

**Our Mission**

The Waterloo Area Historical Society's mission is to foster an understanding and appreciation in children and adults of the pioneer farmers of Michigan, their family life, and their children's schooling.

# Waterloo Area Historical Society



PO Box 37, Stockbridge, MI 49285 ♦ Phone: 517-596-2254 ♦ www.waterloofarmmuseum.org

Volume: **60** Issue: **3**

October 2022



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**Antique Tractor, Truck and Farm Equipment Show** was once again a fun, friendly and fantastic event. Several people that had not been to the event before were so appreciative of the smaller venue, because they could see everything and talk to the tractor owners and not feel hurried. Many of the first-time tractor owners enjoyed themselves so much they stated they would not miss this event again. Tractor games included antique tractors and garden tractors as well. A trail ride on Sunday morning took a wagon full of riders and antique tractors to Dewey School for a visit. Many reminisced their days of attending one room country schools.



## What's Next:

**Pioneer Day!!**

October 9th

## What's Inside:

Event Review.....Cover Pg.2

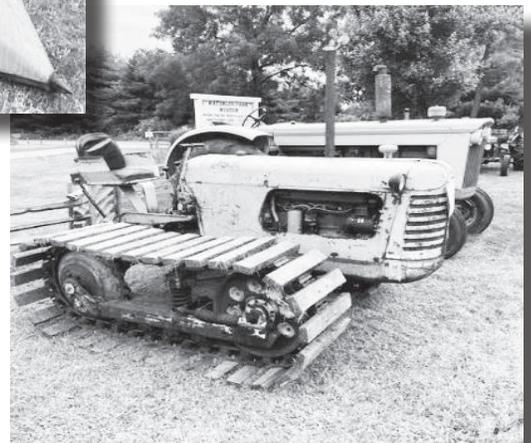
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Antique Tractor, Truck and Farm Equipment Show



## You are Invited to the Annual Meeting and Volunteer Appreciation Social!

Desserts and Ice Cream will be served along with drinks. A short but very important business meeting will follow. There are issues the Museum Board of Directors face daily. As members it is good to be aware of decisions that are made and how the funds are used. After all this is your museum. Brian Dewey and Jim Hunt will be presenting "LaSalle's Crossing of Michigan". This presentation will cover the famous French explorer LaSalle as the first European to travel through this country in 1680.



There will be a rare opportunity to see a display of many items from the Realy family. These treasures from the Realy's will give us an idea of how these original homesteaders lived their life on this farm. Items that Ida (Realy) Schumacher gave the museum in the 1960's are always on display throughout the museum but will be brought out along with some of the Realy papers, so you can get a closer look.

Please join us for a pleasant afternoon on the Farm, September 25th, 2:00 p.m. at the Waterloo Farm Museum.

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## Pioneer Day October 9, 2022 Flower Barn.

Donations are always welcome! Looking for: small gourd pumpkins, medium pumpkins, sweet annie, statice, iris pods, wheat, grasses, hydrangeas, yarrow, salvia, grapevine wreaths, ribbon, wet foam, Spanish moss, pinecones, baskets, Osage oranges, and raffia. We are recruiting workers to help prepare the dried flower arrangements in the barn Saturday October 1st, Friday October 7th and Saturday October 8th -each day 9:30-3:30. Also, helpers in the Flower Barn on Pioneer Day 10-00 to 5:00 pm. Drop off materials at the farm on any work bee day. Contact Cheryl Wells at [wellscvb98@gmail.com](mailto:wellscvb98@gmail.com) or my cell 734-649-2807 with any questions or suggestions.



## Waterloo Wisdom from Mrs. John Benjamin



*Dear Friends,*

*I haven't sent you a letter in over a year. John is so good about keeping up with all of you. I believe he has a note to you too, but here is the news from my point of view.*

*The leaves are falling already in our area. It seems way too early for that. The hot summer isn't over yet, but the garden is almost done. The fall crop seeds have been sown and the last of the summer crops have been harvested. Canning and jelly making continued until I thought it would never end. Winter meals will be all the better for my labors now. Many other late summer and fall jobs are done. Such as new straw in the mattresses, and more feathers added to the feather ticks. It will be so nice to have when those winter winds blow.*

*I have been visiting with my friends after church about the upcoming get-together at the Realy farm in October. It will be just like an old-fashioned harvest festival back home in Germany. Everyone will be bringing their produce and wares to sell, and the local musicians will be playing and encouraging us to dance along with their music. I understand their will be Brats and Saur Kraut too, along with pretzels. Sweet Cider and molasses cookies hot out of the bake oven will be available. Mrs. Realy's molasses cookies are the best I have ever had.*

*The latest event we went to is the annual corn husking bee at the Barber Farm. Not only did we help with the husking, but the ladies were having a quilting bee for a young woman who is getting married next month. She will have a beautiful quilt for her new home. This young woman has been creating some beautiful things of her own since she was a child. Crocheting, stitching and knitting are taught to the very young so they will have the skills to someday take care of a family of their own in the future.*

*It was good to hear the local gossip about new babies and how some of the older folks are getting along with their illnesses. One of our sweet neighbors had a horrible accident with a fire in her kitchen. Her skirt caught on fire, but she wasn't injured too badly. It can be so dangerous if you aren't careful. Some women and children have lost their lives when this happens. The local women have been helping a gentleman and his seven children, after his wife died in such a manor. We have been sewing and helping with the canning so he will have some of his wife's garden produce for the winter.*

*The dangers on the farm cannot be realized by the folks who do not live in the country. The farm machinery and home equipment must be tended to all the time to keep everyone safe.*

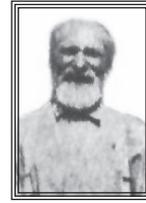
*This is all the news for now from our farm. I hope you all are doing well, and we will see you in October at the Realy farm for the fall festival.*

*Yours Sincerely,*

*Mrs. John Benjamin*

"What happens if you get scared half to death twice?" J. Benjamin

## **Waterloo Wisdom from John Benjamin**



**Good Day Neighbor,**

**Looks like Fall's not very far off, leaves turnin' just a little, a few even fallin'. Finished last of the hay put up, wheat, oats barley, and stored for the season ahead, and the best saved for seed, all dry and secure in the granary. Corn stalks turnin' color, ears beginin' to tip down and dry. Soon all the stock will show winter coats. The last of those buildin' repairs to be made while weather permits.**

**Cannin' and preservin' the last of the bounty of fruits and vegetables. Not forgetin' one of the most important activities of the Fall Season, pressin' late apples into the best refreshment of all time, apple cider. Fresh is tasty, but by no means does it compare to that, that is left to improve for later consumption.**

**Yessir! Just thinkin' about the fabulous cider made by the Realys makes me pucker. So I'll be over to the farm from time to time, 'specially when they have their big fall Gatherin'. Be seein' you there for fellowship, story tellin' and to improve both, some of the "seasoned" cider.**

**Be Blesses, Regards**

**Your Friend, John**



**Pioneer Day, October 9th, is right around the corner! Music, vendors, demonstrations, horse wagon rides are all ready for you. The flower barn is getting ready with all the dried flower arrangements and fun fall decorations. The Farm Wagon is requesting donations of baked goods and produce. A lot of your returning favorites will be on site to present their wares. Maple syrup, Fred's Jerky, The Spinners Flock and many more. We look forward to seeing you there!**

### WAHS Committee Chairs

Committee	Name
Collections	Linda Tengman
Dewey School	Kim Titus
Facebook	Jenny Smith
Gardens	Carol Strahler
Gift Shop	Hillary Muscato
Educational Program Co-ordinator	Mary Spaan
Insurance	Butch Richmond
Membership	Deirdre Fidler
Newsletter Editor	Jennifer Hawthorne
Private Events Co-ordinator	Arlene Kaiser
Publicity and Advertisement Chair	Cathy Alter
Room and Building Cleaning Co-ordinator	Arlene Kaiser
House Guides	Cathy Alter
Restoration & Repair	Ron Kaiser
Property Management and Site Development	Ron Kaiser
Public Safety & Security	Chad Kinch
Webmaster	Charles Durbin

**To Contact Committee Chairs,  
Officers, or Trustees email  
info@waterloofarmmuseum.org  
or phone 517-596-2254**

### WAHS Officers and Trustees

Office	Name
President	Brian Dewey
Vice President	Rae Pierce
Treasurer	
Secretary	Amanda Taylor
Trustee	Arlene Kaiser
Trustee	Chad Kinch
Trustee	Jim Hunt
Trustee	Butch Richmond
Trustee	Jenny Smith
Trustee	Kim Titus
Trustee	Dave Wilson

# Waterloo Area Historical Society Membership Form

A private nonprofit 501(c)3 organization, the Waterloo Area Historical Society works to fund all the operation expenses for the Farm and Dewey School. Donations are fully deductible to the extent of the law.

*Snip Snip*



- PLEASE CHECK HERE IF RENEWING

- PLEASE CHECK FOR EMAILED NEWSLETTER

**CHOOSE ONE:**

- \$18.00 SINGLE
- \$25.00 COUPLE
- \$25.00 FAMILY (Two adults + children under 18)
- \$50.00 CONTRIBUTING MEMBER
- \$60.00 BUSINESS
- \$250.00 INDIVIDUAL LIFE MEMBER

Ages Sixty-two and over:

- \$12.00 SENIOR SINGLE
- \$18.00 SENIOR COUPLE
- \$175.00 SENIOR INDIVIDUAL LIFE MEMBER

- I WOULD LIKE TO MAKE AN ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTION TO SUPPORT **WAHS** IN THE AMOUNT OF \$\_\_\_\_\_.

**NAME** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS** \_\_\_\_\_

**CITY** \_\_\_\_\_ **ST** \_\_\_\_\_ **ZIP** \_\_\_\_\_

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Please make checks payable to:

**The Waterloo Area Historical Society**

Mail to: WAHS Memberships

P.O.Box 37, Stockbridge, MI 49285

- I AM INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING AT THE MUSEUM, PLEASE CONTACT ME.



## WAHS Business Sponsors



"Being happy is letting go of what slows you down." J. Benjamin

Company Name	City	Phone
THE ABBOTT & FILLMORE AGENCY INC	Stockbridge	(517) 851-7777
ACCURATE TREE REMOVAL & TRIMMING	Grass Lake	(734) 475-7162
ADISKA FAMILY DENTAL	Stockbridge	(517) 851-8008
ALLEN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY	Fort Wayne, IN	(260) 421-1223
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COMPLETE OUTDOOR SERVICES	Pinckney	(517) 304-4854
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WATERLOO NATURAL HISTORY ASSOCIATION	Grass Lake	(734) 475-0223
THOMAS WORTH - PROFESSIONAL SURVEYIOR	Jackson	(517) 788-9806





*WATERLOO AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
P O BOX 37  
Stockbridge, MI 49285*

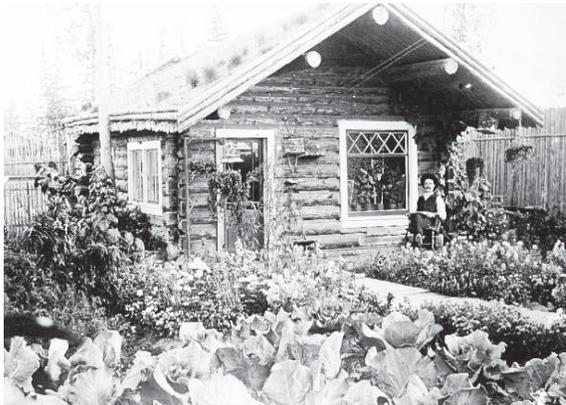
PLACE  
POSTAGE  
HERE

**We're on the web!**  
[www.waterloofarmmuseum.org](http://www.waterloofarmmuseum.org)

**Waterloo Farm Museum 13493 Waterloo-Munith Rd., Grass Lake, MI 40940  
Dewey School 11501 Territorial Rd., Stockbridge, MI 49285**

## **WAHS Events for 2022**

*Please note all events will begin at 10am both Saturday and Sunday*  
**Volunteer Appreciation Social, September 25, 2pm**  
**Pioneer Day, October 9, 10am to 5pm**  
**Christmas on the Farm, December 3-4, 10am to 4pm**  
**WAHS Board Meetings - 7pm on the third Monday. Location posted on website and Facebook.**



***“You must weed your mind as  
you would your garden.”  
Mrs. J. Benjamin***

