

CLINTON COUNTY TRAILS



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Historical Society

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"DOLLAR WATCH" INGERSOLL"

Submitted by Myrna VanEpps



Clinton Co. can claim **Robert Hawley Ingersoll** as a native son, but just barely. He was born Dec. 26, 1859, on the southern edge of Watertown Twp., near Delta Mills. His extended family members came to the area early in Michigan's history and established themselves by the Grand River where Ingersoll Station, Ingersoll Post Office, and Ingersoll Mill carried their name. His grandfather, **Erastus**

Ingersoll, an entrepreneur in his own time, built a huge house just south of the township line and it looms over today's Ingersoll Road which also passes Robert's birth farm slightly south of the railroad tracks.

Robert's parents were **Orville Boudinot and Mary Elizabeth** (Beers) Ingersoll. He grew up with siblings, William Howard, Arthur, Sarah, Martha, & Charles Henry Ingersoll. The Ingersoll children's only formal education was in the Grove School, at that time placed near the corner of Grove and Lowell Rds.

Robert worked on the farm, only going to school sporadically until the age of ten. Dissatisfied with his prospects there, in 1879, as a 19-year-old, he decided to join his brother, William Howard, in New York. Robert accumulated \$160 by working his way to New York. With this money he and Robert began a business manufacturing and selling rubber stamps. Soon they asked their brother, Charles, to join them. To sell the stamps, they developed a catalog and mail-order business. Charles invented a dollar toy typewriter with rubber type to add to the catalog. They devised a dollar sewing machine and also arranged for items of other manufacturers to be included in their expanding inventory. Their successful venture made Robert and Charles pioneers in mail-order retailing and country-wide, uniform pricing.

Robert achieved millionaire status, however, with his vision of marketing a cheap pocket watch. In 1892 the Ingersolls contracted with the Waterbury Clock Co. to adapt one of its products for the initial model. At the 1893 Columbian Exposition in Chicago, they exhibited a 2.5" diam. x by 1" thick pocket watch with a key inside the case for winding. Ensuing designs became more compact and in 1896 the Columbus model was introduced with the set price of \$1—"the watch for the millions, not the millionaire." In time it became prudent to add the Ingersoll name to their watches in order to distinguish them from those of copycat manufacturers. By 1916 Waterbury and Ingersoll had acquired several other manufacturing companies and were mass producing their watches and sales of "the watch that made the dollar famous" climbed to over 70,000,000. The dollar watch fad wore off at about the same time the recession after WWI occurred causing the firm of Robert F. Ingersoll and Brother to go bankrupt in 1921.



The business was absorbed by Waterbury and Ingersoll watches were sold by Waterbury and its successors until 1944. The line included the Radiolite, which featured the infamous luminous radium dial, and the first Mickey Mouse watch. The company eventually became Timex.

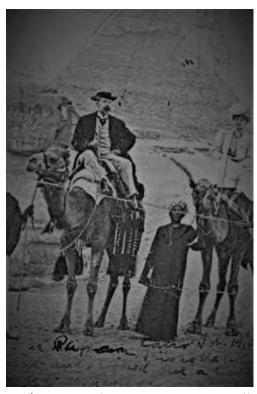
The bankruptcy did not leave Robert Ingersoll penniless or defeated and he carried on with various enterprises. He promoted the Ingersoll Dollar Razor Strop, invested in Lansing real estate, and began collecting modern art.



On June 22, 1904, Robert, age 43, married Edith Maize (changed her name to Roberta Maria) Bannister, age 31, in Muskegon, MI. Estranged from Robert, she died in Manhattan on Dec. 19, 1926, from a gunshot wound in an encounter with a lover and/or blackmailer. She is described as the shooter in a murder-suicide attempt in some reports of the event. Robert died of Bright's

Disease on Sept. 4, 1928, in Denver, Colorado. They are buried in Forest Home Cemetery in Greenville, MI--she in an unmarked grave and he in the mausoleum.

An Ingersoll "Ensign" watch can be seen at the Museum of the Clinton Co. Historical Society which also exhibits a chair from Robert Ingersoll's estate. Both are pictured with this article, courtesy of the museum staff.



Robert Hawley & Maise Ingersoll
On a trip to Egypt

Old Family Photos

Information for the article from Lynne Gregory & Wayne Summers

Perhaps one of the greatest joys of a family historian is finding a cache of old family photos. They not only show what your ancestors looked like, but also often give glimpses into their interests and personalities.

But how do you know when and where a photo was taken? Knowing the type and history of each kind of photo can provide clues as to when it was taken. When trying to date an old photograph there are many things to consider. Is there a photographer's stamp on the border or back? Is it an original or a copy of an original? Originally photographic paper was very thin so prints were pasted to cardboard mounts. The size of the mount helps to distinguish the type of photograph. Following are the popular photographic processes.

The first photographs, **Daguerreotypes** produced from 1839-1860's, were positive images printed on copper. **Ambrotypes** produced from 1851-1870's were positive images printed on glass. Both are usually found in a small protective case.



Tintype in a sleeve

The first popular photographs which show up regularly in this area were **Tintypes** which were produced from 1854 until about 1880 (sometimes later as novelties). These are thin sheets of iron, not tin, with a black varnish on which the image forms. Most were originally housed in paper sleeves which sometimes had the photographer's name and location. During 1860's & 70's these were often place in cardboard mounts or paper sleeves. They came in many different sizes from the tiny gem to 11×14 inches. Most, however, were about $2 \frac{1}{2}$ to $5 \frac{1}{2}$ inches. Tintypes did not use negatives so each is an original. Most also are mirror images (reversed from left to right) from reality.

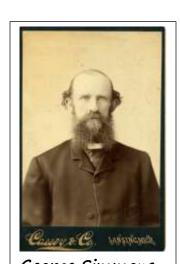
The next popular type was **Carte de Visite** which were produced from 1859 until around 1889. They measured 2 ½ inches by 4 inches and were albumen paper prints mounted on thick paper. This process used glass negatives to print on specially coated paper. Because it used a glass negative, it was possible

to make several prints from the same photograph. Additional clues can often be gathered as the photographer would usually print his name and location on the back.

Sometimes it's possible to narrow in on the date of an early photo. In order to help pay for the Civil War a tax was placed on photographs between June 30, 1864 and August 1, 1866. Photographers were required to affix and initial a stamp based on the cost of the photo. If you have a **Carte de Visite** or **Tintype** photo with a tax stamp on the back you know it is from that time period. As no special stamp was produced the stamp could be any available type.



Boy Carte de Visite



George Simmons

– Cabinet Photo

A larger version of the **Carte de Visite** were **Cabinet Cards** which were produced from 1866 until about 1910. These were especially popular in the 1880's and 1890's. Photographer's names and locations were often printed on the bottom under the photograph or on the back. In 1888 Eastman Kodak introduced the first camera with celluloid film. The

In 1888 Eastman Kodak introduced the first camera with celluloid film. The camera came preloaded with film for 100 exposures. Once all 100 pictures had been taken the camera was sent to Kodak for development and reloaded with a new film. This was followed by several other models including the very popular Brownie camera introduced in 1900. The original Brownie cost a dollar and came with a 6-exposure film. Additional films cost 15 cents.

While celluloid film made photography a popular, affordable activity, many professional photographers continued to use glass plate negatives for many years because of the higher quality of the prints.

About 1900, photos began using the gelatin silver process. This process allowed much greater freedom as to size of the photos.

Professional prints in the early 1900's came in various sizes and forms, but were higher quality than the Kodak prints. Many have developed a silvering on the surface.

In 1907 Kodak began giving customers the option of printing their pictures as postcards and it was a popular option for about 10 years.

Further clues as to dates of the photographs:

Daguerreotypes, Ambrotypes and some **Tintypes** could be found in their cases – leather or paper covered wood frame or a black molded plastic "union" case. Inside photograph encased in brass "preserver" and placed under glass. If no "preserver" daguerreotype probably dates from the 1840's. If preserver is plain it dates 1850-55. If encased or pressed patterns and decorations on matte or preserver it would date after 1855.

Most **Tintypes** from 1860's have black backs and after 1870's the backs are generally brown. Another way to identify the date is by the styles of the clothing, hair, etc. as this form was used for many years span.

The color of the card is also a clue. Earliest cards (1858-1869) were white (which may be yellowed with age). 1871-74 also white but have a thicker card. In 1862-66 grey or tan cards were used and grey was common in 1872-80 with a thicker card. Yellow was used between 1869-74. A variety of pale colors were used from 1873-1910. Chocolate or black cards were used from 1877-87.

Card edges also provide clues. Originally cards were cut with square corners, but after 1871 the corners were rounded. Beveled edges were popular between 1875-1900. Notched edges were common from 1894-1900. After 1870 edges were often covered with gilt. Starting about 1910 photos began being printed with a white border on paper that often has a tan look, especially on the back. Starting in the 1930's the paper is thicker and whiter and the border often wider.

Having a photograph taken was a special event and most of the time, people were usually dressed in their very best clothing.

Newer photographs seldom were encased except for studio portraits.

Specific clues/things to look for when dating a photograph:

- 1. Type of photograph
- 2. Clothing styles women's and children clothing styles changed more often than men and they usually dressed in dark colors. Things to look for in dating clothing:

- a. Women: collars, bodice, sleeves, waistline, necklines, fabrics, buttons, length, jewelry, accessories such as hats or bonnets and shoe types.
- b. Men: Suit cut/lapels, jacket length, buttons, etc., shirt collars, neckties (width, size of knot, and type of tie), width of pantlegs, shoes, jackets, vests, and hats.
- c. Children: 19th and early 20th century boys and girls dressed alike from birth through age 5 in general. (All wore dresses.) Boys can generally be identified by side hair parts and girls by middle hair parts. Boys generally work short pants from age 5 circa age 12 and girls skirts were shorter than before the age of 12.
- 3. Hair styles women often had their hair parted in the middle; young children (girl's hair would be parted in the middle while boys would be parted on the side). Short hair was not popular until the 1920's.
- 4. Rural/informal outdoor photos can be harder to date as work clothing hasn't changed much through the years.
- 5. Black or dark women's clothing can be a sign of bereavement, but don't assume this is so. It could be she found it practical as it could be worn again.



Boy on left in a dress.

6. Brides did not necessarily wear white until Queen Victoria did. They very often wore a dress that could be used for all purposes, sometimes with a veil.

When identifying the persons in a photo – NEVER—write on the photograph with any pen or pencil other than those specifically made for this purpose. A soft lead graphite artist pencil is a good choice to use. Always store photographs in a lignan and acid free box and albums made especially for storage. NEVER store in attic, basement or garage – a dry closet is best. Never place framed photos directly behind glass – it will eventually stick to the glass. Never display photographs in sun or direct light as it will fade them. If you cannot identify all the people in a group photograph – try family members of one of the family lines and then others. They often have a copy of the same photo and might be able to tell you their line.

There are several books to help date old photographs. Lynne's personal favorites are "*Dating Old Photographs* **1840-1929**" and "*More Dating Old Photographs* 1840-1929" both published by Family Chronicle Magazine. Both are softcover books that show photos with years and the details that were prominent and popular. If you have an old house photo, try dating by any clothing of the people in front of the house.

If you have any old photos with a Clinton County connection, we'd like to add them to our collection. If you don't wish to part with them, we'd be happy to arrange to scan them.



CCHS 2019 ANNUAL POTLUCK

This year's theme for the annual meeting and program of the Clinton Co. Historical Society was the local law enforcement personnel and fire fighters. The Clinton Co. Historical Museum, under the guidance of Ron Matson, has been collecting and displaying artifacts on this theme all year. The group gathered at AgroLiquid building in St. Johns on September 26th.

Speakers were **David Kirk**, City of St. Johns Police Chief; **Lawrence Jerue**, Clinton Co. Sheriff; and **Dean Mazzolini**, St. Johns Fire Chief. You can listen to these talks or read the transcripts at www.dewittlibrary.org/CCHS/audiofiles.

Ron Matson narrated a slide show illustrating historic fire and police equipment, notable fires, and personnel from both organizations. A PowerPoint presentation of historical photographs and data, created by Julie Peters, was running in the background during the speeches. Wayne Summers contributed a data-gathering game to add to the fun. Jan Upton provided floral centerpieces for each table.

Pictures for this article, courtesy of Julie Peters.



St. Johns Police Chief, David Kirk

Clinton County Sheriff
Lawrence Jerue



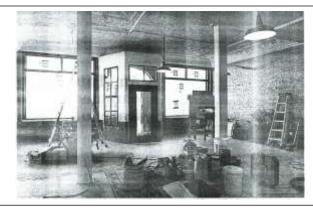
Do you know about these photographs?

On the back of these photos, it states that they could be the original Osgood funeral home and the other photo could have been the Osgood home. The handwriting stating that "it could be" was written by the museum. Does anyone know for sure it these are? If you do could you contact the archives.









F.C. Mason & Co. Clinton Republican, 1 Jan 1920

F. C. Mason & Company report all kinds of business in sight, with some delay in getting steel, owing to the steel and coal strike. It is hoped that these delays will not last long or seriously reduce the company's output. Mr. Mason will no doubt bring home a large amount of orders from his eastern trip.

CENTUIRY-OLD ST JOHNS SITE GETS \$2.4m FACE-LIFT

Lansing State Journal, 13 November 2019

"Built in 1898, the two-story, red brick building on East Railroad Street was once home to FC Mason Company, a manufacturer of farming implements. It operated on the property for 100 years before closing eight years ago." "When its redevelopment is complete, the $2\frac{1}{2}$ - acre property will offer about 40 new apartments, a coffee house, a large courtyard and small dog park."

"Crews were working on the brick building, and on the land around it...

"Ken Harris of FCM Development navigated the muddy ground outside the historic building before stepping inside one of the nearly finished ground floor apartments." "....the St. Johns native who has been restoring historic buildings for three decades, designed much of the layouts for the new project himself."

"Every aging building is unique, Harris said, and comes with its own redevelopment challenges. The FC Mason site was no exception."



MEDICAL CORPS USES RECRUITING TRUCK

The automobile truck shown in the illustration is used as a traveling recruiting station for the United States army general hospital No. 3. Of Coltadia, NJ and is gaining a great many recruits. It was photographed in Broadway, near Forty-seventh street, while on its way to Chicago.

The Clinton Republican, 1 Jan 1920



Back through the Years



SMUGLER OF DOPE OPERATE WITH ORGANIZED GANG OF 1,800 PEDDLERS.

Washington, June 13 – The alarming spread of the narcotic drug habit in the United Sates is about to be called to the attention of congress in the report of an investigation conducted by a committee appointed by the Secretary of the Treasury.

The chief findings of the committee are:

The number of persons in the United States addicted to the use of drugs "exceeds one million at the present time."

Increase of the drug habit in the dry south leads many authorities to the conclusion that national prohibition will swell the number of victims of narcotics.

Illegitimate supplies of opium and other drugs are smuggled from Mexico and Canada and along the Atlantic and Pacific coasts and furnished to 1,800 organized "dope" peddlers.

Administration of drugs by physicians and association with drug "addicts" are given as the chief causes of formation of the habit.

The committee's recommendations include strict enforcement of the present federal anti-narcotic act; additional federal legislation; enforcement of state laws; concerted action on the part of state and municipal government to suppress the illicit traffic, stopping smuggling of dope from Canada and Mexico.

"It is also recommended that educational campaigns be instituted in all parts of the United States for the purpose of informing the people of this country, including the medical profession, of the seriousness of drug addiction and its extent in the United States," the report says.

"In reply to questionnaires sent to health officers of states, counties and municipalities, the health officer of New York City reported a total of 103,000 addicts, which is equivalent to 1.8 percent of the population. On this basis there would be 1,908,000 addicts in the United States.

"Each of the following 20 cities, have an aggregate population of approximately 10 million have reported an increase: San Francisco, Wilmington, Macon, Louisville, Brooklyn, Detroit, Kansas City, Elmira, New York City, Utica, Yonkers, Charlotte, Muskogee, OK., Toledo, Portland, Harrisburg, Chattanooga, Knoxville and Nashville. The statistics compiled by the committee show that the greater part of the addicts in this country are native born.

(CR 26 June 1919; Sec. 2, P.1, C2) (submitted by Rowlan Smith)





Recent Acquisitions & Research

SEPTEMBER - NOVEMBER 2019

HISTORIES & RESEARCH GUIDES:

- Hello Michigan; by Berenice Bryant Lowe; copyright 1942; L. W. Singer Company; Syracuse, NY; 6 x 8"; hard cover; 537 pp
- The Official WHO'S WHO in MICHIGAN; Vol. 1;1936 Edition; Herbert S. Case, Editor; Munising, MI; 6 1/2 x 9 1/2"; hard cover; 467 pp

MAP:

1868 Saint Johns, Clinton Co., Michigan; 18 x 12"; aerial view; hand drawn

PHOTOS:

- Brown School, 17 Mar 1922; 4 x 6"; b/w; (Back Row) Aria Strong (teacher), Leon Hayes, Walter Pohl, Homer Johnson, Bruce Moyr, Alvin Lutz, Floyd Lutz, Lewis Hayes, (Second Row) Reva Hoffman, Mildred Hayes, Helen Hayes, Agnes Hissong, Beulah Brokaw, Josephine Hissong, Helen McCrumb, Mary McCrumb, Myrtle Moyer, Elon Merchant, Robert Seibel, (Third Row) Arleen McCrumb, Doris Brokaw, Lillian Casteel, Margaret McCrumb, Cleo Lutz, Maude Moyer, Lila McCrumb, Hilda Pohl, (Fourth Row) Harold Kerr, Joe Hissong, Harold Lutz, Maurice Hayes, ? Casteel, ? Casteel, Harley McCrumb
- Randolph STRICKLAND house; Pre-1907; 4 x 6"; b/w (corner of Linden & Cass)
- Adam RUPP, son, Doty & Lida CUSHMAN, Sara RUPP; 4 x 6"; b/w
- Harry HEATHMAN, daughters Evelyn, Dianna, Frances, Doris; 4 x 6"; bw
- St. Johns Class of 1917; 8 x 10"; b/w; 1st row, Gertrude Thelen, Bernice Church, ?,?,?,Lawrence Ward, ?, Fred Jacobs; 2nd row, ?, Blanch Doty, Marie ?, ?, ?, Norena Weller, Lois Georgia, Hazel Stevens; 3rd row, Leona Kruse, Herman Matter, Fred Lewis, Ruth Pardee, ?,?, William Schanck, ?; 4th row, Olney Moore, ?, Lawrence Gilson, ?, Harold Warner, Luman Hall, Howard Grimes, Charles Britton; 5th row, Fred Kathe, R. G. VanDeusen
- Flora (WIXOM) HUOT; 5 1/4 x 7 1/2"; bw

SCHOOLS:

1941-42 Eagle School Teacher Attendance & Scholarship Records; grades K-4; 17x11; soft bound cover 1944-45 Eagle School Teacher Attendance & Scholarship Records; grades 5-8; 17 x 11"; soft bound cover 1945-46 Eagle School Teacher Attendance & Scholarship Records; grades K-4; 17 x 11"; soft bound cover 1945-46 Eagle School Teacher Attendance & Scholarship Records; grades 5-8; 17 x 11"; soft bound cover 1949-50 Eagle School Teacher Attendance & Scholarship Records; grades K-4; 17 x 11"; soft bound cover 1949-50 Eagle School Teacher Attendance & Scholarship Records; grades 5-8; 17 x 11"; soft bound cover 1950-51 Eagle School Teacher Attendance & Scholarship Records; grades K-4; 17 x 11"; soft bound cover 1950-51 Eagle School Teacher Attendance & Scholarship Records; grades 5-8; 17x11; soft bound cover 1951-52 Eagle School Teacher Attendance & Scholarship Records; grades K-4; 17 x 11"; soft bound cover 1952-53 Eagle School Teacher Attendance & Scholarship Records; grades K-4; 17 x 11"; soft bound cover 1952-53 Eagle School Teacher Attendance & Scholarship Records; grades 5-8; 17 x 11; soft bound cover 1953-54 Eagle School Teacher Attendance & Scholarship Records; grades 5-8; 17 x 11"; soft bound cover 1955-56 Eagle School Teacher Attendance & Scholarship Records; grades K-4; 17 x 11"; soft bound cover 1957-58 Eagle School Teacher Attendance & Scholarship Records; grades 5-8; 17 x 11"; soft bound cover 1958-59 Eagle School Teacher Attendance & Scholarship Records; grades K-4; 17x11; soft bound cover 1959-60 Eagle School Teacher Attendance & Scholarship Records; grades K-4; 17 x 11"; soft bound cover 1960-61 Eagle School Teacher Attendance & Scholarship Records; grades 5-8; 17 x 11"; soft bound cover 1962-63 Eagle School Teacher Attendance & Scholarship Records; grades 5-8; 17 x 11"; soft bound cover 1963-64 Eagle School Teacher Attendance & Scholarship Records; grades K-4; 17 x 11"; soft bound cover 1963-64 Eagle School Teacher Attendance & Scholarship Records; grades 5-8; 17 x 11"; soft bound cover 1964-65 Eagle School Teacher Attendance & Scholarship Records; grades 5-8; 17 x 11"; soft bound cover

NAMES RESEARCHED:

Acre, Gunnison, Haire, Ingersoll, Kimball, Matteson, Pontius, Pray, Prey, Radke, Reynolds, Rhynard, Romey, Scott, Shellenbarger, Smith, Snow, VanDeuson, Weaver. Also, Elsie Fire information, Fowler football.

REMEMBERING



ARLENE (CONLEY) SMITH

Aug. 21, 1931 – Nov. 13, 2019

Arlene Conley became an active member of the Clinton Co. Historical Society in its earliest years. She was born in Clinton Co. and was especially interested in genealogy and preserving the family histories of the county's residents.

She used her computer skills to format and publish *Clinton Co. Trails*, the quarterly periodical of the historical society and served as its co-editor from July 1986 through 1999. She served as Secretary of the CCHS, 1994-1996, and Program Chairman of the Genealogy Committee of CCHS, 1993-1994. She guided a group of volunteers who spent countless hours in the 1990's compiling the records of burials in Mt. Rest Cemetery using the cemetery's own records, as well as information on the gravestones. This resulted in the publication of *Mt. Rest Cemetery Records*, 1855-1995, a valuable resource for researchers at the time.

Arlene is gratefully remembered for her many contributions of time and talent to the historical society.

Citizens of the United States What are you going to do in 1920?

Are you going to Talk, Talk, Talk and Talk some more
Are you going to Theorize, Theorize, Theorize and Theorize some more
Are you going to Confer, Confer, Confer and Confer some more
Are you going to Spend, Spend, Spend and Spend some more
Are you going to Speculate, Speculate, Speculate
And Speculate some more
Are you going to Strike, Strike, Strike
And Strike some more

OR

Will you work more? Will you produce more? Will you save more?

That is the only way possible for real Americans to do their solemn duty and save the country.

THERE IS NO SUBSITITUE FOR WORK

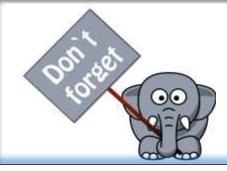
Our policy of doing business is founded on Quality and Service, and we pledge that our organization will not be found wanting in this world crisis.

Industrial Foundry Co. St. Johns, MI

Clinton Republican, 1 Jan., 1920



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!



DUES TIME

It is time for Clinton County Historical Society 2020 Membership Dues.

Dues Clarification for 2020

CCHS 2020 Membership Dues will be \$20 starting this year. We are eliminating the different "Single" and "Family amounts. The one \$20 membership fee will cover all residents at a single address as listed on the membership form or renewal form. We hope this gives you clarification. If not, don't hesitate to contact us. We look forward to having you in the CCHS family.

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: <u>www.pgsmuseum.com</u>; 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
E-Mail Address:		researchers: (please circle Yes or No on each):
Date:		Name & Address: Yes No E-Mail: Yes No
	Send me Clinton County Tr	ails by e-mail Yes No

Annual Dues to join both the Clinton County Historical Society and the Genealogy Committee are \$20.00 per household. 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.

MICHIGAN RUSHERS MONUMENT





The memorial for the Michigan Rushers football game which is located near the corner of M-21 and Shepardsville Rd. in Clinton Co. has been spruced up. This autumn Chuck Peters and Rowlan Smith of the CCHS repaired the cement covering of the time capsule. They also repainted the cement above and below the descriptive plaque and the iron work on top of the structure.

The monument was funded by the Clinton Co. Historical Society and built by volunteers. It was dedicated on July 4, 1996, to remind passers-by of the spot where the first professional football game in Michigan was played. The metal sculpture on top was crafted by the Rev. Merlin Pratt, Minister of the Elsie United Methodist Church.

The historic football game was re-enacted on its 100th anniversary, July 4, 1995, during a Shepardsville community celebration. The time capsule is filled with mementos of the re-enactment.

These pictures are courtesy of Julie Peters.

CLINTON COUNTY
HISTORICAL SOCIETY
E.O. BOX 174
E.O. BOX 174
ST. JOHNS, MICHIGAN 48879

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