
Mason County Heritage Circle:

Preserving Our Past, Ensuring Our Future



Pere Marquette Car Ferries, Ludington, Mich.

We invite you to become a cornerstone of history by joining the Mason County Heritage Circle—designed to secure the legacy of the Mason County Historical Society (MCHS) for generations to come. By designating MCHS in your will or trust or including MCHS as a beneficiary of a retirement plan or life insurance policy, you play a crucial role in preserving, presenting, and protecting the rich history of Mason County.

No matter what your station in life is, now is the perfect time to include the Mason County Historical Society in your estate plans. The Mason County Heritage Circle program recognizes those who have designated MCHS as a beneficiary in their wills or trusts.

Why Join the Heritage Program?

Your commitment to the Heritage Circle program ensures that the museums under the Mason County Historical Society continue to thrive as they provide culturally rich programming that blends the stories of old with present times.

There is no minimum level of support required to join the Heritage Circle program. Simply notify us that MCHS is included in your estate plans, and you have become a Mason County Heritage Circle member.

Members of the Heritage Circle Program enjoy exclusive benefit from recognition, if you desire, to special invites to MCHS donor receptions where you can connect with fellow history enthusiasts. In addition, each year, Heritage Circle members receive a number of guest passes to our museums to share with loved ones who want to discover the rich history of Mason County.

How your support makes a difference:



Preserving History: Your gift guarantees the preservation of Mason County's historical artifacts, documents, and stories, ensuring they are safeguarded and shared with future generations.



Historically Relevant Programming: Your contribution supports ongoing programs and exhibitions, making history come alive for community members and visitors alike.



Sustainability: Your support keeps MCHS financially sound and focused on our mission to preserve, present, and protect the history of Mason County at our three museum venues.



Supports Education: Provides critical funding for history rich programs such as History in Action Days, Maritime History Days, and our annual Mason Memories Speakers Series.



Preserve Cultural Attractions: Your gift provides valuable funding to preserve the Ludington Murals, Mason County Sports Hall of Fame, Scottville Clown Band, and the Pere Marquette Memorial Cross.



A Thriving Community: Your support not only sustains our historical preservation efforts but also plays a pivotal role in shaping Mason County as a destination that seamlessly blends the allure of our natural landscapes with the compelling narratives of our past. The events, exhibits, and educational programs curated by the Mason County Historical Society contribute to the economic vitality of Mason County by fostering tourism and creating opportunities for local businesses.





The Caswell Courthouse before and after restoration. Volunteers, and donations helped in the restoration.

DONOR TESTIMONIAL

We enjoyed childhoods in Mason County that included exploring nature, working on family fruit farms and around a lumber and building supplies yard, enjoying water sports, and watching seven carferries come and go. Although we've lived more than 50 years in Pennsylvania, throughout these years we've always felt that our "home" is Mason County. Yet, we didn't fully appreciate Mason County's history and landscape until the Mason County Historical Society (MCHS) taught us about the area where we grew up. The MCHS is a remarkable county historical society with three outstanding learning centers: White Pine Village, Port of Ludington Maritime Museum, and downtown Research Center.

The MCHS commitment to preserving and sharing local heritage allows present and future generations to know the remarkable changes that occurred during Mason County's history. The dedication and enthusiasm of the MCHS staff, Board, and volunteers allows residents and visitors to learn the region's vibrant history and how earlier county residents worked and lived. But without support of the MCHS, the region's stories of logging, timber mills, salt production, farming, manufacturing, railroads, ships, and earlier days may be lost. We are delighted to financially support the MCHS both now and in the future via a bequest. Supporting MCHS ensures continuation of its mission of preserving, presenting, and protecting the history of Mason County.

**Warren & Chris Abrahamson
Lewisburg, Pennsylvania**



How Do I Join?

There are many ways to become a Mason County Heritage member. Below are examples of the common ways to give:

- Bequest in will or trust
- Life Insurance Policy
- Retirement fund [e.g., IRA, 401(k)] beneficiary
- Health Savings Account Beneficiary
- Gift of appreciated stock
- Gift of real estate (under certain conditions)
- Designate a percentage of what is left in your estate to MCHS

How Will My Gift Be Used?

You can designate how you would like your planned gift used:

- Unrestricted, which allows MCHS to determine the best use of your gift at the time it is received
- Restricted, which means you can designate your contribution to be used for a specific museum or fund. Funds:
 - Endowment
 - Adopt a Building
 - Education programming
 - Museum Funds

Thank you for your support!

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

231-843-4808

www.masoncountymihistory.org

rebecca@mchshistory.org

Mason County Heritage Program Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State & Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____

E-mail: _____

In what manner did you include the Mason County Historical Society in your estate plans?

- Will/Living Trust
- Retirement Plan
- Gift Annuity
- Life Insurance Policy
- Other...

Do we have your permission to list you as part of the Heritage Program in marketing materials?

Yes: _____ No: _____

We respect your privacy. Information collected here will not be sold, reused, rented, loaned, or otherwise disclosed without your consent.

Check all that apply

- I would like more information about the Heritage Program.
- I have questions about the Heritage Program.
- I am going to see my estate-planning advisor; what information do I need?
- I have already included Mason County Historical Society in my estate plans.
- Other...

Thank you for your support!
