

The Milford Historian

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 and Milford Township.*

July 2008 Picnic

It's time once again for our annual picnic, and there's no better way to enjoy a pleasant summer afternoon than with our historical society family. This year we will be the guests of Tea J's Tea Room, if the weather is sunny. If it is raining, the picnic will move indoors at the Mary Jackson House. Our potluck lunch will begin at 2:00 p.m. and, because it is a picnic, you will need to bring a lawn chair or two.

So pack your picnic basket and bring your favorite summertime dish to pass based on the first letter of your last name, as shown below. Remember, you don't have to be a member of the Society to enjoy a pleasant summer afternoon with people interested in history. All are welcome!

July 2008 Picnic

Sunday, July 20, 2008

2:00 p.m.

Tea J's Tea Room

314 S. Main St

A-G

Main Dish

H-R

Salad

S-Z

Dessert

Everyone: Table service & beverage (coffee provided)



From Your President...

I hope that you're enjoying these lazy crazy days of summer. This is a time of celebration, a time where we celebrate our independence. By the time this newsletter has arrived in your mailbox, the Independence Day Parade sponsored by the Milford Historical Society will have marched down Main Street. Our hometown parade draws many families from all around to our area and we are proud to be able to continue to bring such a great event to our community. Putting on such an event is a huge undertaking and once again our parade committee has done a fantastic job. A big round of applause goes to **Russ and Kathryn Rheame**, who did an outstanding job putting the parade together. Organizing such an event takes a lot of time and a lot of patience, with Russ and Kathryn working on the details right up to the moment the parade starts. Well done!

On July 4th, our country celebrated its 232nd birthday. For many, this holiday brings a well deserved day off from work. We gather our family and friends together to enjoy a picnic and maybe watch some fireworks. But sometimes I wonder if we forgot the reason for the celebration. It's not just a day off from work or an excuse for a party, Independence Day allows us to reaffirm our commitment to freedom and to experience a feeling of patriotism. We are acknowledging and expressing an appreciation for the freedom to do what we wish and with whom. It allows us to worship or not to worship; it empowers us to do many things.

It is easy to dwell on the trouble and trials that is going around us, but don't lose hope. Celebrate the adoption of the Declaration of Independence each and every day and all that it stands for. Use your freedom wisely, and remember to protect it fiercely, because that freedom and independence empowers us to do many things.

Sue Bullard, President

Granny's Attic Sale July 11th & 12th

Don't miss it

The event you've been waiting for is finally here! There are some especially great treasures this year, so shop early. The sale starts at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, July 11th and continues on Saturday, July 12th. Importantly, remember that your Historical Society receives the full proceeds from every sale. Granny thanks you.



Milford Memories

The Milford Historical Society Needs your Help!

We need your help! July is the beginning of our fundraising season. It starts with the Granny's Attic Sale in July and ends with Home Tour 2008 in September. This year we have been given a great opportunity to help promote our organization, as well as earn some money. The Huron Valley Chamber of Commerce has asked our group to help staff one of their information booth's during Milford Memories this August 8th, 9th and 10th. Our responsibilities will be to answer questions and give directions to events (based on information they will provide). We will also sell bottles of cold water during the three-day event with half of the proceeds coming to the Historical Society. The information booth will be located close to the museum and our volunteers will be shaded by a tent provided by the Milford Memories committee.



Last year at the last minute, the Historical Society was offered a parking lot to use during Milford Memories. The enclosed lot allowed us to charge a parking fee to visitors, with the Historical Society receiving 100% of the funds collected as a donation. We were overwhelmed with the generosity of people who wanted to park close to downtown and where happy to support the Historical Society.



This year we once again have been offered the use of a parking lot during the three-day festival. This year the lot is located on the corner of Commerce and Hickory Street. Most of us know this corner as the parking lot for the old St. Mary's Church. Volunteers at this location will also have a tent providing shade and we will make sure there is a refreshing drink for our volunteers. Plus the museum is a short distance from both locations to be used as a comfort station.

Our volunteers are the heart and soul of our group. We simply could not exist without your help. If you would like to volunteer for a couple hour shift at either one of these sites, please give us a call or send an email to mifordhistory@yahoo.com.

Home Tour 2008 *Celebrating 32 Years*



Mark September 20th and 21st on your calendar and join us for another terrific Home Tour! Home Tour 2008 will feature six beautiful area homes, special visits to the Log Cabin, Powerhouse, MHS Museum and an Oak Grove Cemetery Walk.

Be sure and check out the September/October newsletter for specific information on the six homes, and watch for the "See Me In September" signs during Milford Memories for a sneak preview. To peak your interest, your tour will include visits to a stone home, mother and daughter homes, and one of our most interesting Victorian ladies.

We welcome the continuing participation of the Oak Grove Cemetery Committee. They will identify the gravesites of Milford citizens who lived and worked in the homes included on this year's tour. They plan to provide special information at each gravesite. We hope visitors will stroll through our beautiful Oak Grove Cemetery and join us in learning about and honoring the people who helped to develop Milford.

Need more to do? The Log Cabin in South Side Park will be open and feature activities for the young and young at heart. Or, tour the Powerhouse and view the renovation progress...most impressive. The museum will be open and features a military uniforms display. On Sunday step back in history and visit the Tractor Show located at Johnson Elementary School. We also hope to include the always popular "Privy Dig."

Home Tour 2008 begins at 11:00 a.m. and goes to 5:00 p.m. both days. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$13 for seniors. They will be available before September 20th at Main Street Art (432 N. Main) Saint George's Café (159 N. Main), Tea J's Tea Room (314 S. Main) and the Milford Historical Museum (124 E. Commerce, open Wednesdays and Saturdays 1 to 4 p.m.).

Be sure to mark your calendars and join us! Better still, call Sue Gumpfer, 248-685-2691, or the Museum, 248-685-7308, and volunteer to help during the tour.

Welcome new members!

We are pleased to announce that the newest members of the Milford historical Society are **Kerry Bentivolio, Paul and Donna White, and Rose and Clyde Riopelle**. Welcome Kerry, Paul, Donna, Rose and Clyde.



Support *The Milford Times*



The Milford Times has been a Platinum Sponsor of the Historical Society Home Tour for the past three years. In appreciation for their generous support, all members should return the favor by supporting them.

HISTORY FEATURE

Board of Directors

We welcome and extend our congratulations to **Brian Moony** and **Jim Gabel** who were elected to the Milford Historical Society Board of Directors. Thank you for agreeing to serve.



Fiona Hammock is stepping down as a board member. Special thanks, Fiona, for your service and contributions.

Treasurer Needed

A wonderful opportunity for number lovers! The Milford Historical Society Board is seeking a new board member who would be interested in taking on the exciting challenge of being the MHS treasurer. If you are interested, please contact Sue Bullard (685-8321) or Sue Gumpfer (685-2691).



2008 Colonial Kensington: 18th Century Event

Milford Historical Society members Lee and Tom Johnson are representing our Society at the Colonial Kensington event this August. They will have a space and be selling beef jerky, lemonade, iced tea, and pickles, plus MHS merchandise. Tom and Lee realize this is the same weekend as Milford Memories, but would welcome any Society members who would like to help. Specifically, the event will take place the weekend of August 9th and 10th, at Kensington Metro Park at Martindale Beach. Firewood and Ice will be provided by the park. Provided below is a timeline of events for Colonial Kensington:

The morning breaks quietly, sounds and smells of fires being stoked, a still mist covering the lake, dappled sunlight reaching through the large trees and falling on scenes from 250 years ago. In the distance the sound of a lone Bag Piper can be heard. It's August in the Northwest Territories as hundreds of reenactors are gathered at Kensington Park to re-live those historic, by-gone days.

Upon entering the encampment grounds visitors are treated with the sights and sounds of the 18th Century. From a Blacksmith forging items for everyday use, to reenacted battle skirmishes, the public is immersed in the past. A market street allows visitors to take home a bit of the past. The Royal Jamison Theater provides a period-correct Punch and Judy show for kids of all ages, performed several times a day. An excellent period musical group, Shakin' Hammers, fills the air with wonderful music throughout the weekend, sweet sounds of the Hammer Dulcimer tickling your ears.

Last year's event brought more participants than ever before. The Massachusetts Provincial Battalion, Bagley's Regt., and Partridges Lights brought about 30 people out, after not having attended Kensington in several years. There was a Period wedding held in their camp Saturday night. At the end of the event their commander, Brent Kemmer, stated that they enjoyed themselves and promised to return in 2008.

There will also be two French regiments: LaReine Grenadiers and Compagnie Franche de la Marine de Beletre. Both are respected reenacting units, adding quite a dashing sight to the atmosphere. Harry Burgess, commander of la Marine de Beletre, provides an excellent commentary of Saturday's battle for the public.

The close proximity to a public beach encourages many families to wander over to the encampment. This helped sales of 18th Century goods, with sellers reporting a good return for their time invested.

Saturday night saw an Officers soiree with Wine, and other delectables, as well as a Soldiers 'Wedge of Cheer' providing cold beer to those of legal age. On Sunday morning the entire camp was treated to fresh biscuits and sausage gravy. These amenities are provided at no cost to the participants.

Colonial Kensington, encompassing the 1700 – 1796 Era, is an event that has been going on for 8 years, and is getting bigger and better with time. Hosted by Grants' Co'y 42d Royal Highland Regiment and the 1st PA Regiment, Colonial Kensington has everything one could ask for, a beautiful park setting along the Huron River, unspoiled lake and river frontage for encampments, and mature forests, hills, streams and fields.

We also have featured the launching of several historic watercraft including a 25-foot ship's boat with two swivel guns. These historic craft are put to good use during several 'tactical' exercises. The site offers unlimited space for all time periods and impressions; F&I & RevWar British, French and Native Camps all being separate from each other. Tactical situations are offered early in the afternoons for the benefit of the reenactors; brushing up on skills, tactical and military, as well as a separate military tactical demonstration for the benefit of the spectators/general public later in the afternoons.

For more information contact Lee Johnson or call event contact David Marquis at 586-980-4068, or e-mail david_thered@yahoo.com

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WHAT'S HOT

July 2008 Picnic
Sunday, July 20, 2008
2:00 p.m.
Tea J's Tea Room
314 S. Main Street

DON'T MISS OUT!

Upcoming 2008 Events

July 11 & 12....Granny's Attic Sale
(Museum lawn)
July 20....MHS Annual Picnic:
Tea J's Tea Room, 314 S Main
Sept. 11...General Meeting and Program
"Barn Preservation"
Sept. 20 & 21....MHS Home Tour 2008
Sept. 21...Tractor Show
Nov 20.....General meeting and Program
TBD

Board of Directors

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Milford Museum Staff

Marlene Gomez	Assistant Director	685-7308
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The Milford Historian

Newsletter of the Milford
Historical Society
published bimonthly
(six times per year)

Editor: Jay Qualman

Submission deadlines:
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April, June, August, Oc-
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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: _____
City-State-Zip _____
Phone No. _____ E-mail _____

Mail to: Milford Historical Society, 124 E. Commerce, Milford, MI 48381