

Michigan Political History Society NEWS

Vol. 1 Issue 1

February 1994

The Michigan Political History Society Has Been Born!

Origins of the Michigan Political History Society

It was in August 1992 when it all began. Kevin and Jamie Kelly bought the book *"Three Bullets Sealed His Lips"* for Sharman Moore following a political discussion while dining at Beggar's Banquet.

In February 1993, a small dinner party involving Kevin and Jamie Kelly, Richard McLeilan, Sharman Moore, Tom and Bette Downs, Don Gardner and Alicia Perez-Banuet was held at Lansing's City Club to further discuss the intriguing book. Because of the enthusiasm and fun that resulted, an expanded group including Kevin and Jamie Kelly, Sharman Moore, Gina Nelson, Tom Downs, Alan Suits, Don Gardner, Dusty Rhodes and John Goodell met in July 1993 and began to make plans for a much larger dinner party surrounding the book. From this meeting evolved the concept of the Michigan Political History Society. By the end of September, The Society was formed and the first event was organized for November 14, 1993.

How appropriate that the first event was a dinner party surrounding the book *"Three Bullets Sealed His Lips!"*

And what a success it was!!!

Over 80 political notables made reservations for the big night. From beginning to end, it was nothing less than perfect. Guests roamed throughout Dusty's English Inn with awe at its elegance and uniqueness...many for the first time. Following cocktails, Dr. Larry Ziewacz and Dr. Bruce Rubenstein provided an intriguing presentation about the assassination of Senator Warren Hooper on January 11, 1945. During dinner, a pianist's soft music could be heard in the background amidst the conversation and laughter of all.

As a memento of the occasion, each guest was given a brass book marker imprinted with "Michigan Political History Society - founded 1993". Throughout the evening and in the days that followed, many were asking, "How can you (MPHS) top this?" Watch us!

Join us for our General Membership Meeting

General Membership Meeting is scheduled for March 19, 1994 at 9:30 a.m. in the Michigan State Medical Society conference room, 120 West Saginaw, East Lansing.

Please join us for coffee, juice and bagels while we discuss plans for 1994. RSVP to Joyce Crum at 517/336-5742.

Acting Officers

Sharman A. Moore, President
Jamie S. Kelly, Vice President
Kevin A. Kelly, Secretary-Treasurer

Agenda

Election of Officers	Events for 1994
Treasurer's Report	Membership - Status and Recruiting
IRS Status	
Attorney General Status	
Constitution and Bylaws	
Establishment of Committees	

Ideas and Suggested Topics for Events:

- The political impact of women
- The politics surrounding the Mackinac Bridge
- The influence of Michigan's Governors on political history
- The political essence of the Constitutional Convention of 1962
- The role of unions on Michigan's political history
- The effect of blacks on Michigan's political history
- The significance of Abraham Lincoln's 1856 visit to Michigan

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NOTE: The Michigan Political History Society has filed for 501(c)3 status with the Internal Revenue Service. The Federal Identification Number is 38-3140874

The MPHS is soliciting ideas/suggestions for the naming of their newsletter. Please contact Sharman Moore at 517-332-4557 or Kevin Kelly at 517-336-5742 or send to MPHS, P.O. Box 4684, E. Lansing, MI 48826-4684 before March 1, 1994.

Literature Published Regarding Michigan's Political History

Books

"Three Bullets Sealed His Lips"

Dr. Larry Ziewacz and Dr. Bruce Rubenstein

"Michigan Women: Firsts and Founders"

Rachel Brett Harley and Betty MacDowell

"Stewards of the State"

George Weeks

"Michigan In Brief"

Public Sector Consultants

"The Milliken Years"

Joyce Braithwaite and George Weeks

"The Journey of John Engler"

The Detroit News Lansing Bureau

"Political Parties in Michigan 1837-1860"

Floyd B. Streeter

"Political Party Patterns in Michigan"

Stephen B. and Vera H. Sarasohn

"The Politics of Change in Michigan"

Carolyn Steiber

"The Democratic State Central Committee in Michigan 1949-1959: The Rise of the New Politics and the New Political Leadership"

Robert Sawyer

"Michigan Labor: A Brief History from 1818 to the Present"

Doris McLaughlin

"First Ladies"

Willah Weddon

References

- Michigan Constitutional Convention Studies - 1961
- The Michigan Constitutional Convention and Administrative Organization: A Case Study in the Politics of Constitution-Making
Robert S. Friedman
- Constitution-Making in Michigan 1961-1962
Albert S. Sturm
- Implementing a New Constitution: The Michigan Experience
Albert L. Sturm and Margaret Whitaker
- Michigan Manual
Legislative Service Bureau
- Early History of Michigan with Biographies of State Officers, Members of Congress, Judges and Legislators - 1888
Detroit Free Press, Detroit News, Lansing State Journal

Videotapes

"Lincoln in Kalamazoo"

For more information, contact Tom George, MD, 8545 Old Oak Circle, Kalamazoo, MI 49002.

Institutions

- The Library of Michigan
Lansing
- State Archives of Michigan, Michigan Library and Historical Center
- Bentley Historical Library
University of Michigan Ann Arbor
- Gerald R. Ford Museum
Grand Rapids

- Walter P. Reuther Library of Labor and Urban Affairs
Detroit
- Burton Historical Collection, Detroit Public Library
Detroit
- Michigan State University Archives and Historical Collections
East Lansing
- The Clarke Historical Library
Central Michigan University Mt. Pleasant
- Women's Historical Museum

Book Announcement Reception Open to Michigan Political History Society Members

Members of the Michigan Political History Society are invited to attend a book announcement reception featuring "First Ladies of Michigan," by Willah Weddon.

The reception will be held March 29, 1994, 3:30-6 p.m. in the Michigan Historical Center, Allegan Street, Lansing. It is being sponsored by the Friends of Michigan History and held in March to commemorate the month honoring Michigan women.

This 181-page revised second edition of "First Ladies," begins with Territorial Governor Lewis Cass and Elizabeth Cass. It contains chapters on each First Lady with never before published photos of several of them. It also contains chapters on the three Michigan women Lieutenant Governors.

Two additional books, chronicling the lives of Michigan governors will be ready for distribution at that time. "Michigan Governors: Their Life Stories," is for young adults. "Michigan Governors Growing Up," contains delightful illustrations of the young governors for children.

Several First Ladies, as well as many descendants of former First Ladies and Governors, are expected to be on hand. Ransoms, McClellands, Rich, etc.

If you can't attend the reception, you may want to obtain a copy of the book or books from NOG Press, 325 N. Clippert, Suite B, Lansing, MI 48912. "First Ladies of Michigan" is \$14.95 per copy with \$1.05 postage and handling. (Add \$.50 for each additional book.)



Lucretia Lawrence Felch, First Lady 1849

Official Listing of the Founding Charter Members of the Michigan Political History Society

Bob Adler	Dorothy Gonzales	Dennis Paradis
Glen Allen	Tom Greene	Fred Patterson, MD
Bruce Ambrose	Charles Harmon	Sharon Peters
David Balas	Pat Harrington	F.B. "Tom" Plasman
Justine Barns	James K. Haveman	Dusty Rhodes
Karl Benghauser	Tom Hoisington	Claude Richards
Maxine Berman	Peter Houk	John Richards
Sandra Bitonti	Mildred Jeffrey	Dale Robertson
Joyce Blaney	Cheryl Kane	Bruce Rubenstein
Fred Bohm	Frank Kelley	Craig Ruff
Doug Busch	Sharon Kellogg	Edward Russin
Michael Busch	Jamie Kelly	William Rustem
Dennis Cawthorne	Kevin A. Kelly	Norman Saari
Eric Cholack	Justin Kestenbaum	Barbara Sawyer-Koch
Thomas J. Cleary	James Kiefer	Kathleen Schafer
Carol Conn	Peter Kuhnmuensch	Scott Schragar
Beverly Cozort	Robert LaBrant	John J. H. Schwarz, MD
John Czarnecki	John LaRose	Pam Shaheen
Mike DeGrow	Jerome Lawler	Marc Speiser
Eleanor Dillon	Louis Legg	Bart Stupak
John F. Dodge	Pete Levine	Alan Suits
Bette Downs	Andrew Lott	John B. Swainson
Tom Downs	William E. Madigan	Theodore Swift
Lauri Kay Elbing	Richard McLellan	Clifford Taylor
James C. Epolito	Nancy McKeague	Sally Tetzlaff
Gene Farnum	Colleen McNamara	Donald M. D. Thurber
Tom Farrell	M. Peter McPherson	Elaine Tycocki
William Faust	Anne Mervenne	Terry Vanderveen
Gerald Faverman	Jeff Meyers	Charles C. Vincent, MD
Dawn Flynn	Sharman Moore	John W. Vincent
Chuck Ford	Dennis Muchmore	Catherine Virskus
Mary Anne Ford	Patricia Munshaw	Eugene Wagner
Richard Foster	Mark Murray	Willah Weddon
Melanda Funk	Georginia Nelson	Howard Wetters
Don Gardner	LeRoy Nelson	Danielle White
Tom M. George, MD	Theadora Nelson	Debbie Zannoth
Elizabeth H. Giese	Jeffrey Padden	Larry Ziewacz
Dennis Gilliland	Laura Paige	
Linda Gobler	Thomas C. Payne, MD	

Membership *continued*

Promotions and Functions Suggested

- Promotion of writing of children's books on political history
- Encouragement of political history writing and documentation through competitions involving political science and history students
- Videotaping of political notables, i.e. oral histories, etc.
- Inspiring citizens to register and vote through various avenues, including media.

Thanks to Dr. Larry Ziewacz, Dr. Bruce Rubenstein, Dusty Rhodes, John Liskey of TCI Cablevision, Kelly Saam of Channel 6 NEWS and Sharon Kellogg of MIRS for their assistance in making the inaugural event of the Michigan Political History Society a success. Special thanks to Tom Downs for his efforts with regard to the IRS, Attorney General, and Department of Commerce. Thanks to Alan Suits for naming the MPHS.

Recent History

At Congressman Paul Henry's funeral on August 3, 1993, these words of eulogy were spoken by Congressman Robert H. Michel (IL):

"One word comes to mind when I think of Paul's contribution to our public life:

That word is 'Civility'.

We Americans unfortunately have developed a rich political vocabulary for the ugly side of public life. How often we hear:

'It's not enough to get mad, we have to get even.'

But civility seems to have no similar public vocabulary. So we might ask; what is this quiet, but vital, public virtue that was at the heart of Paul Henry's life?

I'd define it this way, and I think Paul would have agreed:

- Civility means knowing that raising the level of your voice doesn't raise the level of the discussion.
- It means recognizing that listening is a very good way of communicating.
- Civility means realizing that peaks of uncommon progress can be reached by paths of common courtesy.
- Civility means being tough without being mean and being principled without being fanatic.
- Civility means believing in the power of reason to influence public debate and the power of the spirit to transform private lives.
- Civility is the public embodiment of the Golden Rule: 'Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.'

By those standards Paul Henry was the embodiment of civility. If I were asked to sum up Paul's impact on those of us who knew him, I would recall a favorite phrase of my father:

'Dare to be Daniel.'

By that he meant we should have the courage of Daniel in the lion's den, retaining our convictions in difficult times, trusting in Providence, doing what's right, especially when it is unpopular to do so.

Paul Henry dared to be a Daniel."

Michigan Political History
Society
1993-1994
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Business Phone _____ Fax _____

Enclosed is my check for membership in the amount of:

_____ \$10.00 Student Membership – Annual

_____ \$150.00 Lifetime Membership

_____ \$20.00 Regular Membership – Annual

_____ Other Contribution

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:

Michigan Political History Society

MAIL TO:

Michigan Political History Society

P.O. Box 4684

East Lansing, MI 48826-4684

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East Lansing, MI 48826-4684

