

**November 23,
2015**

History Center News

Board Members:

Stephen Siciliano, chair
person

Jim Warner, vice chair

Gini LeClaire, secretary

Larry Hains, treasurer

Richard Fidler

Marly Hanson

Julie Schopieray

Newsletter Editors

Richard Fidler

Bill Ruesink

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From Chairman Siciliano's Desk

Stephen Siciliano

This autumn has brought important changes to the History Center of Traverse City. At the annual meeting the members elected a new Board of Directors: Stephen Siciliano, Chair; Jim Warner, Vice Chair; Gini LeClaire, Secretary; Larry Hains, Treasurer; and members Richard Fidler, Marly Hanson, and Julie Schopieray. The members also changed the bylaws affecting board elections, terms, and membership as well as establishing regular monthly membership meetings.

Equally important, the History Center is focusing on offering monthly programs to our members and the public. These programs are scheduled through May 2016 to be held in the McGuire Room of the Traverse Area District Library. Our first program was held in September; Richard Fidler and Amy Barritt spoke on the topic of the Grand Traverse Journal.

Second, Mardi Link, noted local author, was interviewed by Ron Jolly in October at Kirkbride Hall as part of the National Writers Series (NWS) program. Net proceeds benefited the History Center. This event was particularly important for the Center as it was our primary fall fundraiser and opened up the potential of future relationships with the NWS.

Third, also in October, Richard Fidler, Amy Barritt, and Peg Siciliano conducted three Friday evening history tours of Oakwood Cemetery. These were all well attended and well received.

Fourth, in November Jim Warner presented a program entitled "Voices from the Horn" about early twentieth century music recordings and the history behind them.

Tales from the Crypt

HCTC Archivist
Peg Siciliano

"Tales from the Crypt" brings you an update on the Archives. We chose this title in honor of longtime member Bob Wilson, who used to write a "Tales" column when he was President of the Historical Society. He and his wife Joy (also a former President) recently moved to California. Bob and Joy, we miss you!

This issue's column highlights the Traverse City Osteopathic Hospital, as the archives recently received new TCOH items from several former employees. Many of you may know that until the mid 1990s Osteopathic Hospital sat on the south side of Munson Ave, at the site of today's Munson Community Health Center. But how many of you know that the original TCOH, opened in 1947, sat on the south east corner of Division and Bay Street? Today that building is occupied by the Elk's Club. The Hospital moved from there to its Munson location in 1961.

When it opened on Bay Street in 1947 it boasted 30 beds; in 1961 the then-new Munson Avenue facility featured 50 beds, and a staff of 20 physicians. By its 30th anniversary in 1977, it had 83 beds, more than 40 physicians on staff, and 289 employees. In the 1990s TCOH merged with Munson Medical Center.

MMC is celebrating its 100th Anniversary this year. It has nearly 400 beds, a medical staff of 420 physicians, and employs over 3,500 people.



TCOH Bay Street Building



TCOH Munson Avenue Building

News from Joy & Bob Wilson

14 Sep 2015

We have moved into our new home. The address is 633 Ramona #78, Los Osos, CA, 93402. (I was interrupted by the delivery of our washing machine). We are getting used to the weather here (it has rained twice since we got here in June). Bob rides his bike nearly every day. His back is still giving him a lot of pain. (We'll see the doc on 17th). His dementia has its ups and downs. I try to keep him on a steady schedule which seems to be the best way for him to stay on an even keel. He does Sudoku and puts together jigsaw puzzles. We brought with us a copy of the Grand Traverse Legends. Every time Bob sees the books, he is amazed that he wrote them because he thinks they are so well done. He no longer reads except for the Bible, even that is for very short periods of time.

I'll try to write more later.

Joy

History Center Monthly Program Schedule

Richard Fidler, Program Committee Chair

November 8, 2015 "Voices From the Horn." Jim Warner, board member of the Music House Museum, presents a number of musical recordings on wax cylinders and played on phonograph. Warner will introduce each piece, all of which date from pre-1925 and present an interesting point in our national history.

December 20, 2015 "Homespun Holiday Traditions in the Grand Traverse Region." Member Ann Hoopfer will speak on her recollections of the holiday

celebration, with other participants speaking about their own memories and experience. Attendees will be invited to bring a holiday item or baked good to share with those present.

January 17, 2016 “Timber! The Lumber Era in the Grand Traverse Region.” David Pennington, local historian of Interlochen, will be speaking on the industry that got it all started in this area.

February 21, 2016 “Preserve, Protect and Promote Our Local History.” Marly Hanson, retired librarian, and Amy Barritt, reference librarian, will speak on TADL’s local history collections, the Digital Public Library of America, The Making of Modern Michigan, the Fading Memories Project, and other efforts to preserve, protect and promote our history locally and nationally.

March 20, 2016 “A Mile in Their Shoes.” Nancy Bordine, local textile and costume collector, will bring in parts of her collection, and discuss the evolution of footwear. Attendees will be invited to bring in historical costume items of their own to share.

April, 17, 2015 “Northern Michigan During the Second World War,” is the title of this program presented by Tom Gordon, professor at Northwestern Michigan College.

May 15, 2015 “Seeking a Fair Contract: Labor Struggles of Traverse City Teachers in Past Decades,” Irene Brown, former teacher and Traverse City Education Association president, tells us about Michigan’s first teachers’ strike as well as later efforts to secure a fair teaching contract.

All programs will be held in the McGuire Room of the Woodmere branch of the Traverse Area District Library, beginning at two o’clock in the afternoon.

Minutes of the October 25 Annual Meeting

Chairman of the Board Stephen Siciliano called the meeting to order at 2:10 PM. He introduced the current board members; each was invited to explain their interest in continuing to serve on the board and special interests or visions they had for the organization.

Board Chair Report: State of the Center Update:

“The focus of the Board since August has been on developing new programming events. First, Richard Fidler spoke on the topic of the Grand Traverse Journal on September 17, here at the Traverse Area Public Library. Second, Mardi Link, noted local author, was interviewed by Ron Jolly on October 7, 2015, at 7:00 PM at Kirkbride Hall as part of the National Writer’s Series Program. Net proceeds benefitted the History Center. This event was particularly important for the Center as it was our primary fall fundraiser and opens up the potential of future relationships with the NWS. Third, History Center volunteers are in the midst of conducting three Friday evening tours of Oakwood Cemetery this month, each starting at 5:30 PM. The last tour is next Friday, October 30. Tickets are \$10.00.

“Besides our focus on new programming, the Board has spent a great deal of time addressing our significant financial challenges. I want to publicly recognize Larry Hains our treasurer who has done a wonderful job leading our recent

efforts to address these challenges. Despite our efforts, I believe the History Center has to make some significant decisions in the near future as our current situation does not provide sufficient revenues to cover even our modest expenses now and for the foreseeable future. Larry will share more details later in the financial report. One possible solution that we will discuss with you later in the meeting will be the transfer of the archives to the Traverse Area District Library. I will share more details on this option later in the meeting.

“Finally, the Board has reviewed some of the History Center bylaws and is recommending four changes. For details on the changes, I will turn the podium over Marly Hanson, chair of our bylaws committee.”

Proposed History Center Bylaw Changes

Ms. Hanson individually read each bylaw and then read the proposed change (see Appendix 2). She next explained the board’s rationale for seeking the changes. The membership was invited to ask question or raise issues with each proposal. Following discussion, the meeting was turned over to Chairman Siciliano. Each bylaw was voted on by asking members to raise a hand if in favor of the change, and then to raise a hand if opposed.

1. The bylaw affecting elections and terms of office passed unanimously.
2. The bylaw changing the number of directors to no fewer than seven and no more than eleven passed with one member opposed.
3. The bylaw involving distribution of assets should the organization disband was passed unanimously after specification that the collection should go to a non-profit organization.
4. The bylaw calling for regular monthly meetings on the second Sunday of the month or at another time designated by the board passed unanimously.

Election of Officers

Members in good standing were provided with a ballot when they entered the meeting room. At this time they were asked to vote for the proposed board members and did so. Ballots were collected by Sharon Jennings and Jeanne Hurst, Membership Committee. They were tabulated and the seven candidates put forth were elected for the terms specified.

- One Year Term: Richard Fidler, Virginia LeClaire
- Two Year Terms: Marly Hanson, Stephen Siciliano, Jim Warner
- Three Year Terms: Larry Hains, Julie Schopieray

Financial Report

Treasurer Larry Hains gave an extensive financial report to the group. This included the Balance Sheet as of September 30, 2015, Profit & Loss Statement (January through September 2015), as well as bank account records. Please see Appendix 4A – 4F3 for Mr. Hains complete report. There were several member comments, particularly regarding the Petertyl monies and the desire by the members to understand what happened to Julius Petertyl’s gift.

Archives Transfer to TADL Proposal

At this point, Mr. Siciliano explained to the membership that paying rent and utilities at the Carnegie Building was a financial burden that the History Center can not support indefinitely. For this reason, the board has had an interest in exploring a relationship with TADL whereby the archives collection might be transferred to TADL. An initial proposal was followed by a modified proposal to this effect. Jerry Beasley, a new History Center member and a member of the library board was present for today's meeting and offered insight to the group as well. It was emphasized that should we take this action, it did NOT mean that the organization was disbanding. It was an opportunity to spend more time and energy is special events such as programs, field trips, contact with the schools, and so forth. It was also pointed out that History Center volunteers could volunteer at the library should they wish to continue working with the collection. Archivists Peg Siciliano (History Center) and Amy Barrett (TADL) will be meeting to discuss details, such as the number of linear feet required for the collection, so that these details will have been worked out, making the transfer decision more informed for both organizations should the opportunity to transfer present itself.

Program Calendar Update

Program Chair Richard Fidler announced the next two meetings. On Sunday November 8, Jim Warner will give a program with his antique music machines. On December 13, there will be a holiday social event with everyone encouraged to bring in some old time family Christmas baking specialty to share with the group. The meetings for January, February and March will be announced soon.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:45 PM. Everyone was encouraged to stay and visit while sharing the cider and baked goods that had been donated for the event.

Respectfully submitted,
Virginia LeClaire

Members in Attendance:

Stephen Siciliano	Jim Warner	Larry Hains
Virginia LeClaire	Richard Fidler	Marly Hanson
Julie Schopieray	Peg Siciliano	Sue Warner
Sharon Jennings	Jeanne Hurst	Jerry Beasley
Amy Barritt	Kathleen Farley	Mary Rose
Jan Novak	Joe Novak	Steve Terry
Ross Burden	Don Pratt	Helen Pratt
Bruce Wiegand	Etta Rajkovich	Rob Minnema
Cornelia Hart	Dave Pennington	Andrea Teagan
John Hubbard	Laura Johnson	Chick Coley
Ellen Briggs	Stewart McFerrin	Jim Galligan

Minutes of the November 8 Membership Meeting

Chairman Stephen Siciliano opened the meeting at 2:00 PM at the Traverse Area District Library.

Minutes of the Annual Meeting had been sent by email to all members who had attended that meeting for their review prior to today's event. No questions or changes were offered. Jim Warner moved that the minutes be approved. Amy Barritt seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Program Chair Richard Fidler informed the group of upcoming membership meetings:

- December 20: Homespun Holiday Traditions
- January 17: David Pennington – Timber! Lumber Era of the Grand Traverse Region
- February 21: Marly Hanson & Amy Barritt – Preserve, Protect and Promote Our Local History
- March 20: Nancy Bordine – A Mile in Their Shoes
- April 17: Tom Gordon – Northern Michigan During the Second World War
- May 15: Irene Brown – Seeking a Fair Contract

A printed handout with these dates was provided as a reminder for attendees as they left the meeting.

A program by Jim Warner, entitled “Voices from the Horn” was then presented. Jim displayed two of his antique music machines, one which played disks and one that played records. A sample of music from the late 1800s and onward was then provided. Authors and performers of the various eras were discussed and their music played. Q&A followed.

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Virginia LeClaire

Members in Attendance

Ross Burden	Mary Rose	Rob Minnema
Cornelia Hart	Richard Fidler	Sharon Jennings
Jim Warner	Sue Warner	Virginia LeClaire
Stephen Siciliano	Peg Siciliano	Marly Hanson
Julie Schopieray	Larry Hains	Amy Barritt
Susan Thomas	Laura Johnson	

Non Members

Edgar Bringman	Wilma Blood	Mike Fensler
Elmer Bisler	Maryanne Bisler	John Linnerson
Connie Linnerson	Eugene Homeister	Joan Homeister
Bill Brown	Vera Carmien	Jean Johnson
Tanya Struble	Bob Brown	Nanci A. Tarhe
S. Trucks Perschbacher	John Perschbacher	Fred Nelson
Aaron Andrews	Alice Belknap	George Belknap
Larry Washington		

Your Chance to "Rock" with the History Center

The History Center Rocks! And you can help it continue its important work with a directed financial donation. **YOU choose the item you want to support (see below), and we guarantee that your money will be used to support that activity.** All donations can be covered with a check made out to the "HCTC," and sent to:

HCTC
322 Sixth Street
Traverse City, MI 49686

We know our supporters come from a wide variety of backgrounds, but even a small financial donation will be greatly appreciated! You know what you can do. First, you can become a member for a low \$25 a year! Beyond that, you can give an unrestricted monetary donation, or request that your donation be restricted to a certain need. The list below gives you an idea of some of the History Center's costs:

Ways you can be part of the HCTC's success:

- \$ 10 - Purchase of one small archival quality document storage box
- \$ 15 - Purchase of one large archival quality document storage box
- \$ 50 – Purchase of replace ink cartridges for printer
- \$100 – One toner cartridge for copier
- \$100 - Maintenance of one CPU (computer)
- \$150 - Cover one month's cost of phone and communication's line
- \$150 – Mailing of one month's newsletter/postcards
- \$500 - One month's rent
- \$700 - Cover one year of having our website online so our collections are available on the internet