



History Matters

Spring 2017

Keego Harbor • Orchard Lake • Sylvan Lake • West Bloomfield



Apple Island Tours

Saturday, May 20 & Sunday, May 21

Join us for this once annual chance for the public to tour Apple Island. Sign up at the museum to take a pontoon boat ride across Orchard Lake to Apple Island for a self-paced tour. Volunteer docents and presenters provide commentary and answer questions at select locations along the path.

Free Activities at Orchard Lake Museum (all ages)



HANDS-ON ACTIVITIES

cross-cut saw, farm chores, outdoor games

PRESENTERS

Michigan Society of Professional Surveyors Reenactment Group, early truck, 1920s camping exhibit, 1815-2015 Surveying Michigan group, 4 Corners history project (John Marshall)

Thank you to our 2017 Sponsors

bugs Beddow - Main Sponsor

Crispelli's (West Bloomfield)
Gino's Restaurant (Keego Harbor)
HealthQuest (West Bloomfield)
Love Nails (Orchard Lake)
MarioMax Salon (West Bloomfield)

Mezza Mediterranean Grille (Orchard Lake)
Orchard Lake Animal Hospital (West Bloomfield)
Petite Gardens (Sylvan Lake)
Trzos Heating & Cooling (Keego Harbor)
Uptown Parthenon (West Bloomfield)

Apple Island Tours

LOCATION

3951 Orchard Lake Road

DATE & TIME

Saturday, May 20 & Sunday, May 21

- Tours depart between 10 am and 3:30 pm
- No reservations
- Tour takes 2.5-3 hours

PRICE

Adult - \$15 ticket donation
Children (5-12) - \$10 ticket donation
(no kids under 5)

More information and Tour Tips at
gwbhs.org/apple-island-tours



From the Desk of President Gina Gregory...

It isn't very often that something of a historic nature happens close to home, but this was my recent experience! Betty Jean Murray, owner of a home on a 34 acre parcel near Walnut Lake and Drake Roads, recently granted a conservation easement to the Six Rivers Land Conservancy.

The conservation easement insures the property shall forever remain natural while maintaining a building envelope for the home and driveway. The property is still privately owned; the title can be transferred and a new home can be built replacing the current home in the building envelope.

As a neighbor, the property conservation easement is significant to me, because I will enjoy walking by and seeing this natural property as long as I live close by. As a West Bloomfield resident, I appreciate this easement donation as it adds to the number of preserved natural areas in West Bloomfield. As a member of Greater West Bloomfield Historical Society, I appreciate the easement donation as this group was formed



in part to appreciate nature. From 1974-1978, this organization was called the Orchard Lake Scenic and Historical Society to reflect these values. This gift truly enhances the quality of living in the greater West Bloomfield area!

Give Your Time to GWBHS

Are you looking for volunteer opportunities that are flexible and interesting? Do you have skills or experience that you would like to share with GWBHS? New volunteers are always welcome!

Committees include:

- Events
- Fundraising
- Digital archives
- Research & writing
- Museum exhibits
- Museum - maintenance of building & gardens
- Communications & marketing

Volunteer Opportunities Meeting

Saturday, June 10, 10 a.m.

Orchard Lake Museum, 3951 Orchard Lake Road

Volunteer options range from one-time to short-term projects to ongoing commitments. Attend the June 10 meeting or email volunteer@gwbhs.org for more information.

Let Us Show Our Appreciation

Join us on Wednesday, July 12 from 6-8 p.m. at Orchard Lake Museum (3951 Orchard Lake Road) for the second annual Appreciation Reception to celebrate our members, supporters, and volunteers.

Enjoy refreshments and multiple prize drawings (one prize ticket is complimentary). RSVP by July 10 to rsvp@gwbhs.org or 248.518.0871.



MAY - DECEMBER

Greater West Bloomfield Historical Society hosts and sponsors programs covering a wide variety of local history topics throughout the year. Visit gwbhs.org for more information and final event details.



Apple Island Docent Training

Wednesday, May 17, 7 p.m., Orchard Lake Museum, 3951 Orchard Lake Road
Would you like to lead a tour on Apple Island or guide a 2nd grade class through the Orchard Lake Museum? Come see what it's all about. RSVP by Tuesday, May 16 to Gina 248.622.7570. No charge.

Apple Island Tours

Saturday, May 20 & Sunday, May 21, 10 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Orchard Lake Museum, 3951 Orchard Lake Rd
 Self-paced guided tours of Apple Island. First come, first served. No reservations.
 3:30 p.m. is last departure. \$15 adult ticket donation, \$10 child 5-12 years ticket
 donation (no kids under 5).

Join the Memorial Day Parade(s)

Monday, May 29, 9 a.m. - noon, Keego Harbor and Sylvan Lake
Walk or bike in the Monday Memorial Day parades! Or bring your vintage car! To participate contact DuAnne, 248.683.1542 or duannesonneville@hotmail.com.

National Trails Day Walk

Saturday, June 3, 8:30 - 11 a.m., Walnut Lake Road entrance of WB Trail
Celebrate National Trails Day by walking the West Bloomfield Trail's scenic and historic rail-to-trail path beginning at the Walnut Lake Rd. entrance. Step off the trail to the Orchard Lake Museum for refreshments. See Parks and Recreation Brochure for more information. Sponsored with West Bloomfield Parks & Recreation. No charge.

Volunteer Opportunities Meeting

Saturday, June 10, 10 a.m., Orchard Lake Museum, 3951 Orchard Lake Road
Are you looking for flexible, interesting volunteer opportunities? Come learn our needs -- from one-time to long-term commitments. No charge.

Monthly Open Houses at Orchard Lake Museum

3951 Orchard Lake Road
Enjoy temporary and permanent exhibits interpreting area history and culture. Hands on activities and monthly themes. No charge.

Second Sundays, 1-4 p.m.

May 20 & 21	Apple Island Tours
June 11	Lake Archaeology
July 9	Michigan Logging
August 13	Vintage Cars
September 10	Quilts
October 8	Treasures in the Trunk Sale
November 12	WWII Whitfield letters
December 10	Nutcrackers

Appreciation Reception

Wednesday, July 12, 6 - 8 p.m., Orchard Lake Museum, 3951 Orchard Lake Road
Members, supporters, & volunteers are invited for refreshments to this GWBHS appreciation reception. Complimentary drawing ticket included for choice of multiple prizes. RSVP by July 10 to rsvp@gwbhs.org or 248.518.0871.

Aromatherapy History

Wednesday, September 27, 7 p.m.
WB Library Main Meeting Room, 4600 Walnut Lake Road
Kirsten Douglass shares the history of essential oil use and their many benefits.
Sponsored with West Bloomfield Township Library. No charge.

Treasures in the Trunk Sale

Sunday, October 8, 1-4 p.m., Orchard Lake Museum, 3951 Orchard Lake Road
Trunk Sale in the museum parking lot. GWBHS fundraiser. To rent space contact Sue, sue@gwbhs.org or 248.757. 2451.

Autumn Nature Walk

Sunday, October 15, 2-3 p.m.
Orchard Lake Nature Sanctuary, 4700 Pontiac Trail
Join Naturalist Carol Fink for a guided tour. Walk through rolling terrain and explore seasonal autumn beauty. Sponsored with the Orchard Lake Nature Sanctuary. No charge.

Italian Evening

Wednesday, October 18, 6 p.m.
Gino's Restaurant side room, 1999 Cass Lake Road

Enjoy Gino Santia's personally prepared gourmet Italian dinner with homemade wine. Travelogues. Limited seating for 40 with \$50 donation tickets available at gwbhs.org/events. Proceeds support GWBHS.



Treasures in the Trunk Sale & Open House

Sunday, October 8, 1-4 p.m.
Orchard Lake Museum, 3951 Orchard Lake Road
Come one, come all to the GWBHS Trash to Treasures Trunk Sale Fundraiser! Find treasures for you and your family, while supporting local area history.

Presented by GWBHS and the Greater West Bloomfield Chamber of Commerce

Keego Harbor • Orchard Lake • Sylvan Lake • West Bloomfield

WWW.GWBHS.ORG

ORCHARD LAKE MUSEUM • 3951 Orchard Lake Road • Orchard Lake, MI 48323 • 248.757.2451

Open House every second Sunday of the month • 1-4 p.m. Research opportunities by appointment.
Greater West Bloomfield Historical Society is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.



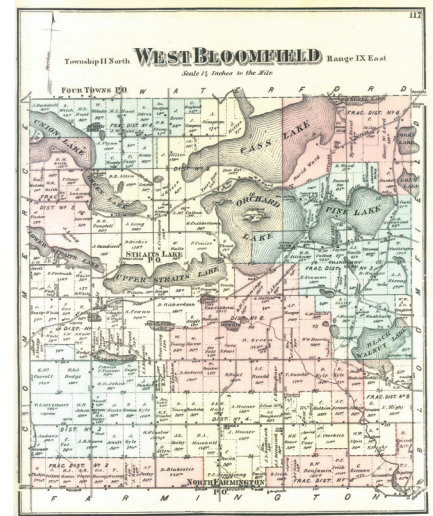
Orchard Lake Museum News

New Items at the Museum Store

Visit us during Apple Island Tours (May 20-21) to purchase new Apple Island themed gifts or GWBHS baseball caps! Quantities are limited.

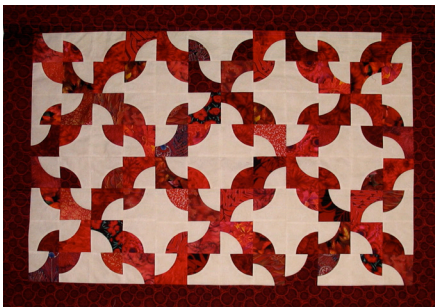
Other items available for purchase in the Museum Store include books, postcards, photographic prints, and printed maps.

This 1872 map of West Bloomfield is one of the items available. The print has different colored sections that indicate the 13 school districts students attended at that time. Reproduced as 11"x17", this colored map reveals lots, buildings, and owners' names of the time, \$10.



Guest Exhibit: Quilts

A display of quilts will be in the guest exhibit area at Orchard Lake Museum until September. Quilter Judith Schmidt will present at the September 10 open house from 1-4 p.m.



Share Your Collection

If you have a collection of historic items that you would like to share, we would love to talk to you about it. The public can share collections at an Open House or as a temporary museum exhibit. Please contact Sue Williams at sue@gwbhs.org.

Have something to donate?

If you own something related to area history that you would like to donate to the GWBHS collection, bring it to an Open House or contact us at contact@gwbhs.org or 248.757.2451. We also encourage you to share your memories and digital photos via email to archives@gwbhs.org.

Thank You

GWBHS could not do so much good work without the help of our wonderful volunteers. Thank you to those who have recently given their time and helped out.

Annual Meeting

Ron Campbell, Sue Grifor, Sue Murphy

History of the 1967 Detroit Rebellion

Josephine Wu, Karen Pushie, Linda Kidd, Shelby Zenker

Spring Nature Walk

Carol Fink, Leslie Clark, Mary Anne Lisac

Iraq to West Bloomfield

Carol Fink, Diane Eanes, Sue Williams

Farmington Junction: A Trolley History

Diane Eanes, Gina Gregory, Tom Bjorklund

200th Survey Stake

Carol Fink, John Marshall, Helen Jane Peters, Jack Owens, Jim Smith, Eric Wiegand

Open House Speakers

Ron Hansen, Gina Gregory, Helen Jane Peters, Sue Williams

Open House Hosts

Diane Eanes, Gina Gregory, Karen Pushie, Tom Bjorklund

Museum Clean-up

Chris Nyquist, Gina Gregory, Hayden Crof, Jenny Wiener, Linda Kidd, Shelby Zenker

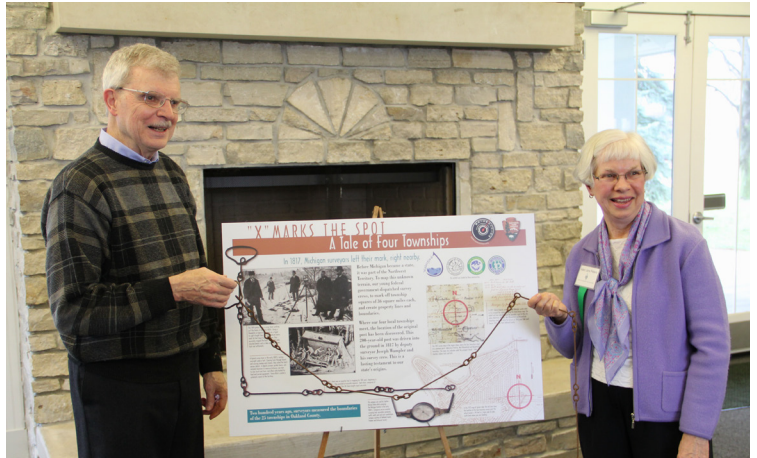
4 Corners: Putting Greater West Bloomfield On the Map

Marking 200 Years

More than 50 people gathered at Sylvan Lake Community Center on Tuesday, April 4, 2017 to mark the 200th anniversary of the placement of a surveying stake at the place where four municipalities meet: Bloomfield Township, Pontiac, Waterford Township, and West Bloomfield Township.

Joseph Wampler and a crew of surveyors marked the boundaries of Bloomfield Township in March and April 1817. On April 4, 1817, he noted in his field book that his crew set a marker post at the 4 corners location.

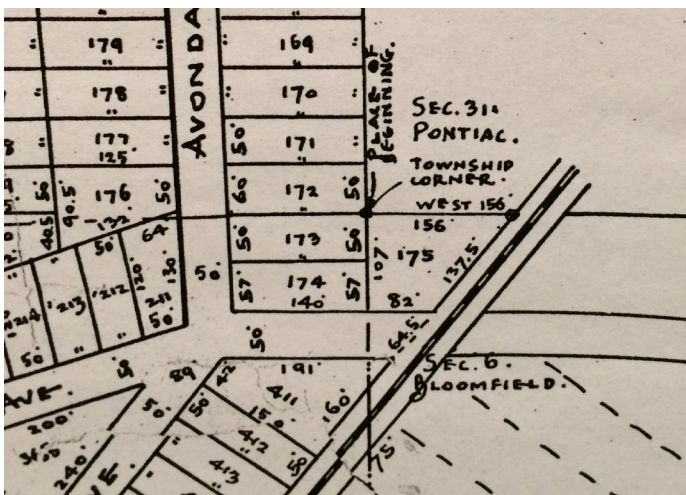
A new Wayside sign will soon commemorate the 1817 surveying expedition that mapped much of the area. The sign will be placed near Stone Soap Company on Pontiac Drive.



John Marshall and Helen Jane Peters hold a Gunter's chain in front of the artwork for the new Wayside sign.

Thank you to the following for their contributions to this project:

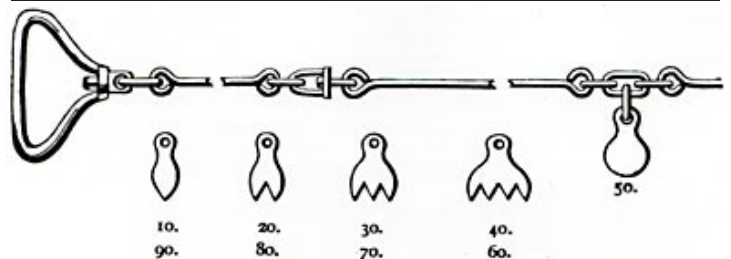
- Helen Jane Peters - coordinating, research
- John Marshall - research
- Joe Hines - sign layout
- Eric Wiegand - editing & photography
- Stone Soap Company - permitting the sign on their property
- Oakland County Pioneer & Historical Society – loan of compass for photo
- Waterloo Museum – loan of Gunter's chain
- Pontiac and Bloomfield, Waterford, and West Bloomfield Townships - financial support



LOOKING A LITTLE CLOSER GWBHS Board Member and Historian Helen Jane Peters is an expert on Sylvan Lake history. When she looked at one of the vintage maps of the city recently, she noticed something she had not seen before. Near where Pontiac Avenue meets Avondale Drive, there were the words "TOWNSHIP CORNER" with a small arrow. She discovered that the marker was still in the ground and that it was connected to the story of the 1817 expedition.

Gunter's Chain

200 years ago, surveyors would have used a measurement device called a Gunter's chain. A Gunter's chain is made of 100 links and is 66 feet long. Surveying this wet and rustic part of Oakland County would have been a tough job. In order to record the extensive data that was required, a team of workers was needed to hold the chain, clear the brush and to fashion wooden markers from felled trees. The chain was stretched out 80 times to measure a single mile.





Orchard Lake Museum
Phone 248.757.2451
3951 Orchard Lake Road
Orchard Lake MI 48323

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Christian Sonnevile	Development/Fundraising
Margie Wade	Lead Archivist

GWBS Mission Statement

The Greater West Bloomfield Historical Society is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization that collects, preserves, researches and stimulates public interest in the history of Keego Harbor, Orchard Lake, Sylvan Lake and West Bloomfield.

GWBS Tribute Donations

Make a donation in honor of someone with a love for local history. www.gwbhs.org/donate



Membership & Donation Form

Membership Year: Jan. 1 to Dec. 31 ☐ New Member ☐ Renewal

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____ Phone _____

- ☐ I prefer to receive my newsletter by email link.
☐ Please contact me about volunteering with GWBHS.

Please make checks payable to GWBHS. Credit card payments are accepted through PayPal at gwbhs.org.

GWBS is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Donations are tax deductible according to IRS regulations.

Membership includes access to Time Travelers reciprocal membership network

Mail to: GWBHS 3951 Orchard Lake Road Orchard Lake, MI 48323.

- | | |
|--|-------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual | \$20 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family | \$40 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Premier | \$50 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Patron/Business | \$100 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Life | \$600 |

Donation \$ _____
(in honor of _____)

Total Amount \$ _____