The Historian

Richmond Area Historical
and Genealogical Society

Presents

The 8th ANNUAL HISTORIC TEA
SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 2020

Golden Hawk Golf and Banquet Center
9861 Meisner Rd
Casco, MI 48064

Doors open: 1:00 pm ~ Serving: 2:00 pm

This year’s program
“Wedding Gowns Through The Ages”
Featuring gowns dating back to the 1800s
Presented by Beth Turza

*Hat Contest * Raffles * Silent Auction * Cash Bar *

Advance Ticket Sales Only ~ $35.00

3 ways to purchase tickets:
- Lois Wagner Memorial Library, Richmond
- The Richmond Historical Society Village Museum on Thursdays, 9:00 – 12 noon
- Contact Christine Rowley, telephone 810-392-0261

SOCIETY BOARD
President: Christine Rowley
Vice President: Mary Ellen Shepherd-Logan
Secretary: Richard Weinert
Treasurer: Dianne Gibson
Director: Norman Gibson
Director: Jon Beard
Director: David Waun

FOUNDATION BOARD:
President: Ken Simmons
Director: Dale Quick
Director: Tom Hebel
Director: Patrick McClellan

MEMBERSHIP:
Life member: $150.00
Annual: $20.00
Newsletter subscription: $10.00
Of Sleighs, Annual Meetings, and Chili

Our restored sleigh continues to be popular. When local residents Greg and Renee Manchik told their grandchildren that Grandpa was busy repairing Santa’s sleigh, naturally they needed proof for the doubting little ones. Even we were skeptical until one Thursday morning we caught Greg in the barn wrenching on the sleigh. After Santa finished inspecting the mechanic’s work, they posed for this picture. Thank you for the fun, Manchik family!

We are busy preparing for the Annual Dinner Meeting which is on Friday January 24th at Maniaci’s Banquet Center. All members should have received the mailing that included information about the dinner and the dues. At this event we gather together to greet old and new friends who share our interest in preserving the local history and in educating the community about how life was lived in the past. It is an evening with a bit of necessary business, a review of the past year, a look at our goals for 2020, and a slice of Richmond’s history. We encourage you to bring a friend to the meeting.

The make-up of the Boards will change as we head into 2020. After serving nine years on the Society Board, Mary Shepherd-Logan is stepping down from those duties. We thank her for the leadership, energy, and motivation she brought to the Board, and we are happy to report that Mary Ellen has promised she will remain actively involved with all of her favorite RAHGS activities. We also thank Dale Quick and Kasey Wylin for their years of service to the Foundation Board. To fill these positions, the nominating committee will have their suggestions ready for the ballot at the annual meeting.

Saturday February 1st is the community-wide Chili Cook-Off which is part of the Good Old Winter Days. Our special chili cook will be using ingredients from her own garden and her very own special blend of dried peppers. You must sample this chili, and most importantly cast your vote for “Historic Chili” so RAHGS can carry the bragging rights throughout the year. The competition is tough and we need your support. On that day the buildings at the Village will be open for tours. This is a good time to show off our gem to your friends and neighbors.

As the end of this RAHGS year draws near, we RAHGS members and the Richmond community have so much to be proud of. We continue to offer more events and more people are involved in making it all work. We are working and planning and sorting and cleaning and planting and at the Village every Thursday morning, and during those times many people stop in to visit and to look around at what we have. We have accomplished so much, and with your continued support, the work will continue.

Happy New Year!

Christine
A Rare View of Richmond

Recently this Real Picture Post Card (RPPC) was donated Charlotte Ward. It shows the backside of the Cooper Block from Parker Plow on the left and the Commercial House on the right. You can see where the Parker Plow foundry furnace was located by its smokestack, along with other structures that no longer exist. This photograph may have been taken during the time that Miller and Fernwood operated the foundry. An outhouse is visible in the lower righthand corner. On the left is Water Street and you can see the intersection of Water and Forest streets. At first, I wondered how this photograph was taken since I didn’t believe that it was taken from an airplane. Then I realized that it was taken from the water tower that was located on Water Street.

-Norm Gibson

Recent Donations

Foster Oil Company
Robert Kohlhagen
John and Michele Donley
Richmond Good Old Days
Martin and Louise Borkowski
Don Priestap
Stanley Hirt

Ned and Ellyn Youatt
Ginny Foster
Kathryn Borkowski
Dennis and Amy LaFore
Doug and Mary Logan
Mary Gisslander
Greg and Renee Manchik
**Adopt a Bench Campaign**

Are you interested in supporting a specific project for RAHGS? If yes, adopting a bench for the Village just may be the thing for you. The Society has a few benches that are in need of repairing. One of our members will do the work, but we are looking for donors to cover the cost of sandblasting, powder coating, sanding and restoring the wood, and the four coats of stain. For a donation from you we will restore the bench; and when the work is complete, we will attach a plaque with your name.

Our Village is a popular place for walkers, and this is a great way to offer them a rest as they admire the gardens and the preserved buildings. The benches will also get quite a bit of use during the times when the Village is open. We encourage RAHGS members and the community to be involved with this endeavor. To become a part of this preservation project, contact a Board member.

---

**Recent Acquisitions**

Clayton Fryer: 1959 RHS sports scrapbook
Pat McClellan: 1956-58 Village of Richmond Council Minutes
Doug Porrett: Ad proofs for tractors
Sally Like: Photo of ground breaking for City sewer separation project
Iva Creighton: 1947 RHS composite photo, 1945, 1946, 1947 RHS yearbooks
Charlotte Ward: Steiner milk bottle cap, RPPC of elevated view of Richmond business district
Stan Chiles: Stanley and Sons Plating Co. patch, Webb Café match cover, Cooper and Son card
RAHGS member opens
“Our Country Museum”

By RAHGS member Richard Ren

In the past, I was a Docent, Volunteer Tour Guide, at the Detroit Historical Museum for over 10 years. At present, I have what I call “Our Country Museum” in my basement. It consists of many different areas: One Room School House, General Store, Pop, Beer and Wine, Western area, Automotive, Military and more. The museum was video-taped by Clinton Township and placed on their cable network as well as on Youtube under “Our Country Museum.” Check out the Youtube video, or better yet, contact me for an actual visit. You will find general use items from around 100 Plus years to the present time. The items may have belonged to you as a child, your father, mother or grandparents. This includes everyone as it is “Our Country Museum.” Enjoy your walk down Memory Lane.

Sarah Foster: Richmond

New Member!
Here is the story: This photograph was discarded and subsequently found in the trash at the curb of a street in Richmond. The “picker,” a local man, picked it up and took it to Rix’s Barber Shop and asked if anyone knew anything about it. Matt Rix showed it to a couple of guys at the Service Center who immediately sent a copy of it to me because of the Rowley name on the granary in the background. While we don’t know the identity of the young girl on the horse, we do know that the person with her hand on the halter is my late sister Barbara Rowley Smith. What a treasure this is for me! And to think it was headed for the landfill!

Here is the point: We take many pictures every day with our cell phones. Will they show up years from now when we least expect it? I don’t know. But I do know a good picture can give us a memory that lasts longer than words do. It can sum up something important and offer people a way to think about it. This discarded and found picture certainly did that for me. I urge you to consider carefully all images in your family collection—they may contain more for you than originally meets the eye. And please, date them and identify the people in them!
Richmond Area Historical and Genealogical Society acknowledges the following local businesses who generously sponsored recent events.

Thank you!
Our mission statement:

- To share with others the legacy left to us by our forefathers, the migrants from the East and the immigrants from Europe, who with foresight and conviction built a better future for themselves and their children, and for the generations that followed.
- To honor and remember those who cleared the land, grew the crops, educated the young, and to pay homage to those who fought in the wars and sacrificed their lives for something they believed in.
- To encourage our community leaders to preserve the few historical buildings remaining today.
- To provide assistance to those who turn to us for help in finding their roots.

The general membership meetings/programs, which are open to the public, are held throughout the year. The Historic Village is open during Winter Festival, on Log Cabin Day, during Good Old Days, Thursday morning work bees, special events, and by special appointment. Watch the newsletter, the website, and Facebook for dates, times, and program information.