

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

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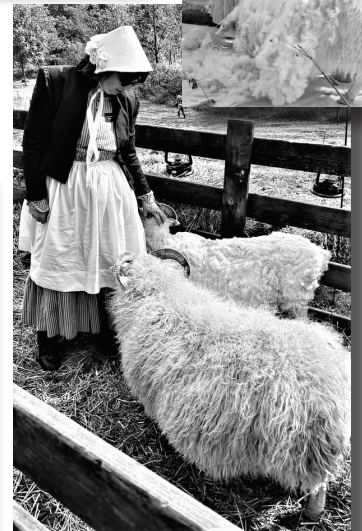
Pioneer Day

In remembering Pioneer Day every year it is sweetly different than years past. I remember one of the first Pioneer Days I attended when my children were docents on the farm. It was great fun to walk into a room and see them talking about the farm and the people who lived there. Today it is even more fun to see their children enjoying all the Museum has to offer and helping out at the event. Many old friends of the Museum joined us this year and many new friends who became members were here to enjoy the vendors, demonstrations, horse wagon rides, cider making, exhibits, and lots of good things to eat.

Thank you to all who attended and to all those who worked hours, weeks and months to make Pioneer Day a great success!



Pioneer Day Continued



Stockbridge FFA Chapter worked with the Michigan Barn Preservation Network to build a 1/4 scale barn using post and beam construction. Sponsored by Waterloo Farm and Dewey School Museum, Michigan Barn Preservation Network.

“One of the side benefits of forgetting names and faces is that you keep meeting new people every day!” J. Benjamin



Raffle Winners!



The chainsaw winner is Kerry Maull



The Runner up is Donny Higel

Christmas on the Farm



It is with great Joy we are once again bringing Christmas on the Farm to you. It is a favorite way to start the Holiday Season. There will be vendors in the Realy Barn, toys and treasures in the Gift Shop, wreaths and table decorations in the Ice House, baked goods in the Woodshed Bake Shop, great food in the Concession, and tours of the Victorian Farmhouse decorated for the arrival of guests for Christmas dinner. Music will be throughout the house and grounds during the event (weather permitting). The Log House Pioneer family will be greeting guests as they prepare their Christmas dinner. Dewey School will be decorated in fine Christmas splendor as it would have been in 1880 when the school would have been open for a Christmas pageant or Concert. Please join us December 2nd and 3rd, 10am to 4pm



“Those who believe where there’s smoke there’s fire have no success lighting a wood stove.” J. Benjamin



Calling All Bakers and Candy Makers!

Wanted-Baked Goods, Candy, Desserts, Cookies and Brownies. Anything to tempt our guests as they walk through the Woodshed Bake Shop at Christmas on the Farm. Donations can be delivered to the Farmhouse Friday, December 1st 10am to 4pm or Saturday, December 2nd before 10am.

Santa Photo Session

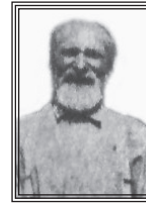
November 11th, at the Waterloo Farm Museum Log House. Please Call Arlene at 517-392-3195 to place your appointment time. Each session is \$50 per family unit. A deposit of \$25 is required to save your spot. As much as we love to see your entire family, grandpa, grandma and all the cousins, it is not possible to fit more than one family at a time in the photo with Santa. Please book in groups of 6 or less. Thank you.



Greens Day Volunteers

On November 25th from 9:30am to 3:30pm Greens Day will be taking place at the Waterloo Farm Museum. What is Greens Day you ask? It is the day when talented people gather to create the beautiful wreaths, swags and table decorations to be sold at Christmas on the Farm. All the decorations, greens and wreaths are provided, you only need to bring your glue gun, glue sticks, wire cutters and your desire to use your God given talents to create beauty and meaning to the event. Please call or text me if you are going to join us so we will have enough lunch prepared for you. If you would like to bring a contribution to lunch that would be great. Thank you and see you then!

Waterloo Wisdom from John Benjamin



Good Day Neighbor,

Recently met with a childhood friend, Karl, who I grew up with, and went to a one room school not far from here. Talked of the times there, lookin' back on all them years. More we talked, more we remembered how all the boys were missin' from school when crops had to be tended or harvest brought in. Most of us didn't go past sixth grade, some to the eighth, some only to the fourth. Only the well off or the English went beyond.

We Swabian Germans, for those who don't know, came from southwest Germany, not like them blue eyed blonde haired Northern German folks. We spoke our own language not like that "high German", similar to what you English call your "King's English". We got most of our educatin' at home, work ethic, faith and family, bein' truthful and honest, things you don't always pick up in the outside world. Our folks always spoke in German at home. We didn't always get along with the others. The teacher kept us, the High Germans, and English on one side of the room, and the Irish on the other. (Couldn't have been that German bullheadedness.)

Heard talk of folks walkin' five miles to school, that didn't happen hereabouts, schools was only 'bout three or four miles apart. If you were to walk five miles, you would of passed at least one other school. Weather made no difference, we walked in rain, sleet, snow, whatever was throwed at us, providin' we really wanted to go. Usually, motivation came from that pretty little dark-haired girl with dark brown eyes in the fourth grade.

We were known for our colorful language, good at singin', specially in German, teacher didn't know the words comin' out. Apparently that's why our story tellin' came so natural, (learned that at home). What we learned growin' up must have took hold, most everyone I know turned out to be successful farmers and business men, apparently not being hindered by a high education. Hopefully youngsters today are gettin' as much learnin' outa' school as well as in school.

Christmas season is comin' on, can't forget all the preparation at home and at school-always havin' the story of the first Christmas in a play, singin' hymns and Holiday songs. We were always proud that the Christmas tree, St. Nicolas or Father Christmas, Santa Claus, and more was from our part of Germany. So many families cherish the blown glass ornaments, Kugles, from the motherland. For those who don't speak German "Donder and Blitzen" are Thunder and Lightning"!

Look forward to the Realy's party of the Season, will see you all there, maybe with the traditional Holiday Cheer!

God Bless

Regards, John Benjamin

Chairperson Stepping Down

It is with great regret that we must say goodbye to one of our Committee Chairperson and friend of the Museum. We are so sad Catherine Alter is stepping down after December 31, 2023. She has decided to give up her many, many responsibilities. Cathy is the chairperson of Volunteer Coordinating, Docent Training, and Public Relations and Advertising. Not only has she faithfully chaired these committees, she also served as a board member until 2023. She is leaving some big shoes to fill for 2024. We give our Thanks and Gratitude for all she has done for the Museum. Cathy, you will be missed. Thank You.



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 804-596-2254**

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Vice President	Rae Pierce
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Secretary	
Trustee	Jim Hunt
Trustee	Arlene Kaiser
Trustee	Chad Kinch
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

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- \$12.00 SENIOR SINGLE
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- I WOULD LIKE TO MAKE AN ADDITIONAL CONTRIBUTION TO SUPPORT **WAHS** IN THE AMOUNT OF \$_____.

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The Waterloo Area Historical Society

Mail to: WAHS Memberships

P.O.Box 37, Stockbridge, MI 49285

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WAHS Business Sponsors



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"Experience is simply the name we give our mistakes." J. Benjamin





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

PLACE
POSTAGE
HERE

We're on the web!
www.waterloofarmmuseum.org

**Waterloo Farm Museum 13493 Waterloo-Munith Rd., Grass Lake, MI 49240
Dewey School 11501 Territorial Rd., Stockbridge, MI 49285**

WAHS Events for 2023

Please note all events will begin at 10am both Saturday and Sunday

Christmas on the Farm- December 2-3, 10am to 4pm
WAHS Board Meetings - 7pm on the third Monday. Location posted on website and Facebook.



*“Age is mostly a matter of mind.
If you don’t mind, it doesn’t matter.”
Mrs. J. Benjamin*

