



DAHS 2020 SPRING NEWSLETTER



President's Letter

We are looking forward to the new year at the Historical Society! Help us celebrate!

At the **Museum**, new exhibits and a restored floor in the meeting room are on display, and at **Gordon Hall**, we are beginning construction on phase one of the rehabilitation including installing three new bathrooms!!!

It is remarkable that we will have raised funds to cover our projects in both buildings. We thank all of you for your continued support. We will keep you updated on construction progress on our webpage: DexterHistory.org and are thrilled that both of our buildings are being upgraded.

Help celebrate the 100 year anniversary of Woman's Suffrage!

The Dexter Heritage Guild has two events in May: On the 9th of May we will hold the Annual Appraisal Clinic and on May 16th we will have a new event - a Suffragist Hat Decorating Workshop. Details can be found on pages 3 and 4 in the Newsletter.

More ways to celebrate this 100th anniversary together!!!

Our next major fundraiser will be Gordon Hall Days which will be held on Friday and Saturday, June 26 and 27. Note the change of days. Details can be found on Page 3.

Volunteers are needed for all coming events. If you would like to be involved in any area, please let us know at DexMuseum@aol.com or call 734-426-2519. The Dexter Area Historical Society is an all volunteer organization. We are very thankful for all those who have helped us through the years.

Again thank you for your great support,
Beverly Hill
President of the Dexter Area Historical Society

Newly Restored Floor at the Museum

In late December of 2019, we decided to replace the old carpet in the meeting room of the Museum. After moving all of the old furniture out and removing the old carpet, padding and thousands of staples, we discovered a painted 1930s maple wood floor in very good condition.

A decision was made to restore it. Champion Flooring from Ann Arbor sanded, sealed and varnished the floor. Jean Hosford installed baseboards and shoe moldings. The final result is an open, clean, pleasant, friendly, inviting meeting room for all to enjoy.

It was a lot of work, but worth it to have the beautiful floor back to its original appeal. Many thanks to Nina, Neil, Bill, Sue and Rhea who worked on this project.



Once we open in May we hope you will stop by to see the wonderful room!

Rehabilitation at Gordon Hall

At Gordon Hall, the many fundraisers, great donations, and events have allowed us to begin construction on phase one!!! In the north wing we are installing three new bathrooms, removing the dormer on the second floor to create a small meeting/storage room, and removing and replacing the porch floor in the back.



This work should be completed by this spring!!! We are pleased to be working with the architectural firm HopkinsBurns and with Brouwer Construction for the construction. On February 13th we signed a contract with them.

DAHS 2019 December Events

Thank you for your support of the Dexter Area Historical Society

Christmas At The Mansion

A special thank you to all of our visitors and helpers at our 2019 winter "Christmas At The Mansion". We had beautiful weather for all of the events, and we had over 600 visitors!! Our gingerbread houses and visits with Santa Claus seem to have become a family tradition for many families as they start their holiday season. Our Friday night social and Sunday tea were also enjoyed by many guests. It was so great to see so many new and familiar faces.

Thanks go out to the many wonderful volunteers and sponsors who made this event possible. We also want to thank everyone that attended and helped to make this a great ending for a prosperous year at Gordon Hall.



Guild's Successful Holiday Bazaar

The Dexter Heritage Guild had nearly 250 happy customers at its Holiday Bazaar in December. Shoppers took home a variety of handmade items



– felted hats with embellishments; knitted ponchos, shawls, and scarves; pet treats and toys;

kitchen towels and the Guild's signature scrubbies; and unique toad houses for the garden. The craft sales brought in \$2,500, which will help pay the Museum's bills for heat and light.

Ticket sales for the special drawing held during the Holiday Bazaar totaled \$550. Five lucky winners were awarded the following prizes: a popular gift combo from Encore Musical Theatre Company and Red Brick Kitchen & Bar, a beautiful limelight quilt, a delicious Paul Cousins multi-nut torte, a vintage ceramic Christmas tree, and an unusual wooden Santa carved from a bedpost.

The Guild's crafters are already busy making plans for the 2020 Holiday Bazaar. They meet at the Museum twice a month on Wednesday mornings for crafting and sharing. If you are looking for a creative and fun way to support the Museum, the Guild is looking for you. For more information, please write to dexterheritageguild@gmail.com.

Guild Bake Sale

Besides the wonderful items in the Bazaar and Museum, there was the Bazaar Bake Sale that had a variety of delicious items for people to choose and take home.

There was a wide selection of baked treats: cookies, bagged treats like caramel corn, yum yums, pizzellas, an assortment of breads beside Irish Soda bread and coffee cakes, a variety of jams/jellies, canned pickled beets, zucchini relish, the Museum's ready-to-make-bean soup and other canned garden specialties. Let's not forget the delicious, multi-nut tortes made by Paul Cousins!



The sale also included some **Hot, Hot, Hot** Pepper jams! There were vegan, gluten-free items and special pet treats. All these specialties sold quickly!

The Heritage Guild wanted to thank all the Museum members and friends of the Museum and Guild who chopped and stirred, baked and decorated, and canned garden specialties to donate to the Bazaar Bake Sale! The success of the bake sale is due to all these wonderful people! Thank you!

Dexter Heritage Guild

DAHS COMING EVENTS



As part of the 100th Suffrage Event, the Opening Exhibit for the Dexter Area Museum on May 1st will highlight Business Women from the early 1900s, specifically those working outside the home in their own businesses or other established businesses. Our research has found quite a few who fit in the category, but we will concentrate on a few who represent the community:

Cornelia Copeland - a teacher in the local schools as well as in the Detroit area.

Julia, Betsey and Alice, the three Curtis sisters had a Millinery shop in Dexter.

Minnie Daley was the area telephone operator from 1906 to 1941.

Martha Drew Smith learned the Blacksmith trade from her father Alfred Drew.

Mary Roper, a former slave, took over her husband's barbering business.

Although we are specializing on those mentioned, we will also be noting the other business women who were an important part of Dexter area history. The display will be available at the Museum through November.

Guild Hosts Antique Appraisal Day at Museum Saturday, May 9

The Dexter Heritage Guild will hold their spring fundraiser in support of the Dexter Area Museum on Saturday, May 9 from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The Antique Appraisal Day will feature verbal appraisals by representatives from DuMouchelles Art Gallery in Detroit. The appraisers will evaluate antiques and family treasures such as china, collectibles, memorabilia, paintings, toys, and small pieces of furniture. A donation of \$8.00 per appraised item is requested.



To make an appointment for the Guild's Antique Appraisal Day at the Dexter Area Museum, 3443 Inverness, Dexter, MI, please email dexterheritageguild@gmail.com or call/text Sandy at 734-358-0769. Each 15-minute appointment will cover one to two items. Please specify the number and type of items (e.g., two paintings, one quilt, three dolls) plus your preference for morning or afternoon appointments.



Gordon Hall Days June 26 & 27

We are now planning for our next major fundraiser - Gordon Hall Days. This year Gordon Hall Days will be held on Friday and Saturday, June 26th and 27th.

While we will have some of the same events that we had last year such as the barn raising, the antique and vintage market, the antique and classic car show, and, of course, kids games, food, Colors the Clown, etc., there will also be a number of new activities such as blacksmithing and other demonstrations.

During Gordon Hall Days we will also be celebrating the 100th year anniversary of Women's Suffrage. Inside Gordon Hall we will have some of the posters from the "Liberty Awakes in Washtenaw County" display. Katharine Dexter McCormick played a major role in the passage of the bill that gave women the right to vote. If we're lucky, there might even be a surprise appearance of Katharine herself!

Did you know the Woman's Suffrage movement actually started with a Tea Party? Helen Welford will be showing us some Suffrage apparel at our Tea on Saturday afternoon.

At this time we are also excited that George Bedard will be returning for our Saturday evening event under the tent. Plan to help us celebrate the new improvements at Gordon Hall.

Save the dates of Friday and Saturday June 26th and 27th to help us get started on our next phase of restoration of Gordon Hall. We will keep you updated on our webpage.



Decorate Hats for Suffragists



Votes for Women 100 is a consortium of Washtenaw County organizations and institutions hosting events to honor those who brought gender equality to the voting booth. To celebrate this momentous achievement the Dexter Area Historical Society has scheduled two events. These include marching as Suffragists in the Dexter Memorial Day Parade on May 25th and highlighting Katharine Dexter McCormick and other Suffragists at Gordon Hall Days on June 26th & 27th.

In preparation for the parade, the Dexter Heritage Guild will host a **Suffragist Hat Workshop on Saturday, May 16, 2020 from 9:30 am to 2 pm at the Dexter Area Museum, 3443 Inverness, Dexter, MI 48130.** The workshop is open to women and girls who are interested in decorating hats that we hope you will wear in the Memorial Day Parade and also when you come to the tea during Gordon Hall Days. We invite you to come at a time convenient for you, decorate your hat and go on your way. Please register and send your check with the attached form so that the necessary items are available. The registration fee is \$5 each, \$8 for two or \$10 for three.

You are encouraged to bring your own hat - decorations will not be attached directly to the hats, but to ribbons so they can be removed easily. Although the hats we will have available are straw hats, you can see by the picture attached that the Suffragists wore all kinds of hats, most from their own wardrobe as hats were very important in the early part of the 20th century. White was the color worn by Suffragists with accents in purple and gold. (Have you noticed that today's women politicians often wear white?)



We have found some straw hats at Michaels that are an inexpensive option if you don't have a hat of your own. It is important that you indicate which size you would like and include that amount to cover the cost. We are also offering "Votes For Women 100" T-shirts at \$10 or gold sashes at \$1. These will be used during the Memorial parade when we will wear white outfits as the suffragists did. If you don't want to wear the T-shirt, you can wear the sash over your white top. Please let us know if you will be walking with us in the Memorial Day Parade on May 25th.

Suffragist Hat Workshop Saturday, May 16, 2020 - Dexter Area Museum from 9:30 am to 2 pm

Please fill out the form below, include a check made out to "Dexter Heritage Guild" and mail them to:

DAHS - Hats, 3443 Inverness, Dexter, MI 48130 by April 15, 2020.

You can also find this form at our website: DexterHistory.org

Name: _____ Phone : _____

Email : _____ # in group _____

I am bringing my own hat(s) _____. I/we plan on walking in the Memorial Day Parade (May 25th) _____.

Please let me know more about the Gordon Hall Days Tea on June 27th. _____.

Fees:

Registration Fee \$5 (1), \$8 (2) or \$10 (3) \$ _____

14" straw hat \$4 # _____ Total \$ _____

18" straw hat \$7 # _____ Total \$ _____

Suffragist T-shirt \$10 each

Circle - M, L, XL # _____ Total \$ _____

Suffragist sash \$1 # _____ Total \$ _____

Total Enclosed \$ _____



New Business Members

Recently the Historical Society began a campaign to bring local Dexter businesses into the membership of the Dexter Area Historical Society. Businesses are offered a lifetime, non-voting membership in the society and in return they will receive the newsletter, a membership emblem and recognition in the newsletter of those who have joined. We are happy to have the following as DAHS Members with those who have recently joined in **bold** print:

Beacon Dental - Dr. David Traynor
Chelsea Dexter Dental Group
Cindy Strang Insurance Agency
CMR Mechanical LLC
Dexter Family Dentistry - Brent Kolb
Dexter Oral Surgery and Implant Center
Dexter Riverside Cellar
Finn's JM&J Insurance Agency
Hackney Hardware

Hosmer-Muehlig Funeral Chapel
Huron Counseling Services
Main Street Optometry-Vision
Reed Barbering - Robin's
Spring Valley Trout Farm
St. Andrew's UCC Church
Village Animal Clinic of Dexter
Wallace & Wallace Properties
Whitetail Farm - Mary Baude

Membership Form

On the next page is our Membership Form! Please print it out and use it to join or renew your Membership in the Dexter Area Historical Society! We always need volunteers of all ages and diverse skill sets, but one of the areas missing from the form is a place for you to indicate how you would like to volunteer to help us. Please let us know what you love to do by putting a note somewhere on the page!

Membership fees are due January 1st each year. We have indicated in the note in your email or on your letter the status of your account according to our records. Please use the form on the next page to renew or begin a new membership. Mail the form and your check made out to DAHS to Dexter Area Historical Society, 3443 Inverness, Dexter, MI 48130.

Thank you.

DEXTER AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

OFFICERS:

President:
Beverly Hill
Vice-President:
Caryl Burke
Secretary:
Sharon Wheeler
Treasurer:
Carol Jones

DIRECTORS:

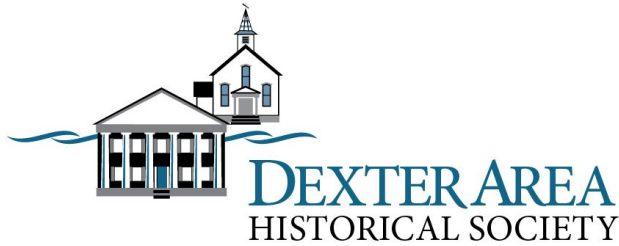
Neil Adams
Sue Behnke
Ina Germain
Shawn Pierrel
Ceci Riecker
Nancy Van Blaricum
Gary Vander Haagan
Jan Weaver

CONTACT INFORMATION:

NEWSLETTER - Nancy J. Van Blaricum DexMuseum@aol.com
WEBMASTER - Jan Weaver weaver74@charter.net
GORDON HALL SPECIAL EVENTS - Bene Fusilier: 734-426-8972
HERITAGE GUILD - Pat Pudduck: patpudduck@gmail.com
MUSEUM DIRECTOR - Nina Rackham: NDRackham@aol.com
FACILITIES:
DEXTER AREA MUSEUM - 3443 Inverness, Dexter, MI 48130
GORDON HALL - 8311 Island Lake Rd., Dexter, MI 48130

PHONE - 734-426-2519 WEBSITE: www.DexterHistory.org EMAIL: DexMuseum@aol.com

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



Membership Form

Date: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Telephone: _____
(home) (cell)

Email: _____

Membership Type* New member Renewal

\$ _____ Individual \$15 yearly

\$ _____ Family \$25 yearly

\$ _____ Student \$2 yearly

\$ _____ Business \$50

\$ _____ Life \$200

Please indicate residence location:

City of Dexter

Township: _____

Other: _____

\$ _____ Extra gift for Museum

\$ _____ Extra gift for Gordon Hall

\$ _____ **TOTAL**

-----Make checks payable to: **Dexter Area History Society (DAHS)**-----

Mail to:

Dexter Area Historical Society
3443 Inverness Street
Dexter, MI 48130

Contact:

Phone: 734.426.2519
Email: dexmuseum@aol.com
Website: dexterhistory.org
Find us on Facebook @dexterhistory
Dexter Area Historical Society

*All memberships except Life and Business are renewed each January.