# OAKLAND



## GAZETTE

Published by OAKLAND COUNTY PICNEER & HISTORICAL SOCIETY November 1986 Vol. XIX No. 4 405 OAKLAND AVENUE, PONTIAC, MICHIGAN Warm and Inviting Memories of Victorian Holidays Past Await Your Enjoyment at Pine Grove Home of Governor Moses Wisner 405 Oakland Avenue Pontiac, Michigan Sunday, December 7, 1986 VICTORIAN OPEN HOUSE 12:00 Noon: 4:00 p.m. Featuring a Tour, Music, Children's Programs Mulled Cider and Holiday Cookies Donation: Adults \$3.00 Children (under 12) \$1.00 **HOLIDAY TOURS** (By Appointment) December 4, 5 and 8 thru 12, 1986 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Special After School Tours By Appointment PLEASE RETURN **PARKING** Wisner School Lot Adjoining Wisner House Oakland Ave. Evangelical Presbyterian Church Lot THE ENCLOSED MEMBER RESPONSE SHEET On East Side of Oakland Avenue.

# Oakland County Pioneer & Historical Society

Organized 1874 for "the collection, preservation and interpretation of Oakland County History."

#### Board of Directors 1986-1987

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#### Officers

Donald Daggy, President Clarke Kimball, Vice-president Marion Roush, Secretary Kathryn Daggy, Treasurer

#### Annual Giving Time

A tax-deductible gift to the Endowment, Memorial, Library or Carriage House Foundation Stones Fund will be of great help to the work of the Oakland County Pioneer and Historical Society.



### Pine Grove Prepares For 1986 Holiday Festivities

The holiday festivities this year begin with the Hanging of the Greens on Wednesday, December 3rd. Members and all interested volunteers will gather at 9:00 a.m. to decorate Pine Grove with fresh evergreen roping and bright red satin bows, hang wreaths, and trim the tree with Victorian ornaments and toys of long ago.

Do plan to join us for this work day made fun when shared among many hands and friends. Wear old clothes and bring a sack lunch. Coffee and tea will be furnished.

With this Gazette are enclosed 5 tickets of admission to the Victorian Christmas Open House on December 7th. Tickets may also be purchased at the door.

A member response insert and envelope is also included for you to return your donation and to let us know where you would like to help on this festive annual occasion. An additional volunteer sign-up sheet is posted on the office kitchen door listing specific hours and areas of work.



## Christmas Festivities in the One-Room School

For the second year, the students at William Austin Burt School in Waterford Township will be in charge of the Christmas festivities in the Drayton Plains One-Room School. They will decorate the schoolroom and Christmas tree with home-made ornaments, and at the Victorian Open House present the program.

The singing by the 5th and 6th grade chorus, who call themselves "The Good Times Group", using their own musical instruments, and who also like to dance, will be led by their Music Director, Phyllis Relyea.

The 6th Grade students will present a play, using an original script, written and directed by their Teacher, Mike Kowalski.

Don't miss seeing the festivities prepared for your enjoyment by these talented and enthusiastic young students.

### Doll Raffle

This year's beautiful procelain lady doll, in her printed gown and bonnet, will be raffled off on December 15th. Tickets at \$1.00 each can be purchased in the office.

# Calendar of Coming Events

Dec. 3 - 9:00 a.m. Hanging of the Greens. Dec. 7 - 12:00 noon-4:00 p.m. Victorian Open House.

Dec. 4,5,8-12, - 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Holiday Week Tours. By Appointment.

Dec. 15 - 9:00 a.m. De-hanging of the Greens.

**Dec. 12** - 4:00 p.m. - January 5 - 9:00 a.m. - Office closed.

Jan. 21, 1987-9:30 a.m. Board of Directors Meeting.

Feb. 18, 1987 - 9:30 a.m. Board of Directors Meeting.

#### Potpourri Gift Shoppe

As the name "Potpourri" implies, we have a pleasing "mixture" of items in our Gift Shoppe at the Wisner Historic House for both children and grown-folks alike. Members of the Oakland Pioneer Historical Crafters have been busy on Wednesday mornings working to keep the Shoppe well stocked with attractive, useful items at attractive, minimal prices.

For children there are Miniature Oil Lamps, Miniature Forts and Cannons, Musket Ball Dice, Marbles, Model Sets, Train & Steamer Pencil Sharpeners, Books, Dolls, Wooden Animals, Fancy Stickers, Slates and Chalk.

For adults we have Wallhangings, Wreaths, Hoops, Candleholders, Sachets & Potpourri, Aprons, Potholders, Towels, Tote Bags, Jars of Beans for Soup, Dilly Dip, Wooden Door Stops, Padded Cloth Picture Frames, Handcrafted Clay Hot Bun Warmers, Hostess Gift Bottle & Jar Bags.

For everyone Mini to large Baskets, Boxes, Re-cycled Wallpaper Gift-O-Cards and Notepaper.

This is just a few of our items. Wall-paper gift bags are provided without cost for each purchase. Hope to see you soon at our Holiday Corner of Gifts. It's open Monday through Friday, 9 to 4.

### Membership Fees

Active Member \$10 \$18

Sustaining Membership-Individual \$30

Life Membership-Individual \$250

Family Membership \$25

(Includes Jrs. under 18) Single Couple \$15

(Available to members over 65 yrs. of age)

Organizational Membership \$50 Business Sustaining Membership \$150

Memberships, except Life, are active for one year.

#### First of America Bank Gift Redecorates Wisner Historic House

The First of America Bank-S.E. Region, recently gave a designated gift of \$14,000.00 to the Society for redecorating rooms in the Gov. Moses Wisner Historic House.

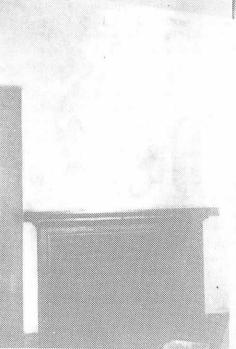
This restoration project was under the direction of members of the Historical Society House Committee Susan Metzdorf, Priscilla Gaytan, Gretchen Adler, and Rex Lamoreaux. They volunteered countless hours of time and work to select period wallpaper, paint, carpeting and drapery materials for the front hall, family sitting room, dining room and upstairs bedrooms.

The decorator, James S. Rickker, and his helper Terry, have worked many days in stripping off numerous layers of old wallpaper, then sized and newly papered and painted the bare plastered walls. Raymond Cullen

restored the original wood-graining finish on the woodwork in the dining room that had been painted over some years ago. New electrical outlets were installed for additional lighting in the parlor and bedrooms to better display the rooms during tours of the house.

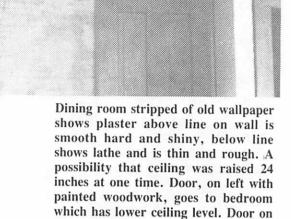
The deadline for the completion of this project is December 1st., in time for our Victorian Christmas Open House and Holiday Tours. It has been a tremendous project to be completed in such a short time and a thank you goes to all those who worked so hard to see it accomplished, including members of the Executive Committee, Master Plan Committee, and our Executive Secretary, Beverly Laakko.

An Outdoor Sign is also included in this project. We most sincerely appreciate the interest and financial support given to us by the First of America Bank in the preservation of one of Oakland County's oldest and most famous landmarks.



Family Sitting-Room. No evidence that ceiling was raised in this room.

Above fireplace is outlet for wood stove pipe and furnace register.



right to family setting room has original

wood grain finish.

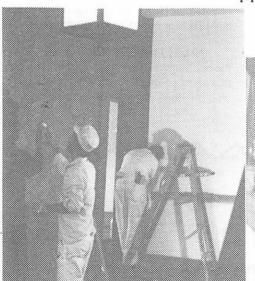
Redecorated Family Sitting-Room

### Pre-19th Century Oil Lamps and Clothing Needed

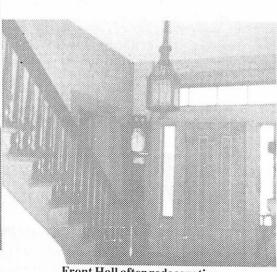
Donations of appropriate antique oil lamps that can be wired for electricity, for use in the parlor and the family sitting room, would be greatly appreciated.

The Clothing Collection Committee has reported a critical lack of men and women's clothing of the pre-19th century era. While the Collection has a good number of wedding gowns and christening clothes, it is the week-day and Sunday clothes that are in short supply.

Anyone having items that they would like to give to either of the above requests can call the office for further information regarding their donation.



Mr. Rickker, right, and his helper. Terry hanging paper in front hall.



Front Hall after redecoration.

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The Dear Ald Tree

Oakland County

Oakland County Trivia

BY LUELLA WILSON SMITH



Pine Grove Parlor Christmas Tree

There's a dear old tree, an evergreen tree. And it blossoms once a year. is loaded with fruit from top to root, And it brings to all good cheer:

For its blossoms bright are small candles white And its fruit is dolls and toys And they all are free for both you and me If we're good little girls & boys

### News 1836

Items published in the Pontiac COURIER, just before Michigan was admitted to the Union, January 26, 1937.

August 1, 1836. THE STATE CONVENTION.

An election is to be held in the different townships in Michigan on the 2nd Monday in September coming for the purpose of electing delegates to attend a state convention on the 4th Monday of the same month at Ann Arbor. If the state convention assents to an alteration of our southern boundary, by which the most valuable portion of Michigan, together with the only harbor on Lake Erie is taken from us and given to Onio, we shall be admitted into the Union, but if, as representatives of the people, that convention should refuse to give their consent to the tyrannical dismemberment bill, we are a state without a Union, a free, sovereign and independent government.

Surrounded as we are, by navigable rivers and lakes, with a climate as salubrious and healthful, and a soil as rich and productive as any in the world, we may become an extensive and flourishing republic.

August 15, 1836. TREACHERY.

Are the people of this Senatorial district aware that Chas. C. Hascall voted against the proposition to submit the question of a convention directly to the people. He did so vote; and well he may, for he is now above the people. His salary at the Flint River (Flint), together with the profits of the brokers office which he is about to establish there, will be sufficient for him. After climbing to the top of his ambition, "he turns his back upon his friends, looks into the clouds, and scorns the base degrees by which he did ascend."

Chas. C. Hascall, the father of Angeolina Wisner, was a representative in the Michigan Territorial Government and a Democrat. The COURIER was a Whig paper, that bitterly attacked the Democrats at every opportunity.

#### A First Land Owner in Oakland County

Danial Webster of Boston, Mass. bought land in Sections 13, 23 and 24 in Commerce Township, with a Date of Patent of April 29, 1836 and in Section 34 Rose Township, with a Date of Patent of May 30, 1836.

#### Medical Meeting

The annual meeting of the Oakland County Medical Society will be held at the Courthouse in Pontiac, on the 14th of July, at 2 o'clock P.M.

Pontiac, June 30, 1836

I. Paddock, Secretary

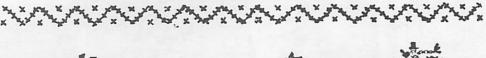
#### Mormons in Missouri

Reported in the Pontiac COURIER, June 30, 1836. The people of Jackson County, Missouri are sadly in fear of another invasion from the Mormonites. A letter from that section states that there are now 2000 of these "leaders of Zion in the immediate vicinity all being armed with guns and other weapons."

### The Pontiac Gazette Friday, December 17, 1886

WEATHER. Snug winter weather, not sufficient snow for sleighing.

PRIZE TURKEY. White Lake takes the premium on Turkeys. Charles Reed of that town, selling Charley Thorpe one that weighed thirty one pounds.







The Oakland County Pioneer & Historical Society Officers, Board and Staff Wish All Our Members A Very Happy Holiday Season and a Prosperous New Year.