

LOG MARKS

Sanford Historical Society

www.sanfordhist.org

Facebook: Sanford Centennial Museum



Sanford Historical Society Board

Officers

President: Mary Herkner
Vice President: Jan Biggs
Secretary: Linda Fisher/Sue Muto
Treasurer: Kendra Melchi

Trustees

Ruth Ann Nagle
Jeff Bowen
Karen Ketover

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Sanford Centennial Museum resides at 2222 Smith Street in Sanford. Mailing address: Sanford Historical Society, P.O. Box 243
Sanford, MI 48657 Email: logmarks@tds.net Phone: 989 687-9048

Santa Express 2017 Arriving at the Depot!



Sanford area children will be delighted to know that the Santa Express returns to the Sanford Centennial Museum on December 12th, 13th, and 14th from 3:30 until 7:30 p.m. (Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday). Enjoy free hot chocolate, cookies, and candy and see the museum grounds lit up in Christmas splendor. Visit Santa in the historic 1870s train depot. Kids get to talk with Santa plus receive a free gift and you can take a picture using your own camera or phone!

This annual event is sponsored by the Sanford Chamber of Commerce and Sanford Historical Society. Please see the enclosed flyer on page 2.

Free Vision Screenings

Coleman Lions Club is pleased to again offer free vision screenings for children ages 1-18 during this year's Santa Express, December 12th, 13th, and 14th. The special Project KidSight Spot camera can detect more than eight eye disorders, including near sightedness, far sightedness, astigmatism, and lazy eye. Parental permission is required. A printout of the



results is then given to parents. The screening itself takes only a few seconds.

Each child will receive a book to take home, compliments of Coleman Lions Club. Screening times will be from 3:30 to 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday in the main building of the Sanford Centennial Museum. Midland Lions Club will again partner with us so that we can offer vision screenings all three days of Santa Express. Families who need assistance with full eye exams and glasses should call 211 for a referral to their local Lions Club.

Santa Visits the Sanford Museum

2222 Smith Street

on the Sanford Express
December 12th, 13th, & 14th of 2017
3:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.



View the museum in its
Christmas splendor

Visit with Santa in
the train depot
(Bring your camera and take
a picture with Santa)



Free Hot Chocolate,
Cookies, Candy, and Gifts

Sponsored by:
Sanford Chamber of Commerce & Sanford Historical Society
For more information call: 687-2688, 687-7168, or 600-1873

Sanford Museum
PO Box 243
Sanford MI 48657

Phone: (989) 687-9048
www.sanfordhist.org

Come see us soon.



PLEASE HELP BUY TOYS FOR SANTA EXPRESS

Sanford Centennial Museum
December 12th, 13th, & 14th
3:30-7:30 p.m.

Questions?--Call 687-2688, 687-9048, or 600-1873

Sponsored by: Sanford Historical Society and the
Sanford Chamber of Commerce

Donation canisters are located at the following local businesses: Sanford Sport Shop, Sanford Hardware, Lanny's Restaurant, Hometown Pizza, Max's Place, Pineview Grocery, Circle Auto Parts of Sanford, Clarks Outdoor Center, Ellis Party Store, Sanford Pizza, and Poochie's Pit Stop.



Collecting Toys

For

Santa Express

--- Event at Sanford Museum
Dec 12th, 13th, & 14th
3:30 PM to 7:30 PM



All Free Event!!

- Visit with Santa
- Hot Chocolate
- Candy, Gift
- Take Picture with Santa

Jointly Sponsored by: Sanford Chamber of Commerce
and Sanford Historical Society

Sanford Historical Society
PO Box 243
Sanford MI 48657

Questions?--Call 687-2688, 687-9048, or 600-1873

Toy donation barrels are located at the following local businesses: Sanford Food Center, Sanford Hardware, Lanny's Restaurant, Alex's Railside Restaurant, Dollar General Store Sanford, Dollar General Store Coleman, Coleman Library, and the Coleman Senior Center.

Sanford Chamber of Commerce 1940s, 1950s, and 1960s The Formative Years

By Rick E. Goodwin
October 31, 2017

Established on February 12, 1947 the Sanford Chamber of Commerce was chartered to promote the resources surrounding Sanford Lake and the village established by Charles S. Sanford in 1870. The Chamber would add the word "Area" to their name in 1968 and is known today as the Sanford Area Chamber of Commerce.

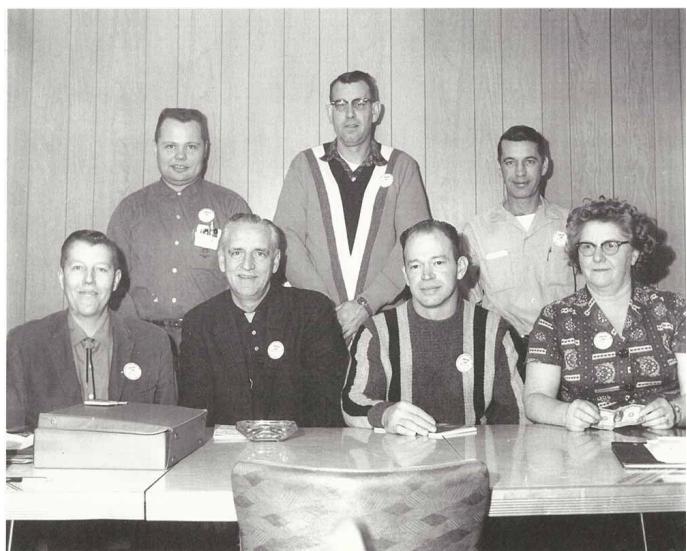


Membership plaque. From the author's collection.

It is interesting to see the roll call of local individuals stepping up to the task of promoting Sanford via the Chamber. An article in the *Midland Daily News* newspaper (the March 26, 1947 edition) lists all the officers of the new Chamber organization as well as committee assignments. Officers of the organization who were elected at the first meeting on February 12, 1947 were Reverend Arman, President; James Drean, Vice President; Ed Maticka, Secretary; and Kenneth Fulton, Treasurer. Frank Garberson and William Schweitzer were to serve three-year terms on the board of directors, Robert Meyer and John Bacon, two-year terms, William Sheffbuch and Allen Cole, one-year term.

Some others to serve as President of the Chamber over these formative years were: Rev. Harold Arman (1947), Kenneth Fulton (1948), Ed Maticka (1949), Frank Garberson (1950, 1951 and 1952), Lionel Dancer (1959), Harrison Bigelow (1960), Albert Hulbert (1961), D. J. (Pete) Crawford (1962), Donald Crippen (1963), Robert Meyer (1964), Dale Winter (1965), Bill Argyle (1966), Donald Pickelman (1967), Thomas Smith (1968), Dale Jueckstock (1969) and Stanley

Raymond (1970). Pat Wortley serves as President of the Chamber today (2017).



Chamber officers of 1966. Seated left to right, William Argyle, President, Luman Bliss, Vice President, John Quinn, Secretary and Ruth Dancer, Treasurer. Board of Directors standing left to right, Fred Wilson and Al Hulbert, and at right, retiring President Dale Winter who became a member of the board for one year. Photo from the *Midland Daily News* January 15, 1966.

The Chamber advertised in the 1950s via the *East Michigan Tourist Association* to promote the Sanford area.

COME TO SANFORD

On US-10, TITTABAWASSEE RIVER AND SANFORD LAKE

A fine stop and shop center where the grand old American hospitality is evident.

HUNTING — A splendid hunting area from which hunters extract an unusually large quota of deer, small game and birds.

Swimming and Boating on Sanford Lake. Housekeeping Cottages & Overnight Cabins.

Visit the 13-Acre Virgin White Pine Forest at our Veteran's Memorial Park.

EXCELLENT LAKE AND RIVER FISHING
PIKE — PERCH — BASS — BLUEGILLS

WINTER ICE FISHING is at its best on SANFORD LAKE



For Information Write: Secretary
SANFORD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
SANFORD, MICHIGAN

Sanford ad in the *East Michigan Tourist Association* booklet of 1956. From the author's collection.

How do you promote an area with a lake cluttered and choked by standing dead trees killed by the flooding of the Tittabawassee River some 20 plus years earlier

when Frank Wixom built his dam at Sanford? The Sanford Lake Improvement Association had been working on the dead tree/stump issue in the lake each winter by cutting off the stumps. The Chamber would absorb and take over the Improvement Association organization in 1951. The stump cutting work would continue for many years and from time to time still happens today (on a much smaller and individual basis).

Ruth Dancer and Betty Maynard wrote the following for the *Sanford Area Centennial Souvenir Picture Album* in June of 1970 about the Sanford Area Chamber of Commerce: "The Sanford Chamber of Commerce, organized in 1947 has made many noteworthy contributions to the community, not the least of which was spearheading the incorporation of the village. All of the initial groundwork of taking a census, obtaining information concerning the various

provisions under which Sanford could be incorporated, holding public meetings to inform the residents, were all implemented by volunteers of the Chamber's committee on incorporation.

"The goal, reached in 1963, has proven to be the beginning of marked progress in community improvement and orderly development. Some years ago the organization worked tirelessly investigating countless avenues for a solution to the distressing water problem in the Sanford area, expending considerable funds for survey and engineering fees, and although these efforts were not crowned with success, this does not detract from the diligence with which they pursued the issue.

"The Chamber sponsors special events as well as annual projects; each year their scheduled projects include the Homecoming in June, the Sanford Lake Ice Derby and Carnival in its tenth year and the northern pike spawning program, in its sixth year which yields an estimated 5,000 fingerlings each spring. In succeeding efforts to increase the fish population, the unit also financed the planting of 900 pounds of walleye pike.

"Chamber members also spearheaded the initial plans for and were instrumental in the organization of Sanford's first Little League. Sponsorship of divisional championship outboard boat races is also among the projects; on several occasions, upwards from 5,000 persons have attended each of the three events – the Homecoming, Ice Derby and Championship races.

"In recognition of area servicemen and servicewomen, the Chamber originated an address display case which is installed in the Sanford Post Office and postmaster Mrs. Edward Miller and staff cooperate in the effort by keeping the addresses up to date to insure delivery of letters from home, which is very important to our service sons and daughters, some of whom are fighting half-way around the world.

"Sponsorship of mayor-exchange day, school activities, snowmobile safaris, cash contributions to worthy causes such as scouting units, and park development are also included.

"In 1968, the organization was renamed The Sanford Area Chamber of Commerce to salute the many active members from outlying areas and to encourage wider participation.

"Sanford has long needed a community building, and

Sanford Chamber of Commerce's
6th
ANNUAL ICE FISHING DERBY
on sanford lake

16 - CASH PRIZES - 16

FISH CONTEST every fish entered will earn a ticket for the sweepstake drawing

ADULTS	KIDS - 14 & Under
Northern Pike \$10	\$10
Walleye Pike 10	10
Perch 10	10
Calico 10	10

SPUDDING and AUGER CONTESTS 3:00 p.m. SUNDAY

Spudding Contest 5	5
Auger Contest 5	5

Four \$5.00 Sweepstakes Drawings
Saturday and Sunday - 11:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.

TOTAL CASH PRIZES \$120.00

Sat. and Sun. Afternoon ONE O'CLOCK JEEP RACES ENTRIES ON THE ICE	Sat. and Sun. Afternoon ONE O'CLOCK SNO-MOBILE EVENTS EVERYBODY WELCOME
--	--

FEBRUARY
4th & 5th

HELIICOPTER RIDES

Headquarters at
Coach Cove
Area

Handbills Compliments of: SANFORD SPORT SHOP and RED KEG LUMBER

1960s Chamber flyer for the Ice Fishing Derby on Sanford Lake. From the author's collection.



Elsie Waite in the Sanford Post Office with the address display case for those serving in the armed forces. The *Midland Daily News* December 30, 1968.

the Chamber began long range plans three years ago. A building and/or site fund was established, to be derived from 15% of the unit's gross income. To date, full payment has been made on two lots in the village adjacent to the village park, and a balance remains in the building fund.

"Each year, the Chamber names an outstanding member, and it is a difficult task for any committee to choose one from the many who, each year, make outstanding contributions to the success of the Chamber's objectives."

Over the years the Chamber has been there for many key events in the history of Sanford and the



A Chamber event held at the Circle H Ranch in Sanford. Flyer from the author's collection.

surrounding area. The 1970s and beyond continued to see the Chamber and its members working on behalf of Sanford. It's a mission they continue to this day.

Sanford Historical Society 2017/2018 Election Results

Here are the election results from the November 15th membership meeting of the Sanford Historical Society:

President – Mary Herkner (1-year term)
Vice President – Jan Biggs (1-year term)
Secretary – Linda Fisher & Sue Muto (1-year term)
Treasurer – Kendra Melchi (1-year term)
Trustee – Karen Ketover (1st year of new 3-year term)

Trustee Jeff Bowen will continue in the 2nd year of his 3-year term.

Trustee Ruth Ann Nagle will continue in the 3rd year of her 3-year term.

Sanford Historical Society
P.O. Box 243
Sanford, MI 48657

The Sanford Historical Society meets on the third Wednesday of the month from April through November at 7:00 PM in the Historic Depot on the grounds of the Museum.

Members and visitors are always welcome.

Annual membership dues are \$10 for an individual and \$15 for a family. Dues may be paid on our web site, by mail, or in person at the museum during the season, at any meeting, or at Founders Day.

MEMBERSHIP — DONATION — VOLUNTEER

Please review your mailing label on this newsletter. The number in the corner represents the last year that you paid dues. If you owe dues, please clip this coupon, fill it out, and mail in your membership dues so you may continue to maintain your membership. Email addresses are greatly appreciated, it helps to keep costs down and we only use emails for newsletters and special announcements.

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____ / _____ / _____

Phone: _____ Email Address: _____

Check Box or Boxes: \$10/year — Individual \$15/year — Family \$_____ Donation

Founders Day Sponsorship I would like to volunteer Enclosed \$_____

Please mail new or renewal memberships to: Sanford Historical Society, P.O. Box 243, Sanford, MI 48657