



## Oshtemo Historical Society

2010 Programs - January through June  
at 7:00pm

in the Oshtemo Township Hall Community Room - 7275 West Main Street  
unless otherwise specified

Thursday, January 21

Presenter: Kathy Conder, OHS member

Entitled: "Paranormal Investigation of the Drake House." OHS member Kathy Conder will speak about paranormal investigation and her experiences in historic homes throughout the U.S. She will also share her findings from her paranormal investigation of the Drake House that took place this past summer.

Thursday, February 18

Presenter: Carol Gray, OHS member and descendant of Benjamin and Maria Drake

Entitled "History and Stories of the Benjamin Drake Family."

Thursday, March 18

Presenter: Dr. Lawrence Schlack, retired WMU professor

Entitled "Michigan's One-Room Schools - Gone But Not Forgotten," a description and photos of one-room schools all over the state as well as those found locally, and the legacy of one-room education found in today's schools.

Thursday, April 15

Presenter: Sharon Ferraro, Historic Preservation Coordinator, City of Kalamazoo

Entitled "Kalamazoo Psychiatric Hospital Water Tower - Landmark and Legend," the history and uses of the water tower which was built in 1895 and still rises in medieval splendor to dominate the skyline of Kalamazoo.

Thursday, May 20

Presenter: Tom Dietz, Kalamazoo Public Museum

Entitled "Streets Keep Names Alive," a discussion of the names of the oldest streets in Kalamazoo which reflect the residents of the region - a glimpse into the history of the area.

ELECTION OF BOARD MEMBERS & ANNUAL WRAP-UP OF YEAR BY PRESIDENT

Thursday, June 17

Presenter: Mick Lynch, owner

Tour of the historic **Charles VanRiper Home**, built in 1859 on the south side of Milham Road just east of US 131, the oldest brick home in the Portage area. Mick will a review its history and describe his restoration-in-progress.

Friday, July 23 - 12 noon until 5pm and

Saturday, July 24 - 10am until 4pm

The Kalamazoo Garden Council will use the first floor of the Drake House as the venue for its biennial, two-day, judged "Small Flower Show with a Victorian Theme." The flower show and the house will be open to the public. OHS members will assist with preparing for and hosting the show.

Thursday, September 16

Presenter: David Vinci

Entitled: "Music in the Civil War Era," a history of the common instruments of the Civil War era, the banjo in particular, and the songs which were popular at that time.

Thursday, October 21

Presenters: Shirley Maywood and Bill Culver, sister and brother

Having lived in the Drake House before and after World War II, these siblings will describe the condition of the house, then owned by Helen Stewart Frays and Al Frays, and their experiences living in it.

Thursday, November 18

Presenter: John Geisler, retired WMU professor

Entitled "Old Sauk Trail - US Highway 12," a review of the history of the first highway from Michigan to Wisconsin, as well as related treats and hand-outs.

Thursday, December 2 - 6:00pm

ANNUAL APPRECIATION DINNER

**Oshemo Community Center**, south side of Parkview Avenue at Stadium Drive