



THE CLINTON INDEPENDENT

CLINTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Bath - Westphalia Celebrate 150 years

Westphalia, Bath and Michigan are all celebrating birthdays this summer.

Bath kicked off its Sesquicentennial last winter but the big celebration is July 4 weekend. Included is a parade July 5; Community Church Service July 6; and other activities to follow later in the year. Coinciding with Bath's celebration was the moving of an old rural elementary school into the village which is a museum/classroom now.

Meanwhile, in Westphalia townsfolk also celebrate their Sesquicentennial over the Fourth. Merchants are having sidewalk sales and special promotions July 1-3; with a festival at St. Mary's Church July 4. The activity will sprawl onto several lots east of the church. Included will be a morning run and flag raising; parade; bingo all day; beer tent; performance by Idar-Oberstein Orchestra of Germany at 2:30 p.m.; variety show at 4:30; polka band and teen dance in evening.



Frederic Martin, village president, said a large birthday cake will greet visitors in the center of the downtown. July 1 officials will hold an appreciation banquet for past and present village officials; July 2 is Awareness Day with slide presentations on village services.

In June Michigan celebrated its 150th birthday on the three-block Capitol Mall in Lansing. Included were a variety of activities including ethnic and regional presentations of life in Michigan through the years.

(Photo information: Above, The girl-with-kitten statute at Bath which was funded by children donating pennies all over America when word of the Bath School Disaster spread. It is in the Bath School Museum.

At the right is St. Mary's Church at Westphalia which was built in 1961 after fire destroyed a former cathedral-like structure.



ST. MARY'S CHURCH

GENEALOGY

Meet the people

Who Came To Clinton County . . .



THE LATTIMER AND GOOLTHRITE FAMILIES

The Goolthrites (see Susan Leonora Goolthrite previous issue) came to New England from near Pately Bridge, in Yorkshire England, in the fleet of Governor Winthrop, in 1630. Family members moved to Springfield, Mass. in 1777, and then to Jefferson County in upper New York State. Oren Goolthrite (also known as Goldthwaite) married Angeline King Townsend there in 1852 and moved to Michigan by boat with their infant son Myron, in 1857, first to Detroit, then to the end of the railroad at Owosso. A construction train carried them over a newly laid track thru the forest, to St. Johns. They stayed briefly at a tavern just north of St. Johns (possibly the old Coleman-French Tavern at present US 27 and French Road) and then pushed on by ox team to the tiny camp called Carson City. There they built a lean-to, dug a well and helped the camp to grow. After a short time they moved south into the wilderness of "Bloomer" Township, halfway to Hubbardston. They cleared the forested land, making fences of tree-stumps turned up on edge. Indians stopped frequently, especially on the days when pies were being baked and would sit staring silently at them until a "peace offering" was made by grandma Goolthrite. Here Susan Leonora Goolthrite was born.

When Angeline Townsend Goolthrite's aunt and uncle Almon and Chloe Townsend got too old to farm from the large farmhouse (in Lebanon Twp. Clinton Co.) made of local oak and walnut, Oren and Angeline moved down to join them and work the farm. The first Protestant church services in the area were held in the living room of this house, at 7754 North Jones Road, before the Methodist and Congregationalist Churches were built in Hubbardston. Mail service came from Maple Rapids in the morning and Hubbardston in the afternoon.

Susan Goolthrite married Albert Lattimer, who lived with his uncle Myron J. Lattimer on the adjacent farm on Maple Rapids Road, and when Oren's son Myron Goolthrite married the local school teacher Emma Smith, also from a substantial farming family on North

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GENEALOGY

Jones Road, they moved to the corner of North Jones and Maple Rapids Roads. Myron gradually accumulated seven adjoining farms, built a handsome red sandstone mansion, (on Maple Rapids Road, just west of Jones Road) reforested some areas, created lakes and built log cabins for his grandchildren and was a pillar of the community. Upon his retirement this then-substantial establishment was taken over by his son-in-law, master farmer Charles S. Langdon, who had married his only surviving daughter Mabel. They in turn had two daughters, Dorothy and Louise. Dorothy is the wife of Dow Chemical Company patent attorney William Yates, and a journalist and historian. Dorothy has two sons, Tom a corporation lawyer in New York, Sam an NBC executive in New York and a daughter Susan, who is married to a banker in Washington, D.C. Louise, wife of a U.A.W. executive and a teacher and sociologist at the Merrill-Palmer School and Wayne State University has 1 son Cameron, who is a base player for an international musical group, one son Douglas, who leads his own musical group in Detroit, a son Grant, who is active in the restaurant field in Boston and a daughter Heather who is a dancer and physiotherapist in New York. (The history of Lattimer & Goolthrite families and their descendants was furnished by John K. Lattimer, M.D.Sc.D. He also states these were families who lived in Lebanon Township and still maintain farms around the intersection of North Jones Road and Maple Rapids Road. They are served by the Hubbardston Post Office, which is just over the border into Ionia County, so they have been missed by the various surveys of Clinton Co. residents, because of their Hubbardston RFD addresses. We thank Dr. Lattimer for providing these histories for the Clinton County Archives....J. Snyder)



*Beautiful solid
3/4" black
walnut Emperor
clock* Clock Raffle Repeated

Win Paine-Gillam-Scott's Grandfather Clock

Paine-Gillam-Scott Museum is selling raffle tickets on this Emperor-style clock. Valued at \$1,000, the clock is six feet tall. Tickets are \$1 each or buy in blocks of 25.

Send checks to Clock, c/o CCHS, Box 174, St. Johns, Mi. 48879. Drawing 8/13.

In other PGS news, a mint display and VCR tape show is planned for the August Mint Festival. A VCR tape of 4 8mm films made by the late Clyde Anderson of his mint related activities will be featured.

Now on display: CALENDAR HALL of Clinton events related to Michigan. CAMPAU-FRACE, descendant of Clinton's first white settler. CIVIL WAR, Clinton's tie to Harper's Ferry & John Brown LEGACY, bequeathed from Clinton County residents.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

CLINTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

July 17, picnic, Rochester Colony
6:30 p.m. Duplain Church
PAINE-GILLAM-SCOTT MUSEUM

HOURS: Sundays, 1-5 p.m.
Wednesdays, 2-8 p.m.

Special Mint Fest Hours
Aug. 8, 1-5 p.m.
Aug. 9, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Log to basket demo
Aug. 10, 12:30 - 5 p.m.
with 1876 Velocipede
Jig Saw 1-4 p.m.
Aug. 13, clock drawing at
PGS at 7 p.m.

GENEALOGY DIVISION OF CCHS

July 7 - no information available at press time

July 4 weekend Sesquicentennials at Bath and Westphalia.

(See story page 1)



The Michigan 4-H Friendship Quilt, created in 1983 at quilting bees throughout the state, is composed of patches from 60 counties in Michigan, each patch representing something unique to the county. It is now on display at MSU's museum. During the sesquicentennial, many county 4-H groups will make their own friendship quilts.



Clinton County Historical Society

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Saint Johns, Michigan 48879

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