

STRAIGHT FARMHOUSE CRIER

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Vintage Fashion Show

Have you bought your tickets yet for the "Vintage Fashion Show" being presented this Friday night in the Grande Parlour of the Straight Farm House, September 19th?? It promises to be a most enjoyable evening of viewing authentic fashions from the Victorian Era to the 1950's. The tickets cost \$8.00 each and include light refreshments. The show begins at 7p.m. and is being presented by the Sand Hill Questers #79.

The Questers, an international organization designed to encourage both the study and preservation of historic items and landmarks, was begun in 1944 in Pennsylvania and maintains its headquarters in an 1802 building in Philadelphia. The Sand Hill Chapter is one of 88 Chapters and over 1,400 members in the state of Michigan and over 14,000 members in the USA and Canada. Sand Hill members have been performing Fashion Shows for over forty years. The donations received for these shows are used to preserve historic landmarks in the area such as Greenmead in Livonia -- and now the Straight Farm House in Garden City. Members of Northville Westbend Questers are also members of our Friends of the Garden City Historical Museum and have been ardent supporters since we began our "operation".

You won't want to miss this event!!

Our Handicap Ramp

Much needed repair work on our handicap ramp on the Merriman Road side of the Straight Farm House was done as a contribution to the Friends by men of the Garden City Presbyterian Church -- Joe Toth, Ron Millsaps and Dave Holt. The Petticoat Ladies of the Church contributed financial aid to purchase necessary materials, as did Thrivent for Lutherans with matching funds. Friends member, Chuck Guisgand, also joined the work crew who worked very hard on this necessary repair. We absolutely could not have accomplished this work without the contributions of these fine people! The ramp has been used most successfully since the "spring tune-up". We wholeheartedly join the folks who have used the ramp in thanking our work crew for their outstanding success! Selfless contributions like these have kept us operating for four years now, and we hope to continue for many more.



VOL_NTEERS!

What is missing? U!!!

That's right! Y O U ! We need more volunteers to help us work in the Lathers General Store and the Grande Parlour, be a docent in the Museum, clean the kitchen and bathrooms, vacuum -- in fact, whatever appears on the scene that needs to be done. We'll be most happy to share the work load with any of you who can spare one day a week or month, a couple of hours or more at a time, or maybe substitute for someone who is unable to help on a particular day. We won't mention the average age of most of us, but health problems do interfere at times, and we would be happy to have the help of the next generation. Two members of that "next generation" who have been invaluable at the Farm House are Carol and Marshall Hill. Carol has been heard to remark that "... I absolutely LOVE this place!" She will help with any job that needs "doing" when she is there -- at least once a week. Carol is quite creative in saving material in our Museum's scrapbooks, too. She keeps an ongoing "Honey Do" list for Marshall at all times. He has fixed our outdoor faucet, installed new curtain and drapery fixtures in the Grande Parlour, installed new blinds on windows on the Merriman Road side of the Parlour and made other needed repairs inside and outside the Farm House. (I hesitate to mention that Carol bakes the greatest brownies and peanut butter cookies, which she shares with us on many days! What a perk!)



New Bench

If you stop by the Farm House to spend a few quiet moments at the brick paver walkway and veteran's memorial, you will find a new gift from the Northville Waterford Bend Questers #1013 -- a very solid, beautiful white bench. Many visitors who choose to spend time deep in thought remembering, meditating or just enjoying quiet moments now can do so in comfort. We thank the Questers for this gift and for their ongoing support!



Membership

Some members have not renewed their membership for 2008--2009, so if you find a membership envelope enclosed in this newsletter, you can safely assume this is another friendly reminder that we truly need your help! We hope you will continue to be a Friend and lend your support however you are able. If you would like to choose the Support Plan when you renew, you can download a form on our website, www.sfhonline.org, or better yet -- pick one up when you come in to visit and tour the Straight Farm House again!

The Titanic

We are looking forward to November when the Petticoat Ladies of the Garden City Presbyterian Church will be presenting a program on the stories of survivors and others involved in the sinking of the "Indestructible Ship -- Titanic!" We will share details of the program with you as we are given them.

Also happening on that night will be the raffling of the doll made in England and given to Debbie Eleson of the Petticoat ladies and who generously donated the doll to the Friends in an effort to raise needed funds for continuing operations. Raffle tickets, \$3.00 each or two for \$5.00, are available in the Lathers General Store in the Straight Farm House.



Our Biggest Fund Raisers

We receive our greatest support for the sale of brick pavers to memorialize family members, friends, etc., the rental of the Grande Parlour for various occasions, and the sales of items in the Lathers General Store. Do consider participating in these opportunities if you haven't already.

One of our big sellers at the moment is our Farm House Ghost shirts. We hope to sell more in October when the "Ghostwatchers of Michigan" use our Grande Parlour for their two-day conference and further investigation of our ghosts on the 18th and 19th of October. They will be presenting their findings one week later on October 25th as a fundraiser for the Farm House. More details will be published as we get them.

A Recent Visitor

Pictured below is Charles E. Lowe, Mayor of Garden City 1960-1962. His son-in-law and daughter, Mr. & Mrs. Glen Ponte brought him to the Farm House in order to present us with a basketball which had been given to him by the president of the Little League, 1961 while he was Mayor. The ball was signed by team members from the city champs and police teams. Mayor Lowe and his family felt that the basketball belonged in the Garden City Museum, and we wholeheartedly agree with them! Mayor Lowe is well into his 90's, and seemed to enjoy his visit with us AND watching the DVD of Garden City, 1935 - 1939. Thank you, Mayor Lowe, for giving us this basketball for our collection!



One remark we hear again and again from visitors is that our Museum is so special in that it really IS just about Garden City history. If you want a really great tour, Jack Kerstetter and Bill Brooks do a marvelous job as docents.