

The Milford Historian

VOLUME 38 / NO 2

MILFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MARCH /APRIL 2010

UPCOMING EVENTS

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

The Art of Weaving,
Presented by
Richard & Chris Jeryan

Thursday, March 18, 6:30 PM
Milford United Methodist Church
1200 Atlantic, Milford

Potluck Dinner

Bring a dish to pass based on the first letter of your last name:

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

Please bring your own table service and beverage

MUSEUM

Museum Spring Cleaning
April 17, 21, 24
Begins each day at 10AM

Museum opens May 1st for the season

SPRING TEA

Spring Tea at the Mary Jackson House to take place in May (date TBD)

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING FOR MAY

Meeting will be on May 20th
Bissell Family Part 2 by Kim Kish

From Your President, Norm Werner

I'm honored to be your new Board of Directors President for 2010. I have been on the board for a few years now and have been associated with the Historical Society since 2002 as its Webmaster. I will continue to maintain the MHS Web site during my tenure as President, and likely well beyond that.



I really haven't had a chance since the board meeting in which I was elected to spend a lot of time thinking about the duties of the President or of any particular "vision" that I might bring to the job. I am determined to try to get wider participation from MHS members in all of our events and activities throughout the year and to engage the local business community and governmental groups more thoroughly, in hopes that they too might become more involved in our events as sponsors and participants.

Right now we need more adults to volunteer as docents in the museum on Wednesdays and Saturdays. We have a few student docents, but our adult docent volunteer ranks have dwindled. Stop in the museum and talk to our Museum Director, Marlene Gomez, or call her at 248-685-7308 to volunteer.

The Independence Day Parade will take place on July 3rd this year, instead of the traditional July 4th date, due to how the holiday falls on the calendar. Since this is a major election year in the state and at the U.S. Congressional level, we can expect plenty of politicians to be marching. Make sure your group contacts the parade organizers early to get a good spot in the parade. Contact the coordinators Russ or Kathy Rheaume starting in May to reserve your slot.

As is the case every year, we still need some houses for the 2010 Home Tour, so contact the Home Tour co-chairs Sue Bullard or Sue Gumpfer if you would like to have your home included. It's always a great honor to have a home on the Tour.

Start setting aside donations for our annual Grannie's Attic Sale in July. This is one of our major fundraisers (along with the Home Tour) and we need your stuff to sell to make it a success. We'll be announcing details as we get closer to the date.

You are reminded that as you go through your old stuff, if you come across old pictures of Milford – buildings, places, people – please consider donating them to the Historical Society so that they may be preserved and help to preserve Milford's history. We'd especially like pictures of the old Milford High School when it was located on Hickory Street and pictures of downtown Milford from the '20s-'50s.

I look forward to meeting more members at upcoming general membership meetings and to an exciting and hopefully successful new year for the Milford Historical Society. For those who haven't visited, I recommend spending some time on the Society's Web site – www.milfordhistory.org – there is just a ton of stuff there about Milford's history. I'd love to add your stories and pictures to our Web archives. You can email me content at Webmaster@milfordhistory.org — I'll see you at the next general membership meeting.

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

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Norm Werner

VICE-PRESIDENT

Sue Bullard

VICE-PRESIDENT

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MUSEUM STAFF/ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Marlene Gomez 248-685-7308

The Milford Historian

Newsletter of the Milford Historical Society

published bimonthly (six times per year)

Editor: Diane Nossal

Email: Historian@milfordhistory.org



2010 Submission deadlines:

Apr 24 for May/June Issue

June 26 for July/Aug Issue

Aug 21 for Sept/Oct Issue

Oct 30 for Nov/Dec Issue

Mary Jackson House—Great News

January doesn't seem like a suitable time of year to install gutters on a house, but that is what happened to the Mary Jackson House. Due to the peaks and valleys on the house and the lack of a proper drainage system, the 1873 house has suffered severe water damage over the years. Working with the National Trust for Historic Preservation, it was determined that the addition of gutters was necessary to prevent further damage.



Mary Jackson house on Canal Street

The **Pettibone Creek Questers** organization is a group of individuals who share an interest in history, antiques, and historic preservation. Holding fundraising events throughout the year, they assist local groups, such as our Historical Society with preservation projects. This past October, they held an appraisal clinic at the Milford Methodist Church; proceeds were used to purchase and install the much-needed gutters and downspouts.

Because of the generous efforts of the Pettibone Creek Questers group, our organization was able to take another step to help preserve Mary's 1873 home. Our sincere thanks to them for their dedication to preservation and to their continued support of organizations in the community.

A BIG thank you to ...

Acorn Farm's, Kathy Magulak, for supporting the Milford Historical Society's merchandise sales. Thanks to Kathy, the society received a donation of all proceeds from the book sale of "*Ten Minutes Ahead of the Rest of the World.*"

Museum Happenings

Thank you to everyone who helped decorate the museum for Christmas last November: **Al Raddi, Sue Bullard** and student docents: **John Deradoorian, Elise Hubel** and **Hannah Lynch**.

We enjoyed the Daisy Troop that toured on November 30th and Cub Scout Pack 315 that visited on December 9th. The cub scouts took great interest in the deer that visited the museum and wanted to learn the whole story! We also want to say thanks to **Gary Goodenow** for mounting the deer antlers on a beautiful wooden plaque commemorating the deer's museum visit on November 4th. Thank you Gary for your time and kindness!

Thank you to **Margaret Wheeler** for her many hours of help last fall.

We also have students to thank for helping us take down the Christmas decorations in February: **John Deradoorian, Hannah Gasvoda, Jessica Gasvoda, Elise Hubel and Hannah Lynch!**

Thank You • Muchas Gracias • Danke • Merci

General Membership Meeting—*The art of weaving*

At our next general membership meeting we are going to learn how the interlacing of two sets of yarns or threads is used to weave fabrics. The art of weaving has remained essentially the same for thousands of years. By using a device called a loom, crafters can use these threads to create beautiful fabrics. Our speakers have extensive experience with the loom and if you have visited the Weavers shop at Greenfield Village, you may have met them. **Richard and Chris Jeryan** are both volunteers there and will explain the art of weaving.

In the 1930s, Henry Ford commissioned a Jacquard loom that operated as part of the educational program of the Greenfield Village Textile Division. The loom sat unused for 25 years until the restoration of the head and loom began in mid-2006. At our next meeting, Richard will describe the extensive research conducted on the Jacquard loom, the restoration process, and the loom's operation. Chris will describe 19th century woven coverlets, the application of Jacquard weaving methods to their manufacture, their artistic and regional development, and the social context of their use.

Richard Jeryan has been a hand weaver since the early 1980s and is a volunteer weaver in the Greenfield Village Weaving Shop. He restored the Jacquard loom at Greenfield Village, and along with Chris, has studied historic Jacquard weaving, the design of Jacquard fabrics, and the preparation of punched cards at The Loom Room in Staffordshire, UK and at Eastern Michigan University.

Chris Jeryan's 30-year interest in textiles has led her to the study of tartan weaving, fabric finishing, collapse weaves, historic American textiles, 19th-century rugs, and more. She has spent her career in museum services, writing, and a myriad of special projects. She currently volunteers at Greenfield Village, where she performs a wide range of textile-related historical research and works in the Weaving Shop.

Our guests will bring a few coverlets from their collection. Society members, with questions about their own coverlets, are welcome to bring them, and Richard and Christine will try to provide insight about their construction and history.

We will begin with a potluck dinner at 6:30 PM at the Milford Methodist Church (1200 Atlantic St). A brief business meeting will begin at 7:30 PM followed immediately by our program. Please feel free to invite a guest—everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend. Bring your own table service and a dish to pass based on the first letter of your last name as shown on the front page.

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Please consider a Donation...

Please consider a donation of cash or valuable merchandise to the Milford Historical Society, a charitable, tax-exempt 501c3 organization. All contributions to the society are tax deductible under federal and state law....

very much appreciated



Milford Historical Society
would like to welcome
our newest member

BARBARA MILLER

Thank you for joining and WELCOME

help WANTED

What's the buzz...

Looking for someone with knowledge of **door buzzer systems**. The museum main entrance could use an entry alert system that would sound when a visitor enters or exits the museum. If you have experience with these systems and can possibly offer some guidance, please email milfordhistory@hotmail.com.

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Museum Docents

We are looking for volunteer **docents** to assist with tours of the Milford Historical Society Museum. Volunteer for a few hours once a month or more—whatever fits your schedule! You will receive training and will be scheduled alongside experienced docents.

The museum is located at 124 E. Commerce and is open on Wednesday and Saturday (May - December) from 1PM to 4PM, and from 6PM to 8PM on the second Wednesday of the month.

With busy schedules, it can be hard to find time to help, but the benefits are enormous. Learn about Milford's rich history, share it with others and make new friends in the process!

do·cent: *noun* (dō'sənt):

Someone who is a knowledgeable guide; especially, someone who conducts visitors through a museum and delivers a commentary on the exhibitions.

Milford Historical Society
124 East Commerce
Milford, Michigan 48381

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Many Thanks to our Home Tour Sponsors

The Milford Historical Society is especially appreciative for the donations of our Home Tour sponsors. With the support of these businesses, as well as your important individual contributions, we are able to continue working to preserve Milford's long and rich history.

PLATINUM Sponsor (6th year):



GOLD Sponsor (5th year):

Milford Downtown Development Authority

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

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Annual Member Dues:

Student	\$5
Senior	\$10
Individual	\$15
Family	\$25
Lifetime	\$250
Small Business	\$50
Corporation	\$250+

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

Email: milfordhistory@hotmail.com

Phone: 248-685-7308

Be sure to visit us on the web: www.milfordhistory.org