The Milford Historian

VOLUME 38 / NO 6 MILFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2010

UPCOMING EVENTS

NOVEMBER GENERAL MEMBERSHIIP MEETING

THE W.A.V.E.S. OF HARMONY

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 18, 6:30 PM
Milford United Methodist Church
1200 Atlantic St, Milford

Thanksgiving Potluck Dinner—
Bring a dish to pass based on the first letter of your last name:

A-F: Hot Side Dish
G-Q: Salad
R-Z: Dessert

Please bring your own table service, beverage and bring a friend

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VISIT THE MILFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM DURING

DOWNTOWN MILFORD'S *THURSDAYS UNWRAPPED*: HOLIDAY ON MAIN

The Museum will be open on December 9th and December 16th 6:30 PM — 8:30 PM

From Your President, Norm Werner

As we bring another year to an end we need to briefly look back and then look ahead to 2011. 2010 was a tough year for many in the Milford community. The tough economic conditions were also reflected in our lower average for membership dues. We did have a very good Granny's Attic Sale and our Home Tour was a big success. Those are two of our main fund raisers during the year. It was also a very costly year, with the museum painting consuming much of our annual budget at $7,500. We received a good quality job for that money and it was the lowest bid that we received; still, it was a major drain on our already tight budget.

Next year we face the need to take care of other maintenance items that have been delayed as long as they can be. The museum is a very old building with many major systems or components at or near the end of their expected lives. At our current membership level and with our current funds we are able to take on only one major maintenance project a year.

We were extremely fortunate this year to be the beneficiaries of a community give-back effort by Phil Rashid of Rashid Construction. Phil contributed the materials and labor to replace some major areas of wood rot on the museum, work that we were going to have to delay for another year, due to funding constraints. Our sincere thanks go out to Phil Rashid.

There are a number of things that need attention at the museum and at the Mary Jackson house, which the MHS also owns and is trying to maintain. If any members have the desire to either contribute time or money to some of the needed repairs, replacement or maintenance items that need attention, please let us know. It could be anything from a new roof to a new furnace to many other items that you could help with.

And speaking of helping, I want to thank all of the members who volunteered at such events as the 4th of July parade, Granny's Attic sale, the Tea's at Mary Jackson's House and the Home Tour. Organizations like the MHS are a lot like church organizations - nothing gets done without volunteers helping out. The Board of Directors tend to take on the responsibility for those events, but they can't do it without the help of many members and we appreciate that help.

Looking forward to 2011, we have a pressing need to get new members of the community involved with MHS. We need more volunteers. We need more financial support of the MHS and its programs. If you know of anyone who might be interested in joining, please invite them to a meeting and give them an application (available at the museum or the website– www.milfordhistory.org).

We will continue our theme – "*You don't have to be a relic to join*" – in 2011 and hope that we can get 20-30 new member families in 2011. In fact, I challenge you all to make history while we are all trying to preserve the history of Milford – let's challenge ourselves to double the size of the MHS in 2011. If everybody gets one new member to join we can make that happen. Sue Bullard is lining up some great membership meeting programs for 2011, which we will share on the website and in the next newsletter. So, grab a friend, a relative or a neighbor and get them out to a meeting this coming year and let's get them started preserving Milford's history, too.

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.

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The Milford Historian

Newsletter of the

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Editor: Diane Nossal

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November Meeting — Enjoy the *W.A.V.E.S. of Harmony*

We will take a nostalgic trip down memory lane at our next general membership meeting. Our November meeting will take place on Thursday, November 18th and we will enjoy listening to the a cappella harmony singing group of the members of W.A.V.E.S. of Harmony.

The W.A.V.E.S. of Harmony began 7 years ago with a group of individuals from the surrounding areas. They are a performance-based group, having performed at Milford Memories, Northville's 4th of July Parade, assisted living facilities, as well as church groups and many more community organizations. You may have even seen them strolling the streets of Milford during the Holiday season.

Our November general membership meeting will be at the Milford Methodist Church located at 1200 Atlantic Street. We will begin with our special Thanksgiving potluck dinner at 6:30 p.m. The Board of Directors will generously supply the turkey, you supply the fixings. Following the feast, there will be a brief business meeting at 7:30 p.m. The program will start immediately afterward. Our general membership meetings are open to all. You don't have to be a member to enjoy this Thursday evening with history-loving people. So bring a friend, beverage, table service, and a dish to pass based on the first letter of your last name, as shown on the front page and enjoy the music from a variety of eras of long ago.

2010 Home Tour Report

The annual Home Tour provides the funding for the operation and upkeep of the Milford Historical Museum and other projects sponsored by the Historical Society including student docent scholarships, microfilming of the Milford Times, the Mary Jackson house and the Fourth of July parade. This is why we greatly appreciate everyone who volunteers their time and expertise to the Home Tour.

This year's Home Tour was successful. We sold approximately 550 tickets and offered complimentary tickets to 170 docent and sponsors. The net profit from ticket sales totaled $7,845.00. Our Home Tour Sponsorship Program grossed $2,150.00. After expenses the 2010 Home Tour raised $9,294.23. This will certainly go a long way in helping us maintain and operate the museum and supporting the Society's many projects.

Please consider a donation...

As the calendar winds down for 2010, 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 laws. You can also remember and support the MHS by making a charitable bequest through your will.

a Big Thank You to Matheson Heating

We had previously mentioned that the Mary Jackson House was in need of a new furnace and we are very happy to report that Robert Matheson of **Matheson Heating and Air Conditioning** (Commerce Twp) stepped forward to help us out. We give a sincere thank you for their very generous donation of the furnace, the installation of furnace, as well as a new liner for the chimney.

BIG *THANK YOU* to Home Tour Volunteers

The Milford Historical Society Home Tour requires a large team of dedicated volunteers to be successful. Co-chairs Sue Bullard and Sue Gumpper send out a big thank you to all of our volunteers. We know you worked hard and hope you had fun.

This year Lisa and Carlos Allison, Barb and Dave Call, Donna and David Gramlich, Mollie and John Renko, and Judith and Jim Reiter shared their beautiful historic homes with over 650 curious visitors. The homeowners and the Mary Jackson house were partnered with six house captains: Joyce Clark, Beverly Deman, Kim Kish, Brook Qualman, Susan Smith, and Dawn Watkins who worked diligently to make sure the tours were informative and moved smoothly. We also had MHS members leading tours and/or activities at the South Park log cabin, powerhouse, museum and tractor show. Many thanks go out to Tami Averill, Bill Crawford, Marlene Gomez, Rich Harrison, Don Sleek and our student docents. The tour could not go on without your help.

Behind the scenes Home Tour Committee members and supporters took charge of volunteer procurement, publicity, entertainment, hospitality, signage, finance, historic research and sponsorships. We greatly appreciate Linda Dagenhardt, Jim Gable, Carolyn Graves, Lee Johnson, Bill Schimmel, Chris Smith, Bryon Waara, Judy Waara, Carol Watkins and Norm Werner. This small but very dedicated group was committed to making the home tour a success.

We must thank Acorn Farms, Main Street Art and Your Nesting Place for their ongoing assistance with tickets sales and providing support. This year's tour featured demonstrations by local basket weavers, knitters, lace makers and musicians. We thank them for sharing their expertise. We also want to thank Tony Panepucci for trying to make the Privy Dig happen. We were very sorry the weather did not cooperate.

The tour could not happen without our largest group of volunteers—the home tour docents. About 150 community members donated 3 or more hours to welcome our visitors and guide them through the homes. They help to make the tour an informative, fun experience.

We would like to thank the following businesses and organizations for participating in our Sponsorship Program: The Milford Times, The Milford Downtown Development Authority, ASI Signage of Troy, The Burger Joint, Huron Valley Chamber of Commerce, Huron Valley State Bank, Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital, Inter-Office Construction, Inc., Kensington Dairy Queen, Monthly Shopper, Tige Reader, Re/Max Platinum, University of Michigan/Kellogg Eye Center, Wildcat Properties, Your Nesting Place and the Watkins Family.

Lastly, we thank all of our home tour visitors. We hope you enjoyed the tour and the Milford community. We hope you will return in 2011 and bring a friend.

Museum News from *Marlene Gomez*

After a very successful Home Tour this year, we have been busy with visitors. Maybe it is the cool fall weather —there seems to be a renewed interest in genealogy research as we've had several visitors coming in to see what we have in our files. We had three Tiger Scout troops come in for tours on Oct. 9, 13 and 20th. They are brand new troops with boys in the 6-7 year age range from Milford, Highland and White Lake. Three second grade classes from Lakewood Elementary (White Lake) will be coming in for tours on November 3rd.

One of our student docents, **Nate Anderson**, has been working with **Bonnie Walworth** getting trained on our Past Perfect program. We are in the process of getting all the museum photos scanned into the computer. This is a long process and we hope to get more students trained to help. Speaking of student docents, we want to do a little biography on each one and will start with two of our students, **Elise Hubel** and **Hannah Lynch**.

Elise Hubel is a junior at Milford High School and started working at the museum in November of 2009. She is involved with the Diversity Club, SADD (Students Against Destructive Decisions) and Meditation Club. She is interested in psychology and would like to be a forensic psychologist.

Hannah Lynch is also a junior at Milford High School and started at the museum in November of 2009. She is also involved in the Diversity Club, SADD, and Meditation Club. Hannah is interested in the arts, especially filming and editing, and won an award at the Three Minutes in Lyon Film Festival (18 and under division) for her short film.

Both Elise and Hannah enjoy getting dressed in the old-fashioned dresses and they are tiny enough to fit into a lot of them! Below is a photo taken at this year's Home Tour.

Elise and Hannah at the 2010 Home Tour

I also want to thank **Duane Freitag**, **Lee Johnson**, **Brian Mooney** and **Mary Lou** for always helping out with museum tours. I couldn't do it without them!

We will decorate the museum for Christmas on Saturday, Nov. 20th. If anyone would like to help, we plan to start at 10am. The museum will close for the winter on Wednesday, Dec. 22nd.

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 for future generations.

PLATINUM Sponsor (7th year) :

MILFORD TIMES

Gold Sponsor (6th year) :

Milford Downtown Development Authority

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- **ASI Signage of Troy (2nd year)**
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- **Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital (2nd year)**
- **Inter-Office Construction, Inc. (3rd year)**
- **Kensington Dairy Queen (5th year)**
- **Monthly Shoppers (7th year)**
- **Re/Max Platinum, Tige Reader Team (4th year)**
- **University of Michigan/Kellogg Eye Center (4th year)**
- **The Watkins Family (1st year)**
- **Wildcat Properties (2nd year)**
- **Your Nesting Place, Chris Meredith (6th year)**

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**