



# Waterford Historical Society Newsbill

Volume 18, Number 1

March-April-May 2013

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## Calendar

### March-April-May

WHS is Open

Every Wednesday 10:30-2:00

#### March 6

Log Cabin Days Mtg 1:00

#### March 16

**Fashion Show**

11:00 a.m. at Bartelli's

#### March 20

Board Meeting 1:00

#### April 10

Log Cabin Days Mtg 1:00

#### April 17

**Village Opens**

**for the Season**

Board Meeting 2:15

#### May 1

Log Cabin Days Mtg 1:00

#### May 15

Board Meeting 2:15

#### May 16

**Annual Membership Meeting and Election**

7:00 p.m.

#### May 27

Memorial Day Parade

## President's Notes

Hopefully by the time you read this newsletter spring has sprung! Spring always brings a flurry of activity around our grounds, although our regular Wednesday work crew has been on the job all winter.

The men have completed the Multi-Purpose Learning Center in the Watchpocket building. It is a sight to behold! They worked tirelessly through the weather so we would be ready for tours in the spring. Many, many thanks to that group. We would be absolutely nowhere without them! Now we just need some finishing touches and we will be ready for meetings and Hands-On History.

Second grade school tours are being booked and planned as we speak. This is an important part of our mission statement. *And* the future of our organization. We go to the school and do a History of Waterford PowerPoint and Workshop and then the classes come to us for a Village tour and activities. If you want to get involved in this process, please give me a call, we would love to have you.

Log Cabin Days Festival is right around the corner. Please think about joining us. This is our time to give back and shine for the community. Attend a meeting or give me a call with an idea or wish to volunteer. **WE NEED EVERYONE** to make it happen.

Hope to see you soon.

*Sally Strait*



## Board Members

### President

Sally Strait 248-683-2697  
sstrait649@comcast.net

### Vice President

Bob Allen 248-623-0463

### Recording Secretary

Becky Morgan 248-673-2689

### Corresponding Secretary

Betty Seymour 248-666-4265

### Treasurer

Betty Horn 248-673-9708

### Bookkeeper

Cheryl Stoutenburg 248-623-0414

### Members At Large

Merrill Paine 248-673-0615

Grace Rockey 248-666-3673

Norm Watchpocket 248-673-5310

Dorothy Webber 248-666-4907

### Vice President Emeritus

Dorothy White 248-623-0937

## Reminder...

If you have not renewed your yearly membership this will be your last Newsletter. Don't miss an issue...renew now!



## Log Cabin Days 2013



We are already planning for Log Cabin Days 2013! We would really appreciate help from as many of our members as possible. Here are some things you can do to help make Log Cabin days a success:

- Save White Elephant or Juried Junk items for us to sell. Bring them any Wednesday from now on.
- Help sort and price White Elephant and Juried Junk items any Wednesday starting April 17th.
- On Wednesday, June 12th, 19th, or 26th come help us clean a building.
- Bake cookies for the Log Cabin Days cookie sale.
- On Friday, June 28 come help us set up tents or the White Elephant sale.
- Sign up to work a shift during Log Cabin Days.
- Attend Log Cabin Days.
- Tell a friend/family member or neighbor about Log Cabins Days or bring them with you.
- Monday, July 1st help us take tents down.
- Consider giving us a monetary donation to help with Log Cabin Days expenses. The shuttle bus alone is a big cost.

## Log Cabin Days WANTED

1. White Elephant or Juried Junk for us to sell. Bring it any Wednesday from now on. Juried Junk items are a bit more 'upper scale' than White Elephant.
2. Cookies baked for our popular cookie sale. Bake and put four cookies in a baggie. Bring them to us Friday, Saturday or Sunday June 28, 29 or 30.



## This and That...

- **New Lifetime Members:** Welcome to our newest lifetime members Frank & Sue Camilleri, Evangeline Chase and Mack & Pam Hohmann.
- **Winter Visitors:** Winter hasn't stopped visitors from coming to the Hatchery House! Some people came seeking historical info about Waterford. Others came with artifact donations or items for our Log Cabin Days white elephant sale.

## Annual General Meeting

Please plan to attend the Waterford Historical Society Annual Membership Meeting and Election on Thursday, May 16th at 7 p.m. This is our one and only membership meeting of the year so we hope to see as many of our members as possible. We need everyone's vote! Dessert and beverages will be served.

In accordance with our By-Laws we are presenting our slate of officers for 2013 as follows:

2 year terms:

Vice President - Bob Allen

Recording Secretary - Becky Morgan

Bookkeeper - Cheryl Stoutenburg



If you might be interested in running for any of these positions please contact Sally Strait 248-683-2697 so you can be nominated the night of the election when nominations are taken from the floor.

## Fashion Show Fundraiser For the Waterford Historical Society "Oh, You Beautiful Doll!"



**Saturday, March 16th - 11:00 a.m.**

**At Bartelli's in the 300 Bowl Complex**

**Fashions by: The Clothing Cove**

**Tickets are \$30.00 per person  
(Lunch is included in the price)**

Come join us for the 12th Annual Spring Preview Style Show and Luncheon. Our theme this year is 'Oh, you Beautiful Doll!' We are very proud to have fashions presented by the Clothing Cove again this year. Enjoy a lovely lunch, a fashion show with the latest styles and great company all while raising money for the Waterford Historical Society. Be sure to tell a friend or neighbor!

**For tickets: Call Betty Seymour at 248-666-4265**



## DOIN' THE WASH

In turn-of-the-century America, Monday was Wash Day, an arduous dusk-to-dawn undertaking.



It's hard to imagine doing all your laundry by hand, but that's what turn-of-the century housewives had to cope with every Monday. So, it's no surprise that bright, sunny weather was every woman's wish on that particular day. In the basement, or outdoors when the weather was fine, the pots were set to boiling. Clothes soaked the night before, as a prelude to Monday's labors. Then the arduous routine of washing, rinsing, and wringing began. When clean, the wash was hung on outdoor clotheslines. In bad weather, it was hung in the basement to dry - and dry - and dry.

Why Monday? Because clothes were changed for church and Sunday dinner the day before, it was logical to wash the previous week's duds after the day of rest. Washday determined the menu for Monday, too. There was simply no time for elaborate food preparation when laundry waited to be done, and nothing too strongly scented or spiced was prepared, lest the clothes take on an odor.

As soon as a family had any discretionary income, the lady of the house used the surplus to hire a laundress, whose wages were typically \$30 a month. Considering the work options for women of the day, being a laundress was not such a bad job. Yes, the work was grueling and not for the frail or weak-it took considerable strength to scrub clothes up and down a washboard and run them through the treacherous wringer. But a laundress, or washwoman,

made a steady wage and could go about her work without supervision.

The washwoman who could afford her own laundry equipment at home had another measure of freedom. She could work "out" - that is, she could pick up the laundry from her customers, wash the clothes in her own home, and then return the freshly pressed garments and linens the following day.

Tuesday, of course, was ironing day. Household management books of the time instructed hostesses to invite houseguests a day *after* the ironing was done. This way, it was reasoned, the maids would be free of the vile chore and have more time to attend to the guests and prepare better meals.

Early laundry soaps were not as primitive as one might imagine. By the late 1800's, bar soaps like Ivory were available and could be slivered

into the wash. In 1906, Lux flakes were introduced. And granulated Rinso, the first in a long line of products designed to help produce that all-famous "whiter wash," came along in 1918. A flour-and-water mixture was the precursor to starch, but by the turn of the century starch and bluing\* could be purchased at most stores.

Equipment kept pace. The agitating washer, first introduced around 1846, saved knuckles and kept hands out of the wash water. Electric washers were introduced in 1914. Just 15 years later, more than three-quarters of the washing machines produced in America were electrified.

Today, throwing a load of laundry in the washer is almost a mindless task. A trip to the Laundromat still evokes groans, but remembering the travails of our forebears makes this mundane chore seem downright simple.

*Source: Country Living November 1991*

### RECIPE FOR WASHING CLOTHES

1. Build fire in back yard to heat kettle.
2. Set tubs so smoke won't blow in eyes if wind is pert.
3. Shove one whole cake of lye soap in boiling water.
4. Sort things. Make 1 pile coloured, 1 pile white, 1 pile breeches and rags.
5. Stir flour in cold water to smooth. Thin down with boiling water. Starch.
6. Rub dirty spots on board, scrub hard then boil. Rub coloured but don't boil. Just rinse and starch.
7. Take white things out of kettle with broom handle. Then rinse, blue and starch.
8. Spread tea towels on grass; others on fence.
9. Put rinse water on flower beds.
10. Scrub porch with soapy water.
11. Turn over the tubs to drain.
12. Go put on a clean dress. Smooth hair with side combs. Brew tea. Sit and rest. Rock a spell. Count your blessings. . . .

—Anonymous note (c. 1900) on display at the Whistler Museum and Archives, in Whistler, British Columbia.



\*  
*Bluing is a laundry product used to improve the appearance of textiles, especially whites.*

*pert (brisk)*

## Kroger Community Rewards

We are continuing to participate in Kroger's Community Rewards Program. Use your Kroger Plus card with our number and we will get a check in the mail every quarter!

**If you already enrolled last year, you must sign on again and put our number in by April.**



## Thanks Newsletter Sponsors!

This edition of the newsletter is brought to you in part by donations from Becky Morgan & Betty Seymour. Any donation towards the newsletter is more money that stays in our treasury for Village upkeep. If you would like to help sponsor our next newsletter please send a check for \$25 to WHS at our mailing address: PO Box 300491, Waterford MI 48330-0491. Write 'Newsletter' on the memo line.

## St. Patrick's Day in the U.S. \*



The Charitable Irish Society of Boston organized the first observance of St. Patrick's Day in the Thirteen Colonies. Surprisingly, the celebration was not Catholic in nature, Irish immigration to the colonies having been dominated by Protestants. The society's purpose in gathering was simply to honor its homeland, and although they continued to meet annually to coordinate charitable works for the Irish community in Boston, they did not meet on 17 March again until 1794. During the observance of the day, individuals attended a service of worship and a special dinner.

New York's first St. Patrick's Day observance was similar in nature to that of Boston's. It was held on 17 March 1762 in the home of John Marshall, an Irish Protestant, and over the next few years informal gatherings by Irish immigrants were the norm. The first recorded parade in New York was by Irish soldiers in the British Army in 1766. In 1780, while camped in Morristown, NJ, General George Washington, who commanded soldiers of Irish descent in the Continental Army, allowed his troops a holiday on 17 March "as an act of solidarity with the Irish in their fight for independence". This event became known as The St. Patrick's Day Encampment of 1780.

Irish patriotism in New York City continued to soar and the parade in New York City continued to grow. Irish aid societies were created like Friendly Sons of St. Patrick and the Hibernian Society and they marched in the parades too. Finally when many of these aid societies joined forces in 1848 the parade became not only the largest parade in the U.S. but one of the largest in the world. \* source: [Wikipedia.org](http://Wikipedia.org)

## Village Schedule

Waterford Historic Village will reopen April 17th for the 2013 season.

The Hatchery House, research library, offices and our Log Cabin store are open all year on Wednesdays from 10:30 am to 2:00 pm.

## Waterford Historic Village A Closer Look at: The Log Cabin



The log cabin in our Waterford Historic Village at Fish Hatchery Park has one section to represent the way early Waterford settlers might have lived. When the first settlers came to Waterford in the early 1800's they were on their own! They only had what they were able to bring with them in their horse drawn wagon or what they could grow, make, gather, catch or hunt. The furnishings at the fireplace end of the cabin show many items that may have been used at that time.

At this time we are pleased to have a display of pink Depression glass in our Log Cabin showcase. The collection, given to the Waterford Historical Society by Joan Marie Whitaker, can be seen on Wednesdays.

The other part of our log cabin serves as the Waterford Historical Society Store and Gift Shop. We have copies for sale of many vintage maps of Waterford dating from 1817 to 1964. These maps include the Oakland County Indian Trails, an 1817 map of the Saginaw Trail (now Dixie Highway), the original 1817 Survey of Waterford Township, Maps of Waterford Township from 1872 through 1964, and the 1930-31 road map of Oakland County.

Many other items are also available for sale at the Log Cabin Store. These include Michigan mugs, historic prints, notecards, train whistles, oven sticks/rulers, t-shirts, sweatshirts, cookbooks, calendars, and our Historic Waterford Village afghan. We carry Michigan made products such as honey, candles and jams. We also sell made in the USA items which include BBQ sauce and reproductions of vintage children's toys and books. We offer gently used children's books and vintage collectibles as they come our way.

You never know what you might find on any given Wednesday. So stop by and see us when you get the chance. Step back in time or do some shopping. You can find us every Wednesday in the Log Cabin from 10:30 am - 2 pm. Looking forward to seeing you soon!

## Village News

We are pleased to report the new section of the Watchpocket Building is finished. Many hours of work went into finishing the building in the usual painstaking manner of our wonderful volunteer building crew. From the outside to the inside it is done to perfection. The siding is on. The roof is shingled. The windows and doors are in. The insulation is installed. The walls are up and painted. The lights are installed and working. The trim is up and stained. The wooden plank floor is down and stained. We are so lucky to have such dedicated workers and are so very proud of what was accomplished. Here are some photos of the finished interior:



Next we will start to set up the Children's Hands-On History area on one side of the new section of the Watchpocket building.

This space will also serve as a multi-purpose learning center, meeting room and display area.



## Thank You Coffee Break Service !



We would like to thank the Coffee Break Service for keeping us supplied with great coffee! We look forward to brewing a fresh pot of coffee as soon as we get to the Historical Society every Wednesday.

Coffee Break Service, Inc. is a local company that has served our community for 30 years! They are located at 2256 Dixie Highway in Waterford. You can find more information about them at their web site: [www.coffeekbreakinc.com](http://www.coffeekbreakinc.com)

Their motto is:

**GREAT COFFEE GREAT SERVICE GREAT PRICES**

So, when you think of coffee...think of  
Coffee Break Service, Inc.

Phone: (248) 33-COFFEE (248-332-6333)

Fax: (248) 335-0525

Email: [info@coffeekbreakinc.com](mailto:info@coffeekbreakinc.com)

## Reminder...Membership Dues

**If you have not renewed your yearly membership this will be your last Newsletter.** Don't miss an issue...renew now!

We have much going on and don't want you to miss out!

Clip and fill out the form below and bring it in on a Wednesday or mail it to :



Waterford Historical Society  
P.O. Box 300491  
Waterford MI 48330-0491

### Waterford Township Historical Society Membership Application

- \$15.00 Individual
- \$25.00 Family
- \$100.00 Patron
- \$50.00 Organizations/Businesses
- \$150.00 Lifetime per family
- \$100.00 Lifetime per person
- \$125.00 Lifetime per couple
- \$250.00 Lifetime Org./Businesses
- \$500.00 Lifetime Patron

Date	Phone	
Name		
Address		
City, State, Zip	Mail payment to:	
	Waterford Historical Society	
Make Check Payable To:	P.O. Box 300491	
Waterford Township Historical Society	Waterford, MI 48330-0491	

## Waterford Historical Society

We are open every Wednesday from 10:30 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.

We are located in Fish Hatchery Park at:  
4490 Hatchery Rd  
Waterford, MI 48329

Our Mailing Address is:  
P.O. Box 300491  
Waterford, MI 48330-0491

Contact us at:  
Hatchery House 248-673-0342  
Sally Strait 248-683-2697

[www.waterfordhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.waterfordhistoricalsociety.org)  
Non-profit 501(c)3 organization

### SAVE...SAVE...SAVE...SAVE

Please remember to save your receipts when you shop at VG's and Tenuta's. Bring the receipts to the Hatchery House on Wednesday or mail them to us at the above mailing address. In 2012 we received a total of \$ 1069.95 from Tenuta's, VG's and Kroger combined. Thank you for your help!



## Upcoming Local Events:

- ◆ **Fashion Show Fundraiser for WHS :**  
Saturday, March 16 - 11 am  
at Bartelli's in the 300 Bowl Complex  
For tickets call Betty Seymour at 248-666-4265
- ◆ **Waterford Area Home & Business Expo:**  
Thursday, March 21 from 5-8 pm  
Mott High School  
[www.waterfordchamber.org](http://www.waterfordchamber.org)
- ◆ **Sheep Shearing:** Saturday, April 20 - from 10 to 11 am  
Hess-Hathaway Park  
[www.twp.waterford.mi.us](http://www.twp.waterford.mi.us)
- ◆ **Kettering Spring Pops Concert:** Monday, May 20 - 7 pm  
Kettering Performing Arts Center  
[www.waterford.k12.mi.us/pac](http://www.waterford.k12.mi.us/pac) Box Office: 248-673-4205
- ◆ **Mott Spring Collage Concert:** Tuesday, May 21 - 7 pm  
Mott Performing Arts Center  
[www.waterford.k12.mi.us/pac](http://www.waterford.k12.mi.us/pac) Box Office: 248-673-4205
- ◆ **Kettering Orchestra Concert:** Tuesday, May 28 - 7 pm  
Kettering Performing Arts Center  
[www.waterford.k12.mi.us/pac](http://www.waterford.k12.mi.us/pac) Box Office: 248-673-4205
- ◆ **Kettering Band Concert:** Wednesday, May 29 - 7 pm  
Kettering Performing Arts Center  
[www.waterford.k12.mi.us/pac](http://www.waterford.k12.mi.us/pac) Box Office: 248-673-4205

Our Mission Statement:  
Collecting, protecting and preserving the history of  
Waterford Township for the interest and education  
of present and future generations.

Waterford Township Historical Society

P.O. Box 300491  
Waterford, Michigan  
48330-0491

