



WASHTENAW IMPRESSIONS

REVISED WCHS BYLAWS TO BE VOTED ON APRIL 8

A proposed new combined constitution and by-laws for the Society will be mailed to members who are to vote on it at the Sunday, April 8, meeting at the Ann Arbor American Legion.

Current parliamentary practice calls for a combined or single by-laws document. Lucille Fisher, chairman, combined the two old documents and incorporated suggested changes of the committee and Board of Directors.

An immediate past-president's position has been added to give continuity.

Provision is made for the president to appoint directors-at-large to the board with the approval of the board for two year terms. These are in addition to the regularly elected 12-member board on three year rotation.

Directors at large have been in-

formally appointed in recent years to retain the counsel of some "elder statesmen."

The quorum of members present at regular or special membership meetings was lowered from ten to five percent of the members in good standing.

Several standing committees have been added. The proposed roster includes audit, by-laws, collections, fund raising, Impressions Editor, Kempf House representative, liaison with Cobblestone Farm, liaison with other historical societies, refreshments and resolutions. Carried over are education, membership and publicity and public relations.

Program is merged into the vice-president's duties. There are no finance or project committees as such.

The last revision was April 15, 1975.

YPSI WALKING TOUR SCHEDULED MAY 13

Some of the oldest parts of Ypsilanti east of the Huron River will be featured on the Historic East Side Association's free guided walking tours Sunday, May 13, in honor of National Historic Preservation Week.

Small groups are to leave every quarter hour 1-3 p.m. from the old railroad depot at North River and East Cross Streets.

Peckville, centered on the Peck farmstead of 1827, the 33-room Hutchinson mansion and Oak Street with a full range of 19th century homes, are on the tour.

The Hutchinson mansion, now headquarters of High Scope Education Research Foundation, was the turn-of-the-century home of Byron Shelly Hutchinson, founder of S & H green stamps. The dining room is modeled after one in Kaiser Wilhelm's castle.

Guides will show tourgoers through the mansion and the old-fashioned garden of Bill and Genie Knudstrup behind their Oak Street Greek Revival home.

KEMPF HOUSE SETS ANNS' ARBOR DAY

Anns' Arbor Day, an open house featuring free trees and food, will be held 2-5 p.m. Sunday, April 29, at Kempf House, 312 South Division.

Half-hour programs are planned at 3 and 4 p.m. with a costumed "friend" of Ann Arbor's founding Anns explaining how the city was named and talks by City Forester Bill Lawrence and Scott Kunst of Ypsilanti, an expert on historic trees and gardens.

Free trees for planting will be black walnuts, Norway Spruce and white pine. Refreshments will include lemonade, sassafras tea and cookies in tree-related shapes.

FORD SCHOOL TEACHER TO SPEAK MAY 23

Ivan Parker, retired U-M financial aid officer who once taught in the Henry Ford schools, will talk about the latter at the annual potluck supper meeting of WCHS Wednesday, May 23, at the American Legion. Officers and directors will be elected.

PROFESSOR MAY WILL DISCUSS EARLY AUTO INDUSTRY IN MICHIGAN

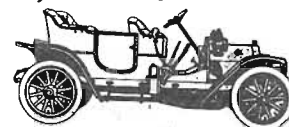
Why did the automobile industry develop in Detroit and southeast Michigan? Why not Kokomo, Indiana, Springfield, Massachusetts, or Walla Walla?

A distinguished Michigan historian, Professor George S. May of Eastern Michigan University, will discuss the development of the industry that made Detroit the motor capital of the world at the WCHS meeting at 2:30 p.m. Sunday, April 8, at the Ann Arbor American Legion.

Professor May is author and editor of several books on Michigan history including *R.E. Olds: Auto Industry Pioneer* and *A Most Unique Machine: The Michigan Beginnings of the Auto Industry*.

He also wrote *Pictorial History of Michigan, A History of Art and Industry in Michigan 1890-1910* and edited the revised edition of Willis F. Dunbar's *Michigan, A History of the Wolverine State*, 1980.

A native of Ironwood, Professor May earned a Ph.D. in history at the University of Michigan.



EXPLORE ANN ARBOR GEOLOGY, HISTORY

The geology and history of Ann Arbor will be the topics of two Saturday bus tours May 5 and 19 sponsored by the Ann Arbor Recreation Department.

Bill Browning, environmental education consultant of the Ann Arbor Public School, will lead the geology tour 9:30 a.m.-noon May 5. Local historian Wylan Stevens will give commentary 9-11:30 a.m. the 19th.

Bus leaves from Slauson School, 1019 West Washington. Fee, \$6 each. Questions? Call 994-2326.

PLANNING JUNE TOUR

Plans are being made for a WCHS bus tour in June, led by Flora Burt. Details in the May issue.

TO PRESERVE PHOTOS BEWARE OF 'MAGNETIC' ALBUMS, CLEAR PLASTIC

We live in an era when people are making photos by the millions, yet a hundred years from now there may well be a shortage of pictures of life in 1984.

That was the message of Ann Arbor Photographer Sam Breck at the March WCHS meeting. Following his talk he copied old photographs brought in by audience members.

The Society will place the negatives on file in the Michigan Historical Collections in the U-M Bentley Library where they will be available to researchers.

"We are in an era today when photos are becoming exceedingly important for historical research and where we're not writing as much as we used to," he said.

"Photography is a fairly cheap avocation for a lot of people. It can be very enjoyable and extremely valuable. Wouldn't it be nice if we had had the kind of easily done photography we have now when Lincoln was president?

"You may be aware that Ann Arbor is really the home of 35 millimeter photography in the United States, through Argus. Argus brought out a 35 mm camera late in the 1930s that sold for \$12.50, then dropped down to \$9. I saw one last week at a photo fair here for \$6.

"If you look closely at the Argus Building at the end of William Street, look at the rounded north corner. That's the way the first Argus camera was — a good old Art Deco masterpiece.

"That camera was what kicked-off 35 mm photography, which up until a few years ago most people pursued. Then came the so-called instant camera that used 127, later 110 film and now disc film, and finally instant photography with the Polaroid camera."

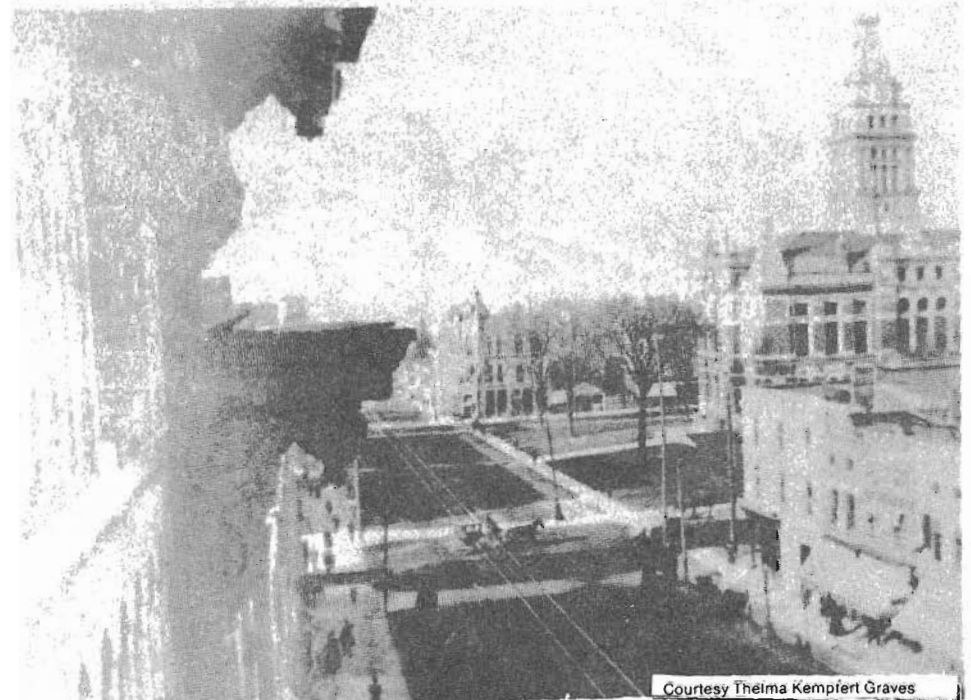
In Breck's opinion, the instamatic, 110, disc and Polaroid camera don't really yield satisfactory photographs except portraits of people. They should be used to make photos of nothing more than 15 feet distant.

"If making a cityscape or something at greater distance you should use a 35 mm or larger camera."

Remember the old folding camera Kodak made? There is film



Courtesy Robert F. Kuhn
First Ann Arbor police car, 1910-11, in front of old Courthouse. Patrolman Edward J. Kuhn in car, a Model T Ford coupe, reportedly confiscated from bootleggers.



Courtesy Thelma Kempfert Graves
Horse and buggy era photo looking north on Main Street, Ann Arbor, toward old courthouse (right). Note original overhanging cornices which have recently been restored on Goodyear's building (left) at 118-124 South Main. Old post office at North Main and Ann at center.

made in a couple of sizes for those and they yield wonderful images. They are also wonderful teachers of discipline because when you only get eight exposures to a roll you are very careful when you snap the shutter.

"There are some good little 35 mm cameras that do all the work for you — they set shutter speeds, aperture opening, one of them even tells you when you are out of film. You can buy cameras for \$100 to \$125 that make very good images.

"The thing that causes the

most disappointments in photography is that we don't hold the camera steady. Use a tripod or put it on a table or hold it against a wall.

"People ask, 'What kind of film should I use?' but the important thing is what you do with it after you have the negatives. The best place to store negatives, slides, prints in most homes is first floor, top of closet.

"There they are out of sunlight, temperature is fairly constant and the humidity doesn't get too high."

"Kodak answered the question

a few years ago that in such storage properly processed slides on Kodak film would last 65 to 80 years, and properly processed black and white film 800 years.

"Today, processing is for speed, not permanence. It's not up to archival standards. If you're serious about photography for posterity you had better take it to a custom studio and have it archivally processed. It's important that all the chemicals be washed away. Also, if serious, use black and white film."

Precision Photographics in Ann Arbor does custom work, he said, maybe Ivory Photo and Meteor Photo in Troy.

"Don't stack negatives. Put them in sleeves. Metal boxes with slots are good to store slides. Avoid plastic pages with pockets unless you get the special archival chemically inactive plastic that looks milky. You can get them if you ask for them at Purchase Camera and Foto 1 in Westgate Shopping Center.

"Get rid of 'magnetic' albums. There is sulfur in the glue which will eventually interact with the photo emulsion and discolor the picture. Use albums with acid free paper and old-fashioned corners.

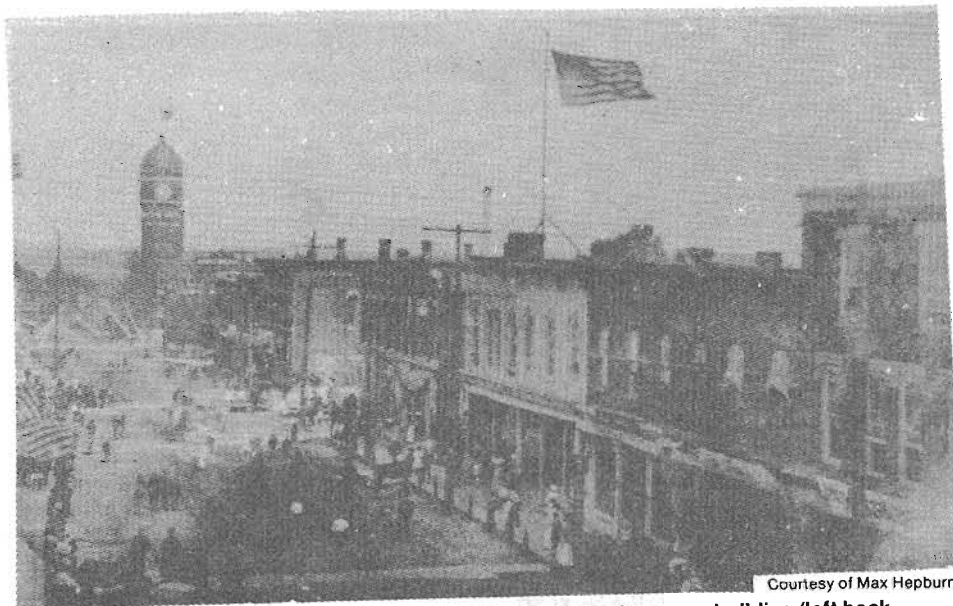
Corners are best because you can label the pictures on the back. Do not mount with scotch tape or rubber cement, which will in time show through and discolor the prints. If using paste, use only wheat paste or Sobo brand which has no sulfur, he said.

"I noticed that at Kinko's Copies you can get copies on 100 percent cotton paper. If you have valuable newspaper clippings, it would be a good idea to have them copied on that paper and throw away the clipping. Newsprint does not hold up well."

Some good rules to follow to preserve photographs, he said, are:

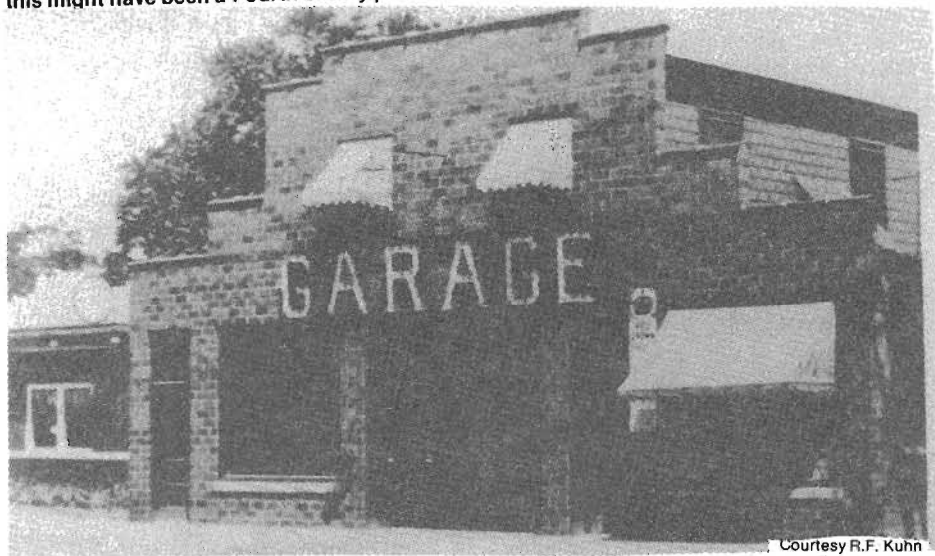
- Always wash hands before handling pictures. Handle only by the edges. You can get cotton gloves at photo shops to wear when handling pictures.
- Don't store in basement or attic.
- Label pictures on the back with date, who, where, why, preferably along the edges.
- Use only a soft pencil. Do not press down hard.

What pictures should one take



Courtesy of Max Hepburn

Goings on in Chelsea circa 1900. Note tower of Glazier Stove Company building (left background), still a landmark. Max Hepburn, co-president of Chelsea Historical Society, thinks this might have been a Fourth of July parade.



Courtesy R.F. Kuhn

In 1926, 111 Catherine Street was a garage operated by owner Edward J. Kuhn who lived upstairs with his family. Since then the downstairs has seen a series of users and remodelings. Post office vehicles were once stored there. Circa 1950's-1960's three businesses shared it — Bob's Lunch, Charlie's Barbership and Burkhart Printing. It was Hohlenkamp's Plumbing, then in 1978, Cafe Creole, and today, Lovejoy-Tiffany Travel.

for future historic value? "The wall paper of life — common everyday things, your neighborhood, where you work, Washtenaw Avenue's strip city.

"Ever since Holiday Inns announced they are getting rid of their trademark signs, people have been

photographing them, he reported.

"I'm waiting for somebody to do the 1950's," he said, "early Dairy Queen and golden arches."

Someone in the audience spoke of finding a barn out Plymouth Road with a "Chew Mail Pouch" sign still visible

HIS DAD ARRESTED HERS FOR SPEEDING — OVER 10 M.P.H.

The picture of Ann Arbor's first motorized policeman, Edward J. Kuhn, brought for copying by his son, Bob, evoked memories not only for him but also for Thelma Kempfert Graves, who also brought pictures.

It seems Officer Kuhn first gave chase to a Reo suspected of ex-

ceeding the ten-mile-an-hour speed limit, driven by her father, Robert W. Kempfert.

Kuhn took him before Police Chief Frank Pardon who refused to believe that a four-cylinder car operating on only two could possibly go faster than eight miles an hour and dismissed the case.

SOME PHOTO PRESERVATION RULES

1. Label, date pictures.
2. Always wash hands before handling.
3. Handle only by edges.
4. Or wear cotton gloves available at photo shops.
5. Don't store in basement or attic. First floor, top of closet best.
6. LABEL pictures on back with date, who, where, why, along edge.
7. Use only a soft pencil. Do not press down hard.
8. LABEL, DATE pictures.

WEDDING DRESS GIVEN

A white satin wedding dress with weighted train used April 29, 1909, has been given to WCHS by the Thrift Shop. Also in the box are white satin shoes, panties with blue bows and nightgown. Unfortunately we do not know whose it was.

SOUTHERN GENEALOGY TO BE APRIL 29 TOPIC

Josephine Harreld Love, founder/director of Your Heritage House, Detroit, will talk about "Southern History and Genealogy" at the Genealogy Society of Washtenaw County meeting at 1:30 p.m. Sunday, April 29, in Hale Auditorium of the U-M Business Administration

CHELSEA OFFICERS

Last month's listing of Chelsea Historical Society officers was incorrect. Max and Marge Hepburn are co-presidents; Lynda Longe, vice-president; Becky White, secretary; and Angela Smith, treasurer. Trustees are Ann Bumpus, Donald Dancer and Harold Jones.

HISTORICAL HAPPENINGS

Chelsea Historical Society:

7:30 p.m. second Monday, McKune Memorial Library, 221 South Main.

Dexter Historical Society:

Dexter Museum, 3443 Inverness, plans a grand opening of its new lower level exhibit hall following the Memorial Day parade Monday morning, May 28. The old *Dexter Leader* equipment and farm machines and tools will be displayed there.

After Memorial day museum hours will be 1-4 p.m. every Friday and 12-4 p.m. every Saturday to October 31. Otherwise the museum is open by appointment. Call 426-2519 to see the museum or use the archives.

Society meets monthly, 7:30 p.m. first Thursday at museum.

Manchester Historical Society:

8 p.m. third Monday at Blacksmith Shop, 324 East Main.

Webster Historical Society:

7:30 p.m. Monday, April 9, at Webster Community Hall, Farrell and Webster Church Roads. Topic: Farm Land Preservation Program, "Facts About Our Local Lands."

Ypsilanti Historical Society:

Mary Kooyers of Ann Arbor has made dolls and water color paintings illustrating dolls and the story of *The Dollmaker*, Harriette Arnow's novel. They are currently on display to mid-April at the museum, 220 North Huron. Hours 2-4 p.m. Friday-Sunday.

CERTIFICATES GIVEN

WCHS anniversary certificates were presented to Pittsfield township when it kicked off its sesquicentennial celebration March 4 and to Cobblestone Farm Association on its tenth anniversary in February.

DR. WARNER TO SPEAK AT CONFERENCE

The 26th annual Local History Conference will be held Friday and Saturday, April 13-14, at MacGregor Conference Center, Wayne State University.

Dr. Robert M. Warner, archivist of the United States and director emeritus of the U-M Bentley Historical Library, will be featured after dinner speaker Friday.

A wide variety of tours and sessions are planned. Historical Society of Michigan is a co-sponsor. For more information call HSM at 761-1828.

Topics include museum security, cataloguing and storing historic clothing, oral history, photo preservation, history of the Detroit Catholic Archdiocese, effect of the Great Depression on public education in Detroit, Black family history and the Michigan newspaper project. Historic films from Henry Ford Museum will be shown.

150 YEARS OF FASHION, DRAMATIC PROGRAM SET

Coming events in the continuing sesquicentennial of Webster United Church of Christ, Farrell and Webster Church Roads, will include a presentation of "The Devil and Daniel Webster" by Stephen Vincent Benet and a 150 year fashion show.

The former will be at 7 p.m. Sunday, April 8, at the Community House diagonally opposite the church. Refreshments afterward.

The fashion show will follow a potluck dinner about 12:30 p.m. Sunday, May 6, at the Community House after 10:30 a.m. church services.

WASHTENAW COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEETING

2:30 P.M. SUNDAY
April 8, 1984

AMERICAN LEGION
1035 South Main
Ann Arbor, Michigan

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