



## President's Message

Dear Members:

The following is to let you know of our "happenings".

### ICE CREAM SOCIAL

A thank you to all the Board members who supported our many volunteers from the membership at the Social. They worked hard to see that the house and grounds were groomed to perfection and the booths set up for the special sales. We had a beautiful day and good publicity which resulted in more tickets sold at the gate than ever before. New members signed up. Pricilla Gayton provided a new display in the family room of our antique buggies filled



*President Marion H. Roush*

with flowers and antique dolls. Lillian Paull again provided lovely arrangements of daisies and carnations for the dining room. Our former assistants from the GM Job Bank and OLSHA: Karen Kasari, Harriet Robinson and George Ruge helped with the housekeeping and as guides. Donna Jones from OLSHA assisted as a guide. Brian Underwood had the lawn mowed to perfection and helped with the set-up and clean-up. He left us in mid-September. Our thanks to Chuck Martinez for coordinating all the receipts for the day. Kitty Daggy tallied good receipts for the event before she and Don left for their trip to Nova Scotia.

### LIBRARY COMMITTEE

A meeting was held with architect Robert Powell on August 7th and September 4th. His initial plans for the library were well received as he addressed our requests. This project, under the direction of Gretchen Adler, is making excellent progress. At the October Board of Directors meeting preliminary plans were approved. The Committee will finalize plans for funding the project.

### "HAMMERING OUT THE PAST"

Thanks to Bruce Annett, Jr., and Chuck Martinez who worked long hours to meet the publishing deadlines on the new book which was ready for sale at the Social. Copies will be available at our museum for \$5.00 each.

### NEW BROCHURE

Our appreciation to Board member Anna Baker Lane for graciously funding our first printing and to the Publicity and Publications Committee, chaired by Pauline Harrison, for the design of the new brochure.

It has been a busy time for us as we planned the Ice Cream Social for the Oakland County Community. We hope to see you all at the *VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS* on DECEMBER 8th and the *ANNUAL DINNER* on JANUARY 15th!

Marion H. Roush



## Our Farm Museum ... And How It Grew

Located in the lower level of the Carriage House, this museum focuses on the various farm tools and implements our forefathers used for their daily survival. How and when did the museum begin? Jack Moore, who chairs the Museum Committee along with Bob Reynnells, noticed a few artifacts used in farming in the Carriage House basement. This peaked their interest, so in 1981 they proceeded to gather up more items from about the place and encouraged the growth of this collection.

They cleared the area, painted and organized it until it grew to what you see today. This active committee has set up displays complete with explanatory cards and related photographs showing how and where these tools were used. It is kept meticulous and changed every six months. This remains a popular area for those touring Pine Grove, young and old alike, particularly the "boys".

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## Victorian Christmas

Sunday, December 8, 1991, feel a part of Christmases past and enjoy some pleasant holiday time at Pine Grove.

The inserted invitation will tell you more!



## Book Review F.Y.I.

(Wisner Library)

### More Than a Tavern

#### 150 YEARS OF BOTSFORD INN

By Jean M. Fox (Member of OCPHS)

(Published by the Botsford Inn in cooperation with The Farmington Hills Historical Commission)

This book published in 1986 was compiled as a sesqui-centennial tribute to Michigan's longest surviving hostelry. Threads of history, business acumen and personalities of the innkeepers are traced to illumine the essence of Botsford Inn today, and to explain the most unusual rapport between the Inn and its community.

It stands today as a living museum rooted in territorial days. Author Jean Fox states it well as she writes, "Come, enter. Shed your rainy gear. Step to the fire, and warm your heart, while the kitchen warms the clam chowder and the deep-dish apple pie." We who appreciate warmth of the good old days will enjoy browsing through and reading this lovely historical rendition.

Pauline Harrison

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### Oakland County Cultural Council Galleria

- Throughout September the Sheltering Arms Daycare residents displayed tiles by them which will be made into a mural at their new facility.
- November through mid-December "Six Directions" paintings by six ideal women artists.

In the Atrium, Sculpture by Morris Brose and Sue Linberg.

- On September 25th a free workshop was presented to help non-profit groups to accept free consultation from professionals in the private sector. The program was called "Business Volunteers F/T ARB" sponsored by the Oakland County Cultural Council.

Notes from Virginia Rogers

### Oakland County Pioneer & Historical Society

- Crafters meet 1st, 2nd, and 4th Wednesdays, along with a potluck on 4th Wednesday, 10 a.m.-12:00 noon.
- Board of Directors Meetings on the 3rd Wednesday, 9:30 a.m.
- Victorian Christmas, Sunday, December 8th, 12:00-4 p.m.
  - Hanging of the greens, Dec. 4th, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.
  - Dehanging of the greens, Dec. 16th, 9 a.m.-2 p.m.
- Annual Dinner Meeting, January 15, 1992, 6 p.m. at Santa's in Keego Harbor.
- Charles Martinez will speak at Cranbrook on November 11th to the Clinton Valley Chapter of the Michigan Archaeological Society. His topic, "With Dignity and Dispatch" is a report on the translation of 30 graves in the West Farmington Cemetery.

## WISNER LIBRARY ACQUISITIONS

The War of 1812 - Hickey

The Corman Diaries - Corman family

150 Years of Botsford Inn - Fox

Forgotten Household Crafts - Seymour

1990 Pontiac Facade Study (4 books)

Our Highland Heritage - Beach

Oberlin Book of Bandstands - Starr

Index to the 1880 Federal Population of Macomb

Holly Twp. Cemeteries of Oakland Co. - O.C.G.S.

About Face - The Odyssey of an American Warrior

## ACCESSIONS

Our appreciation to all donors:

**Arthur P. Moore** - Oil painting

**Rex Lamoreaux** - Litho Washington reading document of independence, Old 16mm sound camera

**Jean Milton** - Photo paper holder C. 1950

**Ruth Prestitley** - Toys C. 1950

**Mr. & Mrs. Harold Haskins** - Historical pictures

**Ray Russell** - Photo, "Pioneers of Oakland County"

**Marion Roush** - Napkins, razor strap

**Rene Haskins** - Wash basin C. 1910

**Betty Adams** - Bottle C. 1920, Jar C. 1890

**Jack Harris** - Book *Our Highland Heritage*

**Erma McMillen** - Records of Newcomers Club C. 1942-80's

## CLOTHING

**Faye Donelson** - Pantaloons, satin dress C. 20's

**Jean Milton** - Brown fur piece with tails, lingerie C. 1914

**Orpha Williams** - Eighteen clothing items

## Membership Report

We welcome the new **Life memberships** which contribute to our Endowment Fund:

Mrs. Margaret Miller  
Miss Thea Ann Tryon  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert H. Nissley  
Mr. Lee C. Roush

### Upgrade to Life Members

Mr. & Mrs. Bruce A. Benter  
Mr. & Mrs. James E. Hodges  
Dr. Roger F. Benter

### Business Memberships

Jickling, Lyman, Powell Associates, architects  
Susan Lozano, realtor

### New Members

We appreciate the fine support of the following new members:

Ross L. Johnson	Betty Seymour
Alice Kohlman	Bob & Missy Huntoon
Mary Spoor	Scott Scherbing
Mamara Ellsworth	Mr. Bruce Smith
Ed Rife	Pam Epple
Ruth Peterson	Donna Venegas
Judith Hudalla	W.S. Laidlow
Kay Vigiletti	Virginia & Hill Bailey
William Hewett	David & Harriet Delisle
Dorothy Yancey	Daryl & Teri Delisle
Susan Gibson	Dennis & Diana Delisle
	Bernice Ferguson



# HIGHLIGHTS

## NEWS NOTES

### Red Cross Volunteers

Our "History Lady", Miriam Foxman, presented hats from our historical collection on October 14th for a special function at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Pontiac honoring the Red Cross Volunteers for their work there.

Theme of the celebration - "Hats Off". Our "hats off" to Miriam and those dedicated volunteers!

### Wisner Guides Room

This special room for our guides is now graced with a dressing table and mirror, donated by Faye Donelson. Thank you, Faye.

### Spring Lecture Series

We have received several ideas for another Spring Lecture Series. We are hoping to have this series presented again but there are no definite plans. Let us hear from you on this.

### Pine Grove Beautification

Our driveway entrance on Oakland Avenue has been beautified by our "Head Gardener" Clarke Kimball. This was suggested and supported by Gretchen Adler. Thank you Gretchen and Clarke. More volunteers for gardening are needed.

### Ice Cream Socializing

We were visited by a record crowd and entertained by Rachael the Storyteller, Mark the Magnificent (magician), and the always uplifting sounds of the Franklin Village Band.

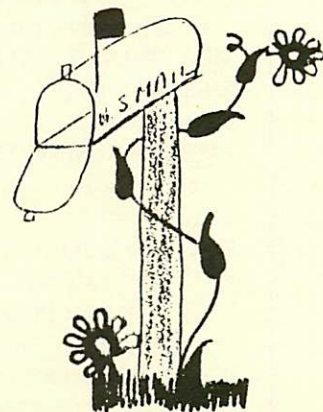
## SOME MAIL

To: Guides Chairpeople, Jean Milton and Frank Girardo

Dear Jean and Frank,

Thank you so much for the gift you gave me for my guiding. I have been around our "home" for a long time and always enjoyed my visits. I have spent many hours guiding and watching an organization grow. I now substitute-guide only. Thanks again for your kind thoughts.

Sincerely,  
Marjorie Ruslander



Dear Mr. Martinez,

The co-chairpeople of this "White Elephant Booth Committee" are pleased to report a very successful day at the Ice Cream Social.

The buyers were enthusiastic and business was brisk. We want to thank Muriel Crossman and Pauline Harrison for all their hard work, as well as Edna Burke and Thelma Wright who stayed to the end and helped with clean-up. Thanks to all the Crafters who organized and marked the donated items. All left-overs have been disposed of. We would like to go on record as volunteering to chair this committee again in '92.

Respectfully submitted,  
Elsie Patterson and  
Connie Lektjian-Scafe



Magician putting on the "Magic" for young and old alike at the ice cream social.



Beautification of the Pine Grove driveway entrance on Oakland Avenue. Supported by Gretchen Adler and "nurtured" by Clarke.

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Committee members come from varied career backgrounds. Jack Moore was a GM Supervisor; Bob Reynolds, a GM Buyer; Sid Olson, a Goodhousekeeping Service Manager; Gil Havens, a math and science teacher; Don Daggy, a school principal, and Robert Norberg is with the Pontiac Fire Dept. as Supervisor of fire equipment. All are handy with tools and repairs and appreciate the historic

side of artifacts. They wonder if our Society ever had an organized Farm Museum before this.

Jack tells of other than farming tools in this collection, such as a candle lantern from the Revolutionary War and guns from the Civil and Spanish American Wars. The Committee is mobile and enjoy appearing before interested groups in the community.

Pauline Harrison



## GETTING TO KNOW YOU... profile

**PROFILE: MARY ELLEN WEBSTER GALBRAITH**

**BIRTHPLACE:** Pontiac, Michigan

**PRESENT HOME:** 484 Vaguero Lane, Santa Barbara, CA 93117

**CAREER:** Elementary School Teacher, mother of 4, grandmother of 10

**MEANINGFUL EXPERIENCE:** Driving from Michigan to California with belongings, 4 kids, 2 dogs to make new home in an unknown land. (Shades of my ancestors!)

**EMBARRASSING MOMENT:** In 1929 wrap-around skirts came to PHS. At the corner of Huron and Saginaw a strong wind blew my "wrap-around" off and away!

**FAVORITE BOOK:** Gone With The Wind

**FAVORITE MOVIE:** "Psycho"

**FAVORITE TV PROGRAM:** "Meet The Press" and Dodger Baseball

**HOBBY:** Chasing my ancestors

**INTEREST IN OCPHS:** One tie to my "Homeland"

**HISTORICAL INTERESTS:** Early VA, right now the Colemans - Prewetts - Claytons - Hawes - Chiles - Winstons - Graves, etc.

**PHILOSOPHY:** Do some kind of a good deed daily, which ain't easy especially if you try to tabulate it.

### ETC...

I attended Pontiac schools and then followed through with my wish to attend a lovely college by the sea and then on to U. of M. A month before finals, like operas known as SOAP I met a lochinvar, eloped off to New York to model and to draw. After several years came back home to maw and paw. The following 10 years brought four cherubs for us. Then a heart attack took my husband in his prime. Now to earn a living so back to school to again qualify as a teacher. After bitter winters of snow, sleet, and ice, California lured us with nice weather. Hoping to be blessed we took off with a road map, for a new life in the warm West. I am now retired and an deeply involved in genealogy. This has led to books, and charts, and maps. The study never ends and brings the greatest of rewards, in friends and friends, and friends.

I am now in DAR, Daughters of American Colonist, 17th Century Colonial Dames, Daughters of Founders and Patriots of America, Mayflower, and St. Catherines.

### MEMBER PROFILES – Received

**Gretchen Adler** – Homemaker & Professional Volunteer

**Evelyn MacGregor Allen** – Teacher

**Lois A. Lance (Mrs. Donald)** – Teacher, Antique Dealer, Historian

**Mary Ellen Webster Galbraith** – Teacher

**Margaret A. Greer** – Bookkeeper/Head Cashier State Hospital

*Keep the profiles coming!*

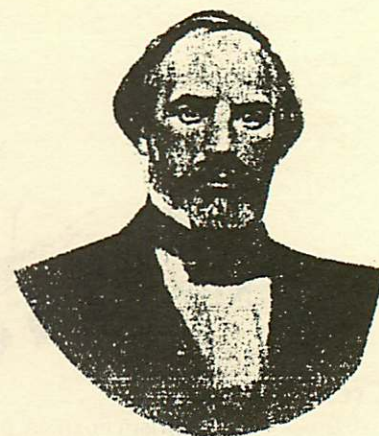
### OFFICERS – 1991

President ..... Marion H. Roush  
First Vice President ..... Clarke Kimball  
Second Vice President ..... Rosamond Haeberle  
Secretary ..... Miriam Foxman  
Treasurer ..... Kathryn Daggy

### Editorial Staff

Pauline Harrison, Editor  
Ross Callaway, Assoc. Editor  
Staff: Charles Martinez, Marion Roush

Harry Harrison, Jack Moore, Photography



## PROFILE OF A GOVERNOR, 1859-1860

### Moses Wisner

No voice was more forceful then that of Moses Wisner who criticized fellow Republican Abraham Lincoln as being too conciliatory toward the South; opposed efforts to weaken Michigan laws designed to thwart slave traders, and emphasized Michigan's refusal to recognize the right of a State to secede from the Union by declaring "we cannot consent to have one star obliterated from our flag."

To help settle it upon retiring as governor, Wisner raised the 22nd Michigan Regiment, largely from Oakland County. Commissioned a colonel in 1862, he led the regiment off to Kentucky where he died of typhoid fever on January 5, 1863.

Moses Wisner was born June 3, 1815 in Springport, N.Y., the son of a farmer. At the age of 22 in 1837 he moved to Michigan and purchased a farm in Lapeer County. Two years later he moved to Pontiac, where he studied law in his brother George's firm. After practicing law in Lapeer he was appointed prosecuting attorney in Lapeer. He later returned to Pontiac to become a member of his brother's law firm.

During his term as governor roads were extended into unsettled areas of Michigan registration of voters was required, and many development projects were advanced including improvement of the canal at Sault Ste. Marie. Wisner campaigned against "the great injustice of excluding our daughters from the state university at Ann Arbor." Whether arguing for equal rights for women or against slavery, his eloquence was that of conviction and action.

His remains are interred in Pontiac's Oak Hill Cemetery. The Wisner home on Oakland Avenue in Pontiac which he built in 1845 remains open to the public. It contains historic interest and serves as headquarters for the Oakland County Pioneer & Historical Society.

Information based on Stewards of the State by George Weeks