



VILLAGE BOARD TRUSTEES

- Christine Symchych, President
- Eric Fonstad
- Jennie Stoltz
- Mark Freedman
- Elizabeth Aelon
- Greg Ollman
- David Miller

7200 N. Santa Monica Boulevard, Fox Point, WI 53217 **Village Hall Hours:** Monday-Thursday, 8am-4pm; Friday, 8am-Noon

VILLAGE OF FOX POINT SERVICES ARE FOR RESIDENTS OF FOX POINT ONLY Phone: 414-351-8900 Website: www.villageoffoxpoint.com

THEODORE KRONSHAGE AND THE ESTATE ON BARNETT LANE

As we approach Fox Point's centennial in 2026, it feels appropriate to visit the life and times of Theodore Kronshage, Jr., the first village president (1926-1931).

Kronshage was a highly regarded attorney who, like his wife Maud, was born and raised in Boscobel.

Kronshage was an important guy — both at the state and local levels. Markers recalling his life still exist. He has a residential hall named after him at UW Madison. Boscobel has Kronshage Park. Barnett Lane in Fox Point bears Maud's family name. And while their home on the bluff on Barnett Lane was torn down years ago, duplicate stands in Fort Atkinson.

Kronshage was an educated, talented, civic minded, "can-do" person in the Herbert Hoover mold. He received his B.A. from UW Madison in 1891 in the ancient classics, and his law degree from the university in 1892. His law practice was just one of many important activities he pursued.

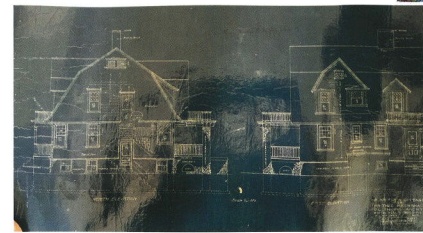
In 1901 he became a founding stockholder of the *Milwaukee Free Press*, an organ of the progressive republican movement led by

Robert La Follette. He served from 1907 to 1917 as a member of the Board of Normal School Regents (teacher-training schools), the University of Wisconsin Board of Regents from 1921 to 1926 (including as chairman), and from 1931 until his death in 1934 as chairman of the Public Service Commission (PSC).

At the PSC, he modernized procedures and worked to counter-act large utilities from overreaching, given their quasi-monopoly status. He helped rewrite Wisconsin's utility regulations to permit a fixed charge schedule. The new policies Kronshage created and implemented reduced rates and became a national model.

Considering his background of leadership, community service, and what he stood for, it makes sense Kronshage was elected the first village president. The village became a planned community. Public safety, roads, and access to municipal water and sanitary sewers quickly improved.

Kronshage knew Fox Point well. In 1906 he started to assemble an estate that expanded to about five acres, married Maud, and built a splendid house on the bluff at 7216 on the Old Fox Point Road.



We know what the house looked like because of the Fort Atkinson "twin."

George Becker built the house in 1915. In 1997 David Covey, Becker's great grandson, bought the Fort Atkinson house from his aunt's estate. David and his wife Susan spent years restoring the house. Covey discovered the blueprints and specifications in a high kitchen cupboard. These were the work of architect O.C. Uehling and were a copy of his 1906 plans for the Kronshage house in Fox Point.

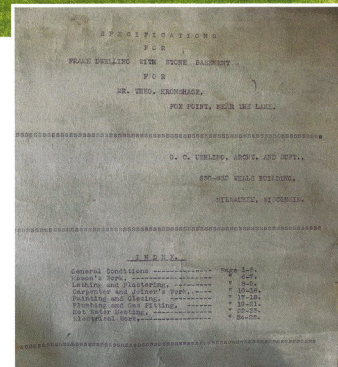
An addendum to the specifications dated July 27, 1907 indicates that the Electric Light & Railway Company would furnish power to the building. This appears to coincide with the extension of the streetcar line north from Day Avenue — eventually terminating at Bradley Road.

The Old Fox Point Road began to be called Barnett Lane informally. On March 29, 1928, the village board enacted a speed limit ordinance. The Old Fox Point Road is referenced, in parenthesis, as Barnett Lane. On April 22, 1930, the village board established a new house numbering system and renamed certain streets, roads, and highways. This ordinance likely redesignated the road Barnett Lane. On the 1932 village map, Barnett Lane had, it seems, permanently replaced the Old Fox Point Road.

Kronshage died in the Fox Point house in 1934. Maud lived in the property until she died in 1958. Later property owners subdivided the estate.

Unlike other early village presidents, including Louis Quarles and William Van Dyke, there is no village place name commemorating Theodore Kronshage.

Sometimes it is odd how things work out. The thing that physically recalls Kronshage's time in Fox Point is not even in Fox Point — but sixty-five miles to the west.



Douglas H. Frazer is a resident of Fox Point. Special research thanks to David and Susan Covey in Fort Atkinson, Steven Krill, chief deputy Register of Deeds for Milwaukee County, librarian Greg Comly at the Milwaukee Public Library Archives and Collections, and Sue Reynolds at the Village of Fox Point.

Where your possibilities are **INFINITE!**

Infinite Gymnastics

414-371-9520 | infinitegym@gmail.com | INFINITEGYMNASTICS.COM

talking walls

hello@talkingwallscreative.com

Your Newest Local Med Spa

Fresh Aesthetics

SERVICES TOX, FILLER, MICRONEEDLING, CHEMICAL PEELS, AND SKINCARE

Focus on delivering natural results that meet your aesthetic goals and enhance your confidence.

MONICA GAULKE, NP
Injector and your aesthetic personal trainer

www.freshaestheticswi.com | @ofreshaestheticswi

MENTION THIS AD AND GET 10% OFF* YOUR FIRST APPOINTMENT!
*Must spend \$250 to qualify for the promotion

Capturing You At Your Best No Matter What You Do

Portrait Special

Starting at: \$299
- 30 Min Session
- Your Favorite Location
- Edited Hi-Res Images

StaplesPhotography.Com
MartinStaplesPhotography@gmail.com
Studio: 414-775-7077

LIGHTEN UP!
(414) 324-0082

North Shore Electric provides the highest quality electrical services to both residential and commercial customers. We're more than happy to take on any electrical project, big or small. From maintenance and repairs to installation and finish, North Shore Electric can do it all and do it all right — the first time.

Call North Shore Electric today for a FREE estimate.

Angie's List. BBB