

**FALL
2017**
ISSUE 3 of 4

Washtenaw County Historical Society ● Newsletter

Impressions

New Mexico to Michigan

An Old Photo Album Offers a Rare Glimpse into
Student life at the University of Michigan More than a Century Ago

By **Donna Ikard, author/historian**
and **Jeff Podhorsky, editor/historian**

As a family historian I'm always excited to receive information pertaining to my ancestors' lives. My family saved just about everything over the years and passed it down to younger generations. One of the last gifts my grandmother gave to me before she passed away in 2014 was a stack of old photo albums dating back as far as the late 1800s.

My ancestors are early pioneers in New Mexico so most of our photos feature the old west in all of its glory. Cowboys, buckboards and Indians are a common theme throughout our collection.

In one of the antique leather albums, five faded photos of young men acting out dramatic scenes with props and costumes instantly grabbed my attention. They are both eerie and playful at the same time: Young college students brilliantly staged in a series of interesting situations. These pictures are so different from the rest of our collection that I knew instantly I wanted to research them further.

As I looked over the old images I was pleased to see that one featured a bedroom wall covered in posters. The phrases and dates on those posters were essential in determining that the pictures were most likely taken in 1909. The main clue to the photographs'

location in each poster was the same as the obvious clue on a pennant hanging on the wall in another photo: One word - Michigan. (Cont. on page 6)

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2016 Annual Report is in this issue

2017-18

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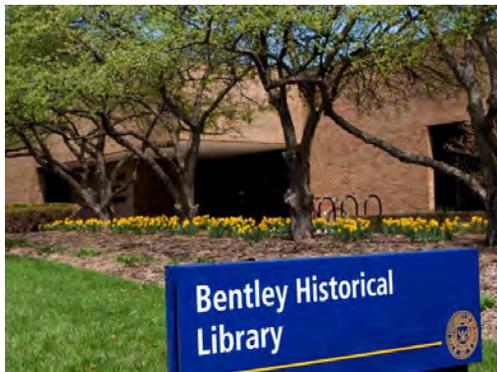
Kay Williams

Impressions is published four times a year by the Washtenaw County Historical Society, a non profit 501(c)(3) organization. Donations are tax deductible

Message from the President – Karen L. Jania

Fall is here... where has the summer gone? With fall comes the start of a new school year, buying school supplies, organizing and re-arranging schedules and in our neck of the woods, college students have returned.

I assume that everyone knows U of M is celebrating its bicentennial this year (if you don't you do now!) If you have not already, please come visit our current exhibit, *The Journey in a Day: 200 years of Student Life at the University of Michigan*, which was created by U of M students. Take a stroll through the museum to learn about and view images of student life at the university. The exhibit includes a replica of a bedroom from the Martha Cook dormitory, where the "cookies" reside.



If this piques your interest (and I hope it does), I encourage you to attend Kim Clarke's talk, *200 Years of Michigan: From Catholepistemiad to Go Blue*, that will be held at the Bentley Historical Library on October 15, 2017. The Bentley Historical Library is the official archive of the University of Michigan. So, if your interest has been piqued, visit the Bentley during open hours to explore the many facets of the University. It has a wealth of materials on the university covering every aspect of its history. There is documentation on faculty, staff and students through year books, directories, course descriptions, student scrapbooks, and photographs just to mention a few.

It is through the donations of individuals like your selves that allows us and the Bentley to document history. As you read further on in the newsletter, you will find information on the Michigan History Project. This is yet another non-profit organization that is helping to document Michigan through a variety of sources. Perhaps you have a story to share with them??

I hope you enjoy this issue of *Impressions* as I have. A big thank you to Bev Willis, who oversees *Impressions*, and provides us with a great newsletter.

Have a Great Fall - See you at the Museum!

The Washtenaw County Historical Society

P.O. Box 3336 • Ann Arbor, MI 48106-3336 • 734-662-9092 • wchs-500@ameritech.net
washtenawhistory.org • [facebook.com/washtenawhistory](https://www.facebook.com/washtenawhistory)



Museum on Main Street

500 N. Main St
Ann Arbor, MI 48104-1027
(at Beakes & E. Kingsley)

HOURS Saturday & Sunday,
12 Noon – 4:00 PM
by appointment Monday-Friday
Call 734-662-9092

Current Exhibit: *The Journey in a Day: 200 Years of Student Life at the University of Michigan*

Fall 2017 – Educational Enrichment Programs

WCHS offers a series of programs throughout the year on a variety of topics, that deal with some aspect of Washtenaw County's heritage. We want to share this information in an engaging and interactive platform. Presenters include local historians, Museum on Main Street exhibitors, writers, researchers, teachers and more. These talks, walks and tours are free and open to the public. Members receive a postcard in the mail with the upcoming program details. You can also follow us on facebook for program and event information at facebook.com/washtenaw history, or check the website at washtenawhistory.org. Let us know if there is a topic you want to learn more about, email toewsam@gmail.com



Sunday, October 15

Bentley Historical Library,
1150 Beal Avenue, Ann Arbor

200 Years of Michigan From Catholepistemiad to Go Blue

2 PM Kim Clarke, director of communications for the University of Michigan Bicentennial, talks about the University of Michigan's bicentennial celebration, why it matters, and the impact of students, faculty and alumni through the years.

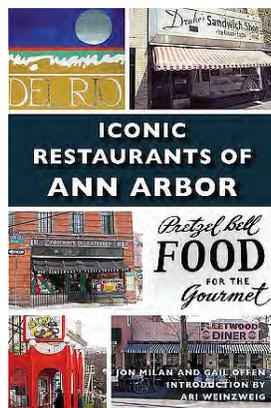


Great Michigan traditions – “Go Blue!” and the colors maize and blue – have their roots in students, while Michigan graduates have shaped pop culture, sports, medicine, literature and more. The bicentennial is a yearlong opportunity to explore and celebrate U-M's role in American higher education and beyond.

bicentennial.umich.edu
heritage.umich.edu

Iconic Restaurants of Ann Arbor

Co-authors Jon Milan and Gail Offen teamed up to share a tasty afternoon of photos, history, anecdotes, and even a few recipes on Sunday, September 17, at Weber's Inn. They discussed their latest book, “Iconic Restaurants of Ann Arbor,” with an enthusiastic crowd. Whether your fondest food memories of Ann Arbor began in the beloved green booths of Drake's Sandwich Shop, amid the carved table-tops of the Pretzel Bell, eating ribs at the Whiffletree, or a Detburger at the Del Rio – or are drawn from more recent stops at Pizza Bob's or Zingerman's – many of those who were there had a favorite story or memory to share!



Do You Have a Historical Question to Ask the WCHS



We may have an answer. Many times people will call the Historical Society or email us with questions about local architecture, history or families. “Who lived in this house on Catherine Street?” or “what's the oldest building in the County?”

Now you can ask WCHS board member and local historian, Susan Wineberg. She will try to help answer it. If not, she can point you in the direction of the resources or people who can help in your research. Email your questions about local history to Susan at wchs-500@ameritech.net.

Join, Renew, Donate!

As one of the oldest historical societies in the state of Michigan, we have been asking for renewals for a long time. The WCHS was established as a membership based organization in 1857. By 1873, dues were 25 cents a year. The purpose was to “cultivate social relations, collect and preserve biographical sketches, statistics and historical facts and reminiscences, and to preserve and transmit the same to future generations”.

With your renewed support, you are helping to maintain an historic house museum – one of a few pre-Civil War houses remaining in this area; the largest collection of Argus artifacts in the country; collections and exhibits about Washtenaw County history; educational outreach and educational enrichment programs.

The Fall issue of Impressions includes the Society's Annual Report for 2016. You can read about the work of last year and how members contribute to the success of it. Please help us to continue collecting and preserving until it's time to pass it to the next generation, or as they said in 1873 “to preserve and transmit the same to future generations”. Membership renewal is mailed in November, or you can do it now, online at washtenawhistory.org

The Argus Museum

It's Time to Meet Up!

2017 Argus Museum/Argus Collectors Group Ann Arbor Conference

Thursday October 12

Washtenaw Through the Lens –

A photography exhibition of work by the well-respected Ann Arbor Women Artists Association (AAWAA) photographers opens the conference at 6 p.m. on Thursday evening, October 12th at the Argus Museum.

Please join us – meet the artists, view their work, enjoy food and beverages and welcome Argus Museum members visiting from places around the country and Canada.

Friday October 13

Friday's events include special-hours open house for conference attendees to see the current exhibit, "The Journey in a Day: 200 Years of Student Life at the University of Michigan" at the Museum on Main Street.

A rare opportunity to tour the Argus Building II is also scheduled for Friday – currently a University of Michigan building that is normally closed to the public. Argus manufactured equipment for the WWII effort in the building and, after the War; it was home to engineers and designers of innovative products.

By Cheryl
Chidester
Argus Museum
Curator



Bob Kelly, Art Dersham, Vaughn Martens, Richard Chiriboga, Alan Symons

Friday's dinner will again be hosted by ACG members and held in the lobby of the Argus I Building – there is no charge for the meal but donations are encouraged.

Following dinner, a special presentation, "Highlights and Delights of the History of Photography" will be given by Martin Magid. Magid, former president of the Michigan Photographic Historical Society, has written numerous articles for photography publications and has given workshops on pinhole photography.

Saturday October 14

Saturday is a big day for the conference! The day begins with morning presentations and demonstrations, including a talk given by the AAWA photographers. As is tradition, former Argus employees and their families are invited to join conference attendees for lunch at the Museum.

Time after lunch is set aside to share experiences, knowledge and renew friendships.

Continued on page 5





Saturday October 14

Please pass the word around to friends and neighbors who may know "Argus families". The Argus Museum will be open to visitors to enjoy the displayed collections as well as the photography exhibition.

Participants will then head to the Michigan Military Technical and Historical Society (MMT&HS) Museum. (Car-pooling will be available.) Not only will the Conference banquet be held there – the Argus Museum-loaned special exhibit, "Argus Eyes for Victory", will open that evening at the MMT&HS Museum and their members will be joining us for the event.

The banquet, catered by Polonia of Hamtramck, will include an auction (which will feature some exceptional Argus items), photography awards and a presentation given by Mike Reitsma about his research and the exhibit, titled, "Argus Eyes for Victory - WWII at the Argus Camera Factory in Ann Arbor." Reitsma is known for his WWII knowledge and expertise and his dedicated research of Argus's military contributions.

The exhibit, "Argus Eyes for Victory", curated by Argus Museum and ACG members Mike Reitsma and Pam Buckley, with assistance from the Argus Museum curator, Cheryl Chidester, and the MMT&HS Museum curator, Chris Causley, tells of significant chapters in local and military history.

Examples of much of the optical and radio equipment that Argus made during the war, representing perhaps half of all types of military items Argus produced will be displayed. The extensive display is the result of over a decade of eBay searches, garage sales, and attendance at flea markets and military collector shows as well as rare items from the Museum's collections.

The exhibit also displays a selection of pages from wartime Argus Eyes, 60 wartime front pages from local and national newspapers, and WWII "home front" artifacts. The latter includes items related to wartime rationing, metal and rubber conservation, "sweetheart"

jewelry and window banners, and a radio adapted to play a dozen of the most memorable songs of WWII. For those who can't make it to the banquet the exhibit will be on display in the museum's Special Exhibit Room (the "Back Room") through Mid-March, 2018. The Technical & Historical Society Museum, 16600 Stephens Road in Eastpointe is open Saturdays 10 AM-3PM and by appointment.

Sunday October 15

Vintage Argus Roadshow

Sunday's event will be back at the Argus Museum - everyone is invited to bring your Argus camera, or other Argus product, for a free appraisal by Argus experts from around the Country and Canada! You can also swap and deal and get great finds on all things Argus! So, join us – even if you're just curious – and tell your neighbors about our Sunday Museum event.

Conference registration, as well as conference details and updates, are available on the WCHS website: washtenawhistory.org. For additional information about the conference and the Argus Museum, call Cheryl Chidester at 734-769-0770, or email cchidester@onealconstruction.com.

The Argus Museum is on the second floor of the Argus I Building, 525 West William Street in Ann Arbor.

The current show, "Washtenaw Through the Lens" opens Thursday, October 12, 6-8 pm and will be available for viewing, Monday-Friday, 9 AM - 5 PM through January 5, 2018. For more information contact the Argus Museum curator, Cheryl Chidester at 734-769-0770 or email cchidester@onealconstruction.com



New Mexico to Michigan 1909

(Cont. from page 1) When I realized that I was looking at a Michigan pennant I immediately asked my editor, Jeff Podhorsky, to look at the pictures. His family is from Michigan and he's been a Wolverines fan his entire life, so I knew he was the perfect person to help with my research.

Jeff was thrilled to see these pictures and began researching the college propaganda posters that covered the wall in one of the pictures. A lucky break came when Jeff found that a Black Friday poster from 1905 identical to the one posted in the dorm room for sale on eBay for \$495.

The Black Friday poster dated October 6, 1905 is from a college sophomore/freshman rush event. The poster is a friendly "declaration of war" from the sophomore class (class of 1908) upon their underclassmen, the freshman class, who are the future graduating class of 1909.

"On divers occasion you have, ye have openly insulted the dignity of your

natural superiors and masters - the class of 1908- and presumptuously violated sacred Campus Traditions." From there a list of "violations" such as smoking on campus were listed as offenses.

The posters on the wall indicate a four-year range from 1905 to 1909. At the very top, right-hand side of the wall a very faint white square sign reads "O M 9" - meaning "Michigan Class of 1909."

A pennant hanging among the posters that reads "FHS 04" was probably a high school pennant belonging to one of the students who boards in this room, obtained entering college at the University of Michigan. There might've been another letter at the top of the FHS pennant that could've been cut off when the picture was taken.

A title for each scene is faintly written in pencil beneath each photo, but there are no student's names. Perhaps the young men might be dental students, medical students, theater students or a group of senior fraternity college boys

A photo titled "**Painless (??) Dentistry**" shows a very faint University of Michigan seal on the wall, it's large so it must be a banner or poster. The flash of the camera bulb appears to have bleached out the banner, but if you look closely you can see it. This photo shows a young man who appears to be having his tooth extracted in a staged dental office setting; two young men using a hammer and screw driver attempt to remove a tooth while one man comforts him and another holds the patient down on the table. The scene shows medicines and tools gathered on the table and a white coffee mug can also be seen on the table with one single marking printed on the mug, a block M.

In a photo titled "**Bed Time**" another group of young men gather around a staged scene holding a bottle and a magnifying glass. Another gentleman peaks from behind a white curtain with surprised expression on his face. There also appears to be dried leaves lying atop the linen on an empty, unmade bed. Perhaps the leaves were too

looking like blood stains when the photo was taken for effect, but that is pure speculation. A poster is seen in the background featuring a football/rugby player as well.

An image titled "**One, Two, Three**" depicts a student painting fake blood onto the foot of a sleeping student as three others act as though they are dousing the same student with water. They are holding an empty coffee mug, a porcelain pitcher and a porcelain water pan.



Painless (??) Dentistry"



"Bed Time"



"Not Expected to Live"

In the picture titled **"Not Expected to Live"** a priest with holy water, a grieving man and two doctors (possibly twins) tend to a dying patient while a prominent Michigan pennant decorates the wall behind them.

The creepiest, most unusual photo in the collection is titled **"Seeing Things"**. The scene is not only spooky but it holds the most clues to the photo's time and place. It shows three transparent ghosts, one holding a long thin sword or metal rod pointed at the chest of a young man laying in his bed, while two others hover near his head. A shadow on the wall shows that one apparition is holding a hammer. It's not only a fascinating scene but interesting to see the impressive photographic effect that makes the ghosts appear transparent.



"One, Two, Three"

The backdrop to this macabre "murder scene" is a wall completely covered in University of Michigan fraternity rush propaganda posters offering dates and common rush phrases from the era.

Noting that this is the University of Michigan's bicentennial year, my family and I would like to share these photos with your readers and include in the Washtenaw County Historical Society archives.

Happy Anniversary University of Michigan and congratulations to the Class of 2017 Wolverines!



"Seeing Things"

Get Your History Out of the Box!

Most people have a collection of photographs that has accumulated over the years. Pictures of friends and family, vacations and memorable events. But have you ever thought that your photographs might be historically significant? If you took pictures of John F. Kennedy or Richard Nixon during their visits to Ann Arbor in 1960, of course are historically significant. But there are many other subjects that could be important historically.

The Michigan History Project is interested in finding out what items you might have that can help us to bring the stories of our state's past alive. They are interested in all sorts of things, including:

- Photographs
- Negatives
- Movie footage
- Video recordings
- Magazines
- Newspapers
- Letters
- Memoirs
- Diaries
- Scrapbooks
- Photo albums
- Tickets
- Programs
- Souvenirs



Don't know what to do with a box of old photos? Send them to the Michigan History Project

It's possible that there could be something in that shoebox of historical significance. Old pictures, movies, audio recordings and other artifacts can be a more valuable part of the historical record than you might've imagined. Even if you don't think they're important, let the Michigan History Project have a look at what you've got. If you're a professional or semi-professional photographer, and you've been waiting for the right opportunity to come along, this is it. Contact the Michigan History Project for more information.

317 S. Division St. #55
Ann Arbor, MI 48104
email: mhp@fastmail.com

In order for history to be fully preserved it's important to tell and retell the stories of our past to each new generation. That's why the Michigan History Project is looking for photographs and other historical items that can help tell the stories of our state's heritage. The Michigan History Project is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to bringing the stories of Michigan's past to life.

Recent Donations to the WCHS Collection

- 4 Washtenaw County abstracts, related to Schlenker family; 1 Adrian abstract--with blueprint by Stewart Thayer; Deed for John and Floramae Hancock property; 2 bank books--one belonging to John and Floramae Hancock; tax receipts from the Schlenker family; bill for funeral of Anna Marie Hiller-Muehlig's, May 14, 1945; 7 cookbooks (donated to AAUW sale)—*Shirley Joan Eyl*
- Dress and cape, worn by Dr. Lois Backus, early AA female physician; Shawl, 1893; 4 dresses—made by Russian émigré in Paris, 1927, purchased by Grace Novy for her grandchildren; Baby clothes—bonnets, sweater, robe worn by donor; hats, 1950s and 60s—from *Doranne Jacobson*, daughter of Dorothy Novy Wilson, one of Grace Novy's grandchildren

- Scrapbook by Dama Godfrey of mementoes from Ann Arbor High School and U of M, 19; scrapbook of Cecil Creal's mementoes from U of M; other mementoes of Dama and Cecil Creal; group of papers, handwritten or typed by H.B. Godfrey, 1890s; "Around the World With a Camera", Leslie-Judge Co., 1910 —*Bob and Patty Creal*
- 2 neckties, label 'The Ochenschlager, Ann Arbor, Michigan'; 2 postcards—from Germany with handwritten German messages, to Miss Marie Hollinger, 1905; Invoice, St. Joseph Sanitarium, July 6, 1918—*Susan Wineberg*
- Dress—worn for AAHS graduation picture, 1921; Framed photograph--Louise Braun graduation picture, wearing dress.

If you have artifacts to donate contact Judy Chrisman at judychr@aol.com

It's Time to Share Your Enthusiasm for Local History with Students – as a Michigan History Day Judge

Michigan History Day is a year-long educational program of the Historical Society of Michigan, that encourages students to explore local, state, national, and world history. Winners of the state level Michigan History Day competition in the Junior and Senior categories move on to compete in National History Day, June 10-14, 2018 at the University of Maryland, College Park. Local competitions start at the school-level in February. Regional competitions take place within eleven districts in March. The state finals for Michigan History Day take place the last Saturday of April in a location that changes throughout the state each year.

Every year, thousands of Michigan students grades 4-12 research and prepare projects for Michigan History Day. Students can present the results of their research in a variety of formats, from the traditional research paper to a documentary, an exhibit, a website, or even a live performance.

After selecting a historical topic that relates to the annual theme, "Conflict & Compromise in History", students conduct extensive research using libraries, archives, museums, and oral history interviews. They analyze and interpret their findings, draw conclusions about their topics' significance in history, and create their final projects.

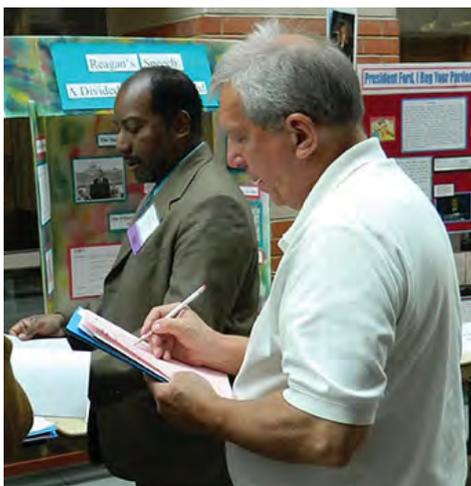


As part of a previous Michigan History Day event Weber-Blaess School, The Depot Museum, and Rentschler Farm were open for viewing thanks to the Saline Historical Society. Local historians were on hand to answer questions. At the Weber-Blaess one-room schoolhouse, Rebecca Groeb-Driskill and a cast of seven Saline school kids reenacted a day at school in 1903. The students were called in by the school marm, Miss Groeb, by her ringing of the large bell on the roof. (Bob Conradi, The Saline Post)

You Can Help Make Michigan History Day a Success

The Historical Society of Michigan needs the help of individuals with an interest in history and education to serve as judges at the state finals. The most important qualities for a judge are strong common sense and an enthusiasm for interacting with students. You should have a lively interest in history, but not necessarily a specific background in history. The Society provides training in how to judge the Michigan History Day entries, and you will be placed on teams with experienced judges. Judges evaluate the participants' entries and provide constructive feedback to the students. As part of the judging process, you will have the opportunity to interview the students who created the projects. One of the pleasures of judging at Michigan History Day is meeting students who have a passion for their topic. If you are interested in judging please contact the Michigan Historical Society at michiganhistoryday@hsmichigan.org.

From a Judge's Perspective... The students are the experts and we, as "judges," are just curious participants who simply guide them to present their information in whatever category they compete. We just ask questions for them to express themselves, thus they learn. So do we, in the process. Students gain confidence in reading, writing, and presentation development. The education students receive is tremendous and invaluable. **Orlando Hodges**



The Michigan Marching Band

The University of Michigan Marching Band is one of the most prominent collegiate bands in the United States. It began in 1896, when Harry dePont invited all musicians on campus to a meeting with the notion of starting a band for the University of Michigan. Two years later, Louis Elbel wrote "The Victors" on the train ride home after Michigan defeated rival University of Chicago. Some of the most beloved traditions include the drum major's backbend, the goal post toss, the M fanfare, formation of the block M and the performance of "The Victors". The drum major also provides whistle commands to provide song tempos and parade instructions. The drum major is responsible for teaching the marching techniques during Band Week.

This is part of a speech that Bob Ufer gave at Crisler Arena in 1976 at a rally for President Gerald Ford.

"You can feel the tension, the excitement, the charisma that surrounds that stadium every Saturday afternoon. Especially ten to fourteen minutes before kickoff. When a hush settles over that stadium and we all anxiously wait for that simple 4 word command to emanate out of the P.A. system. I can hear it now! "Band take the field!" and out of that eastern tunnel pour 215 well drilled, well disciplined Michigan bandmen.

They pour over the Eastern sideline and they form the big block M and they play the greatest college fight song ever written! The Michigan Victors!! That's when the chills go up and down your spine! You get goose pimples all over, your blood turns maize and blue and everyone out there becomes part of the winningest tradition in the history of Big Ten football as well as the winningest tradition in the history of Big Ten athletics. Folks lets join in and sing the song that the late and great John Phillip Sousa claimed was the greatest college fight song ever written. The Michigan Victors!!!" [Click here to listen it!](#)

TAKE A DIGITAL JOURNEY There are many interesting stories and milestones of this band, we are sharing some of the sites to explore. Start with the Michigan Marching Band website at mmb.music.umich.edu. You will find all the history and current news and events. There is a dynamic digital story written by Kim Clarke with great images at heritage.umich.edu/stories/revelli-the-long-note. You can even click on the link above and hear hear Bob Ufer announce the band as he did in 1976 at [facebook.com/washtenawhistory](https://www.facebook.com/washtenawhistory).



By the Numbers

- 18 Piccolos
- 24 Clarinets
- 18 Alto Saxophones
- 12 Tenor Saxophones
- 48 Trumpets
- 24 Horns/Mellophones
- 33 Trombones
- 3 Bass Trombones
- 12 Euphoniums/Baritones
- 24 Sousaphones
- 30 Percussionists
- 24 Flags
- 3 Twirlers
- 1 Drum Major

Uniformed drum major for the University of Michigan marching band preparing some admiring children to imitate his flamboyant technique on a march across the campus lawn. Photo Alfred Eisenstaedt (1898–1995)

THE HERITAGE PROJECT

The Heritage Project is an immersive, digital collection of multimedia stories about the people who have shaped, and been shaped by, one of the world's great public universities. It is a living resource that will grow and change as the University's life continues. It is a production of the Office of the President, the Office of the Vice President for Global Communications and Strategic Initiatives, and the Bentley Historical Library.

Kim Clarke, U-M's Director of Bicentennial Communications, is managing the project. She is an award-winning writer with long experience in newspapers as well as corporate and higher education communications. She also is the guest speaker for our October 15th program at the Bentley Historical Library.

James Tobin (LSA, 1978; Ph.D., 1986), consultant to the Heritage Project, is an award-winning author, historian and educator who has written extensively on the University's history. He is an associate professor of journalism at Miami University (Ohio), where he teaches courses in literary journalism. He has also made videos about University history that continue to be favorites of our Facebook family.

Marking Time... History Marches On

Just like a Marching Band, history marches on. When marking time, it is considered good form for all band members to stay in step—that is, step with the same foot at the same time. Staying in step is generally easier when the drums are playing a marching cadence.

History also has a rhythm and cadence. Over time, it lays the groundwork for strong, resilient communities. When a community is wrapped in human memory – family stories, traditions and local events– it creates an awareness of our shared history. When connections and commitment to one another are strengthened, we stay in step.



The Washtenaw County Historical Society is fortunate to have a hard-working board of directors who are fully committed to the preservation of local history. They have strong ties to this community and bring a range of experience to the table. These talents are voluntarily shared with the Society and evident in the quality of programs and exhibits we produce. A strong working board is essential to keeping history alive. If you are interested in serving on the board, contact president Karen Jania at kljanja@gmail.com

Societies can help teach history through fun at an early age. Elementary schools that teach to standardized math and English tests made science and history side-lights of the school year. The STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) movement has risen for the science side, and science museums and nature centers have become integral partners in science education; history has no such counterpart movement. But Historical Societies have the capacity to change that.

The Museum on Main Street is offering more kid-friendly exhibits with hands-on activities. From “Farming Full Circle” in 2013 to the exhibit “Community Helpers” that was created and curated by the second-grade class at Northside School in 2016. The Argus Museum has hosted school groups. The current exhibit is a great example of how the Society engages students at the University level. Designed by U-M students participating in MUSEUMS 498, in the History of Art Department, in collaboration with the U-M Bicentennial Office, and the Washtenaw County Historical Society, it surveys two hundred years of daily rituals, social life, challenges, victories, and the roles U-M students have played in historic events. This wide ranging exhibition has many interesting, entertaining and illuminating stories to tell.

Groups that have visited include The Alva Gordon Sink Alumnae Group of the University Alumnae Association, 15 University of Michigan student advisors and a Girl Scout troop came with their parents to view this exhibit. Groups are welcome and appointments can be scheduled for weekday visits. Call 734-662-9092 or email wchs-500@ameritech.net. The exhibit is open until October 22 at the Museum on Main Street.



You are Invited...

Sunday, October 15
2 PM Bentley Historical Library
1150 Beal Avenue, Ann Arbor

200 Years of Michigan: From Catholopistemiad to Go Blue

Kim Clarke, director of communications for the University of Michigan Bicentennial, talks about the bicentennial celebration, why it matters, and the impact of students, faculty and alumni through the years. This program is free and open to the public., bring a friend!

www.bicentennial.umich.edu

September & October History Mix

Exhibit Opening Reception

Thursday,
October 12,
6-8 PM

Photographers:
Fred Beutler
Travis Erby
Sophie Grillet
Sally Silvennoinen



The Argus Museum

525 W. William
Ann Arbor

Show runs
10/2-1/5/18

Call
734-769-0770
for information

Photo: Travis Erby

WWI: The story of William Bryan Lutz of Saline

Sunday, October 8, 2 PM

Saline District Library, Brecon Room
555 North Maple Road Saline, MI

William Bryan Lutz is believed to be Saline's first casualty of World War I. The Saline American Legion Post was named in honor of William Brian Lutz. He was part



of the Student Army Training Corps and was assigned to the 119th Field Artillery of Michigan's National Guard.

When war was declared, the 119th became part of the 32nd "Red Arrow" Division and was shipped out to France. Lutz was trained as a gunner. His unit was firing on enemy positions on August 10, 1918, when they were hit by counter-fire. Lutz and his crew were killed instantly. Soldiers were buried on the spot. The Lutz family petitioned the government for the return of his remains after the war. He was laid to rest in Saline with full military honors. For more information contact the **Saline Area Historical Society** at 734-944-0442 or email: salinehistory@frontier.com

Washtenaw Through the Lens

Four local photographers from the Ann Arbor Women Artists responded to the call to exhibit photographs at the Argus Museum. They chose the theme, "Washtenaw County" to share with you an artistic view of our county through the lens of their cameras. Seek out images from a different angle, take a closer look or chance upon something familiar to see through renewed eyes.

Fall Sunday Afternoons - Historic Mill Tours

September 24
October 1, 8, 15 & 22, 1-4 PM

Parker Mill Park

Learn how the Parker family used waterpower in the 1870s to grind flour and run other machines in this operational pioneer grist mill.

4650 Geddes Road • Ann Arbor

September 24
October 7 & 22, 1-4 PM

Sharon Mills Park

Learn about the mill's varied uses over time with a focus on Henry Ford's influence.

5701 Sharon Hollow Road • Manchester

Save the Date!

Saturday, December 2, 2017
Chelsea Area Historical Society
Holiday Home Tour. For more
information call 734-476-2010

THANK YOU

For your membership and donations. Your engagement supports the
Society's current work and, sustains our future capacity.



The Washtenaw County Historical Society

2016 Annual Report

President's Report Karen L. Jania

2017-18

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Karen Jania

Vice President

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John Kilar

ARGUS MUSEUM CURATOR

Cheryl Chidester

ADVISORS

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David LaMoreaux

Louisa Pieper

Kay Williams

The past year was a busy and successful year for the Washtenaw County Historical Society. In the fall the board members had several brain storming sessions as a result of a visioning exercise. Every committee was to look 2-5 years into the future and determine what goals and/or changes they would like to see. From these sessions, we were able to come up with strategies to help each committee attain these new goals.

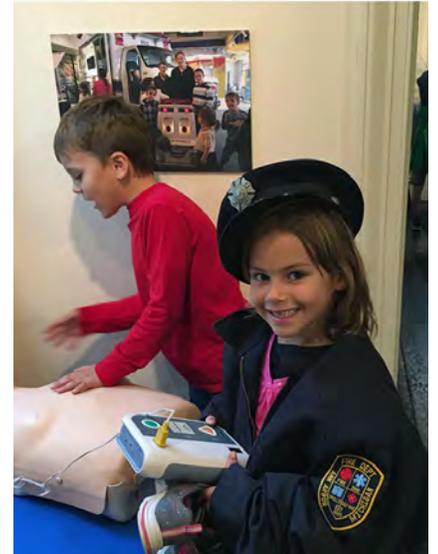
We had three exhibits this year, two were collaborations. "Our Community Helpers" was a family friendly exhibit that was created by the 2016-second grade class of Ann Arbor STEAM@Northside Elementary School (Science Technology, Engineering, Art, Math). It was surrounded by artifacts from the WCHS and hands-on fun provided by community agencies and members. The display depicted the history of the Ann Arbor Police, Fire Departments and CS Mott Children's Hospital. Our educational talks included tours of Cobblestone Farm and the University of Michigan Law Quad as well as talks about the J.L. Hudson company, Modern Michigan architecture in Ann Arbor and a Book Talk by David Bardallis, author of *Ann Arbor Beer; A Hoppy History of Tree Town Brewing*.

The Argus Museum continues to host photographic exhibits and the 3-day Argus Collectors Group/Argus Museum fall conference in October. Currently, the Argus museum has loaned its Rietsma and Buckley Aviation collection to the Michigan Military Technical and Historical Society Museum in Eastpointe.

The Pauline Walters Memorial award was established in the memory of Pauline Walters. The purpose of the award is to support the mission of the Washtenaw County Historical Society "to educate and inspire our community to engage in the preservation and presentation of Washtenaw County history". The first recipient was awarded in May 2017.

It is through the educational exhibits, programs, historical queries, and newsletter, in addition to the memorial award, that we are able to achieve our mission. Our financial operations are carefully controlled and monitored. Our budget is slim, but it does allow us to meet our goals. Fortunately, our financial strength continues to improve.

We hope that you will have a chance to experience the educational programs, exhibits and newsletter. We value your support and thank you for your membership.



2016 WCHS Annual Report

Bequest Committee Tom Freeman

The Bequest Committee was established by the Washtenaw County Historical Society Board of Directors in late 2001 to manage the receipt of the bequest from the Doris Anna Bach Estate. The assets comprising the Bequest Fund are managed according to the Bequest Fund Guidelines, as established by the Board of Directors of the Washtenaw County Historical Society. In addition, the Board of Directors has engaged the firm of AXA Advisors, LLC to provide investment management services related to the Bequest Fund.

The Bequest Fund Guidelines require the Bequest Committee to provide monthly reports on the status of the investments in the Bequest Fund to the Board of Directors and annually to the members of the Society. In response to the requirement to report annually on the status of the investments in the Bequest Fund, the Bequest Committee submits the Bequest Fund Account Activity Summary (1/1-12/31/16), Bequest Committee 2016 Monthly Report and the Bequest Fund Annual Rate of Return for 2016.

Bequest Fund Account Activity Summary

January 1, 2016 – December 31, 2016

Beginning Value as of 1/1/16	\$838,400.89
Additions	0.00
Withdrawals	(35,400.00)
Dividends / Interest	37,835.49
Change in Investment Value	7,078.60
Ending Value as of 12/31/16	\$847,914.98

Bequest Fund Annual Rate of Return

January 1, 2016– December 31, 2016: 5.36%

Exhibitions Judy Chrisman

The 2016 collaborative exhibits were well attended.

HISTORY UNLOCKED which opened in November 2015 continued through March 2016 with displays by twelve members of the Washtenaw County Historical Consortium.

CAKE, an exhibit curated by Dr. Margaret Carney, Director of the Dinnerware Museum, featuring a juried exhibition of creative cake plates, stands and molds and the history of all things cake, opened in April and ran through September.

OUR COMMUNITY HELPERS, developed by 2nd graders in the STEAM program at Northside Elementary School and enhanced with items on loan from AAPD, AAFD, HVA, told the story of the history of the police department, the fire department and C.S. Mott Children’s Hospital. It opened Thanksgiving weekend and continued into the first week of January 2017. One class is pictured here with retired officers Howard Zeck and Tom Hickey.



Grounds and Garden **Patty Creal**

The Society continues to keep the house, our largest artifact, in good order. In 2016 the driveway was repaved and Docent, John Kilar painted the front porch and back door ramp. A dehumidifier was installed in the collections area to ensure environmental quality control. Museum grounds were maintained by TDF II Hauling and Plowing who handled the snow removal, John took care of the lawn and Master Gardener, Lily Ferguson donated her talent and time to beautify our yard and corner of Main and E. Kingsley and Beakes Street.

Collections **Judy Chrisman**

It was another near record year for donations. 2016 additions to our collection were donated by John Kilar, Sydney Sivers, Bobbi Remnant, Karl and Amy Lagler, Susan Wineberg, John Poss, David Shadley, Karen Comet, David Doss, Kathy Wall and Mike McCloy, Jane K. Smith, Tom Freeman, Estate of W. Louis Wenger, Patricia Creal, Susan Margle, Nancy Becker Johnson, L. Joseph Rahn, Ann Arbor YMCA, Don Maddock, Tandy Hennings, Geoffrey Neithercut, Richard Holzauer, Alvin Schaut, Brian and Janet Fisher.

Website & Technology **Jan Tripp**

Thanks to volunteer and at-large board director, Jan Tripp, our website is updated with program information and exhibit announcements. He also adds the content to our Washtenaw Impressions digital archives. And he continues to keep the computers and Internet services running smoothly at the Museum on Main Street.

Questions & Answers **Susan Wineberg**

The WCHS receives more than a few questions about historical buildings, people, places and events and tries to answer them all. Fortunately, Susan Wineberg, local historian and WCHS trustee, volunteered to field them. She either answers the question or directs them to other resources to find the answer. There is a great wealth of knowledge about local history within the WCHS and our Friends of History. Email your questions to Susan at wchs-500@ameritech.net

Endowment Fund **Jay Snyder**

Earnings from this Endowment Fund are designated for the support of long-term capital projects at the Museum on Main Street. To date \$6,285 of the Fund's earnings have been used for implementing eligible capital projects.

Prudent management of the securities comprising this Endowment Fund has boosted the current (December 31, 2016) Market Value to \$80,975. This is \$29,000 greater than the original \$51,972 purchase cost of the securities.

This Fund grows in 3 ways:

1. Through donations from members and the community
2. From earnings by the securities purchased with these donations
3. By the increase in market value above the original purchase cost

The professional management of this Endowment Fund is guided by AXA Advisors. It is anticipated that the success of this Fund will continue and will increase in amount so that all of the long-term capital maintenance needed at the Museum on Main Street can be covered by earnings from this Fund and the principal preserved.

It has been possible to purchase high quality securities because of the numerous modest donations and several larger donations to this Endowment Fund. Members and friends of the Historical Society can feel proud that the contributions of many have been combined to accomplish much.

It is hoped that the reader will recognize and appreciate the financial relief this Fund can and is providing to the mission and solvency of the Washtenaw County Historical Society.



Susan Wineberg in the Allmendinger Building, 130 S. First St.
Ann Arbor (Photo: Concentrate Ann Arbor)

The Argus Museum Cheryl Chidester

The Argus museum received numerous donations in 2016. The Argus Collectors Group (ACG) members' generosity included donations to the Museum's collections, funds for special projects and the conference, auction items and research documents. Former Argus employees and their families also generously donated. This includes a significant collection given by Milt Campbell and unique items donated by Art and Elwyn Dersham.

Rotating and adding items to the museum's display cases is a continuing effort. The DeMara display was installed. This was made possible with the donation by Dick DeMara of the images he took with his C3 Camera while on the Mackinac Bridge construction crew and the donation of the camera, and to Joe O'Neal, who donated funds for framing the photographs and the camera encasement.

Argus Oral History Project has continued. Collaborating with the Ann Arbor District Library (AADL), interviews have been conducted with former Argus employees, family members and others associated with the company. Interviews include Art Dersham, Dick Sarns and Harley Earl Associate who worked with Argus products, Frank Moelich. The interviews will be available on the AADL website.

Outreach Programs for the year included presentations given both at the museum and off-site, hosting groups/events and being featured in podcasts. Photography exhibits are a significant component of our outreach efforts. Our biggest event and outreach program was the annual Argus Camera Group/Argus Museum Ann Arbor Fall Conference.

Membership Joe Ciadella

At the end of 2016, the WCHS had close to 400 members. This includes individuals to families, patrons, businesses and libraries. A portion of the annual memberships are placed into the WCHS Endowment Fund that sustains the Society's future operations. Joining is one of the best ways to support local historic preservation and community memory.

Publications Bev Willis

PRINT The Society publishes a quarterly newsletter, *Impressions*, with updates about new exhibits, collections, programs and other happenings. We feature guest writers and highlight the activities of other county museums and historical organizations. You are invited to submit ideas or articles about your family, local history and architecture for future publications to wchs-1000@ameritech.net. We also send postcards about the programs, walks, talks and tours.

DIGITAL Members can choose to receive the newsletter and event updates in color via email, and many do. You can indicate your preference when renewing for 2017. We have over 1,000 Facebook followers and friends. The engagement with our page is active and encouraged. You will find us at [Facebook.com/washtenawhistory](https://www.facebook.com/washtenawhistory)

Museum Gift Shop John Kilar

The Museum Gift Shop is open during the exhibits. Our selection of books on local topics and history is also available online at WashtenawHistory.org. Members receive a 15% discount on any purchase.

Educational Enrichment Programs Anita Toews



Sunday, March 20 – The History of J.L. Hudson's Department Store. Talk and artifacts presented by Michael Hauser at the Dexter District Library.

Sunday, April 17 – The American Frontier Talk by James Davis followed by a tour of Cobblestone Farm.

Sunday, May 15 - UM Law Quad Tour and Talk by Margaret Leary at the Law Quad and Library.

Wednesday May 25

WCHS Annual Meeting

at Rentschler Farm in Saline. Elections were held, good food, fun and tours of the farm.

Sunday, September 18 – Ann Arbor Beer: A Hopy History of Tree Town Brewing with David Bardallis at the Ann Arbor District Library.

Sunday, October 16 – Ann Arbor's First Responders History of the Ann Arbor Fire and Police Department with Inspector Ira Harrison and Sgt. Tom Hickey at the Ann Arbor District Library.

Sunday, November 20 – Ann Arbor Modern Architecture with Grace Shackman at the Pittsfield Township Administration Building.

Thank you for supporting the work!

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Antelope Antiques & Coins
Chelsea District Library
Saline District Library
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The Society thanks you!

160 Years Strong!

Founded in 1857, the Washtenaw County Historical Society is one of the oldest regional historical societies in the state of Michigan. We work to educate and inspire our community about local history and engage in preserving it for future generations to learn from.



Museum on Main Street

500 N. Main Street
Ann Arbor, MI 48104
734-662-9092
Mailing address: PO Box 3336
Ann Arbor, MI 48106-3336
wchs-500@ameritech.net



The Argus Museum

525 W. William
Ann Arbor, MI 48104
734-769-0770
cchidester@onealconstruction.com

WCHS Income and Expenses

January 1 – December 31, 2016

Ordinary Income/Expenses

Income

Membership Dues	7,574.00
Donations	28,189.43
Endowment	1,151.00
Memorials	50.00
Shop Sales	346.50
Total Income	<u>37,310.93</u>
Gross Profit	<u>37,310.93</u>

Expense

Administration Organization	4,315.93
Actvertising	3,790.20
Argus activities	354.68
Building Operation	13,101.75
Grounds	4,011.45
Museum Collections & Exhibits	3,858.85
Payroll Expenses	45,853.15
Newsletter: Impressions	3,671.42
Office Equipment & Supplies	164.50
Program Expenses	1,521.35
Shop	-32.80
Web and Technology	1,103.27
Total Expense	<u>81,713.75</u>
Net Ordinary Income	<u>-44,402.82</u>

Other Income/Expense

Other Income	
Interest/Dividend	14,875.30
Total Other Income	<u>14,875.30</u>
Net Other Income	<u>14,875.30</u>
Net Income	<u>-29,527.52</u>