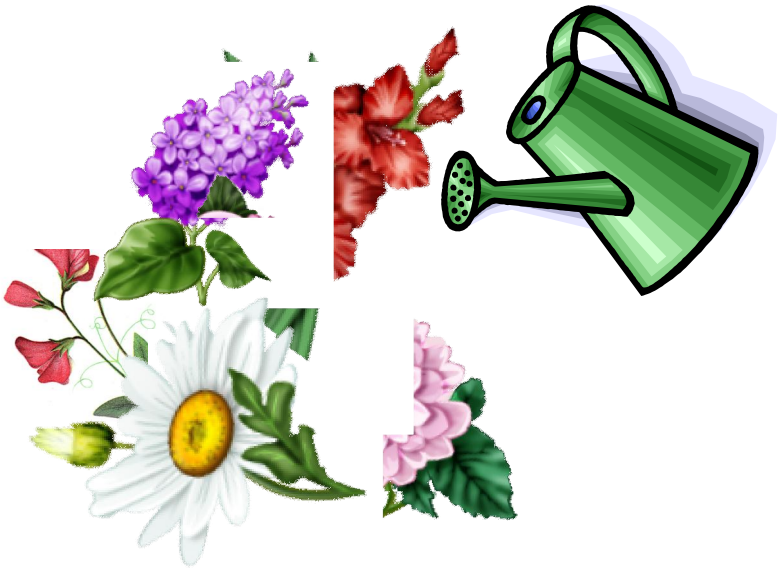
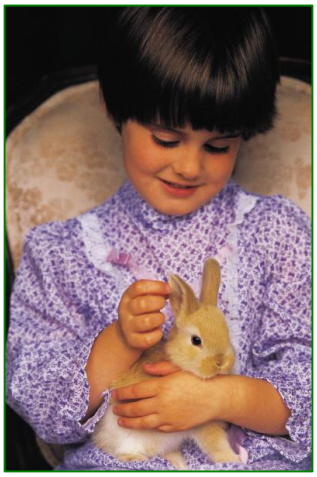
WINDOW TO THE PAST

A Publication of the Trenton Historical Society March 2011



Think Spring



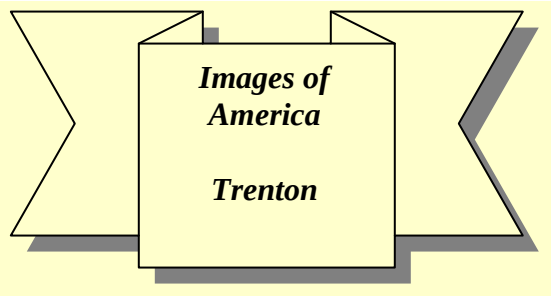
- E-Mail
- "Images of America – Trenton"
- Trenton Historical Tidbits
- War Monument Dedication
- Trenton Historical Museum

MORE…… …… INSIDE

The Trenton Historical Society has gone "hi-tech" and is now able to e-mail copies of its Newsletter to all members. The use of this technology amounts to a substantial savings on the budget.

If you would like your copy e-mailed to you, please forward your e-mail address to: Carol Hendricks at carol.ann.hendricks@gmail.com. Please note that we **WILL NOT** give your e-mail address to anyone; it is strictly for the THS Newsletter.

In addition, you can now read the THS quarterly newsletter at trentonhistoricalsociety.org



Well it looks like the Trenton Historical Society has a tentative contract with Arcadia Publishing for a new book on Trenton, called "Images of America – Trenton". The last books on Trenton were published in 1986 and 1983.

This is just one of many books published by local historical societies and libraries such as St. Ignace, Grosse Ile, Alma, Birmingham, Crystal Lake, Wyandotte and Detroit

The Images of America books celebrate the history of neighborhoods, towns, and cities across the country. Using archival photographs it presents the distinctive stories from the past that shape the character of the community today.

The Trenton Historical Society would really appreciate any photographs, maps, and/or stories that you may have to be included in this book along with proper accreditation. We will scan the images and return the originals to you. Please contact either Carol Hendricks at carol.ann.hendricks@gmail.com or Linda Mierzejewski at lindajm507@gmail.com . We are looking forward to hearing from you.

NEW THS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

At a general meeting held on January 16, 2011, a new Board of Director Officers was ratified.

- Carol Hendricks President
- Sharleen Stack Vice President
- RandiLynn Owen Olson Secretary
- John Holmes Treasurer

New Committees are being formed and programs for the public for 2011 are being considered.

One thing that is on the Historical Society's wish list for 2011 are volunteers to help organize the Archive room, located at Trenton High School. Due to the generosity of Trenton families, businesses and organizations, there are many papers, photographs, maps and more to be organized.

We also need help with photographing and logging all of the tombstones located in Trenton local cemeteries, fundraising, and anything else that would be of great help. If you would like to volunteer any free time, please contact Carol Hendricks at carol.ann.hendricks@gmail.com or call (734) 676-4375.

Your help in preserving Trenton's historic treasurers will be greatly appreciated.

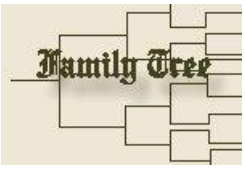
Thank You

A special thank you goes out to **Pauline Arthurs**, for her many years of service as President and active member of the Trenton Historical Society. Pauline remains an active member of the Trenton Historical Society and its Board of Directors. Pauline, we couldn't have done it without you.

Also a special thank you to **Cris Howe** who presented the Trenton Historical Society's Genealogy 101 or Genealogy for Dummies©, on January 16, 2011. Over 20 people attended the program and many questions were answered and many problems solved.

NEED HELP WITH GENEALOGY?

We are still holding genealogy sessions at the Trenton Library on the **1st Tuesday of the month from 6:00 pm to 8:30 pm** and on the **4th Saturday of the month from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm.** Come and join us. The library has ancestry.com (library addition) on their computers for your use. We also have many books and members of the Trenton Historical Society will be on hand for help and guidance.



TRENTON HISTORICAL TIDBITS

Trenton's Cemeteries

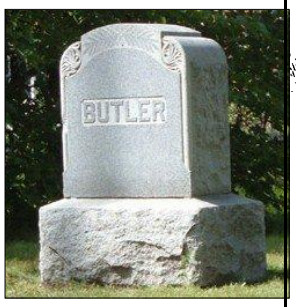
There are three cemeteries located in Trenton, Michigan. They are:

- Bloomdale Cemetery;
- Butler Cemetery; and the
- Old Burial Ground.

The Bloomdale Cemetery, located at 721 King Road, Trenton, Michigan has had every headstone photographed and information is being entered to update existing entries. You can search for names of those buried there at trentonhistoricalsociety.org

BENJAMIN SANDERS 1848 ~ 1941

The second cemetery in Trenton is the **Butler Family Cemetery** which was deeded to the City of Trenton by the Butler family. The cemetery is located in Affholter Park between Grange and Pinetree. There are approximately 10 graves. The oldest grave is that of George Butler, 1803-1875, who emigrated from England.



The last cemetery in Trenton is the **Old Burial Ground**. In 1849 Giles Slocum and Sophia Truax Slocum deeded the land to be held in trust to the Odd Fellow Lodge #33. In 1867 it was deeded to the Masonic Lodge F. & A.M. In 1918 the deed was transferred to Monguagon Township. Many families purchased lots there and Civil War Veterans are buried there along with Trenton's first doctor. Fifty-two of the early family members were later exhumed and re-buried in Woodmere Cemetery in Detroit and Bloomdale Cemetery in Trenton. The cemetery was also known as the Odd Fellow cemetery, the Masonic Cemetery and the Walnut Street Cemetery. A marker commemorating this locale is located on the corner of West Jefferson and Walnut Street in Trenton.

AND AS LONG AS WE'RE ON THE SUBJECT……

GRAVESTONE GENEALOGY

Harry Edsel Smith, Albany, New York
Born 1903 – Died 1942
Looked up the elevator shaft to see if the car was on its way down. It was.

Jonathan Pease, Nantucket, Massachusetts, 19880s
Under the sod and under the trees
Lies the body of Jonathan Pease.
He is not here, there's only the pod;
Pease shelled out and went to God.

Jonathan Fiddle, Hartcombe, England
On the 22nd of June
Jonathan Fiddle
Went out of tune.

Margaret Daniels, Hollywood Cemetery, Richmond, Virginia.
She always said her feet were killing her.
But nobody believed her.

TRENTON WAR MONUMENT PROJECT

In 1996 the Veterans Memorial Committee established a memorial recognizing all veterans at the Trenton Veterans Memorial Library.

The purpose of the War Monument Committee is to enhance the current memorial site, both inside and outside of the library.

On May 28, 2011 the new granite monuments as well as the interior enhancements in the library will be dedicated after the Trenton Memorial Day Parade. To find out more information about this project, with many pictures, you may visit the City of Trenton website at www.trentonmi.org

If you are the descendant of a Trenton Veteran killed in any war from the Spanish American War through Viet Nam, please e-mail carol.ann.hendricks@gmail.com

TENTATIVE 2011 PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS

The Trenton Historical Society is working to develop interesting and learning ideas for quarterly programs. Some of the tentative programs for 2011 include:

- Genealogy 101 (January 16, 2011);
- War of 1812;
- Genealogy 102 and beyond;
- To be determined.

The THS would like the "to be determined" program ideas to come from our members. Please e-mail your program ideas to Linda Mierzejewski at lindajm507@gmail.com. Unfortunately there is no prize (see need for membership dues below) however, we will definitely thank you personally in our next newsletter.

MEMBERSHIP DUES

Membership dues for the Trenton Historical Society were due on January 1, 2011. If you haven't already signed up for this year, here's your chance.

- Just write a check (Family Membership is a great savings); and
- Mail it to:

  Trenton Historical Society
  PO Box 596
  Trenton, MI 48183

See if your friends and relatives wish to join also. **THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT.**

TRENTON HISTORICAL MUSEUM

It's a "spring" Saturday in Michigan. It's cold, rainy (or maybe snow) and there's nothing on TV. What do you do?

Visit the Trenton Historical Commission's historic home built in 1881 by John and Sarah Moore.

The museum is decorated in the Victorian period and contains information on the history of Trenton and artifacts of the area.

It later years the building faced demolition which was resolved by the directors of the Peoples Bank agreeing to sell the building and immediate grounds to the City of Trenton for continued use as the Trenton Historical Museum. In 1987 there was a major restoration assisted by a $12,000 State Grant.

The Museum is open on Saturdays from 1 to 4 pm (except January and August).

You can check it out on the Trenton Historical Society's website at www.trentonhistoricalsociety.org

WELCOME

Historical Society would like to welcome Peter Poulos as a new Board Member. Peter is the Senior Director of Communications & Sales at the Detroit Historical Society. Peter is a new member of the Trenton Historical Commission, which runs the Trenton Museum. He has a lot on his plate. Welcome Peter.

ONE LAST NOTE

The Trenton Historical Society is in dire need of funds for the following projects:

- Restoration of Trenton High School graduating class composite pictures from early 1920s through the early 1960s
- Reels of programs from Owen School transferred from film to DVD
- 1940 era events from film to DVD
- Purchase of archival binders and archival photo protectors in various sizes for miscellaneous Trenton High School photos, donated by the Trenton Board of Education.

- Provide annual subscription of ancestry.com for the Library.

In order to raise these much needed funds, the Trenton Historical Society is thinking about having some "fantastic fundraisers" which may include:

- Victorian Tea and Etiquette;

- "Got History?" T-shirts for sale at the Mid-Summer Festival;

Sample. Design to be Determined

- Halloween Victorian Funeral;

- Trenton Antique Road Show.

Bring a favorite antique to be appraised by a certified dealer;

- Spooky Halloween Historic Scavenger Hunt;

Tour the local grave yards while looking for clues.

- Historic Trenton Cookbook with favorite local recipes;

Please e-mail your favorite or any other fundraiser ideas you may have to lindajm507@gmail.com.

Of course, all fundraisers need volunteers. Please let us know if you are interested in helping.

TRENTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Carol Hendricks
Mary Ellen Wiber
John Holmes
Peter Poulos
Randi Lynn Owen Olson
Evelyn Chekan
Bill Olson
Sharleen Stack
Pauline Arthurs

---------- *Please tear off and return.* ----------

We appreciate your support in helping preserve Trenton's history.

TRENTON HISTORICAL SOCIETY
P.O. BOX 596, TRENTON, MI 48183

The Trenton Historical Society is a non-profit corporation registered by the State of Michigan

2011 MEMBERSHIP

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ **State** _____ **Zip** _____ **Phone** _____

E-mail Address: _____

Student…. $ 5.00 Adult…$10.00 Family…$15.00
Contributing…$25.00+ Business…. $25.00+ Patron… $50.00+

The Trenton Historical Society is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation. Contributions are tax-deductible.