

Clinton Independent

Mr. Gards - sorry you were not on the mailing list - this is what our newsletter looks like - I look forward to receiving the genealogy committee's news... Karolya Radack

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St. Johns, Michigan

June, 1979

There's more work to be done

In the wake of the successful grand opening of the Paine-Gillam-Scott 1890 House, the directors John and Catherine Rumbaugh and Bob and Lee Walling issue a reminder that restoration is not yet complete and help is still badly needed.

They are thankful for the help the crew of volunteers gave, helping them log the 2,700 hours that went into transforming the old Mid-Michigan Health Dept. building into the beautiful house museum that 1,500 visitors toured for Michigan Week.

The showing was very successful with tour guides for special groups to show off the newly finished parts of the restoration and explain the tremendous chores that went into the project. The unfinished kitchen, which is the next big job, served as a reminder of what had been accomplished.

Besides the kitchen restoration work brass door knobs need to be polished back to their original shine; new donations need to be logged and readied for display; the eternal job of cleaning is always present as well as typing and office work.

Don't forget to sign

Keep visiting and record your name in the guest book. That signature is important in showing the success and need of the museum as the years go by. Bring guests, your clubs (Catherine can arrange special guided tours if you wish), remind others.

Special Exhibits on loan through June include tobacco artifacts from the State of Michigan Historical Museum and a personal collection of Victorian silver.

Slide presentations of "Historic Sites of Clinton County (22 min.) will be shown through June, Sundays at 3 p.m. and Fridays at 8 p.m.

Visit Sundays noon - 4 p.m.
 Wednesdays - 1:30 - 5 p.m.
 Fridays - 7 - 9 p.m.

Picnic Meetings

The three summer meetings of the C.C.H.S. have been set. All will be picnics; bring a dish to pass. Table service is provided for the June picnic; bring your own in July and August. Programs will all be on a method of transportation in keeping with the "Routes of Transportation in Clinton Co., or How We Came" that will highlight all meetings this year.

In June on SATURDAY the 23rd at 5 p.m. we will meet at the farm of George and Geneva Wiskeman, 5580 West State Road, Lansing. Geneva is arranging for a program on old cars.

In July on the 19th we will meet at the Village Park in Maple Rapids. This is a Thursday meeting as usual, at 6:30 p.m. Ford Ceasar will talk briefly about the Looking Glass River in Clinton Co. History.

In August on Thursday the 16th we will picnic at the City Park in DeWitt at 6:30 p.m. Fay Hanson will talk briefly about the Looking Glass River in Clinton County history.

A program year book will be passed out at the June 23 picnic by the committee: Fay Hanson, Geneva Wiskeman and Nina Waldron. It lists officers, committees, membership and programs for the year.

The Independent is not published in July

Your next issue will come in Aug

Write your family history

There is still time to get your family history included in the 1890 History of Clinton County, Michigan. We are extending the deadline to this fall so that those of you who have not already written your story can still do so.

The form for the family history is printed here. We can also furnish you with additional forms if you wish to have more. Call Jean Martin, 224-3660 or Betty Moore, 224-2025 if you need these.

We also hope that you will encourage families whom you know who are recent residents to include their histories as well. If we had seen only pioneer families in the first history of the county, many of our own ancestors would not have been included. Today's recent residents are the ancestors of tomorrow.

Perhaps you are wondering why a form is used. We want the information about each family to be similar and therefore following the form has helped. The story however, is of each family and really tells about that family only.

If your church, fraternal organization, or civic group has not yet sent in information, please make certain that they do. The responsibility of each of us in the Society is to get as much information in this book as possible. Make sure that your groups are in the book. Current and past businesses are also a part of the story of Clinton County. Help us find these too.

If you would care to give this book as a gift or would like one yourself it is possible to order a book now. The pre-publication price is \$30.50 (Think of that as a tank of gasoline if your car is a large one) and these books will be imprinted with a number corresponding to the order in which they are sold. Only those sold before printing will be so imprinted so that would make a nice gift. We are putting the money for the pre-publication books in a savings account so that we will have a little interest gathered before publication. You'll be proud to own this book and since there won't be an unlimited supply you won't want to disappoint anyone. These are fine gifts and the profit will help the Society a great deal.

By Betty Moore

DO YOU KNOW?

DO YOU KNOW that the actual restoration cost of the Paine-Gillam-Scott house museum was only \$608? Much equipment and supplies were donated for the work project. Total expenditures from October included utilities, office supplies, furnishings, legal and insurance, educational training and collection maintenance and totaled \$2,604.49.

DO YOU KNOW that the Genealogy Committee is working in cemeteries at North Eagle, East Plains, Bath, Fowler, Catholic, St. Mary's of Westphalia and others, recording tombstone inscriptions?

DO YOU KNOW that 30 people paid their dues for 1979-80 during May, bringing our membership to 115 paid members?

DO YOU KNOW that the 1980 County History Committee is hard at work but needs YOUR family, business, organization and other kinds of histories SOON?

DO YOU KNOW that an important part of historical preservation is going to be lost if the Oral History Committee can't find more members for typing and interviewing? Libby Spoelma, chair is discouraged because she knows how many potential tapes are out there in Clinton Co. and knows her committee is not large enough to get them all. Even if you only make one or two tapes, perhaps interviewing family, friends or neighbors who are good subjects, you would be a big help to Libby and her committee. She has for those interested, information that is easy to follow and two tape recorders. Volunteer now!



Clinton County Historical Society

CLINTON COUNTY FAMILY HISTORY

Please include the following information in your history. 500 words max.

1. Your full name _____ Born _____ Place _____
 Married: Date _____ Place _____ (Divorced _____)
 Spouse's full (maiden) name _____ Born _____ Died _____
 Children: Full name _____ Born _____ Died _____

Occupation(s) of you and your spouse

Include any church affiliation, organizations, honors, etc.

2. Father's full name _____ Born _____ Died _____
 Marriages and children as above
3. Repeat for earlier generations of Clinton County Residents only
4. Notable ancestor(s), not necessarily Clinton County resident(s)
5. Name (full) _____ Born _____ Died _____

Accomplishments:

6. When did your family first come to Clinton County? Why? How?
7. Include any interesting or amusing family anecdotes:

I agree to permit the Clinton County Historical Society to edit the enclosed family history for length.

Signed _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Please return your history and this sheet:

Jean Martin
 209 N. Ottawa
 St. Johns, MI 48879

NOTE: If you want to include photos, there will be a \$10 service charge for each published. They cannot be returned.

A message from your president

Dear C.C.H.S. Members:

We had a busy three days! Dedication of the Parmelee marker at Capitol City Airport, May 19, and the Grand Opening of the Museum, May 20, followed on the heels of our Annual Meeting, May 17. Then followed a whole week of busy days with men, women and children streaming in and out of the beautiful old Paine-Gillam-Scott house.

Clinton County Historical Society is grateful to the St. Johns Reminder, the Clinton County News, Station WREJ and our publicity writer, Sharon Randall, for their fine coverage of these events. We are all grateful to the Rumbaugh's, the Wallings, Nina Waldron and Esther Rademacher, Sharon Worrall, Ken Coin and all those who worked to make the Museum a reality, as well as the others who acted as guides and attendants during Michigan Week.

Thanks go to Geneva Wiskeman, Shirley Karber, Betty Moore, Alta Reed and all who planned and performed the impressive dedication ceremonies at the airport. Thanks also to Maurine Lewis Masci and her friends for their entertaining music that day.

We appreciate the efficient and faithful service rendered by Alta Reed, Nina Waldron, Peg Lehnen and Sharon Worrall, as officers of the Society for the past year. Peg continues as Corresponding Secretary and she--with the new officers, Geraldine Workman, Ora Fish and Mildred Brown, joins me in saying we'll see you all at the Wiskeman Farm for the picnic at 5 p.m. Saturday, June 23.

Yours for another good year!

Hila Bross

Clinton County Historical Society

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