



WTHS MEMBER MEETING

The Board of Directors voted to return to 5 meetings per year on the 2nd Tuesday of the month: February, April, June (annual meeting picnic), October, December (Holiday Potluck). Please mark your calendars. We also voted to invite the public to attend to help increase our membership and share history with a larger audience.

Due to extenuating circumstances, we cancelled our February 21 member meeting. So, Jake Donner will present on April 11 on the history of Whitmore Lake during the days it was a resort. Do you remember Groom's Beach? Bring a friend or two...

Member Tom Carroll's presentation on January 10 at our monthly member meeting was fascinating. As the volunteer coordinator for the Yankee Air Museum, he shared a plethora of knowledge about the museum and the Willow Run Bomber Plant. Thank you, Tom, for providing us with some great history!

If you have knowledge about a historical topic or a collection of historical items to share, please feel free to contact a Board member about doing a presentation at one of our 5 member meetings.

ST. VALENTINE'S TEA

On Sunday, February 11, WTHS held the first St. Valentine's Tea. People came from as far away as Novi and Oscoda! Some came dressed in old time Tea finery.

Anne Lask and Karen Hertenstein, WTHS Board Members, worked very hard with help from other Board Members, Gini Davis and Martha Zeeb! Our new volunteer coordinator, Peggy Harless, recruited 6 volunteers to help monitor the jewelry tables and



Membership not yet renewed? Please use the renewal form on page 5. Not sure? Email wthsmi@gmail.com.

serve food/beverages. The hall and tables were beautifully decorated for Valentine's Day.

Anne had fun baking all sorts of miniature sweet treats. They found great recipes for "finger sandwiches"—Downton Abbey Chicken Salad, egg salad, and cucumber salad.



Anne and Karen reached out to collect costume jewelry for a silent auction from members, sorting it and tagging it for presentation. There were over 200 pieces donated! Karen recruited a speaker from the Questors organization, Connie Yore, a costume jewelry collector, who provided information

about collecting jewelry through the decades. It was a fascinating presentation.

The St. Valentine's Tea was a hit! Attendees asked us to repeat it next year but suggested we charge more. We will try to schedule the Tea again for February 2024.

GRANT ACTIVITY

Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation (AAACF). We are proceeding with the installation of the walking path in Historic Webster Village that our survey results told us the community wants most. This is the major goal for the first year of our Implementation Grant: Creating Community Connections and Spaces. A site plan, paid for by a grant from the Dexter Community Fund (\$2,500), was provided by Beckett & Raeder Landscape Architecture Planning, Engineering & Environmental Services. The Board voted in favor of a 6-foot wide concrete path and 4 bids were sought for its construction. The company the Board decided upon, Rathburn Contracting, Inc., came highly recommended and provided the best bid of \$94,550 for the entire path with "spurs" to each building. From the grant, \$38,500 goes toward the walking path. On January 10, the Dexter Wellness Coalition, 5 Healthy Towns Foundation, awarded us intervention funds in the amount of \$9,000 toward our walking path, bringing total procured funds to date to \$47,500. The WTHS Board committed to

contributing \$25,000 for the walking path, leaving WTHS to raise an additional \$22,000 to complete the project. Construction will begin at the end of May 2023 so the walking path will be completed in time for summer fundraising events and the Webster Fall Festival in September. If you would like to donate to this project, please use the form on page 6.

The remainder of the \$60,000 awarded by AAACF for the first year of the Implementation Grant, \$21,500, is to support wages for a paid half-time administrative assistant, cleaning help, web design, and marketing, postage, and printing. The administrative assistant position will be open a couple more weeks. To apply, go to <https://webstertownshiphistorical society.org/administrative-assistant-job-posting>.

"Men's Monday Drop-In" will continue to be offered at Crossroads Community Center every Monday at 10:00am.

WTHS is planning several events with Webster United Church of Christ to help us plan for *living* to the end of life. The first one will be held on Saturday, March 18 at 4:00pm at Webster United Church of Christ. Dr. Shahid Aziz, an experienced Hospice and Palliative Medicine Specialist, will guide and assist you in developing a plan for end of life and living, resulting in a succinct and complementary addition to your living will and DNRs. Worksheets will be provided. A soup and bread supper will follow the presentation. Other related events tentatively planned are: (1) a panel discussion on in-home care, assisted living/nursing home care, and hospice; (2) living wills and trusts; (3) an opportunity to have DNR and Health Care Advocate forms signed, witnessed, and notarized. These 3 sessions are supported by funds provided by 100 Women Who Care.

Please visit the WTHS website (www.webstertownshiphistorical society.org) for information on all upcoming events.

CROSSROADS COMMUNITY CENTER BASEMENT

In January, WTHS contracted with the Danaher Family Masonry & Restoration to repair two large holes in the basement walls, one where the pile of debris mysteriously cascaded into the basement, practically covering the holding tank for our well, and the other in the southeast corner where a pipe came through the wall for an undetermined function.

In addition, Sean Danaher and his assistant did some tuck-pointing on the west wall where ground water trickled in with every rain and thaw. The cost was \$1,000.

On January 12, the floors on level one and the stairway leading to level two were painted by Palmer Painting LLC. The cost was \$2,625.

On February 6-7, Foundation Systems of Michigan (FSM) encapsulated the crawl space under the office and bathrooms. They also laid tile around the inside perimeter of the basement to protect the foundation which was collapsing. As part of this process, FSM replaced the sump pump that died a few weeks ago. The cost for all of this was \$16,679.

Crossroads Community Center is our main activity building. It can be rented for events and hosts many WTHS events year around. Built in 1867, we need to take good care of this important building.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

The Board of Directors is excited to offer more activities in Historic Webster Village this year. Also, the tradition of being the center of Webster Township continues for Crossroads Community Center, our 156-year-old building.

Events in the planning stages for the remainder of 2023 and into 2024 – Dates TBD: Open hours on Sunday afternoons; a Volunteer Appreciation Dinner; Square Dance in May's Barn; Movie Night; Concert in the Corncrib; Flea Market; Rockabilly Car Show; Ice Cream Social; Bluegrass Jamboree; Chili Cook-off; Webster Fall Festival; Farm to Table Dinner; Celtic Harp Concert; Halloween on the Green; Euchre Nights; Pampered Chef Live Cooking Demo; Christmas in the Village.

The walking path specified by the 2022 survey WTHS did in the Webster community informed us that residents want a walking path in Historic Webster Village. It will become a reality this year! We still need to raise at least \$25,000 to match grant funds for building this pathway leading to our buildings, but won't it be wonderful for *everyone* to be able to enjoy this beautiful historic village?

More music events will be offered this year, so please watch our website for event information and attend if you can. Your support allows us to hire and pay experienced and professional performers.



Over the past few months, Historic Webster Archives acquired some interesting items: 6 Mission-style chairs (thanks to Brian McGuire), a potbelly stove (thanks to Paul Wensel), and an antique washing machine (thanks to Kempf House). These items are displayed in our village buildings.

To help WTHS become more connected, please share our Facebook posts and visit our website (www.webstertownshiphistoricalsociety.org). Spread the word via Instagram and other social media. Please contact us through email (wthsmi@gmail.com) to share your suggestions, questions, etc.

Best regards,

Thelma Tucker
WTHS President



CALENDAR OF UPCOMING WTHS EVENTS

24 February 2023 (Friday) – *make-up for cancelled games on 16 February*

6:30 – 10:00 PM

Euchre Night, Crossroads Community Center

Just for fun! Suggested donation at the door: \$5/person. We will play tournament-style games, changing tables after 2 rounds of deals. Hearty mid-evening refreshments will be served. Beverage purchases are on a donation basis.

27 February 2023

10:00 AM

Men's Monday Drop-In, Crossroads Community Center - Free coffee and pastries!

6 March 2023

10:00 AM

Men's Monday Drop-In, Crossroads Community Center - Free coffee and pastries!

13 March 2023

10:00 AM

Men's Monday Drop-In, Crossroads Community Center - Free coffee and pastries!

18 March 2023

4:00 PM

“Courageous Conversations on End of Life and Living,” Webster United Church of Christ

Dr. Shahid Aziz, an experienced Hospice and Palliative Medicine specialist, will guide and assist you in developing a plan for end of life and living, resulting in a succinct and complementary addition to your living will and DNRs. Worksheets will be provided. This event is co-sponsored by WUCC and WTHS and will be presented via Zoom in the church sanctuary, followed by a soup and bread supper in the Fellowship Hall.

20 March 2023

10:00 AM

Men's Monday Drop-In, Crossroads Community Center - Free coffee and pastries!



24 March 2023 (Friday)

6:30 – 10:00 PM

Euchre Night, Crossroads Community Center

Just for fun! Suggested donation at the door: \$5/person. We will play tournament-style games, changing tables after 2 rounds of deals. Hearty mid-evening refreshments will be served. Beverage purchases are on a donation basis.

27 March 2023

10:00 AM

Men's Monday Drop-In, Crossroads Community Center - Free coffee and pastries!

3 April 2023

10:00 AM

Men's Monday Drop-In, Crossroads Community Center - Free coffee and pastries!

10 April 2023

10:00 AM

Men's Monday Drop-In, Crossroads Community Center - Free coffee and pastries!

11 April 2023

7:00 PM – 9:00 PM

Member Meeting, Crossroads Community Center

Jack Donner will present on the resort era of Whitmore Lake.

17 April 2023

10:00 AM

Men's Monday Drop-In, Crossroads Community Center - Free coffee and pastries!

24 April 2023

10:00 AM

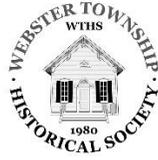
Men's Monday Drop-In, Crossroads Community Center - Free coffee and pastries!

28 April 2023 – *LAST one until October*

6:30 – 10:00 PM

Euchre Night, Crossroads Community Center

Just for fun! Suggested donation at the door: \$5/person. Hearty mid-evening refreshments will be served. Beverage purchases are on a donation basis.



Membership Application/Dues Payment

All memberships for 2022 expired on December 31, 2022.
Please join or renew now for 2023.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip Code: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone: _____

MEMBER TYPE:

- Student.....\$10.00
- Individual, nonstudent\$25.00
- Family.....\$35.00
- Patron.....\$55.00

| |
|---|
| <p>Paid by: <input type="checkbox"/> Credit Card (complete information below)</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Check # _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Cash</p> |
|---|

If you would like to make a donation to WTHS, please use the form on the next page.

Account # _____ Exp Date: _____

CVC Code: _____ Billing Zip Code: _____

Signature: _____

I WOULD LIKE TO:

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Help with Historic Webster Archives | <input type="checkbox"/> Help with Building Maintenance | <input type="checkbox"/> Help with Social Media (Facebook, Twitter, Tik Tok etc.) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Serve as a Docent for Events | <input type="checkbox"/> Serve on a Committee | <input type="checkbox"/> Help with Programs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Help with Village Tours | <input type="checkbox"/> Help Maintain the Society Website | <input type="checkbox"/> Help with Event Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Help Maintain Grounds & Gardens | <input type="checkbox"/> Be a Volunteer | <input type="checkbox"/> Help with Grant-Writing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ | | |

Please complete this form and return it with your payment to: WTHS, PO Box 253, Dexter, MI 48130.



DONATIONS

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip Code: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone: _____

General Operations:

\$_____ of the WTHS (Annual Budget: \$75,000)
[Supported by member dues and donations only]

Projects to Be Completed:

\$_____ Walking path through Historic Webster Village with “spurs” to each building

\$_____ Informational signs along the walking path at each building

\$_____ Large 2-sided sign for the entrance to Historic Webster Village

\$_____ Equipment for Historic Webster Archives—flatbed scanner to digitize documents and photos; legal-size lateral file cabinet; flat file for maps and other over-sized documents

\$_____ Build an addition to the general store, to house the Historic Webster Archives and a reading room

\$_____ Signs to identify Podunk School and Wheeler Wheelwright & Blacksmith Shop

\$_____ Paint and repair chimney for the Old Town Hall

\$_____ Connect the restored hand pump to a well for drinking water in the Village

\$_____ Construction of a timber-frame pavilion for outdoor events

General Maintenance for My Favorite Building(s)

\$_____ Crossroads Community Center

\$_____ Podunk School

\$_____ Wheeler Wheelwright & Blacksmith Shop

\$_____ Old Town Hall

\$_____ May Mast’s Old North Barn

\$_____ Dieterle’s Corncrib

\$_____ Kleinschmidt General Store

Total Donation \$_____

Paid by: Credit Card (complete information below) Check # _____ Cash

Name on card: _____

Account # _____ Exp Date: _____

CVC Code: _____ Billing Zip Code: _____

Signature: _____

Please complete this form and return it with your payment to: WTHS, PO Box 253, Dexter, MI 48130.

Your Source for WTHS Information: <https://webstertownshiphistoricalsociety.org/>