

The Oakland Township Historical Society (OTHS) Newsletter
www.oaklandtownshiphistoricalsociety.org Oakland County, Michigan

President's Thoughts

Our Society is very fortunate because it has a home at Cranberry Lake Park. In the park we have a meeting space (Barn or Main House), an Archive Room and Office in the Main House, a Museum in the Caretaker House and homes for large artifacts in the Barn, Carriage Barn and Milk House. For many years the Township Board, Commissions and Administrators have been very cooperative with and supportive of the Society's efforts to preserve and interpret the history of Oakland Township.

The Society has an active Board of Directors whose ten members devote significant time to operating the various meetings and events presented by the Society each year. In addition the Museum and Archive are staffed by members of the Board.

The Oakland Township Historical Society is seeking new members and new volunteers. Perhaps you know someone who might enjoy our activities. Why not bring them to the next meeting with you? We are finding that some members have not kept up their dues payment and are no longer attending meetings.

If we are going to continue to provide service to our members and the Township we must grow our membership. In addition we need some energetic people to take on leadership roles in finding programs, operating our Heritage Days Plant Sale and assisting with our fall flea market and Down on the Farm activities.

We will not be holding a Flumerfelt Flea Market this spring because we do not have sufficient volunteers to staff two sales a year. If you have ideas about how to grow our membership and volunteer corps please give me or any board member a call.

Bill Kroger, OTHS President



Our March Meeting – History and Beer

Oakland Township Historical Society invites you to join in our next field trip to HomeGrown Brewing Company located in downtown Oxford on Wednesday, March 14 at 7:00 PM. Learn about the history of Detroit beer by Steven Johnson, the author of *Detroit Beer - A History of Brewing in the Motor City* and owner of **Motor City Brew Tours** - guided tours to Michigan Breweries. This free presentation includes a talk providing history of the early breweries in downtown Detroit and all the way up to the start of the craft beer breweries in the 1990's. Mr. Johnson will have copies of his book for sale and will sign copies at the conclusion of the talk. Learn more about the Detroit Beer Book at: <http://DetroitBeerBook.com>



(Continued on page 3)

MARJORIE PAULI—OCT. 21, 1997 (age 95) - Interview Transcript

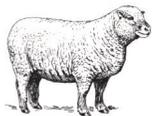
Her Great Grandfather was A.B. Frost who owned a farm on Stoney Creek Road. The 1872 map shows 160 acres on the north side about a mile west of Rochester Rd., and 170 acres on the south side. These properties are also on the 1896 map. The 1921 map shows Frost on the north side.



Marjorie's Grandmother was a Toms, who married a Barkham.

I was born April 26, 1902 in Goodison in the house that is now the Goodison Day Care Center. From there we went to the Frost farm. It was on two sides of the road. My dad was born there. I went to Baldwin School on Orion Road {at Gunn}. I went there to the 8th grade. Laura Gunn was my best friend. Laura and I were the whole 8th grade, and we had to go to Oxford to take our 8th grade examinations and if we passed it, we got our tuition paid for high school. We could go to Orion or Rochester. We passed and decided to go to Rochester for high school. I went there for two years until we moved to Highland Park. My dad was in the Ford Motor Co.

We got to school in Rochester on the streetcar, the Interurban. We had to flag it down every morning. My dad would light a lantern and we'd take it down and flag the streetcar. Then we'd set it down and Dad would come down and pick it up and take it back to the house. I lived in Goodison then. There was a little waiting station there. Grandma Barkham had a lamb which was a male and one day she heard some ladies in the waiting room crying, "Mary, Mary, come and get us!" This darn lamb was standing there, threatening and they were all standing on the seats. I guess Percy had his end as a lamb chop or something.



My father's name was Roy L. Frost. Almond B. Frost was my great grandfather. Thomas Frost was my grandfather. Marshall Frost was my grandfather's brother and he lived in Lake Orion.

When I graduated from Highland Park High School, my family wanted me to go to a teachers college, but I didn't want any part of being a teacher. I got a job at the Union Trust in Detroit and was there for 6 years until I got married. To go home from work, I went down Woodward to get on the streetcar and he {My future husband} was standing in the front window of the Marx Brothers Sporting Goods. That's where we first saw each other, through the window. We got married September 4, 1928.

Grandmother Barkham gave the house {on Collins Road} to my mother and gave the farm to Uncle Walter. They both gave her some money to make up for that {and that she divided among her children}. Aunt Maud paid for a share.



My dad was a farmer on the Frost farm. One side was on Stoney Creek. The other side - it was square - was about halfway divided in the middle. The house and barn both burned. A brush fire went across there. He raised wheat, oats, potatoes, clover seed, corn. During the First World War, he took loads of potatoes to the Eastern Market on his wagon. They were in crates. At the last time, he was coming home empty. My uncle met him down at the market and was driving home with him and just as they got to the Ford factory in Highland Park, the whistle blew that the war was over, and the horse went right straight up... {laughter}. Uncle Vayde left the shift right there. He jumped off the wagon as it tipped over.

(Continued on page 4)

OTHS Schedule of Events Spring 2018

Wednesday, March 14



Detroit Beer History

Presented by Steven Johnson, Motor City Brew Tours

**Time: 7:00 PM at Home Grown Brewing Company
28 N Washington Street, Oxford MI**

Wednesday, April 4

Sheepshank Sam

Old Time Lumberjack and Teller of Tall Tales

Time: 7:00 PM at Cranberry Lake Farm, 388 W Predmore Rd



May Date TBD



Joint Field Trip

With Rochester Avon Historical Society
Belle Isle sites



Saturday and Sunday
May 19 & 20



Greater Rochester Heritage Days

OTHS Famous Perennial Plant Sale



Wednesday, June 6



Annual Meeting and Potluck

The Transition From a Horse-Based Society to an Automotive One, Focusing on the lower east side of Detroit at the turn of the century.

Presented by John Sanderson, Historic District Commissioner

Time: 6:30 PM at Cranberry Lake Farm 388 W Predmore Rd.

History and Beer... *(Continued from page 1)*

HomeGrown Brewing Company is located at 28 N. Washington Oxford, MI 48371. We will be meeting upstairs which is accessible by elevator or stairway. Parking is located in the rear of the building. For more information: <https://www.homegrownbrewco.com/about>



Please RSVP for this free presentation by March 6 as 55 guests is the maximum number allowed to accommodate the space, so register early for this fun evening! Please email othsmember@comcast.net.

Food and drinks can be ordered upstairs during the presentation, or plan to arrive an hour earlier and enjoy a wonderful HomeGrown dinner.

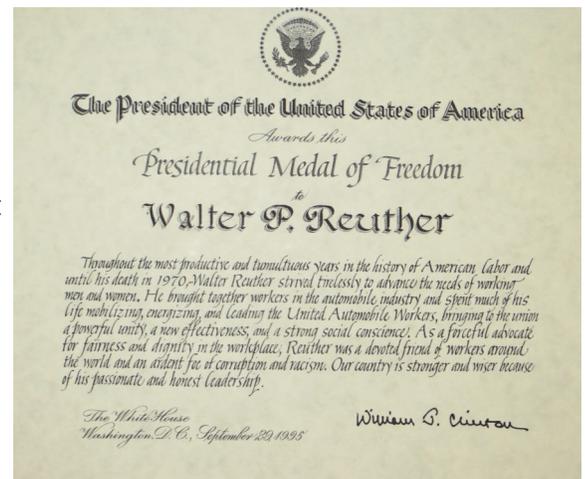
(Please note that food and drinks are at your own expense.) We look forward to seeing everyone!

Society News and Information

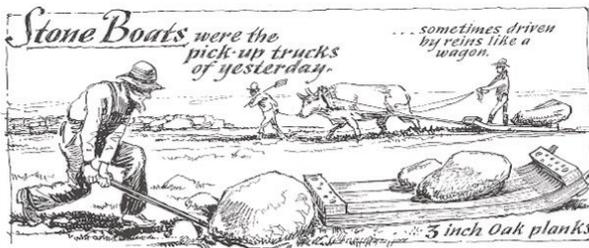


Donation to OTHS Reuther Archive

In 2017 we received a significant donation to our Reuther Archive. Diana Ostrand, who owns Accent on Art in downtown Lake Orion, gave our society the original Presidential Medal of Freedom certificate awarded to Walter P. Reuther from President William J. Clinton. We also received the original invitation and other memorabilia from that ceremony. You might remember that Walter and May Reuther were killed in a plane crash at Pellston, Michigan in 1970. This ceremony was September 28, 1995. Walter's grandson attended the ceremony to accept the award and honor his grandfather. We are very grateful to Diana for this amazing donation to our Reuther Archive!



MARJORIE PAULI—Interview Transcript (Continued from page 2)



On the farm I picked up potatoes. We had pails. They had a thing called a stoneboat, it could carry 8 crates and a horse pulled it. With one of us on one side and one on the other side, we picked up potatoes and put 'em in the crates. We got the potatoes out of the ground with a pitchfork. They dug 2 rows so they came together and 2 rows over a bit so they had room to get the stoneboat and the horse between.

Cooking... the farm had a big kitchen. It had a big old cook stove that would open up with a handle. It was a wood stove, a good size. Grandma Frost had 7 children. Then they moved to Orion and my aunt took over the farm. I made butter. Mother put the sour cream in and I would turn the crank. We had cows and horse and pigs and at one time we had sheep, but Dad didn't like sheep so they got rid of them.

For lights we had lamps. We got kerosene at Billy Wangelein's store in Goodison. My dad took the horses to the blacksmith shop to be reshod and he stood there and watched 'em so it would be done just the way he wanted. A man by the name of Hobson was there. The grist mill was operating then. At first they- made flour there, and then flour was in 25 lb. Bags, and the people didn't care to haul wheat down there. They'd just go down and buy a 25 lb. Bag of flour. So then they just started grinding grain for animals and chickens. Dad continued to grow wheat and sold it in Rochester. If he had steers to sell, he'd sell them in Rochester or Orion. I don't know how many pigs we kept for our own consumption. That's when I'd run away on the other side of the barn when they were killing the pigs so I wouldn't hear 'em squeal



Transcribed by Doris Barkham. PDF versions of the Oakland Township Historical Society's newsletters are available online at www.oaklandtownshiphistoricalsociety.org under NEWS.

OTHS BOARD

Bill Kroger, President
Diana Borrusch,
Vice President
Sue Fox, Treasurer and
Membership Chair
Mary Tischler,
Recording Secretary
Colleen Barkham,
Correspondence
Secretary
Tom Asmus, Director
Barbara Barber, Director
Anthony Kowalchik,
Director
David Phillips, Director
Jeanne Phillips, Director

OTHS Membership Chair Report Sue Fox

Membership in the OTHS is important to the collection, protection and preservation of the rich history of Oakland Township. It is each member's contribution and involvement that makes this possible, thank you. Paying dues is just one way to serve the OTHS Mission, being active in the Society is another. We would love to see you at upcoming programs and events and encourage your suggestions and ideas for program topics, displays, field trips, etc. We also invite you to attend board meetings at CLF at 6:30 the 3rd Tuesday of the month (except Dec and July). The fiscal year for dues is from July 1 to June 30 each year. In our busy lives, it's easy to forget what is due when, so if you would like we can send out a reminder.

Help us to continue to be a Society to be proud of. We welcome new members!
Share the form below with a friend or neighbor.

Monthly Membership Meetings are the first Wednesday at 7:00 pm at CLF

Monthly Board Meetings are the third Tuesday at 6:30 pm at CLF

Please complete this form and mail with payment for dues to:

OTHS, Oakland Township Historical Society
 384 West Predmore Road, Oakland, MI 48363

Annual Dues: Individual-\$18.00, Family-\$25.00, Patron-\$50.00, Business- \$100.

Special two-year pricing: Individual- \$32 instead of \$36, and Family- \$45 instead of \$50.

Note: Dues cover the fiscal year from July 1 to June 30.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone Number (s): _____ Email: _____

OAKLAND TOWNSHIP HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION PROGRAMS

- April 5** History of Bluebirds, education on how to monitor nests and eggs, all while crafting your own Bluebird house. 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM class location CLF Hen house - \$25 fee and participant 12 years and up.
- May 15** *Special Preservation Month* presentation 'If these Walls could Talk' by Oakland County Preservation Architect Ron Campbell 7:00 PM with location at the Paint Creek Cider Mill. Learn fascinating facts from local house histories. OTHS will be providing light refreshments – don't miss out!
- May – August** Beekeeping Classes – 2nd Saturday of each month –with two times being offered - 12:30 and 2:00 PM. These 1-hour classes are a four-part series beginning with obtaining the bees and supplies, the care of the bees, and final class is harvesting the honey. Registration fee of \$5 per person. Location CLF Hen House.
- June 2** Square Dance in the Flumerfelt Barn or on the lawn at CLF– 7:00 to 9:00 PM with Glen Morningstar calling & The Ruffwater String band playing live dance tunes. OTHS will have ice cream!
- June 23** "Plein Aire" painting with local artists and great instructions. Class is held on the beautiful, scenic grounds at CLF – 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM - \$30 class fee. Bring a sack lunch and plan for a [creative](#) masterpiece!

Registration and Information please call / email the Historic District Commission Office 248-608-6807 email: bbarber@oaklandtownship.org

OTHS is registered for community rewards with both Kroger and Amazon. You can support OTHS with the donations given by these companies whenever you shop with them. It's very easy to sign up. Online, go to Kroger.com, click on 'Community' and in drop down, click 'community rewards'. Click 'create account', follow instructions (enter card number on back) and enter who you want your rewards to go to. Our number is '62713', or enter our name. This does not affect your fuel points. Remember to renew each April. For Amazon, go to <http://smile.amazon.com> and select a charitable organization to support. We are registered as Oakland Township Historical Society. It's that easy.

SUPPORT OAKLAND TOWNSHIP
HISTORICAL SOCIETY WITH EASY
REWARDS!



YOU SHOP - OTHS WINS!

The Archive Room

The OTHS archives collection continues to grow, with the recent donation from the Jerome George Estate. This gift contains priceless records such as pictures and letters of past pioneers of the Township. The George's were related to the Hersey's, Coryell's, Carpenter's and others who meant so much to the settlement and growth of our part of Oakland County. This is a treasure trove of our Township's heritage ready to be shared for public education and enjoyment.



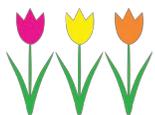
Also received this winter were two steel flat file cabinets donated by Mr. and Mrs. Crumb. They are greatly appreciated and will be used to store large items. This is a wonderful addition to the archive room.

The public is welcome to visit the archive room at Cranberry Lake Farm any Wednesday from 1-4pm or by appointment. To confirm we are open or to make an appointment, contact Sue Fox at othsmember@comcast.net or 248-342-7464.

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!



384 West Predmore Road
Oakland, Michigan 48363



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The Oakland Township Historical Society Newsletter
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