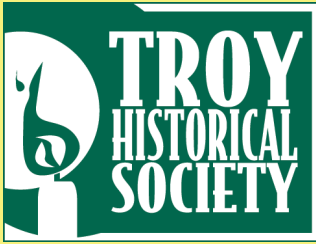


A worker builds a mortared fieldstone fireplace for the log cabin after it was moved to the Village, piece by piece, in 1982.

PROUDLY SPONSORED BY



THS News

All members are invited to the Annual Members Meeting and Ice Cream Social on Tuesday, September 24th from 6-8pm. We will enjoy an ice cream treat and catch up with each other at 6pm. This year we'll have Poppleton School and the Parsonage open for you to see the newly refinished floors and fresh interpretation. The business meeting will begin at 7pm.

Board Officers

Padma Kuppa

President

Kevin Enright

Vice President

Ken Meskin

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Sue Lavender

Kevin Lindsey

Beena Nagappala

Michael Nowosatko

JoAnn Preston

Cindy Stewart

Ex Officio

Jen Peters

Executive Director

Publishing Schedule

Spring: March - May

Summer: June - August

Fall: September -

November

Winter: December -

February

Enjoy your seasonal

Village Press!

THS received a \$12,000 Spring Michigan Humanities Council (MHC) Grant for the Indigenous Voices Program this fall. We are thrilled that MHC recognizes the importance of this program and will support bringing together our Indigenous partners this fall for all Troy 5th graders.

THS also received a \$9,000 Filmer Grant to support the Preservation Conversations program. This program focuses on historic preservation topics from individual buildings, architectural types and architects to the history of the preservation movement. The grant will enable us to continue this program for FREE to all THS members and expand it to community members.

Thank you to our Summer Raffle donors!

We offered over \$4000 in prizes through generous donations from: Karen Greenwood Coldwell Banker, Gran Castor, Crispelli's Bakery Pizzeria, Cooper's Hawk Winery, Oakland Hills Veterinary Hospital, USPBL Jimmy John's Field, Cranbrook Institute of Science, Blick Art Materials, Camp Ticonderoga, the Allison Family Foundation, Cranbrook Kingswood Educational Community, Troy Nature Society, English Gardens, Bordine's, Trevarrow Ace Hardware & Plumbing, SOCCRA, FACE Skincare-Medical-Wellness, Red Lotus Yoga, EcoNails, Antonino Salon, and Sylvan Glen!



Focus on Fund Development

New Membership Benefits for All Villagers!

This past summer, the Troy Historical Society's Fund Development Committee announced a Membership Program with new benefits that went into effect on July 1, 2024.

What are these new benefits? Villagers now have access to new Members Only events (like our behind-the-scenes Artifacts & Applications Tour in October, see page 14!), deeper discounts on programs and classes, 10% off Village Store merchandise, and the option to purchase a 2-year membership at a discounted rate.

Those who love history and travel might be interested in bumping up to either a Patron or Barnard Benefactor membership, as these levels now include access to museums all over the country through the North American Reciprocal Admission (NARM) program (visit <https://narmassociation.org/> for details).

We're also offering more membership levels—like our new Business Membership—so you can choose the one that's right for you.

The financial support generated by annual memberships and member support of programs and events form the basis for Village financial stability. Thank you for your membership, and we hope you enjoy these new benefits!



Executive Director...

Jen Peters

New History

This spring I was at a meeting with leaders from area historical societies and museums to discuss the exciting history the Birmingham Museum has been uncovering about the local Underground Railroad. They shared some of the stories and processes and have asked for us to participate in extending the research to our own geographical areas. Through their work, they've identified individuals across Oakland County who were freed people, involved in the abolition movement, or supported the Underground Railroad network. What struck me about the work was how they continue to return to the same research spaces (mainly online sites) as the resources continue to get updated. In other words, there's new history every day!

How is that possible? In this instance, we're finding new history every day as archives and libraries are able to digitize their information and make it more accessible. That includes everything from local newspapers and abolitionist circulars that might be tucked away at the local level, to various registers and records at the national level, and everything in between. As these files are scanned and uploaded in Washington DC or Oakland County, we are able to dive a little deeper and learn a little more without having to physically pull items from shelves or look in closets.

New scientific techniques enable us to study materials in new ways. Back in college I worked on several archaeological digs in Mexico where we took carbon samples from remnants of fire pits to more closely date our sites. This radiocarbon dating technique has only become more precise over the years. I also completed a project where pulverized

ceramics were used to identify the chemical composition of the clay used to make them. This analysis gave us a picture of where the clays were sourced and how production and trade changed as the Aztecs conquered local populations from the 1200s to the 1500s. Pollen analysis of archaeological sites can give us a picture of changing historical landscapes, and isotope analysis of teeth can tell us about the migration history of people... there's some very cool science out there!

But what am I currently the most excited about? The new history right here at the Village! Last spring we invited Dendroarchaeologist Zach Merrill to take samples of the Caswell, Old Troy Church, and Niles-Barnard buildings and last fall's Village Press gave an introduction to his work. He used core samples from the timbers to date the buildings by counting tree rings. You'll have to read on (see the article on pages 8-9) to find out the results, but the short answer is we now have a newest oldest building in the City of Troy!



Board Members Barbara Chambers and Ken Heck take a closer look at one of the Old Troy Church core samples taken by Zach Merrill.

Some people may look at a historic village and think if they've seen it once, they've seen it all. But that's just not

true! We are always discovering new history! As we work with Birmingham on research, we'll have new stories to tell and new insights into our community in the 1850s and 60s. As we dive deeper into what the dendroarchaeology results mean, we'll seek better interpretations of our buildings and a better understanding of Troy in the 1820s and 30s. We're also always looking at new ways to interpret our history in a way that impacts our visitors. On top of it all, we continue to work to make our spaces and our history more accessible. So, I encourage you to come back to the Village to see what's new! And while you're at it, bring a friend!



Address:

60 W. Wattles Rd.
Troy, MI 48098

Website:

www.troyhistoricvillage.org

Facebook:

[/troyhistvillage](https://www.facebook.com/troyhistvillage)

Village Critter Corner:

[/cheddarthevillagemouse](https://www.facebook.com/cheddarthevillagemouse)

Instagram:

[@troyhistvillage](https://www.instagram.com/troyhistvillage)

TikTok:

[@TroyHistoricVillage](https://www.tiktok.com/@TroyHistoricVillage)

Fall Hours:

Monday – Friday, 10am – 3pm

Select Saturdays & Sundays
for special events and rentals

Closed: Sept 2, Nov 28-29

Admission:

**Adults \$7, Seniors \$5,
Children 6-17 \$5
Children under 6 FREE
Troy Historical Society
Members FREE**

The Troy Historical Society engages the community and enables life-long exploration of history by sharing and preserving our stories, artifacts, and buildings through creative, meaningful experiences.

The Village offers accessible parking spaces and building entry. Visit TroyHistoricVillage.org/About/Accessibility for details about accessibility at our site.

The Axe: Humble, Capable & Necessary

by Mike Imirie, Wordsmith LLC

No two structures on the grounds of the Troy Historic Village are alike. All eleven demonstrate different purposes and represent various eras. But all have at least one important common denominator: they are constructed of wood, in part or completely. And at some point, that wood had to make the transition from natural timber to worked lumber.

But how? With help from...*the humble axe!*

Axes aren't new tools. They've been used by humans since the Stone Age. Archaeologists tell us that the first axes were made of stone, and that that material was followed by copper, and then bronze, and finally iron. In fact, it was the development of the iron-bladed felling axe during the Middle Ages which made possible vast forest clearances in Europe as well as North America. Axes featured prominently in furnishing shelter, in opening ground for cultivation, in supplying firewood for heat and even in providing personal protection. Some might conclude that the axe became the driving force behind both expansion and industry in our country.

Would you be surprised to learn that there are many types of axes? The ones we know best are used by lumberjacks for chopping trees, but there are also unique designs for roofers, miners, and carpenters, not to mention formidable weapons like the battleaxe.

There's even a so-called Michigan axe, a model which is frequently two-sided ("double bit") with a curved blade on one side and a thicker blade on the other. One blade is sharpened to a finely-honed, narrow edge for felling. The other is more blunt and better suited for attacking tree knots or cutting near the ground where a finely sharpened blade might be damaged.

While you and I can certainly be proud of our Michigan axe, axe types varied all over our country, reflecting distinct uses in local neighborhoods. Local axe types carrying names like Connecticut, Yankee, Hoosier, Long Island, and Dayton grew so numerous that, around 1920, axe makers came up with a *Standard Chart of Axe Patterns*, reducing the number of recognized varieties from 400 to just 40!

Used regularly and for energetic purposes, axes invariably wore out. Servicing them to extend useful life represented a key need. In old time Troy, where was such service available? The Troy Corners Blacksmith's shop, of course!

During the 1800s, blacksmith shops were as common and as important as gas stations are today. According

Red Ridge, Michigan Pattern Axe.
No. 35R2677 Red Ridge, Michigan pattern axe. This axe is handsomely finished in red with polished bit. In its manufacture a full portion of the best quality crucible steel is used. Each axe is carefully tempered by hand, is hand hammered and carefully inspected in every process of manufacture. The special bevel in this axe enables it to enter and leave the timber with the least possible resistance. Aside from this valuable feature, it is larger than the ordinary axe of the same weight, which makes it well balanced. Weight, 3, 3½, 3¾, 4, 4½ and 5 pounds. Price 44c

Red Ridge, Michigan Pattern Double Bit Axe.
No. 35R2678 Red Ridge, Michigan Pattern Double Bit Axe. Is made in like manner and finish as above. Weight, 3½, 3¾, 4, 4½ and 5 pounds. Price, each..... 66c

Red Ridge, Single Bit Handled, Michigan Pattern Axe.
No. 35R2679 Red Ridge, Single Bit Handled, Michigan Pattern Axe. Same as described above, with a good hickory handle, correctly put in. Weight, not including handle, 3½, 4 and 4½ pounds. Price... 56c

Ad for the Michigan Axe from the Sears Catalogue, ca. 1902



Axes on exhibit in our Blacksmith Shop

to the federal 1850 industrial census, the Township of Troy had 1 wagon maker, 1 cooper, and 5 blacksmiths. *Ours was one of them!* Through the 19th century, THV's working blacksmith shop was located at the intersection of present day Square Lake and Livernois. It dates back to before the Civil War and was a contributing community enterprise for decades.

Over time, the axe has lost much of its historic role. The death knell of the axe came in the later 1950s and early 1960s, when lightweight, efficient chain saws came to market. Notwithstanding, that formidable implement remains widely available today, with many purposes. Splitting axes, hatchets, sod axes, ice axes, and first responder fire axes continue to work hard in our world.

The axe may be humble, but it continues as an important symbol. All around the globe, it stands for hard work, honesty and simplicity. This time-honored tool continues to demonstrate both strength and utility, with wide appeal.

For all of these reasons, I maintain that—contrary to the name of that strange-sounding Michigan town at the tip of the Thumb—there really is no...**Bad Axe!**



Manual grindstones like this one in our Blacksmith's Shop kept Troy Township axes sharp



Hand-Hewn History

by Alex Konieczny, Troy Historic Village Youth Programs Director

As people who own old houses will tell you, they require constant maintenance. The buildings at the Village are no different. Running a site like the Village adds another level of complication because we are 21st-century people trying to keep buildings in a 19th-century style to the best of our ability. Sometimes that means finding the right antique lamp for a space, or looking through the Sherwin-Williams paint samples to match a paint color to the 1870s, and sometimes it means rolling up our sleeves and learning to do things the old-fashioned way because that's the best way to get what we need.

Last October, we observed that the beam over the back door of the wagon shop was rotting in the middle. You could stick a pencil into it in some places. I'm not a carpenter, but I've been told that's not ideal. Further complicating things, much of the structure of the Wagon Shop is made of hand-hewn beams, rotten one included. Popping in some fresh lumber from Home Depot would not do.

What's a hewn beam?

There are two main ways humans have processed trees into wood for building structures – you can saw it or you can *hew* it. Hewing is the process of making a round tree trunk into a square(ish) piece of lumber with axes. Using a plumb bob for vertical markings, and a chalk line for horizontal ones, you can lay out the dimensions of the beam you want and then chop carefully to those lines, making a surprisingly precise (if not totally flat) piece of wood. The result is a surface that is distinct – it looks like it was shaped by an axe.



Trees don't grow straight; I need to determine what "straight" is another way. A chalk line is the traditional method.



Timber dogs look like a big staple and hold the tree in place while you work. Village Blacksmith Rose made these for me.

Not every place has the infrastructure to support a sawmill and hewn beams can be produced quickly and economically with skilled hands. This practice is ancient. It also produces a great product. Because the hewer has total control over the way the beam is shaped, they can ensure it follows the strongest part of the tree, making the strongest beam. That isn't always a straight line; shipbuilding and architecture sometimes require curved beams and the strongest curved beam is one that a tree grows itself. Hewing can follow the natural curve of a branch, maintaining its strength.

“You do that old woodworking stuff...”

Where does a person get hewn beams in the 21st century? That's the problem with a lot of historic restoration—trying to find very specific things that haven't been widely produced for well over a century. Hewing used to be a fairly widespread skill, especially in rural areas. Most of the buildings at the Village are framed with hewn timbers, and the cabin is constructed almost entirely out of them. Unfortunately, the use of hewn timbers dropped off considerably in the 20th century and with it the skills associated with their production. While discussing this conundrum with Dennis, the City of Troy's Deputy Public Works Director, he pointed out that “you do that old woodworking stuff, you'll just do it.”

To be clear, the “old woodworking stuff” I do is more in the fine furniture department, rather than hacking away at a log. I did, however, understand the theory, and I’m always up for new challenges. I told him what I would need—a 10 ft tree trunk—and told him that if they got me such a thing, I would give it a try. Twenty minutes later, it was determined that an oak tree at the Village was dying and would need to come down anyway and that it was just about right for the job. A couple of weeks after that, I had a tree trunk waiting for me by the Cabin.

Doesn't that take a long time?

It took me a while. It was my first attempt and there were lessons learned. That’s half the fun. I didn’t keep track and occasionally had to stop to chat with people or do my real job, but I figure it took 12-14 hours, working a few hours at a time. People who are skilled in this can knock out a beam in no time. Henry David Thoreau wasn’t particularly skilled, and he described hewing the wood to build his cabin in a matter of a few weeks, and he “made no haste in [his] work.” People who do this a lot can go a good deal faster. “Typical” seems to be about three hours per log. With the right log and technique, I’ve heard accounts of people getting a 14’ rafter hewn in about 10 minutes. That’s faster than a historic sawmill.



After most of the material is removed, a bit of fine tuning and trimming back to the line is all that's left. The other side gets the same treatment, then rotate the log onto a flat side and repeat. You can see how flat and straight a log can be made, along with the tell-tale marks of a hand-hewn beam.

Working next to the cabin turned out to be a great location. Firstly, I wasn’t worried about the mess I was making – hewing produces a carpet of chips of varying sizes, which have since been used as mulch for our pioneer garden and as fire starter in the cabin. It was also a unique opportunity to show visitors, staff, and volunteers how the cabin was built. More than that though, it gave an opportunity to connect on some level with the people who built our cabin. Working in the shadow of the cabin, using the same tools and techniques to replicate work that was done 180 years ago gave me an appreciation for the people who were able to carve a life



There are a few methods for this. I selected one called “joggling”. Standing on the log, you chop down between your feet and make notches in the trunk every 12-16” then chop in from the side to pop off the wood between the notches. Cutting those notches severs the fibers and makes the rest about as easy as chopping wood sideways. Yes, I still have all my toes.

The takeaway

Working in the shadow of the cabin, using the same tools and techniques to replicate work that was done 180 years ago gave me an appreciation for the people who were able to carve a life



All done.

Telling Time with Trees: The Newest Oldest Building in Troy

by Jen Peters, Troy Historic Village Executive Director

A Village visitor might look around the Green and assume the Log Cabin is the oldest building. The hand-hewn beams are exactly what we visualize in the stories of the first Euro-American settlers in Michigan. But hiding underneath white clapboards, three buildings in the Village are older than the Cabin and at least as old as the State of Michigan: the Caswell House, the Old Troy Church, and the Niles-Barnard House. The stories of each of these buildings are woven into the history of Troy. We sometimes think that history is fixed, but a recent



The Johnson Niles house was already 100 years old in this image taken when the property was owned by the Hadden Family c.1930.

study of the timber framing of these buildings has revealed the newest oldest building in Troy!

Deeds, histories, and other records make us confident that the Caswell House was built in 1832 and the Old Troy Church in 1837, but the exact history of the Niles house was not as clear. According to *The History of Oakland County Michigan*, Johnson Niles's log house "had become a double building by the addition" to accommodate his trading-room and tavern somewhere around 1830, but we were doubtful that referred to his original 1822 log cabin. A more specific date of July 4th, 1837 was associated with Niles's hotel and tavern, but that was likely another building across the street from his family's home. To be safe, we had assigned the year 1837 to the Niles House and have continued to look for other methods of dating the building.

In 2023 we reached out to Zach Merrill of Superior Tree Rings to shed light on our question using dendrochronology—the study of tree rings. Having recently completed a project dating the McGulpin House on Mackinaw Island, we invited Zach to take core samples of the timbers in the Caswell House, Old Troy Church, and Niles-Barnard House to compare to each other and to well-established tree ring chronologies in southeast Michigan. While seemingly simple, the process of counting these tree rings requires skilled sampling, patient sanding to reveal the microscopic differences between rings, and a high-resolution scanner to take precise images. A specific software program then compares the unique tree ring timeline of each core to the established chronologies of several tree species. Using these methods to uncover information about buildings is often called dendroarchaeology because it uses the tree rings to tell us about human activity.

Zach took a total of 63 cores from the three buildings to better understand their history. In the Caswell House, 8 of 9 timbers sampled were white oak. Oak is an ideal species to study because it is very sensitive to drought which provides more variation within the tree rings for a better pattern to match up across established chronologies. This provided an exceptional chronology that positively tells us the trees used to build the house were cut down after the 1831 growing season (either the winter of 1831 or spring

of 1832). This result matches perfectly with the story we have in Solomon Caswell's diary, establishes a firm white oak chronology in Troy, and expands the southeast Michigan chronologies for further studies.

Only 2 of the 20 samples taken in the Old Troy Church were oak, making precise dating more problematic. Comparing them to the Caswell chronology, Zach was able to relatively date the Church timbers to the end of the 1836 growing season. Though not as strongly dated, it does again match up with an 1837 build date in the written record. The other 18 samples were mainly ash and slippery elm. These species are more difficult to date but do inform us that the area around the church where the trees were harvested was much swampier than the area around Caswell.

The primary goal of the study was to better understand the Niles-Barnard House. In particular, we wanted to establish a date and determine if it was built in one or two phases. Thirty-three samples were taken from all portions of the house; 22 of those were white oak and 12 of those were used to create a chronology. **The samples matched well to other regional samples and exceptionally well to the Caswell chronology, dating the Niles-Barnard house to 1826/27 and suggesting it was built in a single or near single phase.** That pushes the Niles house date back 10 years and establishes it as the oldest house still standing in Troy! It also suggests



Both archival materials and dendro-analysis positively date the Caswell house to 1832.



The History of Oakland County Michigan dates the Niles Hotel and Tavern to 1837. Located on the southeast corner of Square Lake and Livernois, the tavern was demolished in 1913.



that it was intended to be a home business from the very beginning. The Niles family might have inhabited the smaller 1 1/2 story wing, and used the two-story portion for Johnson's trading or mercantile business and as a tavern and inn.

We are excited to have these answers, even as they lead to more questions. For example, if the house was completed all at the same time, why are there three front doors? Perhaps it helped designate and separate private family life from a mercantile that was appropriate for anyone looking to buy or trade items from the tavern that might have been almost exclusively for men and travelers. Further exploration into businesses, laws, and social behavior in 1826 might help us support or reject that theory. In the end, we are always learning new history—even here at the Troy Historic Village!

Zack Merrill taking core samples from the Caswell House in 2023.

A History of Construction Found Around the Village

Stacked Log Construction

Log cabins like ours use a stacked log construction where timbers are laid horizontally on top of each other with the ends notched to create an interlocking support. A wide range of preparing (or not preparing) the logs and notches is used in this type of construction, from nearly raw timbers with just the bark removed to fully squared, hand-hewn logs. Historically, finishing varied widely; some cabins were simply chinked (material like clay was stuffed into the gaps between logs) while others had fully plastered interior walls and even clapboard siding. The stacked log cabin building method comes from several traditions including the Swedes, Germans, and Scots-Irish and it became popular along a frontier with ample timber resources as a quick method to build a home with very little skill.



The Log Cabin was moved from Monroe County to the Village in 1982. City of Troy staff reconstructed it on site.

Timber Framed Construction

Timber framed structures also use large beams, but unlike log cabins the timbers span open spaces that are filled with things like wattle and daub, brick, plaster, or other materials. Each beam is custom fitted by a skilled carpenter utilizing mortise and tenon joints secured by wooden pegs. Timber framing is not specific to a particular culture and was used regularly by the Middle Ages (about 500-1500 years ago) in construction around the world. Beam sizes varied based on supply and the availability of sawmills; on the frontier they would have been hand-hewn, but as production allowed they were built out of more regularly sized timbers. While many may think of a classic Tudor black and white timber framed building, often timber framing is hiding just below the clapboards and siding of houses and barns.



Recent preservation work on the Caswell House enabled us to get a peek into its timber framing. Here you can see corner bracing and the mortise-tenon-peg joints utilized in this building technique.

Balloon Framed Construction

Balloon framing got its name from how lightweight the structures looked, as if they would just float away. Beginning around 1830 and sometimes attributed to Chicago, it was a construction technique that enabled houses to go up quickly. In this construction, long vertical studs reach from a base plate to the roofline. Horizontal ledgers are attached to the stud to support and transfer the load to floor joists. Balloon framed construction is an innovation that came out of an availability of new, cheaper, and more standardized resources in the early to mid 1800s including dimensional lumber and wire-cut nails. With these supplies, builders could skip the time-consuming mortise and tenon joints and simply nail lighter weight studs together.



The Parsonage likely has balloon framed construction because it was built in the 1870s. This image shows the studs running from the foundation to the roofline. IMAGE: Omaha Reservation, Nebraska, 1877 © William Henry Jackson; The National Anthropological Archives, Smithsonian Institution

Platform Framed (modern) Construction

Around the 1940s and 50s platform framing became our preferred style of construction. Similar to balloon framing it utilizes dimensional lumber and wire nails, but each floor or level is built as its own unit. Vertical studs sit on a base sill and are topped by a plate; joists rest on the top plate, completing the platform. Additional floors can be added with another sill, studs, and top plate. One benefit of this construction is that each unit is contained and supported. In addition, walls can be fabricated off-site and dropped into place. Balloon framing is interconnected to a point of weakness. In a balloon framed home, a fire that starts in the basement quickly drafts all the way to the attic in the long stud cavities that are created. The individual platforms in modern construction the platforms block off each level.



The Village's General Store is a modern structure built in 1989 to represent the general store that was located at Troy Corners. The City of Troy utilized modern platform framing techniques as seen in this image for our structure

SEPTEMBER 2024

- Sept 2 **Labor Day: Village Closed**
- Sept 4 **Cheddar's Story Time** 10:30am
- Sept 5 **Thursday Walking Group** 6:00pm
- Sept 7-Oct 12 **Basic Blacksmithing Level 1 (Saturdays)** 10:00am
- Sept 8 **Constitution Café** 2:00pm
- Sept 10 **Pinot & Pizza Watercolor Night** 5:30pm
- Sept 11-Oct 16 **Basic Blacksmithing Level 1 (Wednesdays)** 6:30pm
- Sept 12 **Thursday Walking Group** 6:00pm
- Sept 14 **Fall Open House (free admission!)** 10:00am-3:00pm
- Sept 16 **Preservation Conversations** 2:00pm
- Sept 17 **Yoga & Wine Night** 6:00pm
- Sept 18 **Watercolor Class** 4:30pm
- Sept 19 **Fire & Flannel** 4:00pm-6:30pm
- Sept 19 **Thursday Walking Group** 6:00pm
- Sept 26 **Thursday Teas** 2:00pm
- Sept 26 **Thursday Walking Group** 6:00pm

OCTOBER 2024

- Oct 1-Oct 31 **Visit Scarecrow Row**
- Oct 3 **Thursday Walking Group** 6:00pm
- Oct 4 **Cheddar's Story Time** 10:30am
- Oct 7 **Pluralism in Practice Book Discussion** 7:00pm
- Oct 9 **Watercolor Class** 4:30pm
- Oct 10 **Archives & Applications: Members-Only Tour** 4:00pm or 5:00pm
- Oct 13 **Constitution Café** 2:00pm
- Oct 16 **Lunch and Learn: Planned Giving** 11:30am
- Oct 16 **Watercolor Class** 4:30pm
- Oct 17 **Thursday Walking Group** 6:00pm
- Oct 24 **Thursday Walking Group** 6:00pm
- Oct 25 **Trick-or-Treat: Superheroes** 4:00pm-8:00pm
- Oct 26 **Trick-or-Treat: Superheroes** 12:00pm-3:00pm
- Oct 28 **Preservation Conversations** 2:00pm
- Oct 30 **Watercolor Class** 4:30pm
- Oct 31 **Thursday Teas** 2:00pm

- Kids & Families
- Health & Wellness
- Adults & Seniors
- Artisan-led Class
- Community Events

NOVEMBER 2024

- Nov 6 **Cheddar's Story Time** 10:30am
- Nov 7 **Village Open Late** 4:00pm-8:00pm
- Nov 7 **Thursday Walking Group** 5:00pm
- Nov 10 **Constitution Café** 2:00pm
- Nov 13 **Watercolor Class** 4:30pm
- Nov 14 **Village Open Late** 4:00pm-8:00pm
- Nov 14 **Thursday Walking Group** 5:00pm
- Nov 21 **Thursday Teas** 2:00pm
- Nov 21 **Thursday Walking Group** 5:00pm
- Nov 25 **Preservation Conversations** 2:00pm
- Nov 28 **Thanksgiving Weekend: Village Closed**
- Nov 29 **Thanksgiving Weekend: Village Closed**

Long-time Villager Ward Randol passed away at age ninety on May 27th

He and Loraine Campbell first met in 1995 at the Stage Nature Center. When Loraine became the Village's director in 2000, Ward helped THS update their bylaws. He then joined the Board as their pro bono attorney and remained a Trustee until 2021.



Ward also worked with a special fundraising committee that moved the church and parsonage, restored the Church's stained glass windows, purchased the steeple, church bell, and pews.

The group then purchased properties next to the Village and raised funds to move Niles-Barnard House. When the City planned to close the Village in 2010, Ward drafted the Renewable Agreement whereby THS now operates the Village.

Ward was always a generous donor, advisor, and willing volunteer. His generosity, legal skills, and gentlemanly manner will be remembered by staff and volunteers.

Please consider a donation to the Troy Historical Society in his memory.



FALL KIDS & FAMILY PROGRAMS AT THE VILLAGE



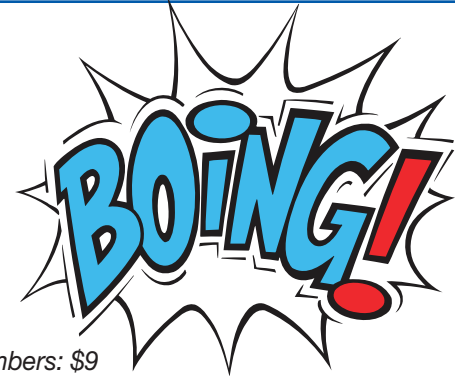
Trick-or-Treat: Superheroes

Friday October 25, 4pm – 8pm &
 Saturday October 26, 12pm – 3pm

In advance: THS Members: \$5; Non-Members: \$9

At the door: THS Members: \$7; Non-Members \$10

It's a bird...it's a plane!... it's Superhero Trick-or-Treat! Fly on over to the Village for some super trick-or-treating adventures. Enjoy superhero decorations, games like Thor's Hammer Toss, Hulk's Brick Wall Smash, and Web Swing, as well as a superhero-themed craft. Fill your bag with candy and trinkets including teal pumpkin options at each stop. As always, Village trick-or-treating is friendly, not scary. Register in advance at www.TroyHistoricVillage.org for reduced admission.



Free Fall Open House

Saturday September 14 | 10am-3pm | All Ages | Free

Enjoy the Village free of charge! Tour the historic buildings, try out our smartphone app, look for Cheddar the Village Mouse, and try our Village scavenger hunt. Learn about our fun family programs coming up this fall.



Village Open Late

November 7 & 14 | 4pm-8pm | Free with admission

The Village will be open late, and the Villagers will be at work! History Interpreters will tend to chores around the cabin, getting ready for winter. Come explore the Village and see what our pioneers are up to! Scavenger hunts will be available for kids. Visitors are welcome to bring a picnic dinner to eat on the Village green or at one of our picnic tables. The Village will be open from 10am-8pm, and History Interpreters will be working around the cabin from 4pm-8pm.





Scarecrow Row

This October, stroll along Wattles and Livernois to see the creative ‘crows made by talented Village volunteers and staff from local businesses. The scarecrows are outside the fence, so you can visit them for free any time – even if the Village is closed!

Cheddar’s Preschool Story Time

Select Wednesdays, 10:30 am Ages 2-5 accompanied by an adult

THS Members: \$5/child, \$3/adult

Non-members: \$7/child, \$5/adult

Join Cheddar the Village Mouse and Mrs. Laura for story time! This monthly program for preschool-aged kids features stories, games, activities, songs, crafts, and snacks that connect with each month’s theme. Themes, stories, and activities are carefully chosen to be age-appropriate and help kids have fun while they develop skills and learn about the world around them.

Sponsored by Troy Women’s Association.

- **Wednesday September 4: Grow, Gather, Munch**

This month’s book: *Muncha! Muncha! Muncha!* by Candace Fleming
 Wear something green or that has fruit, veggies, or farm tools on it. We will play a memory game with fruit and veggie cards, look at farming artifacts, plant a small plant to take home, and do other fun harvest activities. Our snack will be fruit and veggies to munch on with dip.

- **Friday October 4: Crows, Crows, Go Away**

This month’s book: *The Scarecrow’s Hat* by Ken Brown
 It’s all about Scarecrows! Join us as we do fall activities like acorn math, sorting paper leaves, using harvest sewing cards, playing with playdough, and making a scarecrow craft. Pretzels and applesauce will be our snack. Plan to visit the Village scarecrows on Scarecrow Row before you leave! Please note: this program takes place on *Friday*.

- **Wednesday November 6: People Who Love Me**

This month’s book: *Bunny Cakes* by Rosemary Wells
 We will be looking at pictures of families long ago, making a thankful pie craft out of paper plates, doing more acorn math, and some imaginative play baking. Everyone will receive a friendship bracelet to take home.



Scouts and Homeschools

The Village offers great programs for Scouts, Homeschools, and other small groups. Book a program to work on merit badges, get some hands-on help with curriculum, or just have a fun outing together. Check our website to see the current offerings, and to book a program. Programs can be scheduled outside of our typical open hours, including weekends and evenings.

FALL ADULT & SENIOR PROGRAMS AT THE VILLAGE

Archives & Applications: Members-Only Tour

Thursday October 10, 4pm-5:30pm or 5pm-6:30pm
THS Member: \$10

Go behind the scenes to see how staff used artifacts and stories to redesign rooms in the Village Parsonage. Learn why we chose to move the house forward in time, staging it to look as it might have in the 1920s. You'll visit spaces that are normally closed to the public, such as our Archives. This tour is open to Troy Historical Society Members only. Become a member! Visit TroyHistoricVillage.org/support/membership or call 248-524-3570.



Pinot & Pizza Watercolor Night

Tuesday September 10, 5:30-8pm

THS Member: \$50, Non-Member: \$58 | Ages 21+

Capture the beauty of the sandhill crane in watercolor, using a mix of pretty grays and reds along with

a stunning green/gold/blue background. We'll have pizza and wine during this class, too!

Yoga & Wine Night

Tuesday September 17, 6pm
Tickets: \$20/person | Ages 21+

Join us for an outdoor yoga class from 6:00-7:00pm led by Explore Yoga studio, followed by a glass of wine or sparkling cider, light appetizers, and a chance to mingle while touring the Village. Bring your mat and register in advance as space is limited.



Thursday Teas

2pm | THS Member: \$10, Non-Member: \$15

Join us on select Thursdays each month for history talks led by guest presenters or Village staff on a variety of topics. Sponsored by Oakmont Manor and Oakmont Sterling.



- **September 26: When Detroit Played the Numbers**
- **October 31: Michigan Haunts: Public Places, Eerie Spaces**
- **November 21: Unintended Consequences: Submerged Settlements of Lake St. Clair**



Lunch and Learn

Presented by The Cook Group of Merrill Lynch

Wednesday October 16, 11:30am – 2pm
THS Member: FREE, Non-Member: \$10

Join us for lunch and a financial seminar on planned giving and tax benefits for your current and long-term arrangements. Presented by The Cook Group of Merrill Lynch and the Troy Historic Village Fund Development Committee.

Pluralism in Practice Book Discussion

Monday October 7, 7pm | FREE

Join Troy-area Interfaith Group (TIG) in discussing the Troy and Hamtramck case studies from *Pluralism in Practice: Case Studies of Leadership in a Religiously Diverse America* by Elinor J. Pierce (Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books, 2023). TIG Co-Founder and former State Representative Padma Kuppa and City of Troy Police Chaplain and former TIG Convener Rev. Dr. Bob Cornwall will discuss how we build community by engaging our religious diversity and promoting pluralism.

FIRE & FLANNEL

Presented by: **DAVEY**
Proven Solutions for a Growing World

Join the Troy Chamber & Troy Historic Village for an evening of live music entertainment, bourbon tastings, networking, s'mores, yard games, a blacksmith station, & more!

troy Chamber of Commerce **Sept. 19th | 4-6:30 PM** **TROY HISTORIC VILLAGE** where history lives

Preservation Conversations

Select Mondays, 2pm | THS Member: FREE, Non-Member: \$7

Do you enjoy old houses, good stories, and great places to visit locally and nationally? Come join the conversation as we learn more about preserving and utilizing our historic assets!

Presented by the Phillip & Elizabeth Filmer Memorial Charitable Trust.

- **September 16: Saving Places: The Story of Tawas Point Lighthouse**
- **October 28: Troy's Oldest Buildings**
- **November 25: Topics in Preservation**

Constitution Cafés

Select Sundays, 2pm | FREE

Utilizing the Socratic Method of inquiry, engage in civil discourse to explore different aspects of the Constitution each month.

Sponsored by the Oakland County Bar Foundation.



- **September 8: Amendment XVII: The popular election of Senators!**
- **October 13: Amendment XVIII: Prohibition!**
- **November 10: Amendment XIX: Women are granted the right to vote!**

Thursday Walking Group

Thursdays, 6pm in September & October | 5pm in November FREE

Weekly walks cover a variety of scenic 1.5-3 mile routes in or around Troy. Program is free, and all ages and levels of fitness are welcome! For meeting locations, route details, or to sign up for our email list, visit TroyHistoricVillage.org/programs/walking-group/. Sponsored by the Troy Community Foundation.



Watercolor Classes

Select Wednesdays | 4:30-6:30pm | THS Member: \$40/class
Non-member: \$48/class | Ages 16 & up

Artist and art teacher Megan Swoyer guides students in using a variety of watercolor techniques to create colorful summer scenes. No experience is necessary; all supplies will be provided. Class begins at 4:30pm sharp, please make sure to arrive on time and put your cell phone on silent.

- **September 18: Pansies & Blanket Flowers**
- **October 9: Just Peachy!**
- **October 16: Pure Michigan Lighthouse**
- **October 30: Autumn Nuthatch**
- **November 13: Home for Thanksgiving**

Basic Blacksmithing Level 1

THS Member: \$310 or Non-member: \$360

Saturdays September 7 – October 12, 10am-12:30pm

Wednesdays September 11 – October 16, 6:30-9pm

Learn 12 basic hand-forging techniques as you make your own trowel. Ages 12 & up. No prerequisite. Please note: You must attend all six classes. In particular, the first class includes vital safety information. *Missing the first class or any of the other classes forfeits your place in the Blacksmithing Class and you will not be refunded.*

For more Blacksmithing classes

visit TroyHistoricVillage.org/about/blacksmithing-classes/



Become a Villager Today!

Support quality, engaging education for all ages and enjoy:

- FREE Admission to the Village
- Discounts on Village programs
- 10% discount on your Village Gift Shop purchases
- "Members Only" Tours for new and existing members
- The option to purchase a discounted two-year membership
- Quarterly Village Press and regular news updates
- An invitation to the Annual Members Meeting and Ice Cream Social

YES! I want to be a Villager. Please process my Troy Historical Society membership at the following level:

- \$35/one year \$60/two years Individual Membership**
One adult 18 or older
- \$55/one year \$90/two years Household Membership**
Up to 6 adults and/or children
- \$150/one year \$250/two years Patron Membership**
Up to 6 adults and/or children
Additional benefits include:
- 4 tickets to the Annual Barnard Bash Donor Event
 - North American Reciprocal Museum (NARM) Membership
- \$350/one year \$600/two years Barnard Benefactor**
Up to 10 adults and/or children
Additional benefits include Patron-level plus:
- 20% discount on the base rate of any Village Rental
- \$1000 one year Business Membership**
Call us today for more information!

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

The quarterly Village Press Newsletter will be emailed to you unless you check this box

Already a Villager?

I would like to make an additional donation to the Troy Historic Village. Please put \$ _____ towards the general fund to support preservation and programs at the Village.

Payment Options:

- Enclosed Check / Check # _____
- Call the Village at 248-524-3570 or visit www.troyhistoricvillage.org/membership to pay by credit card

Return completed form & payment to:
60 W. Wattles Road, Troy, MI 48098
Make checks payable to: Troy Historical Society

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