

# Waterford Historical Society Newsbill

Volume 15, Number 1

February-March 2010

Editor  
Sally Strait 248-683-2697  
sstrait649@comcast.net

## President's Notes

The weather outside is frightful...and cold! One thing we can depend on with Michigan weather is change. We know something different is around the corner. Hopefully soon. Hopefully warm.

Around WHS, as the Christmas decorations get packed away for another year, we are starting to think of the Fashion Show and Log Cabin Days. Before we know it, these will be upon us.

This year my goal is to bring our history forward. Part of our mission statement is to educate present and future generations. We need people willing to learn and teach. Come in on a Wednesday, choose a family, and do some research. Become an expert on barber shops and be willing to pass on your knowledge during school tours and Log Cabin Days. Learn a trade or craft to demonstrate. Get involved in the process.

We have so many talented volunteers and so much to offer, help me to find a niche for you. Sometimes we all have to do the clean-up or busy work that may not be our favorite task. That is part of volunteerism. This year, work to find where your true interest lies and become passionate about it.

*Sally Strait*



## Fashion Show

Our 9th annual Preview Spring Luncheon and Style Show will take place on Saturday, **March 6th, at 11:00 a.m.** This event is one of the highlights of our year and is not to be missed. The Clothing Cove of Milford will once again dress

## Calendar

### February-March

Every Wednesday 10:30-2:00

### February 3

Log Cabin Day Mtg 1:00HH  
Newsletter Mailing

### February 17

Board Meeting 1:00 HH

### February 24

Pot Luck Noon

### March 3

Log Cabin Day Mtg 1:00HH

### March 6

**Fashion Show at Bartelli's  
11:00am**

### March 17

Board Meeting 1:00 HH

### March 31

Pot Luck Noon

### April 7

Log Cabin Day Mtg 1:00 HH  
Newsletter Mailing

## Board

### President

Sally Strait 248-683-2697

### Vice President

Dorothy White 248-623-0937

### Recording Secretary

Dorothy Webber 248-666-4907

### Corresponding Secretary

Betty Seymour 248-666-4265

### Treasurer

Betty Horn 248-673-9708

### Bookkeeper

Cheryl Stoutenburg 248-623-0414

### Members At Large

Bob Allen 248-623-0463

Harvey Hedlund 248-622-9509

Merrill Paine 248-673-0615

Norm Watchpocket 248-673-5310

our lovely models in the latest fashions. Shop at the Clothing Cove's mini store where items are reasonably priced for all budgets. Stroll around the room and enjoy the table decorations. Each table is decorated by a different sponsoring member and will have a "spring" theme. Lunch is petite croissant sandwiches, fruit and pasta salads and dessert. Tickets are still priced at \$15.00 and going fast. Call Betty Horn to purchase tickets or for more information 248-673-9708.

## Log Cabin Days 2010

As you read this we will be done with our first Log Cabin Days 2010 meeting. If you missed it, don't worry. We still need you! Please come to our next meeting or just stop by on a Wednesday or call a board member with your ideas. The main thing is for you to get involved with this fun event.

We are fortunate to have a talented college student and crafter taking over organization of our craft show section this year. Though we are not a traditional "craft show", we know this is a value add for our visitors.

Log Cabin Days is our time to really get the history of Waterford out to the public. If you have a desire to learn about a certain building and become our "expert" in that area, please do. We need "shopkeepers" to help visitors feel as though they just stepped into the early 1900's when they walk into each one of our Village buildings. Dust off your acting skills to man the barber shears or printing press (hair cuts 5 cents). Dress in the fashion of the day and sit in the Depot waiting for your train to take you home to Detroit after spending the summer at the Windiate Hotel. Get the picture? Please think about it.

No matter what your available time or talent, we have a place for you at Log Cabin Days. Get on board, the train leaves end of June!

### SAVE THE DATES

Log Cabin Day Meetings 1:00 HH:

March 3rd

April 7th

May 5th

June 2nd

Log Cabin Days June 26th & 27th

## White Elephants

Time for your early spring cleaning and you know what that means, finding the white elephants hiding in your closets. Everyone loves a bargain and we can bring it to the public if you help. As you are cleaning out put your items in a bag or box for us and bring them in any Wednesday. Remember we are a 501(c)3 so items may be tax deductible for you.

**Walk on in.....**



## Annual Giving 2009

We would like to sincerely thank all the members, local businesses and friends who are so generous to us. We have collected over \$2500.00 for our Annual Giving! These funds go toward the day to day expenses we have to run the business of WHS. We try very hard to keep all these expenses to a minimum, but you can well imagine that paper and printing and Consumers power and archival supplies, and insurance, etc., adds up and keeps going up. We appreciate your confidence in us and are always looking for cost saving measures.

## Township Hall Display

The Historical Society is on display once again at the Waterford Township Hall the whole month of March. The theme this year is *the Print Shop* and other office accoutrements. Everything we use now is either electric, digital, wireless or technologically advanced. Take a trip back in time when our typewriters were not plugged in! And spell check was an actual dictionary sitting next to you.

The display case is on the 2nd floor of Township Hall. You can come in the main floor and walk up the steps or come in from the back and the case is right when you walk in. Any way you get in, please come. These displays are always excellent and a little known gem in Waterford.

## Hatchery House Paint

Many of you have noticed how flaky we are here at the Hatchery House of late. We are in serious need of a paint job. Our prayers have been answered and we are finally going to get scraped and painted in the spring. Our landlords at Waterford Parks and Recreation are making it happen. Our problem has been the lead paint used in previous years and the problem of scraping and disposing of that waste. So, look for some activity on our old friend when the weather clears. And cross your fingers for the 1908 boat house, too.

## 1872 Businesses

Here are a few of the businesses listed on the 1872 Waterford Village map:

William Bradt, proprietor, Waterford Exchange

Hixon, Lord, & Co., manufacture doors, sash and blinds

Fifield, F.W. & Son, millers and dealers in flour, feed, grain and plaster.

Cooper, R. H., miller

Lord, D. R. & Co., Foundry, manufactures plows & cultivators.

# Planning the New Drayton Plains Fish Hatchery

Printed in the Pontiac Daily Press 1937

*The following are excerpts from a series of articles printed in 1937 in the Pontiac Daily Press concerning the rebuilding and enlarging of the Drayton Plains Fish Hatchery.*

The largest hatchery in the world devoted to the hatching and rearing of bluegills is now under construction at Drayton Plains. When finally completed about a year from now, the plant will occupy 75 acres and will include, in addition to rearing ponds, one of the most modern hatchery buildings in the state. Total cost will be about \$8,000, which is provided by the Department of Conservation. Labor is furnished through the Federal Government as a WPA project.

Enlargement of the Drayton Plains hatchery, the oldest in the state, has long been the dream of Bob Foresman, vice president of the Outdoor Sportsmen's Association of Oakland County, in charge of fishing.

Early in the summer Foresman made a survey of Oakland County lakes and discovered that these lakes were declining in productiveness. From his rapid survey, he concluded that 200,000 people are coming to Oakland County each summer to fish and that more fishing licenses are sold in Oakland County than any other in the state. Yet, despite this heavy demand for fishing in the County, less than half a million fish were being planted in the lakes by the Department of Conservation. When Foresman discovered this fact, he got busy.

He went straight to A.T. Stewart, one of the oldest fish hatchery men in the United States, in charge of the Drayton Plains hatchery. Stewart told him the hatchery was doing the best it could with the present facilities. In fact, the Conservation Department had wanted to enlarge the hatchery, but it had been difficult to acquire sufficient suitable property for expansion. This is what Foresman wanted to know. He organized his campaign.

First Foresman solidified the Outdoor Sportsmen's Association

of Oakland County behind the project. He went to see people. He appealed to their local pride. He told the need for a larger hatchery. And before long he was going places. He went to Lansing with options on the needed property. The Department of Conservation began to make plans.

Then the Works Progress Administration came along. Bob was ready for it. Armed with complete plans for a hatchery, with all the facts and figures at his fingertips, he went to the proper people. Result was that the Drayton Plains hatchery project was the first one approved for the County. Right now there are 110 men at work digging ponds, moving dirt and laying foundations for the new fish plant.

The Clinton River is being moved over to where it will suit the purposes of hydraulic engineer Jack Schnitz. The river is being diverted into two channels. The upper one will feed the ponds and the lower channel will be transformed into races for bass rearing. Ponds are being built in the river valley which was formerly a mosquito swamp and breeding place for rattlesnakes.

In addition to the bluegill ponds and bass races, there will be a series of minnow ponds which will be under direct administration of the Institute for Fisheries Research. The nearness of Ann Arbor makes Drayton Plains a logical location for experimental ponds, where the Institute will work on minnow culture. Eventually, the institute hopes to rear minnows cheaply and in great quantity for feeding bass.

*Next issue: A.T. Stewart, superintendent of the Drayton Plains State Fish Hatchery, one of the oldest and most experienced hatchery men in the United States.*



## Waterford Township Historical Society Membership Application

_____		<input type="checkbox"/>	\$15.00	Individual
_____		<input type="checkbox"/>	\$25.00	Family
Date	Phone	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$100.00	Patron
_____		<input type="checkbox"/>	\$50.00	Organizations/Businesses
Name		<input type="checkbox"/>	\$150.00	Lifetime per family
_____		<input type="checkbox"/>	\$100.00	Lifetime per person
Address		<input type="checkbox"/>	\$125.00	Lifetime per couple
City, State, Zip	Mail payment to:	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$250.00	Lifetime Org./Businesses
	Waterford Historical Society	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$500.00	Lifetime Patron
Make Check Payable To:	P.O. Box 300491			
Waterford Township Historical Society	Waterford, MI 48330-0491			

## Waterford Historical Society

We are open every Wednesday from 10:30 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.

We are located in Fish Hatchery Park at:  
4490 Hatchery Rd  
Waterford, MI 48329

Our Mailing Address is:  
P.O. Box 300491  
Waterford, MI 48330-0491

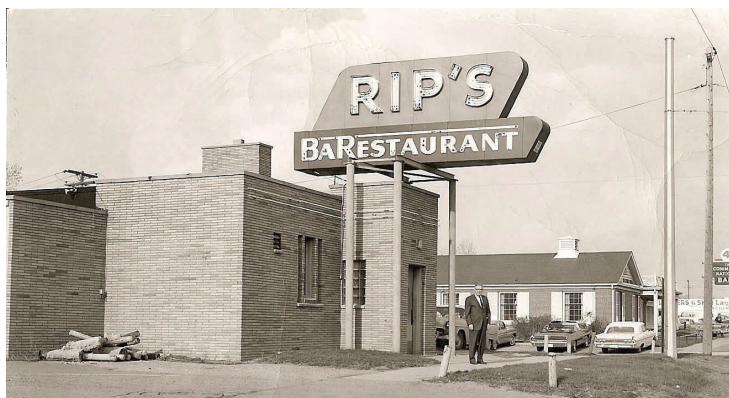
Contact us at:  
Hatchery House 248-673-0342  
Sally Strait 248-683-2697

[www.waterfordhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.waterfordhistoricalsociety.org)

Non-profit 501(c)3 organization

## Things you might like:

- ◆ **Rebel Without a Cause** Kettering Performing Arts Center, February 4-6, at 7:00 p.m.
- ◆ **State of the Township Breakfast:** March 11th, 7:15 a.m. at White Lake Oaks.
- ◆ **Kettering Band Booster Spring Craft Show:** Saturday, March 13, 9:00 a.m.– 4:00 p.m. Free admission.
- ◆ **Waterford Area Chamber of Commerce Expo:** Thursday, April 22, 5:00 p.m-8:00 p.m. at Waterford Mott High School.
- ◆ **Brenda Bly: Teen Detective** musical, Mott Performing Arts Center, April 22-24, at 7:00 p.m.



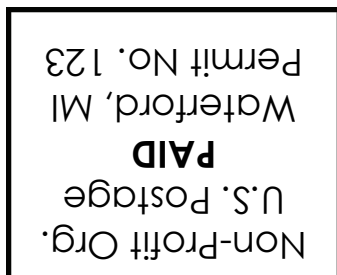
## SAVE...SAVE...SAVE...SAVE

Please save your VG's and Tenuta's receipts and bring them to the Hatchery House on Wednesday or mail them to us at the above mailing address. This is free money for us!



Our Mission Statement:  
Collecting, protecting and preserving the history of  
Waterford Township for the interest and education  
of present and future generations.

Return Service Requested



P.O. Box 300491  
Waterford, Michigan  
48330-0491



Waterford Township Historical Society