



RELIVING The Rochester Era



THE ROCHESTER-AVON HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER

WWW.ROCHESTERAUVONHISTORICALSOCIETY.ORG

2019

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Instagram



RAHS Announces Changes to Web Sites

RAHS will debut a brand new website early next year. The web site will feature improved functionality, design, and more. Please let us know what you would like to see on a new RAHS website and visit our Website Survey online at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/X5VJ6NY>.

RAHS is also happy to announce that it is now a part of www.theclio.com, a free resource for museums and historical societies and free for the public to use. Clio puts history at your fingertips. Similar to locator 'apps' that help you find a nearby restaurant or repair shop, Clio picks up your present location and guides you to landmarks, museums, and historic and cultural sites. It also acts as a virtual time machine, allowing a user to see images and videos and hear and read about historic events that happened around them. Each entry offers turn-by-turn directions as well as links to relevant books, articles, videos, primary sources, and credible websites.

Our participation with Clio will replace the current www.oaklandregionalthistoricsites.org (ORHS). Google has decided to charge non-profits for the use of their mapping technology. This will put a financial burden on RAHS, as well as the site's few subscribers. While the ORHS site was a great one for its time, new technology has provided improved options that allow RAHS to bring you our historic sites on a map along with the great features listed above. Clio offers a free app for mobile devices. All of RAHS' sites mapped on ORHS will transfer to Clio and programmed into a historical walking or driving tour for the public. The ORHS site will close at the end of this year. It will take a few months to get the hundreds of our historic sites on Clio. Please note that this will not take the place of our personal historical walking tours, but instead be an added benefit to our tours.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Not only have we reached the end of the year, but we have reached the end of the decade – the second decade of the 21st century. Where did that time go? As we embark on a new year and a new decade, it is likely many of us will take a moment to reflect on all that has happened these past few months and years. As a historical society, the past is ever-present in our hearts and minds. We are continually reflecting on the past and finding ways to make it relevant for today and in the future. We strive to do this with our programming, as we feature stories about women, minorities, immigrants, war, and mental health care this lecture season. It is of paramount importance that our members and the community we serve see how history relates to our current events and discussions. It provides context and a sense of understanding that many of the events and happenings reported in the news today are similar to those reported in the news decades ago. Maybe we do not learn from our past the way we should. Maybe certain situations will always be a struggle for us to understand. History, however, is always teaching us and providing us with knowledge about how to shape our future. We can listen.

To this aim, RAHS has provided inclusive and diverse programming this lecture season. To do this, we have reached out to local universities and colleges for speakers; we have asked for presentation topics that have the potential to attract a diverse audience and engage the community to discuss how the past effects our current events. In order to survive as a true historical resource, RAHS must not shy away from telling stories that provoke thought and, hopefully, conversation with other members, neighbors, family, and friends.

Please join us on Nov. 7 for RAHS' last Thursday night lecture of 2019. You can read more about this important presentation on page 3. We will resume our Thursday evening lectures on February 6 when local researcher Maureen Thalmann presents the life and times of Fidelity Gillette – a remarkable local woman who used her rhetorical and literary gifts to improve and inspire the lives of 19th century women all across the United States. Our lunchtime Brown Bag programs will resume on March 3. We hope to see you soon!

Happy Thanksgiving and Happy Holidays!

Tiffany



Tiffany Dziurman
President
Rochester-Avon Historical Society



Thursday Evening Lecture: The Vietnam War – From Start to Finish”

November 7 at 7 pm

Rochester Hills Public Library, Multipurpose Room

Professor John Todd of Rochester University will present "The Vietnam War -- From Start to Finish" on Thursday, Nov. 7 beginning at 7 pm at the Rochester Hills Public Library Multipurpose Room. Todd served in the Army from 1968 to 1969 in Vietnam as an Army helicopter pilot but was shot down by the North Vietnamese. Following this life changing event, he graduated from the University of Michigan with a degree in Political Science, earned his law degree from Georgetown Law School, and became a lobbyist for the Department of American Veterans.

Todd is a member of the Federalist Society and the National Association of Scholars. In 2013, he was named Outstanding Disabled Veteran of the Year by the Disabled American Veterans. Todd has written and passed a bill through Congress that provided benefits for widows and orphans of disabled vets.

Todd has taught government and law classes at Rochester University for the past 38 years. He has been twice named "Rochester College Faculty Member of the Year."

This program is open to the public. Registration is not required.

In the News...

On Oct. 7 Oakland Township unveiled a new state historic marker for the Paint Creek Cider Mill. The two-sided marker tells the history of the Paint Creek Cider Mill building. The dedication ceremony was attended by many local dignitaries from the township and a representative from the State Historic Preservation Office. We offer our congratulations to Oakland Township on their efforts to preserve a landmark building and historic site.



Sea Knight Helicopter, 1969



Historical marker, Paint Creek Cider Mill



In Search Of . . .

RAHS President, Tiffany Dziurman, is seeking more information about The Haven Sanitarium, which stood along Walton Boulevard from 1932 to 1973 on the site of today's Grosse Pines Subdivision. The Haven was an estate built by Detroit industrialist Fred Shinnick and his wife, Lillian, as a private residence in the country in 1927. The home became a mental health hospital in 1932 and closed in 1968. The vacant building burned down in 1973. If you have first-person information or photos or anything else to share about The Haven Estate or The Haven Sanitarium, please contact Tiffany at rahsupdates@gmail.com. Tiffany has been researching and lecturing about The Haven for the past five years. Her next presentation about The Haven will be Thursday, May 7, 2020, at the Rochester Hills Public Library at 7 pm.



The Haven Estate, c. 1930s, compliment RAHS

Give History for the Holidays 2019!



Christmas Ornament \$5.00



Coasters \$5 each or \$18 for a four-pack



Historic Photos varying in price



Recipe book \$10.00



Remembering Rochester 3-book bundle \$12



SPECIAL FEATURE

AMERICA'S TWO REVOLUTIONS

By Richard Dengate, RAHS Membership Director

When we think of the "American Revolution" we instinctively focus on the War of Independence (1775-1781). Indeed, this was our first revolution that severed political ties with England. Although no longer a colony, we had not yet achieved nation-hood. It would take a second revolution to establish the sovereign United States of America.

From the start of the war to the adoption of the Constitution in 1789 America was governed by the First and Second Continental Congresses. In 1781 the Second Continental Congress adopted the Articles of Confederation, our first governance document. During this time America was a loose cluster of thirteen states acting as independent sovereign nations.

It was a military miracle the Americans won the war. The Articles of Confederation were seriously defective. There was no executive or judicial branch. States with territorial and provincial interests prevailed with no sense of national interest or common identity. For several years most of the states refused to pay their taxes to support the Continental Army. The result was a critical shortage of food, clothing, and ammunition. This led to serious threats of mutiny as soldiers were not paid and military pensions were in jeopardy.

The absence of a sovereign central government prevented the establishment of an effective foreign policy. Other nations did not know who to deal with. We could not have grown and expanded westward without a coherent foreign policy. Treaty negotiations with England, Spain, and France were problematic as the ratification process was uncertain. When the Treaty of Paris ending the war arrived at the Continental Congress there was no quorum to ratify it and confusion arose over who had the authority to sign it.

Financial discord became a serious problem as debt increased due to the war. The Congress printed "Continental" with no backing which compromised their value and contributed to inflation. Banking was totally chaotic. Each bank could issue its own currency which destabilized the entire financial system. The war could easily have been lost because we were broke and unable to fund the federal budget and debt. There were no policies to control the economy creating mistrust at home and abroad.

It became apparent that if America was to survive and grow the Articles would have to be amended. The Constitutional Convention of fifty-five delegates met in Philadelphia during the hot, humid summer of 1787. They soon realized that the Articles were beyond repair. America would need an entirely new governance document. This second American Revolution would be a battle of ideas of philosophy and economics that would transfer sovereignty from the states to the national (federal) government. This revolution involved intense debate and difficult compromising in drafting and ratifying the United States Constitution.

In September, as the final draft of the document was approved by the delegates, Benjamin Franklin left the hall. As he entered Walnut Street he was approached by a woman who asked: "What type of government have you delegates given us?" He replied: "A republic, madam, if you can keep it!"



2019 NOVEMBER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

Don't miss these upcoming events

November 7, 2019 – Evening Program Meeting
November 19, 2019 – Board of Directors Meeting

NO EVENING PROGRAM IN DECEMBER

December 8, 2019 – Christmas Parade
December 9, 2019 – Deadline for ERA
December 10, 2019 - Executive Committee Meeting
7pm

Be sure to mark your calendar now!

2019 DECEMBER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Volunteer Areas of Interest

How would you like to participate?

- Annual Picnic
- Antique Appraisal Day
- Historic Research
- Historic Walking Tour Guide/Assistant
- Fundraising
- Genealogy Research
- Heritage Days
- Oral History
- Photography/Videography
- Publications
- Refreshments at Meetings
- Special Project Volunteer
- Website/Social Media



Board of Directors

Tiffany Dziurman, President	248-410-5490
Sarah Helferich, First Vice President	248-688-2434
Brian Dunphy, Second Vice President	248-376-3460
Janet Potton, Corresponding Secretary	248-765-1571
Ginger Ketelsen, Recording Secretary	248-496-2032
Cary Downer, Treasurer	586-201-2285
Katie Stozicki, Director, Communications	248-410-6880
Carla Gallusser, Director, ERA Newsletter	248-872-5088
Richard Dengate, Director, Membership	248-390-7012
Barb Bates, Director, Historic Preservation	248-495-6258
Director, Programs	<i>open position</i>
Director, Special Projects	<i>open position</i>



Committee Chairpersons

Gail Kemler, Honorary Historian	407-439-1786
Deborah Larsen, Research Media	248-375-2974
	<i>open position</i>

JOIN TODAY!!

Join the Rochester-Avon Historical Society Today!

Membership Application

- New**
- Renewal**
- \$15 Student** Open to person currently enrolled in a secondary or post-secondary educational institution.
- \$20 Individual** Open to any person interested in local history.
- \$35 Household** Includes immediate family members living in the same household.
- \$100 Business/Sponsor** Designed for community businesses and individuals with a desire to promote the restoration and promotion of local history.
- \$250 Lifetime** Perpetual membership for those who wish to make a long-term commitment to the preservation of local history.

- Annual Picnic
- Antique Appraisal Day
- Historic Research
- Fundraising
- Genealogy Research
- Heritage Days
- Oral History
- Publications
- Historic Walking Tour Guide/Assistant
- Photography/Videography
- Refreshments at Meetings
- Special Project Volunteer
- Website/Social Media
- Volunteer Interests/Other



RAHS is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 Phone: _____
 Email: _____

Mail Completed Form with check payable to: RAHS P.O.Box 80783 Rochester, MI 48308-0783 <http://rochesteravonhistoricalsociety.org/>



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