



# Spirit of Salem

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

**P.O. Box 75011, Salem, MI 48175**

[www.sahshistory.org](http://www.sahshistory.org)

[Salem\\_Area\\_HS@yahoo.com](mailto:Salem_Area_HS@yahoo.com)

**"Keeping the Past Alive for Tomorrow"**

Volume XXXIV, Issue 2, November 2017

## 2017/8 Upcoming SAHS Schedule

- Sunday, December 3, 1 PM to 4 PM, **SAHS Christmas Party** at JoAnn and Bob's home  
**SAHS Members only event.** SAHS Memberships will be accepted at this event. JoAnn and Bob Heyl will be hosting. Their address is 6327 Wilderness Drive, South Lyon, MI 48178. The following is for you from JoAnn:

"The annual SAHS Christmas luncheon is going to be held in our newly finished lower level. Our front steps can be slippery - the pavers need some work (next year) and there isn't a railing. You can come in that way and come down the basement stairs. I just wanted everyone to be aware. The easiest way to enter would be to follow the path that starts at the garage and comes around the back of the house. Enter through the first set of French doors. There are only 3 small steps that way and you can go around them on the grass if you wish. Looking forward to seeing everyone December 3rd!"

As has been our society's past practice, please bring a dish or treat to share with members. Come and kickoff the Christmas Season by sharing the Christmas Spirit with your fellow members.

- Wednesday, January 24, 6:00 PM **SAHS Potluck Dinner** at Salem Township Hall  
This meeting is SAHS's annual Potluck Dinner followed by a showing of the PBS Specials titled: "An Uncommon Education: 200 Years of the Please bring a dish to pass, your own plates and flatware and your drink.

- Wednesday, February 28, 7:30 PM, **SAHS Membership Meeting** at Salem Township Hall  
A SAHS Business agenda and a talk titled "Legacy Land Conservancy's Creekshead Preserve" by Doug Koop, Executive Director of Legacy Land Conservancy.

- Saturday, March 24, 6:00 PM, **SAHS Annual Dinner/Auction** at Fox Hills Golf & Banquet Center – Classic Fox Log Cabin Club House  
Cost is \$35 per SAHS Member and \$40 per non-SAHS Member, if purchased prior to March 10<sup>th</sup>. After that date, it will be \$37 and \$42, respectively. All are invited. This will include a multi-course buffet dinner, a silent auction and a live auction. Auction items will include tickets to area attractions, national attractions, historical items and restaurant gift certificates. See Ticket Request Form on Page 10.

- April 25, Wednesday, 7:30 PM, **Local Area Native American - Pre-1600**
- May 23, Wednesday, 7:30 PM, **Local Area Native American – 1600 and Later**
- June 27, Wednesday, 7:00 PM, **Native American Tribal History**
- September 26, Wednesday, 7:30 PM, **Florence Nightingale**
- October 24, Wednesday, 7:30 PM, **Detroit Prohibition**
- December 2, Sunday, 1 PM, **Annual Christmas Party**

## Message from the SAHS President

Another year is coming to an end as we are about to celebrate Thanksgiving and are looking forward to the Christmas Season. The Salem Area Historical Society will be holding its Annual Christmas party on Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>. This past year has been another busy year for the SAHS. Besides our typical seven general membership meetings, we held three major fundraisers (Dinner/Auction, Community Yard Sale, and Barn Dance), a Stone School Reunion (50 years since its closing), and a Stone School Open House. Also, we continued our archive organizing effort, and established two more projects for collaboration with Eastern Michigan University. Unfortunately, the year also saw the passing of long-time SAHS member Warren Todd, who in July moved to California to be near his daughter. There will be a memorial service in May or June for Warren in Michigan at the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs' Great Lakes National Cemetery in Holly.

Our 2018 SAHS Election process will officially start in January. The SAHS Board hopes that you will consider nominating yourself for one of the five Board positions and the Nominating Committee Chairperson. There is more information about the election on Page 4.

SAHS's next Annual Dinner / Auction will be on March 24<sup>th</sup> at Fox Hills Golf and Banquet Center. If you would like to help with soliciting donations from local and national business, please contact me or send an email to [Salem\\_Area\\_HS@yahoo.com](mailto:Salem_Area_HS@yahoo.com). Tickets this year will offer a \$2 discount if purchased prior to March 1<sup>st</sup>. Please use the form on Page 10 or on the [SAHS Website](#) to purchase your tickets. Please ask family members, friends and neighbors to attend as well and fill up a table of eight.

Our Vice President, Marcia Van Fossen, has once again lined up a series of great presentations for 2018. These are listed on Page 3. Also, in 2018 SAHS will continue its Excursions with a tour of the historic buildings in Salem Township and a trip to the Michigan Historical Museum in Lansing.

This issue continues the series started last year of excerpts from SAHS Publications. See Page 7. These excerpts will show some of the expert research and writing that is contained in the fourteen SAHS Historical Monographs, which can be purchased using the [Publications Order Form](#) on our Website. This issue, also, starts a new series; Photograph Identification. See Page 6 for more information on this.

**HAPPY THANKSGIVING AND  
MERRY CHRISTMAS !!**

Terry Cwik

### **2018 Meeting Schedule for Salem Area Historical Society**

- Wednesday, January 24, 6 PM, SAHS Pot-Luck Dinner, Business Meeting and 200 Years of the U of M at Salem Township Hall
- Wednesday, February 28, 7:30 PM, Legacy Land Conservancy's Creekshead Preserve at Salem Township Hall
- Saturday, March 24, 6:00 PM, SAHS Annual Dinner / Auction
- Wednesday, April 25, 7:30 PM, Local Area Native Americans – Pre-1600 at South Salem Stone School
- Wednesday, May 23, 7:30 PM, Local Area Native Americans – 1600 and later at South Salem Stone School
- Wednesday, June 27, 7:30 PM, Native American Tribal History at South Salem Stone School
- Wednesday, September 26, 7:30 PM, Florence Nightingale at South Salem Stone School
- Wednesday, October 24, 7:30 PM, Detroit Prohibition at South Salem Stone School
- Sunday, December 2, 1:00 PM, SAHS Christmas Party at TBD

### **2018 Excursion Schedule for Salem Area Historical Society**

- Salem Township Historic Tour (May/ June)
- Michigan Historical Museum in Lansing (August)

## **SAHS 2018 Elections**

Salem Area Historical Society will be holding its annual elections as per its By-Laws during the first quarter of 2018. Articles IV, V and VI address this process. As has been done in the past, we will follow the process as specified in our By-Laws. At the SAHS January 24<sup>th</sup> meeting, we will appoint a nominating committee. If you would like to be on this committee, please contact one of the current officers of the society. Prior to our February 28<sup>th</sup> meeting, members who would like to nominate themselves to be a nominee for office should contact either the nominating committee or a current officer. All nominations must be self-nominating and all are accepted. A member need not be present at the February meeting to be a nominee. Nominations from the floor will be accepted at the February 28<sup>th</sup> meeting. The 2018 election will be held during our March 24<sup>th</sup> meeting. A nominee need not be present to be elected.

A write-up about the duties, requirements, and skills needed for each position is available on the [SAHS Membership Page](#) of the SAHS Website. The elected positions are: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Officer At Large.

The current SAHS Board encourages all members to participate in this election process by being a member of the nominating committee, by being a nominee for an office and by voting. The Board encourages all members to consider nominating themselves for a Board position. New members to the Board will bring new ideas and perspectives and would be welcome by the current Board. For more information, please contact any of the current Board members.

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## **Salem Area Historical Society Projects with Eastern Michigan University**

The SAHS has created two new projects for collaboration with Eastern Michigan University to go along with the SAHS Archive Database Project that was started in 2016. The two new projects are defined to be completed within one school semester by a student in the Historic Preservation program. These projects are described below. Two students have volunteered; one student for each project. SAHS will be giving a grant to each student for working on these projects.

If you would like to support these two projects, you can donate directly to the Salem Area Historic Society and designate your donation for these projects. You can do this by making your check to Salem Area Historical Society and mailing it to us at SAHS, P.O. Box 75011, Salem, MI 48175 or donating online by using the “[Donate](#)” button at the bottom of the SAHS Website or sending an email to [Salem\\_Area\\_HS@yahoo.com](mailto:Salem_Area_HS@yahoo.com) or calling Terry Cwik at 248-486-0669.

### **Salem Farming (1825-1900) History Project**

Salem Area Historical Society has started a project to capture and preserve the farming history of Salem Township from 1825 to 1900. SAHS will be working with an Eastern Michigan University graduate student to collect, review and organize items to describe all aspects of farming in Salem during this time period. The long term goal is to create a series of displays that can be exhibited in the Dickerson Barn in the Jarvis Stone School Historic District. If you have items (such as photos, family history, personal correspondence, newspaper articles, advertisements, etc.) or personal recollections that you would like to share with SAHS, please contact us at [Salem\\_Area\\_HS@yahoo.com](mailto:Salem_Area_HS@yahoo.com) or (248) 486-0669. We can copy the material and return the originals to you if desired.

### **South Salem Stone School Oral History Project**

Salem Area Historical Society has started an oral history project to capture the history of the South Salem Stone School. SAHS will be working with a Historic Preservation student to interview former students, teachers and school board members of the South Salem Stone School. The interviews will be conducted at the convenience of the interviewee. The interviewer will be trained in the oral history process and will assist the interviewee in capturing the memories of the school. If you would like to be part of this project or if you can refer us to someone who attended, taught, or was a board member of the school, please contact us at [Salem\\_Area\\_HS@yahoo.com](mailto:Salem_Area_HS@yahoo.com) or (248) 486-0669.

### **Salem Area Historical Society Archive Database Project**

The Archival Project is continuing with Eastern Michigan University. Currently, we are still sorting through the society's records and grouping them into specific categories. At the same time, our EMU Intern is digitizing individual documents and adding them to the SAHS Archive Database. Almost 400 items have been added to the database. This database is available to you at the South Salem Stone School or online at the "[Archives](#)" page of the SAHS Website. Please go to this page, look at the work that this group has accomplished to date, and send us your comments on this effort to [Salem\\_Area\\_HS@yahoo.com](mailto:Salem_Area_HS@yahoo.com)

All are welcome to assist us in this effort. The work sessions will be on Fridays from 9 AM to Noon at the South Salem Stone School. Please join Jane Griffith, Karl Williams, Marcia Van Fossen, Jane Henry and Terry Cwik because more minds and hands will make the task quicker and more fun. To keep informed about upcoming work sessions, please send a note to [Salem\\_Area\\_HS@yahoo.com](mailto:Salem_Area_HS@yahoo.com).

## Photograph Identification

This is a new series that the Salem Area Historical Society will be including in its newsletters as well as on its [Facebook Page](#) and its [Archives Page](#) of its [Website](#). Hope you can help the SAHS identify the unknowns in this photograph and the futures ones that will be in this series. All of the photographs will be from the SAHS Archives.

Below is a photograph of students standing outside of the Wash-Oak School. If you can identify anyone in the photograph or when the photograph was taken, please send an email with this information to [Salem\\_Area\\_HS@yahoo.com](mailto:Salem_Area_HS@yahoo.com) or call Terry Cwik at (248) 486-0669.



## **Excerpt from SAHS Publication**

Salem Area Historical Society Publication: The Vanishing Barns of Salem Township (A Study in a Disappearing Way of Life)

By: Mathew Theeke

Date: Historical Monograph No. V 1990

Before the first settlers arrived in Salem, the region was nothing but a tree-covered and overgrown wilderness inhabited by the Huron Indians. In order to obtain the land for the settlers, the government had to make treaties with the Indians and move them to reservations. IN 1809, the government negotiated an agreement with the Hurons for their land in exchange for a tract of land in southern Michigan.

...

The process of barn building was remarkably similar throughout the United States. Aside from architectural differences, the techniques and tools employed in barn building varied little from region to region.

In 1825, Salem's first white settler, John Dickerson, arrived on the parcel of land he had purchased from the government. He found an uncleared, wooded piece of land. His first task was to clear the land of trees and stone, and to cur the layer of sod that covered the area that he designated to become fields. The timer and field stones that were removed would be saved and be used as the materials for construction of the barn.

The earliest barns built were often built before there was a sawmill. Because of this, barns were built by stacking logs, the same technique that was employed in the construction of log cabins. In Salem Township the first barns were log barns, constructed because they could be built quickly with few tools and with little man power. According to the History of Washtenaw County, the first log barn was constructed in 1827 by John Dickerson.

...

As agriculture become more developed in Salem Township, and as new sawmills were constructed on the branches of the Rouge River, the design of the barn changed, and the timber frame barn replaced the log barn. While the log barn is supported by its log walls, the timber-frame barn has an inner structure that supports the barn and to which the wall boards are nailed. Using the timer-framed method of barn construction, it is possible to build barns of more than the one story of the small log barn design.

...

Until the invention of the modern pole barn; barn building varied little from the basic method. One change in barn construction was the material used to make the beams. ...



## **Recap of Recent SAHS Events**

### **SAHS Annual Dinner/ Auction**

On Saturday, **April 8<sup>th</sup>** in the Classic Log Cabin Clubhouse at Fox Hills Golf and Banquet Center, 49 supporters of SAHS attended the Dinner/Auction and purchased 103 auction items. As has been the case for the past 10 years, this was once again the largest fund raiser for the SAHS with a net of \$4,549.

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### **SAHS April Meeting**

On Wednesday, **April 26<sup>th</sup>**, at the South Salem Stone School, SAHS held a membership meeting with a presentation on Rosie the Riveter by Darlene Imus, the Head Librarian for the Yankee Air Museum Library.

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### **Flea Market and Yard Sale**

On Saturday, **May 20<sup>th</sup>**, the Salem Area Historical Society's Flea Market and Yard Sale was held on the grounds of the Jarvis-Stone historic District. This event had flea market tables and yard sale items.



The thirteen vendors experienced a steady flow of customers and SAHS netted \$238 for its general operating fund.

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### **SAHS May Meeting**

On Wednesday, **May 24<sup>th</sup>**, at the South Salem Stone School during the SAHS Membership meeting, Russell Doré of the Doré Productions presented “Walter Chrysler: His Company and His Life”. With his earlier presentations on Henry Ford and Billy Durant, this presentation completes the series by Russell Doré on the founders of the Big 3.

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### **SAHS Trip to the Blanchard House in Ionia**

On Wednesday, **June 21<sup>st</sup>**, eight Salem Area Historical Society members traveled to and toured the Blanchard House in Ionia, the hometown of Helen and Carl Gierman, and were joined by two Gierman family members.



The tour started with a short driving tour of some other historic building in Ionia and a lunch at the Lamplight Grill. The tour of the Blanchard House was conducted by Linda Ciangi, who knew the Giermans in their high school days. Linda is fountain of knowledge about the history of the Blanchard House, the Blanchard family and Ionia. Included in our tour was the History



of Ionia Exhibit in the basement of the house. Also, we meet Dan Balice, the mayor of Ionia.



The trip concluded with a visit to the Sessions School House, a cobblestone schoolhouse built in 1847.



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### SAHS June Meeting

On Wednesday, **June 28<sup>th</sup>**, at the South Salem Stone School, Phyllis Lindblade, the former proprietor of The Hamburg Store and a Director at Large for the Hooked Rug Museum of North America in Queensland, Nova Scotia, gave a talk on the History of Rug Hooking.

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### Annual Barn Dance

Our Annual Barn Dance on Friday, **September 8<sup>th</sup>**, featured the playing and dance calling of the Picks and Sticks. Our special THANKS to Gary

and his staff at Three Cedars Farm for hosting this charitable and family fun event.



Also, thanks to our Major Sponsors, who were: **Salem Tool on Salem Road, Alumitect Industries on Salem Road, AA Anchor Bolt on Salem Road, Karl's Cabin Restaurant & Bar on Gotfredson Road, All-American Storage on Six Mile Road, Gardner-Westcott on Six Mile Road and Three Cedars Farm on Six Mile Road.**

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### September Meeting

On Wednesday, **September 27<sup>th</sup>**, SAHS held a General Membership Meeting followed by a presentation of "Butterflies of Southeast Michigan" by Carol Clements, the Naturalist at the Nankin Mills Interpretive Center in Westland. This talk drew a crowd of over 20 with the majority being non-Member attendees.

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### October Meeting

On Wednesday, **October 25<sup>th</sup>**, after a general membership meeting, twenty-one attendees listened to "Barn Preservation Matters" presentation by Charles Bultman, an Architect in Ann Arbor who specializes in preserving and repurposing historic barns.



## **Salem Area Historical Society**

PRESENTS

### **Annual Dinner and Auction**

ON **SATURDAY, March 24<sup>th</sup> -- 6:00 PM**

AT **Fox Hill's Classic Log Cabin Club House**

*Cost if purchased prior to March 1<sup>st</sup>:*

*\$40.00 per person or \$35.00 per SAHS Member*

*Cost if purchased after March 1<sup>st</sup>:*

*\$42.00 per person or \$37.00 per SAHS Member*

*Includes : Multi-Course Buffet Dinner*

*with Silent and Live Auctions*

Auction items will include tickets to area attractions, sports memorabilia,  
historical items and restaurant gift certificates.

**All Proceeds go to support SAHS.**

**Contact Terry (248-486-0669) to donate items for Auction.**

**Reservations:** U.S. mail via form at: [www.sahshistory.org](http://www.sahshistory.org)

**PayPal** via form at: [www.sahshistory.org](http://www.sahshistory.org)

**Salem\_Area\_HS@yahoo.com**

**Terry 248-486-0669**

You can use the form above or go to the [SAHS Website's Dinner / Auction Page](#) and purchase our ticket online using PayPal.

## **Local Upcoming Events**

### **Salem Community Events Association**

The free Annual Children's Christmas Party will be on Saturday, December 2, at The Salem Hills Golf Club (8810 Six Mile Road). Santa will arrive at 1:15 PM. Snacks and refreshments will be served. Enjoy crafts and games. Stockings will be handed out to attending children of ages 1-12. Contact the Salem Post Office (248) 380-7017 for more information.

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### **Brighton Area Historical Society**

Christmas 2016 at Lyon School  
Bring the children to meet with Santa and Mrs. Claus at Lyon School on Sunday, Dec. 10th, from 1 to 4 PM. For more info, go to <http://brightonareahistorical.com>

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### **Dexter Area Historical Society and Museum and Gordon Hall**

The Christmas at the Mansion program will begin on Saturday, December 2th, Santa Claus will be visiting and children will be making their own gingerbread houses to take home. The Saturday hours will be 9:00 am to 5:00 pm and will include a suggested \$5.00 donation.

Gordon Hall will also be open on December 9, 10, 27 and 28 from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm to view the Christmas Village display. All of the rooms in Gordon Hall will be decorated.

The Christmas Tea at Gordon Hall will be a perfect way to begin the holidays in the decorated Gordon Hall. A light lunch with tea sandwiches and desserts will be served with your tea. Tea times will be 1 and 4 pm on Sunday, December 3rd. Please call Ina Germain at 395-4106 for your \$25 ticket. Only 50 tickets will be sold per seating so reserve your tickets as soon as possible.  
<http://www.dexterhistory.org/>

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### **Earhart Manor**

"A Manor Christmas" at the Earhart Manor at Concordia University will be held Dec. 1 (3pm to 9pm), Dec. 2 (noon to 9pm) and Dec. 3 (noon to 4pm). The events include tours of the historic Earhart Manor, Festival of Trees, Christkindlmarkt, and Children's Activities. More info at: <http://cuua.edu/manorchristmas>

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### **Northville Historical Society**

German Christmas Tea on December 9th, Saturday: 1to 3:30 at Mill Race Village.  
<http://www.millracenorthville.org>

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### **Plymouth Historical Society**

The "Yuletide at the White House" special exhibit runs through Saturday, December 31, 2016, at the Plymouth Historical Museum. This holiday display is inspired by the traditions of the past presidents, the first ladies and their families.

Simply Dickens Christmas Carols Show for the seventh year, on Tuesday, December 6 at 7 p.m. Tickets to the show are \$10 for members and \$15 for non-members in advance; tickets are \$20 at the door.  
More info at: <http://www.plymouthhistory.org/>

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### **Saline Area Historical Society**

"Christmas at the Farmhouse" will be held on Saturdays, December 9 and 16 (11am to 3 pm), and Sunday, Dec. 16 (1pm to 4pm), at the Rentschler Farm (1265 E. Michigan Ave., Saline). This holiday display is inspired by the traditions of 1930s German descendant farmers. More info at: [www.salinehistory.org](http://www.salinehistory.org)

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Please use the form below to join us as a member of the Salem Area Historical Society for 2018.  
SAHS Annual Memberships will last until March 31, 2019. Consider becoming a SAHS Lifetime Member. SAHS is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization and contributions to it may be tax deductible. You can also use this form to send your tax-deductible donation to the Salem Area Historical Society. You are encouraged to make copies and distribute this form to your family and friends. Another option is to join using the form on our Website or via PayPal where a credit card can be used: [SAHS Membership Page](#)

## 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:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Membership Fee:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Membership Type:**

**+ Donation:** \_\_\_\_\_

**\$10 per Senior \_\_\_\_ \$15 per Individual \_\_\_\_**

**Amount Enclosed:** \_\_\_\_\_

**\$25 per Family \_\_\_\_**

**\$50 per Business/Organization \_\_\_\_ and**

**\$300 Lifetime Membership per Couple \_\_\_\_**

Salem Area Historical Society

P.O. Box 75011

Salem, MI 48175

President	Cwik, Terry
Vice President	Van Fossen, Marcia
Secretary	Griffith, Jane
Treasurer	DiMilia, Sue
Member At-Large	Donoghue, Marlene