

You and Your Friends
are Cordially Invited

to

The Annual
Victorian Open House

AT

Pine Grove
405 Oakland Ave.
Pontiac

Sunday, December 2, 1979

1 - 4 p.m.

Hanging of The Greens

SET FOR NOVEMBER 28th

Tree-trimming time comes early to the Wisner House this year. Wednesday November 28 is the special day when magical things will happen to our gracious old home. Beginning at 10 a.m. the house will be alive with the very special volunteers who twine evergreen roping, hang bows and wreaths, and decorate trees in preparation for the annual Victorian Christmas Open House, set for Sunday, December 2 from 1 to 4 p.m. This year we have had two large trees donated. One will go to the parlor, the other to the school house for traditional trimming.

The Hanging of the Greens, now in its eleventh year, is truly a labor of love. Usually a long, work-filled day, it is nevertheless one of the most popular activities. A big job shared by many hands and seasoned with friendship and fun is not work, but a joy. Please plan to join us. Bring your lunch and a willing spirit. We will supply coffee and tea and all the encouragement you need.

QUILT TICKETS ON SALE

Be sure to purchase your ticket for the quilt raffle. The quilt being assembled by the Quilting Guild is truly a beauty in a red-white-blue Star Spangled banner. pattern. Many hundreds of hours will go into the completed quilt and it will be truly cherished addition to any household. Tickets are \$1.00 each in the office. EDNA BONDURANT, Quilting Guild Chairman, has completed and dressed Camille, a bisque doll, as second prize in the drawing.

Pine Grove Prepares Festivities

President GRETCHEN ADLER is heading the efforts for this year's Victorian Open House. Features will be minstrels, old fashioned decorations, hot mulled cider and homemade cookies, and the good cheer of the season.

Our costumed guides, assisted by CONNIE OWEN'S Girl Scout Troop, will be stationed throughout the buildings. They will demonstrate spinning and quilting crafts, and act as hostesses.

In the school house MARGARET ANN JACKSON will have new displays in the rear cases, and of course the tree and the emphasis on children will make this a special stop on the grounds tour.

Margaret Ann also promises us children's performances in the schoolhouse again this year. Her presentations last year, complete with sheet for a curtain, brought back memories of the family together-times in the country school.



Refreshments will be available in the carriage house, where a special exhibit is taking shape to honor the man who electrified the world: Thomas A.



The President's Corner



Dear Members,

Twelve years ago this month my neighbor, Betty Adams, asked me to help decorate the Wisner Home for the Victorian Christmas. I didn't know what the Wisner Home was or what I was getting into. It has been twelve years of a lot of hard work and long hours but it has also meant a lot of fun and laughter and the friendship of so many truly dedicated and knowledgeable people.

As your new president, I hope to make many new friends through and for Pine Grove. So much has been accomplished, so many hurdles have been overcome yet like the woman whose ironing basket never seems to be empty, there is still a great deal to do. I'd like to list some areas to which I feel we must give particular attention in the year ahead.

1) Membership

We must broaden our outreach in the County. By making Pine Grove more visible through greater service and increased programs, we can attract greater interest. We must also pursue business and corporate support for our efforts. I am constantly aware of people and groups, who like myself 12 years ago, never heard of the Wisner Home.

2) Restoration

The strides made in the restoration of Pine Grove have been monumental. Our efforts to maintain what we have must continue and increase. These efforts should include not only the physical property itself but the wealth of artifacts and library materials we have and are collecting. As the depository for historical materials relating to Oakland County, we must increase our efforts to make these materials more accessible to the public. This can be accomplished by increased programs, exhibits and library research.

3) Finances

Restoration, maintenance and increased programs mean greater financial expenditures. Our budget now is very tight. We must find new ways to increase our financial support. Increasing and broadening our membership will help achieve this. Which brings us back to number 1 on the list.

I would ask all of you to help. Volunteer one day a week or even a month at Pine Grove doing a job in an area that interests you. If possible increase your financial support. And last but not least, talk about Pine Grove to your friends, neighbors, relatives and business associates. Spread the word about our efforts. History is not just a subject in school, it can be fun and our past relates to all of us today.

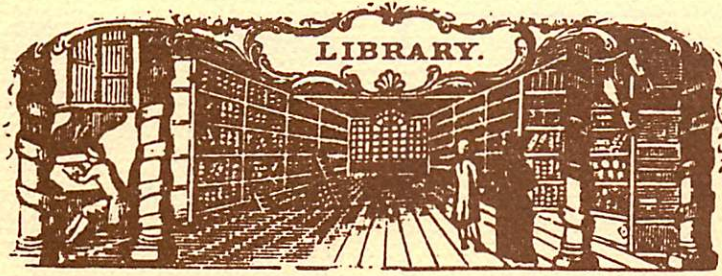
Gretchen Adler

Edison. This is especially appropriate this year, not only because it is the 100th anniversary of Edison's lightbulb, but also because our own CHARLES MARTINEZ, first vice-president, participated on the Port Huron archeological dig to uncover the supposed boy-hood home of this great inventor.

And what is Christmas without music? Besides live minstrels, plans call for old-time carols played on our victrola. Live piano and organ

presentations will be courtesy of several of our guides.

All of this sounds marvelous, doesn't it! And of course it is! You and your friends will not want to miss this last chance of the year to get together for a joyous time at Pine Grove. Enclosed are five tickets for you and your friends. Additional tickets will be available at the office from now to December 2. Price of tickets, as in years past, is only \$1 for adults, 50¢ for children.



140 years ago...

While you sit this winter watching the snow and the fuel bills pile up—or bask in sunny Florida—remember the pioneers who struggled through the unpredictable Michigan winters without benefit of central heating, storm windows, or jets to the Bahamas. Following is an excerpt from the diary of Nathan Power (1801-1874) in which he describes the

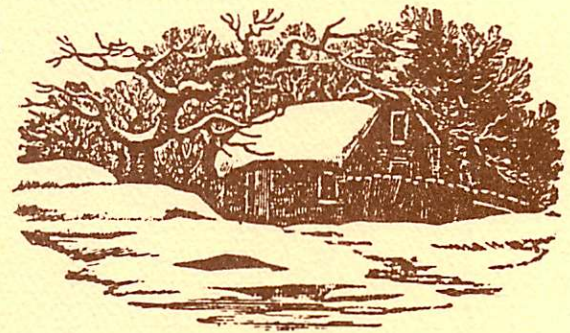
You remember the game, stand many dominoes on end in a line, touch the first, and they all fall in a chain reaction. That's what it's been like at Wisner House all this past fall. First, we had the carpeting installed in the upper floor of the carriage house. Then we rearranged the library shelves in the office, making room for a research table and separating the receptionist's desk from the research activity area. Then we emptied the attic -- well, not completely, yet, but we're on the way. LOTTIE HUDSON and her dedicated helpers have transferred all the textiles to the carriage house, where they will soon be completely sorted, catalogued, and stored. Final steps are dependent upon the shelving being built (it's on

the drawing board now) and the volunteer hours being contributed. How about you? Any time you could spare to sort and box clothes would be appreciated.

Meanwhile, upstairs LILLIAN and GORDON PAULL have been streamlining the library and archival facilities. Lillian has known all along where everything was, but soon we'll all be able to use the research facilities much more efficiently.

Of course, all this shaking and moving couldn't have been accomplished without the patient help of our staff, MARY ARNOLD, MALINDA GRAHAM, and FRANK SIMPSON, not to mention Frank's ever-handy station wagon.

Winter of 1839 & 40. The first snow that whitened the ground was 19th of 11th mo. when I was on my way to Jackson with 3 lbs. of flour for the Antislavery cause. The weather was rather cold. The first snow that made sleighing was on the 29th of 1st mo. and all went off on the 7th of 2nd mo. as I was out to monthly meeting in a cutter. We had this winter 10 days sledding.



Guides to Tour Historic Sites

Our Guides, under the leadership of JAN MC ALPINE, will tour several historic homes in the next few weeks. The Affleck House, a home in Bloomfield designed by Frank Lloyd Wright and now belonging to Lawrence Institute of Technology, will

be their first stop on Saturday, November 17. Additional sites include the McNichol House, a Queen Anne style belonging to the Wyandotte Historical Commission, and Greenmead, an historic buildings complex in Livonia.

Tours Arranged

House tours will be available the week following the Victorian Christmas Open House. Call 338-6732 for scheduling. After Dec. 7, the house will be closed until April, 1980. The office will remain open Tues. through Fri. 10 to 4.

DONATIONS

Donations needed for the Victorian Open House include antique tree ornaments and 78 R.P.M. records of Christmas carols. If you can supply either or both, please call the office, 338-6732. And, as always, we must rely on our members and friends to provide the cookies. PLEASE - we need more people to bring more homemade cookies.

TICKETS

Enclosed with this Gazette, please find 5 tickets for you and your friends. Please return any money or unsold tickets to the Wisner House, 405 Oakland Avenue, Pontiac, Michigan 48058 before December 1. Make checks payable to Edna Bondurant, Treasurer.

VICTORIAN OPEN HOUSE - Tear off and mail to Wisner House, 405 Oakalnd Avenue, Pontiac, Michigan 48058 in the enclosed envelope as soon as possible.

I will serve -

Tickets	12:45 to 2:00	2:00 to 3:00	3:00 to 4:15
Host-Server	12:45 to 2:00	2:00 to 3:00	3:00 to 4:15

I will bring homemade cookies Sunday forenoon or Saturday between 1 p.m. and 4 p.m.

Any questions, please call the office: 338-6732

Name _____ Phone _____

Recent Accessions

8-7-79	Faye Donelson	4 Patterns for doll clothes stuffed doll bean bag transfers applique's
	Mr. & Mrs. Vernon C. Burris	1 Child's patchwork quilt 1 Blue and White hand woven runner 1 Lace runner 6 Brown Crochet pieces 4 separate pieces of tatting 12 separate pieces of crochet edging 3 Embroidered Linen guest towels 1 White bastiste Child's dress 1 White embroidered linen runner 1 Linen (with liner) Pillow Cover 1 Linen embroidered doily 3 blue & white crochet doilies 3 white croched doilies (1 set) 5 crichet doilies (1 set) 1 chair head rest
	Esther Carhart & Mrs. G. Carhart	1 Black Umbrella Ca. 1890's
	Virginia Hoover Carhart	2 Fiddle back Chairs Text & Children's books Iron Lamp
	Leonard F. Day Gladys Cheal	Book - <i>Decendants of Christopher Day</i> Large print of First Congregational Church of Pontiac
8-14-79	Winkelman Radio	Early Radio, Testing Equipment 2 Radio Tubes, C. 1920
8-21-79	Helen Travis	2 Lace and Linen Pillow Shams Tel-lite. Auto headlight indicator in box.
	Mrs. Edna Fuller	3 maps Oakland County Bloomfield Township 1930 West Bloomfield Twp. 1930 1 Black Clock
	Mrs. Reba Netzler	<i>Life Magazine</i> October 31, 1918
8-23-79	Mrs. Edward Carey	Cuban Army Pacification Uniform 1908-1909
8-28-79	Alyce I. Hagood Mrs. May E. Griggs	Bicentennial Hanging-Blue & White Wedding Dress, Kid Gloves & Shoes Embroidered Stockings Graduation Dress One Lady's Dressing Gown
9-5-79	Mrs. Edna Girst	Man's Black Coat and Shoes
9-12-79	Mrs. J. Wrobleski	Genealogy of the Diamon Family of Oakland County
	O.C.P.H.S.	Crochet Hand Bag Gold Pin Cushion and Needle Holder
9-19-79	Mrs. Edna Fuller	Sparton Table Radio Model #69
9-20-79	Alyce Hagood	3-Jigsaw Puzzles
9-26-79	Mrs. Reba Netzler	Black Feather Hat
	Mr. Ronald Stofer	Book OVID History of Clinton County Michigan 1836-1967
	Mr. Frederic M. Carr	1908 Map of Michigan
10-12-79	Mr. & Mrs. Elwood Duncan	41 School Text Books
	Mrs. Harold Rosen	Picture of Bench and Bar Oakland County, Michigan, 1924
10-18-79	Mr. John W. Taylor	Coffee Pot, Waffle Iron Grill C. 1920
10-23-79	Mrs. Gaylor Forman	Booklet-"Some of those Days" Tatting schuttle, Crochet Books 1915-1919-1922
10-25-79	Mrs. Roy N. Long	Tuscarora History Reminiscences Tuscarora School Three Scrap Books 1837-1950
	Esther Carhart	7 Reference Books: <i>Encyclopedia of Practical Information</i> <i>Ploughed Under</i> <i>Indians of to-Day</i> <i>Life of Zachariah Chandler</i> <i>Statue of Zachariah Chandler</i> <i>Memorial Address on Life of A. Lincoln</i> Ottoman to match Fiddle Back Chairs.

Potpourri Shoppe

When doing that holiday shopping, remember the Potpourri Shoppe at the Wisner House. Besides stocking stuffers from 15c up, the shop is filled with new and exciting merchandise all specially selected for you with an historical interest.

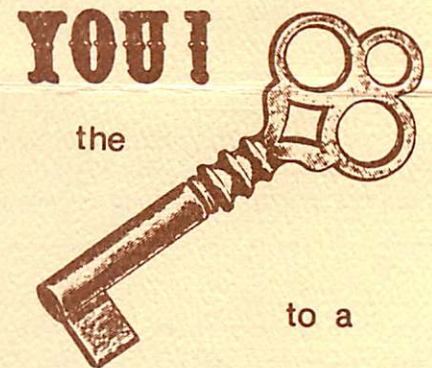
New to the shop are 100% linen silkscreened dish towels and pot holders. Too pretty to use--to practical not to. Wrap a gift in a pretty towel for an extra-special gift.

Dolls are a perennial favorite, and the shop is well-stocked. We have clothespeg doll kits, sew-and-stuff pocket dolls, and a variety of bisque doll kits. Especially appealing are the Little Women dolls. If purchased as a set, they include a copy of *Little Women* and a 10% savings besides. We also expect a jointed wooden body Victorian miss and a bisque doll house family any day.

For the children there are many items, including a build-it-yourself dinosaur! Mastadons were native to the area thousands of years ago. Now your favorite youngster can have one of his very own.

And of course we offer books on history, crafts, and facsimilies of antique books.

Stop by the Potpourri Shoppe. It's open during regular office hours, Tuesday through Friday, 10 to 4.



SUCCESSFUL SOCIETY

NOTE

Oakland Avenue is now open to two-way traffic in front of the Wisner House.