

Waterford Historical Society Newsbill

Volume 13, Number 5

October-November 2008

Editor
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President's Notes

As the weather starts to turn, we turn our focus to Christmas in October. I am appealing to the shopper in you! We know the economy is depressing, but you can forget all that and enjoy our beautiful Christmas decorations as you shop in a leisurely fashion. We definitely have something for everyone on your list and at hard to beat prices. Please come out and support us and wrap up your Christmas early.

Sally Strait



Christmas in October By Sally Crake

Please join us as we get ready for this great event. We need you to bake for our bake sale and to volunteer to work a couple hours for this event. It's fun and helps our society to be a success!

Jacober's Store and the Log Cabin are dressed in their Christmas best, just waiting for our guests to do their early shopping.

We have lots of new items in Jacober's, hand made greeting cards, gently used children's books and lovely crafts made by our own ladies and men.

The Log Cabin's features are jewelry, ornaments, candles, afghans and much more.

We also have a kid's table, stocking stuffers, cute as can be.

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

Calendar

October

Every Wednesday 10:30-2:00

October 15

Board Meeting 1:00 HH

October 17-18

CHRISTMAS IN OCT.

Friday 10:00 am-4:00 pm

Saturday 10:00am-4:00 pm

October 29

Pot Luck Noon

November 19

Board Meeting 1:00 HH

November 20

**General Meeting &
Speaker**

Jacober's Store

7:00 p.m.

NO POT LUCK

November 26

NO WORKDAY

Happy Thanksgiving!

December 3

Newsletter Mailing

Our bake sale, a crown pleaser, lots of "yummy" treats, you can't pass up!

All our gifts are perfect for family, teachers, friends and of course yourself.

Invite your friends and neighbors and we'll see you on October 17 & 18 from 10:00 am until 4:00 pm. Don't miss this adventure!

Please call Sally Crake if you would like to volunteer or have any questions. 248-738-7581.

By-Laws Change & November General Meeting

With much thought and input involved, the board has voted to have one general meeting per year. This decision was not made lightly. Over the years the board has discussed general meetings several times and has tried different ways to attract the members who do not have an opportunity to come to our Wednesday work-days. Many times we struggle to have the 10% of the membership to vote. This seems to be a reflection of the times and in no way reflects our feelings about our valued membership.

So, we will have one general meeting per year. This will serve as our Annual General Meeting and election of officers. This meeting will be Thursday, May 21st at 7:00 pm for 2009. We hope that with one important meeting per year, more will attend.

With that said, please plan to attend our 4th and final General Meeting of 2008 on November 20th at 7:00 pm. We will not be having a pot luck as we will be set up for Christmas in October. However we will have a speaker and dessert provided by Inn at Cass Lake.

We will be open at 6:00 pm in the Log Cabin and Jacober's Store for anyone interested in doing a little Christmas shopping.

SAVE THE DATE

November 20 General Meeting & Speaker

7:00 pm in Jacober's Store

6:00 pm Shopping

NO POT LUCK



Macy's Shop for a Cause

Once again we participated in Macy's Shop for A Cause on September 20th. This is their annual event where charities sell tickets and get to keep the proceeds. We thank everyone who purchased a ticket to support us and especially Merrill Paine who heads up this valuable fundraiser each year. Despite a mix up at Macy's where we didn't think we could participate (so no announcement in the last newsletter), Merrill dug in her heels and persevered. We sold \$480.00 in tickets! Wow! Thank you Merrill!

Membership Dues

Time to start thinking about your 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 2009.

Our By-Laws state that "Dues shall be due on Dec. 15 of each year for the next calendar year of Jan.-Dec. Individuals shall be dropped from the membership if their dues have not been paid by Dec. 15 and they will not receive January newsletter of the following year."

Try to mail in early and avoid the rush. We have so much going on that we don't want you to get left behind and we certainly don't want to lose you!

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



Young Visitor, continued from page 3

The ague, or chills and fever, which we know today was malaria, was one of the worst hardships the early settlers of Oakland County and all of Michigan, for that matter, had to endure. There was a popular belief that it was caused by "Miasma".

This was supposed to be a poisonous vapor that arose from freshly plowed ground. The ague always struck in the spring, after the spring plowing, which lent strength to the belief, the settlers not knowing then that the disease was caused by the mosquitoes which swarmed with the passing of frost.

But let's listen as Bradley continues his journal:

"Judge Fletcher does not resemble his brother in the least—he possesses a far more lively temperament—is active and quick in his motions. He recognized his brother in court, but did not speak to him till after adjournment. Dunklee and I called at Mr. Draper's and made an arrangement with his youngest son, James, an active youth of 15, for a fishing excursion on the morrow.

"There are several elder Draper sons, all here in business, professionals or mercantile, and two very fine, intelligent daughters."

Next issue: A fishing excursion to Pine Lake in 1835.

Young Clinton River Visitor 114 Years Ago Points Out Valuable Mill Sites on Clinton River

Article 2 of a 6 part series appearing in the Pontiac Daily Press in 1949

(We continue with the second of a series of extracts from a journal kept by Cyrus P. Bradley while making a visit to Pontiac and Oakland County in 1835.)

Having jolted over a corduroy road through the swamp that once separated Pontiac and Detroit, Cyrus P. Bradley reached here safe and sound.

In this second in a series of extracts from his journal he tells about a session of the territorial court in the first Oakland County court house.

Though he was a mere stripling of 16, Bradley had been an exceptional student; his townspeople in Concord, New Hampshire, financed his course in Exeter Academy and he won a scholarship at Dartmouth college. He was a keen observer; nothing escaped his sharp eyes. A New Englander, prim and puritanical, Bradley was not always willing to approve rough ways and rough surroundings he encountered on what was then the frontier.

But the New England youth did find strong sympathy for the pioneers themselves, and gloried in telling about their ambitious plans for the future. He, too, could see the tremendous expansion ahead for Michigan, still a territory in 1835, and for Pontiac and Oakland County. He tells about arriving here on May 16:

“Near Pontiac are some very valuable mill privileges, situate on a small river, to which has been given the name of Clinton. The village itself neat, New England-like.

Handsome painted houses, with green blinds, neat stores and shops, give it a distinctive character. It is, of course, a new place, and as yet small, but by anticipation of a city.

“Well-situated lots are nearly as high (in price) as in Concord. There are two taverns, both were full, it being court

time; but the landlord, learning that the applicant was a brother of the Judge, who was a boarder of his, concluded that he would find room for us.

“Here I met with Mr. Dunklee of Concord, late graduate of Dartmouth, a moderate scholar, who, having studied divinity till he was sick of it or till it was sick of him, has finally concluded to turn merchant and astonish the natives of Pontiac. Judge LeRoy, the great man here, one of the county judges, is a silent partner.

We went to the courthouse. It is situated (as it is today) on a beautiful eminence, and combines, within one moderate building, courtroom, jury rooms, jail and jailor’s dwelling house. The courtroom is a little, long, crowded hole.

“I had almost written it hell, where judges, jury, lawyers, sheriff, criminal and spectators are all crowded together into a space little larger than the lawyer’s bar at Concord. It is but justice to say that a new courthouse is soon to be erected. I was introduced to Squire Draper, a lawyer here, late of Concord, Massachusetts, and to Squire Talbot, formerly of New York City and later still of Kentucky. He is an old fellow, will talk as long as you’ll listen, is a monomaniac almost. He is a son of Commodore Talbot and his wife a daughter of Commodore Truxton (both early U.S. Naval heroes).

“Judges Fletcher and LeRoy were on the bench; the other judge is sick of the fever (malaria) and ague, which everybody must have on coming here, and some don’t get rid of it for years. The poor fellows look miserable, just sick enough to make themselves and everybody near them uncomfortable—wrapped up in overcoats and flannels, with the thermometer at 90—sweltering over the kitchen fire and growling and swearing at everything that crosses their path.”

Continued on Page 2

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 |

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| <hr/> | |
| Date | Phone |
| <hr/> | |
| Name | |
| <hr/> | |
| Address | |
| <hr/> | |
| 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:

- ◆ **Performing Arts Centers** October 16-18 “**The Nerd**” at Waterford Mott Campus, 7:00 p.m. November 20-22 “**Schoolhouse Rock, Live**” a musical at the Waterford Kettering Campus, 7:00 p.m. Great performances for great prices!
- ◆ **www.twp.waterford.mi.us/waterfordsoundwaves** -site where you can download the audio walking tour of the Waterford Historic District on Andersonville Road. Take a walk and tour on your own schedule and at your own pace. **Drayton Plains Nature Center tour now also available to download!** Check it out.
- ◆ **www.waterfordhistoricalsociety.org** Visit our new website. You can print a schedule of events and also past newsletters.
- ◆ **Danny May’s Cafe** at 3418 Highland Road between Cass Lake Road and M-59 is now featuring a collection of pictures of old Waterford businesses from our archives! Stop by to check them out (the pictures and the great food). 248-681-9500.

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

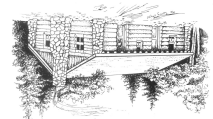
Please save your VG’s and Tenuta’s receipts and bring them to the Hatchery House on Wednesday or mail them to us at the above mailing address. This is free money for us!



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

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Waterford, MI
Permit No. 123

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



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