



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

By Brian Golden



Hello OCPHS Members. It's my honor and pleasure to serve you as your President for the 2013-2014 season. I am committed to ensure a smooth term with the interests our Society and its archives first and foremost. I am always interested in feedback, questions or concerns. Please don't hesitate to contact me either by email

or phone. Thank you for your vote of confidence. You are all invited to attend our board meetings where your involvement is always appreciated. The next meeting is Wednesday August 21st at 4:30 p.m. My goal is to run concise and effective meetings. We have made great progress at our policies and procedure meetings, and we invite your participation in those as well.

Historically,
Brian Golden bgolden@pastways.info 248-701-8112

RETIRING PRESIDENT THANKS MEMBERS

By Mike West



Fellow Members of OCPHS: After three years of having the honor of serving as the President of OCPHS I am retiring from that office. Brian Golden will be the new President. He has been very actively involved with OCPHS and brings a wealth of experience with him. I have committed to staying on the board to support Brian and

the important projects that we have embarked upon as they are important to our future.

About four years ago the board had concerns—revenues were down and membership was aging and declining—so we embarked upon the formulation of a Strategic Plan to ensure a robust future for OCPHS. My first year as President was the first year that we implemented the Strategic Plan. We identified Key

Goals and established metrics to mark our progress and ensure we are on the right path. We achieved a dramatic increase in membership and the number has been steady at 300 or more for the last few years. Last year membership dues contributed 15% to our revenue and member donations 14%.

We focused on our revenue generating events, like the Small Talks, Summer Social and Victorian Open House. For each of the last three years the number of visitors to Pine Grove has continued to rise. Not only does attracting people to our Society and to Pine Grove fulfill our mission, it also contributes to our revenue. Last year visitors paid for 45% of our total operating cost. So, it is important to the Society that we continue to offer good service and events which are of interest to the public. We have prudently found ways to reduce cost and even held down the cost of our alarming insurance increase. This effort combined with the revenue generated from membership and events has given us three straight years of financial health and growth.

Not to be overlooked was the enormous challenge we encountered three years ago with the vandalism to the Wisner House roof. Over \$55,000 was raised to replace the damaged roof, a contractor was hired, the thief was caught and daily operations never missed a beat. Last year the board decided to expand our operating hours to three days per week and we hired a part time Office Manager. We have programs to preserve and protect our many materials and archives. We have also increased security on our campus.

Next on the agenda, thanks to Charlotte Cooper and the DAR grant and the generosity of OCPHS member Patrick Tooman, the Wisner House porches and columns will be restored and repainted in time for the Summer Social.

What is impressive is all that was accomplished during the last three years was done through the help of our members and volunteers. OCPHS is not supported by any government agency. Everything done at Pine Grove is done by members and volunteers and it has been an impressive contribution. Thank you for helping to make my three years as President a truly rewarding experience.

See you at Pine Grove,
Mike West, First Vice President

**ANNUAL SUMMER ICE CREAM SOCIAL:
JULY 27 11 AM – 5 PM**

By Rodger Zeller, Event Chairman

The theme for this year's ice cream social is *To Save The Union: The Battle of Chickamauga*. We are celebrating the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Chickamauga. Moses Wisner's 22nd Michigan Regiment was heavily engaged in the battle. We will host a reenactment of this battle at 3 p.m.

The 5th Michigan Regimental Band will be our featured musical group. They will play 19th century instruments and traditional Civil War songs. The Ancient Fife and Drum group will also perform.

Re-enactors will portray Abraham and Mary Todd Lincoln, Governor Wisner, Frederick Douglass, Harriet Beecher Stowe, Harriet Tubman, Sojourner Truth, and General Israel Richardson.

Other activities will include an Author's Tent, Wisner House tours, refreshments, Sisters of the Union encampment, a variety of children's activities, mounted Oakland County Sheriff 's officers, and a large white elephant sale.

Your ears will be challenged at the top of each hour by three different cannon blasts. In order for this to be complete we'll need your presence! We look forward to seeing you at Pine Grove on July 27th!



Civil War re-enactors at ease during the 2012 Summer Social

PRE-SUMMER SOCIAL AUCTION: JULY 25

On Thursday evening, July 25 we'll hold an auction of antiques and collectibles. Items sold at the auction have been donated specifically for that purpose, or have been culled from duplicates or surplus from our collections.

The preview begins at 6:15 with the auction starting at 6:30. Auction action is fast but fun—whether you're bidding or watching, you'll enjoy yourself. We'll also hold a white elephant sale during the Summer Social on July 27.

If you have items to donate for either sale, please contact Fred Liimatta at 248-931-3583 or 248-332-1247 or bring items to the office during regular business hours, Tues. – Thurs., 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.

LADIES TEA AT PINE GROVE

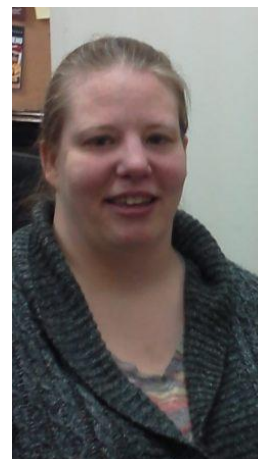


Some very special ladies—including OCPHS life members, past presidents, and emeritus directors—gathered in June for a celebratory tea and lots of fun! Standing, left to right, are Anne Liimatta, Nancy Duffield, Fran Anderson, Gretchen Adler, Margaret Ann Jackson, Patty Andrews, Patricia Maurer, and Mary Connell. Seated are Judy Hudalla, Barb Irwin, and Annalee Kennedy. Thanks to Anne, Mary, Nancy, and Barb Hudalla for hosting, and to all of these ladies for their service to OCPHS.

**INTRODUCING NEW LIBRARY COORDINATOR,
LEILANI WARD**

We're pleased to have the volunteer services of a new, professionally-trained library coordinator, Leilani Ward. When asked for a bit of background information for the *Gazette*, Leilani wrote:

I have a Bachelor of Arts degree in Anthropology from Oakland University and am currently attending Wayne State University for a Master degree in Library and Information Science with a graduate certificate in Archival Administration. My main interest is in the operation of museums so I selected my graduate program to be rounded and as valuable as I can be.



I wanted to get experience

from an organization that had a valuable historical impact as well as had a rounded approach to the ways it disseminated the historical knowledge that it possesses. I feel that OCPHS has these features, plus Professor Stamps thought I would like the work.

Stop in and meet Leilani and our other research librarians any Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday. They are happy to help provide answers to your questions about area people, places, and events.

NATIONAL DAR AWARDS GRANT FOR WISNER PORCHES PROJECT!

We are pleased to announce that the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution has awarded OCPHS a grant to repair and repaint the porches on the historic Wisner House! Charlotte Cooper, vice-regent of the DAR's Sashabaw Plains chapter and a newly-elected OCPHS board member, wrote the winning grant solicitation on our behalf. OCPHS board member Patrick Tooman provided the required matching funding, and Ron Gay, master carpenter and Society member, was selected from among the bidders to be the project's general contractor.

Work will include repairing and replacing trim and decking where needed; repainting the floors and the many columns that grace the house, repairing and repainting lattice work, and building new railings and steps. All will be complete in time to shine during the Summer Social—our premier community event. Many thanks to the national and local DAR, and to Charlotte, Patrick, Ron and his helper Don for their work on this important project!



Ron & Don take a break from their work preserving the porches



KATHRYN WEST, 5th GRADE AWARD WINNER DAR SPONSORED ESSAY CONTEST: "UNSUNG HEROES OF THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR"

By Mike West

Oakland County student Kathryn West recently received local, state and national Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) recognition for her award-winning essay, "Mammy Kate."

Kathryn West, center, with DAR representatives



Each year the DAR sponsors an essay contest to promote student awareness of U.S. history. The

contest has rules and guidelines so the students learn history, research and how to follow direction.

For the 2012-13 school year the DAR topic was "Unsung Heroes of the Revolutionary War." The Piety Hill Chapter of the DAR (Birmingham, MI) sponsored the local contest.

Kathryn did research at our local library and found the Unsung Hero of the Revolutionary War to write her report on—Mammy Kate. Mammy Kate was a slave who posed as a laundress in the British Barracks. The British held American Soldier Colonel Heard prisoner. Mammy Kate hid Col. Heard in her laundry basket and smuggled him to safety. He later became a General. He and Mammy Kate remained lifelong friends.

The Piety Hill Chapter notified Kathryn that her essay won the local contest. An award ceremony was held at the Bloomfield Township Library where all the local winners were honored and Kathryn met accomplished students from 5th through 12th grade (the high school students received honors for different categories). A couple of weeks later Kathryn was notified that her essay was the winner for the State of Michigan. A major award ceremony was held at the Kellogg Center in Lansing. Here Kathryn got to meet top award winners from across the state. Oakland County Judge Michael Warren gave a very impressive speech on the importance of Patriotism and American Heritage.

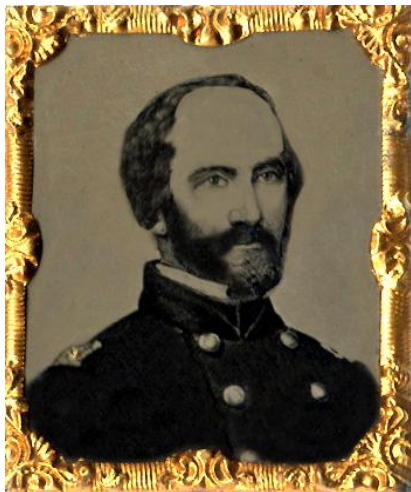
Kathryn's essay then went on to win the Central and Eastern Division of the DAR. Her essay then placed 3rd in the nation. A total of 15,000 essays were submitted for her grade. It was a great honor to be included in a group of students that are working so hard to learn and contribute to our country. Many thanks need to be given to the DAR for doing such a great job promoting local and American history.

IMAGE FOUND, ALLEGED TO DEPICT WISNER IN CIVIL WAR UNIFORM – Part 2

By Charlie Martinez, Society Historian and
Dave Walls, Society Researcher

*Magic mirror on the wall,
who is the fairest of them all?*

1937 movie *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs*
(Walt Disney Productions), with ancestral credit to The
Brothers Grimm for their 1812
Tales of Children and the Home



Does this image depict Moses Wisner?

Such a find is considered rare since no likeness of Wisner in Civil War uniform is known to exist. However, before the image could be critically examined it was sold to an unidentified third party. Fortunately, Casamer e-mailed a copy of the image to the Society before the sale. Casamer is familiar with both nineteenth-century photography and the regiment in which Wisner served as colonel during that struggle. In 2006 he authored the expansive work, *The History of the Michigan Twenty-Second Infantry and the Men who Served During the American Civil War*.

In our quest to determine the authenticity of Wisner's Civil War image, we cast a wide net. First, an appeal was made to experts in the field of nineteenth-century photography for their assistance. As we awaited their replies a search commenced of the Wisner mansion and its artifact collection that might shed light on the target likeness of its original owner. Next, a survey was taken of the Society's archival holdings which included such gems as a fourteen year span of correspondence between Wisner and his wife. Biographers, genealogists, and historians have uncharacteristically ignored or rarely cited these letters. Their content might give us the photographer's name and studio location. In a rare instance it might even provide the date the subject posed.

In the interest of continuity, Part 1 of this article (Feb./Mar. 2013) told of a Civil War image of Moses Wisner discovered in Kentucky during the latter half of 2012. The find was revealed by an acquaintance of Society member Doug Casamer.

During the Civil War, soldiers—particularly officers—were photographed in camp or near a battlefield. Several views of the 22nd Michigan Volunteer Infantry were taken at Camp Ella Bishop in Lexington, Kentucky. Unfortunately, Colonel Wisner has not been identified in any of them.¹

If one is seeking an image of Moses Wisner in his mid-forties, as a distinguished attorney and rising political star, one should visit his Pine Grove mansion in Pontiac, Michigan. There, over the family room fireplace hangs a portrait of that gentleman with high forehead, beard and mustache. He wears a frock coat with generous lapels and below his throat a large bow tie. Popular opinion holds that this picture (shown below) was taken either just before or during his single term as Michigan governor (1859 -1861). Upon close inspection of the work this writer feels the original image is a charcoal sketch which has been photographed or photoengraved.

Leilani Ward, Society volunteer who is an archival administration student at Wayne State University, has recently discovered a faint and cryptic message hidden above Wisner's left shoulder in this portrait. Barely decipherable, she believes it reads "LJS 187[5?]." Its significance is yet to be determined.

This very same portrait can be found in *Stewards of the State: The Governors of Michigan* (1987) by George Weeks. Earlier and later variations of this image have been published in book form from the last decades of the nineteenth century to as recently as 2011.²



Without question the best documented Wisner image is also found at Pine Grove. It is a three-dimensional form in the fine arts category. Atop a pedestal at the west end of the mansion's parlor stands a marble bust of Wisner as Michigan governor. The bust was executed by Henry Dexter (1806-1876) who rose from poverty to become one of this nation's most ambitious and productive sculptors of the nineteenth century.³

Dexter began his artistic career in the 1830s as a painter of likenesses in Providence, Rhode Island. By chance a few years later while living in Boston he picked up some modeling clay and found his medium and destiny forever changed. In 1838 he completed a marble bust of Boston mayor, Samuel A. Elliot. This

brought Dexter a flood of commissions including the likes of Longfellow, Dickens, and President James Buchanan.

In the late 1850s he conceived a plan to sculpt the busts of all U.S. governors in office at that time. Dexter was able to visit each state except California and Oregon. His approach in this series was to first capture the subject in clay, from which to make a plaster cast. The cast would then be shipped back to his studio in Cambridge, Massachusetts where it would be sculpted into marble. Only a few reached this final stage due to the outbreak of the Civil War. One of them was Wisner's bust.



The Gov. Moses Wisner bust was carved in 1860 by the nationally known sculptor Henry Dexter. OCPHS Collection

There is a facial resemblance, of course, between the earlier mentioned portrait and this bust. The effect is neutralized to some extent by their attire: frock coat and bow tie on one; toga and tunic on the other. Centuries apart yes, but the same masculine demeanor.

The most rewarding, yet extremely tedious part of this investigation into Wisner's alleged Civil War portrait was the examination of correspondence between the colonel and his wife Angeline.⁴ Wisner's penmanship was atrocious. He wrote at an extreme right angle, ignoring punctuation, and frequently performing these tasks without shelter during rainstorms that blotted out many of his words. The Society holds over twenty

letters in this exchange, which roughly cover the period from mid-September to early November 1862.

The letters are poignant—revealing his warm, tender concern for his family while expressing a deep hatred of the rebels and lack of confrontation with them.

There is also frequent mention of his worries about unsanitary conditions that he and his men were forced to endure. On September 29, 1862 the regimental chaplain, A.E. Mather, wrote Angeline that her husband had come down with a stomach complaint, but is confident as to his recovery.⁵

By the first of October 1862 at an unnamed location in Kentucky, Moses indicates his health had been restored and chides Angeline for not sending “the picture of yourself and the babies.” The next sentence is the bombshell:

I have not been out of camp an hour since I left home. As soon as I can get where it can be done I will send the children my picture.

A few days later, his regiment was at Camp Walton, 10 miles from Covington, Kentucky by Wisner's estimate. It would move by fits and starts chasing Confederate units around Kentucky until October 26 when the 22nd Michigan went into camp at Lexington. Most likely if Wisner fulfilled the promise to send his photograph to Angeline it would have been taken in the areas of Covington, Lexington, or somewhere in between if itinerant photographers were available. This is now a search in process.

One of the motivations to solve the Wisner uniform issue was the nagging question why a century-old book dedicated to the 22nd Michigan showed him as the only soldier in civilian apparel.⁶ With this in mind we contacted several major institutions to see if they held this Civil War image. And, if the answer was “no,” could they give us some idea how the subject photo was constructed if we sent them a copy?

Jill Arnold, archivist for the State Archives in Lansing, disclosed that they held copies of the Wisner civilian portrait. However, the Archives had no military image of him either in its portrait collection or so identified in its Civil War collection.

Nancy Barr with the photo collection department at the Detroit Institute of Arts examined the uniformed Wisner image. She felt it was a photograph of a reworked original photo; the prototype being even a drawing or painting.

A visit was next made to the Bentley Historical Library at the University of Michigan where we talked to Karen Jania, Head of Access and Reference Services. She allowed us to examine a collection of Wisner Civil War letters, more extensive than the copies we hold at our Pine Grove archives in Pontiac. Before departing we

asked the Bentley staff their opinion of the Wisner war image and they felt it was a sketch that had been photographed or photoengraved.

This writer also took the opportunity to contact an old friend, Cindy Motzenbecker, president of the Michigan Photographic Historical Society. She also inspected the same image and agreed with the Bentley as to its derivative nature.

Finally, we e-mailed the University of Kentucky Archives, enquiring as to their take on the composition of this implied Wisner likeness. Jason Flahardy, audio-visual archivist, responded:

It is hard to tell from the scan, but it looks to be a tintype that was cased. This wasn't uncommon for the time period. But the image looks off, like it was hand painted or altered. It also could be a tintype reproduction from a linotype or photogravure. That was very rare, but I've seen it. It was more commonly done with the carte de visite format.

It should be noted at this point that none of the five sources contacted had a Civil War image of Wisner.

In a homicide investigation we often hear that an individual who has sufficient “means, motive, and opportunity” can be considered a prime suspect. While we are not dealing with anything approaching murder or mayhem, these three issues do have some validity in our decision making process.

In the case of “means,” photography was a well-established enterprise by the middle of the nineteenth century in settled portions of our country. As an example, the town of Pontiac had a daguerreotype photographer as early as the 1840s. By 1860 John F. Bray considered himself an “Ambrotype Artist” on Saginaw Street in the same community.⁷

As for “motive” it seems apparent Wisner was chiding Angeline back in October 1862 for not sending him a picture of the family which he evidently requested previously. In return Wisner promised to send his image “as soon as I can get where it can be done.” A little sarcasm there!

The “opportunity” issue is more complex. Did Wisner have time to pose for a cameraman after October 1, 1862? We believe the answer is yes. However, neither his letters from the field nor Angeline’s from home make mention of a photograph taken. This would cover a period from circa October 3 until November 12, 1862. The latter date marks the end of our present holdings in this communication exchange. In early December Wisner, who previously had been laid low by a stomach disorder, fell sick again, this time desperately. Now in addition to diarrhea the patient

displayed a high fever and delirium. He wasn’t suffering alone as camp Ella Bishop had been hard hit by the dread typhoid fever from November 1862 into the new year. A furlough for the ailing colonel was considered but his condition continued to spiral downward. Angeline was notified and traveled south to be at his bedside in a private Lexington home. According to military records Colonel Wisner died on January 4, 1863.⁸

Shortly after his passing Michigan Governor Austin Blair in his annual message to the state legislature paid tribute to the Colonel with these words:

For him the pomp and circumstance and the battle are no more. To his family and friends he leaves the rich remembrance of an honorable fame, and to the State he loved, the pride that she had so noble a citizen.⁹

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Our sincere thanks to the five image and archivist specialists to whom this work is indebted for their critique of the alleged Wisner Civil War image. Also to my colleague Dave Walls, and our office manager Sara Guy, a deep appreciation for their assistance in gently linking this writer to the computer info stream that might have otherwise drowned him. And, as always, kudos to the Bloomfield and West Bloomfield public libraries, and our own Pine Grove Library and Archives for solving many of the historical impediments that lie in the path of logical research. Finally to our *Oakland Gazette* readers, gratitude for sharing your opinions on the validity of the “new” Wisner image. The survey results show an even split: fifty percent for and fifty percent against the authenticity of that photo. The past is merely prologue.

NOTES

¹ Douglas M. Casamer, *The History of the Michigan Twenty-Second Infantry and the Men who Served During the American Civil War* (Privately published, 2006), 116, 117, 140

² Chapman Bros., *Portrait and Biographical Album of Oakland County* (Chicago, 1891), 140. G. Franklin Wisner, *The Wisners In America and Their Kindred* (Baltimore, Maryland, privately published, 1918) 167. Roger D. Hunt, *Colonels in Blue—Michigan, Ohio, and West Virginia* (Jefferson, North Carolina: McFarland & Company, Inc., 2011), 179. Hunt credits this view to the *Portrait and Biographical Album of Lenawee County MI*. Chicago, Ill., 1888.

³ Eighteen years ago Society member Don O’Brien wrote a fine article on Henry Dexter for the OCPHS newsletter. It was entitled “*Captured In Marble*” and appeared in the *Oakland Gazette*, spring 1995: 3-4.

⁴ File entitled: “*Wisner, Moses—correspondence 1862-1863, # 96-18*”. It is held in the Oakland County Pioneer and Historical Society Library and Archives at Pine Grove, Pontiac, Michigan.

⁵ Asher E. Mather enlisted in the 22nd Michigan as chaplain when the regiment was organized in August 1862. He accompanied Wisner's body back to Pontiac with the widow and the colonel's oldest son, Edward, who was also a member of the unit.

⁶ George H. Turner, comp., *Record of Service of Michigan Volunteers in the Civil War 1861-1865* (Kalamazoo, Mich.: Ihling Bros. & Everard, n.d.) 22: 6-7.

⁷ George W. Hawes, comp., *Loomis & Talbott's Pontiac City Directory and Business Mirror For 1860-61*. Detroit, 1860: 12

⁸ Turner, *Record of Service of Michigan Volunteers in the Civil War 1861-1865*, 3.

⁹ *Ibid.*, 4

"SOME EXCITING TIMES": TOM TUCKER IN THE SOUTH

By Katie Annett

This Civil War Sesquicentennial serial follows the 22nd Michigan Infantry Regiment as described by one of its soldiers, 18-year-old Private Tom Tucker.

Over the winter of 1862 - 63, the 22nd Michigan Infantry lost many men to disease, including Colonel Moses Wisner. "I am feeling quite well," Tom wrote on January 26. "I am glad that I do for there is a lot of sickness in our reg[iment] and I notice that when some of the boys goes to the hospital, there is a good many of them dont come back to the reg., but are put in the cemetary." The healthy men drilled and stood guard, picket and provost duty, but they also faced the threat of Confederate raiders.

On January 23, Tom explained, "We heard that the reb cavelry under [John] Morgan was raising the old cat going through Kentucky and stealing the best horses. But our boys are hot after him." As spring began, the 22nd Michigan marched between towns in central Kentucky, often between Danville, "Micklesville" [Nicholasville?] and its winter camp in Lexington. Its duties included chasing Morgan and guarding supply trains, and it got in a few skirmishes, such as the one on March 24: "Our reg. was guarding the supply train and I tell you the bullets, lots of them, went wizzing by and several of our men were hit." Tom seemed to take the danger in stride. On March 27, after another skirmish the day before, he said, "Well, we have had, for a few days, some exciting times and have been prety close to the rebs, so we know what they look like."

The 22nd Michigan was quickly making a name for itself. "I got so wet and cold in the night that I had chills, so I went out to a house," Tom wrote on March 25. "There was a grand fire in the big fire place and

after a while I got up by the fire and got warm and dried my close. Colonal Walford of a Kentucky Cavelry reg. was in there and he came up to the fire and I was going to let him have my place but he said, 'No, No. You are wet through. Stay and get dry.' He asked me what reg. I belong to and I said the 22nd Mich. He said, 'I know its a fine reg.'"

In April, the regiment boarded a train for Nashville. "My, we went through some rough country and a lot of us boys rode on top of the box cars," Tom said. "... When we were going through one of the tunnels, the Captain of Co. H was on top of the car. Just as the car went in the tunnel, he did not bend over quick enough and hit his head and it knocked him off the car and killed him. It was to bad but he was to careless."

Once in the city, the 22nd Michigan stood guard and picket duty. On May 7, Tom wrote, "Our whole company are out on picket and we are having lots of sport halting the country people when they try to pass our guard post on the main road going to Nashville. They make all kind of excuses and some of them we put under guard and send them to the Provost Head Quarter in Nashville." A break from this routine came on June 26, when "The Governor of Mich., Mr. Blair came to our reg. this afternoon. We thinks he is fine." Tom was less approving of some of his fellow soldiers. "I am on guard duty down town," he said July 28. "It isent no easy work to go all over the city looking up men. We found several of our reg. down by the tresell bridge in a place of resort. We put them under guard and tooked them up to the Capital Building and they were put in cells in the basement of the Capital Building. Served them right if they would behave themselves they would not be put there."

In late August and early September, Tom helped guard a jail containing Confederate officers. On August 27, he was told to warn boatmen away from the jail in case the Rebels threw messages to them from a window. Soon, Tom saw two men approaching. "So I hailed the men in the boat and said 'Hey there. Get away quick or I will shoot you.' One of them said, 'Shoot and be dammed! We dont care.' I aimed my gun just over their heads and pulled the trigger and GEE !! they got out of the way quick. Then one of the rebs from the upper window said, 'Say guard! You had better be careful who you shoot at.' And I said, 'Get your head back from that window or I will try one on you.' That was the last time they bothered me."

A few days later, on September 2, a group of prisoners tried to trick Tom into giving them his gun. They backed off when he threatened them, but he warned his relief, an Irishman later called "Private Magines of Co. G", that they might test him too. Sure enough, a fight broke out, and the guard killed two prisoners in self-defense. The next day, Tom reported that the Irishman had been promoted to corporal. [Note: I

haven't found records of anyone similar to "Magines" in the 22nd MI's roster, so he may have belonged to another regiment.]

Meanwhile, Confederate General Braxton Bragg's occupation of Chattanooga kept the Union from its "Anaconda Plan" of surrounding the South. In an effort to gain the city, the 22nd Michigan was transferred to the Reserve Corps of the Army of the Cumberland and moved to Alabama to help stop Rebel supply lines. After Bragg abandoned Chattanooga on September 8, the 22nd Michigan was called to Rossville, Georgia. On September 13, Tom wrote, "The rebs wont be awfull learnin when we were on top of the mountain last night. The reg. ahead of us commenced sing. (John Browns Body lies silent in the Grave) The first thing we knew we could hear the boys sinning all down the mountain side. My it was great. But we was so awfull sleepy and would do anything to keep awake. My, we all feel awfull lame and the rebs is not far away. So I guess we will be in it before long. Well that is what we expect."

His prediction would soon come true. The 22nd Michigan was rapidly nearing what would become its greatest and most devastating fight: The Battle of Chickamauga.

Tucker: War Years and The Farm, the "daily memarandom" 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 from Tom's original writings have been transcribed, unedited, in the article above.

OCPHS ANNUAL MEETING AND ELECTION

The Society held its Annual Meeting and Election at Pine Grove on Saturday, May 18. Our speaker for the day was Greg Kowalski, who donated his time to tell us about his experiences establishing Hamtramck's historical museum. Greg had presented a Small Talk earlier this year and was so well-received that we invited him to speak to us again.

Two new board members were elected: Charlotte Cooper is a Clarkston resident and active DAR member who has experience with grant-writing and historic preservation. Patrick Tooman is owner and President of P.E.T.S. (Plastics Engineering and Technical Services) in Auburn Hills. He is interested in history and in the Society's mission.

Officers for the May 2013 - 14 term are Brian Golden, President; Mike West, 1st Vice President; Guy Duffield, 2nd Vice President; Kathryn Davis, Secretary; and Amy Annett, Treasurer.

Mike Willis, Anne Liimatta, and Fred Liimatta were each elected to another three-year term on the board, joining seated directors Bruce Annett, Carol Bacak-Egbo, Charles Martinez, and Rodger Zeller.

Stepping down from the board are Mary Connell, who most recently served as Secretary; Judy Hudalla, who receives Emeritus status after having served at least ten years on the board; Jan Roncelli, Melissa Luginski, and Ray Henry.

Thanks to all members and friends who attended the meeting, and thank you to those who have volunteered to serve on the board now or in the past; the Society's work could not be accomplished without your help.

SPRING CLEAN-UP DAYS BRING OUT WORKERS

Maintaining our buildings and campus takes a lot of effort, and many members, friends, and community service workers have pitched in to help on three separate work days this year.

You may recall that in 2012, Comcast Corporation and several OCPHS members contributed financial support for the Clean Up efforts. What we didn't spend last year was set aside and used towards this year's expenses for landfill fees, brush hauling, work gloves, lawn bags, and other such expenses. The donations of time and monetary support kept on giving for two full years—thank you!

Thanks also to Oakland County's WWAM program, whose participants provided many hours of work, to Anne & Fred Liimatta for organizing the Clean Up days, Doug's Tree Service of Waterford for removing a large tree limb at no charge, and to all of you who participated! With your help we weeded, trimmed, hauled, cleaned sheds, raked, and enjoyed making Pine Grove look good!

NEW PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE

Jo Pate, Publications Chair, has transcribed, printed, and bound a second volume of records from the Brace Funeral Home, 1919 – 1951. These records are of great interest to genealogists, and you may order copies with the form included in this *Gazette*.

Also newly available are John Cohassey's booklet, *Hemingway's Last Good Country*, and Robert and Cheryl Allen's book, *Macomb County Civil War Footprints*. Copies are available at OCPHS or by mail.

What better time than now to learn some new history!

----NEW PUBLICATION----

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405 Cesar E. Chavez Ave.
Pontiac, MI 48342

MEMORIAL DAY PARADE

Several OCPHS members participated in Waterford's annual Memorial Day Parade along Dixie Highway. Here are two snapshots from that beautiful day honoring our country and those who have served in our armed forces.



Annie Hunt, Cathy Haynes, and Kari Vaughan represent us well!



Rodger Zeller is all smiles

ANNUAL GIVING RESPONSE STRONG

Many thanks to all who have contributed to this year's Annual Giving appeal. This is a major fund raising campaign which we count on for raising at least 15% of our operating expenses. Our costs are higher this year with the welcome addition of our part time office manager and the not-so-welcome addition of higher utility costs. In typical OCPHS member style, you're answering the call: To date we've heard from 40 members who have given gifts large and small. If you haven't yet responded, we hope you'll do so: Your contributions truly make a difference.

SMALL TALK SERIES

We hope you've had a chance to attend one or more of our Small Talks this year. Recent speakers included authors Bob & Cherie Allen discussing their book about Alonzo Keeler, a soldier from Michigan's 22nd infantry in the Civil War; well-known Pontiac resident Hubert Price speaking about his ancestor who fought for the Union in Company C of the U.S. Colored Troops; Bob Dustman, who discussed his book chronicling his

father's experiences from World War II; and Russell Dore and Steven Sanford, speaking about Henry Ford.

Upcoming Small Talks feature more history: On August 18 member Annie Hunt will tell us about the **Soldiers Aid Society and Health Sanitary Commission**, important groups that offered supplies, aid, and education to promote the health and well-being of Civil War troops.

September 15 brings back Steven Sanford, this time discussing the history of the **Oakland Motor Car Company**, forerunner to Pontiac Motors. We're seeking car clubs and individuals to display vintage vehicles as part of that presentation, too. If you have a car to display, please contact Sara in our office.

Member Diane Clark will be our presenter on October 13, with a **Victorian Funeral Re-enactment** commemorating the 150th anniversary of Moses Wisner's death. The final talk in the series is on November 10, when local historian John Cohassey discusses the **Life of Ernest Hemingway Up North**. Join us!

NOW IS THE TIME TO JOIN OR RENEW

Our members are important not only for their financial support, but for the interest and involvement they contribute toward preserving Pine Grove and Oakland County's heritage. Everyone is welcome, so if you're not already a member, or if you have yet to renew your dues, please use the application at right, or join on-line at www.ocphs.org! New memberships or renewals received now will be good until **July 1, 2014**.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

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

Bettinger, Alice	Pontiac
Beyrand, Christopher	Pontiac
Blackett, Larry	Royal Oak
Davis, Mary	Auburn Hills
De Riso, Vesta	Clarkston
DeLong, David	Waterford
Dorr, James	Evanston, IL
Dykes, DeWitt	Bingham Farms
Frye, Barbara	Pontiac
Humphrey, Joseph	Waterford
Humphrey, Lynn	Waterford
James, Kathalee	Pontiac
Johns, Bill	Auburn Hills
PatriotWeek.org	Beverly Hills
Price, Carolyn	Pontiac
Price, Hubert	Pontiac
Tischler, Mary	Rochester Hills
Walker, Todd	Waterford
Ward, Elianna	Bedford, TX
Williams, Susan	West Bloomfield

IN REMEMBRANCE

We extend our condolences to the family and friends of these members who have passed away:

Ruth Priestley, who served as OCPHS President and wrote extensively for the *Gazette* about the Wisner family, passed away March 5, 2013 at age 98.

Sylvia Adams, former board member and volunteer for events and our white elephant sales, died April 30.

Membership Application
Oakland County Pioneer and Historical Society

Memberships received now extend until July 1, 2014

Name

Address

City/State/Zip

Phone

Email

Send my *Gazette* by: U.S. Mail Email

What prompted you to join?
(Optional, check all that apply):

- Interest in History
- Invited/Introduced by Member/Friend
- Copy of *Gazette*
- Attended Event or Tour
- Research Library
- Newspaper/Magazine Article
- Volunteer Opportunities
- Website
- Other

Membership Categories:

- \$15 Student
- \$20 Individual
- \$20 Non-Profit Organization
- \$35 Family (2 adults & minor children)
- \$100 Patron
- \$200 Benefactor
- \$500 Friends of OCPHS
- \$500 Corporate Sponsor
- \$ Additional Donation Enclosed: \$

Already belong? Consider giving a gift membership or inviting a friend to join, too! Everyone is welcome.

Mail this form with check payable to OCPHS to:

OCPHS
405 Cesar E. Chavez Ave
Pontiac, MI 48342

For your convenience you may also join or renew on-line at www.ocphs.org. Thank you for your support!

We are a 501(c) 3 organization.
Donations are tax deductible in accordance with applicable law.

Gazette 46-2, Jul. 2013

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

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ACTION FUN ALERT!

Saturday July 27th
11 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Summer Ice Cream Social
at Moses Wisner's historic estate
**To Save the Union: THE BATTLE OF
CHICKAMAUGA Civil War Re-enactment**

Bake a Cake! Be a Sponsor! Volunteer!
See you there!

We are seeking a new Editor: Call for info!

Oakland Gazette is a publication of the
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Submissions, story ideas, or comments are welcome.

Volume 46 Number 2 July 2013
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New Publications
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Calendar

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

Jul 25: Summer Auction, 6:15 p.m.
*Auction of antiques & collectibles. Donations for this
sale are welcome. Come to watch or buy!*

Jul. 27: Summer Ice Cream Social, 11 a.m. – 5 p.m.
*Our annual community event celebrating history, this
year commemorating the Battle of Chickamauga,
fought by Moses Wisner's 22nd MI regiment.*

Aug. 18: Small Talk, 2 p.m.
*The Soldier's Aid Society & Health Sanitary
Commission, with Annie Hunt*

Sep. 15: Small Talk, 2 p.m.
*History of the Oakland Motor Car Company, with
Steven Sanford*

Next Board Meetings: Members Welcome
Aug. 21 at 4:30 p.m., Sep. 21 at 9:30 a.m.



Find us on Facebook.com/Oakland
County Pioneer and Historical Society



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