

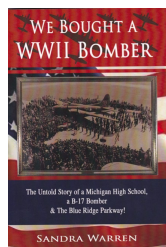
POWER HOUSE POST

ELECTRIFYING NEWS FROM THE ROCKFORD AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

2019 Volume 3 July



South High Alum to Share Book in September



During WWII, to help fund the war effort, junior high and senior high students at South High School in Grand Rapids, Michigan took part in the "Buy a Bomber" program Raising over \$375,000 selling War Bonds and Defense Loan Stamps, the students bought a B-17 Bomber, and christened it, "The Spirit of South High," after which it flew off never to be heard from again. Sandra Warren has written a story of how students were able to raise so much money and the incredible "spirit" that led alumni, seventy-two years later, to solve the mystery of what happened to the bomber. Sharon's book will be on display with other South High memorabilia at the RAM in September.

She will also be sharing this extraordinary tale with us at our September Meeting, which will be held at the Community Cabin on September 5 at 7 PM.



South High	1,2
Direct Your Dollars Update	2
Sponsor Recognition	3
Programs	3
Board Notes	4
New Cataloging System	4,5
Scarecrows	5
Volunteer Recognition	6
Please Note:	6
Volunteer Opportunities	7
NARM Benefits	Back

GRAND RAPIDS SOUTH HIGH DISPLAY COMING TO RAM

Beginning July 23, 2019, memorabilia showing parts of the history of Grand Rapids South High School will be featured in a new display at the Rockford Area Museum. My wife Janette (1958) and I (1956) are Rockford Area Historical Society members; graduates of the school and have put together an exhibit using items we have collected over the years.

South High School was opened in Grand Rapids on September 7, 1915 and located on the southwest corner of Jefferson Avenue and Hall Street. At that time it was the third high school in the city with Central and Union the first two. When the school opened under the leadership of Principal Paul C. Stetson the students were mostly ninth graders, so there was not a graduating class until 1918. On November 1, 1915 the first school weekly newspaper was published. It was called "The Pioneer" and contained a page called "Pioneer Ideals" written by Mr. Stetson. One of the displays

shows one of the first papers with the principal's remarks concerning the school and its future. Visitors can read what he said and apply his words to what happened later in its history.



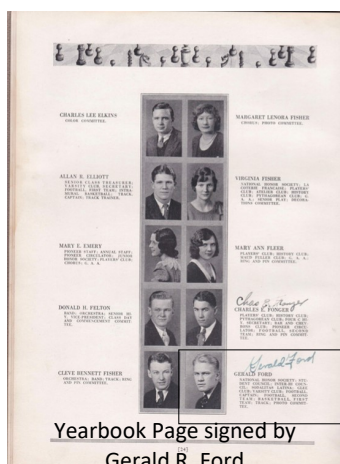
South High started their athletic programs in 1915 and played Rockford in football losing 27-0. The coach at South was Percy "Pop" Churm, a legendary teacher and coach from 1915 until 1953. In 1916 his football squad evened the record by defeating Rockford 30-0.

Mr. Churm is shown in several pictures in the exhibit. There is also a photo of a Rockford football game with Mr. Churm was the referee.

The 1918 yearbook, also on display, shows photos of the first graduating class along with lists of students in other classes. Organizations, athletic teams, faculty and other things make up the content. The yearbook is dedicated to Mr. Stetson and Mr. Churm and "The boys of South High in the Service". One of the faculty is Edith Dennis who had a tie to Rockford because she taught here and coached girl's basketball before going to the city school where she taught until 1949.

Athletics were important to South High students and a new gymnasium was added to the school

in 1922, a football field and track were built later about a quarter mile or so from the school. Gerald R. Ford participated in three sports and performed at all three facilities before graduating in 1931. A copy of the 1931 yearbook is on display showing his senior picture with his signature beside it.



Of course, there is other Ford memorabilia shown. In 1938 Edward "Mike" Murphy was a graduate who later returned to South as a teacher and coach. His varsity basketball teams in the fifties and early sixties were very successful and respected.

Many South graduates from his time still enjoy meeting with him at reunions and other gatherings. Coach Murphy is recognized in the exhibit along with things on one of his players from the early sixties, Lee Lafayette.

South High closed as a high school in 1968 but remained as a junior high until 1979. The building is still there and now houses the Federal Job Corps. There are still many South graduates who are very active in keeping the "Spirit of South High" alive. They meet often and reminisce about their experiences. The exhibit will be at the RAM until September 24, 2019 and should be interesting to all.

DIRECT YOUR DOLLARS ... WE ARE GETTING CLOSER TO OUR GOAL!



As you may know, Rockford Area Historical Society members can help us earn \$1,000 from Spartan Nash, simply by shopping at Grand Rapids area Family Fare, D&W, and Forest Hills Foods stores. To earn the Spartan Nash donation, we must collect \$150,000 worth of receipts.

It's easy to help us "DIRECT YOUR DOLLARS". When you shop at a Spartan Nash store, request a printed receipt and save it. **Original receipts are required. Photocopies will not be accepted.** Receipts can be turned in at the RAM at your convenience. If you aren't able to drop

your receipts off in person, you can mail them to: **Rockford Area Museum, PO BOX 781, Rockford, MI 49341**

The envelope enclosed with this newsletter can also be used for that purpose; as well as for memberships and donations. In either case, you'll be helping to support the museum.

When we began this program, the \$150,000 seemed like an impossible goal, but apparently "slow and steady wins the race". Over time, donations of receipts have increased noticeably. In June alone, over \$18,000 worth of receipts were received at the RAM. We have now collected OVER \$85,000 worth of receipts and the finish line appears to be in sight. **Keep up the good work, everyone. Your efforts make a difference.**

If you haven't yet been able to give this project any receipts, it's not too late to start. If you shop at Spartan Nash Stores including our local Family Fare store, we ask you to consider donating your receipts to the RAM. Receiving \$1,000 from the folks at Spartan Nash will mean a lot to us.

Thanks for helping us "DIRECT YOUR DOLLARS" to support the ROCKFORD AREA MUSEUM.

SPECIAL NOTICE REGARDING MEMBERSHIP DUES: *Our current membership dues schedule was discussed at a recent RAHS Board meeting. Expenses continue to rise but dues have not been increased in many years. We have also received requests for a LIFETIME membership that would be for individuals instead of for 2 people as it is now. The Board decided that memberships would be discussed again at a later meeting with the possibility that they could be adjusted beginning in 2020. Renewals paid before January 2020 will be accepted at the current rates. Any changes in January will be announced in the October newsletter.*

Thanks for your continuing support

Thank You To Our Sponsors



It is no secret that the very existence of the Rockford Area Historical Society (RAHS) and the Rockford Area Museum (RAM) depend on the generosity of our community. As members of the RAHS, your dues contribute to our successes, as do memorial donations, special gifts for specific expenses, and general donations that are occasionally received.

Our RAM lease agreement requires us to be open 22 hours a week and to be responsible for general maintenance and utilities. We are happy to do so, but since we receive no guaranteed government funding, every funding avenue we can find is crucial. That is why we recognize the support from our members. It is equally important that we also acknowledge the substantial and ongoing contributions made to our fund raising efforts by three generous downtown Rockford restaurants.

For over 5 years, VITALE'S PIZZA at 42 East Bridge Street has been sponsoring the Museum's "Hunt for History" game. This activity encourages young visitors ages 12 and under to visit the museum and pay attention to what they see. By correctly (*or maybe even incorrectly*) identifying what they see at specific museum locations, they win a FREE ICE CREAM CONE from VITALE'S. In just one day during the Krause Library Reading Rocks event each June, up to 120 FREE ICE CREAM CONES are won by happy youngsters. Those combined with the cones earned the rest of the year, represent a very generous donation by VITALE'S

In addition, starting last year, for every \$10 scarecrow built at Rockford's MAKE IT "N" TAKE IT Scarecrow Festival, VITALE'S

provided a \$10 OFF Certificate to the scarecrow's builder. In effect, these people got a FREE SCARECROW and could enjoy a great afternoon or evening in downtown Rockford.

MARINADE'S PIZZA and GRILL ONE ELEVEN at 109 and 111 Courtland St. respectively, have also made significant contributions to our fundraising. Starting during our early days of fundraising for the new RAM in 2012, both MARINADE'S AND GRILL ONE ELEVEN have been helping in various ways. For over 5 years, they have offered a Buy 1, Get 1 Free certificate in your choice of restaurant in exchange for a very small donation to the RAM.

This is done in a very fun way - by scratching off a spot on a scratch off - card. Each scratched spot reveals a donation amount ranging from 25 cents to \$3. In exchange for that donation, the participant receives the Buy 1, Get 1 FREE certificate. Depending on the restaurant and menu choices, this can easily represent a savings of over \$30. This is a fun way to enjoy great food and save money at the same time, while also supporting the RAM. Scratch Off cards are available at the RAM during regular museum hours. Stop by soon.

Whether you take advantage of free ice cream or \$10 off a pizza from VITALE'S with each scarecrow; or play the scratch off game for terrific savings at MARINADE'S and GRILL 111, be sure to thank Terry at VITALE'S and Aaron at MARINADE'S and GRILL 111. These two business owners have been very generous to us.

PLEASE PATRONIZE THEIR RESTAURANTS WHEN YOU CAN.

2019/2020 Rockford Area Historical Society Programs

Meetings are held at the Rockford Community Cabin at 220 N. Monroe St., Rockford on the first Thursday of the month.

They are always FREE and OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

September 5, 2019 7:00 pm - Author Sandra Warren will share her book, "We Bought a WWII Bomber", The Untold Story of a Michigan High School, a B-17 Bomber & The Blue Ridge Parkway!.

October 3, 2019 7:00 pm - Director of Education for the Historical Society of Michigan, Robert Myers, will present a program, "Israelite House of David".

November 7, 2019 7:00 pm - Jim Bogart and Al Kolpack will present "Celebrating 150 Years of Transcontinental Railroad" at the historical society meeting at the community cabin.

December 5, 2019 6:30 pm - Annual historical society Christmas potluck. 6:30 PM at the community cabin. Bring your own table service and a dish to pass.

January 2, 2020 7:00 pm - January 2, 2020 - 7:00 PM M. Christine Byron and Thomas R. Wilson will present the program, "Promoting Michigan for over 100 Years, A History of the West Michigan Tourist Association"

Did you know...?

The Louvre, located in Paris, France, is the largest art museum in the world with an area of 782,910 square feet. That is larger than 13 U.S. football fields.

A WORD FROM THE BOARD ...Terry Konkle - President

At the June 2019 Rockford Area Historical Society (RAHS) regular meeting, officers for the 2019-2020 society year were elected. They are: President - Terry Konkle, Vice President - Bob Winegar, Recording Secretary - Jennie Griffiee, Corresponding Secretary - Carla Blandford, Treasurer - Dianne Skiver, Trustees - Floyd Havemeier, Jon Stamp, Joan DeMaagd, Jerry DeMaagd and Programs/Publicity - Janette Konkle. Al Pratt is the Rockford Area Museum (RAM) Director, Kathy Christensen will continue to schedule most museum tours and all of the school tours along with working to find hosts and hostesses for our meetings. Pat Frye is the RAM research director with her assistant Jennie Griffiee.

Members will probably notice that many of the names on our list are familiar because they have served before. Linda Critchell, who has been our Vice President for several years, decided to step down from the position, but will continue to work on many RAHS activities and functions as she has done in the past. The RAHS is very fortunate to have people like her to help make things successful.

The sudden, unexpected death of RAM co-director, Dick Johnston, has brought about some changes. The board has decided to try to split up some of the duties that Dick had as part of his job. We have hired a group to clean parts of the RAM including the rest rooms. Several members, Jon Stamp, Bob Winegar, Barry Bell, Jan and Terry Konkle and Joan and Jerry DeMaagd, have cleaned and are working on organizing the storage building and taken responsibility for the "Grandma's Attic" sale in September. They will also act as curators and work with the museum director on displays, and have moved several things into storage. Bob Winegar will become our person to work with "Pinkies' Place" concerning the sale of some of our

items. Members wishing to help with storage or other things can contact the RAM or myself (tnjkonkle@hotmail.com).

Every three years the RAHS has copies of the "Rockford Squire" microfilmed. This is done at Central Michigan University where we have two copies made. One is kept at the RAM and the other at Krause Memorial Library. The reason to wait for three years is that the cost is more efficient because you do not waste space. Members should know that the RAHS has done this for many years, and we have an extensive microfilm file with Rockford Newspaper history.

My wife, Janette, with help from others who make suggestions, has put together a schedule of programs for regular meetings this coming RAHS year. It is nearly complete and a copy through January 2020 is available in this Newsletter. Our September 5, 2019 program features author Sandra Warren who will discuss her book "We Bought a WWII Bomber, The Untold of a Michigan High School, a B-17 Bomber & The Blue Ridge Parkway!" The book gives details concerning the students of Grand Rapids South High School and their successful fundraising efforts to purchase a bomber for the war effort. To lead into the first program the RAM will have a display on South High School starting July 23 and going through September 24 (see information on front page of Newsletter).

The RAHS continues to work hard at preserving and presenting Rockford area history, and could not do it without all of our members who help in many ways. Donations of time, effort and money are very important to our success. Please feel free to contact me (tnjkonkle@hotmail.com) with any questions. We are a positive organization which makes a difference in our community, and we should be proud of what we have done and keep doing.

NEW CATALOGING SYSTEM ALMOST READY FOR IMPLEMENTATION

Some time ago we realized that we needed to update our cataloging process for properly recording the donation of items for the RAM. Our current software was fine when the museum first started using it but we learned that it was not compatible with newer operating systems and updates were not available.

New software that we found or that had been recommended were either not suitable for us or were too expensive. We eventually found one that would suit our needs and could be set up and operated at NO COST with enough capacity to give us a great start toward converting our old records and entering new items. As we go forward we will incur some costs that will be less than we would incur with other systems. An advantage is that

costs will be incurred only as the need arises.



We should be able to anticipate those needs and budget for them without being be put in a position of having to make decisions far in advance for capacity that we may not even need.

Two long time volunteers, Candy DeForest and Ian McCormick, our resident computer guru, have both spent time on this project. Some fine tuning is being done. Ian is writing a simple instruction sheet that will enable almost any of our volunteers to catalog donations.

See Catalog on page 5

The new cataloging system benefits include:

- * Simpler entry process. Anyone can learn it
- * Attaching photos to records
- * Linking multiple items
- * Generation of reports based on search criteria
- * Public viewing of collection online (later)

A lot of help will be needed to get the new system up to date with entries from the old system as well as new donations. This will be a long process.

Anyone with minimal computer experience will have no problem helping with this. **If you can surf the internet, play games, read emails, or order from Amazon, you will find this very simple.** This can be done at the RAM during any open hours. **No advance scheduling or long time commitment is needed.** Come in for an hour or an afternoon. **We hope our members will seriously consider helping with this important project.**

If this opportunity interests you, call Al Pratt at the RAM or on his cell phone at 616 485-4144.

Training will be scheduled soon.

In conjunction with this new system, we are also implementing a new procedure that will allow us to get items on display or into storage and archival files more quickly, often even before the computer entries are made.

This is a departure from our old process that required items to be held until they were entered into the catalog system. This often caused unnecessary delays and sometimes created storage space problems if cataloging or decisions about placement of items was delayed.

We continue to look for ways to improve the RAM experience for our volunteers and visitors.

Your continued support is sincerely appreciated.

SCARECROWS AND PUMPKINS AND LAUGHTER, OH MY!

Despite some horrible weather, last year's highly successful event produced record breaking donations.

Rockford's **Make It "N" Take It Scarecrows** can now claim to be...

THE LARGEST SCARECROW BUILDING EVENT IN THE UNITED STATES.

During its 21 year history, this event, put on by Denise Bradley and her family has raised almost \$96,000 for local non profits. Proceeds now are shared equally by the Rockford Area Museum (RAM) and North Kent Connect (NKC).

Last year, visitors from throughout Michigan as well as Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, and Wisconsin came to downtown Rockford to build almost 1200 scarecrows along with memories that will last a lifetime. This year we want to build on that success with a goal of having visitors build 2000 scarecrows. Again this year, Vitale's Pizza will be giving a certificate for \$10 OFF any large or extra large pizza for every scarecrow being built. And There is even a Scarecrow Facebook Page now - Rockford Scarecrows

To ensure another successful event, we have to start recruiting volunteers **NOW!**

WE ARE COUNTING ON SUPPORT FROM OUR MEMBERSHIP, AND FROM THE COMMUNITY.

THE 2019 DATES ARE: Saturday and Sunday, Sept.28 , 29 ...and ... Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 5, 6

Saturday hours are 9AM - 6PM Sunday hours are 10AM - 5PM

This event could use you and as many others as you can enlist to help. Challenge others to match your effort. Maybe create a friendly scarecrow competition in your neighborhood. Helping out at this event is a lot of fun. Volunteers spend time with families and children of all ages who come together and spend time outdoors laughing and having fun.

This could be the most fun volunteer opportunity on the planet. Everyone is happy.

ONLINE REGISTRATION IS NOW IN PLACE AND WAITING FOR YOU.

Here's how to sign up for your choice of volunteer slots: Get your preferred time by signing up early

- ⇒ Carefully type ***signupgenius.com***. into your browser's address bar:
Then click the search icon in the upper right corner and, where it asks for the signup creator's email address, enter ***rockfordscarecrows@hotmail.com***
On the next page, click on ***Scarecrow Volunteers 2019*** under the scarecrow.
- ⇒ On the signup page:
 - CHOOSE YOUR DAY AND TIME SLOT
 - ENTER YOUR INFO AS REQUESTED
 - CLICK **signup** on the right
 - CLICK ON **Submit and Sign Up** at the bottom of the page.
- ⇒ **Your registration is now complete**

NOTE: CHANGES CAN BE MADE LATER IF NECESSARY, SO GRAB YOUR PREFERRED TIME SLOT NOW.

In addition to the scarecrows, pumpkins will again be available to visitors for any donation amount. This year the pumpkins are being grown, harvested, and donated by Terry Clement, a Rockford Area Historical Society member and RAM volunteer. All of this year's pumpkin donations will go to the RAM.

Even if you can't volunteer, please spread the word about Make It "N" Take It Scarecrows and the pumpkins on Sept 28, 29 and Oct. 5, 6. Urge people to come to Bridge Street next to the dam to experience a fun filled day they won't forget.

If you have any questions or comments, or please call Al Pratt at 616 485-4144.



FOUNDING VOLUNTEERS HONORED

The Rockford Area Museum (RAM) held a party billed as RAM Volunteer Recognition Day on Monday, May 13 at the Community Cabin. It was hosted by Al Pratt, the RAM's Director. It was an event that Al and his Co-Director, Dick Johnston were planning prior to Dick's tragic and unexpected death.

The event was attended by approximately 40 of the 70 volunteers who have been active during the creation and early evolution of the new RAM.



Those people have been there during the formative stages of the museum from fund raising through the move to the new museum. Some still serve as docents, help with special projects, do research, and in short, keep the RAM running to maintain a new high standard for a small city museum.

These dedicated volunteers have earned the title of **Founding Volunteer**. Their time has been as important as the financial donations that the community provided to fund the new museum. They were each presented with a new name badge that featured the title of Founding Volunteer and a Gold Star above their names. These are the only people who will ever wear that badge or have that distinction.

Beginning immediately, these people and all other current and future volunteers will also have a colorful new pin to wear. It features the RAM logo with the word "Volunteer" below. It is hoped that they will wear them with pride and that the pins will stimulate some conversation about the great experience that volunteering at the RAM can be.

Thad Beard, Rockford City Manager, and Steve Servaas, former 63rd District Court judge who held court in the RAM's current building for 33 years, spoke to the group.

Beard thanked the volunteers for their service and also took some time to update the group about things happening in the city and to answer questions.

Servaas gave an entertaining speech that told about his early days as a judge in 1972 and other tales about some of his most interesting days in the downtown Rockford courthouse and at the new East Beltline location in 2009.

As President of the Rockford Area Historical Society, Terry Konkle also addressed the group to thank them for everything they have done.

After some cake, snacks, and refreshments, Al Pratt thanked everyone for attending and said he hoped they all were leaving with a renewed understanding of how important their efforts and dedication are and how much they are appreciated. He also urged them all to wear their pins and to have at least one serious conversation with someone about the RAM's constant need for additional volunteers in order to continue to increase its services to the area. **Anyone who can spend even 3 hours per month will be a terrific help.**

If you were invited to the event in May but could not attend,

we have a new badge and pin for you. You can pick them up at the RAM during open hours or by calling Al Pratt at the RAM at 616 866-2235 or at his cell phone number which is 616 485-4144. You can



also reach Al via email at rockfordmuseum@gmail.com

Arrangements will be made to get them to you.



NATIONAL NIGHT OUT, Tuesday, August 6 from 6PM—8PM Once again, the RAM will have a booth on Bridge Street for this enjoyable night when neighbors get out to meet each other, area businesses and city staff. There are games for children, open house at the Fire Station, and much more for families to enjoy. IF you'd like to hang out for a couple of hours to tell people about the RAM during this fun event, we could use your help. call Al Pratt at 616 485-4144 for details.

MANY THANKS FOR SPECIAL DONATIONS. In recent newsletters we have noted some special needs that the museum had that we were not able to include in this year's budget. These included a printer needed for Dianne Skiver, our Treasurer, whose office has been moved to another room away from the RAM's main printer, annual membership in Ancestry.com, display materials and a showcase that will enable us to more easily plan periodic changing special interest exhibits. All of these items except for the showcase have been purchased and are being used. A search for an appropriate showcase at the "right" price continues. Our thanks go out to the donors who made these purchases possible as well as everyone whose RAHS memberships help to pay our other expenses.

SPECIAL EXHIBITS Some reallocation of space has given us the ability to offer revolving exhibits. For the past 2 months, we featured a display of old fire engine toys that were on loan from Nate Brown. Adjoining this were two display cases that told about Rockford's devastating fires. As noted on Pages 1 and 2 of this newsletter, a display about Grand Rapids South High School will take its place. Following that in late September, we will again call on Nate Brown who will share his collection of vintage children's lunch boxes. Those will bring back a lot of memories for many of us. Having ever changing exhibits is an exciting addition to the RAM. If you have suggestions for future displays, call Al Pratt



WE KNOW WE HAVE ASKED BEFORE, BUT...

(and we're NOT asking for money.)

THE SITUATION IS BECOMING SERIOUS. THE RAM NEEDS VOLUNTEERS

PLEASE CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING:

The Rockford Area Historical Society (RAHS) has approximately 300 members.

We use approximate numbers here for your reference because the number is always fluctuating.

Here is the breakdown of our membership list.

When we remove the members who are either other museums, businesses or organizations, or individuals, couples, or families from outstate Michigan or other states, we are left with... **...approximately 200 members in the local Grand Rapids area including 70 from Rockford who could theoretically lend a much needed hand.**

If we assumed that 60 % of those 200 are unable to help because of schedules, health, or transportation concerns, there are still 80 who COULD help.

Unfortunately there are only about 20 people who regularly carry the burden for everyone and that just isn't enough.

That means that there are probably about 60 people who live very close to the museum and could help, but have not yet been able to do so.

If you are one of those 60, we understand that everyone is busy, but hope this may be your time.

PLEASE CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING:

Very little of this requires any experience or specific skills and when that is the case, we will provide Training.

YOU CAN VOLUNTEER WITH A FRIEND OR A FAMILY MEMBER.

ANYONE FROM HIGH SCHOOL AGE TO SENIOR CITIZENS CAN HELP

- ⇒ **BE A DOCENT.** Greeting visitors is fun and requires no experience. You may have a friend who wants to join you. You will never be at the museum alone.
- ⇒ **CATALOG NEW ITEMS. WORK WHEN YOU WANT TO.** Our new system is simple. If you can surf the internet or order from Amazon, you will find it very easy to do.
- ⇒ **HELP WITH RESEARCH.** Pat Frye, our Lead Archivist will give you easy direction.
- ⇒ **WORK ON EXHIBITS.** This is interesting and gets you involved by helping with new and updated exhibits
- ⇒ **HELP WITH CLEANING.** Dusting glass cleaning and light vacuuming is always needed.
- ⇒ **HELP TO PREPARE MAILINGS.** This could be our quarterly newsletter or other mailings for special events or projects.
- ⇒ **WORK ON FUNDRAISING PROJECTS** This is always a top priority because we receive no guaranteed government funding. Without fundraising, the RAM could not survive. Help is needed in many forms from helping with the annual Scarecrow project to working on mailings, soliciting donations from businesses, distributing literature...you name it. Volunteers will not be asked to knock on doors or do anything with which they are not comfortable, but **there will be SOMETHING YOU CAN DO** for this effort.

Your support in the form of your RAHS membership is sincerely appreciated, but the RAM couldn't survive if

everyone stopped there. If you are able, we hope you can consider giving us a gift of your time. **As little as 3 HOURS A MONTH or maybe even fewer will be a terrific help.** That time can be planned to meet your schedule or, for some things, can be done at the spur of the moment at your convenience. **IF YOU ARE ABLE TO HELP, WE NEED YOU!** Be sure to mention this to friends and family members as well. All ages from High School through senior citizens can be a great help. **VOLUNTEERING WITH SOMEONE YOU KNOW IS EVEN MORE ENJOYABLE.** Call Al Pratt at 616 485-4144 for more info.





ROCKFORD AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
PO BOX 781
ROCKFORD, MI 49341

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



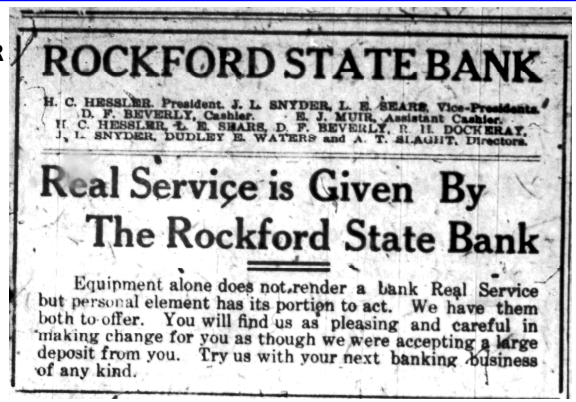
Museum Hours

MONDAY CLOSED
TUESDAY: 1 PM – 4PM
WEDNESDAY: 1PM – 4PM
THURSDAY: 10AM – 4PM
FRIDAY: 1PM – 4PM
SATURDAY: NOON – 4PM

Research assistance by appointment.

AD FROM 100 YEARS AGO 1919 ROCKFORD REGISTER

Did you know that the RAM has microfilm of almost every edition of the Rockford Register and Rockford Squire available dating back to the 1870's. The RAM archives would be the envy of many much larger museums.



Rockford Area Historical Society
PO Box 781
Rockford, MI 49341
Website: www.rockfordmuseum.org

Rockford Area Museum (RAM)
21 South Monroe
Rockford, MI 49341
Email Rockfordmuseum@gmail.com

HISTORICAL SOCIETY BOARD AND OFFICERS

President: Terry Konkle
Vice President: Bob Winegar
Recording Secretary: Jennie Griffie
Corresponding Secretary: Carla Blandford
Treasurer: Dianne Skiver

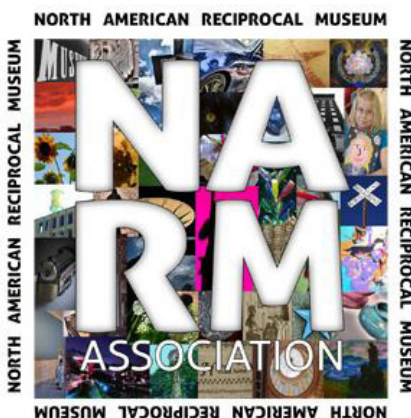
Trustees: Joan DeMaagd
Jerry DeMaagd
Floyd Havemeier
Jon Stamp
Programs: Janette Konkle

MUSEUM STAFF

Directors: Al Pratt
Lead Archivists: Jennie Griffie, Pat Frye
Cataloger: Candy DeForest

Video Editor: Ian McCormick
Newsletter Editor: Joan Bogart

SUMMER - TIME TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF A RAM LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP



Because of our affiliation with NARM; the North American Reciprocal Museum Association; lifetime members of the Rockford Area Historical Society can obtain member benefits at over 1000 museums and other facilities. For a list of NARM member facilities that would welcome you with member benefits, visit the association's website at www.narmassociation.org

With the summer travel season in full swing, this could be a tremendous benefit to our lifetime members.

The membership form enclosed with this newsletter can be used to join as a Lifetime member or to upgrade your current annual membership to Lifetime status.

Our current membership policies and dues are being reviewed. **Changes are expected in the fee schedule starting in 2020. Please see more details on page 2 of this newsletter.**