

Pentwater Historical Society

Annual Report

2022

Mission Statement

Pentwater Historical Society seeks to connect people to the history of Pentwater by collecting, preserving, and sharing information and artifacts.

Vision Statement

The vision of the Pentwater Historical Society is to enrich lives through access to local history, engaging members, residents, and visitors alike.

Goal

Our goal for the Museum is to establish and maintain a place and institution that:

- Is a welcoming place where people are drawn together to share their passion and interest in our history and sense of community.
- Creates and maintains educational programs and exhibits that are professionally presented and inspiring
- Has collections that provide a continuing source of inspiration and learning

2022 Overview

2022 was a busy year for the museum. We were enthusiastic about celebrating the 40th anniversary of the museum. Founded in 1982, it's a true milestone to be able to look back on 40 years of discovering and sharing the stories of Pentwater. Thanks to the gradual return to normal as the pandemic waned, the society's spring and summer dinners were both held in 2022. Of particular interest were the thirteen charter members that attended the August dinner to help us celebrate the society's 40th anniversary.

Our summer season was nearly back to its pre-pandemic attendance levels as people resumed their summertime activities. Several successful programs from previous years continued during the summer: our annual yard sale, walking tours and history cruises (in partnership with the Pentwater Water Taxi) as well as docent-led tours inside the museum, and enhancements to the Guide by Cell audio system. A temporary exhibit was in place throughout the summer and fall season to honor our Fire Department and Police personnel. The exhibit included a historic fire hose reel, a monumental piece of equipment used to fight fires in Pentwater at the turn of the 20th century. We plan to display it again in the future.

Efforts began in multiple areas to increase the knowledge of our board members in the discipline of running and administering our museum. One board member attended the

2022 Learning Leadership Lab, sponsored by the Community Foundation of Oceana County and Rotaries of Michigan, to increase our awareness of other non-profits in the area, gain skills needed for successful non-profit administration, and to begin to look for opportunities to network and partner with those other non-profits in our area. In addition, a board member attended the annual conference of the Michigan Museum Association (MMA) to learn more about the specifics of museum administration and develop contacts with other small museums. Membership in the MMA and the American Association of State and Local History Museums (AASLH) was initiated for the same reason and resulted in additional education plans in place for 2023. At the end of 2022, three board members were scheduled to take courses in Collection Management and the Basics of Archiving courses offered by AASLH.

A system to better track memberships and donations was implemented in May. (The transition created some difficulties...thank you for your patience as we worked through these issues.) This new system should help us to increase communications with members and donors. Your feedback is always appreciated!

Planning and creation of two new exhibits was begun in 2022. The first is the completion of the model of the USS Sequoia. The partially completed model of this 20th century presidential yacht was given to the museum a number of years ago, but much work remained to be done on the model and no artisan had been found to perform the work. Through PHS contacts a model builder in Grand Rapids, with the skill to complete a model of the size and complexity of the USS Sequoia, was found and engaged. He began work on the model in July of 2022. While many models are built from detailed plans of the original ship at a scale of 1 to 12, the building plans for the USS Sequoia were lost. Planning for any work to be done on this model must be made through detailed review of photos. It requires unique skills and is a labor of love. As of this writing no completion date has been determined, but we are hopeful that it will be available at the opening of an expanded museum.

A second exhibit conceptualized in 2022 was the "Building Stories" exhibit, which includes panels to be displayed in businesses in the downtown area of Pentwater, detailing building histories and businesses that resided there. An artist and historian were engaged in late 2022 and work will commence in the spring of 2023. An opening is expected in May of 2023, and installation of the panels in businesses should be conducted in June of 2023.

Planning for a museum expansion continued in 2022 as well. The "silent phase" of a fundraising program was initiated through meetings with Pentwater organizations and a small number of residents. Planning for the expansion continued with the assistance of Pentwater resident Steve Bass, developing exciting ideas for the future of the museum and our exhibits. We'll be presenting the best of these ideas in the summer of 2023 in order to get your feedback about the future of the museum.

We thank our members, sponsors, volunteers, and donors for their support of the museum throughout our own history. We look forward to the next 40 years of the museum.

Sincerely,
The PHS Board

Board Members

President -- Richard Warner

Vice President -- Bart Zachrich

Secretary -- Dan Girvan

Treasurer -- Mike Waidelich

Director of Membership Services -- Sylvia Warner

Museum Director -- Dan Hoekstra

Director of Marketing -- Jim Lambrix

Trustees -- Karen Way, Norm Shotwell, Beth Russell

Newsletter Committee -- Amy Vander Zwart, Mary Marshall

Volunteers

Thank you so much to our faithful volunteers of 2022! We could not do what we do for the community without all of you!

4 volunteers for History Cruise

4 volunteers for guided museum and architectural tours

25 museum docents

Number of Visitors

Museum: 1139

Tours: 40

History Cruises: 227

Number of Members

264 active memberships

18 new members

Events

Community Wide Garage Sale

Guide By Cell

Water Taxi History Cruise

Architectural walking tours

History on Hancock

History on the Green
Spring and Summer Dinners
40th Anniversary Celebration
History Tour on Your Boat

Statements of Financial Positions and Financial Activities

Income	\$ 28,995
Expenses	\$ 25,408
Net Income	\$ 3,587

INCOME SOURCES:

Donations by Individuals	\$ 9,439
Grants	\$ 4,975
Corporate Sponsorships	\$ 1,250
Memberships	\$ 5,440
Garage Sale	\$ 4,222

Dinners	\$ 479
Merchandise Sales	\$ 757
Investment Income	\$ 1,782
Other	\$ 651

ACCOUNT BALANCES:

Checking	\$ 18,248
Savings	\$ 49,843

Community Foundation

Community Foundation -Endowment Fund \$ 45,486
Building Expansion Fund \$ 276,819
(including \$266,500 in contributions during 2022)

Tribute Donations, In Honor Of or In Memory Of

10 donations, totaling \$111,800.
\$300 for general fund
\$111,500 for expansion fund