

**Ortonville Community Historical Society**  
**Agenda for General Membership Meeting August 12, 2025 at 6:00pm**  
**Old Mill Museum - 366 Mill Street - Ortonville, MI 48462**

*“The Ortonville Community Historical Society shall work with local government, businesses, organizations and citizens of all ages to research, collect and safeguard our local heritage through living displays and authentic educational experiences.”*

1. Call to Order by the President, Alan at 6:02
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Recognition of Guests / New Members - Alan
4. Attendance / Sandy M, Kathy G, Tom R, Kathy T, Scott B, Alan A, Mari Ann Vargo, Dennis H, Carol E
5. Approval of Agenda – motion to approve from Kathy T and second by Tom R - 2<sup>nd</sup> approved
6. Approval of Minutes, July 15 Gen. Membership Meeting - Motion by Alan A and second by Scott B approved
7. Treasurer’s Report - Scott – motion to approve by Kathy T and second by Alan A – approved
8. Executive Officer Reports

a. President - Alan A reported that he is participating with the Library for 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration. Alan reported to the 100<sup>th</sup> committee that OCHS might do a display at the old mill relating to the history of the library. Alan A also reported that OCHS received a donation of outside children’s games from DDA which included stilts, etc. The society also received a donation from Gwen Webb of two male mannikins. Alan also reported that he recently met with Eddie Howell of the SAR Clarkston chapter who asked what we could do together for America250. An initial idea was to have of an event at the old mill to kick off a display. Alan also met with Dave Decker, vice-president of the Oakland County Historical Society who is a mill expert. He gave him a tour of the mill and Alan remarked that he learned a lot including when the old mill went from grindstone to a roller mill. Finally, Alan reported that John Foss’s exchange student went back to Japan and left OCHS a gift, a special small display of origami cranes. Alan read a note she sent along with the give. Alan reminded the group that she helped with the translation of the Japanese flag in the OCHS collection.

- b. Vice President - absent
- c. Secretary – nothing to report
- d. Treasurer – nothing to report

## 9. Trustee Reports

Kathy G.- reported that she and Mary K had finished a display of a quilt and information from the Featherston family. The quilt is on loan through fall.

Kathy T – nothing to report

LuAnn – nothing to report

Mary K – nothing to report

Mary Alice – nothing to report

## 10. Project Reports

- a. Nominating/Election Committee -- Kathy T reported that Mari Ann V will be on the ballot for Vice President and Sandy Miller for Trustee. However, we need more nominees. Dennis Hoffman added that he has too much going on right now to run.
- b. Furnace Replacement - Scott / Alan – The new furnace has been installed.
- c. Temporary Signage - Alan A. reported that the Board decided to purchase some temporary signs and an order has been submitted to Paramount signs for creation
- d. Operations Checklists: Open/Close/Maintenance -- Alan reported that he had talked about this at last meeting and has placed a draft example in tonight's packet.
- e. Donations Records – Computer Entry -- Alan A reported that Tina A has been working on this project. Mari Ann V offered to help with this.

## 11. Event Reports – Past

- a. July 23 – Dulcimer Concert - Alan reported that it was successful and about 15 to 20 people attended. Scott added it was very enjoyable.
- b. July 26 – Crochet with Sarah - Alan reported that 6 or 8 people were present and the presenter would like to come back. Tom R reported that it was a lot harder than he thought but that Sarah was patient and kind and a great presenter.

## 12. Event Reports - Future

- a. Aug 19 – 6:00pm - Hadley Mill Museum Tour - Alan – next week – special private tour – be there at 6 PM.
- b. Sept 13 – SeptemberFest
  - *Apple Pie Baking Contest*- Shauna – Judging will be behind-the-scenes

- *Apple Pie Eating Contest*- Alan reported that this will be different this year and organizations will be paying \$50 to sign up.
- *Butter churning* - Mari Ann - Scott will be helping – Kathy G and Mary K will be sharing information with Mari Ann.
- *Tour Guide Posts* - Alan discussed 'zone coverage' meaning that instead of having a docent take a person/group through the museum, people will be stationed in a zone, or area, of the museum.
- *Blacksmith* - Tom R. will be demonstrating and he will be making hooks and tiny swords.
- *School Activity* - nothing so far but Alan will reach out to the library.

- c. Sept 27 – Art at the Mill- Alan reported that over 30 have already signed up and that the person organizing this is even bringing a craft to be done in the school. Our only responsibility is to take care of the people walking through the mill.
- d. Oct 11 – Witches Night - Mary
- e. Oct 17(?) – 8th Grade Museum Tour - cancelled
- f. Oct 15, 18 – Oakland County Parks/Oakland History Center Museum Tour - Carol/Alan – Ticket sales to begin August 21. The group should reach Ortonville by about 2:30 and will have just over an hour.
- g. Oct 31 – Halloween - Scott
- h. Nov 15 - Christmas Decoration Day – Alan reported that we should do this again this year.
- i. Dec 5-6 Christmas in Village - Alan reported that the parade will go right in front of the mill this year.
- j, Dec 27 or Jan 3 – Christmas Undecoration Day - Alan reported one of these two days will be used for this.

13. Unfinished Business -

14. New Business

15. Roundtable/Announcements - Dennis Hoffman reported that the recent Purple Heart ceremony was very successful. Sandy Miller has volunteered to put the 'film' on the mill windows and she will help out on the 13<sup>th</sup> at Septemberfest. - Scott mentioned that he feels making the street one way by the mill is problematic. Many people were in agreement.

16. Next Meeting / Adjourn – motion to adjourn by Alan A. and second by Scott