

Waterford Historical Society Newsbill

Volume 15, Number 3

June-July 2010

Editor
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Calendar

June-July

Every Wednesday 10:30-2:00

June 16

Board Meeting 1:00 HH

June 23

Regular work day &
bring your own lunch

June 25

Log Cabin Day Workday
10:00 a.m.

June 26 & 27

Log Cabin Days
10:00-5:00 each day

June 30

Pot Luck Noon

July 7

Log Cabin Day Mtg 1:00 HH

July 14

Board Meeting 1:00 HH

July 28

Pot Luck Noon

President's Notes

Hopefully some of these showers will bring some flowers our way! We are ready for outside tasks.

Inside the Hatchery House, the library is getting a little re-organization. We are getting more Waterford materials and can let go of some of our more general books. Many will be used for display in other buildings (think of a Doctor's book-case) and some will be sold at Log Cabin Days. We have scanned all of our photographs and printed them to go into binders in the library. This will keep the handling of our originals to a minimum as well as to give people easy access to peruse the pictures in the library.

Displays are being revamped and changed out. In the new building, we are just starting to get artifacts out of boxes and into place. I am so excited to see what evolves. I'm not one for pounding a nail, but give me a Doctor's Office to create and I will be busy for hours. Give me a family to research and I will be lost in the books and maps for days. I was called one of those "egg-headed history people" one day not too long ago. What a compliment!

Thank you for letting me lead you as we carry on the work the early Historical Society started. I have heard many stories of the early 1990's when the Historical Society moved into the Hatchery House. The true labor of love to get that house turned back from an office of the Michigan Department of Transportation to the beautiful and historic home hiding underneath. Thank you to all who worked so hard in the beginning to give us the momentum 20 years later.

Sally Strait



Memorial Day Parade

Thanks to all who marched in this 43rd Memorial Day Parade. The weather and crowds were overwhelming. We had great participation with our members and our Crary Junior Historical Society marching with us.

Thank you once again to the Heart of the Lakes V.F.W. Post 1008 who so faithfully takes on this huge task each year.

Log Cabin Days 2010

Here are the ways you can help us for our biggest event of the year:

We have flyers available for you to take to local businesses you frequent. Just stop in and grab a few. We also have postcards for you to take and personally invite your friends and neighbors. People really want to come and a little reminder will be welcome.

You could come by and get a handful of garage sale flyers and distribute them as you see sales in your area. These tell people that we would like their leftovers for our sale. Many people are happy to have a place to donate them. Bring us your own items, too. Remember that items too good for the white elephant will go to Merrill's antique and collectible sale (248-673-0615).

You can bake for our ever popular bake sale. If you receive a call, try to help out. Cookies, brownies, small quick breads, etc. are great sale items. Anything people can grab and eat and can stand the heat! We need fresh items for both days so Call Dorothy White if you want donate 248-623-0937.

You can join us by working a shift. Sign-up sheets are out and ready for your signature. We have places for every ability and inclination. We are happy to have you for as much or as little as you would like. If you are coming to visit us anyway, please consider staying a little extra and helping out.

You can visit and support us. Come and have lunch, strawberry shortcake and enjoy the entertainment. This is the highlight of our year and we look so good! Even if you have "seen it all before", I guarantee you will find something new. We are making weekly progress and you will be surprised what you find. See you there.

SAVE THE DATES

Log Cabin Days

June 26th & 27th

10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.



WE NEED YOU!

Summer Intern

We are thrilled to have a college intern to help us for the summer. Her name is Melinda Ortiz and she is a sophomore at Hillsdale College, majoring in History. She will be working on the Donelson Hills collection we have, and any other job we can throw her way! She is a great gal and we are thankful to have her. Please stop and say hello to her!

Annual General Meeting

At our Annual General Meeting on Thursday, May 20, we enjoyed desserts and a PowerPoint presentation of some of the photographs in our collection.

Here are the results of our election:

2 year terms:

President-Sally Strait

Corresponding Secretary-Betty Seymour

Treasurer-Betty Horn

3 year terms:

Members at Large: Merrill Paine and Harvey Hedlund

Thank you to all who took the time out to attend. We are a group on the move and the board members keep us all moving forward.

Hatchery House, continued from page 5

Homes introduced its own catalog of pre-cut homes. A 1917 fire razed the mill but it was quickly rebuilt at great expense. The recession of 1920-1921 brought a severe drop in sales and Mr. Young was caught with the debt of the new mill. Mr. Young sold the entire Sterling Homes line to local lumberman Leopold J. Kantzler in 1920. Sales recovered and remained strong throughout the twenties only to fall again during the Great Depression. Unlike Sears and Montgomery-Ward, who had to repossess many of the homes they had financed, Mr. Kantzler required cash sales. Sterling Homes survived the Depression and in the late 1930's sales rebounded. During World War II the company devoted its facilities to the production of army barracks. Sterling would find its most prosperous years in the post-war era when annual production climbed to almost three thousand homes. Sales began to falter in the 1960's as mobile homes became more affordable and suburban building codes were revised to exclude pre-fabricated homes. Sterling Homes issued its last catalog in 1971.

This is the only Sterling Homes Senator I am aware of. I believe the original catalog model was built in Bay City but I have not been able to identify it. Sterling Homes was the smallest of the major manufacturers and their catalogs are very difficult to find, however, I have a 1917 book in my collection and have enclosed a laser copy of the Senator B Model.

This letter was fitting as we prepare to have our beloved Hatchery House painted.

Village News

Much has been going on in the Village! The Filling Station has a foundation and cement floor and is getting some brickwork. Jacober's Store and the new building have cement ramps going up to the doors. A new sidewalk has been poured next to the Hatchery House. Hopefully this will help with safe access to the buildings.

As we keep plugging away in the here and now, we are excited to be thinking ahead to future. We are starting to build our funds for the next half, or phase 2, of the new building. We are in need of a community room to hold our meetings once the counters in Jacober's are finished. So, the outside of the new building will be a façade storefront, while the inside will be a community/multi-purpose room. We received a sizable donation from the family of Gerald Lewis, a lifetime member, who passed away recently. And, below you can read about another source of income for that project.

"Hello, my name is Paige Daniel, I am a student at Mason Middle School, and I am the State President of the Michigan Society, Children of the American Revolution. For my State Project this year, I am raising funds for the Waterford Historical Society to complete a building in the Historic Waterford Village. The building will have two stories; on the first floor there will be a community room, and on the second floor there will be a **Children of the American Revolution Room**, a type of education center with a **Hands On History** display. The C.A.R. Room will be a place for children who visit the village to get hands-on with history, including dress-up costumes and hats, wooden toys and games, and other interactive things for kids to do, all related to American history. This room can also be used for school groups who visit the Village.

I hope to get the community involved in my project through fundraising, and my goal is to raise enough for half the cost of this building, approximately \$5,000. I will also be accepting donations of items for the kids to play with to help furnish the room. I am selling custom enamel pins with my logo for \$5 each and I will have a booth during Log Cabin Days, so please stop by, say hello and buy a pin. I am hoping to find some local businesses that are willing to sell my pins, too. I have set up a website where the community can learn about my project, www.handsonhistorywaterford.webs.com

I have been coming to Log Cabin Days for many years and am so happy I can help the Historical Society in this way. I look forward to seeing the building finished someday and seeing school children from Waterford and other communities visiting the Historic Waterford Village to get their hands on history."

We have a great start on the funds to complete phase 2 of the new building. Our volunteers work very hard to make progress, but our progress depends on the whole community. We are thankful of the support we receive from all around us. Large and small, you and we are making a difference. Stop by and visit Paige during Log Cabin Days, buy a pin, and watch us move forward.

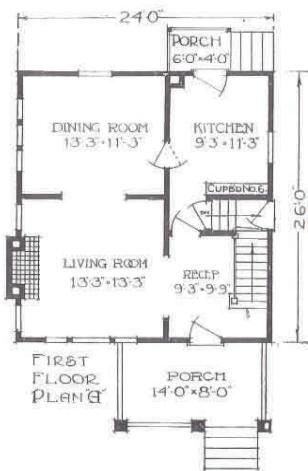




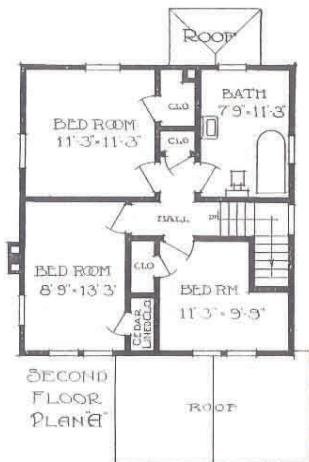
The Senator

WHEN you buy a home you are making an investment. You may never sell your property. If so, you have made the greatest investment—a home for your family and yourself. On the other hand, if you should at any time want to dispose of your house (or are forced to sell it) the Senator cannot be beaten on the open market. It's just this type of house that can be sold at a good profit to the owner. We hope, however, that you will live in the Senator a good, long time because you will like this home more and more every day. It is a place that grows on you and you grow into it.

Little need be said about the floor plan of the Senator. This arrangement has been used for years all over the country. What do you think of the Senator "B" with four bedrooms and bath on the second floor?



The Senator A 24 x 26



The Senator B 26 x 28

Price	\$1285.00
Five percent cash discount	\$64.25
Or \$642.50 with order and \$28.11 monthly for 24 months.	net price 1220.75
Add for plaster or plaster board	60.00
Add for oak floors and trim living and dining rooms and reception; oak stairs to landing	64.00
Add for clear maple floors entire first floor	27.50
Add for clear maple floors entire second floor	28.00
Add for clear maple floor kitchen and bath only	10.00

Price	\$1476.00
Five percent cash discount	\$73.80
Or \$738.00 with order and \$32.29 monthly for 24 months.	net price 1402.20
Add for plaster or plaster board	64.00
Add for oak floors and trim living and dining rooms and reception hall; oak stairs to landing	71.50
Add for clear maple floors entire first floor	33.00
Add for clear maple floors entire second floor	33.50
Add for clear maple floor kitchen and bath only	8.00

See specifications page 54

The Hatchery House

Sterling Homes, Senator B

The following are excerpts from a letter to our member, Judy Benscoter, from Mr. Dale Patrick Wolicki, Architectural Historian with the Bay City Historical Society. The letter is dated December 10, 1993 and proves the authenticity of the Hatchery House after many months of research and dedication by our early Historical Society members.

From the drawings you enclosed I can confirm that your building is a Sterling Homes Senator, Model B, a popular pre-cut/mail-order home offered by the International Mill and Timber Company of Bay City between 1916 and 1922. Your building differs from the basic catalog model in several minor details, however this is not unusual as Sterling Homes offered to customize the building to the owners specification at a minor charge. The rear kitchen is original to the house but was an addition ordered through the catalog. The lower level follows the catalog floor plan except for the arrangement of the entry hall to include an airlock. The upper floor of your building was redesigned to feature four bedrooms and a smaller central bathroom. The location of exterior windows on the rear and side elevations differs from the model due to the rearrangement of rooms , however, the front elevation is the exact illustration featured in the catalog.

Architecturally your building is known as a Four-Square (1905-1930), a style that found its popularity directly and exclusively through the catalogs of Aladdin, Lewis-Liberty, Sterling, Sears, Montgomery-Ward, and numerous smaller manufacturers. The Four-Square is perhaps the easiest of American architectural styles to identify because it has one standardized form. They are simple two story structures, square or rectan-

gular in plan without complementing wings or additions. The hip roof is a required feature of the style, typically punctured by a dormer window. A front porch is a requirement of the style and usually extends the full width of the façade.

The Four-Square was a particularly popular pre-cut model because its standard structure and limited architectural expression allowed an economy of scale which provided for significant savings. These savings allowed for elaborations on interior and exterior details. A variety of windows was available: single, paired, or plate glass, single or multiple panes, even leaded glass. The exterior sheathing could be simple clapboard siding, wood shingles, stucco, or a combination. The Four-Square could be full or half length, with two, three, four columns or posts. The porch stairs and entry could be placed anywhere, but commonly was offset to break the symmetrical appearance of the house. Many Four-Squares used architectural details and motifs of competing popular styles. Your building follows the rustic views of the Arts & Crafts Movement (1905-1920). The Great Depression stifled popularity of the style and it is only recently that the Four-Square has been accepted as a recognized architectural style.

Sterling Homes can be traced back to 1890 and the W. D. Young plant in Bay City, Michigan, once the world's largest producer of maple flooring. In 1914 the Aladdin Homes company, also of Bay City, the innovator and leader of pre-cut homes, contracted with Mr. Young to cut all the lumber for their orders. The arrangement was short and within two years Sterling

Continued on page 2

Waterford Township Historical Society Membership Application

Date	Phone	<input type="checkbox"/> \$15.00 Individual
Name		<input type="checkbox"/> \$25.00 Family
Address		<input type="checkbox"/> \$100.00 Patron
City, State, Zip	Mail payment to: Waterford Historical Society	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50.00 Organizations/Businesses
Make Check Payable To: Waterford Township Historical Society	P.O. Box 300491 Waterford, MI 48330-0491	<input type="checkbox"/> \$150.00 Lifetime per family
		<input type="checkbox"/> \$100.00 Lifetime per person
		<input type="checkbox"/> \$125.00 Lifetime per couple
		<input type="checkbox"/> \$250.00 Lifetime Org./Businesses
		<input type="checkbox"/> \$500.00 Lifetime Patron

Waterford Historical Society

We are open every Wednesday from 10:30 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.

We are located in Fish Hatchery Park at:
4490 Hatchery Rd
Waterford, MI 48329

Our Mailing Address is:
P.O. Box 300491
Waterford, MI 48330-0491

Contact us at:
Hatchery House 248-673-0342
Sally Strait 248-683-2697

www.waterfordhistoricalsociety.org

Non-profit 501(c)3 organization

SAVE...SAVE...SAVE...SAVE

Please save your VG's and Tenuta's receipts and bring them to the Hatchery House on Wednesday or mail them to us at the above mailing address. This is free money for us!



Things you might like:

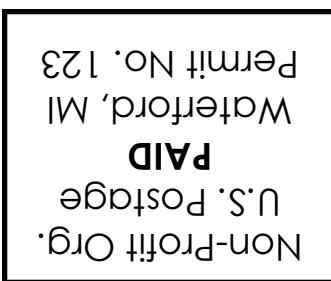
- ♦ **June 19th, July 17, August 21, Sept. 18 and October 16 Fisk Farm Community Garage Sale:** and Flea Market from 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. On the Fisk grounds at 7525 Highland Road in White Lake. Set up charge \$10.00 per seller. Call 248-360-0188 for info.
- ♦ **June 17 starts Concerts in the Park Series** at Hess-Hathaway Park. **June 17** Fifty Amp Fuse, **June 24** New Horizons Band, **July 15** Hung Jury and **August 19** Cats & The Fiddler. Performances start at 7:00 p.m. Local talent to perform at 6:00 p.m. 625 S. Williams Lake Road. Inclement weather call 248-618-7671.
- ♦ **June 25 Movies Under The Moonlight**-at Pierce Middle School. "Monsters Vs. Aliens". Gates open at 6:30 p.m. \$1.00 suggested donation. Rock climbing wall, extreme jumper, tattoo artist, inflatables, gymnastics, concessions, Rhythm Kings Band, and more! Call 248-618-7424 for more information.
- ♦ **July 31 Summer Social at Pine Grove** Ice cream, food, rummage sale, re-enactors such as Governor Wisner & possibly Abe Lincoln, entertainment and history! All at grounds of the Oakland County Pioneer & Historical Society, 405 Cesar Chavez Avenue in Pontiac. Noon to 4:00 p.m. Rain Date is August 1st.

of present and future generations.

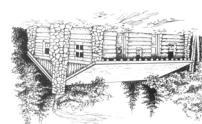
Waterford Township for the interest and education
Collecting, protecting and preserving the history of

Our Mission Statement:

Return Service Requested



P.O. Box 300491
Waterford, Michigan
48330-0491



Waterford Township Historical Society