



Ramona Pioneer Historical Society

December 2018 Newsletter.

OFFICERS

President: Jeff Funk
Vice President: Mischa Dobrotin
Secretary: Mary Halliday;
Treasurer: Charlotte Hunsberger
Directors: Arline Bartick, Alice Funk, Denise Ragsdale

STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Audit: Vacant
Historian: Arline Bartick
Membership : Alice Funk
Publicity: Denise Ragsdale
Hospitality: Jackie Foglio

CURATOR - Vacant

OPERATIONS MANAGER - Bob Hailey

OFFICE HOURS

Monday: 9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Tuesday – Closed
Wednesday: 9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Thursday & Friday: 12:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Saturday & Sunday: Closed

MUSEUM TOURS

Thursday & Friday: 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Saturday & Sunday: 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

For additional information, or to arrange special tours, email gwoodward8@yahoo.com or call the office at 760-789-7644.

OCTOBER POTLUCK DINNER:

The December 18th potluck dinner meeting will start at 5:30 p.m., and will be held in the Barnett Barn on the grounds of the Guy. B. Woodward Museum, 645 Main Street. Baked chicken, ham, mashed potatoes, and gravy will be furnished. The public is invited to attend, and those attending are asked to bring a side dish, salad or dessert to serve eight. As in previous years, we ask that you bring an unwrapped toy and/or non-perishable food for our annual donation to Ramona Food & Clothes Closet's "Share Your Christmas" program.



During the meeting we will recognize our long-time life member, Claud Hoffman. Claud is donating a very special item in memory of his late wife, Nola May LaGrange Hoffman. You will see just how special the donation is, as it will be on display at the meeting. We hope to have Mr. Hoffman's donation displayed on a permanent basis early in 2019.



Our Christmas program will feature Jenny Peckham. Jenny is a classical trained pianist and she will lead us in singing Christmas carols. Jenny is a former Director of Music, Choir Director, Coral Accompanist, and Pianist at St-Mary's-The-Valley Episcopal Church. Jenny also served as Keyboardist at Ramona First Congregational Church and is currently a private piano teacher and vocal coach.



FROM THE PRESIDENT:

At the end of each year I try to reflect on the past twelve months to recall all of my blessings during that time. A great blessing for me has been the opportunity to volunteer for the Ramona Pioneer Historical Society where I have been honored to work with a fantastic group of other like-minded volunteers. As Judy Nachazel was president for the first half of this year, I'm certain she would agree that the following individuals should be specifically thanked for their contributions.

All Board Members for attending, actively participating, and making difficult decisions regarding our finances and other activities. I've worked with many other non-profit boards and find this board to be the very best of them all.

Mischa Dobrotin for having provided us with great programs for our potluck dinner meetings.

Mary Halliday for being such a diligent secretary, heading up our scholarship program, and chairing an ad hoc Committee tasked with coming up with recommendations regarding whether certain artifacts should be retained in storage, displayed in the museum, or disposed of. Arline Bartick, Alice Funk, and Charlotte Hunsberger were instrumental in helping Mary accomplish this overwhelming task.

Charlotte Hunsberger for stepping up as a very involved Treasurer. She chaired a committee charged with developing a financial budget for our fiscal year 2018-19. With the assistance of Mary Halliday, Jeff Funk and Bob Hailey, a detailed budget was developed by the committee, approved by the board of directors, and is currently being followed.

Arline Bartick for having prepared a great year book chronicling our activities during 2017-18. The yearbook is available for viewing in the RPHS office.

Alice Funk for maintaining our "Annual" and "Life" membership records. Not an easy job, as annual members must be notified when their membership is due to expire, and life members must be deleted upon death. Processing new memberships also require a great deal of enrollment processing.

Denise Ragsdale for providing releases for publication in the Ramona Sentinel and Ramona Home Journal announcing our potluck dinner meetings.

Richard Wade who completed the required annual audit of our finances. He did the audit "pro-bono" and I know we all appreciated his detailed report identifying possible problem areas, and recommendations for improvement in other areas. We have acted on, or are currently acting on, many of Richard's recommendations.

Bob Hailey, our operations manager, has done so much for us that is impossible to mention them all. Especially noteworthy is his continuing effort towards upgrading our facility with much needed, and previously deferred maintenance projects.

Jackie Foglio as “Hospitality Chair” always insures that our meeting room is clean and properly set up for our potluck dinners and other meetings. Her contribution in preparing coffee and providing other refreshments at the various meetings is also much appreciated.

Scott Rudge for his continuing contribution as our contractor for numerous facility improvement projects. Scott is a Life Member, and by my observation gives us great value regarding quality work, minimal costs, etc.

Regina Elling who continues to upgrade our grounds to be more visually appealing to museum visitors and to those passing by.

RPHS Volunteer Docents are the mainstay of our organization, as without them we couldn't show off our great museum to visitors. **RPHS Member docents** deserving praise for their many hours as docents are Jackie Foglio, Alice Funk, Jeff Merzbacher, Judy Nachazel, Rex McCray, Wayne Jones, Sue Porath, Jerry Wilson, and Ken Woodward. (Hopefully I didn't forget anyone.)

Kiwanis Club of Ramona continues to provide us with volunteer docents and financial support. **Kiwanis Member docents** have included Bob Hailey, Jeff Funk, Denise Ragsdale, Mary Halliday, and Cheryl Van Dyne. Many of these Kiwanians are also members of the Ramona Pioneer Historical Society.

Local Boy Scout, Austin Robison for rebuilding the pavilion adjacent to the headstones in the front yard of the Verlaque House.

ONGOING PROJECTS

I am currently chairing a committee whose purpose is to write a **Policies & Procedures Manual** for administering the Ramona Pioneer Historical Society in an organized and legally compliant manner. As each individual policy and procedures is developed, it is presented to the board of directors for final approval. Members assisting me are Charlotte Hunsberger and Mary Halliday. Our Operations Manager, Bob Hailey is also assisting with this project.

Mary Halliday continues to develop and formalize our **scholarship program**, and with her ad hoc committee in recommending the **future of currently unused artifacts**.

Bob Hailey, our operations manager continues to work with contractor, Scott Rudge, in **doing much needed repairs and maintenance to our buildings**. Work continues on our Chuck LeMenager Library where we will house Chuck's research documents relating to his many books on Ramona and the back country. Scott Rudge is scheduled to completely repair and/or upgrade the porch surrounding the Verlaque House, hopefully to be completed in December.

A BIT OF OUR MUSEUM'S HISTORY:

The antique bedframe on display in the Verlaque House is made of burl walnut and was donated to us by a member of the Yale Family, founders of Yale University and Yale lock Company. Local Ramona resident, Cheryl Cathcart, owner of the Ramona Barber Shop, is the family member who donated this beautiful bed.



MYSTERY ARTIFACT: Can you identify our December 2018 mystery artifact?



Jeff Funk
President
Ramona Pioneer Historical Society

