



History Matters

Winter 2019

Keego Harbor • Orchard Lake • Sylvan Lake • West Bloomfield

Apple Island Listed in National Register of Historic Places

Save the date for free, public celebration on June 7



LouAnn Wurst (left), Professor of Archaeology at Michigan Tech University, was instrumental in the application process for Apple Island.

After more than a decade of work, Apple Island has been listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Greater West Bloomfield Historical Society (GWBHS) has been able to accomplish this with the help of dedicated academic researchers, especially Dr. David Brose, Dr. LouAnn Wurst, and doctoral student, Mark Hook.

Listing historic properties in the National Register encourages their preservation, marks them as important touchstones of our shared heritage, and expands the National Register database, a valuable research tool accessible to the public.

"Over the years Society board members have been grateful for project support from so many researchers and volunteers to see this project through," said Gina Gregory, the Greater West Bloomfield Historical Society President. "We are delighted the Island is listed in the National Register!"

GWBHS and West Bloomfield School District invite you to join the community on June 7 to celebrate:

Apple Island National Register of Historic Places Celebration

June 7, 2019 10 am

Orchard Lake Community Church, Presbyterian
5171 Commerce Road



GWBHS Celebrates 45 Years in 2019

The rapid development of our area in the 1970s inspired a small group of citizens who were "interested in preserving the scenic and historic values of the surrounding area." They established the Orchard Lake Scenic and Historical Society on January 26, 1974 at Abbott School. Nine members of the Board of Directors were elected: the Rev. Walter J. Ziemba (president), Mel Rycus (vice president), Frances Gadd (secretary), Doris Bonneville (treasurer), General F. S. Strong, Jr., Rita Spitery, Dr. Roger Garvelink, Agnes Patterson, and 13-year-old Sam Stephen.

Now known as the Greater West Bloomfield Historical Society, we celebrate 45 years of collecting, preserving, researching and stimulating public interest in the history of Keego Harbor, Orchard Lake, Sylvan Lake and West Bloomfield. The longevity of the organization is a testament to the hard work and dedication of countless volunteers who treasure the stories and natural beauty of Greater West Bloomfield just as the founders did in 1974.



From the Desk

of President Gina Gregory

2019 marks the 45th year for GWBHS! It's yet another milestone reached by this small, but active, group and a good time to reflect. With this issue, I'll look back at 2018, then in the summer issue, I'll look at 2019 (this summer will be a memorable one as we celebrate Apple Island's designation as a historic place), and the fall issue will be a look at the future.

In 2018, along with our fifteen events, eleven open houses, various group programs, and regular committee meetings, we were involved with a variety of new activities:

Apple Island



Volunteers cleaned debris from interpretive sites.



Second graders planted apple trees on Apple Island.



The Apple Island Historic Archaeological Site application was approved by the state and listed in the National Register of Historic Places by the United States Department of Interior in 2018.

Community Support

- GWB Cable Communications Commission: GWBHS members served on the Community Advisory Panel
- Oakland County history: Participated and supported the 1818 Exploring Oakland 200th Anniversary Committee culminating in a 30 minute documentary video



- West Bloomfield Parks:
 - Participated in inaugural Maple Sugaring Breakfast
 - Provided content for Apple Island outdoor exhibit
 - Created exhibits for first Heros Appreciation Breakfast
 - Received donated bus service through WB Parks for Apple Island Tours
- West Bloomfield Township: Assisted in West Bloomfield Township 185th anniversary retrospective newspaper article

In-House Work

- Created a custom, user-friendly database manual
- Improved internal data processing
- Per Strategic Plan: hired 12 hour-monthly Office & Activities Coordinator to relieve board tasks beginning 2019
- Sold Apple Island cedar coasters
- Held a successful first Annual Appeal



Cedar coasters

For more in-depth information about our activities in 2018, see *GWBHS Overview with 2018 Highlights* at gwbhs.org/about-us/annual-reviews/.

We appreciate your support and I hope you will renew your membership or become a new member. Remember the Society in your wills, living trusts, and estate plans - such gifts ensure the Society will be preserved and promoted for years to come. We depend exclusively on your support to help us collect, preserve, research, and stimulate interest in our unique local history! Thank you!

Support us through:

Membership - gwbhs.org/become-a-member/

Planned giving: email_contact@gmail.org for more information

Sponsorship: gwbhs.org/support/sponsorships/

2019 Events

MARCH – MAY

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.



Volunteer Opportunities Meeting

Saturday, March 2 • 10am

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.

Motorcities Heritage Wayside Exhibits Open House

Sunday, March 10 • 1-4pm

Orchard Lake Museum 3951 Orchard Lake Road

Twenty-five outdoor exhibits share our interesting local history. Small versions of these signs are exhibited. No charge.

Traditional Maple Sugaring & Pancake Breakfast*

Sunday, March 10 • at 12, 1 or 2pm

Orchard Lake Schools 3535 Commerce Road

Celebrate early spring with a sap to syrup demonstrations over an open fire and then enjoy a hot pancake breakfast. \$8 per person. 45 minute outdoors. Register for a group tour at wbparcs.org/maplesugaring or call WBP at 248.451.1900. Sponsored by Polish Mission of Orchard Lake Schools, Copperhead Craft Guild, WB Parks, and GWBHS.

1818 Expedition into Oakland County

Sunday, March 24 • 2pm

West Bloomfield Library Main Meeting Room, 4600 Walnut Lake Road

In 1818, a group of men traveled northwesterly from Detroit to confirm or dispel reports that Oakland County was a swampland, unworthy of settlement. Hear why this expedition took place; how they named our lakes; and what they reported. Presented by John Marshall, an 1818 Expedition Into Oakland County committee member. Sponsored with West Bloomfield Township Library. No charge.

Ohio/MI Border Dispute:

A WBSD Finalist Project from MI History Day Open House

Sunday, April 14 • 1-4pm

Orchard Lake Museum 3951 Orchard Lake Road

See what this dispute was all about in the award winning exhibit describing the conflict that almost caused a war. Student Jacquelyn Foreman lead the WBSD team to national finals for the 2018 MI History Day by the Historical Society of Michigan.

Lace Through the Ages

Wednesday, April 17 • 7pm

West Bloomfield Library Main Meeting Room, 4600 Walnut Lake Road

Mary Salmon, curator of the Lace Museum Detroit (located in Northville), shares her love of antique handmade lace. She is a member of the International Organization of Lace, Inc., Kantcentrum Bruges Belgium, and Great Lakes Lace Group Inc. Lace items will be available for sale. Sponsored with West Bloomfield Library and WB Parks. No charge.

Lace Museum and Mill Race Village trip with West Bloomfield Parks*

Tuesday, April 23 • 9am-3:15pm

Depart from West Bloomfield Recreation Activities Center

Board the bus for a Northville trip to Mary Gen Salmon's The Lace Museum of Detroit, a smaller salon-style museum that exhibits handmade antique lace, tools of lace making, and fashion. An additional stop includes a docent-led historic Mill Race Village walking tour (not all buildings are handicapped accessible). Lunch included at Tirami Su. See the WB Parks Winter 2019 Activities Guide for details and registration.

Spring Nature Walk

Sunday, April 21 • 2pm

Orchard Lake Nature Sanctuary 4700 Pontiac Trail

Join Naturalist Carol Fink and Herbalist Jen Green in discovering the hidden gems and healing herbs in the Orchard Lake Nature Sanctuary. No charge.

History of Summer Camps in West Bloomfield, 1910-1960s

Wednesday, May 8 • 7pm

West Bloomfield Township Library Main Meeting Room

Helen Jane Peters and John Hartwig share the histories of greater West Bloomfield area summer camps for children from the Detroit area. Sponsored with West Bloomfield Township Library. No charge.

Greater West Bloomfield Michigan Week Breakfast

Friday, May 10 • 7am

Bay Pointe Country Club

Attend the breakfast highlighting community volunteerism. GWBHS supports the event as a Copper Sponsor.

Join the Memorial Day Parade(s)

Monday, May 27 • 9am-noon

Walk, bike or drive your vintage car in the Monday Memorial Day parades! To participate, contact us at: contact@gwbhs.org or 248.757.2451.

For more details and a complete list of 2019 events, visit gwbhs.org/events.

*Register online at wbparcs.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.

2018 Events and Open Houses

Tom Bjorklund, Diane Eanes, Karen Faett, Gina and Rob Gregory, Sue Grifor, Anita MacSorley, Virginia Nardecchia, Helen Jane Peters, Karen Pushie, Jack Segall, Nancy Salo, DuAnne Sonnevile, Sue Williams

2nd grade tour Museum and Apple Island docents

Gwynne and Jim Cherfoli, Hannah Dagg, Linda Kidd, Carol Fink, Rob Gregory, Michael Palermo, Paul Thwaite

Memorial Day Parade

Charlie & Helen Cao, An DeBruyne, Jenny Deng, Hailey Douglass, Keaton Douglass, Kevin Douglass, Anna Ji, Steven & Ellis Kumps, Kurt Machcek, John & Jody O'leary, Ellie Pawl, Hudson Pawl, Rory Pawl, Tim Pawl, Yun Qian, Christian & DuAnne Sonnevile, Kendrin Sonnevile, Kirsten Sonnevile-Douglass, Ellen Shiyu Tang, Emily Wu, Ley Yang, Jenny Yang, Darren Zeng, Erik Zhou, Julie Zhu

Intern

Kayla Taub

Apple Island Clean Up

Matt Chaffin, Gina and Rob Gregory, Carol Fink, Nick Hersh, Glen King

Apple Island Tours

Anita MacSorley, Anna Ji, Carol Fink, Cathy Hasse, Chen Ye, Christian Sonnevile, Christy Forhan, Diane Eanes, DuAnne Sonnevile, Gary Forhan, Genot Picor, Gina Gregory, Hannah Dagg, Helen Jane Peters, Jack Lord, John Linemeyer, Jonathon Zhang, Julie Zhu, Karen Pushie, Kayla Taub, Kiana Yin, Lei Yang, Linda Kidd, Mark Hock, Mary Dunckley, Mike Jewell, Molly Rozycki, Paul Mellerowicz, Rob Gregory, Ron Montgomery, Shannon Mazanka, Shelby Zenker, Stephanie Potier, Sue Grifor, Sue Williams, Virginia Nardecchia

Special Merchandise

DuAnne and Christian Sonnevile, Erik Zhou, Julie Zhu

Board Leadership

Helen Jane Peters completed nine years of service. Linda Kidd returned to the Board and Karen Pushie joined the Board.

Thank you to our Program Sponsors

Melaleuca.com/LCharter, Online Wellness Shopping Club
Drs. Adam and Amanda Apfelblat - Michigan Chiropractic Specialists
Hite Photo

Thank you to our 2018 Apple Island Tour Sponsors & Partners

bugs Beddow - Main Sponsor	West Bloomfield Parks
Bellacino's (Sylvan Lake)	West Bloomfield School District
Galaxy Graphics	Partners:
Walgreen's	Beacon Newspaper
Mezza Mediterranean Grille (Orchard Lake)	City of Orchard Lake
	Orchard Lake Schools

Appreciation Reception Raffle Donations

Gwynne and Jim Cherfoli, Crispelli's, English Gardens, Carol Fink, Jen Green, Great Harvest, Hite Photos, Naked Fuel Juice Bar, and Sue Williams

We Remember

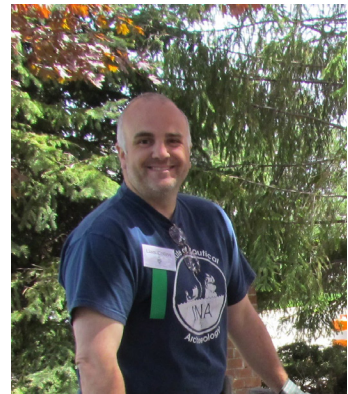
Dave Bradbury (1926- 2018) was active in community affairs, serving on the City of Orchard Lake Village City Council 1967-73, elected Mayor 1971-73, then on the Planning Commission, 1980-85 and 1997-2015. He also served as Oakland County Drain Commissioner. He is remembered for grinding wheel demonstrations during Apple Island Tours and helping his wife Betty.



Doris Bonneville (1931-2018) was a founding board member and received the GWBHS Distinguished Service Award in 2005 for her many years of volunteerism; serving GWBHS in every leadership position. (Doris and Jerry Bonneville were highlighted in the fall 2016 issue of History Matters.)



Liam Collins (1970-2017) was passionate about archaeology and made it accessible to the public by serving as the Managing Director of the Detroit Center for Public Archaeology. He gave presentations and led training classes for GWBHS.



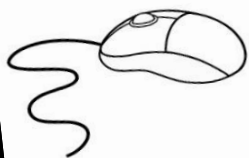
Thaddeus Radzilowski (1938-July 2018) was the GWBHS President from 1998-2003 and was a professor at Madonna University among others.



Support GWBHS Throughout the Year



Help GWBHS When You Shop on Amazon!



We appreciate everyone who participates in the AmazonSmile program.

When you shop on AmazonSmile (smile.amazon.com), Amazon will donate a percentage to GWBHS, at no cost to you. Here's how:

Steps to Setting Up Your Amazon Account to Donate to GWBHS:

- Go to <https://smile.amazon.com/>
- Select a charity by typing in our name: Greater West Bloomfield Historical Society (or for those already on Smile.Amazon, go to 'your account' then click on 'change charity')
- Click on Greater West Bloomfield Historical Society
- Use smile.amazon.com every time you shop
Amazon and GWBHS will get a percentage!



Help GWBHS When You Shop at Kroger!



We appreciate everyone who participates in the Kroger Community Savings program. Kroger donates a percentage of your purchase to us every time you shop and use your Kroger Plus card, at no cost to you.

Steps to Setting Up Your Kroger Card to Donate to GWBHS:

- Register online at krogercommunityrewards.com
 - Sign in or Create an Account and follow the prompts
 - Once your account is set up, click on Edit Kroger Community Rewards information & register your Kroger Plus card
 - Enter NPO number (27610) or name of organization (Greater West Bloomfield Historical Society)
 - To verify enrollment, Greater West Bloomfield History Society will appear on the right side of the page
 - Do this yearly to keep GWBHS as the charity
 - Use your card every time you shop, and GWBHS will get a percentage!
- You can also enroll by calling Customer Service at 1-866-221-4141



Orchard Lake Museum News

New to the Collection

(Near right) Orchard Lake Schools (OLS) alumnus and GWBHS member Paul Mellerowicz saved and donated this original window during renovations of an OLS classroom which was first used as Michigan Military Academy classroom in 1877.

(Far right) Paul Hungerman donated his grandfather's WWI uniform. GWBHS member Bruce McIntyre donated his WWI Shackleton boots, WWII canteen, and ammunition cases.

(Below) John Bowers donated a sword and sheath of Michigan Military Academy cadet James Purdy.



Helen Jane Peters: My Favorite Things at the Museum

Helen Jane Peters is a lifelong resident of Sylvan Lake and has served as the city's historian. She is also a longtime GWBHS volunteer and former board member.

(Left) This octagonal, wooden birdhouse came from Albert Kahn's summer cottage. The three story birdhouse was made by the father of cottage caretaker W. Hamlin and was donated by Kahn's daughter, Rosalie Butzel.

(Below left) This unique, log cabin style dollhouse (made by Frank and Nancy Salo) is another favorite.

(Below right) Helen Jane holds a panoramic photo of the Detroit Free Press Fresh Air Camp at Sylvan Lake, circa 1920s. Copies are available for purchase. Learn more about the history of summer camps in the area as Helen Jane and John Hartwig present *Summer Camps in West Bloomfield, 1910-1960s* on Wednesday, May 8 at 7pm at West Bloomfield Library.





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

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Board of Directors

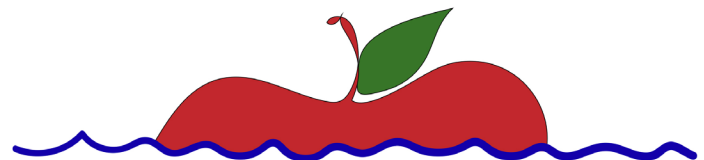
Gina Gregory	President
Diane Eanes	Recording Secretary & Volunteer Coordinator
Carol Fink	Corresponding Secretary
Sue Williams	Treasurer
Linda Kidd	Historian
Hannah Dagg	History Matters Editor
Karen Pushie	Database & Spokesperson

Committee Chairs

Christy Forhan	WBSD Liaison
Sue Grifor	Membership
Barb Krause	GWBCCLiaison
Don Newman	Group Programs
Christian Sonnevile	Development/Fundraising

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.



Apple Island National Register of Historic Places
CELEBRATION

JUNE 7, 2019 10:00am

Orchard Lake Community Church, Presbyterian
5171 Commerce Road



GWBS Membership & Donation Form

☐ New Membership ☐ Renew Membership ☐ Gift Membership* ☐ Donation

Name _____

Address _____

Email _____ Phone _____

*Gift membership from: _____ Phone _____

Address _____

☐ Please contact me about volunteering with GWBS.

Please make checks payable to GWBS. 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.

Please ask your employer if they match employee charitable donations.

Please remember the Society in your wills, living trusts, and estate plans.

Membership • Jan. 1 to Dec. 31

<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\$_____

My donation supports:

☐ General fund ☐ New carpeting
☐ Improved display for temporary exhibits
☐ Searchable Our School History files
☐ Display case for Military Academy sword

☐ This donation is in honor of:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Total Amount \$_____