



The Chinquapin

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Summer 2018

The Official Publication Of The Royal Oak Nature Society

Nature Society's 13th Annual Fundraiser

Our 13th Annual Soiree/Fundraiser was held during the evening of Friday, April 27th, 2018 at the Royal Oak Elks Club. It began at 7:00 p.m. and lasted until around 10. We began our program around 7:30 by welcoming our guests to our soiree/fundraiser. Then we thanked and introduced our six sponsors. They were **Miner's Den, Royal Oak Historical Society, Michigan Schools and Government Credit Union, Japhet School, Plants for Ecology and Rose Kudron**. After that, we held our live auction where which one of the auction items was Cocktails & Dinner for four with Margaret Monroe at the Red Run Golf Club.

For the balance of the evening, our guests continued to bid on over 150 silent auction items, eat scrumptious food, purchase reasonably priced drinks from the cash bar, and enjoy the company of friends, members of the community and other Nature Society supporters.

We also want to thank all of our guests for coming, and

thank our fundraiser volunteers and our auction, food and cash donors. If it wasn't for them, we couldn't continue to keep putting on this event every year.

We are also very grateful for help this year from three students that go to Royal Oak High School. Their volunteer assistance though out the evening was greatly appreciated. The students were **Abhigya Khanal, Vayden Brady and Spencer Barrer**.

This year's fundraiser was very successful, as over 120 people attended this event. If you haven't been to any of our previous fundraisers, you should come out to our next one and see for yourselves what you have been missing. Tickets are only \$10 per person and this event is as much of a soiree as is it a fundraiser.

Next year's event is scheduled for Friday, April 26, 2019 at the Royal Oak Elks Club once again. Hope you can make it to one of the better parties in town.

In the past, we have given out our yearly awards at our Annual Fundraiser. This year, our awards ceremony will be held on a different date. It will be an event to pay tribute to our past year's volunteers and to announce our annual award winners. We rely on our volunteers to help us maintain and improve our three parks plus help us with our annual fundraiser and with Dream Cruise parking.

If you are not one of our volunteers and think that you might be interested in being one, please check out our web page "[Get Involved](#)." There are many different ways that you can help the Nature Society and you can assist as much or little as you want.



Nature Society's 13th Annual Fundraiser

Owls and a Meteorite

by Bob Muller

When you walk into one of our nature parks, you never know what you might see. On Tuesday, January 18th, 2018, we had our first Owl Hoot of the year and it was at Cummingston Park. A small group of eight showed up on a very cold night. I gave the short talk on owls that I always do and we entered the park. We went down the Gentian Trail to a spot where we regularly get an owl to come in to check out the recorded calls. With no owls coming in after waiting for 10 minutes, we walked back to Leafdale Trail and turned on to it and walked deeper into the park. We only made it about 100 yards when a large shooting star like object caused everyone to look up at the sky. One of the attendees said fireworks, and that is what it looked like except it was going downward, not up. The "fireworks" disappeared and we continued down

the trail. A minute or two later a loud rumbling that sounded just like the finale of a fireworks display but with no fireworks. We all thought it was rather odd. We continued the Owl Hoot and almost immediately had three Screech Owls fly in and many others calling from every direction.

When I got home I learned that a meteor had come down locally. It was over Hamburg, Michigan. It was about 50 miles as the crow flies. The sound delay was just the difference between the speed of light and sound.

So, this means that you should come out to future nature walks because you will never know what you may see on one of them.

Who was Nathaniel J. Quickstad?

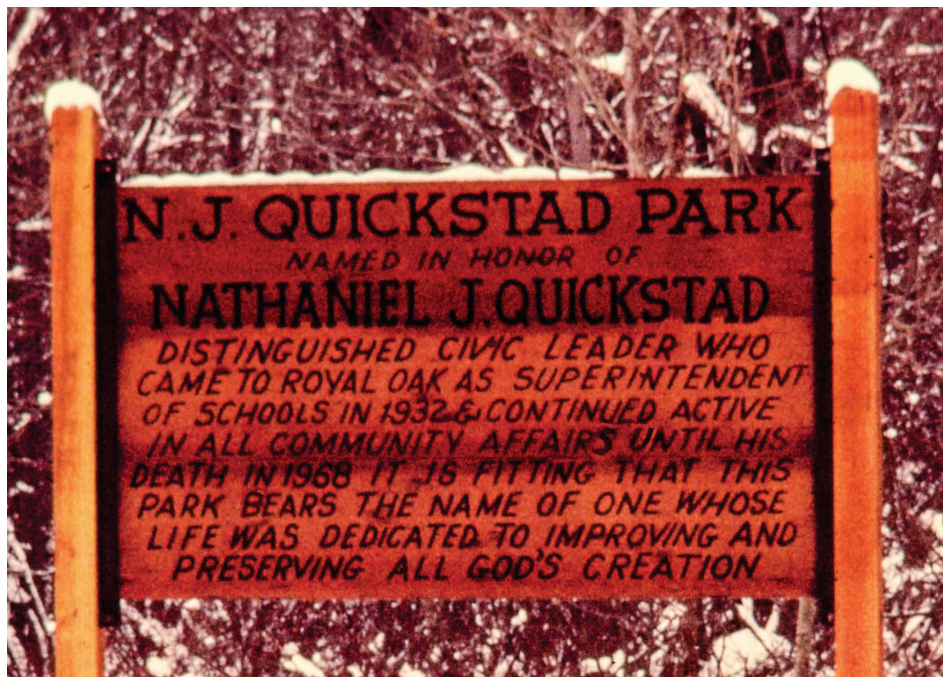
by Donald Drife

Tenhaven Woods is located inside Quickstad Park. The question is, who was Nathaniel J. Quickstad, the person whom the park is named after?

Recently, the Nature Society received a collection of Kodachrome slides from the estate of Robert Gaisorowski. In this collection was a photograph of a sign (see below) giving information on Quickstad's life. I wanted to know more about the man.

From an article in the October 14, 1941 edition of The Royal Oak Daily Tribune, it was told that he was born October 12, 1888, in White Cloud, Minnesota. Before getting involved in education he worked as a street car conductor and a journeyman electrician. Graduating from High School in St. Cloud and later from the State Teachers' College located there. He received his Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Minnesota and a Master of Arts degree from University of Chicago. He taught for six years at the State Teachers' College at St. Cloud and for four years at the high school in Virginia, Minnesota where he also served as the assistant principal. During World War I he was principal at the Great Lakes Naval Training station, using his knowledge gained as a journeyman to establish courses in the skilled trades. After the war he served as principal in Virginia, Minnesota for nine-years and dean of the Virginia Junior College for two-years. He married Margaret Bicking on June 27, 1918.

Quickstad came to Royal Oak to serve as superintendent of schools in 1932 and served until 1947. He then served the school board as director of business services and director of special services until his retirement in 1961. Quickstad served on the board of the Michigan Parent-teacher association for many years. He was president of the Royal Oak Kiwanis Club in 1934 and active in the Royal Oak Chamber of Commerce serving on the board and as president. In 1936, he served as president of the Oakland County Public Health association. He was also a dedicated Mason active in several chapters.



**ALL SPEAKER PROGRAMS ARE FREE AND OPEN TO EVERYONE.
PRE-REGISTRATION IS NOT REQUIRED**

SPEAKER PROGRAMS

*Our monthly general meeting/speaker programs (October to April) are held on Wednesday's at the **Royal Oak Middle School (ROMS)** at 709 N. Washington. We meet in either the auditorium or the "Gathering Place", both of which can be reached via the school's southeast entrance. The general meeting begins at 7:30 pm, with the speaker program commencing several minutes later. The program is usually a slide show that focuses on various natural history topics. If you watch nature programs on PBS or the Discovery Channel, this is better because you can meet with the speakers afterwards and ask questions. There is no cost or preregistration. **Our next speaker program will not be until October, 2018.***

Below is the list of all of our fundraiser volunteers, auction item and food donors plus those who donated cash to this year's fundraiser to help cover expenses. We could not have had a successful 2018 fundraiser without their help.

Jay & Deb Anderson	Leon & LuLu's	Leslie Anderson
Andrew Bartley	Briggs Gallery	Chuck Button
John Colquhoun	Mary Ann Carmichael	Michelle Caulkins
Kim Ciolek	Ladybug Shoppe Rejuvenated	Clawson Steak House
Pat & Ray Coleman	Tom & Elizabeth Condino	Helen Cost
Crispellis's	Laurine Cybulski	Arthur Murray Dance Studios
Pat Dodge	Sharlan Douglas	Don & Joyce Drife
Michelle Karr	Emily Nietering	Royal Oak Historical Society
Trader Joe's	Commissioner Dave Woodward	State Representative Jim Ellison
Don & Lillian Erwin	Chelsea Evans	Annette's Hair Studio & Spa
Amanda Felk	D'Amato's	Iron Horse
Mayor Michael Fournier	Freshii	Mary Fredricks
City Commissioner Kim Gibbs	Laura Gogola	Susanne Greenlee
Pet Supplies "Plus"	Kristine Hill	Moosejaw Mountaineering
Mitzi Hoffman	Great Lakes Chamber Music Festival	Black Lotus Brewing Company
Marcia Hovland Studio	Katherine & Larry Howell	Dianne Howey
Nora Iverson	Hopcat	Edna John
Rose John	Mary Kleiss	Oakland County Parks
Olga's Market Fresh Grille	Rose Kudron	Betty LeMay
Hamlin Corner	Holiday Market	Dick Manikowski
Alice & Arthur Marotti	bd's Mongolian BarBQ	Judge Derek Meinecke
Sue & John Meloeny	Bonnie Michalak	Margaret Monroe
Bob & Kelly Muller	Batteries Plus	Water Works Theatre Company
National Coney Island	Plants for Ecology	Shawn O'Connell
Dawn O'Connell	Jackie O'Connell	Dorothy O'Connell
North Macomb Sportsmen's Club	Rock on Third	Five 15
Stagecrafters	Karen Pettke	Pronto!
Royal Oak Golf Center	Pasquale's	City of Royal Oak
Tom Reagan	Priscilla & Cole Hawkins	Leo's Coney Island
Frentz Hardware	Reds Salon & Barber	Mark Ridley's Comedy Castle
B Spot Royal Oak	Val's Pet Supplies II	Town Tavern
Buffalo Wild Wings	Jim & Laura Rogers	Royal Tropical
Jeanne Sarnacki	Van Every Family Chiropractic	Sharon & Timothy Schafer
Nancy Schermerhorn	Robert Schneider	Stephanie Schneider
John Semchena	Bastone Brewery	Kristin & Derek Smith
Greg Smith	Oak City Grille	Ray's Ice Cream
Richard & Patricia Stoll	Noodles & Company	Dynamic Flowers of Royal Oak
Tom's Oyster Bar/Ale Mary's	Miner's Den	Toyology
Royal Oak Historical Society	Ted & Nancy Vickers	Denise & Fred Vultee
Doris Walters	Hollywood Super Markets	Green Toe Gardens
Craig & Donna Will		

ALL NATURE WALKS ARE FREE AND OPEN TO EVERYONE
PRE-REGISTRATION IS NOT REQUIRED

NATURE WALKS/POND LIFE

CUMMINGSTON PARK: Park is just east of Meijer. Park and meet at Leafdale & Torquay

TENHAVE WOODS: Park is just east of Royal Oak High School. Park in Marais/Lexington lot and meet at the Lexington entrance (300 feet east of parking lot). For the Owl Hoots and Full Moon walks, park and meet at the Marais/Lexington lot.

ROYAL OAK ARBORETUM: Park is just behind the Senior Center (3500 Marais). Park and meet on the north side of the Senior Center.

For our nature walks, wearing boots is recommended in the winter and spring months. Using insect repellent and dressing appropriately is advised from late spring to the end of summer. You can go to our website to find a parks location [map](#). There is no preregistration or cost for our nature walks & Pond Life programs.

"Pond Life" program is being held on Sunday, **June 17th**, beginning at **2:00 pm** at **Tenhave Woods**. Park at Lexington/Marais lot, go to the Lexington entrance & follow the Pond Life signs. We will be sampling the vernal pond for what is living in it. We will have viewing trays to examine what we find. For those interested small aquarium nets will be available for you to catch your own pond life and have us identify. Come and learn about the interesting aquatic wildlife of Dragonfly Pond.

Summer "Mushroom Walks" begin at **10:00 am**:

Saturday, **June 23rd**, at **Tenhave Woods**

Saturday, **July 28th**, at **Cummingston Park**

Saturday, **August 25th**, at **Tenhave Woods**.

Mary Fredricks, a member and botanist/mycologist of the Royal Oak Nature Society, will lead the walks. Anyone with an interest in learning more about mushrooms and other fungi of the urban woods is welcome.

"Meadow of the Arboretum" nature walks are being held at the **Royal Oak Arboretum** at **7:30 pm** on Tuesday, **July 10th** and Tuesday, **August 7th**.

"Cummingston Meadow" nature walk is being held at **Cummingston Park** on Tuesday, **July 17th**, beginning at **7:30 pm**.

A BIG THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTING MEMBERS

A special thank you from the Nature Society goes out to the following 2017/18 Supporting Members for their support and financial contribution to us:

Doris Applebaum

Dave Clifford

Ron Gamble

Mariana Hernandez

Donna Kuchapsky

Merry MacRae

Gail Partee

Robert Schneider

Charles Svalya

Richard Vance

Craig & Donna Will

Krystn Aversa

Laurine Cybulski

Barbara Gleason

Carol & Bruce Jarvie

Glenn Latinen

Frank Moelich

Tom Reagan

Kristin & Derek Smith

Christine & Tom, Utter

Muriel Versagi

Brittany Woodell

Pam & Mike Brady

Gerry DeLong

Laura Gogola

Ray & Vivienne Kell

Linoski Family

Barb & Kevin Norris

Pat Robertson

Caryle Spence

Alan & Peggy Van Kerckhove

Celeste Watts

Looking For Dream Cruise Volunteers

The **Woodward Dream Cruise** is only a few months away. Try something different and sign up to help us with parking at Gunn Dyer Park on Saturday, **August 18, 2018**. The park located at Hampton and Chester, is just a few blocks north of Memorial Park and one block east of Woodward. Our day begins around 8 am and finishes up around 8 pm. Shifts are only about 3 hours long.

Our main responsibility is to collect parking fees and direct drivers to open parking spots. It can get extremely busy in the early afternoon, so, we could use all of the help that we can get. If you volunteer for us at Dream Cruise, you are invited to our annual **pre-Dream Cruise**

picnic. It will take place on the Friday (17th) evening, the day before the actual Dream Cruise. Time is from 6:00 to and 8:30 pm. The Nature Society supplies the hot dogs. This is a pleasant way to sit back and enjoy the pre-Dream Cruise atmosphere. While we are there, we collect money from people who park their cars at Gunn Dyer.

If you have some free time on Dream Cruise Day and would like to give us a helping hand, please call us at 248-246-3380 & leave a message or e-mail us at naturesociety@romi.gov.

Invasive Species Removal Workdays

DATE/TIME: Saturday, June 2nd and July 14th from 10 am to noon.
LOCATION: Tenhave Woods Meet at the Lexington Entrance

Known invasive plants in Tenhave are garlic mustard, bull thistle, Canada thistle, common buckthorn, glossy buckthorn and euonymus. We will remove these "bad neighbors" along with a general litter clean up of debris leftover from this past winter. There will be handouts from Michigan State University extension about each of the invasive plants. All you will need is a good pair of gloves, mosquito repellent and water. We limit the event to two hours and you will be surprised how the time will fly by. The photo on your right is garlic mustard found in Tenhave Woods.



Please check out our Facebook page & "like" the Royal Oak Nature Society.

Page: <http://www.facebook.com/#!/pages/Royal-Oak-Nature-Society/228095233882566>



PROBLEMS IN THE PARKS

If you are near or in one of our two nature parks (Tenhave Woods or Cummingston Park) or the Royal Oak Arboretum and see or hear suspicious or unlawful behavior, please help by calling the Royal Oak Police Department's non-emergency number, 248-246-3500 and inform them of the problem. We would also appreciate it if you could also let us know by contacting us at 248-246-3380 or by e-mail at naturesociety@romi.gov

Royal Oak Nature Society Membership Form

Please make check payable to: **Royal Oak Nature Society**
MEMO: **Membership**

Mail completed form & check to:
Royal Oak Nature Society
1600 N. Campbell Rd.
Royal Oak, MI 48067

Names (household members): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

1 year Household Membership
(September-August)

- | | |
|---|--|
| ☐ General (free) | Receive newsletter |
| ☐ Associate (\$5) | by: |
| ☐ Supporting (\$10 & up) | ☐ Regular mail OR |
| ☐ Patron (\$50 & up) | ☐ E-mail |

NATURE SOCIETY TEAMS

Please contact us if you would like to become actively involved with one or more of our teams:

Stewardship: Maintains a trail system and enhances the overall park experience at Tenhave Woods, Cummington Park and the Arboretum.

Communications: Publicizes organizational activities to the general membership and public through various mediums and performs any other forms of communications required by the board.

Education: Provides outreach and liaison to outside individuals, groups and schools to promote environmental education.

Fundraising: Is responsible for the fund-raising efforts of the Nature Society.

Programming: Is responsible for setting up the speaker programs, workshops and all of the nature programs within Cummington Park, Tenhave Woods and the Arboretum.

Ways & Means: Investigates means of grant solicitation and then follows through accordingly.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Don Drife (248-885-6821)

Vice President & Communication: Ted Vickers (248-549-5366)

Treasurer & Ways & Means: Helen Cost (248-549-9423)

Recording Secretary: Nancy Vickers (248-549-5366)

Education: Chris Ethridge (248 229-9335)

Program: Bob Muller (248-398-0195)

Stewardship-Tenhav: John Semchena (248-549-1362)

Stewardship-Cummington: Mary Fredricks (248-280-1042)

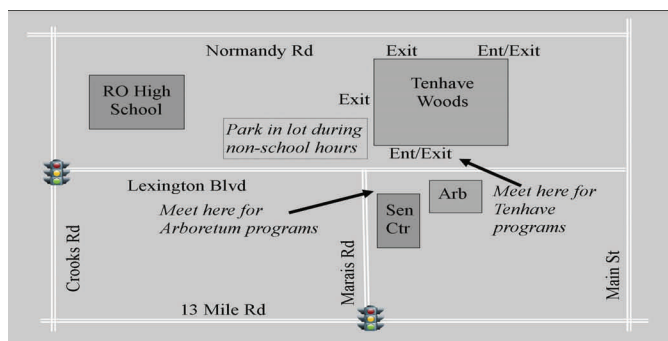
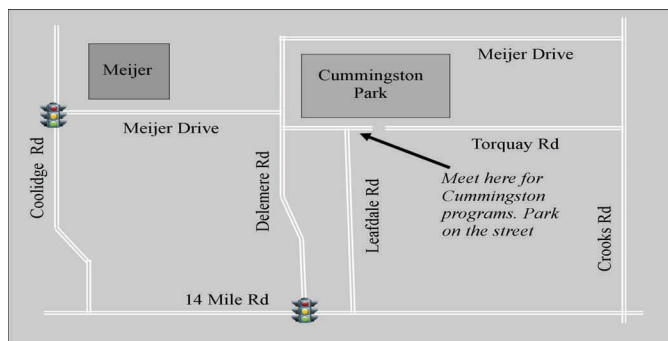
Scout Representative: Richard Stoll (248-398-2437)

At Large: Dena Serrato (248-542-2820)

Cummington Park, Tenhave Woods, and the Arboretum



Traffic Light



To locate and print out Tenhave Woods & Cummington Park trail maps, please go to our web site (listed below under our tree logo), link on to "Park Locations" and then "Map for park trail locations"

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The Royal Oak Nature Society is a non-profit education and stewardship group working within the city of Royal Oak's two nature parks (Tenhave Woods and Cummington Park). We also are developing an arboretum behind the Royal Oak Senior Center. Our mission is to foster the awareness and usage of these three natural areas and provide park stewardship to them. We also offer a wide range of natural history education programs to the community.

The Royal Oak Nature Society
1600 N. Campbell
Royal Oak, MI 48067
248-246-3380
nature@society@romi.gov
www.romi.gov/nature



FIRST CLASS MAIL