

# The Milford Historian

===== Newsletter of the Milford Historical Society =====

March 2002

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

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## Restoration of the Marshall Roundhouse

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### General Membership Meeting

**Thursday, March 21, 2002 @ 6:30 p.m.**

At our March meeting, Mr. Bob King of Lindhout Associates-Architects will present a saga about preservation. His story will tell about the saving of the roundhouse in Marshall, Michigan and its move to Greenfield Village in Dearborn for restoration into a world-class railroad museum. Hop aboard for an interesting journey that travels from 1884 to 2002!

Our general membership meetings are open to the public and all are invited. You don't have to be a member to enjoy this Thursday evening with people who like history!

Our evening will start with a sumptuous potluck dinner at St. George's Episcopal Church, 801 E. Commerce Street. (Set up at 6:15 p.m., eat at 6:30 p.m.) We will have a brief membership meeting at 7:30 p.m. The featured speaker program starts at 8:00 p.m. Bring your own table service and a big dish to pass based on the first letter of your last name.

**Milford Historical Society 6:30 p.m.**

**Thursday, March 21, 2002**

A-F Dessert  
G-Q Salad  
R-Z Main Dish

### *From the President's desk:*

Earlier this year, as we sat around the table at our Board retreat, we talked about ways to make the Milford Historical Society more visible in the community. We tossed around lots of ideas, some of which you see here in the newsletter, and will see in the months to come.

One thing though, has stuck in the back of my mind...that of a slogan that identifies or personifies the MHS. Jim Reiter was the inspiration for this, and I think he had a good idea for a slogan . . . *You're never too old to...* It has a nice kind of ring to it. And, it could be used in a lot of ways. So look for it to pop up in the things you see this year. For this month though, as we look at the newness of spring, and the emergence of new activity around town, keep this in mind:

You're never too old to...be what you might have been...keep an open heart...  
and an open mind....to reach out and touch someone..... to give a warm hug.....  
or a friendly pat on the back.....to learn something new.... or take up an old pastime....or find an old friend. ..to call your mother . . . . or check on your kids....to whistle a tune....or put a little lilt in your step...to create happy childhood memories....or share yours

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with someone else....to tell your story...or learn another's....to take the first piece of cake...or give back to your community....to nurture your spirit . . . . to say 'thank you'..... how about you take up this train of thought and share yours.

Your president, *Sue Fleming*

### **\*\*\*News Updates\*\*\***

#### **Membership:**

Membership Dues are due on an annual basis. Many of you have already taken care of this task. Thank you!! And thank you to those who made a contribution above and beyond the dues requirement! If you haven't paid yet, it's not too late.

The membership committee is doing an outstanding job of processing all the dues and getting new members. We would like to welcome new members Greg and Ann Beck, Susan Gumper, Margaret Cavenee, Jerry and Janice Radtke, and Russ and Kathy Rheume.

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#### **Museum**

Our museum will open in May and there is always a need for docent volunteers from the ranks of our membership. Audrey Nelson is our docent coordinator and would like your help! Our adult docent crew compliments our student docent program. We now have six student docents. We would like to welcome new student recruits Margo Warner, Heather Whitney, and Jamie Ketren. Student docents work toward a scholarship award that is based on their time and effort at the MHS museum.

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#### **Home Tour 2002**

The Milford Historical Society Home Tour will return in 2002. After a one year "rest", the tour for this year is shaping up nicely. The date of the event is September 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>. Although this isn't exactly the "third weekend in September", it will align us with the car show on Main Street that Sunday.

As part of Home Tour, the MHS is putting together a special exhibit that hopefully will include local history of Milford up to the time

of the first settlers. If any MHS members know of anybody with any local fossils, Native American arrowheads, etc., please contact Bill Schimmel at 685-1406.

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#### **Board Appointment**

Catherine Irish has been appointed to the MHS board of directors. She will replace Renee Renko. Board officers now stand with Sue Bullard taking on the duties of recording secretary and Judith Reiter acting as corresponding secretary. Our board meets on the fourth Wednesday of the month at the Museum.

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#### **Historic Trip**

You are invited to participate in a historic tour of Hines Drive and the Rouge Waterway on Monday, April 29, 2002. The tour will show where the "Three Fires" Tribes Native Americans held their annual spring councils, and show how the Rouge River served as an escape route on the Underground Railroad. Also explained will be history of mills and Henry Ford's Village industry, the first comfort stations in America, and the Bennett Arboretum.

Contact Judith Reiter (684-0684) for tickets (\$15 per person). Price includes bus tour and lunch.

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#### **Membership Survey**

Please read and fill out the Membership Survey on page 3. This survey will aid your MHS board of directors in piloting our organization. Bring your completed survey to the March membership meeting or drop it off at the museum in the front door mailbox. Thanks in advance for your input!

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#### **Dates to Remember**

March 21<sup>st</sup> - General Membership meeting  
April 29<sup>th</sup> Rouge Waterway Historic Tour  
May 16<sup>th</sup> - General Membership meeting  
July 14<sup>th</sup> - Annual Picnic  
September 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> - Home Tour  
September 19<sup>th</sup> - General Membership meeting  
November 21<sup>st</sup> - General Membership meeting

## Membership Survey

The following survey will help the Milford Historical Society better understand the needs of its membership. Please take the time to fill out the survey and return it to the Milford Historical Society. Add your comments in the spaces provided.

- |  | <b>YES</b> | <b>NO</b> |
|--|------------|-----------|
| 1. Would you be in favor of having general membership meetings once a month?   | -          | -         |
| 2. If monthly meetings were established, a proposal is to have our regular meetings with a speaker in January, March, May, etc., and on the even months of February, April, etc. have a "Milford issues" focus such as oral histories, events planning, crafting, quilting, sewing period dresses, etc. Does this type of alignment appeal to you? | -          | -         |
| 3. If monthly meetings were established, would you prefer a potluck every time?  | —          | —         |
| 4. If monthly meetings were established, would just coffee and deserts for the even months be better?  | —          | —         |
| 5. Do you have any suggestions on topics for programs for our membership meetings?<br>Please share your ideas here: _____  | -          | -         |
| 6. The MHS has many committees and some are unfilled. Please check ones that you would be interested in serving.<br>-Membership   Ford   Powerhouse   -Museum   Maintenance   -Publicity   -Program<br>-Oral History   -Research   -Home Tour   -None of the above   |            |           |
| 7. The MHS has many events throughout the year that require volunteers. Please check the event(s) that you would be able to dedicate some time.<br>4th of July Parade   -Float   building   -Holiday Open House / Boutique   -Chautauqua<br>-Milford Memories   -Home Tour   -Museum Docent   -Granny's Attic sale   -None of the above            |            |           |
| 8. The MHS has other needs for volunteer services. Please check the service where you could dedicate some time.<br>-Typing   -Demonstrating   -Doing research<br>-Other _____  |            |           |
| 9. Do you have an oral history that you are willing to share?  | —          | —         |
| 10. Do you have any ideas for how the MHS can make a greater presence in the community?<br>If so, please list your ideas: _____  | —          | —         |
| 12. Are you in favor of renaming the parks in Milford to better reflect Milford's history?   | -          | -         |
| 13. Do you have any ideas for Museum exhibits?<br>If so, please list your ideas: _____   | —          | —         |
| 14. Do you have a preference as to what the museum docents should wear so visitors know who they are?<br>If you do have a preference, please share it here:<br>-Period costume   -Business casual   -Other _____   | -          | -         |
| 15. Would you like to receive email messages on upcoming meetings or events?<br>If so, please write your email address on the address label on the other side.   | -          | -         |
| 16. Do you have any additional comments?<br>If so, please write them on the other side.  | -          | -         |

If you want to participate in this survey anonymously, please black out or remove the mailing label on the other side. Please return this survey to the MHS: mail it, drop it at the museum, or bring it to the March meeting. Thanks!!