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# Wayne Historical Society Newsletter

Winter 2019

## *Holiday Night at the Museum*



Holiday Night at the museum was very well attended, even with the wet and cold weather. We estimate over 800 people came out to see the tree lighting, Santa and other festivities. A special thank you to all of our sponsors, the Methodist Church, as well as Hill Crest Bible Church for helping make the event a success.



# Wayne Historical Society News

Info

Winter 2019



**The Happening** – In October we did a first of its kind haunted experience at the museum. We had actors portraying ghosts from Wayne’s past, and a few with a spooky twist. The museum was decorated and themed, and the event was a great time. We had awful weather, but over 100 people still braved the wind and rain to be spooked. We plan to repeat this event next year, so if it sounds like fun let us know if you want to help!



## St. Mary School Exhibit

-The St. Mary School exhibit is ready and has been open since September, so if you haven’t stopped in to see it, come on in. Many alumni and parishioners have been coming in to see it, and attendance at the museum has nearly doubled. The exhibit chronicles the founding of the school up until its closure in 2018. This special exhibit will be leaving at the end of February so see it while you can.

## We need supplies!

-We at the museum are requesting basic cleaning supplies to help keep meetings and events. We could use donations of paper towels, toilet paper, trash bags, windex, Clorox wipes and other cleaning supplies.

# Member Spotlight

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The Timmermann's

We have decided to try something new in the newsletter, a spotlight on various members of the Historical Society and trying to get their stories. Our first spotlight is on Heinrich (Henry) Timmermann and his wife Emma. You will recognize the pair as they have attended most of our historical talks for years. Heinrich was born in Germany in 1926, and came to Wayne in 1932 as a boy with his family. He was a paperboy and knew Wayne well; his mother said he was gone all the time playing and exploring. He remembers climbing abandoned oil tanks, swinging from a chain swing in the old DUR depot, and the alligators kept in the old Wayne Waterworks plant. Henry remembers police chief Knox not being very nice to him or his family because they were German, and Knox was a WWI veteran. He also remembers the huge 1938 Goodman mill fire, which at the time was the largest fire in Wayne's history and burned for a week. He attended Roosevelt school, and St. Johns School, graduating in 1944. Because he was of German descent during the war years, he was not allowed to work in any wartime factories, could not own a gun, and could not leave the area around Wayne. Mr. Timmermann worked construction for a few years, and became a citizen in 1945. After seeing a pretty lady riding on a hay wagon ride, he finally met her at a St. Johns Church Halloween party in 1945. Emma and Henry said it was love at first sight and married February 9, 1946. The Timmermann's had five children, and Henry worked for Ford for a few years, then worked for Wixom for over 30 years. They remember Wayne before Urban Renewal as being a "Nice little town", all the churches were full and Wayne had the best shopping. The Timmermann's are a wealth of Wayne knowledge, so next time you see them at a presentation say hi, and wish them a happy 73<sup>rd</sup> anniversary in February.



# Wayne Historical Society

## Upcoming Events

Winter 2019

- All events are at the Historical Museum, unless otherwise noted
- Events are free and open to the public
- Light refreshments are provided

### Historical Museum

1 Town Square  
Wayne, Michigan 48184  
(Corner of Main and Biddle)

### Historical Society

P.O. Box 486  
Wayne, Michigan 48184  
Business Meetings:  
First Wed. of Month 6pm

### Museum Hours

Wednesdays 10-7  
Thursdays 10-6

### Board of Trustees

Ann Zimmerman  
Al Damitio  
John Mills  
Kathy Kovalesky  
Tyler Moll  
Brenda Ozog  
Nicole Conklin  
Julia Ottolini

### Support the Historical Society

- Select the Wayne Historical Society as your charity on Amazon Smile
- Make us a part of your legacy planning

- **Jan. 10 - Historic Fashions 1830-1860**  
-7pm. - Guest speaker Beth Turza will show and tell about historic womens and childrens clothing from 1830-1860, using pieces from her own collection.
- **Feb. 13, Wednesday - POW camps in Michigan**  
-7pm. - @ the Library. Author and historian Gregory Sumner will present about his new book focusing on WWII prisoners of war in Michigan.
- **Mar. 14 - American Architectural Styles**  
-7pm - Tyler Moll will present on American architectural styles from the 1500s up to present. Learn about each style and how to tell the difference between them.
- **April 11 - History of Wayne Parks**  
-7pm. - Guest speaker Eric Clereman will present on the history of the various parks in Wayne.
- **April 13, Saturday - Ghost Hunt at the Museum**  
-8pm.-12am - Hunt for ghosts with Great Lakes Ghost Hunters in the historic museum building. Tickets are \$20 for a 1 hour spot.
- **May 9 - Women of Wayne**  
-7pm. - Nicole Conklin and Tyler Moll will present on the history and role of women in Wayne. We will talk about what daily life was like over time, and highlight contributions to the city made by significant women.
- **Stay tuned for future events!**

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