

DECEMBER 1989

# THE CLINTON INDEPENDENT

## CLINTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

### NOTES ON CLINTON COUNTY

The Sterling Heights Public Library printed a book telling of the interesting historical points in each county. This is the information included about Clinton County.

Name of Municipality Clinton County. Govt. Form Board of Commissioners.  
Reason for Name Named for DeWitt Clinton, builder of the Erie Canal.  
Population 55,893. Size 36 Sq. miles. Location Central Michigan area.  
When established First settler in 1833. David Scott in DeWitt area.  
Physical features Maple and Looking Glass Rivers.  
Landmarks Greenbush United Methodist Church. Clinton County Courthouse.  
Natural Resources Gravel, sand and muck.  
Ethnicity Mixed.  
Religions Represented by all denominations.  
Trade Agriculture based.  
Industry Mining.  
Agriculture Corn, beans, sod, mint, and dairy farms.  
Arts Clinton County Arts Council.  
Architecture Mid-victorian, Italianate.  
Libraries St. Johns, Elsie, DeWitt, Bath, Westphalia and Fowler.  
Museums Payne-Gillam-Scott Museum in St. Johns.  
Parks Sleepy Hollow State Park, Rose Lake Recreation Area, Many local parks.  
Legends Counterfeiters in Bogus Corners.  
Tours Available Tour book published by the Clinton County Historical Society.  
Local crafts Sewing, Knitting, Crocheting and Quilting.  
Oldest Church First Congregational Church in Ovid, now the Filler family home.  
Unique Shopping Opportunities Beck's Farm Market, US 27 North of St. Johns.  
Sports Fishing, hunting.  
Personalities Born Here Clem Sohn, the Original Batman was born and buried here.  
Outstanding Citizens Almond Cressman, Dyle Henning, Marion "Babe" Ruth.  
History Zachariah Chandler drained swamplands here to form muck farms. Chief Okemos died here December 4, 1858, near DeWitt City on the Looking Glass River. DeWitt City was considered a possible site for the State Capitol. County seat was in DeWitt until moved to St. Johns.  
Significant Historical Event Dynamiting of the Bath School in 1927.  
Attractions Rural atmosphere, mint farming, Sleepy Hollow State Park.  
Media Clinton County News, DeWitt Bath Review and several shopping guides.  
Anything Else of Note A conservative community.

### Stories Wanted

Please share your family stories with the readers of the Independent and Clinton County Trails. Send to Catherine Reed, 581 W. State Rd., Lansing, Michigan, 48906.

## MEETINGS

GENEALOGISTS: December 4, 1989, Potluck at Arlene Lounds residence, 1887 Yallop Road, 7:30 pm. Bring a dish to pass and your own table service.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY: "Museum Christmas" December 14, 1989, 7:30 pm.

GENEALOGISTS: January 8, 1990, Capital Federal Savings and Loan Bank Community room. There will be a "Show and Tell" time.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY: January 18, 1990, Capital Federal Savings and Loan Building, 7:30 pm. Kay Pilmore of the "Arts Council" will have the program.

GENEALOGISTS: February 4, 1990, Jane Swanchera will talk on "Naturalization Records." This meeting is also at the Capital Federal Savings and Loan Building at 7:30 pm.

## INTERESTING NOTES

The Promotion at Wendy's netted a \$1,000 for the Payne-Gillam-Scott Museum.

Arlene Lounds taught a Genealogy class through Community Education and the public schools. She had twelve in the class, all very enthusiastic. Some have indicated their desire to join the Historical Society. This class may be repeated in the Spring.

The DeWitt Parks and Recreation Committee also sponsored a Genealogy class taught by Linda Holm.

Check your label to see when your dues are due.

Arlene Smith's Committee has about 100 discettes of material on Mt. Rest Cemetery. These are being proofed in preparation to the printing of a book of these buried in Mt. Rest.

Bill Serviss mentioned that an afternoon meeting of the Society might make it easier for some to attend the meetings. Please let Bill or Catherine Reed know how you might feel about trying to meet in the afternoons instead of evenings. Bill-669-3179, Catherine-487-3081.



## Clinton County Historical Society

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