

Octagon House's Family Nights

The St. Croix County Historical Society presents Family Nights at the Octagon House on the second Tuesdays of the summer months. The dates are June 13th, July 11th, and August 8th. Family nights will go from 6-8 in the evenings so busy families can attend, and is open to the public.

Guided tours through the fine Victorian home will be given, along with walks through the gardens and a trip to the garden house museum. The carriage house gift shop will be open for business as well.

Guests are encouraged to spread a blanket on the lawn and bring their own picnic. Cookies and lemonade will be provided. Learn about ice harvesting and take part in a demonstration to make your own lemonade. There will be a variety of old-fashioned children's games in the yard for kids of all ages.

There will be music outside for all to enjoy. Old records can be heard on the old crank victrola, as well as live music. Listen to the old-time jug band music of the group, "Old Deluder Satan Act." Band member Bryan Mulrooney explained the curious nature of their group's name. In 1647, a new law was passed in Colonial America, stating that all towns with a population of fifty or more must establish their own religious school in order to ward off the "old deluder, Satan." The band members are all school teachers, so the name seemed appropriate.

The SCCHS hopes that local families will be able to join in the fun and learning at these special evening summer events. Prices are: \$7 for adults; \$3 for students (13-18); \$2 for children (6-12); and children 5 and under are free when accompanied by an adult.

The SCCHS encourages membership and volunteerism to help support our mission of preserving and sharing local history. For more information, call the Octagon House at (715) 386-2654.

