

Waterford Historical Society Newsbill

Volume 16, Number 3

September-October-November 2011

Editor
Sally Strait 248-683-2697

Calendar

Sept-Oct-Nov

Every Wednesday 10:30-2:00

Sept 14

Board Meeting 2:15 HH

October 14 -15

Christmas in October

10:00-4:00

October 19

Board Meeting 1:00 HH

November 16

Board Meeting 1:00 HH

November 30

Pot Luck Noon

December 3

Christmas Sale

10:00-4:00

December 7

Newsletter mailing

Board Meeting 1:00 HH

December 8

Christmas Lunch Noon

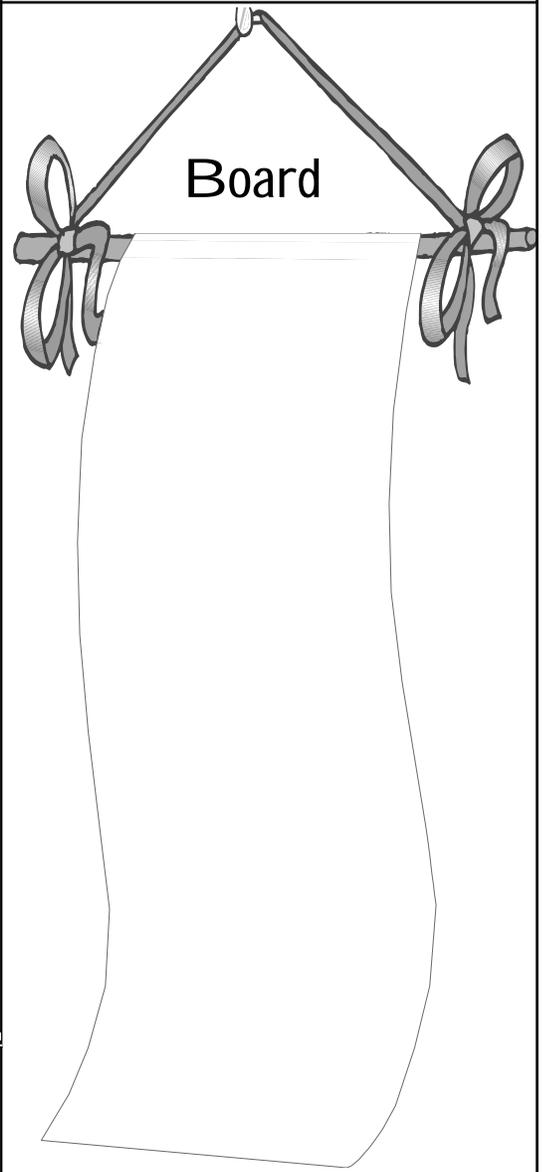
President's Notes

Log Cabin Days was put to bed and we are gearing up for Christmas in October. The weather was perfect and we made over \$7,400.00! As always, a sincere thank you to everyone who did all the small and large tasks that go into such a huge event.

Many people ask how in the world we keep moving forward. I always say that we just put one foot in front of the other. Log Cabin Days is one of the BIG footsteps that keeps us moving.

We are definitely in a transition period. We are literally becoming a "museum". This is hard because so much of what we do is social. We are trying our best not to get rid of the "social" but to add in the "professional". At this point I am confident in saying that we are giving Greenfield Village a run for their money.

It is very hard for our guests to tour the Hatchery House Museum if we are using the dining room, living room, and kitchen for lunch, so we have had to suspend the usual lunches & pot lucks provided on Wednesdays during April-September each year. Pot lucks and lunches will resume from October - March. We will see how this goes and work to make everyone happy. So, if you need a snack or lunch, be sure to pack one. The picnic pavilion is available for our use. This is absolutely done with our visitors in mind and for no other reason. We love our volunteers and cannot survive without you, but we are also in a business where our customers are first. Please be patient and



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Strait

Christmas in October

By Betty Horn

Even throughout this sweltering summer, the busy folks here at WHS have been thinking "the holidays" and planning Christmas in October and our December Sale.

In the Log Cabin we have come up with some exciting historical toys and games that we think will be fun for the kids and the whole family. Our 2012 calendar shows recreation scenes from the past and our new afghan will feature pictures of the buildings in our Historic Village. We will also have new Waterford t-shirts and sweat shirts plus our usual unique gifts, decorations and jewelry. Our goal is to only carry items from Michigan or the good old USA.

Jacober's Store will feature one of a kind craft items made by our members, ornaments, gift baskets, pet items, aprons, collectibles, hand made greeting cards, and gently used children's books, all low priced and high quality!

Remember to bake cookies for our increasingly popular Cookie Sale in the Log Cabin. Package your cookies four to a Ziploc and all will be priced at \$1.00 per bag. Most important, see you there!

Save the Dates

Christmas in October, October 14 & 15, 10-4

Christmas Sale, December 3, 10-4

Docent Training

We are excited to be able to offer official docent training to everyone and anyone interested in the spring, probably late March. Most of our visitors like to go through the Village at their own pace using our walking tour brochure. However, we do need to actually "know" a little something about the buildings when we get questions or if you are helping out with scheduled tours.

Spring will come with school tours and summer brings multiple visitors on Wednesdays. This will help us be totally prepared. These kind of growing pains are good ones!

Watch your next newsletter for more information. In the meantime, if you are interested, please call Becky Morgan 248-673-2689. She will start keeping a list and you will then be contacted as we know more. P.S. Gals and Guys invited!

ramorgan@comcast.net

Village Update

By Becky Morgan

Our Historical Village came alive with families during Log Cabin Days. There were children, parents and grandparents enjoying the village experience. Many of the second grade schoolchildren from Waterford brought their families to share what they had learned during their field trips to the village in May. One child was overheard saying, "I'll show you how to do it!" She then proceeded to show her family how to scrub 'clothing' on a scrub board in a wash tub, put it through the wringer, and hang it on the drying rack with clothespins to dry. Other activities at the Children's Hands - On Activities Tent included Farm Tools, Mattress Stuffing, 'Game of Graces', Artifact Challenge, Print Shop and Art Activities. All the families seemed to thoroughly enjoy exploring the village together and trying the activities as they experienced living in the past.

Since Log Cabin Days we have had a big increase in visitors on Wednesdays during the daytime from 10:30 am to 2 pm and also during the summer visiting hours from 4 to 8 pm. We are very excited about all the new interest in our Historical Village. Come see us soon!

Eagle Scouts

We have two different Eagle Scout projects going on in the Village and the Park. One project is installing six more permanent wood benches (like the one already installed along the east side) of the Clinton River. The other is repairing, replacing and sealing our wood boardwalk in the Village and finishing the rest of the track behind the Caboose. We are so thankful to have groups willing to do the heavy lifting for us! And to provide a place to sit and enjoy the river for quiet contemplation. Both these projects should be finished mid September.



Crafts Wanted

Remember to brush up your craft skills and start making goods for us to sell in Jacober's Store for Christmas in October. Make items and make multiples if you can. Please try to keep items on the smaller side (no large baskets or wreaths, please.) Think of Grandmother's shopping for gift items. All our customers want unique gifts to grab that cost under \$10.00. Any questions please call Margaret Maneese 248-332-0839, or stop by on a Wednesday upstairs in Jacober's Store.

Waterford Goodfellows

Once again, the Historical Society is focusing on the Waterford Goodfellows for help with their Christmas Food Basket Program. The Waterford Goodfellows are a non-profit organization made up of community groups and individuals in our township. They are the Waterford Eagles, Rotary, Optimists, Lions, Jaycees, Volunteer Firefighters and the Parks and Recreation Department. The purpose of the Goodfellows is to help needy families from our community.

The Christmas Food Basket Program provides food and toys for Waterford children during the holiday season. They are in S.O.S. mode this year and are really calling out for the help of everyone in the community.

Please start paying attention to sales and pick up the following items for us to collect at our Christmas Lunch on December 8, 2011: canned goods, non-perishable food items, mittens, coloring books and crayons, new children's books, games and toys for all age groups.

I know we are all stretched thin, but try to find a few dollars to spare in the upcoming months.

In times of emergencies, the Goodfellows also provide food, medical and travel assistance, help with utility bills and house fires, and other special needs that arise in Waterford. So, a monetary donation would help if you cannot shop.

Questions please email or call Sally Strait.

Apronism

A spotless apron is like a photo album with no pictures.

Every smudge on your apron is a stain of love, holidays, and home.

Collect and savor them one and all!



Book Drive

Please continue to bring in your books. We are especially looking for older books, but bring us anything you have because they recycle the books they cannot sell.

They are happy to work with us and dedicated to making us some money. So, keep it coming.



Membership Dues

Hard to believe, but it is time for all annual members to start thinking about membership dues. All annual memberships will be due on December 15th for the next year. All memberships coming in now will be good until December of 2012. 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

Library Meanderings

By Dorothy Webber

I'm Dorothy Webber. Some may know me, some may not. Back around 1993 I was strolling my granddaughter down the street. I saw Grace (Rockey), whom I knew. We gibbered and jabbered and all of a sudden I said, "I heard the Waterford Historical Society is having a meeting. You want to go and see what it's all about?". And we went. We've both been members ever since.

What a fantastic Place, not only to make friends, but to accomplish something very important...to live in the past. For 3 to 4 hours once a week to actually accomplish that feat is exciting. And, to think we don't need a space ship to look for the past and never find it out there. But for me, Dorothy Crigger Webber, it edges me on to look into the past, to find the past, to live in the past. After 30 years of researching, it still gets so exciting to find even a thread of the past I get goose bumps when I do. I know. I have experienced. I do genealogy.

If you are looking for your background, your past, your grandfather or your great grandmother, I have helped the Waterford historical Society obtain a collection of information researchers have published with all kind of information [e.g. books published by the Oakland County Genealogical Society]. Besides, we have books published years ago about Waterford from it's settling, about it's people, their way of life, some of their pictures, and original maps showing where they all lived. Once you find a small piece of your forefathers, I guarantee you it gets like I believe and have often remarked, "Genealogy is a disease that there is no antibiotic for." If Waterford or Oakland County is your background, and you want to start enjoying the past, I hope you take advantage of what our Waterford Historical Society library has to offer you. Please stop by.

Our research library, located in the Hatchery House, is open year round Wednesdays from 10:30 a.m.—2:00 p.m.

Chronicle Points Out 1958 Events

Lakeland Tribune, 1958

The following are excerpts from an article printed in the Lakeland Tribune highlighting important events in 1958.

January

The first week in January provided some relief from the "water hole" on the Dixie Highway just east of Williams Lake Road-Walton Blvd. intersection as Oakland County Drain Commissioner Daniel Barry announced that work to correct this situation was nearly completed as lines to the extension drain had been unplugged and new corrugated drain pipes laid.

The following week, Harold H. Keith, a branch manager of the Pontiac State Bank, was named as the "Young Man of the Year for 1957" in the annual contest sponsored by the Jaycees.

Plans and specifications for the new Thomas Cooley Elementary School were approved during the third week of the year and the go ahead sign given for the new building on the north side of Watkins Lake.

The trend of suburban growth was evidenced when two Pontiac churches announced the last week in January that they had purchased sites in Waterford Township for the construction of new church buildings. They were Central Methodist Church, whose congregation obtained 38 acres on M-59 adjacent to Crary Junior High School, and the Lutheran Church of the Ascension, who purchased seven and nine-tenths acres on Pontiac Lake Road at Eason Street.

February

At the first meeting of the township board this month, Supervisor Elmer Johnson authorized to the State Highway department for a radar check of the five mile strip on the Dixie Highway from the West boulevard viaduct to the Independence Township line. The state department had just increased the speed limit there to 45 miles per hour, with which the township board did not concur, especially since patrolling of the strip was decreased due to the cut in the Township Police Department.

License plates went on sale in the Waterford Township Hall February 10 for the first time. This was the first attempt at providing such service locally for township residents and special hours were arranged to meet the needs of customers until the final day of the sale.

March

An alarm at 7:15 a.m., March 4, brought fire fighting equipment from Waterford and Pontiac Townships to

assist the four Independence Township trucks in extinguishing a fire at the Caribou Inn in Clarkston. Additional men from Union Lake, White Lake and Pontiac Auxiliary were needed to bring the blaze under control.

The fourth annual Waterford Township Jaycees Sports and Builders Show took place at the CAI Building the following weekend, a complete sellout as far as display space was concerned. The climax of the well attended show was the selection of Bonita Brookshear as Miss Waterford of 1958.

April

Captain Millard Pender was named Chief of the Waterford Township Police Department the first week in April. He had been in charge of the department with Township Supervisor Elmer Jonson acting as Chief, since former Chief, Frank Van Atta, was released in July 1957.

During the second week of April, Mrs. Robert Amos, Postmistress of the Waterford Village Post Office announced that mail carrier service would begin in the village on April 19. This is the first time residents of this area have been offered home delivery of their mail.

The final concert of the season presented by the Waterford Township Civic Music Association, featured the young American baritone James Pease on Tuesday evening, April 8. His program of widely varied selections were well received by an enthusiastic audience.

Veterans were alerted that week about a foreclosure racket operating in the township, preying on GI homeowners who are delinquent in their house payments. Some 50 homeowners in area subdivisions behind in their payments, had been approached by persons offering to purchase their equity of redemption for \$200.

May

In anticipation of summer patronage of Dodge Park and Cass Lake, the Township Board approved the erection of 23 "no parking" signs in Cass Lake Highlands where residents have protested public use of their property for parking by camp visitors.

The second week of May also saw the election of George Scantland as president of the Jaycees and the announcement by Lloyd L. Anderson that he would seek reelection as State Representative from district one.

Chronicle continued

Clyde Haskill, a Drayton Plains resident, was named president of the Pontiac Area Chamber of Commerce and Richard Kuhn announced that he will be a candidate again for State Senator on the Republican ticket from the twelfth district.

June

A new Waterford Township Arbitration board was formed during the first week of June, with Paul Mandel, a Waterford Township attorney, as chairman. This board was organized to aid persons, unemployed through no fault of their own, to work out amicable settlements with their creditors during periods of temporary unemployment.

The first weekend of the month saw the annual ballet recital presented by the Waterford Township Recreation Department's Ballet Studio under the direction of Mrs. Carol Wolfe. More than 355 students participated in the two-night production.

The largest senior class was graduated from Waterford Township HS June 11 when 294 students received their diplomas. Donald Tate and Judy Boardman were class valedictorian and salutatorian, respectively.

Plans for the annual CAI Fair occupied many township folks during this month in preparation for this three-day event staged June 20-22. As part of the preparedness activity, the CAI purchased a little over an acre of property adjacent to the present parking lot to provide facilities for more cars. Nearly 15,000 persons attended the gala affair which was climaxed on Sunday evening by the crowning of Rosalie Pollina as 1858 Queen of the CAI.

July

Elden Chew was named chief of Waterford Township

Civil Defense Auxiliary Police the first week in July, a week that also was significant for the many colorful fireworks displays produced by a number of township organizations as well as residents in celebration of Independence Day.

Jim Schell was installed as the new president of the township Lion's club and new regulations from the State Highway department advised that the speed limit on the Dixie Highway from the Pontiac limits to Waterford Hill would be 40 miles per hour, effective July 21.

The township Recreation board discussed and gave final approval to the Recreation Department's budget of \$25,437.40 for the fiscal year 1958-59 and feature publicity was given the recently organized Oakland County Sheriff Department's Water Patrol who have been doing an outstanding job of making township and county lakes safer this summer.

Notable event of the third week in July was the grand opening of the new S.S. Kresge store in the Drayton Shopping Center. Township Supervisor Elmer Johnson cut the ribbon with gold scissors for the event which was attended by many company dignitaries, including Stanley S. Kresge, son of the founder.

In a report issued the last week in July, Waterford was named among the top ten communities by the Detroit Metropolitan Area Regional Planning commission for building action, with 311 permits issued during the first half of the year. The township had been out of the running in 1957.

Continued next issue

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	
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Name		
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Address		
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City, State, Zip	Mail payment to:	
	Waterford Historical Society	
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

Non-profit 501(c)3 organization

Things you might like:

- ◆ **Harvest Happening:** October 1, 2011, from 11:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m. at Hess Hathaway Park. Call Parks & Recreation for more information: 248-674-5441.
- ◆ **Waterford's Got Talent** September 24th 7:00 p.m. at Waterford Kettering's Performing Arts Center. Join Master of Ceremonies, Jay Towers from Fox 2, for a night of Waterford's best talent. Presented by the Waterford Coalition for Youth. Questions call 248-618-7424 or visit the website www.wcfy.org
- ◆ **Motor City Brass Band Holiday Concert:** on December 3, 2011, at 7:00 p.m. at Central United Methodist Church on M-59 and Cass Lake Road. Annual event brought to you by the Waterford Cultural Council. Tickets can be purchased at the WCC offices, 8:00a-5:00p, Waterford Library or at the door.
- ◆ **Waterford Cultural Council Art Exhibits:** available for viewing at Waterford Parks & Recreation offices on Crescent Lake Road all hours offices are open from 8:00 a.m. usually until 7:30 p.m.

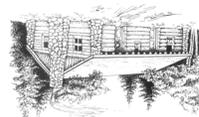
SAVE...SAVE...SAVE...SAVE

Please save your VG & 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.

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



Waterford Township Historical Society