



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

The end of 2020 is near, though it is not likely the end of our troubles. Next year promises to be as challenging as this one, but there may be light at the end of the tunnel. We will have to wait and see. The society board has been meeting on Zoom since the spring. We continue working for the betterment of the society and have taken time over the last several months to review and evaluate society policies, by-laws, events, fundraising, and more.

RAHS New Members 2020-2021

Audry Hazelett	Compass Self Storage
Heather Tocco	Home Bakery
Dave Brice	DJB Landscaping
Marilyn Trent	Trent Creative
Amy Latorre	Betty & Claus Petrenz
Corey Rowe	Michael Karney

All fundraising events will likely be canceled in 2021, including Antique Appraisal Day. As a result, we have promoted convenient and online fundraisers that continue to provide some revenue to the society. Our Double Good Popcorn fundraiser was successful, and we appreciate all those who bought popcorn to help support RAHS' mission to educate our community about its heritage. Our online fundraisers must meet high standards before we promote them to our membership and the public.

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Message from the President

continued . . .

In this issue of the *Rochester Era* the society board is asking the membership to review proposed amendments to its by-laws. You can learn more about why we are proposing changes as you read through this issue. The board is working to make RAHS the best it can be as we head into 2021. We appreciate your support and continued involvement in making RAHS a local history organization of which you can be proud. Please take time to review the by-law's information and voting instructions. (pages 4 & 5)

Lastly, the society board is looking for new members. Participation on the board is a crucial part in keeping RAHS viable. We have several open positions for your consideration (see the list of openings in this issue). Time is short and there is always a lot to do but providing a few hours of your time each year to build a great historical society is time well spent and you will not be disappointed. To that end, we are also seeking members to serve on a temporary committee that will review candidates for board positions and provide a slate for the members to vote on. Board elections and awards were supposed to happen at our June picnic, but due to COVID-19, all activities were canceled. The board wishes to move ahead with elections electronically via email. Look for more information about board elections on our website and social media channels. Only RAHS members can vote.

Thank you for your support. I encourage you to consider a small donation to the historical society before the end of the year. Your donations will ensure RAHS can continue to bring local history to life. We have some new merchandise arriving in time for the holidays, including a brand-new historical tour book. It will make a great gift.

Even though the holidays will feel a bit strange this year, we look forward to better times ahead. We wish you a peaceful holiday season.

Kindly,

Tiffany



Tiffany Dziurman
President



RAHS FUNDRAISERS



The Double Good Fundraiser was held

October 2 – October 6

This fundraiser earned RAHS

\$374.50

Thank you!

RAHS would like to thank all who voted in the Chief Financial contest! The event is now over for us. The leading five competitors have moved into the second round. We collected 387 votes!! Thank you for taking your time to support this endeavor. Please consider supporting the remaining five in their chance to win.

Also consider making a financial donation to RAHS before the end of the year. Your donations, big or small, will help us provide educational opportunities, programs, and more to our members and the community. Visit

www.rochesteravonhistoricalsociety.org/donations.

CHIEF CARES 2020



#GIVINGTUESDAY

contest.chiefonline.com

Come see Our Holiday Tree Entry!

ALL THAT GLITTERS IN ROCHESTER



The event will be open to the public.

Saturday, November 21, 10 a.m.-9 p.m.

Sunday, November 22, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Royal Park Hotel

600 East University Drive

Rochester, MI 48307

www.downtownrochestermi.com/festival-of-trees

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE ROCHESTER-AVON HISTORICAL SOCIETY BY-LAWS

The Board has proposed and recommends the following changes to the By-Laws. The underlined words are what we propose to delete. The capitalized words are what we propose as new language. This is a notification. Balloting will take place in the next few weeks. An explanation is given to each of the proposals inside the brackets [].

Article II – Object MISSION

The object MISSION of this Society shall be to promote interest and bring together those people particularly interested in the history and preservation of the Rochester and Rochester Hills area. Understanding the history of our community is basic FUNDAMENTAL to our democratic way of life and gives us a better understanding LEADS TO AN APPRECIATION of our American heritage.

[Housekeeping- polishes up the language, no change in policy.]

Article III – Membership and Dues

Section 1 – Any person interested in the history of the greater Rochester area who applies for membership and tenders the necessary dues for the classification of membership shall become a member entitled to vote. Individual membership receives one vote and all other classifications of membership receive two votes. Membership in this organization the Society shall be open to anyone regardless of race, age, color, creed, sex or national origin.

Section 2 – Annual Dues The schedule of ANNUAL dues shall be established SET by the Board of Directors. on an annual basis Changes shall take effect at the beginning the following fiscal year.

[Eliminates redundancy and discrimination in assessment of votes. Eliminates confusion and calculation of votes. Retains strong anti-discrimination statement regarding membership. Clarifies the assessment of dues – no change in policy.]

Article V – Officers

Section 7 – The Treasurer shall

- Submit an annual report. for treasurer

[Housekeeping – Deletes irrelevant and misprint language.]

Article VI – Board of Directors, also referred to as the Board.

Section 3 – Electronic/telephone voting

- The president may authorize a vote of the Board to be taken by email or by telephone on any matter except amendments to the by-laws without calling a special meeting.

[Clarifies intent...the Board can votes to propose amendments to the membership.]

Article IV – Schedules and Meetings

Section 1 – Regular meetings of the Society shall be held as designated by the Board of Directors.

Section 2 – Special meetings OF THE SOCIETY may be called by the president or by a written request by the A majority (50%+1) OF VOTES of the Board of Directors.

Section 3 – The Board of Directors shall meet once each month, or as designated. EXCEPT DURING THE MONTHS OF JULY AND AUGUST.

SECTION 4 – THE QUORUM FOR ALL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS OF THE SOCIETY SHALL BE TWENTY-FIVE PERCENT (25%).

[Clarifies Board meeting times which is current practice. Establishes a quorum for membership meetings.]

Article VIII – Annual Meeting

The annual meeting shall be held in June with proper notice given to the membership AT LEAST ONE (1) MONTH PRIOR TO THE MEETING.

[Deletes “proper” which is unnecessary and establishes what is a prior notice of a meeting.]

Article IX – Election of Officers

Section 1 – All officers and directors shall be elected by a majority (50%+1) of votes cast at the annual meeting OR SPECIAL MEETING BY THE MEMBERS PRESENT AND VOTING. IN THE EVENT THAT THERE IS ONLY ONE PERSON NOMINATED FOR A POSITION THIS RULE MAY BE SUSPENDED BY A TWO-THIRDS VOTE OF THE MEMBERS PRESENT AND VOTING AND THE NOMINEE BE DECLARED ELECTED BY ACCLAMATION. ELECTRONIC VOTING MAY BE CONDUCTED AT THE DESCRETION OF THE BOARD OF The Board of Directors. OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS shall be elected for a two (2) year term

[Streamlines Board elections by allowing a suspension of the rules to elect by acclamation to avoid costly and time consuming elections under specific circumstances. Allows electronic voting to expedite voting when open meetings cannot be held.]

Article X – Amendments

These By-laws may be altered, amended, or repealed or new By-laws may be made at any time by a majority of members in good standing participating in the vote.

AMENDMENTS TO THESE BY-LAWS MAY BE PROPOSED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OR BY PETITION SIGNED BY ONE-THIRD (1/3) OF THE MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY. AMENDMENTS SHALL BE ADOPTED BY AN AFFIRMATIVE VOTE OF SIXTY-SIX AND TWO-THIRDS (66-2/3%) OF THE MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY PRESENT AND VOTING. ELECTRONIC VOTING ON AMENDMENTS MAY BY CONDUCTED AT THE DESCRETION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS. Written notice of the proposed changes shall be given TO THE MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY one (1) month prior to the vote. by all members in good standing.

[Defines the process of proposing and adopting amendments to the By-Laws and allows electronic voting when open meetings cannot be held. Deletes “members in good standing” which is not defined. All paid up members eligible are eligible to vote.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Brown Bag Program: Rochester in the 1960s
Thursday, November 5, 12 p.m.
Zoom Livestream. Free. Registration Required.



The 1960s in Rochester triggered our community's growth for decades to come and impacted our population, schools, hospitals, roads, and businesses. What was life like as we transitioned from a rural, agricultural community to a suburban community? This program is presented in partnership with the Rochester Hills Museum at Van Hoosen Farm. Museum manager Patrick McKay will present this program on Zoom. Visit rochesterhills.org/musprograms to register for this free program.

Brown Bag Program: Fidelity Woolley Gillette: A Thinker of Uncommon Breadth
Tuesday December 1, 12 p.m.
Zoom Livestream. Free. Registration Required.

Author, lecturer, activist and one of America's first ordained women, Fidelity Woolley Gillette (1827 – 1905) used her rhetorical and literary gifts to improve and inspire the lives of nineteenth century women. As a worker in the early attempts to win the right to vote for women, Gillette rubbed elbows with the movement's founders. Her writings reached a nationwide audience. While Gillette's own family life disappointed her, she labored to bring peace and joy to the parishioners she ministered to. This program is online and presented by researcher and writer Maureen Thalmann who is a member of the Rochester-Avon Historical Society and the author of *Petticoat Surgeon: The Extraordinary Life of Dr. Bertha Van Hoosen* released in 2015.



Fidelity Woolley Gillette

Register in advance for this meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwkcOiuqTopHNNFyIYWDbFM6Mf2zC8eO3Ug>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

New Walking Tour Book Coming Soon

With a generous grant from the Community Foundation of Greater Rochester, RAHS will soon debut a new local history tour book, *History in the Heart of the Hills: A Rochester Area Heritage Tour* by Deborah Larsen, RAHS Research Committee Chair, and the society's Walking Tour Committee. This new book will be a companion to tours available on The Clio, an online tour site and mobile app you can download from Google Play and Apple stores.

Discover the history of Greater Rochester by walking or driving to the listed sites. The book features both current and historical photographs from Rochester Hills Public Library and Rochester Hills Museum at Van Hoosen Farm.

RAHS Fundraiser Supporters



CROSSWORD



H	C	N	T	S	S	J	Y	J	A	N	U	A	R	Y
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E	C	F	I	R	E	P	L	A	C	E	D	R	O	E
D	M	H	O	L	I	D	A	Y	S	J	Y	H	N	Z

- blanket
- coat
- comforter
- December
- February
- fireplace
- flannel
- heater
- hibernate
- holidays
- hot chocolate
- jacket

- January
- migrate
- mittens
- quilt
- skates
- sled
- sleigh
- snowball
- snowflake
- snowman
- vacation
- winter

Answers at rochesteravonhistoricalsociety.org/newsletter/

To contact us, call 248-266-5440 or send an email to rahupdates@gmail.com.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Tiffany Dziurman, President
- Sarah Helferich, First Vice President
- Cary Downer, Treasurer
- Katie Stozicki, Communications Director
- Carla Gallusser, ERA Newsletter Director
- Richard Dengate, Membership Director

Contact Us



COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

- Gail Kemler, Honorary Historian
- Deborah Larson, Research
- Media, **open position**

Open Positions: We could use your help!

- Second Vice President
- Recording Secretary
- Programs

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.



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

- 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

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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