

# FALL NOTES FROM THE DEXTER AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

## Fall-Winter 2014

### A LETTER FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Dear Members,

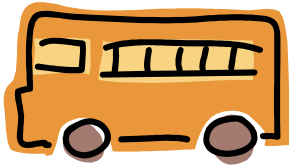
As we are nearing the Thanksgiving holiday, the Historical Society has so much to be thankful for. We have paid off our mortgage on Gordon Hall. We have held many successful events so far, this year, including Civil War Days at Gordon Hall, our Dexter Daze Raffle and Tour at Gordon Hall, our mortgage burning event, and two beautiful fall weddings.

I encourage you to come to our upcoming events: The Holiday Bazaar at the Museum on December 6 from 9-3. Christmas at the Mansion at Gordon Hall on December 6 and the Holiday Tea on December 7.

I am sad that the Dexter Area Historical Society Board needed to make the decision to end the Artisan (aka Pioneer Arts Fair). I want to thank all of those who have volunteered their time for this event over the years. Hopefully, we will come up with a future event to benefit the Museum.

Thanks for your support and may you have a happy Thanksgiving and a joyous holiday season.

Bene Fusilier, President  
Dexter Area Historical Society



School Representative Sybil Van Houten

### A TRUE MILESTONE IS CELEBRATED

On Sunday, October 12, 2014, the Society saw a beautiful sunny day, lovely decorated grounds, a welcoming refreshment table, and many celebrants in attendance, a special program, and the official burning of the Gordon Hall Mortgage. The celebration was a dream come true and was enjoyed by Gordon Hall's many supporters. Special recognition was given to Dr. Wally Fusilier for sponsoring The Fusilier Challenge.

After taking some time to enjoy the success of this financial feat, the Society will look to securing grants and matching fund-raising as it moves toward restoration efforts.

Donna Fisher and Ina Germain chaired the event. Many thanks go to the committees involved:

- Grounds - Paul Bishop
- Refreshments - Gail Girbach & Sharon Wheeler
- Decorations - Jan Lyons
- Invitations - Bene Fusilier



Mortgage Burning Program Participants

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### DEXTER SCHOOL CHILDREN TOURS

The Society thanks those who took time to share our local history with Dexter School District elementary grade students. Many children, parents and teachers tour our Museum and Gordon Hall. This not only enriches their lives but also is a wonderful way for us to introduce the history of Dexter to our younger generations - the future of the Historical Society and its holdings.

## Saying Good-bye to Pioneer Arts Fair

Yes, it's true. Even good things come to an end. It is with both gratitude and regret that we announce the end of the Pioneer Arts/Dexter Artisan Fair, the spring fundraiser for the Museum for over forty years.

The Pioneer Arts Fair had a wonderful run. It brought together artists and crafters who were keeping old-time techniques alive and provided opportunities to see real-time demonstrations. The fair itself changed over the years, of course, as it presented fewer pioneer crafts and competed with more activities for visitors.

Last year, in an effort to stem declining attendance and revenue, we converted the Pioneer Arts Fair into the Dexter Artisan Fair. While the new fair was successful in some respects, it fell short of the goals needed to continue.

If you attended one of the spring fairs or assisted as a committee member or volunteer, your help was greatly appreciated. It took many hours and many hands to sustain the event. It also took a lot of heart, namely from two devoted committee chairs, Alice Pastalan and Ginny Ryan. We thank them for their many years of steadfast support and look forward to future events in support of the Museum.

Artisan Fair Committee, Sandra Matsco, Chair

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## THANK YOU GINNY RYAN

The Dexter Area Historical Society would like to thank Virginia Ryan for her devotion, over many years, as chairman of the Dexter Pioneer Craft Fair and Dexter Pioneer Arts Fair. Your work with vendors and volunteers to put together a tremendous Fair each year will not be forgotten. The Museum and Historical Society have truly benefited from all your years of service.

### Dexter Area Museum Hours

The Museum is now open through early December. Hours are Friday and Saturday afternoons from 1 PM to 3 PM. Other times are available by arrangement. Call the Museum at 426-2519.

### MEMBERSHIP REMINDER

Annual Dues for Society Memberships are due each year by January 1st.

The Dexter Area Historical Society welcomes new members. Its many activities provide a place for all who are interested in local history.

For more information stop by the Museum or contact Membership Coordinator, Cindy Henes at cdhenes@gmail.com

### A HOLIDAY SHOPPING TIP

Coverlets woven with scenes of Dexter make great holiday gifts for young and old. Send one back to college with your favorite student. A book of Gordon Hall history by local author, James Parker, would be another good choice. Both, along with other unique items, are available for purchase in the Museum Gift Shop.



### Holiday Events Planned

This is an exciting season for the Historical Society and Heritage Guild. Early December coming events include:

- "Gather 'round the Hearth", an elegant Friday evening fundraiser.
- "Christmas at the Mansion", a holiday tradition.
- "If Tea Pots Could Talk", A Christmas tea.
- The Heritage guild annual Holiday Bazaar and Bake Sale.
- This same weekend, our friends at the Dexter Area Senior Center will hold their annual "Grandma's Attic" with gently used treasures.

*More information about these events is available in the fliers attached at the end of this newsletter.*

**DAHS MISSION STATEMENT**

“Honoring the lasting influence of our heritage; inspiring civic spirit with historic beauty and the power of place; connecting with the past to light the future at the crossroads of our communities.”  
December 6, 2007

**DAHS Board of Directors**

<i>President:</i> Bene Fusilier.....	426-8972
<i>Vice-President:</i> Jim Smith.....	426-8885
<i>Vice-President:</i> Bev Hill.....	426-4767
<i>Treasurer:</i> Julie Knight.....	426-4961
<i>Secretary:</i> Sharon Wheeler .....	878-3530
<i>Past-President:</i> Gil Campbell .....	476-6263
<i>Additional Directors</i>	
Neil Adams.....	426-8972
Stephanie Bell.....	426-3007
Paul Bishop.....	426-2571
Ina Germain.....	426-2079
Jon Russell.....	426-4347
Nancy Van Blaricum .....	426-3341
Sybil Van Houten.....	426-8928

**JIM WHEELER, WE LOVE YOU!**

All fall Jim Wheeler has taken care of the mowing and leaf removal at Gordon Hall. It is really quite an undertaking and the Society is grateful for your help and for generous sharing your time.

**What Might You Find at the Guild Holiday Bazaar and Bake Sale?**

An amazing variety of decorative baked goods made from trendy new recipes or heirloom recipes from the past will be on hand. Maybe you will find canned jams, salsa, or pickles. How about some quick breads, pies, cakes, yeast breads and rolls. Don't forget about candies and fresh baked cookies. Check out lovingly created decorations, baby gifts, household items, crocheted and knitted mittens, and slippers. You must drop by the bazaar and see for yourself!



**Holiday Bazaar Drawing Items from the Heritage Guild**

**TRY YOUR LUCK!** The Guild has announced items that will be part of its Annual Holiday Bazaar Drawing. Get your drawing tickets at the Bazaar.

There is a quilted Advent Calendar wall hanging. Guild members made the intricate hanging ornaments that enumerate the days.



There is a handmade Lakota Cactus quilt.



There is a felted Frosty Snowman decoration.



PLEASE CONTACT CAROL EMERICK AT 426-0477, OR CINDY HENES AT 426-0973, OR THE MUSEUM AT 426-2519 TO LEARN ABOUT DROP OFF FOR BAZAAR/BAKE SALE ITEMS.

### **Genealogical Assistance**

Genealogical assistance is available at the museum. Call ahead to be certain genealogist Nancy Van Blaricum is able to meet you. 426-2519

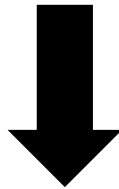
**Dexter Area Historical Society**  
**3443 Inverness Street**  
**Dexter, MI 48130**

### **Newsletter Submissions**

Send contributions for upcoming newsletters to  
Donna Fisher at: [donnadf@gmail.com](mailto:donnadf@gmail.com)



PLEASE CONTINUE READING THE ATTACHED INFORMATION





***Please join us on Friday, December 5<sup>th</sup>. Tickets are still available.***

*Christmas at the Mansion*

*Gather 'round the hearth at Gordon hall...*

*Friday, December 5, 2014*

*6:30 p.m.*

*Spirits and*

*Hearty Hors D'oeuvres*

*\$50 per person - 100 guest limit*

*More information or Reservation 734-426-2079*





**Saturday, December 6, 2014**

**Dexter Area Museum**

**3443 Inverness, Dexter MI**

**9 AM to 3 PM**

# *Christmas at the Mansion*

## **A Family Tradition at Gordon Hall**

**December 6, 10:00 am - 5:00 pm**

**Make and take home a country craft  
for Christmas**

**Rooms decorated for the holidays**

**Visit with Santa**



**Refreshments**

**Suggested donation: \$5 collected at the door**

**A Christmas Tea**  ***If Teapots Could Talk***

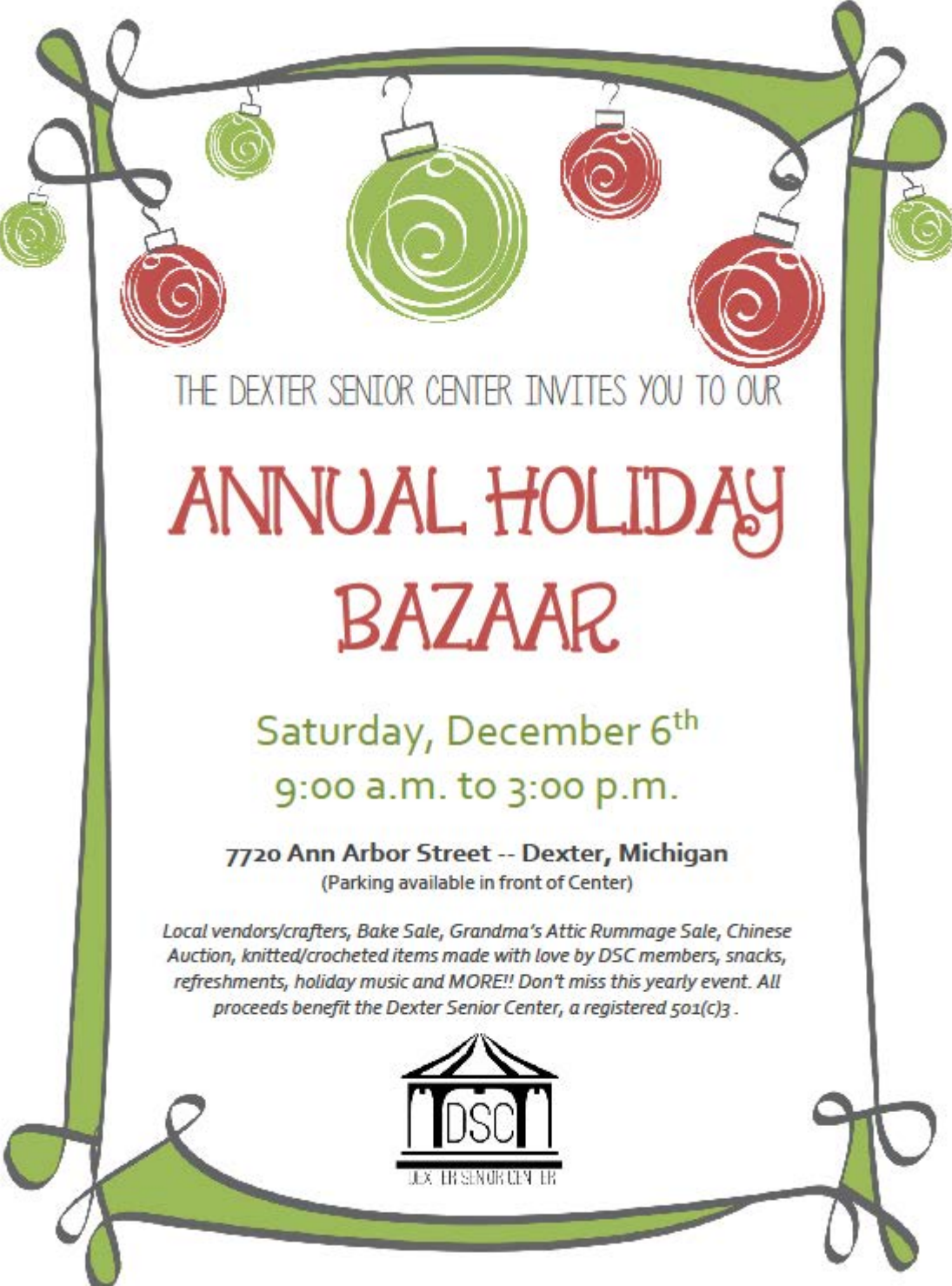
**December 7, 1:00 & 4:00 pm sittings**

**\$25 per person (limit 50 per seating)**

**To make your reservation call, 734-426-4767**

sponsored by Dexter Area Historical Society & Museum a 501(c)3 Organization • [dextermuseum.org](http://dextermuseum.org)

And from our friends at the Dexter Senior Center




THE DEXTER SENIOR CENTER INVITES YOU TO OUR

# ANNUAL HOLIDAY BAZAAR

Saturday, December 6<sup>th</sup>  
9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

**7720 Ann Arbor Street -- Dexter, Michigan**  
(Parking available in front of Center)

*Local vendors/crafters, Bake Sale, Grandma's Attic Rummage Sale, Chinese Auction, knitted/crocheted items made with love by DSC members, snacks, refreshments, holiday music and MORE!! Don't miss this yearly event. All proceeds benefit the Dexter Senior Center, a registered 501(c)3.*



DSC  
DEXTER SENIOR CENTER