

PRESS RELEASE FOR THE APRIL 20, 2023 MEETING  
OF THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF CASEVILLE

The members of the Historical Society of Caseville held their monthly meeting on Thursday, April 20, 2023 at their Museum located at 6733 Prospect Street, Caseville, Michigan 48725. There were 24 members present.

President Janet Ekel opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. She welcomed all in attendance. Ekel called for the Minutes of the previous meeting and the Treasurer's Report to be reviewed. Both were reviewed, discussed, approved and placed in the record.

President Ekel said the Museum will be returning to "regular" hours starting April 24<sup>th</sup>. Regular hours are Wednesday through Saturday from noon to 4:30 p.m. Ekel circulated a sign-up sheet requesting volunteers to work at the Museum on the days it is open for business. Ekel thanked those volunteers who have worked at the Museum over the past month. She also offered a big "Thank-You" to the City of Caseville for helping to keep the Museum parking areas clear of snow. Ekel noted the grant money from the Michigan History Alliance has been received and will be used to purchase a new copier for the Museum Office. The copier that had been selected is no longer available. A suitable substitute in the same price range will be purchased in the near future. Ekel mentioned that a "Yard Clean-up" day is needed to spruce up the Museum property in preparation for the summer months. Monday, April 24<sup>th</sup> was chosen as the day. Volunteers will meet at the Museum on that day at 10:00 a.m. to rake, trim, and tidy the yard. Volunteers are asked to bring rakes, snippers or other tools they might need. The new Museum exhibit of the historical Caseville School is underway. Anyone in the community who has items or memorabilia from Caseville Schools in the early 1900's and would like to include their item or item's, may bring the item(s) to the Museum during regular hours.

Mary Taylor, Membership Committee Chairperson, announced that the membership now includes 149 members. She reminded everyone that their 2023 dues are now due and may be mailed in or paid at the Museum Office

A proposal was made by Sherry Hoelzle to get together as a group to view a "Zoom" Video on location at the Museum. Zoom videos are hosted by the Historical Society of Michigan and are available free of charge to members. It was decided to get together on the evening of Wednesday, May 3 at 5:30 p.m. to share in a pot luck meal and watch the Zoom Video "Let's Go Fishing!: Fish Tales from the North Woods."

In support of the Events Committee, Chairman Dave Vizard reviewed the planned events and schedule for the coming year. Events planned are: the Ice Cream Social on May 28, the Ladies Luncheon on June 14, The Cheeseburger Museum August 11 through 20, the Classic Car and Tractor Show on September 16, All Museum Weekend on September 23 and 24, the Witches'

Walk: Nightmare on Prospect Street on October 28<sup>th</sup>, and the Fall Feast and Auction on November 5<sup>th</sup>.

Reporting for the Archival and Museum Committee, Rich Bass said the Museum had 14 visitors over the past month. Bass announced that a total of 575 visitors, not including those at special events, had been to the Museum during the 2022 calendar year. Bass Rich reviewed some of the items that had been donated over the winter months making a total of 39 new acquisitions for the 2022 year.

Cathy Snider reported on the group's efforts at getting started with digitizing the Museum's collection of old newspapers and other printed material including glass plate photographs. She said much more work is needed before this is a viable project but very much the direction we need to go.

Barb Eimers will available the first Thursday of each month starting in May to assist persons interested in researching their family or building histories. Eimers has research materials available and is knowledgeable in their use. This is great opportunity available to Caseville Community members free of charge.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, May 18 starting at 10:00 a.m. All meetings are open to the public and everyone is invited to attend. Meetings are a great way to interact with other members of the community interested in preserving Caseville's rich, colorful past and to gain an understanding of the events and situations that played an important role in forming the Caseville Area as we know it today.