

Otsego County Historical Society Newsletter



September 2008



FROM THE PRESIDENT



Wow, what a summer we have had, so far. Lots of visitors to the Museum, both local and from out of town. It is so fun to see the expressions on the children's faces when some of the artifacts are explained to them, and the comments of the adults who remember a lot of the artifacts that have been in use in their parent's and grandparent's homes in past years.

Please check out the article in this newsletter regarding our new Endowment Fund.

If you have not been in the Museum recently, you are invited in to see the changes we have been making.

See you soon!

Ginny Brozowski

4th Annual ANTIQUe APPRAISAL Saturday, September 20th, 2008

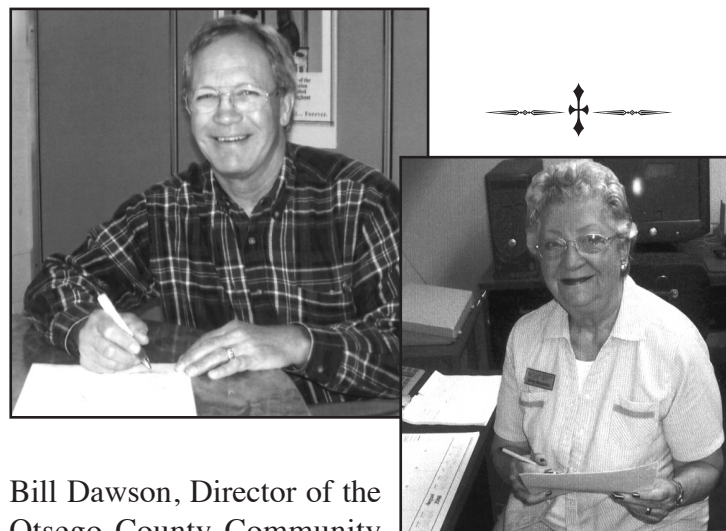
Start looking through your treasures to bring to our 4th Annual Antique Appraisal on Saturday, September 20th from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Joseph McGee of Joseph's World in Petoskey has graciously agreed to come back as our appraiser. The fee is \$10.00 per item with a two item limit. As we did last year, we will hand out numbers to eliminate waiting in line. Even if you don't have an item for appraisal, stop by for cookies and coffee and see the interesting items being appraised.

Endowment Fund Established

The purpose of the Otsego County Historical Society Endowment Fund is to provide a permanent source of income to support new and existing programs. Our Endowment Fund has been created through the Otsego County Community Foundation to ensure the long-term financial stability of our Historical Society and Museum.

Heading up this effort are Susan Smethurst, Pat Sepura and Phil Alexander. Several other people have pledged their support to assist with specific aspects of this exciting campaign. Additional volunteers are always welcome.

You are invited to learn more about this important project on September 24 from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. at the County Library. We will review the benefits of an endowment fund and explore ways to accomplish our goal of raising \$15,000 in the next three years. Please join us by investing in a secure future for the Otsego County Historical Society.



Bill Dawson, Director of the Otsego County Community Foundation and Ginny Brozowski, President of the OCHS sign the necessary papers for the new OCHS Endowment Fund.

Oral History Project

"Interviewing for Beginners" Workshop
Friday, October 3
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon
Community Room at the Library

This fall we are starting an Oral History Project. The goal is to get as many interviews with older residents that have knowledge of the area. This will be such a fun and interesting project! To get us started with all the information we need to be successful as interviewers we decided to ask a pro how interviews are best conducted. We wanted a practical step by step workshop that will have everyone well prepared. The result? A workshop called "Interviewing for Beginners". Martha Bloomfield of the Michigan Historical Museum will teach our session. Martha has been involved in Oral History projects for many years and is an excellent, practical teacher. She very graciously agreed to come and share her skills with us. The session will go through all the basics – everything someone who has never done an interview needs to know to conduct an interview.

Registration: By September 26th.

Cost: None

To register for the workshop call Ann Wright at 231-546-3590 or leave a message at the Museum. The number is 732-4568.

Archival Boxes

The Gordon Everett Fund of the Community Foundation granted us funds to purchase archival quality storage boxes for the textiles at the Museum. The order came in last month. It was like Christmas! Doris Schulz and Bea Axford began repacking items the very day the boxes came. Our thanks to the Gordon Everett Family! They have been wonderful supporters of the Historical Society for many, many years.

Donors of the Month

BreitBurn Operating, LLC and Otsego Lake Association have donated funds to make the new display/artifact work table and storage area a reality. Thank you! It is through donors such as these two groups that we are able to make the improvements in the Museum.

Johannesburg Manufacturing Company

Watch for renovation work on the old Johannesburg Manufacturing Company building. A group was formed in the Johannesburg area of persons interested in renovating this building. We wish this group great success! The restored building will be a great attraction in the area for all lumbering industry enthusiasts.

Donation of Items



Please remember us! When you are cleaning out the old family cottage or grandmother's bigger home and need to give away some items please think of the Museum. If an item is part of Otsego County's history we would be interested in seeing if it is something we do not have and that we can use. Just give us a call and we will make an appointment to meet with you.

All the artifacts in the Museum have been donated in this manner. Please remember that we are also interested in pictures and family histories. We can make copies of these and will return the originals to you.

OWLS Grant

Our thanks to the OWLS for the generous donation of \$800.00 to fund the Digital Photo Archival Project. This is a special project where all the photos we have in our reference files will be scanned and "entered" in the computer with a particular software program. This program will allow the photos to be indexed by numerous categories, such as town, business, industry, people's names, etc. Then a person can search on the Web for the photos we have by categories.

The project is under the direction of Rudi Edel and will be started this winter.

Change of Museum Hours

After Labor Day the Museum will be open Thursday through Saturday from 10:00-4:00 p.m. The last day that we are open for the year will be Saturday, October 25th. As in the past, we will continue to work at the Museum on Wednesday mornings.

CONTACT US AT: 989-732-4568 (Please leave a message)



Quilt Donated

In 1920 a Signature Quilt was begun at the Methodist Church here in Gaylord.

For three cents, a person's name would be embroidered on it. Two hundred seventy-two people have their name placed on this quilt. Later the quilt project was moved to the

Congregational Church.

Our thanks to Virginia Carney of Aldie, Virginia for making this donation to the Museum. She is the daughter of Roy Leonard, who as a toddler, remembers sitting in a box at the grocery store his parents ran. He would sit in this box while his parents helped out at the grocery store.

Ginny's Gems...

It now costs more to amuse a child than it once did to educate his father!

Museum Gift Shoppe

The Gift Shoppe has been busy and Suzanne Stewart has done a great job of scheduling the volunteers for August. Thank you to all volunteers who are doing a tremendous job of cashiering in the Gift Shoppe.



Many new items are for sale in our Gift Shoppe. All items are made in Michigan and most of them are from artists and craftsmen right here in our Otsego County. Have you seen Ginny's Gems or Monti's handcrafted Deer Family? If you haven't seen any of those, then you also haven't seen Tim's note stationery of the birds and flowers or the all new cookbooks!

You owe it to yourself to come in and browse! Many inexpensive gift ideas!

A Peek In Grandma's Closet



Gladys Solokis & Laura Van Pete

The 20th Annual Collector's Edition of The Museum's 2009 Calendar is a delight and if you don't have yours yet, you better hurry as they are going fast!

Many thanks to Henry and Bea Axford, and Barb Fleming for all their work in setting the stage for the pictures and doing a fantastic job of photography.

We had a wonderful group of "models" who did a great job and are to be commended! Just wait until you see them in action on the pages of the calendar.

Doris Schulz and Bea Axford spent a lot of time choosing and preparing the clothes used by the models. Thanks, ladies.

Sherry Johnson of Mid-North Printing did an excellent job of coordinating the calendar and putting the pages together to make the calendar look so very professional. We appreciate the beautiful job Mid-North Printing did in the printing of the calendar.

CALENDAR COUPON

To place an order for 2009 Historical Society Calendar please fill in the form and mail with a check to:

**Otsego Co. Historical Society
P.O. Box 1223 • Gaylord, MI 49734**

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ No. Ordered _____

**Calendars \$7.00 plus \$2.00 shipping each
989-732-4568**

Otsego County Historical Society
P.O. Box 1223
Gaylord, MI 49735

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