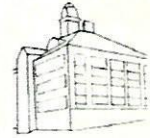




# CLINTON COUNTY TRAILS

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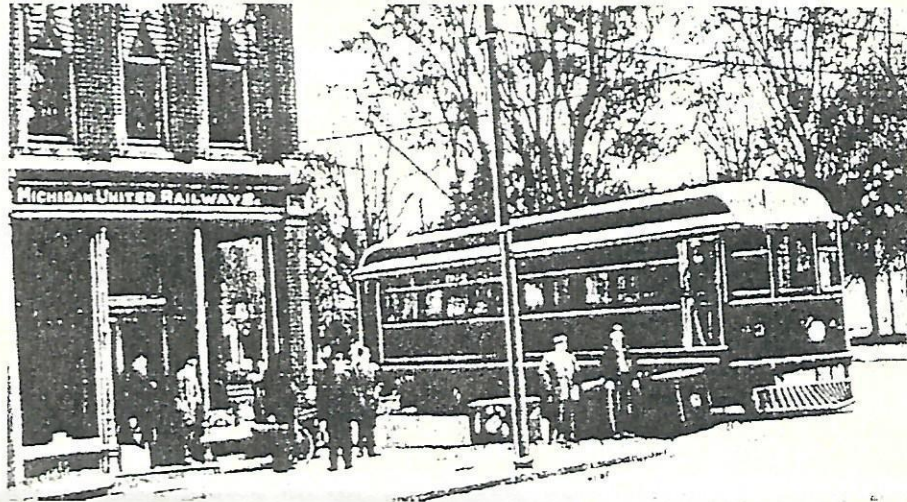
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## The Interurban



1911 -- Interurban stop in St. Johns

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**Michigan Suburban Railroad Co.**

PASSENGER RECEIPT FOR FARE PAID FOR ONE CONTINUOUS RIDE BETWEEN STATIONS PUNCHED GOOD FOR THIS DAY AND TRAIN ONLY.

Form 1.

*See & Prices*

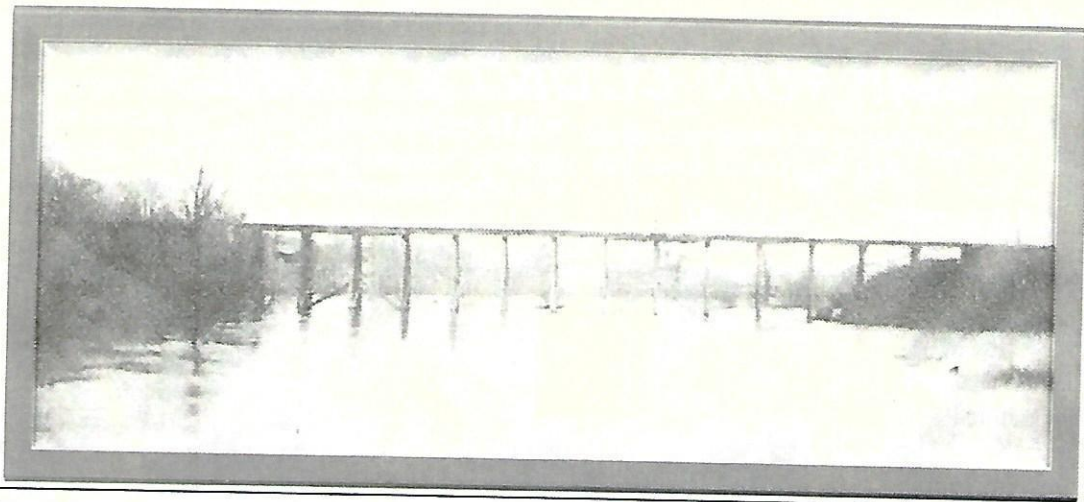
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SERIES A.

HALF FARE	5	10	15	20	25
	30	35	40	45	50

"I know of nothing which jars the memories of DeWitt residents more than the subject of the old interurban which connected Dewitt to Lansing and St. Johns." Ken Coin

Much has been documented in the Clinton County Trails and various historical documents and books about the Interurban. Lately, questions have risen as to where the Interurban stopped on its way from St. Johns to Lansing. The following pages have that information.

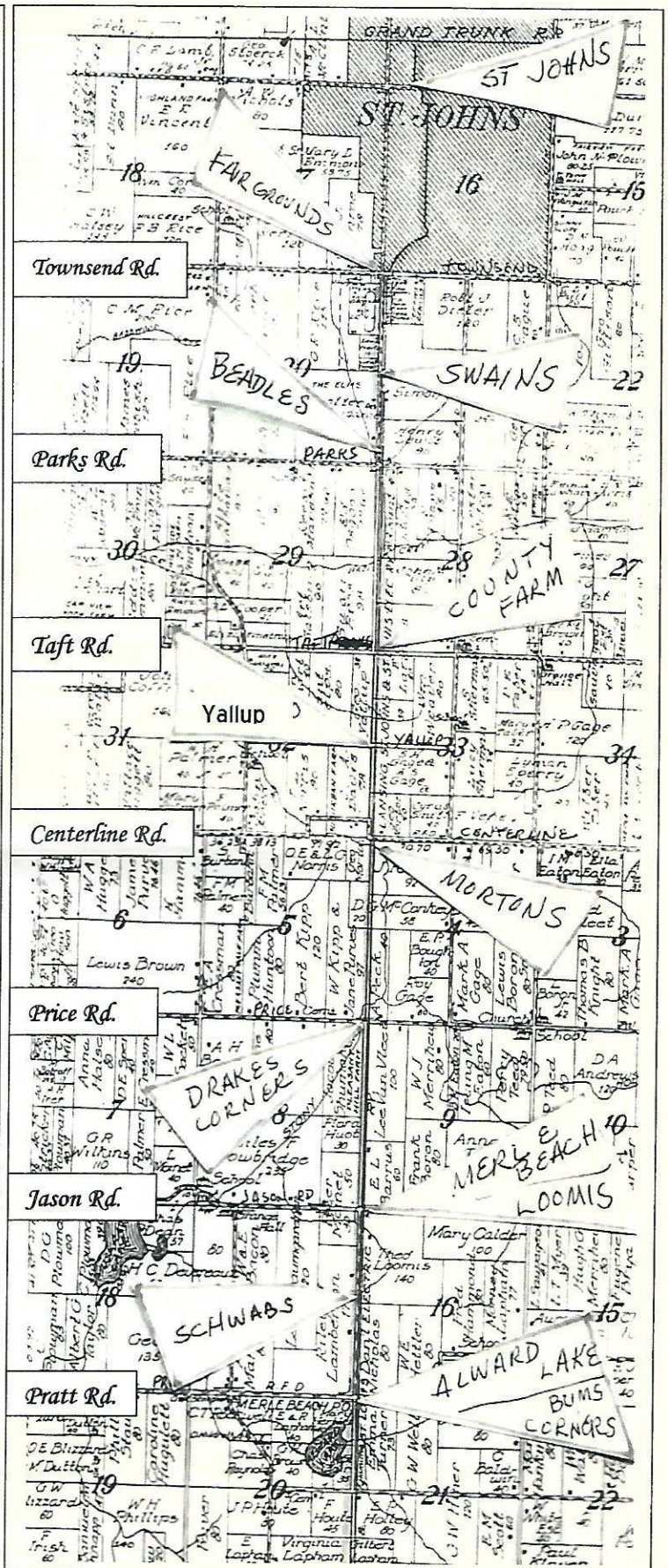
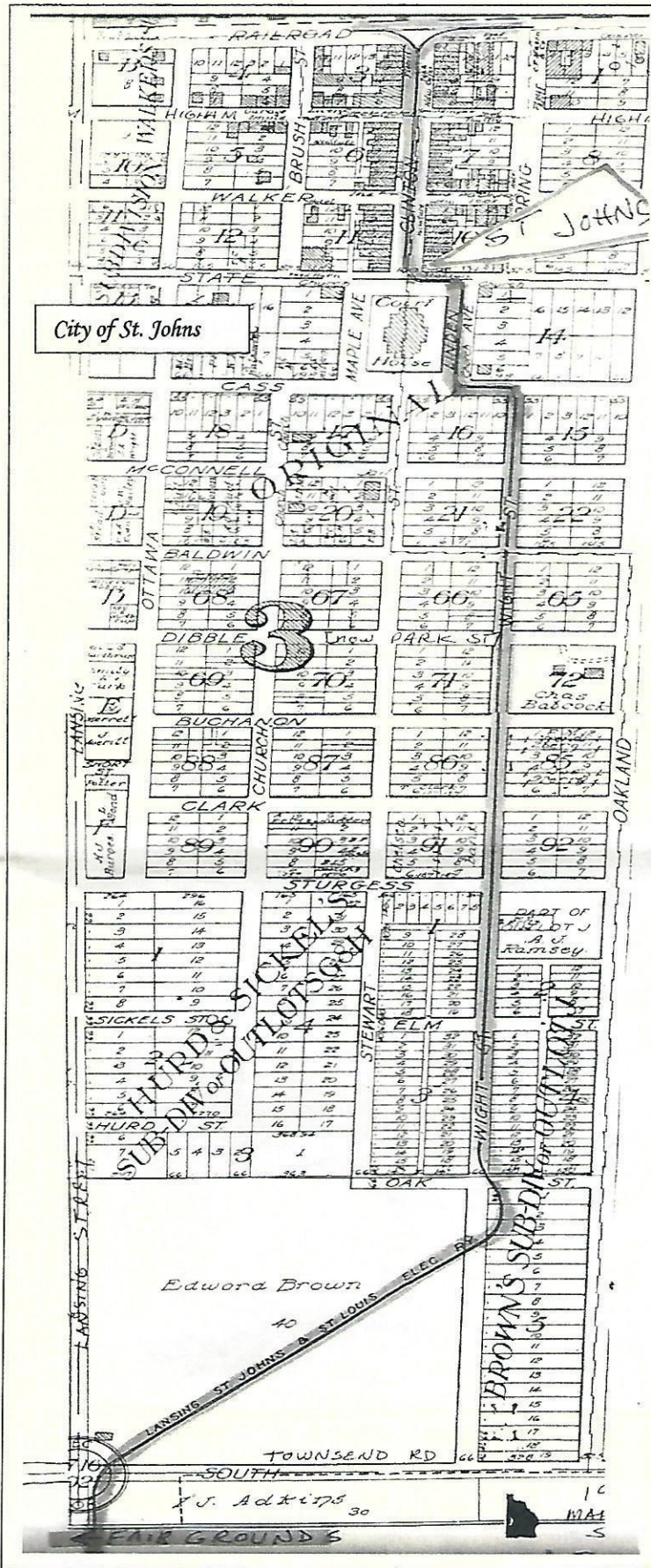


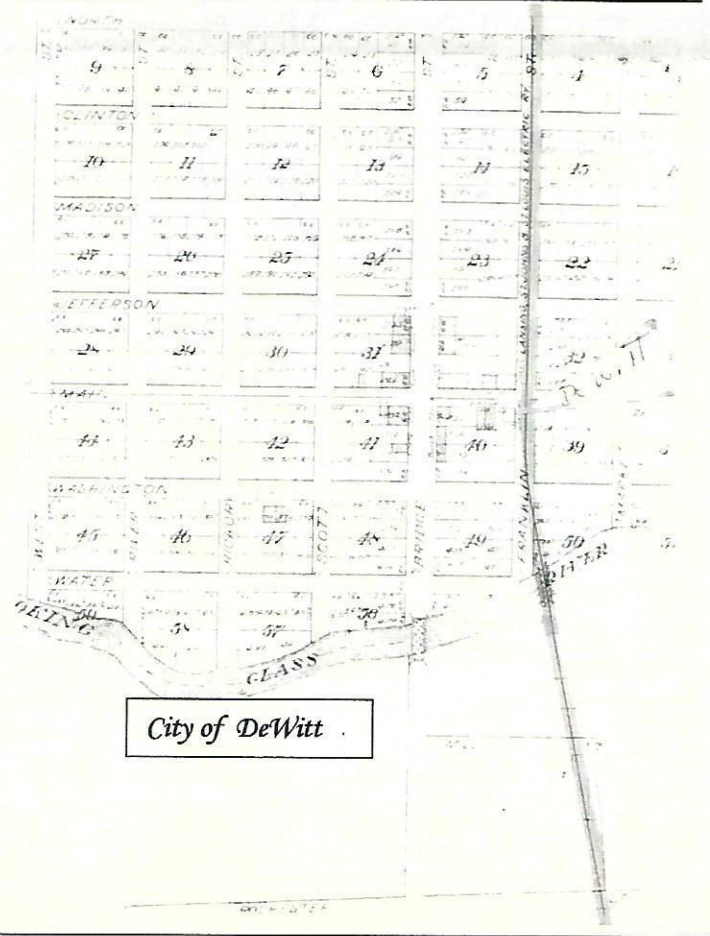
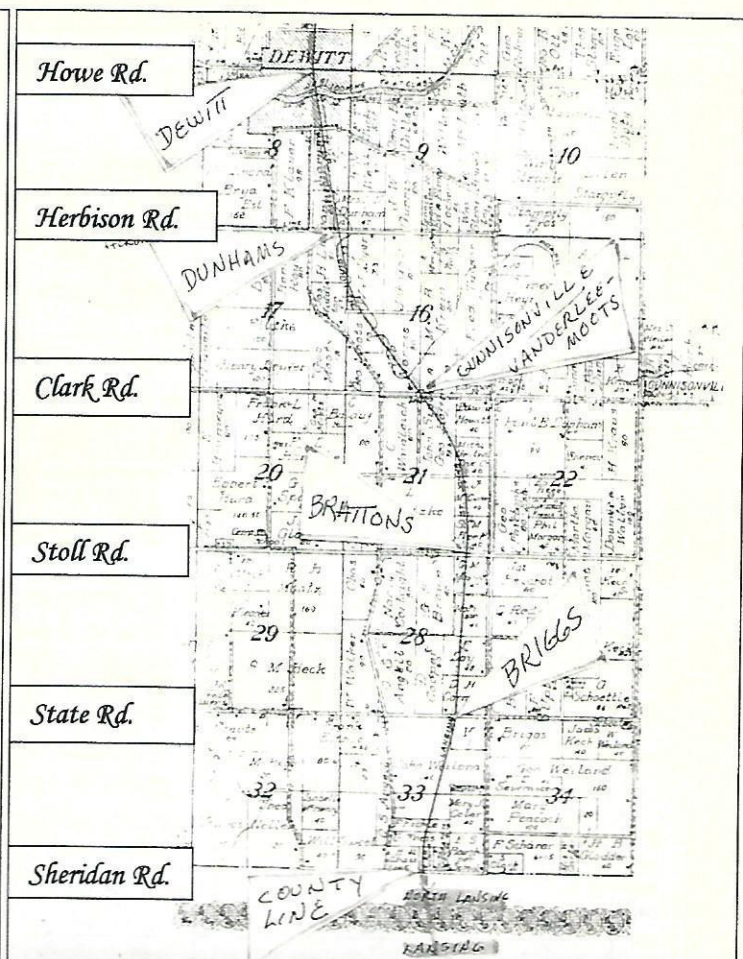
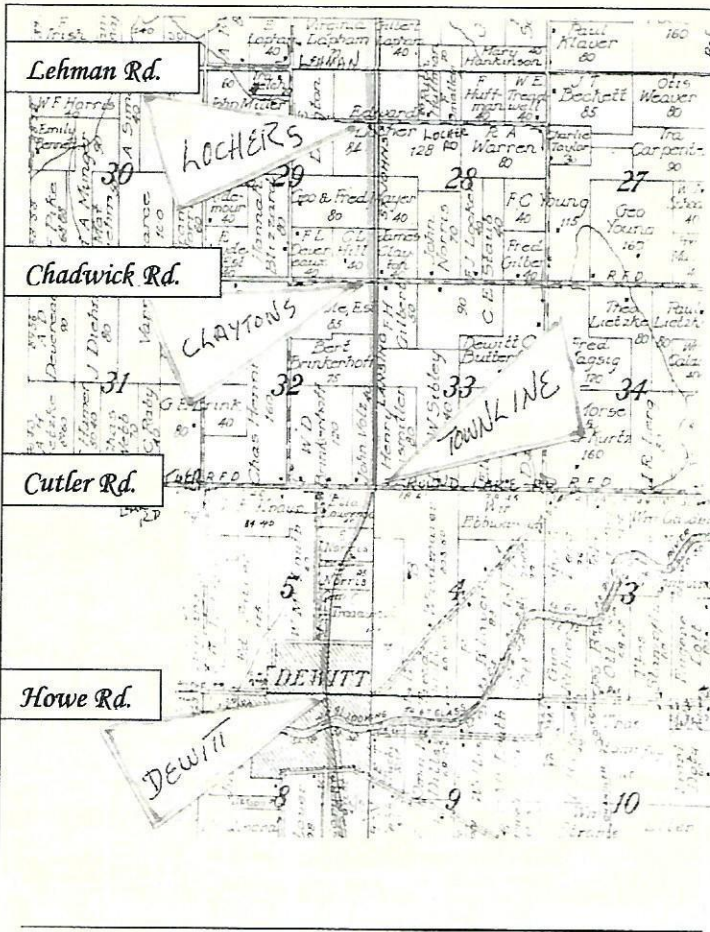
1904 Looking Glass Trestle: This is a view of the trestle which spanned the Looking Glass river just east of the Bridge Street Bridge.

*"There was no doubt about it. The unremitant efforts of the Lansing, St. Johns and St. Louis Electric Rail Company were soon to be crowned with success. the Honorable Frank L. Dodge and others of Lansing could look with satisfaction upon what had been their prevailing idea and rules act for eighteen years.*

*The following is a list of those in St. Johns and vicinity who had already subscribed to the stock or as a donation in aid of the project. There were seventy names in all; three were for \$500, others of various amounts down to ten for \$10 and a few for \$5.00."*

John Hicks	St. Johns Land Co.	F. A. Travis	St. Johns Mercantile Co.
George W. Emmons	O. P. DeWitt	H. J. Patterson	George S. Corbit
C. C. Vaughn	H. H. Fitzgerald	Fowler & Ball	O. W. Munger
J. W. Fitzgerald	Dr. S. E. Gillam	Warner Bunday	F. M. Towbridge
Clark & Hulse	Fedewa & Walbridge	E. I. Hull	H. M. Hoerner & Son
Spaulding & Company	National Telephone Co.	Galusha Pennell	William Gilson
H. C. Leland	Noble Burnett	S. D. Watson	Charles B. Giffels
George H. Judd	Simeon Haines	Wells Sheldon	James Potter
A. Granger	Fildew & Millman	Norman Cleveland	O. W. Stephens
C. A. Woodruff	Louis Baumgardner	F. F. Murdock	Clark A. Putt
M. T. Streeter	H. D. Squairs	W. E. Slade	John H. Corbit
William Bird	Corbit & Valentine	D. S. French	Jeff Baines
E. A. & A. W. Durkee	Kenyon & Company	Steel & Fields	J. M. Dodge
Thomas H. Waldron	Ward & Holton	Harry Young	Charles Cross
J. J. Wood	C. E. Knapp	Chapin & Company	Tromp Shoe Company
Jacob Foerch	Elmer E. Emmons	J. S. Osgood	W. H. Brunson
T. D. Abbey	H. W. Morris	A. E. Richardson	D. M. Shaw
J. W. Bradner	Dr. J. B. Dodge	F. A. Clise	

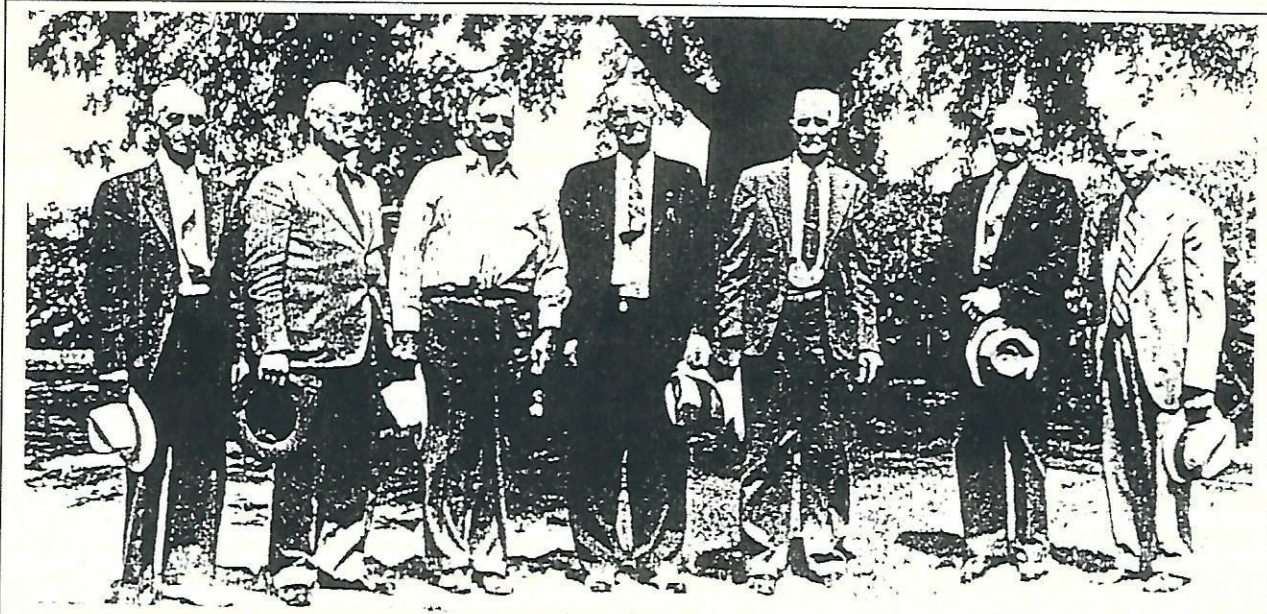




City of DeWitt

**Michigan United Railway Company Stops**

1907		1913	
Station	Miles	Station	Miles
1. Lansing	0.0	1. Lansing	0.0
2. County Line	2.0	2. County Line	3.1
3. Briggs	3.0	3. Briggs	4.1
4. Brattons	4.0	4. Brattons	5.3
5. Gunnisonville	5.0	5. Vanderlee Moots	6.2
6. Dunhams	6.0	6. Dunhams	7.3
7. Dewitt	7.0	7. Dewitt	8.1
8. Townline	8.0	8. Townline	9.5
9. Claytons	9.0	9. Claytons	10.5
10. Lochers	9.8	10. Lochers	11.2
11. Alward Lake	10.5	11. Alward Lake	11.9
12. Schwabs	11.0	12. Schwabs	12.5
13. Merle Beach	12.0	13. Merle Beach	13.5
14. Drakes	13.0	14. Drakes	14.5
15. Mortons	14.0	15. Mortons	15.1
16. Yallup	15.0	16. Yallup	16.0
17. County Farm	15.5	17. County Farm	16.5
18. Beadles	16.5	18. Beadles	17.6
19. Swains	17.0	19. Fairgrounds	18.5
20. Fairgrounds	17.5	20. St. Johns	20.5
21. St. Johns	18.5		



***Gunnisonville Band Reunion taken in 1940 at the home of Fred Wildt***  
*l-r: Roy Stampfly, Homer Heidt, Fred Wildt, Bert Wildt, Adam Rupp, Herman Kraus & Charles Siple*



Can anyone identify these men?

Ovid Jr. Band  
1909

Photo donated by:  
Ralph Temple

front row~ l-r: Ernest Frisbie Goodfellow,

If anyone can identify any of these men, please let Lynne Gregory know at 711 S. Oakland St., St. Johns, MI 48879

# NEWZ FROM EARLY PAPERS

Courtesy of archives staff & other discerning researchers.

## For the Ice Harvest

4 Feb 1897- SJN

### Jack Frost Came around with Very Desirable Weather

Ice cutting at Spring Brook farm is in full blast. About 25 men are engaged in the work of harvesting the product of Jack Frost which is so comforting when the mercury is trying to force the top of the glass out in July. The ice has attained a thickness of between ten and eleven inches and is in prime condition. The weather is all that could be desired and if it continues a short time longer the crop will be gathered and stored.

**Mr. Sage** has the houses at the farm already filled and is now working on the cold storage. Over 2,000 tons have already been secured.



## Bengal - CR 29 Dec 1887

School report for the three months term, ending Dec. 22nd, 1887, in district No. 4, Bengal: Total number scholars enrolled, 32; grand total days present, 1,380; average number of days each pupil attended, 43; average daily attendance, 23.4. The following nine have been perfect in attendance:

**Eddie Clancy, Lucy Knight, Arthur Knight, Scott Sherman, Floyd Sherman, Amy Sherman, Mary Harvey, Myron Youngs, Ida Youngs.**

A. D. Lance. Teacher.

The time now occupied by our school-teachers for Bible exercises has been reduced from fifteen to five minutes, and no compulsion on the pupils at that.

## Special School Meeting

CR Mar 1877

### The Bible Still Remains Inside, But its Use Somewhat Modified.

The special school meeting held at the Union building last Friday evening, for the purpose of determining whether the Bible shall be used in our schools, or whether it shall be excluded entirely, was attended by a greater number of people than was ever before assembled in that building at any one time; and contrary to the expectations of the majority, but little time was occupied in disposing the question. The following resolution was offered by **Dr. Corbin**:

*Resolved*, That we, legal voters of this school district, hereby instruct the District Board to prohibit the use of reading of the Koran, the Catholic Bible, the Protestant Bible, and all other religious worship, in any of the schools in this district.

In place of which, **Mr. S. S. Walker** offered the following:

*Resolved*, That the exclusion of the Bible from schools, being the only book really proposed so to be excluded, would be equaled in intolerance only by that spirit that would force its use upon persons conscientiously opposed to its teachings.

*Resolved*, That it is the sense of this meeting that the teachers in each department be allowed to open their sessions in such manner as may to them seem most proper, that attendance at the opening exercises should not be obligatory upon the pupils, and that the doors should not be locked during such exercises, but that all pupils then present or entering during their progress, should be required to behave in a respectful, orderly manner; and further that the roll should not be called, or tardiness ensue until after the close of said opening exercises.

To which **Hon. R. Strickland** offered the following as an amendment:

*Resolved*, That the Chapel exercises of this school commence at 8:45 a.m., and that the attendance at such service be voluntary.

Both **Dr. Corbin's** and **Mr. Strickland's** resolutions were voted down and those of **Mr. Walker** adopted by the meeting.

The meeting then adjourned.

## DeWitt Sub Station

Clinton Republican 6 Aug 1908 page 1.

Struck by Lightning and Totally Destroyed Tuesday Night  
During the electric storm Tuesday night the sub-station power house on the St. Johns and Lansing suburban line at DeWitt was struck by lightning and totally destroyed. Through hard work other property was saved.

## Automobile Owners

22 Jun 1905

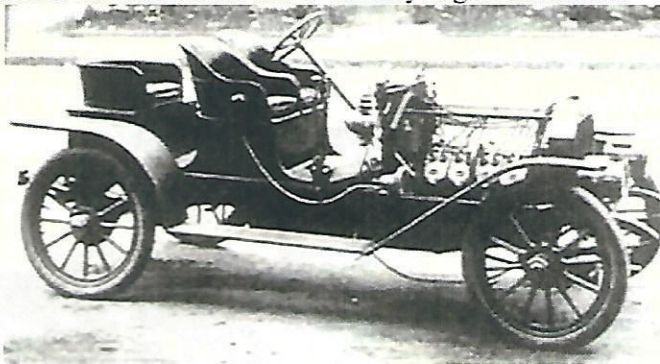
### Must take Out Licenses -- New Law, Now in Effect

Owners of automobiles, and chauffeurs, may now prepare to take out state licenses. The Holmes automobile bill took effect June 15, and automobilists will have thirty days from that time in which to get their licenses from the secretary of state.

To follow the law, owners of automobiles must send to the secretary of state a statement of their names and addresses, with brief descriptions of their machines, including the maker's name, factory number, style of vehicle and motor power. Blanks for this purpose will be furnished by the secretary, who will issue a number with a seal made of aluminum or other metal. The automobile man will have to pay \$2 for his certificate. Chauffeurs must also fill out a blank and pay \$1 each, and these certificates are not to be transferred.

The rates of speed provided are not more than eight miles an hour in business districts of cities; fifteen miles in residence portions, and twenty-five miles on country roads.

Automobilists, on signal from the driver of a vehicle drawn by a horse or team, must turn his machine to the right of the road and then stop, and he must halt until all danger of accident is past. Automobilists are also called on to assist the driver of badly frightened horses.



1905 Buffum Roadster with rumble seat

### Fire Department Officers -- SJN 10 Jan 1893

The following were elected officers of the St. Johns fire department at their annual meeting last Saturday evening:

President -- George A. Estes  
Vice-president -- Frank Hyatt  
Secretary -- Will Holmes  
Treasurer -- M. A. Hulse  
Chief -- Will Crich  
Assistant Chief -- Ed B. Krepps  
Steward -- E. E. Talmadge

## Nine-Year-Old Boy Picks Up Live Wire

CR 16 May 1918

### Edward Ernst is nearly electrocuted -- Unconscious for some time.

While on his way home from school Friday noon, **Edward**, the 9-year-old son of **Mr. and Mrs. John F. Ernst**, corner Ottawa and McConnell streets, was nearly electrocuted when he attempted to pick up a live wire which had been blown to the ground during the high wind storm of the night previous. The accident took place on Church street, near the school building. The lad was rendered unconscious from the awful shock. **Mrs. Ely Matteson**, a neighbor, attempted to pick the boy up but was also shocked. **Dr. W. H. Gale** was notified and he immediately ordered the current shut off. **Drs. Eugene Hart** and **F. E. Luton** were summoned and after nearly an hour's work consciousness was restored. The boy received a deep burn in his left hand when he picked up the wire which, it is said, he was "dared" to do by one of his playmates. He resumed school Monday morning.

The Republican would respectfully suggest that after every severe wind storm, when wires are apt to be blown down and thus endanger life, that the streets should be carefully inspected and all danger, if any, removed.

### List of Jurors

CR - 15 Dec 1887

To serve at the next of the Circuit Court for Clinton county, commencing Monday January 2d, 1888

Victor.....John Ballentine  
Ovid.....Daniel Morehouse  
Ovid.....Luther Stone  
Duplain.....Lectus Warring  
Duplain.....Milton Kahoon  
Greenbush.....Francis Osborn  
Greenbush.....James J. Warren  
Bingham.....L. C. Kellogg  
Bingham.....Charles Walter  
Olive.....John H. Brink  
Olive.....Wm. D. Holt  
DeWitt.....Marion Case  
DeWitt.....Theodore Thoewe  
Watertown.....Isaac Stark  
Watertown.....Benjamin F. King  
Riley.....D. S. Pike  
Bengal.....Samuel Parks  
Essex.....John Chick  
Lebanon.....John Kissan  
Dallas.....Wilson W. Smith  
Westphalia.....Bernard Rademacher  
Eagle.....Henry Saddin  
Bath.....George Cook  
Victor.....Ernest K. Blood

The following are the real estate transactions recorded in the books of the register of deeds of Clinton county for the past week, where the consideration is \$200 or over. Reported expressly for *The Republican*, by **J. W. Fitzgerald**, Register.

**BINGHAM**

- **Peter Mead to Douglas Mead**  
East 50 ft in width off from lots 7, 8, & 9, block 4, St. Johns, \$800
- **Elma E. Plumstead to Lafayette Plumstead**, South <sup>1/2</sup> lots 7,8,9,10,11 & 12, block 49, St. Johns, \$1,500
- **Walter A. Durkee to Andrew W. Durkee**, 40 acres on sec. 13, \$1000
- **Sarah C. Stewart to Edward Brown**, West, 98 <sup>1/2</sup> ft in length off from lots 10, 11, & 12, block 11, St. Johns, \$3,200
- **Robert M. Steel to Mutual Gas Co.** land on block 1, St. Johns, \$450
- **Edward Brown to John Corbit**, undivided <sup>1/2</sup> West 98 <sup>1/2</sup> ft lots 10, 11 & 12 block 11, St. Johns, \$1,600
- **Justus W. Sage to Hannah J. Sage**, lot 3 & 4, block 118, St. Johns, q.c., \$500
- **Douglas Mead to Angeline A. Mead**, East 50 ft in width off from lots 7, 8, & 9, in block 4, St. Johns, q.c. \$200

**BATH**

- **Sally M. June to Amelia J. Evarts**, 40 acres on sec. 16, \$1,300

**BENGAL**

- **Edward Brown to Henry Mankey**, 80 acres on sec.33, \$1,800

**DUPLAIN**

- **William H. Moore to James B. Moore**, 10 acres on sec. 2, \$1,000
- **Curtis R. Fuller to Asabel Holcomb**, 45 acres on sec. 10, \$2,500
- **John H. Malcomson to Harret VanSickle**, 25 acres on sec. 5, \$600
- **James B. Moore to William H. Moore & James W. Hampton**, 80 acres on sec. 4, \$3000

**DALLAS**

- **Alexander Burdick to Isabella Milnie**, lots 5 & 6, block 26, Fowler, \$300

**DEWITT**

- **Frances M. Pike to Helen M. Cattermole**, lots 307, 308, 325, 326 and W 1/2 if lots 306 & 327, block 42, \$250

**EAGLE**

- **Mary Kosal et al to Thomas A. Shirts**, 20 acres on sec. 1, q.c., \$500

**OVID**

- **Rebecca A. Skinner to Anthony Swarthout**, lot 16, in block 22, Ovid, \$500
- **George Bane to Nathaniel J. Clark**, undivided 1/2 lots 7 to 20 inclusive, block 19, Ovid, \$1,704
- **Nathaniel J. Clark to Louis A. House**, undivided 1/2 lots 7,8,9.& 10, block 10, Ovid, \$689.81
- **Nathaniel J. Clark to May B. Huntington**, undivided 1/2 lots from 10 to 20 inclusive, block 10, Ovid, \$1,015
- **Winslow M. Lamb to Nathaniel J. Clark**, 80 acres on sec. 28, q.c., \$2,816
- **Seb. Squires to Nathaniel J. Clark**, 80 acres on sec. 28, q.c. \$500
- **Thomas Lamontine to Florence E. Bare**, 2 acres out lot 1, Ovid, \$180

**OLIVE**

- **Jefferson Simmons to Edewin Keys**, 5 1/4 acres sec. 26, \$250
- **Franklin L. Parker to John H. Fedewa**, 40 acres on sec. 6, q.c., \$900
- **John H. Fedewa to J. E. H. Hewson**, 40 acres on sec. 6, \$1,125
- **Peter Clavey to John Wideman**, 80 acres on sec. 21, \$2,200

**VICTOR**

- **Daniel Rittenburg to Alvin Shaver**, 40 acres on sec. 22, q.c., \$275

**WESTPHALIA**

- **Anna M. Rokal to Anna C. Schrauben**, land on sec. 2, \$570
- **Frank Noeker to August Noeker**, land on sec. 8, village of Westphalia, \$2,00

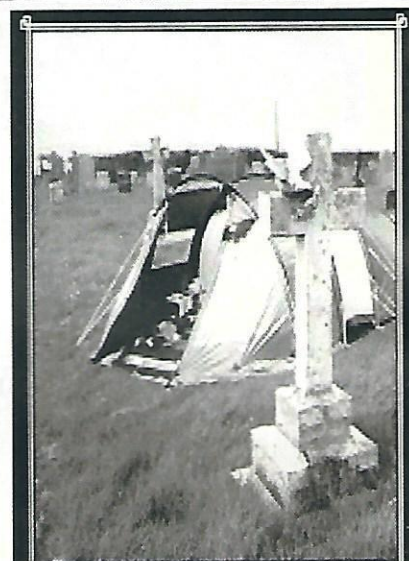
**WATERTOWN**

- **James H. Lyon to Joseph Wolford**, land on sec. 28, q.c., \$2,000

**Petit Jury List**

The following is the list of petit jurors drawn for February term of the Circuit court for Clinton county to convene February 6, 1893:

<b>Arens, Anthony</b> .....	Westphalia
<b>Avery, Sanford C.</b> .....	Bingham
<b>Boughton, Edward P.</b> .....	Olive
<b>Burnes, Henry M.</b> .....	Riley
<b>Bond, Charles</b> .....	Essex
<b>Botsford, Varlan C.</b> .....	Greenbush
<b>Beckett, John L.</b> .....	Olive
<b>Bond, Lester</b> .....	Riley
<b>Blakeslee, Charles E.</b> .....	Bengal
<b>Clark, Holmes T.</b> .....	Watertown
<b>Dennison, J. C.</b> .....	Ovid
<b>Dryer, Allen</b> .....	Bath
<b>Eddy, Sherman</b> .....	Duplain
<b>Hoover, Jacob</b> .....	Essex
<b>Jenkins, William S.</b> .....	Westphalia
<b>Loomis, Leonard G.</b> .....	Greenbush
<b>Moots, Reuben</b> .....	DeWitt
<b>Milne, John W.</b> .....	Dallas
<b>Piggott, F. M.</b> .....	Lebanon
<b>Sipley, William</b> .....	DeWitt
<b>Smith, Wilson W.</b> .....	Dallas
<b>Sleight, Walter</b> .....	Victor
<b>Stone, Luther</b> .....	Ovid
<b>Taylor, Herman</b> .....	Duplain
<b>Thelen, Christian</b> .....	Bengal
<b>Vanderhoof, A. M.</b> .....	Lebanon
<b>Whitlock</b> .....	Watertown
<b>Wilkins, William</b> .....	Eagle
<b>Wilcox, Lester D.</b> .....	Bingham
<b>Wanvel, George</b> .....	Bath

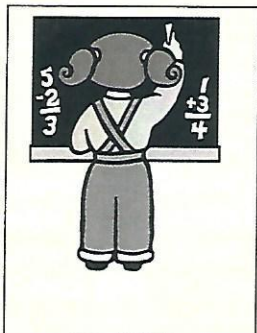


**VACATIONING WITH A GENEALOGIST**  
When told we are "staying with relatives", I knew I should have called ahead



**School Report**  
**Punctual pupils for the term ending**  
 28 Dec. 1887

Baker, Gay	Hart, Eugene	Richmond, Nellie
Baldwin, Belle	Hathaway, Louie	Richmond, Willie
Blanchard, Berta	Hause, Ella	Russell, Lula
Botsford, Ernest	Henderson Iva	Russell, Tena
Bowers, Bessie	Henderson, Della	Shafley, May
Bowers, Jennie	Henderson, Ina	Shaver, Zylpha
Bradner, Curt	Henderson, Roy	Shepard, Ella
Bristol, Neddie	Heuer, Annie	Smith, Fred
Brown, Ella	Heuer, Robert	Smith, Minnie
Buck, Harry	Hildreth, May	Spaulding, Jack
Buck, maud	Hoffman, Maud	Spaulding, Oliver
Carwright, Dan	Hoffman, May	Spaulding, Tom
Chase, Lulu	Hotchiss, Arthur	Sperry, Mira
Church, Fannie	Huntley, Vesta	Sperry, Roy
Clark, Anna	Johnson, Mamie	Stephenson, Charlie
Clark, Mattie	Kelley, J.	Stephenson, Gertie
Coleman, Harry	Kellog Fred	Stephenson, otis
Collins, Cora	Kellog, Harry	Sturgis, Ada
Cranson, Robert	Kelly, Ina	Sturgis, Iva
DeWitt, Lucile	Kenney, Ned	Sturgis, Willis
DeWitt, Mabel	Kinmond, Alex.	Talmage, Louie
Dooling, Gertie	Kinmond, maggie	Teachout, Florence
Durkee, Floyd	Livingston, Eugene	Vauconsant, Louis
Durkee, Susie	Lusk, Emma	Vredenburg, Fred
Dutcher, Roy	McFarlan, Evangeline	Washburn, Edith
Eaton, Ella	McFarland, katie	Wheat, Leon
Esler, Maud	Merrill Olliver	Wheeler, Frank
Farquhar, Eddie	Miller, Myrtie	Wilcox, Carl
Farquhar, Harry	Millis, Nellie	Wilson, George
Favereaux, Freddie	Mock, John	Wimble, Frank
Fowler, leah	Moinet, Dora	Wimble, John
Fowler, Robbie	Moore, Burtelle	Winslow, Ada
Gannon, Kristie	Moreland, May	Wise, Myria
Geller, Ola	Murray, Dolly	Wykhoff, Arthur
Gilson, Pearl	North, Ella	Wykhoff, Jennie
Gower, Burt	Oleson, Mary	
Haines, Cora	Osgood, Clarence	
Halsey, Luna	Padley, Harry	
Hamilton, Eva	Padley, Irving	
Harris, Anna	Patterson, Charles	
Harris, Ella	Plamer, Florence	
Harris, Flora	Pulfrey, Gertie	
Harris, Susie	Reynolds, Clara	
Harrison, Charles	Rice, Dora	
Harrison, Jessie	Richmond, Ethel	



## RECENT ACQUISITIONS

- Directory of County, City, Village, & Twp. Officials of Clinton County: 1987-88; 1989-90; & 1991-92
- Clinton Co. Ledgers:
  - Index to Cem. Deeds
  - Index to Lis Pendens
  - Index to Levies
  - lonia & Lansing RR 1870
  - US Survey Plats, 1874
- Clinton Co. Soil Survey with map; 1942
- Gratiot Co. Rural Directory; 1969
- Gratiot Co. Probate Record; 1855-1970
- *Scots Kith & Kin*
- *James Barr & Susan Ritchey Family of Allegheny Co, PA, 1800-1900*; 1981
- Descendants of Elnathan Stevens)
- Descendants of Cornelius VanSickle) Research of Linda K. Barnes
- Descendants of Johann H. Beck)
- Descendants of Arnold Payne)
- Dwane V. Norris research on following families:
  - Norris, Bauerle, Geer; Hepfer, Ledermann, Peters/Petter, Terbush, Vance/Upham, Whipple
- Most Holy Trinity Church , Fowler, 2012 directory
- DAR, River Wabwaysin Chapter, membership applications
- *Pouring Iron in St. Johns, A History of St. Johns, Michigan, Foundries*; Ron Matson, 2012
- *The Magic Room* (Becker's Bridal Store, Fowler); Zaslow; 2012
- So. Riley School souvenir school booklet; 1922-23
- *Putnam Co, OH; Pioneer Assoc. Centennial History*; 1972
- *American Place Names*; 1970
- *Names on the Land*; Stewart; 1958
- *Family Names, How Our Surnames Came to America*; Hook; 1982
- *American Surnames*; Smith; 1969
- photo – Wm. A. & Lovina C. (Wott) Zischke
- Postcards:
  - Maple Rapids Main St., 1910
  - Merle Beach souvenir card, 1913

**Please  
 remember to  
 pay your dues  
 for 2013!**



## *It Can be Hard Keeping a Straight Face as a COURT REPORTER*

These are from a book called Disorder in the American Courts and are things people actually said in court, word for word, taken down and now published by court reporters that had the torment of staying calm while these exchanges were actually taking place.

ATTORNEY: The youngest son, the 20-year-old, how old is he?

WITNESS: He's 20, much like your IQ.

ATTORNEY: She had three children, right?

WITNESS: Yes.

ATTORNEY: How many were boys?

WITNESS: None.

ATTORNEY: Were there any girls?

WITNESS: Your Honor, I think I need a different attorney. Can I get a new attorney?

ATTORNEY: How was your first marriage terminated?

WITNESS: By death...

ATTORNEY: And by whose death was it terminated?

WITNESS: Take a guess.

ATTORNEY: Can you describe the individual?

WITNESS: He was about medium height and had a beard.

ATTORNEY: Was this a male or a female?

WITNESS: Unless the Circus was in town I'm going with male.

ATTORNEY: Doctor, before you performed the autopsy, did you check for a pulse?

WITNESS: No.

ATTORNEY: Did you check for blood pressure?

WITNESS: No.

ATTORNEY: Did you check for breathing?

WITNESS: No...

ATTORNEY: So, then it is possible that the patient was alive when you began the autopsy?

WITNESS: No.

ATTORNEY: How can you be so sure, Doctor?

WITNESS: Because his brain was sitting on my desk in a jar.

ATTORNEY: I see, but could the patient have still been alive, nevertheless?

WITNESS: Yes, it is possible that he could have been alive and practicing law.

ATTORNEY: What was the first thing your husband said to you that morning?

WITNESS: He said, 'Where am I, Cathy?'

ATTORNEY: And why did that upset you?

WITNESS: My name is Susan!

ATTORNEY: This myasthenia gravis, does it affect your memory at all?

WITNESS: Yes.

ATTORNEY: And in what ways does it affect your memory?

WITNESS: I forget..

ATTORNEY: You forget? Can you give us an example of something you forgot?

ATTORNEY: Now doctor, isn't it true that when a person dies in his sleep, he doesn't know about it until the next morning?

WITNESS: Did you actually pass the bar exam?

ATTORNEY: Is your appearance here this morning pursuant to a deposition notice which I sent to your attorney?

WITNESS: No, this is how I dress when I go to work.

ATTORNEY: Doctor, how many of your autopsies have you performed on dead people?

WITNESS: All of them... The live ones put up too much of a fight.

ATTORNEY: ALL your responses MUST be oral, OK? What school did you go to?

WITNESS: Oral...

ATTORNEY: Do you recall the time that you examined the body?

WITNESS: The autopsy started around 8:30 PM

ATTORNEY: And Mr. Denton was dead at the time?

WITNESS: If not, he was by the time I finished.





## Genealogy Humor

- My family coat of arms ties at the back.....is that normal?
- My family tree is a few branches short! All help appreciated.
- My ancestors must be in a witness protection program!
- Shake your family tree and watch the nuts fall!
- My hobby is genealogy, I raise dust bunnies as pets.
- How can one ancestor cause so much TROUBLE???
- I looked into my family tree and found out I was a sap.
- I'm not stuck, I'm ancestrally challenged.
- I'm searching for myself. Have you seen me?
- If only people came with pull-down menus and on-line help.....
- Isn't genealogy fun? The answer to one problem leads to two more!
- It's 2000....Do you know where your Gr-Gr-Grandparents are?

- A family reunion is an effective form of birth control
- A family tree can wither if nobody tends its roots.
- A new cousin a day keeps the boredom away.
- After 30 days, unclaimed ancestors will be adopted.
- Am I the only person up my tree...sure seems like it.
- Any family tree produces some lemons, some nuts and a few bad apples
- Ever find an ancestor HANGING from the family tree?
- FLOOR: The place for storing your priceless genealogy records.
- Gene-Allergy: It's a contagious disease, but I love it!
- Genealogists are time unravelers.
- Genealogy is like playing hide and seek: They hide... I seek!
- Genealogy: Tracing yourself back to better people
- "Crazy" is a relative term in my family
- A pack rat is hard to live with, but makes a fine ancestor.
- I want to find ALL of them!! So far I only have a few thousand.
- I should have asked them BEFORE they died!!
- I think my ancestors had several "Bad heir" days!!
- I'm always late. My ancestors arrived on the JUNEflower.

The **Archives of the Clinton County Historical Society** is located at 16101 Brook Road in Dewitt Township 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 Thursday. Phone: (517) 482-5117. E-mail: [ccgensoc@yahoo.com](mailto:ccgensoc@yahoo.com) Web page: [dewittlibrary.org/CCHS](http://dewittlibrary.org/CCHS). CCHS members have free usage of the Archives, non-member cost: \$5.00 fee per day.

The **Historical Society** meetings are held on the first Monday of each month at 1:00 pm Nov. through March and at 7:00 p.m. Apr. through Oct. at the First United Methodist Church on State Street, at the northeast corner of the courthouse in St. Johns, with entry through the south backdoors. Regular meetings are not held in June & December.

The **Paine-Gillam-Scott Museum** complex is located on the west side of the courthouse square in St. Johns. [www.pgsmuseum.com](http://www.pgsmuseum.com). To join the Friends of the Museum, contact them at: [pgs.museum@hotmail.com](mailto:pgs.museum@hotmail.com); or PGS Museum, P.O. Box 174, St. Johns, MI 48879

### HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL

Mr./Mrs/Miss \_\_\_\_\_ List 5 Names you are Researching: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ New \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Annual Dues to join both the Clinton County Historical Society and the Genealogy Committee are \$15.00 single and \$20.00 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.

## Traditions

Our family traditions can acquire an almost mystical power about them, yet it is often the everyday items and simple gestures that become the lasting symbols of a shared heritage. Perhaps it's the timeworn pewter pitcher that finds its place on the table, holding not only water, but a palpable sense of the past. Or perhaps it's a special dumpling recipe, never written down, but enduring as it's passed from mother to daughter in soft voices over flour-covered hands. It is in these quiet moments and subtle nods to the familiar that traditions are passed on to the next set of hands!



What traditions are you passing down to the next generation?"

Dates Archives Closed 2013

Mar 29 – Good Friday

May 27 - Memorial Day

July 4 – Independence Day

Sept 2 – Labor Day

Nov 11 – Veteran's Day

Nov 28-29 – Thanksgiving

Dec 23-Jan 1 – Christmas & New Year's Day



### *Clinton County, Michigan: A history told through postcards.....*

is the title of a new publication by the Clinton Co. Historical Society. Vintage postcard images, some in color, were used to illustrate the

history of the diverse communities of the county. The 116-page book costs \$20 and can be purchased at the Archives of the Clinton Co. Historical Society in the DeWitt Twp. Community Building at 16101 Brook Road, or the Paine-Gillam-Scott Museum, 106 Maple St., St. Johns. An order form is also available at [www.dewittlibrary.org/CCHS](http://www.dewittlibrary.org/CCHS).