



*You and Your Friends are Cordially Invited to
The Annual Christmas Open House*

At

Pine Grove

405 Oakland Ave.

Pontiac

Sunday, December 9, 1973

1 - 4 p.m.

Refreshments

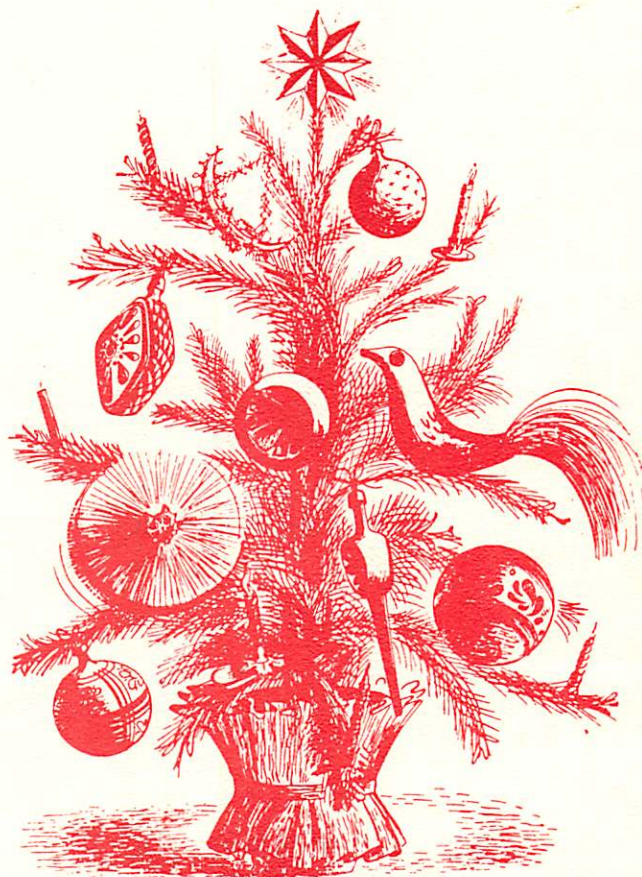
Music

Admission

Adults \$1⁰⁰ Children 50^c

*Special Tickets
for Members*

The attractive red and white friendship quilt pictured here is to be given to one of our members or friends at the Victorian Christmas Open House December 9. If you would like to be considered to receive the quilt, return the right hand half of the enclosed admission ticket—on which your name, address and phone number should be written—together with \$1.00 by December 5, 1973. Keep the other half to be used for admission to the open house.



*The beautiful red and white friendship quilt,
product of two craft classes.*

Report of Society

Presented at

Annual Meeting

September 19, 1973

Another successful year draws to a close for the Oakland County Pioneer and Historical Society. In 1970 Pine Grove was added to the National Register of Historic Places. In 1971 it was selected to receive a matching federal grant to assist in restoration of the summer kitchen. Now that restoration is virtually completed, and the summer kitchen has become a part of our restored outbuildings regularly shown on tours of Pine Grove.

Membership Events

Again a highly successful Old Fashioned Ice Cream Social was held. This social, on August 19, 1973, provided the usual fine opportunity for socializing, and also brought in a substantial monetary return for use in various projects.

Other successful membership events were our annual Victorian Christmas Open House on December 3, 1972 and the 99th annual dinner meeting, held May 16, 1973, both of which drew overflow crowds. Society member Glenn Ruggles presented a slide presentation based on his research on lumbering in the Grand Traverse area as the program for the dinner meeting.



Faye Donelson of General Richardson Chapter, D.A.R., cataloging our books.

Office Staff and Volunteers

Constance Lektzian continued as Education Coordinator. Nancy Levin worked again during the summer as college student assistant. Volunteers were an essential part of the office operation. Special mention is made of Helen Anderson, who gave at least a day a week, and Virginia Clohset, who is sorting and arranging our manuscript collection. The General Richardson Chapter of Daughters of the American Revolution has undertaken as a Bicentennial project assisting in cataloging our library, and Faye Donelson and others from that group spent many hours this summer in inaugurating the project.

Grounds

The Grounds Committee, under the direction of Cecil Dumbrigue, was active as was evidenced by additional plantings and the continuation of our herb garden. A particular highlight was the planting of over 50 pine seedlings by children from Wisner School. Mr. Dumbrigue also arranged for Society participation at the Flower Show at Pontiac Mall. Many members staffed our herb booth there. Special assistance was given this committee by the Men's Garden Club, the Parks and Recreation Department of the City of Pontiac, and by Charles Williams and E. R. Shields.

Craft Classes and Pot Pourri Shoppe

An innovation of considerable impact was the creation of a series of craft classes under the direction of Mary Vogt. This brought new faces and new interests and resulted in a number of new members. Likewise the Pot Pourri Shoppe, also directed by Mrs. Vogt with the help of Connie Lektzian, was most successful. Many of our members contributed time and talent to both of these projects.

Publicity and Public Relations

Good public relations were established through our publicity chairman, Charles Martinez, the officers, committee chairmen and staff. Excellent publicity was received on special projects through the various newspapers in the county and special articles appeared in Pontiac papers with some degree of regularity. Also, two or three papers carried regular notices in their "directory", and WPON carried special notices on request.

Buildings and Maintenance

The Buildings and Maintenance Committee, under the chairmanship of LaBar Stewart, Jr., had the job this year of



Constance Lektzian in the summer kitchen, opened for tours one year ago.

supervising substantial work on the house at 32 Wisner St. The porch was repaired and the house painted. The railing on the front porch of the Wisner House was restored.

House

The House Committee, under the chairmanship of Edna Burke, quietly pursued its necessary functions, readying the house to receive visitors and for special events. Dolly Ayres lent an able assist by providing floral arrangements as needed.



Dipping ice cream on a hot day for 1000 people kept Ed Adler, Stu Stewart and Dick Hewitt busy.

Plans For The Holidays

The date for the fifth annual Hanging of the Greens has been set for December 5 at 10 A.M. On that Wednesday members of the Oakland County Pioneer and Historical Society will gather at the Wisner House to spend the day decorating Pine Grove for the Victorian Christmas Open House. Sunday, December 9 from 1 to 4 P.M. is the date of this important event. If anyone has an antique tree ornament to donate, it will be greatly appreciated, and will be incorporated into the decorations.

Refreshments will be served in the one room school house on December 9. Contributions of homemade cookies are hereby solicited. Please indicate on the enclosed card how many cookies you can furnish. Look through Grandma's old time recipes and bring your favorite.

Costumed guides will be stationed throughout the house and summer kitchen. This year the guide committee will be supplemented by members from Girl Scout Troop #396 whose leader is Mrs. Robert Cooper of Orchard Lake.

Organ music and the sound of dulcimers will be one of the features of the program on December 9 along with a group known as the Pipes Plus. Among other instruments, these musicians use a psaltery, a viola da Gamba and they will also play an antique one-key flute that is the property of the Society. Their selections will range from Medieval to Modern.

One of our own members, Mrs. Yvonne Davidson, will be our organist. Merritt Olsen, also a member, will provide dulcimer music along with his son, Bill.

Parking

Cars may be parked in the back of the Wisner House. Through the courtesy of the Oakland Avenue Presbyterian Church, 404 Oakland Avenue, there will be additional parking facilities in their church lot, which can be entered from Pingree Street or Cadillac. The church lot must be vacated by 6:30 P.M.

Pot Pourri Shoppe

Will Be Open

Everybody needs stocking stuffers. The Shoppe has many holiday items to sell. These include mittens, reproductions of little Christmas books, note paper—even Indian peace pipes. China head doll kits, jars of herbs, and above all—two different styles of calendar towels are offered for sale from the shelves of our ever popular store.



Table set for Victorian Christmas Dinner with Governor Wisner's china.

Accessions

The Society's collection continued to be augmented by interesting and useful additions. Some progress was made, under chairman Gretchen Adler, in organizing the collection of clothing and artifacts. One of the most colorful additions to the furnishings was an epergne presented by the legatees of Elsie Voorheis. Rex Lamoreaux has been most helpful in assisting us in acquiring desired items in the past, and this year he located and presented to us a lovely dining room table. Other smaller items, each significant in its own way, have been received.

Special mention should also be made to another improvement in Pine Grove's furnishings. Mrs. Wisner's piano has long been unusable. One of the Society's Directors, James Renfrew, took it upon himself to have it repaired and tuned and it is now ready for use.

Bequests, Memorial Funds and Contributions

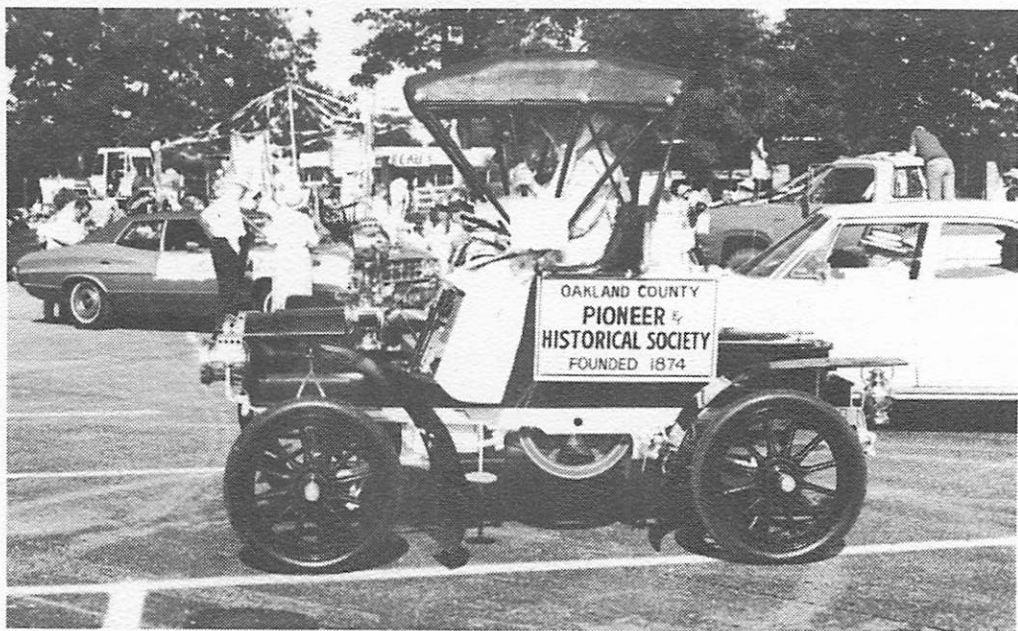
Former president, Sarah Van Hoosen Jones, remembered the Society in her Will. The bequest of \$5,000.00 was gratefully received this past year. This year, also, memorial gifts increased. These funds are set aside for special needs not otherwise covered by our regular sources of income. Contributions from the County of Oakland and from members of the Society, in addition to annual dues, make it possible to continue our programs.

Guides and Other Volunteers

Perhaps the most substantial community contribution is provided through guided tours. There continues to be an increase in the number of school children and adult groups who visit Pine Grove. Connie Lektzian, Education Coordinator, handles the arrangements with the assistance of a sizeable group of volunteers. Ellen Rice and Miriam Foxman served as co-chairmen.



Ernestine Williams, one of our faithful guides, interprets our music room to the Clawson Women's Club.



Prize winning entry — 1905 Cadillac driven by Mr. and Mrs. Russell Pickering.

Resident Agent

Resident Agent, Richard Hewitt, spent untold hours, along with Treasurer, Lillian Balmer, in straightening out the various federal and state reports. Also under his guidance, and with assistance from special committee members Gretchen Adler, Edna Burke and La Bar Stewart, Jr., and a group of volunteers recruited through the House Committee, a preliminary inventory and appraisal of the Society's holdings was made. Proper reporting and proper

August. Mr. and Mrs. Russell Pickering drove a restored classic car as the Society's entry and received first prize.

Officers

The following officers guided the Society during 1972-73: president, Mrs. Donald E. Adams; vice presidents, Mrs. Edwin Adler and Robert L. Warrington; secretary, Mrs. James D. Burke; treasurer, Mrs. Richard C. Balmer; resident agent, Richard C. Hewitt; and membership secretary, Mrs. Charles F. Roush.



Part of a large school tour, backed by guides Mary Rachwal, Lamoine Shirley, Betty Bryant, Iama Hook and Helen Pickering.

records are an essential to the operation of the Society on a business-like basis.

Special Event

In addition to the usual activities one outside special event was added. Margaret Ann Jackson took the responsibility for arranging for participation in the Ortonville "Century Plus 25" parade in

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS!

If you would like to help with any of these programs call Connie at 338-6732. Our Society thrives on volunteers.

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Oakland Gazette, November 1973