



# The Journal

*of the Chesterfield Township Historical Society*

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## 2010 Officers

President -  
Eileen Rivard  
Vice President -  
Roy Rivard  
Secretary -  
Duane Vosburg  
Treasurer -  
Marsha Lathrop  
Trustees -  
Frank Adcox; Barry  
Lloyd and Tracy  
Antrikin

Curator-  
Kathy Vosburg  
Newsletter Editor-  
Alan Naldrett  
Poinsettias Fund-  
Raising Chairperson-  
Dolly Allemon

Membership  
Chairperson-  
Janine Smith

*Photos this issue by  
Brenda Rivard and  
Duane Vosburg*

## Christmas Tree Lighting-December 4, 2009

The Historical Society once again had the Weller School open for caroling, cookies, and cocoa this year for the township Tree Lighting ceremonies. This year's festival fell on Friday, December 4. From the township hall, there was a trolley that brought people over to the schoolhouse. Society members decorated the schoolhouse to resemble an old-fashioned Christmas. There was a candle trail

leading to the schoolhouse. Inside, the Interfaith Choir was directed by Bette Carrothers, who also writes the Our Town column for the Bay

Voice . They sang Christmas carols while the many guests enjoyed the decorations and festivities. The log cabin was also decorated.



## Harvest Dinner Raises Money for Society

On October 28, 2009, at Zuccaro's Banquet Center, 46601 North Gratiot, the society held its annual Harvest Dinner. Mark Christopher with his

Memphis Crew performed his "Elvis Reflections Tribute." There were also live and silent auctions and door prizes. (More pictures, page 3).



**There will be no meetings for January, February, or March. The next meeting will be Tuesday, April 6, at 7 pm in the Senior Center.**

**Membership Types and Annual Dues**

Student \$5.00  
Individual 15.00  
Family 25.00  
Business/Organization 30.00  
Individual Life 100.00  
Family Life 150.00

*Membership expires one year from when first paid.*

Make checks payable to Chesterfield Township Historical Society. Mail to Janine Smith, Membership Chair, 47275 Sugarbush, Chesterfield, MI 48047

**Other News:**

Duane Vosburg received a quote from International Controls & Equipment, Inc for a 4 camera security system installed on the exterior of the school at a cost of \$3287.

Thanks to Al the Electrician for volunteer work performed in the historical village!

### Can't Keep My Feet on the Ground

This is the title of the late George Furton's biography about life in the early days of Chesterfield Township. Now in its 3rd printing, copies are available for \$10 apiece at Tom's

Mini-Mart on 23 Mile Rd. and Seaden, or by calling Duane Vosburg at (586) 949-3810. George was not only one of the founders of our historical society, but a state representative, pioneer-

ing fireman, pilot, and local businessman whose story yields much information about the early days of our township. Profits from the book will go to the historical society.

### Christmas Tree Lighting Pictures



# Harvest Dinner Pictures



### **History Tidbit:**

In 1842, via Public Act 57, the Michigan State Legislature officially created the Township of Chesterfield. Originally part of Macomb Township, a new township government was formed the same year. Samuel P. Canfield was elected the township supervisor and had an annual salary of \$25.62. The first township budget was \$75.00. Chesterfield's population in 1850 was 1,002 but by 1860 it had more than doubled to 2,157. Early legislation put a 10 dollar bounty on wolves and allowed "high quality" hogs to roam free since "there was always need of good breeding among the livestock of the community."

### **2010 Schedule for the society has been partially decided:**

September 11 will be Heritage Day.  
Open Houses will be the 2nd Sunday in June, July, & August.  
Log Cabin Day and the Bay-Rama parade will be Sunday, June 26.  
The Pasta Dinner for 2010 will be May 10 or May 11.  
December 4 will be the Christmas Tree Lighting.  
December 8 will be the pickup date for poinsettias.

### **Poinsettia Sales Go Great!**

One of the chief fund-raising projects of the historical society has been the poinsettia sale conducted by Dolly Allemon. This year was no exception as the poinsettias were once again purchased and distributed all over the township by our erstwhile

members! The last day for ordering this year was Saturday, December 5. There were 6 inch pot single stem, 7 inch pot double stem, 8 inch pot triple stem 10 inch pot quad stem, 12 or 14 inch fresh pine wreath with pinecones and 10 inch hanging

basket of greens available. We did bulk orders for churches and orders of 15 or more. Pickup was Tuesday December 8, 2009 at the Chesterfield Township offices.



**Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of the month and are open to everyone! They take place at the Senior Center at the Chesterfield Township Office Complex, 47275 Sugar Bush Rd. at 7 p.m. Refreshments are served. 50/50 drawings conclude the meetings.**