

RELIVING The Rochester Era



Nov./Dec.

The Rochester-Avon Historical Society Newsletter

2017

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Find us on Facebook



Stahls museum trip delights RAHS members

A beautiful fall day in early October turned out to be the perfect time for nearly 20 RAHS members and guests to visit the Stahls Automotive museum in Chesterfield, Mich.

For two hours, members found themselves immersed in the Stahl Automotive Collection of more than 125 classic cars from the late 19th century to the modern eras. They saw such one-of-a-kind treasures as a 1948 Tucker, 1928 O.W. 4.5 Bentley and 1926 A.C. Roadster.

Other noteworthy autos included two cars from the 1965 film, *The Great Race*, starring Tony Curtis and Jack Lemmon—the “Leslie Special” and the “Hannibal 8.”

Open free to the public on select days, the museum also offers

visitors multi-sensory exhibits, including original Route 66 signage, vintage neon lights and gas pumps, a drive-in theater, a 50s diner replica and interactive displays. All this is set to the bells and whistles of a 1924 Wurlitzer pipe organ and other fantastical, mechanical music machines.

The collection was founded by Ted Stahl, a Detroit-area entrepreneur, business owner and inventor.

Members finished the day's activities with lunch at a nearby restaurant.

Thanks to Gary Jaracz, RAHS media chair, for pitching and planning this first-rate excursion!



Photo credit:
Bill Williams



Photo credit:
Bill Williams



Event organizer, Gary Jaracz, takes a well-deserved break
Photo credit: Brian Dunphy



**Brian Dunphy, President
Rochester-Avon
Historical Society**

President's Message

We're reaching out to other groups as we chart our course

In late September, members of the Rochester-Avon Historical Society received an email invitation to share your guidance and suggestions through a special survey. The input that members have provided will give the RAHS Board valuable direction when we meet in November to review our goals, projects and activities.

The future direction for the historical society has been a topic for thoughtful discussion at recent Board meetings. We've already agreed on an important approach – to ramp up our efforts in reaching out to other historical groups in our area.

We recently had meetings with the leaders of the Oakland Township Historical Society and the Rochester Hills Museum at Van Hoosen Farm. All of our groups share similar goals – to preserve and foster an appreciation of local history, to interpret that history for present and future generations and to educate our citizens about their heritage. It makes sense for us to work more closely together to achieve these goals.

We'll begin by promoting each other's events and programs. The more visibility and awareness we can get for these activities, the more successful they can be. Visible, successful events and programs certainly can help to increase the understanding in our communities of the importance and value of local history.

We're also exploring how we might offer some joint events, such as field trips, as well as other resources we can share.

This is a critical time for our historical society, as we work to continue bringing the past into the future. Discussions in the coming weeks and months will help us to set our direction – what we want to do and who will help us to do it.

The Rochester-Avon Historical Society (RAHS)
was founded in 1969
to help preserve, collect and interpret
the history of the greater Rochester area
for present and future generations.

For more information,
including a list of upcoming events, visit online at:
www.rochesteravonhistoricalsociety.org



November Library Program

**Please note: There will be no Thursday evening programs
in December 2017 and January 2018**

Library Lecture

Thursday, Nov. 2 at 7:00 p.m.

Rochester Hills Public Library
500 Olde Town Road

"Detroit's Thanksgiving Day Parade"

**FREE AND OPEN
TO THE PUBLIC**

The Thanksgiving Day Parade in Detroit is one of the largest and most spectacular parades in the United States. For more than 80 years, something magical has transformed Detroit's historic Woodward Avenue on Thanksgiving morning, launching the official holiday season.



Photo: Leslie Mack

Romie Minor, the head archivist for The Parade Company since 1999, will present a historic and entertaining behind-the-scenes look at this exciting tradition.

Detroit's first Thanksgiving Day Parade featured horses pulling a float decorated with Mother Goose, four papier-mâché heads and seven marching bands. Over the years, the parade's size and scope have grown significantly as millions of bundled-up fans along the two-mile route have been entertained by giant balloons, floats, marching bands, cartoon characters, celebrities and more.

Local business and community leaders still volunteer as the parade's Distinguished Clown Corps, doling out candy and good cheer to the attendees. Originally sponsored by Hudson's, the parade is now backed by Art Van.

Born and raised in Detroit, Minor has a B.A. in history, a master's degree in library and information science and a graduate certificate in archival administration from Wayne State University. He has worked as a librarian, archivist and records manager for The Henry Ford and was an adjunct faculty member at Wayne State University. Currently, he is the assistant manager for the special collections department, and the curator of the E. Azalia Hackley collection of African-Americans in the performing arts, at the Detroit Public Library. He and his wife, Laurie, co-authored the book, "Detroit's Thanksgiving Day Parade," (2003) for Arcadia Publishing's *Images of America* series.



Photo: Leslie Mack



Linda Glisman

New Member Profile Linda Glisman

By Carol Tough

One of our newest members, Linda Glisman, is not one to sit on the sidelines. She volunteered to chair the 2017 RAHS picnic committee, and her ideas to turn it into a Rochester bicentennial birthday celebration complete with balloons, a baby picture contest and birthday cake brought smiles to all who attended.

Born and raised in Detroit, she attended Wayne State University where she received a B.A. and a masters in fine arts and art education. She also took additional classes at Oakland University. "Probably the most fun I ever had was studying drawing and painting for a semester in Italy while working on my Master's Degree," she says. "I lived in Venice, but had the opportunity to go to Rome, Florence, Milan and, my favorite, Positano. Loved it!"

For 31 years, Linda taught in the Warren Consolidated school district, from elementary to high school, from art to English, language arts and business classes.

During a time when she was laid off from teaching, she worked on the *Miller High Life Detroit to Mackinaw Relay Race*—a fundraiser for the Olympic Training Center. While she did not run, she covered the 300+ miles in a van at five miles an hour. She still has great memories from this event and enjoyed meeting celebrity Ben Davidson from the Oakland Raiders who participated in the event.

While Linda has retired from teaching, her days are filled with volunteering in the community. Besides RAHS, she is a member of the City Beautiful Commission, the Daughters of the American Revolution, the Rotary Club and the Rochester Bicentennial Committee and serves on the board for the Rochester Community House. (If you attended the wonderful Daffodil Tea at the community house, you should know that Linda was the chair.)

In December 2015, Linda married Rik Krogh. She had known Rik in high school, but they had not seen each other for 48 years. They met again at a high school reunion, and "the rest is history."

For the last six years, Linda has worked for Mike Rodgers (four years) and now Mike Bishop (two years) in the U.S. House of Representatives. Her part-time (24/7) job involves constituent problem solving, representing Bishop at various gatherings in Oakland County and everything in between. She is very proud of the work she does and said it is not only interesting, but she has learned so much and met many wonderful people.

Linda, RAHS is so pleased that you joined our organization. We look forward to more of your creative ideas for future programs and events!



Don't miss these upcoming events Be sure to mark your calendar now!

Oakland Township Historical Society presents
"Timber, Venison and Booze—
Booty of Great Lakes Pirates"
Wednesday, Nov. 1 at 7:00 p.m.

Flumerfelt Barn @ Cranberry Lake Farm
388 W. Predmore Rd., Oakland Twp.

All details are available at:

www.facebook.com/events/330470827363436/?ti=ia



Image source: Oakland Township Historical Society
Facebook event page

NOVEMBER

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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

RAHS Evening Program
@ Library
Thursday, Nov. 2
7:00 p.m.

No RAHS
Brown Bag Lunch

Rochester Hills Museum at Van Hoosen Farm presents
"World War I Remembered through Artifacts"
Thursday, Nov. 9 at 7:00 p.m.

Registration is required

Free for museum members and veterans
\$5 for non members

All details and link to registration are available at:
<http://rochesterhills.org/index.aspx?nid=511>

RAHS Kris Kringle Booth

Friday, Dec. 1 — 4:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 2 — Noon - 10:00 p.m.

Santa's Visit at
Rochester Hills Museum
at Van Hoosen Farm
Saturday, Dec. 2

Check the museum website
for more information as the event date approaches:

<http://rochesterhills.org/index.aspx?nid=511>

DECEMBER

sun	mon	tue	wed	thu	fri	sat
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

No RAHS Brown Bag Lunch

No RAHS Evening Program



Old Fashioned Christmas at
Rochester Hills Museum
at Van Hoosen Farm
Saturday, Dec. 16

Check the museum website
for more information as the event date approaches:

<http://rochesterhills.org/index.aspx?nid=511>



Contact Information

Board of Directors

Brian Dunphy, President	248-376-3460
Carol Tough, 1st Vice President, Operations	248-375-0084
*Position Open, 2nd Vice President, Finance	
Tom Bledsoe, 3rd Vice President, Development	586-822-2148
Holly Bledsoe, Corresponding Secretary	248-923-2602
June Hopaluk, Recording Secretary	248-652-9242
Cary Downer, Treasurer	586-201-2285
Tiffany Stozicki, Director, Communications	248-650-0415
Leslie Mack, Director, Editor, Era Newsletter	586-924-4961
Janet Potton, Director, Membership	248-652-7296
Mary Howarth, Director, Merchandising	248-375-0206
Margaret Bartos, Director, Programs	248-759-4768
Barb Bates, Director, Special Projects	248-495-6258
Bree Boettner, Director, Historical Preservation	248-515-0881
*Position Open, Director, Fundraising Events	

Committee Chairpersons

Gail Kemler, Honorary Historian	248-651-0907
Deborah Larsen, Research	248-375-2974
Samantha Lawrence, Oral History	586-255-1883
*Position Open, Walking Tours	
Gary Jaracz, Media	313-407-9326

<input type="checkbox"/> New	\$15 <input type="checkbox"/> Student
<input type="checkbox"/> Renewal	\$20 <input type="checkbox"/> Individual
	\$35 <input type="checkbox"/> Family
	\$50 <input type="checkbox"/> Contributing
	\$100 <input type="checkbox"/> Business
	\$250 <input type="checkbox"/> Patron

Join the Rochester-Avon Historical Society Today! Membership Application

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Mail completed form with check payable to:

RAHS

P.O. Box 80783

Rochester, MI 48308-0783

Questions? Call us at 248-266-5440





February, 2018 Library Program

Library Lecture

Thursday, Feb. 1 at 7:00 p.m.
 Rochester Hills Public Library
 500 Olde Town Road

“Kit Houses by Mail”

**FREE AND OPEN
TO THE PUBLIC**



Melodie Nichols

From 1906 through the 1980s, it was possible to purchase an entire house through the mail. Melodie Nichols, the Curator of the Clawson Historical Museum, will help us understand, identify and enjoy the “kit homes” that represent a unique architectural period in our history.

Among the first kit house companies in the country was the Aladdin Company, based in Bay City. It sold large orders of kit houses to companies in the extraction and manufacturing fields who used them to create neighborhoods for employees of those companies. By 1918, 2.4 percent of all US housing starts could be credited to homes purchased from Aladdin.

Three Michigan-based companies manufactured kit houses for decades. Nichols will provide background information on these companies and some practical tools to aid in researching the houses themselves, which display a number of house styles. Rochester can boast of some samples of these kit homes.

Nichols earned a Bachelor of Arts in history from Oakland University and a graduate certificate in historic preservation from Eastern Michigan University. Besides writing two books on local history and one on Clawson kit houses, she won a Main Street Oakland County award in 2015 for a Downtown Clawson History Walk in partnership with the Clawson DDA. She enjoys writing mystery stories, playing with her granddaughters and cooking vegan style.



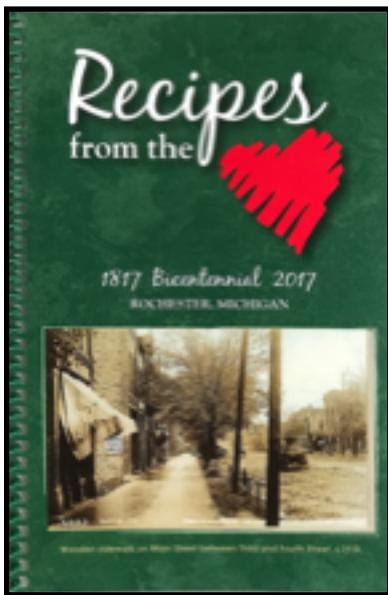
Image credit: searshomes.org



Image credit: searshomes.org



“Recipes from the Heart” limited-edition cookbook



Barely off the presses, this newest addition to RAHS’ merchandise line **has already SOLD OUT and is in its second (and final) printing!**

With anticipated availability just before Thanksgiving, this publication offers a collection of favorite and cherished recipes.

RAHS extends sincere thanks to those who contributed to the success of this product!

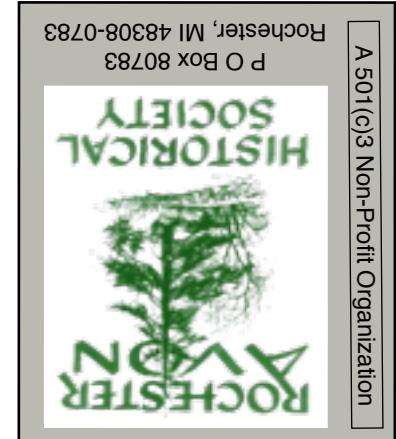
In addition to the wealth of recipes submitted by RAHS members, community members, local businesses and restaurants, this compact spiral-bound book is peppered with local historic, captioned images and served with plenty of helpful tips.

At **only \$10**, this one won’t last long, so “peas” be sure to “snap” up your copy now! Project chair, Mary McVeigh, will be accepting orders for the final shipment at the RAHS evening program, Thursday, Nov. 2, at the library (see Nov. events calendar in this issue for program time and location).

Or, check our online store using this link for availability status:

<http://rochesteravonhistoricalsociety.org/our-store>

“Pride in Preserving the Past”



A 501(c)3 Non-Profit Organization