



GOD REST YOU MERRY, GENTLEMEN

TRADITIONAL

Gaily *mf* *Em* *B* *Em* *C*

1. God rest you mer-ry, gen-tle- men, 2. In Beth-le-hem, in Jew-ry,
3. From God our heavn-ly Fa-ther,
4. The shep-herds at those ti-mes.

B *Em* *D*

mem-ber Christ, our Sav-er, who was born on that Day; To
laid with-in a man-ners to be born in that place, and there;
un-to cer-tain shep-herds, who were sent to find the same: How
left their flocks a - lone, and then they were en-closed. And

Am *G* *G⁷* *Em* *G* *C* *G*

save us all from Sa-tan's pow-er, and from all ev-il;
which His Moth-er Mar-y, who was first con-ceived,
that in Beth-le-hem was born, the child and ex-prime,
went to Beth-le-hem straight-way, the night that he was born.

Em *B⁷* *Em* *D* *Em* *C* *D* *Em* *B⁷* *Em* *B⁷* *Em*

com-fort and joy, com-fort and joy, O - - - dings of com-fort and joy.

JINGLE BELLS

G *C* *J. PIERPONT*

1. Ring thro' the snow In a one-horse o - pen sleigh, -
2. Two a - go I - thought I'd take a ride, And
3. The ground is white, - Go it while you're young, -

D⁷ *G*

- Laugh-ing all the way; -
Was seat-ed by my side; The
And sing this sleigh-ing song; Just

G *C*

Mak-ing spir-its bright, What
for-tune seem'd his lot, He
Two - for - ty for his speed, Then

D *D⁷* *G*

for the night, and sing A sleigh-ing song to - night!
got into a sleigh and bank, And we, we got up - sot.
In a one-horse o - pen sleigh, And crack! you'll take the lead.

C *G*

(Sings while jingling glasses)

Ho-ho-ho! Jin-gle, bells! Jin-gle all the way! Oh, what fun it is to ride

F *A⁷* *D⁷* *1/2 G* *D* *D⁷* *G*

In a one-horse o - pen sleigh! In a one-horse o - pen sleigh!

You and your friends are cordially invited to
the Annual Victorian Christmas Open House
at Pine Grove, 405 Oakland, Pontiac.

Sunday, December 6th
1-6 p.m.

Refreshments & Music

Silver Donation

Christmas

remembered . . .



Angeolina Wisner

Scrooge's favorite ghost was Christmases Past, a creature who brought back all the nostalgic memories of yesterday. He would be happy at Pinegrove, in the midst of our lamplight and beeswax candles, our strings of popcorn and ropes of pine. For family parties and as the official governor's mansion, there were many gala holidays at the Wisner home.

Moses Wisner's widow, Angeolina, never lost pride in the house she had come to as a bride in 1848. For years after the death of her husband, she endeavored to keep Pinegrove as it had been in the days of "the Governor."

Angeolina loved to entertain, and granddaughter Florence Wallace remembered as a child peeking into the pantry off the dining room at the cookie jar and the fried cake jar, filled in readiness for company.

There were rows of mince pies, made ahead of time and carefully wrapped, waiting to be baked. The tree was put up in the sitting room, a spot easily heated and next to the dining room. It formed the center of the holiday festivities.

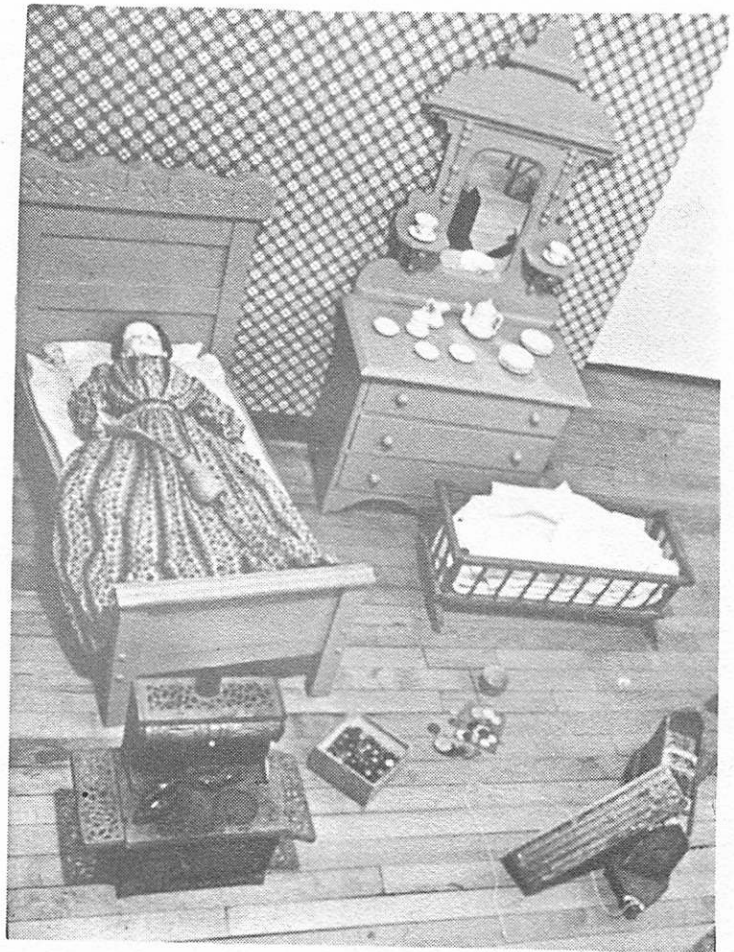


Parlor mantel at
Victorian open ho

—Photographed by Pontia

Collection of dolls planned

Along with doll furniture given to Florence Wallace when a small child, a doll collection will be on display at the Wisner Home for the Victorian Christmas open house. Some of these, including a Schoenhut doll made of wood, are owned by Mrs. Jacolyn Smith of Pontiac. Several will be from the toy room at Pine Grove.



—Photo by Flint Journal

Toy room at the Wisner home.

*Jr. members help at
Victorian Open House.*

—Photographed by Pontiac Press

Set third annual Victorian Christmas

A committee headed by Mrs. Charles Hudson and co-chaired by Mrs. Richard Wright is busily preparing the Governor Moses Wisner Home for visitors on Sunday, December 6 from 1:00 to 6:00 p.m.

Old fashioned Christmas decorations are being sought, the Wisner family silver polished, grandmother's cookie recipes exchanged, and directions for making spiced cider and raspberry shrub reviewed.

Society members, both adult and junior, are invited to help with the details, and a number have already offered their services. Anyone who would like to assist with the decorating, make cookies or furnish decorations may call the chairmen, FE 2-6515, 335-8616; or the Wisner Home, 338-6732, Monday, Wednesday or Friday.

The volunteer guides, appropriately costumed for the occasion, will be on hand. Junior members will not only assist

with the decorating, but will be engaged in timely activities at the open house itself.

The dining table will be set with double wedding ring pattern china loaned for the occasion by Miss Helen Mary Wattles and Mr. Morris Wattles. The Governor's "good" dishes were in this pattern.

It is hoped that members will take this opportunity to visit the Wisner Home when it is at its prettiest and that they will bring their friends.

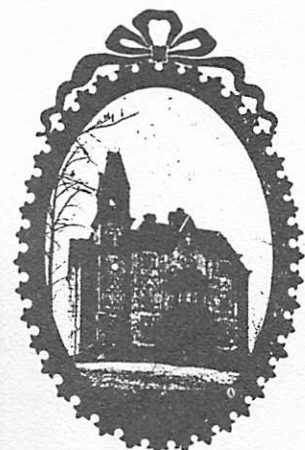
Parking is in back of the Wisner Home and at the United Presbyterian Church at 404 Oakland Avenue. The church parking lot can be entered from Pingree Street or Cadillac and must be vacated by 6:30 p.m.

Arrangements can be made for group tours from Monday, December 7 to Friday, December 11 with Mrs. Edward Ruslander, phone 626-2498.

The Wisner Home will be closed after December 11 until Spring.

GRADUATING EXERCISES PONTIAC HIGH SCHOOL,

CLASS OF '02



WEDNESDAY, JUNE 25, 1902
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH,
8 O'CLOCK, P. M.

Kate Sawyer recalls turn of century holidays



KATE SAWYER

Just before the turn of the century, Pontiac was a quieter, more spacious town. Wintertime found the streets filled with cutters and sleighs.

At the Joseph Sawyer home on Williams Street, the days before Christmas became a flurry of activities. The sliding doors between the ground floor rooms were pushed back and the archways hung with garlands of greens.

These were made by hand from yard prunings or gathered from the open woods. Tied into the branches were heavily berried holly sprays bought from the local markets. Ropes of pine followed the winding stairway to the second floor.

The decorations for the tree depended on the efforts of little Kate Sawyer, her sisters and brother. They carefully strung popcorn and cranberries to be wound around the branches. By Christmas morning, small bright packages had been tied on the tree, and these, with lighted candles, were the only ornaments.

On Christmas morning, after the stockings had been investigated down to the orange in the toe and breakfast eaten, came the high point of the holiday.

Bundled into warm coats, the entire family walked the snowy streets to the home of relatives, the Frank Jacobs of Franklin Blvd. When all the other cousins had arrived, they were led to an upstairs parlor. Here stood a huge tree, agleam with candles, kept hidden for this moment. Santa Claus, sounding suspiciously like their uncle, passed out gifts to the delighted children.

Even years later, the holiday season still had a magic for the Sawyers and their young friends in the county. School vacation, that week between Christmas and New Year's, was a natural time for teas, dances and skating parties.

The waters of a clean Clinton River froze solid and the high school students, along with their small sisters and brothers, skated back and forth over its winding course.

A trolley ran to Pine Lake and groups went there for skating, often walking back home if they missed the streetcar that ran every hour.

The Pontiac High School, one of the few in the county, stood on a hill, since cut down. The students discovered that if they started out in their sleds at the foot of the high school steps, they could coast down Huron Street, cross the railroad tracks and never stop until they reached the Presbyterian Church.

Of course, in that day and age they were in no danger from motor vehicles. Anyone who owned a car had the good sense to jack it up on blocks and put it under wraps until spring!

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* Elected at annual meeting held Wednesday, September 30, 1970.

History items on sale for Christmas giving

Listed below are some of the items available for sale by the Society which would make attractive Christmas gifts for the history buff. They may be purchased at the Victorian Christmas open house.

The recently published Oakland County Book of History may also be purchased through the Society. The hard cover edition sells for \$20.00, the paperback for \$5.00.

Pamphlets published by the Michigan Historical Commission are:
Michigan's White Pine Era, 1840-1900
Conservation of Michigan's
Natural Resources

The Indians of Michigan
When the Railroad was King
The Michigan State Capitol

Sets of reproductions of paintings, "A History of Michigan in Painting," by Robert Thom for the Michigan Bell Telephone Company, also issued by the Michigan Historical Commission who also publishes a historical map of Michigan which our Society has to sell.

Pencils, rulers and buttons — souvenirs of the Wisner Home and the one room schoolhouse, slides of "Pinegrove" and slide viewers, and boxed notepaper bearing a black and white sketch of the Wisner Home.