



Romeo Historical Society
November/December Holiday Issue, Romeo, Michigan

A Michigan 501 (c) 3 Non-Profit Organization
www.romeohistoricalsociety.org

2009 Christmas Ornament

Romeo Village Series, no. 13

We are pleased to announce the 13th Annual Christmas Ornament is now on sale. The exquisite brass ornament is of the *Wellington Jersey Home*, located at 245 Pleasant Street, and is currently owned by Tom and Isabel Cox. The Italianate-style home was completed in 1870 at a cost of a \$1,800 and has had few alterations since that time.

Wellington Jersey, a dealer in nursery stock until 1877 when he became owner of the
Romeo Marble and Monument Works.

The ornament costs \$20.00 and is available at the following locations: Kane's Town Hall Antiques, Connelly's Creations, National City Bank, all in Downtown Romeo. It's also available at Christmas Fantasy, located in Frontier Town, on Van Dyke Road in Washington Twp. Ornaments can be shipped anywhere in the United States for an added cost of \$5.00 each. Previous editions are also available for purchase.

Christmas Home Tour Saturday, December 12th

Five breathtaking homes, in and near downtown Romeo, will show off their exquisite holiday décor during two tours on Saturday, December 12th. Tour times are 4:00 p.m. and 6:30 p.m., and will begin at the historic First Congregational Church, located at 102 Church Street. The Church also serves as a rest stop with refreshments. Plan to drive from home to home with the assistance of a guide. Please note: homes are not handicap accessible and shoes must be removed before entering the homes. Tickets are \$15.00 and may be purchased at: *Kane's Town Hall Antiques, Connelly's Creations, and Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow*, all downtown shops.

Tickets are limited so buy early!

Archives Update

The *Romeo-On-Wheels* display has been moved into a more permanent location in the front left room of the archives building. This display received recognition from Motor Cities National Automotive Heritage Assoc., as well as, Dr. Hyde, and Dr. Lewis. The display summarizes Romeo's economic past and preserves the story.

We received more donations from the Bay City State Police Post. Radios, radar and fingerprinting equipment are now on display in the gun storage compartments. This will help better tell the story of the original purpose of our archives building as a State Police Post.

Many thanks to Richard Daugherty, who donated two large, signed William Gibbs paintings.

Richard Beringer is working on a new display that highlights the Romeo area's involvement with the Underground Railroad. He has identified 6 homes in the north Macomb area that might have been associated with this activity. Were they local myths or facts? Visitors will be asked to play the role of juror, and decide if these homes were associated with the Underground Railroad. The display will not be finished for many weeks but watch for more details soon!

1933 Recipe: Cornflake Kisses

| | |
|---------------------------|------------------|
| 3 cups cornflakes | ½ tsp. vanilla |
| 1 cup dry chipped coconut | ½ cup corn syrup |
| 2 eggs | ½ cup sugar |
| ¼ tsp. salt | |

Stir together all the ingredients and drop on buttered baking sheets. Use the equivalent of a heaping teaspoon for each "kiss". Bake for half an hour in a moderate oven.

New Lifetime Members

Joel Muzzy in honor of his 70th Birthday. Happy Birthday Joel!

Jason Arnott

Susan Kane

Thank You for your support!

Romeo Christmas Parade, Thursday, December 3rd.

We have an entry in the Romeo Christmas Parade for the Romeo Historical Society! The Parade is Thursday, December 3rd. Staging begins at 6pm and the Parade begins at 7 p.m. from Morton St., down W. St. Clair to downtown. If you can join us please contact Sue Kane at 586-752-5422. Come downtown to see the Parade! Festivities in Village Park the Parade terminus.

Romeo Cemetery Walk

The first annual Romeo Cemetery walk was an overwhelming success! History buffs throughout the area came to discover Romeo's founding residents, and learn about our exceptional cemetery. The Romeo Historical Society would like to thank Ginny Cadwalder, Shelley Calvary, Rich and Judy Dugger, Bill Grandstaff, Bruce Patterson, Paul Reiz, Jayda Sitkiewicz and Thom Stephens for their participation. We would also like to thank Judy Anders, Gloria Billo, Bernard Pearl, Janine Saputo, the Malberg Funeral Home, the Romeo Garden Club and the Romeo Observer for their support. We look forward to next year's tour. See you there!

First Congregational Church Clock Restoration Project

The Romeo Historical Society (RHS) is pleased to announce the First Congregational Clock Restoration Project, and is seeking donations to purchase materials. For years, Romeo's beloved clock has sat in frozen silence, high above Main Street in the church's 100-foot tower. Now it looks as if the clock's bell will chime once again.

Earlier this year, RHS member William Miller began working with Charlie Randles, to fix the iconic clock. Both Miller and Randles are donating their time, and hope to have it completed for the 5th Annual Victorian Festival, in May.

Effective immediately, the RHS will be collecting donations for the project. Contributions should be mailed to the Romeo Historical Society: P.O. Box 412, Romeo, MI 48065. Please make the check payable to the Romeo Historical Society, indicate it is a contribution to the First Congregational Church Clock Restoration Project. Donations will also be accepted at Kane's Town Hall Antiques, Sugar Art Cake & Candy Supplies, on Van Dyke in Washington Township, and the Romeo Arts and Archives Center.

Anyone donating \$25.00 or more will receive a RHS commemorative First Congregational Church ornament. Proceeds will go to the clock's restoration and maintenance, to ensure its chimes are heard throughout the village for generations to come. Remaining proceeds will be used to preserve the clock's historic tower and the Church's exterior, so its stately elegance will continue to be enjoyed by all.

Romeo Historical Society Membership

Please mail this form to: Romeo Historical Society, P.O. Box 412, Romeo, MI 48065

Name: _____

Please indicate activities

Address: _____

you are willing to help

Phone: _____

with:

Email address: _____

Archives

Christmas Homes Tour

Membership: Renewal New (Membership expires 12/31.)

Victorian Festival

Individual \$15.00 Family \$20.00

Other _____

Business \$25.00 Lifetime \$250.00 per individual

Docent:

Contribution _____

Bancroft-Stanahan Museum

Clyde Craig Blacksmith Shop

Romeo Arts & Archives Center

Remember Dues are due 1/1/2010.

The Romeo Historical Society is a Michigan Non-Profit 501(c) 3 organization.

Board Members & Trustees

Sue Kane, President
Anna Reiz, Vice Pres.
Tim Billo, Treasurer
Rosemary Kern, Secretary
Jason Arnott, Trustee
Barb Battani, Trustee
Bev Benczik Trustee
Dick Beringer Trustee
Doug Pritchard Trustee
Barbara Merryfield, Assistant

Society Museums

Romeo Arts & Archives Center
290 N. Main St., Romeo
(No Mail Delivery)
586-752-4111

Bancroft-Stranahan Museum
132 Church St., Romeo
(No Mail Delivery)
Open By Appointment

Craig Clyde
Blacksmith Shop
301 N. Main St., Romeo
(No Mail Delivery)
Richard Beringer, Shop Curator
Open By Appointment

Romeo Historical Society
Mailing Address:
PO Box 412, Romeo, MI 48065

2009-2010 Calendar of Events

Note: Subject to change at any moment.

- ◆ Tuesday Nights at the RAAC 7pm-9 p.m. (except during inclement weather) Come look around. Our current display "Romeo on Wheels"!
- ◆ November 2009 Ornament On Sale
- ◆ 12/12/09 Christmas Home Tour
- ◆ 12/17/09 Monthly Board Meeting, 7pm
- ◆ 1/7/2010 General Membership Meeting,
Civil War presentation by Bill Grandstaff.
- ◆ 1/21/2010 Monthly Board Meeting, 7pm