



# Waterford Historical Society Newsbill

Volume 15, Number 6

December 2010-January-February 2011

Editor  
Sally Strait 248-683-2697  
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## President's Notes

What beautiful weather we had for Christmas in October this year. I saw many returning customers, dedicated members, and many new shoppers. How grateful we are to have such supportive community folks who make their Christmas lists early. We had a profit of over \$2,700.00!

Keep your list handy and come back and visit us for our Christmas Sale on Saturday, December 4th, from 10-4. We have many new items as our elves are still crafting. Bring your books to donate for our new fundraiser you can read about on the next page.

Speaking of elves, I sometimes think we have them here at WHS. I see everyone working hard, but what we accomplish is unbelievable. I know there is magic happening. The magic is all of you pulling together.

Thank you to each and every one of you. I am truly grateful to be a part of this family here at WHS. Keep believing and keep the magic going.

Happy & safe  
Holidays to you.



*Sally Strait*

## Christmas Luncheon

You are cordially invited to our Christmas Luncheon on Thursday, December 9th at noon, Christ Lutheran Church, 5987 Williams Lake Road.

Join us for food and fellowship and please bring a friend as all are welcome. We will supply the meat, beverages and place settings. You bring a dish to pass.

**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

We will be donating to the Waterford Goodfellows again this year for their Christmas Food Basket Program. You can read about it on the next page, but short version is to bring a canned good and/or toy to our luncheon. All items must be new. So, as you start your holiday shopping, pick up an extra something for the Goodfellows.

**SAVE THE DATE**  
December 9th, 2010, at noon

## Calendar

**December 4**

**Christmas Sale**

10:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.

**December 8**

Board Meeting 1:00 HH

**December 9**

**CHRISTMAS PARTY**

Christ Lutheran Church noon

**December 15-January 4**

**Closed**

January 5

First Wednesday open

January 19

Board Meeting 1:00 HH

January 26

Fashion Show Mtg 10:30

Pot Luck noon

February 2

Log Cabin Days Mtg 1:00

February 16

Board Meeting 1:00 HH

February 23

Pot Luck Noon

## Membership Dues

Here is your last plea for annual membership dues. All annual memberships are due on December 15th. All memberships coming in now will be good until December of 2011. We have much going on and don't want you to miss out!

Clip out your form and bring it in on a Wednesday or mail it to our post office box:

Waterford Historical Society  
P.O. Box 300491  
Waterford, MI 48330-0491

## Waterford Goodfellows

The holiday season is approaching so that means that the Waterford Goodfellows are preparing for their Christmas Basket program to help Waterford families. The WHS members have ALWAYS been very generous and we need your help again this year. Please bring canned goods or an unwrapped toy to our Dec. 9th luncheon. A coloring book, crayons or a puzzle are great gifts and may be purchased at the Dollar Store. Also, we are always in need of gloves, hats and scarves. If you cannot attend the luncheon you may take your donation to Waterford Parks and Recreation on Crescent Lake Road. The Waterford Goodfellows will be packing food and toy baskets on Friday, Dec. 17th and Saturday, Dec. 18th at Waterford Parks and Recreation.

Thank you for your helping to make it a joyous holiday season for families in our Waterford community.

Cindy Cartmill  
Waterford Goodfellows Toy Chairperson

## Fashion Show

Spring has sprung early and we are thinking ahead to March here at WHS. Our 10th Annual Preview Spring Luncheon and Style Show will take place on Saturday, March 5, 2011. The planning meeting will be on January 26 at 10:30 a.m. at the Hatchery House. I can speak for everyone when I say this event is a highlight of our year so plan on attending. You can also participate by decorating a table. Tickets will go on sale in February.

SAVE THE DATES:  
Planning meeting Jan 26 at 10:30 a.m.

Fashion Show at Bartelli's  
March 5 at 11:00 a.m.

## Book Drive

We have found what we hope will be a great ongoing fundraiser for us. Tithingbooks.com is a company committed to "paying it forward". They partner with churches, libraries and schools as a fundraising opportunity. We collect books and they sell them on the internet and give back a percentage of the sale to us. They pick up the books and take care of everything. Everyone has books piled up at their house!

Here is a list of what we are looking for:

- Trade paperbacks
- Hardcover fiction and non-fiction
- Movie DVDs
- Music CDs and books on CD (must contain artwork & case)
- Gently used children's books
- Textbooks (copyright 1998 or newer)
- Mass market paperbacks (copyright 2004 or newer)
- Rare and collectible books**
- Books on specific trades, skills or self-help books

We will collect everything on the above list, but the "Rare and collectible books" is where our niche will eventually be. We do turn away older books because we don't have room in our library or storage. Now, we won't have to turn people away. We will go through them for our library and Jessica will go through them for her Children's books sales she handles. It is a win-win situation for us.

The date of our first pickup is January 19th. Bring in any and all on a Wednesday or please call if you have difficulty getting the books here on a Wednesday.

We will continue to collect books indefinitely with pickups whenever we have a load. If you donate to the Friends of the Library please continue to do so. But keep us in mind for the older or more rare and collectible books that Tithingbooks can get more money for on the internet. Spring clean early & help us!

## Annual Giving 2010

In the interest of saving paper and expenses, we are including your Annual Giving with this newsletter and not in a separate mailing. Our Annual Giving is a yearly plea for help with the day to day expenses like electricity, gas and insurance. Maybe you are a member who cannot volunteer on Wednesdays or at our special events. Or maybe you are a lifetime member who might want to give a little more. This is your chance to help us out. Your donation is just as important as volunteering. We thank you for caring enough to help us continue to be an organization you can be proud to be a member of.

# Letter of Mortimer Allen Leggett Part 2

Contributed by the Rev. C. Corydon Randall, Ph. D

*The following are excerpts from a letter written by Mortimer Allen Leggett (age 86) to his nephew in New York. The letter was written at "The Willows" on January 2, 1924. The Willows was the Leggett farmstead on Walton (where Mason North, or the old Grayson Elementary School, is). Mortimer's mother was Eliza Seaman Leggett, famous abolitionist and women's rights advocate. The family lived in New York until moving to Michigan in 1854. In this series we have Mortimer writing about his mother, Eliza Seaman Leggett.*

I want to tell you of your grandmother Eliza Seaman Leggett, for she was a very great human. She was a great prohibitionist and was in touch with such workers as Randall Phillips, Lucretia Mott, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Julia Ward Howe and Anna Dickerson. She was intimate with all of them and she visited many of them and many of them came to see her. She was interested in the underground railroad, as it was called, worked as follows: A slave runs away from his master. He has been told what to do. He is to get a certain house where he will be kept until night. Then the man of the house will take him to another place where he will be kept until night and then forwarded to another friend until he reaches Canada. We harbored many a poor runaway, although it was a prison offense to do so.

Grandmother was a very learned woman and had for her friends such men as Bronson Alcott and Walt Whitman, Louisa Alcott, and any number of other that I cannot recall. Had Grandmother not been hampered with a large family and a lean pocket book, she would be in the hall of fame in Washington after the Civil War and the slaves had been made free. Why the poor things had no money, no nothing so Mother set herself to work

to see what could be done. And she started in Detroit what was known as the "Freedman Bureau". She was made president and she appointed people to solicit and the meeting place was at her home, 169 Elizabeth street. It was a great success. Several thousand dollars was raised. Mother then got up a fair in Chicago with even greater success than in Detroit. The she started sewing clubs and made great quantities of clothing for the poor things and this was taken up through the community so that they were soon in comfortable condition.

Mother gave all her energy for women's rights and how happy she would have been could she have lived to see it brought about. With all of her literary work and reform work, she never neglected her family. She was the most devoted mother and would sacrifice anything.

My story has 'bout come to an end and it's all about myself and I do not want you to think that I am trying to make myself a hero, far from it. But I am so glad to know that I am living in this wonderful age and can enjoy it. Think what we have at the present time. Take for instance our house and what we have in our living room, electric lights, telephone, radio, phonograph, electric washer and ironer, water furnished to the houses, mail delivered at our door, the auto over the good roads, bringing far off places near, and the palatial boats on our lakes compared to the little boat we came to Michigan in, and the wonderful growth of cities. And through the radio, get the news of the world each day and the airships that are getting so common. I am so thankful to think that I am living and able to enjoy all of this. In fact, I never enjoyed myself more and never appreciated things as I do now. Your old Uncle, Mortimer Allen Leggett.

## Waterford Township Historical Society Membership Application

		<input type="checkbox"/>	\$15.00	Individual
		<input type="checkbox"/>	\$25.00	Family
		<input type="checkbox"/>	\$100.00	Patron
		<input type="checkbox"/>	\$50.00	Organizations/Businesses
		<input type="checkbox"/>	\$150.00	Lifetime per family
		<input type="checkbox"/>	\$100.00	Lifetime per person
		<input type="checkbox"/>	\$125.00	Lifetime per couple
		<input type="checkbox"/>	\$250.00	Lifetime Org./Businesses
		<input type="checkbox"/>	\$500.00	Lifetime Patron

  

Date	Phone	
Name		
Address		
City, State, Zip	Mail payment to: Waterford Historical Society	
Make Check Payable To: Waterford Township Historical Society	P.O. Box 300491 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:

- ◆ **Waterford Kettering Christmas Collage Concert:** at the Waterford Kettering Performing Arts Center. December 9 & 10 at 7:00 p.m. A not to be missed night of non-stop Christmas music with all bands, orchestra and choirs participating.
- ◆ **Holiday Concert New Horizons Band:** December 19 at 3:00 p.m. at the Mott Performing Arts Center.
- ◆ **Waterford Mott Christmas Concert:** Another chance for you to enjoy Christmas music at the Waterford Mott Performing Arts Center. Tuesday, December 14 at 7:00 p.m. Admission is \$5.00 per person (family max \$15.00). Gold Card holders free admission.
- ◆ **Oliver:** February 24-26, 2011 at the Waterford Mott Performing Arts Center. Musical performed by the Waterford Mott Drama Club. 7:00 p.m. Box Office call 248-673-4205.
- ◆ **Steel Magnolias:** May 19-21, 2011 at the Waterford Mott Performing Arts Center. 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.

Waterford Township Historical Society  
P.O. Box 300491  
Waterford, Michigan  
48330-0491

