**Thursdays at Courthouse Square**

Our dynamic summer program series opens June 23

Our enormously popular summer program series begins on June 23 with a trek around the Great Lakes and continues through July 28 with a visit from Theodore Roosevelt. All programs start at 6:30 p.m. in our courthouse courtroom; they are free of charge thanks to generous grants from the Berrien Springs / Eau Claire Rotary Club and the Indiana Michigan Power Company.

**June 23:** *A 1,000-Mile Great Lakes Islands Adventure.* The final book in Loreen Niewenhuis’ Great Lakes Adventure trilogy explores the islands of the Great Lakes Basin. She released her book about her latest journey exploring Great Lakes islands in 2015 and will sign copies after her presentation. Co-sponsored with the Berrien Springs Community Library.

**June 30:** *Plank’s Tavern.* John Owen reveals the story behind his grandfather’s massive hotel on Lake Michigan in St. Joseph. Built in 1889, it was almost a twin to his other hotel: the Grand Hotel on Mackinac Island.

**July 7:** History Center curator Bob Myers will present *Locomotives Along the Lakeshore: Railroads of Berrien County.* The program, based on Myers’ book of the same title, examines how the Iron Horse shaped local, state and national history.

**July 14:** Singer/songwriter Laura Whidden, a Berrien Springs native, will share her music and information about her work as a partner with the humanitarian aid organization World Vision. Co-sponsored with the Berrien Springs Community Library.

**July 21:** Ever-popular author/historian Chriss Lyon returns with *A Killing In Capone’s Playground.* Chriss’ meticulous research uncovered the links between Chicago gangsters, the St. Valentine’s Day Massacre and the murder of St. Joseph policeman Charles Skelly. Chriss will autograph copies of her book following the program.

**July 28:** Gib Young, a nationally-known historical interpreter, will portray Theodore Roosevelt and the American West in a one-man show. He appeared here at the History Center a couple of years ago and was so popular that we’ve brought him back to present one of his other programs on President Roosevelt.
Berrien County Historical Association Board and Staff

Board of Directors
Robert Sykora, President
Gary Campbell, Vice President
Robert Feldman, Treasurer
Rebecca May, Secretary
Al Butzbaugh Robert Norris
John Kamer Stephen Smith

Staff
Kathy A. Cyr, Executive Director
Robert Myers, Curator
Madge Bibler, Museum Services Coordinator

BCHA Mission Statement
The mission of the BCHA is to collect, preserve and interpret the history of Berrien County through exhibits, tours, publications, and educational and community outreach programs for public benefit.

Learn more about the BCHA by visiting www.berrienhistory.org

The Docket
Summer 2016, Vol. 32, No. 2

The Docket is published quarterly by the Berrien County Historical Association, 313 N. Cass Street, PO Box 261, Berrien Springs, MI 49103. (269) 471-1202

Editorial Staff
Kathy A. Cyr, Executive Director
Robert C. Myers, Curator
Madge Bibler, Museum Services Coordinator

The Docket is a benefit of membership in the BCHA. Annual membership dues to the BCHA are: $20 for individuals, $30 for families, and $40 for institutions. Supporting memberships are: $40 Contributing, $50 Sustaining, $100 Patron, and $500 Benefactor.

© Berrien County Historical Association, 2016.

Director’s Comments
By Kathy Cyr

Dear Friends,
Welcome summer! We appear to have gone from winter directly into summer. The blossoming catalpa tree is a wondrous site to behold (located between the Courthouse and the Sheriff’s Residence). Soon the tulip trees on the property will be in full bloom as well.

We need your help with an exhibit on the history of Emmanuel Missionary College/Andrews University that we are planning to open this August. We have photographs and information, but we need artifacts from EMC or AU that will make the story come alive. If you have anything that may be appropriate for the exhibit and would be willing to loan them to us from August 2016 – June 2017, please contact either Kathy or Madge at 269-471-1202.

Programs offered in the first six months of the year have been well attended. We offered three programs in the winter program series, four heritage tours - Washington D.C., New Orleans (times 2!), and St. Louis - and Spring Pioneer Days for 3rd and 4th graders.

I wish to express my appreciation to the staff and volunteers who participated in making Pioneer Days so successful: Bob Cashbaugh & Julie Knight (crosscut saw); Joyce Daniels (corn shelling); Randy Bibler (horse care - yes, we actually had miniature horses on the property); David Francis (blacksmithing); Karen Campbell, Angela Widdis and Isabel Widdis (stenciling); Madge Bibler (log cabin living, and organizer of the entire event); Bob Myers (musket firing); and Rebecca May (time keeper and bell ringer).

Looking ahead … on Thursday, June 23, we begin our evening lecture program with Loreen Niewenhuis and her presentation on her recent book A 1000-mile Great Lakes Island Adventure. Copies of her book will be on sale after her presentation. Then for the next five Thursdays at 6:30 p.m., five more speakers will share their research and experiences with you. This programming is admission free due to financial support from Indiana Michigan Power and the Berrien Springs/Eau Claire Rotary Club. Two of the six programs are also being co-sponsored by the Berrien Springs Community Library.

In August (Monday, August 15 through Saturday, August 20) we will have our booth at the Berrien County Youth Fair and are looking for volunteers to help staff the booth. If interested, call us at 269-471-1202.

The final Heritage Tour for 2016 will be held September 15-22 to Michigan’s Upper Peninsula. Bob Myers and I will serve as tour guides on this special trip which includes Mackinac Island, Sault St. Marie and the Keweenaw Peninsula. Please consider joining us for this fun filled adventurous tour. If you did not receive a tour booklet in the mail, you can now print it from the Center’s newly redesigned web site at www.berrienhistory.org.

We hope you have a great summer and that you can join us for several of the many events hosted here at the History Center at Historic Courthouse Square County Park! Have a terrific summer!

Kathy A. Cyr
Executive Director
New Publication ~

**Historic Walking Tour of St. Joseph**

The History Center at Courthouse Square and The Heritage Museum and Cultural Center have collaborated to publish a new booklet, *Historic Walking Tour of St. Joseph.* The 53-page booklet was written by History Center curator Robert Myers and designed by The Heritage Museum and Cultural Center's Jennifer Richmond. The booklet is available for $9.95 from gift shops at The Heritage Museum, 601 Main Street in St. Joseph and the History Center at 313 N. Cass Street in Berrien Springs, and at Purely Michigan in downtown St. Joseph.

The booklet takes readers on a walking tour of downtown St. Joseph along Lake Front Park, Lake Boulevard and State Street. It includes the histories of 76 different houses, stores, apartment buildings and monuments. The pages are organized to take pedestrians along the park and two streets from the downtown to the south end of State Street.

Each entry includes a photograph of the building with an entry that identifies its date of construction, architectural style, original owner and a brief narrative of its history. “Architectural Highlights” pages scattered throughout the booklet explain the history and identifying features of various architectural styles of houses in the neighborhoods, including Italianate, Queen Anne, Prairie, and Greek Revival.

A grant from the Sunset Coast Realty Group in Stevensville underwrote the booklet’s printing cost. “We’re greatly appreciative of the financial support of Doug and Doreen Johan of Sunset Coast Realty,” said Tracy Gierarda, curator of The Heritage Museum and Cultural Center. “We wanted to make this booklet easily affordable for tourists visiting St. Joseph as well as our local residents, and their underwriting has made that possible.”

“Putting the booklet together was a real team effort,” says History Center Bob Myers. “The whole staff of The Heritage Museum and Cultural Center pitched in. I’m not a good design person, so Jennifer did a wonderful job with that. She, Tracy Gierada and Amy Zapal went over the text with a fine-tooth comb and saved me from making a bunch of typographical and factual errors.”

Bob Myers and his wife, Candace, live on State Street near the downtown and based the booklet on the histories of houses that they have uncovered in research over the last ten years. “We learned that our own house was built in 1892 and got curious about other houses in the area. One thing led to another and we ended up with an extensive project,” said Candace Myers.

Bob Myers says that their research has turned up some fascinating stories about the residents who built houses in what became St. Joseph’s historic district. The Mary W. Cooper House on State Street was built in 1893 for the widow of Rev. Samuel Thrall Cooper, one of the founders of the Cooper-Wells Hosiery Company in St. Joseph. When Samuel died in 1892, his will specified that his children build a “$2,000 cottage” for his widow. They built the Stick style house for her the next year. Two of their sons moved to Wisconsin, where they used their expertise in textile manufacturing to found the Jockey underwear company.

Another story involved the history of an attractive brick apartment complex located just down the street from his house. It turned out to have been built in 1911 by Richard C. Crawford in the Prairie style and that its well-known residents included Frederick S. Upton, one of the founders of what became Whirlpool Corporation.

Pick up a copy and enjoy your own walking tour of Historic St. Joseph!
**Curator’s Corner**

**Recent Donations to the Museum Collections**

- Courthouse watercolor painting ............... Alfred Butzbaugh
- Celfor Tool Co. ruler .......................... Richard & Joan Kuntz
- Photograph ................................. Sharon Geisler
- Bradford & Co. advertising brochure ....... Charles Dommer
- WW II photographs ......................... Jill Shoop
- 1950 Blossomtime Festival Parade slides .... Wanda Null
- United Federation of Women’s Clubs records .... William Hessel Library
- Projectile points ............................... Robert Baillie

Anna Sommers Geminder recently donated her old New Troy High School letter sweater to the History Center. New Troy High closed in 1966 after consolidating with Three Oaks High to form the River Valley Schools.

---

**Barbra Kolm Received Frank J. Ward History Award**

The History Center board member Robert Norris presents Barbra J. Kolm with the fifth annual Frank J. Ward Memorial History Award at the 2016 Annual Meeting.

The History Center at Courthouse Square presented its fifth annual Frank J. Ward Memorial History Award to Barbra J. Kolm of Berrien Springs. Board member Robert Norris presented Ms. Kolm with the award at the History Center’s annual meeting on April 26.

The History Award is presented annually to honor an individual, organization or business that advances the cause of local history through research, writing, historic preservation or programming. It is named for Frank Junior Ward, a long time member of the Berrien County Historical Association and benefactor of the History Center at Courthouse Square.

In presenting the award, Mr. Norris noted that Barbra Kolm is a life-long resident of the Berrien Springs area and has played an instrumental role in preserving the history of the Berrien County Youth Fair. She was nominated for the History Award by her late sister, Frances Quirk.

As a child, Barbra observed her mother, Alma J. Foster, keeping a daily diary – jotting down the happenings of the day and recording family history. While she has not kept a daily diary throughout her lifetime, Barbra did keep detailed records of lifetime events. As she became involved in 4-H, the Junior Farm Bureau and the Berrien County Youth Fair, members of those organizations relied on her as their record keeper.

Barbra attended grade school at Oak Grove School, showed cattle in the Fairland 4-H club at the first Berrien County Youth Fair held in the Grove Park in Berrien Springs, and attended Junior Farm Bureau dances and fundraisers to build the Youth Memorial Building at Berrien County Youth Fair. She received the 4-H’s Outstanding Leader award in 1974. In 1965, she was elected secretary of the Youth Fair’s board of directors and held that position for the next forty years.

Some people consider collecting historical documents as piles of paperwork, but Barbra has always recognized the importance of the history of each organization she has been involved with. Her organizational skills have enabled each group to maintain its history.
Join the History Center Today!

Name: ____________________________ Phone: ______________________
Address: __________________________ State: ______________ Zip: __________
City: _______________________________ State: ______________ Zip: __________

Membership categories:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Basic</th>
<th>Supporting</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>[ ] Individual $20</td>
<td>[ ] Contributing $40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[ ] Family $30</td>
<td>[ ] Sustaining $50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[ ] Institutional $40</td>
<td>[ ] Patron $100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>[ ] Benefactor $500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Additional donation: $ _______  
Amount enclosed: $ _______

Please make checks payable to the Berrien County Historical Assn.  
or
Please charge my credit card: (circle one)
Mastercard       Visa       Discover

Card Number: __________________________ Exp. Date: _______

Mail or fax to: BCHA, PO Box 261  
Berrien Springs, MI 49103  
Phone: (269) 471-1202  
Fax: (269) 471-7412

Enjoy Our Local History!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Total: $</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Greetings from Three Oaks ($25.95)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greetings from Benton Harbor ($27.95)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greetings from St. Joseph ($27.95)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greetings from Berrien Springs ($21.95)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greetings from Buchanan ($24.95)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Story of Buchanan ($14.95)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Heyday of Hinchman ($18.95)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Historical Sketches of Berrien County ($23.95)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Autotram: Clark's Aluminum Railcar ($16.95)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Locomotives Along the Lakeshore ($24.95)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Twin City Trolleys ($8.95)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPECIAL: Greetings from Buchanan &amp; Story of Buchanan</td>
<td>Quantity:</td>
<td>Total: $</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Get both for $29.95!</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Subtotal: $ _______
Discounts (Library 20%   BCHA Members 10%)
State sales tax (6% for Michigan orders only)
Shipping ($4.95 for 1st book, $1.00 each additional book

Total: $ _______

Save on shipping and pick up your books from the History Center Store!

Credit Card Orders (Visa, MC, Discover)
Card No.: __________________________ Exp. Date: __________
Name on Card: __________________________ Signature: __________
Superior Country Color Tour, September 15-22

Our bus tour to Michigan’s beautiful Upper Peninsula is all planned and ready to go. All we need is - you!

Our curator, Bob Myers, planned the trip based on some of his favorite Superior Country locations. “I grew up near the Straits of Mackinac,” Bob says, “and we toured the UP all the time when I was a kid.” More recently, Bob’s service on the Historical Society of Michigan’s board of directors has taken him to that organization’s Upper Peninsula Conference, held every June. Based on those experiences, Bob has built an itinerary of region’s best historic and scenic attractions.

The tour fee of $1,559 per person includes almost everything: motorcoach transportation, hotel rooms, all admission fees, and all breakfasts and dinners, and all taxes and gratuities. Most days have a boxed lunch included, too.

“We think that your tour fee should cover everything,” History Center Director Kathy Cyr said. “You shouldn’t have to pay for the tour and then pay for more things along the way. I even include the bus driver’s tip when we create the trip budget.”

As a member of the History Center, you will receive a booklet in the mail with a full description of the tour. In brief, we’ll travel to the Straits of Mackinac, spend a day on Mackinac Island, and then go along the Lake Superior coast, and finally drop south and drive along the northern shore of Lake Michigan. On the way, we’ll tour the Soo Locks, the Great Lakes Shipwreck Museum, take a cruise along the Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore, visit a copper mine, explore an iron smelting ghost town, and much more.

We always eat more than is good for us, but so what - we’re on vacation! Bob always plans tour dinners at unique, locally-owned restaurants, not chains. On this trip they include the Yankee Rebel Tavern on Mackinac Island, a dinner cruise on the Soo Locks, the Tahquamenon Falls Brewery & Pub, Vierling’s Restaurant in Marquette (in a historic 1883 tavern), and The Library in Hancock. Just to make sure we don’t go hungry, every dinner includes dessert!

Our June trip to Cahokia Mounds and St. Louis sold out in a week, so call us now to make your reservation for our Superior Country Color Tour.

The ship’s bell from the ill-fated Edmund Fitzgerald, lost in a 1975 storm, is just one of the exhibits at the Great Lakes Shipwreck Museum.
Fort St. Joseph Archaeology Project Open House set for August 6 - 7

Western Michigan University archaeologists are conducting their 17th “dig” on the Fort St. Joseph site in Niles and invite the public to get a first-hand look at the latest discoveries. The annual Fort St. Joseph Archaeology Open House will be Saturday and Sunday, August 6 & 7, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is free. The site is on Bond Street - for full information, visit the website at http://www.wmich.edu/fortstjoseph/

This year’s Open House theme focuses on the rivers and lakes of New France and explores the many ways in which water influenced life at the fort. Costumed interpreters will discuss and demonstrate brewing, blacksmithing, birchbark canoes, wild rice harvesting and many other 18th century activities. Naturalists from Sarett Nature Center will offer rides ($3 each) in their replica 35-foot birchbark canoe. Volunteers will lead children’s games, and colonial-era dancers will demonstrate and teach dances of the era. Food will be available onsite.

You can get involved directly by participating in the Archaeology Summer Camps. Participants work alongside WMU faculty, staff and students to investigate the history and archaeology of Fort St. Joseph. Activities include classroom presentations, discussions, field excavation, wet screening, record keeping and lab work. The summer camps are open to life-long learners (July 15-22), teachers and students (July 25-30) and middle school students (August 1-5). For more information, visit the website.

Tons of Fun on our Old Man River Tours

We had a great time on both of our motorcoach tours to New Orleans. We enjoyed almost perfect weather during both trips and discovered that you really can eat your way through New Orleans! We’re already considering destinations for next year, so let us know if you have any suggestions.

Judy & Bill Morison make friends with a baby alligator during our Cajun Pride Swamp Tour.

Dinner at the Walnut Hills Restaurant in Vicksburg, Mississippi. We discovered that bread pudding is the standard dessert in New Orleans.

Barbara Stover, Candace Myers and Luann Griese ready to board the Steamboat Natchez in New Orleans.
June 17 - 19: "Gateway to the West" bus tour to St. Louis.

June 23: Thursdays at Courthouse Square. A 1000-mile Great Lakes Adventure. 6:30 p.m. Presented with the Berrien Springs Community Library.

July 7: Thursdays at Courthouse Square. Singer/songwriter Laura Whidden. Presented with the Berrien Springs Community Library. 6:30 p.m.

July 14: Thursdays at Courthouse Square. "Locomotives Along the Lakeshore: Railroads of Berrien County." 6:30 p.m.

July 21: Thursdays at Courthouse Square. Author/historian Chriss Lyon presents "A Killing in Capone's Playground." 6:30 p.m.

July 28: Thursdays at Courthouse Square. "Theodore Roosevelt & the American West." Presented with the Berrien Springs Community Library. 6:30 p.m.


October 15: Haunted St. Joseph Walking Tour. 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

October 27: Significant Event. An Evening with Eleanor Roosevelt. 6:30 - 9:00 p.m.

November 1: Kindle the Christmas Spirit. 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.

December 1: Kindle the Christmas Spirit. 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Non-Profit Org. U.S. Postage PAID Berrien Springs, MI PERMIT NO. 38

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED