

## Milford Historical Society Pampered Chief Fundraiser



Let's fundraise together! Mark your calendar and invite a friend or two. You'll learn recipes and tips to help get delicious meals quickly on your table. A portion of the party sales will go to a great cause 20-27% depending on sales.

Join the party between March 1 and 31 by following the link on the Historical Society web page.  
[www.milfordhistory.org](http://www.milfordhistory.org)

## From Our President, Sue Bullard

### Hello Historical Society Family,

How nice it is nice to welcome the month of March. Hopefully this cold and snowy weather will be leaving us soon and we will be enjoying the Spring temperatures of March and April. Will March come in like a Lion and Leave like a Lamb?



In our last newsletter I asked you, our members to mail in a vote to re-elect Board Members whose terms had expired in January. A big thank you to everyone that sent in your ballot. Congratulations to Jackie Swenson and Emma Michniewicz who were re-elected to serve on the Board of Directors. I would also like to announce that Rena Valentine has rejoined the Board of Directors. It's nice to have you back Rena!

A challenge that historical societies face these days is how to continue to share the history of our community while still being safe during a pandemic. Opening the museum this May does not seem realistic, so we need to come up with an alternative plan.

Our Museum Committee has been brainstorming to come up with some ideas. We are working on creative and safe ways to celebrate the history of our community. We want to keep the momentum going that we had pre-covid days. We are moving from personal to virtual. We will continue our Pop-Up Porch exhibits as well as adding some Zoom Meeting and You Tube Story Telling. These are just some ideas we are tossing around. Stay tune for our May Newsletter for more details. Who would have thought the terms Zoom and You Tube would become part of our Historical Society vocabulary? If you have ideas on a program or an event, we would love to hear from you. You can email me at [MilfordHistory@hotmail.com](mailto:MilfordHistory@hotmail.com).

This will be another tough year for us, the rest of the year is uncertain. We thank you so much for keeping your dues current and for the donations that we have received. I hope that soon this pandemic will be over and things will improve. For now, the Society is still working and striving to keep things in order.

I want to also welcome three new members to the Society -. Debra Parker and Myles Davis of Milford and Pamela Heinowski from Dextor. I look forward to seeing you at MHS meetings and events, once we can hold them again.

## Ancestral Mathematics

In order to be born, you needed:

2 parents  
4 grandparents  
8 great-grandparents  
16 second great-grandparents  
32 third great-grandparents  
64 fourth great-grandparents  
128 fifth great-grandparents  
256 sixth great-grandparents  
512 seventh great-grandparents  
1,024 eighth great-grandparents  
2,048 ninth great-grandparents

For you to be born today from 11 previous generations, you needed a total of 4,094 ancestors over the last 400 years.

Think for a moment – How many struggles? How many battles? How many difficulties? How much sadness? How much happiness? How many love stories? How many expressions of hope for the future? – did your ancestors have to undergo for you to exist in this present moment...

## The DUNNES of BRITTAS

Infographic submitted by Linda Dagenhardt

**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



**Museum Director's Report—March-April 2021**

Even though it is still cold and snowy, spring is on the way! Pandemic restrictions remain in place, but we have set a hopeful goal of reopening the museum in some fashion beginning May 1st. It will not be our normal spring opening, but it will have to be our new normal for the time being. Many activities will take place outside – porch exhibits, monthly game days, and more. We hope to bring back tours of the museum by appointment for small groups.

A new Pop-up Porch Exhibit featuring May Celebrations will open on May 1. The history and customs of May Day, Cinco de Mayo, Mothers' Day, and Memorial Day will be highlighted. Children will be able to pick up a "Take and Make" May Day craft kit on May 1.

Future Porch Exhibits will highlight the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, the railroad's arrival in Milford, Halloween, and the Holidays! Assistance is needed to research and create all of this year's porch exhibits. If you are interested in putting your research skills and creative talents to work, please call the museum and let us know! If you have concerns about coming into the museum right now, some of the work that is needed could be done from the comfort of your own home.

In anticipation of reopening for "by appointment" tours, there is much work to be done. We have two new displays to complete – a belated 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Ratification of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment and a display of auto dealership advertising. Assistance in getting these exhibits ready to go would be appreciated.

Giving the building a good spring cleaning is also on the "To Do" list. If you can lend a hand with dusting, sweeping, window cleaning, etc., we would love to hear from you! Please give us a call!

With all these volunteer opportunities, strict safety protocols will be followed. Our goal is to keep everyone safe and healthy!

Tami Averill  
 Museum Director

**The Milford Historian**

Newsletter of the

**Milford Historical Society**

published bimonthly (six times per year)



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## BORAX—Who knew?

Article by Jackie Swenson

The other day I was working with some collection items and came across a small booklet about BORAX. The cover was interesting as the title is “BORAX From the Desert, Through the Press, Into the Home”. Stamped on the cover is Compliments of Bennett’s Drug Store, Milford, Mich. This booklet was published in 1896 and is a collection of 200 best Borax recipes collected from other publications.



What fascinated me about this is that I have a box of Borax in my laundry room.

I know that some use Borax as a laundry detergent and I have sprinkled it around the foundation of my house as a barrier to keep insects out. According to this booklet cockroaches will not haunt a kitchen where Borax is scattered on the floor, and it is harmless to domestic pets.

Did you know that?

**For the Complexion.** Borax in the water makes skin lustrous, and possesses the recommendation of ancient favor, as it was in use by the women of Egypt, who extolled its value for this purpose. A box of powdered Borax should be kept on the wash stand, and will be found of great service. If the water is hard it will soften it, and if the soap does not lather, a little Borax will hasten the operation.

**To Whiten Porcelain Saucepan.** Fill the pan half full of hot water, throw in a tablespoonful of

powdered Borax and let it boil. If this does not remove all the stains, soap a cloth and sprinkle it with plenty of pulverized Borax, and scour the pan well.

This little booklet goes on to list many more uses for Borax, some that sound interesting and some that I'm very skeptical of.

The next time I sprinkle Borax around my house I will wonder if my Grandmother and Great-grandmother also used this method to keep the insects out of their homes.

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## Preserving your Family History

In the past I have shared information on caring for textiles and photos. This time I'll share information on family scrapbooks. At the museum we have a large number of old scrapbooks. These books are a window into the creators' personal history.

Scrapbooks can show you what the creator found to be important through newspaper clippings, photographs and other items. If the book contains photos,



notes, or documents that can't be removed from the pages without causing damage – preserve them intact. In some cases the album or scrapbook itself is an important part of its history.

We have one that comes to mind that is an old hotel register that was repurposed as a scrapbook. The creator started at the front of the book and glued articles and poems to completely cover the pages! Luckily they didn't get to the back of the book so we could identify the original use of the book.

The best way to store these books is in acid free boxes with ¼ to 1/2" of space around the item. If the book has items that have come unglued encase those items in small archival plastic sleeves and keep them with their original pages. Protect against acid migration by placing acid free paper between pages. The paper should be slightly smaller than the album pages, but large enough to cover the photos and other items.

If you have specific questions about storing historical items let me know and we can search our reference material for the answer.

Article submitted by Jackie Swenson

# Milford Historical Society

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Milford, Michigan 48381

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## Membership Dues

Oops, did you forget to send in your membership dues? Our membership drive is in full swing and if you haven't renewed your membership yet, there is still time to do so. We will be sending out a friendly reminder, please take a few minutes to fill out your membership envelope and drop it in the mail.

Your participation helps ensure that our treasures are carefully preserved and that our schoolchildren learn about the early history of our community. Your membership dues will be good until December of 2021 and will ensure that you remain on our mailing list. We appreciate your support in the past and we hope that you will continue your membership in 2021. We have so much going on you don't want you to miss out! Do you know someone that might be interested in becoming a member? Our membership is affordable and makes a great gift

## COVID Self-Isolation Quarantine Diary—The First 7 Days

- Day 1 – I Can Do This!! Got enough food and wine to last a month!
- Day 2 – Opening my 8<sup>th</sup> bottle of wine. I fear wine supplies might not last!
- Day 3 – Strawberries: Some have 210 seeds, some have 235 seeds. Who knew??
- Day 4 - 8:00PM. Removed my Day Pajamas and put on my Night Pajamas.
- Day 5 – Today, I tried to make Hand Sanitizer. It came out as Jell-O Shots!!
- Day 6 – I get to take the garbage out. I'm So excited, I can't decide what to wear.
- Day 7 – Went to a new restaurant called "The Kitchen". You have to gather all the ingredients and make your own meal. I have NO clue how this place is still in business.

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 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.