

Upcoming Events

May 16th – Plant Sale (download order form at www.franklin-history.org)

May 17th – Grand Re-opening of the Franklin Historical Museum 2 – 4 P.M.
26165 Thirteen Mile Road at Kirk Lane

May 18th – Civil War Cemetery Tour 2 P.M. meet on Scenic Dr. cost: \$10

May 26th – Memorial Day service in the cemetery 11 A.M.

June 7th - 5K fun run, walk, strut your mutt, kid's dash and pancake breakfast

June 10th – Franklin Historical Society annual meeting, 7 P.M. at the museum

Can You Dig It?

The annual Franklin Historical Society plant sale is coming! It's a perennial thing!

Download the order form at www.franklin-history.org and mail it to FHS, P.O. Box 250007, Franklin, Michigan 48025 by May 9th. Your order will be ready on May 16th.



Civil War Cemetery Tour

We have around 25 Civil War veterans buried in the Franklin Cemetery. Did you know that one of them is a Medal of Honor recipient? Our boys fought in every major battle. Many of them served four years. Some were wounded, some POW'S, most survived, but some did not come back alive.

Hear their stories on Sunday, May 17th at 2 P.M. We will meet at the cemetery gate on Scenic Drive. The cost is \$10.

To reserve your spot, call Ann Lamott at 248-538-0273.



Franklin Historical Society Newsletter

May 2014

THE 22ND MICHIGAN INFANTRY

The 22nd Michigan Infantry was formed from Oakland, Livingston, Macomb, Sanilac and St. Clair counties. The regiment was equipped, trained and mustered into service at the fairgrounds in Pontiac.

Former Michigan governor, Moses Wisner, was commissioned as a colonel to organize his regiment. The soldiers wore new uniforms, had a picnic at noon and were given gifts by the residents of Pontiac. A farmer unloaded a wagon of fresh apples for the troops. Someone was given a "housewife kit" which contained needle and thread to mend clothing.



Moses Wisner

The men listened to patriotic speeches and songs. The 22nd was presented with a silk embroidered flag by Miss Emma Adams and Miss Julia Comstock.

As they eagerly marched to the train station in Pontiac headed for Detroit, little did they know what was ahead of them. In Detroit, they boarded a boat for Cleveland and then a train to Cincinnati. They crossed the Ohio River and reached Covington, Kentucky.

They marched continuously. One soldier complained that they weren't able to bathe or change their clothing for nearly four weeks! They were filthy, dusty and homesick. The excitement of enlisting and embarking on a new adventure was overshadowed by the conditions they were experiencing.

Boys from the Franklin area were among the foot soldiers.

Thomas Broughton was a merchant, married to Lavinia Van Every when he enlisted in the 22nd Michigan on 24 July 1862. He was the quartermaster in the regiment responsible for distributing supplies and provisions to the troops. A few years later, he would become weary of the war and be absent from his unit for days at a time.

John and William Hollingshead were brothers who enlisted on the same day, 11 August 1862. Sanitation conditions were poor in the military. John would die of typhoid fever seven months later in Lexington, Kentucky. William would be shot in both knees and left leg and die from his wounds at the General Hospital in Chattanooga, Tennessee.

Henry Smith, a cooper, also enlisted with the Hollingshead boys that same day. He would be wounded, but not severely enough to be released from service. He left the 22nd and transferred to the 11th Regiment Veteran Reserve (Invalid Corps.) to perform duties other than on the battlefield.

Eugene Carr joined this regiment on 29 August 1864 about

nine months before the 22nd disbanded after the war.

Without knowledge of their fate, the 22nd was marched to Camp Ella Bishop in Lexington, Kentucky. The time spent here were months of suffering. They learned that bullets were not the only danger to the life of a soldier.

They had picket duty in the open fields without shelter from the cold and winter storms. There were no fires. They slept on the damp ground.

Typhoid fever ravaged through the camp. Colonel Moses Wisner died 4 January 1863 and John Hollingshead died in March.

On the 20th of September 1863, the soldiers fought in the Battle of Chickamauga in north Georgia, not far from Chattanooga. It was the largest battle in the western theater. It was second only to the Battle of Gettysburg in the number of casualties.

On that day, the confederates were trying to break the union line. The 22nd fixed their bayonets and charged the hill. They suffered heavy losses, but they took possession. By evening, they had run out of ammunition. They searched bodies of the dead and wounded for bullets.

As it got dark, they discovered that while they were holding the confederates back, the union army took the opportunity to retreat back to Chattanooga. They had been abandoned! Some of them played dead or rolled into the bushes to hide. Almost everyone else was captured and taken to Libby or Andersonville prisons.

The unit learned that the officer who commanded them to charge, had abandoned them on the field. They considered him a coward. Thomas Broughton, William Hollingshead and Henry Smith fought at the Battle of Chickamauga. After the battle, Broughton would disappear for days at a time and offer weak excuses. Hollingshead did not survive. Of the one thousand men who had left Pontiac a year earlier, 187 officers and men were present for duty on 27 September 1863.

In May 1864, the 22nd accompanied Sherman on the Atlanta campaign. They acted as guards for General Thomas' headquarters and escorts and guards for thousands of confederates and deserters.

In June 1865, the regiment mustered out in Nashville, Tennessee and returned to Detroit on the Michigan Central Railroad. Two flags of the 22nd Michigan were captured at Chickamauga. For thirty years after the war, survivors searched for the colors. A soldier discovered a book in the War Department containing an inventory of property captured by the Union army at the surrender of Richmond which listed two flags from the 22nd. It took an act of Congress, but on 4 September 1895, the flags were restored to survivors of the 22nd at a reunion held in Pontiac. Some of the women who presented the flags to the unit were there upon the flags return.

www.franklin-history.org

P.O. Box 250007 Franklin, Michigan 48025

FRANKLIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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The Lincoln Connection

Civil War tours, re-enactments and an explosion of information on the internet about those tumultuous years have been taking place since 2011 and will continue until 2015. It has been 150 years since the start of the Civil War. For the past few years, the Kite and Key has focused on Michigan regiments and Franklin soldiers who served during that time. Our boys had a true connection to that time period.

Michigan also had a connection with Abraham Lincoln. Take a visit to Greenfield Village, the Henry Ford Museum and the Burton Historical Collection at the Detroit Public Library to discover the history in our own backyard!

In Greenfield Village, near the edge of the green, stands the Logan County Courthouse. This walnut clapboard building was built about 1840. It originally stood in Postville, Illinois.

As a young attorney, Lincoln was a circuit riding lawyer and would travel by horse to the tiny towns within a certain perimeter. He practiced law here! He and a handful of circuit riding lawyers served the 8th judicial circuit which covered 11,000 miles. They would follow Judge David Davis to the courthouse in towns.

In 1929, Henry Ford discovered the dilapidated building. It had been a private home. Ford wanted to include the structure connected to our 16th President in Greenfield Village. He purchased it, had it disassembled and rebuilt in Dearborn. The original plaster was

preserved. They had it reground with new plaster.

The building is often decorated with patriotic bunting and welcomes everyone to come inside and stand where Lincoln practiced law. Be sure to check out the walnut corner cupboard made by Abe and his father.

In 1860, when Lincoln and Hannibal Hamlin were running for President and Vice President, Lincoln received a letter from an eleven old girl from New York who suggested that he should grow a beard. This is what she said:

Dear Sir,

My father has just come home from the fair and brought home your picture and Mr. Hamlin's. I am a little girl only 11 years old, but want you should be President of the United States very much so I hope you won't think me very bold to write to such a great man as you are.

Have you any little girls about as large as I am? I have got 4 brothers and part of them will vote for you any way and if you let your whiskers grow I will try and get the rest of them to vote for you. You would look a great deal better because your face is so thin. I must not write any more.

Answer this letter right off!

Good bye

Grace Bedell

Did Grace's letter convince Lincoln to grow a beard? We may never know if her letter was what influenced him to do so. We do know that he was touched by it.

Today, the original of Grace's letter to Lincoln is in the Burton Historical Collection of the Detroit Public Library.

It is owned by a private collector who wishes to remain anonymous.

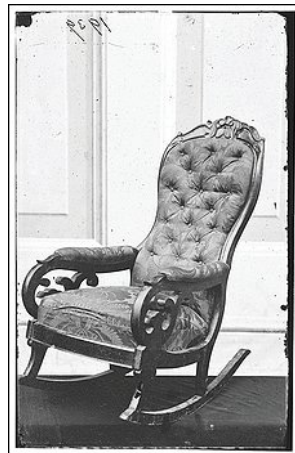
On April 14, 1865 President Abraham Lincoln was assassinated by John Wilkes Booth while sitting in a chair at Ford's Theater in Washington D.C. Today the chair is on display at the Henry Ford Museum in Dearborn.

It was used as evidence in the trial of the conspirators. The chair and Lincoln's stovepipe hat were put on display at the Patent Office building. They were exhibited for a year or two. In 1869, the items were brought to the Smithsonian and kept in storage for years.

In 1929, the chair was sold at an auction for \$2400. An antique dealer conveyed it to Henry Ford.

The chair was restored in 1999. It is in an enclosed, temperature moderated case.

Plan a day trip to Dearborn and Detroit to make your own Lincoln connection!



From Chaos to Organized Medicine

No one could have predicted the amount of bloodshed that would occur during the Civil War. There were 620,000 soldiers who lost their lives to gunshot wounds, 400,000 that were wounded and 476,000 that were captured or missing.

No one was prepared to take care of the wounded or dying. At the start of the conflict, there were few experienced surgeons to handle battlefield wounds. The average medical student trained for two years or less. The real training came on the job.

The most frequent wounds were to the extremities. Amputation was the most common surgical procedure. Amputation saved lives. Three out of four amputees survived.

No one was aware of the relationship between bacteria and infection. Civil War doctors used the same surgical instruments over and over without bothering to sterilize them.

Poor sanitation practices in the camps, resulted in chronic diarrhea, dysentery, typhoid fever, pneumonia, tuberculosis, small pox, malaria and measles.

Doctors lacked medical equipment. They did have chloroform, morphine and opium available to ease a soldier's pain.

Easing a soldier's pain on the battlefield was insurmountable! Thousands were hurting and getting to them was a challenge. Men were left to fend for themselves unless carried off by a comrade. A wounded soldier could lie for days suffering from exposure and thirst. No one had official training to treat the wounded or remove them properly. A procedure to remove the dead and wounded more expeditiously and get them treatment was needed.

In August 1862 at the Second Battle of Bull Run (Manassas), it took a week to remove the wounded! Jonathan Letterman, medical director of the Army of the Potomac, would develop an organized system of removing and caring for soldiers after battle.

Dr. Letterman developed an evacuation that consisted of three stations. The first was a field dressing station located on or next to the battlefield where doctors could apply initial dressings or tourniquets to wounds. Next was a field hospital located close to the battlefield usually in homes, barns or churches where emergency surgery could be done. And finally, a large hospital located away from the battlefield which provided long term treatment.

Each regiment was assigned its own ambulances staffed with well trained drivers and stretcher bearers. From the front, the wounded were removed by ambulance along pre-determined routes to field hospitals, most of which were set up prior to the battle. At each field hospital, "dressers" performed basic triage sorting patients for treatment by priority, not by order of their arrival. After being stabilized, most patients were transferred to long term recovery hospitals.

There were hospitals in Frederick, Baltimore, Washington and Philadelphia. All hospitals had one surgeon in charge, one

assistant surgeon to provide supplies and another to keep records.

With Letterman's medical system in place, the expediency of taking care of the injured changed drastically. At the Battle of Antietam, just two weeks after the Second Battle of Bull Run, there were 23,000 casualties. Medical personnel were able to remove all the wounded from the battlefield in 24 hours! The Father of Battlefield Medicine, as Letterman was called, enabled thousands of wounded men to recover and be treated.

Franklin had soldiers that fought in battles before Letterman's medical system was in place and after it had been implemented. Otto Berger, 5th Michigan Infantry, had contracted a serious cold that caused chest pain and difficulty breathing at White Oak Swamp in June 1862. He continued to suffer at the Second Battle of Bull Run (Manassas) in August 1862. He was sick on the field and taken in an ambulance to a house near Centerville. Since it took a week at this battle to remove the wounded and the dead, Berger was fortunate to be found quickly and he survived.

At Gettysburg on July 2nd and 3rd 1863, Berger was wounded in the hand and shoulder. He would have benefitted from the ambulance system and field hospital to take care of his wounds. And at Spotsylvania of the 12th of May 1864, he was severely wounded in the right hip by a Minnie ball.



What could have been fatal, ended with survival at a hospital in Washington D.C. He recovered there and was sent home on furlough for a month.

Henry Cox, 1st Michigan Cavalry, was a hospital steward just three months before Gettysburg. He would probably have been stationed at a field hospital. His duties included dispensing medicinal whiskey, assisting field surgeons in operations, prescribing drugs and performing minor operations during emergencies. Later, he became an assistant surgeon.

Both Berger and Cox would have witnessed the chaos of life on the battlefield before field hospitals, triage and a systematic ambulance transport. One experienced it as the wounded; the other as the healer.



Kite & Key is a publication of the Franklin Historical Society. The Franklin Historical Society seeks to preserve such material, structures and artifacts that help to establish the history of the Village of Franklin and to make it accessible to those who wish to study it. The Society maintains a museum and archival area at the Derwich House, 26165 13 Mile Road (at Kirk). Volunteers and donations are most welcome. *Kite & Key* and the society welcome mail at:

P.O. Box 250007
Franklin, MI 48025

Email: info@franklin-history.org
Contributors: Bill & Ann Lamott



SATURDAY, JUNE 7th, 2014

Sixth Annual

Franklin Community Center Fund Raising Event

The 5K run, walk, strut your mutt, Kids Dash and pancake breakfast to raise funds for the Franklin Community Center is Saturday, June 7th. Registration forms are available at RaceRaceRace.com, the Village Offices (32325 Franklin Road) or at www.franklin-history.org. You can also register the day of the run beginning at 7 A.M.

The run begins at 8 A.M. in front of the Franklin Community Center at 26225 Carol Street just west of the Village Offices. The cost is \$25 by 5/2, \$30 by 5/23, \$35 thru 6/7, which includes a T-shirt and pancake breakfast. Fees are \$5 less if you choose a vintage shirt rather than a new one. Prizes are awarded for first, second and third place males and females.

The 5K walk starts immediately after the start of the race also in front of the Community Center. A T-shirt and pancake breakfast is included in the cost which is \$25 by 5/2, \$30 by 5/23, \$35 thru 6/7. Fees are \$5 less if you choose a vintage shirt rather than a new one.

The strut your mutt commences at the same time as the walk. The cost is \$10 by 5/2, \$12 by 5/23, \$15 thru 6/7 per dog and includes one breakfast and a goodie bag for the first 25 participants.

FRANKLIN, MICHIGAN

The Kids Dash begins at 9:00 AM - \$10 by 5/2, \$12 by 5/23, \$15 thru 6/7 and includes one breakfast and a kite.

Pick up a registration form at the Village Office or sign up on active.com. For information on these events please contact: John Pulker 248-538-0183 or Ann or Bill Lamott 248-538-0273.

The pancake breakfast, a cooperative effort between Boy Scout Troop 1699 and the Franklin Bingham Fire Department, consists of pancakes, sausage, juice and coffee prepared by the Scouts and held at the fire station on Franklin Road. Scouts will be cooking from 8:30 – 11 A.M. Adult tickets are \$8, children ages 4-12 \$5 and children ages 3 and under are free. For additional information on the breakfast, please contact: Gary Roberts 248-626-0219 or Madeline Haddad at 248-855-3390.

So, come run, walk or strut your stuff and finish off the morning with pancakes or just come have a family breakfast at the fire station.

For updates and upcoming events on the Franklin Community Center visit the website www.franklin-history.org

Event Sponsors



1914 – 2014 Why Poppies?

It has been one hundred years since the start of the Great War! A poem written by Lt. Colonel John McCrae, called Flanders Fields, focused on the poppies that grow between the crosses, row by row. His poem was a lasting legacy to the destructive battles that occurred there.

Flanders is a region in Belgium. This region was fought over from October 1914 to November 1918. In May 1915, McCrae noticed all of the vibrant red poppies growing everywhere. It inspired his poem. But, why did all of these

poppies spring up?

Poppies only flower in rooted soil. Their seeds can remain dormant on the ground for years! If the ground is disturbed, they will sprout. During battle, the soil was churned up, and, the poppies blossomed like never before!

At the Memorial Day service in the Franklin cemetery, Flanders Fields is always recited. Now, it may take on a new meaning when you hear it!

A While Ago in Franklin

On November 11, 1918, WWI was over. There were few Americans unaffected by the travail. Farmers worked to feed the Allied World. Families preserved foods. Women and men knitted socks and gloves. There were meatless days and wheatless days. There were Liberty Bond Loan drives.

From the All About Franklin book

Franklin Community Center Update *(Kreger House)*

When we install air conditioning and complete the landscaping, the second phase of the community center will be done! Phase three is work on the barn.

Patrick Baker, an Eagle Scout candidate, is interested in the landscaping phase as his project. We are anxious to work with him and excited to see the results. When the snow clears, we can all watch the project progress.

Franklin Cares meets at the house on the first Friday of the month. The seniors share conversation, treats and a different topic each time. Last month they took a shuttle to BASCC (Birmingham Area Seniors Coordinating Council)

for a tour of the building. They learned about the various programs offered.

Volunteer groups from Franklin continue to conduct their business and social gatherings here.

Wifi is currently being installed in the community center. It will be invaluable for business meetings.

The house is rented in June for a graduation and in September for a wedding.

We are thrilled with all of the support from our donors to restore these buildings. And, now we are closer and closer to using them.

Where Have the Twelve Years Gone?

The Franklin Historical Museum at 26165 Thirteen Mile Road is twelve years old! In honor of its birthday, we are having a grand re-opening on Saturday, May 17th from 2 P.M. to 4 P.M.

There will be light refreshments in the 1950's home of Stanley and Jenny Derwich who donated their house to the historic society to create a museum.

Let us introduce you to Franklin history! Meet the original landowners, the blacksmiths, merchants, tinsmith, shoemaker, postmasters, millers, farmers and the school teacher. Find out who your original landowner was! Wash clothes in an 1850's machine, write with quill and ink or do

a tin punch project.

Roam around this mid-twentieth century house and check out the unique stovetop, oven and dishwasher. Yes, dishwasher! The museum is located on 5 acres of land which includes some hiking trails, so, you could even take a hike!

In the basement is a hands-on Ben Franklin exhibit and Franklin During the Civil War Years display.

We hope you will help us celebrate our village heritage. Please call the Lamotts at 248-538-0273 or Suzanne McClow at 248-851-8750 to let us know if you are able to attend. We'll keep the light on for you!