



Fife Lake Area Historical Society
BRINGING THE PAST TO THE PRESENT FOR ALL TO SEE
P.O. Box 305, Fife Lake, MI 49633
fifelakehistoricalsociety.com

2017 MEMBERSHIP DRIVE & NEWSLETTER

FIFE LAKE HISTORICAL MUSEUM, SCHOOLHOUSE, AND FIRE BARN

NEW HOURS: Friday & Saturday; Memorial Day - Labor Day & July 4th, 1:00-4:00 (**FREE**)

BOARD MEETINGS OPEN TO PUBLIC

Schoolhouse: 3rd Monday (May – Sept), 7:00 pm
(July 17 Annual Meeting)

Fife Lake Area Historical Society and the Fife Lake Library

present three **free** programs at the Fife Lake Library at 7:00 pm. Mark your calendars for:

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7: “101 Things that Happened on the MACKINAC BRIDGE”

Mike Fornes, author and speaker, will give an entertaining and informative presentation about Michigan’s iconic five-mile span that has seen historic, tragic, and hilarious events since it’s construction that began in 1954. He will share the stories and photos that have made this engineering wonder a symbol of the state of Michigan.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 19: Fife Lake Area Historical Society 50 Year Celebration:

Come join us as we take a look at the beginning of our Historical Society, Museum, Schoolhouse, Fire Barn and the people that made it all possible. We will also be unveiling our 50 Year Milestone plaque from the State of Michigan and celebrating with a birthday cake.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 16: Adventures on the North Country Trail in the UP:

Jerry Gauld, Fife Lake’s own ultimate hiker and child of nature, will take us on his North Country Trail journeys. In 2006 Jerry snow shoed from the Mighty Mac to Wisconsin; in 2009 he hiked that same route and in 2011 he hiked from the WI border to MN. His travels included his dog, shot gun, fishing pole and the food that Mother Nature provided.

July 4th Buffalo BBQ: Don’t forget to stop by the Museum for this delicious lunch before the parade. Thanks to Linda Bridson and her family, it is our largest fundraiser of the year.

PLEASE be a member of the *Fife Lake Area Historical Society* (July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018).

Name(s) _____ **Phone #** _____

Address _____ **e-mail** _____

City _____ **State** _____ **Zip** _____

___ \$10 Individual ___ \$12.50 Couple ___ \$15 Family

_____ Gift to Operation’s Fund—help us now

\$ _____ Gift to Endowment Fund—help us in the future

\$ _____ \$250.00 Gift—Lifetime Membership

(All donations are Tax Deductible)

_____ **I would like to be a volunteer.**

Important: Please make check payable to *Fife Lake Area Historical Society* and mail to:
Fife Lake Area Historical Society, P.O. Box 305, Fife Lake, MI 49633

BOARD MEMBERS

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact one of our Board Members.

Pres: Mildred Baker; Vice Pres: Linda Forwerck; Sec: Pam Wentzel; Treas: Linda Bridson; Curator: Craig Bridson; Trustees: Noreen Broering, Brandon Deike, Joyce Freiwald, Kenny Kosla, Rodd Larr, Marie Voice

Your Generosity at Work:

Under the direction of Craig Bridson and Mickey Baker, and with the help of volunteers, many improvements have been made to your museum in the last couple of years. The basement was cleaned out and sprayed for mold; display cases with mold were treated; the furnace was hooked up for heat during the winter and insulation added; a dehumidifier added; and CC Camp and old movie theater displays created.

Also, a big **THANK YOU** to the **FOREST AREA FEDERAL CREDIT UNION** for their generous gift of **\$3,500.00** to help paint the exterior of the school house this Spring.

Fife Lake Historical Society's 2016 Year at a Glance:

2016 Summer Programs: Many guests enjoyed the 3 programs sponsored by the Historical Society & Library:

Singing the Stories of the Great Lakes Shipwrecks by singer and song writer Dan Hall

The Amelia Earhart Story by State Representative Larry Inman

Michigan Wildlife by Kathleen Keen, DNR Wildlife Outreach Technician

July 4th: The **Buffalo BBQ** as always drew many visitors to our Historic sites and raised many dollars to help our efforts. Another big **THANK YOU** to Linda Bridson and her family for putting this event together.

May 25: the Forest Area fourth grade classes from Mrs. Mary Hollow and Mrs. Sara Schwarz came to the Fife Lake Historical Schoolhouse to experience an 1800's one room school. Teacher Mrs. Pamela Wentzel, assisted by Mrs. Judith Ruskus, taught lessons in the "3 Rs" and history. The children were also given a guided tour of the Fife Lake Museum by Dr. Arthur Van Eck and Fire Barn by Mrs. Noreen Broering. After a picnic lunch and vintage games they walked through the village reading the historic plaques and visited the Dairy Bar for their favorite ice cream treat.

October 1: The Color Train from Petoskey once again stopped in Fife Lake to enjoy our good food and hospitality. Over 100 guests visited our historic venues and followed our walking tour of Historic Plaques.

October 16: We hosted 46 members of the Voyagers, a group of retirees from the Presbyterian Church in Traverse City. After a brief orientation to Fife Lake and the history of the Society, the group was divided into three small groups and each group was led by a Docent--Noreen Broering, Pam Wentzel, and Dr. Art Van Eck. After the tours and lunch at the Fife Lake Inn the consensus was: "This was an amazing visit; we didn't know Fife Lake had so much to offer". Thank you to Dr. Art Van Eck for organizing the event.

March: The Fife Lake Area Historical Society participated in the grade schools Economic Fair where 1st, 2nd, and 3rd graders learned more about our 3 venues and were encouraged to come visit with their families.

Community Service Scholarship Update:

This program is designed to provide \$1000 scholarships for further education or training to Forest Area High School students in return for community service with the Historical Society. **Jacob Chase** completed his 2015 and 2016 hours and earned the \$1000.00 scholarship in 2016. Juniors returning to work at the 3 venues this year are **Delaney Peters, Rebecca Hayden, Anne Nietling, Kelsey Mills, and Kyle Ingersoll**. We will also welcome two sophomores, **Sandra Graham** and **Miranda Korn**, to the program this summer. Former scholarship winners include Katie Johnson, Emily Gonyer, Dani Johne, Travis Birgy, Emma Durfee, Janay Smith, and Cody Kammeraad. (Because of your past generosity, we did not have to ask for financial help to award the scholarship this year.)

Genealogy Records:

The Historical Society has its Family History information available on CD's at the Fife Lake Library (Julie at 231-879-4101) as well as the books at the School House.

A big THANK YOU to Gordie Stryker for printing this Membership Drive/Newsletter and Jeff and Jim Hayes for their continued help in video work for the Historical Society.