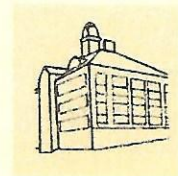




CLINTON COUNTY TRAILS

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Michigan Soldier Home - Grand Rapids, Michigan
<http://digitalcollections.nysl.org/items/510d47d9-9c97-a3d9-e040-e00a18064a99>

Are you looking for information on the wives or mothers of your Civil War through WWII veterans? by Lynne Gregory

In 1851 the United States opened a Soldiers Home in Washington D.C. Out of necessity, by the mid-1860's, the US Government had established a large system of homes for Union Veterans of the Civil War.

Many states followed by founding their own veteran's facilities---that also included wives and widows of these disabled and indigent veterans. Most states housed men and women in the same properties, but some had separate facilities for wives, widows and even mothers of Civil War veterans. By early 1900's, these facilities were able to accommodate the 1898 Spanish War veteran, and later the World War I & II veterans, and etc.

In 1918 Michigan was one of the states with its own Soldiers Home, near Grand Rapids. Soon nearly 1000 men and 260 wives and widows were living at the facility and some lived in a separate women's building.

These Soldiers Homes and related facility records can be a gold mine of information on the wives and mothers of veterans, supplementing pension files or filling in for lack of pension files. Women were listed by name, hometown, relationship to veteran, with his name, rank and unit and pension amount. The women had to be at least 60 or completely disabled, a mother or wife/widow and married pre-1890 to a veteran of the Civil War or the War with Mexico. They could have no property or income, no relatives to care for them and unable to make a living.

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There were also private widow homes operated by Ladies of the GAR and Daughters of Union Veterans.

Some resources to try for these records include:

- Online databases of Soldier's Home records or state Civil War pension records
- Online state archives
- Ancestry.com
- Google books
- Soldiers and Widows Homes published annual/biennial reports
- U.S. Census
- Associated cemeteries
- Find A Grave and related sites
- On Family Search - try US Soldiers Home records page for list of links and sources at http://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/US_Military_Old_Soldiers_Home_Records

This web-site includes some widow's names and other information.

- For Michigan Soldiers and Soldiers Home - try Michigan's Bentley Historical Library <http://bentley.umich.edu/research/genealogy/cw/soldiershome.php>

Other online record source research possibilities:

- Newspaper articles
- Prison Records
- Military Service
- Naturalizations
- Old Photographs
- www.statearchivists.org/genealogy/index.htm has partial directory and contact information for archive locations.
- Library of Congress: www.loc.gov/rr/program/bib/statememory
- Archives of Canada has downloadable in-depth research guides at: www.archives.gov.on.ca

"Clinton County History -- Did You Know?"

ROUND LAKE WAS CAPONE'S HIDEAWAY!

Vic Spagnuolo was 16 when he accompanied **Al Capone** and two of his bodyguards to the Club Roma one evening in 1927.

"One of the bodyguards liked to dance," recalled the 75-year-old Delta Twp. man. "He got permission from Al and found himself a partner.

"They were cutting it up pretty good. The guy's coat came open and his gun became apparent. Al gave him some kind of signal. He quit dancing immediately and came back to the table.

"Al said to him, 'Where the hell do you think you are----Chicago?'"

Capone never danced, Spagnuolo said. But he liked to watch while sipping soft drinks during these Prohibition days.

According to Spagnuolo, Capone's connection to Round Lake began in 1925 when a man moved to Lansing from Chicago Heights and quickly befriended fellow Italians here -- particularly the Spagnuolo family.

The man said he had a friend back in Chicago--a fellow he called "**Al Brown**" -- who was looking for a quiet, out-of-the-way place where he could relax in anonymity.

Capone came to Lansing in 1926 and apparently liked what he saw. He asked Spagnuolo's father and uncle if they knew of a lakefront cottage he could rent. After ruling out Lake Lansing for being too popular, Capone chose to rent two adjacent houses on the east side of Round Lake. One was for Capone and his entourage; the other was for the Spagnuolos. He rented the houses two consecutive summers---for a month each time.

Capone loved to swim, Spagnuolo said. He also liked to be the master of ceremonies for the elaborate Fourth of July fireworks displays he financed both years at Round Lake.

"He'd be out on the end of the dock, acting just like a little kid", Spagnuolo said. (LSJ 9 Jun 1987)

BACK THROUGH THE YEARS

Newz from Early Papers - courtesy of archives staff & other discerning researchers

Clinton Republican and St. Johns News files reveal cross section of former days in Clinton County

AN ONION SHOWER

FRACTIOUS HORSES RAISE MISCHIEF WITH A LOADED WAGON.

One of the most rapid attempts at a free distribution of onions which has taken place since the secretary of agriculture engaged in the work was indulged in by a team belonging to **J. H. Gregory**, of Olive, Monday afternoon. The horses had been hitched near the D & M freight house where Mr. Gregory was unloading a big double wagon box which was full to the top of onions. A passing switch engine frightened the team and they started to run and in doing so ran into the rear of another load of the same pungent vegetables belonging to **Frank Crane** which stood near. Both teams started up Oakland street on the run, and at every lunge they made several pecks of red skinned specimens rose playfully into the air and settled down in the dusty street. Up the steep hill they went, onions flying in every direction, the street fairly red with them, and a very "weary" looking farmer hurrying along after the frightened animals. **Jay Williams** and **A. U. Stockwell** were the heroes of the hour; mounting wheels they hurried after the teams and dodging the shower of onions which still continued to rain in the rear of the wagons, they each succeeded in climbing in and both brought their teams to a standstill. The return trip and reloading was a slow affair and the street for several blocks looked as if the first snow storm had been a blunder and onions utilized instead of snowflakes. The residents all along the block were out in their door yards gazing in silent wonder at the street filled with the strong smelling roots, as if they imagined some modern Nero had really ordered a free distribution of vegetables to the entire populace. (SJM 4 Nov 1897)

SCHOOLMA'RM IS MISTAKEN; KIDS GRIN WITH RELEIF

"Teacher! teacher!" was the frantic call that came from several of **Maude Foote Scott's** pupils in the Central building one day last week. "Someone is throwing shot," This complaint had come before and Mrs. Scott immediately warned that she would not deal lightly with the culprit if apprehended. Again in a few moments came the same complaint from several more boys and girls. All right, bring me the evidence," said the now thoroughly aroused teacher. There was a scurrying search on the floor and soon several pellets were brought to her desk. With a baleful glare toward several suspected urchins, Mrs. Scott examined the "shot" with the idea of searching some trousers pockets for supporting evidence. There was something peculiar about these shots--- they were different from the regular BB's. Examination proved them to be witch hazel seed. The wall of the room had been decorated with witch hazel this autumn and the heat of the room had popped the pods and the seeds had shot out against the pink cheeks with stinging force. Mrs. Scott immediately apologized to the room for her premature threats and several mischievous lads grinned with relief.



THE LADIES BAND

OF ST. JOHNS, SCORE A GREAT SUCCESS AT SAGINAW.

A LARGE ATTENDANCE AND A GRAND MUSICAL SUCCESS--AN EVENT NOT ON THE PROGRAM.

From the Saginaw Herald.

Last evening was the occasion of the complimentary concert tendered to **Prof. Julius Reiss** by the citizens of this and Saginaw City. In the afternoon the Ladies Cornet Band of St. Johns and Reiss' band paraded the principle streets attracting considerable attention after which they took street cars for Saginaw City, where they also paraded the principal streets.

In the evening, at an early hour, the spacious Germania Garden was well filled, and when the concert commenced there was scarcely a vacant seat in the garden, while an equally large number were promenading about the beautiful grounds. The garden was beautifully illuminated with Chinese lanterns, while the music stand was handsomely and tastefully decorated with flags and bunting.

The concert was opened by Reiss' band playing Prof. Roney's "March of the St. Bernards," which is a grand piece of music in which Prof. Roney has scored a success as a composer. The band played it as they play everything which they undertake--perfectly--and the piece was received by the audience with hearty applause. Reiss' band then rendered two more selections, the overture "Semiramide" by Rossini, and a selection, "Macbeth," by Verdi, after which they resigned the music stand to the St. Johns' Cornet Band. The large audience were evidently particularly interested in the performance of the ladies, who had won respect and admiration by their ladylike deportment and fine appearance. As they took their places in the band stand there was a rush for better places of observation, and their performance was listened to with close attention and heartily applauded.

Their first selection, an overture entitled "Arion," composed by Pettee, proved that, though a comparatively young organization, they had made good use of their time, and they rendered the piece in a manner which gained the admiration of their listeners. (CR 24 July 1884)

HOLIDAY BOOKS (CR Dec 1914)

BUY BOOKS FOR GIFTS.

In making a gift you express yourself. The recipient analyzes your expression in the gift and judges thereby. A high form of expression in gifts is books. They improve the mind and are a lasting remembrance of the giver's good taste and judgment.

MAKE THIS A BOOK CHRISTMAS

The expense will not be great and your range of selection large if you purchase from our book department. We have the largest line ever shown in Clinton County and you are sure to find something expressive of yourself and pleasing to the recipient.

New copyrights.

Many of the best authors have recently published their masterpieces.

"The Eye of the World" Harold Bell Wright.....	\$1.35
"The Inside of the Cup" Winston Churchill.....	\$1.50
"Diane of the Green Van" Leona Dairyple.....	\$1.25
""The Tembarom" Frances Burnott.....	\$1.40
"The Perch of the Devil" Gertrude Atherton.....	\$1.35
"The Slamander" Owen Johnson.....	\$1.35
"Pollyanna", "Miss Billy" & "Miss Billy's Decision" Eleanor Porter.....	\$1.25

Bibles.

\$1.00 - \$5.00

Prayer Books.

.75 - \$3.00

"The Young Man's Jesus"	\$1.00
"Tell Me a True Story"	\$1.25
"The Bible for Young People"	\$1.50
"Hymns Every Child Should Know"	\$.50

Book of Poems.

"Ben King's Verse"	\$1.00
"Will Carlton's Poems"	\$1.00
"Riley's Child World"	\$1.10
"Eugene Field's Poems"	\$2.00

Boy's Books.

"Frank Walton"; "The Boy Scouts"; "The Broncho Rider Boys"; "The Motor Cycle Boys"; "The Boys Chums"; "The Speedwell Boys"; "The Motor Boys"; "The Rover Boy"

Girl's Books

"Ruth Fielding Series"; "The Motor Maids"; "Made Series"; "Elsie Densmore" \$.25

Juvenile Books

"Tik-Tok of Oz"; "Little Men"; "Little Women"; "The Book of Useful plants"; "The Posy Ring"; "The Sandman"; "Pictures Everywhere that children should know"

TRAVIS DRUG CO.

THE CORNER DRUG STORE ST. JOHNS, MICHIGAN

Excerpts from the 1891 diary of Fayette Wilney Smith

- Thursday, Jan. 1, 1891: To day is New Year a black and cloudy day it is rained by showers all day until long into the night we were at home all day Had chicken for dinner
- Saturday, Jan. 3, 1891: To day has been a very nice day I drawed corn stalks **Staebell** came up to get his hair cut **Merville** (brother) drove up and brought the sausage grinder home **Charley Kimble** was with him
- Wednesday, Jan. 7, 1891: Hitched old Perkins and the colt up together and went over to Fathers (Ole) and got some corn It proved to be Perkins last day work She was taken sick
- Friday, Jan. 9, 1891: Old Perkins died to day I got Staebell-s team and drawed her out into the wood **Mrs Staebell** came home with me **Barney** came down at night and staid all night
- Wednesday, Jan. 18, 1891: I finished boiling the sap got done about four O clock P.M.
- Thursday, Feb. 12, 1891: Went over to Muskrat Lake a fishing Caught two fish I went with **Perry Miller** (nephew) and **Elam Cutler**
- Wednesday, Feb. 18, 1891: Freezing At home all day it froze up during the night snowed some this morning but not enough to amount to anything
- Thursday, Mar. 19, 1891: I went up to the P. O. this morning came back home Perrys folks and **Mrs. Eddy** was here and we had some warm suggar **Merville** was here in the afternoon and got some stone
- Tuesday, Mar. 31, 1891: I went out into the woods in the morning emtied (emptied)the buckets killed a wood chuck and cut wood it rained some in the afternoon I went up to the grocery **Ida Robinson** married to day
- Wednesday, April 1, 1891: I went out in the woods in the morning and built a fire under the pan I was until two O clock boiling the sap down Cut a little wood with the rest of the job
- Wednesday, April 15, 1891: Took **Joie** to School in the morning then I went down south and drained another water hole Drawed straw away frome the house in the afternoon
- Friday, May 1, 1891: Finished dragging and sowed some oats and cultivated them in **George Willson** (cousin) was here after some potatoes and so was Father also
- Sunday, May 17, 1891: We all went to the river and washed the buggie to day got back about two O clock had some dinner then went down to **Pete Schafers** a while
- Saturday, June 6, 1891: I finished plowing the Buck wheat patch in the forenoon Dug burdock in the afternoon We all went up to Staebells at night
- Sunday, June 14, 1891: At home until noon then went up to Staebells from there to Mervilles. **Frankie Staebell** has the measles

- Friday, June 19, 1891: I took the girls to school in the morning it is the last day of school we went up to Staebells in the afternoon a while set some cabbage plants towards night
- Thursday, June 25, 1891: ,Took sheep down to Jones and got her sheared then I went over to **Bill Millers** and got the road scraper and then sowed the buck wheat
- Saturday, June 27, 1891: I worked on the road and took the scraper back over to Bill Millers in the forenoon plowed out potatoes in the afternoon
- Wednesday, July 1, 1891: Cultivated the garden and chored about Ett and I went up to Steabells towards night **Charley May** came here and killed the yearling steer
- Tuesday, July 7, 1891: I picked cherries today It rained last night Johnnies folks and Steabells was here and picked
- Saturday, July 11, 1891: I picked cherries in the forenoon went down to Johnnies after Joie in the afternoon we all went up to the grocery to the fire works
- Wednesday, July 15, 1891: Ett went to Lansing to day **Mrs Eddy** went with her I staid at home with the children **Otie** (son) was sick
- Wednesday July 22, 1891: It rained a little this morning I helped Staebell set up some wheat in the forenoon stacked some in the after---- ½ day **Ett (wife-Henrietta)** took Mrs Eddy to Egal (Eagle)
- Friday, July 31, 1891: I pulled and mowed weeds in the forenoon helped **Bourassa** draw wheat in the afternoon ½ day
- Monday, Aug. 3, 1891: I set up oats for Oscar Robinson in the forenoon worked at the grainery in the afternoon **Oscar Robinson** married to day
- Wednesday, Aug. 5, 1891: Went a berring in the morning then I helped Perry thresh rest of the day I had one hundred and twenseven 127 bushels for my part
- Tuesday, Aug. 11, 1891: I went out to DeWitt and got the Buggie tire set and the horse shod in the forenoon
- Monday, Aug. 17, 1891: I went down to Johnnies (brother) and got his colt in the morning came back home went to the groc---In the afternoon I went down and got Pete reaper and started to cut clover seed went about half way across the piece and broke down
- Tuesday, Aug. 18, 1891: I went up to see Cliffs about his mowing machine came back home Steabells folks was here so him and I cleared up the rakings and ground the sickels I went up to **Oscars Cases** and got his mower
- Friday, Aug. 28, 1891: Finished mowing the clover seed and took the mower home Johnnies folks was here the rest of the day
- Tuesday, Sept. 1, 1891: I raked clover seed in the morning hitched up and tried to find some one to help me

- Saturday, Sept. 5, 1891: Dug potatoes to day had in all in the field 45 bu ---**Will Miller** helped me all day I went down to ??? towards night and got some seed wheat
- Thursday, Sept. 10, 1891: I drewed clover seed to day started to draw a load of straw after dinner the colt skipt out and left me **Cha Talor** (Charles Taylor) helped me to day
- Tuesday, Sept. 15, 1891: I went to Lansing to day with wheat Got .90 cent bu bought a stove
- Wednesday, Sept. 16, 1891: I went down north to get some wood to thresh with in the forenoon got it of **Cha Kimbale** when I came back by Robinson the machine was there and it followed me home hulled a little
- Tuesday, Sept. 29, 1891: I took my waggon up to the shop to get it fixed in the forenoon Cut corn in the afternoon
- Friday, Oct. 2, 1891: We went to the Fair at St Johns
- Saturday, Oct. 3, 1891: We staid all night last night in St Johns at **Will Webbs** (brother-in-law) I went and saw the races finished we left there for home at noon
- Wednesday, Oct. 7, 1891: Perry and I went over to **Cha Coles** and got some pigs in the forenoon I helped **Pete Schafers** thresh after dinner after the got done there they pulled up and threshed out my Oats had 257 bu
- Monday, Oct. 12, 1891: Cut buck wheat a while in the morning then I went up to get my waggon worked around until about night before I got it went up to Steabells to night
- Tuesday, Oct. 20, 1891: Chored about to day picked up some butternuts Set Field brought his sheep down here
- Thursday, Oct. 22, 1891: I went to Lansing with clover seed got \$4.15 bu for it
- Monday, Oct. 26, 1891: Helped Ett wash in the forenoon went to DeWitt in the afternoon
- Wednesday, Oct. 28, 1891: Went over to Emmons cider mill Ett went over to Fathers Maggie (sister) came home with us
- Tuesday, Nov. 3, 1891: The horses got out last night and so I had a jaunt looking for them found them up to **Gordons** Helped Oscar Robinson take up his pump drewed my buck wheat and went with **Perry Miller** up to **Hows** and got a pig
- Wednesday, Nov. 4, 1891: I had a job this morning picking burrs out of the horses tails and mains Cut wood in the afternoon Father staid here last night
- Tuesday, Nov. 17, 1891: It snowed last night about an inch or such a matter and it has been blustering all day to day and it's a freezing quite hard to night I did nothing but chore about all day

- Sunday, Nov. 22, 1891: It was cloudy but did not rain until about noon then it comence to rain **Clarence** (nephew) brought Ma here she had been at their house A boy at By 1 week old
- Saturday, Nov. 28, 1891: I hitched up the horses in the morning and drawed a load of wood in the morning went a hunting in the afternoon got nothing my usual luck Pete and Perry went to
- Wednesday, Dec. 2, 1891: I went down to see the **Love** Boys about cutting some wood in the morning came back home and comenced the hen house **All Weatherbee** came and got his sheep
- Thursday, Dec. 10, 1891: I worked on the hen house in the forenoon helped **Jim Keeny** bale straw on Oscar Robinsons in the afternoon
- Thursday, Dec. 17, 1891: I did nothing to of to day went down to see All Weatherbee He had gone to St Johns Joie has gone to her first party to night it is over to the **Boursassa**
- Tuesday, Dec. 29, 1891: I went to Lansing with wheat to day got 91 ½ cent per bu
- Wednesday, Dec. 30, 1891: I went in the morning and paid my taxes they were \$5.60 then I came back via of the gro--- Et and I went down to Mervills but they had gone away Memoranda
- May 30, 1891: 6.pm **Lyman Hunkerford** and **Old Lady Simmons** died
- 16 ½ ft long 1 ft high 1 ½ ft thcik of stone make one perch
- April first, 1892: **Otie Smith** measured 3 ½ ft to day

Cash Account.

<u>Date.</u>	<u>Received.</u>	<u>Paid.</u>			
			19	Cash paper: Cl. Rep.	12.90
February			April		
2	Butter .97		11	Eggs 16 doz \$1.92	
	Groceries	.97	22	Peach trees	2.50
3	Oil lamp	.20	May		
3	Aples .35		14	Plow point	.40
4	Shoes and dry goods	4.07	June		
19	Butter 81/2 \$1.28		29	Steer	5.00
22	Eggs 7 doz .98		29	Clothing	7.00

- Note: **Fayette W. Smith** was the son-in-law of **Selah Ferris**, the original owner of the 120 acre farm on Lowell road in Watertown Twp., Clinton County, Michigan. Land was purchased in 1852 by Selah, my Grt Grt Grandfather. Copied verbatim from the diary. Submitted by **Rowlan R. Smith**

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## REPORT OF ACQUISITIONS & RESEARCH: 2015 SEPTEMBER-NOVEMBER

### CHURCHES:

- History of the Methodist Episcopal Church, St. Johns, Michigan; Edited by Mrs. Matie Morris and Glenn A. Tupper; 1938; 8 ½ x 11; staple bound; 24 pp.

### GENEALOGIES:

- *SHERMAN PIONEERS IN MICHIGAN: CLINTON COUNTY (April 1, 2001)*; by Alonzo J. Sherman; stapled pages; 28 pp.

### INDEX:

- Assessment Rolls, 1889 Clinton County, MI for taxes paid Dec. 1889 to Feb. 1890

### MAPS:

- Map & Directory surrounding area of Village of DeWitt, Clinton Co., Michigan; prepared by H. A. Richards, Aug. 1953; 22 x 28; photocopy.

- Map, Village of DeWitt, Clinton Co., Michigan; prepared by Henry A. Richards Feb. 29, 1952; 22 x 18; photocopy.

- DeWitt Early 1950's [name] list; Henry A. Richards; 8 ½ x 11, photocopy; 3 pp.

### PHOTOS:

- Ladies Aid Society of Lowe Church, Essex Twp., Clinton Co., MI; Feb 6, 1889.

- Rodney B. Wilson High School Class of 1953, 35<sup>th</sup> Class Reunion.

### SCHOOLS:

- Fowler High School Yearbook, *Anthem* 2005, 8 x 11; hardcover; 120 pp

- St. Johns High School Yearbook, *Take a Chance*; 1990; 9 ¼ x 12 ½; hard cover; 232 pp

- St. Johns High School Yearbook, *Best Kept SECRET*; 1991; 9 ¼ x 12 ¼; hard cover; 224 pp.

- St. Johns High School Yearbook, *For A Limited Time Only*; 1992; 8 ¾ x 11 ¼; hard cover; 220 pp.

- St. Johns High School Yearbook, *Red Hot!*; 1993; 8 ½ x 11; hard cover; 216 pp.

- St. Johns High School Yearbook, *Going Retro*, 1994; 8 ½ x 11; hard cover; 220 pp.

- St. Johns High School Yearbook, *Multiple Exposures*, 1995; 8 ½ x 11; hard cover; 220 pp.

- St. Johns High School Yearbook, *Back To Class*, 1997; 8 ½ x 11; hard cover; 220 pp.

- St. Johns High School Yearbook, *More Than Just Faces In the Crowd*; 1998; 8 ½ x 11; hard cover; 218 pp.

- St. Johns High School Yearbook, *Wings*, 1999; 8 ½ x 11; hard cover; 250 pp.

- St. Johns High School Yearbook, *It Doesn't Just Happen*, 2000; 8 ½ x 11; hard cover; 267 pp.

- St. Johns High School Yearbook, *Phases 2001*; 8 ½ x 11; hard cover; 256 pp.

- St. Johns High School Yearbook, *Tock*, 2002; 8 ½ x 11; hard cover 282 pp.

- St. Johns High School Yearbook, *Picture This ...*; 2003; 8 ½ x 11; hard cover; 267 pp.

- St. Johns High School Yearbook, *Not Just Another Cliche`*; 2004; 8 ½ x 11; hard cover; 256 pp.

- St. Johns High School Yearbook, *A Signature Sound*; 2005; 8 ½ x 11; hard cover; 264 pp.

- St. Johns High School Yearbook, *Somewhere in the middle*; 2008; 8 ½ x 11; hard cover; 288 pp.

- St. Johns High School Yearbook, *Defining Moments*; 2009; 8 ½ x 11; hard cover; 280 pp.



- St. Johns High School Yearbook, *Permanent Marks*; 2011; 8 ½ x 11; hard cover; 261 pp.
- St. Johns High School Yearbook, *Pieces of the Puzzle*; 2012; 8 ½ x 11; hard cover; 255 pp.
- St. Johns High School Yearbook, *A New Direction*; 2013; 8 ½ x 11; hard cover; 269 pp.
- St. Johns High School Yearbook, *Revolve*; 2014; 8 ½ x 11; hard cover; 263 pp.

**VERTICAL FILES:**

- Hazel I. Findlay Excellence in Caring; Hazel I. Findlay Country Manor 1982 –1992; The Clinton Area Care Center (copy 2)

**NAMES RESEARCHED:**

Barker, Blakeslee, Brown, Chapko, Doty, Downer, LeClear, Miller, Morgan, Post, Reynolds, Schlee, Sherman, Simpson, Skinner, Smith, Snow, Stevens, Stiffler, Travis, Turner, Webber, Woosy, Young



**2016 DUES RENEWAL TIME**

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**.

**TAKE A LOOK TO SEE WHAT WE HAVE AVAILABLE...**

To help in your research we now have a place online where you can search for sources of Clinton County residents and area information that is available at the Clinton County Historical Society Archives. This is a new feature we are offering with additions being made regularly so stop back often.

You can search by name, document title, category prefix, or zone code to show you what is available in a specific area of the Archives. Click on the "Archives Collection" button at the top of our main page to get to the search page. On that webpage you will find a key to the category prefix codes we have established and also a floor map coded by each zone of document/media storage.

Please check out the website to see everything that is available online and at the Archives. You will also find our hours, location and other contact information. Please note that the Archives will not be open during our regularly scheduled hours if the St. Johns and DeWitt schools are closed for bad weather.

[www.dewittlibrary.org/CCHS](http://www.dewittlibrary.org/CCHS)

Let us know what you think of the new search tool or if you have problems with it.

We hope this makes your research easier. We have over 3,300 documents and thousands of names available. We hope you will be inspired to visit the Archives. If you can't come to the Archives, we have people available to do research for you for a fee. We are a non-profit organization run by volunteers to keep Clinton County's history available. Whether you are new at genealogy or an experienced researcher we are here to help.

We can't wait to hear from or see you soon!

Happy Holidays from the staff of the Archives! Janet Dunn, Julie Peters, Rowlan Smith, Ralph Temple, and Myrna VanEpps, Bill Serviss, Judy Winslow and Kim Sperry.



## Genealogy Humor:

- ✦ "Only a Genealogist regards a step backwards as progress." Anonymous
- ✦ "Why waste money looking up your family tree? Just go into politics and your opponents will do it for you." Mark Twain
- ✦ Family faces are magic mirrors. Looking at people who belong to us, we see the past, present and future." Gail Lumet Buckley
- ✦ "The black sheep keeps the best info on the family". Anonymous
- ✦ "I'm not stuck, I'm, ancestrally challenged." Anonymous
- ✦ "I think my ancestors had several "bad heir" days." Anonymous
- ✦ "Heredity: Everyone believes in it until their children act like fools!" Anonymous
- ✦ "He who has no fools, knaves, or beggars in his family was begot by a flash of lightning." Old English Proverb.
- ✦ "If you cannot get rid of the family skeleton, you may as well make it dance." George Bernard Shaw
- ✦ Larry Edsel Smith of Albany, New York: "Born 1903-Died 1942 Looked up the elevator shaft to see if the car was on the way down. It was."

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 Ext. 2. 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 square 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 \_\_\_\_\_

Do we have permission to share your information with other

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

researchers: (please circle Yes or No on each):

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

Name & Address: Yes No

E-Mail: Yes No

Send me Clinton County Trails by e-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No

**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.



A festive holiday card with a red background. In the upper left, three lit candles are visible. In the lower left, there is a decorative bow made of red and gold ribbons, surrounded by green holly leaves and red berries. The text is written in a white, elegant script font.

*Merry Christmas  
&*

*Happy New Year!*