

A LETTER FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Dear Members,

Now that spring is finally here, we look forward to the nice days ahead and the events that will be taking place at the Museum and Gordon Hall. Please mark your calendar for those events listed in this newsletter.

We are pleased with the success of Dexter Artisan Fair, which took place on March 22nd. Many thanks go out to all who attended, baked and donated their time. The crowd seemed to enjoy seeing many new artists, as well as, many of our old-time artists and the Dexter Guild bake sale was a huge success.

Thanks to those of you who donated \$21,540 toward reduction of the Gordon Hall mortgage in the first quarter of 2014. This figure has been matched by Wally Fusilier. This is truly a big step forward in paying off the mortgage. Please continue to send in donations and soon we will no longer have mortgage debt.

Thanks again for your help and support.

Bene Fusilier, President DAHSAM

SOCIETY RECOGNIZES ALICE PASTALAN

Alice Pastalan has been a devoted life member of the Dexter Area Historical Society and Museum. She has been involved in the society since the early 1970's, and over the years, has served as co-director of the Museum, president of the Historical Society, and manager of the Corner Gift Shop.

Alice has spent many volunteer hours at the Museum, setting up and taking down the displays in the museum room. Often she arranged the showcases and many times she brought in items for the dollhouses which she arranged with the help of her grandchildren.

Whenever needed, Alice fills in as a docent. In addition, she has helped with curating and has recently helped at Gordon Hall.

As a member of the Heritage Guild, Alice always helps with the Guild Holiday Bazaars. For many years she chaired of the Dexter Pioneer Craft Fair.

Alice's love of history and the Dexter community is shown in the work she has done for the Dexter Area Historical Society and Museum.

Thank you, Alice, for all the years you have given us. We wish you well and hope you will continue to help and visit us when you are able.



DAHSAM Annual Membership Meeting
Sunday, June 29, 2014
2:00 pm to 4:00 pm
Dexter District Library
WE HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE

LOCAL CIVIL WAR SOLDIERS EXHIBIT PLANNED

For the 4th Civil War Days event held at Gordon Hall, the Museum Staff is planning an exhibit featuring the families of some of our local Civil War soldiers. Families that still live in the area have been selected and we are working on, Charles Bates, Robert Bostwick, and Charles Hicks.

Although we have genealogical information on these families, to better describe the situations of families whose sons went off to fight for our county, we welcome the loan of any pictures or artifacts held by these families today.

Information on the 3 soldiers mentioned includes the following:

- Charles Bates was the son of Vrelon and Eunice Wilhelm Bates. He married Belvia M. Shearer and one of their sons was H. Carl Bates for whom Bates School is named.
- Robert Bostwick was the son of Dr. Victor M. Bostwick and Phebe Rhen Bostwick. Robert died in Chattanooga, TN, in 1865 as a result of the war, however, we will follow the line of his brother Oliver. Flora Bostwick, the first child of Oliver, married Frank Smith and their son Douglas married Myrtle Heim.
- Charles Hicks is a bit more challenging. It is believed he was the son of Samuel and Polly Ann Waite Hicks. He married Hannah E. Brass, and their son Leroy, married Mary Benton, and their daughter Lois, married J. Clifford Bradbury, whose sons James and Keith live in the area.

If these are your ancestors and you would like to be involved, please contact Nancy Van Blaricum at www.DexMuseum.org to volunteer your help.



We are looking for those fine pie bakers that are willing to provide items for the CWD Community Pie Auction. Johnny Weber will return as our auctioneer and Pie Auction Chair, Erin McKillen, has great new ideas. Call her at 734-260-5093 if you are willing to bake or want additional information. This year she is asking you to include a recipe and its history when you drop of your pie.



GARDENING AT GORDON HALL

The Society would like to extend its gratitude to Jan Stagg who has joined others to tend to the gardening at Gordon Hall for many seasons. This year, due to personal circumstances, she will not be able to continue. Our president has put out a call:

“We need others to step forward and help with the gardening at Gordon Hall. Please let me know if you can help out. Bene”



TAKE A TRIP WITH THE GARDEN CLUB

On June 14 2014, the Dexter Garden Club will be spending the day at the Frederik Meijer Gardens in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Transportation will be by chartered bus.

The cost for the day, which includes transportation, admission to the Gardens, lunch, docent tours, and a tram tour of outdoor gardens is \$56.00. We welcome you to join us!

Interested? Call Cindy Henes at 426-0973 for more information.

The FUSILIER CHALLENGE UPDATE

Wally Fusilier would like to thank the following people for donating \$21,540 toward the Gordon Hall mortgage in the first quarter of 2014. This amount has been matched by him.

Bob & Jan Lyons Foundation

Bob Mast & Carol Jones

John & Nancy Tandy

Dexter Lions Club

Richard & Cindy Henes

Rod & Patti Christian

Jim & Sharon Wheeler

Dexter Antiquarians

Bradley & Lisa Judge

Nancy Wheeler

Anne S. Benninghoff

Bill & Ruth Koch

John & June Mann

Gretchen Meyer

Elizabeth Neil

Helen O'Toole

Sandee & Ron Trella

Margaret O'Connor

Judith Warren

Victoria & Roseann Sarah

Donald Evich

Patricia Koeller



THE HERITAGE GUILD SAYS "THANK YOU!"

The Dexter Heritage Guild would like to thank the members of the Historical Society for their contributions to the Guild's recent bake sale, held in conjunction with the Dexter Artisan Fair.

The wonderful variety of delicious baked goods, along with Sharon Wheeler's popular sandwiches, and a few cash donations made the sale a big success. The bake sale, raised nearly \$700!

Profits from the Guild's fundraisers support the operation of the Museum and contribute to special projects, such as the new tile entry and handrail at the Museum and the outdoor lighting at Gordon Hall.

When the weather permits, we will begin an upcoming project, improvements to the Museum's front porch.

ANTIQUE APPRAISAL DAY PLANNED

The Heritage Guild sponsored spring Antiques Appraisal Day will be Saturday, May 3, 2014, from 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Dexter Area Museum, located at 3443 Inverness Street in Dexter.

The certified appraisers from the Detroit DuMouchelles Art Gallery will give a verbal appraisal for 1-2 items during a 15-minute appointment. The fee is \$7.00 per item. For an appointment, please call Sue at 734-424-9998.

On May 3rd, if you have not made an appointment in advance, please call the Museum at 734-426-2519 for appointment availability and additional information. Proceeds benefit the preservation and operation of the Museum.

Learn about the Dexter Area Historical Society and Museum and future events at its website, www.dextermuseum.org.

Our Gordon Hall Raffle Committee is working hard selling tickets for our summer Gordon Hall Raffle. The lucky winner will be announced during Dexter Daze in August. Don't miss out. Join in the fun with your purchase of a ticket!



DEXTER'S CIVIL WAR DAYS

This summer's Civil War Days event marks the fourth year of a five year observance of the Sesquicentennial of the American Civil War. When you arrive at Gordon Hall, June 6,7 and 8, 2014, you will step into 1864, an election year for President Lincoln. It is planned for Union Troops to be encamped in front of the Hall and Confederate Troops to be encamped behind.

Many favorite activities will return and some new ones have been added our busy schedule.

Friday evening will bring a free concert, with Hickman barbeque available for purchase. You will be treated to a patriotic performance by Jenny VanHouten's first grade class and visit from Dexter's own local youth string band, The Vibe.

Some activities planned for Saturday include Tom Melville returning to run cricket games, Tim Twiss performing period banjo music, Jim Ribby doing historic recitations. There will be a tea and soldiers will re-enact a battle scene. Military and civilian camps will be open for touring.

The Lincoln fundraising dinner will take place on Saturday evening. Tickets are available for purchase. Let us keep in mind that this is a wonderful way to make the most of the Wally Fusilier Challenge.

The pie auction will appear on Sunday with some items reserved for purchase by children ages 12 and under, along with the Hotel Hickman pig roast and the annual old time base ball game. The Sons of the Union Veterans of the Civil War will return both Saturday and Sunday to research family connections to the Civil War. Please join us!

One of the nice things about our Civil War Days event is that it allows a great number of people work together, on many levels of involvement for a united cause. There is room for all. If interested just give Donna a call at 734-649-5169 and she'll note your interest and direct you to a committee chair.


THANKS FROM THE ARTISAN FAIR COMMITTEE

The committee wishes to thank the talented artists, crafters and artisans who participated in the 2014 Dexter Artisan Fair.

Special thanks go to:

- Drawing item donors, Beverly Larsen, Pam O'Hara and Werner Wolfe,
- Dexter Boy Scout Troop #447 and the Dexter Rotary Club for parking and vendor assistance,
- The Dexter Dulcimers for their musical entertainment,
- Dexter Flowers for bringing springtime to Creekside,
- The Dexter Heritage Guild for a terrific bake sale,
- And to volunteers, Pat Cousins, Carol Ann Emerick, Kathy Fitzgerald, Mary Jo and Jeff Frank, Joan Hardy, Sonie Hargrove, Mary Dee Heller, Sue Ivey, Carol Michaels, Allison Puddock, Pat and Ron Puddock, Samantha Skinner, Suzanne VanNatter, Grace Ward.

The committee: Bene Fusilier, Carol Jones, Ginny Ryan, Sue Shotts, Sybil VanHouten, Sharon Wheeler, and Sandra Matsco, Chair.



Gordon Hall
Dexter, Michigan
circa 1841

If you are willing to work on Gordon Hall tours during Dexter Daze, please contact Nancy Van Blaricum at 426-2519.

Civil War Finance Chair, Paul Bishop is looking for sponsors for the following modestly priced items.

- \$25 Sunday Church Services
- \$85 Research – Family Connections to the Civil War
- \$40 Dairy Queen for Friday 1st grade patriotic choir
- \$35 per cannon firing Battery B 1st Michigan Light Artillery
- \$200 period music Sat.
- \$185 Poet Bard – will be here two days
- \$40 Dexter Youth strings Friday night concert
- \$35 per cannon firing Battery B 1st Michigan Light Artillery
- \$85 Printed ribbons for kids games
- \$75 Sat. dinner favor men
- \$ Sat. dinner favor women
- \$200 Banner downtown
- \$150 Cricket games
- \$75 advertising signs
- \$75 flyer printing
- \$50 Butter churning, etc. kids demonstrations.

Please contact Paul at 476-0515 if you or someone you know is willing to help out.



Tickets are available for the CWD quilt raffle. They are \$2.00 a piece or a packet of three for \$5.00. First prize is a beautiful queen size patchwork quilt. Second prize is Dexter coverlet and third prize is a hardbound book of Gordon Hall history written by local author, James Parker. Look for Raffle Chair Sharon Wheeler around town or call her at 734-649-6750 to get your chances. The drawing will take place on Sunday afternoon, following the skirmish/battle during Civil War Days. You need not be present to win and all proceeds go toward Gordon Hall.

We are looking for a few people willing to bake a few cookies for the Fashion Tea during CWD. As the treats served last year were very much enjoyed, those recipes are attached. Contact Tea Cookie Coordinator, Julie Knight, at 426-4961 if you will help out.

Visit Dexters-Civil-War-Days on Facebook to get the latest on all things Civil War Days.



While it is a bit early to think of the winter holidays, contact Julie Knight if you have an idea or are willing to be involved in Christmas at the Mansion -2014. It is a major revenue source used for mortgage reduction!

Donations made to the Dexter Area Historical Society, a 501(c)3 organization are typically tax deductible and greatly appreciated. For more information visit our website www.dextermuseum.org or email us at dexmuseum@aol.com or phone 734-426-2519.

A large portion of the Civil War Days Lincoln Dinner ticket price should be deductible.

Check in with Captain Donovan Hill, 734- 664-9132, to find out season play dates for the Dexter Union Base Ball Team. They will present an exhibition on Sunday, June 8th, during Civil War Days.

Sugar Cookies

- 1 cup butter or margarine, softened
- 2 cups sugar
- 2 eggs
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 5 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 1/2 teaspoons baking powder
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 cup milk

Directions: Cream butter and sugar in a mixing bowl.. Add eggs and vanilla. Combine flour, baking powder, baking soda and salt; add to creamed mixture alternately with the milk. Cover and refrigerate for 15 to 30 minutes. On a floured surface, roll out dough to 1/8-in. thickness. Cut out cookies into desired shapes (small round) and place 2 in. apart on a greased baking sheet.

Bake at 350 degrees F for 10 minutes or until edges are lightly browned.

Ginger Cookies

- 1 cup packed brown sugar
- 3/4 cup vegetable oil
- 1/4 cup molasses
- 1 egg
- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 2 teaspoons baking soda
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cloves
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1 teaspoon ground ginger
- 1/3 cup white sugar for decoration

Directions: Preheat oven to 375 degrees F.

In a large bowl, mix together the brown sugar, oil, molasses, and egg. Combine the flour, baking soda, salt, cloves, cinnamon, and ginger; stir into the molasses mixture. Roll dough into 1 inch balls. Roll each ball in white sugar before placing 2 inches apart on ungreased cookie sheets. Bake for 10 to 12 minutes in preheated oven, or until center is firm. Cool on wire racks.

Lemon Sugar Cookies

- 1 cup butter or margarine, softened
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 egg
- 1 tablespoon milk
- 2 teaspoons lemon extract
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 2 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
- 3/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
- Additional sugar

Directions: In a mixing bowl, cream butter, shortening and sugar. Beat in egg, milk and extracts. Combine the flour, salt and baking soda; gradually add to creamed mixture. Shape into 3/4 in. balls 2 in. apart onto ungreased baking sheets. Flatten with a glass dipped in sugar.

Bake at 400 degrees F for 9-11 minutes or until edges are lightly browned. Immediately remove to wire racks to cool.

Raspberry Almond Shortbread

- 1 cup butter, softened
- 2/3 cup white sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon almond extract
- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1/2 cup seedless raspberry jam
- 1/2 cup confectioners' sugar
- 3/4 teaspoon almond extract
- 1 teaspoon milk

Directions: Preheat oven to 350 degrees F.

In a medium bowl, cream together butter and white sugar until smooth. Mix in 1/2 teaspoon almond extract. Mix in flour until dough comes together. Roll dough into 1 1/2 inch balls, and place on ungreased cookie sheets. Make a small hole in the center of each ball, using your thumb and finger, and fill the hole with preserves.

Bake for 14 to 18 minutes in preheated oven, or until lightly browned. Let cool 1 minute on the cookie sheet.

In a medium bowl, mix together the confectioners' sugar, 3/4 teaspoon almond extract, and milk until smooth. Drizzle lightly over warm cookies .