

Clinton Independent

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St. Johns, Michigan

August, 1979

1979 Home Tour underway

As you may have noticed in the Clinton County News, work on the September Home Tour is well underway. The sites have been chosen and many complimenting activities scheduled for the day.

This years' event will not include separate day and evening showings but be one long, 10 a.m. - 8 p.m. tour that includes all sites for a \$4 ticket. Members are being asked to try to make as many advanced sales as possible to promote the tour.

There seems to be two themes to the 1979 Tour; one that more and more young couples, the Van Cowens, the John Keenoys and the John Gieseckes, are devoted to saving antiquity and are adapting lovely restorations to family living. The Mark Simons, another young couple have a new home but have fashioned it into a barn design to house their useable antiques.

The second theme is art. Mrs. Royal Risley in The Rochester Colony, will show off paintings, quilting and crafts as well as her lovely 1867 Italianate farm home. On Oakland Ave., St. Johns, Margaret Jopke will open both home and art studio filled with pieces painted by herself, her daughters, and her local contemporaries. In conjunction with the tour Bill Morriss and the Men's Art Club will sponsor their annual clothes-line exhibit on the Courthouse lawn. A new group, "Arts for All Ages" which functions on a grant from Michigan Council for the Arts and lots of volunteer hours is having a week long juried show which will climax on Sept. 15.

Finally on tour for their beautiful furnishings, collectables and historical background are the homes of Jeanne and Don Temple (1856 plank cabin with additions) and the Thomas Teares (1925 Georgian).

Public buildings include the Duplain Methodist Church (1855) and school (1866) and our own Paine-Gillam-Scott House Museum.

If you haven't been called and want to work on the Home Tour (at the museum, Flea Market, Quilt Show, house hostess or the Society Booth at the Street Fair or wherever you are needed) call Henrietta Teare, 224-2917; Betty Moore, 224-2025; Peg Lehnen, 224-6405 or Mildred Brown, 224-3737.

Museum shifts will be 2 and 3/4 hours long, all the museum or Rumbaugh's.

Museum Notes

Ovid Township is on display in the Township Room at the Paine-Gillam-Scott House Museum through Sept. 11. "There's a lot to see in that little room," according to Catherine Rumbaugh. Marie DePond, president and Marge Parmenter, chairman of the project, from the Ovid Fine Arts Club arranged the history packed display. Included are dolls, furniture, bottles, a signature quilt top dated 1918, a life played in the Spanish-American War, a shaving mug and bottle from a barber shop and a collection of pictures and characterizations of Ovid businessmen. There's old newspapers and many old photos from the township history.

A museum donation from Ovid Twp is a 1888 water main fashioned out of a tree trunk. The 7-foot piece was saved by Bud (Clifford) Casper Jr. after it was found in 1969 when new sewers went through Ovid.

The impressive bottle collection in the front room display case is owned by James Lang of Owosso. He will be at the museum Aug. 24 from 7 - 9 p.m. for consultation and appraisals if you would like to bring in an old bottle from your collections.

HELP PLEASE! If you have a collection or display that would look nice in one of the merchant windows downtown, call Janet Becker, 224-3294 (Burton Abstract) as soon as possible. She is chairman of the Street Fair and downtown displays for the Sept 15 Home Tour.

CCHS Genealogists report

By Arlynn G. Gantz

LDS SEMINAR WELL ATTENDED

The recent Genealogical Seminar sponsored by the East Lansing Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints was helpful to the 35 people attending.

Sister Azalia Benjamin and Sister Linda Holmes explained the helpful library located in the church and open to the public.

Films showed where the Mormons store their records, deep in the side of a Utah mountain.

Display tables were arranged by genealogists from the Clinton County Historical Society.

OLD MAPLE RIVER NEWSPAPERS NOW ON MICROFILM

The old Maple Rapids Newspapers that have been available only by reading them at the Maple Rapids Library, are now on microfilm and available at the State of Michigan Library.

The microfilming was a project of our "Genealogists of the Clinton County Historical Society.

The old newspapers, known for their lengthy obituaries and other interesting family data, cover the period from 17 July 1885 through 26 Sept 1895.

EDITOR'S NOTE: A special thank you to Mr. Gantz for submitting neat, well written copy for this page of the Clinton Independent. If other committees would like to submit monthly news to us we will be glad to print it for the information of our membership. I must receive your copy by the last week-end of each month, mailed to my home: Sharon Randall, 5774 E. Center Line Rd. St. Johns, MI 48879 or dropped off at the Clinton County News office with my name on it.

OLD LEBANON TOWNSHIP CEMETERY RECORDED

In 1939, a gracious Ithaca, Michigan woman, the late Alice Miller, came down into Clinton Co. and recorded our tombstones from all the known cemeteries.

Perhaps you are familiar with her findings from her book in the Bement Library, St. Johns and the State Library.

Recently, it was brought to the attention of members of the "Genealogists of the CCHS" that the little Wager Cemetery on West Kinley Road had been missed during Mrs. Miller's readings.

A member of our organization was soon on the scene and this tiny graveyard located two miles north of Fowler and $\frac{1}{4}$ mile east, was soon recorded.

Copies of the cemetery list have been added to Mrs. Miller's books in the two libraries and the indexes brought up to date.

We are including the findings on page 3 c this newsletter for your home library.

QUERY

Need death dates and burial place of Gilbert E. and Lovisa (SUTTON) KIMBALL, as well as the names of his parents. Last known location was in Lafayette Township, Gratiot County where the 1900 census shows that Gilbert was born in 1849 and Lovisa in 1851.

Thank you: Janet Snyder, 3416 West Banner Rd. RFD, St. Johns, MI 48879

QUERY

Would like contact with anyone knowing about Susan WARREN, and her family. (Probably lived in the Eureka area in the early 1860's).

Susan married Samuel WILKINSON in April, 1861, and they had a daughter, Mary Elsa, born 1862, who later married Jared ROCKFORD. (when and where?) Samuel WILKINSON 2nd married Margaret ANDERSON daughter of James & Elizabeth (REID) ANDERSON. (when and where?)

Thank you: Arlynn G. Gantz, P.O.Box 535, DeWitt, MI, 48820

WAGER CEMETERY: Located in section 36, Lebanon Twp, Clinton County, Michigan. Recorded on Kinley Road on 8 May 1979 by Arlynn G. Gantz, P.O. Box 535, DeWitt Michigan 48820

- BAXTER, EDWIN F. died Sept 10, 1886 aged 40-3-12
BAXTER, LILLA C. wife of E.F. Baxter
born Dec 25, 1860 - died Oct 29, 1891
- BENNETT, NATHANIEL W. son of H.S. & M.S. Bennett (NOTE - The 1860 census in Dallas Twp has a Hannibal & Mary S. Bennett) died July 1, 1861 aged 4 months
- LEWIS, LYMAN P. 1817 - 1857 (hand carved cement stone)
- MacPHERSON, GEORGE; M.D. May 17, 1840 - June 8, 1906
MacPHERSON, ETTIE L. Feb. 22, 1857 - Jan 22, 1910
- MacPHERSON, WILLIAM W.; L.L.B. 1884 - 1969
- SALISBURY, IRWIN G. son of Garner & Julia Ann Salisbury
died Aug 20, 1859 aged 2-1-21 (NOTE - the 1860 census of Dallas Twp shows that Garner Salisbury has a son that is one year old named IRWIN indicating that they probably named a second son Irwin).
- SALISBURY, LILLIAN dau of G.D. & R. Salisbury
died March 1, 1872 aged 21 days
- VINCENT, WILLIAM D. died Aug 23, 1891 aged 54-8-25
VINCENT, SUSAN A. died Mar 16, 1901 aged 61-7-16
- VINCENT, LORENZO D. son of W.D. & S. A. Vincent
died Feb 28, 1873 aged 12-10-22
- VINCENT, RUTH daughter of W.D. & S.A. Vincent
died Jan 9, 1865 aged 4 months
- WAGER, JOEL Mar 23, 1822 - Jan 13, 1900
WAGER, LYDIA M. Oct 26, 1830 - Apr 8, 1899 his wife
- WAGER, JOHN J. son of Joel & Lydia M. Wager
died July 13, 1877 aged 27-1-24
- WAGER, JOSEPHINE M. daughter of Joel & Lydia M. Wager
died Nov. 2, 1861 aged 8 yrs & 11 mos

A message from your president

Dear C.C.H.S. Members!

We have had two fine meetings since our last newsletter. The picnic at the George Wiskeman Farm in June was a perfect way to meet people from other historical groups. The Wiskeman hospitality was warm and generous and spirits were high despite the cold weather.

The July meeting in Maple Rapids was an equal success with a fine turnout and delicious food for the picnic potluck. Ford Ceasar's paper on the Maple River was of interest to all.

Our final summer meeting will be Aug. 16 at 6:30 p.m. in the downtown park at DeWitt. Members will share a potluck picnic and should bring their own table service and a dish to pass. Faye Hanson will give the program, speaking on the Looking Glass River and its role in Clinton County history.

Ken Coin will open his home after the picnic to board members for their regular monthly meeting.

Carol Klein has graciously offered to chair the drawing to be held in conjunction with the 1979 Home Tour in September. Tickets will soon be ready and can be picked up at the Town and Country Trader shop next to the Clinton Theater in St. Johns, where the prizes will be on display. They include two oil paintings and a handmade crocheted afghan.

Let's have a successful pre-sale. Pick up your tickets, 3 for \$1.00. The drawing will be made the day of the Home Tour, Sept. 15.

Yours for a happy history!

Hila Bross

Clinton County Historical Society

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