



**Spring General Membership Meeting**  
**Thursday, March 14, 2019**

*The Sawyer Homestead*  
*320 E. Front St., Monroe, MI 48161*



**Welcome to the City of Monroe for the Chapter 7 Spring General  
Membership Meeting**

*Remember to save the date:  
Membership Meeting, Past Presidents and Baseball Game  
Lansing Lugnuts  
May 15, 2019*

**Congratulations to our Chapter on it's 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary!**

## Program

- 8:30 - 9:00 am** Registration and Breakfast
- 9:00 - 9:30 am** **Chapter 7 General Membership & Business Meeting**  
*Robert Bourgeois, SR/WA, Chapter President*
- 9:30- 10:30 am** **Welcome to the City of Monroe!**  
**Visions of Master Plan: Transforming the City of Monroe from  
Manufacturing to Tourism**  
*Mayor Robert Clark*  
*Mark Cochran, Assistant to the City Manager*
- 10:30 - 12:00 pm** **The History and Progress of the River Raisin Heritage Project Corridor**  
*Terry Beamsley, Mark Cochran, Jim VanderVeen*
- 12:00 - 1:00 pm** **Lunch**
- 1:00 - 1:30 pm** **History on the River Raisin**  
*Terry Beamsley*
- 1:30 - 2:15 pm** **Challenges of Appraisals**  
*Paul Bidwell*
- 2:15 - 3:00 pm** **Challenges of Titlework**  
*Doug Hassett*
- 3:00** **River Raisin National Battlefield Park Visit (weather permitting)**
- Safe travels home!**

*(Breaks will be provided throughout the day. Speakers and times are subject to change)*

## *Speakers at a Glance*

*Bios provided by speakers*

### **Robert Clark**

Mayor Robert E. Clark has been elected Mayor of the City of Monroe since 2010 and served one term as Councilman in 2008. Prior to holding elected office he served 30 years with the Michigan State Police, retiring in January, 2010. He retired at the rank of Major and as a member of the Michigan State Police Executive Council. Mayor Clark currently serves as immediate past Chairman of the Southeast Michigan Council of Government (SEMCOG). He also serves on the Michigan Municipal League Insurance Board and Liability Pool. Mayor Clark serves on several City boards and commissions and the Monroe County Business Development Corporation and the River Raisin National Battlefield Park Foundation Board. He and his wife Valerie have resided in the City of Monroe for 29 years.

### **Mark Cochran**

Mark Cochran joined the City of Monroe in 2017 as the Economic/Downtown Development Coordinator with the charge to develop and execute the City's economic development strategy. He began in his current role as Assistant to the City Manager in 2018 with expanded responsibilities that include many high level administrative projects in the city manager's office. One of the largest projects Mark works on is the development of the River Raisin Heritage Corridor East Master Plan and the growth of the River Raisin National Battlefield Park. A lifelong native of Monroe, Mark has worked on the National Battlefield Park for over eight years, including in his previous role as Director of Special Projects for Congressman John D. Dingell. Dingell, along with Senator Carl Levin, was responsible for the congressional establishment of the National Battlefield Park in 2009.

### **Terry Beamsley**

Terry Beamsley is an independent consultant to non-profit and public sectors, specializing in grant funding, administration and complex project management. She holds a BA in Anthropology from Southern Illinois University, an MA in social/cultural Anthropology from Northwestern University and combined her lifelong interests in technology and human systems doing research on visual information at the University of North Texas. Terry held the position of Head of Collections Information Resources for the Henry Ford Museum and Greenfield Village, which included responsibility for the library, archives, web site, and 1.5 million artifacts. She then moved to the Toledo Museum Art, widely considered to be one of the top ten art museums in the country. During her 7 years as Assistant Director, Terry had oversight of multiple departments including the School of Art and Design and is most proud of the years she spent as local coordinator for the design and construction of the Museum's international award-winning Glass Pavilion. Taking on new challenges after opening the Pavilion, she headed in a different direction with contract work in urban planning and economic development, served as the first director of the nonprofit foundation that supports the River Raisin National Battlefield Park in Monroe Michigan, worked with the State and the National Park to secure and administer a \$2 million appropriation for the park's new visitor center, and acted as grant and project administrator for the City of Monroe on a \$6.8 million park and trail land acquisition program funded by a Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund grant.

## **Jim VanderVeen**

Jim VanderVeen has been a Project Manager/Associate Broker with Land Matters in Grand Rapids, Michigan since 2017. He continues to serve as the lead Acquisition Agent/Project Manager for the River Raisin National Battlefield Project. Jim has been involved with land and right-of-way acquisition projects for 20+ years all around the Midwest including wind, solar, cellular, highway, pipelines, utilities, etc. He also has a background for 13 years in Civil Engineering and Surveying. Jim has been a Real Estate Instructor in the State of Michigan, a Planning Commissioner for his township, a Township Trustee and has served on several boards including the Allendale Community Foundation, the Grand Rapids Association of Builders, and the Michigan State Auctioneers Association. Jim and his wife Tonja have two kids, a love for the outdoors, and a passion for working with people to find solutions for all.

## **Paul K. Bidwell, MAI, ASA**

Paul K. Bidwell is co-owner and President of Affinity Valuation Group, LLC with offices in Tecumseh and Ann Arbor, Michigan. Affinity's commercial areas of coverage include Michigan and Ohio. Mr. Bidwell has been actively appraising real estate for 35 years and has had his MAI commercial designation since 1994. During his career, he has had opportunities to be involved with the Michigan Department of Transportation, the Ohio Department of Transportation as well as large and small local right of way projects.

## **Doug Hassett**

Doug Hassett is a Title Professional and works closely with realtors, lenders, local governments, the legal community and the individual buyers and sellers of real estate with the end goal being a successful real estate closing. Doug knows that most people consider the topic of land and land title to be rather dry, however, it's the history involved with the study of the individual, physical parcels of land that make the examination process fascinating. Doug is a licensed title insurance agent and has been involved with Hassett Title Company, Inc., a family owned and operated title agency, for 30 years. Doug is a graduate of Wayne State University and holds a Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in history. He is also a member of the Michigan Land Title Association, American Land Title Association and an affiliate member of the Monroe/Downriver Regional Association of Realtors. When not pouring over the public records Doug is an avid cyclist and often incorporates the more interesting and entertaining parcels of land found in his research as part of his cycling routes.