

Linden Mills Historical Society

201 N. Main St. P. O. Box 823
Linden, Michigan 48451

No. 15

Fall 2023

HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Meetings are April - November on second Tuesday of the month 7:00 PM. Shiawassee Shores Main Clubhouse.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President	Peter Maas
Vice President	Cindy Shane
Secretary	Nancy Wallace
Treasurer	Cindy Shane
Trustee	Aaron Wiles
Trustee	Kathy Button
Trustee	Pat Burgess

MUSEUM COMMITTEE

Karen Breasbois
Pat Burgess
Barb Maas (Chairperson)
Marguerite Plumb
Cindy Shane
Jim Thompson
Nancy Wallace
Aaron Wiles

MUSEUM HOURS

Open: Memorial Day thru October. Saturdays 12-3 p.m. and Sundays 1-4 p.m. No Saturday hours after Labor Day. Private or group tours are available - 810 265- 2821

CONTRIBUTING STAFF

Newsletter	Peter Maas
Refreshments	Members
Genealogist	Peter Maas

BOARD OF DIRECTORS CHANGE

On Oct, 11, it was learned that our long time treasurer, Amanda Whitney, resigned. Cindy Shane will fill the position and continue as Vice President as well. We will fill the VP position at next April's elections. Barb Maas has volunteered to serve as Museum Committee Chair. We express our sincere appreciation and thanks to Amanda for her 14 years of dedicated service.

COMING UP

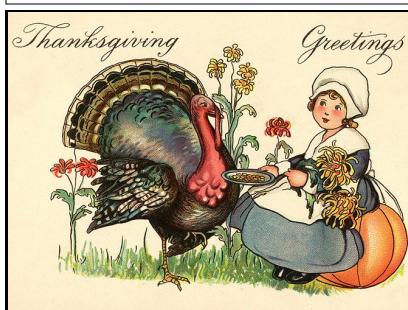
Oct 25 Cycle fit visit Museum 6:30 pm
Oct 27 SAR Ceremony (GB) 1 pm
Nov 6 Museum Committee 6:30 pm
Nov 14 LMHS Meeting 7:00 pm
(Sloan Museum - Geoff Woodcox)
Nov 16 Decorate Museum 10 am
Dec. 1 Holiday Happening 6-9 pm
Dec. 9 Santa visits Museum 11-1 pm
Dec 13 Christmas Dinner 5:30 pm

Pete's Ponderings

Many residents and visitors to the museum have presented us (LMHS), with questions regarding the money which was appropriated by the State and signed by the Governor to be allocated for the restoration of our historic mill. (The key word is Historic). According to our City Manager, they are waiting to hear more about the parameters and other details, but we have learned that it is up to the City to file an application with the State as soon as possible to be eligible for these funds. We don't believe that the options which were on the table two months ago should ever be considered. Privatizing the mill will likely bring an end to a long historic era of the mill. The mill building served strictly as a mill for over a century and other than a small gift shop for a couple of years on the bottom level, no profit was made by anyone. We received the following information from City Manager Ellen Glass on Aug 17, 2023: "*We are all excited to hear it (Linden Mill restoration) made it in the budget. Unfortunately I do not have many answers about the funding. We have not had any official contact from anyone at the state as of yet and we do not know what stipulations will be attached to the funding.*" We have learned that waiting and doing studies has been very costly and more importantly, has not produced results. In my opinion, when financial assistance is offered, we should not sit back and wait.

100 Years Ago

The following was gleaned from a 1923 Linden Leader: — "In cleaning up the debris from the remains of his home recently destroyed by fire, John Wolverton found four somewhat damaged copies of the Linden Inter-Lakes commencing with the initial issue dated August 15, 1890, with Thomas W. Brewer as publisher. Among the advertisers were: James L. Spenser, druggist; The Boston 5 and 10 cent Store; J. R. Cooper, Groceries; E. L. Langworthy, Drugs; P. R. Middlesworth, hardware; Hyatt & Cooper, General Milling. In the locals are mentioned: J. K. Tilden Sundayed in Vernon. William Wise and Miss Maud Bentley were married last Saturday by Rev. Sloan. All Aboard! Mr. Sutherland is now prepared to carry passengers to any point on Lobdell Lake. George B. Clark has sold his horse for \$1200 to Chicago parties. Mrs. A. S. Sadler will go to Vineland, N. J., next week. David Peck, aged 83, died. Mrs. William Robinson, aged 42, died Wednesday. The Presbyterian social at the Rink was a big success. Daniel Hetchler is building a store near the depot for R. B. Craig. L. A. Stehle has put up a new Globe windmill at his place. Joe Beach went to Petoskey Saturday to get relief from hay fever. George Beach drove to Mundy Church and back in one hour."



Going Home

I want to go home for Thanksgiving
To the home of long ago
To see the faces and grasp the hands
Of the friends I used to know.

I'm tired of that rush and bustle
And noise of those city streets
I long for the small town quiet
Where the old folks I can greet.

I want to sit down at the table
And eat those buckwheat cakes,
And help myself to the sausage -
The kind that mother makes.

You can have your fancy dinners
Mid the cities rush and din,
But give me the old home's quiet
And the peace that dwells therein.

For when dad asks the blessing
The tears begin to start,
And find that somewhere hidden,
I have what they call a heart.

So let's go back to the old town
To those we love the best,
And eat our Thanksgiving dinner
Where the tired heart can rest.

Ethelyn Wightman Whittier 1912



NOVEMBER MEETING

November 14 Sloan Museum of Discovery - Geoff Woodcox, Curator of Collections. The Sloan Museum in the Flint Cultural Center opened to the public July 16, 2022, as a totally re-imagined, re-built Sloan Museum of Discovery with four all-new interactive galleries. Preserving more than 150 years of Flint and Genesee County history has led to a very diverse collection of artifacts.

FALL MUSEUM HOURS

After Labor Day, Museum is open Sundays only 1-4 pm. through October. No Saturday hours after Labor Day. Private & group tours: call 810 265-2821

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

*Cheryl Most
Rick & Denise Ray
Terry Van Derwilll
Paul & Sue Sechrist
Margaret Perkins
Chris Ward
Gavin Bragg*

LMHS FACE BOOK

Thank you *Kathy Button* for managing our facebook page. There are currently 297 followers. To see or follow this site on face book, type **Linden Mills Historical Society and Museum**. You can read, like or make comments here. Kathy's figures which date back to Oct 6, are 204 followers broken down as follows: Linden 96, Fenton 40, Argentine 17, Lake Fenton 14, Flint 7, Gaines 7, Grand Blanc 7, Swartz Creek 6, Byron 5, Davison 5. Women 71% and men 21%. Most followers are 45 to 65+ years of age.

OUR OLDEST MEMBER



Richard Curtis "Dick" Laing

Recently the Historical Society received a generous monetary donation in memory of his daughter, Ruth Ann, from our oldest member, *Dick Laing*, who is 94 years old. Dick was born in 1929 the son of *Lemuel* (1894-1962) and *Mildred (Curtis)* (1894-1982) *Laing* in Ann Arbor. Dick had two older sisters, *Dorothy* and *Ruth*. His grandfather was *Levi Laing* (1851-1958) who was Linden's first rural mail carrier. Dick attended Linden School graduating in 1947. He married *Ardith Louise Davis* in Linden in 1949. *Ardith* is the sister of Former LMHS member, *Edis Davis (Wade)*, the mother of current member *Jim Wade*. While residing in Linden, Dick was very involved with dairy farming and the dairy industry and also served on the Linden School Board. He currently resides in Cedar Springs, MI. **For more genealogy on the Laing family, visit the Linden Tree on Ancestry.com**

Historical Society Members In Local Car Shows



Above left: Pete Maas could not resist the opportunity to sit behind the wheel of Beth Carr's mom (Janet Cole's) 1958 BMW ISETTA at the Mueller Car Show. This little gem has been fully restored. It runs on a motorcycle engine and has a top speed of about 45 MPH. Top Right: Jim Thompson and his wife show off Jim's 1988 Red Corvette Convertible with black top which was previously owned by his father. Both vehicles were also on display at the "Back to the Bricks" event in Linden on August 9.

Sign-Up Sheet Now Available for Christmas Dinner

We are able to order one of the following entrees

- 10oz. Frenched Pork Chop with Honey Garlic Sauce.
- Great Lakes Broiled Whitefish with Fresh Herbs.
- Traditional Chicken Piccata /Lemon Beurre Blanc Sauce

\$30 Includes Tax and Gratuity, coffee, tea, Lemonade, or soda, freshly baked bread with butter, garden salad, roasted potatoes, vegetable medley and cake. (You do not need to pay in advance)

2024 Cemetery Tour??

Some members have suggested we have another cemetery tour at Linden's Fairview Cemetery. Visitors to the museum have also shown interest in bringing this event back. The last time we hosted a tour was 10 years ago and was a very successful endeavor. Any ideas and suggestions are appreciated and can be brought up at future meetings.

Raubes Visit Linden

On Saturday, September 16, Barb & Pete Maas enjoyed a wonderful afternoon with fellow Society members Jim and



Margaret & Jim Raube

Margaret Raube who made their annual trek to Linden from Virginia. The afternoon included dinner at the hotel and a visit to the museum. Many of our members are well aware that Margaret is a direct descendent of one of our earliest pioneers. Her mother, Helen Margaret Fairbanks-Haley-Ball (1909-1992), is the daughter of George Fairbanks (1881-1936) and 2nd great granddaughter of Pioneer Zenas Fairbank (1790-1851).

SAVE THE DATE !!!
ANNUAL CHRISTMAS DINNER
Wednesday, December 13, 2023
Spring Meadows Country Club
5:30 P.M.

*Sign-up sheet now available at meetings
 Or call 810 265-2821*



Please remember to wear your name tags to our meetings and also when serving as a volunteer in the museum.

Alpine Marketplace

SAVE YOUR ALPINE RECEIPTS
Help raise funds for upkeep and improvements to your museum.

LINDEN MILLS HISTORICAL SOCIETY 2023 PROGRAMS

May 9 Phil Naud Civilian Conservation Corps



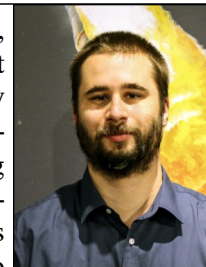
With an executive order on April 5, 1933, President Franklin D. Roosevelt, established the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC). This was part of his New Deal legislation, combating high unemployment during the Great Depression by putting hundreds of thousands of young men to work on environmental conservation projects. Many of these projects are still in existence. This program was the beginning of Michigan's State Parks.

June 13 Nancy Wallace Pewabic Pottery



Our very own **Nancy Wallace** gave an informative and very interesting presentation on Pewabic Pottery. Founded in 1903 by *Mary Chase Perry (Stratton)*, Pewabic is one of the oldest continually operating potteries in the U.S. Working out of its National Historic Landmark studio on Detroit's east side, it presents a tradition of handcraftsmanship that has enriched lives for years. Nancy displayed part of her personal collection.

July 11 Partick Ross Longway Planetarium



Mr. Patrick Ross, the Manager at Flint's Longway Planetarium, discussed searching the ruins of ancient structures for insights into how civilizations integrated astronomy into their architecture. From the Southwest U.S. to the jungles of Mexico, we learned about the Ancestral Puebloan and Mesoamerican astronomy by using state of the art LiDAR mapping and imaging. Prior to his current position, Ross acted as the Planetarium and Observatory Manager and Instructor at Texas A&M University.

August 8 LMHS Members Show & Tell / Ice Cream Social



The LMHS members enjoyed a night of fellowship and fun at their annual *Ice Cream Social and "Show & Tell"*; and as usual there were some very unique and interesting items brought in. *Nancy Wallace* won a prize for most unique item. Two door prizes were also awarded. and the stories were most entertaining. Participants were *Pat Burgess, Nancy Dulin, Pete & Barb Maas, Nancy Wallace, Jim Wade, Kathy Lyles, and Gary Mundy. (See page 6)*

Sept. 12 Pete & Barb Maas Central Mine



Members Pete & Barb Maas who were also Keweenaw County Historical Society members, gave a power point presentation and a short movie of Central Mine, a very productive mining town which sat vacant for nearly 100 years before it was brought back to life by the volunteers of the Keweenaw County Historical Society. With over 1100 members nation wide, this society maintains 11 different buildings and museums. Due to the very harsh and snowy winters, these buildings are open only during the summer months.

Oct. 10 Greg & Steph Jones Sunset Corals



Greg and Steph Jones are the proprietors of one of Linden's newer businesses. Their store on N Bridge Street is like a visit to a rain forest consisting of unique and unusual aquatic life. With wall-to-wall aquariums and terrariums, this is truly a must see for young and old. Although their store houses everything from frogs to fruit flies, their specialty is the propagation and sales of coral. They have a variety of salt and fresh water fish, as well as aquariums and supplies. They even have bait for the anglers at the mill pond and also sponsor the cruise-in for classic cars during the summer.

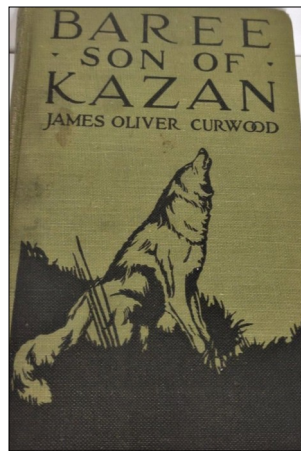
A VERY INTERESTING SHOW & TELL PROGRAM



Pete Maas shared an interesting story and showed a statue of the “Kruikezeiker,” the nickname that residents of Tilburg, Netherlands traditionally received from residents from surrounding places during the early 1900’s. The people of Tilburg were also called Kruikers and the city was called *Kruikenstad*. During that time, Tilburg had many textile factories and was also called “the wool city”. The city’s inhabitants would save their urine in jugs or *kruiken*. This was bought up to be used later to wash the wool.



Gary Mundy showed his ancestor’s WWI Badge. & dog tags



Nancy Wallace, who always seems to have a good eye for bargain treasures, took the prize for the most unique item; A 1935 signed book entitled *The Law On Horseback and Other Stories* by *William S. Hart* and an American novel entitled *Baree, Son of Kazan* (1917) by *James Oliver Curwood*. One book was purchased at a student book fair, and the other at a garage sale.



Anna Allison brought in two beautiful Mandarin kimonos given to her by her father. and were modeled by **Barb Maas** and **Pat Burgess**.

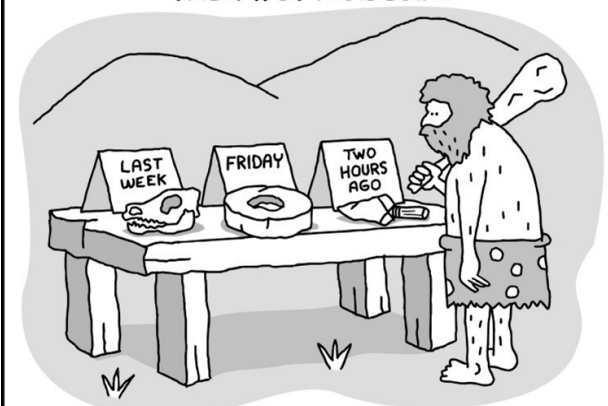


Nancy Dulin with her Jelly-bean dispenser which was home-made by her father.

In addition to the items pictured above, the following members also brought in some wonderful items from their closets and drawers: **Barb Maas**, 2 colorful glass paper weights, **Jim Wade**, a pocket watch and a 1970’s black LHS band jacket, **Kathy Lyles**, 2 old 78 RPM records and a cardboard record from back of cereal box; **Pat Burgess** a small antique peat shovel. Door prizes were won by **Leatha Cudworth** and **Margaret Perkins**.

MUSEUM NEWS

the first museum



CYCLE-FIT TO VISIT MUSEUM

On October 25, 2023 Cycle Fit of Fenton will be visiting the Museum as part of their annual Halloween bike trip. This marks the third straight year the costume clad group has made its appearance at the museum.



2023 MUSEUM NUMBERS

We had 619 museum visitors from Memorial Day through October 8. This number does not include the 202 Second Graders, teachers and chaperones in May. In addition, we also had two private tours totaling 12. We will be open on Sundays through October and in December for Holiday Happening and visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus.

NEW TO THE MUSEUM

Thanks to Mary Finney and Karen Breasbois, visitors to the Linden Mills Museum will notice that it is much easier to navigate and see the exhibits. Each display is now numbered and corresponds with a sheet documenting its details. Moving counter-clockwise, one can easily see everything without congestion. There are over 50 major displays numbered (on both floors).

Recent Museum Acquisitions

LHS Supt. Russ Ciesielski and Carrie Ford donated the past 11 years of new LHS yearbooks for our Archive & Research Room. (Our books date back to 1916)

Frances Boone Meer, a nice Linden plaque. Frances has family ties to many area families. She ran the little store by the river. (Fran's Candy Kitchen)

Terry Bretzlaff - Photos of the Civil War Reenactment held in Linden in 1998.

Terry Van DerWill donated two early baby dishes, 1920's & 1940's. child's Tea set and Drafting tool set.

Peter Maas - Vintage Master Mfg. Co. Quart Oil Bottle and Spout. The spout is imprinted with the company name and Litchfield, Ill. Patd. Sept. 14, 1926.

Mr. Thibadeau - Wester Bros. Manganese Steel Razor made in Germany. (see below)



Jim and Margaret Raube donated the Presbyterian Church Book 1860-1900, Its first forty years.

Jim Thompson, motorcycle license plates and 2023 Back to Bricks button.

Greg Steiner (Wolcott Family Milling books), Four "Old Mill" magazines, LHS Yearbooks, 50's & 60's, old gun cleaning kit, Invoice/ledger book from Fenton Mill.

Margaret Perkins - Hand-made shade pull.

Doug Kimble World War II Japanese Bugle which belonged to his father, Ray Kimble. (see photo below)



QUESTERS PLAY LARGE ROLE IN 2023 STATE FALL DAYS

The Shiawassee Mills Chapter #420 played a large role in the success of the *Quester's Fall State Days* held on October 4th and 5th in Lansing at the *Double Tree by Hilton*. "Our chapter was in charge of the 'Hidden Treasures Sale' according to President Karen Breasbois who added, "it is basically an estate sale with items brought in by members from around the state for resale. Our group decorated the conference room in fall colors with leaf garlands, scarecrows and pumpkins on black table cloths." The sale brought in over \$850 which funded the *Michi-Quester*. Members who attended were *Nancy Wallace, Nancy Dulin, Marion Seguin, Barb Maas, and Karen Breasbois*. The group also took part in tours and lunch and dinner programs.



Questers Nancy Dulin & Barb Maas

In Loving Memory

Shirley E. Swingle, (Thomson, Chapman, Corbit, Rizzo) 1921 - 2023

Shirley E. Swingle, (Thomson, Chapman, Corbit, Rizzo) - Age 102, sister of longtime LMHS member Marge Swingle-Kimble passed away on October 4, 2023. Shirley was born February 10, 1921 in Detroit, the daughter of Thomas and M. Harriet Swingle. She was schooled K-12 in the same building in Linden. She attended MSU briefly then went on to attend secretarial school in Ypsilanti. She married Arthur Thomson. The newlyweds lived in Hollywood, CA until 1942 when Arthur was recruited as a civilian military flight instructor in Mississippi for the duration of WWII. Following the war, they returned to Flint, where Arthur continued flight instruction until he lost his life in a plane crash in 1947. Shirley moved to Detroit where she worked at Downtown Hudson's in the cosmetics department. She married Charles Chapman, and had her only child, Thomas. With true grit and determination, she raised her son alone while working at U.S. Customs as a secretary. She then married Ross Corbit, President of Hiram Walker, and settled in Grosse Pointe Woods. They shared world travel together until his passing. She continued world traveling for many years with her friends and sister, Marjorie Kimble. She married Sam Rizzo, a WWII Navy Veteran, in 1982 and enjoyed a long and happy marriage until his death in 2006. She made time frequently to nurture her grandchildren while they were growing up, whether on the floor playing cars and trucks, dinosaurs, dolls, tea party or restaurant. She would read and write stories together with them, play endless card and board games. When old enough, she took them on many travel adventures. She leaves behind numerous fun and fabulous memories for all that were privileged to know and spend time with her. In her later years, she lived independently until age 101. She spent her last year in the loving and supportive home of her son and daughter-in-law, Thomas and Mary Chapman. She will be deeply missed by her grandchildren, Christopher (Melissa) Chapman and Ann Marie (Drew) Jones; great-grandchildren, Laura and William Chapman, Sofia, Drew, Brady and Ryan Jones.



In Loving Memory

Patricia A. Carter 1933-2023



Patricia A. Carter, age 90, of Payson, AZ, mother of LMHS Member Pam Howd and Grandmother of Jon-Claude Howd, passed away on August 9, 2023. She was the youngest of three children born to Joseph and Genevieve Roosen,. Pat grew up in Warren and Detroit,

Michigan. After graduating, with honors, from Ferndale High School (MI) in 1951, she attended nursing school at Nazareth College (MI). Pat met the love of her life, Bill Carter, in Kalamazoo, MI where she was completing her nursing studies. Bill and Pat married in September 1954. They were graced with two children, Michael and Pamela. Bill and Pat moved to Payson, AZ in January 1994. She was a Public Health Nurse for Genesee and Lapeer counties. Along the way, she earned a Bachelors of Science in nursing from the University of Michigan. Pat was very proud of this accomplishment, partially due to earning a degree with honors while in her late 40's. She was an accomplished quilter, who also taught quilting. Pat loved sewing, reading, the Red Hats group, and traveling with her husband. Pat actively practiced her Catholic faith in Michigan and Arizona. Pat leaves behind her husband Bill, Charles William Carter; children, Mike Carter (Maya) and Pam Howd (husband Rick deceased); grandchildren Thomas (Rachel) Carter and Jon-Claude Howd; 3 great grandchildren Kamryn, Dakota, and Jordan Carter. Plus many nieces and nephews that love her greatly. Pat was preceded in death by her parents, Joseph and Genevieve Roosen, sister Jean Bogdan, and brother Joseph 'Bud' Roosen. Pat was a wonderful person who touched the lives of many people. A Mass of Christian Burial was held on August 17, 2023 in Arizona.

Lynda Sue (Thompson) Butts 1958– 2023



Lynda Sue Butts (Thompson), age 64, of Fenton and sister of LMHS member, Jim Thompson, passed away Sunday, August 20, 2023. Funeral services were held at 2:00 PM Thursday, August 24, 2023 at Sharp Funeral Homes, Fenton Chapel, 1000 Silver Lake Road, Fenton Skip Sieradzki

officiating. Visitation was held at the funeral home from 12:00 PM Thursday until the time of the service. Those desiring may make contributions to the American Lung Association. Lynda was born December 19, 1958 in Owosso, Michigan, the daughter of William and Carolyn (Duncan) Thompson. She was a 1977 graduate of Holly High School. She married Leonard Arthur Butts April 1, 2004 in Fenton. She had resided in the Fenton area her entire life. Lynda retired from the United States Postal Service as a letter carrier in Swartz Creek. She enjoyed gardening, baking, spending time around her pool, deck and porch and most of all spending time with her family. Surviving are: her husband, Leonard; children, Dianna (Phillip) Smethwick of Otisville, Ashley (Austin) Tate of Flint, Frederick "Rick" Sieradzki of Flint, Corey Butts of Johnson City, TN, Andrew (Ruth) Butts of Gaines and Keith (Rachel) Butts of Gaines; Nena's "grandchildren", Trevor, Brooklyn, Bostin, Harper and Cate; mother, Carolyn Miller of Durand; father, William (Joy) Thompson of Linden; sister, Carla (Frank) Goad of Missouri; brothers, Jim (Karen) Thompson of Linden, Jeff Thompson of Flint, Chuck Thompson of Arizona and Josh (Penny) Thompson of Maryland; best friend, Laurie (Rob) Kelly of Bay City; and several nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her grandchildren, Jeff Jr., Caden and Clavin; and step mother, Cheryl Thompson.