

UPCOMING EVENTS

Upcoming events—

July 20—Annual Picnic—6:30 PM at Fairgrounds Park (rain location is the Methodist Church on Atlantic St). Attendees should bring their own table setting, drinks and chairs to the Picnic. The MHS Board will provide the hot dogs and fixings.

POT LUCK—A—M - Desserts, N—Z— Salads or Picnic Side Dishes that go with hot dogs

Programs by Sandi Muirhead

Mrs. Lincoln Visits Milford Library

On May 18th, Mrs. Lincoln visited with Milford residents at our local Library. An anxious crowd awaited her arrival. Many questions were asked at the end and we got to hear about her sad endings after leaving the White House. In 2018 there is good chance of having Mr. Abe Lincoln speak at our library. Stay tuned.



No General Meeting was held in June

On Wednesday, July 20th at 6:30 p.m. the MHS Annual Picnic will be held at the Fairgrounds Park. This is next to the Senior Center. There is a port-a-john on the grounds and a few picnic tables. This is a Potluck and the MHS will be providing the hot dogs and fixings.

Everyone should bring what is in the newsletter with your names. As always bring: place settings, drink, utensils, and chairs this time. I will bring a large table for food and a small table for eating. There is no Speaker that night, just good food and good conversation.

While I write this our own Mary Lou Gharrity is at Medilodge but she moves from place to place I can't keep track of this busy lady. We miss you Mrs. Milford and want to see your smiling face once more!!

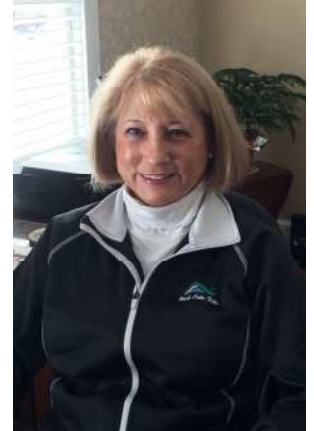
If it is raining like last year please go to Meth-

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From Our President, Rena Valentine

From Your President, Rena Valentine

It's nice to see and enjoy the summer weather here in Michigan, finally. We certainly waited for it long enough! Now that it's here, we can enjoy it! The 4th of July parade was again a huge success with a great turnout! Thank you for putting this all together for us, Norm Werner and Rich Harrison. We had wonderful volunteers that kept everything flowing well. We did see some additional floats and participation that we haven't had in the past.



With deep regret, we have to let you know our annual Granny's Attic sale will not take place this year. Our organizer, Duane Frietag, has many other commitments at the time that we usually have the sale and will be unable to have it this year. He promises that it will take place next year early in July again. This is usually a very lucrative event for our Society.

If you haven't been in to see the museum yet this year, please stop and see our new exhibits. Elaine Hunter, our Director, has come up with very interesting ones. The outside of the museum also looks great thanks to her and Sue Grifor (master gardener).

We are excited to let you know about a new fundraiser that will take place this year October 24, 2017. The Clothing Cove in town agreed to let us sell tickets for this and it will be held right at the store. The proceeds from the ticket sales and 10% of anything sold that night will go directly to the Society. Thank you Clothing Cove! Details about ticket prices and where to purchase them will be in the next newsletter. Stay tuned....

I'm also excited to let you know the Home Tour 2017 is well underway. We are diligently looking for one more house, so if you know of anyone who might wish to be on the Home Tour please contact me via e-mail or text or phone call at 248-514-9124 or valentiner66@gmail.com. We are excited that we already have some great gems in the making!

The next big event will be the annual picnic at the old fairgrounds on Thursday, July 20 at 6:30. Hot dogs, buns and condiments will be provided by the Board. Please bring your own chairs, plates and silverware.

Last but not least, the Caretaker House next to the Mary Jackson House will soon be up for rent. We have hired someone to come in to do repairs and it is looking like it will be ready soon. Please contact one of us on the Board if you are interested in renting it.

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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* - denotes Museum Researchers



Museum Report—

Hello everyone and Happy Summer ! I hope a visit to the Milford Historical Society Museum is in your plans for the Summer. Just to peak your interest in our new displays—I have a few questions to ask.

- What year was the tuba invented?
- What



year is the earliest known zither? Ours is mid 1800s.

- What is a Ukelin and how were they sold?
 - Did you know original license plates were enamel ware? You got a new number and plate every year.
 - What year was the first license “tab” issued?
 - How many different sayings have been on Michigan license plates?
- 50 % of the population knows that woman’s work is never done-the other 50% wonders what does she do all day?



You can find out the answers to these questions and learn a bit more about Milford history by visiting the museum. Our hours are 1 pm to 4 pm-Wed., Sat. and Sun. There is no charge for a tour. However, we do accept donations.

Speaking of donations, due to circumstances beyond our control “Granny’s Attic” sale has been cancelled for this year. Please hang onto your treasures until next Summer.



I would like to welcome three new student docents, all freshmen to our roster. We could still use a few more. Any student of high school age, from any school, is welcome to apply by contacting the Museum 248 685-7308 or myself directly at donr4619@gmail.com

We are still in need of a volunteer to wash windows on the first floor-inside & out. Also a volunteer to help weed our flower beds and if you live close enough water the flowers. Last but not least, an adult volunteer to work on Sunday. It could be one Sunday a month or more, but this is very hard day to fill. We can only stay open with one adult and one or two students each day we are open. Everyone must help or there will be days we are forced to remain closed.

We had a nice big group of marchers in the 4th of July Parade all in costume as well as once again having Sharron Mancini in her 1949 Red Ford Pickup truck in our entourage—see back page for pictures. We also welcomed Curt Hay on his high wheeler bike to our group.

We hope to see you soon at the Museum, there are enthusiastic docents, many books and vintage pictures for sale. Bring your family, friends, out of town guests and come on in-you will be glad you did.

The Milford Historian

Newsletter of the

Milford Historical Society

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odist Church. There will be a sign at Park if this happens telling you to head to the Church.

No August Meeting.

September 14th Meeting will feature local long time resident and Marie Moore Quester Judy Nelson. This will be the SECOND Thursday due to Home Tour Weekend the next week. She is in the process of writing a fascinating book on Blanche Van Leuven Brown, a local woman who changed the world in her own way. I love to have Speakers who tell Milford's history.

Please direct your program questions or suggestions to :

Sandi Muirhead

248-310-4286



A taxing time from the past

It's tax time again in the Village of Milford and Milford Township but this is not a new thing, as this article from the Milford Times files points out.

Milford Times: Nov. 10, 1971

When Milford Township Was Young

(All assessment rolls show that taxes were low in 1836 and that taxpayers were few. 1838 saw a substantial increase.)

In going over old township records, preparatory to storing them away in the vault, Supervisor Tripp found some documents of more than usual interest on account of their age and the light they throw on conditions during the early days in Milford. Probably the oldest of the lot is the assessment roll for the township of Milford for the year 1836. The roll is signed by three assessors. If the office of supervisor was in existence at that time no name appears as such office on the roll.

The assessment book is a home-made one composed of four sheets of foolscap paper, folded and fastened with thread to make 16 pages 8x13 inches. The total assessment in Milford Township for the year 1836 was \$43,455, of which \$8,896 was assessed against non-residents, evidently people who had located land but had not moved in. The rate of taxation is given as 5 3/4 mills on the dollar and the total taxes on the book to be collect-

ed was \$229.99.

A glance through the book shows that Luman Fuller was the heaviest taxpayer in the township.

His tax was \$15.14. His personal assessment was \$1,354 and his real estate \$1,280. Isaiah Hudson paid \$7.70. Aaron Phelps paid \$7.59. Most of the tax amounts were less than \$2.00. Cash values as rated by the assessors are shown by the following:

William Hale, on the east 1/2 of the northeast 1/4 of Section 11, same being the north 80 acres of the later John Hale farm just east of the Village, was assessed \$150 and his tax was 85c.

Philip Kingsley on 101 acres in the southwest corner of the township was assessed \$200 on the land plus \$70 personal and his tax was \$1.54.

Marvin Ladd, on the south one-half of the northeast one-fourth and the southwest one-fourth of the northwest one-fourth of Section 3, a total of 160 acres was assessed \$235 on the land and \$19 personal, his tax was \$1.45.

The roll was signed by William Peck, Elizur Ruggles and Nelson R. Hubbard as assessors and their deposition was taken May 13, 1836 before J.F. Stratton, Justice of the Peace. A notation on the first page of the roll says "County of Oakland," assessment amounts of \$12,651.95.

As indicating the rapid influx of population and increase in taxable property, the tax roll only two years later had increased from 79 names of residents in 1836 to 141 in 1838. Non-resident taxpayers had increased from 44 to 69.

New names appearing in the 1838 roll included Ansley S. Arms, Job Austin, John Armstrong, Patrick Downey, Truman Fox, Dows Fox, James Kinsman, Phineas Lyon, J.M. Mead, James Mendham and David Stephens.

In 1838 the tax levied in the township was \$800.55, apportioned as follows: County and State \$419.27, for the poor \$104.66, Township \$275.65. William A. Peak, Elizur Ruggles and Phineas Bates were the Assessors and Truman Fox, Justice of the Peace took their deposition.

A few of the descriptions in 1838 were given as village lots, showing that at least one plot [sic] had been made at that early date.

The largest taxpayer in 1838 was Mead & Arms, evidently owners of a general store which was forerunner of the present Arms Brothers Store. The book says that [they] were assessed \$5,000 personal and paid \$40.64 tax.

Milford Historical Society

124 East Commerce

Milford, Michigan 48381

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The Milford Historical Society lead the annual Independence Day Parade, joined once again by Sharon Mancini in her red, 1949 Truck.



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:

Student	\$5	Family	\$25
Senior	\$10	Lifetime	\$250
Individual	\$15	Small Business	\$50
Corporation	\$250+		

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