



SPRING WORK BEE 2023

On April 30 at 1:00pm members and volunteers gathered at Historic Webster Village to spruce it up for the spring/summer season. So many projects were on our list, and they were all completed! Thank you so much to Martha Zeeb for planning the Work Bee and baking the delicious cookies and to Peggy Harless for coordinating tasks and people!

To the following people we send a THANK YOU for donating their time and energy to accomplishing our task list:

Dexter High School National Honor Society Students Julia Berkholz, Antonia Bruckman, Jaxson Cicotle, Adison Din, Sophia Francisco, Kaden Jensen, Katie Marsik, Ethan O'Clair, Nathan Robke, Kate Varitek.

WTHS Members Mark Amsdill, James Harless, Dita Albert, Anne Lask, Kate Heywood, Dave Polley, Karen Bright, Rick Kleinschmidt, Martha Zeeb.

MEMBER CORNER

Our next Member Meeting will be on June 13, our Annual Member Meeting and Picnic in Historic Webster Village. Election results and information about the state of the Society will be presented along with hot dogs, ice cream sundaes, and whatever dish you wish to bring to share.



Other member meetings this year will be October 10, traditionally held in the Wheeler Wheelwright & Blacksmith Shop, and our holiday potluck dinner scheduled for December 12.

If you have a history related hobby, collection, or project you would like to share, please feel free to contact a Board member about doing a presentation at our October meeting.

To renew your membership or join the Society, please use the form on Page 7.

NEW MEMBERS FOR 2023

Suzanne Bristow
Klara Dannar
Lisa Field
Terri Kleinschmidt
Bernadette Quist

GRANT ACTIVITY

“Men’s Monday Drop-In” is every Monday at 10am at Crossroads Community Center. Free coffee and sweets!

PLANNING FOR LIFE SERIES

Sponsored by WTHS and WUCC. Webster United Church of Christ (WUCC) and WTHS in collaboration are presenting a series on “Planning for Life,” exploring an area of life we really do not want to think about: Preparing for

its end. The WUCC and WTHS would like to offer you the opportunities to learn about estate planning and a time to have your wishes recorded, witnessed, and notarized.

Our April 15 Panel Discussion on “Care Choices” was a very resourceful, informative presentation. Those who attended indicated they received helpful information that they could use to help them make decisions for their life planning. Thank you to Patti Binh of the Dexter Wellness Coalition for connecting us with Heather DeVos at the Areas on Aging and thank you to Dave Polley for recruiting Rebecca Wyse, and Rebecca Wyse for recruiting Kristina Kosta.

The Panel Discussion on “Managing Your Estate” provided excellent information and many resources. There were many questions for the panelists. Sources for forms to complete for various aspects of life planning were supplied and may be witnessed and notarized at our third and last session (below). Thank you to Joanne Westman for suggesting we contact Laurie Brewis and to Kate Heywood for contacting Hannah Muller.

20 May, 10am-3pm – “Complete Your Forms” – Crossroads Community Center Bring completed DNR and Health Care Advocate forms to have your signatures witnessed and notarized. Experts will be on hand to answer questions.

- Kris DeAngelo, Notary
- Steve Bemis, Notary

WALKING PATH

The walking path in Historic Webster Village will become a reality this year! It was the most requested item listed on surveys completed by township residents in 2022. We have all but \$25,000 of the \$94,550 it will cost to completely install this path, the major goal for the first year of our Implementation Grant: Creating Community Connections and Spaces. Here's what we have so far:

- \$38,500 from the Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation

- \$9,000 from the Dexter Wellness Coalition/5 Healthy Towns Foundation
- \$22,500 from Webster Township

If we come up short, we may have to add paths to the individual buildings at a later date. We hope we won't have to do this, as it will be more expensive to bring the equipment back for these additions.

Construction is scheduled to begin on May 22, 2023, so the walking path will be completed in time for summer fundraising events. To see a site plan for the path, go to: <https://webstertownshiphistoricalsociety.org/buildings-and-grounds>.

The walking path will make the many fun events planned for this summer easier to access for everyone—a movie, “Tucker: A Man and His Dream,” in the barn on June 4 in cooperation with the Northfield Township Area Library, a Flea Market on June 10, a Rockabilly Motorcycle Extravaganza in partnership with the Dexter Senior Center to present on July 15, and a Bluegrass Jamboree and Ice Cream Social on August 5 with the Dexter Senior Center scooping the ice cream. Several more events are planned for the fall along with, of course, the 40th Webster Fall Festival on September 23. See the calendar of events on Page 5.

* NEWSFLASH *

To help us raise the remaining \$25,000 for the walking path, one of our WTHS board members pledged \$10,000 for a *Match Challenge*! Every dollar you donate will be matched up to \$10,000! Board members all have contributed, and now we ask you to help in any amount you can. Please use the form on Page 6 to make your “2 for 1 Match Challenge” donation, or you may also donate on our website:

<https://webstertownshiphistoricalsociety.org/buildings-and-grounds>.

BRICK FUNDRAISER UPDATE

At its recent meeting, the WTHS Board of Directors reviewed the issue of the walking path spurs meeting



the building entrances. Although we originally planned to have brick pathways between the path spurs and each building entrance, this proves to be a costly, time-consuming strategy. The Board voted to have only one more brick path leading to the Old Town Hall. If you are interested in purchasing a brick for the village, please use the form on Page 8, knowing it will be your last opportunity to do so.

PHOTOGRAPHY IN HISTORIC WEBSTER VILLAGE

In response to requests for permission to have senior/graduation/wedding/holiday photos taken in Historic Webster Village, we are developing rates and policies to allow professional photographers to use our grounds and buildings. Why, you may ask, do we need to do this? Through conversations with other historical societies, we learned that there are liabilities both for WTHS and the photographers that need to be addressed. Should anyone get hurt during a photo shoot or should damage be done to WTHS holdings, we need policies in place to deal with the situation. We'll keep you posted on our progress—it shouldn't take much longer.



HISTORY CORNER

The Establishment of Webster Corners. Early settlers of the Webster area were the Hon. Samuel W. Dexter (1824) and Charles B. Taylor (1824), purchasing land in the southwest corner of the township near the present-day city of Dexter. Thomas Alexander from Wales and Luther Boyden from Conway, MA, settled in Webster Township (1826) in an area called Boyden's Plain and were later that same year joined by Israel Arms from MA. Charles Starks arrived from PA and settled on the north side of Boyden's Plain in 1827. Salmon H. Matthews arrived here in 1827 from Conway, MA. Next came Peter Sears, who settled in the southeast corner of the township, and Sturms Kimberly, Ezra Fish, and Ira Seymour. In 1828, John Williams arrived from Sempronius, NY, with his wife and 10 children. Henry Scadin also arrived in 1828. In 1829, Munnis Kenny and family and Tillotson Wheeler settled in Webster

Township. Munnis Kenny suggested the township be named after the statesman Daniel Webster. Accounts of these people can be found in the several books written by James Baldwin Parker and many of their graves can be found in the Webster Church Cemetery. See our website for a list of Parker books available from WTHS.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Did you know: If you are a senior citizen living in Webster Township, a trip to Historic Webster Village is free on WAVE!

At this year's Annual Meeting & Picnic on June 13, we will determine the results of the 2023 election for 4 Directors on our Board and an updated version of our By-Laws. The *Call for Nominations* was recently emailed to members with email addresses and mailed to those who do not have them. Please check your inbox/mailbox and respond to the Call.

We are eagerly looking forward to completing the walking path in Historic Webster Village. Eventually we plan to add a nice sign for each building, a few more benches for resting, and a large sign at the main entrance of the village. Someday the village entrance will be paved and have a small parking area nearby.... 😊

On May 1, our first paid employee started work at WTHS. Kristen Hatfield will work with us 20 hours/week to help ease the workload placed on our volunteer Officers and Board of Directors. She will be supervised by the President.

We are looking to hire help to clean buildings as we open our facilities for tours, regular "open" hours, and more events. If you are interested or know someone who might be interested in this cleaning job, please contact me (734-368-0887).

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 to share your suggestions, questions, etc. (wthsmi@gmail.com).

Best regards,
Thelma Tucker

Rent Our Buildings and Grounds for Your Event!

Please keep in mind the 7 buildings and our 20' x 40' tent (June – September) that comprise Historic Webster Village, as well as the grounds, are available for your event—party, family reunion, graduation party, anniversary party, memorial gathering, baby or wedding shower, etc.—and provide a unique, charming venue. **Members receive a 10% discount on the rental fees.** Send an email to wthsmi@gmail.com for information and to reserve your favorite spot.

Board of Directors

President

Thelma Tucker

Vice President

Karen Hertenstein

Secretary

Virginia Davis

Treasurer

Kate Heywood

Directors

Karen Bright

Gloria Brigham

Rick Kleinschmidt

Anne Lask

Joanne Westman

Martha Zeeb

Membership/Marketing Chair

Beth Sibray

Volunteer Coordinator

Peggy Harless

Event Planning Chair

Joanne Westman

Maintenance Co-Chairs

Rick Kleinschmidt & Martha Zeeb

2023 Spring Work Bee Photos



WTHS recently installed a “people” door in the north wall of May Mast’s Barn to make it more a part of the Historic Webster Village. The walking path will lead to this new door.

Cranes out for a stroll in the village.



CALENDAR OF UPCOMING WTHS EVENTS

4 June 2023, 7:00 PM – The movie “Tucker: A Man and His Dream” will be shown in May Mast’s Barn in cooperation with the Northfield Township Area Library.



10 June 2023, 9:00 AM – 4: PM – “Flea Market” in Historic Webster Village. Contact us at wthsmi@gmail.com to reserve a booth space.

13 June 2023, 6:30 PM – Annual WTHS Meeting and Picnic. Come and partake: Society and community news, election results, good food and conversation.

15 July 2023, 12:00 – 5:00 PM – A “Rockabilly Motorcycle Extravaganza” presented in partnership with the Dexter Senior Center. Music, motorcycles, and a Hogz Backyard BBQ food truck will offer sandwiches and sides for purchase. Ticket information will be available soon.

5 August 2023, 2:00 – 5:00 PM – A “Bluegrass Jamboree and Ice Cream Social,” featuring Cedar Creek Bluegrass Band and the Northwoods Ramblers, *organized by Chris Sorenson*. Bring your instruments and join in the jam circles to kick off this event. Paula Denton and Chris & Stephanie Sorenson will also perform. The Dexter Senior Center will be serving ice cream and Hallboy BBQ food truck will offer sandwiches and sides for purchase. Tickets for this event may be purchased...

23 September 2023, 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM – 40th “Webster Fall Festival,” the annual fundraiser for WTHS and Webster United Church of Christ.

10 October 2023, 7:00 PM – WTHS Member Meeting at Crossroad Community Center. Program TBA.

22 October 2023, 2:00 PM – Celtic Harp Concert in the Old Town Hall. Tickets will be sold in advance; limited seating. Check our website for additional information as it becomes available.

October 2023, 6:30 PM – Euchre Nights at Crossroads Community Center will resume, dates TBD.

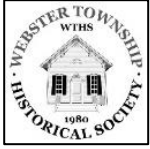
29 October 2023, 2:00 – 5:00 PM – Halloween on the Green in Historic Webster Village for children aged 1-6. Crafts, a parade of costumes, trick-or-treating, and cider and cookies. \$5 donation per person.

4 November 2023, 12:30 – 3:00 PM – Pampered Chef Live Cooking Demo. Enjoy a meal and learn about the latest products. WTHS will earn a percentage of sales.

2-3 December 2023, 9:00 – 4:00 PM – Huron Valley Wood Turners Annual Holiday Sale, Crossroads Community Center.

12 December 2023, 6:30 PM – WTHS Holiday Potluck Dinner.

16 December 2023, 2:00 – 5:00 PM – “Christmas in the Village” in Historic Webster Village. Buildings will be open and decorated for Christmas. There will be a visit with Santa, a tree-lighting ceremony, crafts for the children, and refreshments.



“2 for 1” Walking Path Challenge

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip Code: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone: _____

Total Donation \$ _____

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

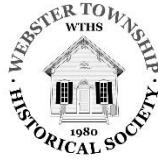
Name on card: _____

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.**



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

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



May Newsletter

WTHS Brick Fund-Raiser Order Form Old Town Hall Path

- Cost per brick is \$100
- Brick size: 4" x 8" – no choice of brick color.
- *Each of the 3 lines per brick may have a maximum of 20 characters including spaces between words.*
- Lines will be printed exactly as entered on this form by you.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip Code: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone: _____

Brick #1

Line one: _____

Line two: _____

Line three: _____

Brick #3

Line one: _____

Line two: _____

Line three: _____

Brick #2

Line one: _____

Line two: _____

Line three: _____

Brick #4

Line one: _____

Line two: _____

Line three: _____

Number of Bricks Ordered: _____ x \$100 each = \$_____ Total for Order

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

Name on the card: _____

Account # _____

Expiration Date: _____ Code: _____

Signature: _____

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