



**LETTER FROM MIKE WEST,  
PRESIDENT**

Fellow Members and Friends:

2012 is going by at a fast pace; maybe that's because the volunteers who make things happen at Pine Grove have been so productive. My agenda is full

of PG activities. We started the year with a "Meet and Greet" for new members, then Melissa Luginski orchestrated a "Spring Clean Up" which gave Pine Grove a fresh look for the year. Kathy Davis arranged a full schedule of interesting and informative Small Talks, each a learning opportunity.

Our Annual Meeting took place in May and we welcomed Carol Egbo, Brian Golden and Jan Roncelli as new board members who will help guide us forward. Two long time contributors, Bob Nelson and Rich Stamps, retired from the board but they still appear on campus to help in many ways.



*Waterford Memorial Day Parade, one of many activities this year*

Our Tour crew continues to do a great job and we see a steady flow of tour groups come through. Mary Connell identified a potential new market, senior centers, and has given several presentations which have already produced our first group of new visitors. One of our goals this year is to enhance our Tour program to help generate more traffic. The Library team is continuing to electronically digitize our many records. They also have expanded our hours by opening one Saturday per month.

The premier annual event for our Society has been the Summer Social, and this year was another banner performance. The Civil War soldiers, the authentic 1862 cannon, the campground, President Lincoln, the many, many re-enactors, the singers...this was a "WOW" event. Even our County Executive, Brooks Patterson, who attends many programs, was impressed. Thank you so much to all the volunteers who made this happen and special thanks to Anne Limmatta and chairman Rodger Zeller for your leadership.



*Melvin Hardiman opens Summer Social with the National Anthem*

Dave Walls put together a 2013 calendar featuring pioneer Oakland County homesteads. Jo Pate published a cookbook of 19<sup>th</sup> century recipes featuring one of Angeolina Wisner's favorites. These are available by calling the office at 248-338-6732. Your volunteer staff which assembles this newsletter was beset with a couple of administrative challenges this year that delayed publication of this issue of the Gazette. We hope you understand and that the quality of the content makes up for the delay.

Those same challenges also delayed our Annual Giving letter, which will be sent out this fall. We didn't forget it and we can't forget, because Annual Giving is a major portion of our operating revenue.

In closing, I would like to mention the passing of one of our most esteemed and devoted members, Kathryn Daggy. We miss her help and her leadership and I am sure that Heaven will now have a regular schedule of historical tours led by the "History Lady."

Best Regards, *Mike West, President*

**IN MEMORIAM: KATHRYN M. DAGGY**

Charles Martinez



*Kathryn M. Daggy*

Kathryn Daggy, Society board member emeritus, past president, recording secretary, and tour guide leader died July 6, 2012 at The Boulevard Health Center in Rochester Hills, Michigan. She was 87. Death followed a long struggle with cardiovascular disease and other complications.

Kathryn and her husband Don joined this organization in 1981, following their early retirement the year before. She would later tell with a laugh of their driving past the Wisner mansion day after day on their way to and from work before inquiring about the Society's origins and goals. More recently Kathryn would admit her amazement and pride as to how a casual stop at Pine Grove could have had such a profound effect on her life.

Don also served the Society as president and board member prior to his demise in October of 1995. He was a World War II veteran having served from 1944 to 1946 as a member of the 76 Signal Co., 76<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division in Western Europe.

Born November 24, 1924 to Joseph and Grace (nee Navarra) Stabile, Kathryn's first home was on East

Congress, a few blocks northeast of Woodward and Jefferson avenues in Detroit. Her parents were both Sicilian.

Kathryn graduated from Wayne University (now Wayne State University) in 1947 with a major in Health Education. While still a student she became a member of a local USO dance troupe near the end of World War II. Wayne's faculty granted her permission to open a dance school in the "Old Main" building where she subsequently gave lessons in ballet, tap, and ballroom dancing.

Upon graduation Kathryn taught in the Detroit Public School System at Marcy Elementary, Northern High School and Denby High School. Later in Oakland County she served as principal at Edmonson Elementary, and assistant principal at both Lamphere Junior High and John Page Junior High in Madison Heights.

Kathryn's accomplishments at Pine Grove were many. But, she will be most fondly remembered for her tenure as a chairperson of the Guide Committee. Her knowledge of thousands of Society artifacts and their relevance to the Wisner family and 19<sup>th</sup> century America was astounding. Kathryn's petite stature allowed eye level contact with young schoolchildren and in so doing produced a bond that fostered a better understanding of the object, which she always imparted with simplicity and accuracy.

When I visited her at Crittenton Hospital in May of this year, I casually mentioned that I was reading a fine biography entitled *John Donne: The Reformed Soul*. Donne was an English poet, satirist, lawyer, and priest in the Church of England. He lived from 1572 to 1631. Without hesitation Kathryn responded, "No man is an Island," the central theme of the work. I wasn't really surprised at her quick reply because Kathryn was always full of surprises. Yet, knowledge of an author who led a complicated life centuries ago, well, I thought was impressive. Taken from Donne's *Meditation 17*, here is an excerpted version of the passage:

*No man is an Island entire of itself; every man is a piece of the continent, a part of the maine...any man's death diminishes me, because I am involved in mankind; and therefore never send to know for whom the bell tolls; It tolls for thee.*

Perhaps Kathryn could faintly hear the sound of "her" bell ringing down the corridors of Crittenton Hospital a few months back. For a lady so involved in mankind I wouldn't be surprised.

## **NEWS FROM THE RESEARCH LIBRARY**

Fran Wilson, Library Chairwoman

The OCPHS library has been a very busy place this year! We have a wonderful group of volunteers who are working with us to maintain the library and its collection. We also had two paid interns this summer. Both are students at WSU: Catherine Hoffman and Amy Seipke. Catherine worked on scanning photographs from our scrapbook collection into the computer, and then putting them into archival storage. Amy organized the shelves downstairs with labeling and an orderly arrangement complete with an inventory in our finding aids. This has been a giant step forward in making information available to researchers.



*Fran Wilson displays research material from the library*

Amy's internship was donated by Oakland County Historical Resources (OCHR), a consortium of Oakland County Public Libraries, which maintains a website index of historical and genealogical materials online. We are very fortunate to be a part of this consortium. Catherine's internship was donated by friends of the OCPHS library.

In addition to our very reliable and talented interns, we have a wonderful group of volunteers: Geoff Brieger, retired professor from Oakland University, who is in charge of the photograph collection; Reida Gardiner, a retired Pontiac Schools librarian; Joan Hayes, a master gardener, who is a great researcher; Ray Lucas, formerly with Troy Public Library and a volunteer at the Troy Historical Museum; Pat Kaltwasser, formerly with Troy Library, who is digitizing all of the index cards on deaths and marriages plus some of the scrapbooks, which will be placed in an online index for researchers; Jo Pate, who has published many genealogical booklets; Fran Wilson, a retired librarian from Bloomfield Hills Schools; and Dave Walls, retired from Ma Bell, who is a computer whiz.



*Library volunteers and intern Catherine Hoffman, right*

The best news of all from the library: We have added Saturday hours, one Saturday per month, for the remainder of the year to assist researchers in finding information. If this proves to be of interest, we will continue and perhaps expand this service. Saturday hours are **11 to 3** on October 6, November 3, and December 1. We are also open on Wednesdays from **11 to 4**. We look forward to serving you!

## **PONTIAC CLASS OF '37 MAKES DONATION**

Thank you so much to members of the Pontiac High School Class of 1937 for the generous donation they made this month. Daniel Boynton, son of Class of '37 treasurer Dick Boynton, enclosed a letter stating that the funds were "...intended as a gift for the Oakland County Pioneer & Historical Society to use at it sees fit...in its charitable endeavors."

Fellow alums from the Class of '39, including Patty Van Wagoner Andrews and OCPHS emeritus director Annalee Kennedy, were instrumental in supporting the donation, as their older sisters were part of the earlier class. Funds will be used in part to preserve memorabilia from Pontiac schools, and a collection of materials is being assembled for display in the Carriage House. Seventy-five years after graduation, the Class of '37 is still making a positive difference! Thank you to all involved for this donation, which helps us continue to preserve Pontiac and Oakland County history.

## **DONOR APPRECIATION EVENT OCTOBER 25**

Join us for lunch on Thursday, October 25 from noon to 3 p.m. as we say *Thank You* to donors and present an overview of how gifts large and small help the Society. Member Konrad Kohl, CPA and Nathan Mersereau, CFP will be on hand to present information about planned giving and to answer general questions you may have. All are welcome; watch for further details soon.

## A CALL TO ARMS

Charlie Martinez

On a warm July morning, one hundred and fifty years ago, a middle-aged Pontiac father kissed his wife and children goodbye, mounted his horse, and rode off to an untimely death. He would never see his family and home again, like some six hundred thousand others destined to die in that horrific struggle called our Civil War.

The Civil War not only divided families but tore the national psyche into pre-and post-war elements. The semi-isolated mentality of the pioneer period eroded during the conflict, forcing improvements in agriculture, transportation, communications, education, and various industries. This, in turn, spurred a reformed nation along the path toward eventual world leadership.

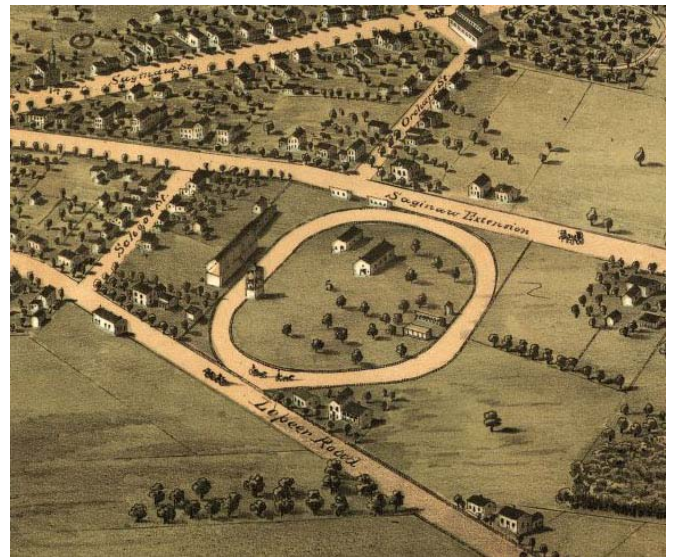
Moses Wisner, twelfth Michigan Governor, was never shy in speaking out against what he felt to be injustice. Moses and his older brother George were early members of what would become the Michigan Abolitionist movement. In early 1837, professor Cowles of the Oberlin (Ohio) Institute journeyed to Pontiac to lecture on the subject of American slavery. This hot button topic of the time culminated in a riot which was warmly debated by the local press for weeks. One can imagine the Wisner brothers being in the thick of the fight bringing bare knuckle reason to those slavery advocates.

When the Whig party lost its vitality and began to splinter in the 1850s, Moses and some of his Oakland County colleagues travelled to Jackson, Michigan. There, "under the oaks," they helped establish the Republican Party and lent their voices to that cause in national politics. The same earnestness was true in the courtroom where Moses Wisner combined reason and eloquence on behalf of those he represented. As an attorney he had few equals.

Colonel Wisner's journey from his home to the front began with a stop only one-half mile south, southeast, at the entrance to Pontiac's fairgrounds. Today, a granite monument erected by the Dick Richardson Woman's Relief Corps on the Southeast corner of Fairgrove and North Saginaw streets marks that location. The Colonel and his wife Angeolina were very familiar with the fairgrounds. The Wisners were members in good standing of the Oakland County Agricultural Society who held well-attended fairs there. In fact, Moses as a member of the Society's executive committee had chosen the site in 1852 and had then been directed to erect the necessary buildings on the property. In 1857

Angeolina was selected to oversee an exhibition of paintings and daguerreotypes at the fair. Such undertakings added prestige to the town and made Oakland County the agricultural core of southeastern Michigan.

Now to this site chosen by Wisner would come recruits to form the 22<sup>nd</sup> Michigan Volunteer Infantry Regiment, so ordered by Governor Austin Blair. They were drawn from Oakland and the neighboring counties of Livingston, Lapeer, Macomb, St. Clair, and Sanilac. But Oakland County and Pontiac, with its newly achieved city status (1861), would be the hub of this military activity. It would be up to Colonel Wisner as Camp Commandant to transform these mostly farm boys into a well-disciplined, effective fighting force.



*This lithographic view of Pontiac, MI shows the Fairgrounds' oval track with six structures within. It was here that the 22<sup>nd</sup> Michigan trained in 1862. The print is dated five years later.*

Around the perimeter of the fair's oval-shaped grounds, bordered presently on the north by Mathews Street and on the south by Fairgrove Street, were positioned sentry-posts. These stations and a fence held back gawkers or soldiers' families who shouted greetings and encouragement to the men.

Roll call came at dawn, quickly followed by breakfast. This meal generally consisted of coffee, soup, bread and meat. Next was the morning drill. The 22<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Regiment was initially issued .54 caliber Austrian rifles. Later some companies received either U.S. Springfield or British Enfield rifles as replacements.

The enlisted men were outfitted with blue, four-button "sack coats" made of wool, forage caps, flannel shirts and drawers, boots, stockings, belts and cartridge boxes. A haversack for holding rations was also

furnished. All items were meant to last for the duration of the war but rarely did so.

The afternoon drill, like its morning counterpart, was designed to create an esprit de corps with manual of arms, basic tactics, and maneuvers. Dinner was basically the same as breakfast but “cake” was added, probably Johnny cake. Lights out for the camp happened shortly after dusk.

After some seven weeks of hard training, the 22<sup>nd</sup> left camp on September 4, 1862 with a grand salute from Pontiac and the surrounding area. The soldiers were given parting gifts of food, non-alcoholic beverages, toiletries, and good luck charms. A local young ladies aid society presented the troops with a national flag. It was made of silk by F. Buhl and Company of Detroit and cost 125 dollars. On the flag’s middle red stripe was sewn the regiment’s name. Colonel Wisner accepted it on behalf of the regiment with the words

*Soldiers and officers of the 22<sup>nd</sup> Michigan, look upon this flag of our nation and behold its beautiful stars...swear that the flag of our Union shall never go down in disgrace.*

Although sorely tested, the Regiment kept that oath.

#### Acknowledgments

*In preparing this article the writer had access to the extensive background material on the life and times of Moses Wisner, available at the OCPHS Pine Grove library and archives. I’m also indebted to the consummate research skills and photographic abilities of Dave Walls. To Amy Annett, many thanks for your 21<sup>st</sup> century computer dexterity exercised on one whose mind lingers in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. And, to Mike Martinez, my deep appreciation for your knowledge of military history and the weaponry employed in our Civil War.*



*This cow bell was liberated from the neck of a placid Oakland County bovine by a group of 22<sup>nd</sup> Michigan recruits, who carried it with them when they left Pontiac. It is now proudly displayed at Pine Grove, headquarters of the Oakland County Pioneer and Historical Society.*

## **“I’LE GO IF YOU WILL”: TOM TUCKER JOINS THE UNION ARMY**

*Katie Annett*

One hundred and fifty years ago, on August 13, 1862, Thomas H. “Tom” Tucker spent the day threshing grain. It would have been an ordinary day for the seventeen-year-old farm boy—except for a letter his friend Charles Adkins received. “Went to post office and I got father’s paper and Charley got a letter from George, his brother,” Tom wrote. “Charley asked me to read the letter as he could not read. In the letter, George told Charley that the company that he was in was full but if he wanted to enlist to come right off and he could get in to his company. So before Charles and I got up to Mr. Thos. Wilder’s home, Charley said, ‘Tom, I will start for Pontiac tonight to enlist if you will go with me.’ And finally I said, ‘I’le go if you will.’”

The 22<sup>nd</sup> Michigan Infantry recruited men between July 15 and August 29, 1862. The majority came from Oakland County, but others were from Lapeer, Livingston, Macomb, Sanilac, and St. Clair counties. The regiment’s colonel, former governor Moses Wisner, had no military training, yet proved to be a competent leader.

Tom and Charley joined George in Company D of the 22<sup>nd</sup> Michigan Infantry. Tom told the recruiting officer that he was nineteen, and he remained in the army despite his parents’ protests: “Mother and father felt awful bad when they saw me with the Army cap on my head. Father said he would go right down to Pontiac and get me out. I said if you do I will run away and enlist again. I felt awfull sorry on Mother’s account, but I have made up my mind that now I am into it, I wont quit.”

Tom’s older brother, John, had been killed in Virginia just a few months before, so his family had reason to worry. But Tom learned to drill, got used to the cursing and the hard Army beds, and eventually he was mustered into U.S. service. He and the regiment’s 996 other men left for the South on September 4, 1862.

*Tucker: War Years and The Farm, the “daily memorandom” of Private Thomas H. Tucker, was published by Robert G. Tucker in 1991 and can be found in the OCPHS collection.*

*Spelling and grammatical errors in this article are reprinted as they appear in the book cited above. OCPHS member Katie Annett, 19, became intrigued with Tom’s writings while researching history for a school project – Ed.*

## SENIOR OUTREACH PROGRAM

Mary Connell



In January 2012, Mary Connell (*left*) began a new outreach program, bringing a Power Point presentation to senior citizen centers and apartments. The program is a virtual tour of Pine Grove introducing Moses Wisner, his life and home. Included is

an introduction to the Oakland County Pioneer and Historical Society—caretakers of Pine Grove—and to our mission of education and preservation.

The goal was to present two programs per month, starting with Pontiac and Waterford facilities and then extending the program to surrounding communities and Oakland County facilities. To date, we have visited nine centers: Lockwood and Fox Manor in Waterford, Colonial Meadows, McDonald Senior Apartments, Phoenix Place Apartments, Elmhaven Manor, Bowen Senior Center/Golden Opportunity Club, and the Village of Oakland Woods in Pontiac, and 920 On The Park in Troy. Upcoming programs are scheduled for North Hill Farms, Pontiac, American House, West Bloomfield, and Hechtman Jewish Apartments, West Bloomfield. Attendance usually ranges from 5 – 30 per program, but the Bowen Center program was a blockbuster, with some 200 attendees!

We hope to encourage tours, membership, research, participation in events and knowledge of what is available in Pontiac. We would also like to offer this or other programs to area schools, focusing on Oakland County history.

If you would like to participate in developing and presenting these programs, please contact Mary at [tomandmaryc@comcast.net](mailto:tomandmaryc@comcast.net) or 248-684-9774.

## NEW FLAG POLE

Anne Liimatta

One of our goals for the July 2012 Summer Social was to replace Pine Grove's wooden flagpole. It had performed well for many years, but had deteriorated and had to be taken down. The new pole, funded by a generous anonymous donor, was installed in June. Its first official flag raising was conducted at the Summer Social Civil War Reenactment by the 22<sup>nd</sup> Michigan Volunteer Regiment, along with Melvin

Hardiman's a cappella performance of *The Star Spangled Banner*--a moving ceremony indeed!

Thanks go to members Bob Nelson and Guy Duffield for choosing a vendor, selecting the new pole and supervising installation. All was completed in record time. An impressive 4' x 6' nylon outdoor flag now flies gracefully over our property, as well as the recently-purchased Michigan State Flag donated by Bob and Guy. Many thanks to these two men for a job well done!



## SPRING CLEAN UP MAKES PINE GROVE SHINE



The grounds were swarming with activity on April 21, when volunteers of all ages came together to paint, weed, rake, haul trash, trim brush, and generally make Pine Grove look terrific for springtime tours and summertime events. Melissa Luginski, (*left*) event chair, and Sam Moraco, volunteer contractor, orchestrated the tasks and supervised an army of

helpers with terrific results. Mary Connell provided sloppy joes and brownies for lunch, giving strength for the second half of a very productive day.

Comcast sponsored the event through its *Comcast Cares* program, providing materials and supplies from Lowe's, along with tee shirts and snacks for the



volunteers. Other event sponsors included members Ed & Gretchen Adler, Nik & Jane Karaguleff, Patricia Leal, Joyce Scafe, Melissa & Joe Luginski, Sam & Kelly Moraco, and Starbucks Coffee. Their generous support covered all expenses for the day and left us with funds to put toward another clean up next spring!

## **SMALL TALK SERIES CONTINUES**

We've enjoyed a variety of programs during our Small Talks this year, with topics ranging from transportation, military history, and pioneer life to 19<sup>th</sup> century predictions of the impending end of the world! Thankfully, we're still here, looking forward to the year's remaining talks: *Women in the Civil War*, October 14 with Annie Hunt, and *Duel of the Ironclads: USS Monitor and CSS Virginia*, November 11 with Larry Hathcock. The talks begin at 2 p.m. in the Carriage House. Watch for details about the 2013 series, already being planned by Small Talk Chairwoman Kathy Davis.



*Adrian Rawls, Larry Hathcock, and Kathy Davis*

## **USS CONSTITUTION AND WAR OF 1812**

Anne Liimatta

Larry Hathcock, Civil War re-enactor, OCPHS member, and president of The Michigan Regimental Round Table, [www.farmlib.org/mrrt/](http://www.farmlib.org/mrrt/), is a walking, talking encyclopedia and ten times as interesting! His recent presentation was one of the fastest hours in Small Talk history. Larry's well-timed topic, aligning with the Navy's Tall Ship display this month in Detroit, was the *USS Constitution*, famous American frigate used against England in the War of 1812. Here, as shared by Larry, is a brief history:

The USS Constitution hit the waves in 1797 with 30 cannon weighing three tons apiece, each firing a 24 pound ball up to 1200 yards. It also carried 22 carronades, each firing a 32 pound cannon ball. Launched during the Napoleonic War, she was used against England for impressing American sailors into their navy and interfering with our trade with Europe. In the War of 1812, the ship handily won three major sea battles with limited damage and loss of men.

Under the command of Isaac Hull, William Bainbridge, and Charles Stewart, she demolished two British ships and heavily damaged two more. Due to her superior design and command, cannon balls from the British ships simply bounced off or

imbedded in her sides, causing sailors to gleefully dub her "Old Ironsides."



*USS Constitution* <http://www.history.navy.mil/ussconstitution/>

## **INDIAN TRAIL MARKER RE-DEDICATED**

Lois Lance

In 1987 a plaque was placed at the site of the Almon Starr House, 3123 Crooks Road, marking what state archaeologist James Halsey called "the last living remnant of the Saginaw Trail." On May 19, the Friends of the Almon Starr Historic House and the Royal Oak Historical Society celebrated the plaque's re-dedication and Royal Oak's Native American history at their event called "Walk the Indian Trail."

## **VOLUNTEER TRANSCRIPTIONIST WANTED**

Member Lois Lance seeks a volunteer to read and transcribe writing done in Royal Oak circa 1840-50. This work may be suitable for a student project. Call 248-546-0138 for more information.

## ANNUAL MEETING AND ELECTION, MAY 2012

On May 19 we held our annual membership meeting and election of directors and officers at Pine Grove. Member and volunteer Dr. Geoff Brieger (*below*) presented *A Future for Pontiac*, based on his work with the Pontiac Sesquicentennial Commission. We also distributed our 2011-12 annual report. If you would like a copy, it is available upon request for \$2.50 by mail, or free via email or at the office.



Rich Stamps and Bob Nelson chose not to seek re-election, but they will continue as active members and volunteers. Incumbents Charlie Martinez and Guy Duffield returned to the board, joined by three new directors:

Carol Bacak-Egbo: Carol is a consultant with the Waterford School District and serves on the Oakland County Historical Commission. She is interested in developing the educational content of our tour program and in involving students and teachers in OCPHS activities.

Brian Golden: Brian also serves on the Oakland County Historical Commission and is director of Pastways, a non-profit history organization. He hopes to help raise awareness of our heritage and to assist in preserving Pine Grove. In April, the Farmington Hills city council named him George Romney Volunteer of the Year.

Jan Roncelli: Jan serves as Bloomfield Township's clerk, and in June was recognized as Clerk of the Year by the Michigan Association of Municipal Clerks. She would like to promote OCPHS and to assist with membership and fund raising efforts.

We are grateful for the service of all of our directors, past and present, and for the knowledge and experience they bring to help advance the impact and effectiveness of OCPHS.

### ***RICH STAMPS RETIRES FROM BOARD, O.U.***

Dr. Richard Stamps, associate professor of archaeology at Oakland University and long-time OCPHS board member, is retiring from both positions this year. Rich plans to enjoy "getting reacquainted with my grandchildren!" Whether teaching in China or here at Pine Grove, Rich employed the same gentle enthusiasm for sharing discoveries with his students. Best wishes, Rich!



*Dr. & Mrs. Richard Stamps, July 2010 Summer Social*

### ***OCPHS BOARD OF DIRECTORS***

The current OCPHS board is comprised of 17 directors, serving staggered three year terms.

Amy Annett*	Anne Liimatta
Bruce Annett	Fred Liimatta
Kathy Davis	Melissa Luginski
Carol Bacak-Egbo	Charlie Martinez
Mary Connell	Jan Roncelli
Guy Duffield	Mike West**
Brian Golden	Mike Willis*
Ray Henry	Rodger Zeller
Judy Hudalla	

Officers are chosen each year by the newly elected board from among the directors. Our current officers are:

Mike West, President; Brian Golden, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President; Guy Duffield, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President; Mary Connell; Secretary; Amy Annett, Treasurer

Persons leaving the regular board after serving at least ten years receive the title of Director Emeritus in honor of their service. The Emeritus Board includes these living past directors:

Gretchen Adler*	Jane Kamlay
Janice Bell	Annalee Kennedy
LaVon DeLisle	Susan Metzdorf
Gaylor Forman	Ruth Priestley*
Miriam Foxman	Richard Stamps
Priscilla Gayton	

\*OCPHS Past President      \*\*OCPHS Current President



## **PINE GROVE SUMMER SOCIAL RECAP**

Rodger Zeller, Event Chair

After months of intense planning, the time arrived to put on our annual ice cream Summer Social.

On Thursday, July 26th, we held our second annual Antique Auction, supervised by Fred and Anne Liimatta in the Carriage House. There were unique and interesting donated items which were auctioned off, with proceeds benefitting the Society.

The next day we had a good number of volunteers come to set up for the Social. This set-up helped us to be ready to open at noon Saturday.



*A Young Recruit*

Saturday July 28th turned out to be a perfect day weather-wise. Our theme was *A Call to Arms*, in commemoration of the 150th anniversary of Moses Wisner's mustering of the 22nd Volunteer Regiment, which joined the Union Army in Kentucky to take part in the Civil War's western campaign.

We had a number of new participants in this year's program. There was a group of re-enactors from the 22nd Regiment as well as several re-enactors from the 102nd Colored Troops. There was also a small group of The Sisters of the Union which set up an encampment on the grounds. We also featured an hourly firing of a Civil War era cannon. During the afternoon a number of visitors signed up to be a part of the 22nd Regiment. At the end of the day, they marched off to participate in the Civil War.



*Members of 102<sup>nd</sup> Colored Troops*

In the middle of the afternoon, there were a series of speeches given by Harriet Beecher Stowe, Frederick Douglass, Mary Todd Lincoln, and Abraham Lincoln.

By the end of the day, over 400 people roamed the grounds and we made a profit of about \$4,000. This would not be possible without the help of everyone who volunteered, donated, or visited. Thank you!



*Reviewing the Troops*

## **THANK YOU, SUMMER SOCIAL SPONSORS**

We greatly appreciate the financial and in-kind donations of these area businesses and groups:

Goldner Walsh Garden & Home, Pontiac  
Michigan Chiropractic Specialists of Waterford  
Credit Union One, Waterford  
Turner Sanitation, Lake Orion  
Waterford Historical Society  
Meijer, Waterford  
Doug's Tree Service, Waterford  
Pete's Oven, Waterford  
Woman's Nat'l Farm & Garden, Pontiac Branch  
Pontiac Garden Club  
Professional Instant Printing, Waterford  
DAR, Sashabaw Plains Chapter  
Oakland County WWAM Program

Thank you also to our member-sponsors:

Gaylor Forman	Bob Nelson
Ed & Gretchen Adler	Sally Jo Tewilliager
Annett Family	Nancy Duffy
Anne & Fred Liimatta	Russell & Lorraine Harbaugh
Joyce Scafe	Bob & Joan Hayes
Fran Wilson	Jean Hilderley
Reida Gardiner	Annie Hunt
Motoko Huthwaite	Barbara Irwin
Patricia Leal	Jim Slezinski
	Rodger Zeller

*Reviewing the Cakes*



And *Thank You* to all cake bakers, performers, docents, committee members, and volunteers whose efforts truly answered *A Call to Arms* for OCPHS!

## GREAT PICTURES FROM A GREAT DAY

We had so many great photos from the Summer Social that Barb Hudalla was inspired to turn them into a party! Barb, Anne Liimatta, Annie Hunt, and others have planned a showing of hundreds of pictures on the big screen in the Carriage House on Sunday, September 16 at 2 p.m.

Those without email may not receive notice in time to attend, but if you have access to a computer, check out some of the photos on Facebook/Pine Grove Historical Museum, or let us know of your interest, and we'll consider another Picture Party in the future.

Carroll DeWeese, photographer for the *Birmingham Eccentric*, took a number of shots that were featured in that paper's July 15th edition.



One of Carroll DeWeese's photos of our costumed volunteers

Jane Karaguleff is another talented photographer; many of her photos are included in this *Gazette*. Thanks to all who captured moments of the day!

## BRACE FUNERAL HOME RECORDS PUBLISHED

Member Jo Pate, (right) who earlier this year produced *Mrs. Wisner's Kitchen: A Cooking Book*, has followed up with another publication, this time transcribing volumes 1 – 6 of the Brace Funeral Home Records. This 108 page, indexed publication covers the years 1887 – 1919 and includes listings for many Pontiac and Oakland County residents, and some records of Chauncy Brace, Coroner. It is available at Pine Grove for \$20 or by mail for \$25.



## VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE

Sunday December 2, 2012, 1 - 5 p.m.

Anne Liimatta



Tentative plans are in the works for a musical day at Pine Grove with antique instruments and period Christmas songs! The 2012 Victorian Christmas Open

House will be another fun and historical event as OCPHS continues to commemorate the Sesquicentennial of the Civil War.

Are you a bit gregarious? Ever thought about being a tour guide at Pine Grove? Consider coming to one of our short docent classes scheduled to demonstrate this fun and rewarding job. Saturday morning October 6<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday afternoon November 14<sup>th</sup> are being set aside for one hour training tours of the Wisner House. Members can come investigate how it's done as some of our multi-talented and most-experienced guides share information and techniques. You'll be surprised at how easy and rewarding it is to welcome visitors into the beautifully decorated rooms, where you'll share facts about the Wisners and their every day life. Not only will you be a great help to the society at this annual event, you'll become a better historian yourself!

Other ways to be involved at the Victorian Christmas Open House are:

- 1) Bake a batch of three dozen cookies: Box-mix, fridge roll, or homemade - we need lots!
- 2) Help serve refreshments in the Carriage House
- 3) Bring your camera and work for an hour at Santa's Work Shop
- 4) Donate tax-deductible items for the Thursday night auction - collectibles/antiques preferred
- 5) Be one of four hardy individuals to direct parking during the afternoon

Interesting and well-organized community events go a long way in reaching the OCPHS strategic goals of visibility, membership growth and financial security. Your input and talents are welcomed at all times but especially at this season to prepare for the Christmas Open House. So please do call Anne Liimatta at 248-332-1247 or leave a message with the office at 248-338-6732 saying you'll help at this December event. We know you'll come away with new friends and the satisfaction of a job well done!

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Our members contribute not only financial support, but interest and involvement to help preserve Pine Grove and Oakland County's heritage. If you're not already a member, or if you have yet to renew your dues, you may sign up on-line at [www.ocphs.org](http://www.ocphs.org) or contact the office for a membership form. Join or renew now and your membership will be good until **July 1, 2013**.

The following people have joined OCPHS since the last issue of the *Gazette*. Welcome!

Bahnmler, Laura	Karazian, Robert
Bishop, Laurie	Nelson, Brianne
Bothwell, Gail	Peters, Helen Jane
Cassar, Albert & Janette	Potton, Janet
De Grandchamp, Ron & Shirley	Scholl, John
Dillingham, David	Seward, Emily
Downer, Cary	Shea, Lauren
Dunn, Nancy	Szyperski David & Kelly
Green, John	Thalman, Maureen
Hoskins, Wm.	Vaughan, Kari
Hudalla, Barb	

## DURANT HISTORY FOR SALE

A member has offered a personal copy of *Durant's History of Oakland County, 1817 – 1877* for sale, with a portion of proceeds to OCPHS. Call 248-546-0138.

## IN REMEMBRANCE

Lawrence Blascyk, died May 2  
Kathryn M. Daggy, died Jul. 6  
Charles Stuart "Stu" Packard, died Mar. 20



Stu Packard, Summer Social volunteer, hosting 2010 Spelling Bee

## HISTORY AROUND THE COUNTY AND BEYOND

A sampling of upcoming events for history buffs:

**Oakland County Heritage Conference, Sep. 19**  
Presented in Milford by Oakland County Planning & Economic Development. \$35 includes walking tour and lunch. 248-975-4267 or [wiltfangk@oakgov.com](mailto:wiltfangk@oakgov.com)

**Lorenzo Cultural Center, Sep. 21 – Nov. 18, Changing Gears: The Birth of American Industry**  
586-445-7348 or [lorenzoculturalcenter.com](http://lorenzoculturalcenter.com)

**Heritage and Civil War Bus Tour of Historic Oakland Township, Sep. 22, 10 a.m.**  
Tickets \$30, 248-693-8660 or [oaklandtownshiphistoricalsociety.org](http://oaklandtownshiphistoricalsociety.org)

**Native Peoples of the Great Lakes, Sep. 23, 3 p.m.**  
Bloomfield Twp. Public Library, 248-642-5800 or [bloomfieldhistoricalsociety.org](http://bloomfieldhistoricalsociety.org)

**Oakland County Historical Resources Annual Meeting, Sep. 27, 10 a.m. - noon** at Bloomfield Twp. Public Library. Learn about QR codes and new historical website [oaklandregionalthistoricsites.org](http://oaklandregionalthistoricsites.org). 248-287-8019 or [rudisill@orionlibrary.org](mailto:rudisill@orionlibrary.org)

**Historical Society of Michigan 2012 Annual Meeting and State History Conference, Sep. 28 – 30** in Monroe. [hsmichigan.org](http://hsmichigan.org) or 800-692-1828. Registration and admission fees required.

**Mount Avon Living History Cemetery Walk, Sep. 29, 1 – 5 p.m.** Tickets \$15, 248-266-5440 or [rochesteravonhistoricalsociety.org](http://rochesteravonhistoricalsociety.org)

**Detroit Public Library Burton Historical Collection: Family History Festival, Sep. 29, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.**, 313-481-1401

**Oakland County Historical Commission: Oakland County Rode the Rails, Detroit United Railway Interurban Bus Tour, Oct. 6, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.**  
Tickets \$30 includes lunch. Call Brian, 248-701-8112

**Christmas in October, Oct. 12 & 13, 10 a.m.- 4 p.m.**  
248-673-0342 or [waterfordhistoricalsociety.org](http://waterfordhistoricalsociety.org)

**Mount Hope Historic Cemetery Walk, Oct 20**  
Call Nancy at 248-462-1377 for more information. Proceeds benefit Pontiac charities.

**Pine Lake Cemetery Tour, Oct. 20, 10:30 - noon**  
248-757-2451 or [gwbhs.com](http://gwbhs.com)

**Preservation Wayne Tours of Detroit, multiple times, topics, and locations.** [preservationdetroit.org](http://preservationdetroit.org)

Oakland County Pioneer and Historical Society  
405 Cesar E. Chavez Ave.  
Pontiac, MI 48342

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## ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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Submissions, story ideas, or comments are welcome.

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### 2013 OCPHS CALENDAR NOW AVAILABLE



2013 OCPHS Calendar, Front Cover

Where better to note important historical events and programs than in your own OCPHS calendar, created by publications chairwoman Jo Pate and editor Dave Walls! Color cover features Dave's Pine Grove photos; black & white interior pages show lithographs of pioneer homesteads from Durant's *History of Oakland County, 1817 – 1877*. Our 2013 wall calendar is \$10 at the office, or \$15 by mail.

### MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

#### Board Meetings in the Carriage House

Sep. 15, 9:30 am; Oct. 17, 4:30 pm; Nov. 17, 9:30 am  
Members welcome

#### Sep. 16, 2 pm in the Carriage House

First Annual Picture Party and Photo Contest  
View hundreds of photos from the Summer Social!

#### Oct. 14: Small Talk, 2 pm in the Carriage House

Women in the Civil War with Annie Hunt

#### Oct. 25: Noon – 3 pm in the Carriage House

Donor Appreciation Lunch and Information Session

#### Nov. 11: Small Talk, 2 pm in the Carriage House

Duel of the Ironclads: USS Monitor and CSS Virginia  
with Larry Hathcock

#### Nov. 29: Evening Auction in the Carriage House

Live auction of collectibles, proceeds benefit OCPHS

#### Dec. 2: Victorian Christmas Open House, 1–5 pm

Annual community event celebrates the season!

