**About Page**

The mission of the Berlin Charter Township Historical Society is to inspire an awareness and shared sense of community in our township heritage.

The Berlin Charter Township Historical Society was formed in January 2018 by two local citizens inspired by the township’s 150th anniversary to create an organization that would help preserve the rich history of Berlin Charter Township, Michigan.

The Society is a Michigan nonprofit corporation with 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status. A registered charity with the State of Michigan, it is governed by a Board of Directors selected from the general membership. The five founding Directors are:

**President:** Stephanie Hawkins\*

**Vice-President:** Amy Rogalski\*

**Secretary:** Neil J. Masserant\*

**Treasurer:** Daniel Van Wasshenova\*

**Director:** Diana Masserant

\*These four Executive Officers elected by the Directors administer the society in carrying out its mission.

Five standing committees carry out the work of the society.

* Publicity
* Ways and Means
* Membership
* Conservancy/Curatorship
* Programs

Membership in the society is available to all interested persons, regardless of their location of residence. Check out the Membership page for details!

**Membership Page**

**A membership in the Berlin Charter Township Historical Society is a great idea!**

When you purchase or give a membership, you are also contributing an important gift to our community. With your membership, you help support the Berlin Charter Township Historical Society in its efforts to inspire an awareness and shared sense of community in our township heritage. In addition, you help ensure that the township’s past is kept alive, and that future residents of our community can experience the rich history that is unique to Berlin Township.

***Member Benefits:***

* Advance notice of all Society-sponsored events, programs, lectures, etc.
* Electronic copy of the Society newsletter (mailed version available upon request)
* Discount to any fee-based event the Society hosts
* Berlin Charter Township Historical Society membership card

***Membership Levels:***

**Charter Member\* – Available for the 2018-19 Membership Year Only!**

* Charter Annual Member – $30 first year, $15 annually thereafter
* Charter Lifetime Member – $115 one-time only payment

**Regular Member**

* Regular Annual Member – $15 annually
* Regular Lifetime Member – $100 one-time only payment

**\*Unique Opportunity Available for the 2018-19 Membership Year Only!**

In addition to providing the regular membership benefits described above, Charter Members receive:

* High-quality, special edition Charter Member lapel pin (1” diameter, shown at left)
* Charter Member certificate
* Designation on the Charter Member “Honor Roll” for permanent display (location TBD)
* Recognition in the first Society newsletter

Become a **Charter Member** and forever be a part of the legacy of Berlin Township!



**Events Page**

**Join us for our first featured event!**



It Was Just Natural: Rum-Running, Moonshining, and Violence in Monroe County, 1918-1933.

Berlin Township’s own Joe Boggs will present a look back on Prohibition in southeast Michigan, with a special focus on how Newport, South Rockwood, and Estral Beach played key roles in the smuggling of illegal alcohol.

“I would argue that Berlin Township and Newport specifically was perhaps the most important location during national prohibition in all of Monroe County,” Joe says. “If you look at a map during the time period [of Prohibition], the Dixie Highway runs very close to the water in Newport, allowing local boat rum-runners to unload illegal liquor quite easily…”

Come sit with Joe as he tells fascinating tales of Berlin Township before, during and after the time when alcohol was banned in Michigan. Joe will have items from his own Prohibition collection that were used to smuggle alcohol, and special drinks that adhere to Monroe County “dry laws” will be served. :)

To help us in planning refreshments, please RSVP to [info@berlintownshiphistory.org](mailto:info@berlintownshiphistory.org) or phone 734-872-1226.