

OAKLAND GAZETTE.

Vol. XI, No. 1

Published by OAKLAND COUNTY PIONEER & HISTORICAL SOCIETY
405 OAKLAND AVENUE, PONTIAC, MICHIGAN

April 1978

Members and Friends are Cordially Invited to the 105th Annual Dinner of the Oakland County Pioneer & Historical Society



Fran Anderson, Annual Dinner Chairman

105th Annual Dinner to be Held Thursday, May 18

The Oakland County Pioneer and Historical Society will hold their 105th Annual Dinner on Thursday, May 18, in the Main Event banquet room in Pontiac's Silverdome.

The social hour starts at 5:30 p.m. when a fruit punch bowl will be served. The cash bar will also be open at that time. Often distance and busy schedules keep us from seeing our old friends as often as we would like. Come early and take advantage of the social hour. It's a time for fellowship.

A delicious dinner will follow, a meal complete from appetizers to dessert.

The invocation will be given by H. Malcolm Kahn, and Fran Anderson will serve as mistress of ceremonies. After dinner, Faye Donelson will give her President's report.

The Sweet Adelines of Waterford will provide some

A Michigan Folk History Film will be Presented

The Oakland County Pioneer and Historical Society will present an award winning film on folk history at their 105th Annual Dinner on Thursday, May 18. This film is the joint effort of Glenn Ruggles, history teacher at Walled Lake Central High, and Robert Humitz, Detroit area film maker.

The site of the filming was in Elk Rapids, Antrim County, where for ten years Glenn Ruggles has conducted an oral history project. The film was produced with the help of a financial grant from The Michigan Council for the Arts.

It is the story of a Nineteenth Century lumbering community that thrived and grew along the shores of Grand Traverse Bay. Reflected in the tale of this village is the history of the struggle of many towns in Michigan. Join us for an evening's entertainment watching this excellent, well documented film.

special moments of good listening with a nostalgic selection of old songs. Then the evening will be topped off with the showing of "The River's the Same."

Mrs. Robert Anderson is the chairman of the dinner aided by Mary Nephler, Calvin Patterson and H. Malcolm Kahn. Marion Hodges Roush will be there to take new memberships and hand out the dinner tickets. Mrs. Richard Wright and Mrs. James Burke will be giving out name tags. Don't forget to pick yours up!

Please use the Featherstone Entrance to the Silverdome. There is ample parking, and there is no charge for restaurant parking.

DINNER RESERVATION — mail before May 14

Mail in enclosed envelope to:

Mrs. Charles Roush, 468 S. Fox Hills, Apt. 2, Bloomfield Hills, Mich. 48013

Enclosed please find \$ _____ for _____ dinner reservations at \$9.00 per person, for the annual Oakland County Pioneer & Historical Society to be held at Pontiac Stadium, Featherstone Road, Pontiac, Michigan.

NAME _____ PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____

Calendar of Activities

April 1978

Opening month for scheduled tours.

★ April 29 - Saturday

Guide Training Day at Clawson Museum.

May 18 - Thursday

Annual Dinner at the Pontiac Silverdome
Main Event Dining Room
5:30 Social Hour
6:30 Dinner

★ May 20 - Saturday

Guide Training Day at Orpha Williams'

June 15 - Thursday

Closing Date of Scheduled Tours

★ June 17 - Saturday

Guide Training Day at Stoney Creek Van Hoosen Jones Farm

★ July 22 - Saturday

Guide Training Meeting
Ice Cream Social Preparation

★ Events for Guides Only

Complete and turn in all prior quizzes before this date.

Office Hours

Monday - Friday 10:30 to 4:30

Library Hours

Research Time by Appointment

Museum Hours

April - June
By Appointment

July - August
Closed Mondays

Open Tuesday-Saturday 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.
No appointment necessary in groups of 10 or less

Admission Fees

Adults - \$1.00
Students and Senior Citizens - .50
No charge for Society Members - Bring your card.

The President's Message

The willows have changed color so I'm sure spring will come eventually after this long cold winter. We have many plans for the spring and summer. Unfortunately the Carriage House fund is depleted and we will have to stop work soon unless we can find a donor who will come forward with some money. We plan to finish off the basement and put in the plumbing and fixtures.

Presently the boys are finishing the dry wall and painting it on levels 2 and 3. Flooring is a must as well as protection for the windows which have been damaged with rocks and B-B guns.

I desperately need chairmen for our three big events:

1. A man and a woman to co-chair the Ice Cream Social. Many plans are already made so it simply means tying the loose ends together.
2. A bazaar chairman to handle the October Charity Bazaar. It was successful enough ~~last year to warrant~~ trying again. Planning and coordinating should begin now.
3. A chairman for the Victorian Christmas. Since the groundwork has been laid for all three events, the hard part is done.

Will each board member please let me know which three committees you prefer to serve on? I would welcome volunteers from the general membership also. Many of you have capabilities and talents which would help us greatly. Please call Connie at 338-6732 or me at 682-8508 and get involved in an interesting and exciting program.

May I hope to hear from many of you and will I see you at the Annual Banquet May 18?

Faye M. Donelson, President

Endowment Fund Gains Support

The Endowment Fund was set up to help ensure that there would always be funds on hand to maintain Pine Grove. Members and friends may support this very worthy endeavor by direct contributions, memorials or becoming a Life Member. Since the last Gazette was published, the following people have added to the Endowment Fund.

Contribution from:

Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Althouse

Memorials for Mrs. Chauncey (Alice) Harris from:

Faye Donelson

Mr. & Mrs. Richard Balmer

Memorial for Gertrude M. Sparks from:

Judge & Mrs. Donald E. Adams

Memorial for Ralph Dodge from:

Rex Lamoreaux

Memorial for Charles H. Hudson from:

Mrs. Peter Lektzian

Gifts Given to the Oakland County Pioneer & Historical Society

Last year - 1977 - the Oakland County Pioneer and Historical Society received numerous artifacts from members and friends.

There are barn tools that will eventually be displayed in the Carriage House, and fine coin silver spoons for the dining room.

Clothing acquisitions ranged from a top silk hat to a Santa Claus suit, from camisoles to a sailor suit from World War II. There is a uniform, complete with medals, of the First World War, dresses in white lawn from the turn of the century, and a gold lace gown, ca. 1920.

Books and manuscripts for the Pine Grove library include Jervis McMechan's *Book of Birmingham*, . . . *And Then There Was Holly*, written by students of Holly Oaks Middle School as well as prize winning memoirs of Holly senior citizens.

There were, in all, 126 separate gifts in 1977 for our collection. Some gifts consisted of one item, other gifts included as many as 100 items.

It is impossible to list all of last year's donations plus the donors' names. However, starting with this issue of the Gazette, we will try to remain current with a listing of gifts as they come in.

DONATIONS - January - mid-April 1978

Donors	
From estate of Lorainne Terry Fullerton over 100 items including: glass, silver & china - 1880-1930 coffee mill, iron & woodenware, crocks and a sword, family histories and diaries	Mrs. Marilyn E. Harrington Ms. Phyllis Fullerton
Photos: 2 views-the original and the second Daniel Whitfield school; one view: hand operated fire wagon	Mrs. Russell Pickering
3-1968 sewing pattern books	Mrs. Elizabeth Ricca
Book: <i>The Care of Paintings</i>	Mrs. Donald Adams
Book: <i>Nathan Power, His Diary</i> , copied, typed and indexed by Vaile Lorion, 1964	City of Farmington Hills Floyd Cairns, City Clerk
Book: <i>Larsen and Uggerby Families</i>	Roy A. Foulke
4-dbl. handled boullion cups	Mrs. Phillip Gerhardt
Jelly/sugar spoon with oak leaf/acorn pattern	Mrs. Thomas Metzdorf
Collection includes: 2 pressed glass salt dips, 2 pressed glass 6-sided cups, etched design: War butter recipe	Mrs. Russell Grinnell
Estey Parlor Organ, 6-octave, double coupler, ca. 1888	Herman Westpfahl
Over 100 clear and amber glass bottles-liniment, pill, medicine and cologne, dated mid-1800's to 1930	Chief Pontiac Bottle Club Larry Blascyk

The River's the Same



Glenn Ruggles - Teacher, Film Maker

Two men, Glenn Ruggles and Bob Humitz, have pooled their interests, knowledge and hard work to capture on film a time in Michigan now long past.

Glenn Ruggles teaches history at Walled Lake Central High. Bob Humitz is the priest of St. Rita's Catholic church in Holly. They both admit to being Michigan History buffs.

The story in the film is depicted by a man who spent his childhood in Elk Rapids. Now grown old, he returns to find nothing matches his memories. Through his eyes, the lumbering era evolves - and dies, leaving behind forests slashed of their wealth, and a town whose population dwindled almost as fast as the trees.

The Rivers the Same has received the Historical Society of Michigan's 1976 Award of Merit. It was also a winner, in that same year, in the 3rd. Annual Orchard Ridge Film Festival, Oakland Community College.

In this color film, Bob Posch, a notable performer in Oakland County, provides a beautifully haunting folk melody as background to the story.

**Advance News
of Summer Activities
See Page 4**



*Jim Babcock
Book and Document Appraiser*

Book Appraiser to be at Pine Grove

Almost all antique or history lovers at some time in their lives become an owner of an old book or document. What is its value? Is it authentic? Do you treasure it or toss it?

At the Ice Cream Social in August, there will be a man at Pine Grove with the answers to these questions.

Mr. James Babcock will be present on that date to appraise old books and such documents as land grants, old letters and autographs. The charge will be \$1.00 for each book or paper.

Jim is presently a dealer and an appraiser of books, documents and autographs in association with Stalker and Boos, antique dealers in Birmingham.

He is a past president of the History Society of Michigan and has served on the Michigan Civil War Centennial Observance Commission. For eleven years, Jim was chief librarian of the Burton Historical Collection of the Detroit Public Library. He is undoubtedly one of the most qualified men in this area to appraise books and documents - and he is doing it as a fund raiser for our Society. Gather your old books together - this is a great opportunity to have them appraised.

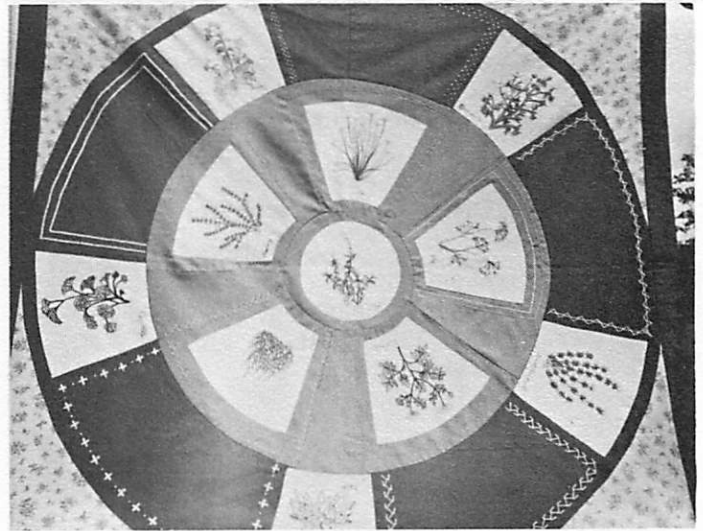
Preparations Underway for the Summer Social

Work has already begun to ensure the success of the Ice Cream Social, set for Sunday, August 6. Mrs. Edwin Adler, Chairman of the event, is preparing the slate of committees.

A custom has evolved at Pine Grove: tickets for the quilt drawing are put on sale early in the year, the Guild displays their sewing skills at the Ice Cream Social and the Victorian Open House, and the drawing takes place at the Victorian Open House. The quilt of the year is on the antique frames by the time of the Social.

Our Historical Society would appreciate the loan of Pine Grove quilts, comforters, and wall hangings, won in previous years, to display at the 1978 Social. Please call the Pine Grove office, 338-6732, if interested.

Mrs. William Rachwal is in charge of selling the tickets that will give some lucky person a quilt representing hundreds of hours of handwork. Anyone wanting tickets can drop a note to the office at Pine Grove, or call Mary Rachwal at 674-2301. Tickets are \$1.00 each.



Wall Hanging Won in 1974

Attic Treasures Booth Slated for Social

A new booth, Attic Treasures, will appear at our Ice Cream Social on Sunday, August 6. It will feature for sale small items such as jewelry, books, china, glass, pictures, knick-knacks and small furniture.

Mrs. Thomas Metzdorf will be chairman for this booth. To Susan will fall the job of sorting and pricing all these items.

When you do your spring cleaning, put aside that last platter from great-grandmother's set of china, or that one remaining crystal goblet, the book that hasn't been read in years, or the lonesome survivor of a pair of figurines. It matters not if they are antique or junque.

Donate them to Attic Treasures to be sold at the Social for the benefit of Pine Grove. If transportation is a problem, Susan will pick them up. These items can be brought into Pine Grove starting now, and will be stored until the Social.

There are to be no pre-sales or consignments. Nothing will be sold until the Ice Cream Social starts at one o'clock on August 6.

Call Susan Metzdorf at 334-9336, or the Pine Grove office 338-6732.

