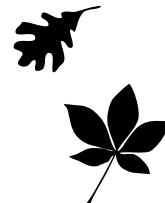


C o l u m n s

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News about the Clarkston Community Historical Society activities, exhibitions, people & plans for CCHS members.

Mission Statement
The Clarkston Community Historical Society has been created in order to bring together those people interested in the history of our community and area; and, as far as is possible, to collect and preserve such things that are of historic interest, and may collect, care for, and make these items available for scholars, students and the public to use in researching the history of our area.

BOARD MEMBERS

- Jennifer Arkwright**
President
(248) 922-3757
 - Lydia Strnad**
Vice-President
(248) 922-0019
 - Jonathan Smith**
Treasurer
(248) 625-8624
 - Kim Huttenlocher**
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(248) 625-2499
 - Laura Covintree**
(248) 922-0406
 - Debbie DeVault**
(248) 625-0153
 - Frank Latimer**
(248) 922-0769
 - Ann Mizusawa**
(248) 625-1505
 - Jim Schultz**
(248) 625-3122
 - Amy Wilson**
(248) 625-0583
-
- Toni Smith**
Museum Director
(248) 625-8624

From the Desk of the President

Jennifer Arkwright

This newsletter is packed with all kinds of information and happenings of the Clarkston Community Historical Society!



We have been very busy and look forward to seeing all of you at the Crafts & Cider Festival the weekend of September 20th and 21st. We continue to plan programs that educate and entertain the public about Clarkston's history and to raise funds for the operation of the Clarkston Heritage Museum. The museum's next exhibit will unfold in early September. After Crafts & Cider, we hope to see you at the Storyteller Program in October and then at the Caroling Party in December.

We have been lucky to have support from local businesses. Thank you to **Ginny and James Schultz**, owners of the *Clarkston Country Store & Antiques*, who sold Cemetery Walk tickets for us. The Clarkston Country Store also sells our popular Clarkston afghans. Thank you to **Ann Stevenson & Curt Catallo**, owners of the *Clarkston Union General*. The Union General sells the many Clarkston history books CCHS has published over the years. Thank you to **Joan and Buck Kopietz**, owners of *Tierra Fine ewelers*, who sold Cemetery Walk tickets. Also, this year *Rudy's Quality Market*, *National City Insurance* and *The Clarkston Café* are Crafts & Cider Festival corporate sponsors.

We have another fantastic Board this year and I want to thank each and every one of them for their dedication to preserving Clarkston's history. At our annual meeting in May we held elections and I am pleased to report that **James Schultz** has joined our Board of Directors. His experience and years in this community will serve our Board well.

Our *Vice President*, **Lydia Strnad**, has provided CCHS with her graphic design talents over and over again! This newsletter and also our new t-shirt and bumper sticker designs are testimony to her creativity. **Jonathan Smith** has agreed to be our Board *Treasurer* for so many years, now, I've lost track! This position requires so much attention to detail, tax knowledge and forward thinking. **Kim Huttenlocher**, our Board *Secretary*, doubles as the Crafts & Cider Exhibitor Chairperson as well as Education Chairperson. Kim works with the artists year-long to ensure good shopping all Crafts & Cider weekend! She also guides hundreds of children on field trips each year through the Clarkston Heritage Museum. **Toni Smith**, our *Museum Director*, is invaluable to CCHS! Toni runs the office, creates each new exhibit, chairs our Merchandise Sales, contributes to the newsletter and I could continue for another paragraph! **Debbie DeVault** is our board member with the most number of years, I believe it's around 18! Debbie has chaired the Crafts & Cider Cider Tent for the last couple of years, one of her many roles over the years.

Our newest Board Members have stepped right up to the plate and for that we are grateful! **Laura Covintree** graciously agreed to chair our first *Cemetery Walk*! This was a huge project and more successful, by the number that attended, than any of us predicted. Laura will also be instrumental in helping the CCHS obtain grants. **Ann Mizusawa** has been at every one of the CCHS functions helping out wherever needed, providing a positive Board spirit. Ann has been especially supportive with our Education programs. **Frank Latimer**, who works for Daimler

Museum Wish List Comes to Light!

Toni Smith

It has been suggested that we should publish a wish list for anyone who might be interested in supporting the museum by purchasing something we need. We thought it was a great plan and have started to think of ideas. Spending money is never hard, so here is what we have come up with so far:

We can always use new Museum display cases to add to our existing four. Depending on the size, they could range in price from \$500 to \$1,500 and we would be happy with any new additions.

Many people don't realize that in order to properly care for the artifacts that make up our collection, we try to store items in the best possible way. We only use museum quality supplies such as acid free boxes and photo sleeves, as well as unbuffered tissue paper and cotton batting. The average box runs from \$5.00 to \$20.00 and we can always use an assortment of sizes and shapes.

Adding to our library of reference books would be a great help. There are often catalogs that come to the CCHS office offering books on architecture, etc. I would especially like to find a reference catalog on clothing that would give us the information to better date some of the dresses, uniforms, shoes and hats that have been donated. An estimated cost for this type of book is around \$60.00 to \$100.00.

Did you know that we host over 400 schoolchildren each year with our children's program and museum tour? This fantastic program offers lots of hands on activities, large Clarkston photos for viewing and a personal tour of the Museum. At the end of the program, each child is given a copy of our own *Clarkston Heritage Activity Book*. These books cost us \$1.00 each for reprints and right now we are almost out. They can be ordered in 100

count increments and we would love to be able to order more for the coming school year.

Displaying our collection to its best advantage is important to us for two reasons. Of course, we want each exhibit to look professional, but we are also concerned about only doing what is right for each artifact. It would be wonderful to have a mannequin form to better display the clothing items in our collection. Conservation forms are around \$570.00 and so you see why we haven't been able to purchase one yet. This would be a lasting gift to the museum that would be used in every exhibit.

Speaking of artifacts, we are always seeking new Clarkston items and as a result we often purchase things on eBay. This allows us access to Clarkston items that come from as far away as California or Alaska! Would you consider contributing to a fund used to purchase items when they become available? This is an ongoing project with us and items range from \$5.00 to \$60.00 or so. Right now our budget allows for limited buying, but when a unique Clarkston item becomes available either on eBay, at the local antique stores or through a personal connection, we hate to pass it up. With antiques, it is definitely a "buy it when you see it or regret it forever" situation!

Well, as you can see, there is no limit to the ideas we could come up with! We will keep thinking and will update this list in each newsletter. If you are interested in helping in any way, call Toni at the CCHS office (248) 922-0270. If you would prefer, any permanent item purchased could be identified with a plaque noting the donor or placed in honor/memory of a loved one. Thanks for suggesting we create this list, it is always fun to dream! ☺

Recent Contributions To Gifts In Memory & Gifts In Honor

A perfect way to honor or remember a loved one is to donate to the Clarkston Community Historical Society in his or her name. Contributions are recorded and the honoree can be notified if you wish. The following gifts have been received since our last newsletter.

*In Honor of
Jeanette Morse*



LOOK FOR CCHS IN YOUR LOCAL PAPER!

You may have noticed that CCHS had a new space in the August 14 issue of the *Clarkston Eccentric*. We are excited to share our upcoming activities and programs in this space. Look for us every second Thursday of the month!

Speaking of your "Local paper . . ." Would you like to write an article for our *Clarkston Columns*? Or maybe you have an idea or information about a fascinating piece of Clarkston history or charming resident. Let us know. Call (248) 922-0270 or write *Clarkston Columns* c/o CCHS P.O. Box 261, Clarkston, MI 48347. We look forward to hearing from you. *Thanks!*

From the Desk of the President
continued from front page.



Chrysler, has been able to obtain shuttles for Crafts & Cider and the Cemetery Walk while also providing superior driving services, along with his wife **Lori**, at both events. **Amy Wilson** brought to CCHS the concept of a Clarkston bumper sticker which will be available for sale at the Crafts & Cider Merchandise Tent. For the second year in a row, Amy's agreed to be Crafts & Cider Volunteer Chair – which means she may be calling you to work in September!

Your Board works very hard all year long! I've only *touched upon* the many responsibilities that this group takes on each year. Their volunteer time is appreciated as is yours when you help with one of our programs. If you would like to become more involved, please give us a call, (248) 922-0270. *Happy Fall!* ❧

Editor's Note: We would be remiss if we didn't acknowledge all the hard work **Jennifer Arkwright** does as *CCHS President*. Once again she has agreed to lead our small, but accomplished group, that has grown considerably because of Jennifer's recruiting efforts. Jennifer not only directs our board, she handles all publicity, books speakers and entertainment, writes articles for this newsletter, and so on, not to mention playing a mean game of tennis! *Thanks, Jen.* ❧



Crafts & Cider Festival Just Around the Corner

Jennifer Arkwright

The Clarkston Community Historical Society's (CCHS) 29th annual *Crafts & Cider Festival* will take place this year Saturday, September 20th and Sunday, September 21st at Depot Park. The Festival will once again feature more than 100 fine artists. Festival hours are 10-6 p.m. Saturday and 10-4 p.m. on Sunday. The society is proud to have **Rudy's Quality Market**, **National City Insurance Group** and the **Clarkston Café** as their Crafts & Cider Festival 2003 corporate sponsors.

In addition to shopping for gifts and treasures, enjoy cider and donuts from the CCHS Cider Tent and be sure to visit the CCHS Merchandise Tent this year. New merchandise includes a t-shirt featuring a redesigned version of the Clarkston logo. Also new, is a Clarkston bumper sticker and window cling. Popular items since they were introduced, a collection of historic Clarkston photographs will be offered again for purchase.

Because it was such a success in its first year, CCHS will sponsor a second Silent Auction during the Festival. Over 50 artists participate, donating art and crafts ranging in value from \$10 to \$400. Last year, this one event earned an additional \$1,500 for us. And when you get hungry, don't forget to patronize the food booths of your favorite local community groups.

The Festival atmosphere is completed with local performers. The entertainment this year will feature on Saturday a two-man string band who specialize in patriotic songs, the *Sweet Briar String Band* (dulcimer and other string instruments) and *Cedar Crest African Drummers*. On Sunday, the entertainment will include *String Fever* (dulcimer with vocals) and the *Donna Lee Holman Band*, an easy-listening guitar and vocals duo.

As most of you know, the Crafts & Cider Festival is the CCHS' main fundraising activity with the majority of proceeds used to operate *The Clarkston Heritage Museum*. The museum was founded in 1999 by CCHS and is located in the *Independence Township Library*. The museum's themed exhibits feature artifacts and interpretations that relate to Clarkston's history and change on a regular basis.

A free shuttle service will be provided to Festival patrons who park at Clarkston Middle School, located behind Clarkston Elementary School on Waldon Road. For more information contact CCHS at the Clarkston Heritage Museum, (248) 922-0270. ❧



Great Women in History Storyteller Returns

Jennifer Arkwright

On October 20th, Storyteller **Maureen Esther Latimer Passalacqua**, will be weaving a tale around *Women in History*. Listen to the fascinating lives of some of History's most interesting women – from King Tut's wife, Ankhesenamun, to Henry VIII's wives. Hear how the women of the past lived and loved.

This CCHS program will be held in the Community Room at *Independence Township Library* from 7 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. Admission for CCHS members is free and \$1 for non-members (public). Admission includes dessert and coffee.

This is a return visit by Ms. Passalacqua, who entertained a packed room last February with her Civil War storytelling. Be sure to come early to get a seat! This program is great for adults and school-aged children. ❧

Here is one of my favorite things to report on . . . The New Stuff!

Toni Smith

Jeri Engleby found four wonderful sepia tone photos of the Beardslee family in a nearby antique mall. They are of Elmer Beardslee, Bertha Beardslee, Elmer & Oradell Beardslee and Bob & Lulu (Beardslee) Wilcox. I am so glad she thought they should be added to our collection!

“I can see clearly now...”
Antique dealer **Bob Silvis** donated a pair of early wire rim spectacles that were meant to be hung on a ribbon.

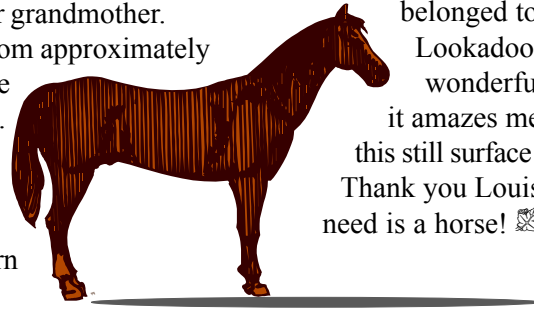
From **Gini Schultz** came a tennis racket that belonged to Janet Lookadoo and a small leather suitcase with the initials of Elizabeth Lambert (Janet’s mother).

The *Birmingham Historical Society* donated a large collection of photos of FOXY’S restaurant. Anyone remember when it was in the Mill Building in 1982? If you went to the Grand Opening or their Western Days, you may be in the pictures!

A wonderful collection of paper items came from **Neal Hoxsie** from the estate of his mother. It includes 23 programs from Children’s Day in the Methodist Episcopal Church (c. 1893-1910), two personal letters to (possibly) Lucy Holcomb from her mother, two Epworth League yearly calendars from Clarkston Methodist Episcopal Church (c. 1913-1917) and various advertisements and certificates from the early 1900s. What a great addition to our collection, thanks Neal.

Sometimes I am very surprised by our donations. As an example, I recently received a large box from **Margery Randall** in Alabama. In it was a treasure trove of wonderful antique books. They included: one 1872 Atlas of Oakland County, one 1817-1877 History of Oakland County, one 1891 Portrait and Biographical Album and one 1975 Oakland County Sesqui-Centennial History Book. What an amazing surprise to come in the mail and we can’t thank her enough!

Once again I find myself thanking **Barb Thomson**. This time she donated two wonderful old dresses once belonging to her grandmother. The first one dates from approximately the late 1890s and the other from the 1920s. What a difference in style between the two, it is hard to believe they were worn in the same lifetime.



And last but not least, I want to thank **Louise Mauti** for dropping off a pair of riding jodhpurs that belonged to Janet Lambert Lookadoo. They are in wonderful condition and it amazes me that things like this still surface occasionally. Thank you Louise, now all we need is a horse! ☞

Items purchased by the Historical Society for the Museum Collection

Toni Smith

We think you'll enjoy reading about our most recent acquisitions, each posing more questions about Clarkston's interesting history.

- A wonderful Sashabaw school souvenir program card dated 1905 on the front with a list of 21 students on the back of the card. Their names were Isaac Voorheis, Grant Beardslee, Frank Green, Leverne Beardslee, Lizzie West, John Van Kuren, Jesse Bird, Gertrude Green, Basil Bird, Frank Hart, Mabel Linderman, Erwin Beardslee, Ecka Bird, Paul Linderman, Roy Van Kuren, Gladys Bird, Calvin Linderman, Bernice Osmun, Myrtle Cleveland, Chas. Cleveland, Aaron Van Kuren and Chas. Linderman. Does anyone recognize his or her ancestors here?

- Another interesting find was an 18” x 24” sepia tone poster advertising the Henry Ford Village Industries Program. This poster has a large picture of the West Washington Street white brick building built by Henry Ford in 1941. Located on the site of the original Clarkston Mill, it is taken looking at the building from Depot road and the Caribou Inn can be seen behind and to the right.

- From a time before plastic cartons came a glass bottle marked Porritt Dairy. Can anyone tell me when this dairy was in operation? I have seen an ad for it in the 1963 Clarkston phone book, but when did it open and close?

- A color photo postcard titled “Clarkston, Michigan Old Mill Stream”. It looks like possibly the small dam off of Dixie once located near the Old Mill Restaurant.

- An incredible photo postcard of the east side of North Main Street. We have never seen anything like this one. It shows the homes starting with 130 N. Main, then 122 N. Main, 114/116 N. Main and then the original home of Dr. Robertson before it was moved in 1923 to make way for Robertson Court to be developed. What a great photo this is! ☞

HISTORIC
CLARKSTON, MICHIGAN
EST. 1832



Clarkston Kids Go Back In Time To Learn History

Kim Huttenlocher

Children from all over the Clarkston area got a hands-on lesson in local history this year from CCHS volunteers. Over 400 children participated in the organized programs provided by CCHS board members **Kim Huttenlocher, Lydia Strnad and Ann Mizusawa** and Heritage Museum Director **Toni Smith**.

Second graders from *Independence, Pine Knob and Bailey Lake Elementary* schools spent a full day touring Clarkston and participating in the CCHS program. They were treated to an interactive presentation on life in Clarkston during the pioneer days of the mid-1800s. They marveled at photos of Clarkston's early days and speculated on everything from which wild animals roamed the area (sorry kids, no lions and tigers here, but plenty of wolves and bears!) to how the pioneers survived the difficult winters. Life on the farm was explored in detail, and by churning their own butter and carding and spinning wool into yarn they realized how difficult pioneer life was. Of course, the butter tasted all that much better to the children after they had worked so hard to make it themselves.

CCHS also took the program on the road to Clarkston Elementary, participating in their spring Festival Day and presenting the program to several groups of children from all grades. The program is also available to Boy and Girl Scout troops, and several of those took advantage of it this year as well. The program seems to be a hit with parents, teachers and students alike. One local mom commented that the program was the best part of the day for the second graders she was chaperoning on an all day trip into Clarkston to learn about history. For the volunteers, seeing the smiles as the children dipped crackers into their homemade butter made all the time and hard work worthwhile.

As the next school year approaches, CCHS will continue to enhance and improve the program, and keep Clarkston's children in tune with their community's exciting history. ☒



The arrow symbolizes hope or at rest.



The pyramid and the snake symbolize eternity.



The urn symbolizes mortality. After the cross, one of the most common of funeral monuments.



The sword represents justice or fortitude.

A Stroll Thru History

Laura Covintree



The heart symbolizes love & devotion.

The First Annual Clarkston Cemetery Walk was a big success! On May 17th more than 150 guests made their way through *Lakeview Cemetery* on a beautiful spring evening for the first annual Clarkston Cemetery Walk. As guests strolled through the historic cemetery they encountered actors portraying nine of the areas earliest settlers. The graveside stops included George W. King, Butler Holcomb, Martha Vliet, Jeremiah Clark, Erastus and Theodocia Stiff, Dr. Charles Gray Robertson and Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Phillips. Each actor, dressed in period clothing, told of the lives and times of each person and how they contributed in the founding of Clarkston.

At the end of the tour guests gathered to listen to patriotic and folk music and enjoyed light refreshments. "The event was an overwhelming success," said **Jennifer Arkwright**, President of the Clarkston Community



Hands are a symbol of concord or farewell. The clasped hands represent everlasting union.

Historical Society. "We had no idea how the public would receive the walk, but by the turn-out there is no question that the walk will continue to raise funds for the Clarkston Heritage Museum for many years." Admission to the event was \$10 for adults and \$5 for students.



The rose generally signifies silence.

A special thank you to the staff at *Independence Township DPW* for all their hard work in helping us ready the grounds, to *Daimler Chrysler* for the use of their vans used to shuttle guests, to *Tierra Fine Jewelers* and *Clarkston Country Store & Antiques* for helping sell tickets and all the actors and CCHS members that brought history alive for one wonderful evening. ☒

Mark your calendars for the 29th annual Crafts & Cider Festival September 20th & 21st Saturday and Sunday in Depot Park.

New CCHS Merchandise Available At Crafts & Cider



This year we are excited to offer a new Clarkston t-shirt in addition to all our other Clarkston items. These fashionable shirts have a redesigned version of our Clarkston logo screen printed in three colors on the front and the words “Still making history. . .” across the back. The 100% cotton shirts are available in antique red or historic blue in sizes S through XXL. Economically priced at \$18.00, they are a great gift idea for everyone in your family! We're sure they will be a big hit and make this a banner year for CCHS merchandise sales. Two other new items available this year are a window cling and a bumper sticker. Both will have the historic styled Clarkston logo and will be a great way to display pride in your hometown. The clings can be placed in the window of your car, home or office while the bumper sticker is suitable for your car bumper. Available at the low price of \$3.00 each, what a great way to support the historical society and your hometown at the same time!

**CLARKSTON
COMMUNITY
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY**



P.O. Box 261 ■ CLARKSTON, MI 48347

BOARD MEETINGS

are held the 4th Tuesday of each month from 7 until 9 PM at the Clarkston Heritage Museum in the Independence Township Library.

website <http://www.clarkstonhistorical.org>