

Third Annual Barn Raising Event

The 5K run, walk, strut your mutt and pancake breakfast to raise funds for the Franklin Community Center is Saturday, June 11th. Registration forms are available at active.com or the Village Offices, 32325 Franklin Road. You can also register the day of the race at 7 A.M.

The race 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 \$30 which includes a T-shirt and pancake breakfast. Prizes are awarded for first, second and third place.

The 1 – 5K walk starts at 9 A.M. also in front of the Community Center. A T-shirt and pancake breakfast is included in the \$30 fee. The strut your mutt commences at the same time as the walk. The cost is \$10 per person or \$25 per family. Pick up a registration form at the Village Office or sign up at 8 A.M. on June 11th. For information on these events please contact: John Pulker 248-538-0183 or Bill Lamott 248-538-0273.

Come run, walk or strut your stuff and finish off the morning with pancakes, sausage, juice and coffee prepared by Boy Scout troop 1699 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. Tickets are available for purchase at the Market Basket, Franklin Boutique, the Village Office or at the pancake breakfast.

For additional information on the breakfast, please contact: Gary Roberts 248-626-0219 or Madeline Haddad at 248-855-3390.

For updates and upcoming events on the Franklin Community Center visit the website: www.kregerhouse.org

Upcoming Events

May 12th – FHS Board Meeting, 7 P.M. at the museum
May 20th – Plant Sale orders arrive!
May 22nd – Civil War Cemetery Tour, 1 P.M. \$10 fee
 Contact Ann or Bill Lamott 248-538-0273
June 7th – FHS Annual Meeting, 7 P.M. at the museum
 Opening of Michigan in the Civil War exhibit
June 11th – Third Annual Barnraising Event, 5K
 run, walk, strut your mutt and Pancake
 breakfast to support the Franklin
 Community Center

Coming in June . . .

Michigan in the Civil War Exhibit
 At the Franklin Historical Museum
 26565 Thirteen Mile Road at Kirk Lane
Franklin Historical Society
Annual Plant Sale
 It's a perennial thing!
 Order form enclosed is due May 10th

www.franklin-history.org

FRANKLIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY
 P.O. Box 250007 Franklin, Michigan 48025

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Franklin Historical Society Newsletter

April 2011

The 30th Michigan Infantry

Michigan made a substantial contribution to the Union during the Civil War. At the beginning of the conflict, it was asked to supply no more than four regiments. Governor Austin Blair sent seven! The state's contribution to the war effort was so significant that President Lincoln remarked, "Thank God for Michigan!"

Although far removed from the battlefields, continued threatening of raids by southern refugees in Canada, created an uneasiness to the safety of cities along the U.S. border with Canada. Honorable E.M. Stanton, Secretary of War: November 3, 1864 said, "Unless you can suggest some better mode of raising a regiment for service on the line from the foot of Lake Huron to Malden, I recommend that the authority be given to the Governor of Michigan to raise a volunteer regiment for twelve months, unless sooner discharged. This additional force is absolutely necessary and should be organized before the Detroit River is frozen over."

In response to these concerns, the 30th Michigan Infantry was formed for special service on the Michigan frontier with 1001 officers and men. The regiment was officered by men who had all seen, more or less, service at the front lines.

The companies were stationed at different points along the Detroit and St. Clair Rivers and other parts of the state as follows: Company A and B at Fort Gratiot, Company D at St. Clair, Company E at Wyandotte, Company K at Jackson, Company H at Fenton, Company G in Detroit and Company C, F and I at the Detroit barracks.

Two soldiers buried in the Franklin Cemetery served in the 30th Michigan, Phillip Durkee and Richard Trick.

Durkee was 19 when he was assigned to Company F responsible for guarding the border at Detroit. The Durkees supported the Union cause. His father, Stephen, was present for the raising of the Lincoln Pole during the 1860 presidential election. He stood on a podium on Franklin Road where Comerica bank is located and gave

a speech in support of the Lincoln Hamlin ticket. His son, Phillip, would serve on the Michigan frontier, marry and become a fireman on the railroad.

Richard Trick was also a young man when he was assigned to Company E stationed at Wyandotte. Trick is a bit of a mystery. He was the brother-in-law of Dr. Henry Cox, a member of the 1st Michigan Cavalry Company G. Although Trick's tombstone heralds his military service, I find no Civil War records on him. He died in October 1865 taking his military history with him and leaving us to speculate on his short life story.

On June 30, 1865, the 30th was mustered out of service, paid off and disbanded. Of the total 1001 enrollment, no one was killed and 18 died of disease. The men had fulfilled their commitment and released into civilian life.

The Public Restrooms Open on April 30th

The former pigsty from the Kreger Farm has been moved to the Village Green, refurbished and is now open as public restrooms. This work has been accomplished thanks to nearly 400 donors who have contributed \$260,000 since the effort began in late 2008. With another \$25,000 in donations, the house will be operational. Barn expansion and renovation will require an additional \$250,000.



Thanks to all supporters – especially Pete Green and the John E. Green Company for making the restrooms a reality. Greens donated all of the labor and materials for the plumbing and heating in the building. Also, thanks to the Franklin Foundation, the Franklin Baseball League, the Questers and the Franklin Garden Club for their generous support.

Join us for the Grand Opening at 2:00 PM on Sunday May 1. Refreshments will be served.



Straight From the Horse's Mouth

History is best told by the people who experienced it! The Franklin Historical Society is conducting oral histories of people who remember sledding down the hill, tasting the first fall cider, watching the firefighters in action, suiting up for Little League, lining up for the Round Up parade, participating in political debates, listening to the church bells, walking on gravel roads, attending school and volunteering for organizations.

COSTCO on Telegraph and Square Lake Roads generously sold us a video camera for \$100 to help keep our vibrant history alive. The interviewing has begun! The history of our village is being unveiled through the people that have lived it. The stories are truly "from the horse's mouth!"

Grand Army of the Republic

The G.A.R. was organized in Decatur, Illinois just one year after the end of the Civil War. Starting with 14 members, the organization grew to 400,000 Union veterans dedicated to preserving the memory of their fallen comrades.

State and Federal leaders from President Lincoln down had promised to care for "those who have borne the burden, his widows and orphans," but they had little knowledge of how to accomplish the task. There was little political pressure to see that the promises were kept. The G.A.R. became the voice and political pressure for the veterans.

The community level organization was called a "Post" and each one was

numbered consecutively within each department. Most Posts also had a name. The rules for naming them included a requirement that the honored person be deceased and that no two Posts within the same department could have the same name.

Post #17, called the John D. Fairbanks, was organized in Detroit on May 9, 1881. Fairbanks served initially as 1st Lieutenant and Adjutant of the 1st Michigan Infantry and then as Major of the 5th Michigan Infantry. He was wounded in Virginia in 1862 and died of his wounds one month later.

The first Post Commander of #17 was Edgar Oren Durfee. He enlisted as a

private in Company C, 24th Michigan Infantry. The last act of this unit was to provide a military escort for Abraham Lincoln's funeral procession to Springfield, Illinois in 1865.

Edgar Durfee, Henry O. Buckley and William Henry Clemons were all members of this Post and are buried in the Franklin Cemetery.

The G.A.R. founded soldiers' homes, was active in relief work and in pension legislation. Five members were elected President of the United States and, for a time, it was impossible to be nominated on the Republican ticket without the endorsement of the G.A.R. voting block.

Be On The Lookout For Garlic Mustard

COMMON NAMES: hedge garlic, sauce alone, jack by the hedge, poor man's mustard, jack in the bush, garlic root, garlic wort, mustard root

NATIVE: to Europe

DATE OF INTRODUCTION: In the 1860's, it was cultivated for food and medicinal use.

IMPACT: It crowds out native species. One plant can produce 7,000 seeds or more. Seeds contained in the soil can germinate up to five years after being produced.

FOUND: It can be found along roadways and woodland habitats. The insects and fungi that feed on it in its natural habitat are not present in North America which increases its seed productivity and allows it to crowd out native plants.

HOW TO IDENTIFY: It grows 12-48 inches tall. The leaves and stems smell like onion or garlic when crushed.



HOW TO ERADICATE: The best way to remove garlic mustard is to hand pull the plant when the soil is moist so that the root mass comes out. You can also apply Round-Up anytime during the plant's growing cycle, but preferably before flowering.

Encourage your neighbors to join in the campaign to eradicate garlic mustard! Now is the time to identify the plant and do something about it! It may take several years of diligence to remove it. Ultimately, your efforts will be noticeable!



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 provide for accessibility for 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. The *Kite & Key* and the Society welcome mail at P.O. Box 250007, Franklin, MI 48025. Our phone is 248-538-0565. Contributors: Bill & Ann Lamott

150th Anniversary of the Civil War

Franklin was a close knit community during the Civil War years. Relationships with one another went beyond living in the same village or serving in the same unit.

A veteran married the widow of another veteran. Children of veterans married each other. An uncle and a nephew served in the war. When returning home, some soldiers became farm laborers for other veterans. Brothers fought in the same unit and brothers-in-law served the Union. There were a few men related to original landowners.

Some came home to live and work in Franklin. Some were wounded, some diseased, some did not return at all. Many are buried in our cemetery. Whatever their circumstance, they all remain bonded to each other and to us as Franklin villagers.

To honor our Civil War soldiers, the John Hunter chapter of the Questers, the Cemetery Association and the Franklin Historical Society purchased markers for their grave sites. Each marker holds a flag and reads "Union Soldier 1861-65."

We will also be placing War of 1812 markers on our four veterans from that conflict.

On Monday, May 30th at 11 A.M. you'll have an opportunity to honor all of our heroes at the annual Memorial Day service in the cemetery.

On the Road!

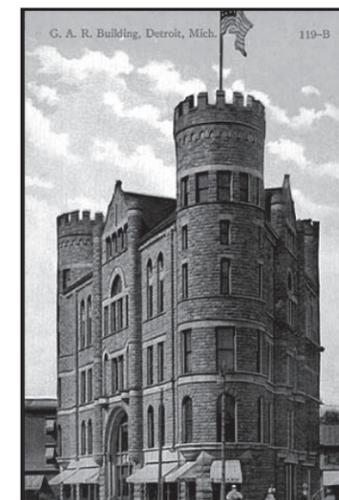
The Franklin Historical Museum has taken its pioneer program on the road! We packed up the General Store/Post Office, One Room Schoolhouse and Household chores to venture to Hoover Elementary School in Livonia.

Second graders learned about their pioneer past...no cell phones, no TV, no computers, no conveniences! Hands on activities taught them about "homework!" There was butter to churn, clothes to wash and wheat to grind.

They discovered gadgets used in the 1800's. What was a boot jack, a butter mold, a candle snuffer or a bellows? How did a pioneer pay for his goods at the General Store and how did he receive his mail? What did boys and girls pack in their lunch, how did they get to school and what did they learn?

By the end of their adventure, the students at Hoover could answer all of these questions! If you have questions about bringing our program to your school, please give me a call... Ann Lamott 248-538-0273.

A While Ago



The Detroit Post of the G.A.R. hired architect Julius Hess to design a building on a narrow triangular lot bound by Grand River, Cass and Adams. The Richardson Romanesque style building was popular during the end of the 19th century. The building is still standing.

Museum Acquisitions

- Assortment of medical items from the late 1800's - Dr. Ching Man and Dr. Eileen McCormick
- Wooden file box from the FCA skate swap - Mike Flevaris
- Town Crier issues - Judy Moenk
- Horse Collar - Betty Ensor

Have You Seen Us?

The next time you shop at Trader Joe's on 14 Mile and Orchard Lake, look around! You may spot some familiar views of the Town that Time Forgot!

The store is in the renovation process. Historical Societies were contacted to provide prints, pictures and maps of their locality. Trader Joe's purchased several items that will become a part of their new décor. Your shopping experience should make you feel right at home!