many civic capacities, including a director of Family Services of Milwaukee, the lay board of Dominican High School in Whitefish Bay, a director of Ozaukee Country Club, and a trustee of St. Eugene Catholic Church.

During his tenure as president Reinhart led the board in addressing and managing these familiar matters: the appropriate pesticides to use for mosquito spraying, the dog ordinance, the village's urban forest (Dutch Elm disease at the time was particularly devastating), the swimming pool, the creation and continuation of a joint library, storm water management, private contracting for municipal services, and the economics—and desirability—of moving to curbside pickup for solid waste and recyclables.

Other matters were place and time specific: the preservation of the footpath to the bluff from the eastern end of Green Tree Road, the approval of the village logo created by industrial designer Brooks Stevens, and the introduction of cable television service.

By all accounts, Reinhart was a terrific individual whom residents liked and respected. Reinhart's wife Mary continued to live for many years in Fox Point until she moved to Beaumont Place in Whitefish Bay. Reinhart had five children, two of whom, Katie and John, live in the area.



F.R. Dengel II. Dengel served as a trustee from 1975 to 1984,



and as president from 1984 to 1990.

Dengel was born in Milwaukee and graduated from Milwaukee University School, Williams College, and the Northwestern University Kellogg School of Business. He was an Air Force pilot, attaining the rank of captain. For seven years he held a seat on the New York stock exchange but professional and family life in Milwaukee

beckoned. In 1968 F.R. and his wife Mary bought the house at 6448 N. Lake Drive and never left. For the remainder of his career Dengel worked as an investment officer, business owner, and bank executive.

Dengel was a board member of, and held leadership positions in, many community organizations, including Cardinal Stritch University, the

Fox Point Foundation, and Prevent Blindness Wisconsin. Dengel was a worthy leader. He listened carefully, took interest in others, respected opposing views, and did not hesitate to take a stand.

During his two terms as president, Dengel led the village in addressing shoreline maintenance, solid waste and recyclable pickup (yes, again), sharing services with other communities, ravine erosion, and bike paths. He considered his accomplishments to include working out the agreement leading to the approval of the Chipstone collection (housed in the Stone mansion on Club Circle) as a private museum, and the creation of the Fox Point-Bayside-River Hills emergency dispatch center.

Just as we do now, Dengel made it a point to give recognition and praise for the outstanding work by the Police Department and the Department of Public Works.

Dengel passed away on October 3, 2013. The family commissioned and dedicated the flagpole at Longacre Pavilion in his honor.

The Dengels had two sons, F.R. III and Bob. The family commitment to Fox Point is generational: F.R. III himself moved back to Fox Point and served as a village trustee from 2009 to 2014. F.R. III and his wife Kate have two children, Abigail and F.R. IV. It takes no biblical prophecy to foresee what might lie ahead for F.R. and Mary Dengel's grandchildren: there is nothing new under the sun.

Douglas H. Frazer is a Fox Point resident and neighborhood contributor as well as the village president. The views expressed are his own and not necessarily those of the Village, the village board, other village board members, or Best Version Media, LLC.



Making *Life Easier*®

Coming Home from Rehab or the Hospital? Customized & Personalized 1:1 Home Care

Home care = often less expensive + no need to move

**Please call for
your FREE Nurse
assessment
262-365-1443**

Home Care Services:

- Alzheimer's care
- Dementia care
- Meal preparation
- Ambulation (fall risk)
- Personal Hygiene
- Dressing
- Bathing
- Transportation
- Skilled nursing services
- *Plus much more!*

Hourly and live-in care available



Owners:
Tim and Laura Bireley, RN

**Home Helpers
of
Greater Milwaukee**

**www.HomeHelpersWI.com
Info@HomeHelpersWI.com**

Each office is independently owned & operated

Winner of Nations Highest Quality Award

The Best of Home Care Leader in Excellence award is the highest quality designation bestowed by Home Care Pulse, the national leader in consumer research and quality assurance for the home care industry.

Home Helpers is the only home care company awarded this prestigious honor serving Milwaukee, Waukesha, Ozaukee and Washington County.

