

Flat Rock Historical Society

P.O. Box 337 Jan, 2010
Flat Rock, MI 48134
www.flatrockhistory.org

In Memoriam

The Society suffered another great loss this month when Mary Lou Cornwell passed away on January 5th. Although her health limited her in many ways, she was a wonderful corresponding secretary on the Board. She kept everyone in touch, reminding them of meetings, recruiting volunteers, rounding up people for activities and writing thank you notes.

General Member Meeting

Our next General Membership Meeting will be on Wednesday, Feb. 10th, from 6:30 to 8 pm at the Hotel. There will be a short meeting with the Historical Commission. The Commission is supplying refreshments.

The meeting will be followed by a speaker, David Jamroz, who will talk about the history of Fort Wayne. David will talk about how the fort came to be, the individuals who had great impact on the construction and function of the fort and the many roles it played over the years. See his write up on the third page.



Elected Officers for 2010

Pres: Cindy Fesko
V-P: Don Fesko
Treas: Carol Klingel
Rec Sec: Dave Maurer
Corr Sec: _____

Trustee(3 yr): Gertie Younglove
Trustee(3yr): Phyllis Dasher
Trustee(2 yr): Lila Fedokovitz
Trustee(2 yr): Barb Fedon
Trustee(1 yr): Dawn Bartok
Trustee(1 yr): Pat Simeck

With the loss of Mary Lou, we are hoping that someone will volunteer to fill in as Corresponding Secretary. If you are interested, please call Cindy.

Committee Leaders

Local History: Lila Fedokovitz
Membership: Kathy Fisk
Volunteer Recognition: Barb Fedon

Upcoming Events

We have changing exhibits every month. The Museum is open the second Sunday of every month from 1 to 4 pm. And we always need volunteers to act as docents.



Sunday, Feb. 14th: we will celebrate Valentine's Day, of course. However, this year, 2010, is the hundredth year of Scouting in America; so we will also have a display celebrating that event. We would welcome loans of scouting memorabilia to make this display extra special.

March: St Patrick's & Easter

April: TBD

We continue to look for exhibits. Do you have a collection that you could share?

May 2: Flea Market

Annual Dues

Remember, membership fees are overdue. Please get them in soon. You can mail them to the above P.O. Box using the form included in this newsletter

Thank you

- Thanks to all those who brought food and helped out at Mary Lou's memorial
- Monetary donations in memory of Mary Lou from Sandy Robin, Don & Barb Fedon and Betty & Ed Flayer
- David Doss for a donation to purchase microfilm of the Guardian Newspaper for '44, '54, '63, and '69
- Paul Greer (Larry Dugan Estate) for the "State of MI Veteran Census, 1894"
- Fred Watson for a typewriter
- Celia Fine for a monetary donation
- Ann Bevier Goin for a monetary donation
- Judi Kent for a commode and library table that used to be in the Wagar house, also glassware and a toy
- Bob & Jan Ramsey and Darlene Goosen for collections at the last open house
- Bob & Gloria Wild for an 1860s cradle

Historical Commission

At the General Meeting, the Historical Commission will be talking about what is going on at the Wagar House. A local architect, Anthony Herk was hired to prepare plans for the exterior restoration. If you drive by, you will see that the asbestos siding (a hazardous material) has been removed. That was done so that contractors bidding for the job can better estimate the work and cost required. Besides restoring the present exterior, the contract will include the reconstruction of a bay window on the right side, a covered porch and door on the left side, and a small porch and door on the back.

The bidding process will be initiated in February.

At the December General Meeting
The winners of the two poinsettia trees were:

1st Place: Pat Minor of the Garden Club

2nd Place: Elizabeth & Joe Renaud

Museum Adventure Passes

Are still available at the Flat Rock Library. Passes for 2-4 people are available for many local museums. You check out a pass at the desk for seven days and then go to the museum free. You can get details at the Library or at www.detroitadventurepass.org. All you need is a valid library card. What a great idea for a dreary day.

E-mail Delivery

If you received this newsletter by mail and would prefer e-mail, **OR**, you received this by e-mail and would prefer regular mail, please let me know. Don Fesko at dcfesko@yahoo.com.

Did General U.S. Grant serve at Fort Wayne?

Historic Fort Wayne, an 1840's star fort on the Detroit River, never saw a shot fired and may never even have had cannon mounted in its casemated bastions or on the walls. Nevertheless, the men who located the fort, designed, constructed and modified it, commanded its regiments and served there all experienced the horror, destruction, cruelty, and shock of war. As soldiers, they were responsible for defending the causes for which our nation went to war and some laid down their lives. Graduates of the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York played a key role in Fort Wayne's history. A graduate recommended construction of a fort on the "yellow sand hill" at Spring Wells nearly 30 years before Congress recognized the need and funded a fort at Detroit. A retired officer living in Monroe was part of the reason the fort was eventually required. The army lieutenant who designed and supervised construction of the fort went on to build monuments central to America's heritage and recognized by all its citizens today. The men of Fort Wayne fought in the Mexican War, the Civil War, Spanish American conflict and engaged Native Americans in the west. Those serving at the fort include commanders of Michigan infantry regiments in the Civil War, classmates of generals on both sides of the conflict and two were awarded the Medal of Honor for service during the war. Cities and mountains, even a crater on Mars, bear the names of those who served at the fort, one was at President Lincoln's side when he died and another's death remains a mystery. Author and historian Dave Jamroz will weave the story of the personal lives of these heroes of the Republic into a history of the only remaining fort in Detroit, Historic Fort Wayne. A West Point graduate with 28 years of military service, he has spent hundreds of hours researching the history of the old fort and those that served there. He is a member of the Historic Fort Wayne Coalition, Inc. a volunteer organization working to preserve and preserve this military monument.



Postcard of the Older Main Entrance to the Fort

Officers:

Pres - Cindy Fesko 789-8946
 V-P - Don Fesko 789-8946
 Treas - Carol Klingel 782-9365
 Rec Sec - David Maurer 782-2430
 Corr Sec

Trustees:

David Maurer 782-2430
 Lila Fedokovitz 782-1269
 Phyllis Dasher 676-3499
 Dawn Bartok 675-9382
 Barb Fedon 782-1225
 Pat Simeck 782-2786

Committee Chairpersons:

Local History - Lila Fedokovitz 782-1269
 Membership – Kathy Fisk 671-8838
 Volunteer Recognition - Barb Fedon 782-1225

Mr., Mrs., Ms. _____ Date _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Prices:	\$7.00	Individual
	\$15.00	Family
	\$100.00	Lifetime individual
	\$25.00	Business

Please make checks
 payable to: Flat Rock
 Historical society