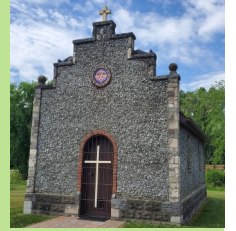




The Journal

Chesterfield Historical Society



VOL. 19 NO. 2

SEPTEMBER 2023



258 Attend History Alive June 10th and 11th



325 Attend World War II Reenactment



Become a Member!

The Chesterfield Historical Society meets at the Chesterfield Township Library, 50560 Patricia Ave. on the first Monday of the month at 6:30 pm. All are welcome.

In this issue:

Past Events.....pg. 1 - 2
Burdon School.....pg. 3 - 5
Calendar of Events....pg. 6

*Chesterfield Twp.
Historical Society*

President- Kathy Vosburg
Vice-President- Rick DeClaire
Secretary- Adam Mueller
Treasurer— Linda Hartman
Trustees- Deborah Bach
Linda Hartman & JoAnn Power
Newsletter Editor— Adam Mueller

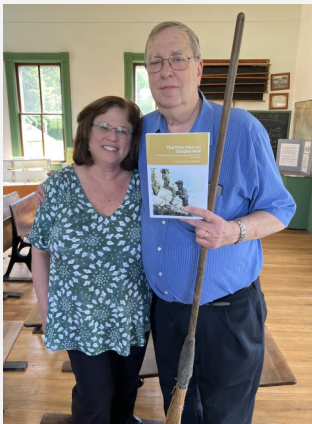
Vietnam Reenactment



Thank you to our sponsors



Contact us to become an event sponsor.

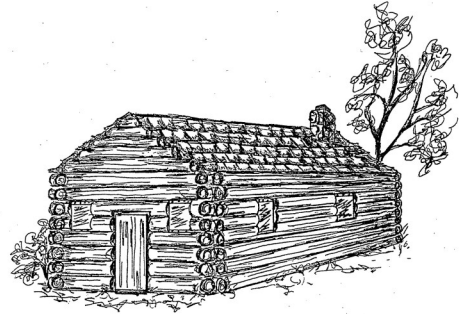


Philip Trinity and extended family visited the historic village in July and shared many stories of his parents preserving the chapel and building the blacksmith shop. He donated a broom that was originally from the Trinity Historical Museum.



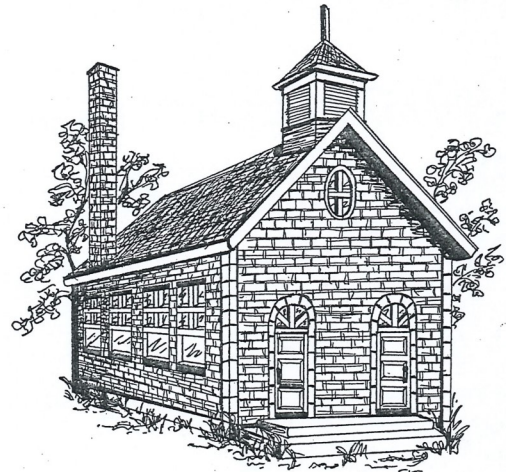
Burdon School History

Chesterfield Number Five Fractional School District was established on May 19, 1849. A sum of \$60 was raised through taxes to build a log cabin schoolhouse. The eighteen square foot school was to be completed by December 1850. A year later a bell was added. The log cabin school was located on the north east corner of the south west quarter of section 12, today it is near a golf course.



In September 1858 the Board of Education sought to establish a new site and a new school. An appropriation of \$500 was approved by vote and on September 29, 1858 Mr. George Newberry was paid \$24 for the site near the north west corner of Burdon Road and 25 Mile Road. On October 9, 1858 the board received a bid on a new frame schoolhouse from William Casey and George Newberry for \$480. On October 11, 1859, the new school house was inspected and accepted by the school representatives.

A special meeting was called in the spring of 1904 to decide on whether to repair the existing school structure or construct a new one. It was decided to build a new school house, not to exceed \$700. The new Burdon School House would be thirty-six feet long, twenty-four feet wide and twelve feet high. The bid to build the new school was awarded to Mr. August Summer. The removal of the existing Burdon School building, built in 1859, was also awarded to Mr. Summer at a combined cost of \$875.



Chesterfield Number Five Fractional School District, 34860 Arnold Road was absorbed into Anchor Bay School System. In May 1964 the red brick Burdon School was demolished.

Source: Dr. Elton James Rynearson, Jr. *The History of The Anchor Bay School System*

Burdon School Teachers

1852—1854	Eliza A. Ogden	1890—1893	Norman Kohler
1854—1856	Frank L. Baker	1893—1895	M. B. McCausland
1856—1857	Mary M. Heath	1895—1897	Alice M. Bates
1857—1858	A. H. Harris	1897—1902	Mary E. Sullivan
1858—1859	Harold Freeman	1902—1903	Bertha Woodhouse
1859—1860	Fred Canfield	1903—1906	Stuart A. Terry
1860—1861	Lidia Peaman	1906—1907	Elsie M. Jordon
1861—1863	Ira Chapman	1907—1909	Lynda M. Rivard
1862—1867	M. W. Rose	1909—1910	Earle G. Yetts*
1863—1865	Florence Crawford	1910—1911	Minnie Habarth^
1865—1866	Susan Rice	1911—1913	Jennie K. Hubarth
1867—1869	J. A. Rice	1913—1915	Johanah Hubbard
1869—1870	Janice Manerva	1916—1918	Ursula A. Habarth^
1871—1872	Cassie A. Mills	1918—1919	Loraine Heath
1872—1873	Jeanie Cuzen	1919—1921	Edwin L. Hartway
1873—1875	T. J. Prugess	1921—1922	Charles Hubbard
1875—1876	Mary Simmons	1922—1923	William J. Hubbard
1877—1878	Caroline Mills^	1923—1926	Ida J. Parr
1878—1879	Lillian Hedges	1926—1927	E. Martin
1880—1881	Louis Seifert	1927—1929	Myril Rapson**
1881—1882	Susan A. Mills^	1929—1930	Mildred Clink
1883—1884	Elizabeth Hammell	1931—1933	Ruth Brandenburg
1884—1885	Susan A. Mills^	1933—1934	Genevieve Smith
1885—1885	Etta Warner	1934—1937	Florence Willmarth
1885—1886	Betty J. Haight	1938—1939	Evelyn Lehrbass
1888—1890	Pearl E. Jones	1939—1943	Leola Bears

*Probably Mard E. Yates

**Probably Merle A. Rason

^denotes sisters

— Teacher list compiled by Dr. Elton James Rynearson, Jr. *The History of The Anchor Bay School System*

Statistical Analysis of Burdon Teachers

I researched the age, sex and marriage date of each teacher at Burdon School in Chesterfield Township, Michigan. Of the 54 teachers, information was found for 39 including 4 possible or unsure.

The average age of a teacher beginning their term teaching at Burdon School was 22.5 years old. The average age of female teachers was 21 years old and the average age of male teachers was 30 years old. The oldest male teachers were William Hewitt, 53 and Edwin Hartway, 50. At least three women were only 17 when they began teaching, Mary M. Heath, Lillian Hedges and Bertha Woodhouse. The oldest female teachers were Ursula A. Habarth and Leola Bears, both age 26.

One teacher was employed for two separate terms. Susan A. Mills' teaching was interrupted to care for her ill mother. There were two families of sisters who taught at Burdon School. Susan Mills and Caroline Mills were sisters and Johana Hubbard and Ursula Hubbard were sisters.

Most teachers, 32 of the 54, taught only one year. Mary E. Sullivan's six consecutive years was the longest, and Leola Bears was runner-up having taught for four years. Etta Warner only taught half a year when she married James Hobb in December 1, 1885 of the school term.

31 of the 37 female teachers are known to have been single but most married soon after teaching at Burdon School. The average was 4 years after teaching at Burdon to be married. Five female teachers remained single. Three of the male teachers were known to be single and three were married at the time of teaching. Charles Hubbard was married just one year before teaching.

Male	Female
13	37
Avg. age 30	Avg. age 21

6 years	4 years	3 years	2 years	1 year	½ year
1 teacher	1 teacher	3 teachers	17 teachers	32 teachers	1 teacher

— compiled by Adam Mueller

