



Courthouse to be scene of annual meeting September 21

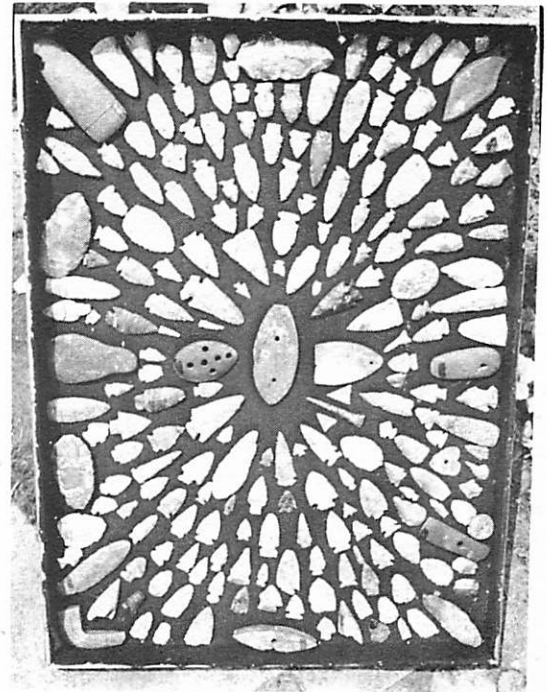
On Tuesday evening, September 21, 1971 at 7:30 p.m. members of the Society will gather at the Auditorium of the Oakland County Courthouse for their annual meeting. Following election of directors and a brief business meeting Charles Martinez, president of the Clinton Valley Chapter of the Michigan Archaeological Society, will discuss "Indians in Oakland County." He will use as the basis for his talk the recently acquired Indian artifact collections received by the Society. Certificates of appreciation will be presented to four former officers and board members.

Those members who are able to do so are asked to bring a laundry or kitchen item from the past with a label describing its use and its former owner. These items will be displayed at the meeting, and it is hoped that the owners will present them to the Society for use in the summer kitchen/wash house which is soon to be restored. A list of some of the desired items will be found in another column.

Members may bring guests and prospective members.



William Cummings, pioneer amateur archaeologist of Oakland County.



William Cummings' collection of Indian artifacts found largely on his farm along Orchard and Upper Straits Lakes.

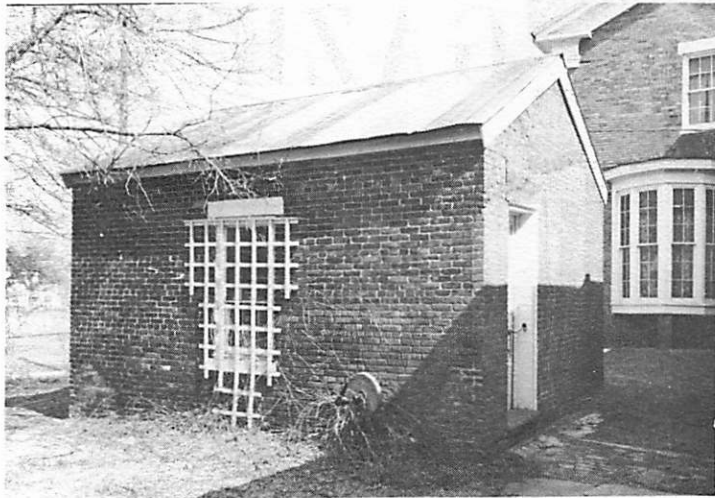
Society receives Indian artifacts

A prized collection of 218 Indian artifacts collected by William Cummings, a pioneer farmer in the Orchard Lake area, has been given to the Oakland County Pioneer and Historical Society. The framed collection, in the possession of Jennette Cummings Gass of Birmingham until her death last year, was presented by Mrs. George Elliott of Ypsilanti, a niece of Mrs. Gass. Mrs. Gass was the daughter of William Cummings, a long time member of the Society.

The collection consists of projectile points, knives, drills, scrapers, and a number of ornamental objects. Charles Martinez, a member of the Society board of directors and president of the Clinton Valley Chapter of the Michigan Archaeological Society, has photographed and classified the collection. He believes most of the objects were made between 6,000 B.C. and 600 B.C., the Middle and Late Archaic period.

The Cummings collection is the second Indian artifact collection acquired by the Society during the past year. The first was the Perry Glass collection, consisting of 93 artifacts found along the banks of the Clinton River in Pontiac. Both collections are on display at Pine Grove and will be available for viewing by groups making special arrangements for group tours of the Wisner home and grounds.

Pine Grove's Summer Kitchen to be Restored



Members of the Oakland County Pioneer and Historical Society are busy laying plans for restoration of the summer kitchen and wash house at Pine Grove, the restored home of Governor Moses Wisner and Angeolina Hascall Wisner. Planning has been proceeding apace and word has now been received that a Federal grant in the amount of Four Thousand Dollars is being made available for this purpose. This amount must be matched by an equal sum to be raised locally, and both federal and state governments seek assurance that the County of Oakland supports the project.

The initial fund raising effort was the Society's Old Fashioned Ice Cream Social held August 29, 1971. Individual and corporate contributions will be solicited. The Board voted that any individual contributing One Hundred Dollars or more would be given a life membership in the Society. Contributions of appropriate furnishings for kitchen and laundry are also being sought.

The summer kitchen and wash house was often housed in an adjoining building to avoid having the "odor of vittles" and the steam from the boiler in the main portion of the house. At Pine Grove the brick building behind the kitchen wing served this purpose. It was connected to the kitchen wing by what in today's terminology would be called a breezeway.

The restoration project calls for repairing cracks in the brickwork, replacing the roof, restoring the floor and plastered

walls and furnishing the building as it might have been furnished in the mid-nineteenth century. Items being sought include pots and pans, dishes and glassware, kitchen knives, wooden mixing spoons, candle holders, hanging or table lamps with or without reflectors, cupboard and old cupboard shelves, kitchen work table, kitchen chairs, crocks and casks, colander, skimmer, pie pans, dripping pans, butter making equipment (churn, milk pans, wooden bowl and paddle, butter molds), mixing bowls, pitchers, molds, cheese boxes, tea kettle, baskets, old kitchen range, washing machine, wash tub, kitchen clock, iron pots and iron bake kettle, wooden pail, old fashioned ice box, feather duster, old broom, recipe books, plate warmer, and wood box.

The blank below may be used by anyone wishing to contribute either money or furnishings.

Ice cream social popular

A perfect day, enthusiastic guests and an energetic committee all combined to make the Old Fashioned Ice Cream Social on the grounds of Pine Grove on Sunday, August 29 an overwhelming success. This was good news for the committee planning the restoration of the summer kitchen since the proceeds were earmarked for that project.

Approximately six hundred fifty people were served chocolate, strawberry and/or vanilla ice cream and homemade cake. Although members of the committee ran out to buy additional paper plates and ice cream, and the supply of Vernor's gingerale was exhausted before the afternoon was half over, the cakes held out due to the generosity of members of the Society who brought every variety from pineapple upside down cake to chocolate, yellow, white, spice and angel. At least one of the cakes was made from an old time recipe which was found in "Dr. Harter's Almanac & Receipt Book for 1875" sans mixing or baking instructions.

ANNIE'S SPICE CAKE

1 cup molasses	1 1/2 t. cinnamon	1 t. cloves
2/3 cup butter	1 cup sugar	
3 eggs	1 cup sour milk	
1 t. soda	1 t. nutmeg	3 cups flour

This is the second ice cream social the Society has held and its popularity indicates it might become an annual or biennial event.

SUMMER KITCHEN PROJECT

To: Oakland Co. Pioneer & Historical Society
Pine Grove
405 Oakland Ave.
Pontiac, Michigan 48055

I wish to contribute \$_____ to the summer kitchen restoration project. My check is enclosed.

I wish to contribute the following article to help in furnishing the summer kitchen _____

Name of original owner and history of its use, if known,

My name _____

Address _____

Phone No. _____

Four to receive certificates

At its August meeting the Board of Directors of the Oakland County Pioneer and Historical Society voted to award certificates of appreciation to four outstanding leaders in the community who have also served the Society as officers and board members. The four are Jessie Brewer, Sarah Van Hoosen Jones, Alice D. Serrell and Adah Shelly. The certificates will be presented at the annual meeting on September 21, 1971.

Jessie Brewer was born in Lakeville, in a house built in 1823 by her grandfather, Peter Brewer. She received her education at Ypsilanti State Normal, eventually obtaining two degrees from there. Miss Brewer also attended Teacher's College in Detroit and received her Masters Degree in Education from Columbia University. In 1908, she began teaching at Crofoot school. At her retirement in 1949, she was the principal at Longfellow Elementary. She continues to be active in the D.A.R. as well as in guild work at All Saints Episcopal Church. As a board member Miss Brewer was instrumental in obtaining a variety of interesting items for the one room schoolhouse and the Wisner home. Her experience as a teacher made her an outstanding tour guide for elementary school groups, and her willingness to serve proved most helpful to the Society when school tours were first undertaken.

Before the Wisner home was regularly open to visitors, Sarah Van Hoosen Jones and Alice D. Serrell, both of Rochester, assisted in organizing the collection of the Society and in restoring the house so that it might be opened to the public. As president during a crucial period, Dr. Jones provided needed leadership, ably assisted by Miss Serrell. As students of local history and genealogy and as descendants of two long time Oakland County families their interest was natural. Dr. Jones was born in the house on Romeo Road which she still makes her home. The Taylor family from whom she descended came to Avon Township in 1823, the Van Hoosens in 1840. Dr. Jones took over the active management of the ancestral farm in 1927 and developed a nationally recognized herd of Holstein-Friesian cattle. She was the first woman in Michigan to be made a "master farmer" and has written numerous scientific articles on animal genetics. Dr. Jones has likewise been interested in education and has served not only on the local school board but on the governing board of Michigan State University. In 1956 she deeded 350 acres of the farm to Michigan State University.

Alice D. Serrell was born in the home in Avon Township in which her father, Harry J. Serrell was born. With antecedents in Oakland County likewise dating back to 1823, Miss Serrell has long been interested in Oakland County history and ingenealogy. She served several terms on the board of the Oakland County Pioneer and Historical Society, as an officer of several patriotic societies including General Richardson Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, on the board and as president of the Pontiac Y. W. C. A. A bookkeeper and secretary by profession, Miss Serrell worked in the State Auditor General's office and the Secretary of State's office in Lansing prior to going to the Van Hoosen farm in December, 1937.

Adah Shelly, who now calls Presbyterian Village her home, served as Pontiac City Librarian from 1924 to 1955, coming to Pontiac from Whiting, Indiana. The library was then housed in the building on Williams Street at the corner of Lawrence now occupied by the Pontiac Creative Arts Center.

Through her efforts, the library circulation doubled within four years. She was the moving force behind such innovations as reading clubs, book drives, art exhibits and book mobiles. Miss Shelly was honored in March of 1955 when a branch library and cultural building was dedicated. Located at Glenwood and

Rundell, Pontiac, this was named the Adah Shelly Library.

As an active member of Zonta, Round Table Club, Flora Shelly Group of First Presbyterian Church and other civic and social groups Miss Shelly has contributed significantly to the cultural life of this community. For many years she served on the board of directors of the Oakland County Pioneer and Historical Society and was particularly active on the visitation and tour committee. Her active interest and assistance helped bring about the opening of Wisner home to the public.

These four women, though unlike in many ways, have a mutual love of history and a common interest in the Oakland County Pioneer and Historical Society and its program.

The house committee

... needs more items to add to Angeolina Wisner's dining table. Large linen dinner napkins, knives and forks, an epergne, candlesticks and vases (circa 1860), would be welcome donations. In the pantry a dry sink and an old dishpan are needed to add that note of authenticity.

Junior Historians

The first meeting of the Oakland County Pioneer and Historical Society Junior Historians was held on Saturday, August 21, 1971, at Pine Grove, the Society's headquarters, 405 Oakland Avenue, Pontiac.

At this meeting 30 interested young people and adults met for a general "get acquainted" period. They took a tour of the house and grounds, and paid special attention to the various aspects of museum work. After the tour, lunch was eaten on the lawn and a discussion session was held for organizing and planning for future projects.

Although the purposes of any type of junior historical society are many - the main purpose is to assist in and add to, the program of the present historical society and help develop a workable future. Anyone who would like to be a part of our building program, is invited to attend the next meeting Saturday, Sept. 18, 1971, 11 A.M. at Pine Grove. Mr. Charles Martinez will show slides dealing with Michigan history and Michigan archaeology. Lunch will again be eaten on the lawn, so bring a sack lunch and a bottle of pop. If you are interested please come and bring not only your lunch, but your ideas with you.

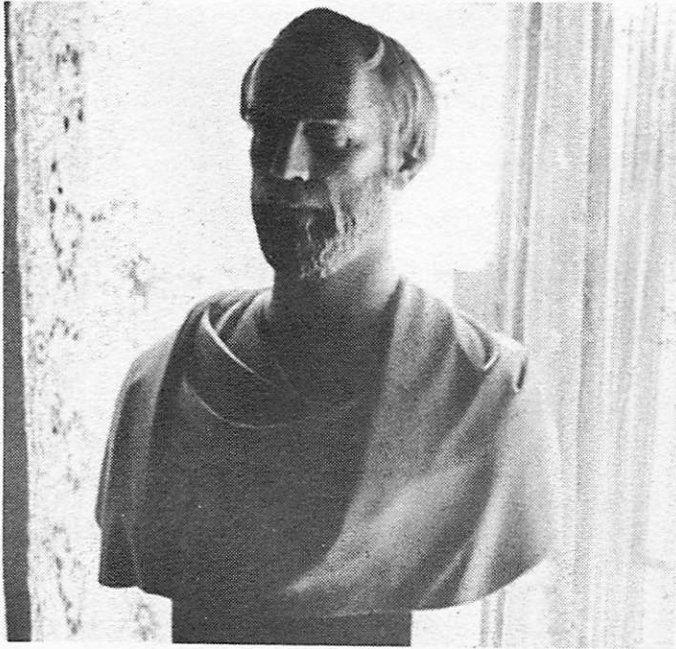


For many years, junior members have had an active part in decorating for the Victorian Christmas.

and the twenty-second infantry

By Sylvia Piskorski

Walled Lake Central High School



On July 15, 1862, Governor Austin Blair issued General Order Number 154. This order called for the raising of six regiments of infantry. Moses Wisner, one time state governor and a greatly honored and popular citizen of Michigan, answered the call. Along with him came over 560 men from Oakland County who were joined by others from five nearby counties. With Colonel Moses Wisner as commanding officer, they formed the Michigan 22nd Volunteer Infantry, mustered into service August 29, 1862.

The fourth of September 1862, found the infantry leaving Pontiac for Kentucky. They arrived three days later and slept away the morning on the paved streets of Covington. Later that afternoon they were marched to the front. "The Battle of Cabbage Hill" was their first step into action. From then on for three years their record, a very honorable one, was embedded in the history books and military archives of this country.

Colonel Wisner was a decisive, energetic and commanding figure. He was a strict disciplinarian with a deep understanding of human nature. He was the man to lead the regiment through the encounters, skirmishes, marches, and countermarches of the campaign to protect the Ohio and drive the enemy out of Kentucky.

The regiment went into winter quarters at Lexington on October 26, 1862. The four months spent there were filled with suffering and sickness and brought about the deaths of scores of men. One of them was Colonel Moses Wisner. On January 4, 1863, he died of typhoid fever. Governor Blair, in his annual message to the Legislature, said about Wisner's death:

"Intelligence has been received of another of the great sacrifices we make to save our country. My predecessor, ex-Governor Moses Wisner, Colonel commanding the Twenty-Second Regiment of Infantry, died at his post of duty in Kentucky, on the 4th day of January. His conduct is his best eulogy. A man of great intellectual, as well as physical power, in the meridian of life, surrounded by all the comforts of family, home and friends, he obeyed the call of his country and took the field. Deeply imbued with a

love of those free institutions which had done so much for his country and himself, he put away from him everything but this service, and went forth at the head of his regiment to peril all in defense of the Union. As a commanding officer of patriotic volunteers, he was successful in an eminent degree, as he had been in all the walks of life. He died of the diseases of the camp, in the midst of his command in the doing of his duty. More than this need not be said. For him the pomp and circumstance and the battle are no more. To his family and friends he leaves the rich remembrance of an honorable fame, and to the State he loved, the pride that she had so noble a citizen."

The story of the Twenty-Second Michigan Infantry is not so quickly told. Upon the death of Colonel Wisner, the regiment was put under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Heber Le Favour. The regiment then fought and tramped its way across central Kentucky and was ordered to Nashville, Tennessee, where it arrived on April 13, 1863. Here it became a part of the Union army known as the Army of the Cumberland.

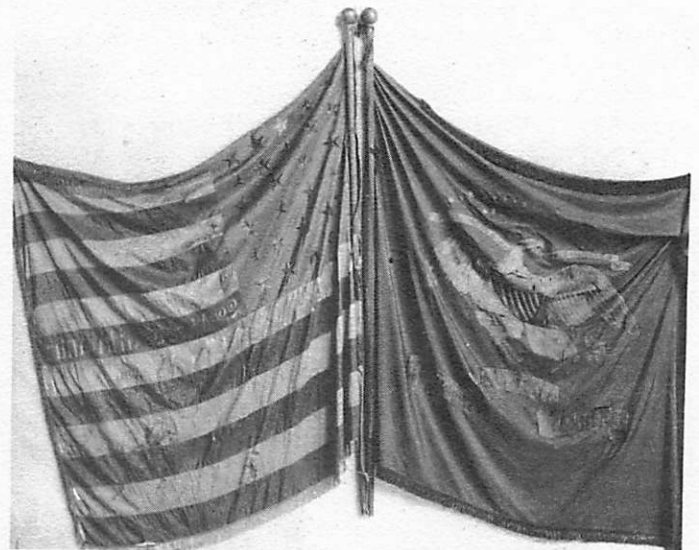
The regiment fought in the famous Battle of Chickamauga, Georgia, on September 19 and 20. The losses were extreme. Over 308 men had been killed or wounded in those two days of battle. And this was just the beginning. A long hard fight lay ahead.

After the capture of Missionary Ridge, the regiment began fighting under the leadership of Generals Sherman and Thomas. They fought down to, and around Atlanta, which fell to the victorious Union Army on September 2, 1864.

The Twenty-Second Infantry had also successfully fought at Ringold, Dalton, Reseca, Pine Mountain, Kenesaw Mountain, Marietta, Culps House, Chatachoochee River, Red Oak, and Jonesboro.

The regiment left Chattanooga on June 21, 1865, and was mustered out of service at Nashville on June 26. By July 10, all were home again.

So ends the telling of the Twenty-Second Infantry but the story is much longer than these pages could contain. But no matter how long or short, the deeds and the records of these men live in the hearts of their descendants.



These flags were presented to Colonel Wisner by two young ladies from Pontiac, as the 22nd Infantry departed for Kentucky. Brought home after the War, they were displayed at the 22nd's reunions, and are now retained at the Moses Wisner Home.