

The Journal

2019 Newsletter

2019

2019 Big Thank You

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The Historical Society is grateful for and thank the many people in the many groups that participated in the events of the past year.

All provide an informative look at our history. They increase our knowledge of the past and give us perspective for the future, not to mention entertaining us in the present.

These groups have photos in this issue chronicling time in the Chesterfield Historical Village in 2019:

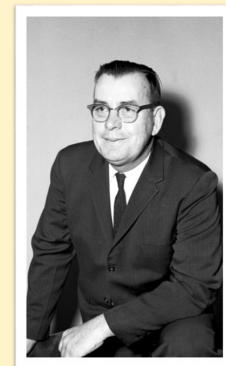
- *The Sainte Claire Voyagers*
- *U.S. Army World War II Re-enactors*
- *Vietnam Era Re-enactors*
- *Heritage Day Helpers*
- *Easter Egg Hunters*
- *All Our Members and Volunteers!*



Historical Society Members examine schoolhouse exhibits prior to summer meeting.

Bernard T. Trinity:

Chesterfield Township's
First Librarian, Historian & Curator



Adam Mueller

Adam Mueller has written and published a book about Bernard Trinity! See page 3.

New Officers:

President: Kathy Vosburg
 Vice-President: Rick DeClaire
 Secretary: Adam Mueller
 Treasurer: Marsha Lathrop



Saluting Our Volunteers and Donors!

Sainte Claire Voyageurs



Noted Chesterfield Historian Bernard Trinity Has New Bio Penned by Adam Mueller

Adam Mueller, librarian at Chesterfield Township Public Library and presently the Secretary of the Chesterfield Historical Society, has written a biography about Bernard T. Trinity, titled *Bernard T. Trinity: Chesterfield Township's First Librarian, Historian, & Curator*.

The Chesterfield Historical Society has named the Chesterfield archives for Trinity. He recorded much of Chesterfield's history in his "Many Yesterdays" book. Adam traces his life and presents a knowledgeable and entertaining memoir of Mr. Trinity and his times. It is available by request at the Chesterfield Twp. Public Library at 50560 Patricia in Chesterfield.



From *Bernard T. Trinity: Chesterfield Township's First Librarian, Historian, & Curator* back cover:

In 1955, Bernard Trinity opened a neighborhood library in a small outbuilding on his property in Chesterfield Township. Begun as a hobby, the Bernard T. Trinity Neighborhood Library grew from 500 books to over 7,500 books and operated for over 36 years. In 1964, Trinity expanded the building to include a museum of local artifacts and memorabilia. This museum became a major tourist attraction in Macomb County, visited by 12,000 people each year. Trinity continued to expand his historical collection and in 1967 began to build a historic village to depict life in the 1890s. The village, named "Heritage Acres," included farm animals, a barn, a blacksmith shop and a cobbler shop. The library and museums closed in 1991, but Trinity's legacy continues to influence the community today.



Photos: The Post office of the Trinity Museum and Ceola Trinity in the library's penny candy store, below: Bernard and Ceola Trinity.



Heritage Day in the Historical Village



AROUND THE VILLAGE



The Weller Schoolhouse will be without its bell and bell tower while repairs are being executed. A completion date in 2020 is predicted.



The August meeting was held in the Weller Schoolhouse



Meeting Information

The Chesterfield Twp. Historical Society's meetings are held on the first Monday of the month at 6:30 p.m. and are open to everyone! They take place at the Chesterfield Township Public Library, at 50560 Patricia Avenue. Refreshments are served. 50/50 drawings conclude each meeting.



Like Us on Facebook! [Chesterfield Historical Society of Michigan](https://www.facebook.com/ChesterfieldHistoricalSocietyofMichigan)

Check out our website: www.chesterfieldhistoricalsociety.org

World War 2 Re-enactment



Around the Village



Rick Wirick
with a
lighthouse he
made for
auction at the
pasta dinner



Working on the Schoolhouse



Easter Egg Hunt



A slice of Trinity history is in my living room—an actual chair that Bernard Trinity re-upholstered! It has been in the Naldrett family since 1956!

Sugarbush Road Notable Facts

- Chesterfield Township's oldest road, Sugarbush, got its start 5,000 to 10,000 years ago, at the conclusion of the last Ice Age. It was the ridge of one of the last glaciers to recede. It was used by the area's first inhabitants, the Native Americans, mostly from the Chippewa tribe.
- Sugarbush has had many names over the years. Some of these are the Old Indian Trail, Ridge Road, and for a long time, simply called "the trail." "Sugar bushes" began to be planted along the road and the name became "Sugar Bush Road" and is now written as "Sugarbush Road."
- Sugarbush used to go straight through to Mt. Clemens before Selfridge Air Force Base cut it off. The road called "Production Drive" in Mt. Clemens used to be the end of Sugarbush.
- For many years, until they were torn down, were the vacant, abandoned houses that had been along Sugarbush Road until taken by the government by eminent domain.

In Memoriam:

We have again lost a cherished member. We sorrowfully remember:

Leo Furton was born July 17, 1931 and died April 11, 2019. He was 87 years old. He is survived by his wife Virginia and children Guy, Terry, and Elizabeth. He worked for the Southeastern Michigan Gas Company and the Chesterfield Volunteer Fire Department. He was a long-time member of the Chesterfield Historical Society and will be missed.



We have a patch to commemorate your visit to the Historical Village- only \$2.00!

Chesterfield Twp. Historical Society Membership Types and Annual Dues

Student \$5.00

Individual \$15.00

Family \$25.00

Business/Organization \$30.00

Individual Life \$100.00

Family Life \$150.00

Membership expires one year from when first paid. You do not need to be a member to attend meetings.

CHESTERFIELD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2020

April TBD, Saturday 9 – 12 pm

EASTER BUNNY BREAKFAST

The historic village will be open in conjunction with the township Easter Bunny Breakfast.

MAY 7th, 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.

JUNE 20th, SAT. 10 – 4, June 21st SUN. 10 – 3 pm

STE. CLAIRE VOYAGEURS & HISTORY ALIVE

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 28th, SUNDAY 1 – 4 pm

MICHIGAN LOG CABIN DAY

The log cabin in the village will be open

JULY 11th, SATURDAY 10 – 4 pm, JULY 12th, 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 8th, SATURDAY 10 – 4 pm, AUGUST 9th, 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.

SEPTEMBER 19th, SAT. 10 – 4 pm

HERITAGE DAY

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 22nd, THURSDAY 6 – 9 pm

HARVEST DINNER

held at the VFW Hall on 23 Mile Road in New Baltimore. 50/50 raffle, auctions & giveaways.

DECEMBER 4th, 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.

INFO: Duane / Kathy Vosburg 586-949-3810, Rick DeClaire 586-296-2363, Adam Mueller 248-872-2642

Website: www.chesterfieldhistoricalsociety.org

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