

Clinton Independent

Vol IV No 7

St Johns, Michigan

October 1980

October starts new monthly programs

The Clinton County Historical Society will get off to a new year of monthly programs, Thursday, Oct. 16, when members gather in Fowler at the Holy Trinity School as guests of the Holy Trinity Church and the Rev. Father Dennis Spitzley.

The Society has been invited by Father Spitzley and his parish to hear plans for the centennial celebration of the church. "We look forward to having you. We are very interested in your work and are happy to support your organization," he wrote.

The meeting is at 7:30 p.m. in the school basement.

Home Tour 1980: another success

Home Tour Festival figures show a profit of about 2,000 dollars after expenses. A total of 817 tickets were sold, 503 of them as pre-sales.

Sometimes it seems like an enormous amount of work for \$2,000 but we have to keep in mind the exposure that the home tour gives the Historical Society and the countywide enthusiasm and support it generates.

It isn't only the society that makes money on the home tour, service groups, the Men's Art Club, churches, Flea Market dealers, art's and crafts people and the downtown and area merchants and restaurant owners.

People come from all over the state and they get to know and will remember St. Johns as a friendly community.

Our gratitude to the homeowners; without them the tour would not be possible. This year's homes were fascinating as usual and we received many comments about warm hospitality.

The society owes a sincere thank you to all the home owners, the Joseph Latoff family, the Max Field family, the C.E. Nihart family, Mrs. J.G. Matthews (and Harold Reed), the Kenneth Welch family, Mrs. Robert Conn and the congregation of the St. John's Episcopal Church. Also our own museum staff for the extra work of showing the Paine-Cillam-Scott House on the tour.

Committees were efficient and hard working. Outside donations from Clinton Bank and Trust, Elias Big Boy, Capitol Savings and

Loan, and the Moore family for cooking and serving the homeowners dinner, all helped keep expenses down.

Book printing nears

The 1980 History of Clinton County book is at the publishers according to Hila Bross. The galley proofs are being read and indexed.

The book is expected to be printed sometime this fall.

Museum notes

John and Catherine Rumbaugh have been spending their "vacation" at the State Historical Society meeting in Marshall. One of the seminars offered was to look at old kitchens which tied in perfectly with what is happening at the museum now. The Rumbaughs hoped to gain insight on how the fireplace could have been. "We are sure there was a crane," Mrs. Rumbaugh said, "a small one." The biggest mystery seems to be how the fireplace was faced.

Plans are already moving along for another Victorian Christmas at the museum. It will begin Nov. 30 and run through Jan. 7, on Wednesdays and Sundays. If anyone would like to make special arrangements for tours they should get their order in early. Wednesday nights will be candlelight again and feature special music.

The new furnace has been installed and "works beautifully" according to Mr. Rumbaugh. Total cost was \$1,724. (Continued on page 4)

From the Genealogists

The Genealogists of the Clinton County Historical Society meet the first Monday of every month, October through March at the Community Room of Central National Bank, St. Johns across from Bement Library. Meetings take place at 7:30 p.m. Everybody is welcome for work sessions and interesting programs.

The August meeting drew 31 persons to a potluck supper at the Greenbush Township country home of Don and Janet Snyder. The September meeting was also held at the couple's home on West Banner Road. Fall and winter meetings are all scheduled for the bank's community room.

The G/CHS have been given an old Bible with pending conditions. The bible is that of an old Clinton County family, Eli and Emeline (MAYNARD) FIELDS. The donor is Mrs. Robert G. Young of McNeil Road, St. Johns. Mrs. Young and the "Genealogists" would like to see this Bible returned to some member of the FIELDS family who is only interested in the whole preservation and upkeep of this family treasure. The "Genealogists" have transcribed this Bible, and will keep it in the collection, until a responsible or interested member of the FIELDS family can be located, as Mrs. Young requests.

Richmond Cemetery recorded

Section #23, Greenbush Township, Clinton County, Michigan

3/4 mile north on Williams Road off East French Road, then 1/2 mile east of Elmer B. Swagart home, through field to 1/2 acre wood lot.

Condition of cemetery (Spring 1980): Trees in lot, underbrush and field stone. PWA workers had restored this graveyard to good condition several years ago...no follow up. Vandals have destroyed many stones and markers and the remaining stones are in bad need of repair. There is a total of five stones.

Cemetery recorded for the Genealogists of the Clinton County Historical Society in the Spring of 1980 by REUBEN EIRSCHELE of St. Johns, Michigan.

BUDD, SAMUEL Died Aug 12, 1873 age 69 years
 BUDD, SARAH E. Died June 12, 1870 aged 22 years 2 months 1 day
 BUDD, TAMER Died Feb. 29, 1876 age 34 years
 COOK, ELIHU Died Sept 27, 1861 aged 46 years 5 months and 12 days
 CRANSON, DAVID B. Died Sept 7, 1861 aged 52 years, 8 months
 HOBERT, B.W. Died Dec. 16, 1882 age 63 years 10 month 15 days
 RICHMOND, ALVAH Died March 23, 1868 aged 60 years
 RICHMOND, FREDERICK O. Died Feb. 25, 1851 aged 35 years 3 months and 12 days
 RICHMOND, BABY (or MABY B.) ...not readable...

If you have a query you would like published in the Clinton Independent please send them to:

"The Genealogists of the Clinton County Historical Society"

P.O. Box 23

St. Johns, Michigan 48879

Queries

QUERY: Help! I have been writing a history of the YOUNG family for the past several years. JAMES YOUNG settled in Sanilac County, Michigan and died there in 1897. His widow MARY JANE(ROBINSON)YOUNG, then moved to Clinton County, Michigan with her children and married a MR KNIGHT. The children were THOMAS, JOHN, MABLE, EDITH and ALICE. Need names, birth and death records of this family and when and where Mary Jane was buried.

Thank you: MRS. IRENE DARLINGTON, Deckerville, Michigan 48427

QUERY: Need help with the INGERSOLL and RUSSELL families that arrived early in Clinton County and lived there a very long time.

Thank you: MS. KIM S. HARRISON, 55832 Pontiac Trail Court, New Hudson, Michigan 48165.

QUERY: JOHN W. BLACK came to Clinton County from New Jersey. Appears on the 1880 census in Olive Township. When and where did he die?

Thank you: MRS. JAMES C. BLACK, 38 South Main St., Lapeer, Michigan 48446.

QUERY: Need information about one of the branches of the family of JEREMIAH ROGERS, who lived in the Riley and Eagle area. Children were CHARLES ALBERT, KITTIE JANE, SARAH MARIA, KATE S. NOURSE, MARGARET S. BYRNE, WILLIAM STEWART, AND JEREMIAH FRANK.

Thank you: F.A. ROGERS, 1106 7th Street, Three Rivers, Michigan 49093.

State museum makes move

The State Historical Museum is at a new location on North Capitol in Lansing. While just a shadow of its former self (most of the collection is now in storage) a great deal of information has been packed into a small space and it is worth a trip into Lansing to see. A slide presentation on Michigan is shown on three screens and is a very special and interesting show with emphasis on Michigan history. This is worth seeing. Free of charge.

Personal notes

We are interested in having a column in this newsletter of Personal Notes about Society members. What we have in mind is reminiscent of the old correspondent columns in old newspapers. Of special interest would be items that involved people attending historical events or places.

Examples:

Ford Ceasar and Hila Bross attended the State Historical Commissions dedication of an official state marker at the Turner-Dodge House in Lansing, Aug. 30. Clinton County Historical Commission member, Geneva Wiskeman was on the committee for the dedication.

Mildred and Winchell Brown took their grandson, Todd Conn on a trip to the states of Washington and Oregon this summer.

Ford and Marian Ceasar went to Montana to visit their son but were home in time for the home tour.

Get it? The only thing is we have to be our own correspondents. Call or drop a line and let Hila Bross or Sharon Randall know what you have been up to that will interest others in the society. If you attend a historical activity or site can you tell us a little bit about it so others may attend sometime?

LOOKING AHEAD: The Third Annual Commission Days Seminar presented by the Michigan Historical Commission and Michigan History Division will be Sun. and Mon., Nov. 2 and 3. at Kellogg Center, MSU.

Museum notes

(Con't from page 1)

The new furnace is gas instead of fuel oil and will be more efficient.

The museum staff is looking for cedar again this year, thinking of Christmas decorations. Anyone who has a large cedar tree they are thinking of taking down, the staff would appreciate it if you could wait until the middle of November so they could use it for trimming or even the Christmas tree. If you have a big tree you think might be appropriate please give the museum a call and they will come out and see if it is something they can use. Let them know also if you have limbs or scrub trees they can use for trimming.

Since the membership dues in the Historical Society have gone up from \$2 to \$4, the museum has not received any "Friends of the Museum" donations. These special gifts go into the museum fund and are needed to continue renovations and to add to the growing collection. You may become a "Friends of the Museum" contributor with a gift of \$5 or more. If you can help, send your donations to: Clinton County Historical Society, Box 174, St. Johns, Mich. 48879 and indicate that it is a Friends donation.



Paine-Gillam-Scott Winter Hours

Wednesdays, 2 - 8 p.m.

Sundays - 12 - 4 p.m.

Not open on Fridays or legal holidays

Clinton County Historical Society

P. O. Box 174

St. Johns, Michigan 48879

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