



BERNARD HISTORICAL SOCIETY & MUSEUM

# Our Times

## Opening Again Summer 2021!

We are pleased to announce that the Museum will reopen on Saturday, May 29<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM. Due to a lack of volunteer help, we may have to limit hours this summer. Our goal is to open on Saturdays 1 to 5 pm, minimally but it all depends on staffing. We like to have at least 2 people on the grounds while the Museum is open to the public. If you, or someone you know, is interested in helping out please contact us! Our preferred method of contact is via email, or you can use regular mail or leave a voice message at our phone number. Or send us a message through Facebook or our Website.

We have ongoing projects we are hoping to finish this season including a new roof on the Implement Building (red barn). The existing roof has been repaired multiple times due to wind and tree damage. We are installing a metal roof to help eliminated this ongoing nuisance. Also, we are looking at replacing windows in the Schoolhouse. Most of the old windows are in need of repair and repairing these old windows is expensive and difficult. We are considering replacement windows that will look similar to the existing ones and will also allow us to open them and let in outside air as the building is quite musty and visitors have complained. For this same reason, we are considering installing new furnaces and ac units in the main museum (hospital). The old furnaces were oil burners and are not in great shape. If we proceed, we will move to natural gas. The buildings have not been heated for a number for years and this has caused some issues with various artifacts inside.

We are looking into different methods of shoring up the General Store as well. It does not sit on a foundation and some of the blocks that support it have begun to crack. As always, your support will help us to preserve the buildings and artifacts for generations to come. Thank you!

**Election for Board of Directors: Harriet Olson, Karen Goebel, and Janet Dimond are running unopposed for their current positions on the Board. Any one interested in voting can obtain a ballot at the Delton District Library or from our website. If you are interested in being on the board, please contact us.**

**Phone: 269-623-3565      Mail: PO Box 307, Delton MI 49046**

**Email: [Museumbernard@gmail.com](mailto:Museumbernard@gmail.com)**

Is it time for you to renew your membership? If so, or if you are just interested in making a donation, take a moment to fill out this form and return it with your payment to: **Bernard Museum, PO Box 307, Delton, MI 49046**

You can also go to our website at: [www.bernardmuseum.org](http://www.bernardmuseum.org) and register/pay online.

**Annual Family/Individual Membership (\$20)**

Make check payable to: **Bernard Museum**

**Lifetime Membership (\$200)**

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Donation (You decide amount)**

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Can we email you our newsletter to save us money?

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## A (very brief) History of Quilting

Quilting, the technique of attaching two pieces of material together usually with padding between may have began as far back as 3400 B.C. It became common during the Middle Ages as a means of providing cushioning and protection under body armor. The Tristan Quilt is one of the earliest preserved examples and dates back to the mid 1300's.

In America, quilting became popular in the late 1700's and no more so than in Baltimore. Baltimore Album Quilts displayed blocks of evermore complex designs. This type of quilting was the work of the wealthy, however, as only they had the luxury of spare time to devote.

Quilts made for bedding became popular during the Civil War as women from both sides of the conflict made them for use by soldiers.

Although there are many styles and techniques used in quilting none caught on with more fervor than Crazy Quilting, using odd or abstract shapes to create unique designs. These were seldom used for bedding but instead were displayed or used as throws.

The Bernard Museum has a great collection of quilts displaying several styles and showcasing the skills and interests of local women (mostly) through the years.

Museum volunteers have done a great job of preserving and displaying these unique works of art. Just one of the many interesting facets of our collective history. Stop by this summer and check them out!



The Tristan Quilt depicts a scene from an ancient novel about a battle in old England.

Baltimore was the center of Album Quilts depicting blocks of differing designs. Often, each block was done by a different woman.



Crazy Quilts are examples of abstract artwork with the stitching together of odd shapes. Often embroidery was added. Crazy quilting began as an interest of wealthy urban woman but caught the interest of others later on.

**The Bernard Historical Society & Museum**  
**PO Box 307**  
**Delton, MI 49046**