



Dexter Area Historical Society

Estab. 1971

2025 Spring Newsletter

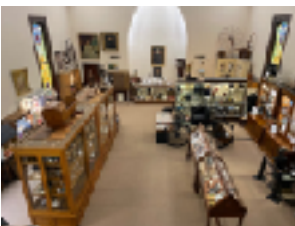


President's Note:

I am so excited to see spring coming – warmer days, tree buds, crocus and snowdrop blossoms! And the start of another exciting season of events and activities sharing Dexter's history. The month of May starts us out with a bang – check out our calendar. You are our community and you are so important to us. Reach out and tell us what you think about our programming and facilities. Tell us what you would like to see more of and less of. You are why we are here!

The Dexter Area Museum

The Dexter Area Museum opens to the public on Friday, May 2nd, and we will be open on



Fridays and Saturdays from 1 to 3pm through November. There is no charge and we welcome families interested in our history through the viewing of the many artifacts

donated to us. We are also available to help those doing research on their families, houses or other aspects of Dexter's History.

DuMouchelles Antique Appraisers

The Dexter Heritage Guild is hosting a day of antique appraisals with appraisers from *DuMouchelles'*. The date is Saturday, May 3rd from 9:30am to 3:30pm. The Museum is located at 3443 Inverness St., Dexter, 48130, the corner of Fourth and Inverness Streets, across from St. Andrews Church.

This is a wonderful opportunity to speak with an appraiser to learn about the item you have wondered about.



Each appointment is 15-minutes and includes a verbal appraisal for one to two items. There is a fee of \$10 per item appraised (ie: 2 items = \$20). Please pay with cash or by check.

To make an appointment, please call Sue S. at: 734-424-9998. When you

call, please leave your name, phone number and someone will return your call. The earlier you make an appointment, the better your choice of time.

On the day of the event, please call the Museum at 734-426-2519 with any questions or to check for any available openings.

All proceeds support the preservation and operation of the Dexter Area Museum.

Thank you for your support.



Spring is in the Air:



An Evening at the Museum

You are invited to an open house celebrating the opening of the Dexter Area Museum's Fifty-First season on Friday, May 2, from 6 to 9pm. Sample light appetizers and refreshing beverages, while you enjoy the Museum's current display:

“Their hands Were Never Idle: A Woman's World in the Nineteenth and Early Twentieth Centuries”

2025 Cemetery Tour

We are excited to announce that the Historical Society will team up with the Dexter District Library and the Forest Lawn Cemetery to hold a cemetery tour on Sunday May 18th from 2 to 4pm. This will be a walking tour of the historic cemetery on Grand Street. The free tours will include the graves of prominent Dexter residents such as United States Senator Royal Samuel Copeland, Dr. William C and Lillian Wylie, Calvin Turner Fillmore and many more.



The Characters from our 2010 Tour

Groups will be walking over uneven grounds to various grave sites. Group size will be limited to facilitate interaction with the characters who will be portraying the former Dexter residents.

Registration is required and registrants will be assigned a time to arrive for each tour. Space is limited. Participants will be in small groups and a guide will usher each group.

Please register on the Library's event calendar at: <https://dexter.lib.mi.us/events/> or call the Library at: 734-426-4477. The cemetery tour is free. Donations will be accepted for the Forest Lawn Cemetery Tree fund for those that wish to contribute.

Memorial Day Parade

Dexter's wonderful Memorial Day Parade takes place this year on Monday May 26 at 10am. This traditional parade, sponsored by the Dexter Rotary Club, is one of Dexter's defining small-town joys. Come march with DAHS and see the parade from a whole new perspective! Kids are welcome when accompanied by an adult. Sorry, no animals. To participate, please contact us at 734-476-5232 or dextermichhistory@gmail.com



2015 Memorial Day Parade

Guild Museum Yard Sale

Dear friends of the Museum,

Isn't it time to do some Spring cleaning?

The Museum Garage/Yard Sale will be on May 29 and 30th from 10:00am till 5:00pm at the Dexter Area Museum, 3443 Inverness, Dexter, MI 48130.



Clean and in good working order household items will be accepted on May 26th and 27th. No clothing please. All proceeds go towards up and coming Museum projects! Any questions, please call Sue B. at 734-426-4763.

Thank you!

Donations Needed for the Dexter Heritage Guild!

Donations of the following will be greatly appreciated, especially with the closing of Joann's!
Cotton fabric: printed, plain, and/or Christmas themed. **Thread:** all purpose and/or cotton thread, Colors: black, white, navy and beige. **Nice size baskets or tins** that could be used for gift baskets. **Small, 3&1/2" gourds**, 5-6 of them. We also need **birch branch/log** to make small bird houses. The branch about 2 to 2 1/2" in diameter. Each house is 3" tall. We don't have birch trees in this area, but people traveling north may find some. Please - **items need to be in good condition**

Thank you for all your support of the Dexter Heritage Guild!!

2025 Gordon Hall Raffle



2025 marks our 11th Annual Gordon Hall Raffle! It is a 50/50 raffle, meaning that the winner takes home half of what we make in ticket sales. Last year, we gave away just short of \$7000, and the prize can be as high as \$10,000 depending on how many tickets we sell. DAHS uses its half of the proceeds to support the maintenance and restoration of Gordon Hall. Tickets are \$10 each or \$40 for 5 tickets. The drawing is at the end of the Dexter Summer Festival on August 9 at 7 pm at the Gazebo at Monument Park in downtown Dexter. The fine print: The winner is responsible for all taxes. Tickets went on sale on March 12. You don't have to be present to win, but you do need to buy a ticket!

Tickets will be for sale at these times and places:

- Dexter Area Museum on Friday and Saturday from 1-3 pm starting May 2
- Visit the DAHS booth at the Dexter Summer Festival August 8 and 9
- Dexter Busch's on Saturday and Sunday from 10 am to noon – exact dates TBD. Watch our website for updates.
- Or you can contact us to request tickets by mail: dextermichhistory@gmail.com or 734-476-5232

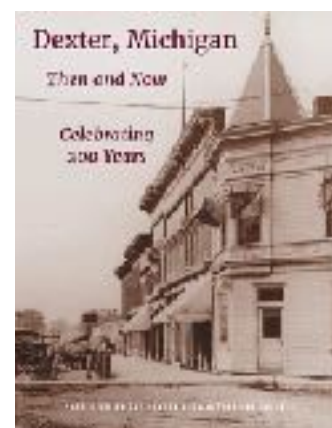
Gordon Hall Restoration Project for 2025

For our restoration project at Gordon Hall this year, we will do some needed work in the basement. Very soon, workers will begin improving and repairing our structural supports there – adding more steel I-beams and repairing existing joists that have cracked or deteriorated. They will also make repairs to the 182-year-old stone foundation. Our team of experts – Phoenix Contractors and Hopkins Burns Design Studio – will help make sure this work is done well and to the requirements set for historic rehabilitation. We are very fortunate to have partnered with Washtenaw County on a successful grant application from the Michigan State Historic Preservation Office that is partially funding this work. Our work to restore Gordon Hall proceeds at the pace of fundraising.

THANK YOU ALL!!

Bicentennial Book

Dexter, Michigan Then and Now Celebrating 200 Years highlights 200 years of Dexter's history. The book has been so popular we are on our 2nd printing. It sells for \$30 and is available at the Dexter Area Museum, 3Bird, and Hearts and Flowers in downtown Dexter. It also will be on sale during all DAHS special events. For more information, check our website, DexterHistory.org,





Dexter Area Historical Society 2025 Calendar

- Mar 8 Gordon Hall Raffle ticket sales begin - Chelsea Expo
- May 2 Museum opens for the season
- May 2 Museum Opening Celebration (evening)
- May 3 Antique Appraisals with DuMouchelle's
- May 18 Forest Lawn Cemetery Tour
- May 26 Memorial Day Parade 10 am
- May 29-30 Museum Yard Sale
- August 8-9 Dexter Summer Festival
- August 9 Gordon Hall Raffle Drawing
- August 27 Katharine Dexter McCormick's 150th birthday
- Sept 12 Dancing Under the Stars with Billy Mack
- Sept 13 Gordon Hall Days
- Sept 13 Gordon Hall Tea and Period Fashion Show
- Sept 21 Forest Lawn Cemetery Tour
- TBD DAHS Annual Meeting
- November 1 Gordon Hall Challenge Grant begins
- November 29 Museum closed for the season
- December 5 Christmas at the Mansion Gala
- December 6 Christmas at the Mansion
- December 6 Dexter Heritage Guild Holiday Bazaar at the Museum
- December 7 Christmas Tea at Gordon Hall
- December 13 Second Chance Holiday Bazaar at the Museum



See our website for up-to-date information on all these events

Business Members

The Dexter Area Historical Society began a campaign to bring local Dexter businesses into the membership of the 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. If you are interested in joining us, please contact us at DexterMichHistory@gmail.com. We are happy to have the following as DAHS Businesses:

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
Mike Fitzpatrick of Edward Jones
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
Caryl Burke
Vice-President
Beverly Hill
Secretary
Ina Germain
Treasurer
Jan Weaver

DIRECTORS:

Carol Jones
Shawn Pierrel
Kelsey Tingley
Nancy Van Blaricum
Gary Vander Haagan
Sharon Wheeler

CONTACT INFORMATION:

NEWSLETTER - Nancy J. Van Blaricum DexMuseum@aol.com
WEBMASTER - Jan Weaver weaver9113@gmail.com
GORDON HALL SPECIAL EVENTS - Bene Fusilier: 734-426-8972
HERITAGE GUILD - Jacque' Merrow jalyne65@gmail.com
MUSEUM DIRECTOR - Nina Rackham: NDRackham@aol.com
GORDON HALL DIRECTOR - Bev Hill: BeverlyHill6@gmail.com

FACILITIES:

DEXTER AREA MUSEUM - 3443 Inverness, Dexter, MI 48130
GORDON HALL - 8311 Island Lake Rd., Dexter, MI 48130

PHONE - (734) 426-2519. WEBSITE: DexterHistory.org EMAIL: DexterMichHistory@gmail.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

\$_____ Extra gift for Museum

\$_____ Extra gift for Gordon Hall

\$_____ **TOTAL**

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

Mail to:

Dexter Area Historical Society
3443 Inverness Street
Dexter, MI 48130

Contact:

Phone: 734.426.2519
Email: DexterMichHistory@gmail.com
Website: DexterHistory.org
Find us on Facebook @dexterhistory
Dexter Area Historical Society

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