



MILL RACE QUARTERLY

57
Years

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Fall 2021/Winter 2022

Martha's Musings

by Martha Michalak, NHS President

Annual Member Meeting 2021

What a lovely night we had! On October 21st, we held our Annual Member Meeting at the New School Church. We enjoyed wine, boozy coffees, appetizers and desserts under a tent in front of the church, before moving inside for the business part of the evening.

We also honored the group who brought us the repair of the trash rack that got the waterwheel spinning again. This was a labor of love and it literally took a village.

Those honored included Chuck Lapham (posthumously), the Chuck Lapham family, Rick Cox of R & D Land Development, and the NHS Executive Director, Leanie Bayly. All played a part in this successful mission.

We approved the 2022 budget and the 2022 board of directors, as well as offering a heartfelt thank you to all those who volunteer at the Village.

A special shout out to Fred Shadko for his wonderful video presentation that played throughout the social hour, and to the members of the Stone Gang and the board who helped put up and take down the tent for this event.



Hand crafted Waterwheel Award by Mike DeFrancesco

2021 Draws to a close...

As another year draws to an end, we have a lot to be thankful for at the Village.

We were able to host a variety of events in 2021 – from Village Valentines in February to Marie Antoinette's 266th Birthday Cake Sale in November, and everything in between. We are delighted that our membership shares in our sense of fun and shows up to support these unique events.

And we aren't finished yet! We have the 2nd Annual Festival of Trees and Christmas in the Village coming up on December 3rd and 4th. The Festival of Trees will stay up through Christmas, so please make plans to stroll through the village and appreciate the hard work of our tree sponsors.

It is with real gratitude that I say thank you to our members and I look forward to next year's adventures with you at Mill Race Village.

Happiest of Holidays to all of you!



Above: Rick Cox and Leanie Bayly receive Waterwheel awards.



Below: The family of Chuck Lapham accept his posthumous recognition from Bill Stockhausen.

NHS Honors 2021 Gold Key Award Recipients: Marilyn Breuhan and Fred Shadko

by Leanie Bayly, NHS Executive Director

Annually, the Northville Historical Society selects members to honor for their long history and dedication in service to our mission. During the October 21 Annual Meeting, the 2021 Gold Key Awards were presented to two outstanding individuals, Marilyn Breuhan and Fred Shadko.

Marilyn Breuhan, serving as a Sunday Docent during our open season, has faithfully participated almost every Sunday, making all the difference as we have navigated the added pressures of maintaining our beloved program through a global pandemic.

Marilyn's immense talents have varied widely from participating in gardening, hand stitching period appropriate window coverings for the Hunter Home and the Weavers' Cottage, and creating unique educational nature displays for the Wash Oak School. She also has taken the time to create many holiday displays while reinterpreting the Hunter Home's holiday spirit and contributing a "spooktacular" maze to the most recent Halloween Hysteria event.



Flanked by NHS President Martha Michalak and Executive Director Leanie Bayly, Marilyn Breuhan receives the Gold Key Award.

She and her husband Ron, were the inspiration behind the recent remodeling of the Cady Kitchen, much to the delight of our rental clients and especially our Tea Committee volunteers!

Fred Shadko is not only a good friend to the Northville Historical Society, but a local Northville icon! Many of you will know Fred through the various aspects of his illustrious career as he has fought for justice and preservation of our local historic heritage. Armed with a plethora of camera equipment, along with the patience of Job, this one-man video production crew has captured and recorded history in the making.

If you are not familiar with Fred's accomplishments, he has produced Northville Historical Society's Year in Review video presentations for several years. He has also been the key videographer responsible for capturing the talent presented at the NHS Cemetery Walks.

Please join us as we celebrate these two unique members' contributions with the well-deserved honor receiving the 2021 Northville Historical Society's Gold Key Award.



Fred Shadko faces the membership as he receives his award.

History Moment by Hugh Jordan

On porch, left to right: Jean Johnson, Ruth Starkweather.

**On sidewalk: William Alderfer, Solan Weeks, Edmund P. Yerkes.
November 7, 1973**



Early Historical Society efforts: A bus loaded with fruit to raise funds to save "the Fruits of our Labor".



A Quacking Good Time at the Duck Race & Victorian Sunday

by Maria Simonte

We've heard some people say that the Duck Race is the best day of the year, and this year's event delivered on that claim! With a record setting 505 ducks sold this year, there seemed to also be a record setting number of people at Mill Race Village enjoying all the Victorian Sunday activities leading up to the race. Activities included games and crafts for the kids, a cupcake walk, performances by the Northville High School a cappella groups Back Beat and Treblemakers and the strolling singers, The Caroling Belles. A take-away tea was offered with iced tea made with the Mill Race Village signature blend, boxed home-made sweets and Guernsey ice cream cups. Keeping with tradition, the annual ceremony and parade kicked off the duck race and led spectators through the Village to the riverbanks, where the high school singers performed the Star-Spangled Banner. The loud bang of the starting gun signaled the Duck Handlers to release the ducks into the river for the spirited race. The winning ducks, best named duck and last place duck were all recognized at a post-race presentation. Hope to see you all at the 33rd Annual Duck Race next September!



Entertainment and refreshments are always abundant on the day of the Annual Duck Race.

Dignitaries lead the parade as wranglers carry the ducks to their point of entrance into the river for the great race.

Duck owners line the river to root for their favorites.



Bottom right: Duck Race Chairperson, Andrea Johanson is joined by her husband, Morton Chalom and daughter, Jennifer Chalom.



Halloween Hysteria Fun for All

by Maria Simonte

It was a B00-tiful day at Mill Race Village for Halloween Hysteria on Sunday, October 10. Hundreds of kids in costumes brought their families along to go trick or treating through the Village, play games and do art projects.

For entertainment, there was Ming the Magician, a fortune teller, a maze to run through and “The Legend of Sleepy Hollow” story time in the gazebo.

Each child received a home-made Frankenstein Rice Krispie treat as a favor.

Many thanks to the Northville Art House for running the art activity, the Northville District Library for story time, Northville High School National Honor Society members for volunteering at the event and for all the volunteers who made the event a great success.



Teen Librarian, Natalie Molnar reads The Legend of Sleepy Hollow.



Northville Honor Society student running the ring toss game.



The Northville Art House Hosted the craft tent.



Crowds enjoying the magic show of Ming the Magnificent!





Samuel Hunter descendent Carolyn Lloyd-Binkley and her family visit the Hunter house.

A Family Remembrance

by Paul Snyder, Archivist/Curator

On October 13th, Mill Race Village played host to an honored visit from Carolyn Lloyd-Binkley, great-great granddaughter of Samuel Hunter.

The Hunter house in Mill Race Village carried fond memories for Carolyn, and her family had worked for months to arrange a trip to Mill Race from her home in Brown City so she might tour the house one more time.

The day finally arrived when Carolyn's health and her children's schedules lined up favorably. The morning was a little crisp but clear and sunny as she made her way through the house reminiscing in each room.

It was with some sadness we received a call from the family slightly more than a month later to inform us that Carolyn had passed. They thanked us for making it possible for her to make a final visit.

Volunteer Fair

On November 6 Leanie Bayly and Barbara Bakewell represented the Northville Historical Society at the inaugural Community Volunteer Fair. The Northville District Library hosted the two-hour event sponsored by the Friends of the Northville District Library and Community Financial Credit Union. By all accounts, it was well attended and spiked interest in volunteering throughout the Northville community.



Barb Bakewell and Leanie Bayly represent the NHS at the Community Volunteer Fair.



Volunteers enjoy a meal prepared by MRV staff at the annual Volunteer Recognition Luncheon.

A Time For Thanks And To Renew Your Membership

From all of us here at the Northville Historical Society & Mill Race Village, thank you for your membership in our historic non-profit organization. We hope you've had the opportunity to visit the Village and participate in some of our events during this past year – including the spirited Duck Race, extraordinary Wines of the World and enchanting Christmas in the Village. As we move into the new year, we will bring back more of our favorite in-person events, such as our ever-popular Teas and Lecture Series.

We are grateful for all of our volunteers, donors and hundreds of wonderful members. Thank you for your ongoing support of our efforts to preserve Northville's history and provide valuable community programming.

If you have not had a chance yet to renew your membership for 2022, please use this form or go online to:

<https://www.millracenorthville.org/join-give>

Welcome New Members!

| | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Meganne Arens | Dawn Kross |
| Kristine Bonn | Katherine Leutheuser |
| Charlene Chu | Ricci Malloure |
| Ashley Walker D Angelo | John Martell |
| Jeannine Dahl | Nicole Martincic |
| Mary Elwart-Keys | Lora Naccarato |
| Heidi Embury | Keith and Christine Oglesby |
| Kevin Florey | Kelle Platz |
| Christina & Tony | James and Sarah Precott |
| Gennaro | Anne Sheppard |
| Jennifer Jorgensen | Tracy and James Wick |
| Johnny Kash | |
| James and Kathryn Klein | |

2022 MEMBERSHIP FORM

Please fill out and detach this panel and mail to:
Northville Historical Society
215 Griswold St.
Northville, MI 48167-1664

First Name(s): _____

Last Name(s): _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

City/State/ZIP: _____

Phone: (_____) _____

Email: _____

If you wish to receive A PAPER COPY of the Mill Race Quarterly, initial here: _____

2022 Membership Dues: (Circle One)
\$25 Individual / \$35 Family / \$75 Organization

Unrestricted Gift Amount: _____

Restricted Gift Amount: _____

Restricted Gift Instructions: _____

Total Enclosed: _____

Check here if you do not wish to have your gift posted in our communications _____

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Cash

Check (Payable to Northville Historical Society)

Online (via PayPal) www.millracenorthville.org

Visa / MasterCard / Discover

Card Number: _____

Expiration Date: (MM/YYYY) _____

Security Code: (located on reverse of card) _____

Signature: _____

Gifts to the Northville Historical Society are tax deductible to the greatest extent of the law. EIN 36-4092509.

Thank You to our Donors!

Over \$100

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Let 'em Eat Cake!

On November 2 we celebrated Marie Antoinette's 266th Birthday with a cake sale fundraiser.

Making the most out of her most famously credited quote when told the people had no bread she replied, "Let them eat cake," (though history indicates she likely never really said that) the Historical Society found it to be a snug fit for their fundraising activity.

The first of its kind event drew contributions made 27 cakes to sell by the slice, the half, or whole.

A special feature of this event was the cake cutting guillotine created by Stone Gang member and Northville Historical Society Board member Mike DeFrancesco. His working apparatus was used to execute cutting pieces of pound cake for visitors.

If you missed seeing it this year, it will be available for use at next year's event.



Mike DeFrancesco demonstrates his cake cutting skills.



Event Chairperson, Jen Mihalich (still with all her fingers) holding a cake next to our new, operational guillotine.

Mill Race Village presents the 2nd annual

Festival of Trees

Calling all holiday enthusiasts! Come outside and decorate a tree!
Families, businesses, book clubs, scout troops - anyone who likes to be creative.

To sponsor a tree, visit our website at:
<https://www.millracenorthville.org> and click on Events.

The decorated trees will be set up around the village as part of the Christmas in the Village event on December 3rd and 4th and will remain there until after Christmas.

Cost for tree sponsorship: \$100 (\$75 for non-profits)

Live 6'-7' pine trees and wooden stands will be provided by the Northville Historical Society.

Sponsors will decorate their trees. Lights are optional, but if you choose to light your tree, please use solar or battery-powered lights.

Trees can be decorated on December 1st and 2nd.
All trees must be finished by 5:00 pm on December 2nd.

The Festival of Trees Committee will pick one tree to receive the Best of Show prize of \$150.

Tree locations will be assigned at random.

You will find the complete list of rules on the tree sponsorship page of the website.

Questions? Contact Martha at mmichalak@millracenorthville.org

MILL RACE VILLAGE ★ 215 Griswold ★ Northville, Michigan

We will have wonderful sponsors decorating trees that will stay up through Christmas.

Be sure to stop by and appreciate the beauty of the trees that will be adding to the charm of the Village lane.



Northville Historical Society
215 Griswold St.
Northville, MI 48167

Calendar of Events

December 3 & 4—Christmas in the Village and Festival of Trees. 5-8PM

December 4—Children's Christmas Workshop, Two sessions: 10AM-noon and 1-3PM

December 11—Christmas Tea & Lecture

January 26—Lecture Series at 7 pm

February 12—Valentine Tea 1:00 - 3:30 Ticketed Event

February 23—Lecture Series at 7 pm

Christmas in the Village

Friday, December 3rd 5:00 to 8:00 pm
Saturday, December 4th 5:00 to 8:00 pm

Fun for the whole family!

The buildings will be beautifully decorated and we will have Christmas carolers, elves, Christmas trees, Santa and Mrs. Claus, a Christmas Market, and much more!

Timed tickets will be sold online soon.

Follow us on Facebook at
Northville Historical Society and Mill Race Village
@millracehistoricalvillage.
Follow us on Instagram at Mill Race Village Northville
@millracenorthville.



Mill Race Village
215 Griswold Street, Northville

It's happening again! Santa and Mrs. Claus are making a stop at Mill Race Village on December 3rd and 4th for Christmas in the Village. If you haven't bought your tickets yet, you still can at

<https://buytickets.at/northvillehistoricalsociety1/600610>.

What will be happening at Christmas in the Village? Face painting, Polynesian dancers, the Caroling Belles, story time in the Gazebo, lots of inflatables, the blacksmiths in their shop, elves and candy, and a Village Market in the Hirsch. It will be a great time for the entire family.

President

Martha Michalak

Vice President

Bill Stockhausen

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Barbara Bakewell

Mike DeFrancesco

Gina Esposito

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Archivist

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Quarterly Editorial Team

Tim Luikart, Maria Simonte and

Paul Snyder

248-348-1845

office@millracenorthville.org

www.millracenorthville.org