

It's that time of year again! The time when we start getting winter holiday items together for 2022! There are countless ways to decorate for the holidays and it can sometimes be nerve racking to get it all done. This year, let RAHS help you save time and stress less by bidding on our festive holiday tree for the Big Bright Lights fundraiser, The Festival of Trees!



2021 RAHS tree Entry

This fundraiser features trees, wreaths, and centerpieces designed and donated by the greater Rochester community. RAHS will be participating in the festival as a nonprofit organization for the third year in a row. We look forward to representing RAHS members in this event, and to all the community support we receive. The theme for our tree this year is "Peace on Earth." We have put a lot of hard work into planning and designing this year's tree entry. Come see our tree along with all of the other wonderful entries this year.

For a sneak peek (and to get first choice) at this year's entries, you can purchase tickets to a cocktail preview that will be held on November 18 from 7 to 10 p.m. at the Rochester Community House. To purchase tickets, please use the following link: downtownrochestermi.com/store/festival-of-trees-cocktail-preview-ticket. The Festival of the Trees opens to the public on Saturday, November 19, from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., and on Sunday, November 20, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is free.

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A Message from the President

The holiday season is nearly upon us and as the year comes to a close, I want to thank you for your continued support of RAHS and our mission to educate the community about local history. You are a member because you value our community's history and heritage. This past year has been encouraging and nostalgic in a way. After more than two years of a pandemic, RAHS offered a full slate of in-person programs that were well attended. Thank you for coming out to enjoy learning about our local history. We are quite proud of the programs this year and promise more wonderful programs in the coming year.

In November, you won't want to miss the presentation about Avon at Andersonville RAHS member Chris Brown, who enjoys researching our community's connection to the Civil War. In December, meet William Matt, executive director of Meadow Brook Hall. Bring a lunch and listen to Bill share all of the new and exciting happenings at the storied mansion located on the campus of Oakland University.

For the holidays, be sure to attend the Rochester DDA's Festival of Trees November 18-20. Once again, RAHS has a special themed tree that will be auctioned off along with some additional goodies. For more information and to attend the public opening, see our cover story.

As the year comes to a close, we hope you will consider making a donation to RAHS in your annual giving. We are working on some exciting projects for 2023 and we appreciate your financial support to help us bring local history alive through walking tours, publications, recognitions, and more.

If you know someone who would like to be a member, consider gifting them a RAHS membership. Details on memberships can be found on our website at: rochesteravonhistoricalsociety.org/product/membership.

From all of us at RAHS, have a safe and happy holiday season.

Tiffany Dziurman



Tiffany Dziurman
RAHS President

*Thank you to our
valued supporters!*



For more information about the Downtown Rochester Festival of Trees, contact the Rochester DDA at 248-656-0060 or email info@downtownrochestermi.com.

RAHS PROGRAMS

Avon at Andersonville

Thursday, November 3, 7- 8:30 p.m. Rochester Hills Public Library



Due to a scheduling conflict for the presenter, our November 3 program, "Gettysburg the Movie: Behind the Scenes" has been rescheduled for April 6 at 7 p.m. at Rochester Hills Public Library. If you registered for this program, your registration will carry over to the April 6 date. We apologize for the inconvenience. In its place on November 3 at 7 p.m. we welcome RAHS member Chris Brown who will talk about Avon at Andersonville:

In February of 1864, as the Civil War dragged on into its fourth year, a small patch of rural Georgia countryside was turned into the Confederate Prisoner-of-War Camp known as Andersonville. Overcrowding, inadequate water and food supplies, unsanitary conditions, and disease took their toll and resulted in over 13,000 Union deaths. A number of Avon men experienced the horrors of the camp first hand, some of whom would never return home. These are their stories.

This program is free and open to the public. Register online at: rochesteravonhistoricalsociety.org/calendar.

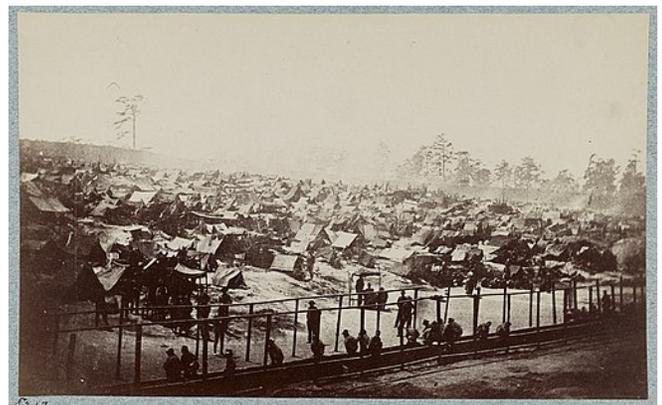
The Future of Meadow Brook Hall

Tuesday, December 6, Noon-1 p.m. Rochester Hills Museum at Van Hoosen Farm

Meadow Brook Hall executive director William Matt shares recent updates and developments related to the construction, renovation, and interpretive focus happening at MBH in 2023.

This program is free and open to the public. Bring a lunch and a friend! Registration required. Register online with the museum at:

eventbrite.com/o/rochester-hills-museum-31205740733





Be a Part of the Parade!

The Christmas parade, a beloved tradition in Rochester, attracts thousands of spectators to come downtown on the first Sunday in December. The Rochester Area Hometown Christmas Parade was started by the Lion's Club in the 1950s and became the responsibility of the Rochester Regional Chamber in the early 1960s.

The parade is the largest Christmas parade in Michigan. Spectators watch as over 100 floats drive down Main Street along with marching bands and local community organizations. Children eagerly wait for the final float, donated by Bordine's Nursery and carrying Santa and Mrs. Clause!

RAHS will be marching in this year's parade on December 4 beginning at 2 p.m. Join us and your neighbors and celebrate the parade's theme, "We Love Our Communities." Hope to see you there. If you would like to walk with us, call 248-255-5440 or send an email to rahupdates@gmail.com.

Source: rrc-mi.com/christmas-parade/



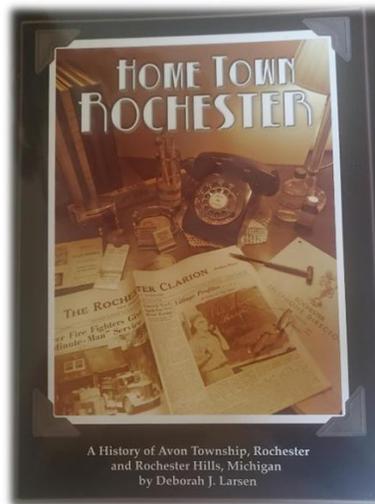
Source: Ray Russell Postcard Collection, C. 1970



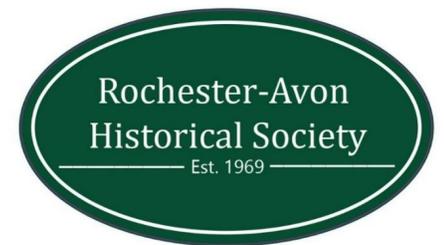
RAHS Merchandise



History in the Heart of the Hills: A Rochester Area Heritage Tour
(Book)
\$10.00



Hometown Rochester (book)
\$10.00



RAHS Car Decal
\$6

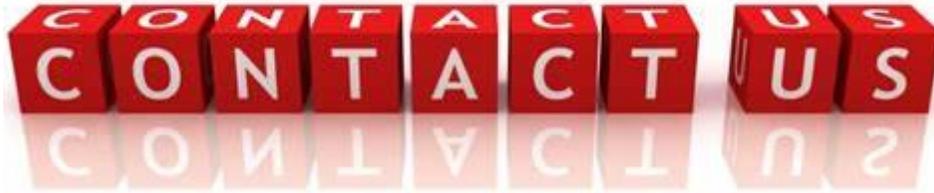
Note: RAHS will bring back historic photos for purchase as soon as we can. We need to find a printer and reevaluate sizing options. Thank you for your patience!



To contact us, call (248) 656-5440 or email to rahsupdates@gmail.com

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Join the Rochester-Avon Historical Society Today!!

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

- NEW
- RENEWAL
- \$18 Student – Currently enrolled in secondary or post-secondary educational institution.
- \$25 Individual – Person interested in local history.
- \$45 Household – Includes immediate family members living in the same household.
- \$125 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
- Web Site/Multimedia
- Volunteer Interests/Other: _____

NAME: _____
 ADDRESS: _____

 PHONE: _____
 EMAIL: _____

Mail completed form to RAHS, P.O. Box 80783, Rochester, MI 48308-0783 or <https://www.rochesteravonhistoricalsociety.org/product/membership/>

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