

UPCOMING EVENTS

July 21 - Picnic at the Mary Jackson House 4 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.

From Our President, *John Robinson*

To our esteemed members;

It is July already and things are really heating up! The Home Tour Committee is in full swing with the leadership of Sue Gumper. Sue does need some help so please give her a call! On another note, our picnic date is the same, but the start time will be at 4 PM. As a reminder, it will be at the Mary Jackson House.



In case you have not noticed, we are flying a new flag! The old rope rotted off so we had to figure out a way of repairing the rope. We could not lower the pole so to the rescue was the Milford Fire Department along with the chief. I have enclosed several photos of this event, thanks to a great community and a wonderful Fire Department.

2019 Milford Historical Society Programs

JULY

You're Invited to the "Milford Historical Society Picnic"

Date: July 21, 2019

Time: 4:00 P.M. (Note the later time)

Place: Mary Jackson House, 648 Canal St.



We Provide:
Chicken,
Hotdogs and
Hamburgers: Ice
Tea, Lemonade,
Water, Condi-
ments: Plates,

Silverware, Napkins: Tables and Chairs

Please bring a dish to pass and anything else you'd like.

Entertainment: Pictures and little known Historical Moments in Milford, 1869-2019

RSVP: 248-807-1204 FB - Linda Dagenhardt or lindadag15@gmail.com

We plan on extra but do not want to be caught short on Food, Drinks & Seating

September

Milford Historical Society - General Membership Meeting - September

(Continued on page 3)

I also want to welcome our newest Board member, Ray Clinard. Ray has been in Milford for a long time and was in the Milford Police Department for over 50 years! Ray has a very in-depth knowledge of Milford. Next time you see Ray make sure you introduce yourself and welcome him. Welcome Ray!!

The Museum is open, and the entire Museum committee has been busy and bringing in a group of new Docents. In doing so, training has been held with great results!

If you have not visited the museum in a while, check out some of the local history with the exhibits on the 150th Anniversary of the Village of Milford, the end of WWI and the founding of American Legion. It is Milford's American Legion E. F. Oldenburg Post 216 100th year since it was founded in 1919.

John Robinson

President, Milford Historical Society

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

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT

John Robinson 248-343-7772

1ST VICE-PRESIDENT

Sue Gumpfer 248-685-2691

2ND VICE-PRESIDENT

Jared Clouse 248-685-7308

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SUE BULLARD 248-685-8321

Leon Shuler 248-684-5854

Linda Dagenhardt 248-807-1204

Ray Clinard

JACKIE SWENSEN 248-685-7253

COLLECTONS MANAGER

Mary Lou Gharrity 248-684-8835

Director Emeritus



Museum News – Our Future Looks Bright!

In May a small but dedicated group of members volunteered their time and elbow grease to clean the museum and prepare it for our opening. Many thanks to Sue Bullard, Sue Grifor, Sandi Muirhead, Russ Rheaume, John Robinson, Jackie Swenson and Judy Waara for making our museum squeaky clean. You were a fun group to work with and our museum never looked better.

A special thanks goes out to Jackie and Hal Swensen for freshening up our guest bathroom and back entry with new paint, curtains and furniture. Linda Dagenhardt and John Robinson were responsible for the more nitty-gritty jobs of replacing a toilet and hot water heater. The need for maintenance and repair is never done but always necessary.

Jackie, along with help from Susan Absher, Sue Grifor and Linda Dagenhardt, created our interesting and informative first floor displays. Visitors are enjoying learning about the Village of Milford, Milford residents' participation in WWI and the Earnest F. Oldenburg American Legion Post. Local second graders, Milford residents, visitors from around Michigan, other states and even Europe have dropped by the museum this spring. They have expressed their thanks and praise for our efforts to share and preserve our history.

If you dropped by the museum recently you know that the museum has not been open on Saturdays because of a shortage of volunteers. I am happy to announce that with a great effort from Sue Bullard and her use of social media things are looking up! Sue put out a distress call looking for docents and was rewarded with over 25 responses. Read Sue's article to learn more about her efforts and our new docents.

Sue Bullard's success inspired the museum council to get busy and develop a docent training program. On June 25th board members Sue Bullard, Jared Clouse, Emma Michniewicz, Jackie Swensen, myself and assistant director Jordan Jachim presented our training program to 14 new docents. Jared and Emma brought the new and informative museum tour script, they created, to life while leading the docents through the museum sharing stories and facts about Milford. Sue, Jackie, Jordan and myself covered the procedures necessary to provide services and keep the museum running safely and smoothly. Presenters and docents were filled with a new energy and excitement about the museum and what we can provide to our community. We are planning a second training session in July. It will occur on a Saturday not yet determined. Thanks to Sue we already have 10 new docents signed up for the training. If you are interested in joining us for this training, call the museum 248-685-7308 or email us at milfordhistory@hotmail.com. We know you will find it rewarding.

Saving the best bright light for last, I am happy to say that it looks like we will be introducing a new Museum Director by the end of July. Look for details about our new Director in the next newsletter. Or, come and visit us in August on Wednesdays, Sundays and yes, Saturdays!

Submitted by Sue Gumpfer

Welcome to our newest members

John and Linda Hyaduck
Milford Family Dentistry
Diane Bassette Nelson

The Milford Historian

Newsletter of the

Milford Historical Society

published bimonthly (six times per year)



Editor: Norm Werner

Email: Historian@milfordhistory.org

We look forward to seeing you at future events. Maybe we will be able to meet you at the picnic.

Date: September 19, 2019

Time: 6:15 pm for dinner 7:15 pm for the Program

Place: United Methodist Church - Atlantic St. Milford, MI.

Program: 100th. Anniversary of the Ernest F Oldenburg American Legion Post 216

And

Mike Grobbel, President of the Polar Bear Memorial Association, grandson of a Polar Bear, speaks on the amazing “American Expeditionary Force of WWI “.

Nicknamed the “Polar Bears” which consisted of several well-known Milford men. Although the Armistice was signed in 1918, the Polar Bears were still fighting the Bolsheviks in Russia in 1919. Milford’s “Dough Boys” did not return home until the summer of 1919.



The monument to the forgotten Polar Bears of WWI.

Friends and family welcome to attend no charge.

October 17 - Facts and Fantasy of Halloween

!! Prize for the best costume!!

November 21 - Holiday Entertainment after another wonderful Holiday Pot Luck dinner.

Opportunities to experience history

Here are a couple of activities right in our own backyard.

Kensington has Early American Skills Experience for teens and adults. These are hands on programs that include blacksmithing, woodworking, bead working, fiber arts, pioneer life skills, and several cooking opportunities. Check out the dates and cost at www.chiefpontiacprograms.org/skills_experience.html

Kensington also hosts an annual event called Colonial Kensington. This is a chance to experience the sights and sounds of history. Visit with historically dressed reenactors portraying civilian and military life of the Colonial era. This year the encampment is August 9, 10 & 11. Check the Kensington Metro Park web site for more information.

Submitted by Jackie Swensen

Mark your calendars! September 21st and 22nd are not that far away.

As I walked around Milford meeting home owners and talking about the tour, I was filled with pride for our community and the warm friendly people who live here. While many home owners are not ready to share their homes at this time, “there is always one more thing to do”. It is very clear that they take pride in their homes and love living in our community. Many promised to put their home on the tour in the future.

At this writing, I am pleased to announce that we have 4 beautiful and interesting homes signed up to participate in the 2019 Home Tour. The home owners are excited about participating and looking forward to welcoming visitors into their homes. I have several leads for a fifth home and hope to confirm one soon.

The home tour committee met in June and will meet again in July to finalize plans for this year’s tour. If meeting new friends and visiting beautiful homes sounds interesting, we always welcome new members. Please contact Sue Gumper (248-685-2691) for information about joining the committee or being a docent during the tour.

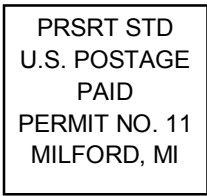
Submitted by Sue Gumper

Docent Appeal Works

Social Media and Historical Society are two terms that generally do not go together. But when the Board of Directors met for our May meeting, we realized we had a problem. We had seven student docents graduating this year and some of our adult docent retiring. We were left with a big problem, not enough help to keep the museum open. The museum hours were Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday from 1pm to 4pm. The board made the difficult decision to close the museum on Saturday.

Board Members along with our docents jumped in and opened the museum on Wednesday and Sundays. But we knew we needed to find a solution fast. So on a whim, we posted on Facebook that we needed help. And our community heard our call and answered. We got an overwhelming responses from people wanting to help out. On June 25th we invited 14 docents to a training session. We went over giving tours, product sales, museum safety and much more. We had a good mix of high school students and adults, it was a busy day but we managed to have a lot of fun.

We will be having a second training in July for about 10 individuals that were not able to make the June Training. We are hoping that we will be able to open the museum back on Saturday sometime in August. It takes a lot of docents to staff the museum, we could use more, so if you are interested in becoming a docent know of someone that would like to help out, please send an email to milfordhistory@hotmail.com.



Family Treasures

We all have those objects that have special meaning to us and we hope to those who follow us. It might be the photo of our Grandfather, or a plate that Mom always used when she made a birthday cake. Now the question is how do we keep these things safe into the future. We either store them safely, or find them new homes with others who will cherish them.

As we are offered interesting items as donations what I look for is the "story". Who are the people in the picture?

I'd like to talk about photos. We have boxes of photos that we can date based on the style of clothing, but wouldn't it be so much more interesting if we knew who the people were? Here are some tips to care for your photos. Avoid writing on the

backs of photos, you can photocopy the original and write on the copy or create a log that coordinates information on paper to a penciled number on the back of the photo. Always use pencil on photos and write lightly. Ink will eventually bleed through, causing damage. So will stickers. Provide names, dates, and events when possible. Photocopying will not damage pictures unless you repeatedly expose the photo to the process.

If you like to display old photos you might consider having copies made as sunlight can slowly destroy them, causing fading and cracking. The best solution is to have copies made and display these. Another solution is to have the photos properly framed by a professional framer.

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.