

July 2010

DETROITHISTORICAL

SOCIETY

est. 1921

VOLUNTEER NEWSLETTER

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Upcoming Events
- Tour Schedule
- Special Programs/ Behind The Scenes

CURATOR'S CORNER

Sixty years ago this month, on July 19, 1950, ground was broken for the Jefferies Housing Project. Located near where the Lodge Freeway runs today, this "model community" was created to alleviate the housing shortage that Detroit experienced after World War II. Named for Edward J. Jefferies, a former Detroit Recorder's Court Judge, the housing project utilized cutting-edge urban planning techniques of the time, and generated a lot of excitement. Many Detroiters ambitiously signed up to live in the new apartment-style housing units.

The original plan was to build eight 14-story buildings which opened in 1953 on the west side of the Lodge Freeway. Five other towers and 415 low-rise units were opened in October of 1955 as an expansion to the project. This public project cost over \$28.7 million dollars to build, with a total of about 2,170 units on 47 acres. In the late 1960s, the Jefferies Housing Project gained attention again, but this time for negative reasons. The post-WWII urban planning experiment had failed and the living conditions at the Jefferies were no longer what the planners had hoped for. Problems with crime and drugs plagued the housing project, occupancy rates dropped and the buildings fell into disrepair.

Today, Detroit has begun rebuilding the area where the Jefferies Housing Project once stood. Most of the high-rises that dominated the landscape were demolished and some were converted for reuse. In 2001, a large-scale demolition made way for the Woodbridge Estates project creating an area of mixed-income homes.

Tim Borbely—Curatorial Intern

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Congratulations to Volunteers

The Detroit Historical Society appreciates the many hours of service given by you, our Volunteers during the past fiscal year. Many thanks to Glancy Model Train Volunteer **Peter Dudley** who has given over 400 hours; **Mark Sarver**, a Glancy Model Train Volunteer has volunteered over 375 hours; **Maggie Byrnes**, **Denise Pareyt** and **Ralph Rinaldi** have volunteered over 300 hours; **Marty Kozicki** and **Eileen Rodak** have given over 200 hours of service. We also want to note that Ralph Rinaldi is beginning his 30th year of volunteering in The Streets of Old Detroit in the Print Shop. Thanks, Ralph!!!

We give a big Thank You to those who have given over 100 hours of volunteering:

Victor Bodek, Victoria Bohm, Doris Christenson, Tom Coles, Fred Cotter, Bob Cosgrove, Jean Dodenhoff, Bob Good, Dave Koss, Melissa Luberti, John Maisner, Dave Marchioni, Jim McConnell, Jane Stack and Al Trudeau

Please remember to document your hours of service so that our records reflect your dedication. We appreciate all you do!



July

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 10:00 HP Tour Meyers Action Inst. 60 1-5th graders/7 adults 10:00 MT Tour DGLM Judson Ctr. 35 5-16 yr olds/5 adults/ wheelchairs	2 10:00 HP Tour Clara Rutherford PS/45 2nd -5th/4 ad 12:30 HP Tour Children's Place/13 K-6th graders/ 2 adults	3
4 INDEPENDENCE DAY MUSEUMS CLOSED	5 MUSEUM AND OFFICES CLOSED	6	7 10:00 MT Tour DGLM Det. Police Dept./50 Students/2 ad 12:30 MT Tour DGLM Independence Twp Parks/ Rec/ 50 6-9th graders/7 adults	8 10:00 MT Tour DGLM Oakland Co. Children's Village/15 6-12th graders/2 adults	9 10:00 MT Tour DGLM/Northridge Acad/ 30 4th-8th Graders / 5 adults 9:30 BTS: Greenmead APBA Gold Cup Races 1 Volunteer Needed—2-6 pm.	10 9:30 BTS: Masonic Temple 1 Volunteer Needed APBA Gold Cup Races 2 Volunteers Needed
11 APBA Gold Cup Races 1 Volunteer Needed	12	13	14 10:00 MT Tour DGLM Campbell Summer School/ 63 3-5th gr/6 adults 12:30 MT Tour DGLM Campbell Summer School/ 62 3-5th gr/6 ad	15 10:00 HP Tour WSU SummerCamp/ 49 9-17 yr olds/10 ad 12:30 HP Tour Moran Family Reunion/ 40 adults/ 3 children	16 10:00 HP Tour Diehl Boys/Girls Club/30 1st -10th graders/3 adults 10:00 MT Tour Parker Summer Sch 60 K-2/6 adults 12:30 HP Tour Parker Summer School 60 K-2/6 ad	17 10:30 BTS: Hecker-Smiley Mansion
18 HAPPY 309TH BIRTHDAY DETROIT PARTY 12:30—4:00 pm	19 Extended Hours Begins Museum Open 10-5	20 10:00 HP Tour Tutor Time/ 20 1st -6th graders/ 4 ad Extended Hours Museum Open 10-5	21 10:00 HP Tour University Prep MS/ 42 6-8th graders/5 ad 12:30 MT Tour DGLM Leona Group/15 6-8th graders/2 ad Museum Open 10-5	22 Extended Hours Museum Open 10-5	23 10:00 HP Tour Erma Henderson Acad/35 3rd-7th/4 ad 10:00 MT Tour DGLM/YWCA Group/ 50 K-9th graders/ 5 a 12:30 HP Tour/ Campbell Summer 100 3rd-5th/10 ad Museum Open 10-5	24 10:30 BTS: Sacred Heart Seminary Museum Open 10-5 DOSSIN 50th BIRTHDAY 2 Volunteers Needed
25 Extended Hours Museum Open 10-5	26	27	28 10:00 HP Tour Farmington Hills Spec Svcs/60 6-12 yr olds/8 ad 12:30 HP Tour Farmington Hills Spec Svcs/60 6-12 yr olds/8 ad	29 9:30-10:30 HP Tour/Great Lakes Acad/ 42 1st-7th graders/ 10 adults	30 10:00 MT Tour DGLM YWCA Group/50 K-9th graders/ 5 adults	31 10:30 BTS: Governor Warner Mansion

August



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5 12:00 HP Tour Life Changers/ 60 13-18 yr olds/ 6 adults	6 10:00 MT Tour DGLM/ Detroit Science Ctr. Summer Camp/ 30 4th –8th gr/ 4 adults	7 10:00 HP Tour Burks Reunion/ 50 adults 10:30 BTS: Eastern Market
8	9	10	11 10:00 HP Tour Beverly Hills Club 27 3rd—6th gr./ 3 adults	12	13	14 9:30 BTS: Elmwood Cemetery
15	16	17	18 10:00 HP Tour Loving Hearts Child Care/ 15 5-12 yr olds/2 ad 10:00 HP Tour YWCA Group/ 50 K-9th graders/5 adults	19	20	21 10:30 BTS: Indian Village 11:00—4:00 Dossin Great Lakes Museum Ship Spectacular
22 11:00—4:00 Dossin Great Lakes Museum Ship Spectacular	23	24	25 6:00 pm Author Series: 1 Volunteer Needed	26 10:00 HP Tour YWCA Group/ 50 K-9th graders/ 5 adults	27	28 10:30 BTS: Corktown Walking Tour 11:00—4:00 Dossin Great Lakes Museum Ship Spectacular
29 11:00—4:00 Dossin Great Lakes Museum Ship Spectacular	30	31				

**VOLUNTEER
NEWSLETTER**

WE'RE ON THE WEB
WWW.DETROITHISTORICAL.ORG

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COORDINATOR'S CORNER

Dear Volunteers,

Happy 309th Birthday Detroit! Please join us as we celebrate this birthday with a party on Sunday, July 18 from 1 to 4 pm. We are in need of volunteers, but if you'd just like to "party" please join in the fun.

Summer is becoming a very busy place for the Detroit Historical Society Museums. Summer schools and summer camps are signing up for Historical Perspectives (HP) tours at the Main Museum and Maritime Tours (MT) at the Dossin Great Lakes Museum. Thanks to our Docents who are taking time out of summer to help with our guests. We really appreciate your commitment during the school year and also appreciate your dedication throughout the summer. I promise we'll try not to overburden each Docent and/or Volunteer.

Please check out the list of Volunteers/Docents who have donated so many hours since July 1, 2009 through June, 2010. The Society owes a great debt of gratitude to you, our Volunteers and we hope that you will continue to grace us with your presence for many years to come. Please remember to sign in and sign out when you volunteer so that our records are accurate.

Summer is my favorite time of year. I think it's a good time to reconnect with family and friends and enjoy the beauty that is our Metropolitan area of Detroit and the State of Michigan. Summer is the time to slow down and relax so that we can continue to do all that we need to do when things get busier in the Fall. Enjoy our weather, our nature and our people at this fun time of year.

See you soon!

Rosanne Jamieson, Volunteer Coordinator, 313.833.1419 or rjamieson@detroithistorical.org