

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 19 - General Membership Meeting - at Milford United Methodist Church at 1200 Atlantic St, Milford, MI. Meeting starts at 6:30 with a pot luck dinner.

The program will be "Candy When We Were Kids" by Sandi Muirhead.

Pot luck assignments - A-K - Desserts; L-P - Main Dish; Q-Z - Sides and salads

MHS Programs 2020

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



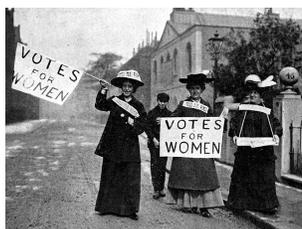
"Ice cutting In the Old Days"

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—Note this will also be the focus of one of the Museum displays for 2020.



November 19 - Thanksgiving Dinner
Musical Entertainment

From Our President, Sue Bullard

March Presidents letter -

It's a great pleasure to once again serve as the President of the Milford Historical Society. It was January of 1999 when I joined the Board of Directors and throughout these years I have had the honor of serving as the President, Vice President, Corresponding Secretary, Recording Secretary and Treasurer. So here I am back as your President. I am so honored to be a part of this great organization and I am looking forward to the next 12 months.

Before moving forward, I would give a big thank you to John Robinson. John Robinson has held the position as the President the past two years giving the Historical Society a 100% effort. Thank you John for all your hard work and dedication.

As per our by-laws, each year an election for officers is held after our January General Membership Meeting. This year's officers are as follows. Susan Gumper - First Vice President, John Robinson - Second Vice President, Jackie Swenson - Treasurer, Nancy Degenfelder - Corresponding Secretary and Emma Michniewicz - Recording Secretary. The following individuals are serving as Directors: Ray Clinard, Jarred Clouse, Linda Dagenhardt, Leon Shuler and Norm Werner. Thank you to each of these individuals for volunteering to serve on the Board of Directors of the Milford Historical Society.

Looking forward, the museum will be opening the beginning of May. Before that happens, we will be changing our display at the museum and preparing for opening day. The museum may be closed, but there has been a lot of work going on. Both the Collection Committee and Museum Committee have been busy preparing a new display and events for our upcoming season. Please check our website for this year's events.

Last year, we put out a plea for volunteers. We received a nice response and gained several new docents as well as volunteers working behind the scenes. But we could use more help. So I am going to put the plea out again, we are in need of more docents to work at the museum. Last year we had to close a few days because we didn't have enough help. We will be setting up a day for training in the Spring. Our docents work one day a month for 3 hours giving tours. If you are interested in becoming a docent, please email me at milfordhistory@hotmail.com.

Lastly, I would like to thank you for your continued support to the Historical Society. Your membership means everything to the Historical Society. This is going to be a great year at the Milford Historical Society, mark your calendar with our events and I hope to see you soon.

Sue Bullard

***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 2020

Spring is nearly upon us! This means that the spring museum opening isn't far away! We will be opening for the 2020 season on May 16!

Although the museum is closed to visitors, our work goes on. Research and planning are going on for the new exhibits. Bathroom remodeling is taking

place. Preparations are taking place for our National Quilt Day event on March 21.

Spring cleaning to prepare for the opening of the Museum will be happening soon! If you are available to help, please let me know!

Docent training will be taking place this spring. If you or someone you know would like to join our Docent ranks, please let me or a Board Member know. We would love to have you participate.

A group of interested volunteers is being organized to help spread the word about the Historical Society, the Museum and Milford's history 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. We would love to have several people available and trained to do this. If you are interested, please contact the museum.

Traditional programs are on the 2020 schedule – Granny's Attic Sale, school tours, the Homes Tour – and some new ones are on the way – National Quilt Day, Mid-summer Fun Day, Haunted & Historical Halloween. I hope you will mark your calendars and join in the fun!

Feedback and suggestions are always appreciated. Please feel free to contact me with anything you care to share. You can reach me by calling the museum or via email at tami.averill@gmail.com. Best Wishes,

Tami Averill, Museum Director

The Milford Historian

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SOS (Save our Stories) - Jackie Swensen

So, are you tired of me talking about "The Story" being the most important thing about the items in our collection? It seems that I'm not the only one on a mission to save stories. SOS is also the mission of the National Quilt Alliance. The third Saturday of March (this year that is the 21st) is National Quilt Day. We have decided to celebrate this day with a one day event. We will be displaying quilts from our collection, as well as quilts from private collections.

Our focus will be on labeling quilts to be sure the "Story" stays with the quilt. We will have information on caring for quilts, labels, beginning quilt kits and examples of storage materials that we can order for you. And, a drawing for several tote bags.

Please join us for a fun, informative afternoon at the Museum.

Where: Milford Historical Museum

124 E. Commerce Street
Milford, MI

When: Saturday March 21st
1:00 to 4:00 PM





Jennie Crawford

While Milford has had some notable men in its history, we rarely hear about the women who helped shape our community. During this year of the 100th anniversary of the ratification of the 19th Amendment, let's learn about some of the remarkable women of Milford.

Amy Jennie Crawford, better known as "Jennie Crawford" was born on August 8, 1875 in the family home on Union St., and lived there with her parents, Frederick and Mary Palmer Crawford and older brother Harry. Unfortunately, the Crawford home no longer exists, it was located on Union St., one lot north of the old house that is now

Jim Crane's Attorney office.

Jennie attended the Milford Union School and in 1900, she graduated from the Detroit Conservatory of Music. Soon after Jennie opened a music studio in her home on Union Street. On Friday and Saturday evenings, Jennie would take the train from Milford to Highland. There she played the piano at The Highland House Hotel. On Sundays she would play the organ at the Milford Methodist Church, the position once held by her Mother.

Stage, TV and Film actress, Mary Jackson, took piano lessons from Miss Crawford and remembered her to be a very beautiful woman, but also very strict. Another student, Mary Jane McCall said that Miss Crawford had a little white dog named Billy. Billy once decided that Mary's feet would make a good place to lay. Mary gently moved the little dog over with her foot. Her teacher didn't appreciate that and gave her student a swift slap on the wrist.

Frederick Crawford died in 1923 and Harry Crawford died in 1940. Jennie and her mother remained in the house on Union Street. Mary Crawford died in 1954 at the age of 104. Jennie's business supported herself, and her mother for many years.

Miss Jennie Crawford never married and remained in her family home all but the last year of her life, when she moved to a home in Pontiac. Amy Jennie Crawford died on February 8, 1975 at the age of 99. She was known in our community as a very beautiful, talented, strong, and independent woman.

Spring Tea

Friends and Family are invited to our annual Spring Tea hosted by the ladies of the Historical Society. Bring that special friend and relax in the beautiful childhood home of Mary Jackson. An enjoyable afternoon is guaranteed to all those who attend. The date of this year's tea will be Saturday, April 25, 2020.



Guest can choose to attend from either the 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. seating or the 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. seating. A scrumptious variety of tea sandwiches, savories and desserts will be served. Guests will also enjoy a fashion show that will feature a selection of wedding gowns that have been donated to the Society. Modeling the wedding gowns will be some of our students from our student docent program.

Tickets are \$25.00 and can be purchased at Acorn Farm and Main Street Art. Tickets will go on sale Tuesday, March 3rd. 100% of the proceeds will go to the preservation of the childhood home of Mary Jackson. Seating is limited so purchase your tickets soon.

From the Collections Committee—Jackie Swensen

As I think about this New Year it seems that not much was made of moving into 2020. I received an e-mail about the 5 most significant changes in 1920 that started a Decade of Change and thought I'd share some of it with you.

The Great Migration Between 1916 and the start of the 1920's about a million African Americans left the rural South for economic opportunity in the cities of the North, Midwest and West. World War I was the catalyst for this population shift – the factories needed workers to fulfill the war's production requirement.

World War I's returning Soldiers World War I came to an end on November 11, 1918, but not all the soldiers returned home immediately. The changes brought about by the Great War would



American soldiers, World War I

be solidified as they reintegrated into society. There is no doubt this was a major catalyst for the Decade of Change.

Prohibition The 18th Amendment to the US Constitution. States started adopting temperance and prohibition laws as early as 1838. Temperance societies were a part of the national fabric by the turn of the 20th century.



Women march for voting rights

Women's Suffrage Another constitutional amendment with roots in the 19th century was women's suffrage. Although the movement wasn't organized on a national level in the USA until 1848 the seeds were sown as early as the American Revolution when Abigail Adams asked her husband John to 'remember the ladies' in the fight for independence. The 19th Amendment passed on June 4, 1919. With Tennessee the final state needed for ratification, the 48-48 tie was broken by a 23 year old representative who was opposed but was convinced by his mother to vote in support of it.

The First Commercial Radio Station World War I also brought technological changes. The first voice radio transmission in the USA was on Christmas Eve in 1906. Over the next 15 years radio tubes improved in clarity and power. The last big change during the first year of the Decade of Change occurred on November 2, 1920, when the first commercial broadcast took place at station KDKA. The first major news to be broadcast that day were the results of the Harding-Cox presidential race. Listeners heard the news long before it was published in the newspaper!

What will be the Top 5 changes that start the 2020 decade?

Milford Historical Society

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Milford, Michigan 48381

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Membership Drive

Our 2020 Membership Drive is well under way. If you haven't paid your dues yet, please take a moment to fill out the membership envelope that was sent in January and return it. Misplaced your envelope? Membership renewal is located on the back page of the Historical Society Newsletter. Or send an email to Milfordhistory@hotmail.com with Membership in the subject line and we will email you with our membership information.



Your membership dues really do mean a lot to our organization. With your dues and generous contribution we can continue our mission of preserving and promoting the history that means so much to our community.

Granny's Attic Sale

While you are doing your Spring Cleaning, please keep in mind the Historical Society. Each year we hold a Granny's Attic Sale during the Milford Side Walk Sales in July. We are in need of items to sell during these two days. Items such as furniture and house hold items. Please no clothing. If you have items to donate, please feel free to drop them off on the side porch of the museum or contact the museum and we will schedule a pick up.

Life Time Member

Thank you to Nancy Bliven for becoming a Life Time Membership of the Milford Historical Society. Thank you from all of us at the Historical Society for your commitment to preserve Milford's history.

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.