



Sunday, December 12, 1982

## VICTORIAN OPEN HOUSE

12:00 Noon - 4:00 p.m.

Featuring a Tour, Music, Children's Program,  
Mulled Cider and Holiday Cookies  
DONATION: Adults \$2.00, Children \$1.00

Tuesday, December 14, 1982

## CANDLELIGHT MUSICALE

7:30 p.m.

Featuring Selections of 19th Century Music  
Champagne, Punch and Light Refreshments  
DONATION: \$7.00 Per Person

*By Reservation Only - Limited to 40 People*

## HOLIDAY TOURS

December 13, 14, 15, and 17, 1982

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

*Tours By Appointment*

December 16, 1982

9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

*Special After School Tours  
By Appointment*

## Plans Made for Victorian Christmas Week

Decked in its usual garlands of evergreens bows and ribbons, Pine Grove will be the setting for our Victorian Christmas Open House and Musicale.

The Open House will be held on Sunday, December 12th from 12:00 noon to 4:00 pm. Music will be provided by a quartet from the Pontiac-Oakland Symphony Orchestra from 1:30 to 3:30 pm. Craft demonstrations will be held in the carriage house featuring lacemaking, chair caneing and wood-carving. Refreshments will also be served in the carriage house. The Potpourri Shoppe will be open and offering many attractive hand-crafted items for holiday gifts.

Margaret Ann Jackson is preparing an entertaining children's program for the schoolhouse with a display of antique toy banks, an "old" money tree and recitations of Christmas anecdotes by the children.

An "Ethel" doll which has been dressed and donated by Helen Pickering will be raffled off to a lucky winner. Tickets are \$1.00 each. The newly acquired restored one-horse cutter will be on display and, hopefully, used for holiday picture making.

Parking will be available on the Wisner School Lot adjacent to Pine Grove and in the Oakland Avenue Evangelical Presbyterian Church Lot on the east side of Oakland Avenue. Handicapped parking only will be permitted on the Pine Grove grounds. Holiday tours will be available as described on the cover of the Gazette.

The Candlelight Musicale on Tuesday evening, December 14th will open with a champagne and punch reception at 7:30 p.m. A trio from the Pontiac-Oakland Symphony Orchestra will present a program of nineteenth century music which will be followed by light refreshments.

## Holiday Work Bees

The hanging of the Greens for the Victorian Christmas will be December 8th starting at 9:30 am. Bring a sack lunch and come prepared for a fun time and busy work session.

The de-hanging will take place on December 20th at 9:30 am.

Your help is needed on both occasions. Indicate your interest on the enclosed flyer to be returned with your ticket money .

## President's Message

When someone is invited to join the Oakland County Pioneer and Historical Society the question is often asked, "Just what would I get out of a membership?" Even some of our long-time members are saying, "What do I get for my money?"

After giving it some thought I'm convinced that a membership in our Society is one of the greatest bargains of the day. Where, for only \$10.00 a person or \$15.00 a couple, can you buy an active membership and enjoy the following for a whole year?

Visit Pine Grove, the Governor Moses Wisner Historic House and Grounds, as often as you like, from April to December, without charge, except when specific scheduled events are taking place. As a guide takes you from room to room, pause and enjoy the architecture, the antique furniture and artifacts that graced the home of the Wisner's or other early Oakland County families during the Victorian era. Observe the difference in the everyday life-style of a middle class family during Oakland County's, agricultural age with a look in the summer kitchen, root cellar, smokehouse and don't forget the privy. Flowers are in bloom from early spring through late fall. Spend an hour or so on a walk through the gardens and sit under the grand old pines that were planted by Moses Wisner, that still cover the ground with cones and tower over the newly planted evergreens which will in time take their place. The carriage house and Drayton Plains one-room school contain interesting changing exhibits that tell stories of early Oakland County life. What better way to entertain visiting friends or relatives than to bring them with you for a very nominal additional fee?

Your membership entitles you to the free use of our Society library. Whether you wish to just browse or are intent on serious study, the hours fly by as you delve into books, maps, photographs, manuscripts, century-old newspapers, scrapbooks and numerous other materials on Oakland County History.

The Oakland Gazette, sent to you quarterly, contains scholarly articles on people, events, etc., from Oakland County's past, as well as keeping you posted on programs and activities taking place within the Society at the present time.

Lectures, programs and workshops are presented throughout the year. Most are free, or given at a reduced rate, for members.

A 10% discount is given to all members in the Potpourri Shoppe. A wide variety of unusual craft and historically related items, suitable for all ages, can often be just right to solve a difficult gift problem.

If you take advantage of all the above mentioned benefits, you will agree, I'm sure, that you are getting quite a lot for your money. But wait, there is still more.

Also included with your membership is the opportunity to actively participate in keeping alive the purpose for which our Oakland County Pioneer and Historical Society was founded over 108 years ago. It was "to collect and preserve things of the past, present and future, appertaining to the county, which will delight and instruct the present and future inhabitants." Many of our members consider this worth the price of a membership in itself.

Our Governor Moses Wisner Historic House and Grounds is becoming a beautiful showplace of nineteenth century Oakland County life, due in great part to the dedicated care given to its upkeep by a group of retired gentlemen, who come to "the old house" every Monday. Ask any one of them how much that part of their membership means to them.

For another member, a busy mother and college student, Thursday, her only free day of the week, doesn't come around quickly enough. Then she can find out what happened next in the life of one of the first four pioneer families to settle in Pontiac. Her membership has opened an exciting new interest for she is transcribing an original hand-written manuscript, a copy of which will be placed in the Society library to "delight and instruct the present and future inhabitants".

A newly elected member to our Board of Directors said to me recently, "I'm going to like this group just as soon as I get a little more involved with the programs and projects, for all of your board members seem to really enjoy themselves."

To our new members, we welcome you and urge that you make full use of our facilities, our programs and activities "which will delight and instruct" you. It is only then that you will receive full value from your membership. We'll be looking for you.

Ruth G. Priestley

## Membership Drive Succeeds

On July 28th, the Membership Committee launched a drive for new members by mailing an invitation to 4204 Oakland county residents. The mailing, consisting of a letter invitation from President Gretchen Adler, a collage of pictures of Society activities, an updated brochure and a membership application, was followed by a second mailing to 476 additional residents. The action of the committee was the culmination of several months of planning and hard work.

The results have been very rewarding. Since the initial mailing 144 new members have been added to our membership rolls and new applications are being received daily.

We welcome the following new members and will strive to conduct a viable and active Society program that will keep them informed and interested in Oakland county history.

### ACTIVE MEMBERS

Mr. and Mrs. William Archambeau  
Mrs. Bessie J. Alfred  
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Beattie  
Mrs. Arnold Bellinger  
Ms. Edith Benedetti  
Dr. Andrew H. Berry  
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas J. Boice  
Mr. and Mrs. Robert M. Boltwood  
Mr. and Mrs. Ottis R. Briney Jr.  
Ms. Gracegeraldine L. Carafelly  
Ms. Virginia Carhart  
Mr. & Mrs. Dan Carmichael  
Mrs. William C. Cichowski  
Mr. Richard S. Clark  
Mr. & Mrs. William B. Conrad  
Mrs. Floyd Crawford  
Dr. William E. Crommett Family  
Mr. & Mrs. Pierce Dalrymple  
Mr. & Mrs. Gilbert H. Davis  
Mr. & Mrs. James DenHerder  
Mr. & Mrs. John R. Eddy  
Mr. & Mrs. Stanley Elbling  
Ms. Clarence A. Ellis  
Mr. Glenn M. Emery  
Ms. Lysle Marie Emery  
Mr. & Mrs. Beecher Fawcett  
Mrs. Ronald A. Featherstone  
State Representative Richard D. Fessler  
Mrs. Jean M. Fox  
Ms. Christine Fraser  
Dr. Harold A. Furlong  
Mrs. W.S. Gilbreath  
Ms. E. Marion Golembeske  
Miss Juanita Barbara Gottschall  
Mrs. Rebecca Gould  
Mr. & Mrs. B. Jack Habel  
Ms. Vivian G. Hardy

Mr. Walter E. Hartford  
Mr. & Mrs. W.M. Hebblewhite  
Mr. & Mrs. George A. Hyma  
Mr. & Mrs. Earl R. Irwin  
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Irwin  
Mr. & Mrs. August H. Jacober  
Mr. & Mrs. Raymond F. Jarvis  
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Kamlay  
Mr. & Mrs. Vernon W. Kath  
Mrs. Donald S. Kazak  
Miss Helen M. Kinney  
Mr. Charles F. Klingensmith  
Mr. & Mrs. Donald G. Lance  
Mrs. Nina Lehman  
Mrs. Dorothy Liedtke  
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Mackie  
Thomas D. Mackie Family  
Mrs. Mona I. Madden  
Mrs. Goldie Mailahn  
Mr. & Mrs. Leland H. Martin  
Ms. Joy A. Maurer  
Mrs. Leslie D. McIntyre  
Mr. Max Mallon  
Mr. & Mrs. Stuart Nisbett  
Mrs. Lucius L. Nixon  
Mrs. John J. O'Brien  
Ms. Esther R. Peck  
Mrs. Kathleen Powell  
Mr. & Mrs. Larry Quick (Family)  
Mr. & Mrs. Richmond J. Rathbone  
Mr. & Mrs. Charles G. Robertson  
Mr. & Mrs. Melvin Rosenberg  
Gabriel Roth Family  
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Roy  
Mrs. Anne D. Russell  
Mrs. Florence B. Schmidt  
Mrs. Neal J. Scott  
Mr. & Mrs. Frank Scully  
Mrs. Ethel J. Shapiro  
Mrs. Nancy Shepler  
Mr. & Mrs. Arnold Simson  
Miss Mabel L. Smith  
Mr. & Mrs. Worley H. Smith Jr.  
Mr. & Mrs. Charles D. Steeber  
Mr. & Mrs. Earle H. Stepp  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert W. Stogdill  
Mr. & Mrs. Everette G. Strother  
Miss Joyce Sweet  
Ms. Lola Swift  
Mr. & Mrs. Murlin Vaughn  
Mrs. Ronald A. Walter  
Miss Lamont Wertz  
Mr. & Mrs. Richard S. West  
Mrs. Donald D. Williams  
Mr. & Mrs. E.L. Windeler  
Mr. & Mrs. Richard Womack  
Melvin T. Wright Family  
Mrs. Mary S. Young

### LIFE MEMBERS

Mrs. Walter R. Bennett  
Miss Gladys Cheal  
Mrs. Joyce Keselring  
Mrs. Anna McBrearty  
Mrs. Timothy J. Daily, Sr.,  
Mr. Carl W. Donelson

Mrs. Frank Derbyshire  
Mrs. B. Franklin Leonard

### BUSINESS

Felice Quality Market, Mr. Paul Felice

### ORGANIZATION

Delta Kappa Gamma XI Chapter

Many thanks go to Francile (Fran) Anderson, Chairman, and her committee consisting of Marion Roush, Lillian Balmer, Robert (Bob) Reynells, Clarke Kimball, Mary Jean Beck and Dorothy Patterson for their hard work in making the drive a success. A million thanks, also, to our volunteer letter stuffers, stickers and sorters: Franceina Mae Smith; Marion Kimball, Madeline P. O'Conner, Josephine Bennett, Jeanette Moore, Lenna McIntyre, Walter Leahy, Rex Lamoreaux, Christine Fraser, Joyce Keselring, Kitty Daggy, Cassandra Butler and Mary Arnold.

## Recent Interesting Accessions

Listed below are a few of the interesting and unusual gifts which have been received by the Society:

Mr. George N. Skrubb  
8"x10" color pictures of the old county court house. c. 1955

Mrs. Edna (Bondurant) Tiffen  
Mothers of Men in the Service (MOMS)

1 Vol. Treasurer's Records  
5 Vol. Secretary's Reports

Miss Alice Serrell  
Membership Rosters - Oakland and Wayne County DAR Chapters, Souvenir coin collection and other memorabilia.

Rochester Historical Commission  
Pamphlet: Mount Avon Cemetery

Mrs. Clark Adams  
Several pieces of Ironstone, clothing and jewelry from the 1800's, Children's toys and Souvenir items.

Mrs. Clarence Clohset  
Plant from John W. Hunter house and photographs and negatives. C 1882

M.A. Newsted  
Charter, City of Pontiac, 1920

Mr. & Mrs. Allen Priestley  
Bookcase with glass doors  
Mr. Richard Hewitt  
Birmingham High School, Class of June, 1927, Composite picture.

## Ice Cream and Cake Delights Large Crowd

"As American as baseball, hot-dogs, ice cream and apple pie"—What else?—our "Old Fashioned Ice Cream Social". It happened again on August 1st and a good time was had by all.

The crowd and the weather were tremendous. The entertainment by the "Sons-O-Scotia" bagpipe band filled the air with the lively strains of the pipes and the ice cream and cake was of its usual flavorful quality. Crafts and memorabilia were on display for all to enjoy. Our volunteer maintenance crew groomed Pine Grove to perfection and topped off their performance for the day by a "hot-dog sale" which netted additional cash for the maintenance fund. The afternoon concluded with a concert of enjoyable semi-classical music in nearby Wisner Stadium by the Pontiac Symphony Orchestra.

Many volunteers labored long and hard to make this event the most successful ever. Financially, it netted well over \$1000 for our treasury, but, best of all, it proved that we still all enjoy a good "Old Fashioned Ice Cream Social."



*Don Daggy and Clarke Kimball  
serve hot-dogs at ice cream social.*

### New Brochures

The new 1982 Pine Grove Historical Museum brochures have recently been received from the printer. Be sure to pick up copies to give to your friends and relatives.

### In Memoriam

Sadly we report the death of the following members:

Mrs. A.L. MacAdams  
Mrs. Kenneth F. Ealy  
Mr. Lyle Hoard  
Mrs. Grant Beardslee

## Calendar of Coming Events

- November 17 - 9:30am Board of Directors Meeting
- December 8 - 9:30am Hanging of the Greens, Bring a sack lunch.
- December 12 - 12:00 noon - 4:00pm Victorian Christmas Open House
- December 14 - 7:30pm Victorian Candlelight Musicale
- December 13, 14, 15 & 17 - 9:00am - 4:00pm. Victorian Christmas Week Tours - By Appointment
- December 16 - 9:00am - 6:00pm Special after school tours for Victorian Christmas Week - By Appointment
- December 20 - 9:30 am Dehanging of the Greens
- December 17 - 4:00pm to January 3 - 9:00am - The Office will be closed
- January 19 - 9:30am Board of Directors
- February 16 - 9:30am Board of Directors

### New Collection Started

We are starting a photograph and post card file of museum homes which are maintained as historical museums. If you have any, could they be shared with us?

### IMPORTANT!!! IMPORTANT!!!

Many members of the Oakland County Pioneer and Historical Society have expressed a desire to volunteer their time and talents by taking part in the varied programs and activities at Pine Grove. We've listed some of the areas in which you might want to participate. If you can give a few hours or more, please let us know what types of activity you would be interested in.

Please check the items in which you are interested on the form below and mail it as soon as possible to:

Mary Ann Treais  
Oakland County Pioneer & Historical Society  
405 Oakland Avenue  
Pontiac, Michigan 48058

I would be interested in working on the following Society projects:

Maintenance	_____	Crafts	_____
Grounds	_____	Fund Raising	_____
Publicity	_____	Mailing	_____
Public Relations	_____	Library	_____
Exhibits	_____	Potpourri Shoppe	_____
Clothing Collection	_____	Oral History	_____
Accessions	_____	Programs	_____
Archeology	_____	Victorian Christmas	_____
Educational Programs	_____	Ice Cream Social	_____
Schoolhouse Activities	_____	Typist	_____
Guides	_____	Photography & Slide Collections	_____

Other \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: Home \_\_\_\_\_ Work \_\_\_\_\_

Hours and Days Most Available \_\_\_\_\_

## Need & Dream List

The following is a list of items which we need or would like to have at Pine Grove:

Books by Michigan authors  
Gravel for the driveway  
Extension ladders  
Exterior paint (white)  
Field stones to cover the carriage house foundation  
Victorian:  
knick-knacks  
fern plants (live)  
candle sticks  
oil hurricane lamps  
dishes  
hooked rugs  
Dry sink for the summer kitchen  
Light cardboard, ribbon and wallpaper to make band boxes  
New copying machine

A donation of any of these items will be greatly appreciated. If you wish, you may also take a charitable tax deduction for such gifts.

## Collections for Exhibit are Welcome

The Exhibits Committee is interested in displaying private collections of members and friends of the Society. If you possess a collection of objects of historic significance which you would like to place on exhibit for a limited period of time, please contact Mary Ann Treais at Pine Grove (338-6732).

## Busy Crafts Ladies Welcome Help

Please come and join the ladies doing crafts every Wednesday in the carriage house from 9:30 am to afternoon. Bring a sack lunch. Coffee and tea are provided. What kind of crafts? All kinds of Christmas items to sell in the Potpourri Shoppe are being made. Many hands will lighten the load. All you need to know is how to glue or cut material - you do not need to be creative. Hope to see you soon.

To All Our Members:

Wishing you  
a wonderful holiday season  
and best wishes  
for a Happy New Year!

## GM Men's Club and Volunteers Improve Grounds Maintenance

In the April edition of the Gazette we reported: 'The Society is buying a tractor-mower and the men plan to do all of the mowing and trimming of our grounds for the coming season.' We are most pleased to announce that the General Motors Men's Club gave our Society a donation of \$1000 which paid for the tractor-mower. With the combined efforts of our volunteer maintenance men and the General Motors Men, Pine Grove lawn maintenance is much less expensive and the grounds are more beautiful than ever. Gentlemen, take a bow!!!

## One-Horse Cutter Added to Collection

The Society has recently acquired a one-horse cutter as a gift from the Porritt family. The restoration of the cutter, which has been under the care and supervision of Cecil Dumbrigue, was recently completed by Thomas Kamlay, one of our new members. Mr. Kamlay received help on reconstructing the metal parts of the cutter from shop students, Ted Westman and Paul Bianco, of East Hills Junior High School in Bloomfield Hills.

## Treais Attends Museum Workshop

On October 14th, Mary Ann Treais, our Administrative Coordinator, attended a workshop on "Tourism for Museums" at the Michigan Historical Museum in Lansing, Michigan. The workshop showed how relating to different businesses in your area can improve your museum. It also gave various methods of using low-cost promotional ideas in conjunction with local businesses and organizations within the community to better promote your museum and its special events.

## Annual Meeting Highlights

The 108th annual meeting of the Society was held on Wednesday evening, September 15th in the carriage house at Pine Grove.

The following new members were elected to the Board of Directors: Carl W. Donelson, Clarke Kimball, Priscilla Gaytan and Stuart Rodgers.

The highlight of the meeting was the report on the success of the membership drive. Many new members have been added to our membership rolls and new applications for membership are being received daily. Our total membership now exceeds 700.

Kitty Daggy reported that our tours of Pine Grove are running about the same as last year in number. She also reported that a teacher's guide is being compiled for use by teachers in leading groups of students in visits to the one-room schoolhouse. When she revealed that a set of McGuffey Readers would be a welcome addition to the schoolhouse furnishings, Betty Adams volunteered a gift of \$100 as a memorial to Blanche W. (Mrs. Jayno) Adams to help in the purchase of the same.

A report was given on the profitability of our various annual events and it revealed that most of our functions produced a greater return for the Society than in past years.

The meeting concluded with a program prepared by Ruth Priestley, Program Chairman, dealing with modern day migrations to Oakland county. Ellen Rice, Allen Priestley, Donald Daggy, Elizabeth Adams, Patsy Mackey Schroeder, Thomas Mackey and Gretchen Adler, all of whom moved to Oakland county after 1900, described their move and what motivated it. An interesting portrayal of modern day history was presented.

At a short meeting immediately following the membership meeting, the Board of Directors elected the following officers for 1982-1983:

Ruth G. Priestley - President  
Donald (Don) Daggy - Vice President  
Marion Roush - Secretary  
Kathryn (Kitty) Daggy - Treasurer

## Potpourri Shoppe

Many new and attractive items have been acquired for sale in the Potpourri Shoppe. "Primitive accessories" emphasizing the "country living look" are among the new items. Make a visit to the shop a "must" in your Christmas shopping.

- The Officers, Board and Staff

# Sesquicentennial

## A Tale of Two Towns

By Allen E. Priestley

The year 1832 marked the birth of two Oakland County communities, Milford and Clarkston. Each town had a similar origin. They are located on well known streams and each had its beginning in the form of a mill. From a humble birth as a mill site, each grew to be a prosperous farming community and has matured in later years into a prosperous residential and business community.

This year marks the 150th anniversary of each town and both have enjoyed extensive Sesquicentennial Celebrations. The Oakland County Pioneer and Historical Society salutes Clarkston and Milford and is pleased to recount a few of the many interesting facts pertaining to the birth and growth of these communities.

### CLARKSTON

Clarkston had its beginning in 1832 when Butler Holcomb brought his family from Herkimer County, New York and settled on land which is a part of the present village. Holcomb built a sawmill on the east branch of the Clinton River and utilized the nearby water power by building a ditch nearly one-half mile long to bring the water to the mill site. His brother, Roswell, was the sawyer.

Holcomb sold his mill in 1838 to the Clarks brothers, Jeremiah and Nelson, who proceeded to build a dam 200 feet long near the mill, thereby increasing the water fall to 22 feet. They enlarged the mill and converted it to a grist mill which stood on the site of the present Clarkston Mill Shopping Mall. During subsequent years Clarkston also was the site of a plaster mill, carding and woolen mills.

Strange as it may seem, Clarkston, although not located directly on the old Saginaw Trail, today's Dixie Highway, became a stage stop on the trail. The area north of the present intersection of Dixie Highway and M-15 extending northerly to White Lake Road was traversed by a large swamp which during many periods of the year was impassable. Consequently, travelers and stage coaches in order to avoid the swamp found it necessary to detour through Clarkston and back on to the trail at White Lake Road, then called the Cemetery Road. In passing through Clarkston many stopped overnight or for a meal.

The village became a center for the farmers in the surrounding area and by the 1840's a business community had been established. By the late 1800's, Clarkston became a resort town—a summer vacation place for city residents. The Demarest House, later known as Caribou Inn, and Johnson Hotel were built in town and Deer Lake Inn and Vliets-on-the-Hill were built on nearby Deer Lake. Summer homes were also built along Main Street and many of these fine old homes still exist as year-round residences.

Henry Ford acquired the old original mill site and constructed a small manufacturing plant operated by hydro-electric power.

The tourist business disappeared during the Great Depression and the Ford plant, with the curtailment of Ford's rural manufacturing programs, ceased to operate. Clarkston remains, however, as a fine residential community within easy commuting distance of the manufacturing communities of Pontiac, Flint and Detroit.

The Clarkston Community Historical Society is dedicated to preserving the history of the community and has joined with other local organizations in the Sesquicentennial Celebration which included parades, concerts, an ice-cream social, a country fair and concluded with a Crafts & Cider Festival.

### MILFORD

Two brothers, Elizur and Stanley Ruggles, walked from their home in Cowlesville, New York by way of Farmington and the Huron River to the Milford area in 1831 seeking a place to build a sawmill where water power would be abundant. Land sold at the high price of \$1.25 an acre, however, and they decided to move on to Chicago where it was cheaper. Chicago was apparently not to their liking and so they returned in 1832 to the Milford site and proceeded to build their sawmill at the intersection of the Huron River and Pettibone Creek. They became the first land owning settlers in the area and thus the community of Milford was born.

Not located on a cross-country trail or highway, Milford developed as a local community serving the surrounding agricultural area. Many small industries were established to supply the needs of the area. Besides the mills which always flourished, an iron works, a cultivator factory, and a corn scoop factory were established. With the construction of the Holly, Wayne and Monroe Railroad in 1871 local industry

declined because of the availability of goods made possible by frequent rail service. Local industry flourished again in the 20th century when the auto industry came to the rescue. In 1924, General Motors established its proving grounds in the western part of Milford Township and this has been a steady source of employment for many Milford residents for many years. In 1938, Ford Motor Company, continuing its policy of establishing rural small supplier plants, built a carburetor plant on one of the old mill sites utilizing the hydro-electric potential available. Today, that facility is the site of the Kelsey Hayes plant.

Milford has, since its inception, been the site of a rivalry between its north and south side localities. Although the south side of the river was settled first and the town's first commercial district existed there, in the latter half of the 1800's a new retail district arose on Main Street on the north side of the river and soon became the center of business activity. There were even rival hotels, the Central House on the north side and the Oakland Hotel on the south side. The north side still remains the center of business activity.

Milford has just completed its Sesquicentennial Celebration. The Milford Historical Society and many related civic organizations presented a large and varied program of events which commenced with a "first day of issue" stamp ceremony in June of 1981 and concluded with a Harvest Ball in October of 1982. Much research and writing has documented the history of the town and the memories of the early families have been recorded. A published history entitled "Ten Minutes Ahead of the Rest of the World, A History of Milford" which was compiled and written by Sue Davis Lowe, Marjorie Jackson Bourns, Barbara Bank Young and Cynthia Lathrop Barr provides an excellent account of Milford's birth and development.

### CONCLUSION

The existence of the communities of Clarkston and Milford and similar rural towns have provided a heritage and environment which has made rural Oakland County a fine place to live.

(The author is indebted to The Clarkston News, The Sunday Oakland Press, The Milford Times and The Spinal Column and their authors for interesting facts disclosed in their Sesquicentennial Editions which are incorporated in the above article.)