



History Matters

Keego Harbor • Orchard Lake • Sylvan Lake • West Bloomfield

Summer 2022



Join our members, volunteers and sponsors for an
Appreciation Reception

Wednesday, July 13, 2022
6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
On the lawn of
Orchard Lake Museum
3951 Orchard Lake Road

refreshments will be served

Door prize & raffle - drawings at 7:30
One free raffle ticket per person. Additional 10 for \$10

RSVP
Not required, but appreciated.
contact@gwbhs.org or 248.757.2451

THIS PLACE REFLECTS OUR HISTORY

And continues as a community history museum

Our local history is chronicled on the grounds of Orchard Lake Museum, 3951 Orchard Lake Road! This became apparent in 2021, during exhibit research, when we learned this place has always been a public space



where people could enjoy a view of Orchard Lake with Apple Island (listed on the National Register of Historic Places through Greater West Bloomfield Historical Society efforts).

Historical maps show Indigenous paths on the east side of Orchard Lake. In the 1800s this property housed a tavern for stagecoach travelers, then the Orchard Lake Hotel for vacationers, and then finally redeveloped in 1932 as the Orchard Lake Village City Hall. It has been the Orchard Lake Museum and Society home since 1987.

For 35 years, GWBHS has appreciated Museum use and City Of Orchard Lake Village (COLV) support with five-year lease agreements. The current lease expires August 1, 2022.

Through the years, there have been times when GWBHS' continued Museum use was in doubt. This summer, we were told a five-year lease was no longer possible, and only two years could be considered, with GWBHS leaving after that. Consideration of a GWBHS lease renewal agreement took place at the June 21 Council meeting. Comments ranged from asking us to move, to an offer of a three-year lease, to eventually the approval of a five-year lease. We are very pleased to have a 2022-2027 lease agreement approval so we may continue enriching our communities of Keego Harbor, Orchard Lake, Sylvan Lake, and West Bloomfield, by collecting, preserving, and sharing history! Our vision is that our communities will understand how our past shapes, inspires, and informs the present and the future.

Strategic Plans 2022-2027

GWBHS Board members and volunteers worked with professional facilitator Deb Macon to more fully develop 2020 strategic plans. In early 2022, by Zoom and in person, three strategic planning team meetings (10 attending) were held to develop GWBHS' 2022-2027 mission, values, and vision.

We conducted the first, in recent memory, GWBHS outreach survey invitation via 80 email contacts to members, partners, and community. The survey requested responses about GWBHS strengths, opportunities, results, and aspirations. With a high 25% response rate, GWBHS was pleased to receive positive input and valuable considerations.

Deb presented the findings to GWBHS Board members, who carefully streamlined and adopted new Mission and Vision statements and a first-time Value statement.

Efforts included Board adoption of one-year priorities of four strategic goals: Effective governance, fiscal sustainability, vibrant outreach and education, and engaged members and volunteers. We are aligning our efforts with these goals in mind. We appreciate these volunteer and Board member efforts helping GWBHS move forward through this five-month process!

From the Desk

of President Gina Gregory

2022 has been a time to further develop Strategic Plans, consider our lease situation, implement new student museum visit plans, further organize archive files, and host Open Houses on the 1st/ 2nd/ 4th/ 5th Sundays & 3rd Fridays 1-4 pm, along with hosting programs and attending community events.



The pre-1914 Herschede tubular chime clock was repaired and now marks time, chiming every 15 minutes, a sound from yesteryear.

Museum visitors' written comments have been positive: excellent museum. Amazing. Thank you! Nice layout. Great information. Awesome little museum, beautiful, serene. Thank you!!!

All these activities require volunteer effort and we

need more people to support a wide variety of activities! Please consider your passion for history and how you can give a few hours a month keeping history alive for our community. By working together, we move forward. Contact gina@gwbhs.org to volunteer. (Office & Activities Coordinator Cory Taylor left GWBHS for a full time curator position at Illitch Holdings, LLC. New staff will be hired when a clearer GWBHS direction is apparent)

Consider showing your support now with your membership, tribute donation, exhibit sponsorship, and planned giving. We look forward to seeing you in person at the Appreciation Reception and other programs!

View Engaging Presentations Any Time on Youtube

- View new presentations at youtube.com/user/GWBHS
- Video January 2022 Virtual Annual Meeting - chronicles GWBHS activities through photos, and charts.
- Virtual Annual Meeting 2022 - Archaeology Presentation by Karl Mayry
- Mythmaking and Mythbreaking by Catherine Cangany, Ph.D.

Museum Exhibit Sponsors Please join Tom Bjorklund, Gwynne and Jim Cherfoli, Deb Long & Family, John & Jen Macdonald, Robert & Maggie Muhal, Gino Santia, and Susan Kay Williams in supporting your local history museum in a way that has a lasting impact. Contact us about becoming a Museum Exhibit Sponsor! More information about available sponsorships is at gwbhs.org/support/sponsorships/.

Spring Walk! 70 people participated in the Orchard Lake Nature Sanctuary Spring Walk with Naturalist Carol Fink.

Michigan Week Awards

Congratulations to the planning committee for a memorable 50th anniversary Michigan Week Community Awards Breakfast, established in 1972. GWBHS is an active participant in this program that recognizes area volunteers. GWBHS nominees:



Mikwandahn "Mike" Jewell received a Volunteer Lifetime Leadership Award and Molly Rozycki, posthumously received a Volunteer Lifetime



Leadership Award. Jacket Club of Keego Harbor nominated Paul Mellerowicz, who received the Volunteer Service Award for volunteering his talents and skills to Orchard Lake St. Mary's.



Tour Pontoon Boats Ordered West Bloomfield School District's 50-year old pontoon boats are no longer operational. Two tour pontoon boats have been ordered and we look forward to resuming Apple Island Tours June 10 and 11, 2023.

Juneteenth in the WB For the second year GWBHS participated in the event, sharing information and exhibits about African Americans in this area. We received many appreciative comments.



Save the Date for the Pine Lake Cemetery Tour.

Meet Saturday, October 8, 11 am -1 pm, Pine Lake Cemetery, east side of Middlebelt, north of Lone Pine. Take part in a walking tour of Pine Lake Cemetery and learn the history of founding residents, prominent people, sports figures, and others with Sexton Mari Bem and docents. Optional restaurant gathering afterward. Rain or shine. \$5 donation requested.

2022 Programs

JULY - SEPTEMBER



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.

Boating Open House

Sunday, July 10, 1- 4 pm
Orchard Lake Museum, 3951 Orchard Lake Road

Sailor Carol Fink explores sailing, power boats, boat liveries, and clubs in this area. Enjoy the newly reopened Orchard Lake Museum with new exhibits! Permanent exhibits interpret local area history and culture. No charge.



Appreciation Reception

Wednesday, July 13, 6-8pm
Orchard Lake Museum, 3951 Orchard Lake Road

Members, supporters, and volunteers are invited for refreshments with one complimentary ticket per person for an amazing raffle. RSVP by July 8 to contact@gwbhs.org

Pine Lake Marina Tour

Wednesday, August 10, 7-8 pm
3599 Orchard Lake Road at Seminary

Join a walking tour with historical information about the marina, water taxis, and nearby Interurban railway bed. Park on Seminary Road and meet at 3599 Orchard Lake Road at Seminary. Limited space
Registration is required through West Bloomfield Parks.

Pelletier & Classic Cars Open House

Sunday, August 14, 1- 4 pm
Orchard Lake Museum, 3951 Orchard Lake Road

E LeRoy Pelletier, 1868-1939, was Henry Ford's first "PR man" and West Bloomfield resident. Learn more when Rick Bartus gives Pelletier presentations in the Museum at 2 pm and 3 pm. All are welcome to showcase classic cars in the parking lot. No charge.



One-Room Schools Open House

Sunday, September 4, 1-4 pm
Orchard Lake Museum, 3951 Orchard Lake Road

Learn about one-room West Bloomfield schools: Eagle, Pennell, and Hosner



Impact of 1820-1850 Religious Reform in Michigan

Wednesday, September 21, 7-8:30 pm
WB Library Main Meeting Rm, 4600 Walnut Lake Rd



Learn how Michigan was directly impacted by a 1820-1850 "Second Great Awakening" religious movement that led to social and political reforms of temperance that included women's suffrage, and abolitionism

with James Craft, OCHC member. Sponsored with West Bloomfield Library.

Visit GWBHS table

Oakland History Center's Ice Cream Social
July 30, 12-4 pm
405 Cesar E. Chavez Ave. Details at ocphs.org.

Orchard Lake Fine Art Show
July 30 & 31, 10-6/5pm
6900 Orchard Lake Road

Open House Calendar

Orchard Lake Museum, 3951 Orchard Lake Road, 1-4 pm
July Sundays: 3, 10, 24, 31
Friday: 15
August Sundays: 7, 14, 28
Friday: 19
September Sundays: 4, 11, 25
Friday: 16

July 2022							August 2022							September 2022						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
26	27	28	29	30	1	2	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	28	29	30	31	1	2	3
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	25	26	27	28	29	30	1
31	1	2	3	4	5	6	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	2	3	4	5	6	7	8

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

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

Our Mission 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.



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.

Archive Volunteers

Lana LaFortune, Susan K. Williams, Ryan Wilski

Community Events Volunteers

Tom Bjorklund, Gina Gregory, Neil Hepburn, Barb Krause

Education Committee Volunteers

Carol Fink, Christy Forhan, Linda Kidd

Event & Open House Presenters

Bill Bertakis, Catherine Cangany, Diane Eanes, Epiphany Glass, PhD, Mikwandahn "Mike Jewell", Bruce Lilley, Carol Fink, Bill Grandstaff, Cathy Hasse, Sue Grifor, Sally Howell, Bailey Sisoy Isgro, Karl Mayry, Tom McClure, Ed Milkowski, Brian Pushie, Karen Pushie, DuAnne Sonneville

Herschede Tubular Clock Exhibit Sponsors

Tom Bjorklund, Gwynne and Jim Cherfoli, GWBHS Memorial Fund

History Matters Newsletter Sponsor

Mindell Realty

Keego Harbor Exhibit Sponsors

In memory of John Breeze Long by Deb Long & Family, John & Jan Macdonald,
Robert & Maggie Muhal, Gino Santia, Susan Kay Williams

Memorial Day Parade Volunteers

Karen Pushie, Tim Pawl, Jan Porritt, Ellen Smith, DuAnne Sonneville

Michigan Week Community Awards Breakfast Volunteers

Karen Pushie, DuAnne Sonneville, Susan K. Williams

Museum Support

City of Orchard Lake Village

Open House Docents

Tom Bjorklund, Carol Fink, Christy Forhan, Neil Hepburn, Derek Schraffenberger, Gina & Rob Gregory

Partners

West Bloomfield Parks

Program Sponsors

Gino's Italian Restaurant, Petite Gardens

Strategic Planning 2022-2027 Committee Volunteers

Tom Bjorklund, Hannah Dagg, Carol Fink, Gina and Rob Gregory, Sue Grifor, Neil Hepburn, Barb Krause, Karen Pushie, DuAnne & Christian Sonneville, Sue William

In Memoriam

Molly Rozycki, 1953 - 2021



Eileen (Molly) Rozycki, 1953-2021, died unexpectedly and will be missed.

As a GWBHS Board member, Molly shared her DeConick and Doherty family history.

Both families were early residents of West Bloomfield Township. Her uncle, John Doherty, was the Township Supervisor for many years and the DeConicks farmed.

Molly volunteered with Apple Island Tours, and helped with the 2014 GWBHS home tour, and the 2007 Orchard Lake Museum renovation. As a Sylvan Lake resident, Molly was active with many Sylvan Lake events, including all Sylvan Lake home tours.

Apple Island Explorer's Journal



Adapted from event Co-Chair Midge Davidson

In 2021 West Bloomfield School District second grade students attended classes virtually. Staff asked GWBHS, and Christy Forhan developed, with District educators, a virtual Apple Island Explorer's Journal curriculum. In 2022 the accurate, engaging curriculum was used in classrooms. Christy texted: I was in Mary Ann Ayar's class yesterday [Gretchko School] as Apple Island special guest. They've been working their way through the Explorer's Journal and Artifact worksheets. They knew so much! It was such a joy to see the resources in action. They also used the Artifact Worksheets and enjoyed seeing some of them in real life (ex:broken yellow glass plate, Pontiac Dairy milk bottle).

Gretchko students with Apple Island Explorer's Journal

Who Had More Fun?

If you passed by the Orchard Lake Museum during the second-grade field trips, you saw children and adults outside the museum learning about their local history. Excitement and eagerness of trying out historic artifacts and chores related to early life in our area was evident in their joyous expressions. This involvement led to insights and questions.

Students had studied about Apple Island prior to their visit. Teachers, parents, children, and museum educators Carol Fink and Linda Kidd met in the museum to get an overview of the day. Inquiring about items in the museum helped them begin to understand how the past affects their own lives.

Students participated with parents at four stations outside the museum. They learned how early school sites were often donated by local farmers. They compared farming practices of Native Americans and early farmers. They tried children's farm chores. A visit to the oldest item on the museum grounds, a gift of the glaciers, was a big hit before they moved on to the archeological dig. Finding objects, natural and manmade, told the story of their past. The arrowheads, animal bones, seeds, stones, flatware, buttons, and other artifacts led to more inquiries. Inside the museum they discussed what they found, what it may have been used for, and how it ended up in the dig site. Questions expanded beyond the time limit. "We can't wait to do it again!" Carol Fink and Linda Kidd.



Carriage & Yoke



Experiencing Archaeology Activity



Green Bell



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

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Board of Directors

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- Linda Kidd Recording Secretary
- Carol Fink Corresponding Secretary
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- Historian
- Hannah Dagg History Matters Editor
- Karen Pushie Database & Membership

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- Christy Forhan WBSD Liaison
- Sue Grifor Membership
- (Vacant) GWBCC Liaison
- Don Newman Group Programs
- Christian Sonnevillle Development/Fundraising

GWBHS enriches our communities by collecting, preserving, and sharing history and has served Keego Harbor, Sylvan Lake, Orchard Lake, and West Bloomfield since 1974.

Thank you to our newsletter sponsor!

Alan Mindell.com



GWBHS 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 GWBHS.

Make checks payable to GWBHS. Credit card payments are accepted through PayPal at gwbhs.org. GWBHS 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 and remember the Society in your wills, living trusts, and estate plans.

Membership • Jan. 1 to Dec. 31

- Individual \$ 2 0
- Family \$ 4 0
- Premier \$ 5 0
- Patron/Business \$100
- Life \$600

Donation

\$ _____

- This donation is in honor of:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Total Amount \$ _____