

UPCOMING EVENTS

January 16—General Membership Meeting at the Milford United Methodist Church at 1300 Atlantic St in Milford. The meeting kicks off at 6:00 PM with a pot luck dinner. See list below for potluck assignments by your last name. The program is our annual Show and Tell night.

Pot Luck Assignment— A-F - side dishes,
G-Q - Main Dishes R-Z—Desserts

MHS Programs 2020

January 16 - Show & Tell

We ask everyone attending to bring us their piece of history and/or their tallest tales & stories. Make us laugh, cry or puzzle it out.

March 19 - Sandy Muirhead Presents

“Candy when we were Kids”

Join us for a fun evening remembering our favorites. Bring the kids and Grand kids. Free Samples too.

May 21 - Pat Burgess Presents



“Ice cutting In the Old Days”

See the tools of the trade and how it worked

July 19 - Picnic - Donna Boushell Presents a short History of Bee Keeping - view a working hive with live Bees (no, you won't get stung) .Donna points out the Queen, her court and the inner workings. “Emma Honey” might be available for sale. \$7. - \$20. ?

September 17

Milford Women and the Vote

November 19 - Thanksgiving Dinner

Musical Entertainment

From Our President, *John Robinson*

To our esteemed members;

Can you believe it! We are entering a new decade, 2020! I am excited with some of the events being planned as well as the exhibits being worked on in our Museum. I want to wish each and every one of you a Happy New Year!

The museum is closed for the season, but work continues. Maintenance work as well as building the new exhibits are ongoing. Collections are always a continuous task. As winter approaches, many maintenance items are being worked on. The museum is getting ready to have some much-needed exterior painting done. This was scheduled for 2019 but because of weather issues, it has been pushed out until Spring.

Approaching soon will be our January General Membership Meeting. I am looking forward to seeing each of you at our next meeting. If there is something you would like to see, or change, please let us know. You can talk to any one of us, send a note to the museum or whatever method you like. I have met several folks at various places, maybe even just for a cup off coffee. It is always good to communicate in any way we can. We are only as good as our membership.

As always, guests are welcome at all general membership meetings. Remind them to bring a plate and a drink! We will attempt to pass our bylaw changes at every meeting. It has been awhile since the changes were sent but you can find reference to them in this newsletter or a copy on our website.

My very best to each of you and Happy Holidays!

John Robinson

***Our 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 & Milford Township.*

**MILFORD HISTORICAL SOCIETY
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Museum Director

The Milford Historian

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Museum Director's Report -

January 2020

I hope everyone enjoyed a wonderful Holiday and wish you all the best in the New Year!

We had a busy end to the 2019 season. A reception for the closing of our three special exhibits – WWI Military Exhibit, The American Legion,

and the 100th Anniversary of the Incorporation of the Village of Milford – was held to give everyone an opportunity to see them one last time, and to thank all of those involved in putting them together.

Our Holiday Open House was well attended. Visitors enjoyed treats, a craft, holiday music, and an opportunity to visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus. Thank you to everyone who helped with planning, decorating and making the event such a success!

Although the museum will be closed until May, we will still be busy. Planning for 2020 events and exhibits is in the works.

Our special exhibits will feature women's suffrage and the 100th anniversary of the ratification of the 19th Amendment, and car dealerships and automobile advertising. If you have an interest in helping to create these exhibits, or have items or information that might enhance them, please let us know.

We are working on organizing a group of volunteers who are interested in spreading the word about the Historical Society and the Museum and what we have to offer through outreach programming. We will be putting together several programs about Milford's history that can be shared at schools, senior living facilities and other area organizations. If you are interested in participating, with creating the programs and/or presenting them, please contact the museum.

We struggled to cover the open hours at the museum through the fall and had to keep the museum closed on several occasions due to a lack of docent help. If you are interested in becoming a museum docent, please let me or a Board Member know. We would love to talk to you about your interest and what you can do to lend a hand!

A new Facebook page - "Milford Historical Society - Museum Preservation" - features posts related to preserving the museum, exhibits, events, collections and fundraising efforts. Please take the time to check it out.

Spring cleaning of the museum will begin before the winter is over. If you can help, please call the museum. Many hands make light work!

We are looking forward to an exciting 2020 and we hope you will be a part of making it happen!

Best Wishes,

Tami Averill, Museum Director

Membership Dues

Welcome 2020! January marks the beginning of a new year and a new list of resolutions. As you begin working on your list of resolutions, we hope that you make renewing your membership to the Milford Historical Society one of your priorities. Last year we welcomed a lot of new members to our Society and we also welcomed a new Museum Director. We heard from a little birdy, that there are a lot of exciting things happening this year at the museum and we don't want you to miss a beat.

Renewing your membership is easy. Within the next few weeks, we will be sending out a membership envelope. Please take a minute to fill it out and slip it in the mail, drop it off at the museum mail slot or turn it in at the next general membership meeting. Or you can use the membership information on the back of this newsletter.

The Milford Historical Society depends on the generosity of our membership. Your participation helps ensure that our treasures are carefully preserved and that our schoolchildren learn about the early history of our community. We appreciate your support in the past and we hope that you will chose to continue your membership in 2020. We have so much going on you don't want to miss out!

Your membership dues will be good until December of 2020 and will ensure that you remain on our mailing list. Know someone that might be interested in becoming a member?

Our membership is affordable and makes a great gift.



Mary Jackson House

We had a lot going on at the Mary Jackson House in 2019. Our Tea parties continue to be popular and sell out. Thank you to all our guests that continue to support the Mary Jackson House and come to our Teas. And thank you to my helpers which I affectionately call my Tea Ladies - Judy Busick, Joyce Clark, Linda Dagenhardt, Maria Gianandrea, Susan Gumper, Sharon Hubbard, Sally Koch, Grace Lipinski, Nancy Lang, Sharon Mancini, Sheila



Shuler, Rena Valentine and Carolyn Werner. And our Tea Dude: Jordan Jachim. Special thanks also to our models: Keilani Hess, Chlie Reno, Brooke Saulle, Paige Saulle and Morgan Sprader. These individuals work hard to make the day special for our guests.

We also started working on the inside of the house. Phase I

of our preservation effort was to remove the wall paper in the Dining Room and the Parlour. We were able to reproduce the wall paper in the Parlour and find wall paper that matched what we had in the Dining Room and Living Room. The Parlour and Dining Room was completed just before our Spring Tea. This winter we will be working on the living Room, the Stairway and the Upstairs Hall.

And last but not least, Sue Grifor has been helping with the flower beds. Since part of Mary's career included the theater and appearing in Shakespeare plays, we have decided to create a Shakespeare garden. All the plants placed in this garden have been mentioned in either Shakespeare plays or in poems. If anyone is interested in donating plants for our Shakespeare garden, please let me know.

Our yearly inspection with the National Trust for Historic Preservation took place in September. I am happy to say that our visit with the representative from Washington D.C. went well. They are pleased with the upkeep of the house and even mentioned how we maintain Mary's house with other organizations that have a Historic Easement.

This New Year will be an exciting time at the Jackson House, I hope that during the next 12 months you stop by and see the progress.

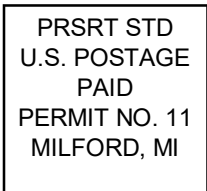
From the Collection

I'm writing this on the last day of the year for the first newsletter of 2020. As I ponder what to write I have decided to do a recap of the past year's activity of the Collection Committee. I'd like to thank my very dedicated committee for their commitment to doing a great job of deciding what items offered should be included in the Museum's collection of artifacts.

I looked over the collection files this morning and realized that we took in 36 separate gifts. While some of these gifts contained a single item, some contained more than thirty individual items. We were given a wide variety of items ranging from postcards to textiles and household items from the past.

The donors were members of the community, people from out of state who were sorting thru their own, or a parent / grandparents belongings, and were thoughtful enough to send us photos, letters or personal items that originated in Milford. We even have a dedicated donor from out of the area who frequents flea markets and kindly buys and sends us vintage photos, postcards and other items with a tie to Milford.

As we consider each item offered, our first question is does it fit with the Mission Statement of education and preservation? We then consider it's connection to the community, whether it is something that was used by a former resident, whether we have other similar items, as well as its story. As



(Collection Report—Continued from page 3)

I've said in the past the "story" is most important. The stories are what bring history alive to our visitors.

We have made progress in sorting, organizing and cataloging our collection of artifacts, photos reference books, genealogy, and general information files in the archive room. These herculean efforts will make it easier for visitors and researchers to find the information they are looking for.


Let's Paint the Museum

The Milford Historical Societies mission is to preserve the history of our area and make it accessible to visitors and researchers. To

accomplish this we need to be sure our building is properly preserved. The building is in desperate need of painting and some exterior restoration.

We had hoped to have part of our Museum building painted by now, but the weather didn't cooperate last fall. While this was disappointing it gives us an opportunity. The Board of Directors could only justify spending enough to paint two sides of the Museum at this time, we now have time to raise more funds to hopefully paint all four sides of the building.

Please help us accomplish this by donating to this effort. Any amount will help. Donations can be made by sending a check to the Milford Historical Society (124 E. Commerce Rd., Milford MI 48381) with "painting" or "painting Fund" in the memo.

 Please enroll me/us as a member (s) of the Milford Historical Society:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Mail to: Milford Historical Society, 124 East Commerce, Milford MI 48381

Phone: 248-685-7308

Annual Member Dues:			
Individual	\$25	Family	\$50
Senior	\$10	Lifetime	\$250
Small Business	\$50		
Corporation	\$250+		

Please let us know if you would prefer to receive your copy of the bi-monthly Historian via email. It saves us the postage and will get it to you sooner.