

**PRESIDENT'S CORNER***Fred Liimatta*

Parsley...sage...rosemary and thyme...enchancing culinary pharmaceuticals and accoutrements for the abode. I found at least a hundred different features of these ancient herbs, ranging from being star players in Greek mythology to a modern-day treatment for Alzheimer's disease.

It was a joy to have longtime member Gaylor Forman at our annual Victorian Open House. For over 30 years ("thyme"), this "sage" has served OCPHS with a commitment matched by few ("rose of Mary"). More than simply the garnish ("parsley") on a delightful event, he continues to enrich our organization by his example.

This is just one of many ballads that could be sung about the volunteers who have maintained to this day the dreams of the original pioneers of Oakland County.

Thanks for a terrific year; wishing you and yours the most joyous of holidays!

- Freddie



President Liimatta pictured with beloved members Bob Hayes, Margaret Jackson and Gaylor Forman (seated).  
(Photo courtesy Barbara Frye)

**WELCOME NEW OFFICE MANAGER****JOY DOCKHAM!**

OCPHS is pleased to announce the hiring of a new part-time office manager! Joy Dockham graduated from U of M Flint with a bachelor's degree in Elementary Education. After teaching for three years, she returned to school and earned an MA in Children's Literature from Eastern Michigan University. She also holds a Masters in Management (MM) degree from Walsh College.

Joy was previously employed as Office Manager for Monarch Investments, a Pontiac property management company. During her time there, she learned much about the city's history and how it is growing and changing. Desiring more time to pursue some personal endeavors, she began seeking a part-time position and we are so happy she found us. Joy is a voracious reader (mysteries and historical fiction are her favorites) and she loves turning old furniture into new treasures.

Welcome to the OCPHS family, Joy!



(Photo courtesy Amy Annett)

**A "GRANDE" NIGHT TO REMEMBER III  
OCTOBER 1, 2016**

**Re-live the action and excitement of OCPHS'  
third annual gala auction fundraiser in our  
photo storybook!**

*(Photos courtesy Donna Mallonen and Linda Porter)*



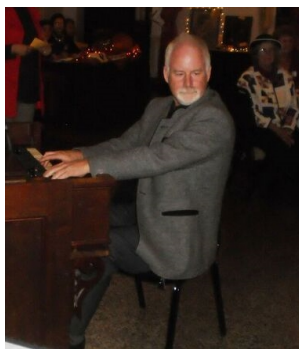
Curt Snyder places his bid during the silent auction.



Bill Clink & Linda Porter with a lovely model who could truly use a good meal...



Our charming and dashing emcees, Sara Cote & Tim Travis.



Shawn & Adell Hughes attended as their favorite "Characters In Time"...a Revolutionary War soldier and Lizzie Borden!



Rodger Zeller, Annie Hunt & Tom Hunt in the thick of the live auction bidding.



The auctioneer and his beautiful wife.



*To those who generously supported this night...you are truly "Grande!"*

**BUSINESS SPONSORS**

Dunmar Metal Art - Waterford  
Earth To Earth - Pontiac  
Goldner Walsh Garden & Home - Pontiac  
Mad Cow Custom Leather - Pontiac  
Main Street Pawn Shop - Pontiac  
Mom's Attic - Pontiac  
Prielipp Farms & Greenhouse - Britton  
Professional Instant Printing - Waterford  
Take Away Trash Service - Pontiac  
Waterford Hill Florist & Greenhouse - Clarkston

**INDIVIDUAL SPONSORS**

Anonymous Friends of OCPHS  
Bill Clink  
Sara Cote  
Karen Jorgensen & Robert Karazim  
Fred & Anne Liimatta  
Linda Porter  
Julie Skene  
Tim Travis  
Robert & Kari Vaughan  
Mike & Helen West

***A special thanks to the Lafayette Grande Banquet  
Facility for their hospitality!***



## NEW OCPHS PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE FOR SALE

### **New cookbook: *Soup To Nuts***

**This compilation of recipes and anecdotes from our members and friends is available for \$20 in our gift shop and by mail (plus shipping/handling). Thank you for sharing your family recipes, stories and memories for this book that preserves cherished traditions for future generations.**

### **New 2017 calendar**



**Time flies, but you can keep track of it with our latest calendar.**

**The 2017 edition features full-color images of historical advertising artwork**

**known as “scraps.” Created by OCPHS members Geoff Brieger and Dave Walls, this whimsical calendar makes a great gift for yourself or others. \$15 each plus shipping/handling.**

## PAST OCPHS PRESIDENT INDUCTED INTO HALL OF FAME

Elizabeth (Betty) Sparks Adams, a former president of OCPHS, was posthumously inducted this year into the Michigan Women's Hall of Fame. She was nominated for induction by the Historical Society of Michigan and the Michigan Historical Commission. Betty, who passed away in 2007, is the longest-serving public official in the state's history. She began her career of service at the age of 29 with an appointment to the Michigan Historical Commission. She went on to serve as the first female president of the Historical Society of Michigan and the first curator of the University of Michigan's Bentley Historical Library. A graduate of Pontiac High School, Betty was a member of the Oakland County Bicentennial Commission and several other county-level organizations. OCPHS is honored to count both Betty and her husband, Donald Adams, among our dedicated and capable leaders.



*(Photo courtesy mlive.com)*

## VOLUNTEERS IMPRESS AT WORK DAY

On November 15<sup>th</sup>, OCPHS members answered the call for able bodies to help spruce up Pine Grove in preparation for our Victorian Open House and the coming winter season.

Volunteers hung greenery, prepared a mailing, cleaned up the grounds and pitched in wherever an extra pair of hands was needed. We especially acknowledge Rob Gregory of West Bloomfield (pictured below) who re-shingled the schoolhouse extension above the furnace room. Do we have the best volunteers or what?!



*(Photo courtesy Amy Annett)*

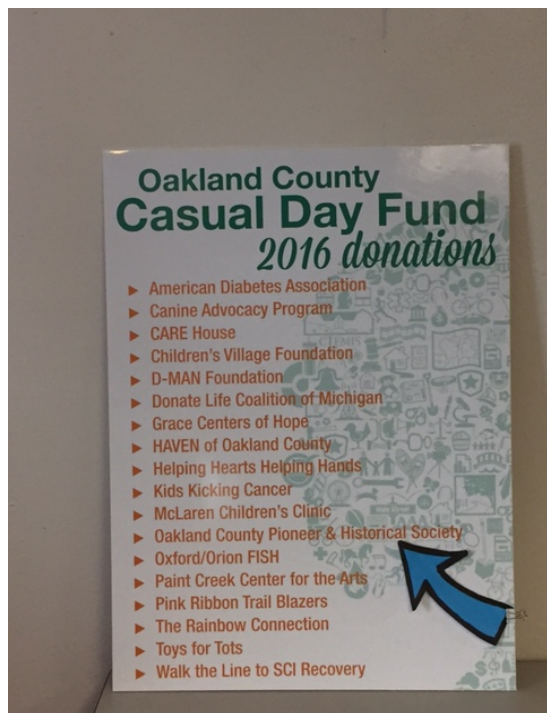
## **SHOP AMAZON AND SUPPORT OCPHS!**



**Amazon shoppers now have the opportunity to support OCPHS through the Amazon Smile Program, which donates 0.5% of the price of eligible purchases to the charity of your choice. Visit [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) and type in “Oakland County Pioneer and Historical Society.” There is no extra cost to you to participate. Thanks for thinking of us as you shop!**

## **OCPHS RECEIVES COUNTY "CASUAL DAY" AWARD**

OCPHS was among 18 charities this year to receive a donation from funds contributed by Oakland County employees who paid a small fee in order to wear casual clothes to work on designated days. On December 14<sup>th</sup>, OCPHS 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Mike West and Treasurer Amy Annett attended the Casual Day Awards Ceremony to accept the donation of \$1,000. Oakland County employees have donated over \$800,000 since the program began 24 years ago!



OCPHS was given the poster listing the 18 charities benefited by Casual Day. The poster can be viewed at our Carriage House.  
(Photo courtesy Joy Dockham)

## **LEGACY OF FRITZI STODDARD**

*Barbara Frye, research assistant*

In November Anne and Carol Jane Nichols came to tour Pine Grove with their friend Patty Andrews. While they were here they donated a large Waite's dress box filled with newspaper clippings and photographs. (Waite's Department Store on the corner of E. Huron and N. Saginaw was a popular shopping destination in downtown Pontiac for many years). They also donated a large scrapbook

filled with memorabilia saved for many years about the Pontiac Players Club and the Little Theatre Players. This is the legacy of Fritzi Stoddard, their maternal grandmother.

In an effort to lend provenance to the collection and trace the Waite connection, this researcher worked up a genealogy of the Waite Family in Pontiac. This genealogy is by no means complete. The information was derived from clues in the donated news clippings, death certificates found at *seekingmichigan.org*, United States census records obtained at *HeritageQuest* online from *Mel.org*, records on *FamilySearch.org*, and Pontiac City Directories held at OCPHS.

In a phone conversation with Anne Nichols Albaum on December 8<sup>th</sup>, she shared with me that she is a member of the Mayflower Society and has proven that lineage through her great-great-great-grandmother Freelove Allen. She also has the complete family history and many interesting stories to tell.

The Nichols sisters' generous donation is a tenderly held collection belonging to Anna Stoddard, wife of Livingston Waite Stoddard, who was known as Fritzi. Livingston was a nephew to the Waite Brothers, the son of their elder sister Emma. Waite's was a family business; Fritzi was a buyer for Waite's for 30 years and had her own clothing store in the Riker Building after she left the department store. She was also a dedicated actress and a member of many ladies organizations in Pontiac.

A genealogy report can trace the people, but it cannot tell the fascinating stories of those individual lives. It is left to us to piece the bits of newsprint and scrapbook pages together to get a glimpse of a truly vibrant lady - Fritzi Stoddard.



## **A BUSY AND FESTIVE WEEKEND!**

OCPHS participated in Pontiac's Holiday Extravaganza Parade on December 3<sup>rd</sup> and hosted our annual Victorian Open House on December 4<sup>th</sup>. If you were not able to join us for these events, you were sorely missed!

*(Photos courtesy Bill Clink & Linda Porter)*



*Board member Linda Porter with Jolly Old St. Nick, portrayed by member Bo Young.*



*The Drayton Plains One-Room Schoolhouse welcomed families visiting Santa with its charming and festive décor.*



*Big smiles on the faces of the Quigley sisters, who posed with Bill Clink in his famous fur coat.*



*There goes the OCPHS gang down Cesar Chavez Avenue at the Holiday Extravaganza parade!*

Many Thanks to our visitors, volunteers, and sponsors!

Without your Support none of this would be possible.  
Please support our Sponsors - Thank You!

**meijer**

**Lee**  
INDUSTRIAL  
CONTRACTING



**Joe Lunghamer**  
**Chevrolet**

The  
**Daily**  
DINER

Take Away Trash

**AVON DONUTS**  
Gourmet Donuts & Coffee



**Vintage Press**  
Craft Drinking  
E. R. Skip Upcott

**CRYSTAL TREASURES**  
& MORE

**NELCO**

**GENISYS**  
CREDIT UNION



**LAUNDRY**  
Professional Laundry Service

**goldner walsh**  
GARDEN & HOME

2016 VOH



**Frye Photo**

OCPHS is pleased to welcome the following new members who have joined since our last publication:

**Albaum, Anne (Birmingham)**  
**David, Rick & Pat (Pontiac)**  
**Dockham, Joy (Pontiac)**  
**Gendelman, Vladimir (Keego Harbor)**  
**Getschman, George (Bloomfield Hills)**  
**Hilsen, Arden (Keego Harbor)**  
**Huntoon, Melissa (Waterford)**  
**Jackson, Linda (Lake Orion)**  
**McKendrick, Maria (Bloomfield Hills)**  
**Sartell, Richard (Waterford)**  
**Wisner, Joanne (Rochester)**

#### **SUMMER SOCIAL PLANNING COMMITTEE** **NOW FORMING**

The Planning Committee for the annual Old-Fashioned Summer Ice Cream Social begins meeting in January to put together this much-anticipated event held the last Saturday in July. We are seeking new members and welcome all those who wish to participate in managing the many segments necessary to make the event a success. If you would like to join us, please contact Committee Chair Rodger Zeller at 248-789-5809.

#### **2017 "SMALL TALKS" IN THE WORKS...**

**A schedule of presentations for the upcoming year is currently in progress. Visit our website and Facebook page, and watch your email inbox and local newspaper for event postings!**

***Save the date of Sunday, May 7<sup>th</sup> for our lecture on the history of architectural styles in communities across America: "If These Walls Could Talk," presented by Ron Campbell, Preservation Architect for Oakland County.***

#### **Membership and Donation Form**

Name:

Address:

City/State/Zip:

Phone:

Email:

Send my *Gazette* via: ☐ U.S. Mail ☐ Email  
(Please add \$5 to cover cost of printing and postage if sending via U.S. Mail)

**Please Make Me a Member!** (indicate level):

- ☐ \$15 Student
- ☐ \$20 Individual
- ☐ \$20 Non-Profit Organization
- ☐ \$35 Family (two adults & minor children)
- ☐ \$100 Patron
- ☐ \$200 Benefactor
- ☐ \$500 Friends
- ☐ \$500 Corporate Sponsor
- ☐ \$Gift Membership (provide recipient's name & contact info):

**Please Accept My Donation!** (indicate preference):

- ☐ \$ Annual Giving (general operating costs)
- ☐ \$ Fill In the Gap (expanding hours & services)
- ☐ \$ Preservation (historic buildings & contents)
- ☐ \$ Where Needed or Other (specify):
- ☐ \$ In Memory of / Honor of (provide name):

**What Prompted Your Support?** (check all that apply):

- ☐ Interest in Oakland County History
- ☐ Invited/Introduced by Member/Friend
- ☐ Received Copy of *Gazette*
- ☐ Attended Event or Tour
- ☐ Research Library / Archives
- ☐ Newspaper / Magazine Article
- ☐ Volunteer Opportunities
- ☐ Website / Facebook
- ☐ Other (specify):

Mail this form with check payable to OCPHS to:

**Oakland County Pioneer & Historical Society**  
**405 Cesar E. Chavez Avenue**  
**Pontiac, MI 48342**

For your convenience you may also join or donate online at [www.ocphs.org](http://www.ocphs.org). Thank you for your support!

We are a 501(c)(3) organization  
Donations are tax deductible in accordance with  
applicable law

## **FROM THE GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT**

### **TEAM**

*Bill Clink (Co-Chair)*

As you read this, 2016 is fast drawing to a close. The Growth & Development Team at OCPHS has once again successfully weathered many challenges that often pop up in an active historical organization...we organized an auction, oversaw the delightful Victorian Open House, and assisted in the transition and search for a new office manager.

This fall we hosted our 3<sup>rd</sup> annual auction fundraiser and once again we were able to find happy new homes for many treasures while at the same time achieving our financial goals. Our Victorian Open House was also terrific; it was great to welcome back long-distance members, including Tim and Penny Dye from Pontiac, Illinois. They originally stopped by for a short visit and ended up staying until the end! Best of all, we had a number of new faces come through the gate who found Pine Grove for the first time. We hope they stick around and become a part of the wonderful family here.

The lifeblood of this organization is the dedicated support and service given to us by our volunteers. Without you, we absolutely could not have done the things we accomplished in 2016. Folks who take time out of their busy lives save the Society money, care for and preserve our valuable historical resources. Dozens of examples exist of people making a difference and helping support history. Whether it's in the library researching, selling treasures in the gift shop, or sprucing up the grounds, we have a place we can all be proud of thanks to you. We had and will continue to have opportunities to make this wonderful facility available for the education and enrichment of Oakland County residents.

(continued page 8...)

## **MARK YOUR CALENDAR!**

We look forward to seeing you at these upcoming events...

### ***February 2017 – Appreciation Reception***

The Valentine's Day season is a great time to show our donors, volunteers and friends how much we love them. Keep an eye out for details about this event!



### ***OCPHS Officers and Board of Directors***

#### ***President***

Fred Liimatta

#### ***1<sup>st</sup> Vice President***

Rodger Zeller

#### ***2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President***

Mike West

#### ***Secretary***

Kathy Davis

#### ***Treasurer***

Amy Annett

#### ***Directors***

Bruce Annett, Jr

Charlotte Cooper

Sara Cote

Barbara Frye

Bill Grandstaff

Ann Johnson

Greg Kowalski

Anne Liimatta

Charlie Martinez

Linda Porter

Kari Vaughan

Oakland County Pioneer and Historical Society  
405 Cesar E. Chavez Avenue  
Pontiac, MI 48342

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
Permit No. 868  
Royal Oak, MI

**From the Growth & Development Team**  
**continued...**

As this season comes to a close and we find ourselves in a time of giving back, we are grateful for your financial assistance if you have not previously had opportunity to support us. It is generosity from our cherished members and friends that keep this place open and help us make good investments and set sound goals for moving forward.

Keep growing and developing!  
- Bill

Find us on Facebook.com/Oakland  
County Pioneer and Historical Society 

 Follow us on Twitter  
[Twitter.com/OCPHS](https://twitter.com/OCPHS)

*Oakland Gazette* is a publication of the  
Oakland County Pioneer and Historical Society.  
Submissions, content suggestions or comments are  
welcome.

Volume 49 Number 4 December 2016

Editor: Kari Vaughan

Contributors: Bill Clink, Barbara Frye, Fred Liimatta, Kari Vaughan

***IN THIS ISSUE:***

- Page 1: President's Corner; Welcome New Office Manager
- Page 2: Fall Auction Photo Storybook
- Page 3: New Publications; Past President Honored; Volunteers Impress at Work Day; Shop Amazon and Support OCPHS
- Page 4: OCPHS Receives County Donation; The Legacy of Fritzi Stoddard
- Page 5: VOH Photo Storybook
- Page 6: New Members; Summer Social Planning Committee Forming; 2017 Small Talks In The Works; Membership & Donation Form
- Page 7: From the Growth & Development Team; Mark Your Calendar
- Page 8: From the Growth & Development Team con't.