



"The Clinton Independent"

1983

CLINTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

A FAMILY TREAT...

A VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS...

CHRISTMAS PAST...

& PRESENT...

AT PAINE - GILLAM - SCOTT MUSEUM

The Christmas spotlight in Clinton County this month is on Paine-Gillam-Scott where a Victorian-styled Christmas will be celebrated from Dec. 3 through Jan. 4.

The season begins with the museum showing off its Christmas finery Dec. 3 when it participates in our annual home tour from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Included in the special exhibits will be a collection of turn-of-the-century doll-house toys and we will be showing off an old time light post and lantern which were recently donated to us. Co-director Catherine Rumbaugh said original ownership of the light and post is still unknown but "it is nice to assume that it was one of the lightposts that were once used in St. Johns."

As is traditional, the Christmas tree was hauled from a nearby swamp and special "Candlelight with Music" programs will be held on Wednesday evenings.

Included in the museum's view of Christmas past will be a one horse cutter, cow and stag pitchers, antique dolls and doll houses and an American Flyer Train in demonstration.

MUSEUM HOURS AND SPECIAL EVENTS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

Sunday, Dec. 4 through Wednesday, Jan. 4: Sundays, 1 - 5 p.m. and Wednesdays, 2-8 p.m. The museum will be closed on Christmas and New Year's but open on Mondays, Dec. 26 and Jan. 2.

Wednesday candlelight with music programs are from 7 to 8 p.m. as follows:

Dec. 7, a performance by the Fowler High School Brass Quintet

Dec. 14, performance by a string quartet from St. Johns High School

Dec. 21, performance by the Bell Choir of the First Congregational Church

Dec. 28, antique music box program



HOME TOUR

...: in our home tour activities will be: quilt show at the Methodist Church; arts and crafts fair at Southpointe Mall; a flea market at Rodney B. Wilson Junior High School, meals at the Congregational Church and by the Rebecckas, Lunch with Santa at the Municipal Building, a sale at "Santa's Cellar" in the Central National Bank.

Homes which will be spotlighted include: Jack Giesecke home at 205 W. State; Richard Kohls home at 208 W. Cass; John Keenoy house at 202 W. Cass; Douglas Peck house at 304 E. Cass; Charles Huntington home at 506 E. McConnell; Terri Theriac and Cindy French's bungalow at 207 E. McConnell; Larry McDiarmid home at 303 S. Oakland; Anthony Kuntz home at 506 S. Oakland; Douglas Warren home at 600 S. Oakland; and, Paine-Gillam-Scott. Tickets are \$4 and can be purchased at the door of any home on tour. Hours are 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. with evening tours to be by candlelight.



COMING UP



AT PAINE GILLAM SCOTT MUSEUM

Special Christmas events, see story above on this page.

Dec. 15: Clinton County Historical Society holds its monthly meeting at PGS at 7:30 p.m. with a program by Folklorist Dr. Yvonne Lockwood of MSU's museum; & John Kelly on Dulcimer, zither & mandolin.

WINTER CLOSING: PGS will be closed from Jan. 15 with reopening set for Sunday, March 11, 1984.

TRASH 'N TREASURE: We are planning another sale next May 12 and remind members that we need items to sell. This is our big money-making event. Especially needed are "calling card" items which will draw people. Anyone with items to donate can call 224-7402.

"BRING A FRIEND!"

CLINTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOC.

Dec. 15 meeting: At PGS Museum at 7:30 p.m. with program by Dr. Yvonne Lockwood, folklorist from MSU; and John Kelly on dulcimer, zither & mandolin.

Jan. 19, 7:30 p.m. at Capitol Savings & Loan, St. Johns, with film made by the late Dr. Ho depicting K-12 school activity in 1940. A well known photographer, Dr. Ho captured in color & sound teachers and students in their everyday activities, in school here.

CLINTON GENEALOGISTS

Dec. 5 meeting at 6:30 p.m. is a potluck supper at Capitol Federal Savings & Loan. Bring dish to pass and your own table service. Instead of a gift exchange bring a wrapped gift for a needy child.

Jan. 9 meeting at 7:30 p.m., at Capitol Savings & Loan with a program on the Mayflower Passengers and their descendents by Maralyse Brooks.

Archives in DeWitt Township Hall are open Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Wilma Soule, librarian will help you find your ancestors.

We will have a booth at the home tour with records and books for sale.

QUIZ

The popular Christmas story "A Visit From St. Nicholas" was written by....?

Meet the people



THEY CAME TO CLINTON COUNTY MICH.

GEORGE W. WAITE OF ST. JOHNS, MICH.

George W. Waite, was the son of David Harrison Waite and Catherine Eaman Waite. David settled in Putnam Township, Livingston Co. in 1839 and also was married that same year. David purchased land in 1841 in that township. His son George W. Waite was born in 1842. George purchased 13 acres of land from his uncle Benjamin Waite in Scio Township, he enlisted in the Civil War in 1862. In 1866 he married Frances Watkins, then in 1874 in St. Johns he married the sister of his partner, Robert Whedon, Physician. Together they had a drug store in St. Johns.

Note: Gerda B. Schairer of Ann Arbor, MI. has old photos from a descendant of George W. Waite unfortunately, there are no names or identity. She would like to locate someone from one of the families who has an old album, and who perhaps would help identify these photos. Some of the other names connected to the Waite family would be Charles Lyon Family of Lyons Mills, William Blossom family, Whedon, Polhemus, Loring families of Clinton County. Can anyone HELP Gerda in identifying these photos? If so PLEASE write her at 483 Adrienne Lane, Ann Arbor, MI. 48103.

... Querries ...

I am seeking information on William C. Gardner B. 1820 D. 1892 in Bengal township, Clinton Co. M. 1843 in Lisle, N. to Maryanna Bliss. I would like to correspond with any descendants of

Quiz Answer

"Twas the night before Christmas when all through the house Not a creature was stirring, Not even a mouse..."

On Christmas Eve in 1822 Clement Clarke Moore, then a professor of religion at the diocesan seminary in New York, presented to his six children a most unusual holiday gift...a poem he had composed earlier that day on a sleigh trip downtown to Jefferson Market to buy the familys' Christmas turkey.

Through the years this ballad of 56 lines has become the most popular of American Christmas poems.

The next year a family friend took a copy of the poem to the editor of the Troy Sentinel and he published it anonymously on Dec. 23, 1823. The author remained anonymous until 1837 when it was included along with several other poems by Moore in an anthology, "The New-York Book of Poetry."

Moore was born in 1779 in Chelsea House, the family estate. He died in 1863 and every year on Christmas Eve the parishioners of Trinity Church make a pilgrimage to his grave the church cemetery on upper Broadway to lay a winter

Nancy J. Hastie
4804 Morgan Rd.
Gaylord, MI 49735

NEWS and NOTES

YOU MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN RENTING BOOKS BY MAIL. IF SO
SEND A LONG SASE TO: RENTAL LIBRARY
5300 SE 1st ST. CT.
82
DES MOINE, IOWA 50315

IF YOU HAVE A PUBLICATION PLEASE PRINT THIS IN IT. THANK YOU

CORRECTION:

MR. EDWARD A. SITTS MARRIAGE TO IDA HULBERT WAS 1869 NOT 1849

IS YOUR MEMBERSHIP PAID?

A VISIT FROM ST. NICHOLAS.

In The News

We are still taking orders for "Family Trails," \$8 per volume or \$35 for the set until Nov. 30. The price will go up after that date. You may contact Arlene Lounds at 224-7807 for more information.

The Historical Society is still taking orders for the reprinted edition of the History of Shiawassee and Clinton Counties for \$37.50. Make checks payable to the historical society.

STILL AVAILABLE: "The Records Of The Rev. Guilford S. Northrup, a 50-page book with notes on early baptisms and marriages he performed; 40 years of funeral records & other vital statistics of his ministry in six central Michigan counties. \$6 by mail from CCHS.

Clinton County Historical Society



P. O. Box 174
Saint Johns, Michigan 48879

Arlyn Gantz
Box 535
DeWitt, MI 48820

St. Johns, MI
PERMIT
NO. 104
Non-Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID

Season's
Greetings