The 9th ANNUAL HISTORIC TEA FUNDRAISER

SATURDAY, MARCH 18, 2023

Solitude Links Golf Course & Banquet Center
(formerly Fore Lakes)  5810 Flinchbaugh Rd, Kimball, MI 48074
2:00pm
(Doors open at 1:00pm for table viewing)

“Behind the Scenes at the Grand Hotel Kitchen”
Presented by Donna Louwers, Retired Grand Hotel Pastry Chef

Silent Auction
“Oh Two Nights for Two
at the Grand Hotel”

*Raffle*  *Cash Bar*

*Wear a hat to be entered into a special drawing*

Tickets $45.00 per person - Advance ticket sales only –
To purchase tickets please contact:
Christine Rowley phone: 810.392.0261; email: crowley50@comcast.net
or Sue Jakubiak phone: 810.305.6338; email: ejakubiak99@comcast.net

*In the event Tea is cancelled, ticket refunds will be available*
President’s Report

Considering all of the unusual issues that we all have been mastering these past few years, 2022 has been a banner year. Each of our major, pivotal events where well attended, well embraced and well supported by the Richmond area. Cornerstone events like Heritage Festival, Ladies’ Tea, Cemetery Walk, Good-Old-Days, and Christmas in the Village, to mention a few, were great community accomplishments due in no small part to the overwhelming guidance and implementation of our members and volunteers.

With this annual meeting we honor those who have carried the heavy load of giving their resources of time, physical efforts, and financial contributions. It is also a time to pat on the back those who are volunteers to take certain tasks and offices in order that the day-to-day work of the Society does not skip a beat.

I would be remiss if I were not to mention that we would not have our latest venue of a Historical Filling Station without the generous gifts of you our members. With your gracious giving and the corporate contributions of our community businesses we would still be looking at an empty shell and hoping to see away to highlight a major part of Richmond’s history.

Below you will find the report from the Nominating Committee. Their efforts keep us staffed with great people in order to accomplish some awesome tasks for 2023.

Thank you for your encouragement. It has been a joy to have served you these few years. I ask that you give Dianne Gibson the support and encouragement that you have so graciously given to me.

Sincerely, Jon Beard, President: 2020 - 2022

2023 Standing Committees & Board Nominations

Audit: (Lori Nye – Treasurer), Charlotte Ward, Kathleen Dolan, Mary-Ellen Shepherd-Logan
Budget: Dianne Gibson, Don Graham, Norm Gibson (LTP), Lori Nye – Treasurer, Rich Weinert, (& Pam Masseratti member at large)
Membership: Christine Rowley
Museum Curator: Norm Gibson
Newsletter Editor: Christine Rowley
Nominations: Marguerite Little, Doug Porrett, Doug Logan
Research Committee: Ursula Adamson, Dianne Gibson, Pat Hendrickson

Your Board in Action

October 3, 2022
1. The Heritage Festival and the Fiber Festival will be combined.
2. The new computer is set up with access for the president, secretary, and treasurer.
3. It was proposed to have volunteers adopt a building
4. It was proposed that RAHGS get a credit card. Treasurer is checking with North Star bank.
5. The 2023 Standing Committee list and the 2023 Calendar were presented to Board
David Warren Foster

81, of Richmond, passed away on Thursday, November 17, 2022 in the comfort of his home surrounded by his loving family.
He was born February 27, 1941, in St. Clair, the youngest son of the late Donald Weeks Foster and Helen (Crampton) Foster. His marriage to his high school sweetheart Susan Keech was on June 8, 1963 in East Lansing. In addition to his beloved wife Susan of 59 years, he is survived by his caring children Sarah Foster of Richmond, Donald Foster of St. Clair, Andrew Foster (Jeffrey Williams) of Chicago and Amy Foster (Derek Habel) of Richmond. He is also survived by a brother, Daniel Foster; sister-in-law, Virginia Foster and brother-in-law, James (Judy) Keech as well as many nieces, nephews and cousins. He was predeceased by his brother, Dick Foster and his sisters-in-law, Diane Foster and Judy Foster.
Dave graduated from Richmond High School in 1959. His senior year he quarterbacked the football team to an undefeated season. He received a bachelor’s degree and a master’s degree in landscape architecture from Michigan State University. He worked for the U.S. Forest Service for 15 years designing campgrounds, trails and signage. He also fought forest fires across the United States.
In 1979, he returned to Richmond and began his building and construction career. He most recently built and remodeled stores for Sunrise Convenience Stores. He was a member of the First United Methodist Church, Richmond and the Richmond Historical Society where he designed their recent gas station project.
Dave always made time for everyone, making every person around him feel important and special. He had the rare gift of making a friend at the drop of a hat. His life was blessed with a host of special friends and neighbors. All our lives are richer for having known and loved David.
The family honors the memory of Dave and invites you to visit and share memories Sunday November 27, 2022 from 2:00 to 8:00 p.m. at Kaatz Funeral Directors, Richmond. Funeral services will be 11:30 a.m. Monday with 10:00 a.m. visiting. Rev. Sunhwa Hopgood, pastor of First United Methodist Church, Richmond will officiate. Cremation arrangements were entrusted to Kaatz Funeral Directors, Richmond.
In lieu of flowers, memorials may be directed to: Richmond First United Methodist Church, Lois Wagner Memorial Library, Richmond Area Historical & Genealogical Society or McLaren Hospice Port Huron.

In Memoriam
This was the headline in the Review newspaper every August from 1913 to 1921, possibly even longer. “Chautauqua” is an Iroquois word with multiple meanings, including “a bag tied in the middle” or “two moccasins tied together”. The word describes the shape of Chautauqua Lake, located in southwest New York, which was the setting for the Chautauqua Institution, the first educational assembly in what became a significant movement at the turn of the 20th Century.

In 1874, John Heyl Vincent and Lewis Miller rented a Methodist camp meeting site to use as a summer school for Sunday school teachers. Vincent and Miller were very clear that their intent was educational, rather than revivalist, and the Chautauqua Institution was never affiliated with any one religious denomination.

Within a few years, the scope of the Chautauqua Institution had broadened to include adult education of all kinds, as well as a correspondence course known as the Chautauqua Literary and Scientific Circle, which was designed to bring “a college outlook” to working and middle-class people. The business people in smaller communities such as Richmond, St. Clair or Armada were required to sell anywhere from 300 to 600 tickets @$2.00 each, in advance of the performances to the public. The programs would last for a week and were held in a large tent set up in the athletic field in the vicinity of the sports bleachers. Clarence Flower was there to document one of the many events for us with this wonderful photograph.
The typical events during Chautauqua week consisted of concerts, interpretive readings, lectures, recitals, drama, children’s programs, scientific demonstrations (including the gyroscope and ultra-violet ray) and in one year concluded with a song recital by Alice Nielsen, described as one of the world’s most noted prima donnas.

In 1915 the location was described as having been directly south of the Baptist Church, which in my estimate would have been on the west side of Main Street in what was later the Skinner Automobile Sales.

From an article placed in the Review in 1921, we get a much clearer picture of the effort that had to be put forth, physically and monetarily, by the business people in Richmond to make the event a success.
RAHGS Donations

Rosemarie Schroeder (filling station)
Sarah Foster (filling station)
Blue Flame (filling station)
Foster Oil (filling station)
Norm & Dianne (windmill)
William Waun (tea)
Joe Maranzano (memorial bench)
Doug Waun (tea)
Ed and Anita Calomeni (Dave Foster)
Amazon
Sandy and Max Luenser (Dave Foster)
Jerry and Pattie Papuga (Dave Foster)
Kathy Harley (Dave Foster)
Kathy Harley (Ray VanSullen)
Action Home Setters (tea)
American Energy (tea)
Jim Weeks (Dave Foster)
Velma Haggarty (Dave Foster)
Kevin Cusick (Dave Foster)
EJ Connolly (filling station)
Sunrise Stores (filling station)
Susan Foster (filling station, Keech memorial)
Rich and Susan Weinert (Dave Foster)
Shepherd Auto Sales (Dave Foster)
Kari Nieman (Dave Foster)
Roger and Kristine Wahl (Dave Foster)
Nancy Reeves (Dave Foster)
Richard and Andrea Landuyt (Dave Foster)
Susan Jakubiaik (Dave Foster)
Richard and Marsha Carlson (Dave Foster)
Ron and Connie Schweiger (Dave Foster)
Robert Kohlhagen (Dave Foster)
Terry and Kathi Miller (Dave Foster)
Marsha Phillips (Dave Foster)
Patrick and Janet Viau (Dave Foster)
Jacqueline Cook
Mary Gisslander
Pat and Francis Manchik
Keith and Sallie Rengert
Donald Priestap
Ellyn Youth
Dennis and Shirley Bolen
Betty Hebel
Elsie Manchester
Michelle McClellan & Rick Pearsall (Dave Foster)
John Donley
Mary Stewart
Victoria Reins
Martha Robb
Dr. Julie Cichoracki (tea)
Pat Bartosiewicz (Dave Foster)
Phillip & Alison Maurer (Dave Foster)
Norm & Dianne Gibson (Dave Foster)
Charles & Cathy Gibson
Kathryn Borkowski
Doug & Mary Ellen Logan (Dave Foster)
Pat & Sandy McClellan (Dave Foster)
Sincerely Susan’s Fashions (tea)

To the Editor

Christine,
Thanks for the wonderful issue of RAHGS Fall Historian. What a great community Richmond is. It was heartwarming to read about the folks who originally lived and grew up in this city. Every time I read about Richmond, I always think about how nice it would’ve been to grow up there.
Sincerely,
Micki Smith

Hi Christine,
On Thursday, the 9th, my wife Dorothy, my brother Doug, his wife Pam and I visited the Historical Museum. I wanted you to know how impressed we were with what you and others have done. It was so nice to see so many reminders of the history of our town. We are proud to have grown up in Richmond and graduated from RHS. Please extend to others who have given their time our thanks for a job well done. Please let me know if there is anything we can do to help.
Bill Waun, RHS ‘54

Bill and Dorothy, Pam and Doug Waun
Amelia Earhart flew into Richmond via the Eicher Consulting Team
Submitted by: Mary Ellen Shepherd - Logan

A stormy evening on November 18 didn’t deter history buffs from trekking to the Richmond Community Center to hear the Earhart story from the father and son team of Eicher Consulting.

Pat O’Connor, from St. Clair and a former history teacher, attended and was thoroughly engrossed in the presentation which focused on Earhart’s time and record setting flights in Michigan. As Pat put it, “The programs the Richmond Historical Society offer to the community are always well done, informative, and a great bang for the buck. I look forward to the programs in 2023.”

The Eicher team shared stories of her life, her adventures, and her time in Michigan. Amelia’s first visit to Michigan was in 1928, after her first transatlantic flight. She set 3 women’s speed records at the National Air Races on Grosse Isle and was a test pilot for various aircraft. She even spoke at Port Huron High School in the 1950s.

A Holiday Evening in the Village
The Historic Village came alive at 4:00 on December 3 with Luminaries flanking the sidewalks and all the buildings open for visitors.

Christmas Through the Years
Music and Sing-A-Longs in the school
Warming up in the cabin
Story time in the cabin
Mrs. Claus in the sleigh

Submitted by Mary Ellen Shepherd
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.