

UPCOMING EVENTS

Jan 17—General Membership Meeting—6:30 PM at the Milford United Methodist Church at 1200 Atlantic St. Meeting starts at 6:30 with a Potluck dinner. See below for program.

Potluck Assignments—Pot luck assignments—
A—F— Deserts G—Q—Main Dish, R—Z—
Salads and side dishes

2019 Milford Historical Society Programs

January 17 - Show & Tell—Time to find your “Antiques, Treasures, Stories or Pictures” to share. We would really like to see WWI memorabilia and pictures of your family soldiers. 2019, is the 100th. anniversary of the WWI doughboys coming home and the creation of the American Legion Post #216. If you have anything that relates to those two events please share it.

February 21 - The Ford Carburetor Plant
Author Ralph Mantela gives us an inside view of the Alfred Kahn designed plant that was in Milford.

March 21 - Sesquicentennial of the Village of Milford — 1869 - 2019 150 years of growth

April 18 - Pontiac’s Eastern Michigan Asylum

Author Bruce Annett will show pictures, facts and fiction about the asylum

May 16 - Victorian Mourning Customs and Jewelry
- Pat Burgess will share her collection of jewelry and customs

July 21 - Picnic at the Mary Jackson House 2 P.M.
—Chicken, Hotdogs, Iced Tea, Lemonade, Water, Plates & Silverware, Napkins and Entertainment will be provided. Please bring a dish to pass and anything else you need.

September 19 - 100th Anniversary of the Ernest F Oldenburg American Legion Post 216

History of Post 216 and their service to the community -
Bonnie Welbaum

October 17 - Facts and Fantasy of Halloween

!! Prize for the best costume!!

November 21 - Holiday Entertainment

From Our President, *John Robinson*

To our esteemed members;

First, I would like to wish everyone a **HAPPY NEW YEAR!** It is hard to believe but here we are in 2019, starting another year, which looks very promising and exciting!

We are looking forward to our January 17 meeting which is always fun. This is our show and tell meeting so do not forget to bring in something interesting! In our February meeting, we will have Ralph Mantela discussing his new book and giving his insights into the Ford Carburetor Plant.



There are several board positions open and the search for a museum director is in full swing. If you are interested, please contact any MHS Board member.

The museum committee is hard at work creating new

exhibits for the Spring opening. 2019 is the 150th anniversaries of the creation of The Village of Milford and the 100th anniversary of the formation of the American Legion Ernest F. Oldenburg Post 216. There will be museum exhibits highlighting both of those milestones.

As always, guests are welcome at our General Membership meetings. Remind them to bring a plate and a drink! We will attempt to pass our bylaw changes at this meeting. It has been awhile since the changes were sent but you can reference them on our website.— <http://www.milfordhistory.org>. Click on the link **Proposed By-Laws Changes** on the top left hand side of the home page

Once again, **HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

***Our Mission Statement:** We are organized exclusively for educational purposes. We bring together people who are interested in history, especially the history of the village of Milford & Milford Township.*

MILFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY
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The Milford Historian

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Editor: Norm Werner

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Museum Director's Report -

By Sue Gumpper

The museum committee would like to wish everyone a happy and healthy 2019. They will be working hard to make 2019 a special year at the museum. To that end, the museum closed for the winter on December 2. The closing will enable us to make repairs, give the bathrooms a

fresh coat of paint, put away this year's displays and create new displays for our May opening.

Speaking of displays, the museum committee is planning three new exhibits. The first will be a sesquicentennial celebration of the Village of Milford Government's incorporation. The second exhibit will feature the 100 year history of Milford's American Legion. The last, but certainly not least, will focus on the 100th anniversary of the end of WW1. We plan to share the stories of Milford residents who served in the armed forces and those that took on special responsibilities at home. If you would like to join us in creating these displays, please let us know by leaving a message at the museum 248-685-7308.

The Museum Committee presented the job description for our Museum Director to the Historical Society Board at their November meeting. The Board approved the job description and directed the committee to begin a search for a Museum Director. We would certainly welcome a volunteer for the position but are also prepared to make this a paid, part-time position. If you know someone who might be interested in hearing more about this position, please notify the committee by leaving a message at the museum or calling Sue Gumpper at 248-685-2691.

From the Collection by Jackie Swansen—Kriss Cross



Recently one of our members brought this wonderful object to us. This is a razor blade sharpener. This object was made by the KRISS KROSS Corporation in St. Louis, MO. The corporation was patented on 6/30/1921. A razor blade is inserted into the holder. When the crank is turned the circular wet stone turns. After two revolutions the blade holder flips over to expose the other side of the blade. This is an example of life in another age. Our ancestors didn't

have the same access to abundant consumer goods and were more apt to find ways to adapt and make do with what was available to them. The little I could find about this wonderful item indicates that it was very popular during World War I when steel was scarce.

Our Museum is full of wonderful items like this that show how our ancestors lived. Come see us in the spring when we will open with new displays that tell more of the history of the village and its residents.

Membership Dues

January marks the start of our membership drive. In the next few weeks, we will be sending out membership envelopes for 2019. We hope that you will continue your membership to the Milford Historical Society.

The Milford Historical Society is largely dependent on the support that we received from our membership. Your participation helps ensure that our treasures are carefully preserved and that our schoolchildren learn about the early history of our community.



Your membership dues will be good until December of 2019 and will ensure that you remain on our mailing list. We appreciate your support in the past and we hope that you will choose to continue your membership in 2019. We have so much going on you don't want to miss out!

Know someone that might be interested in becoming a member? Our membership is affordable and makes a great gift.

Wrap up on our Fall Tea



Our fall tea was held on Saturday, November 3rd. Tickets went on sale during Home Tour Weekend

and by the end of the two days we were 10 tickets away from a sellout. Wow, that amazes us. We are so thrilled with the overwhelming response to our Tea Parties.

A lot of work goes into the Tea Parties and I would like to say thank you to all our helpers. Judy Busick, Patricia Carcone, Jenna Carlisle, Brianne Carlton, Joyce Clark, Cindy Dagenhardt, Linda Dagenhardt, Maria Giannndrea, Sue Gumper, Sharon Hubbard, Jordan Jachim, Nancy Lang, Grace Lupinski, Jenni Lupinski, Sharon Mancini, Callie Renko, Chole Renko, Marge Sawruck, Sheila Shuler, Jackie Swenson, Rena Valentine and Carolyn Werner.

And Thank you to The Village Florist for donating the beautiful flower arrangements and Acorn Farm and Main Street Art for selling tickets. We couldn't have a successful day without these wonderful helpers.

See you in the Spring!

Mary Jackson House update

It doesn't seem possible, but it has been over 12 years since the Historical Society was gifted the Mary Jackson House at 648 Canal St. But did you know that when we received the house, Mary had put a Historical Easement on the House. What this really means is the outside of her home would remain as it was when she purchased her childhood home in 1972. Any changes to the exterior must be approved by the National Trust for Historic Preservation, the organization that monitors the Easement. A representative from the Washington DC branch comes to the house every year to inspect the outside of the house. And I'm happy to report, that they are pleased with the condition of the house and the way we have been maintaining it.



During the winter months we will change the focus from the outside and begin working on the inside of the house, a project that is long overdue. We have started work

on the Parlor and the Dining Room. We have removed the wall paper in both rooms and are beginning to work on the wood work.

After going through a lot of wallpaper books and not finding anything close to the paper in the Parlor, we decided to have the existing paper reproduced. We have taken a sample of the wall paper to a company in Ferndale that specializes in reproducing wallpaper. A special thanks for donations that were given specifically for this project. These donations will cover a majority of the cost of the paper in the Parlor. For the Dining Room and rest of the down stairs, we were able to find a paper that comes very close to what is currently there.

So we have a lot of work ahead of us. And of course if anyone is interested in helping out, please contact us thru our email milfordhistory@hotmail.com. We could use some help!

Once we have finished these 2 rooms, we will begin on the Living Room by replacing the flooring. So stay tuned for our updates. Follow along with the project on our Facebook page – Mary Jackson Historic Home

Milford Historical Society

124 East Commerce

Milford, Michigan 48381

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We need your Input

The Milford Historical Society was gifted the Mary Jackson House over 12 years ago. Since then we have held fundraisers and rented the house for bridal showers, baby showers, family reunions and even a couple of weddings. We hold our Board of Directors meetings there, too.

Our Tea Parties in the Spring and Fall are favorite events, but we are wondering what other events we could hold at the house. So the Milford Historical Society has partnered with the Oakland County Historic Commission to try to determine the best uses for the house.

A survey was put together to see what other interest there might be for the house. We know that filling out surveys are not the most favorite thing to do for most; but, we hope that the input from the survey will help us plan events in the future that you might be interested in. The survey is 20 questions and doesn't take long to take. We would love to hear your ideas!

In order to take the survey and provide us with your ideas, go to

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MaryJacksonHouse>

 Please enroll me/us as a member (s) of the Milford Historical Society:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Mail to: Milford Historical Society, 124 East Commerce, Milford MI 48381

Phone: 248-685-7308

Annual Member Dues:

Individual	\$25	Family	\$50
Senior	\$10	Lifetime	\$250
Small Business	\$50		
Corporation	\$250+		

Please let us know if you would prefer to receive your copy of the bi-monthly Historian via email. It saves us the postage and will get it to you sooner.