



FLAT RIVER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

FRHS

LogMark

Beginning our 51st year, Spring 2023

Board of Directors: Keith Hudson, President; Robin Walter, V. President and School Liaison; Jean Hudson, Secretary; Lee Beard, Treasurer; Trustees: Larry Alman, Kelly Deitz, Steve Kemp, Bill Garlick, Judy Gager (Publicist), Cory Smith, Susan McDonnell.

Member night April 14!
Museum opens April 15/16
for the season!

Look at this tentative calendar of events and activities for 2023:

Mid-March	3rd grade students came for Native American & Fur Trading enrichment studies
Friday, April 14	Member night from 6:30-8:00 pm with a first look at what's new!
Saturday, April 15/16	First weekend open to the public 2-4:30 p.m. Bring your family and friends
Saturday, May 6	"Spring into the Past" 11 am-5pm (as a member of our Tri-River Historical)
Sunday, May 7	"Spring into the Past" 1:00-4:30 (Network when all museums are open)
Saturday, June 24	Golf Outing (sponsorships available now! Start building your team and join us)
Date not yet known	Garden Tea – a special gathering in our lovely Victorian garden, and more!
Saturday, August 12	Sandy's 61st birthday – fun for whole families celebrating the Meijer horse!
August 18-19-20	Danish Festival/Parade – open extra hours for festival and hometown visitors
Sunday, Sept. 10	Grandparent Day- we open some of our period rooms for photo ops!
Mid-October	4 th grade students learn about lumbering and experience being lumberjacks
October 27-28-29	Fright Nights Sat/Sun/Mon 6-8 p.– Come if you dare; movies in the theater, too
Tuesday, Oct. 31	Trick or Treat at the Museum – yummy handouts on all three floors of museum

As a member of the Tri-River Historical Museum Network, we will participate in their annual **"Spring Into the Past"** tour the weekend of May 6 and 7 when ALL Tri-River member museums are open Saturday from 11-5 and Sunday from 1 to 4. This year's theme is **"Feeding the Family"** and we are accenting many of our exhibits with the theme. Look for the question cards to help you understand how so many displays relate to food! Kids can find clues also! A booklet with map and information about all Tri-River museums is available at all museums or commoncorners.com. How many can YOU visit?



IN MEMORY OF FRITZ LYONS, a musical friend of the museum who always volunteered his time to come and help our fourth graders learn about the music of lumberjacks. Entertaining with a tune on his harmonica, he gently encouraged them to make their own music on a variety of odd instruments like washtubs, spoons and scrub boards. Fritz also was part of the brass quartet that played for our Christmas open house in December. Fritz passed away in January, 2023 and we will miss his joyful attitude and willing spirit.

Members of the Flat River Historical Society are invited to a **Preview Open House of the museum Friday, April 14 from 6:30 to 8:00 pm**. Come and see what's new. (This and the Logmark newsletters are a part of your membership. If you have not paid your dues this year, please do so, as we count on your support. Mail newsletter form or use our website, flatrivermuseum.org)

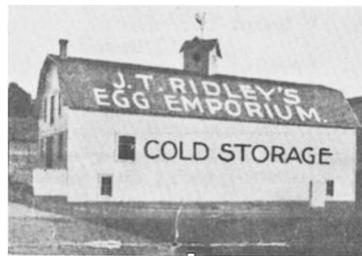
What will be new when the museum opens for 2023?



Celebrating 150 Years: 1873---2023

We're happy to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the first graduating class of Greenville High School in 1873! Graduates were Wellington G. Clark, Mary Emily Fish, Milo Lewis, Henry A. Jersey, Charles R. Rarden, Mary Satterlee, Thomas B. Wilson, and Ariel L. Wilson. *(Let us know if you are a descendent of any of them!)* Many stayed in/returned to Greenville to serve the community. The class motto was "Cor Unum, Via Una" which means "One Heart, One Way". Photos and brief bios of the eight graduates, as well as an actual diploma of one of the grads is on display in the main floor exhibit case, along with a picture of the school they attended and a copy of their graduation ceremony program. Check it out!

Who was J.T. Ridley?....."From EGGS to Exhibits" has the answer!

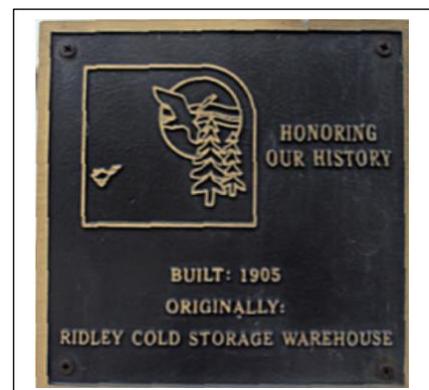


Ridley Egg Emporium: pre-1904 fire and rebuilt after the fire.



You've probably seen pictures of our museum building back in the days when it had the J.T. Ridley name on the side or roof. So, who was this J.T. Ridley— and what did he use this building for? James T. Ridley was a wholesaler of butter and eggs in the 1890s and bought the old barn in 1902 to house his growing business. In 1904, fire destroyed the building leaving only the foundation. Ridley rebuilt what is now the present museum building and resumed operations by 1905, continuing to ship his products cross country until selling in 1925 due to health. He died in 1928. Photos and artifacts of his business are in the new display titled "From EGGS to Exhibits".

Eggs, butter and breakfast are included on the center shelf as part of our "Feeding the Family" theme and the bottom shelf has other artifacts from the chicken/egg business. (Be sure and look for the chicken wearing glasses!)



Historic plaque on our building



SAVE THE DATE: JUNE 24
 We're getting ready to roll for another
Flat River Museum Golf Outing
 Now is the time to sign up for sponsorships
 and start building your golf team!



Third graders from five local schools visited the museum to learn more about fur traders and Native Americans of long ago. They got to touch furs, try a cradle board, sample food, do some crafts and listen to legends. **Do you see the volunteers in these photos?** We can't do such activities without their help!



Our thanks to Tammy Steere, Mary Palmer, Sue Diehl, Diane Brissette, Renee Tokar, Gail Brown, Janet Wulf-Marvin, Fran Gibbs, and Marti Duryea who worked with board members (who are also volunteers) Keith and Jean Hudson, Larry Alman, Susan McDonnell, Judy Gager -- and all adeptly coordinated by Robin Walter. We appreciate the teachers who want to provide such enrichment to their students in unique ways. We always enjoy the students and hope they will return with their families! (Others want to come? Let us know!)

****We are always seeking volunteers** like these to help with activities, serve as docents on weekends, work in the garden or a myriad of other duties. If you love history, people and the Flat River Museum please consider volunteering with us. There are multiple options available. Please contact Charlotte Lothian, our volunteer coordinator, for more information. 616-894-0550 or charlottelothian@gmail.com.



It takes work to keep our Victorian Garden looking so lovely! Many hands make it easier, so please come and help us mulch, weed, deadhead, and otherwise maintain its beauty. These dates are set aside to work, but any time you can spare is appreciated!

2023 Victorian Garden Work Dates (4th Thursdays usually)

- | | |
|-----------|-----------------------------|
| April 27 | Garden work (mulch) 10 a.m. |
| May 25 | Garden work 10 a.m. |
| June 22 | Garden work 10 a.m. |
| July 20 | Garden work 10 a.m. |
| August 17 | Garden work 10 a.m. |

The historic **Eureka Township Hall** adjacent to the Flat River Museum will soon be sporting a new roof! It was built in 1906 and used by their township board until they built a new town hall nearby. The old hall was donated to the Flat River Historical Society and moved in 1980 to its present site where it once held displays and more recently storage of artifacts. Inside will need more work to return to display space!

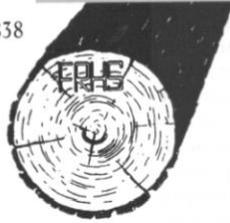


LOGMARK

FLAT RIVER HISTORICAL SOCIETY

P.O. Box 188

Greenville, MI 48838



MUSEUM WILL OPEN

April 14/15 2:00-4:30

for the 2023 season!

**We hope you will
continue to support us
as a member.**

Flat River Historical Society

P. O. Box 188 • Greenville, MI 48838 • 616-754-5296

APPLICATION FOR NEW or RENEWAL MEMBERSHIP

Dues payable at the beginning of the calendar year

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Email address _____ Logmarks will be emailed unless checked: _____

Phone _____

___ New ___ Renewal Date _____

___ Single - \$15.00 ___ Family - \$25.00 ___ Annual Business - \$50.00

Additional Donation _____

Would you like to be a volunteer? _____ The Flat River Historical Society needs you!

Fill in this membership form and return it with your check to the above address or use our website flatrivermuseum.org.

Dues are payable at the beginning of the calendar year. If you have already paid your membership dues for the year 2023, we **thank you**,

and want you to know that your membership is the lifeblood of the society.