



"The Clinton Independent"

1983

CLINTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Highlights of 1982

THE YEAR IN REVIEW

JANUARY: Tom Jones, director of the Historical Society of Michigan, challenged us to establish a goal - that by the end of 1982 we would have one-tenth of the population of St. Johns as members.



The estate of Fred and Florence Dengler gave our museum gifts of china and housewares.



Our genealogists rang in the new year by moving to the Hila Bross home on N. US 27, about four miles north of St. Johns.



We began the new year \$4,500 richer because at the December, 1981 meeting Hila Bross gave us that much which had been generated from the history book project.

FEBRUARY: We mourned the passing of Faye Hanson, a charter member.



MARCH: Hila Bross, a charter member, was made an honorary citizen of St. Johns. She served as librarian there from 1965-74 and was also cited because of her service to clubs.



Individuals and clubs donated about \$600 to the DeWitt Library in memory of Faye Hanson, long-time librarian there.

MAY: Ford Ceasar was succeeded by Betty Moore as president.



We celebrated Magnolia Week at Payne Gillam Scott Museum with a re-enactment of the battle of Yorktown, sort of, when Denise Gallup brought a group garbed in authentic reproductions of uniforms and clothing of that period, to display and demonstrate life of the 18th century soldier and his lady.



SEPTEMBER: "Bells, Steeples and Spires" was the theme of our annual home tour which included a decorator showcase home furnished by two St. Johns businesses. All churches in the downtown area were included along with our museum.

NOVEMBER: Treva Merrill Smith, an avid supporter of our museum, died and through the generosity of her heirs numerous items were donated.

DECEMBER: The new "Doctor's Office" opened in one room at our museum which is only fitting as three doctors lived, at various times, in the home-turned-museum which is the oldest brick home in St. Johns now.



The family of Bion and Wilma Bates of Ovid donated many items to our museum. Alice Bottum

Coming Soon

CLINTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEETING: January 20, 7:30 p.m. at Capitol Savings & Loan, St. Johns, with a program on the historical survey of Clinton County by the state historical commission. Included will be pictures, maps and information on historical sites.

GENEALOGY DIVISION: Free instructional classes will be conducted at the January 10 and February 7 meetings. Both are in the community room of Capitol Savings & Loan at 7:30 pm. The public is also invited. Bring questions or problems involving genealogical research. Maps, books, magazines and research materials will be available.

PAINE-GILLAM-SCOTT MUSEUM: Because of the high cost of energy PGS will be closed from January 16 until March 13 this year.

QUIZ

(A continuation of questions supplied by Janet Snyder last month)

- 1) Early vouchers known as _____ were issued by the county board of supervisors for killing _____. This method was used for the pioneer's in Clinton to supplement their income.
- 2) What town held the honor of the first county seat in Clinton?



...was displayed during the holidays.

Our genealogists found a new home at 4700 Brock Road in the DeWitt Township Hall.

Genealogists are selling a book containing the records of the late Rev. Guilford S. Northrup, a minister who kept detailed records which were made available by Hila Cross and her sister, Mildred Countryman. They are granddaughters of Northrup.

In The News

(A collection of newsy events of recent weeks about Clinton County as reported in area newspapers.)

The Clinton County Board of Commissioners approved allowing commercial firms to sell products at booths they will be able to rent at the county 4-H Fair next August. Rising cost was the reason. Officials said firms who had been renting space on a "display only" basis had indicated they would not return next year if they couldn't sell. It has been traditional here to have a kids-only fair and although commercialization had been suggested in the past officials always rejected the idea arguing they wanted to preserve the "for the kids" image of the event.



County officials were given the go-ahead to remodel the Clinton County Jail by the state. Earlier state officials had mandated a new jail be built. Voters, however, rejected bond proposals for a new facility several times in recent years.

3) ... was placed as a village in?

4) Name of the newspaper that issued its first edition in St. Johns in August, 1866.

5) On the 4th day of November, 1873, the first meeting of what society was held in Clinton?



Genealogy memberships include membership in the Clinton County Historical Society at no extra cost.
JOIN TODAY

CLASSIFIED CLASSIFIED

WANTED: Ideas for upcoming meetings. Call Betty Moore at 224-2025 or Janet Snyder, 224-4315 for genealogy ideas.

CLINTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY Membership Form

G I F T

I want to remember the PAINÉ - GILLAN - SCOTT MUSEUM. Enclosed is my Friends of the Museum donation.



\$5 ___ \$10 ___ \$25 ___ OTHER ___

Mail to: Clinton County Historical Society, Box 174, St. Johns, N.Y. 48679

Name:
Address:

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

TELEPHONE NUMBER: _____

CHECK ONE: I want to support the society but don't buy me to work _____. I'll be active so call on me to help _____.

CHECK ONE: Single member, \$4 _____; family, \$7 _____
Age 18 or under, \$2 _____.

MAIL TO: Clinton County Historical Society
Box 174, St. Johns, N.Y. 48679