# Waterford Historical Society Newsbill

#### Volume 21, Number 1

Editor Becky Morgan 248-673-2689 rmorgan56301@comcast.net

Calendar

March-April-May 2016

March 2 Hatchery House Opens Newsletter Mailing

March 9 Log Cabin Days Mtg 1:00

> March 16 Board Meeting 1:00

March 26 Fashion Show I I:00 a.m. Silver Lake Golf Club (See article in Newsletter)

April 6 Log Cabin Days Mtg 1:00

> April 20 Board Meeting 1:00

May 4 Historic Village Opens Log Cabin Days Mtg 1:00

> May 18 Board Meeting 2:15

May 19 Annual Membership Meeting and Election 7:00 p.m.

**May 30** Memorial Day Parade 10am

#### President's Notes

Hopefully as you are reading this newsletter we are into a thaw. Here's a good saying I found in the Farmer's Almanac to get us going: "A dry March and a wet May? Fill barns and bays with corn and hay." Well, not sure we can use that, but our early Waterford pioneers sure would have liked it!

Our Village opens on May 4. We can always use some spare hands to help us shake out the cobwebs, so to speak. Stop by in April if you have some spare time and the notion. Many hands make light work, of course.

We are gearing up for the Fashion Show on March 26<sup>th</sup>. This is a lovely event and fundraiser so please think about attending with friends and neighbors. A thank you to Heather Halls and the Waterford Coalition for Youth. For the past couple of years we have been using the decorations from the Taste of Waterford. What a great way for recycling and community sharing! We are grateful to have such a partnership.

Speaking of partnerships, Log Cabin Days 20 looms into the horizon June 25 & 26. The partnership is all of us giving this gift to the community. I say a gift because this is an inexpensive, family friendly event for people of all ages to enjoy. So, write it on your calendars and plan to jump in.

Remember even as we go into better weather, if the Waterford School District is closed, we are closed.

See you soon, *Sally Strait* 



Board Members President Sally Strait 248-683-2697 sstrait649@comcast.net

March-April-May 2016

Vice President Bob Allen 248-623-0463

Recording Secretary Becky Morgan 248-673-2689

Corresponding Secretary Betty Seymour 248-666-4265

Treasurer Betty Horn 248-673-9708

Bookkeeper Cheryl Stoutenburg 248-623-0414

Members At Large Grace Rockey 248-666-3673 Gary Wall 248-674-6201 Norman Watchpocket 248-673-5310 Tammie Wolfe 248-842-1664 Dorothy Webber 248-666-4907



### Help Requests: Log Cabin Days 2016 Sat & Sun June 25th & 26th



We are already planning for Log Cabin Days 2016! Help from members would really be appreciated. Here are some things that can be done to help make Log Cabin Days a success:

- Help sort/price White Elephant and Boutique • items any Wednesday starting in April.
- Help clean a building Wed. June 1,8,15, or 22. •
- Help set up tents or the White Elephant Sale • Fri. June 24th.
- Sign up to work a Log Cabin Days shift. .
- Attend Log Cabin Days. .
- Tell friends/family/neighbors about Log . Cabin Days or attend with them.
- Help take tents down Sun. June 26th at 4pm.
- Consider giving a monetary donation to help . with Log Cabin Days expenses. The shuttle bus alone is a big cost.

# WANTED for Log Cabin Days

- 1. White Elephant or Boutique items to sell. Bring it any Wednesday from March on. Boutique items are a bit more 'upper scale' than White Elephant items.
- **Cookies baked** for our popular cookie sale. Bake 2. and put four cookies in a baggie. Bring them on Saturday, June 27th or Sunday, June 28th.

Every cookie sold last year!!!

#### Thank You Coffee Break Service !



Thanks to the Coffee Break Service for keeping us supplied with great coffee!

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Coffee Break Service, Inc. is a local company that has served our community for 30 years! They are located at 2256 Dixie Highway in Waterford. Give them a try!

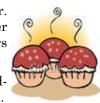
Their motto is: GREAT COFFEE GREAT SERVICE GREAT PRICES Phone: (248) 33-COFFEE (248-332-6333) Fax: (248) 335-0525 www.coffeebreakinc.com Email: info@coffeebreakinc.com



# Membership Meeting & Election May 19th

Mark your calendars for the Waterford Historical Society Annual Membership Meeting and Election on Thursday, May 19th at 7 p.m.

This meeting is only held once a year. Learn about the year's progress and other WHS information. Vote on board members up for election.



Hope to have many members in attendance! Dessert and beverages will be served.

# **Celebrate Spring** at the Fashion Show Fundraiser for the Waterford Historical Society

Saturday, March 26th - 11:00 a.m.

Silver Lake Golf Club

2602 Walton Blvd Waterford MI 48329 (for directions go to <u>silverlakegc.com</u> or call 248-673-1611)

Fashions by: The Clothing Cove

Tickets are \$30.00 per person

#### (Lunch is included in the price)

Come join us for the 15th Annual Spring Preview Style The latest fashions will be Show and Luncheon. presented by the Clothing Cove of Milford.

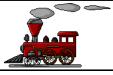
Enjoy a lovely lunch, a fashion show with the latest styles and great company all while raising money for the Waterford Historical Society. Tell a friend or neighbor!



- 7. February 28-March 1, 1875 - 14 inches
- December 18-19, 1929 13.8 inches 8.
- February 12-13, 1884 12.8 inches 9.
- 10. February 19, 1900 12.6 inches



# Railroads Create the First Time Zones That Day in History - Nov 18, 1883



At exactly noon on that day, American and Canadian railroads began using four continental time zones to end the confusion of dealing with thousands of local times. The bold move was emblematic of the power shared by the railroad companies.

The need for continental time zones stemmed directly from the problems of moving passengers and freight over the thousands of miles of rail line that covered North America by the 1880s. Since human beings had first begun keeping track of time, they set their clocks to the local movement of the sun. Even as late as the 1880s, most towns in the U.S. had their own local time, generally based on "high noon," or the time when the sun was at its highest point in the sky. As railroads began to shrink the travel time between cities from days or months to mere hours, however, these local times became a scheduling nightmare. Railroad timetables in major cities listed dozens of different arrival and departure times for the same train, each linked to a different local time zone.

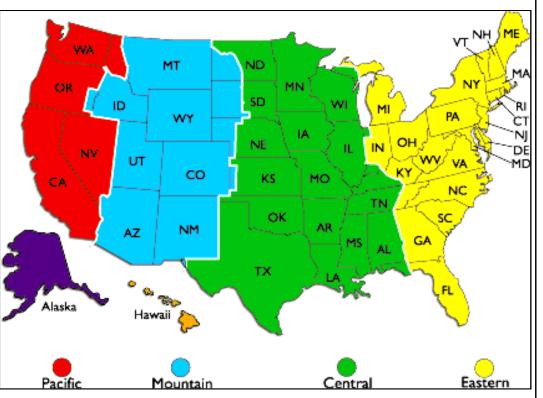
Another need for time zones was safety. One of the first reported incidents which brought about a change in how time was organized on railways in the United States occurred in New England in August 1853. Two trains heading towards each other on the same track collided as the train guards had different times set on their watches, resulting in the death of 14 passengers. Railway schedules were coordinated in New England shortly after this incident. Numerous other collisions led to the setting up of the General Time Convention.

Efficient rail transportation demanded a more uniform time-keeping system. Rather than turning to the federal governments of the United States and Canada to create a North American system of time zones, the powerful railroad companies took it upon themselves to create a new time code system. Railway managers agreed for the idea to be investigated by William Frederick Allen, Secretary of the General Time Convention and Managing Editor of the *Travelers' Official Guide to the Railways*. He proposed replacing the 50 different railway times with five time zones. He eventually persuaded the railway managers and the politicians running the cities that had several railway stations that it was in their interests to speedily adopt his simpler proposals, which aligned the zones with cities' railroad stations. In doing so they would pre-empt the imposition of more costly and cumbersome arrangements by different state legislators and the naval authorities, both of whom favored

retention of local times. The companies agreed to divide the continent into four time zones; the dividing lines adopted were very close to the ones we still use today.

Most Americans and Canadians quickly embraced their new time zones, since railroads were often their lifeblood and main link with the rest of the world. However, it was 1918 until not that Congress officially adopted the railroad time zones and put them under the supervision of the Interstate Commerce Commission.

Sources: www.history.com & en.wikipedia.org



#### Post Offices of Waterford

Post offices in Waterford have not always been the same as now. The first post office in Waterford township was established in 1834-35 on the north shore of Elizabeth Lake. The first post office in the Village of Waterford was established in 1865 when John Owen ran the General Store (later to become Jacober's Store).

At first mail for the Village of Waterford residents was delivered to post office boxes inside the post office. In April of 1958, Mrs. Robert Amos, Postmistress of the Waterford Village post office, announced that mail carrier service would begin in the village. This was the first time residents of this area had been able to have home delivery of their mail.

Two of the photos shown below are of buildings built, after 1940 but before 1960, as post offices for the Village of Waterford and Drayton Plains. They remained separate post offices until they were merged into one (Waterford) in the early 1990s. The other photo shows a bank of post office boxes used before the beginning of home delivery.



#### Help Us By Shopping

We really appreciate everyone who participates in the community savings program at Kroger. Kroger

donates a percentage of the total of your purchases to the Historical Society. Thank you so much for your help! *Thank you to Kroger for their generosity!* 

Kroger shoppers must sign up online to participate. See article below.

### Kroger Community Rewards

We are continuing to participate in Kroger's Community Rewards Program. Use your Kroger Plus card with our number and we will get a check in the mail every quarter!

If you enrolled last year, you must sign on again and put our number in by April.

You can get a Kroger Plus card at the service desk of any Kroger.

When you have a Kroger card and e-mail address:

- 1. Go online to krogercommunityrewards.com
- 2. Click on Sign in/Register.
- 3. Click on SIGN UP TODAY in 'new customer' box.
- 4. Follow instructions and agree to terms/conditions.
- 5. You will get a message to check your e-mail box. Read the e-mail from Kroger & follow the link to complete the registration process.
- 6. Click on MY ACCOUNT. Use your e-mail address & password to log on.
- 7. Click on EDIT KROGER COMMUNITY RE-WARDS info and enter your Kroger card number.
- 8. Enter <u>Waterford Historical Society NPO #: 82795</u>
- 9. You will now see WHS name under your info.
- 10. REMEMBER to use your card for all purchases and WHS will get a check every quarter!

#### Thank You Newsletter Sponsors!

A big THANK YOU to Arlen & Stuart Magy and Becky & Nick for sponsoring this edition of this newsletter.



Like to help sponsor our next newsletter? Send a check for \$25 to WHS at our address: PO Box 300491, Waterford MI 48330-0491. Write 'Newsletter' on the memo line. Donors may stay anonymous if they wish.



#### Also a big THANK YOU to THE PRINT SHOP 5911 Dixie Highway (248) 623-1212

They always make the newsletter look so great! See them for all your printing needs. Locally owned and operated. Nationally awarded & recognized.

# Renew Your Membership... Or Become a Member of the Waterford Historical Society

Anyone who is interested in becoming a member of

the Waterford Historical Society may clip and fill out the form below. Bring it in on a Wednesday or mail it to:

Waterford Historical Society P.O. Box 300491

Waterford MI 48330-0491 All memberships coming in now will be good until December of 2016. This Join us...

Help keep history alive.

entitles members to receive the WHS newsletters.

There is much going on. Don't miss out!

#### Waterford Township Historical Society Membership Application

	Phone	\$15.00	Individual
Date		\$25.00	Family
		\$100.00	Patron
Name		\$50.00	Organizations/Businesses
		 \$150.00	Lifetime per family
Address		\$100.00	Lifetime per person
City, State, Zip	Mail payment to: Waterford Historical Society	\$125.00	Lifetime per couple
		\$250.00	Lifetime Org./Businesses
Make Check Payable To: Waterford Township Historical Society	P.O. Box 300491 Waterford, MI 48330-0491	\$500.00	Lifetime Patron

#### Waterford Historical Society

WHS opens to the public the first Wednesday in March weather permitting. We will be 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: Sally Strait 248-683-2697

www.waterfordhistoricalsociety.org Non-profit 501(c)3 organization

# Village Schedule



The Hatchery House, Log Cabin, Research Library & Office are open to the

public starting the first Wednesday in March weather permitting. If Waterford Schools are closed, we are closed.

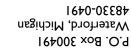
The Village opens the first Wednesday in May.

# Upcoming Local Events:

- Mott/Mason Pre-Fest Concert: Tue, March I - 7 pm at Mott Performing Arts Centerwww.waterfordpac.com (248-673-4205)
- Kettering/Pierce Pre-Fest Concert: Tue, March I - 7 pm at Kettering Performing Arts Centerwww.waterfordpac.com (248-673-4205)
- New Horizons Concert Band Performance: Sunday, March 13, 3 pm, Mott Performing Arts Center www.waterfordpac.com (248-673-4205)
- Fashion Show WHS Fundraiser: Sat. March 26 11 am Silver Lake Golf Club - For Tickets/Info Call: 248-666-4265
- Sheep Shearing & Pancake Breakfast : Saturday, April 30th - 9 to 11 am, Hess-Hathaway Park waterfordmi.gov/parksandrec
- Spring Trunk Sale at Fisk Farm: Sat. May 14th
  Fisk Farm Fisk Road at M-59 in White Lake
  248-887-3244 www.hsmichigan.org/whitelake/events
- <u>Waterford Memorial Day Parade:</u> Monday, May 30 - 10 am North on Dixie Highway from Sashabaw Rd to Williams Lk Rd

Collecting, protecting and preserving the history of Waterford Township for the interest and education of present and future generations.

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