Starkweather Cabinet Returned to Plymouth

George Anson Starkweather wore many hats during his lifelong residence in Plymouth. He was the first child born to settlers in what is now the City of Plymouth, on February 20, 1826. He died in Plymouth on February 6, 1907. In between those dates, he was a teacher, farmer, merchant, lawyer, justice of the peace, served in the state legislature, as supervisor of Plymouth Township, and as president of the Village of Plymouth.

His legal work kept him very busy. In 1865, he had a cabinet built specifically to organize the various transactions that he worked on. That cabinet (at right) was inherited by Starkweather descendant David Robinson, who recently donated it to the Museum, along with an original 1865 letter about the purchase of the cabinet.

After traveling from California, the cabinet found a new home in the Museum’s law office on our Main Street.

60 Years Ago 1961
Plymouth Mail

At 90, Sees Birthplace Go

ERNEST ROE takes a look at the house in which he was born over 90 years ago. Now being torn down, the home was built by Mr. Roe’s father in either 1868 or 1869. The home is one of four torn down along Main and Union Streets to make way for a new commercial building.
Plymouth Historical Museum
155 South Main Street
Plymouth, Michigan 48170
http://www.plymouthhistory.org
http://www.facebook.com/plymouthhistory
734-455-8940 Fax: 734-455-7797

Hours
Wednesday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday
1-4 PM all days
Open year round (except some holidays)

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Jeff Ashton Co-Secretary
Jim Burroughs Co-Secretary & Treasurer
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Stephanie Hoff Director
Christian Huffman Director
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Museum Memo Editor
Gerry Sabatini sabatini983@att.net
Proofreader—Elizabeth Kerstens

The Museum Memo is printed four times a year.

Monthly Drawing
Chalina Hillson, Gabrielle Wobrock, and Nancy Navarre are the respective winners of the January, February, and March drawings for a $25 gift certificate.

Kroger Plus Card Donations
Thank you to those who have added the Plymouth Historical Society to their Kroger Plus Card. The Museum receives a small percentage from any purchases made by those who have an up-to-date registration on their cards.

To participate in the program, visit www.krogercommunityrewards.com.
Click on “Michigan” and click on “Enroll.”

You must have a valid online account at Kroger.com to participate. If you need help, give us a call at 734-455-8940 ext. 9. We’ll be happy to help you get enrolled.

New Members—Welcome!

Bill Brown Ford, Livonia
Joanne Camiller, Canton
Cynthia Cymes, Plymouth
Gerard Franchina, Livonia
Theresa Fry, Plymouth
Joan Grahor, Plymouth
Barry Levine, Canton
Rachel Pell, Plymouth
Peggy Predhomme, Plymouth
Emily Rocha, Livermore, CA
Steve Saia, Plymouth

Support the Plymouth Historical Museum

The Plymouth Historical Museum is a privately funded 501(c)3 charitable organization. We receive no government funding. We always have a “wish list” of things that help us as we work to preserve and share the history of Plymouth.

Here are some of our common purchases to provide inspiration:
- 1 Roll Postage Stamps $55 per
- IT/Network support $250
- ½ month heating bill $375
- ½ month electric bill $475
- 1 month employee salary $500

To donate, make your check payable to the Plymouth Historical Museum.
Bits ‘n Pieces
By Elizabeth Kelley Kerstens, executive director

It’s Spring! We’re gearing up for a number of events in the coming months and hopefully there’s something for everyone to enjoy.

Clean Air
In November we laid claim to having the cleanest air in Plymouth. That month we had iWave air purifiers installed on our six rooftop HVAC units. This allows the air within the Museum to be cleaned/ionized every 15 minutes, removing tiny airborne particles. We also put in four Colzer air purifiers with HEPA filters in the Sanford Burr meeting room that we run when we are holding events in the room. So we’ve got very clean air here!

Upcoming Events
Our lineup of great events, the dates, and when tickets will be available to members first, and then the general public are listed in the box below.

Advance sale of tickets for Museum events can be purchased by members only at the Museum using cash, check or credit card. They can also be purchased online through Eventbrite, but only when the ticket is available to the public. Once the tickets are available to the public, you can purchase from the Museum’s Facebook page (https://www.facebook.com/plymouthhistory/) or the Museum’s website (http://plymouthhistory.org/events/upcoming-events/). There is a small fee added to purchases through Eventbrite.

We make sure that all of our events follow the state guidelines for capacity and social distancing. In addition, we have masks and hand sanitizer available. We’re happy that we can offer safe, yet fun, events during an awkward time.

Museum Newsletters
We’re in search of back issues of the Museum’s newsletter for our archive. We’re specifically looking for issues before 1996. If you have a stash somewhere, and are willing to part with them, please consider donating those newsletters to the Museum so we can attempt to complete our collection. Thank you!

Finances
As you can imagine, the Museum’s finances have been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. We were fortunate to receive money from the federal government through the Payroll Protection Program twice. That allowed us to continue to pay our staff without having to lay off anyone.

Naturally our admissions are down from previous years, but the bigger impact is that we have had no school children here for a year.

Our membership and our community have dug into their pockets and have been generous with donations and sponsorships.

The annual appeal exceeded our goal of $15,000, with more than $20,000 donated!

Corporations and some individuals have stepped forward and sponsored all three exhibits for this year and nearly all of the events we have scheduled! At this writing, we have more than $17,000 in sponsorships!

From the bottom of my heart, I want to personally thank everyone for their support and generosity!

Ticket Sale Dates for Upcoming Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Members</th>
<th>Public</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April 24</td>
<td>Ghosts of Plymouth Walk</td>
<td>Now</td>
<td>Now</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 14</td>
<td>Night at the Museum Live!</td>
<td>Now</td>
<td>Now</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 26</td>
<td>Steampunk Murder Mystery (Zoom)</td>
<td>April 5</td>
<td>April 19</td>
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<td>August 1</td>
<td>Frozen Princess Tea</td>
<td>June 7</td>
<td>June 21</td>
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<td>Sept. 19</td>
<td>Roaring ’20s Tea &amp; Fashion Show</td>
<td>July 12</td>
<td>July 26</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 23</td>
<td>Plymouth Ghosts Cemetery Walk</td>
<td>August 9</td>
<td>August 23</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct. 29</td>
<td>Things That Go Bump in the Night</td>
<td>August 9</td>
<td>August 23</td>
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<td>Dec. 4</td>
<td>Enchanted Winter Wonderland</td>
<td>October 11</td>
<td>October 25</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec. 10</td>
<td>Simply Dickens</td>
<td>October 18</td>
<td>Nov. 1</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Nostalgia Sale at Plymouth Historical Museum

April 9 & 10, 2021
Friday & Saturday
10 AM–4 PM

Come buy some treasures and support the Plymouth Historical Museum.

The sale is at the Plymouth Historical Museum in the Sanford Burr Meeting Room on the lower level. Items for sale include donations and vintage collectibles no longer needed by the Museum.
Thank you for the following generous donations that were received between December 2020 and February 2021:

**The Lincoln ($1,000+)**
George Thompson

**The Starkweather ($500–$999)**
Edward Furdak
Roman Krzyanowski
William Lawton

**The Penniman ($250–$499)**
Cindy Reinhart
Linda Walther

**The Kellogg ($100–$249)**
Bovitz CPA
Dr. Robert Gordon
John Mazzuchi
Nancy Navarre
Fred Robinson
Pam Yockey

**Under $100**
William Brooks
Beverly Butler
Frederick Hill
Eno Miyasato
Maria Pasquale
Geraldine Pritchard
E. David Reitzel
Catherine Smith
Elizabeth Sonnega
Karen Wilhelm
Karen Witmer
Takeda Yoshido

**Sponsorships**

**Mayflower ($2,500)**
Bill Brown Ford
Community Financial Credit Union

**Red Ryder ($1,500)**
In Honor of Penn Theatre:
James Burroughs & Ellen Elliott

**Hamilton ($600)**
Forest Place Optical

**Plymouth Ghosts ($500)**
ATS Advisors
C.L. Finlan & Son
First Merchants Corporation
Fox Hills Golf & Banquet Center

**Mary Todd ($400)**
Bank of Ann Arbor

**Family Fun ($300)**
Caviston Agency
Detroit Elevator Company

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**The Plymouth Historical Museum presents historic figures from Plymouth's past in...**

**Ghosts of Plymouth Walk**

**Saturday, April 24**

**Walks begin at the Gazebo in Cannon Park**

**at 5:00 PM**

*Walks last up to 90 minutes. Wear walking shoes.*

Tickets $15 in advance; $20 on April 24.
Purchase tickets at Plymouth Historical Museum
155 S. Main Street
734-455-8040 or www.plymouthhistory.org

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Sponsored by:

ATS advisors
Jim Burroughs is running for reelection to the Friends of the Plymouth Historical Society Board of Directors. He has served several years on the Board as treasurer. His efforts have helped to ensure that we are able to pay our bills when they are due. We have also worked hard to make sure that we are in good financial shape for future years. He also really enjoys contributing as a guide for the Museum on the weekends. Jim is retired from Ford Credit in Dearborn. His interest in the Museum developed from knowing Dr. Weldon Petz and his Lincoln collection.

William Moore is the owner of Executive Property Maintenance in Plymouth. They specialize in grounds maintenance, landscape design, install/construction and snow removal. He holds several certifications relating to his business, is an active member and is a director of the MGIA, and is a member of the Plymouth Chamber of Commerce. William has lead his company to be in the top 100 snow contractors in North America. He enjoys challenges, gardening/planting, current affairs, and engaging in good conversation, traveling, Lego architecture, and baseball. He is a member of the Friends of the Plymouth Historical Museum.

Mark Salloum has been producing short films and videos for nearly 3 decades. As a graduate of Eastern Michigan University, he received degrees in both Film Production and Marketing. Mark freelanced as a cinematographer for several years before starting Highway Media in 1997. Since then, his creative vision has transformed HM into one of the premiere studios in Metro-Detroit, receiving a multitude of awards. In 2019, Mark released his first feature length documentary titled, Plymouth, Michigan – A Rich History. Besides working behind the camera, Mark enjoys playing baseball, craft beers, bible studies, and most of all, time with his family.

Tim Tingstad has lived in Plymouth for more than 35 years. He was the first president and founding member of the Fairground Park Association and is past president of the Kiwanis Club of Colonial Plymouth. Tim has worked as a Certified Financial Planner since 1982 and worked as a commercial fisherman in Alaska, 1998-2004. He is a member of the Friends of the Plymouth Historical Museum, and is a member of the Museum's Plymouth Living History Troupe where he portrays various characters for Museum events. Tim is married to Sandra; they have 2 grown sons and 2 grandchildren.

Nominations for Board of Director Candidates
According to the bylaws:

"Candidates must be members in good standing of the Society on or by the deadline for nominations and maintain their membership throughout their term.

"Employees and immediate family members of employees and the then acting Directors may not serve as Directors.

"Members may not be nominated for office unless they have given their consent and agree to serve if elected."

May 2021 Board Elections

This year, the Museum will be mailing out ballots to all members within the next couple of weeks. We must have at least 5 percent of the active membership casting ballots, according to our Bylaws.

As a member, you have a right to vote, so please return your ballot in the envelope provided, before the deadline, so you can elect your next Board of Directors. Your participation is appreciated!
Volunteer Spotlight

Brian Golden

One of Brian Golden’s obvious good traits is that volunteering is in his blood. Brian is currently part of the Museum’s Plymouth Living History Troupe; he portrayed a detective in a recent successful murder mystery, all done virtually.

His association with our Museum started fourteen years ago with his acquaintance with our Executive Director, Elizabeth Kerstens. Both have similar positions, since Brian is curator and director of the Heritage & History Center, located in a 150-year-old structure in Heritage Park of Farmington Hills.

The Historical Museum was Brian’s brainchild seven years ago and continues to be one of his passions. Unfortunately, the museum has been closed due to Covid, but plans are to open soon, one weekday and weekends. Presently, visits can be arranged by appointment only.

If running a museum is not enough, Brian also donates his time as president of the Farmington Historical Society. He is also a member of the Oakland County Pioneer & Historical Society in Pontiac. He sits on the Farmington Hills Historical Commission and is a percussion instructor at Farmington High School.

When Brian finds time to relax, if ever, he is a model railroading enthusiast, reading and writing books (he has authored five local history books) and is the video media director for the City of Farmington and Redford Township.

Brian is a resident of Farmington, has adult twin sons and three grandchildren. The staff at the Plymouth Historical Museum wonders how Brian finds time to bring his acting skills to our many Museum events. Thanks, Brian, for sharing your time with us.

—Written by Mike Woloszyk

Volunteers Make a Difference!

Hough Gift Sets
Museum Plans

The long cherished dream of the Plymouth Historical Society is about to be realized—thanks to the generosity of the Edward C. Hough-Mary Hough Kimble Foundation.

50 Years Ago 1971

Ground is to be broken, probably in July, for the new historical museum at the corner of Church and Main, and it will be built on the same colonial pattern as the City Hall and the Dunning-Hough Library.

THE HOUGH family was among the early settlers in the community, living in the old centennial farm at Warren and Haggerty Roads.

The remained active as the owners and operators of the Daisy Air Rifle Co. until the plant was moved to Arkansas in 1958.
We would like to highlight one of our Museum store clerks, Cathy Webster, who has been volunteering for two years. Cathy is a longtime resident of Plymouth, teaching in the Plymouth-Canton school system for 40 years.

She taught the K-3rd grade classes at Bird Elementary, Isbister Elementary, and Tonda Elementary. Growing up in Plymouth, Cathy attended Bird and Plymouth High School. She received a B.S. in elementary education from Michigan State University and a Masters in early childhood education at Eastern Michigan University.

Cathy is the daughter of Elsie Mae Trinka, a longtime volunteer at the Museum. Her mother helps with Museum mailings and still lives in the house she moved into in 1939 at the age of nine.

Cathy was recruited to help in the Museum by her teacher friend, Paula Holmes, another dedicated Museum store volunteer. She loves the interaction with the customers in the store and is always interested in what they purchase.

Cathy is also impressed with the wide array of vintage merchandise the store sells, mostly obtained by donations. When she is not helping in the Museum, she spends her time traveling, having visited Kenya, Israel and Japan. She also loves to read historical fiction and is active in the Methodist Church.

Cathy is the mother of five, with three grandchildren: two granddaughters, age four and nine, and a grandson, age two. We hope Cathy follows in her mother’s footsteps and continues to be part of our Museum family for many years.

—Written by Mike Woloszyk
Calendar of Events

Special exhibit, “First Ladies, Fashion Setters,” runs through June 13. Events are at the Museum unless otherwise specified. Tickets can be found at http://plymouthhistory.org/events/upcoming-events/.

April
9 & 10—Nostalgia Sale, 10 AM-4 PM.
24—Ghosts of Plymouth Walk, Old Village, 5-8 PM. Tickets are $15 per person and are selling fast. Walks leave the Cannon Park gazebo every 15 minutes. Sponsored by ATS Advisors.

May
14—Night at the Museum Live! 6-9 PM. Tickets are $10 per person. Groups of 6 start every 15 minutes. Sponsored by Executive Property Maintenance.

June
14-29—Museum closed for exhibit changeover.
26—“A Steampunk Murder Mystery” via Zoom, 6 PM. Tickets are $20 per person and go on sale to members April 5; tickets go on sale to the public on April 19. Sponsored by First Merchant’s Bank.