


PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Dear Friends:

In this issue, you'll find photos from September's Autumn Festival. They illustrate the day's happy mood and remind us of how many people enjoyed the event – so rewarding to all who helped in its sponsorship, planning, and execution.

At October's board meeting, we considered what makes any event a success: Financial return, outreach to newcomers, inspiration for current and prospective members, volunteers, and donors, educational and cultural enrichment, and in general, a sense that our investment in programs reaps a good return.

Given those criteria, we've decided to place our 2nd Saturday tours on hiatus, and instead to arrange group tours by appointment only. We'll celebrate Gov. Wisner's Birthday the first weekend in June, so put it on your calendars! Other possibilities are under consideration, and we welcome your suggestions and support. After all, the best indicator of a successful event is the interest it generates within you, our members.

Sincerely, 

AUTUMN FESTIVAL REPORT

It was cold and cloudy, and several other community events were held the same week-end, but many visitors came to our party on September 10. The music was very popular and the popcorn wagon was a hit! The members of the Society of Creative Anachronists made butter and cheese in the summer kitchen and cooked an apple stew over the outdoor fire pit. Almost all of our Board members, plus several other volunteers were on hand to serve hot dogs and soda, man the gift shopping stands and assist in the Wisner House and schoolhouse. Kudos to all who helped make this event a success.

- Emerald sponsors: Gaylor Forman
Anonymous
- Gold sponsors: Pontiac Regional Chamber
Amy & Bruce Annett
Fran & Tom Wilson
Constance & Gale Scafe
Carolyn Murphy
Nancy & Guy Duffield
- Silver sponsors: Miriam Foxman
Vivian Eddy
- Bronze sponsors: Rosemary Gallardo
R.F. Euler
Barbara & John Irwin
James Slezinski
John & Laurie Jelinek
- Gift sponsors: Anne Liimatta
Isabel Stockwell
Rodger Zeller
- In Kind Gifts: Oak Hill Cemetery (tents)
Society of Creative Anachronists (crafts & cooking demonstrations)
J. Turner Septic Service (porta-john discount)
Boy Scout Troop #1005 of Bloomfield Hills
(assistance with set-up and take-down)

THANK YOU TO ALL OUR SPONSORS!

PONTIAC GARDEN CLUB DONATION

After the dedication of the historic plaque, we had an unexpected announcement. Mary Posey and Pat Blackburn presented Amy Annett a check for \$500. from the Pontiac Garden Club to be used for our landscaping needs. The Garden Club has included the OCPHS grounds and gardens on their garden tour July 22. This group of ladies also work on keeping our gardens watered and free of weeds. Thanks to all of you for your dedication and support.

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NATIONAL HISTORICAL SITE

Pine Grove complex, including the Moses Wisner House was designated as a National Historical Site July 8, 1970, but until this year few people knew about this designation. This year, Charles Martinez ordered this plaque, which was attached near the south entrance of the Wisner House. A brief ceremony at Autumn Festival unveiled the plaque for our visitors. Thanks to Charlie for making arrangements to have this memorial made, to Guy Duffield and Keith Bennett for mounting the plaque, and to Rev. Cory Randall for providing the funding.



Lee Stewart and Charles Martinez with National Historical Site plaque

THANK YOU TO BOY SCOUT TROOP #1005

We had some terrific help with setting up and taking down of tables, chairs, moving picture frames and general all 'round assistance from **Chase Hamburg, Pierce Hamburg and Dominique Barnes**, members of Troop #1005 of Bloomfield Hills. They, and their Scout Master, **Art Grabowski**, arrived just in time to put tables and chairs in place, and help organize our sale items and get things ready for our guests. At 5 pm, they arrived again, and moved things into the schoolhouse for storage. Thank you, boys, for your generous help. We couldn't have done it without you!

ARTS, BEATS AND EATS

Again we participated in this Labor Day week-end event and manned the booth selling wine. After 4 days of hard work by our dedicated members, we netted \$1,025. Thank you to all who assisted, and special thanks to Judy Hudulla and Sylvia Adams who chaired the event.

CLEAN OUT & CLEAN UP COMMITTEE

In our on-going attempt to clean out our attics that hold many items that are not in keeping with our collection focus, we had almost 50 old picture frames for sale at our Autumn Festival and sold several. We will continue to have these frames, and other items available for purchase as various items are identified and deaccessioned. We are not arbitrarily getting rid of our collection, but culling those items that are duplicates or not in line with our collection focus.

IN MEMORIAM

Jean McGregor Milton
died September 3, 2006

Jean Milton was well known in the community for her service to many public organizations. She had received several awards over the years, such as 1992 Citizen of Year Award, the 2004 Pontiac Unity Award for her work on the Planning Commission, and recognition for her work on the Oakland County Personnel Appeal Board. Her many activities included the Clinton River Watershed Council and Cleanup Committee, Civic Chair of the Pontiac Better Homes and Garden Club, Citizens Advisory Council of Clinton Valley Center, and many other organizations.

She had been a member of the Board of Directors of Oakland County Pioneer and Historical Society for over 10 years and Chairman of the Costume Committee for almost as long.

She is survived by her brother, George McGregor, of North Carolina.

WE STILL NEED GUIDES

The season is starting for school tours, and we are desperately in need of guides for these tours. We will train you and provide costumes. Training sessions are provided as are materials that help identify items in the house and schoolhouse. Sometimes the guides take groups through the entire house and schoolhouse; and, with children, teachers hold a classroom lesson in the manner of Victorian times. There is a switch on the teacher's desk and a dunce hat in the corner. Often we need stationary guides in the Wisner House, which means you are assigned to a particular area and will be expected to identify items in that area. We need people just keep a watch to see that items are not "borrowed" and no one gets hurt. There is no designated time commitment, but as tours are scheduled, guides are needed. Consider volunteering a few hours a month. Your help is desperately needed.

WE NEED YOUR IDEAS

We are asking all our readers for their ideas for fund-raising projects for our society. We do have a limited number of volunteers available for workloads; still, we have to generate funds to maintain our buildings and grounds as well as pay for utilities, insurance, office staffing, equipment and supplies, and all the other things necessary to run a business. Phone, e-mail or write us with your suggestions.

CONSIDER A MEMBERSHIP TO OAKLAND COUNTY PIONEER AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY AS A CHRISTMAS GIFT.

REX LAMOREAUX HONORED

Rex, a long-time member of OCPHS and its Board of Directors was honored on Friday, October 20 by Wayne State University College of Fine, Performing and Communication Arts. Rex has given over 600 pieces of art to the collection; the largest donation ever received. Former Dean, Richard Bilatis has selected 100 pieces by Michigan artists for this exhibit. The exhibit will be open from October 20 to November 22, 2006.

CORPORATE SPONSORS

This month we are starting a campaign to contact businesses in Oakland County who will be corporate sponsors of our Pine Grove Complex. For \$500. a year each business will have a business-card size ad in the first issue of the Gazette published after receiving the sponsoring funds. The following 3 issues of the Gazette will include the name of that corporate sponsor in an ongoing listing of sponsors. We believe that such corporate sponsorships will help the business with additional advertising in the community, and demonstrate their commitment to the continuing preservation of our historic grounds and buildings. We are asking you, our readers, to let us know of businesses that we can contact for this campaign. A personal touch is always effective, so your help in soliciting funds would be most appreciated.

FRIENDS OF OCPHS

Along the same line as Corporate Sponsors, we are offering a FRIENDS OF OCPHS sponsorship opportunity. This would be for individuals or families who feel a commitment to our organization and our goals of preserving and enhancing our facilities and promoting the county's history. A \$500 yearly donation will entitle you to be considered a FRIEND OF OCPHS. Your name will be listed as such in four issues of the Gazette and entitle you to a group tour of our facilities without charge.

VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS TOURS

The Wisner House will be decorated and available for tours the weeks of December 4 and December 11, by advance reservations. Two tours for adult groups have already been scheduled. School classes as well as adult groups are welcome to join us for a taste of Victorian Christmas. Call us for additional information and reservations.

HOLIDAY CLOSING FOR PINE GROVE

Our buildings, including the office, will be closed from December 18, 2006 to January 2, 2007. Telephone messages will be picked up and answered if an emergency exists. Our office staff and volunteers will have time with their own families. Happy holidays to all our members, guests, and friends.

EARLY AMERICAN COOKING CLASS

We are taking reservations for an all-day cooking class in Clarkston on Saturday, November 11, 2006. Included will be

- Bread cooking in a wood-fired oven
- Biscuits in a Dutch oven
- Bread cooked on a griddle
- Soup or stew
- Bag cheese
- Churn butter
- Cooked apples
- Dessert
- Coleslaw

The day will start at 10 am and dinner around 5 pm. This is not a demonstration, you will be participating. Wear comfortable clothes that can get dirty.

Number of participants is limited, so call us for reservations. The cost will be about \$10.00 each.

NEW MEMBER

Risley Clark of Royal Oak

UP-COMING EVENTS – PLAN AHEAD – MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW!

Weeks of December 4 & 11, 2006: Victorian Christmas Tours for Children and Adults

Sunday, June 3, 2007: Moses Wisner's 192nd Birthday Party

Saturday, October 13, 2007: Oakland County Archaeological Day.

We can use help decorating the house for the holiday tours and planning the birthday party! Call Tracy.

SECOND SATURDAY TOURS

The 2nd Saturday Tours of Pine Grove and Wisner House are being discontinued for this next year. We have had very few visitors during the past months, and it has not been effective to have our guides as ladies-in-waiting. We will provide tours for adult and children's groups that will be arranged for our visitors' convenience.

CALL TRACY

Contact Tracy Thomas, in our office, to make reservations for tours, volunteer for committees, offer suggestions, request information. She is the one who hold us all together. Phone: 248.338.6732. E-mail: office@ocphs.org Fax: 248-338-6731

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2006/2007

President: Amy Annett
1st Vice President: Keith Bennett
2nd Vice President: Fran Wilson
Treasurer: Kathryn Daggy
Secretary: Jo Pate

Sylvia Adams	Annalee Kennedy
Bruce Annett	Rex Lamoreaux
Janice Bell	Charles Martinez
Kimberly Bell	Corydon Randall
LaVon DeLisle	Constance Scafe
Guy Duffield	Gale Scafe
Gaylor Forman	James Slezinski
Miriam Foxman	Richard Stamps
Gil Haven	Wallace Szumny
Judy Hudalla	Scott Tupper
Barbara Irwin	Michael Willis
	Rodger Zeller

Board meetings are scheduled for Saturday, November 18, 2006; Saturday, January 17, 2007; and, Wednesday, February 20, 2007. There will be no meeting in December.



Amy Annett & her daughters Emily & Katie

FROM THE NEWSPAPERS....

Democratic Standard, Coshocton, Ohio, August 14, 1891:

U.R. Lake, president of the national grange of the Patrons of Industry, was born at Phillips, Franklin county, Mo., in 1836. He taught school in New York state for several years and then began farming. He moved to Rose, Oakland county, Mich., in 1867, and bought the 180 acre farm upon which he is living. Mr. Lake was one of the original founders of the order and helped frame the constitution.

Daily Free Democrat, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, November 23, 1850:

W.L. Taylor has been arrested and lodged in jail on the charge of abducting a young girl, named Martha Ann Garrette, an adopted daughter of John Wright, an old resident of this city, but now a resident of Oakland county. The girl has not been found. She was about 12 years of age, small in stature (sic), light eyes, auburn hair; had on when abducted a homemade plaid dress; took with her an Oregon plaid dress. Information of her whereabouts is asked, by letter to Mr. Wright directed to the Detroit Post Office.

The Daily Press, Pontiac, Michigan, February 21, 1903:

OSTEOPATHY

Dr. M.H. Cooper, 78 Mt. Clemens street, treats all diseases.

Ebb Voorheis, auctioneer, will sell for Mrs. O.H. Irish on the premises situated two miles east of North Farmington Wednesday, Feb. 25, commencing at 10 o'clock, 17 milch cows, one fat cow, horses, hogs, oats, etc.

George Rohr of Buffalo and Marietta Morgan of Independence were married February 12 at Detroit by Rev. A. Brown.

Learn to play the mandolin. 30 lessons and a fine rosewood mandolin for \$15. \$2. down, balance 50 cents weekly. For particulars inquire of W.E.VCan (sic) Riper, 78 south Saginaw street.

No more back ache if you keep a box of Doak's Kidney Pills in your medicine chest. Positive relief instantly. 50 cents at Perry Weed's.

Ball Mountain: F. Hilton started to Pontiac in a wagon Wednesday but got stuck in a snow drift and was compelled to borrow bob sleighs in which to continue his journey.

The Pontiac Courier, May 2, 1836:

WANTED: By the subscriber residing in the town of Groveland, Oak. Co. about 8 miles north west of D. Stanard's tavern – a smart active boy, 13 to 16 years of age, to work on farm until he is of age. Terms will be found reasonable as to compensation, schooling, etc.

Alonzo R. Rood, of Groveland

WANTED: At the office of the Pontiac Courier, as an apprentice, to the printing business. An active 14 years of age, or thereabouts. To one well recommended as to moral character, etc., good encouragement will be given. Pontiac.



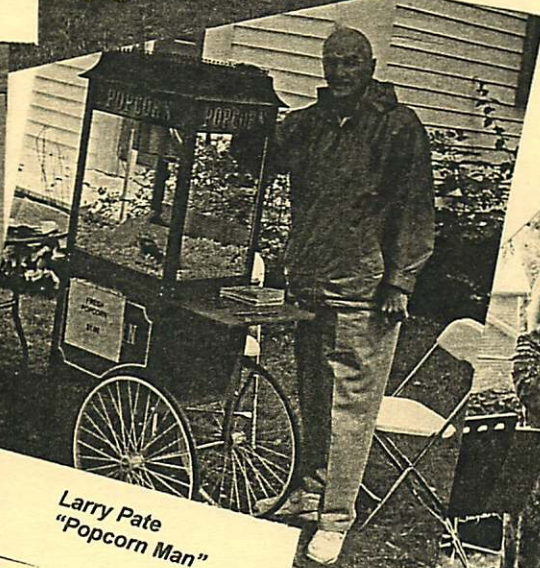
The Church Street Singers



Nancy Duffield enjoying a snack



Samantha Bogner



*Larry Pate
"Popcorn Man"*



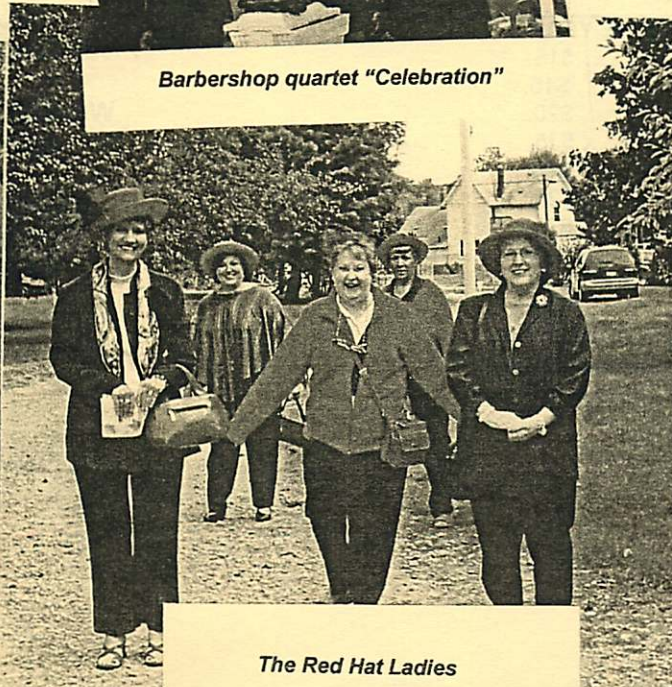
*Some members of "Mixed Bags" band
(formerly Hipbone Connection) with
Samantha Bogner*



Barbershop quartet "Celebration"



*Emily Annett
Imani Thomas*



The Red Hat Ladies



*Mary Posey, Pat Blackburn presenting
Pontiac Garden Club donation to Amy Annett*



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**PRESERVATION OF THE PAST
FOR THE ENRICHMENT OF
FUTURE GENERATIONS**

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

**OAKLAND COUNTY PIONEER AND HISTORICAL
SOCIETY**

Name _____
Street _____ Apt No. _____
City/State _____ Zip _____
Telephone _____ E-mail _____

- Check here if gift membership
- from _____

MEMBERSHIPS ARE FOR ONE YEAR

- Student.....\$15.
- Senior (65 & over)..... \$15.
- Individual..... \$20.
- Couple..... \$35.
- Family (Parents & Children)..... \$50.
- Non-Profit Organization.....\$20.
- Patron..... \$75.
- Benefactor.....\$150.
- Corporate Sponsor..... \$500.
- Friends of OCPHS.....\$500.

Check desired category and enclose this application with check or money order made payable to: Oakland County Pioneer & Historical Society and send to 405 Cesar Chavez Avenue, Pontiac, MI 48342

MUSEUM AND LIBRARY HOURS

**TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY
11 AM – 4 PM**

Please call before coming in

**WISNER HOUSE TOURS
by appointment**

**GROUPS WELCOME
Call for information
248-338-6732**