

In this issue:

Appraisals.....	Pg 1
Historic District.....	Pg 2
Election.....	Pg 2
Logo.....	Pg 2
Grande Parlour.....	Pg 3
Civil War Tea.....	Pg 4
DESC.....	Pg 4
General Store.....	Pg 5
Commission.....	Pg 5
Pavers.....	Pg 5
Mr. Rivard.....	Pg 6
Tea Photo.....	Pg 6
Messler Memorial.....	Pg 7
4th of July Celebration..	Pg 7
Calendars.....	Pg 7
Rummage Sale.....	Pg 8

What's it Worth?

On March 9, 2005, Bruce McKenzie, of *Knightsbridge Antiques* in Northville, graciously hosted an Antique Appraisal Day for the Friends of the Garden City Historical Museum (FGCHM). The Event was a huge success. Thirty reservations were taken prior to the event. When it was finally over, more than 90 people (some from as far away as Pinckney, Michigan) had their items appraised.



Mr. McKenzie holds up an item during the Appraisal Day

Mr. McKenzie's fee for the event was a \$100 donation to the Cancer Society, with the balance of the money raised (over \$500) going toward the mortgage on the Straight Farmhouse.

Mr. McKenzie began the afternoon with a talk on preserving antiques. He mentioned a product available at auto supply stores "GoJo" that is good for cleaning wood furniture. He also brought up many other interesting facts about antiques. Mr. McKenzie then took several questions from the audience before beginning the appraisals.

During the 3+ hour event, the appraisals ranged from a few dollars into the thousands of dollars. The vast majority of the guests stayed, even after their item was appraised, to see the other 'treasures' that were brought. They enjoyed coffee, tea and other 'goodies' that were available at the event.

The Observer Newspaper was on hand as was GCTV, who did some filming and interviews. Many guests commented on how enjoyable the afternoon was and wanted to know the date for the next appraisal event.

*The Friends of the Garden City Historical Museum would like to thank everyone who made this event possible, especially **Bruce McKenzie** for his generosity and expertise, and the Garden City Maplewood Community Center for their hospitality.*

A Rummage Sale is Coming!



The Friends of the Garden City Historical Museum are having a rummage sale!

When: Friday and Saturday, June 24 & 25, 2005. 9a.m.—5p.m. both days. There will be a bag sale Saturday from 2-4 p.m.

Where: At the Straight Farmhouse 6221 Merriman, Garden City, MI 48135

If you have items you would like to donate to the sale, please call Kim or Jerry Marquette (734) 522-1226 to schedule a time to drop off your items at the farmhouse. Donated items are tax deductible.

Also we need some volunteers to help with the sale. If you can spare an hour or two, please contact Kim or Jerry.

Friends of the Garden City Historical Museum Membership Renewal Forms will be mailed out shortly. Please consider renewing your membership for another year. Watch for value added savings with this year's renewal

If you have questions/comments about the FGCHM, please feel free to call Jerry Marquette at (734) 522-1226.

Election Results

Resolution results:

The resolution was overwhelmingly *passed* to change the governance model of the Friends of the Garden City Historical Museum to a Directorship Corporation.

Elected as the Board of Directors of
The Friends of the Garden City Historical Museum

Frieda Affholter

Muriel Grima

Carol S. Bird

Gerald Marquette

Gerald Collins

Mary Jane Schildberg

Election of Officers

The FGCHM recently elected the following officers:

Jerry Marquette– President
Jerry Collins– Vice-President
Carol Bird– Secretary
Frieda Affholter– Asst. Secretary
Muriel Grima– Treasurer

Historic District

The Straight Farmhouse Property has been designated a Historic District in Garden City. This will open up many opportunities for Federal and State grants for the Straight Farmhouse.

Introducing...

... a prototype of the new logo for the Straight Farmhouse!



Barbara Messler Memorial

A plaque was installed on the display case in the entry hallway which reads:
“We remember our friend, Barbara Messler;
a modest, caring woman who made life more beautiful for all who knew her.”
-written by Carol Bird

Barbara enjoyed decorating the window at the Log Cabin site of the Garden City Historical Museum for several years— and the interior, too, when the seasons changed. She was overjoyed to learn (shortly before her death), that the Straight Farmhouse was being purchased by the Friends to become the new home for the Museum.

She expressed hope that she might live long enough to witness this become a reality, but it was not meant to be. Her son, Rick Messler, continues to do the decorating of the display case at the Farmhouse in memory of his mother. For that we are thankful!

Independence Day Celebration

Come join us July 3, 2005, from noon to 3pm at the Straight Farmhouse for a Fourth of July Celebration! There will be hot dogs, drinks and snacks and a craft table for the kids!

We will also be honored with the presence of Mr. and Mrs. Abraham Lincoln again this year. Come hear Mr. Lincoln address the gathering!



A limited number of
The 2005 Calendars
(Historic Homes of Garden City) remain,
get yours before their gone!





Dr. Jerry Collins presenting Mr. Rivard with a Certificate of Appreciation

A Special Thank-You

The Board of Directors honored Mr. Rivard who has provided legal council (*pro bono*) for the Friends since their inception. Mr. Rivard has always found time in his busy schedule to review documents, contracts and by-laws.

Mr. Rivard also has a passion for historic preservation. His offices are located in Dearborn Heights on Warren Road.



The Civil War Tea (from page 4)

The Grande Parlour

The FGCHM have been applying for a grants to do remodeling in the annex of the Straight Farmhouse.

Our goal is to remove partition walls and create an open space that can be made available for rent for baby showers, wedding showers, retirement parties, birthday parties, etc.

This new space will be named the *Grande Parlour*.

Watch future editions of the *Straight Farmhouse Crier* for more information.



(Photo courtesy of the Salem, Oregon Library)

Are you interested in learning more about serving as a Straight Farmhouse Volunteer? There are several areas we can use some help: working in the General Store; helping with an upcoming event, small maintenance items (i.e painting). There are a number of ways we can use your talent. Just complete the form below and return it to the Friends!

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Area of Interest/Special Talent _____

**Please mail to:
The Friends
6221 Merriman Rd
Garden City, MI 48135**

Don't measure yourself by what you have accomplished, but by what you should have accomplished with your ability.

--John Wooden

A Journey Back in Time



The *Civil War Tea*, held at the *Maplewood Community Center*, took place on March 13, 1865, oops, make that 2005! Although you wouldn't have known it from the beautiful period clothing seen on that day.

Costume Historian, Pam Yockey, presented the culture and clothing of the mid to late 1800's. In addition to costume historian, Ms. Yockey is also a teacher for the Taylor School District. The seventeen models were comprised of associates and students of Ms. Yockey's.

The clothing, both under and outer undergarments, were from the private collection of Ms. Yockey. Some were authentic items, and some were reproductions.

The afternoon began with Ms. Yockey giving an interesting talk on the subject of clothing in the 1800's. Then each model was brought out, and their clothing explained. The model would then walk down from the stage and among the tables to afford the guests a 'close-up' look at each item. The afternoon featured a mixture of clothing, from mourning clothes to wedding gowns and veils.



The tables at which the 70+ attendees sat, were all decorated differently by that table's hostess. Attendees were then invited to vote on their favorite table. In addition to tea and coffee, there was an abundance of homemade cookies, brownies, cupcakes, and lemon bars, just to name a few!

The event concluded with a group photo (please see page 6), and then a raffle.

As with the Antique Appraisal Day, guests came from many surrounding communities, and all proceeds went towards the payment of the mortgage on the Straight Farmhouse.

Thank you, once again to all of those who volunteered their time, especially Pam Yockey, her students, and associates, and those who made the delicious treats.



DESC
VOLUNTEER CONSULTANTS FOR NONPROFITS
DETROIT EXECUTIVE SERVICE CORPS

A special thank you to
The Detroit Executive Service Corps for their assistance to the Friends of the Garden City Historical Museum.

The DESC is a nonprofit organization of volunteer executives who provide management counseling exclusively to nonprofit organizations. They are objective, third party mentors who have assisted the Friends in increasing effectiveness and efficiency.



The Lathers General Store

Watch the mail for the date of the Grand Opening of the Lather's General Store at the Straight Farmhouse.
Items are arriving daily!

A Letter from the Historical Commission Chairman— John I. Niemi

The Garden City Historical Commission would like to take this opportunity to inform our citizens that the Museum in the Log Cabin in Garden City Park is still open and has the same collection of exhibits, catalogs, pioneer family histories and an ever growing collection of Garden City school yearbooks, class group photos with names. A citizen might think that they are "too young" to have their picture exhibited in a museum, but we will surprise them! We are still open on Wednesdays from 1 until 4 p.m. We can work out alternate times for teacher escorted student groups and children's organizations.

Our Mayor, Jaylee Lynch, has assured me that there will be no time limit on our occupancy in the Log Cabin. She and the City Council are regularly informed on the progress of the Historical Museum and the Straight Farmhouse. Their approval of the Straight property as an Historical District was a giant step towards the Friends of the Historical Museum's ability to tap into grant money that will be necessary to make the Straight Farmhouse endeavor a financially workable success. Come and visit us.

Our Staff can help you to find what you are looking for. We can print articles and photos from our archives for you to aid you in your research projects.

Brick Pavers are Here!

Participants in our brick pavers fund raiser who have already ordered bricks have received their certificate recording their purchase, and a photo of their brick! A huge 'Thank you!' to all those who have placed orders. If you haven't ordered yours, you can still get an order in. Great gift ideas— graduations, memorials, etc. Also, a great idea for businesses!



After all, spring is here, and the landscaper is eager to get started. If you have any questions, please call Carol Bird (734) 427-8386 or Muriel Grima (734) 427-7099. (8" x 8" brick pictured)