

The White Lake Historian
A newsletter of the White Lake Area Historical Society
(of Montague and Whitehall)

<http://www.whitelakeareahistoricalociety.com/>

Vol. 1-25

April 2025

BOARD & Other Volunteers:

President - Cheryl Lohman -
(231) 893-5545 -
jubileelohman@yahoo.com

Vice President/Program - Tom
Eitnrear - (517) 648-2691

Recording Secretary - Barbara
Bedau Brow - (231) 894-5506

Membership/Corresponding Secy
- Tom Lohman - (231) 893-5545

Treasurer - Ron Arnson - (231)
894-8404

Historian - Roger Scharmer -
(231) 894-9603

Hospitality - Jan Grady - (231)
893-2055

Newsletter Editor - OPEN

President of Montague
Museum - Denise Marquardt -
(231) 894-6204

Historic Preservation Committee
- Roger Scharmer (231) 894-
9603

President Letter

As we enter the 2025 season for the White Lake Area Historical Society, the good news is that our finances are in good shape and our membership remains stable. Please see the enclosed reports. Further good news is that the 2025 calendar has been set thanks to the diligent work of the White Lake Area Historical Society Board

Our 2024 programs were very well attended with many visitors as well as many positive comments. I personally am extremely grateful for the two factors which helped us make the meetings informative and fun.

1. Teamwork by our board members in stepping into leadership roles to actually present some programs (Cemetery and Double J) and the birthday celebration for Lois Ekstrand in her memory.

2. Great audience participation in sharing their memories.

Thank You to all who were involved.

Not such good news this year is also twofold.

Sad farewell to longtime vice president of education, Laura Connell, who has stepped down citing health reasons. She will continue to post pictures and info on her website and social media.

We are unable to present the historic days young people this year in April due to circumstances beyond our control: weather and school cancellations in their time frame prior to their performances at state competition. However, they should be on our schedule again in 2026.

Update: Tom Eitnrear has agreed to take the position of vice president of education. Welcome!

One serious need that the historic society has is the sustainability of the future depends upon new active members. We have many visitors but truly need them to become active members. Please encourage your guests and friends to join.

Another need is for backup programs in case a regular program is cancelled at the last minute. Please contact any of our board members with your ideas.

Treasurer's Report

Checking Balance	\$ 4,604.65
Certificate of Deposit	\$ 11,254.29
Cash on hand	\$ -
Memorial Fund	\$ 1,488.01
Memorial Fund CD	\$ 1,416.50
(Balances as of March 2025)	\$ 17,363.45

Membership Report

* Active members (members that pay individual or family dues every year)	77	* NOTE: 22 members were dropped at the end of 2024 - have not paid dues for the past three years (since 2021) - these were contacted by email and snail mail before dropping them from our membership
Life individual members	23	
Life family members	33	
Total members	133	

Montague Area Street Names

We are working on the history of Montague area streets. How were they named? Where did the name come from? If you have any information about the following streets, please respond with your information.

Arva St	Fruitvale Rd	Logan St	Strong St	Winston Rd
Besser Ct	Glendale Ave	Mill St -	Townsend Ct	Walsh Rd
Blaine St	Grace St	Mohawk Ct	Trading Post Rd	Water St
Brookside Ct	Hill St	Park St	Fruitvale Rd	Weesies Rd
Brookwood	Jackson Ct	Pauline St	Meinert Park Rd	West Side Rd
Circle	Judson Ln	Pinebrook Dr	Meinert Rd	Westwood Ln
Butzer Rd	Lamos Rd	Ravine St	Roosevelt Rd	Wilcox St
Columbia St	Lehman Rd	Stanton Blvd	Webster Rd	

Museum Lights



Did you get a chance to see the Montague Museum with the lights on during the Christmas season?

Local History Resources Online

On Facebook, check out (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/265338307291906/>) "Remembering White Lake History". Join us and add your memories of things that happened in the area and share your pictures, too.

There is also a link for digitized newspapers available at the White Lake Community Library. You can search online or go to the library in person to get computer access. It is easy to search with keywords and dates and most of the past local newspapers we've had in our area dating back to 1874.

<https://www.wlclib.org/Reference/digitized-newspapers>

Jerry Grady is doing a terrific job and continues to work on enhancing old photographs from the Montague Museum collection. Check out

<http://localhistorygallery.com/> and see what he has been working on.

Check White Lake Area Historical Society website at

<http://www.whitelakeareahistoricalociety.com/>

Meeting Suggestions

The Historical board is working on scheduling meetings for the future. We are open to any suggestions for meetings that you might have. Please submit any suggestion to a board member or you can respond to this email. Thank you in advance.

Website

The Memory Lane tab on the Historical website has been updated with many new articles you might want to check out. <http://www.whitelakeareahistoricalociety.com/>

Cemetery Walk

In case you missed it or would like to revisit the cemetery walk you can check it out at this site. Thanks Greg Johnson for your video and editing work.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X1wTiVnjpsI>

Double J

In case you missed it or would like to revisit the Double J walk you can check it out at this site. Thanks Greg Johnson for your video and editing work.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3w2GXC7UQHw>

Montague Museum

The Montague Museum is open from Memorial Day through Labor Day. The hours are Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday from 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm. They are asking for suggestions and ideas of changes you might have. www.montaguemuseum.org

Email Addresses

Each year we publish one newsletter. Then before each month we send out by email notices for that month's meeting. Do we have your current email address on file? Please let us know of changes or additions to your email address. Thanks in advance.

General Store

For the past several years the *General Store* in Whitehall has sold some of our historical books. It would be good if some of our members would stop in and tell Phyllis thank you for your help.

Montague Area Street Names

We are working on the history of Montague area streets. How were they named? Where did the name come from? If you have any information about the following streets, please respond with your information.

Past Inquires

During the year we received inquires from members and the community. If you have any information about the following, please contact one of the board members.

- Mud Puddle - History of the property
- Ismar Bismark Masure, who began and owned White Lake Greenhouses Floral.
- Fred Norman's paintings are still hanging in the bank on Mears Ave. I believe the bank still has a handout that shows the pictures.
- Genealogy search for Charles P. Cushway and Matilda "Tilly" E. Cushway

Record Or Write Member History Stories

Do you have a historical story we should record and share on our website? Please contact one of our board members for instructions.

Community events

The following are some community events you might want to be involved in

Trash Bash: Community-Wide Clean Up (Sunday, April 27, 1-4pm)

<https://www.whitelake.org/event/trash-bash/>

Feet on the Street—Kick off to Summer in the White Lake Area (Sunday, June 1, 2-7pm)

<https://www.whitelake.org/event/feet-on-the-street/>

June 14, 15 Arts and Crafts - Goodrich Park

June 22 Lighthouse tour: (watch for more information)

July 27 Historic Boat Cruise

September 25 Good Neighbor Dinner

WE NEED YOUR IDEAS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS!! SEE ANY BOARD MEMBER TO PASS THEM ON

White Lake Area Historical Society
(of Montague and Whitehall)
c/o White Lake Area Chamber of Commerce
124 W. Hanson St.
Whitehall, MI 49461

Clip and Save Schedule for 2025

April 17 Students' History Days: Due to scheduling conflict, the April meeting will be CANCELLED

May 15 History of the bell tower and festivals at Lebanon Lutheran Church, 1101 S. Mears Ave., Whitehall.

June 19 One Brick at a Time by Dean Evans at White Lake Senior Center 8741 Ferry St, Montague

July 17 The Beauty and History of Svenson Park. At Svensson Park, 1050 S Lake St, Whitehall. Bring your own lawn chairs.

August 21 -- "Remembering Murray's Inn" The colorful history of Murray's Inn will be shared through a slide presentation by Kevin Murray McGee. Lebanon Lutheran Church, 1101 S. Mears Ave., Whitehall.

September 18 End of the war - VJ day at White Lake Senior Center 8741 Ferry St, Montague

October 16 Mary Mason: Dalton - family history - day at White Lake Senior Center 8741 Ferry St, Montague

**White Lake Area Historical Society
Membership Application / Renewal Form**

<http://www.whitelakeareahistoricalociety.com/>

Please enroll the person / family name(s) listed below in the White Lake Area Historical Society for the type of membership marked below. Enclosed is a check for the appropriate annual dues or lifetime membership as indicated below, send with the understanding that the member / family is entitled to all benefits, rights, and privileges of membership. Annual dues are calculated on a calendar year without pro rating. (January through December)

New Membership Renew Membership Visitor Address Change
(Please print plainly)

Name (last): _____

Name (first): _____

**Spouse: _____

**Children: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Cell: _____

Email address(s): _____

Spouse email: _____

Membership Dues (please check appropriate type(s))

Annual Individual . . . \$10.00

Annual Family . . . \$15.00

Lifetime Individual . . \$150.00

Lifetime Family . . . \$200.00

Additional Donation _____

** Spouse and children receive the same benefits, rights and privileges of membership when the appropriate family rate is paid. Children must be the legal dependents(s) of the above-named member.

Mail to:

White Lake Area Historical Society
(of Montague and Whitehall)
c/o White Lake Area Chamber of Commerce
124 W. Hanson St.
Whitehall, MI 49461

For Office Use Only

Received By: _____

Received Date: _____

Received Amount: _____

Check Number: _____

Email inquiries to whitelakehistorical.com