



CLINTON COUNTY TRAILS



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Historical Society

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FRED J. DENGLER, JR.

1919 Autobiography, 14 yrs. of age
 (submitted by Myrna VanEpps)

The cold, wintry gale [was] piling huge drifts of snow and whistling around the house on March 13, 1905, when I, **Fred J. Dengler, Jr.**, was born. The small house in which I was born is located in Ovid, Michigan, on Pearl St. near the high [school]. One week after I was born, my mother died being survived by my father, a 4-year old sister, named **Florence**, and myself.

My sister and I boarded for a while at

a farm a few miles out of Ovid while my father boarded in town and worked on the railroad. We had not been out in the country long when we moved back in town and boarded with **Mr. and Mrs. Newman [William J. & Cora]**. Mr. Newman worked for father on the railroad.

I can begin remembering things from this period of my life. One thing I can especially remember is that Father used to bring lots of candy home. I used to dig holes in the garden and put the dirt into bottles, although I did get a few whippings for digging up the cabbage. One time, when I was about four years old, I took my cart and went about six blocks over to Mrs. Newman's mother's. Mrs. Newman and her daughter, **Hazel**, hunted all over but could not find me. Hazel thought I might have gone over to her grandmother's and started out to see if I was there. She gave me a good whipping when she found me there. We stayed at Newman's three years, then tried another place for a while, but returned to Newman's.



Frederick Dengler, Jr. (1905-1981);
 IOOF 97 Lodge, Ovid
 (Photo J-160; Courtesy of the Archives of CCHS)

From Grandfather's, we came back to Ovid and boarded at **Mrs. Morrison's** who was Mrs. Newman's mother. As I was six, it was time for me to start going to school. I can remember when Father took me to school for the first time. The first grade then was in the same room that it is now. Two boys, by the names of **Lilly [sic] Fast** [maybe **Tully Fast**; 1900-1978] and Clayton Tyler, lived near and we used to play cowboy most of the time. One-time Clayton and I made a fire in the woodshed to roast apples over and would have burnt the woodshed up had not a man come and put it out.


And then we went to board with **Mr. and Mrs. James Austin** who lived near the green house. There was about fourteen or sixteen boys living around here. We would play hide and seek, lack shi layle [sic], and sometimes we would go cooning watermelons. We built a shed behind [the] house and used to call it our den. We used it sometimes for a fort, sometimes for a prison, and sometimes for a palace. Father and I used to go to the show about every other night. In 1915 we left Mr. and Mrs. Austin's and started keeping house.

In the summer of 1917, we went over to a summer resort near Jackson, called Michigan Center. There are many lakes around this place. One of the largest is called Michigan Center on which we rented a cottage for a few weeks. I had a very good time bathing, canoeing, fishing, and sail boating.

In February [2], 1919, my grandmother [**Christine Waidelich**] died.

Note: Evidently, Fred's essay was a school assignment as it is marked up with a few spelling and grammar corrections. It was graded an "A" and is in the Dengler family file at the Archives of the Clinton Co. Historical Society. The 1920 Ovid census lists the household of **Fredrick Dengler** (53, born 1867 in Germany; widowed; section foreman on Grand Trunk RR); Fred J., 14; and Florence, 19. Fred Jr. died in 1981 and is buried in Maple Grove Cemetery as is his sister, Florence [1900-1981], and mother, **Mary L. (Waidelich) Dengler** (1876/1878-1905).

*It's A Mystery!
Whose face looks through the glass?*



Approximately 100 years ago our ancestors stood before a photographer and their image appeared upon a 5" x 7" piece of glass. Amazingly, 300+ of those panes of glass remain, but most are still unidentified. **That's where we need your help!** We now have a webpage showing you these faces with hope that you know someone. There is an email address link for you to tell us the name and how you know them. Any and all information is welcome.

clinton.migenweb.org/CCHS/GlassNegatives/MAINPAGE.html

Some people were recognized from their St. Johns 1922 high school yearbook. We are adding the names as we learn them. I love a good mystery and it would be wonderful to be able to put a name to the face in the glass.

Thanks for your help. Julie Peters, Director CCHS Archives

Victor Feguer - from troubled youth to death row

By Wayne Summers

Perhaps the most infamous person to come out of St. Johns was **Victor Harry Feguer**.

Victor's grandfather, **George Feguer**, was born in Bengal Township and lived there until at least 1900. He married **Maybell Steward** of St. Johns on March 7, 1902. After their marriage they lived for a time in Lansing where George worked in an automobile factory. Shortly after 1910 they moved to St. Johns where they would spend the rest of their lives. They had two children that lived to adulthood, **Jennie and Charles W.**

Charles W. was born in St. Johns on March 6, 1912, and married **Lucile Albaugh** of Elsie. The Feguers lived at 207 N. Oakland and it was probably there that Victor, their only child, was born in 1935¹.

For the first six years of his life Victor seemed to have been well cared for and happy. Then things changed when his mother died after a short illness on November 6, 1941. After the death of his wife, **Charles Feguer** took little interest in Victor. A timid boy with thick glasses, Victor was said by relatives to have always admired his father. This admiration continued even as Charles drank heavily, moved frequently, and had numerous short-term affairs with different women.

Since his father had no desire to care for him, Victor was taken in by his grandparents, **George and Maybell**, who lived at 106 East Steel Street. At that time George was suffering from a chronic illness and he and his wife were just barely scraping by in life with little money or energy to care for a young boy.

During this time Victor established what would be a pattern of living a rebellious life without rules. He would come and go as he pleased and began getting into trouble with the St. Johns police. One person who knew him at the time remembers he once shot through his grandparents' basement window with a gun.

His grandfather died on July 3, 1948, when Victor was 13, further disrupting his life. His aunt **Jennie (Feguer) Britten** who was living in Lansing took him in hoping to straighten him out. However, in spite of her best efforts, Victor was not interested in following rules or being a part of a normal family life.

In 1949 at the age of 14 he was sent to the Michigan Boys Vocational School in Lansing for truancy and general incorrigibility. While there, he did well on his school work, however, would try to take advantage of any privilege he would earn. He also escaped several times only to be captured and brought back.

Victor was released from the Boys Vocational School in March 1951. Shortly thereafter he was arrested for breaking and entering at two stores in St. Johns and stealing a car. When located by the police, he calmly walked up to the police car and gave himself up. At the age of 15, because of his past record, he was sentenced as an adult to Jackson State Prison for 2 ½ to 15 years.

Victor was paroled in November of 1955. Upon his release he wrote several bad checks in Jackson and then on November 18, 1955, stole a car in Owosso. Replacing the license plate with another he looked up his father and the two drove to Muskegon where they were pulled over for a minor traffic violation. Police suspecting the car was stolen searched and found the original license plate hidden under the seat. His father claimed to know nothing of the crime and was released without being charged. Victor, however, was brought back to Shiawassee County to stand trial.

While awaiting trial in the Shiawassee County Jail, Victor wrote a letter to his father and gave it to relatives of another prisoner for delivery. Instead they handed it over to the sheriff. In the letter he described in detail how his father could sneak two hacksaw blades into the jail on visiting day. He explained two blades would be enough to escape from the "ancient jail". **Sheriff VandeSande** took particular umbrage to that saying, "What I don't like is him describing this jail as ancient." [LSJ 4Jan1956 p17] As punishment, the sheriff placed Victor in solitary confinement.

Victor was found guilty and received a 1-5-year sentence for car theft and an additional sentence for the bad checks he had written in Jackson County. First Victor was sent to the Marquette state prison before being moved back to Jackson in 1957 to the tuberculosis ward due to his history of TB and ulcers. In October 1958 he was transferred back to Marquette. The following August he asked to be moved due to trouble with other prisoners. His request was granted and he spent the rest of his sentence at Jackson where he worked as a clerk in the textile mill and studied electricity and business administration².

His prison records described him as a run-of-the-mill petty thief with "grandiose ideas and a feeling of persecution which he tried to hide." He was also said to be "impulsive and demanding, and on provocation might be dangerous." [LSJ 22Jul1960 p2]

Victor was released from Jackson State Prison on April 4, 1960. For a few weeks his mother's family gave him \$50 a week to help him get on his feet. He moved around taking short-term jobs in Ohio, Illinois, and Wisconsin. During that time, he also drank heavily.

On July 2, 1960, Victor used a forged check to purchase a .38 automatic pistol at Waukesha, Wisconsin. On July 7th, using another forged check, he purchased a bus ticket from Milwaukee to Dubuque, Iowa. There, using the name Sam Newman and claiming to be an accountant and commercial artist on vacation, he rented an apartment at 1004 Bluff Street.

Four days later on July 11th, Victor began the day by writing three bad checks for a total of \$200. At about 7:30 that evening he went to a payphone, picked up a phonebook, and called the first doctor listed, **Dr. Edward Bartels**. Victor told Dr. Bartels his wife

was in intense pain from a recent surgery and needed medication. He gave an address of 1134 Locust Street which was about two blocks away from the apartment he was renting. Dr. Bartels, a 34-year-old father of three, left a note for his wife, pregnant with number four, and headed out to help the ill woman.

The motive for what happened next is unclear. As Victor never explained, we simply don't know what caused a non-violent criminal to commit murder. Was it a sudden burst of anger? A narcotics robbery that went wrong? An accidental shooting? Whatever the reason, we'll never know.

When the doctor arrived at 1134 Locust Street, Victor pulled a gun on him, and forced him back into his car. Victor forced Dr. Bartels to drive about 10 miles east over the Mississippi River and across the Illinois state line to a woods at the end of a narrow lane about 1 mile off US-20. There he shot him in the head, leaving his body lying face up. Taking the doctor's stethoscope, Victor drove off in Dr. Bartels' 1959 Rambler and headed east.

About 10:00 that night Victor called the Bartels' residence and said Dr. Bartels wouldn't be able to come home until the next day as he was attending to his wife who was critically ill.

The next morning when her husband hadn't arrived home, she contacted police and a manhunt was launched. Police soon discovered a Sam Newman had disappeared about the same time. When police checked Sam Newman's room, they found the light on along with the personal belongings of an ex-con named Victor Feguer, who now became their prime suspect in the disappearance of Dr. Bartels.

About a day later Mrs. Bartels received another call from Victor saying her husband was dead. Not wanting to believe it, she preferred to think the call was just a cruel hoax.

After the murder Victor had driven first to Gary, Indiana. There he picked up an ex-con hitchhiker named **Jack Hale**. He told Jack he'd helped a companion abduct a doctor from Iowa who was being held for ransom. While in Indiana he made purchases using forged checks in the name of Dr. Bartels. He also tried unsuccessfully to trade the car for a different one.

From Gary the two men traveled to Grand Rapids, Michigan. It was probably there he exchanged the Iowa license plate for a Michigan one. From Michigan Victor and Jack traveled south to Birmingham, Alabama. The two went to a used car dealership there on July 20th where Victor attempted to sell the Rambler. The salesman, suspecting something was wrong since he had no title, contacted the police. The FBI responded thinking he might be a different wanted man they were searching for in the area. Discovering he was wanted for kidnapping in Iowa, they arrested a calm Victor without a struggle. Next to him in the Rambler was his .38 automatic pistol which he made no attempt to use. He was taken to the Jefferson County jail where he was charged with interstate flight to avoid prosecution for kidnapping.

Under questioning, Victor told the FBI where the body of Dr. Bartels was, but insisted the crime had been committed by **Alex Dupree** of Chicago. He said he along with Alex Dupree had kidnapped the doctor to obtain drugs for Dupree. After Dupree killed Dr. Bartels, Victor said he had in turn killed Dupree and dumped his body in the Mississippi River. The FBI was never able to find confirmation for his story. After that he said very little. He refused to answer questions as to motive or about his previous life.

Years later his court appointed attorney, **Fred White**, said Victor never explained much of anything. "We had no cooperation from him other than the fact that he didn't resist us. He was a very mentally ill man. He had a history of it – it wasn't something he concocted for his murder trial." [*Orlando Sentinel* 9 June 2001]

Because he had crossed state lines the murder became a Federal crime. He was charged and tried in Federal court on the charge of kidnapping as there was not sufficient proof for a charge of murder. A court appointed psychiatrist examined Victor and found him to be mentally incompetent. However, **Judge Henry N. Graven** overruled him and found Victor competent, and the trial took place in February and March of 1961 in Waterloo, Iowa.

His father, living in Chicago at the time, was subpoenaed to testify on his behalf, but never showed up and couldn't be located.

During the trial on March 2nd while being held in the Black Hawk jail, Victor was caught trying to escape. Several hacksaw blades were discovered on him and a bar on his cell was partially cut through.

Victor was found guilty on March 12th and sentenced to death by hanging. **Iowa Governor Harold Hughes**, who was opposed to capital punishment, asked **President Kennedy** to commute the sentence, but Kennedy refused.

On March 5, 1963, Victor was placed on death row at the Iowa state prison at Fort Madison. Asked what he would like as a last meal, he requested and received a single unpitted olive. He said he hoped it would grow out of his grave into a tree as a symbol of peace.

On March 15, 1963, after an all-night vigil with a Catholic priest he was given a new blue suit to change into. Just before he was led to the gallows, he told the priest concerning his means of execution, "I sure hope I'm the last one to go."³ A half-hour later while chewing gum with the olive pit in his pocket, the noose was placed around his neck, and Victor Feguer took his final breath.

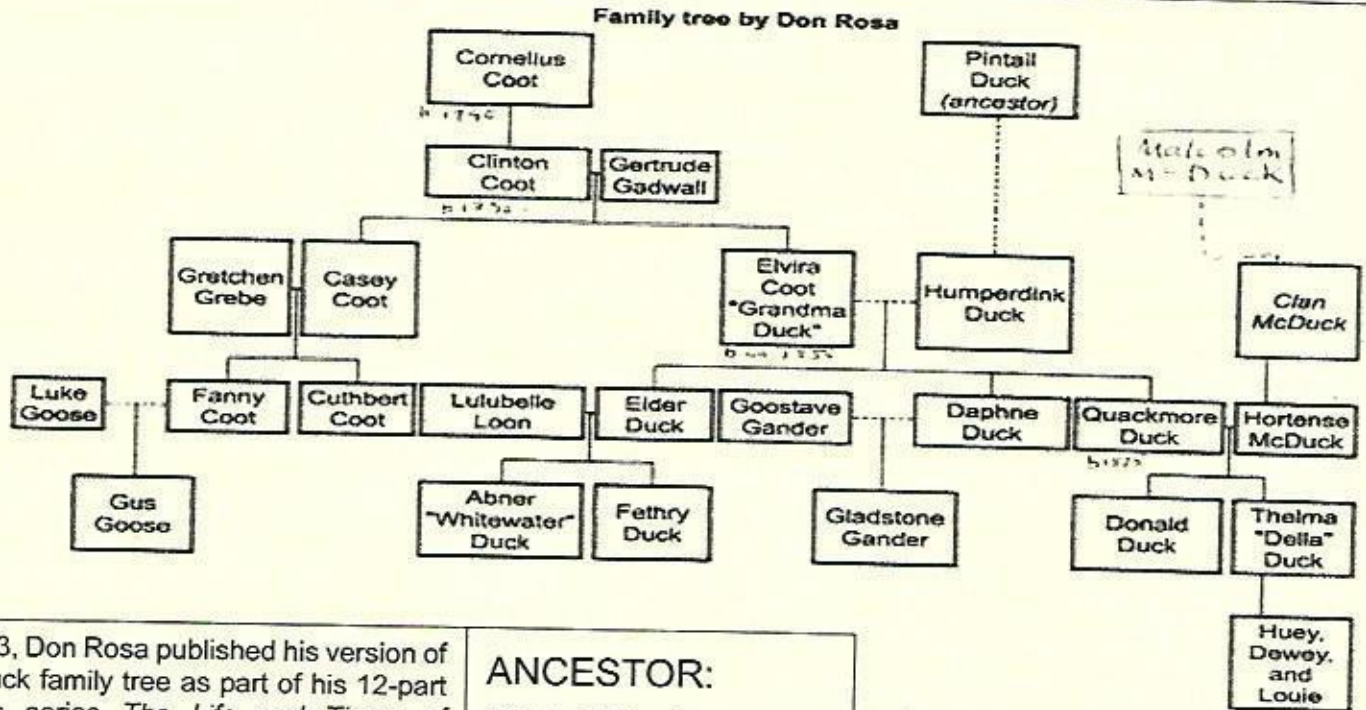
Notes: 1. I have been unable to find a birthdate. All available records simply say he was born in 1935.

2. At his kidnapping trial it was reported he had graduated from high school and completed a year of college. If that was true it must have been while he was in prison.

3. Victor was the last person to be put to death in the state of Iowa as capital punishment was outlawed there in 1965. He was also the last Federal prisoner to be executed until Timothy McVeigh in 2001.

JUST FOR FUN: Duck Family (Disney)

Family tree by Don Rosa
 (The chart shows relationships within the Coot family (left) and Duck family (right))
 Submitted by Lynne Gregory



In 1993, Don Rosa published his version of the Duck family tree as part of his 12-part comics series *The Life and Times of Scrooge McDuck*. The most significant change was Rosa's expansion of the family tree to include the Coot relatives. Rosa also added Goostave Gander as the father of Gladstone, and made Luke Goose the father of Gus, rather than his uncle.

The **Duck family** is a fictional family of cartoon ducks related to Disney character Donald Duck. The family is also related to the **Coot**, **Goose**, and **Gander families**, as well as the Scottish **Clan McDuck**. Besides Donald, the best-known members of the Duck family are Huey, Dewey, and Louie, Donald's three nephews.

Members of the Duck family appear most extensively in Donald Duck comic stories (although some have made animated appearances). In 1993, American comics author Don Rosa published a Duck family tree which established each characters' relationships for purposes of his stories. Rosa even created a fictional timeline for when certain characters were born. (All birth/death dates given below are Rosa's.) Some other comics authors, both before and after Rosa's family tree, have shown variations in the family.

ANCESTOR: Pintail Duck

Pintail Duck was a 16th-century Duck relative and the first early ancestor to appear in person. Pintail served in the Royal Navy as the boatswain aboard the *HMS Falcon Rover*. The *Falcon Rover* raided Spanish targets in the Caribbean Sea between 1563 and 1564 when the ship was sunk. Pintail was friends with the ship's first mate, Malcolm McDuck, who was also an ancestor of Donald. Pintail appears in the story "Back to Long Ago" (1956) in which it is suggested that he was an earlier incarnation of Donald.

Humperdink Duck

Humperdink Duck is the earliest known modern Duck family member. He is the husband of Elvira Coot, known as "Grandma Duck", and Donald's grandfather. He worked as a farmer in Duckburg. He had three children: Quackmore, Daphne and Eider. Humperdink Duck had relevant comic appearances in two stories by Don Rosa. "The Invader Of Fort Duckburg",^[4] a chapter of the saga *The Life and Times of Scrooge McDuck*, and "The Sign Of The Triple Distelfink".^[5] He was known as "Pa Duck" (later known as "Grandpa Duck").

Humperdink's life before having a family was never shown in the comics. Don Rosa speculated that the Duck family originated from England, but it is unknown if Humperdink is an immigrant.^[6]

**Brotherhood of the Round Table
Membership list 1904-1915
(continued from Dec Issue)**

Rawson, Mrs. W. C. B. (Teacher)
Ridenour, D.
Ridenour, Earl
Roberts, C. Nevison (Teacher)
Ruth, Austin E.
Schavey, A.
Schavey, Earl
Shaver, George C.
Silhavy, Joe
Sleight, R.
Smith, P.
Smith, William
Stead, Tom (Teacher)
Stevens, Victor
Stuart, [no first name listed]
Taft, Francis H.
Teare, Tom
Terrill, Alice (Speaker)
Thurston, Lyman
Tolles, Arthur W.
Townsend, Lawrence
Trimble, Charles
Tso, Sung Ling (Speaker)
Tucker, Louis E.
Tupper, G. A.
VanDeusen, R. G.
VanGilder, Elmer
Walker, T.
Ward, Ralph B.
Warner, Harold
Weller, Earl V.
Wickes, Gordon F.
Wickes, Howard C.
Woodruff, Louis L.
Zacharis, Carl

Note: Unfortunately, I forgot to add captions to the Brotherhood of the Round Table pictures in the December Issue. They are:

- The first picture is construction of the tennis courts in 1909.
- The second picture is the annual banquet on September 10, 1909, at Harmony Hall.

Back Through the Years!

Hon. J. W. Fordney

Will speak at
Harmony Hall, St. Johns,
On Tuesday Evening,
October 16, 1900,
At 8 o'clock p.m. Local Time

A special invitation is extended to the first voters and soldiers to attend this meeting. All are welcome. Ladies are welcome at all Republican meetings.

Mr. Fordney has developed into a good public speaker and will render an account of his stewardship. If you hear him you will vote for him.

Mr. E. J. Moinet, of St. Johns, Will also Address the Meeting

By order of Committee.
(S/JN Oct 1900)

ELECTION

RETURNS

BY

Western Union
Telegraph Co.,

At

Allison's Opera House,

St. Johns, Mich.

W. H. Burke, Manager

Tuesday Night, November 6, 1900

**LADIES ARE INVITED
ORDER WILL BE MAINTAINED.**


The official returns from all parts of the United States for the Presidential Election will be announced as received.

All the returns from the different States of the Union will be bulletined as fast as they fall, either in the Democratic or Republican column.

It will surely be interesting. Don't fail to be on hand. Secure your tickets before the day of election. This insures you a good seat near the Telegraph instruments and Bulletin Board.

Admission 25c Gentleman and Lady 40c
(S/JN Oct 1900)

HAPPY EASTER



World War Honors Award Clinton County Men for Acts of Gallantry Revealed in Book Just Published.

Six soldier of the World War, five men and one officer, who gave their place of residence at enlistment as Clinton county, Michigan, were decorated for bravery and distinguished service. These six men were **William C. Giffels**, British Military Cross and Russian Order of St. Anne; **Matt L. Stevens**, American Distinguished Service Cross and French Croix de Guerre; **Harold Devereaux**, Distinguished Service Cross and Croix de Guerre; **Joseph E. Helmore**, Distinguished Service Cross; **John L. Hoppes**, Croix de Guerre; **Mike Rouchena**, Croix de Guerre.

In addition to these **William A. Pearl**, a native of the county who gave his place of residence at enlistment as Grand Rapids, also was awarded the Croix de Guerre.

In a book, "Michigan in the World War," just published by the Michigan Historical Commission appear the names and citations of the more than 1,000 men and women of Michigan who were decorated for acts of gallantry. The paragraphs concerning the seven men mentioned above are as follows: **William Armour Pearl**, driver Section No. 625, Ambulance Service, French Croix de Guerre with palm, under Order No 8,200, dated June 29, 1918, General

Headquarters, French Armies of the North and Northeast, with the following citation: "A remarkably courageous and devoted drive, He was severely wounded on August 16, 1917, in the region of Verdun, while commencing to repair an ambulance under an intense enemy artillery fire. In spite of weakness resulting from great loss of blood, he gave all the directions for the continuance of the work and went on foot to the first-aid station, a distance of 600-700 meters".

William C. Giffels, first lieutenant, 310th Engineers, 85th Division, American Expeditionary Forces, Russia, British Military Cross, List No. 55, dated Jan. 9, 1920, British War Office. Details of act of gallantry performed: "During the operations of the 14th, 15th and 16th, October, 1918, on the Archangel-Vologda railway, this officer worked with unceasing vigor and devotion to duty, repairing the railroad. His behavior under shell fire was an example to all and had a most steadying effect. He had always proved himself a loyal and brave officer." Russian Order of St. Anne (second class), with swords. Residence at appointment: St. Johns, Mi.

Matthew Stevens, corporal, Company E, 125th Infantry. Citation for Distinguished Service Cross; "For extra-ordinary heroism throughout the advance across the River Oureq and to Fismes, France, on the south bank of the Vesle River July 31 to August 8, 1918. Corpl. Stevens, then a private, was carrying messages through machine-gun and artillery fire. He did his work without fear or hesitation, thereby keeping constant, liaison with higher

authority. During times not so occupied he administered aid to the wounded, crawling to stricken comrades at imminent risk of his own life through areas swept by machine-gun fire. Through disregard of danger he was the means of saving many wounded men." Citation for Croix de Guerre with silver star. On duty as messenger during the advance between the Oureq and Fismes, he kept the transmission of messages night and day, under the fire of machine-guns and artillery. His complete indifference to danger and his prompt and intelligent assistance saved many lives." Residence at enlistment, St Johns, Michigan.

Harold J. Devereaux, (Distinguished Service Cross) private Co. M, 125th Infantry. "For extraordinary heroism in action near Sergy, France, July 31, 1918. When his company had crossed the River Oureq and captured the Bois Pelger, the corporal of his squad, fighting beside him, was wounded by machine-gun fire. The enemy continued to fire on the wounded man and Pvt. Devereaux, single-handed, with the fire of his rifle, attacked the machine-gun and succeeded in putting it out of action. Residence at enlistment: Elsie, Michigan. (Croix de Guerre with gilt star). "One of his comrades having been wounded by the fire of the machine-gun, he attacked the machine-gun nest alone and reduced it to silence."

(cont. on next page)

<p>Mike Rouchena, corporal, Company F, 128th Infantry, 32nd Division, French Croix de Guerre with silver star, dated March 17, 1919, General Headquarters, French Armies of the East, with the following citation: "He displayed Great courage and was a fine example for his men in advancing under a valiant barrage, capturing several of the enemy." Residence at enlistment, RFD 4, St. Johns, Michigan.</p>	<p>Joseph F. Helmore, private, Co. M. 125th Infantry, 32nd Division. (Distinguished Service Cross) "For extraordinary heroism in action northeast of Chateau-Thierry, France, July 31, 1918. Through heavy machine-gun fire and artillery barrage fire he, with another man, dragged a wounded comrade from within 100 feet of the enemy lines to his own lines, a distance of 150 yards." Residence at enlistment, Elsie, MI.</p>	<p>John L. Hoppes, private, 128th Field Hospital, 32nd Division, French Croix de Guerre with bronze star, dated March 12, 1919, General Headquarters, French Armies of the East, with the following citation. "He always displayed the greatest bravery and unlimited zeal in lavishing his care of the wounded." Residence at enlistment: RFD 3, Eagle, MI. (CCR News : 5 Mar 1925, p1, c2)</p>
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Proposed changes to the:

BYLAWS OF THE CLINTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

NOTE: Wording removed is "~~lined out~~" and wording added is "*italicized*".

Preamble and Purpose

REMOVE: "The CCHS consists of the Executive Board of the Society, the Archives, and the Museum."

Article I Membership and Dues

REWRITE TO READ:

Section 1. "There are two classifications of membership and dues:

- the CCHS/*Archives* and
- the CCHS/*Museum*.
- Any person interested in the history of Clinton County, Michigan, who applies for membership through the Society CCHS/*Archives* or the CCHS/*Museum* and who tenders the necessary dues or *gifts* thereby becomes a member of the Society CCHS/*Archives* or the CCHS/*Museum*, respectively."

Article II Schedule and Quorum for Meetings

Section 1. REPLACE: "~~shall be held monthly. The meeting dates~~" WITH "*shall be determined and set annually by vote of the Executive Board.*"

Section 2. CHANGE: "chairman" TO "*President*". CHANGE: "~~by five (5) members~~" TO: "*a majority of current members of the Board*"

Section 3. CHANGE: "*President*" TO "*Executive Board*"; REMOVE: "~~the monthly~~"

Section 4. CHANGE: "five (5)" TO "*a majority of current Executive Board members.*"

Article III Annual Meeting

CHANGE: "~~the first Monday of May~~" TO "*within 60 days of the end of the calendar year.*" "~~Six (6) weeks' written notice shall be sent to all members.~~" TO "*Notice shall be delivered to all members either by mail, electronic transmission, or newsletter not less than 10 days nor more than 60 days prior to the meeting.*" ADD: "*and directors and any other planned actionable agenda items. All Society members present may vote on the election of officers and Board membership.*"

Article IV Executive Board

CHANGE: "~~a president, a vice president, a secretary, a treasurer,~~" TO "*up to*" ~~three~~ "*seven (7) directors/trustees*" REMOVE: "~~(collectively referred to as "officers")~~", plus the Director of the Archives and the Director of the Museum ADD: "*or their representative.*" CHANGE "All officers TO "*directors/trustees*" shall be elected for a term of three years "*and*" REMOVE: "~~The officers~~" shall serve staggered terms. ADD: "*The Director of the Archives and the Director of the Museum, or their representative(s), shall serve as long as they occupy the position.*"

Article V Election of Officers and Directors

Section 1. CHANGE: "~~All officers~~" TO "*All directors/trustees*"; REMOVE: ~~May~~

Section 2. ADD: slate of officers "*and directors/trustees*"; REMOVE: ~~May~~; ADD: officers "*and directors/trustees*". *Additional names may be nominated by any member at the annual meeting prior to the vote.*"

Section 4. CHANGE TO READ: "The President and Vice President shall not serve more than three (3) consecutive terms." "The Executive Board shall have four officers: President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. The terms of each shall be established by the Executive Board."

Section 5. REMOVE: "May"; ADD: "or director/trustee,"

Section 6. CHANGE: "No person shall be acceptable for nomination to the Clinton County Historical Society Executive Board unless he/she has attended a minimum of four business meetings within the previous twelve (12) months. Eligibility TO: "Status of the Board members is subject to periodic review by the Board and may be revoked for non-attendance."

Article VII The Museum

Section 1. CHANGE: The Clinton County Historical "Society" Museum, "Paine-Gillam-Scott (PGS-Museum-Complex),"

Section 3. CHANGE: and "four (4) Trustees" TO "up to five (5) additional Board Members; CHANGE: "The Museum Advisory Board shall meet on the 2nd Wednesday of April, May, July, September, October." TO "meetings shall be determined and set annually by vote of the Advisory Board."

Article VIII The Archives

Section 1. CHANGE ADDRESS: DeWitt, Michigan TO "Lansing, Michigan 48906"

Section 3. CHANGE: The Archives "shall be maintained by the committee known as The Genealogists of the Clinton Co. Historical Society. It" ADD "staff" shall be responsible

Article IX Committees

CHANGE: The Society "shall" "may" have the following standing committees.

REMOVE: Genealogy Committee (known as, The Genealogists of CCHS) shall be responsible for maintaining the Archives.

CHANGE: Numbering of remaining committees TO:

- Publications Committee
- Historic Site Committee
- Program Committee
- Membership Committee
- Oral History Committee

Article X Parliamentary Authority

CHANGE: "The rules contained in *Robert's Rules of Order*, *Rose Marie Cruzan's Practical Parliamentary Procedure*, or other authority shall govern the proceedings of the Society". Except in such cases as are governed by the constitution or the Bylaws, "meetings shall be run according to *Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised*, latest edition, with these special rules for small boards.

- All members may remain seated when speaking, making motions, or calling for a vote.
- There is no limit to the number of times a member may speak to a question.
- Informal discussion of a subject is permitted while no motion is pending.
- The President may speak in discussion and vote on all questions."

Article XI Amendment to the Bylaws

CHANGE TO READ: These Bylaws may be amended at any regular or special meeting of the membership "or Executive Board" by a two-thirds vote of those voting. All proposed amendments shall be submitted "in writing by the Secretary" to all members of CCHS with a minimum of three (3) weeks' notice "by mail, electronic transmission, or newsletter." The Executive Board may provide for votes by proxy and electronic notice.

Bylaws adopted September 26, 1974

Amendments adopted: ADD: May 6, 2019

Recent Acquisitions

2018 DECEMBER-2019 FEBRUARY:

CHURCH:

- A History of St. Johns Churches, Submitted in Honor of the Sesquicentennial Celebration of the City of St. Johns; Sept. 2006; Compiled by the St. Johns Ministerial Association; 5 1/2 x 8 1/2"; gray booklet; 28 pp.
- United Methodist Churches Offering Christ Together; Salem, Lowe, Greenbush; Feb 1992; 8 1/2 x 11"; blue booklet; 14 pp.
- Salem United Methodist Church; Lowe United Methodist Church; Maple Rapids United Methodist Church; 2009; combination directories; 8 1/2 x 11"; coil bound; 30 pp.
- Salem United Methodist; Greenbush United Methodist; Lowe United Methodist Church; 1999; combination directories; 8 1/2 x 11"; coil bound; 25 pp.

DIRECTORIES - TELEPHONE:

- 2012-13 St. Johns City Telephone Directory (including Fowler-Pewamo, Maple Rapids, Muir-Lyons, and Ionia); Frontier Communication; 7 x 9"; 78 pp.
- 2016 St. Johns City Telephone Directory (including Fowler-Pewamo, Maple Rapids, Muir-Lyons, and Ionia); Frontier Communication; 8 x 11"; 44 pp.

ORGANIZATIONS:

- St. Johns Woman's Club Program Booklet; 1938-1939
- St. Johns Woman's Club Program Booklet; 1939-1940
- St. Johns Woman's Club Program Booklet; 1941-1942
- St. Johns Woman's Club Program Booklet; 1943-1944
- St. Johns Woman's Club Program Booklet; 1944-1945
- Mich. State Fed. Of Women's Clubs Yearbook; 1950-1951

PHOTOS:

- Doris **CROWELL**; Ovid, Class of 1949 Senior Photo; 3 1/2 x 4 1/2"; cardboard frame
- Ivan **PAGE**; Ovid, Class of 1949 Senior Photo; 3 1/2 x 4 1/2"; cardboard frame; b/w
- Lyle **RUSSELL**; Ovid, Class of 1949 Senior Photo; 3 1/2 x 4 1/2"; cardboard frame; b/w
- Glenn **DECKER**; Ovid, Class of 1949 Senior Photo; 3 1/2 x 4 1/2"; cardboard frame; b/w
- Donna **TAYLOR**; Ovid, Class of 1949 Senior Photo; 3 1/2 x 4 1/2"; cardboard frame; b/w
- Lawrence **BYRNES**; Ovid, Class of 1949 Senior Photo; 3 1/2 x 4 1/2"; cardboard frame; b/w
- Edward **BOCK**; Ovid, Class of 1949 Senior Photo; 3 1/2 x 4 1/2"; cardboard frame; b/w
- Donald **AUSTIN**; Ovid, Class of 1949 Senior Photo; 3 1/2 x 4 1/2"; cardboard frame; b/w
- Wendall **BOLTON**; Ovid, Class of 1949 Senior Photo; 3 1/2 x 4 1/2"; cardboard frame; b/w
- Ilda **WADSWORTH**; Ovid, Class of 1949 Senior Photo; 3 1/2 x 4 1/2"; cardboard frame; b/w
- Arthur **CURTIS**; Ovid, Class of 1949 Senior Photo; 3 1/2 x 4 1/2"; cardboard frame; b/w
- Marion **COLF**; Ovid, Class of 1949 Senior Photo; 3 1/2 x 4 1/2"; cardboard frame; b/w
- Ella **WITT**; Ovid, Class of 1949 Senior Photo; 3 1/2 x 4 1/2"; cardboard frame; b/w
- William **DANTHER**; Ovid, Class of 1949 Senior Photo; 3 1/2 x 4 1/2"; cardboard frame; b/w
- Wayne **PURVES**; Ovid, Class of 1949 Senior Photo; 3 1/2 x 4 1/2"; cardboard frame; b/w
- Robert **HUBBARD**; Ovid, Class of 1949 Senior Photo; 3 1/2 x 4 1/2"; cardboard frame; b/w
- Glenn **CLARK**; Ovid, Class of 1949 Senior Photo; 3 1/2 x 4 1/2"; cardboard frame; b/w
- Leila **NETHAWAY**; Ovid, Class of 1949 Senior Photo; 3 1/2 x 4 1/2"; cardboard frame; b/w

NAMES RESEARCHED: Dengler, Hart, Parks, Smith, Snow. Also researched: St. Johns earthquake, Cheese/butter factories, quilt factory, Fire & Police Departments, Rodney B. Wilson High School, St. Johns Fairgrounds.



Find us on
Facebook

We are now on Facebook. Follow us at CCHSMichigan to keep up to date on all of the latest happenings. It's also a great place to share your photos and memories!



It's dues time for 2019. We are mailing a hard copy to all of our members so they can see when their subscription ends. **Check your address label for that date. Without a renewal, this will be your last issue.** Don't miss out on any upcoming information and news. Thank you from the editors.

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 Web page: dewittlibrary.org/CCHS. CCHS members have free usage of the Archives, non-member cost \$5.00 donation 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 Redeemer Church – St. Johns Campus 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 **Clinton County Historical Museum** complex is located on the west side of the courthouse square in St. Johns. pgsmuseum@gmail.com. To join the Friends of the Museum and make a donation of \$25, contact them at: www.pgsmuseum.com ; or PGS Museum, P.O. Box 174, St. Johns, MI 48879.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY ARCHIVES 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 researchers: (please circle Yes or No on each):

E-Mail Address: _____

Name & Address: Yes No E-Mail: Yes No

Date: _____

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.**



MUSEUM WANTS YOUR SOAP
BOX DERBY PHOTOS

The Clinton County Historical Museum located just west of the courthouse is looking for photos and documents relating to the Soap Box Derby that was held in St. Johns in the 1960s and 70s. We will have a yearlong display celebrating the return of the Soap Box Derby to St. Johns and would like to use your photo in our display. We can scan your photos so you can keep the originals.

We are also in need of vintage photos or other artifacts relating to police, sheriff, and fire departments in Clinton County to use in our featured exhibit this year. Please help us if you can, as we would like to honor the memory of those who served our community in years past.

You can contact the museum by phone, 989-224-2894 or e-mail pgsmuseum@gmail.com.