

Milford Historical Society
 124 East Commerce
 Milford, Michigan 48381

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The Milford Historian

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MILFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MARCH/APRIL 2012

UPCOMING EVENTS

March General Membership Meeting

Thursday, March 15 @ 6:30 PM
 Milford United Methodist Church
 1200 Atlantic St., Milford.

Program: Colonial Maple Syrup by Jeff Pavlik

Potluck Dinner-
 Please bring a dish to pass based on the first letter of your last name:

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

ALSO, PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN TABLE SERVICE, BEVERAGE, AND A FRIEND. (COFFEE PROVIDED)

SPRING TEA AT THE MARY JACKSON HOUSE

SATURDAY APRIL 28TH, 2012
 TWO SETTINGS-11 AM-1 PM & 2 PM-4 PM
 COST \$25 PER TICKET

Museum Clean up:
 Saturday, April 21st, Wednesday April 25th, & Saturday, April 28th

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THE FOLLOWING MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS & EVENTS:

All Thursday meetings are held at the Milford United Methodist Church
Potluck Dinner at 6:30 PM
Brief Business Meeting at 7:15 PM followed by the following programs for 2012:

- Thursday May 17th
 Program: Michigan Back Roads- A Road Trip Show by Ron Rademacher
- Sunday, July 22nd
 Picnic & Pot Luck at the Old School House owned by Don & Elaine Hunter
- Thursday, September 20th
 Program: Mentioning Unmentionables by Kim Crocke
- November 'TBD'
 Program: War of 1823 by Bill Schimmel

From Your President, Carol Watkins



We all have talent – the beauty of the world is that we have different talents. Having spent most of my career with computers and databases, I am channeling that talent into my new role as President of our Milford Historical Society. I am lucky enough to inherit the PastPerfect software that was purchased in years past to record all the wonderful artifacts, photos and documents in the Museum and Mary Jackson house. I am adding to that two more computers and a server which will be networked at the museum so several volunteers can work together to scan and record the past of Milford.

What is your talent? Can you do woodworking? The door to the basement is warped and needs repair. Can you repair old glass windows with rotten wood? We have three at the museum and more at the Mary Jackson house. Do you like gardening? There is always gardening at both locations, and we hope to create a Victorian garden which will require some digging and planting, as well as fence installation.

Maybe you like to “surf” the internet...I do. By surfing, I found that computers cannot go into landfills. There are people who take used computers, refurbish them and then donate them to schools and non-profits, like us! You do have to pay for upgrades, and shipping, but the prices are fabulous. By surfing, I found free internet services for non-profits, grants available for small museums, and software donations for our enhanced computer system. You can volunteer to “surf”, fill our grant applications, or just come to the museum and help record the photos and documents we have.

Do you like to talk to people? Volunteer as a docent, or give tours in the museum. Even one day a month would help. Another way to volunteer is help contact members of the community – some of which you know – to help support the Milford Historical Society. Our Past President, Norm Werner, is spearheading this endeavor and has many wonderful ideas to integrate history and the present in events on Main street or with the Downtown Development Group. Norm can use your help.

Maybe you would like to go shopping? A 22 x 36 stained glass window would fit the door on the side of the museum, a 26 x 26 would fit the front door. A 36 x 39, or 34” round would fit the window on the staircase. How about wooden venetian blinds to replace the tattered green shades at the museum?

The carpet in the hall and on the stairs of the museum needs replacement. Are you shopping for carpet? Maybe buy a bit more and help spruce up the museum.

Perhaps the easiest way you can volunteer is to watch for vintage item – books, photos, maps, legal documents, clothing, hats, furniture, etc. These may be in garage sales. You might talk to your friends and find they have “stuff” in their attics. Help locate ways to record Milford history. If you have older loved ones – record their memories, or bring them to us for recording. Our new software includes a “voice-to-text” program.

Thank you for believing in the value of history and supporting the Milford Historical Society.

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 for future generations.

PLATINUM Sponsor (8th year)



Gold Sponsor (7th year):

Milford Downtown Development Authority

Annual Member Dues:

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

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

Email: milfordhistory@hotmail.com

Phone: 248-685-7308

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

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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Email: Historian@milfordhistory.org



Be sure to visit us on the web:
www.milfordhistory.org
and "like" us on Facebook.

The Milford Historical Society Proudly Presents:

Colonial Maple Syrup by Jeff Pavlik

In affiliation with
Kensington Park
at: *Milford United
Methodist Church*
1200 Atlantic St.
Milford, MI

March 15, 2012

6:30 pm
Pot Luck Dinner

7:15
Short Membership
Meeting

7:30 pm
The program

All too often, the history of Detroit and Michigan focuses on the automotive or, at times, agricultural influences. Those stories fail to highlight a deeper history, from a time when Native Americans perfected a process still used for contemporary commercial interests: the art of harvesting maple trees for syrup production. You really need two things for maple harvest season and Michigan is one of the only places in the world that has both. You need maple trees and you need the right weather conditions,

Maple Sugar information from Sandi Murhead:

You need two things to produce great maple syrup and Michigan has it: maple trees and nights below freezing and days above freezing to cause the sap to flow. I will add a third: patience.....Jeff Pavlik will guide us through the history, process, tools, and uses of maple syrup by early Americans and colonists in Michigan,(hope we get free samples). Jeff is also an author, avid historical re-enactor, and teacher of colonial style maple syrup. In his spare time, Jeff is the owner and baker of 'Sunflour Bake Haus' in downtown Farmington. It could be a sticky situation comparing real maple syrup to the "Ladies of Syrup" Aunt Jemima and Mrs. Butterworth. Your Call! Pass The Pancakes!!

Also,, Jeff has asked us to pass along this information:

He will be demonstrating maple sugaring at Kensington Metro Park on the week-ends of March 17-18 and the following weekend March 25-26.



Milford Historical Society Granny's Cabin Fever Sale

This year the sale will be located at **Studio 210 Main St.** It will take place on **March 8th from 4-6 PM** (Early Bird Sale)-Donation Requested; **March 9th from 9-4 PM** and **March 10th from 9-2 PM.** *Help will be appreciated.* Please contact Duane Freitag at 248-685-1826 if you are able to help with any of the jobs listed below or if you have a question.

March 8th at 8 AM we will be moving items from the museum and the Mary Jackson garage to Studio 210 Main; **March 9th-10th,** we will need sales people; **and March 10th from 1-4 PM** for packing and moving remaining items to the museum an Mary Jackson garage.



Spring Tea at the Mary Jackson House April 28, 2012

The Milford Historical Society will be hosting a Spring Tea at the childhood home of Mary Jackson. The third annual spring tea will feature a fashion show of wedding dresses from the past. Proceeds from the afternoon's tea will help continue the preservation efforts to the Mary Jackson House. Guest can choose from two settings to attend, 11am to 1pm and 2pm to 4pm. Each guest will enjoy savories and sandwiches, scones with lemon curd, jam or cream, assorted desserts and tea, coffee and punch. Tickets for the Spring Tea are \$25 and can be purchased at the Acorn Farms, 367 N. Main St., Main St. Art, 432 Main St. Seating is limited, reservations for the tea are recommended. For more information, call

Passings

The Milford Historical Society extends our deepest condolences to two past presidents of our society. Louise Dildine Bringham passed away November 11, 2011. Louise was president fro 1983 thru 1984 and was treasurer for 2 yearsduriig the sesquicentennial. Al Riggs passed away on January 28, 2012. Al served as president from 1992 thru 1993 and was involved in the remodeling of the current reference and resource room in the museum. Please see the link for Lynch Funeral Home for further information. Our hearts go out to these families during this difficult time.

Special Thank You!!! Our sincere thanks go out to the members of the Pettibone Creek Questers. Their most recent project was to repair the foundation of the Mary Jackson House. Although the foundation did not seem to be too bad, we knew that if we put it off to long, we would soon see structural damage. However, the realization that it needed to be fixed sooner rather than later came one night during a board meeting when a critter came into the house through a small hole and began to crawl around in the walls of the house. We knew immediately that the foundation work needed to be moved to the top of our "to-do" list.

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 the preservation projects.

So from our group to yours, thank you, for your enthusiasm to help preserve some of Milford's history and for your generosity.

Powerhouse news from Rich Harrison

U of M graduate students select Milford's Powerhouse for project.

The Pettibone Creek Hydroelectric Station website was recently contacted four University of Michigan graduate students studying energy systems. They are in a class on energy solutions and have a large analytical project on energy generation to complete. They have chosen to do the project on our Pettibone Powerhouse.

A tour was arranged and taken Friday ternoon February 10 with Nick Irish of Milford, Tim Dobson, Vik Linga and Guanghao Shuai. Notes and photos of the Powerhouse were taken and follow up emails have been exchanged. In a current email Nick and his teammates stated they have the start of a great project determining the feasibility of restoring the Powerhouse to power generation.

Richard Harrison who is currently coordinating tours and events at the Powerhouse is enthusiastically encouraging these U of M graduate students. They have the passion to follow this through and even have interest in a summer "Road Trip" to Springfield, Ohio. This is the home of The James Leffel & Company headquarters where the original hydroelectric turbines were manufactured in 1939 for Henry Ford. The company was started 1862 and is still in business and making hydroelectric turbines. The purpose of the tip would be to determine if one of the much newer and more compact hydroelectric turbines could be retrofitted to the existing housings.

We shall keep everyone current with the progress.

