



# Oakland Heritage News

January—February 2014

Volume 2, Issue 4



The Oakland Township Historical Society (OTHS) Newsletter  
[www.oaklandtownshiphistoricalsociety.org](http://www.oaklandtownshiphistoricalsociety.org)

Oakland County, Michigan

## Your Donations to our Archives this past year...

We have been asking you for donations related to the township for our archives and you really have responded!

Donations tied to Oakland Township heritage are especially desirable to OTHS. Recent additions have helped us learn much more about the people and the families who lived here and related events.

In the past year, you have donated books, maps, furniture, dishware, artifacts, copies of the U.S. Census listings and even farm items.

In particular, a number of photographs of the people and buildings related to Cranberry Lake Farm have surfaced and been added to the story of our landmark



farmstead on Predmore Road. Two pulleys that once hung in the barns at CLF also returned home!

Already this year our first family photograph of H.A. Coffin (CLF owner of renown) surfaced and added. Watch for a display soon...

Checking ebay and other online listings as we have learned from RAHS also has produced some interesting items.

Keep it coming! And Thank You!

*If your history-related finds relate to other communities, please consider contacting them to offer them as donations as well. Send them home!*

## Oral Histories—Oakland Township

*People and Places Remembered in Oakland Township*

The OTHS has many oral histories from residents that tell the stories of Oakland Township in times past. We plan on having a short excerpt from some of these histories in our upcoming newsletters. This story is from Glen Collins, born in 1896 at the top of the hill on Collins Rd.

" All my life I've been interested in hunting, trapping and fishing. ... Every year I used to quit my job on the first day of November and trap till the first of April. I made more than I could make working! There were lots of fur buyers around then. ... Any kind of furs, muskrat, weasel, skunk, mink, or coon. I'd go fishing every time I got a chance. I fished all over the country, trout fishing in spring. In Gallagher Creek you could get good sized fish (Brook Trout). A guy met me and took a picture of me with 25 trout, 6 1/2 pounds, 12-13 inches. The newspapers advertised that Paint Creek was a great trout stream. And they (fishermen) moved in and fished it to death! Andy Cooper and I put our heads together and went to the

*(Continued on page 2)*

### SPOOM Conference this fall on October 24—26

**Plans for the Society for the Preservation of Old Mills (SPOOM) annual conference right here in Rochester continue this winter at Rochester Hills Museum. Area mills and attractions will be featured in this national organization's conference with tours and activities. OTHS is a SPOOM member so our members can take advantage of SPOOM membership rates for the conference. Mark your calendars for October 24—26! View the Canadian SPOOM website.. MI is here! <http://www.hips.com/spoomcanada/>**

### inside...

#### What's Happening!

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Programs and Events Calendar, *What's Next?***

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## Cranberry Lake Farm News.... 2014

**T**he Cranberry Lake Farm Historic District is located at 384 W. Predmore Road just west of Rochester Road and is 16 acres of the township's Cranberry Lake Park.

Enjoy this premier heritage site with all its attractions, both natural and historic.

The November 2013 Holiday Homes Tour and the December OTHS Holiday party at CLF were both a great success! Both events showed off the structures in the era of their time, providing a unique beautiful seasonal setting, a step back in time.

CLF became more widely known due to the promotion, publicity, even in *The Detroit News*, Home Style Section and by overwhelming event attendance.

We have collected our information from this season and created an

archive about the Farm this year. Gretchen Drader with the Committees did an outstanding job on the decorations. CLF never looked so good!

Cranberry Lake Farm Historic District is listed in the *National Register of Historic Places* for its importance to our local history and has a Michigan Historical Marker on-site as well.

Cranberry Lake Park is open daily from dawn to dusk, but events open the buildings for the full experience.

*It's our History.....*

Watch for more events and programs at Cranberry Lake Farm in 2014. Tours for groups can be arranged. Contact OTHS at 248-693-8660.

## Oral Histories... page 1

Conservation Department and asked them if we could have some brown trout to plant in here and they said yes. They sent a man along with 20 cans of 250 rainbows and 500 browns. Eight years after that in the 1930's I caught those two big ones up there on the wall. The two of them weighed 10 lbs 10 ounces."

This passage is from our Oral History Collection, a part of the OTHS Archives.

Share your photographs, memories and items from our township.

— OTHS Archives

## Oakland Township Remembered Exhibit starts to travel Ed Noble photographs the road

OPC in Rochester is the first stop for *Oakland Township Remembered*, our Ed Noble photograph exhibit so popular last fall in Goodison. OPC will host the 53 photographs of our township from 1960—1980s starting Tuesday, February 25 through Monday March 10 in their lobby. Oakland Township Supervisor will be at the OPC for *Coffee with the Township Supervisor* on the Exhibit's last day at OPC.

Be sure to mark your calendar and enjoy these remarkable views of our township.

Prints are available for OTHS by contacting Diane Bennett at 248-651-7991, threefootmb@yahoo.com

OPC is on Letica Drive near downtown Rochester.

Free and open to the public Monday thru Friday.

Next the Rochester Hills Library!

—Ed Noble Exhibit Committee

**Phyllis Tyson...** was a gal I grew up with in Oakland Township. Our dads started the 4-H Club. In good weather a bunch of us would ride our horses, meeting along trails we made through the fields of the township.

Phyllis supplied photos of the Collins family for our Goodison Exhibit of 2011. A photograph of her riding her horse in the snow was one of Ed Noble's featured photos in our *Oakland Township Remembered* Exhibit (Snow Gallop #31).

Sadly, Phyllis is one of the statistics of this cold weather! She passed away on Monday, January 6. She lived in Metamora and was 63 years old. We are sad to hear this news.—Colleen Barkham



# Society News and Information.....

## Our Society

Our Society is in need of a *program chairperson!* We have loads of ideas for some great programs in the near future and need a person to take the lead to organize and plan these presentations and trips. It's fun, interesting with new people and places to investigate related to our history!

We also need *membership committee members* to grow our Society membership, help keep the records and help prepare mailings of our information and newsletters.

We also have a board vacancy right now...

Contact Colleen Barkham or Janine Saputo at [THSBarkham@hotmail.com](mailto:THSBarkham@hotmail.com) or [jlsaputo@comcast.net](mailto:jlsaputo@comcast.net)  
Join us as we start to celebrate our 40th year!

## The 4TH Michigan Infantry in the Civil War Kim Crawford and Martin N. Bertera

**OTHS is planning a program about the Civil War soldiers in south-east Michigan... the 4th Michigan Infantry in fact, for Wednesday evening April 2, 2014 at the Paint Creek Cider Mill. Author Kim Crawford will tell us about his book written in 2010.**

**Do you have any Civil War related artifacts, photographs, memorabilia you wish to share for one evening in April? We do have some interesting artifacts lined up already but would like to add to this display.**

**Please contact Colleen Barkham as soon as you can to plan the display.  
248-652-0712 or [thsbarkham@hotmail.com](mailto:thsbarkham@hotmail.com)**



### OTHS turns 40 in 2014!

Watch for programs, events and some noteworthy projects as we approach our 40th Birthday!

Were you a member before 1990? Let us know!!!  
Want to help with celebration plans? Let us know!!

### Happy Birthday OTHS!

## Leadership, *but do we need You!!!*

**Board of Directors: 2013–2014**  
*Co-Presidents:* Colleen Barkham,  
Janine Saputo  
*Vice-President:* Diana Borrusch  
*Treasurer:* Sue Fox  
*Recording Secretary:* Sue Fox  
*Corresponding Secretary:* Jeanne Phillips  
**Board Members:**  
Tom Asmus, Diane Bennett  
Dave Phillips, and Christina Wolf  
OTHS established in 1974.  
*In 2014 OTHS is 40 years old.*

## OTHS Membership....Join Us!

Monthly Membership Meetings are the first Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.  
Monthly Board Meetings are the fourth Monday at 7:00 p.m.  
Please complete this form and mail with payment for dues made to: OTHS,  
Oakland Township Historical Society, 384 W. Predmore Road, Oakland, MI 48363  
Information at 248-693-8660, [www.oaklandtownshiphistoricalsociety.org](http://www.oaklandtownshiphistoricalsociety.org)  
**Annual Dues:** Individual-\$18.00, Family-.\$25.00, Patron-\$50.00, Business- \$100.  
**Note:** Dues cover the fiscal year from July 1 to June 30.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number (s): \_\_\_\_\_ email: \_\_\_\_\_

## Do you have Oakland Township History?

Save your *Oakland Township* family heirlooms, documents, photographs, artifacts, ephemera and donate them to OTHS!

We are interested!!!

*Whatever defines the Township.*

Call Diana Borrusch at 248-693-8660, or email [dianaonths74@comcast.net](mailto:dianaonths74@comcast.net).

Our Archive Project continues to gather, organize and assess township heritage collections donated by you!

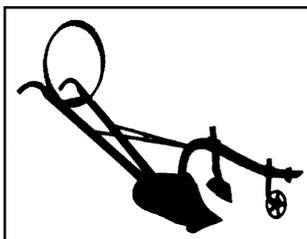
**We thank you!**

**Barn on the Move** DVD. The story of our 1879 Flumerfelt barn, restored. \$10. Buy it at our events!

**OTHS Note cards**, Send Oakland Township when you celebrate news! We have a variety of township structures and scenes drawn by Lyn Sieffert, local artist.

Email us if you wish to receive this newsletter by email!

**Save time and expense!**



**Oakland Township Historical Society**

**384 West Predmore Road**

**Oakland, Michigan 48363**



Share this newsletter  
with a friend!  
Recycle!

## Programs and Events, *make a note of them.*

Wed. Mar. 5 ***No program planned due to winter weather.***

Wed. April 2 Michigan's 4 Infantry in the Civil War, *the story...* Kim Crawford and Martin N. Bertera authors

Wed. May 7 Ice House sites and archeology Dr. Richard Stamps of OU will present. 7:00 pm. CLF.

Sat. May 17 ***Possible Day Trip***

Wed. June 4 **Annual meeting, elections, OTHS Birthday Celebration** CLF 1879 Barn

## Join us!

**CLF MAIN HOUSE**, is *Cranberry Lake Farm Main House and 1879 barn* at 384 W. Predmore Road, 1/2 mile west of Rochester Road in northern Oakland Township, northern Oakland County, Michigan. Michigan Historical Marker site. Plenty of free parking.

Rochester School closings for weather force rescheduling.  
Membership meetings are free and open to the public.

**Mission Statement: OTHS is dedicated to gathering, interpreting and preserving the history of Oakland Township.**

*It's your memory, it's our history, it's worth preserving!*