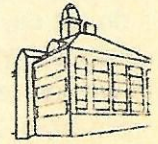




# CLINTON COUNTY TRAILS

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## Whose Fault Is It!

by Lynne Gregory

Unfortunately, the "super neat nick" or "extreme minimalist", our relatives/friends who never keep anything more than six months and never have boxes of old documents laying around, are the family historians worst enemy! Also to blame are those who feel they are too busy to be bothered this month or overwhelmed people who just pop in at the moment of a relatives death to simply dispose of everything as quickly as possible. Vast numbers of valuable family 'treasures/trinkets', photos, papers, documents, etc. are regularly lost forever.

It is our responsibility as family historian to right now tactfully let the relatives and other responsible persons know that we are very interested in having all this information. We can sort it and figure out the importance now or later. But, NOW is the time to volunteer to save these treasures, even those unidentified old photos and documents with unrecognizable names. If we don't live in the same state as our ancestors/relatives, we can remember what treasures they have [of family importance?], write or call them for that information.

Do you know what those treasures are in your relatives home? Do you know their back-story or history of certain 'trinkets' on the shelves? I'm not talking particularly about things that may or may not have great monetary value, I'm talking about sentimental or family history value.

How many of us are guilty of not asking about the history of some item we see regularly at a relative's home and why do they treasure it? Or, we are guilty of not recording that story in some fashion at the time. We usually don't think of that person not being around forever to retell the story later on when our own busy lives have calmed down. It doesn't take much of our time to invite ourselves for a visit or even to bring in lunch for a session of treasure/trinket/photo/papers discussion time. Take a photo of and make notes of each item. Or take photos of interested items and call in a few days for information. When my own mother was ill for a long time, I took the opportunity to question her at the time about various items she had about the house, she welcomed the diversion and pleasant trips down memory lane.

There are those who think everything has to be on the computer but when the regular changes come to computer technology, do you remember to take all the time to transfer everything to the new format? If not, all will be lost in the future, remember when 'reel to reel' and 'cassettes' came and went? What if, in the future, someone inherits these family treasures and or information, and cannot access them because technology has changed from when produced and the grand/great grandchild has access to the collection? Think about it, information printed on archival paper lasts forever and never

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need special equipment to read!!!

We are always told to gather information from the oldest/other members of our families but, how often do we say, "another day when I'm not so busy". Obviously, we should think this information gathering is a more important one than one more unnecessary trip to Wal-Mart or a cup of coffee with a friend we see regularly. If we place no value on what our relatives thought was/is important, our children will learn from us and not place importance on what WE consider an important part of our lives, is that the legacy you want to pass on?

the names/dates/places of our predecessors is usually gathered from other sources but "Family History" can only come from just that.....THE FAMILY. Stop texting, get off the phone with your friends you see or talk to everyday, leave those dishes, and learn about your family history!!

---

A 52 year old acquaintance, when very young, had been told by his mother that his dad, from whom she was bitterly divorced, had committed suicide. by adolescence he felt a stigma over the suicide and sent for a copy of the death certificate which stated cause as suicide. His mother continued with this throughout her life. After a lifetime of anger and bitterness over his dad doing this, recently during a chance encounter with an old family friend who had been close to his dad and his family, the subject came up in a conversation. The friend said his dad had NOT committed suicide but had choked to death during his sleep while ill.

Immediately he contacted his much older brother who confirmed there had been no suicide and that long ago the brother had investigated the autopsy records, found the death certificate was wrong and had made certain it was corrected with official records. Apparently, since the other siblings were all scattered about the United States, no one else was told about this correction. This brother also stated that the mother, now deceased, was very bitter about the divorce and had lied about many things concerning their father.

Later conversations with the brother again confirmed the no suicide and the acquaintance said he felt like a lifetime of the world's weight had been lifted from his shoulders.

Moral of this .....death certificates sometimes do not state the true cause of death or perhaps not all the contributing factors. This happens more often than you think. If a family feels the certificate is not correct, it does pay to try and check for doctor's, emergency room or autopsy records, if available.



## "Clinton County History -- Did You Know?"

### THE SMOKY FALL - 1856

"The great forest fires of October, 1856, worked considerable damage to the timber and fences in the Welter neighborhood [Ovid Twp.] and for ten days filled the atmosphere with smoke and the people with apprehensions and fears. The 16<sup>th</sup> of October is remembered as the 'dark day.' It was so dark that objects at a distance of two rods could not be distinguished and lights were necessary indoors. Fish in the streams were killed and some people, sure that the end of the world was at hand, made haste to bury their valuables and to make their peace with Heaven."

*History of Clinton County, Michigan, 1880; p 480*

"The fall of 1856 was noted throughout the state as "the smoky fall." Probably no part of the state suffered more from this than did this county [Gratiot]. Dense smoke from the forest fires shut out the sun and almost everything else for many days at a time. Wild animals were bewildered and came into the roads and fields in great numbers. Gloom settled down on the inhabitants. Work was suspended in great measure, people keeping indoors to escape the smoke as much as possible. The largest objects could not be seen more than a few feet away. Cattle would not go away to feed and some of them died. The woods were nearly all burned over, hardly an acre of upland or lowland that did not get blackened. In many instances the fires continued to burn long after winter had set in and the hunter often found the opportunity to warm his hands by some burning log or stump. Nothing more wonderful could well be imagined than the change wrought when a light shower came and the wind dispersed the smoke, revealing to view the neighbors' dwellings and other familiar objects. However long our lives may be spared and however great their changes we may pass through, we can never forget the smoky fall of 1856."

*History of Gratiot Co.; Willard D. Tucker; 1913; p 50*



*(Clinton Republican, 1867)*

**An Invaluable Medicine  
For the Purifying of the Blood!  
J. W. Poland's**

**HUMOR DOCTOR**

**A Positive Remedy for all kinds of Humors  
Erysipelas, Nettle Rash, Salt Rheum, Scrofula, Carbuncle, & Boils**



# 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



AT WORK — Mrs. Harry L. Bollinger of DeWitt, whose designs are now being reproduced by a Grand Rapids furniture company, carves a wooden cookie-mold.

## 'Happy' Cookies Her Specialty

By Faye Hanson

Lansing State Journal, 6 Apr 1966

DeWitt -- "Where there's a will there's a way" .... at least with Mrs. Harry Bollinger of 124 W. Jefferson Street.

Take for example the case of the antique cookie molds.

Search as she might, Mrs. Bollinger could not find antique cookie molds that were cheerful.

"They were all of grotesque figures or frightening animals," she said. "And I didn't want to make cookies that would frighten my grandchildren."

So her husband bought a set of chisels and some soft pine and said, "OK make your own."

The couple was living in Newark, Del. at the time Mrs. Bollinger launched her wood-carving hobby, and, after several years, she continues to work with pine, walnut, cherry and mahogany.

Carving a mold, she explained, takes from six to 12 hours. Then it is stained and waxed.

An antique-lover, Mrs. Bollinger finds her hand-carved molds of fruits, animals and nursery characters blend well with early American settings.

Now a Grand Rapids furniture company is reproducing her molds for sale.

## LAW PERMITTING WOMEN TO VOTE

THOSE POSSESSING QUALIFICATIONS OF MALE ELECTORS AND WHO PAY TAXES MAY VOTE ON CERTAIN QUESTIONS.

## EXPENDITURE OF PUBLIC MONEY OR BOND ISSUE

REGISTRATION DAY, MARCH 25, AND WOMEN MUST MAKE PERSONAL APPLICATION

Women are becoming so much interested in the question of "votes for women" that *The Republican* has excerpted the following particulars from the law permitting women to vote:

At any election held in any village, township, city, county or school district at which any question involving the direct expenditure of public money or the issue of bonds shall be submitted to a vote of the electors, every woman, who possesses the qualifications of male electors and has property assessed for taxes in any part of the district or territory to be affected by the result of such election, shall be entitled to vote thereon.

Every board of registration must register the names of all women who make personal application and who have the proper qualifications.

The law provides the following requirements: Any woman who possesses the qualifications of male electors and owns property jointly with her husband or other person, or who owns property on contract, and pays the taxes thereon, shall be entitled to register and shall have the right to vote on all such propositions as are referred to above; also in all school elections at which the question of the direct expenditures of public money or the issue of bonds is to be voted upon, women shall be permitted to vote without registration in the manner now provided in the general school law.

Registration boards are required to keep a separate register for registering the names of women voters, and propositions referred to shall be printed upon ballots which do not contain any other questions.

Registration day is Saturday, March 25th, so all woman who has the right to vote is required to do is to go to the board of registration on Saturday, March 25th and have her name registered and then she can go to the polls and vote on April 3rd on the county road proposition or in the City of St. John on the library proposition.

*The Clinton Republican*, 9 Mar 1916



11 November 1915:

The Michigan Café will open for business in the Clinton block on the west side of Clinton Avenue, next Sunday. C. B. Mansfield is the owner & J. R. McMann, an experienced chef and steward, will act as manager. It is their intention to run a first class café in every respect.

The menu for their Sunday dinner:

## The Michigan Café

### SUNDAY DINNER

November Fourteenth. From 12-8 p.m.  
(\$ .50)

#### SOUP:

Cream of Tomato

#### RECISHES:

Mexican Salad, Sauce Piquante  
Queen Olives

#### MEATS:

Roast Young Chicken, Celery Dressing  
Prime Ribs of Beef, Au Jus  
Baked Premium Ham, (a la Harvey)

#### VEGETABLES:

Mashed Potatoes  
Asparagus Tips on Toast, Cream Sauce

#### DESSERT:

Assorted Fruits, Nut Dressing  
Apple Pie, a la Mode.

The restaurant business of Ernest Larkins was sold to Eugene Brya on Monday. Mr. Brya will move the fixtures from the building owned by Bixby to the newly repaired store building of his own a few doors this side of Railroad Street.

## THE WANT COLUMN:

(Michigan Republican 4 Nov 1915)

### MALE HELP WANTED

Wanted - A man with a rig or auto to learn the Real Estate Farm Business and represent us in St. Johns. Write C. Frank Vreeland, Manager Farm Department, Young Brothers Realty Co., (Inc.) Lansing, Michigan.

### AGENT WANTED

AGENT WANTED -- We want a live wire agent in St. Johns, Michigan to represent best sporting magazine published. Liberal pay for hustler. Full particulars write Agency Dept. National Sportsman Magazine, 221 Columbus Ave., Boston, Mass.

(Clinton Republican, Aug 1933)

40 Years Ago [1893]:

- John Hicks has been buying wheat in Clinton county since 1849. He sold a car yesterday for the least money he ever took for wheat since he began buying.
- F. H. Frazell, the music dealer and Miss Bertha Thomas were united in marriage August 2 with Rev. C. C. Thomas performing the ceremony.
- The cornerstone of the new St. Johns' Episcopal church will be laid today with appropriate ceremonies.
- Growing crops have suffered seriously from drought the past two weeks.
- Two Buffalo inventors are at work on a new bicycle which they claim can be run by a gas engine weighing but two pounds. The hollow frame of the bicycle will be used as a storage tank for the gasoline from which power is derived by a series of explosions in the four cylinders of the engine. They claim it will be able to make nearly a mile a minute.



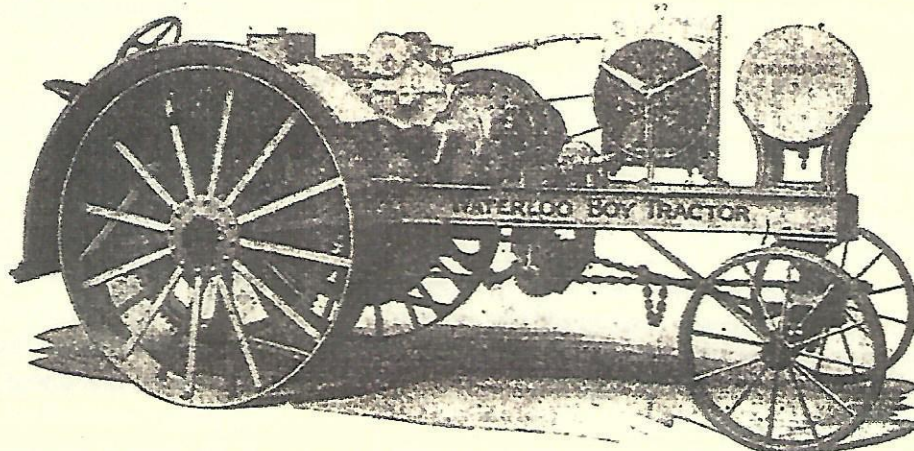
# SURPLUS POWER

How much easier you can plow and fit your ground with a 3000 pound team than you can do it with a 2400 pound team. You don't have to stop and rest them so often—the work goes along more smoothly and rapidly and with less strain on your horses and yourself. You look for this surplus power in selecting horses for this work—why not do the same when you buy a tractor?

Don't buy a tractor with barely enough power to carry you thro', one that you must strain to the limit to fill your silo, plow and fit your ground, husk your corn, etc. LOOK FOR THE TRACTOR WITH THE SURPLUS POWER that you do not have to favor when it comes to the heavy pull and you will find it in

The Light Weight Powerful **WATERLOO BOY** Kerosene Burning Farm Tractor

Weights  
Only  
**4800**



**\$750**

F. O. B.  
Factory

Compare These Specifications With Those of Any Other Farm Tractor and  
—You Won't Find Its Equal Selling for Less Than \$1200—

DOUBLE GEAR DRIVE.  
SLIDING GEAR TRANSMISSION.  
CONE CLUTCH.  
TWIN CYLINDER MOTOR.  
24 BELT HORSE POWER.  
12 DRAW BAR HORSE POWER  
SELF OILING.  
KEROSENE FUEL.  
THROTTLING GOVERNOR WITH  
SPEED CHANGE.

DUAL IGNITION.  
OVERHEAD VALVE TYPE  
VALVES IN CAGES.  
PULS THREE 14-INCH PLOWS  
easily and does other work prop-  
tionately.  
EASY TO START.  
SIMPLE TO OPERATE.  
RUNS WITHOUT VIBRATION OR  
JUMPING

FULL CONTROL OF PLOWS FROM  
SEAT  
PROVISIONS MADE FOR TAKING  
UP WEAR ON DRIVE PINION, and  
BULL GEARS and also permits  
change of drive pinion at any time.  
REMOVAL OF FOUR BOLTS gives  
ready access to crank case and all  
main bearings.  
YOU CAN SEE ONE OF  
THESE ON OUR FLOOR

**We Are Still Headquarters** for GASOLINE ENGINES, power and hand WASHING MACHINES, SPRAYING OUT-PLANTS. Don't miss seeing the new type "Z" FAIRBANKS MORSE OIL ENGINES with throttling governor and built-in-magneto at these unheard of prices.

1½ H. P. \$35.00 3 H. P. \$60.00 6 H. P. \$110.00 F. O. B. Factory

Three Blocks West  
of Steel Hotel

## R. S. CLARK

St. Johns, Michigan

(Clinton Republican - 13 Apr 1916)



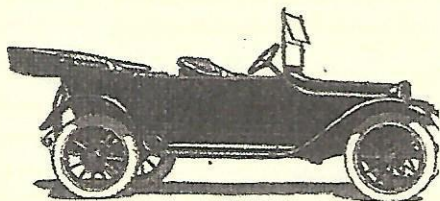
# DODGE BROTHERS MOTOR CAR

In their first-year Dodge Brothers manufactured and marketed a volume of cars which ranked them among the first four producers in the world.

It will pay you to visit us and examine this car.

The gasoline consumption is unusually low. The tire mileage is unusually high.

The price of the Touring Car or Roadster complete is \$285 (f. o. b. Detroit).



## Hunt & Allison

Union Phone 334—St. Johns, Mich.



## Brings Unbounded Joy And Health to The Whole Family.

If you enjoy the laughter of the youngsters — the gladness born of sunshine and the great out doors.

—if you thrill at the sight of their laughing, sparkling eyes and rosy cheeks

—if you wish, now and then, that the years would turn back and let you be one of them

—be one of them anyway! An Overland will do it!

An Overland will take you out with them—let you share with them the pure, fresh air—make your eyes sparkle and your blood tingle with the joy of living.

A ride in this \$695 Overland will convince you of its power, comfort and exceptional ease of control.

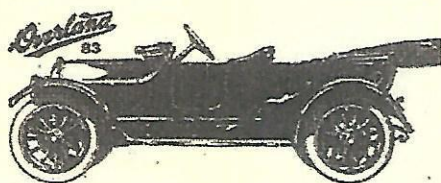
This can be arranged over telephone—call us up today.

My new show room on State street across from the Congregational church is nearly completed.

### E. H. OSGOOD

Phone, House 5 Black.

St. Johns, Mich.



Read These Specifications

# DORT

## The Car of Comfort

The 1916 Dort is essentially a comfortable car—

- comfortable because there is plenty of seat and leg room both back and front.
- comfortable, too, because of its 54 inch full cantilever springs, which make it one of the easiest riding cars on the wheels at any price.

The price, \$665.00, is within reach of most folks. See this car at our show room.

**\$665**  
F. O. B. DETROIT

Moreland & Son  
Agents—St. Johns, Mich.

WANTED—Reliable sub-dealers in Fowler and Meigs Rapids. Call on Moreland & Son for full particulars.

Auto dealers of St. Johns, 1916

(CR 18 Apr 1916)

Actual quotes from correspondence received by LDS Church:

- We are sending 5 children in a separate envelope
- My grandfather died at the age of 3
- Will you please send me the name of my first wife, I have forgotten her name.
- The wife of #22 could not be found, somebody suggested she might have been stillborn--what do you think?
- Further research will be necessary to eliminate one of her parents.
- He and his daughter are listed as never being born.
- I would like to find out if I have any living relative or dead relatives or ancestors in my family.
- A fourteen year old boy wrote, "I do not want you to do the research for me. Will you please send me all the material on the Welch line in the United States, England and Scotland Countries? I will do the research."
- We lost our grandmother, will you send us a copy?
- An you think genealogy is complicated now? A mother sits with her daughter, explaining the family photo to her. "This is your geneticist with your surrogate mother, next to her is your sperm donor, this is me holding you when you were first a frozen embryo."
- When is genealogy an addiction?
  - When you can recite all your ancestors for 6 generations but can't remember to pay your bills on time.
  - When you introduce your children as descendants
  - When you happily spend your vacation time in old cemeteries and courthouses







Robert S. Clark, President.



Frederick A. Travis, Vice-Pros.



E. A. Tallander, Cashier.

## We Thank You!

WE wish to thank all who helped in making our opening such a great success.

This bank is here to encourage saving and thrift and offers a secure place for deposit of savings.

We are here to serve you and you will always find a welcome.

### DIRECTORS

R. S. Clark  
F. A. Travis  
Chas. A. Hulse  
L. B. Parr  
Fred Burk

Clark Howell  
Frank Swain  
Leslie Brown  
E. P. Hall  
Joseph Schneider

John Sullivan  
E. A. Tallander  
D. C. LeBaron  
H. H. Spauld  
H. E. Walkley

For the benefit of the public this bank will be open Saturday evenings from 7 to 9.

## The Farmers State Savings Bank of St. Johns, Michigan

(CR, 13 Apr 1916)

## The St. Johns National Bank

MEMBER FEDERAL RESERVE BANK

### St. Johns National Bank.

Capital ..... \$50,000.00  
Surplus ..... 35,000.00  
Undivided Profits, 16,505.23

#### OFFICERS.

JOHN C. HICKS, President.  
COLEMAN C. VAUGHAN, Vice-President.

R. C. DEXTER, Cashier.  
W. J. BLACK, Assistant Cashier.

#### DIRECTORS.

John C. Hicks  
C. C. Vaughan  
R. C. Dexter  
C. E. Ball  
O. P. DeWitt  
P. E. Walsworth  
William M. Smith.

### Let Us Help You.

We are interested in every man who has a desire to build up a legitimate business and we offer careful and courteous attention to those who give us their banking business.

## Farmers' Business

We give particular attention to the business of farmers.

A checking account with a bank is a convenience no farmer should be without.

Our offices always at the disposal of our customers. We cordially invite the farmers to make this their banking house.

A bank account is a little school master—it teaches you the systematic care of your funds.

Save while you can that you may spend when you must.

### Clinton Co. Savings Bank.

Capital ..... \$50,000.00  
Surplus ..... 35,000.00  
Undivided Profits, 16,505.23

#### OFFICERS.

JOHN C. HICKS, President.

COOLEY E. BALL, Vice-President.

R. C. DEXTER, Secy. Treasurer.

#### DIRECTORS.

John C. Hicks  
C. E. Ball  
O. P. DeWitt  
C. C. Vaughan  
Frank Percy  
William M. Smith  
P. E. Walsworth.

### Safe Deposit Boxes

offer the protection you should have. They are an absolute necessity for the keeping of important papers and other valuables. We have them at this bank. Ask for particulars.

## Clinton County Savings Bank

Clinton County Trails

## CONDENSED STATEMENT OF THE

# St. Johns National Bank

and

# Clinton County Savings Bank

ST. JOHNS, MICHIGAN.

At Close of Business March 7th, 1916.

### RESOURCES.

Loans and Discounts .....	\$408,716.89	
Real Estate Mortgages .....	352,971.60	
Overdrafts .....	None.	
United States Bonds .....	20,000.00	
Other Bonds, Securities, etc. ....	103,695.49	
Banking House .....	40,000.00	
Furniture and Fixtures .....	7,000.00	
Stock in Federal Reserve Bank .....	2,550.00	
Five Per Cent Redemption Fund ..	450.00	
Cash Due From Banks .....	\$234,708.33	
Cash on Hand .....	54,339.55	289,047.88
		<hr/>
		\$1,224,431.86

### LIABILITIES.

Capital Stock .....	\$ 78,000.00	
Surplus and Undivided Profits .....	103,842.79	
Circulation .....	14,700.00	
Deposits .....	1,027,455.15	
Certified Checks .....	269.00	
Cashier's Checks .....	164.92	
		<hr/>
		\$1,224,431.86

### OFFICERS.

JOHN C. HICKS .....	President
COOLEY E. BALL .....	Vice-President
COLEMAN C. VAUGHAN .....	Vice-President
ROSWELL C. DEXTER .....	Cashier
WILLIAM J. BLACK .....	Assistant Cashier.

### DIRECTORS.

Cooley E. Ball.  
Roswell C. Dexter.  
Frank A. Percy.  
Coleman C. Vaughan.  
Olney P. DeWitt.  
John C. Hicks.  
William M. Smith.  
Peter E. Walsworth.





## *The Archives Update...*

If you haven't checked out the new searchable database on our website yet, you should do so. I think you will find it a big help in your genealogy research. We have been visited online by researchers from Israel, France, Germany, United Kingdom, Canada and of course the U.S.

You will be able to find which documents contain the name you are searching, or what other items, maps, books, and microfilm reels, etc., are available and where exactly they are located at the Archives.

We are indexing what we have continually, to update the database, so please check back often. And please let us know of your success story or if you have problems connecting. We want to know if you have any suggestions for a better website or visitor experience.

The website is located at [www.dewittlibrary.org/CCHS](http://www.dewittlibrary.org/CCHS), and the new database is the first button at the top. Our e-mail address is [ccgensoc@yahoo.com](mailto:ccgensoc@yahoo.com)

### **ACQUISITIONS:**

#### **2015 DECEMBER - 2016 FEBRUARY:**

#### **FAMILY FILES:**

- Mc Culloh, Martha Mae; High School Diploma; Goshen College Diploma; Teaching Contract in Riley Twp. 1923; ea 8 ½ x 11.
- PHOTOS:
- Ovid High School graduates; 1919; 6¼x5.
- Ovid 8<sup>th</sup> grade graduates (+ photo back w/ names); 1915; 4 x 6.
- Altha Lawhead w/ 2 friends on Ovid's main street ca 1916 2 ½ x 4 ½ ; b&w
- 8 girls (Altha Lawhead on left) in front of the Ovid High School ca 1917; 5½ x 3¼

- Altha Lawhead w/2 friends on lunch break from the "seed farm" in Ovid; 2¾x4 ¾
- Unnamed workers from the Ovid seed farm; 4½ x 2½
- St. Johns H. S. 1925 Football team
- Harriet (Durfey) Prine
- Eleanora Anne (Morton) Downer
- Rudolphus Durfey (front & back); 1860;
- Shutes; children of Stewart and Katie (Downer) Shutes; Lowell, Charley, Ellen, Ester, Katie, Stewart, Jim, George & Bill; 4x6.

- Feed Mill; DeWitt, MI; photocopy; 8 ½ x 11

#### **SCHOOLS:**

- Clinton Co., St. Johns: Rodney B. Wilson High School 1933; Newspaper article listing names of graduates; 50 year Reunion autobiographies; 8½ x 11; black folder.
- Clinton Co., St. Johns: Rodney B. Wilson High School 1930 Class Picture; Copy of Commencement Program; 8½ x 11; in a folder; CD of class picture

#### **VERTICAL FILES:**

- Constitution of the Clinton County 4-H Service Club; 1938; 8 ½ x 11; copy; 2 p.
- Bylaws of the Clinton County 4-H Service Club; 1938; 8 ½ x 11; copy; 1 p.

#### **VITAL RECORDS:**

- Master Index of Vital Records 2011 – 2015; from *Clinton County News* by Rowlan Smith and Ralph Temple; 8 ½ x 11"; unbound; pp 29

#### **NAMES RESEARCHED:**

Bancroft, Clinton Co. Pioneers, Cotes, DeWitt Mill, Doty, Douglas, Kelley, Lawhead, Miller, Morgan, Pardee's Service, Parr, Pennington, Pinkney, Reid, Reynolds, Saylor, Severance, Terwilliger, Tubbs, Turner, Woollsy

Regards,  
Julie Peters  
Director



## Shall We Have a Free Library

Mrs. M. Weller Presented the Question to Cong'l Men's Club Sunday, and M.E. men's Class Monday.

### Women's Organizations Making Active Campaign.

Lively Interest is Being Aroused over questions which is being considered.

The topic for discussion at the Men's Club of the Congregational church on Sunday, was "Shall We Have a Free Public Library in St. Johns?" Mrs. M. Weller was invited to present the subject before the Men's Club for discussion. Mrs. Weller sa'd:

Gentlemen: I have no apology or explanation to make for my being here. I am here simply because I have been made to believe it is my duty. I do not pose as a public speaker nor am I a suffragette. If I had this to say before a company of ladies I think I could talk it, but I am so overwhelmed at my first appearance before an august body of the higher minded sex, that I am sure I would forget the points I most wish to make, hence I have jotted down a few thoughts.

I am going to try to tell you some reasons why we should have a free public library in St. Johns and how we hope to get one, then leave it to you for discussion.

We now have two very good libraries

--The Ladies Library, which is not or cannot be a free library, because the only way they have of maintaining it or getting new books is through the fee they have to charge for the use of the books.

--Our school library, thanks to the liberality of our citizens in furnishing the money by tax, and the wisdom used in the selection of books is larger and better than the average school libraries in cities of this size, but it is a school library. A school library cannot be a public library, but a public library can be a school library.

A free public library must have a paid librarian, and the building must be open days and evenings to the public. It must have a reading room equipped with the best magazines, current topic journals, daily papers, home papers, etc., for the accommodation of the public and this room must have someone in charge. There must be no loud conversation and it must come under the rules of a well managed reading room in a public library. The books must be free to be taken from the

building for a given length of time, and in that way reach a class of people who need the use of them the most, who are not deprived on account of the fee charged. Our ladies' Library Association are longing for the opportunity to turn over their four thousand volumes to such a free library.

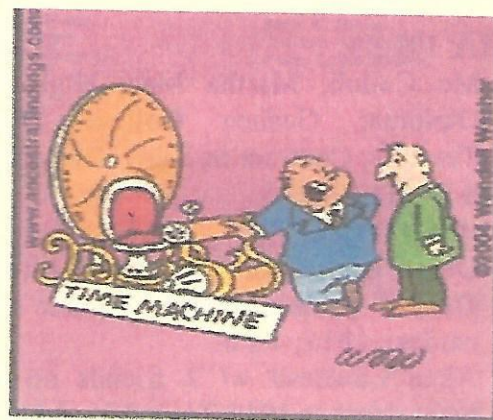
In the state of Michigan I am told there are forty-eight Carnegie libraries and seventeen of them are in towns or cities smaller than St. Johns. All of these cities are justly proud that they have such a building.

In the west, one of the things that make their small cities famous is the fact that they have a free library.

(Clinton Republican, 10 Feb 1916)



AVIANNA



This baby'll help you find those hard-to-place ancestors!



**Members of CCHS ---  
Annual Meeting Notice**

The annual Clinton County Historical Society annual election meeting will be held on May 2, 2016. Nominated for positions are required to be posted in the newsletter and the nominations for this year's vacancies are: Julie Peters - vice president and Don Hinkle - trustee. All members are encouraged to vote to support these positions.

Please send us your vote prior to the meeting if you plan not to attend. Thank you.

**From the Michigan Genealogical Council  
Newsletter:**

Newspaper Collection and access at the Library of Michigan, the Historical Newspaper Collection is on microfilm.

Visit the website:

<http://www.michigan.gov/libraryofmichigan>. Left side of menu, click on newspaper collection link, click on "Newspapers" to see alphabetical county list. Each link contains newspaper holdings in that county.

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

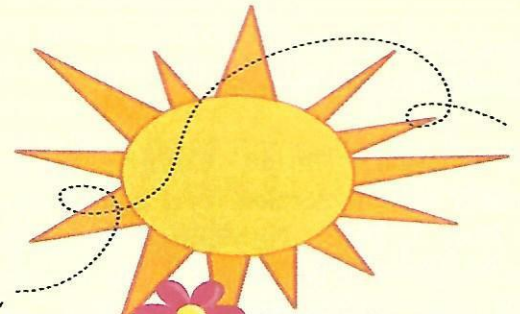
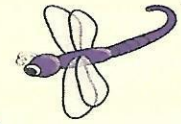
E-Mail: Yes No

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.**



HAPPY



Spring!

