

# Waterford Historical Society Newsbill

Volume 14, Number 2

April-May 2009

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

## President's Notes

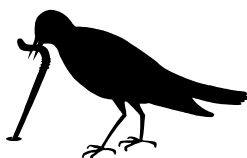
Well folks, spring may have actually sprung. I know this because some of the snow piles have finally melted at Fish Hatchery Park!

We had a visit from the Holly Historical Society a few weeks ago and they were surprised that we have workdays every Wednesday. I said we almost need another day we are so busy! (No, don't worry, we are not doing that, right now.) We *are* busy. But we sure have a lot of fun while we work.

Start thinking ahead to Log Cabin Days and how you can help. We need workers before, during and after. Bring us your White Elephants and then help us mark them. Do a little dusting in one of the buildings. Get ready to bake for the bake sale. There is much to do.

Enjoy the nice weather and I hope to see all of you soon.

*Sally Strait*



## Board

**President**  
Sally Strait 248-683-2697

**Vice President**  
Dorothy White 248-623-0937

**Recording Secretary**  
Dorothy Webber 248-666-4907

**Corresponding Secretary**  
Betty Seymour 248-666-4265

**Treasurer**  
Betty Horn 248-673-9708

**Bookkeeper**  
Cheryl Stoutenburg 248-623-0414

**Members At Large**  
Bob Allen 248-623-0463  
Harvey Hedlund 248-622-9509  
Merrill Paine 248-673-0615

## Calendar

### April-May

Every Wednesday 10:30-2:00

### April 1

Log Cabin Day Mtg 1:00HH  
Newsletter Mailing

### April 15

Board Meeting 1:00 HH

### April 29

Pot Luck Noon

### May 6

Log Cabin Day Mtg 1:00HH

### May20

Board Meeting 1:00 HH

### May 21

**Annual Meeting**  
**Election 7:00pm**

### May 25

**Memorial Day Parade**  
**10:00 am on the Dixie**

### May 27

Pot Luck Noon

## Fashion Show

The 8th annual fashion show was once again a sold out show and a huge success. The weather was beautiful and the models were lovely. This was once again a day to relax and enjoy the lunch and friendship. This year our raffle was over the top—we collected \$476.00!!! Total profits for the day was \$1438.00. Wow! Thank you to our chairperson, Aunt Sally Crake, all the ladies who decorated the tables, the lovely models for their time, and all the members and friends who bought a ticket. We truly appreciate all of you and hope to see you same time next year.

## Village News

As the weather improves so does our temperament and work on the Village! The guys have been working through the bitter winter but the warm weather sure brings a smile to their faces. The roof is on the new building and the inside electric is just about finished. These guys are here many more days than our Wednesdays...give them a smile (or even a hug) when you see them. They are awesome.

## Log Cabin Days 2009

Things are really shaping up with our new “**Log Cabin Days 5K Run & 1.5 Mile Walk**”. We are really excited to make this an annual event. The Run/Walk will be in the Drayton Plains Nature Center on Saturday, June 27, in the morning before our day starts. What a great way to see the DPNC! Most of the hard work is done, but we need some volunteers to help out with when the runners finish. We need someone to coordinate the snacks for the participants. If you are interested in snacks or want to get involved with the Run in any way please give me a call (248-683-2697 Sally).

As you do your spring cleaning, please box up your white elephants to bring to us. Our white elephant tent at Log Cabin Days is a big hit but we need the items. Remember that we do not accept clothes, books, electrical appliances, or furniture. One man’s junk is our treasure, so bring it on!

Items a little too “good” for the white elephant? Antiques or collectibles? New items that have been re-gifted too many times? Merrill Paine would like them for her Antique Sale. Give her a call 248-673-0615.

Special request from the White Elephant committee: plastic grocery bags. We use plenty so please save a few and bring them to us on a Wednesday.

We need you-so get involved!

### SAVE THE DATES

Log Cabin Day Meetings 1:00 HH:

May 6th

June 3rd

Log Cabin Days June 27th & 28th

## Town Hall Display Case

The Historical Society is on display once again at the Waterford Township Hall the whole month of April. The theme this year is *A Visit to Grandma’s Kitchen*. This will be a turn of the century look at you guessed it, Grandma’s kitchen! This is certainly a topic we all know and love. Mmm...I can smell the cinnamon rolls baking now...

The display case is on the 2nd floor. You can come in the main floor and walk up the steps or come in from the back and the case is right when you walk in. Any way you get in, please come. These displays are always excellent and a little known gem in Waterford.



## Annual General Meeting

Please plan to attend our Annual Membership meeting and Election on Thursday May 21, at 7:00 p.m. This is our one and only membership meeting of the year so please plan on attending. We will serve dessert and beverages and Harvey Hedlund will give us a slide show of pictures from our events over the years.

Even more important than dessert, we are holding elections.

In accordance with our By-Laws we are presenting our slate of officers for 2009 as follows:

2 year terms:

Vice President-Dorothy White

Recording Secretary-Dorothy Webber

Bookkeeper-Cheryl Stoutenburg

3 year terms:

Members at Large: Bob Allen and Norman Watchpocket

If you are interested in running for any of these positions please contact Dorothy White at 248-623-0937 so you can be nominated the night of the election when nominations are taken from the floor.

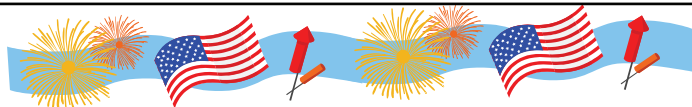
This is a not to be missed occasion; see you there!

### SAVE THE DATE

May 21 7:00pm Jacober’s Store

## Library Plaques

Library plaques are still available to purchase. This is an on-going project and will continue until we run out of room. Plaques are \$20.00 and can be made in your name or “in memory of” or even for an event like a birthday, graduation, etc. Make your check payable to “Waterford Historical Society” and mail to our P.O. Box.



## Memorial Day Parade

Join us as for the annual “march down the Dixie” on Memorial Day, Monday, May 25 at 10:00 a.m. We are a popular group with our Conestoga wagon and pioneer garb. So, suit up and come on down to Burke Lumber at 9:00 a.m.

This is such a wonderful time to honor our veterans and to celebrate our great Waterford Community. We are thankful to have the Heart of the Lakes V.F.W. Post 1008 organize this each year.



### Out with the old...In with the new

Here is a photo showing the "old" Jacober's General store on the southeast corner of Dixie highway and Andersonville Road, jacked up and waiting to go to Greenfield Village. You can see the "new" brick Jacober's Store in the background. Those that remember say that you could still go into the old store to purchase items and that it sat for about a year on Dixie waiting to move. August Jr. sold the brick store to Community National Bank in 1957.

The following is a transcription of a newspaper article received from Lynn Larr, who is William Walter's great-granddaughter. William married Emma, and their daughter, Minnie was married to August Jacober, Sr.

#### The Pontiac Daily Press January 2 1946

### Oldest Firm at Waterford Sold to Jacober Brothers

WATERFORD- A change of ownership and management of Waterford's oldest business firm was effective Jan. 1. The four sons of Mr. and Mrs. August Jacober, Sr. took over the business of their parents on Tuesday and plan to make a few major changes in the near future.

Mr. and Mrs. Jacober, Sr. bought the business in October 1917 from Mrs. Jacober's parents, Mr. and Mrs. William Walter and have expanded it considerably. The original business was in a small building which served as both a house and business place.

In 1920 they found the structure too small and purchased an empty store building on the corner of Andersonville road and Dixie Highway, next to the original business site. In a few years then found that too small also and built on an addition which served as a meat market.

In 1927 the business was again too large for the building, and in March ground was broken for the large brick building, which is now being used. The store building vacated in August 1927 was purchased by Henry Ford and can be seen at Greenfield Village.

The four sons, William, Harold, August Jr., and John plan to make the two large stone rooms into one large semi-self serve grocery and meat market. The hardware stock which was kept in the one section of the store has been moved into the large basement and will be expanded.

Two of the sons, August Jr. and John, have been discharged from the army air corps in the past few months after having spent nearly five years and nearly four, respectively in the service. They are both married and each have a small son. All four sons live in Waterford township.

Mr. Jacober, Sr. also served as postmaster for nearly 20 years. The post office has been in his place of business during this time. Since his retirement from this job in May, his daughter, Mrs. Leona McCaffrey, has been serving as acting postmaster with the office remaining in the building.

Mr. and Mrs. Jacober have made their home in an upstairs apartment and plan to continue using it as their home. They will be spending a good deal of the nice weather at their cabin at Cumins, Mich.

## Mourning Fabrics

Here are some more interesting facts about mourning. These come from the book *Mourning Dress: A Costume and Social History* by Lou Taylor.

**Bombazine or Bombasin:** A fabric with a silk warp and worsted weft with a twilled finish with worsted on the face side to give the fabric the dull finish required for mourning. Fabric is dated back to the 13th century European sources. From the 18th century bombazine was usually the order for deepest mourning and became particularly popular for widows deepest mourning in the high Victorian period. As mourning customs faded it was replaced by Venetian Crape cloth.

**Bombazet:** A plain twilled cotton and worsted mixture—a cheap version of bombazine for less well-off mourners. Used during the 18th and 19th centuries.

**Crape:** A transparent crimped, dull silk gauze, imported into Britain before 1690. Popular in 19th cent.

**Foulard:** Thin, lightweight silk in black for mourning; fine soft with a twilled finish.

**Grosgrain:** A heavy corded black silk fabric, sometimes mixed with cotton, dyed black for mourning and said to have been imported into Europe from Turkey in the mid 17th century.

**Paramatta:** Originally woven with worsted weft and silk warp, it became a cheaper type of bombazine. Widely used in the Victorian period for mourning by families who could not afford bombazine.

These fabrics were worn for strict periods of time by family members of the deceased. For example, the widow for husband wore “bombazine and plain heavy crape for 1 year and 1 day, then 9 months with less crape, then 3 months in black silk with ribbon and then 6 months with half mourning colors for a total of 2 1/2 years. The Widower for wife wore “3 months in black suit, with black watch chain, buttons and tie.” Seems a little lopsided, but interesting!

## Traveler , continued from page 5

Family, after which I returned home.

**May 19, Friday.** *This morning I was awoke by a very violent clap of thunder which seemed to shake the house, to its very foundation. After this, it rained, thundered and lightened all day.*

“From Squire Talbot I procured old Commodore Truxton’s autograph. His own father’s he could not find. A very large caravan of Indians came into town about mid-day. Many of the women and children

were mounted on small, tough, ragged ponies, which they were taking down to dispose of.

“On one of these horses, by a sort of wooden machine, half panniers, were often stuck a women with four children, besides a papoose on her back, suspended by a band round her forehead. All these, with the exception of one or two men who had their hair-seal caps, were perfectly bareheaded.

***The rain was literally pouring down in sheets, but they did not offer to go in or seem to mind it, but huddled up, for no earthly purpose that I could discover, near to the tavern. I thought, however, many of them seemed to shiver, although there was not complaint, for it was very cold.***

“The beasts stood patient and crestfallen, as though they were aware that they cut but a sorry figure, their ears loped down and their hides smoking in the torrent.

“There were several old men, who must have been active warriors at a period when all this country was their undisputed property—when they were at liberty to range abroad at pleasure, each under his own vine and fig tree and none to molest him or make him afraid.

“At present, how changed is their degraded condition! One of these ancients, a venerable looking old man, with bald head, gray hairs and a scarred and wrinkled visage, came up to a gentleman on the piazza, and presenting a wooden ladle and spoon, humbly begged for ‘some whisk’.

“These are nearly the only English words they will speak, even those who know how, but there are several white men who knew them and conversed with them in their own language. I asked one of the men if he were a Saginaw (a branch of the Huron or Wyandotte tribe living on the Saginaw Bay).

“‘No, Shiawassee.’

“That was the name of the tribe. In the afternoon, I talked with Mr. Cleland, attended court, wrote journal and called at Mr. Draper’s to bid farewell—a very clever family (including, no doubt, those two daughters.)

In the evening, Dunklee and I attended an itinerant book auction. The books sold very high and well. The purchasers were eager—one would suppose there existed quite a literary taste in these regions. Dunklee promised to correspond with me and I prepared for my departure tomorrow and went to bed.”

**Next: The trip back to Detroit**

# Early Michigan Traveler Meets Caravan of Indians

Article 5 of a 6 part series appearing in the Pontiac Daily Press in 1949

*(This is the fifth of a series of six articles taken from the journal of a student who visited Oakland County in 1835 and wrote his impressions of the people and the area before Michigan became a state.)*

Before he started his western trip to regain his health, Cyrus P. Bradley took care to collect letters on introduction to all the prominent New Englanders he would encounter.

His father was the New Hampshire state librarian at Concord. Though only 16, young Bradley knew all of the state's politicians. Here in Oakland County and elsewhere he used these letters to advantage to get acquainted with the leading citizens.

Thus in Detroit he met Michigan's boy governor, 23-year old Stevens T. Mason, Senator Lewis Cass, Judge Witherell, Judge Woodbridge and other famous Michiganders.

For a sophomore in college he exhibited a keen intellect, a mature approach to the problems and an acute understanding of the great future of a land that was soon to boom with new settlers and settlements.

In this fifth installment of extracts from the journal he kept on the trip he attends court, shoots quail and meets some Indians:

***We rode in Judge Fletcher's carriage to a village about four miles distant; I forgot its name (probably Waterford.) Returning we took a different and longer road and passed through some of the finest of the country.***

"After our return I visited the court. The way they do business here is amusing. There are no law books—

the judge is obliged to carry such as he may wish for reference with him. The lawyers come into court without any previous preparation and enter upon the case helter skelter, without consideration and often beaten by the evidence of their own witnesses.

"A good lawyer amongst these asses would thrive. I met with Mr. Cleland of Detroit, a very good lawyer and a fine man, who was extremely sociable and made me promise to call on him on my return. Doves of Indians continually passing through town this day.

***P. M. I called at Mr. Draper's (you may remember he had two very fine, intelligent daughters) with Dunklee. From the parlor I could hear Mr. Talbot with his stentorian lungs pleading a case in the adjoining court with great earnestness and zeal.***

"He is very prolix—Mr. Fletcher said that his plea combined a great deal of legal learning with much that was extraneous and idle. He is a strange man.

"Jimmie Draper and I took a walk into the wood. Shot a few quail, who are remarkably thick in these parts. They are usually in pairs, either on the ground picking their grubs, or on some stump or log, making their peculiar double whistle which you can easily imitate, and by so doing can always get near enough for a shot.

"We found plenty of strawberries, and I ate as many as I dared to. My late difficulties, however, (referring to his sick headache of a day or so before) admonished me of the necessity of prudence. Returning to Mr. Draper's home, we took tea there with their pleasant

Continued on Page 4

## Waterford Township Historical Society Membership Application

		<input type="checkbox"/>	\$15.00	Individual
		<input type="checkbox"/>	\$25.00	Family
		<input type="checkbox"/>	\$100.00	Patron
		<input type="checkbox"/>	\$50.00	Organizations/Businesses
		<input type="checkbox"/>	\$150.00	Lifetime per family
		<input type="checkbox"/>	\$100.00	Lifetime per person
		<input type="checkbox"/>	\$125.00	Lifetime per couple
		<input type="checkbox"/>	\$250.00	Lifetime Org./Businesses
		<input type="checkbox"/>	\$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

## Things you might like:

- ◆ **Waterford Kettering Performing Arts Center** and the Waterford Kettering Drama Club present *All I Really Needed To Know I Learned In Kindergarten*. May 6,7,8 at 7:00pm. Tickets online at: [www.seatyourself.biz/kettering](http://www.seatyourself.biz/kettering)
- ◆ **[www.twp.waterford.mi.us/waterfordsoundwaves](http://www.twp.waterford.mi.us/waterfordsoundwaves)** -site where you can download the audio walking tour of the Waterford Historic District on Andersonville Road. Take a walk and tour on your own schedule and at your own pace. **Drayton Plains Nature Center tour now also available to download!** Check it out.
- ◆ **[www.waterfordhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.waterfordhistoricalsociety.org)** Visit our new website. You can print a schedule of events and also past newsletters.
- ◆ **Danny May's Cafe** at 3418 Highland Road between Cass Lake Road and M-59 is now featuring a collection of pictures of old Waterford businesses from our archives! Stop by to check them out (the pictures and the great food). 248-681-9500.

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

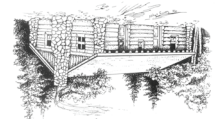
Please save your VG's and Tenuta's receipts and bring them to the Hatchery House on Wednesday or mail them to us at the above mailing address. This is free money for us!



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

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Waterford, MI  
Permit No. 123

P.O. Box 300491  
Waterford, Michigan  
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