



The Dexter Area Historical Society Newsletter

DexMuseum@aol.com

November 2017

DexterHistory.org

2017 Holiday Bazaar

The **Holiday Bazaar** at the **Dexter Area Museum** will be Saturday, **December 2nd** from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The Dexter Heritage Guild have handcrafted holiday decorations, wreaths, unique teacher gifts, hand-knit apparel, toys, gifts for pets and the Guild's signature scrubbies.

The Heritage Guild would appreciate the continued, generous support and donations from the Historical Society and friends of the Museum for the Bazaar Bake Sale. People have enjoyed choosing from the wonderful selection of baked goods and canned jams.

On Friday, December 1st, several ladies will be at the Museum from 8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. to collect the donations. Please label your items and list special ingredients, like nuts and if Gluten-free. If you have any questions, please call Sue Schotts, 734-424-9998.

A Whimsical Evening at Gordon Hall

Please join us for this year's opening event for Christmas at the Mansion, "A Whimsical Evening at Gordon Hall" on Friday, December 1st from 6:30 to 9:30.

Spirits, hearty hors d'oeuvres and desserts will be served at Gordon Hall, beautifully decorated for the holidays by area businesses and Historical Society supporters. Milt Campbell's extensive and magical Christmas Village collection will once more be displayed throughout the mansion.

Tickets for the event are \$65 per person with a 100 person limit. They can be purchased on our website dexterhistory.org or by contacting Ina Germain at 734-395-4106



Christmas at the Mansion

Christmas at the Mansion – a Family Tradition at Gordon Hall. Saturday December 2, 9am to 5pm. Visit this wonderful historic home, beautifully decorated for the holidays. This year featuring the Christmas Village Collection, a magical display of Milt Campbell's huge collection of Department 56 villages. This collection was traditionally seen in the windows of Huron Camera in downtown Dexter throughout the holiday season, and was a favorite destination for families. After a visit with Santa, children can make a gingerbread house to take home. Presented by the Dexter Area Historical Society. Suggested donation \$5/person. Location: Gordon Hall, 8311 Island Lake Rd, Dexter, MI. Free onsite parking. For more information call 734-426-2519, or visit our website at www.dexterhistory.org/upcoming-events or Facebook page: www.facebook.com/dexterhistory



If Teapots Could Talk

A Christmas Tea at Gordon Hall is the perfect way to begin the holiday season. A perfect gift for friends or a perfect gift for yourself to relax in a beautiful Christmas setting. Historic Gordon Hall will be decorated inside and outside for the holidays. In keeping with the holidays, you are invited to wear your favorite hat at our luncheon tea. A light lunch with tea sandwiches and desserts will be served with your tea. There will be two tea times, one at 1:00 and one at 4:00 on Sunday, December 3rd. Please call Ina Germain at 734-395-4106 for your \$25 ticket. Only 50 tickets per seating will be sold so reserve your tickets early.



President's Letter:

Welcome to the Holidays!

We have had an exciting fall with the Chelsea Hospital Event, the Cemetery Tour, and with all of the second graders visiting the museum. We are now preparing for Christmas at both the Museum and Gordon Hall. Special thanks to all of the volunteers and for all of the support for all of our events.

At the Museum we will be having our Annual Bazaar and at Gordon Hall we will celebrate Christmas At The Mansion. We look forward to these exciting events as we await the holidays.

Serving as President of the Historical Society is a privilege with so many volunteers helping to make each event a success. We have had such a wonderful year and I am so looking forward to the holidays with all of our members.

A special thanks to all and Happy Holidays!

Bev Hill

President of the Dexter Area Historical Society

What's happening at the Museum.....

We will be getting ready for the Christmas Bazaar which the Heritage Guild puts on to raise money for the Museum.

At the end of November the Museum staff will take down the display of 100 years of Lace. The lace will be safely put away in acid free tissue and acid free boxes.

There's always an endless list of items to do before the winter season and before we close our doors for visitors until we open in Spring. We will be opening in May 2018 with a grand display of wedding dresses from the 1800's through the 1950's.

Cindi Henes has been re-organizing the artifact object cards by narrowing the object categories. We also have been doing an inventory of the artifacts.

Even though we close in the winter, the Museum staff always have a list of ongoing activities from inventory, repair and cleaning of artifacts, file organization, and just plan getting out-standing things done.

We are always looking for people interested in volunteering some time to help us. Contact us at DexMuseum@aol.com or call us at 734-426-2519.

Second Grade Museum Tours

The 2017 second grade tours from Bates and Cornerstone schools are going on at the museum. There will be 10 tours this year. Tour guides are Bev Hill, Bene Fusilier, Ina Germain and Judy and Richard Ashley. This is a great opportunity to introduce the children and their parents to our Museum. Thank you to our volunteers who make this possible.

Artifacts given to the Dexter Area Museum

1. Ron Klump (from the Estate of Art Klump)

Dexter Michigan Central Railroad Centennial Scrapbook (1841-1941)

1978 St. Andrew's United Church of Christ membership directory

St. Andrew's UCC 125th Anniversary Memories (1883- 2008)

2. **Cynthia Egeler High** - photographs and documents from the Stahl, Tucker and Egeler family papers

3. **Helen Welford** - clothing and photograph of unidentified couple (Germany)

4. **Barbara Locks** - Canadian spinning wheel, mid-19th century (this was on loan, now a donation)

5. **Jeff & Denise Turck** - photographic portrait of Agnes Parsons and newspaper photo of William & Agnes Parsons.

6. **Carolyn Schneider** - clothing and documents belonging to Edna Emma Graf Carr

7. **Barbara Barlow Ponder** - Dexter High School Photos & 1945 commencement program

8. **James R. Turner** - Michigan Molded Plastic Annual Picnic photo

9. **Kenneth Brown** - Lady's rocker, Mantle Clock, Ashtray

10. **Nancy Tandy** - household items

11. **Robert & Ed Stacey** - Victrola and records (this was on loan, now a donation)

12. **Karen Ludwig** - love seat, Victorian high chair

13. **Dave Colliau** - Dexter Michigan Central Railroad Centennial (1941) coin

14. **Rick McLean** - 1940's Girl Scout Uniform

15. **Karen Krause** - sewing machine & baby buggy

16. **Norm Roller** - Oak veneer display cabinet

Zwanze Day Report

Zwanze Day is a fictitious holiday created by Jean Van Roy, owner and brewmaster of Brasserie Cantillon. His intention is to celebrate and honor the playful spirit of the people of the Flanders region in Belgium. The word "zwanze" describes a good-natured type of humor.

This year, Zwanze Day was held on Saturday, September 23rd at the Jolly Pumpkin Artisan Ales. We were delighted that Jolly Pumpkin selected the Dexter Area Historical Society to receive the profits (\$1300) from this event which will go toward the restoration of Gordon Hall. Our thanks to all who attended the event in support of Gordon Hall.

October 21st Fundraising Dinner

St. Joseph Mercy Chelsea Hospital graciously sponsored a fundraising dinner in support of Gordon Hall on October 21st. It was a very successful event, generating over \$43,000 to continue the restoration of Gordon Hall while engaging new supporters from the Chelsea area. Nancy Graebner CEO and Will Johnson, former CEO of Chelsea Hospital developed the idea of sponsoring the event to introduce influential Chelsea businesses and individuals to our vision of a restored Gordon Hall as an area wide historical venue.

A Live Auction with auctioneer John Hansen and a Raffle with items donated by Dexter businesses and the DAHS Board helped to generate funds during the evening. The Bob & Jan Lyons Foundation and Jan Lyons were major event sponsors in addition to St. Joseph Mercy Chelsea Hospital. The event was chaired by Jan Lyons, Ina Germain, Will Johnson, Pat Albright and Lois Ledbetter with additional support from Caryl Burke and Bev Hill. We want to extend a sincere THANK YOU to all who attended or supported this wonderful evening in support of Gordon Hall.

2017 Cemetery Tour Report

On October 28, 2017 a Tour of Forest Lawn Cemetery was presented by the Dexter District Library in conjunction with the Dexter Area Historical Society and Forest Lawn Cemetery. Lisa Ryan represented the Dexter District Library, Carol Mast Jones and Nancy Van Blaricum the Dexter Area Historical Society and Nancy Van Blaricum also represented Forest Lawn Cemetery where she is Treasurer. Others who helped put this together are Stephanie Bell (Volunteer Coordinator), James Smith (mapping the route), and Brian Koval (Cemetery Sexton) who prepared the cemetery and stones. We want to thank all the volunteers who helped in various ways. On the next page of this Newsletter, there is an article describing those we met on the tour.

Thank You Volunteers

We are grateful to all those who have volunteered and supported the Dexter Area Historical Society since our beginnings in 1971. Although we mention a few in the articles above, we know there are many more who quietly support us by mowing lawns, caring for flowers, scraping and painting, cleaning, sorting, filing, etc. Maintaining our wonderful buildings also requires all kinds of hired help including electricians, plumbers, roofers, painters, tree trimmers, etc., many of whom donate portions of their work as we often only pay for materials needed. Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, Lions Club, the Rotary, Church groups, etc. have all helped us with either money or time or both! We are very grateful for all who are working to support The Dexter Area Historical Society.

The Dexter Area Historical Society

OFFICERS

President - Bev Hill
Vice-President - Ina Germain
Secretary - Sharon Wheeler
Treasurer - Carol Jones



DIRECTORS

Neil Adams
Sue Behnke
Stephanie Bell
Caryl Burke
Kate Collins
Shawn Pierre
Nina Rackham
Ceci Riecker
Nancy Van Blaricum
Sybil Vanhouten

CONTACT INFORMATION:

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Dexter Historical Guild - Pat Pudduck: patpudduck@gmail.com
Research - Nancy J. Van Blaricum: DexMuseum@aol.com

FACILITIES:

DEXTER AREA MUSEUM - 3443 Inverness, Dexter, MI 48130
GORDON HALL - 8311 Island Lake Rd., Dexter, MI 48130

Provided to you by the Dexter Area Historical Society

PHONE - 734-426-2519

WEBSITE: www.DexterHistory.org

EMAIL: DexMuseum@aol.com

Museum Hours: Friday and Saturday, 1 to 3 pm, May through November

2017 Forest Lawn Cemetery Tour

The 2017 Forest Lawn Cemetery tour highlighted the family of Samuel William Dexter and his third wife, Millicent Bond. Eight children were born to them, six girls and two boys, and all but one son, William Wirt are represented in some way in the cemetery.



Actors for the 2017 FL Cemetery: Front row - Nina Rackham, Carol Jones, Ina Germain & Bev Hill;
Second Row: Heidi Madias, Jon Roberts, & Sharon Wheeler

The Dexter family buried here in Forest Lawn Cemetery begins with Samuel William Dexter who was born on February 18, 1792 to Samuel and Catherine Gordon Dexter. After graduating from Harvard, he went to Athens, New York where he met and married Augusta Amelia Prevost on May 19, 1816. Two boys were born to them, Samuel Prevost Dexter on March 21st, 1817 and Augustine Dexter on June 4th, 1820. Augusta and her son Augustine died in 1822 and Samuel Prevost stayed in the East and died there in 1849.

Susan Dunham Dexter - Portrayed by Heidi Madias

After the deaths, Samuel William left to check out some land he had purchased in the Territory of Michigan. After making plans and organizing the new area, Samuel returned to Athens in 1824 where he married Susan Dunham on May 8, 1825 when she was about 16 years old. He brought her to his home in the Village of Dexter and soon after they moved into a large home he had built near the Huron River. However, in August of 1827, Susan died giving birth to an infant who died one month later. They were the first burials in what became Forest Lawn Cemetery.

Millicent Bond Dexter - Portrayed by Carol Jones

Millicent Bond was born in Conway, Massachusetts on August 20, 1811 to Consider and Hannah Harris Bond. She married Samuel William Dexter on August 11, 1828 in Webster Township at the home of her sister and brother-in-law, Salmon and Arabella Bond Mathews. Samuel and Millicent had eight children: Mary, William Wirt, Katharine Harris, Hannah Augusta, Julia Gordon, Charlotte, Isabella and Marshall. Samuel died on February 6, 1863 and Millicent died June 27, 1899.



Mary Dexter Jones - Portrayed by Beverly Hill

Mary Dexter, the first born child of Samuel & Millicent Bond Dexter was born on January 9th, 1830 in Dexter and married on December 22, 1849 to Lorenzo Hopkins Jones, born on March 26th, 1819. They had two children, Frances Emily Jones born in 1850 and Charles Wirt Jones born in 1852. Charles died September 12th, 1853 and was initially buried at Gordon Hall. Lorenzo died on May 7, 1898, Mary on March 18, 1905, Frances on August 14, 1922 and all are buried in Forest Lawn Cemetery.



Catherine Harris Dexter Donelson

Catherine Harris Dexter, the third child of Samuel and Millicent Bond Dexter, was born March 11, 1833 in Dexter. On September 1, 1851 she married the Rev. Parke Shattuck Donelson. Three children were born to them, Catherine Isabella (1852-1853), Dexter Parke (1857-1925), and Laura Donelson (1864-1896). Catherine H. Dexter Donelson died March 14, 1898, Parke S. Donelson died May 6, 1882, and daughter Catherine Isabella Donelson died November 27, 1853 and they are buried in Forest Lawn Cemetery.



Hannah Augusta Dexter Crow Godman - Portrayed by Sharon Wheeler

Hannah Augusta Dexter, the fourth child of Samuel and Millicent Bond Dexter was born, October 25th, 1834 in Dexter. In 1854, she married Dr. Moulton Crow. Their children were Frederick (1856-1874) and Edith (1859-1960). Dr. Crow died in Huntsville, Alabama in 1861. Hannah married second to Dr. William D. Godman and they had a daughter, Inez A. Godman. Only Frederick and Edith are buried in Forest Lawn Cemetery.



Julia Gordon Dexter Stannard's son Charles Henry Stannard - Portrayed by Jon Roberts

Julia Gordon Dexter was the fifth child of Samuel and Millicent Bond Dexter and was born, March 6, 1837 in New Haven, Connecticut. She married Henry Dennison Stannard on June 5, 1861. The children of Julia and Henry Stannard are: Charles Henry, Gordon Edward, Howard Dexter and Julia Ione Stannard. Son Charles and his wife Elizabeth Buchanan Stannard are the only members of the family buried in Forest Lawn Cemetery.



Charlotte Dexter Bingham - Portrayed by Nina Rackham

Charlotte Dexter, the sixth child of Samuel and Millicent Bond Dexter was born in Dexter on March 6th, 1839. She married Stephen Dewey Bingham on May 25th, 1860. Their five children were all born in Lansing. Charlotte died on August 7th, 1887 at Gordon Hall and was buried in the Gordon Hall family cemetery. Stephen and the children are buried in many different places - most in the West. Charlotte's body was moved to Forest Lawn Cemetery in 1900 along with the others who had been buried at Gordon Hall.



Isabella Dexter DeViney - Portrayed by Ina Germain

Isabella Dexter, the 7th child of Samuel and Millicent Bond Dexter was born February 2, 1841 in New Brunswick, NJ. She married Robert Bostwick Deviney on June 14, 1862 and welcomed a daughter, Millicent C. Deviney (known as Milly) on March 20, 1863. Isabella died on May 21, 1864 and her daughter Milly on May 23, 1874 in Lansing. Husband Robert died in Dexter on May 12, 1900 and all three are buried in Forest Lawn Cemetery.



Marshall Dexter

Marshall Dexter was born on January 18, 1858, the last child of Samuel and Millicent Bond Dexter. He was their only child born in Gordon Hall. His obituary tells us that he "was a young man of rare intellectual endowment, and his plans for life were broad and unselfish. His type of mind was much like that of his father, the late Judge Dexter, inclining rather to the metaphysical, and remarkable for incisive and keen perception of truth." He died on August 23, 1880 in Battle Creek, Calhoun County, Michigan and was buried at Gordon Hall and then moved to Forest Lawn Cemetery in 1900.



Other Relatives of Millicent Bond Dexter:

Hannah I. Harris Bond

Hannah I. Harris, the mother of Millicent Bond, married Consider Bond on May 12, 1804 in Conway, Massachusetts. He was born on October 17, 1767 in Conway, Massachusetts and died there on October 16, 1818. In 1827 she came to Michigan with her daughters Hannah, Millicent, Arabella and son-in-law Salmon Mathews. Her sons King and Edwin came after 1830. Hannah Harris Bond died on October 13, 1838.

Arabella Bond & Salmon Mathews

Arabella Bond, a sister of Millicent, was born May 6, 1805 in Conway, Franklin Co., Massachusetts. She married Salmon Mathews who was born July 8, 1799 and died in Dexter on October 15, 1839. They had three children: William, Angeline and Arabella H. Mathews. Arabella Bond Mathews died on March 27, 1888 and is buried here with her husband Salmon Mathews (1800-1839) and two children, William (1830 - 1856) and Angeline (1831-1905).

Edwin and King Egleston Bond

Edwin and King Egleston Bond were sons of Consider and Hannah Harris Bond and brothers of Millicent. King was born November 16, 1806 and died May 14, 1836, and Edwin was born May 18, 1808 and died May 2, 1836. Both were born in Conway, Massachusetts and died in Dexter, Michigan. They were originally buried elsewhere, but were moved to Forest Lawn Cemetery.

DAHS Membership

Membership fees are due on January 1st of each year. Check your email or mailing label for information on your status. Checks can be made out to: Dexter Area Historical Society and mailed to: 3443 Inverness, Dexter, MI 48130. Thank You.

Dexter Area Historical Society

Date _____

Check Membership Type

ACTIVE - Individual
(age 18 or older; 1 vote)

\$15 Annual
 \$200 Life
 \$150 Life (age 60 or older)

ACTIVE - Family (2 adults)
(age 18 or older; 2 votes)

\$25 Annual
 \$300 Life
 \$250 Life (age 60 or older)

AUXILIARY - Family
Children under 18 of Active Individual or Family Members
(no additional dues; 0 votes)

\$50 Annual (0 votes)

New Member **Renewal**

Please Indicate Residence Location

City of Dexter Township Other

Opportunities for Participation

Please check those you want to be involved in or would like information about.

Historical Society

Newsletter
 Programs
 Publicity

Museum

Displays
 Genealogy
 Historical Research
 Tour Guide
 Curator Assistant

Gordon Hall

Housekeeping
 Building Maintenance
 Landscape Maintenance
 Tour Guide

Activities/Events

Gordon Hall Days
 Christmas Bazaar
 Gordon Hall Christmas Events
 Dexter Heritage Guild

Donations

DAHS is a 501(c)3 Organization

I would like to donate \$ _____ for the following purpose:

DAHS General Fund Society Programs

Museum Maintenance and Operation

Gordon Hall Maintenance and Operation

Gordon Hall Restoration

Contact Information

Museum Phone: 734-426-2519
Museum Email: dexmuseum@aol.com
DAHS Website: http://www.dexterhistory.org
DAHS Facebook: www.facebook.com/dexterhistory/

Please make your check payable to
Dexter Area Historical Society
Mail to: 3443 Inverness Street, Dexter MI 48130
First-time members will receive a membership card.

All Memberships, except Life, are up for renewal each January.

a family tradition

Christmas at the MANSION

at Gordon Hall

FAMILY OPEN HOUSE

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2

9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Featuring Milt Campbell's *Christmas Village Collection*

Make & Take Gingerbread houses

Visits with Santa

Suggested Donation: \$5 per person

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2

9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Held at the Dexter Area Museum

(located at 3443 Inverness)

Sponsored by the Dexter Guild

A CHRISTMAS TEA

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3

1:00 & 4:00 SEATINGS

If Teapots Could Talk

\$25 per person (limit 50 per seating)

Reservations required

Call Ina Germain, 734.395.4106

EVENING OPEN HOUSES

DECEMBER 9, 10, 27, 28

6:00 - 8:00 PM

Featuring the *Christmas Village Collection*

Suggested Donation: \$5 per adult

Gordon Hall • 8100 Island Lake Road • 734.426.2519
More information and images can be found at dexterhistory.org
All events sponsored by Dexter Area Historical Society, a 501(c)(3) Organization

