

JHA MEMBER NEWS

February 2013

www.jenisonhistory.org

JENISON HISTORICAL
ASSOCIATION
PO Box 664;
28 Port Sheldon
Jenison, Michigan 49429
TELEPHONE
(616) 457-4398

Our mission is to learn about Jenison history, obtain artifacts relating to its history, and maintain the Jenison Historical Museum as a place to share and display our heritage.

MINUTES OF THE JENISON HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION MEETING JANUARY 17, 2013

Present: Nellie DeLaat, Ruth Lowing, Ron Villerius, Ken Williams, Linda Droog, Yvonne Williams, Gene Kort, Mike Timmer, Bev Potter, Liz Timmer

Association business

Welcome: Liz welcomed new members, Ron Villerius, Township Representative and Gene Kort.

Review November minutes: Ken made a motion to accept the minutes, Mike seconded and there was a correction that Tim and Linda were added to the board.

Treasurer's Report: Ruth reported that we need to sell one more Christmas ornament to break even.

The distribution of memorial contributions for Virginia Timmer was discussed. It was suggested the funds be used to purchase the Past Perfect software to be used for keeping an inventory of museum items. There was concern that our current laptop would not be able to support this software. It was suggested that we contact Dan Carlton as the township computers are going to be replaced and it might be possible for us to get one of those computers that would handle this software. It was felt that this was a good use for the money since Virginia was the historian and had collected the files we have now. Ken made a motion to designate the money from the memorial contributions for Virginia Timmer to purchase the Past Perfect software and supporting contracts. Ruth will investigate the computer capacity to support this software and report at the February meeting. Liz will contact Dan Carlton about the township computers. The cost of the software is about \$1,400. Ron Villerius (township representative) seconded the motion. Ayes carried.

Mike made the motion to accept the Treasurer's report as read, the motion was seconded and ayes carried.

Liz asked that Mike pass on the info about what we are going to do with the money.

Historian's Report:

1/15 Ron Wortley Grandville Historical (recently elected President) stopped at the museum to give us some digital photos of 1st Church and the Christian School just before they were torn down. He also sent an email about the American Association for State and Local History which we need to join to get the discount on Past Perfect.

1/15 A person stopped at the Museum asking about the Garfield Drawing. He said that reps from the National Park service stopped by his house this past Spring to ask about getting the house on the National register of historic homes because his home was once owned and frequently visited by President James Garfield. President Garfield's brother, Thomas, now buried in the Hanley cemetery, and lived in the home. The person has recently moved into the home and has done some renovations inside the home. The Park Service was concerned about the renovations complying with standards set for historic homes status if he would want to put it in the registry. We gave him a Bend in the River and Jenison at the Bend to help him understand the history of our area. He is concerned about what would happen if the house was put on the registry.

1/15 Matt Berger called to follow up on a request for information on our Web page. He is very interested in his family tree and finding as much information as he can. I read parts of the January newsletter about his family and he confirmed the info. He said that he had toured the Berger Estates property when we had it on our Christmas tour. I got his email address and said I would send him a copy of the newsletter and other info I might find in the files.

1/12 Thank you from Jason who asked about information on Swedish Immigrants of Ottawa County. I referred him to the Joint Archives of Holland, GR, Grand Haven and Holland Libraries.

1/3 Cal Bagema visited the museum to ask about the McCoy barn murder in 1905. He is researching for a book on the Grand Rapids Streetcar System and wanted to include the Grand Rapids to Holland interurban line to Shackhuddle where Carl grew up. It was reported to him that a person could see the barn where the murder took place from the interurban crossing on McClellan. We confirmed the possibility by comparing the 1876 plat map with a goggle map of the area that shows the trace of the interurban route.

Heritage Trail Maps: I am working on a rewrite of our 1976 Heritage Trail Maps. It will have around 30 illustrated sites pictured and indicated with explanations on the back, along with a corrected index of sites listed in the Bend in the River. Mike has already reviewed the index list and I plan to visit Messenger Printing for ideas on layout and getting it printer ready. We used (sold) over 2000 copies of the original maps.

Night at Your Museum: Yvonne, Riley, Parker and I participated in the Night at Your Museum where historical characters came alive throughout the museum and mingled with the crowds for two hours. I was captain of the Steamship City of Grand Rapids and had just come in from Holland Michigan on the interurban to visit Grand Rapids.

Dr. Vita Tucker and Lynelle Brown both retired from the Kutsche Office of Local History at Grand Valley University. Melanie Shell-Weiss as director and Samantha Hendricks as office coordinator are their replacements.

Museum tours

12/4 Jenison Cub Scout troop

12/8 Christmas open house

1/3 Jenison family private tour visiting from Ohio. Granddaughter and daughter of

Eugene Jenison. They reported that Virginia Timmer gave Eugene a tour of the museum and videotaped the tour. They said they would try to get it transferred to DVD and send us a copy.

1/11 23 members from Jenison Methodist Church

1/12 1 p.m. Red hatters, 2-4 regular tours

Upcoming tours

1/23 Home school group

1/30? Red Hatters, Hager

Mike talked at length to a person named Rainy who was related to a farmer located at 12th Ave. and Chicago Drive. The corner was called Rainy's corners. The farm was on the left side of 12th. Woltjers had a restaurant on the east side of 12th. He was going to give us more information and pictures through Mike's Face book page.

Township Representative's Report: Ron Villerius distributed a preliminary drawing of what will be at 200 Baldwin (where the church once was). There will be a Veterans memorial, Ice rink/Plaza, Farmers Market/art show (very fancy car port), possible multi use building. A park will be across the street and Kent trails. Liz/Ken wondered if there would be some type of historical memorial for the buildings that at one time, were in this area. Ron suggested a letter to Dan to be addressed at the next township meeting. Liz and Ken will draft a letter and send immediately. Ron is also on a

branding committee, new brand that will be on anything. It will be called Georgetown township and some people are upset that Jenison (expect coming off the highway) is not mentioned anywhere. Ken suggested Pride of the Valley (from the Jenison Mill flour sack) as the brand.

Acquisitions Report: No report due to Barb's absence.

Grange Hall Report: No report due to Tim's absence.

2013 Meeting Locations: May is the only month we will not be meeting at the library. Ken will reserve the Youth Building at Rosewood Church.

Fundraising Conference: A workshop will be held in Flint on June 20-22 on fundraising for small historical groups. There will be more info coming in April. Liz will share details as they arrive. There are also some workshops on Grant writing.

Museum business

Maintenance Report: Mike reported that he took care of the usual -- Lights and mice.

Holiday Open Houses: There was a good turnout for both. It was recommended that we have 3 docents on each floor in the future. Members were asked to review their docents manual and be prepared to speak on their assigned area at all open houses. Decorations will be taken down on Tuesday, February 5.

2013 Open Houses Displays:

Delegation of duties for Open house themes

1. Changed display format from large posters to picture collages of family photos. In many cases we have only a few pictures of a family and at times only their home.
2. Each month we will need a different "Host" in the back parlor to answer questions about the families featured and to collect new information about them. Mike and Ken will put up the display each month from the available pictures and historical briefs.
3. Mike will add display boards (without frames) in the SW corner of the back parlor to give us more display room.

Research for the local families will come from the following sources:

1. Location from the 1876 plat map for most families
2. References in the Bend in the River
3. Surface Google search of the Family name
4. File information at the museum
5. Additional info from books etc. when available

We just want to introduce these local families to our visitors and make the visitors aware of the family's contributions to our area and the larger historic stage.

Other business

NOTE: Master Plan will be reviewed at the February meeting

Yvonne found curtains in one of the closets for the front bedroom upstairs which can be used so new curtains won't need to be made.

Ron wanted to know if we linked with the township on the computer.

Someone called Mayer owns part of the side yard and it was suggested that the township purchase that property for parking.

Ken made the motion to purchase Jenison at the Bend (100 copies for 110.00). Linda seconded the motion, and the ayes carried. NOTE: Books have been purchased.

Gene brought a plat map of Jenison Plat with the hotel, bar, etc.

Yvonne and Ken purchased a framed copy of the Haire's Landing painting. They are going to check into restoration etc. for display in their home. It is the best copy Ken has seen and he thinks he should be able to get a good scan of it for the museum.

**Jenison Historical Association
Treasurers Report 1/17/13 thru 2/18/13**

Date	Account	Num	Transaction	Memo	Category	Amount
Beginning Balance						\$5,382.81
1/17/13	Checking	2012	Mike Timmer		Repairs	(\$70.50)
1/19/13			Deposit	1/12 Open House	Donations:Open House	\$30.00
				Ornament Sale	Gift Store: Ornaments	\$15.00
				Reimb from Township(lite repair)	Repairs	\$19.00
				Dues 2013	Membership Dues	\$50.00
1/29/13			Bank Charge	Deposit Slips	misc	(\$15.75)
2/15/13		2013	State of Michigan	Non-Profit Fee 2011	Misc	(\$20.00)
2/15/13		2014	State of Michigan	Non-Profit Fee 2012	Misc	(\$20.00)
2/15		\$ 2,015.00	Jenison Public Schools	Jenison At the Bend Book Printing	Gift Store Expense	(\$110.00)
					Interest Income	\$0.00
					Activity for report period	(\$122.25)
Checking Account Balance						\$5,260.56
Petty Cash						\$50.00
12/1/12						
Petty Cash Balance						\$50.00
ENDING Accounts BALANCE						\$5,310.56
2011 Retained Earnings						\$2,211.47
Total Income 2012						\$7,189.50
Total Expenses 2012						(\$4,892.66)
2011 Retained Earnings						\$4,508.31
Total Income 2013						\$988.50
Total Expenses 2013						(\$236.25)
Petty Cash Box						\$50.00
Cash on Hand						\$5,310.56
			Unpaid Dues		Receivables	\$0.00
			Restoration Project			\$60.34
Total Equity						\$5,370.90
SPECIAL FUND-RESTORATION PROJECT-BEGINNING BALANCE						\$0.00
			5/25 Puppet Show		Donations:Restoration Projects	\$25.00
			Restoration of Lucius/Lumen print		Repairs:Restoration Projects	(\$64.66)
			12/12/12		Donations: Restoration Projects	\$100.00
SPECIAL FUND-RESTORATION PROJECT-ENDING BALANCE (THIS PERIOD)						\$60.34

submitted by Ruth Lowing, Treasurer

Restorations Needed

The picture shown is but one of the pictures that JHA is looking to restore. This picture is of President Garfield and his family. He came to our area to visit his brother, Thomas, who lived in Jamestown, one account says his last visit was 3 years before he was assassination in 1881. This picture of Garfield and his family, is showing signs of deterioration which can still be stopped, but the price is upwards of \$600 for just this one picture.



JHA is starting a drive to build a restoration fund with the donations earmarked for just such projects. Would you be willing to donate to help restore this picture and others in need of repair?

Come to the next open house to learn more, or you can send your donation to PO Box 664, Jenison MI 49429 and mark it for the Restoration Fund.

Order yours today!!!!



Find us on Facebook at Jenison History Association and become a friend.

JHA TRUSTEE'S

Chair

Liz Timmer (13)
457-3708

Vice Chair/Curator

Ken Williams (14)
772.6523

Treasurer/Editor

Ruth Lowing (14)
896-1447

Social Secretary

Nellie DeLaat (13)
457-1193

Recording Secretary

Bev Potter (13)
308-4490

Tours/Co-Archivist

Joyce Klawiter (12)
457-9018

Co-Archivist

Barb Semeyn (14)
457-9343

Maintenance/Historian

Mike Timmer (13)
531-1218

Trustee

Yvonne Williams (14)
772-6523

Tim Boelema
669-5079

Linda Droog
457-3016

Township Rep

Ron Villerius

(##) = year of re-election to the board

Contact Information: Members may contact the board at the above phone numbers or leave a message at 457-4398 or info@jenisonhistory.org

Historical Association of Michigan

Find us on the registry of the Historical Society of Michigan
www.hsmichigan.org



Jenison Historical Association
PO Box 664
Jenison, MI 49429

First Name Last Name

Address

City, St Zip

2013 Meeting Schedule

Thursday, January 17 - Georgetown Library
Thursday, February 21 - Georgetown Library
Thursday, March 21 - Georgetown Library
Thursday, April 18 - Georgetown Library
Thursday, May 16 - TBD
Thursday, June 20 - Georgetown Library
Thursday, July 18, 2013 - Georgetown Library
Thursday, August 15 - Georgetown Library
Thursday, September 19, Georgetown Library
Thursday, October 17, Georgetown Library
Thursday, November 21 - Georgetown Library
No Meeting in December, 2013

All meetings begin at 6:45 PM unless noted

2013 Museum Open House Schedule

March 16, 2013	2-4 PM
April 20, 2013	2-4 PM
May 18, 2013	2-4 PM
June 15, 2013	2-4 PM
July 20, 2013	2:30-4 PM
September 21 2013	2-4 PM
October 19, 2013	2-4 PM
December 7, 2013	1-4 PM 2013 Holiday Open House

ALSO: 1st Tuesday of the month April thru November -
10 AM - Noon

Call to volunteer your time at the open houses