

FLAT ROCK HISTORICAL SOCIETY

P.O. Box 337 Jan, 2014

Flat Rock, MI 48134

www.flatrockhistory.org

General Member Meeting

Our next General Membership Meeting will be on Wednesday, Feb. 12th, from 6:30 to 7 pm at the Hotel. This will be a short meeting with the Historical Commission.

The meeting will be followed by a speaker from Fifth Third Bank. The talk is about “**protecting your identity.**” With all the scams going on, this will provide you with information to minimize your chances of being a victim.

Elected Officers for 2014

Pres: Don Fesko

V-P: Robin Gillis

Treas: Carol Klingel

Rec. Sec: Gertie Younglove

Corr. Sec: Cindy Fesko

Trustee: Dawn Bartok

Trustee: Lila Fedokovitz

Trustee: Pat Simeck

Trustee: Judi McNair

Trustee: Donna Neese

Trustee: Phyllis Dasher

Committee Leaders

Local History: Lila Fedokovitz

Membership: Kathy Fisk

Membership

Remember, membership dues are due. We still have 50 members' dues outstanding. You can mail them to the above P.O. Box (a form is included in the printed newsletter). Remember, the individual annual fee is \$10. If you have any questions about membership, please contact Kathy Fisk. We have lost two lifetime members this year: Peggy Angelo and Don Fedon. Our deepest sympathy goes out to their families and friends.

We have 5 new lifetime members: Richard Fisk, Judi McNair, Richard Porath, Leon Simeck, and Richard Smith. The total number of life-time members is 64.

February Tea

On Sat., February 22nd we will be hosting our first tea at the Historical Hotel. It will be from 1-3 p.m. with live music, good food and fellowship. The cost is \$10 per member and each member can bring one guest for \$10. All others are \$15. We are looking forward to having a good time.

On February 10th at 1:30 at the Hotel we will be finalizing details for the tea. All members are welcome to attend. Due to the size of the Hotel, we are limiting the number of participants to 30. Please call Robin to reserve your space. They are filling up fast.



Quilt Open House

Due to requests, we will be open for two days, Sat., Mar. 8th and Sun. the 9th. We will have over 200 quilts on display in the Munger Museum and Hotel. Velia Lauerman will be at the Hotel providing written appraisals for \$10/quilt. At 3p.m. on March 8th she will be demonstrating the art of trapunto. If you have a quilt you are willing to display that day, please contact Cindy. You are invited to sit in on the appraisals and learn more about quilt dating and quilts in general.



Upcoming Events

We have changing exhibits every month. The Museum is open the second Sunday of every month from 1 to 4 pm. And we always need volunteers to act as docents.

Sunday, Feb. 9th: we will celebrate Valentine's Day, of course.

Wednesday, Feb 12th: Gen. Mtg. with Fifth Third Bank “Protecting Your Identity”

Saturday, Feb. 22nd, Tea at the Hotel

Sat. & Sun., March 9&10: Quilts—March is Nat'l Quilt Month. Appraisals \$10/quilt.

April 9th: General Meeting—we would appreciate any suggestions for a speaker.

April 13th: Easter and post card trip around the world.

May 4: Flea Market—we can always use help, if you can help, please notify one of the board members. We do not yet have a group to guide vendors to sites during the night. We will be working on this issue through to the April General Meeting. If you have any suggestions, please call us. This is a good fundraiser for local activities.

Collectors?

We are always looking for different exhibits to display. If you have a collection that you are willing to display at one of our open houses, please give Cindy a call.

Local History

We'd like to remind you that we have a few more copies of the Arcadia book of Flat Rock pictorial history. They are available at City Hall, the Library, the Community Center, the Flat Rock Hotel and the Munger Store. They cost \$22. If you would like one mailed to you, send a check for \$25 to the Society Post Office box to cover shipping. If you have any questions, please contact Carol Klingel.

Thank you

- Special thanks for Ron Klingel for braving the cold and clearing the sidewalks and driveway.
- Leon & Pat Simeck for an oak podium.
- Sue & Gary Scheiwe for pair of strawberry glass oil lamps.
- Ann Honaker for a baby scale
- Christina Genaw for an 1800's Bible in excellent condition.
- James Beer (in memory of Arlene M. Beer) for a treadle sewing machine
- Gail Potratz (Wrobel) for a Last Rites Cabinet (c 1910)
- Melvin Mathias for Flat Rock memorabilia including a book from the Abar Airport

Local History Room

Over the holidays, the author of the book **Not Home for Christmas**, John Meurs contacted us for help researching a new book he is now writing. As a 9 year old boy on Nov. 26, 1944 in Nazi occupied Holland, John saw a US Bomber crash into his village. This book is about the 34 US bombers that were lost on that day.

His new book will be about the 63 US bombers that were lost on Apr. 29, 1944. He has researched each flight crew member by interviewing them or their family. Thomas J. Verran of Newport was the co-pilot on one of the planes that was lost in April. Thomas died in 2006 and John is trying to locate his family.

70 years ago the Flat Rock front pages were full of names of men who were in the air war. John Howley and Francis (Pease) were on the same bomber and were listed as MIA in March of 1945. Pease's family was notified that he was KIA (killed in action) and Howley's family was notified that he was a POW (prisoner of war) in June. Hulbert Q. Hall was listed as MIA (missing in action) in the same month. It wasn't until Dec. 21, 1945 that the family was notified that only 3 crew members had survived and Hulbert was KIA. "Joe" crashed. His name is on a memorial in Honolulu, HI. We are now indexing the letters Albert wrote to his first wife when he was trying to convince her to marry him and return to Flat Rock. Albert served in the Civil War in the 4th Michigan Infantry with several men who lived in Hudson. He married Millie in 1873, she had a baby in 1875 and both died shortly after the birth. In 1878 he married Louisa Knight and they had three boys Fred, Harley and Henry. Louisa died in 1887 and in 1891 he married Betsy Bennet.

Submitted by Lila

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If you received this newsletter by mail and would prefer e-mail, **OR**, if you received this by e-mail and would prefer regular mail, please notify Don Fesko at feskos.fesko13@gmail.com.

