

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.*

Moving A Historic Home



At our next general membership meeting we will meet a couple that decided in the spring of 1983 to move an 1845 Greek Revival home from the Botsford Inn site on Grand River Ave, to their property on Thirteen Mile Rd in Farmington Hills. Known as The Eber Durham House, it is site #11 in the Michigan State Registry of Historical Places. The Botsford Inn is site # 15 in the Michigan State Registry and is in the National Registry of Historic Places.

What makes the program intriguing is that 25 years later, the same couple will move a ca. 1880's, 36' by 65' barn, in the winter, in one piece, from the same site to join their home.

Come hear the reunion story of two buildings once moved to the inn compound in 1924 by Henry Ford, moved again, and restored with care and delight by Jeff and Sherrie Stewart. The barn has been known as the Botsford Coach House and the scene of many wedding receptions and dances. Sherrie will present the slide show of both moves and interior and exterior shots of their project.

Our evening will begin with a scrumptious potluck dinner at 6:30 pm at the Milford Methodist Church located at 1200 Atlantic Street. 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. All are welcome. You don't have to be a member to enjoy this Thursday evening with people who like history. Bring your own table service and a dish to pass based on the first letter of your last name as shown below.

From your President



Happy New Year to all. The Country just got a new Prez and so did The Milford Historical Society, Me. And, what can I say, we are both a little different. Before being appointed, I had no intention of ever being your fearless leader; had never attended a Board Meeting and was content to help My **Kathy** with the 4th of July Parade and come to the General Meetings and 'pig out on all the good vittles'.

Well, so far I have been to two meetings and have made up my mind to give this position a good try. All of the Board Members are very involved and dedicated to the different committees, events, programs, etc. Our Past President, **Sue Bullard**, has left me with a machine well greased and fine tuned. **Sue** and **Mary Lou Gharritty** will be on both sides of me and making sure I tow the line. Below is a summary of some of the things going on. Being new, I'm sure that I have unintentionally omitted many details and I apologize if anyone was left out.

Bill Crawford will help setting up a booth at the Business Expo, Sunday March 29th, at the Milford High School promoting our Society and looking for new members. I am planning a trip the Milford Senior Center maybe for some spaghetti on a Friday night and then make a pitch also for new members. Remember the more members we have, the better our resources to improve our Society. Also, but not least, the more members we have, the more varieties of food at the pot luck buffets.



Sue Bullard, **Tami Averill** and **Lee Johnson** met with **Alan Heavner**, who presented an educational fund raiser of a canoe trip and museum tour. **Joyce Clark** is checking with the owner of the old St. Mary's Church parking lot for our use during Milford Memories We might even get a second lot to collect needed money.

Judith Reiter has been very involved over the years with the Power House project. This has now been turned over the to Village and Township, but she and others will keep being

(continued on page 2)

Potluck Dinner
Thursday, March , 2009
6:30 p.m.

United Methodist Church
1200 Atlantic, Milford

<u>A-G</u>	<u>H-R</u>	<u>S-Z</u>
Salad	Dessert	Main Dish

Everyone: table service & beverage

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involved as advisors. **Sue Gumper** is checking out references for a company to concrete the Museum basement floor. **Mary Lou** and **Marlene Gomez** have been doing a great job maintaining and improving the Museum. What a fun place to visit.

Brook Qualman is our Newsletter Editor and doing a fine job. Remember, we are all volunteers and spending our own time and resources to make this Society a better place for us all. Please consider volunteering as the need arises.

Bill Schimmel is involved with the Preservation/Restoration Award. He also is helping with the proposed Millionaires Party. **Judy Waara** is handling the Depression Glass Show among many other projects.

Norm Werner is doing a fine job on the MHS Web site. **Brian Mooney** has been very helpful and is going to fix our outside Museum sign. **Jim Gabel, Bill Crawford, Mary Lou** and **Kathy** are involved with other projects in the offing.

On behalf of all the Board of Directors, I would like to wish you all a Happy St. Patrick's Day. Let's make 2009 a good year for all in spite of the spiraling economy. We all live in or near this quaint, little valley-the Village of Milford and that in itself is something worth being happy about.

Again, I encourage all of you to bring in new members.

Russ Rheume, President

From your Board of Directors...

The Board of Directors would like to welcome Russ Rheume to the Board of Directors. Russ was appointed to fill the position recently vacated by Jeff Spoor, who was unable to continue to serve on the board. At the January Board meeting, the following individuals have accepted the following positions and are as follows:

President - Russ Rheume
 Vice President - Sue Bullard
 Vice President - Sue Gumper
 Treasurer - Judy Waara
 Recording Secretary - Kathy Rheume
 Corresponding Secretary - Judith Reiter



Congratulations to All!

Please Pay Your 2009 Dues

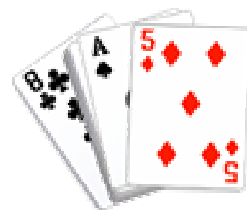
Your dues are past due if there is a stamp on your *Milford Historian*. Please give it your prompt attention and you can check off your to-do list. This will be a very full year for the Society which depends on your dues to maintain the Museum, publish this newsletter and execute several events, such as the Fourth of July Parade and the Home Tour, benefiting the Milford community. Your dues can be mailed to the Museum at 124 E. Commerce, Milford, MI 48381. Better still, bring them to our January 15th meeting... and save 42 cents. Thank you.



Millionaire Party ?

Recently the Milford Historical Society was offered an opportunity to participate in a "millionaire party". This is a new form of fund raising and was recently featured in the Detroit Free Press. A State licensed organization holds a gambling night in a restaurant or bowling alley and players are welcome to play games such as Texas Hold 'Em and Blackjack. Non-profit organizations are offered to partner with these groups and in turn receive 50% of the gross profits.

When the Historical Society decides to hold a fundraiser, the Board of Directors carefully reviews each proposed activity to make sure that the request does not conflict with our by-laws and Mission Statement. Being sensitive to our membership feelings, the Board of Directors wants to hear your opinion. At our next meeting we open the floor during our business meeting for discussion. We want to hear your opinion. If you are unable to attend, please feel free to email your message to the board at milfordhistory@yahoo.com.



Museum News

We will be cleaning the Museum on Saturday, April 18th, Wednesday, April 22nd and Saturday, April 25th. Cleaning will begin at 10 am



Thanks to our Home Tour Sponsors

The Milford Historical Society is especially appreciative this year for the donations of our Home Tour sponsors. We are pleased to welcome the Detroit Medical Center's Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital as a Platinum sponsor in addition to the Milford Times. 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 Sponsors

- DMC– Huron Valley-Sinai Hospital (1st year)
- Milford Times (5th year)



Milford Times

Gold Sponsor

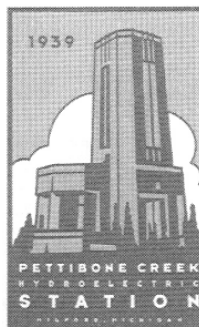
- Milford Downtown Development Authority (4th year)

Supporters

- Bakers of Milford, Chris Baker (4th year)
- The Burger Joint, Steve & Natalene Suser (4th year)
- Huron Valley Chamber of Commerce (5th Year)
- Huron Valley State Bank (3rd Year)
- Inter-Office Construction, Inc. (1st year)
- Kensington Dairy Queen (3rd year)
- Monthly Shoppers (5th year)
- Re/Max Platinum, Tige Reader Team (2nd year)
- Your Nesting Place, Chris Meredith (4th year).

Powerhouse News

"We want to thank Dorothy Kane, retired Huron Valley Schools art instructor, profusely for her initiative and all the time, effort and energy she brought to the History Channel project so successfully completed in 2008. Her contribution was pivotal in all areas, as the initiator of the idea, and in her creativity coordinating students, teachers, administrators, outside help and the artistic community in a complicated and far-reaching project. The historical society can be especially grateful for the great addition to our resume thanks to Dorothy.



We thank her so much for touching down for a moment in our arena and giving us the benefit of her creative gifts and generous spirit."

Wanted: 2008 Township Calendars



Bill Crawford is trying to track down as many 2008 Milford Township Calendars as he can. His Grandfather was pictured as a young boy for December. If you still have your calendar and are willing to part with it –call Bill.248-685-2228

Tractor Show Moving

Next year the Tractor show will be held in the Huron Valley State Bank parking lot. The school wants to charge a fee for the use of their lot, hence the move.



History of Oakland County

Oakland county, created by Governor Cass in 1819, was named for the many beautiful oak "openings" scattered throughout the county. Lying immediately north of Detroit, the southern section of the county was settled in the early 1920's and the remaining portion a decade later. The first important impulse to settlement was produced by the reports made by a Detroit exploring expedition into the county in



1818. En route the party rested under a magnificent oak tree, and Governor Cass, recalling the story of Bonnie Prince Charlie's romantic escape from his pursuers, named it the Royal Oak.

The Pontiac Company, organized by leading Detroiters, founded and named the city of Pontiac later in the same year. Oakland is and import agricultural county, but in recent decades manufacturing has far outranked agriculture as a source of income.

Pontiac has become a leading center of the automotive industry, while thousand Oakland citizens find employment in Wayne County plants. Beautiful lakes in Oakland afford superb recreational facilities to Detroit's teeming millions.



Taken from *Condensed Historical Sketched for each of Michigan's Counties* written by Milo M. Quaiffe and published by the J.L. Hudson Company in 1940.

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WHAT'S HOT

**General Meeting
March 19th**

DON'T MISS OUT!

Upcoming 2009 Events

Mar. 19...General Meeting and Program.
Moving Historic Homes

May 2... Museum Opens

May 21...General Meeting and Program:
The Bissell Family

July 19 Picnic hosted by Bill and
Nancy Schimmel

July 10th & 11th... Granny's Attic Sale

Board of Directors

Russ Rheaume	Presidnet	684-7373
Sue Bullard	Vice-President	685-8321
Sue Gumper	Vice-President	685-2691
Judy Waara	Treasurer	684-0010
Judith Reiter	Corresponding Secretary	684-0684
Kathy Rheaume	Recording Secretary	684-7373
Bill Schimmel	Director	685-1406
Bill Crawford	Director	685-2228
Norm Werner	Director	676-0878
Jim Gabel	Director	676-8291
Brian Mooney	Director	685-3076
Carol Watkins	Director	684-5045

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: Brook Qualman
248-676-0234

Submission deadlines:
Last day of February,
April, June, August, Oc-
tober & December

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