

# Waterford Historical Society Newsbill

Volume 13, Number 3

June-July 2008

Editor  
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## President's Notes

It's that time of the year folks, **Log Cabin Days Festival 2008!** We are in full swing and well on our way. The only thing we are missing is YOU. We need you to participate in Log Cabin Days to make it the successful event it has become. We have so much to show the community. Be proud and help us show it off.

My thanks to the businesses who continue to give us donations during these hard economic times. They are the reason we can offer Log Cabin Days to the community for such a low cost. We don't charge admission or parking. Our goal is to provide a local inexpensive event for families and visitors to come and enjoy the past we showcase and the fun of the here and now. Take notice this year of who these businesses are and stop by or call them and tell them you appreciate their contribution to our event.

Dorothy White and I recently participated in a Community Roundtable event sponsored by the Waterford Chamber of Commerce. This roundtable brought together a wide variety of Township, community, school and business members. This event was to get us all thinking about the positive aspects of Waterford. What we felt was a spirit of cooperation and genuine love for our Township. Don't let the rest of the world bring you down. Remember that we truly live in a wonderful place filled with natural beauty in our lakes and people. We have a lot to offer here, but we have to work hard to preserve and keep what we have. Participate...volunteer... and above all be kind. See you at Log Cabin Days.

*Sally Strait*

## Calendar

### June

Every Wednesday 10:30-2:00

### June 4

Newsletter Mailing

Log Cabin Day Mtg 1:00 HH

### June 18

Board Meeting 1:00 HH

### June 25

Regular workday

No Pot Luck

### June 27

Log Cabin Day

workday 10:00 a.m.

### June 28-June 29

**Log Cabin Days Festival**

**10:00-5:00 each day**

### July

Every Wednesday 10:30-2:00

### July 9

Log Cabin Day Mtg 1:00 HH

### July 16

Board Meeting 1:00 HH

### July 30

Pot Luck Noon

## 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

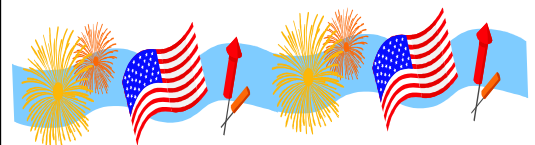
### Members At Large

Bob Allen 248-623-0463

Harvey Hedlund 248-622-9509

Craige Keen 248-623-0008

Merrill Paine 248-673-0615



## Memorial Day

Thank you to all who came and marched with us in the parade. 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.

## Log Cabin Days 2008

There are many ways you can help us for our biggest event of the year.

We have flyers available for you to take to local businesses you frequent. Just stop in and grab a few. We also have postcards for you to take and personally invite your friends and neighbors. People really want to come and might just need a little reminder.

You could come by and get a handful of garage sale flyers and distribute them as you see sales in your area. These tell people that we would like their leftovers for our sale. Many people are happy to have a place to donate them.

You can bake for our ever popular bake sale. If you receive a call, try to help out. Cookies, brownies, small quick breads, etc. are great sale items. Anything people can grab and eat and can stand the heat! We need fresh items for both days so Call Dorothy White if you want donate 248-623-0937.

Our cakewalk was a rousing success last year so we will also need cakes for our cakewalk. Bake a few small cakes or cupcakes and bring them in on that Saturday or Sunday.

Sign-up sheets are out and ready for your signature. We have places for every ability and inclination. We are happy to have you for as much or as little as you would like. Here are the places you can work:

**Welcome Booth**-greeting and directing people, not a lot of sit down time

**White Elephant**-on your feet selling our elephants

**Strawberry Shortcake**-selling shortcake

**Pop & Water**-pretty busy on your feet

**Log Cabin Store & Bake Sale**-selling items

**Hatchery House**-we need upstairs & downstairs help to give mini tours

**The following are mostly sitting and talking to people as they view the displays-**

**Jacob's Store**

**Caboose**

**Depot**

**Hardware Store**

**Print Shop**

**Library**-sit down job in the air conditioning!

Yes, we work hard, but this is the good kind of hard work.

The kind you have fun doing and are proud of after.

**SAVE THE DATE**

**June 28 & 29**

**Sat & Sun 10-5**



**WE NEED YOU!**

## White Elephant/Antique

Get your elephants ready for us. We are calling for all your garage sale items as soon as you can. Drop them off any Wednesday so we can mark them and get them ready. Remember that we do not accept clothes, books, electrical appliances, or furniture.

Items a little too "good" for the white elephant? 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.

## Ask the

**Newsflash:** we have a new event at Log Cabin Days Festival 2008. Archeologists from Oakland University will be in Jacob's Store during our event photographing, scanning and documenting any and all Waterford artifacts you may have. All items must be from Waterford or pertaining to Waterford. These could be photographs, Native American artifacts dug up from your property or found in a lake, or any item like that you dug up or just have. The group of researchers and archeologists are working on finding the exact location of Oliver Williams' home on the banks of Silver Lake. Oliver Williams was one of the founding fathers of Waterford when he came to the area almost 200 years ago. This is a project we are very excited about and hope you can help with!

## Village News

Digging has commenced in the Village! Stan Moore and his crew at S & B Plumbing donated their time and expertise to us for this project. The footings were then poured and building will start soon on the first half or "Phase I" of our 2 story building. The building will house the Doctor/Dentist office upstairs, with the bakery and the barber shop underneath and the millinery shop next door.

The water tower is now in place. We are grateful to Gary Root who donated his crane work to raise the water tower to its position. Now all we need are the steam trains to make a stop at our jerk water town!

## Free Community Flea

On Saturday, June 7th from 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. join the White Lake Historical Society at the Kelley-Fisk Farm (9180 Highland Road, in front of Wal-Mart) for this Free event to buyers and sellers. The White Lake Historical Society would like to assist those experiencing financial difficulty by opening their grounds for you to sell your stuff or buy their stuff.

Spaces are outside and limited to the first 150 people who call Marilyn 248-360-0188. You must bring your own shelter, tables, chairs, etc.

# General store was a political ‘hot bed’ of debate

Article by Joy Smith

I have written many stories about the Jacober Store, the store that is called ‘Elias Brown’s Store’ in Greenfield Village.

I’ve even had the privilege of interviewing Mrs. Leona Jacober Amos, daughter of the last owner, August Jacober. An article written on October 9, 1929 and published in the Detroit News Sunday edition, was passed on to me and I was enlightened by how much history about Waterford was revealed in the article.

The people who were interviewed for the article have all died but their stories live on again. Mrs. C.J. Ladson was the first to talk about the store.

As the crew who worked for Henry Ford, the buyer, tore it down to take to the museum, she could not imagine why anyone would want a store in a museum.

“It’s all right to have an old-fashioned plow or a surrey or a wayside tavern, but what’s so romantic about a plain store?”

She said the store served the community and surrounding area for 73 years, having been built in 1844. She recalled how the men had many discussions around the stove, talking mostly about slavery.

“Waterford was full of Democrats who sympathized with the South. A good deal of the time the men around the stove were in perfect accord. They proclaimed that the Negroes ought to be slaves and that the North had no business dictating to the South anyway.”

At that time feeling in the community ran so high that when the Civil War broke, the five or six young men who enlisted in the Union Army were treated as social outcasts. She continues to talk about a young man named John Cooper, who was 83 in 1929, and still lived on a farm just outside of Waterford.

Mr. John Cooper continued with the interview.

“I was a boy 10 years old when the store was built. I used to listen to the discussions around the stove.

He went on to describe the room as having 15 or 20 men sitting on stools or benches, chewing or smoking tobacco making the room blue with smoke. The ladies did not linger.

“But I don’t agree with the Democrats and when the war broke I enlisted. I fought through the campaign around Chattanooga and then went with Sherman to the sea. I was never wounded, though. I guess none of the bullets had my name on it.”

He then recalled an incident that occurred while he was fighting in the south.

“While I was in the South, I saw a slave girl, as white as any girl you’ll see hereabouts, sold at public auction and I changed my politics right away. I decided to vote Republican after that.”

When he returned home neither he nor any other boy who fought to save the Union was declared a hero.

“Waterford had remained a ‘copperhead’ town to the end. I didn’t go near the store any oftener than I had to because things were so unpleasant for me. None of us wore our uniforms or insignia. We just went about minding our own business and keeping our mouths shut.”

Today the townspeople have no “stove” to sit around to discuss politics because of progress, among other reasons. I sometimes feel we missed out on a lot of basic, one-on-one contact with our neighbors. Our busy life doesn’t allow time to “sit and chat” with our neighbors, which is a great loss.

*This article originally appeared in the Waterford Reminder on April 12, 1993 and is reprinted by permission.*

***I printed this article because I thought it showed how much we have changed our views in 2008 from the politics of the 1860’s...or have we? Food for thought.***

## 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: Waterford Township Historical Society	P.O. Box 300491 Waterford, MI 48330-0491	

## Waterford Historical

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:

- ◆ [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.
- ◆ **Danny May's Café** at 3418 Highland Road between Cass Lake Road and M-59. Danny May's is our newest business member and I highly recommend the food! (Seriously the best Eggs Benedict I ever had). Please visit them and tell them hello and that you are a fellow member. M-F 6am-3pm, Sat 7am-2pm, Sun 8am-2pm 248-681-9500.
- ◆ **Waterford Cultural Council** is planning a trip to the Detroit Institute of Arts on July 23rd. Call and become a member and support them as they try to revive this important organization. 248-618-7529

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

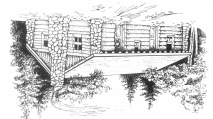
Please save your VG's and Tenuta's receipts and bring them to the Hatchery House on Wednesday or mail them to us at the above mailing address. This is free money for us!



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  
48330-0491



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