FRIENDS OF THE **RAY TOWNSHIP** LIBRARY & HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The Back Shelf

RAY TOWNSHIP, MACOMB COUNTY, MICHIGAN JANUARY 2023 ISSUE XV

BOOKMARK 2023

Thurs, Feb 23rd 6:00pm

Friends of the Library & Historical Society Meeting

Thurs, April 20th 7:00pm Camp Anderson by Ron Novak

May TBD



Indian Trail Cleanup

Thurs, May 4th 6:00pm

Friends of the Library & Historical Society Meeting

June

Silent Auction in the Library

Thurs, Aug 13th 6:00pm

Friends of the Library & Historical Society Meeting

Thurs, Nov 9th 6:00pm

Friends of the Library & Historical Society Meeting

LOST BOY SCOUT CAMP DISCOVERED



Ron Novak, former member of Boy Scout Troop 118 at Detroit's Stellwagen Elementary School, will share his

memories of the troop's private Ray Township campsite, Camp Anderson, at 7:00 pm on Thursday, April 20th in the Ray Township Community Center. This hour-long travel in time will explore the artifacts and history he unearthed. Register at raylibrary.org/calendar/events.

PROCTER CEMETERY

In August 2022, our Society hired Stonehugger Cemetery Restoration Co. to level, repair, and clean twenty-five monuments and twenty-four tablets. They also discovered and restored Seamons Fillmore's original tablet from 1843 buried beneath his monument.

This \$21,000 project was possible with a \$7,675 grant from the Four County Community Foundation, a \$3,000 donation from the Township of Ray, and many donations and fundraisers supported by our community.

The project also includes two binders with before

and after images of all the work completed, as well as information engraved on each marker. These binders preserve the information about our early Ray Township settlers. Community Foundation





RAY TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL OFFICES SENIOR CENTER AND LIBRARY

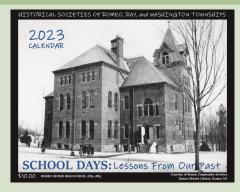
PHASE 3 & BEYOND

This year, members will survey Procter Cemetery to determine which stones need professional restoration, as many stones are sinking and overgrown with grass. In addition, we will purchase supplies for cleaning some markers.

Our 2023 goals also include making a secure plastic display case for the blacksmith shop model, framing the 1910 Macomb County map, and updating our website, which will be hosted by the Library. This will save time, money, and effort for our Society members and Library staff when posting events/info. Contact us if you have expertise or interest in helping on these projects.



64255 Wolcott | Ray Township | Michigan 48096 <u>RayLibrary.org/RayHistory</u> | info@rayhistory.org | 586.749.7130 The Society was formally organized in 2005 as a nonprofit 501(c)3 organization and added support of the Library in 2015. Our mission is to engage passionate individuals to enrich cultural experiences, enhance literary and educational opportunities, and enliven history.



MONTH SPONSORS

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Nightingale's Auto Tech & Tire
Romeo Family Restaurant
Timberwood Golf Club

Our 2023 Calendar, SCHOOL DAYS: LESSONS FROM OUR PAST, is selling quickly. A few copies can still be found at the Ray Township Public Library, Ray Township Offices, Jarvis Accounting, Jarzyna Farms Fine Meats & Deli, and KO Music Studio.

BUSINESS SPONSORS

Aaron Swift Plumbing Ray Twp. Treasurer Betsy Bart Commissioner Don Brown Coon Creek Bar & Grill Farm Bureau Insurance Grid Logic – Matthew Holcomb Harry's Collision Service Jarvis Restoration - Jason Lascoe Jarzyna Farms Fine Meats & Deli Keller Associates - Al Keller Kowality Konstruction Ray Twp. Clerk Lori Lascoe Love Long Beaded Gifts Macomb County Republican Party Representative Terence Mekoski Memphis Historical Society RJD Gallery - Richard J. Demato Rocks 'n' Roots Arlene P. Shy Washington Elevator



Preserved by
Friends of Ray Township
Library & Historical Society
Info@RayHistory.org

A few years ago, our then vice-president, Camille Grabb, suggested we install a sign on the Ray Township Public Library building to let the community know the Society's archives preserved inside. With the help of Stephanie Christy from the Library, this became a reality in 2022. Other Library staff, including Mary and Melissa, are helping the Society redesign our website and scan archives. We thank them for their time, talents, and inspiration.

Our 2022 Silent Auction in the Library raised \$2,108 including \$235 from four beautiful quilts donated by Vicki Heine. She was gracious enough to donate another three quilts for our silent auction during Elf Night at the Library. Thank you to everyone for participating in our fundraising activities.



\$48.84

\$839.17

community

rewards

Bottle Returns \$171.40 @Barns 2022 Calendar \$1,108.00