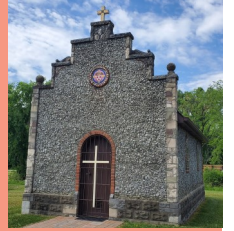




The Journal

Chesterfield Historical Society



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Weller School History Discovered!

The Weller Schoolhouse was the first addition to the historical village when it was moved in 1996. At the time, the historical society thoroughly researched the history of the school. The earliest record found dated to 1862. Recently new information has been discovered that expands the history of our little red schoolhouse.

In 1907 Warren Parker, a lifelong resident of Chesterfield Township and an early township supervisor wrote a series of articles to the *Mount Clemens Monitor* newspaper detailing the history of the township. Thanks to this nineteenth century historian we have a history of the first schools, the first churches and early pioneers of Chesterfield Township. According to Parker, the first school in Chesterfield Township was a private school, taught by Miss Martha Fairchild in 1832-1833. The school met in a turnpike shanty near the southeast corner of 22 Mile Road and Gratiot Avenue. This shanty was one of many built for the use of laborers in constructing the Gratiot road. The school continued until Otis W. Cotton married the teacher, August 8, 1833, and that event closed the school.

The school district that would become Chesterfield School District Number 1 was organized in 1840-1841 while the area was a part of Macomb Township. The first school was taught in 1842 by Charity Shattuck. Chesterfield Township was organized by Public Act 57 on February 16, 1842 with the first municipal meeting on April 4, 1842 and the school district was soon renamed Chesterfield School District Number 1. The existing schoolhouse was built around 1891 replacing an earlier frame school building. Classes were taught continuously in this school until 1954.

Become a Member!

The Chesterfield Historical Society meets at the Chesterfield Township Library, 50560 Patricia Ave. on the first Monday of the month at 6:30 pm. All are welcome.

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Chesterfield Twp. Historical Society

President- Kathy Vosburg

Vice-President- Rick DeClaire

Secretary- Adam Mueller

Treasurer— Linda Hartman

Trustees- Deborah Bach

Linda Hartman & JoAnn Power

Newsletter Editor— Adam Mueller

2024 at a Glance

- \$2,870 raised in Winter Walk
- Local resident Larry King interviewed
- New forge installed in Blacksmith Shop
- May 18, historical society at Chesterfield Police Open House
- June 1 & 2, History Alive! had 122 visitors
- June 6, Rosseel's Farm Equipment donated two plows
- June 30, Log Cabin Days had 27 visitors and the Friends of the Chesterfield Township Library participated
- Chimney cap installed in Blacksmith Shop
- July 13 & 14, World War II reenactment had 292 visitors
- July 27 & 28, historical society at Cheers for Chesterfield
- August, Weller school house repainted by Boy Scout Eddie
- September 14, Heritage Days had 227 visitors
- September, log cabin restored and stained by Boy Scout Isaac Jarosz





Friends of the Chesterfield Township Library provided crafts during Log Cabin Days



Plows donated by Rosseel's Farm Equipment

Thank you to our sponsors



Contact us to become an event sponsor.

Chesterfield Twp's Political History

November 5th is national election day. In observance of the election, we look at Chesterfield Township's political history. Since Chesterfield Township was organized in 1842, there have been 34 men elected to the office of township supervisor. Eight supervisors were reelected to nonconsecutive terms. Samuel P. Canfield, the first supervisor was elected to nonconsecutive terms three times. The practice of nonconsecutive reelection was very common in the 1800s with supervisors serving shorter terms. And one supervisor, James Pollard achieved nonconsecutive reelection in the twentieth century 1977-1992 and 1996-2000.

Which political party has been elected to office more often? Since 1900 there have been ten Democratic Party supervisors elected in Chesterfield Township. The Republican Party has represented Chesterfield Township with five supervisors. And from 1933 to 1958 two men, Adolph Veryser and Keith Bovenschen were members of the People's Party.

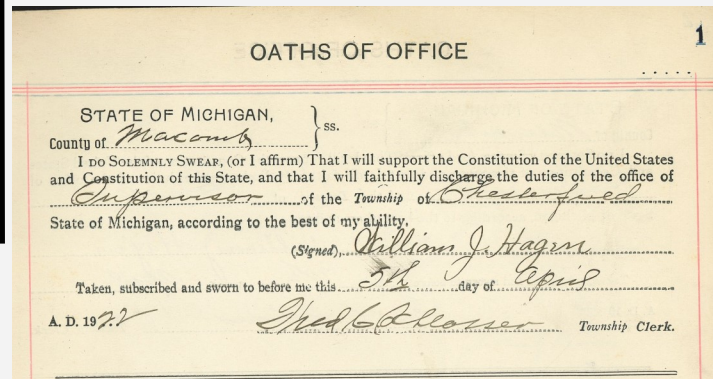
The village of Chesterfield, located near 22 Mile Road and Gratiot Avenue retained a small governing board that would meet to discuss municipal concerns like public sidewalks and street lights.



Chesterfield Twp's Supervisors

County Commissioners	1842 – 1843	Charles Yates	1886 – 1911
Samuel P. Canfield	1843 – 1844	John M. Spaller	1911 - 1921
Benjamin T. Castle	1844 – 1846	William J. Hagen	1921 – 1933
Cyrus B. Symmons	1846 – 1848	Adolph Veryser	1933 – 1953
Charles B. Matthews	1849 – 1850	Keith Bovenschen	1953 – 1958
Cyrus B. Symmons	1851 – 1853	Carl A. Brandenburg	1958 – 1967
Samuel P. Canfield	1850 – 1851	Joseph Weisenberger	1967 – 1968
Eber C. Denison	1851 – 1853	Matthew A. Wagner	1968 – 1976
Samuel P. Canfield	1853 – 1854	Otis Dean Smith	1976 – 1977
Eber C. Denison	1854 – 1855	Rodger Knight	1977*
Charles B. Matthews	1855 – 1856	James Pollard	1977 – 1992
Joshua C. Parker	1856 – 1857	Ray Richards	1992 – 1995
Joseph Hubbard	1857 – 1859	James Pollard	1995 – 1996
Parker Hart	1859 – 1860	James Tharp	1996 – 2000
Charles D. Crittenden	1860 – 1861	Jim Ellis	2000 – 2008
John Milton	1861 – 1865	Michael E. Lovelock	2008 – 2016
Ford L. Milton	1865 – 1866	Daniel J. Acciavatti	2016 – 2021
Parker Hart	1866 – 1867	Bradley A. Kersten	2021 –
Joel Hart	1867 – 1870		
Charles D. Crittenden	1870 – 1871		
Joel Hart	1871 – 1872		
John Milton	1872 – 1877		
Warren Parker	1877 – 1879		
Joel Hart	1879 – 1880		
William C. Jones	1881 – 1885		
Warren Parker	1882 – 1885		

*appointed by governor for interim-



William J. Hagen's oath of office on April 3, 1922 is preserved in the library's archive.
Record of Oath, 1922-1988



2024 CALENDAR OF EVENTS



2024 events sponsored by
MGM Dumpsters, General Josiah Harmar Chapter and First State Bank

June 1st, SAT. 10 – 4, June 2nd 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 30th, SUNDAY 1 – 4 pm **MICHIGAN LOG CABIN DAY**
Log cabin will be open along with hands on activities on the lawn.

JULY 13th, SATURDAY 10 – 4 pm, JULY 14th, SUNDAY, 10 -3 pm
WORLD WAR II REENACTMENT

We will host the Michigan Military Technical & Historical Society in public demonstration of authentic World War II combat, encampment life and vehicle displays. The event will feature both an Allied & Axis encampment for public displays with two public battles on both days (11 am & 2 pm). Military vehicles will be on display. Story teller presenting “Hello Girls: Women Telephone Operators during WWII” in the schoolhouse 1 pm Saturday Food and drinks will be available for purchase. Entrance fee is a donation of \$1 per person or \$2 for a family.

AUGUST 10th, SATURDAY 10 – 4 pm, AUGUST 11th, 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 14th, SAT. 10 – 4 pm **HERITAGE DAYS**

Enjoy hands on activities, photos and games, a “Kids Tent” and candle making, rope making, corn grinding, scavenger hunt, craft show and more. Food and drinks will be available for purchase. Entrance fee is a donation of \$1 per person or \$2 for a family.

Please note event details are subject to change

Contact us

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Website: <https://www.chesterfieldhistoricalsociety.org>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Chesterfield-Historical-Society-of-Michigan-117264017216/>