

WINTER 2024

# The Crocker Chronicle

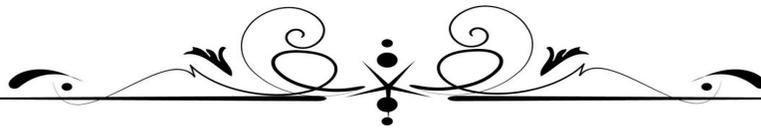
OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE MACOMB COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
CROCKER HOUSE MUSEUM & GARDENS

*My Favorite Things*  
**POTTERY LUNCH**

*Learn how to*  
**TABLESCAPE**

Crocker House garden featuring an original lamppost from the Mount Clemens Post Office.

# MACOMB COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY CROCKER HOUSE MUSEUM & GARDENS



## FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Happy 2024 to our wonderful members and supporters. Although we are closed for tours right now, the museum is still buzzing with activity.

We would also like to welcome our newest board members Todd LaRosa, Gina New and Shannon Panetta. These individuals bring a vast variety of experience and knowledge that will assist in the future of our organization.

Our volunteers carry on with the many research requests we receive through our email system. Taking inventory of our collection continues and is combined with a deep cleaning of the museum as the inventory team progresses through each room of the museum.

Byron House is slated for clean-up and organization as we find spots to house items that migrated there from the museum offices. The many donations we've recently received are waiting to be catalogued in our database and properly stored.

Be sure to check the "Save the Date" in this publication for the events we have planned for you in 2024. First up is the annual pottery lunch on April 6th with the theme of "My Favorite Things." This event returns to Zuccaro's Banquet Hall on Gratiot in Chesterfield. Table decorators are the key to the success of this event and **we need you!** Are you interested in setting a table, but you're not sure how to do it? We have an article in this newsletter on tablescaping that may help you. If you would like to decorate a table please contact Alex at 586-465-2488. We also seek raffle baskets for this event. Thank you so much for the baskets we've received so far.

We are also looking for sponsors for the publication of the Crocker Chronicle. If you would like to sponsor our publication, please reach out to us and we will publicize you or your business as a sponsor in our next issue.

Membership dues reminders will be sent out this spring as all dues are scheduled for payment by May 1.

We wish you the very best in this new year, as we look forward to an interesting and productive 2024.

-MACOMB COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

BARB DEMPSEY-PRESIDENT, ROSS CHAMPION-VICE PRESIDENT, PAULA LOVINER,-TREASURER, DIANE DUEWEKE-SECRETARY,  
GARY BAARCK, MIKE BRADLEY, JOY GLOVER, BRIAN KORTH, TODD LAROSA, DIANE MCDUGALL, GINA NEW, SHANNON PANETTA

The Crocker Chronicle logo, featuring the text "The Crocker Chronicle" in a large, white, serif font, oriented vertically along the left side of the page. The background of the logo is a photograph of the Crocker House, a grand, light-colored building with a prominent portico and columns.

# What is “tablescaping?”

Tablescaping or table decorating is defined as “the act of creatively and intentionally arranging a tabletop so that it conveys a specific theme, mood, or experience.” It includes arranging items on a table in an attractive and decorative way, often with matching plates, bowls, etc. and adding things such as napkins, flowers, and candles. In the case of the pottery lunch, it includes a centerpiece and decorations that convey the theme for your table.

Nina Hendrick of Nina Hendrick Home provides the following tips and ideas to decorate a table:

## 1.) Find Your Inspiration.

This year’s pottery lunch theme “My Favorite Things,” lends itself to an infinite variety of ideas. What is your favorite thing? Examples could be flowers, birds, a hobby, food. The options are endless and reflect what you like.

2.) Consider your event. What size is the table, how many guests will you have? Zuccaro’s banquet tables are 66 inch round and seat eight guests. Zuccaro’s does provide a white tablecloth with each table. If you chose to add your own tablecloth, a 120” round would reach to the floor and 108” will also work well.

3.) Gather your materials: Basics: dishes, flatware, charger plates, glasses, napkins, tablecloth

You will need:

8 luncheon or dinner size plates

8 cups and saucers

8 salad or dessert plates

Centerpiece

A small table favor for your guests (i.e. candy, candle)

Please no paper or plastic plates. Thank you!

Optional: Stemware, chargers, flatware (Zuccaro’s does provide flatware), sugar & creamer, salt & pepper shakers, napkins, tablecloth.

## 4.) Centerpiece

This is where your creativity will shine. The purpose of the centerpiece is to showcase your favorite thing, whatever it may be. The centerpiece may be simple or complex. It is entirely up to you. As an example, are flowers your favorite thing? Then a lovely arrangement of flowers placed in the center of the table makes for a simple, but elegant centerpiece. You can add candlesticks, flower themed favors or whatever else you chose to decorate your table.



## 5.) Create your place setting

Begin with your charger or placemat, then a plate. From there add any additional items, a salad plate, possibly a favor for your guests. Napkins may be placed on top of the plates with a pretty fold or a napkin ring. Utensil may be arranged around the charger or wrapped in the napkin.

## 6.) Chair Decorations

Although not necessary, you can also decorate the chairs which add a little something extra to your design. Chair covers, tied ribbons, wrapped lace sashes, hats or small wreaths all work.

The possibilities for creative tablescapes are endless. The real purpose is to have fun with your idea and enjoy the results. If you are in need of any items such as Chargers, tablecloths/napkins, silverware, dishes please contact Barb at (586) 489-9358 or Alex at 586-465-2488.

**MACOMB COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
CROCKER HOUSE MUSEUM & GARDENS**

*Yvonne Leslie*  
**POTTERY LUNCH**

**11 AM ON SATURDAY, APRIL 6TH, 2024**

**ZUCCARO'S BANQUETS & CATERING**

**46601 N. GRATIOT AVE, CHESTERFIELD, MI 48051**



TICKETS ARE NOW AVAILABLE FOR THE 2024 POTTERY LUNCH, WHICH HONORS THE MEMORY OF YVONNE LESLIE. THIS YEAR'S THEME FOR THE TABLESCAPING COMPETITION IS, "MY FAVORITE THINGS." AT THIS EVENT, YOU WILL VIEW BEAUTIFULLY DECORATED TABLES INSPIRED BY THE TABLE DESIGNER'S FAVORITE THINGS. THERE WILL BE A DELICIOUS LUNCHEON BUFFET SERVED AND A CASH BAR. THERE WILL BE RAFFLES, DOOR PRIZES AND A GRAND PRIZE RAFFLE TO A FUN DESTINATION. DOORS OPEN FOR TABLE VIEWING AT 11 AM WITH LUNCH BEING SERVED AT 12:15 PM.

GROUP SEATING RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE TOGETHER WITH TABLES SEATING EIGHT PEOPLE. SEATING ACCOMMODATIONS WILL BE ACCOMPLISHED TO THE BEST OF OUR ABILITY. TICKETS ARE \$50 AND MAY BE PURCHASED BY USING THE INCLUDED ORDERING FORM OR CALL THE MUSEUM AT 586 465-2488.

JOIN US FOR A TEA

# “TO FIND A USE FOR EVERY PLANT: A HISTORY OF THE OLD HERBALS”

WITH DAVE PUTT.



1 PM ON SATURDAY, JUNE 22ND, 2024

**TICKETS: MEMBERS \$35, NON-MEMBERS \$40**

TICKETS INCLUDE TEA AND LUNCH FOLLOWED BY PRESENTATION BY DAVE PUTT: MSUE MASTER GARDENER & FORMER PRESIDENT OF THE MACOMB COUNTY MASTER GARDENER ASSOCIATION.

TO PURCHASE TICKETS, PLEASE CALL 586 465 2488

## CROCKER HOUSE ICE SCULPTURE

COME SEE A REPLICA OF THE CROCKER HOUSE MUSEUM AS AN ICE SCULPTURE AT THE 18TH ANNUAL DOWNTOWN MOUNT CLEMENS ICE CARVING SHOW.

SATURDAY FEB. 3RD & SUNDAY FEB. 4TH, 2024

DOWNTOWN SHOPS WILL BE OPEN FOR DINING AND SHOPPING.



# HALLOWE'EN at the Crocker House

Hallowe'en at the Crocker House was held on Saturday, October 28th and catered to both adult and kids. The house was candle lit and guests were able to experience the house with all new exhibits. We had fortunes being told in the dining room, funeral traditions in the formal parlor, antique Hallowe'en exhibits and even ghost hunting. If you missed this event, be sure to get it on your calendar for 2024.



We hope you were able to join us at our annual Holiday Open House. It was a huge success with a visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus, children's scavenger hunt and crafts, tunes with Marge, displays of vintage Christmas items and Mount Clemens Pottery Christmas pattern dishware. The gift shop was busy with sales all day and we sold out almost all of the bake sale items. This year we partnered with the Mount Clemens Historical Commission and their home tours. Shuttle buses for the home tour departed from the museum.

# HOLIDAY Open House





**MACOMB COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY &  
CROCKER HOUSE MUSEUM**

A LATE VICTORIAN HOME-LIFE EXPERIENCE

15 UNION STREET

MT CLEMENS, MI 48043

(586)465-2488

[WWW.CROCKERHOUSEMUSEUM.ORG](http://WWW.CROCKERHOUSEMUSEUM.ORG)

[INFO@CROCKERHOUSEMUSEUM.ORG](mailto:INFO@CROCKERHOUSEMUSEUM.ORG)

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# Save the Date

APRIL 5: POTTERY LUNCH SETUP

APRIL 6: MY FAVORITE THINGS POTTERY LUNCHEON, ZUCCAROS BANQUET CENTER

MAY: TUESDAY TEA TALK (DATE AND TOPIC TBD)

JUNE 22: GARDEN TEA (SEE FLIER)

JULY 20: ANNUAL GARDEN WALK

AUGUST 3: MOUNT CLEMENS HISTORICAL COMMISSION ROAD RALLY

AUGUST: SUMMER TEA (DATE AND TOPIC TBD)

SEPTEMBER 10: MEMBER MEETING AND PICNIC

OCTOBER 5: CEMETERY WALK, CLINTON GROVE CEMETERY

OCTOBER 19: HALLOWE'EN AT THE MANOR

NOVEMBER 2: LUNCH WITH JOHN COHASSEY, CIVIL WAR AUTHOR OF THE MICHIGAN 22ND AND THE ROAD TO CHICKAMAUGA

NOVEMBER 12: HOLIDAY DECORATING

DECEMBER 7: HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE

DECEMBER 14, 2:00 PM: POLISH CHRISTMAS SUPPER

Please contact the Museum at (586) 465-2488 or [info@crockerhousemuseum.org](mailto:info@crockerhousemuseum.org) for additional info about these events.