

THE STRAIGHT FARMHOUSE CRIER

SPRING 2019



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Straight.farmhouse@yahoo.com

A Year In Review!

Its been a while since you have heard from us (in newsletter format anyway!) We sincerely apologize for the delay. 2018 turned out to be an extremely BUSY year.

The first quarter of 2018 saw the take-down, pack up, and storage of our Santa Exhibit. The game plan was to then put up a toy exhibit. Unfortunately due to some injuries, that was put on temporary hold. It was in the second quarter that things got exciting.

The Board, after much discussion and research, decided it was time to re-carpet the entire main floor of the farmhouse. This meant EVERYTHING on the main floor, display cases, the entire General Store (even the checkout counter) needed to be moved into the Grande Parlour. Not only that, but this needed to be accomplished during a very busy rental season. Then once the carpet was installed, everything needed to be put back in place. The carpet project was completed just after Labor Day, and that put an extra time-crunch on setting up the *Skeletons On Review* Exhibit.



As is usually the case, it is always a mad rush to chase the skeletons back into the Michigan Basement so that the holiday exhibit (over 250 Nativities in December 2018) could go up in time to open the first week in December!

The balance of December saw preparations for the Wedding Gown Exhibit—*Something Old, New, Borrowed, and Blue* which opened January 26, 2019. WHEW!

Anyway, we decided to devote much of this newsletter to filling you in on the details of all of the activity at the Farmhouse in 2018. Enjoy!

2019 Upcoming Events at the Straight Farmhouse

April 26: Mosaic Art frame Glass Class

May 10: Something Old, New, Borrowed and Blue presentation/fashion show.

May 31: Spring Flowers Glass Nightlight Class. Register at www.Kissmyglass.com

June: Gardening Exhibit opens

July 20: 25th Anniversary Garden Walk Luncheon/Exhibit/Vendor Show

October: Skeletons on Review

December: Traditions of Christmas Display

Something Old, New, Borrowed, and Blue

Have you been up to the museum to see our newest exhibit? Something Old, New, Borrowed, and Blue is an exhibit of over 100 wedding gowns. There are gowns dating back to the late 1800s, and some as new as January 2019!

But there is more than just gowns. This exhibit also features marriage licenses, bridal veils, cake toppers, old photos, invitations, and so much more. You don't want to miss this exhibit. This exhibit runs now through May 2019. Join us on May 10 for a presentation and fashion show. Tickets are only \$10.

Sponsorships are available for this exhibit for only \$25. Members received a sponsorship form in the mail, but if you know someone who would like to be a sponsor, forms are available on the website, or inquire at the Farmhouse. A special thank you to Carol Hill for her countless hours of help with this exhibit!



AARP Michigan Andrus Award



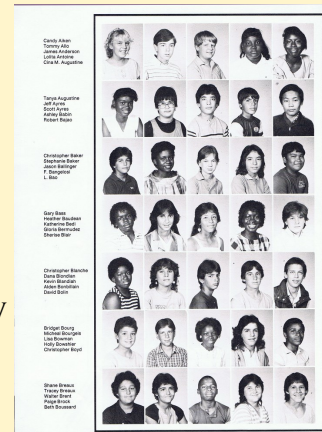
This is AARP's most prestigious award for community service. In 2017 AARP received over 50 nominations, one of which was our own Jack Kerstetter!

While Jack was not ultimately selected for the top award, AARP was so impressed with his service he was awarded a silver Andrus Award for Community Service Nominee Pin. Great job Jack!

Looking to Replace a Lost Yearbook?

Give us a call or stop by the museum. We have several GC high school year books for sale .

A special thank you to Garden City High School for the year book donations.



A special thank you to Marshall Hill, Sharon Hassett, Mike Lawrence and Jim Doddie for their countless hours of volunteer work at the Farmhouse. From touch-up painting to electrical work, to landscaping. If we listed everything, we would need all eight pages of the newsletter!

More Improvements

Kitchen equipment doesn't last forever.

In December a new microwave oven (donated by Penny Klei) was installed in the kitchen of the Straight Farmhouse. A new 30-cup hot water pot was also added.

2018 Skeletons on Review

The 2018 Skeletons on Review ran from October 3rd-30th. The exhibit was also open for five evenings.

The theme this year was scenes from various "Movies". Guests enjoyed scenes from The Wizard of Oz, Casablanca, Star Wars, E.T., Home Alone, True Grit, Zoro, Top Gun, Office Space and many more.

The exhibit saw record-setting attendance. In one evening alone, over 85 guests came through in only an hour and a half!

Attendance wasn't the only record broken; we also had a record number of sponsors (see list below).

We'll have to wait and see what theme the skeleton's select for October 2019!



Thanks once again to our 2018 Skeletons on Review Sponsors!!

Linda Karinen	Inkorporate Graphics	Hershey's Shoes
Sports Venue Bar & Grill	Barbara Keough	John N. Santeiu & Son, Inc.
MARS Auto Repair	Kim and Jerry Marquette	Garden City DDA
Penny Klei	Wild Iris Floral Boutique	John D. Kerastetter
Garden City Minature Golf	Loren & Mark Gutman	Jean Smith
Dorothy Sweda	Nora Fix	Dick and Pat King
Mike & Sharon Lawrence	Beverly England	Barson's Greenhouse
Rose Freeman	GC Community Chat	J&J Taxes and More
William Brooks	GJ's Diner	In honor of Bill, Jean, and Corine Ames
Nancy Quinn	Pat McKarge	Gordon Chevrolet
Millie Tyszkiewicz & Family	Chuck Skinner	G.C. Police Command Officers Union
The Kietur Family	Diane Kurgan	Rogala's, Inc.

Getting Organized!

Where do you keep it all? We are asked this question all of the time by guests. They are referring to the 40 Skeletons that are used for the Skeletons on Review Exhibit each year, not to mention all of the props and costumes! Or maybe they are referring to the 30+ Rubbermaid tubs that hold the 250+ pc. Nativity exhibit. Or maybe they are wondering about where all of the Santas are kept.



The answer to most of the above questions is The Michigan Basement. Anything that cannot be damaged by moisture is stored there. As collections grew, the problem we started running into was SPACE. Enter Jack Kerstetter to the rescue.

Jack met with Kim Marquette, our Lead Curator and Director of Exhibits, to discuss an idea he had for shelving.

After many hours of construction, Jack had built custom made shelves in two rooms of the Michigan Basement, much of it using recycled materials. These shelves were designed by Jack to match the dimensions of the storage tubs. Now all of our displays that are kept in the Michigan Basement are organized, and neatly arranged.

Hats Off to Jack!

2017 Holiday Exhibit

We promised to report which Santa won the popularity vote. For the second time, the Santa on the Polar Bear received the most votes!



2018 Nativity Exhibit



Merry Christmas!! Wait a minute, it's Spring...

Well, hopefully you made it by to see our Nativity Exhibit in December. This private collection of over 250 nativities was on display at the Farmhouse from November 24 through December 22.

Some as simple as a 1939 paper nativity, to nativities that were hand-carved, made of porcelain, crystal, and so much more.

The Straight Farmhouse Baseball Club of Nankin



Have you ever heard of the VBBA (Vintage Base Ball Association)? The mission and purpose of the Vintage Base Ball Association shall be to preserve, perpetuate, and promote the game of base ball as it was played during its formative years in the nineteenth century and other historic eras.

The Straight Farmhouse now has their very own team! If you have ever seen teams play at Greenfield Village then you have an idea of the type of baseball our team is playing. Come out and cheer them on.

**The Season Opener is April 27-
Home vs. Canton Cornshuckers: 2pm at Levan Knoll in Hines Park.**

2019 Schedule:

April 27- Home vs. Canton Cornshuckers: 2pm at Levan Knoll in Hines Park

May 4- Home Vs. The Detroit Franklins: 1pm (Levan Knoll)

May 18- Home Vs. The Fallsburg Flats: 1pm (Levan Knoll)

May 26- @ Richmond Bees: (Time & Location TBD)

June 9- @ Detroit Early Risers: 1pm (Historic Ft. Wayne)

June 22 & 23- Michigan Vintage Base Ball Festival: 8am-5pm (Frankenmuth)

June 29- @ Northville Eclipse Noon (Ford Field)

July 13- Sylvania Cup in Sylvania, OH

August 24- @ Shanty Boys of Cheboygan (Time & Location TBD)

September 28- @ The Wyandotte Stars (Time & Location TBD)

**Would you like to be on the team, or like more information? Feel free to contact
David Maxwell at (248) 962-5895.**

Know Someone Looking for a Banquet Facility??

Why not the Grande Parlour at the Straight Farmhouse?

In addition to a beautiful setting, the rental includes use of the kitchen, the serving room that can be closed off from guests during food preparation, enough seating for up to 70 people, and so much more. All of this at VERY reasonable rates.

Visit our website for more information: www.sfhonline.org

New Carpeting!

Sometimes you look at something so often, you don't see it how it really is. That was the case with the carpeting on the first floor of the Straight Farmhouse.

After noticing the carpeting was not looking as good, even after professional cleaning, the Board of Directors took action. After all, the carpet that was down was there when we purchased the building over 14 years ago, and it wasn't anywhere new then! It was very likely the carpet was 20-25 years old.

The Board selected a replacement commercial carpet and then solicited bids. Once the bid was awarded, the real work began.

The first order of business was picking an install date (or rather dates). It needed to be a rare block of time where the Grande Parlour was not rented, so that there would be enough time to take down the tables and chairs in the Grande Parlour, move everything from the first floor of the Farmhouse into the Grande Parlour, have the crew install the carpeting, then put everything back into the farmhouse and re-setup the Grande Parlour.

The result of all of this hard work is what you see now when you walk the first floor of the Museum, beautiful new commercial carpet that should last quite a while!

J & J Taxes and More- If your looking for a "high-brow", suit and tie type, fancy accounting and tax service office, we're probably not what your looking for! If a down to earth, friendly, no frills personal approach to tax preparation and accounting, (at a reasonable price) is more your style then your in the right place! (734) 523-8291 . Thank you J & J Taxes for handing the Farmhouse taxes!

Local Third Graders Get History Lesson

Third graders at Douglas Elementary and Tipton were visited by historians Rose Freeman, Bill Brooks, and Jack Kerstetter. Rose, Bill, and Jack brought artifacts from the Museum and gave the students a LOCAL history lesson. While they would have liked to have been able to give each student an iPad, it was so nice to see how the students were grateful for the pencil they received!

Saving Money Through Energy Efficiency

In December 2018 two new Nest Thermostats were installed in both the Grande Parlour and the Farmhouse proper.

These new thermostats will actually learn the activity patterns and desired temperatures of the facility, and will automatically adjust to those desired temperatures. And if we forget to dial the temperature back when we leave, the thermostat automatically recognizes when no one is around, and will automatically dial the temperature down for us!



GCPD- Coffee with a K9 Comes to the Straight Farmhouse!

Officer (now Sergeant!) Bruce Shippe and his Partner Rudy were at the Straight Farmhouse on August 18 for the very popular 'Coffee with a K9'. The event was very well attended with refreshments, coloring activities, an exhibit of famous dogs (Rin Tin Tin, Old Yeller, Clifford, Snoopy, etc..), and a chance to get to chat with some of Garden City's Finest.



Presented By
The Garden City
Business Alliance



On February 5th the Straight Farmhouse was again honored to have Sergeant Shippe, Rudy, Chief Gibbons and several other Officers and Detectives with the GCPD return to meet with the community. They shared very interesting crime statistics with the group, as well as introduced the upcoming Citizens Academy

We look forward to partnering with the GCPD on future events! Watch our website for details.

2018 DDA Chili Cook-off



On October 13th, 2018 the Garden City DDA held their annual Chili Cook-off. And once again the Straight Farmhouse was well represented with volunteers. A team from the Straight Farmhouse helped out at the beer tent for several hours. It was a beautiful Fall day and the beer was flowing!

The Straight Farmhouse was also named one of the non-profits to receive a share of the proceeds (over \$3,000) from the event.

For the first time this year, The Straight Farmhouse had an entry in the Chili Cook-off– our new Baseball Team, the “Straight Farmhouse Baseball Club of Nankin” (see article on Page 5).





Michelle's Pieces Mosaic Art Glass Workshop/Fundraiser– April 26
Make an 8"x10" framed stained glass mosaic using a glass on glass technique.
100s of templates available, or create your own!



Kiss My Glass– Glass Workshop/Fundraiser –May 31
Don't miss our second class– a Spring Flowers Nightlight class.
Watch Facebook and/or our Website for more information on these very popular events.
Don't wait to sign up! These classes sell out very fast.

Commemorative Brick Pavers

The Garden City Historical Museum is offering a unique opportunity to make your mark in your City's history by purchasing an engraved brick paver in the Memorial Walkway which now connects the City sidewalk in the front to the parking lot in the back of the Straight Farmhouse.



Visit www.sfhonline.org for more information and to download a brick form.

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