

Clinton Independent

Vol IV No 5

St Johns, Michigan

May, 1980

Surveyor on May program

County surveyor John Quine will speak at the May meeting of the Clinton County Historical Society as part of the Early Transportation programs.

Society members will meet Thursday, May 15 in the dining room of the First Congregational Church, St. Johns, corner of M-21 and Maple Street.

Officers for the 1980-81 year are to be installed.

The "Old Building committee will have an organizational meeting, May 20 at 7 p.m. at the museum.

This new committee, headed by Ken Coin, will be compiling histories of buildings in the county and offering advice and information to historic building owners.

The History book committee is still aiming at a September publication date, Hila Bross reported at the April CCHS meeting. Committee members will try to have everything ready to turn over to the publisher in June.

Address stamp offered

Society member, Martha Andrews, owner of the Mid-Michigan Stamps & Sign Co., Lansing has made CCHS members a special offer.

For only \$3.50 you can purchase a stamp with your name and address (total of 3 lines). This stamp is helpful for use on envelopes or genealogical papers. Mrs. Andrews' offer is $\frac{1}{2}$ the actual purchase price and is good for members of the CCHS only.

If you need a stamping pad, they are \$2., available in black, green, blue or red.

Officers of the Genealogists of CCHS can be contacted with your order.

Genealogists elect officers

The Genealogists of the CCHS elected officers at their April meeting for one year terms.

Arlynn Gantz (city of DeWitt) is president; Janet Snyder (Greenbush Twp), vice-president; Wilma Sowle (DeWitt Twp), secretary and Arlene Schrader, (Riley Twp), treasurer.

This committee, which meets the first Monday of the month at 7:30 p.m. set their summer schedule as follows:

June 2, DeWitt Public Library

July 7, Fowler (site to be announced)

Aug. 4, Annual potluck at home of the Donald Snyders, 3416 W. Banner Rd., four miles northwest of St. Johns.

QUERY: Need information about SEYMOUR WRISLEY (Risley, Risley), who died in Fowler in 1880. Did he leave any family? Contact: Mary Alspach 4382 26th Street, Dorr, Mich. 49323

Museum activities

Remember the museum is now back to summer hours and open more often.

You can attend and bring guests for the ever changing exhibits:

Sundays from noon until 4 p.m.

Wednesdays from 1:30 - 5 p.m.

Fridays from 7 to 9 p.m.

Of very special interest this month are the paintings of local artists from the early 1900's; Michigan Rocks and DeWitt Township in the Township Room. (Riley Twp. through May 1

Don't forget the Appreciation Silver Tea, Wednesday, May 7 from 1 - 5 p.m.; Slides of Dr. Scott's flowers, Friday evening, May 9.



To publish War of 1812 soldiers

In the September issue of the "Clinton Independent" we had a list of Old Soldiers that we need more information about for our studies. Your response was great and we thank you very much.

The Genealogists of the CCHS will be having a forthcoming publication regarding all the known soldiers of the War of 1812 who at one time lived or died in Clinton County.

If you have any additional information about a soldier from your family that you would like added to this publication, this is the last call. Send your information along now. Mail to: ARLYNN G. GANTZ, P.O. Box 535, DeWitt, Mich. 48820.

Can you top this for oldest obituary?

The Genealogists have found what they believe might be the oldest known printed obituary from a Clinton County newspaper.

It wasn't printed until mid-1863, a couple of decades after newspapers were first published in Clinton County. How about it? Can you come up with one that is older? If you can, we'll print it right here. This is an attempt by the Genealogists of the CCHS to involve readers of the "Clinton Independent" in learning and sharing together.

Here's there oldest obituary. We'll wait and hear from you. Can you top them?

From the: CLINTON INDEPENDENT, St. Johns, Michigan
Edition of Friday, July 31, 1863
Page 3, Column 3

DIED - In the village of Greenbush, on the 4th inst., of disease of the liver and kidneys, NATHAN SPOONER, aged 77 years and 6 months.

The deceased was born in Rutland, Vermont, and left an orphan when young.

In 1812, he enlisted under General Van Renselaer, in the New York militia, was wounded in the hip near Queenstown, and had been a member of the Methodist Church for a number of years; was a kind parent and peaceable citizen -- always cheerful and bore his sufferings without a murmur. But his sufferings are now over, and he has gone to meet his companion, who preceded him to the spirit land.

Old maps available

Reproductions of old Michigan maps showing early settlements, forts and other features of historical interest are available from Cold Bug Publishers, Post Office Box 588, Alamo, California 94507

Included in the collection are some of the earliest charts of the U.S. Geological Survey and other sheets dating back to the first explorations of the territory.

A catalog listing the items currently available may be obtained by writing to the publisher.

Genealogists find old graves

Articles in old newspapers reveal important genealogical data. In the "Maple Rapids Dispatch", Thursday, April 3, 1890, genealogists found this:

Tombstones will soon reach here for the graves of old soldiers, as follows: J.D. McClellan, W. McKinney, Herb Webster, Frank Hudson, Miles Webster, Geo. Richmond, B. Griswold, and one more whose name we did not get. The Post has charge of the matter.

Another article went on to say...

Billy Begole Post No. 127 & Corps No. 59, meet 2nd and 4th Sat'y Ev'ings of each month at grange hall. A.H. Parker, Com'r, P.S. Percy, Qr. M. Libbie Anderson, President, Francis Terry, Treas.

The Genealogists of the Clinton County Historical Society have done some research on the above, and have come up with the following report...

The government issued tombstones have been found in three cemeteries in the Maple Rapids area as follows...

THE OLD MAPLE RAPIDS CEMETERY

WALTER McKINNEY	Co C 50th N.Y. ENG
CHARLES R. RANDOLPH	Co M 1st MICH E&M
JAMES R BOND	Died 18 Oct 1873 aged 28/5/8
HERBERT WEBSTER	Co E 20th N.Y. CAV
HIRAM T WHITNEY	Died 19 Feb 1882 aged 43/10/0
GEORGE RICHMOND	Co L 1st MICH E & M
THEODORE HOYT	Died 19 Apr 1866 aged 25/7/2

THE SOWLE CEMETERY, ESSEX TOWNSHIP

FRANK HUDSON	SGT. Co D 1st MICH LANC. d. 17 Aug 1883
MILES D. WEBSTER	Co G 5th MICH CAV 18 June 1842-21 Apr 1886
I.B. GRISWOLD	Co B 2nd MINN INF

THE PAINE CEMETERY, FULTON TOWNSHIP (in Gratiot County, just north of the county line).

J.D. McCLELLAN

Help get our records up to date; pay your 1980 dues. Memberships are \$4 a person; \$7 a couple. Members under 18 years of age pay just \$2.

Newsletter expenses have gone up to \$37. a month counting printing, labels and mailing. If you no longer want to receive this publication, let us know and we will take your name off the list. If you do, please do your part and pay your dues.

If you wish to receive a membership card and do not attend the monthly meetings enclose a self-stamped envelope with your membership check.

MEMBERSHIP COUPON

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____ Telephone _____

Individual \$4.00

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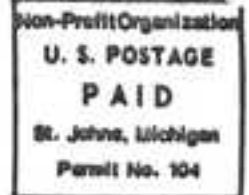
Youth \$2.00

Send coupon to: Clinton County Historical Society
Box 174
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Clinton County Historical Society

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