



OVERVIEW

with 2016 Highlights

Who?

**Community members
came together in 1974**

as a volunteer-run, non-profit 501 (c) 3 organization.

Supported by donations only!

Why?

HISTORY MATTERS!

Knowing about our past enriches our quality of living!

Mission

**GWBHS is a non-profit organization
that collects, preserves, researches, and stimulates
public interest in the history of
Keego Harbor, Orchard Lake,
Sylvan Lake and West Bloomfield.**

How, What, Where & When ?

www.gwbhs.org is a robust website with
6,000 archives available 24/7

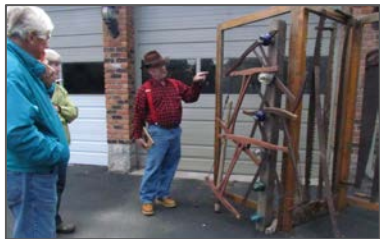


Open Houses Monthly

Orchard Lake Museum

3951 Orchard Lake Road, at Lone Pine
2nd Sundays, 1-4 p.m.

- Local history exhibits
- Hands-on activities
- Themes



**Research opportunities
are available by appointment.**



2016: 10 open house with themes. 330 attend.



134 people attend in March for the 40th anniversary of the West Bloomfield Tornado. Community members brought items to share!



Lake Improvement Ass.
(Pleasant) 75th anniversary



Hands-on exhibit & activities



Edible Plants

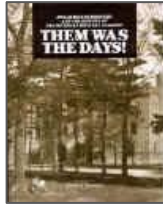
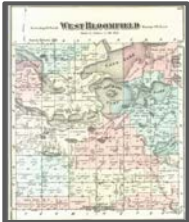
Do you have items to share sometime?

Museum Store

Maps

Books about the area

Reproduced photos
(see gwbhs.org)



New in 2015: West Bloomfield
& the Tri-Cities by Ron Gay



Public Apple Island Tours Annually

250-500 attend on the 3rd May weekend. See gwbhs.org/apple-island-tours

2016: Farm theme, semi-self guided, new 294 - 1 day attendance high



11-13 events annually

350-450 attend: Library presentations, Orchard Lake Nature Sanctuary walks, Pine Lake cemetery tours & other events



3 Group Programs

- Apple Island Tours, 250-500 West Bloomfield Schools
2nd grade students & others
- Museum Tours, 75-160 Bloomfield Hills Schools
kindergarteners
- GWBHS overview & area history presentation

2016

- **510 attendance**
- **3 presentations to community groups**
Farmington Historical, Countryside, GWBCC



Communications & Community Exhibits

3 newsletters yearly, available at civic blgds.

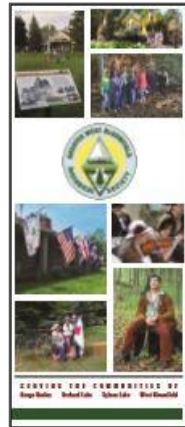
Municipal & Library exhibit cases

Brochure, event postcard

Email, social media & online listing sites



West Bloomfield Library



West Bloomfield Town Hall

Community Involvement frequently

Articles: Orchard Lake Living & West Bloomfield TODAY publication, Beacon's Looking Back monthly

Participate: Sylvan Lake Ice cream social & WBSD Family Fun Night

Support: GWB Michigan Week Breakfast

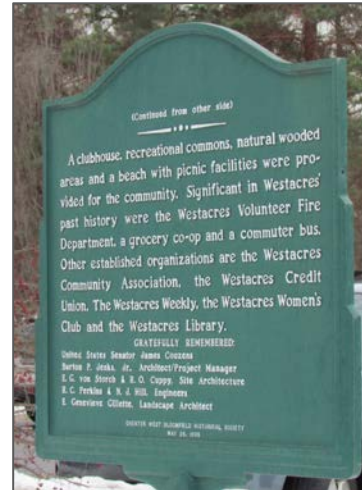
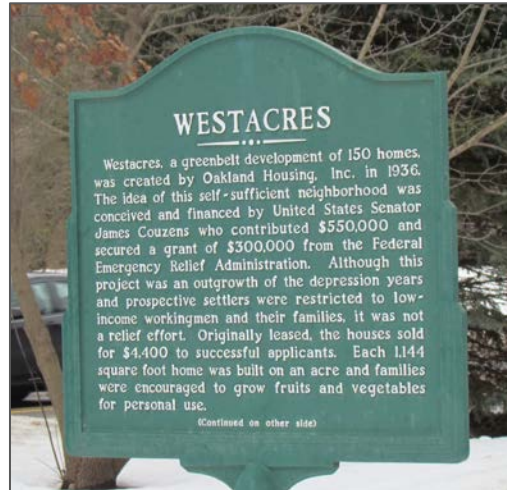


Early Special Projects

Installed historical markers

Spoke out on issues

(Sale of Orchard Lake Nature Sanctuary & renaming of Green School)



Research & Funds Support Outdoor Wayside Exhibits

Over 20 signs erected throughout the community



Dedication of
West Bloomfield Parks & Recreation
Wayside exhibits, 2014



. Unveiling of GWBHS
Wayside exhibit, 2014

Sponsored Archaeology Digs

2016: historic Apple Island designation application submission. Learn application needs additional support.



Digs: Madonna University Dr. Ted Gish 2007

Madonna University, WBSD, GWBHS, Dr. David Brose 2008

Western Michigan University Dr. Louise Wurst 2013 & 2014

Projects:

Western Michigan University MA candidate Skylar Bauer prepared 108 page evaluation & application, 2015

University of the Americas Ph.D. candidate Mark Hock plans his Apple Island dissertation project fieldwork , 2017

Our School History

Developed with WBSD, school history is available online at gwbhs.org



2016:

- Permanent exhibit panels installed in each WBSD building
- Library uses panels with Japanese sister city visitors
- Traveling panels exhibited at West Bloomfield town hall and library, Orchard Lake Mall, WBSD building



Who?

Volunteers and volunteer leaders



2016 Finance Committee



2016 Committee Volunteers



Linda Kidd - Shelved Items Librarian

Eric Weigand & Linda Kidd - Library case

Ron Montgomery – Outdoor sign wording

Paul Mellerowicz – Building maintenance

Don Newman – Group Program Coordinator

Barb Krause - GWBCC Senior Resource Group

Jim Bayson & John Hartwig – Finance Committee

Anita Pinson - Michigan Week Award Breakfast Committee

Christian Sonnevile – Finance Committee & Fundraising Chair

DuAnne Sonnveile - Orchard Lake Living writer, GWBHS editing

Mary Dunckley - Apple Island Logistics, Fundraising, Material Distribution

Susan Kay Williams, Hannah Dagg, Gina Gregory, DuAnne Sonnevile - Our School History editing

Take newsletters to board meetings:

Sue Williams - Keego Harbor , Jennifer Oram - Orchard Lake

Helen Jane Peters - Sylvan Lake, Larry Weisman - West Bloomfield

DuAnne Sonnevile - WBSD, Dan Krause - CCTV



2016 Board Members & support



2016 Board Members

Back L - R: Treasurer Susan Kay Williams, Editor Hannah Dagg,
Recording Secretary Diane Eanes, Corresponding Secretary
Carol Fink

Front L-R: President Gina Gregory, Historian Helen Jane Peters



Karen Hughe
Communication Coordinator

Statistics

COMMUNICATIONS	2013	2014	2015	2016
Gwbhs.org hits	7,823	10,146 (Homes Tour)	8,929	10,092
Geocaching Museum visit total	186	219	264	300
Eblasts sent			52	61
contact list			422	522
Facebook posts per month	6	6	20	20+
page “likes”		172	254	352
highest post reach			513	1,600
Demographics women			71%	69%
largest age group			23% ages 45-54	56% age 35-54

Memberships

Membership increased from
61 in 2006 to
134 in 2016
*(highest membership
without perks)*

Attendance Records

(2016 highest attendance in recent memory)	2016	43 year total
Total Attendance	1680	33,660
Apple Island Tours	452	11,182
Open Houses	330	3,600
Events	384	7,034
Apple Island Student Groups	350	6,900
Museum Visits & Other programs	100	2,400
2,400 at early large group programs	0	

Receive Awards

Michigan Week Breakfast & Municipal Recognitions



All Lifetime Volunteer Leadership Award except as noted: Doris Bonneville, Bessie Weatherston 1999, Volunteer Service Award Nancy & Frank Salo 2006; Cara Kazanowski 2007, Helen Jane Peters 2009, Dave & Betty Bradbury 2010, Honor Roll Richard “Buzz” Brown 2013, Gina Gregory 2015, Christy Forhan & Helen McAllister 2016.



Community Achievement Award:
GWBHS 1990, 2014;
Motorcities Heritage Wayside Exhibits, 2014



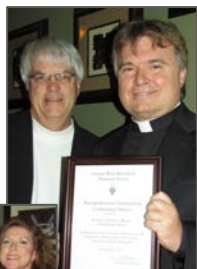
GWBHS 40th Anniversary Proclamation from
City of Orchard Lake Mayor Jacqueline Beach & GWBHS board members
(West Bloomfield Proclamation not shown)

Give recognition (2011 - 2015)



Distinguished Service Award

2011 Helen Jane Peters, 2012 Buzz Brown & Sebrina Borth, 2013 Charles Martinez, 2014 City of Orchard Lake council members, 2015 William McIsaac



Outstanding Community Service Award

2011: Countryside Improvement Association on 100 anniversary, Westsacres on 75 anniversary, Father Whalen, Don & Iris Green.

2012: West Bloomfield Parks & Recreation (West Bloomfield Library not shown)



Merit Award

2014 Angela Cini, Paul Mellerowicz
(Judy Kerr & Hannah Daggs not shown)
2015 Melissa Gilbert, Anita Pinson, DuAnne Sonnevill

2016 GWBHS Gives volunteer recognition



Merit Award to Christian Sonnevile



Distinguished Service Award to Christy Forhan

Remembering volunteers we lost this year

Jerry Bonneville

L to R: Helen McAllister & Betty Bradbury



How? Only with a small budget supported by

Memberships

Donations

Grants

Civic partners

Retail Support



Bellacinos, Sylvan Lake
Galaxy Graphics
Great Harvest Bread Co., Commerce

Frances Gadd
Bequest 2011

Apple Island archaeology project grants from
Saint Frances Foundation of Michigan
2007, 2013, 2014



2016 new community support

Fundraising: Website & Apple Island Tours sponsorships efforts successful.

Apple Island Sponsor: Kristen's Essential Oils

Retail supporters: Jerry's Salon, Nectars & Vintage Wine Shoppe,
Orchard Lake Auto Repair at Pontiac Trail, Shell Oil at Pontiac Trail

Begin Kroger Community Rewards

Begin AmazonSmile reward program



GWBHS, a resource for:

Civic Center TV15 ([youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com)) *Splash* segments:

The Ghost Walk (Apple Island “ghost walk”, Catherine Cangany)

There's No Place Like Home (Ray Dahlgren interview)

Library: Translate Our School History panels for Japanese sister city visitors

2016 new development

Improve Community Communication:

Created business cards & sticker

Created tribute donation option

Joined Greater West Bloomfield Chamber of Commerce: Host Mix & Mingle event,
Attend Senior Resource Group meetings, and gave Lunch & Learn presentation.

GWBHS local history featured on Rotary placemat

GWBHS brochure sent with WBSD mailing to 700 new residences

Updated Orchard Lake City campus outdoor sign to include GWBHS



2016 new development



Improve museum: office functionality, computer rebuilt

**New: literature holder, air conditioner, radiator grates, storage shelves,
guest museum sign in & information area**

High school student help, college student report

2016 new development

First volunteer Appreciation Reception

First time to clean Apple Island features



2017 new development

Finances

Restaurant fundraisers

Support Opportunities flyer

First Italian Dinner fundraiser

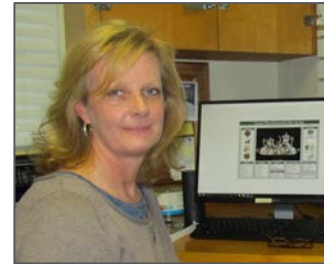
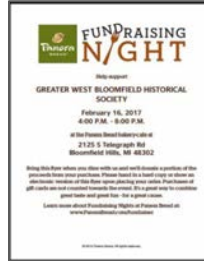
GWBCC partners with first GWBHS Treasurers in the Trunk Sale

Exploratory Meetings on GWBHS' future

Margie Wade hired (10 hrs. monthly) as a Lead Archivist to catalog digital collection.

Through Betty Bradbury donations, text development on area history & legends.

New volunteers: Donna Mallonen (grant writing), Tom Bjorklund



What's needed?

More support at all levels to continue successfully!

Volunteers in all areas

Memberships, Sponsorships and Financial Support

Join us!



**We need your support
so GWBHS is vibrant and sustainable -
because our local
HISTORY MATTERS!**

**Thank you
for your attention!**



