



OVERVIEW

with 2017 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.**

What, Where, When & How?

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



2017: website archives now searchable through PastPerfect - online collections database



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
- Monthly special exhibit or theme

Research opportunities
are available by
appointment.



2017: 10 open house themes. 260 attend



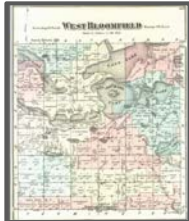
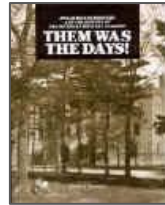
50 people attended the August
Vintage Car open house



Museum Store

Local history books, maps, and other items are available at the Museum. Some items are available at other locations.

**2017: Orchard Lake tile,
Apple Island ornament,
GWBHS baseball hat**



11-13 events annually

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



2017: 16 events, 420 attend



1967 Rebellion presentation saw overflow attendance

Public Apple Island Tours Annually

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

**2017: Surveying theme with MI Society of Professional Surveyors
Reenactment Group. Poor weather prompts changes for 2018.**



3 Group Programs

- Apple Island Tours, 250-500 West Bloomfield Schools
2nd grade students & others
- Museum Tours, 75-100 Bloomfield Hills Schools
Kindergarteners, other groups
- GWBHS overview & area history presentation

2017: 540 attend

- **Museum tour: Red hat group**
- **Community presentation: Bloomfield Seniors**



Guest Attendance

	2016	2017	43 year total
Total Attendance	1680	1,302	34,960
Apple Island Tours	452	110	11,292
Open Houses	330	260	3,860
Events	384	420	7,504
Apple Island Student Groups	350	405	7,305
Museum Visits & Other programs	100	105	2,505

Community Communications

3 newsletters yearly, available at civic bldgs.

Brochure, event postcard

Email, social media & online listing sites

UPCOMING events

Archaeology for Teens
Saturday, July 11, 10-12, Aug. 5, 1-4 p.m., Orchard Lake Museum, 1111 Orchard Lake Road
Learn about the science of archaeology through hands-on activities, projects, and games. No cost. All ages welcome. All archaeological and earth history topics. Registration required by July 1. www.gwbhs.org/teens

Archaeology for Adults
Saturday, August 21, 10-12, 1-4 p.m., West Bloomfield Museum, 1111 Orchard Lake Road
Learn about the science of archaeology through hands-on activities, projects, and games. No cost. All ages welcome. All archaeological and earth history topics. Registration required by July 1. www.gwbhs.org/adults

Vintage Techiques
Saturday, September 11, 1-4 p.m., West Bloomfield Museum, 1111 Orchard Lake Road
The Open House of the organization features a variety of activities, including hands-on projects, games, and games. No cost. All ages welcome. All archaeological and earth history topics. Registration required by July 1. www.gwbhs.org/vintage

COMMUNITY PARTNERS: complete, The Harold Green School, The Harold Green School

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES
Greater West Bloomfield Historical Society

Training provided
Contact volunteer@gwbhs.org or

Committees

- Archives
- Development/fundraising
- Event planning
- Materials distribution
- Membership
- Museum & Municipal Exhibits
- Museum gardens
- Newsletter
- Publicity
- Researcher
- Volunteer coordinator
- Storage maintenance
- Writing

Docents

Apple Island: 2nd grade groups and 4000 Apple Island Tours, the 3rd May weekend
Museum: 2nd grade groups
Orchard Lake Museum Open Houses, on 2nd Sunday, 1-4 p.m.

Event Volunteers
Annual Apple Island Tours
Events



HISTORY MATTERS
Spring 2016 Knappton Harbor • Orchard Lake • Spring Lake • West Bloomfield

Apple Island Tours to Highlight Farming Activities in May

The annual Apple Island Tours will be the weekend of May 21 - 22 from 11am - 5pm, starting from Orchard Lake Museum. In addition to the island tour (ages 5+), activities will be available on the grounds of the museum, including exhibits and activities focused on early farming. Children of all ages can try their hand at farm chores, including using a plow, chopping wheat, crosscut saw, and plow and listening to a book about West Bloomfield apple farmers hourly. Presenters will share about a wide range of topics, including spinning, early outdoor motion, and archaeology. See gwbhs.org/apple-island-tours for additional details.

We are seeking sponsors for this event. Sponsorships start as low as \$25 for an Apple Sponsor, which includes having your name listed on the event's web page and in the newsletter. More details about sponsorships are available at gwbhs.org/sponsorships.

Tour goes take a portion boat ride to Apple Island for the 2.5 hour trip.

West Bloomfield Schools and GWBHS Celebrate the Unveiling of School Panels

Our School History is an ongoing project of GWBHS to document the history of area schools. More than three years ago, GWBHS researchers Sue Williams, Helen Jane Peters, and others began to collect information and document the history of schools in the area. Christy Forhan led the effort to develop and design historical information panels that will be displayed at each of West Bloomfield School District's schools.

An event to unveil the panels was held at West Bloomfield Township Library on Wednesday, March 30.

www.gwbhs.org

APRIL 19th 19th Dr. David H. (GWBHS President) Chris Gregory, Jack (Dr. Ellen Brownlee, Randi Saxon, Christy Forhan, Sue Williams, Christine Brownlee, Helen Jane Peters, Library Director Cass Bailey

APRIL 19th Community members unveil the panels.

Community Exhibits & Coverage

Library 2017: 5 exhibits



Municipal exhibits at
West Bloomfield & Orchard Lake bldgs.

Splash, CCTV video show segments
2017 (youtube.com): Ice Harvesting in West
Bloomfield, Nutcracker Theme (The Splash Episode 75,
December 18, 2017)



Community Involvement frequently

2017 Articles: 2 West Bloomfield TODAY publication & 10 Looking Back is Beacon newspaper

2017 Participate: Orchard Lake Fine Art Show, Memorial Day Parade, MI Week Breakfast



Communcination & Membership

COMMUNICATIONS	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Gwbhs.org hits	7,823	10,146 (Homes Tour)	8,929	10,092	8,524
Geocaching Museum visit total	186	219	264	300	325
Eblasts sent			52	61	56
contact list			422	522	580
Facebook posts per month	6	6	20	20+	20+
followers		172	254	340	390
highest post reach			513	1,600	643/ 1,500
Largest groups			71% wome n	61% women	61% women: 35-65+

Memberships

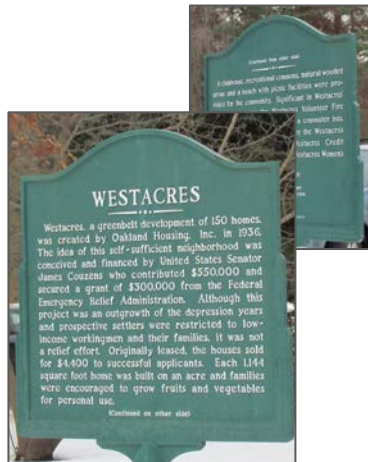
Membership increased
from 61 in 2006 to
134 in 2016
(highest with
no perks included)

2017: 113 (Apple Island
Tours held only 1 day)

Projects

Installed historical markers at Westacres Library & Orchard Lake Schools, 1995

Spoke out on issues: sale of Orchard Lake Nature Sanctuary, 1990
& renaming of Green School, 2011



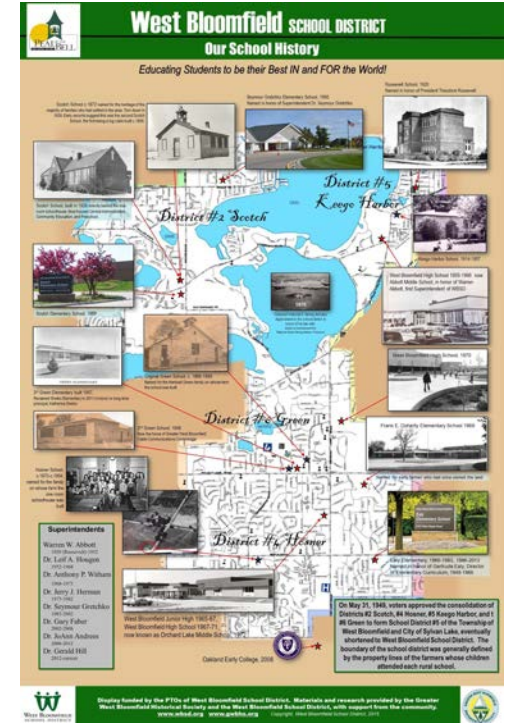
Orchard Lake Nature Sanctuary



Our School History

2010-2016:

- West Bloomfield public school histories are available online at gwbhs.org
- Permanent school history exhibit panels are installed in each WBSD building
- Traveling exhibit panels are exhibited in the community & at WBSD



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

2017: Survey Marker outdoor exhibit

Helen Jane Peters interest resulted in a outdoor exhibit about the 1817 survey for Waterford, Pontiac, Bloomfield & West Bloomfield.

Photo L to R: Steve Stone, Eric Wiegand, John Marshall, Helen Jane Peters at the sign on Stone Soap Co. property.



Sponsored Apple Island Archaeology Research



Research work:

2007 Madonna University Dr. Ted Gish

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

2013 & 2014 Western Michigan University student project with Dr. Louise Wurst & Mark Hock

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

2016 Dr. LouAnn Wurst submits Historic Apple Island designation application, learns additional support needed

2017 Application resubmitted

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

February 2018 Apple Island Historic Site considered for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places

New 2017 fundraising & development

Smile.amazon.com

Kroger Rewards

Increased Apple Island Tour Sponsors

New Museum store items

Italian Dinner

Apple Island camping

Explored community support



New Developments

2017

WBP commits to 2018 Apple Island Tours bus transportation

2018

First annual support appeal mailing

2nd graders plant apple trees on Apple Island

Receive Awards



Lifetime Volunteer Leadership Award: Doris Bonneville, Bessie Weatherston 1999, Volunteer Service Award Frank & Nanacy 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



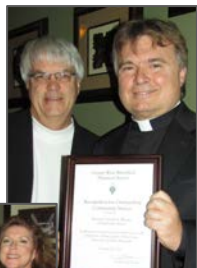
Also - GWBHS 40th Anniversary Proclamation from
City of Orchard Lake Mayor Jacqueline Beach & GWBHS board members
(West Bloomfield Proclamation not shown)

Give recognition



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, 2016 Christy Forhan



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)



President's Merit Award

2014 Angela Cini, Paul Mellerowicz
(Judy Kerr & Hannah Daggs not shown)

2015 Melissa Gilbert, Anita Pinson, DuAnne Sonnevill
2016 Christian Sonnevill

2017 GWBHS Gives volunteer recognition

President's Award to

John Marshall, Helen Jane Peters, Ron Campbell



Who?

Volunteer leaders & volunteers



L to R **2017 Board Members**

Helen Jane Peters historian
Sue William Treasurer, Exhibits & Researcher
Diane Eanes Recording Secretary & Volunteers
Gina Gregory President & Events
Hannah Dagg communications & Web
Carol Fink Corresponding Secretary & Apple Island



L to R **2017 Finance Committee**

Front: Sue Williams, Kristen (5/3rd Bank) Gina Gregory
Back: Jim Bayson, Christian Sonnevile, & John Hartwig



Karen Huyghe,
GWBHS
Communication
Coordinator
part time

2017 volunteers filled 201 opportunities/positions 2017 committees:



Building maintenance Paul Mellerowicz

Event Attendance: Sally Wenzcel

Fundraising: Christian & DuAnne Sonneville

Group Program Coordinator Don Newman

GWBHS Liaison to GWBCCC Senior Resource Group Barb Krause

GWBHS Liaison to West Bloomfield School District Christy Forhan

GWBHS Spokesperson Karen Pushie

Library Case Eric Weigand

Material Distribution Mary Dunckley

Outdoor Sign Wording Ron Montgomery

Preparations Donna Mallenon

Take newsletters to municipal board meetings :

Sue Williams - Keego Harbor

Duanne Sonneville - Orchard Lake

Helen Jane Peters - Sylvan Lake

Larry Weisman - West Bloomfield



Clean debris from Apple
Island building sites



How? Only with a small budget supported by

Memberships

Donations, tribute donations,
legacy giving

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



What's needed?

Support from you & the community

With Attendance, Membership, Sponsorship
and Financial Support !

Help keep local history alive for the community!



Join us!



so GWBHS is vibrant and sustainable -
because our local

HISTORY MATTERS!

Thank you
for your attention!



