



Chesterfield Township
Historical School

*Chesterfield Township Historical
Society*

The Journal



DECEMBER 2018 –
JANUARY 2019

Historical Society January 8th Meeting to Be Held in Chesterfield Library

Incoming Secretary and Librarian Adam Mueller will conduct a “Tour of the Archives” as part of the January meeting. Learn more about the early days of our township.

This will be the first winter meeting in a while, a testament the great work the society has been doing! The meeting will be on Tuesday, Jan. 8, 2019, and will begin at **6:30 pm** since the library closes at 8 pm. It is open to the public-bring a friend!

The Chesterfield Twp. Public Library is located at 50560 Patricia, behind the AMC theatres.



The General Josiah Harmar Chapter, NSDAR presented two National Society Daughters of the American Revolution Community Service Awards; one to Roy Rivard for his preservation and restoral work and the other to the *Chesterfield Historical Society* for the preservation of the Kolping Chapel.



The Kolping Chapel interior, decorated for
Christmas.



Left to right—The award-winning Roy Rivard, Sandy Vezina-DAR Chapter Regent, Barb Kushner-DAR Treasurer, Maureen Ailor-DAR Secretary, Cheryl Cosgrove-DAR Vice- Regent, Liz Furton- President of the Chesterfield Twp. Historical Society.

Events in the Historical Village 2018



Pictures left to right-the Village Smithy, the Army takes the Historical Village, the Kolping Chapel Christmas decorations, the Nazis in the Park, concessions and classic cars, and more Voyageurs.



Click on the link for our website at:

www.hsmichigan.org/chesterfieldhs

Our Facebook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/Chesterfield-Historical-Society-of-Michigan-117264017216/>

Our next meeting will be Tuesday,, January 8 in the Chesterfield Township Public Library at 50560 Patricia Ave. The meeting starts at 6:30 pm. All are welcome, you don't have to be a member to come.

2018 Bricks & Poinsettia Sales

There were also the ongoing events of selling bricks and holiday poinsettias. Thanks to Dolly Allemon, Carol Rose, Kathy Vosburg, and everyone else who helped!



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2018 Events in the Village

The Historical Village continued to hold a number of events this year in 2018.

-The Society hosted an encampment by the **St. Claire Voyageurs** on in June, featuring exhibits denoting 1750's French and Indian traders habitation and life-styles. WWII re-enactors were there also, as part of "History Alive-A Timeline," part of the Macomb Co. bicentennial celebration.

-**Michigan Log Cabin Day** was observed on June 24, 2018 by opening the Society's cabin..

-**World War II Re-enactment** by the Michigan Military Technical Society turned the village into a battlefield in July 2018 . An Allied and an Axis encampment exhibited military equipment and presented two public battles on both days.

-**Picnic Day** was held in August in the Village.

-**Heritage Days** was held on September 16th and included games and crafts for the children, music, craft demonstrations, candle making, antique engine drag sawing and corn grinding, classic and antique cars.

-**Holiday Open House** was held in the Weller Schoolhouse in conjunction with the township Christmas Tree lighting. The

Early Native American Presence in Chesterfield Township

There is an abundant wealth of information available about the early Native American presence in Chesterfield Township. A project to collect all known scholarly information on Native Americans in Chesterfield Township was recently completed. This information was compiled and added to the Trinity Archives at the Chesterfield Township Library; including miscellaneous local lore by area historians, three survey maps of the Indian reservations, and eight scholarly studies about the archaeology of the Chesterfield Township sites.

The earliest collection of Native American lore in Chesterfield Township is recorded in Bernard Trinity's *Many Yesterdays*. This includes the story of Martin Green's discovery of ancient human skeletons on his farm and his display of skulls on a picket fence in front of his home.

Early Michigan territory survey maps show the Indian reservations at the Salt River Reserve and the AuVase Creek Reserve which were formed in 1807 and existed until 1836. These maps are available to researchers online. Seekingmichigan.org has an interesting survey map of Chesterfield Township in 1818 and 1836 which shows both reservations clearly labeled "Indian Reservation" and the post-resettlement of the two reservations. The Library of Congress www.loc.gov/item/2012593320/ has a survey map of the territory of Michigan, published in 1826 which shows the two reservations in Chesterfield Township as "I. Res." And a third example can be found online through Michigan State University Libraries and is a 1825 survey map showing Southeastern Michigan in color with black teepees denoting the Indian Reservations.

From 1936 until 1962, professional archaeologists excavated various Native American sites in Chesterfield Township. Dr. Emerson F. Greenman from the University of Michigan professionally excavated the Rievre Aux Vase site in 1936 and 1937 and discovered 150 burial groupings containing the remains of 350 human skeletons. His research was published by the Museum of Anthropology of the University of Michigan titled, "The Wolf and Furton Sites" in 1939 and includes eight pages of photographed artifacts. Dr. James E. Fitting's doctoral dissertation on "Late Woodland Cultures of Southeastern Michigan" focused on the Chesterfield Township sites and includes an appendix of forty-eight pages of photographed artifacts.

Numerous historians have published articles based on Greenman and Fitting's primary research of Native American's in Chesterfield Township. Victoria Harper wrote, "A Ceramic study of the Riviere au Vase site in Southeastern Michigan" in 1944 for the journal *Papers of the Michigan Academy of Science, Arts, and Letters*. Richard Wilkinson's chapter in *Troubled Times: Violence and Warfare in the Past* examines the holes found in native skulls in Chesterfield Township. Academia continues to study the Native Americans who lived in Chesterfield Township. The most recent article was by C. Scott Speal, titled "Survey of Post-mortem skeletal modifications from the Riviere au Vase, Michigan" published in 2006 in the journal *Archaeology of Eastern North America*. Speal compared the remains found in Chesterfield Township with a Native American site in Lapeer County.

All these resources are available at the Trinity Archives in the Chesterfield Township Library and await your visit.

—Adam Mueller



CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2019

MAY 2nd, THURSDAY 5:30 – 7:30 pm

PASTA & MORE DINNER

5:30 – 7:30 pm, held at the VFW Hall on 23 Mile Road in New Baltimore.

Dinner served 5:30 – 6:30. 50/50 raffle, auctions & giveaways. Tickets are a donation of \$15 or \$20 at the door, tickets may be purchased at the Chesterfield Treasurer's Office or from any member.

JUNE 1st, SAT. 10 – 4, June 2nd SUN. 10 – 3 pm

STE. CLAIRE VOYAGEURS

Come see the Ste. Claire Voyageurs, 1750 era French fur trade reenactors and History Alive! "A Timeline of Historical Re-enactors." Historians in period clothing, encampments and displays will tell the story of Macomb County's history, from the early days of the fur trade through the war on global terror. A donation of \$1 per person or \$2 per family is suggested. Food and drinks will be available for purchase.

JUNE 23rd, SUNDAY 1 pm

BAY-RAMA PARADE

Join us in New Baltimore as we participate in the parade with a replica of the Weller one-room school-house float, built by historical society founder, George C. Furton.

JUNE 30th, SUNDAY 1 – 4 pm

MICHIGAN LOG CABIN DAY

The log cabin in the village will be open



JULY 13th, SATURDAY 10 – 4 pm, JULY 14th, SUNDAY, 10 -3 pm

WORLD WAR II REENACTMENT

We will host the Michigan Military Technical & Historical Society in a World War II reenactment of Operation Cobra. The event will feature both an Allied & Axis encampment for public displays with two public battles. (11 am & 2 pm) on Saturday, and one (1 pm) on Sunday. Military vehicles will be on display. Food and drinks will be available for purchase. Entrance fee is a donation of \$1 per person or \$2 for a family.

AUGUST 10th, SATURDAY 10 – 4 pm, AUGUST 11th, SUNDAY 10 – 3 pm

VIETNAM ERA REENACTMENT

Presented by the Michigan Military Technical & Historical Society. Food and drinks will be available for purchase. Entrance fee is a donation of \$1 per person or \$2 for a family. This will be the first time for this event!

SEPTEMBER 21st, SAT. 10 – 4 pm, SEPT. 22nd SUN 10 -3 pm

HERITAGE DAYS

Enjoy horse rides, photos and games, a "Kids Tent" and candle making, rope making, corn grinding, scavenger hunt, craft show and classic car show. Food and drinks will be available for purchase.

Entrance fee is a donation of \$1 per person or \$2 for a family.

OCTOBER 24th, THURSDAY 6 – 9 pm

HARVEST DINNER

At Zuccaro's Banquet Center, 46606 N. Gratiot. Entertainment, 50/50 raffle, auctions and giveaways. Tickets are a donation of \$30 in advance and \$35 at the door, may be purchased at the Chesterfield Township Treasurer's Office or from any member.

DECEMBER 6th, FRIDAY 6:30 pm

TREE LIGHTING

The schoolhouse and log cabin will be open in conjunction with the township's tree lighting ceremony. Enjoy hot chocolate and cookies served in the schoolhouse, and candy canes at the log cabin.

Sign up to provide the historical society with rewards-

www.krogercommunityrewards.com



Chesterfield Twp. Historical Society

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Liz Furton

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Rick Wirick

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Marsha Lathrop

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Amore's

Rewards Card Fundraiser

The Chesterfield Historical Society will receive a percentage of cash back every time a person uses their rewards card at Amore's.

1. See Adam Mueller or Rick DeClaire for a card.
2. Activate your card for the Chesterfield Historical Society
3. Share a card with family or nonmembers. The more card users equals more fundraising.