



Spirit of Salem

A Publication of the **Salem Area Historical Society**

P.O. Box 75011, Salem, MI 48175

www.sahshistory.org

Volume XXIII, Issue 1, December 2007

SAHS EVENTS

SUNDAY, Dec 9th -- 1:00 PM

-- Annual Christmas Party
at Renwick House

WEDNESDAY, Jan 16th -- 7:30 PM

-- Salem Farming
at Salem Township Hall

SATURDAY, Feb 16th -- 6:00 PM

-- Annual Dinner/Auction
at Fox Hills Club House

WEDNESDAY, March 26th -- 6:00 PM

-- Annual Election/Dinner
at Salem Township Hall

This is our first issue of *Spirit of Salem* in several years. It is dedicated to the memory of its previous long-time editor and loved Salem Area Historical Society member, Meroe Kaericher. We hope to strive to do a job that would have made her proud.

Message from the SAHS President

A lot has happen since the last *Spirit of Salem*, for a recap of 2007 see the article on Page 2. There is a strong core of volunteer members of the SAHS that helps this organization achieve its mission of "Keeping the Past Alive for Tomorrow" by preserving, archiving and informing others of the history of Salem Township. A big thank you to all that help SAHS.

The Dickerson Barn Project has been an on-going project since 1999 when SAHS dismantled the barn. Since that time, we have raised and spent over \$52,000 on its restoration. The good news is that the barn is up and enclosed for the winter. The challenge is to replenish our funds and complete the project. Our reserves were completely gone this fall and three of our members stepped up and helped us cover our

outstanding expenses. We are now back to a very small surplus, but are looking forward to our next big fund raiser, the SAHS Annual Dinner / Auction. Please consider attending and participating in the auction. It is a fun evening. Please use the ticket order form on Page 3. Tickets can be purchased via mail or at our December and January Meetings. Tickets make a nice present.

Our SAHS membership has steady increased during 2007 and is presently at 63 paid memberships (Individual, Family and Seniors). We would like of all our members to renew for 2008 and recruit more members. If we all tried to recruit one new member and only 20% of us succeeded, we would have 75 members. Please see our membership renewal forms on Page 3. Use it to renew via mail or at one of our 2008 1st Quarter meetings. As you will notice, our membership fees have increased for next year. Our previous membership fee was the lowest of 15 neighboring Historical Societies. This increase puts it near the average. The original SAHS membership in 1975, our first year, was \$5. The USA inflation from August 1975 to October 2007 has been 284.78%. An inflation adjusted 1975 membership fee of \$5 for 2007 is \$19.24. Our 2008 individual membership fee is \$15. We have also added a Lifetime Membership. This one-time fee will enroll you and your spouse in the SAHS for the rest of your lives. SAHS will place the Lifetime Membership Fees into an interest-earning endowment fund. The intention is to not use the principle in the endowment fund for yearly expense. The interest may be used when and if needed. The desire is to build up this fund to help us support the on-going costs of our buildings.

Lastly, I thank you all for your membership, support and friendship during my first year as President of SAHS. May God bless you and your families during the upcoming Holyday Season.

MERRY CHRISTMAS!
Terry Cwik

2007 SAHS Recap

The year 2007 for the Salem Area Historical Society was one of big changes and lots of activity. The biggest news, of course, was the raising of the Dickerson Barn on the Salem Area Historical Society property. After many years and hundreds of volunteer hours SAHS hired a Barn Wright, Ken Brock, to reconstruct our 1830's barn. Ken and his crew worked through the winter and spring to prepare the structure for its raising, which began on Tuesday, June 12th. The construction has ended for this year with the temporary installation of the doors enclosed the winter. There is still much to do in 2008 on the Dickerson Barn. Among the goals for 2008 are making the doors functional, laying the floor, painting the walls and building the entrance ramps.



installation that barn for the year. There is still much to do in 2008 on the Dickerson Barn. Among the

2007, also, saw the SAHS celebrate the 150th Anniversary of the building of the Jarvis-Stone School by holding a Birthday Picnic with Croquet on July 15th. There was attendance by members and non-members alike along with good press coverage. Warren Todd, once again, was the star of the Croquet Matches. Helen Gierman gave a presentation on the history of the school. Salem Township District No. 3



convened an elementary class for 110 consecutive years from 1857-1967 in our one-room schoolhouse. But this was not the only highlight for the school.

Besides the regular use of it for the teaching of Latin by Don Riddering, it also hosted three SAHS General Membership meetings, three SAHS Board meetings and one private dinner party. In November, a crew of SAHS volunteers spent a couple of days replacing, repairing and painting its exterior trim to get it read for its 151st Michigan winter. Also, Jim DiMilia led a crew of volunteers for his Eagle Scout project. The tasks included building a ramp for the back door, refurbishing the Merry-Go-Round, and landscaping around the school, shed, sign and trees.



SAHS held its most successful Annual Dinner Auction on February 17th at Fox Hills Golf Course Clubhouse in terms of attendance (72), number of items auctioned (80+) and funds raised (\$3,000+). The list of items and donors that were auctioned can be seen on our SAHS Website at: http://sahshistory.org/Fund_Raising.html.

This year's auctioneer, Terry Cwik, had help entertaining the crowd during the event by Gilbert Terry and Randy Betki.

The event included a presentation to Don Riddering for his many years of service and dedication to the SAHS and a birthday cake for him.



This event was a success because of the many volunteers that worked behind the scenes to make it happen especially the gathering of the auction items.

In March at our annual election/dinner meeting, the presidency of SAHS changed for the first time in over 20 years. Don was finally able and willing to past the torch. This year's meeting included presentations on "Easy Gardening", "The History of Food Co-Ops from England to the Present" and "Yankee Air Museum."

SAHS, once again, participated in the Annual Salem Flag Day by walking in the parade and hosting an information stand. Our annual Barn dance was held on September 14th at the Three Cedars Farm. Pix 'N' Stix provided the music to our largest crowd ever. In October, we held the first ever "Salem Jeopardy" event with Don Riddering, Jean Bemish and Sue Bejin as the contestants. Sue won the fun filled evening of history learning 11,800 to 11,000 and 1,700. There are rumors that this might become another SAHS annual event.

Schools of Salem	Video Salem	Cemeteries of Salem	Great Train Wreck	Salem Area Historical Society	Churches of Salem
400	400	400	400	400	400
800	800	800	800	800	800
1200	1200	1200	1200	1200	1200
1600	1600	1600	1600	1600	1600
1900	1900	1900	1900	1900	1900

The last event to be held for 2007 is our Annual Christmas Party. Due to graciousness of Sue Bejin and Mike Gaery, it will be held in their home, the historic Renwick House on Curtis Road north of North Territorial Road. Hope to see you there on Sunday, December 9th from 1 PM to 4 PM.

Please use the forms below to renew your Salem Area Historical Society membership and to order your tickets for the SAHS Annual Dinner / Auction. SAHS 2008 Annual Memberships can be paid starting in December and your membership will last until March 31, 2009. Consider being amongst the first group to become SAHS Lifetime Members. Your Lifetime Membership will help bring stability to our

organization. SAHS is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization and contributions to it may be tax deductible.

You are encouraged to make copies and distribute these forms to your family and friends. Additional forms can also be printed from our Website:

www.sahshistory.org

SAHS Membership Application

Make check payable to: Salem Area Historical Society

Mail to: SAHS, P. O. Box 75011, Salem, MI 48175

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

Phone: _____

Email ID: _____

Amount Enclosed: _____

Membership Type: \$10 per Senior, \$15 per Individual, \$25 per Family,
\$50 per Business/Organization
and \$300 Lifetime Membership per Couple

SAHS Annual Dinner and Auction

on SATURDAY, February 16th -- 6:00 PM at Fox Hills Club House

Make check payable to: Salem Area Historical Society

Mail to: SAHS, P. O. Box 75011, Salem, MI 48175

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

Phone: _____

of Tickets _____ **@ \$25 each =** _____

A BIG thank you to the following contributors to the Salem Area Historical Societies Dickerson Barn Project.

Alive	The Donoghues	Pin Strip
Anon	Dul Foundation	G. Price
Aprill Agency	Edith's Market	F. Reinhart
D. Ascher	The Giermans	The Ridderings
The Aznavorians	Gusta Family	Salem Tool Company
Wm. Baxter	Hardesty Families	Say Cheese
The Bejin-Gearys	S. Harrington	The Shepherds
Belsey Family	Haywood Family	Dennis & Sunyong Siegner
J. Bemish	The Hudson/Van Fossens	The Skellys
J. Bennett	Indoor Comfort	South Lyon Historical Soc.
Liz Brater	M. Kaericher	T. Theeke
E. Braun	Kangas Family	David Trent
Brautigan Family	G. Kieltyka & R. Albrecht	P. Uherek
K. Brennan	K. Klassen	R. Uherek
A. Bruhowski	Leland Family	M. Van Fossen
Deborah Buzzy	D. Mac Gregor	T. Van Fossen
Mark Corrado	Patrick Maurer	V. Ward
Diane & Terry Cwik	Ralph Nash	N. West
The D'Agostinis	Carol Packard	Yo Pro
The Derons		



Dickerson Barn in 1999 during dismantling by SAHS Volunteers.

Dickerson Barn Frame in 1999 on Six Mile Road



Dickerson Barn Frame in June 2007 on SAHS Site.

Dickerson Barn enclosed for 2007-8 winter.



Salem Area Historical Society
P.O. Box 75011
Salem, MI 48176

President	Cwik, Terry
Vice President	VanFossen, Marcia
Secretary	Brautigan, Cindy
Treasurer	Brautigan, Mike
Member At-Large	Riddering, Don