



Clinton County Historical Society

Museum & Archives

CCHS Newsletter



Volume 2 Issue 2

March 2025

CCHS Continuing Projects

By-Laws Update

The CCHS executive board has been working on updating our by-laws. The changes will create closer bonds between the CCHS parent organization and the Archives and Museum.

All CCHS members will be receiving an email with the proposed changes in March prior to a final vote in April.

Meet the Volunteers

Jan and Elmer Upton

Elmer has provided maintenance and creative woodworking skills for the Museum for 25 or more years while also serving on the Advisory Board. Jan joined the volunteer forces about 2010 and became a Board member and Treasurer shortly after.



Elmer retired as the Purchasing Agent in 1993 from Paul Automotive and Jan worked in Accounting at Clinton Memorial Hospital from age 16 to retirement in 2011.

Woodworking and artistic endeavors always kept Elmer busy and gardening became a hobby for Jan. Of course, Lions, Tigers and MSU sports (season tickets for women's basketball) are always of interest. Both were born and have always lived in Clinton County, but have enjoyed national and international travels including Asia, Australia and multiple European trips. Elmer's family has been on a farm in Clinton County since the late 1800s, thus prompting a sincere interest in the history of the county.

They have a son and daughter, two grandsons and two granddaughters and are close to their 64th wedding anniversary.

During the winter months our museum volunteers have been working to get it ready for the summer season with regular Wednesday work sessions.

At the archives the photo to the right shows volunteers digitizing negatives and microfilm along with organizing historical and genealogical materials donated to the archives during the Monday and Tuesday hours the archives is open.



Can You Identify This Round Barn?



If you know where this round barn is/was let us know as it has us stumped. The photo might be from the north part of the county. If you know, email Myrna at ccgensoc@yahoo.com

Do You Know How to See the Old Newspapers from Home?

- Open the Archives webpage www.opennet.us/cchs
- Scroll down to the "ONLINE NEWSPAPERS" button
- Click it to go to the Clinton County webpage
- Click on the newspaper you are wanting to see
- Select "All Archive Items" in the dropdown menu
- Find the date of the paper you are looking for
- Select and HAPPY READING!

NOTE: Sometimes the dates are not in order.

Use Ctrl-F to keyword search or locate issues by date.

Coming this year—Elsie, Fowler, Maple Rapids, and Ovid historic newspapers online.



ANNUAL REPORT & MONTHLY REPORT OF ACQUISITIONS & RESEARCH

September - December 2024 Acquisitions

Meeting: January 8, 2025

2024 was a year to remember and a year to forget, at least parts of it, for the volunteers of the Clinton County Historical Society Archives. The 50 Year Anniversary Celebration of the CCHS consumed many, many, hours of thought and preparation to share what we have and what we do for the residents of Clinton County.

All the while, the Archives itself was in total turmoil and chaos with the addition of a 3rd room and the moving of hundreds of County Tax books, and all of our newspapers, and so many more items. But it all was so worth the efforts of everyone. We now have a bright and spacious area to work and solve the historical questions that come our way. We'd love to have you visit us some time.

The home worker bees have been indexing church records, and anything else I can find for them to do for me to get them online. Our searchable database is growing all the time so please log on to see the new version of our webpage. [www.opennet.us/cchs]

We (meaning Cindy) has scanned thousands of photos from the Tobin/Fitch photography studios. Mark Walling has been kept busy at home by turning the negatives into photos for me to get them ready for online. Mary Donald has been kept busy by scanning the yearbooks that are donated for me to get them ready for online viewing.

See the pattern here? Others get them ready and I have to find the time to get them online to share. I need help so if anyone has computer skills and would like to be a part of the online process, please let me know.

The Archives had 103 visitors in 2024 and we gained 22 new members! It was a productive year for all. I've always known I had a great group of people I work with but after having a stroke November 12, I found out just how great they are. I was off for 1 ½ months and the Archives didn't miss a beat. I felt no worries about how things were being done. I am so proud and grateful for this group.

Rowlan Smith, Myrna VanEpps, Cindy Kindel, and Mike Morey kept the office going. Alice & Pete Murphy, Wayne Summers, Mary Donald, Becky Hiers, Debra Cox, Kim Sperry, Glenn & Karen Ernst, & Mark Walling kept the home fires burning and their computers running.

Thanks to every one of you for all that you do to keep this place running smoothly!

ACQUISITIONS SEPTEMBER – DECEMBER 2024

CHURCHES:

- Northpointe Community Church 175th Anniversary Celebration; 2015; 5 1/2 x 8 1/2"; stapled; 64 pp [CH 227]

DIRECTORIES: Telephone

- St. Johns area telephone books for 1973, 1976, 1977, 1980
- St. Johns area telephone books for 1996 and 1997

FAMILY FILES:

- Handwritten journal of a trip to California taken by Oneta Crawford, Reva Ward, and Orpha Drake in 1931.

GENEALOGIES:

- PhinneyFinney Family Genealogy; 4 Volumes; 4" white binders
- The Joseph Baker Family Genealogy; spiral bound; 8 1/2 x 11"; 120 pp [G 105]
- The Coryells Family Genealogy; black 3 ring binder; 275 pp [G 250]
- The House of May, A Family History; 8 1/2 x 11"; 288 pp [G 663]
- Piggott Family History; 8 1/2 x 11"; stapled; 44 pp [G 804]
- Genealogies of George West & James R. Kimble; 6 x 8 3/4"; 64 pp [G 1046]
- Youry Genealogy; 1972; 8 1/2 x 11"; 59 pp [G 1064]
- Laurence Huot; School records and valentines from the 1920's [G 518]
- Grover B. Wixom Civil War Diary; white 3 ring binder [G 1051A]

HISTORIES:

- Michigan Centennial History; 1939; 5 Volumes; 7 x 10"; red hard covers [H 690 A-E]

MILITARY:

- Record Twenty-Third Michigan Infantry 1861-1865; Michigan Volunteers in the Civil War; 6 1/2 x 9 1/4"; Brown hard cover [M 145]
- Graves of Revolutionary Soldiers Buried in the State of Michigan; 7 pp [M 110]
- Following the footsteps of a soldier.; Kaye Olson; 7 pp [M 111]

ORGANIZATIONS:

- Clinton Reading Council; 1985-1988; 10 x 11"; blue photo album [OR 150]
- Clinton Reading Council; 1987-1989; brown photo album [OR 151]
- Clinton Reading Council; 1989-1991; multi-purple photo album [OR 152]

PHOTOS:

- **Harte** Reunion?; 8 x 10"; b/w Names provided are: Van McClintock, Gareth Harte, Hubert Coleman, LeRoy Coleman, Irene McClintock, Helen Coleman, Lila Coleman, Gordon Burdick, Lavere Harte, Maude Harte, Ford Salisbury, Alton

- Phelps, Myrtle Haarte, Maud Harte, Alton Phelps, Mrs. Phelps, Lulu Harte, Shirley Haarte, Bessie McClintock, Amber Sleight, Ruth McClintock, Joy Sleight, Elaine Coleman Hunt, Roscoe Harte, Lawrence Harte, Lauretta Harte, Emma Harte, George Harte, Mary Clemons McClintock, Oren McClintock, Octa Harte, Freeman McClintock, Jim Lionhardt, Joyce Harte Sodman, Mayr Jane McClintock, Bill McClintock [BB 113]
- Shirley Rounds Harte; 4 x 6"; b/w [BB 107]
 - "Prince" the horse with Galen Harte, Gareth Harte & Hubert Coleman & ?; 3 x 5"; b/w [BB 89]
 - Octa Harte; 1891; 4 x 6"; b/w [BB 110]
 - Octa Harte; 6 3/4 x 10 3/4"; b/w [BB 108]
 - Octa & Shirley (Rounds) Harte w/ son Galen. Galen was killed in the school bombing.; 3 3/4 x 5 1/2"; b/w [BB 112]
 - Possible Shirley (Rounds) Harte; 6 x 8"; b/w [BB 109]
 - Shirley Mae Rounds; 3 3/4 x 7"; b/w [BB 111]
 - (L to R): Emily Harte, Lela Coleman w/ son Hubert, Grandpa J. B. Sleight w/ Galen Harte, Grandma Sleight, Octa Harte holding Gareth [BB 90]
 - Mother (Shirley Harte) with Galen Lyle Harte; Dec. 13, 1914 (3 1/2 mo old); 5 1/4 x 3 1/2"; b/w [BB 88]
 - Seymour Rounds; 4 x 6 1/2"; b/w [BB 104]
 - Mr. & Mrs. J. D. Rounds, parents of Lafayette Rounds; 4 x 6 1/2"; b/w [BB 105]
 - Thomas J. & May E. Nelson w/ Mildred, Earl, Floy, & Lloyd. Sister of Lafayette Rounds. 4 x 6 1/2"; b/w [BB 106]
 - Mr. & Mrs. E. J. Martin; 4 1/2 x 6 1/2"; b/w [BB-83]
 - 1949 DeWitt class photo; top: Mrs. Marilyn Down, Nadine McNeil, Margaret (Fuerstenaw) Nelson, Floyd Fowler, Jr, Janet Lee Hewitt, Marilyn (Staub) Coin, Shirley Kintigh; 2nd row: Beverly (Hunt) Kruger, Norma (Decker) Ferguson, Demaris (Dotson) Arnold, Barbara Anne (Hicks) Kirches, Joannie (Miller) Kowalk; 3rd row: Royal Rose, Clayton Church, Jacob Kirches, Lawrence Ritter, Richard Pike; seated: Dorothy (Hill) Lankford, Virginia (Richter) Brown, Janet (Lankford) Schulz, Mary Smith, Ann Inley; 8 x 10"; b/w [BB 102]
 - DeWitt graduates 1949; 5 x 3 1/2"; Joanie (Miller) Kowalk, Margaret (Fuerstenaw) Nelson, Janet (Lankford) Schulz, Marilyn (Staub) Coin, Beverly (Hunt) Kruger, Greta (Perry) Bond, Norma (Decker) Ferguson; b/w [BB 98]
 - DeWitt High School 1933; Evelyn Courtland, Max Ellwager, Durwood Ward, Raymond Kussmaul, Dyle Henning, Tom White, Lucille (Bouts) Ward, Marguerite (Klaver) Dalman, Serena (Lietzke) Bevans, Eleanor (Smalley) Brainard, Roberta (Moon) Reed, Lawrence Risdale?, Richard Henning, Reva Norris, Victor Volz, Duane Peck, Duane Hough, Howard? Heath, Ford Shavey, Francis Sibley, Albert Talksdorf; 8 1/2 x 11"; photo copy; b/w [BB 103]
 - A - C: DeWitt Senior Pictures, Unknown year; Earl Klaver, Ashton Nickerson, Charles Serratt, Homer Gingrich, Mahlon Hiatt, Jr., Eddie Dalman, Russell Sibley, Maxine Balluff, Clarence Fuerstenau, Fay Ellen Cutler, Helen Bouts Schavey, Sussell Sibley, Mary Reed Savage, Duane Peck, Don Norris, Bob Schultz, Lawrence Ward, Edna Ribbey Van Wormer, Betty Glover Chapman, Arlene Lietzke Balderson; 8 1/2 x 11; 3 sheets; b/w [BB-99, BB-100, BB-101]
 - 6 views of the Round School; 3 1/4 x 3 1/4"; color [BB 91-96]
 - Laurence J. Huot; b. Sep 12, 1910; 2 3/4 x 3 3/4"; b/w

- Flora Huot; 3 x 5" oval; b/w
- Glenda L. Smith; ca 1940; 3 1/2 x 5"; b/w
- Glenda L. Smith; ca 1940 Christmas; 3 1/4 x 4 1/2"; b/w
- Glenda L. Smith & Alice Faye Halsey; 1944; Glenda 6 1/2 yr old; b/w
- Roscoe G. & Glenda L. Smith; 1948; 3 x 4"; b/w
- Glenda Smith & Dave Anderson; junior prom; 1955; color
- Glenda L. Smith; graduation 1956; 3 1/2 x 3 1/2"; b/w
- Glenda L. Smith; graduation 1956; 2 1/2 x 3 1/2"; b/w
- Isabel A. (Sisson) & Glenda L. Smith; ca early 1960's; 3 1/2 x 3 1/2"; color
- Fred Dingler
- Class of 1944 20 Year Reunion; 1964; Back Row: Ned Lawson, Don Schmidtman, Garth Wilkie, Malcolm Williams, Homer Gifford, Jim Black, Bert Kraft, To Bennett, Clare Maier; 2nd Row: Coralee Roof, Don Darnell, Gene Schoendorf, Ernest, Ringle, Melvin, LaClear, Jack Hansen, Ross Downing, Charles Edwards, Bob Prowant, Lester Howe, Melvin Oyer; 3rd Row: Martha Ladisky Mason, Jean Myers Hefty, Ardith Hefty Riggs, Rita Parish Maier, Jean Lyon Cowdry, Mary Smith Balcom, Barbara Bailey Robinson; Front row: Betty Althouse Shaw, Janet Osgood ___, Florence Elsworth Wickham, Jean MaryCasteel Bartholomew, Hazel Postlethwaite ___, Ardis Vauhn (Laurie) Sweet, Charlotte Mulligan ___.

PIONEER RECORDS:

- Michigan Pioneer & Historical Collections; Vol. 1-39 + Indexes [PR 152-300]
- One book, titled "Enduring Farmers of Clinton County July 11, 2024" by Julie Peters

SCHOOLS:

- My Senior Year; 1949; Marilyn (Staub) Coin; spiral bound; 14 pp [S 222]
- RBW Jr. High Yearbook 1979
- RBW High School Yearbook 1983
- 59 different editions of the "Eagle Flyer" monthly newsletter from Fowler Schools, of various months, from 1980 through 2024. [Note: These are added to notebooks 482 A - G, since the dates of these are some of the missing dates from those existing binders.]

SCRAPBOOKS:

- Hart/Harte Family Scrapbook; 3 black ring binder (indexed)

Respectfully submitted:

Julie Peters, Director
CCHS Archives