

MAYVILLE AREA MUSEUM OF HISTORY & GENEALOGY

Annual Newsletter October 2014- October 2015

Hello to all our members, sponsors and visitors:

It's hard to believe that another great year has come to an end, 2015, and we will shortly be moving into 2016. We closed last year (2014) with a rainy cold car show and things were not much different this year as the weather played havoc on us again. But despite the weather set back and only 24 cars the car show was a huge success with our new raffle bringing in over \$1100 and we made a huge chunk towards our annual insurance payment that is due each spring.

We ended the year with our annual Appreciation Dinner on Thursday, October 15, 2015. A delicious dinner of spaghetti, garlic bread and salad was served to over 30 guests with some scrumptious desserts made by our museum ladies. Much got accomplished this year at the Mayville Museum. In the fall of 2014 the Mayville Chamber of Commerce sponsored the buck pole on the museum grounds. In December we held our Christmas party with "recycled gift" exchange. The winter months were kind of quiet with a lot of snowbirds heading south to enjoy warmer weather. Those that remained here held down the fort and finalized plans for our first event of the year... Hosting the annual Mayville Easter Egg Hunt. Chairperson, Cindy Coxe did an "eggsordinary" job filling over 3,000 eggs and getting donations from local businesses, merchants and individuals. The museum grounds looked so magical with all the colored eggs waiting for the kids to find. It's a much anticipated event each and every year.

The winter took its toll on our buildings this year and we had a few broken pipes from freezing that needed to be repaired, which entailed some drywall work as well. Our foundation work from last year must have done the trick because there was no water under the depot this spring and our mold problems seem to be a thing of the past.

Bill Rappuhn wasted no time getting started on our caboose renovation as soon as the weather allowed. With a grant from the Arlene Western Foundation the caboose is now ready for tours. New windows were custom made, the inside was completely cleaned out, painted and redecorated with railroad memorabilia. It is still a work in progress as we add more displays. We even have a "Choo-Choo Charlie" waiting to greet our visitors. It is a great addition to our museum and we are so happy that it can now be enjoyed by everyone.

The Mayville Methodist Church Men's Club did their Christmas in July project at the museum this year and we had them prepare our depot building for painting. On Saturday, June 27, like busy ants the men came and power washed, scrapped and prepped the depot and moved on to the schoolhouse and got it started. We cannot thank them enough for offering their help.

In June we held our annual County Wide Museum Open House Weekend. This year our theme was "Quilts from the Past" and we used our Founders Building as our display area. The display was left up for the entire season and all our visitor were intrigued by the handiwork of so many people.

Mayville celebrated the 25th Sunflower Festival in July 2015. It was the perfect time to initiate our new pancake griddle that we purchased with fund from the Western trust. Our new gas griddle cooks pancakes up fast and is big enough to toss our old electric griddles aside. Thanks to Frank Franzel for designing a handy

and maneuverable cart and to Alma Bennett for being our secondary pancake flipper to give Frank a break. Carol Harmon designed an award winning float and we took home the trophy for “Best Themed” float in the annual Sunflower Festival parade.

We started August off with the All Country School Reunion at the West Dayton Schoolhouse. Everyone who attended had a great time and they have rescheduled for the same time next year. We hosted the Red Hat Society ladies in August and started gearing up for our car show by selling raffle tickets. Liz Lambert did an awesome job making sure everyone in the Thumb area got a ticket. We hosted the Tuscola County Museum Consortium meeting in August and had representatives from five of the eight museums attend. Our prize for the passport contest was a \$25 gift certificate to Mayville Mercantile. We want to promote our home town and our merchants.

The “We Can Read” program, sponsored by the Mayville Museum has been quite active this year as well, sponsoring several events. They had a book give-away at the Christmas Tree Lighting downtown in December 2014, the Easter Egg Hunt in April, during the Sunflower Festival and at Back to School night, where they signed up and gave away more books than ever before. This is a great program and it fits well with the West Dayton Schoolhouse.

Just in time for the car show our museum depot was painted and it looks beautiful. Jack Campbell did an awesome job. Its new gray color with light gray and dark gray trim looks absolutely great. It took us a while but we “got er done”. Next on the agenda is a face lift for the founders building and the schoolhouse. Our school house is going to need much more than paint to spruce it up but we hope 2016 will be dedicated to getting it back into top shape.

We are due for a good year for the car show and we are hoping 2016 is going to be the one. Mark your calendars for September 16, 2016 as Candi Franzel has already committed to being our coordinator and Bill Fox Chevrolet in Millington has already agreed to be our grand sponsor.

Lorraine Anderson and Lynn Freeland have been working on our Civil War Book, taking material gathered by Marilyn Patterson and doing additional research. We hope to have it printed on time for the holiday gift giving. Check our Facebook page for updates as to when it will be available or you can contact any museum member. Pre-orders can be taken but we don’t have the price or the time frame yet. It will have stories and history of civil war veterans from Tuscola County.

At our October meeting we held elections and this is our board for the coming year.

Frank Franzel- President (expires-2016)

Ron Johnson – Vice President (expires- 2017)

Fran Campbell – Secretary/Treasurer (expires-2016)

Trustees (expires in 2016) - Marilyn Patterson, Carol Harmon, Bob Fritz

Trustees (expires in 2017) - Judy Chesney, Val Atkinson, Bill Thomas

We are working on establishing a new website. Hope to have it up and running by the first of the year. Our tech guru, Judy Chesney, is checking out different host company and working on our format.

We are having some issues with our phone service. Should you need anything before it is resolved, call Fran at (989)843-0011 or Marilyn at (989) 843-6249.

To renew your membership or become a new member, please mail this form to:
Mayville Area Museum, P.O. Box 242, Mayville, MI 48744

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