Special thanks for permissions for use of photos: Goodison Historic District shown under restoration of the Emma Kline Falls house.

Other images:
Howard A. Coffin, owner of Cranberry Lake Farm from 1939-1951;
Needham Hemingway, founding settler of Goodison, who built the original gristmill, hand-dug the Paint Creek Millrace to harness water-power;
Lemon Party at CLF welcoming Warren Brown to Oakland Township;
Our lovely Township Seal designed by Richard Krupp;
Michigan Historical Marker located at Cranberry Lake Farm Historic District;
Historic Marker for the Tower Barn dating from 1875;
Little Free Library at Cranberry Lake Farm;
Dale O. Miller, local entrepreneur whom commissioned well-known architects Giffels and Rossetti to design the Paint Creek Cider Mill in the late 1950s with visions to bring Goodison a cider mill.
HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

Heidi Paterson, Chairperson
David Phillips, Vice Chairperson
Charles Busch Jr., Secretary
Jan Derry, Commissioner
Gene Ferrera, Commissioner
Bruce Parkinson, Commissioner
John Sanderson, Commissioner
Barbara Barber, Historic Preservation Planner

HDC meets the 3rd Wed of the Month at 7:00 pm, Oakland Township Main Hall, 4393 Collins Road, Goodison, Michigan.

www.oaklandtownship.org
HDC Office phone 248-608-6807

Photo credit to Leslie Whyte Mack
Local Historic Districts

The HDC consists of a dedicated group of Oakland Township citizens who have been appointed by the Oakland Township Board of Trustees to do the following:

- To administer the Historic District Ordinance 37A,
- to make decisions and offer guidance to historic homeowners with historic resources,
- to provide education and preservation planning for all township historic resources,
- to provide comments on any undertakings on Township historic structures,
- to educate the community on the benefits of historic preservation and the value of preserving the cultural landscape,
- to manage the Township owned Cranberry Lake Farm (CLF) Historic District listed in the National Register of Historic Places,
- to invest time and funds in the development of CLF to succeed as a Community Historical Center.

Each member of the Commission shall have a clearly demonstrated interest in or knowledge of historic preservation. The membership of the Commission shall be comprised of seven township residents.
REAPPOINTMENTS OF COMMISSIONERS

The Oakland Township Board of Trustees reappointed three Commissioner to serve three year terms ending in 2018. They are Heidi Paterson, David A. Phillips, and Charles Busch Jr.

Thank you to all HDC commissioners for volunteering your valuable time to serve the Oakland Township community in their preservation needs.

Pictured from the left: John Sanderson, Jan Derry, Bruce Parkinson, Charles Busch, Jr., David Phillips, Heidi Paterson, and Gene Ferrera.

ELECTIONS

HDC Elections are held the beginning of each New Year and the role is fulfilled until the next year’s elections. Commissioners can be reelected yearly for the same position of chair, vice-chair, or secretary; or commissioners can elect to change positions.

Elections for 2015:
Commissioner Heidi Paterson was elected as Chairperson.
Commissioner David Phillips was elected as Vice-chairperson.
Commissioner Charles Busch was elected as Secretary.
MEETINGS

The Historic District Commission held twelve regular meetings during the year and two special meetings. Regular meetings were held every third Wednesday of the month at 7:00 pm in the main Township hall, located at 4393 Collins Road. All meetings in 2015 were recorded by CMN-TV for broadcast on the local cable channel and for live streaming via the Oakland Township website. One may also watch previously recorded meetings by accessing the township home page ‘watch live streaming’ button at www.oaklandtownship.org. Meeting agendas and location will be posted on the township website under the departments menu, please select Historic District Commission from the drop down menu. Packet information can also be found by clicking the button Township Documents.

CONFERENCES AND COMMISSIONER EDUCATION

Commissioner Sanderson attended the MotorCities Heritage Grant training and the Historical Society of Michigan conference of which he participated. Commissioner Derry, Commissioner Phillips and Barb Barber attended the Heritage Conference in Ferndale, MI with guest keynote speaker Donovan Rypkema from PlaceEconomics. Almost all of the Commissioners attended the Oakland County Planning and Economic Development Planners Gathering at Rochester Hills Museum at VanHoosen Farm. Barb Barber attended the Michigan Historic Preservation Network annual conference in Midland, Michigan. The conference theme, ‘Always Seeking Modern.’
REVIEW OF APPLICATIONS AND HISTORIC PROPERTIES

The HDC is always available to assist owners of historic resources to meet the requirements of the Secretary of Interior Standards for Rehabilitation for their improvement, maintenance, and restoration projects.

A historic resources site index was updated to include a convenient map for realtors to locate Local Historic Districts. Applications were reviewed for work in the Goodison Historic District on two historic resources: Emma Kline Falls house and Paint Creek United Methodist Church were submitted and approved by the HDC. The Commissioners aided the Parks and Recreation with design recommendations for safety rail barrier to surround the Paint Creek Millrace sluice box. The Historic District Study Committee had assignments to review the Redford-Davis-Harmon Historic District, Hixson-Berean Historic District, and Kline Presbyterian Cemetery Historic District.
PAINT CREEK CIDER MILL - PCCM

This Oakland Township landmark is centrally located on Orion Road in the hamlet of Goodison. Office space is shared by the Historic District Commission, Parks and Recreation, Paint Creek Trailways Commission, Paint Creek Cider Mill Cafe, and Six Rivers Land Conservancy. Ongoing efforts to nominate the Paint Creek Cider Mill to the National Register of Historic Places. Submittals to the Michigan State Historic Preservation Office for review has resulted in a change from Criterion A – series of events or patterns of an area's development, to focus on Criterion B - association to persons of significance in our past and Criterion C – architectural style and methods of construction that shaped the identity of an area.

HDC OFFICE

The HDC office is located on the second floor of the PCCM building, 4480 Orion Road, Goodison, Michigan. The office has been at this location since the fall of 2008. The HDC has many resources available to residents including preservation books, National Parks Service preservation briefs, preservation magazines, and even a few movies on loan at no charge to our residents. The office has numerous files with history of local homes and structures, and records of the protected homes listed in the Township historic preservation Ordinance 37A. The office has one staff person that meets the federal governments’ Secretary of the Interior’s professional qualifications standards for historic preservation 36 CFR 61.
Preservation Education and Outreach

Historic Marker Program

The HDC worked very hard on achieving the perfect historic marker for local residents with historic properties in the Township. The Commissioners wanted the marker program to capture the history to educate people. The date and name reflects its association to local significance. Local Historic Districts listed in Ordinance 37A receive a 50% cost share while other historic resources receive 25%.

Mission Statement

The Mission of the Charter Township of Oakland Historic District Commission is to promote and preserve the rich heritage of our township by safeguarding its historical resources. This is accomplished through the following:

- Cultivating an appreciation for the heritage of Oakland Township.
- Educating our residents about the value of preserving the buildings, structures and areas that have contributed to this heritage.
- Encouraging the listing of new resources so that future generations can benefit from them.
- Administering the Charter Township of Oakland’s Historic District Ordinance 37A.
- Collaborating with other commissions and groups that have a mutual interest in preserving our township’s heritage.
CHAMPION SCHUETTE OAK TREE HISTORIC DISTRICT

Oakland Township is home to the famous National Grand Champion Schuette Oak Tree that has been estimated at being 400-500 years old, and is listed in the National Register of Big Trees. The HDC oversees the maintenance and health for this 120 foot tall tree which has a circumference of over 20’ 6”. The tree is on a maintenance program to bolster its ability to absorb nutrients and water from the soil because of the close proximity to Parks and Letts Roads. The Township’s special tree is monitored for signs of disease and stress on a regular quarterly schedule of which the HDC budgets these funds for the cost of this maintenance.
EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY INTERNSHIP / FELLOWSHIP

The Township partnered with Eastern Michigan University to arrange for an EMU graduate student studying Historic Preservation, to work in the Historic District Commission office under the supervision of Barbara Barber, Historic Preservation Planner. Alicia McCullough interviewed for the position, and was awarded the internship and fellowship which began in October. Dr. Ted Ligibel, Director of the Historic Preservation program, was instrumental in bringing this learning opportunity to the HDC. Alicia spent the concentration of her time researching the history of CLF landscapes and people. She also organized and led the Museum Get-Together at CLF.

Pictured from left: Commissioner Bruce Parkinson, Colleen Barkham, OTHS President, Diana Borrusch, OTHS Vice-president, Sue Fox, OTHS Treasurer, Alicia McCullough, HDC Intern Assistant, Leslie Pielack, Birmingham Museum Director. Sitting: Brittney Hendrx, Museum Assistant Birmingham, Lorraine Campbell, Troy HS Director, and Mariel Versagi, Royal Oak HS Curator. Not pictured: Commissioner John Sanderson and Barbara Barber, Historic Preservation Planner.

PUBLIC AWARENESS

The Oakland Township website located at www.oaklandtownship.org is where the HDC provides public updates. Scroll to Departments, click on the Historic District Commission main page. There is a printable application form for convenient access for historic home and property owners. Monthly meeting minutes, meeting agendas, and information on Cranberry Lake Farm programs, rentals and events can also be found. There are related links to other preservation organizations:

- Michigan Historic Preservation Network - www.mhpn.org
- Oakland Township Historical Society – www.oaklandtownshiphistoricalsociety.com
- State Historic Preservation Office – www.michigan.gov/mshda
- National Trust for Historic Preservation - www.preservationnation.org
- Oakland Regional Historic Sites – www.oaklandregionalhistoricsites.org
The HDC produces a regular newsletter that is distributed in the quarterly Oakland Township newsletter and mailed to all township residents. Please stop by the office for extra copies or to share one with a friend.

The HDC purchases books, DVD’s and preservation magazines for use by township residents. Residents may come into the office and sign them out at no charge. The newest 2015 additions to the HDC library are:

- On Iron Bay, The Marquette, Michigan Story DVD
- The Michigan Historical Review
- Forum Journals by National Trust for Historic Preservation
- Leffel's Construction & Mill Dams, Bookwalters Millwright & Mechanic by James Leffel & Co. 1881

Several book donations were made to the HDC office:
Deborah Remer brought a variety of Civil War, archaeology, Detroit history and Williamsburg: before and after. Many great ideas for future programs at Cranberry Lake Farm Historic District. Also Jan Derry donated Train to Somewhere by Eve Bunting.

Madge Lawson wrote an article on the Paint Creek Cider Mill in the August addition of Southern Oakland Township Living. The group picture from left of Dave Phillips, Barbara Barber, and Trustees Mike Bailey and Robin Buxar, stand with our fellow Indian statue at the Paint Creek Cider Mill.

DIRECTIONAL SIGNAGE INSTALLED ON ROCHESTER ROAD

Working with the Road Commission of Oakland County, the HDC and PRC shared the cost of the very first directional sign for Cranberry Lake Park and Cranberry Lake Farm Historic District. Both north bound and south bound signs were installed. The blank sign on the bottom can be changed to advertise events and programs.
The Axford-Coffin Farm, referred to as Cranberry Lake Farm, listed in the National Register of Historic Places, is located within a 16-acre historic district within 213 acre Cranberry Lake Park. The main house built c. 1840s is a Greek Revival farmhouse. The farmstead has many historic structures including: caretaker house, carriage barn, greenhouse, Flumerfelt Barn, silo, springhouse, pigeon/apple house, wild game brooders, fieldstone reflection pond, and apple orchards. The site is owned by Oakland Township, maintained by the Historic District Commission, and funded by the historic preservation millage which is supported by the residents of Oakland Township. The Oakland Township Historical Society are partners in the development and use of the historic district to become a Community Historical Center for future generations to enjoy.

ACTIVITIES AT CRANBERRY LAKE FARM

SQUARE DANCES!
Two square dances at the farm - returning by popular demand, caller Glen Morningstar and the Ruffwater Stringband. A catered barbeque dinner was available for those that reserved and paid. The square dances are growing in popularity. The Oakland Township Historical Society had an anonymous donor fund ice cream to share and their members’ volunteered to help with the event.

EVENT RENTALS AND WEDDINGS!
One high school graduation party, two wedding ceremonies and one wedding reception were held at CLF in 2015. Congratulations! Photographers continue to be welcome to shoot professional pictures on site at no charge yet are asked to check the Township website to avoid any time conflicts with private rentals.
A PERFECT VENUE FOR YOUR WEDDING CEREMONY!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Building Rental</th>
<th>Base Fee 3 hour use</th>
<th>OT Resident and non-profit 501c3 3 hours use</th>
<th>Additional hourly charge</th>
<th>Deposit to hold date</th>
<th>Refundable security deposit After inspection</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hen House</td>
<td>$75</td>
<td>$60</td>
<td>$25 per hr.</td>
<td>$50</td>
<td>$100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flumerfelt Barn and South lawn</td>
<td>$300</td>
<td>$250</td>
<td>$75 per hr.</td>
<td>$100</td>
<td>$300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Main House and East Lawn</td>
<td>$400</td>
<td>$300</td>
<td>$75 per hr.</td>
<td>$100</td>
<td>$300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grounds (only)</td>
<td>$300</td>
<td>$250</td>
<td>$50 per hr.</td>
<td>$100</td>
<td>$300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grounds with main house and Flumerfelt Barn</td>
<td>$600</td>
<td>$500</td>
<td>$100 per hr.</td>
<td>$250</td>
<td>$500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Oakland Township Historic District Commission Annual Report
LITTLE FREE LIBRARY® AT THE FARM

The HDC funded the construction of the little library and Dick Dwyer and Roger Kurrasch designed, built and painted as a miniature replica of the Flumerfelt Barn. The little library is for every one of all ages and offers the in-kind take a book - leave a book philosophy. The Friends of the Rochester Hills Public Library generously donated great books to fill the library. Volunteers from the OTHS monitor the reading selections periodically to check for restocking. HDC Vice chair David Phillips suggested a variety of Boy Scouting books in remembrance of his late father Arthur Phillips, who was an Eagle Scout, OTHS member, and OT Parks Commissioner.

LEMON PARTY!
Trustees, Commissions, and Boards all welcomed a new township manager in the spring of 2015. The OTHS made all things lemon, and members from the HDC lemon-oiled the interior wood work in the main house. Fresh squeezed lemonade was served.

PLEIN AIR PAINTING!!
The inaugural event of painting “en Plein Aire” refers to painting in fresh air or out-of-doors. Participants had the rich experience of painting with seven professional artists with lead instruction by local artist Janet Almstadt-Davison. The artists’ medium varied with mostly acrylic painters. Lunch and critiques with a general informational discussion and individual attention were shared at the end of the program. The grounds provided varied subject matter including historical buildings, beautiful landscapes and distant vistas.
ACCOMPLISHMENTS BY THE HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

Activities:
✓ CLF Management, operations, rental use, and programing of site
✓ Continued collaboration with OTHS for partnership role in CLF
✓ Rentals of the site for three weddings, one graduation party
✓ Offered four community programs and one museum gathering
✓ Launched the community wide Historic Marker Program
✓ Administration of Township’s Historic District Ordinance 37A; Goodison Historic District Emma Kline Falls and Paint Creek United Methodist Church.

Improvements to CLF:
✓ Installed an automatic backup generator to supply power to three buildings
✓ Upgraded gas service.
✓ Installed a Little Free Library® at CLF filled with donated books and monitored by volunteers.
✓ Replaced front flood lights for better visibility for foot traffic and lighting ambiance
✓ Partnered with PRC to have directional signage installed on Rochester Road

Maintenance CLF:
✓ Wild Game Brooder new rolled roof and painted.
✓ Caretaker House insulation assessed for moisture and dried via venting
✓ Caretaker House painted
✓ Windows glazed and cleaned in several buildings, including storm windows

Restoration of CLF:
✓ Requested proposals to bid restoration of the masonry landscape elements, Reflection Pond, Pump house, and Barbeque

Planning:
✓ Awarded NTHP Grant Michigan Preservation Fund for Landscape Master Plan
✓ Assisted in planning for Paint Creek Millrace sluice gates
✓ Continued submittals National Register nomination of Paint Creek Cider Mill
✓ Historic district study committee oversight for research 1325 N. Rochester Road
✓ Development of procedural flow chart for enforcement of Ordinance 37A
✓ Photo documentation of historic properties; Kline Cemetery

Outreach efforts:
✓ Developed Local Historic Districts Map for Realtor awareness
✓ Supported the Fellowship matched internship program with EMU graduate student
A historic master landscape plan is the next large project for CLF, working with landscape architect Brian Devlin. A conceptual plan with treatment analysis will be provided and determined for implementation by the Historic District Commission.

Restoration of the Reflection Pond, Pump house and barbeque are underway for 2016. Structures will be assessed as needed for painting and roofing.

The HDC will continue to invest in the maintenance, operations and programming at CLF to reach more residents to enjoy the historic site. As rental use increases, close monitoring of site capacity and fees will be observed. The HDC follows a no alcohol policy and the township noise ordinance.

Watch the website for educational programs at the Paint Creek Cider Mill as well as an art gallery of talent on display towards the fall cider season in the first floor bridge gallery.
APPRECIATION

Continuous progress takes many hands and much resources. The HDC would not be able to accomplish so much without the tremendous volunteer efforts by the Oakland Township Historical Society members. They are our partners in promoting the site to the residents as a community historical center, and we value their contributions greatly!

DO NOT LET THE GRASS GROW LONG IN THE PATHS BETWEEN OUR FRIENDSHIPS.  

American Indian Proverb