

# Clinton County Trails

Published by: Genealogists of the Clinton County Historical Society P.O. Box 23, St. Johns, MI 48879



1871-1998

## **Published Quarterly**

#### December 2005

Volume 20, Number 4

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#### NEWSLETTER

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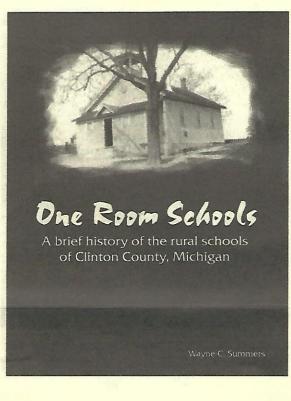
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# "One Room Schools" Book Now Available!

We are pleased to announce the publication of One Room Schools: a brief history of the rural schools of Clinton County, Michigan.

This 128 page book was written by Wayne Summers and is published by the Genealogists of the Clinton County Historical Society with any profits going to the Genealogists.

The book gives the location and a brief history of over 150 school districts that once operated in Clinton County. The book includes a number of vintage photographs along with school memories and anecdotes.

This wonderful Christmas gift book can be purchased at the Archives in DeWitt for \$15 or by sending \$15 plus \$2 shipping and handling to The Genealogists of the Clinton County Historical Society, P.O. Box 23, St. Johns, MI 48879.

This is the first of a planned two part project. The second portion scheduled for 2006 will include a series of CD-ROMs with scans of school census records along with additional photographs and source documents.

# Cemetery Flags: a pictorial guide By Wayne Summers

Present in most cemeteries, yet often overlooked, are metal flag holders. These have been placed by military, governmental and social organizations or the family to honor that person's service to their country or involvement in an organization.

Here is a brief pictorial guide to some of the types of flag holders found in Clinton County cemeteries.

One of the most common are military flag holders. The Grand Army of the Republic (G.A.R.) has placed flag holders to mark the graves of those who fought in the Civil War. Here are three examples:



A circle with a five pointed star in the middle. Around the outside are the words, Grand Army of the Republic. On the star are the numbers 61 and 65 for 1861-1865.



These markers, common in the DeWitt area, have a star with GWA Post 58 and are patterned after a G.A.R membership badge. The GWA stands for George W. Anderson Post.



This G.A.R. flag holders has G.A.R. and the dates 1861-1865. In the points of the star are naval and army symbols.

A fourth example of a G.A.R. flag holder (not pictured) has a shield with the letters G.A.R. Other military servicemen have also been honored with flag holders. While flag holders can be found for all major wars, the most common are those for the Spanish-American War and the generic Clinton County Veteran.

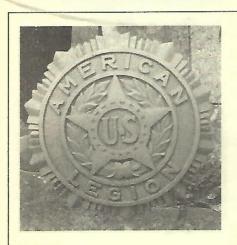


An example of a Spanish-American War flag holder. There are several variations, but all have the same shape.



Clinton County Veteran flag holder. Can be black, silver or bronze colored.

Here are some common examples placed by military service organizations:



American Legion flag holder. Some have the post attached to the top. There also an Auxiliary flag which is a circle with a star in the middle and the words American Legion Auxiliary.



VFW Women's Auxiliary (one of at least two versions). The regular VFW is similar with "Veteran's of Foreign Wars of the United States."



WRC – Women's Relief Corp. An auxiliary of the Grand Army of the Republic

## A number of social and governmental organizations have also marked graves with flag holders.



Fireman's flag holder. Especially common in Mt. Rest Cemetery.



A Daughter of the American Revolution. Sons of the American Revolution (S.A.R.) can also be found.



R.N.A. Royal Neighbors Association. Women's organization which was once part of the Modern Woodsmen of America



Oddfellows-Rebekahs. There are many variations. Some have just the chain links and FLT, others just the moon with 7 stars.



Order of the Eastern Star (O.E.S). Women's equivalent of the Free Masons.



Masons

# PRESIDENTS, SOLDIERS, STATESMEN (continued)

See Vol. 19, No. 1

**GOTTLIEB KORCHER**, a native of Germany, was born Nov. 17, 1827, and was a son of **Michael and Anna** (Wilt) Korcher, deceased. He was united in the bonds of matrimony in 1847 in this county to **Helen Amsden** who was born in Genesee Co., N.Y., Feb. 15, 1832. Her father, **Timothy Amdsen**, is deceased, but her mother, **Abigail Amsden**, is still living, aged 89 years. The issue of this marriage is six children: **Rolin, Charles**, **Douglas, George, Seymour**, and **Mertz**. Comrade Korcher was engaged in farming when he offered his services as a private to help defend the flag so near and dear to every soldier's heart. He was enrolled March 14, 1864, when 34 years old, as a private in 14<sup>th</sup> Mich. L.A., 23d A.C. He took part in several battles besides considerable scouting and skirmishing and was honorably discharged July 8, 1865, at Jackson, Mich. His wife's brother, **Daniel**, served in the war and was kicked by a mule in the back. Our subject draws a pension. He is successfully engaged in farming and his address is St. Johns, Michigan.

NELSON LANSBURY was born in Michigan, March 2, 1846, and was a son of Allen and Lucinda (Willis) Lansbury. The former is deceased and the latter is still spared. He has been twice married: He was married first Sept. 5, 1868, to Adella Luis and they have had two children, Mary and Cora. He was married, secondly, April 4, 1884, to Hattie A. Stoddard. When the war cloud settled over our country and treason trailed our flag in the dust, like thousands of our boys, he enlisted Oct. 14, 1864, at Ovid, Mich. He was enrolled as a private in Co. K, 30th Mich. V.I. He was detailed to go on several scouts and served as such several months. He also took part in several minor battles and was granted an honorable discharge at Jackson, Mich., June 1865. His brother, Herman, served in the late war. His horse fell on him during service which resulted in his death. Comrade Lansbury is a farmer by occupation and his address is Shepardsville, Mich.

RANSOM LEWIS was born in Medina Co., Ohio, Feb. 6, 1846, and was a son of George R. and Amanda (Barnes) Lewis (no longer living). He was united in the bonds of matrimony March 13, 1873, in Clinton Co., Mich., to May G. Glazier who was born in N.Y. State, May 8, 1853. Her parents, long since deceased, were George and Mary (Barney) Glazier. To them were born five children: Bertha, Carrie E., Spencer, Mabel A., and William A. Comrade Lewis responded to the call of his country and served in Indpt. L.A. until mustered out at the close of the war Aug. 10, 1865, at Columbus, Ohio. He was sent to Ship Island as assistant guard to take care of rebel prisoners. Comrade Lewis is a member of Grisson Post, 156, and is in receipt of a pension. He is a farmer and is one of the most progressive and advanced farmers in this county. His post office address is Shepardsville, Mich.

CHARLES MARSH was born in Oneida Co., N.Y., Sept. 24, 1830, of parents, Morris and Alice (Williams) Marsh, deceased. He was married to Jane Trumbull, now deceased, who bore him a daughter who died in infancy. He was married, secondly, to Deborrah Trumbull, still living, who was a sister to his first wife. The issue of this union is as follows: Lillie E. (dec); Emma J. (married David Watland and they have two children, Zella and John); Minnie (married George Ables and they have one child, Hazel); Charles (died at the age of 11 years); George M; and Burt. When the Stars and Stripes were pulled down at Ft. Sumter and the country in peril, the patriotism of our subject was aroused and he enlisted Aug. 19, 1862, at the age of 33 years as a private in Co. L, 6 Mich. Cav., 1st Brig., 2d Div. Previous to his enlistment, he had been engaged in farming. He was detailed with twelve others on a foraging expedition. He and a comrade stopped at a spring to wash; the remainder went out on the foraging service and were all captured. Our subject's active hostilities were: Hanover, Hunterstown, Gettysburg, Monterey, Cavetown, Smithtown, Boonsboro, Hagerstown, Williamsport, Falling Waters, Snickers Gasp, Kelleys Ford, Culpaper C.H., Raccoon Ford, Whites Ford, Jacks Shop, James City, Brandy Station, Buckland Mills, Stevensburg, Martons Ford, Richmond, Wilderness, Beaver

Dam, Yellow Tavern, Hawes Shop, Baltimore Cross Roads, Cold Harbor, Travillian Station, Winchester, Ft. Royal, Leetown, Shepardstown, Smithfield, Berryville, Summit, Oppequan, Luray, Pt. Republic, Mt. Crawford, Woodstock, Cedar Creek, Madison C.H., Louisa C.H., Five Forks, Southside R.R., Duck Pond Mills, Sailors Creek, and Appomattox C.H. He was honorably discharged Nov. 4, 1865, at Ft. Leavenworth, Kan. His brothers, George and Uri, were in service; the former in N.Y. Regt. and latter in employ of the government. His paternal grandfather served in the War of 1812. Comrade Marsh has been highway commissioner. He belongs to William Showerman Post and is at present successfully engaged in farming near Bath, Mich., which is his address.

JOHN C. MARSHALL was born in Ontario Co., N.Y., Feb. 12, 1831, and was a son of Horace and Betsey (Baker) Marshall, deceased. His first wife, Martha Marshall, lived just one year and eight months after marriage. He was married secondly, to Mary Ely Woodruff, Feb. 22, 1852. She was a daughter of Wooster and Betsey (Kent) Woodruff, dec., and was born in Boone Co., N.Y., June 14, 1834. Their only child, Emery J., is a promising young physician of Marshall, Mich. He was married to Persus Hunsinger, and they have three daughters: Anna, Donna, and Minnie. Comrade Marshall's record as a soldier was one of gallantry and faithful service. He had been employed as a blacksmith when he was enrolled Aug. 1862 as a private in Co. C, 24 Mich. V.I., 1st Brig., 1st Div., 1st A.C. Several bullets pierced his clothing, but he was not seriously wounded. In 1863 he was treated in Jarvis hospital on account of sunstroke for one week. In 1863 he was furloughed for fifteen days. He was furloughed a second time July 1863 for thirty days, reporting for duty at end of each. At Gettysburg the rebels made an effort to capture their ambulance corps, but supposing the Regt, was coming. abandoned the effort. He was detailed to help cook and was also on patrol duty and to guard prisoners. His Regt. bore conspicuous part in the battles of Fredericksburg, Port Royal, Chancellorsville, West Moreland, Gettysburg, Spottylvania, North Anna River, Tolopotomy, Cold Harbor, Bethesda Church, Hatchers Run, and several others, receiving an honorable discharge July 1865 at Detroit, Mich. His Wife's maternal great-grandfather served in the Rev. War. Comrade Marshall is S.V.C. of G.W. Anderson Post, and his wife belongs to W.R.C. He is living in retirement and his address is DeWitt, Mich.

CHARLES MANKEY is a son of August and Mary (Paush) Mankey, deceased. The maiden name of his wife, to whom he was married in 1858, was Elizabeth Bumbgardner. His wife, born July 7, 1844, in Wertenberg, Germany; father's name Jacob Bumbgardner; mother's name, Regina Bariley. Their four children were born in the order named: Martha R., Carrie R., Regina K., and Jacob F. Comrade Mankey served in Co. G, 15 Mich. V.I., and rendered some important services during that trying time. He had been engaged in farming when he was enrolled Oct. 4, 1864, at Pontiac, Mich., the age of 35 years. He was internally injured and was treated for same in hospital at Cincinnati, Ohio, for five months. He did not take part in any regular battles on account of his disability, and he was granted an honorable discharge June 15, 1865, at Camp Dennison, Ohio. His brother, Henry, served in the late war in a Mich. Regt. Comrade Mankey still holds fellowship with "the boys," being a member of Hutchinson Post, 129. He is a farmer by occupation and his address is Fowler, Mich.

ARTHUR MEADE, son of Marvin B. and Jane (Arthur) Meade, still living, was born in Oakland Co., Mich., Nov. 25, 1843. He was united in the bonds of matrimony Aug. 10, 1869, to Lois Sears, who was born in Shiawassee Co., Mich., Nov. 19, 1845. Her parents, deceased, were Abner and Laura (Toby) Sears. Five children have been born to them: Marvin R., Frank A., Mary E., Edwin R., and Nellie J. Comrade Meade tendered his services as a soldier in defense of his country and performed faithful service. He was enrolled Aug. 26, 1863, at the age of 18 years as a private in Co. H, 10 Mich. Cav. Aug. 1863 he was confined in field hospital at Jackson, Tenn., about four weeks, suffering from fever and rheumatism. The following are his battles: Carter Station, Powder Springs, Dandridge, Beans Gap, Jonesboro, Johnsonville, Whitehorn, Rogersville, New Market, Mosebury, Williamsford, Dutch Bottom, Sevierville, Newport, Morristown, Greenville, Mossy Creek, Bull's Gap, Strawberry Plains, Flat Creek, Rogersville, Greenville, Sweet Water, Thornsville, Johnson Station, Madisonville, Morristown, Bristol Station, Saltville, Boonsville, Henry C.H.,

Dupont, Statesville, and Newton. He was honorably discharged Nov. 22, 1865, at Jackson, Mich. His wife's father served in the war. A brother, **Abner**, also served in the late war. Comrade Meade has been J.P. one year and constable two years. He belongs to Grisson Post 156. He is a farmer by occupation and his address is St. Johns, Mich.

WILMER MILLER was born May 13, 1838, in Lenawee Co., Mich., and was a son of Benson and Mary B. (VanVleet) Miller, deceased. He was married first in Dec. 1868 to Elizabeth Jackson, by whom he had two children: Della and Maud. May 5, 1887 he was married in Ithaca, Mich., to Kate Blizzard who was born in England, Nov. 10, 1847. Her father, Oliver Blizzard, is deceased, but her mother, Mary Blizzard, is still spared. His present wife was formerly married to Joseph Ellicott and five children were born to them: Cornelius, Mary, Maud, Minnie, and Eva. Comrade Miller enlisted July 15, 1862, at Maple Rapids, Mich., when 39 years of age, and was a faithful and worthy veteran. He was enrolled in Co. A, 23 Mich. V.I., 2 Brig., 2d. Div., 23 A.C. In Nov. 1862 he was detailed at Louisville, Ky., as a teamster to supply train and served in this capacity during his entire term of enlistment. He took part in the battle of Campbell Station and was honorably discharged July 28, 1865, at Goldsboro, N.C. His wife's father served in Co. G, 23 Mich. V.I., and died at Bowling Green, Ky. Comrade Miller is a member of Billy Begole Post 127. He is a laborer and his address is Maple Rapids, Mich.

JONATHAN C. MOYER was born in Union Co., Pa., Nov. 16, 1831, and was a son of Jacob and Catherine (Filman) Moyer, deceased. He was happily married Jan 1, 1866, in Sagerstown, Pa., to Addie Moon, who was born in Meadville, Pa., Aug. 5, 1846. She was a daughter of William W. and Theresa (Wilcox) Moon, long ago deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Moyer are the parents of the following children: Estella E. (married Isaac E. Hewitt Feb. 26, 1893); Mae A. (married Fred G. Casterlin, Dec.6, 1890); Cletus C.; and George G. Comrade Moyer enlisted and was one of the best soldiers of his Regt. He was enrolled April 22, 1861, from Meadville, Pa., when 30 years of age as a private in Co. F, 9th Pa., Vol. Res. Corps, 3 Brig., 3 Div., 5 A.C., and in due time was made Sergt. Comrade Moyer re-enlisted in 9th Pa., 3 Brig., 3 Div., 5 Corp. After serving five months in said Reg., Dec. 1862, he was confined in hospital at Stoneman Station four days with inflammatory rheumatism. He took part in some of the most hotly contested battles of the war: Drainsville, Seven Days Fight, 2d Bull Run, Bristoe Station, South Mt., Antietam, Mine Run, Gettysburg, Fredericksburg, and several others. He was granted his honorable discharge May 18, 1864, at Pittsburg, Pa.. He had two brothers in service: Henry, in 111 Pa., was wounded at Antietam; and George, served from Pa., was killed at Petersburg while on picket. His father fought in the War of 1812, and his grandfather served seven years in the Rev. War. Comrade Moyer is J.V.C. of Billy Begole Post. He is a stone mason and his address is Maple Rapids, Mich.

**ELISA H. MYER** was born in Schoharie Co., N.Y., Dec. 1843, and was a son of **John G. & Rosetta C.** (Hillsinger) Myer. The former is deceased and the latter is still spared at the age of 71 years. Comrade Myer served in the late war with distinction and honor. He was enrolled March 28, 1864, at St. Johns, Mich., when 21 years of age, as a private in Co. A, 27 Mich. V.I., 9th A.C. June 18, 1864, he was wounded by gunshot at Petersburg. He was kept in field hospital; was then sent to David Island Hospital two and one-half months and then went to Detroit in consequence of wound. He was furloughed for sixty days. He returned to Detroit and was sent to Harpers Hospital at that place. When able he was detailed to care for sick for about eight months. He took part in some of the most hotly contested battles of the war: Spottsylvania, Bethesda Church, Petersburg, and Fredericksburg. He was honorably discharged June 2, 1865. His brother, **John**, served in the war and was wounded by gunshot in foot at Wilderness. Our subject is a G.A.R. member. He is successfully engaged in farming, and his P.O. address is St. Johns, Mich.

HARRISON NASH was born in Burkshire Co., Mass., Aug. 10, 1814, and became a resident of Clinton Co., Mich., in 1868. On Oct. 31, 1841, he was married in Huron Co., Ohio, to Elizabeth McConnell, and their hearthstone has been graced with eight children: Henry N., Ellen M., Frank W., Mary P., William S., James E., and Cora A. His wife was born in Saratoga Co., N.Y., July31, 1823, and was a daughter of James and

Perthenia (Streeter) McConnell, deceased. Comrade Nash was engaged in farming when he began preparation for active participation in the late war. He was 48 years old when he was enrolled at Lansing, Mich., Dec. 10, 1861, as a private in Co. G, 12 Mich. V.I., and entered the service with all the patriotism and enthusiasm of youth. In the spring of 1862 he was treated in hospital at Niles, Mich., with inflammation of the lungs.

In the spring of 1862 he was furloughed for thirty days and returned to Detroit at end of time. In the winter of 1861-2 he was detailed to act as cook at Niles, Mich.. He was granted his honorable discharge Sept. 2, 1862, at Detroit, Mich., on account of disability, being unfit for further field service. Our subject was called from the shores of time Nov. 24, 1890, death resulting from disabilities contracted in service. His son, **Henry**, also served his country in the hour of peril, being a member of 12 Mich. V.I. His widow still continues the farm and her address is Maple Rapids, Mich.

(McConnell) Nash. The former is deceased; the latter is still spared. His wife, to whom he was married Sept. 9, 1868, in Hubbardston, Mich., bore the maiden name of Farsina Woodruff. She was born July 7, 1845, in Huron Co., Ohio, and was a daughter of Abram and Mariah (McConnell) Woodruff. The latter only is living. The offspring of this union is two children: Fred A. and Cora. Comrade Nash enlisted Jan. 18, 1864, to help defend the flag of his country. He was 18 years of age when he was enrolled from Lansing, Mich., as a private in Co. K, 12 Mich. V.I., 1st Brig. 2 Div., 7th A.C. In July 1864 he was confined in hospital at Duvall's Bluffs, two months suffering from typhoid fever and chronic diarrhea. Nov. 13, 1864, he was furloughed for thirty days. He took part in the battle of Clarington and Gregorys Landing and was honorably discharged June 17, 1865, at Detroit, Mich. His father served in 12 Mich. V.I. Two maternal uncles and two paternal uncles served in the War of 1812. His wife's brother, Jesse, served in 55 O.V.I., and was wounded at 2d Bull Run. Her paternal grandfather served in the War of 1812. Two paternal uncles and two maternal uncles also fought during the War of 1812. Comrade Nash is in receipt of a pension. He is a farmer by occupation and his address is Maple Rapids, Mich.

# RECENT ACQUISITIONS

- Photos: St. Joseph Catholic 1<sup>st</sup> Communion class ca 1965
- ☐ Bengal Center School students 1949
- Frink School students 1964-65
- ☐ Cramer School students 1964-65
- ☐ Cramer School students 1924
- □ Eureka School ca 1818-19
- Eureka 1918 Playground Champs 1918
- St. Johns Table Factory
- Parker Family Reunions, 1931, 1950, 1959,1991
- Ancestors of Gerald Emory Hier, Sr.; by C. Adkins
- ☐ Davies Family History; by R. Baxter
- Steel Hotel paper memorabilia
- ☐ Bower School teachers' records 1989-1910
- Clinton Co. School District maps; 1860's-1870's
- Lansing & East Lansing telephone book; 1930



2005 - - 27th Annual

#### VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS

A NOSTALGIC LOOK AT CHRISTMAS PAST NOVEMBER 20<sup>TH</sup> to DECEMBER 21<sup>ST</sup>

PAINE-GILLAM-SCOTT HOUSE Clinton County Historical Society Museum West Side of Courthouse Square – St. Johns, Michigan

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY: 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. WEDNESDAYS: 2:00 to 8:00 p.m. ADMISSION: Donation

ALL DECORATED WITH FRESH CEDAR

#### SPECIAL EXHIBITS

A Nostalgic Look at Christmas Past - Cedar Christmas Tree; Games We Played; New Doll House Exhibit; Marx's Electric Train; Antique Toys; Victorian Christmas Dining Table; New School Room Exhibit.

> Visit at Leisure or Arrange a Tour Phone (989) 224-2894 or (989) 224-7402 (Note: Mineum is closed December 22" for the Winter Season)

# Clinton County Historical Paine-Gillam-Scott Museum Presents -- Fast Facts----"Continued - John Swegles, Jr.

Since the June newsletter, the Museum has received some papers of a descendant of John Swegles, Jr. One item was a copy of his obituary. In the previous article, at the end, "John Swegles, Jr. Died in 1861 in the village for whom it was named, St. Johns and a street named Swegles." So this is the right time to quote the obituary.

Copied from the Detroit Free Press Film. Appeared in that paper, December 25, 1861 and in the St. Johns Michigan Republican, December 20, 1861.

# OBITUARY OF JOHN SWEGLES, JR. (Auditor General of Michigan - 1851-54)

Death of John Swegles, Jr. It becomes our sad duty to announce the death of Hon. John Swegles, a resident founder of this village. Early in the month of June last, he received a sever contusion upon the left limb which became badly swollen and confined him to his room. He was rheumatically afflicted, and unable to walk, up to the time of his death. Dr. Clark of Detroit, in a surgical operation, performed two weeks before the death of Swegles, discovered erysipelas in the tumid part, which spread rapidly, and terminated his life on the evening of the 17th inst.

Mr. Swegles was born in Hector (now Schuyler) County N.Y., April 15, 1819. At the age of 18 commenced the study of medicine, but, finding it uncongenial to his nature, he obtained a position in the U.S. Service, as Purser's Clerk, on the Brig Porpoise, then engaged in the Atlantic Coast Survey. He was subsequently engaged in his native State and Michigan, as a teacher for some years.

He married Harriet Coryell (his surviving wife), in Varick, Seneca County N.Y. And removed to Jonesville, in this state, in 1840. He was elected to and held the office of Clerk of Hillsdale County for several successive terms. He was editor and proprietor of the Democratic party of Michigan elected him to the place of Auditor General, in which he served four years.

In the spring of 1855 the deceased assisted in the survey of the site, and associated with three other gentlemen, founded the village of St. Johns, Michigan. Mr. Swegles acting as the agent for the village company for several years. The rapid advancement of this place is to a great extent, owing the Public spirit and indomitable energy of Mr. Swegles.

The last solemn rites paid by the living to the dead, took place at the cemetery yesterday afternoon. His Masonic brothers, and a large number of our citizens were present. The ceremony of occasion were impressively gone through with by Hon. George W. Peck, of Lansing, Masonic Grand Master. In the death of Mr. Swegles, we have lost a man of great Public spirit, and a friend who had hardly an equal, "for he was generous to a fault". **St. Johns Republican - Dec. 20, 1861** 

## EARLY SETTLER CERTIFICATES

In 1989-90 the Clinton County Historical Commission issued "Pioneer Certificates" as part of the county's Sesquicentennial celebration. Then that program was terminated.

This year the Genealogists of CCHS initiated another certification project to honor people for their connection to early residents of Clinton County. So far forty-one descendants of Clinton County's early settlers have provided documentation and been issued certificates as descendants of twenty-seven early settlers (here by 1865) or early families (here by 1900). All of the Pioneer Certificate documentation and that given for this latest project is on file at the archives.

Here is the current list of those whose descendants have been recognized: John V. Abel

Christian Baker

Nelson Benedict

William Bensinger

David B. & Samantha (Griswold) Bliss Abraham & & Mary G. (Beggs) Boak

Alonzo & Susanna (Johnson) Cornell

Christian Deeg

Peter John Desprez

Jacob Geisenhafer

Mathias Geisenhafer

Conrad Holsinger III

John & Margaret (Scollick) Houseman

Alexander Ingraham

Philip Knapp

John Miller Kosht

William H. Norris

Smith Parks III

Thomas E. Reeve

Isaac Reynolds

Lafayette Swiler

Merritt D. & Sabrina H. (Bliss) Temple Samuel & Emily (Blakesley) Brown Thurston

William W. VanDyke

John & Harriet (Dart) Ward

Samuel & Elizabeth (Kimble) West

Orange Whitlock

# Clinton County One-Room School "Book Signing"

Join author Wayne Summers and the Genealogists of the Clinton County Historical Society at 10 a.m., Saturday, Dec. 10, at Briggs Public Library for the unveiling of his new book on Clinton County Schools. Summers will present a brief audio- visual program. Refreshments will also be provided. Copies of the book will be available for author autographs.

Please phone the Library 989-224-4702 to reserve your seat for this unique journey into Clinton County's proud past.



# Downtown: The History of St. Johns, Michigan

Authors: Dave Collins, Rhonda Dedyne, Melissa Milton-Pung

The story of St. Johns began Downtown. Like so many small towns across America, downtown St. Johns was the original location for the first merchants in town. Eventually downtown and Clinton Avenue became the foundation of the community, built by merchants and residents who worked, lived and entertained themselves there. For over 150 years, downtown has endured, weathering a series of retail transitions, architectural facelifts, financial crisis, fires and tornadoes. Downtown has evolved and changed along the way, yet many of the original historic structures still stand firm on Clinton Avenue. They are the physical reminders of a time filled with brave settlers, tough-skinned farmers, lumber barons, railroad travelers and enterprising entrepreneurs.

Once again, downtown faces new challenges. How can it turn the challenges into opportunities? Discover the vents that helped shape St. Johns into the town it is today, and share the memories of the people who grew up in this friendly small town. *Downtown, The History of St. Johns, Michigan*, is a community created project comprised of essays and articles from local merchants, residents, historians and other writers from St. Johns.

This book has bee prepared to celebrate the St. Johns Sesquicentennial in 2006. Most of the proceeds from the sale of this book will benefit the Clinton County Historical Society Museum.

Contributing authors: Tyler M. Barlage, Kurt Becker, Marsha Dedyne, Lynne Gregory, A. Fraser MacKinnon, Jean Martin, JoAnn Martis, Ruth L. Nihart, Raymond G. Parr, Catherine Rumbaugh, Merritt B. Scharnweber. This book is available at the Paine-Gillam-Scott Museum in St. Johns, Michigan.

- The Archives of the Clinton County Historical Society are located at 16101 Brook Road in the DeWitt Twp. Community Center. Volunteers are there to give research assistance from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Mondays and Tuesdays and from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. on Thursdays & Fridays. Phone: (517) 482-5117. Web Page: www.dewittlibrary/org/CCHS
- The Genealogists of the CCHS meet the first Monday of each month at 1:00 pm November through March or 7:30 pm April through October in the Firstbank community room, located downtown St. Johns. E-mail address: ccgensoc@yahoo.com. The Historical Society meetings are held 30 minutes prior to the Genealogist's meetings at Firstbank, the first Monday of January, April, July & October.
- ★ The Paine-Gillam-Scott Museum is located on the west side of the Courthouse Square in St. Johns. Open April 1 Dec 31. Sunday 1:00-4:00 p.m. & Wednesday 2:00-7:00 p.m.

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL

|                |            | LIST 5 NAMES YOU ARE RESEARCHING |
|----------------|------------|----------------------------------|
| Mr./Mrs./Miss  |            |                                  |
| Address        |            |                                  |
| City           | StateZip   |                                  |
| Phone          | NewRenewal |                                  |
| E-Mail Address | Date       |                                  |

ANNUAL DUES to join both the Clinton County Historical Society and the Genealogy Committee are \$15 single and \$20 a couple/family. Membership is based on the calendar year and includes a subscription to the quarterly newsletter, Clinton County Trails. Checks should be made payable to the Clinton County Historical Society and mailed to P.O. Box 174, St. Johns, MI 48879. Genealogical queries should be addressed to: Genealogists of the Clinton County Historical Society, P.O. Box 23 St. Johns, MI 48879.

Christmas Gift Ideas Take a minute to check out the various publication from the Clinton County Historical Society and Genealogists to give to your family or friendly historian. You can find a complete list of these publications on our web page: www.dewittlibrary/org/CCHS

