



# Review Spring 2018

Vicksburg Historical Society, Historic Village, & Depot Museum

## OPEN SEASON 2018!

Beginning Thursday, May 24,  
we welcome you to visit our  
Depot Museum and Historic Village  
Thu-Sun, 1-5 p.m.



## THEN AND NOW: Our Changing Landscape in Photographs



Take a look at Vicksburg yesterday and today through our new special exhibition, *Then and Now: Our Changing Landscape in Photographs* premiering May 24!

*More details on page 3.*

### From the President's Desk by John Polasek



*John and Liz Polasek*



Greetings from the Vicksburg Historical Society Board of Directors!

Happy New Year and happy spring... although winter has dragged on a bit. April Bryan, the Board members, the Thursday Guys, and our volunteers are working hard getting things ready for the opening of the Historic Village and Depot Museum on Thursday, May 24<sup>th</sup>. You will see some changes to the grounds and buildings. We are improving our roads, adding pathways to each building as needed and improving building access for all patrons. Our collection folks have been working hard cataloging items donated and refreshing the displays and exhibits throughout the Depot and Historic Village. We are very excited about our ongoing work in the Depot to be ready by "Opening Day".

On May 21, the Society Board and the Historic Village Committee will host a building cleaning workday. Everyone is welcome to help and if you're interested, please call April. As I always do in my message, I put out a plea for any of our Society members to volunteer as docents for our buildings (script prepared for you). Some of the buildings we just can't open to the public without someone on premises watching. Please consider volunteering. April would love to hear from you. Thanks for your membership and enjoy the Historic Village and Depot Museum this season.



### OFFICERS

John Polasek	President
Sue Moore	Vice President
Don Wiertella	Secretary
Ken Blough	Treasurer

### TRUSTEES

Donna Cratsenburg-Scott  
 Chad Brady  
 Mike Hill  
 Brendan McCaw

### STAFF

April Bryan Curator  
 Judy Glover Assistant

### Vicksburg Historical Society

300 N. Richardson St.  
 Vicksburg, MI 49097  
 269-649-1733  
[vicksburghistory.org](http://vicksburghistory.org)  
 May-Dec, 2018: Thu-Sun 1-5 p.m.  
 and open by appointment  
[info@vicksburghistory.org](mailto:info@vicksburghistory.org)  
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## THANK YOU, MEMBERS!



The Vicksburg Historical Society Board of Directors would like to thank our members for remembering us throughout the year. Membership renewals continued to pour in even during the icy, cold months, and it sure warmed our hearts!

## VICKSBURG COMMUNITY HISTORY DAY SURE TO MAKE HISTORY!



*Image courtesy of National History Day*

Vicksburg Community Schools students K-12 will be welcomed to participate in this hands-on history competition set to take place at the Vicksburg Historical Society next year.

Using rich resources from our collection, such as the archival materials pictured here,



students may design exhibitions, write papers, give performances, or create documentaries and websites based on the 2019 theme: **People, Places, and Things: Vicksburg History**. Stay tuned for more details!



## Special Exhibition

# Then and Now: Our Changing Landscape in Photographs

Depot Museum  
May 24 - Sep 27, 2018  
Thu-Sun 1-5 p.m.  
Free



See how we've changed over time in our special exhibition, *Then and Now: Our Changing Landscape in Photographs*. Through historic and contemporary photographs, postcards, and objects from our collection, we explore the ways in which our residential, business, and agricultural environment has been transformed throughout Vicksburg's history.



Image: South County News

# Thank You!

## Warren Lawrence for 50 Years of Service

*"For he's a jolly good fellow,"* the Vicksburg Historical Society board of directors sang to **Warren Lawrence** on the sad day in 2017 that we learned he would retire as trustee. But our sadness quickly gave way to celebration as we recalled the 50 years of service Warren gave us, beginning with his role as charter member in 1967. Over five decades, Warren championed our **endowment fund**, served as Society president, shared significant objects from his personal collection, and told us all sorts of wonderful stories. Fifty years is quite a gift, and Warren, you're quite a man. Thank you for your commitment, time and love of the Vicksburg Historical Society.



thank  
you!

### ENDOWMENT: Your Gift as Historic Legacy

The growing VHS endowment funds are administered and invested by the Kalamazoo Community Foundation (KZCF). Five percent of all the Society's unrestricted donations and all memorials are placed in the fund. Please remember the Society when planning your estate.



## Recently Gifted to Our Collection



In 1945, Vicksburg High School junior, Marilyn Rupert attended the Junior-Senior Reception, wore a red rosebud and white carnation corsage, and as her dance card demonstrates, danced the night away to Bob Herman's Orchestra at the Dreamboat Dance. We are fortunate to steward special keepsakes such as Marilyn Rupert Durham's (1928-2017) memories booklet. Thank you, community, for entrusting us to care for Vicksburg's invaluable Vicksburg heritage.



## Strong School on the Move



*Our Strong School making its journey from Silver Street to its new home in our Historic Village, June 24, 1998.*

We are proud of the work that's gone into creating our special village, and we're striving to open the buildings more than ever. **That's where you come in!** Will you help us keep the doors open by volunteering your time as a building greeter? Flexible shifts are available Thursdays through Sundays, 1-5 p.m. Training is provided. Please contact April at 269-649-1733 or at [collections@vicksburghistory.org](mailto:collections@vicksburghistory.org).

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