

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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NOVEMBER, 2017

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

Sanford Historical Society

2017/2018 Election Slate

Members who will be attending the November 15th, 2017 membership meeting will be electing/re-electing Board officers and one Trustee. This meeting will begin at 7 p.m. in the historic train depot on the museum's grounds.

Please note that Trustee Jeff Bowen will continue in the 2nd year of his 3-year term; and Trustee Ruth Ann Nagle will continue in the 3rd year of her 3-year term.

The Nominating Committee has presented the following slate of candidates for offices:

President - Mary Herkner (1-year term)

Vice President - Jan Biggs (1-year term)

Secretary - Linda Fisher and Sue Muto (1-year term)

Treasurer - Kendra Melchi (1-year term)

Trustee - Karen Ketover (1st year of new 3-year term)

As a reminder, additional nominations can be made from the floor prior to the election, and you may nominate yourself.

Please plan to attend!

2017 Membership and Board Meeting Dates		
	Membership Meetings	Board Meetings
November	15th	8th
December	na	5th

Santa Express

Just Around the Corner!



Come out to Sanford Centennial Museum on December 12, 13 and 14 from 3:30 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. for a night of holiday fun with Santa!

Enjoy free hot chocolate, cookies, and candy and see the museum grounds lit up in Christmas splendor.

Visit Santa in the 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.

See the enclosed flyer on page 3.

Save These Dates	
Santa Express	Dec. 12, 13 & 14 3:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Letter from the President

It has been busy the last few months with Train Day in August and Founders Day in September. Both events were successful in getting large crowds which was helped by good weather. A special thanks to all of the volunteers who worked for these events. The Sanford Historical Society would not be able to hold events without these volunteers.

The Library/Museum committee volunteers are continuing to improve the displays in the main museum and Olson Store. As the volunteers improve the displays they are taking inventory of all of the items. This work will continue as long as the weather cooperates by staying warm enough to work in the store.

The upcoming months include Santa Express on Dec. 12th, 13th and 14th and will be held in the Depot. If you would like to volunteer to help out during this event or donate cookies please contact one of the SHS board members.

The photo archives section on the museum website is growing as we have received some donations that include photographs. Sue Muto, Linda Fisher and Kendra Anderson have been busy scanning and naming the photographs which are then moved to the website. If you have any photographs related to the Sanford area, please let us know.



You can find the Photo Archives on our website at:
<http://www.sanfordhist.org/photos.htm>

It is also election time for some of the Board members. If you know of someone who would like to be on the

SHS board, please send us their name (or encourage them to come to the November membership meeting) so they can be on the ballot.

Mary

Welcome New Members!

We would like to welcome the following new members to the Sanford Historical Society:

Mike Rudy, Pat Ochsankohl, Donna Witkop, Delores and Judy How, Michelle Wiedendein, Robert and Anita Phillips, and Russell Waite.

Recent Donations to the SHS

Chris Heal – Millers Falls scroll saw

Village Hall (Sanford) – Ballot box, wooden office chair

Cathy Samdal – Sewing machine, accordion, school project and articles

Rick Goodwin – Sanford police car shield, painting of local bridge

Rick Marcy – Barber chair, barber pole

Donna (Holsinger) Kelly – Photos including the moving of the Felix School

Sanford Area Chamber of Commerce – 2 photos of Sanford, MI CCC Camp #1615 with letter from original donor Louise C. Boomer

Jim and Melissa Bailey – Midland article, 2 receipts from Bailey Tavern, Francis Grove maps, scans of articles and certificates

Sue Muto – Edith Hand's Blue Star Mothers ledger book 1969-1991, list of members and activities

Mary Herkner – Sears Craftsman Power Washer 2000

Ron Hughes – DVD 532 photos from 2017 Founders Day event

Rebecca Brandt (Bay City Mosquito Control) – Sanford Centennial Button

Ron Chapin – Vera Hoon Chapin scrapbook

Marilyn Burwick – 1 American 50 star flag, 3 Polaroid cameras

Santa Visits the Sanford Museum

2222 Smith Street

on the Sanford Express
December 12, 13 & 14 of 2017
3:30 pm to 7:30 pm



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.

Sanford Barber Shop

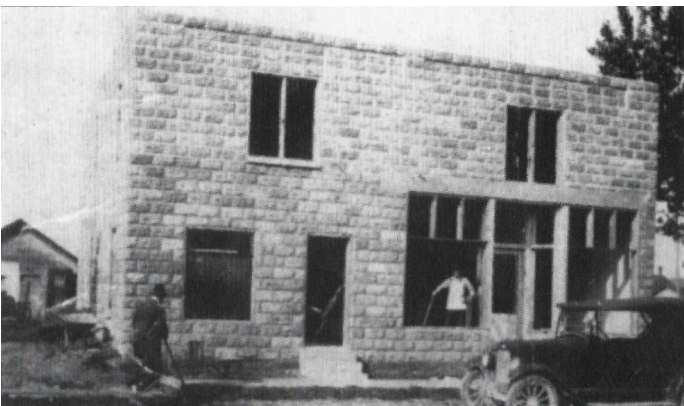
By Rick E. Goodwin
October 4, 2017

Sanford lost a piece of history on September 21, 2017 when the Sanford Barber Shop building was torn down. The building's fate had been sealed when owner Pat Tracy was unable to sell the building. Pat, Sanford's barber for 31 years, had been trying to sell the building since his retirement in 2013.



The Sanford Barber Shop in 2016. Rick Goodwin photo.

The building has had many owners and businesses in it since it was built in 1924 by George and Mabel Burns.



BURNS CAFÉ. George and Mabel Burns put up this building in 1924. The downstairs was a café and the upper story served as living quarters. The address was 353 West Saginaw. In 1935, the building was torn down and rebuilt into a one-story building. Today Pat Tracy's barber shop is located there. (Photo courtesy of Nancy Lackie, Sanford Museum.)

*Photo and caption from **Midland Her Continuing Story** by Virginia Florey, 2002.*

The Burns built the building originally as a two-story building with their restaurant business on the first floor and living quarters on the second floor.

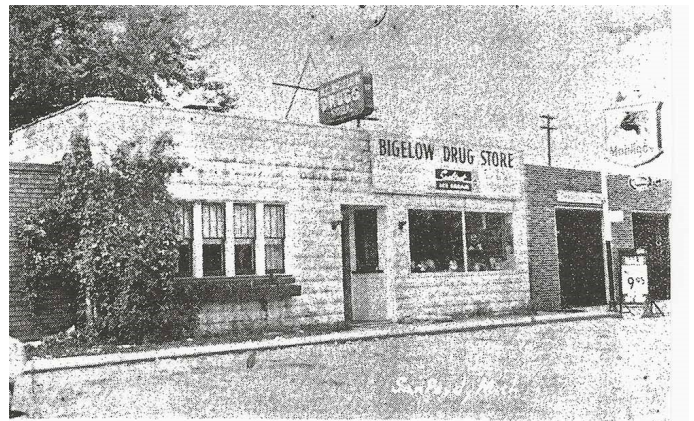
When the new road went thru downtown Sanford in the early 1930s Charlie Brown tore the building down, moved it back out of the road right-of-way, and reconstructed it as a one-story building.

Charlie Brown ran the Sanford Café there in the late 1930s and early 1940s and Robert and Mae Meyer ran the Sanford Café in the building after Charlie Brown.



Inside the Sanford Café circa the 1940s with owner Mae Meyer in the middle at the counter. Sanford Historical Society photo archives.

An article in the *Midland Daily News* newspaper of May 16, 1946 said; "a pool room is being built by Maticka Construction under the Sanford Café, 26 by 40 feet, all in one room. Three pool tables and one billiard table will comprise the recreation facilities. The restaurant is owned by Robert Meyer who moved to



Bigelow Drug Store in the building circa 1949. Sanford Express newspaper January 24, 1974.

Sanford from Saginaw in 1944.” When Harrison and Florine Bigelow first came to Sanford in 1949 it was in this building that they first established Bigelow Drug Store. When Dr. Bernier came to Sanford in 1949, he too, had his practice in this building next to the Bigelow’s.

Robert and Mae Meyer sold the building to Ben and Kathryn Penner in 1959. It is said that the Michigan Department of Transportation may have had an office in the building in the early 1960s during the



Retired Sanford barber Pat Tracy in front of the building during the June, 2017 flood of downtown Sanford. Rick Goodwin photo.

expressway construction going on in the area. John Furst established Johnny’s Barber Shop in the building in 1964. John was a barber in the building until 1981. Pat Tracy established his barber business in the building in 1982 (and eventually bought the building from the Penners) and ran the Sanford Barber Shop until his retirement in 2013.



The Sanford Barber Shop coming down on September 21, 2017. Rick Goodwin photo.

If only those walls could talk, just think of the stories we would hear. It’s now gone forever.

Thanks to Our 2017 T-Shirt Sponsors

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Sanford Lake Bar & Grill
Sanford Lake Marina
Sanford Pizza
Sanford Sports Shop
Senior Services
The Old Time Muffler Shop
Thornton Excavating
Tri City Tree Doctor
West River Road Storage
Whippy Dip

Artifact Corner: Millers Falls Scroll Saw

By Mary Hughes

One day this past summer Chris Heal, a prominent local craftsman, came into the museum carrying a foot powered scroll saw from Millers Falls, MA, a true work of art in itself especially if you've ever seen a modern electric scroll saw.

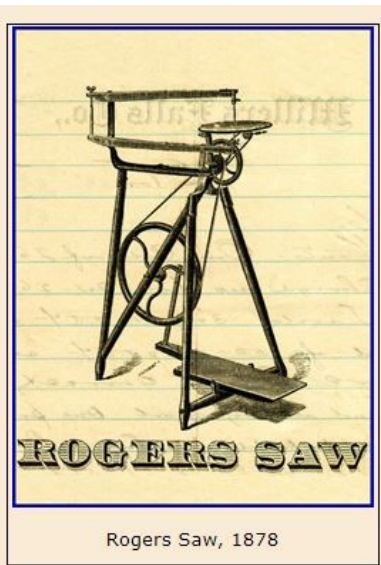


Millers Falls Co., "New Rogers Saw" recently donated to the museum by Chris Heal. Photo by Ron Hughes.

On the Millers Falls web page there is some information about this line of scroll saws as follows:

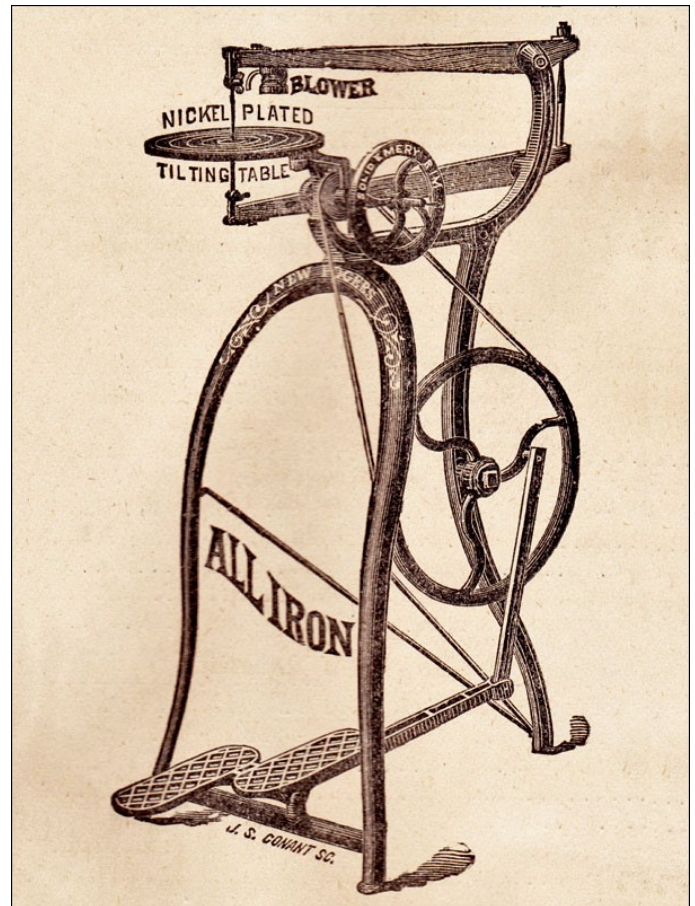
Rogers and New Rogers scroll saws (1878-1925)

"The Millers Falls Company brought out its first Rogers treadle saw in 1878. Named after the Secretary of the board, George E. Rogers, and designed to sell for less than the Lester, the saw had no provision for attaching a lathe or circular saw. Wooden components were painted rather than varnished, and trim was polished or japanned rather than nickel plated. At 1,000 strokes per minute, the Rogers Saw matched the Lester Saw for speed. When set up for sawing the earliest Lester Saws outweighed the Rogers Saw by ten pounds. The Lester's extra



Rogers Saw, 1878

weight gave it the advantage of less wasted energy because its saw operated with less vibration.



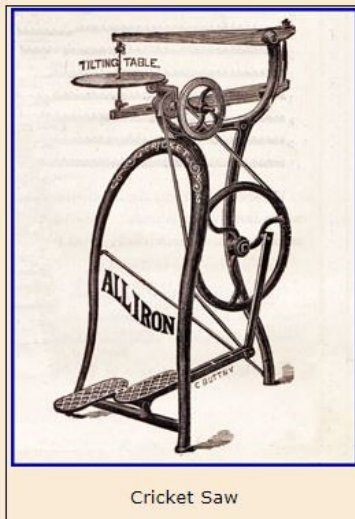
New Rogers Saw, 1881

"The year after its introduction, the company replaced the Rogers Saw with its New Rogers Saw. The tool was completely re-designed. Its wooden legs were replaced with cast iron, and its arms rode on much improved bearings. Eager to point out the superiority of its metallic support system, illustrations of the saw proudly announced that it was All Iron – conveniently ignoring that fact that its pitman and arms were made of wood. (The pitman would one day become metallic.) In 1885, Albert D. Goodell's improved saw clamps were added to the arms. The clamps simplified blade installation and significantly reduced breakage.

"The company introduced two versions of the New Rogers Saw: The cheaper No. 1 was fitted with a japanned table and an iron balance wheel; the premium No. 2 featured a nickel-plated table and an emery balance wheel that could be used for sharpening. The new Rogers fret saw, with its horseshoe-shaped front legs, became the most widely sold jigsaw of the era.

Ornamented with red and gilt trim, selling in the three to four dollar range, and well-made for the price, the New Rogers hit a sweet spot in the market and retained its position as the leading amateur saw for decades.

Cricket Scroll Saw (ca. 1881-1917)



“Although the Millers Falls Company advertised the New Rogers as the “best cheap saw in the business,” it went on to develop an even cheaper model, the Cricket Saw. Built with lighter weight castings and not as finely finished, the Cricket weighed eight pounds less than the New Rogers, lacked a dust blower, and sold for two dollars and fifty cents. Weighing in at just seventeen pounds, its arms and pitman were

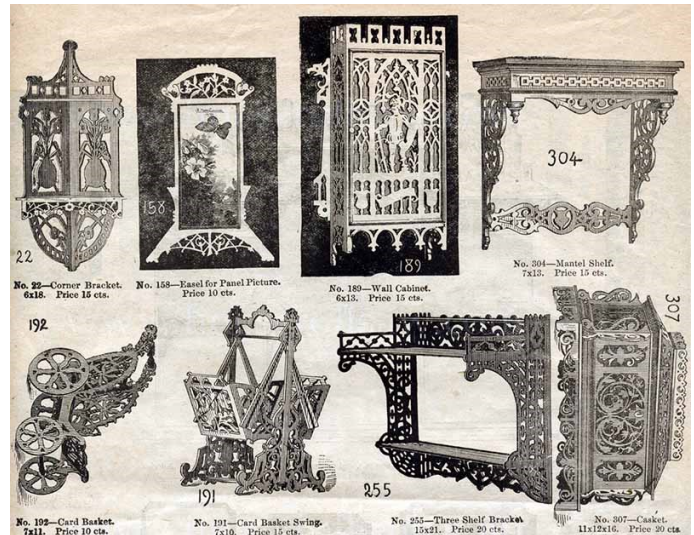
made of second-growth ash rather than the premium ash used on the rest of the company’s saws, and while the Cricket sported an iron balance wheel, no emery wheel was included. In most other respects, the saw was similar to the New Rogers.”

The donated saw appears to be the New Rogers.

A scroll saw is primarily used to create Fretwork. Fretwork began more than 3000 years ago used to decorate and create inlays on furniture in Egypt. That type of fretwork was more toward carvings. It wasn’t until the late 1500s that a German craftsman, said to probably be a clockmaker, came up with a method for making the fine wood cuttings we know now using narrow saw blades. Then a Parisian by the name of Boulle invented hand tools to cut the intricate designs creating a U-shaped fret saw, quite like a coping saw, called a Buhl Saw.

The U.S. wouldn’t jump on board the fretwork train until the mid-1800s having the option of the first mechanical fret saws, called scroll saws. Both hand saws and foot-powered saws were used by the early 1900s. Hundreds of patterns were and are available to create furniture, clocks and many decorative items large and small.

A pattern is put on a piece of wood, a hole bored into each section, then the narrow blade is fed into the hole and cut out.



A sample of fretwork patterns available from the Bowman's Famous Scroll Saw Designs catalog ca 1880.

An interesting story is that of the Bily Brothers of Iowa, two farming bachelors who carved and crafted clocks from 1913 - 1957. They housed and showed them in their barn for the meager entrance fee of ten cents. In 1928 they turned down the offer of a million dollars for one of the clocks by Henry Ford. People lined up to view their vast collection that is now housed in The Bily Clock Museum, Spillville, IA. The full story can be read on The Well Made Clock website. <https://www.thewellmadeclock.com/bily-clocks-museum-and-farmer-clock-makers/>



Pictured is the upper portion of the "Apostles' Parade Clock" crafted by F.L. and Jos. Bily of Iowa in 1921 and 1922. Standing at eight feet nine inches high, this clock has twelve hand carved figures representing the apostles which pass in parade as the clock strikes each hour. The clock also has a set of chimes.

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 at the Sanford Village Hall, 106 Lincoln Street or 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.

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

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