



# Green Oak Historian

Official Newsletter of the  
**Green Oak Township Historical Society**

Illustration by George DeAngelis

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May/June 2017



**SATURDAY, JULY 8, 2017**

*Join us for a tour of the Ford Piquette Avenue Plant . 461 Piquette Street . Detroit, MI 48202. You will see a well preserved early 20<sup>th</sup> century automobile factory where the Model T was created. We will meet in the Society's parking lot at 10:15 AM, carpooling to the Plant. We will eat lunch after the tour and then return to Green Oak.*

**\*\*Call Marilyn Harrington at (248) 446-0789 if you plan to attend so we can schedule drivers.**

Green Oak Township Historical Society  
10789 Silver Lake Road  
South Lyon, MI 48178



**Wednesday, July 26, 2017**

**7:00 pm**

*Al and David Eicher presenting "Michigan in the Civil War". This presentation is unique in that it develops a month by month timeline of events in Michigan and at the Eastern battlefields. At the beginning of the war, in April of 1861, Michigan had about 1200 men and a few officers in the State Militia. By January of 1865 nearly 89,000 Michigan soldiers had served in the war. This program in 77 minutes tells true stories about Michigan people and Governor Blair's search for troops to meet Lincoln's request.*

*If you plan to attend call M. Harrington at 248-446-0789, as seating is limited.*

Green Oak Township Historical Society  
10789 Silver Lake Road  
South Lyon, MI 48178

Thank you to the Green Oak Township Board for their continued support of the Society.

**SUPPORT THESE BUSINESSES:**

**Big PDQ** – For all your printing needs (810) 229-2989 [www.bigpdq.com](http://www.bigpdq.com)

**Costco** – 6700 Whitmore Lake Road . Brighton 48116

**Green Oak Golf Carts** (248) 437-8461

**Green Oak Gutter** (248) 437-9700  
[greenoakgutter.com](http://greenoakgutter.com)

**GFL Environmental** – [gflusa.com](http://gflusa.com) (844) 464-3587

**Green Oak Tire Inc.** (248) 437-1753 ... 7480  
Kensington Rd Brighton, MI 48116 [greenoaktire.com](http://greenoaktire.com)

**Hungry Howie's Flavored Crust Pizza** (734) 449-9100 ... 11930 Whitmore Lake Rd . Whitmore Lake, MI 48189

Check out our [website:](http://www.greenoaktownshiphistoricalsociety.org)

[www.greenoaktownshiphistoricalsociety.org](http://www.greenoaktownshiphistoricalsociety.org)

**GOTHS MISSION STATEMENT:**

*The Society's purpose is to bring together those people interested in history, particularly the history of Green Oak Township, and to promote a better understanding and appreciation of our American heritage.*

**Green Oak Township Historical Society Board for 2017:**  
The Board meets the second Wednesday each month, except December, at 6:30 pm. All are welcome to attend.

- *President – Marilyn Harrington 248-446-0789*
- *Vice President – Antoinette “T” Shelvey 248-342-0978*
- *Secretary –*
- *Treasurer – David Huck 248-486-9121*
- **Trustees:**
- *Marieanna Bair 810-229-6402*  
*Bill Besso 248-486-0515*
- *Anna Ernst*
- *Walt Ernst 810-231-3273*
- *Erlah Lambert 248-437-0893*
- *Bill Lintner 248-231-6484*
- *Ruth Munzel 248-437-2421*
- *Stuart Schluckebier 248- 486-6662*

The Wardens of Green Oak

Robert Warden, born in Scotland December 4, 1814, came with his good friend and brother-in-law Kinsley S. Bingham to Green Oak township in 1836. They each purchased land in the township; Warden in sections 13/14, 120 acres, and Bingham in Sections 11/14, 320 acres. They were living in Washtenaw County at this time. Much of this acreage, on the east side of the township, was productive farm land, with streams flowing into the Huron River.

Warden and his wife, Caroline (Bingham) had five children; three girls, two boys. Their son, Robert Jr., had two children; Walter and Janet. Janet graduated with the class of 1914 from South Lyon High School. For several years, she was a teacher at the rural Washburn School, District #5, on Ten Mile Road. Janet lived for many years in the beautiful frame house on Rushton Road, just north of Ten Mile Road. Centennial Farm development, just south of the house, now hosts many homes. Janet Warden is interred in the South Lyon Cemetery.

Bingham's first wife Margaret (Warden) died June 7, 1834, a few days after the birth of her child, Kinsley W. His father Kinsley S. married Margaret's sister, Mary on June 10, 1839. A year later James W. was born. In the Historical Society's book, Yesteryears of Green Oak 1830 – 1930, it is noted that in 1882 the remains of the Wardens and Bingham, which had been interred in the family burying ground, which appears to have been on a rise behind the Bingham house on Silver Lake Road, were moved to the Old Village Cemetery in Brighton. Family members included were Robert Warden, Sr., Robert Warden Jr., Mary Warden, James Bingham, Margaret Bingham, and three infants of Kinsley and Mary Bingham. Later members of these families are also interred in the Brighton cemetery.

(Compiled by Marieanna Bair from: Early Landowners and Settlers by Milton Charboneau; Yesteryears of Green Oak 1830 -1930 by the Green Oak Township Historical Society; records from the Old Village cemetery by John & Janice Field; census record and obituary collection. Additions/corrections requested. 810-229-6402)

Green Oak Township Historical Society Programs for 2017: (All are held at the Historic 1856 Hall 10789 Silver Lake Road -South Lyon, MI 48178 unless otherwise noted.)



- *Saturday, July 8, 2017 - Join us for a tour of the Ford Piquette Avenue Plant . 461 Piquette Street . Detroit, MI 48202. You will see a well preserved early 20<sup>th</sup> century automobile factory where the Model T was created. We will meet in the Society's parking lot at 10:15 AM, carpooling to the plant. We will eat lunch after the tour and then return to the Society. Call M. Harrington 248-446-0789 at if you plan to attend.*



- *Wednesday, July 26, 2017 - 7:00 pm – Al and David Eicher presenting “Michigan in the Civil War”. If you plan to attend call M. Harrington at 248-446-0789, as seating is limited.*



- *Thursday, August 31, 2017: 7:00 pm - Mike Fornes presenting “Gordon Lightfoot Tribute”. If you plan to attend call M. Harrington at 248-446-0789, as seating is limited.*



- **Green Oak Day – Saturday, September 16, 2017 . 10001 Silver Lake Road . Brighton, MI 48178**



- *Sunday, October 22, 2017: 1:00 pm Annual Meeting and Potluck Luncheon: Susan Nenadic presenting “Ghost Hunting”. If you plan to attend call M. Harrington at 248-446-0789, as seating is limited.*
- *Sunday, December 10, 2017: 1:00 pm Luncheon at Bar None - 11600 Grand River Rd. - Brighton, MI 48116*



**The Society is selling Rada Knives and products. Call Antoinette “T” Shelvey, the Vice President at 248-342-0978 for more information.**

*Notes from Marilyn Harrington, President  
Thank you –*

- *Antoinette “T” Shelvey for organizing items and taking them to the resale shop.*
- *Marieanna Bair, Mary Janssen, and Erlah Lambert for working on the archives and collections of the society with me.*
- *Anna Ernst, Steve Harrington, and Stuart Schluckebier for working on the flower beds and brush trimming with me.*
- *Maris Wallag for taking pictures of artifacts to update our inventory listing.*

*Please note, the Society could use help with the following:*

- *Organizing, cleaning, and creating displays*
- *Suggesting ideas or items for the wall of a circa 1940’s kitchen display*
- *Assisting with the flower beds and grounds up keep*

*Join us as we usually work on Monday afternoons from 1:30 to 3:30 pm. Call me if you plan to stop by with a question or wish to help as we sometimes need to cancel our work session. (248) 446-0789*

**The Society’s Historic 1856 Hall with warming kitchen is available for rent for small groups (maximum capacity is 50 people). The rent is \$200.00 paid at least two weeks prior to your event. \$100.00 will be returned to you one week after your event if everything was maintained as before your event. Please call Marilyn Harrington 248-446-0789, if you wish to rent the Society’s Historic 1856 Hall and warming kitchen**

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*The Society sends condolences to the families of Mona Wenzel, Mildred (Millie) Bunn, and Sarah (JoAnn) Murphy. Mona was a Past President and charter member, Millie had been a Society supporter for many years, and JoAnn had been a Board member.*

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Green Oak Township  
Historical Society  
1856 Historic Township Hall  
10789 Silver Lake Road  
South Lyon, MI 48178  
**Return Service Requested**

Non- Profit  
U.S. Postage  
Paid  
South Lyon, MI  
Permit No. 64

**Check your mailing label. Dues have not been paid if it doesn't say "Life" or "2017". Please use the form below and mail it to the Society.**

The Green Oak Township Historical Society relies on the participation of its members and the generosity of its patrons. If you would like to renew your membership, donate, or become a member please use this form. Mail form to: **Green Oak Twp. Historical Society . 10789 Silver Lake Road . South Lyon, MI 48178**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Membership: \_\_\_\_\_ \$2 Student \_\_\_\_\_ \$15 Individual \_\_\_\_\_ \$25 Family \_\_\_\_\_ \$50 Patron  
\_\_\_\_\_ \$50 Business/Professional \_\_\_\_\_ \$350 Life

Donation: \_\_\_\_\_ \$10 \_\_\_\_\_ \$25 \_\_\_\_\_ \$50 \_\_\_\_\_ \$100 \_\_\_\_\_ Other

The Green Oak Twp. Historical Society is a 501 (c) (3) Non-Profit Organization. All donations are tax deductible.