



Leonard - McGlone House

Old News

Watrousville-Caro Area Historical Society

PO Box 15 Caro MI, 48723

Our 35th year of Preserving Local History

November 2006

Editors, JoAnn Gray & Esther Gorashko - Published by Dave Celani

A letter from our President.

We had a very ambitious year planned for 2006, which included the re-roofing of the Leonard-McGlone house. We selected a local builder and with his bid, we applied for a grant from the Tuscola County Community Foundation. We were, unfortunately, turned down for the grant. We plan to re-apply again this year hoping for better results.

The interior of the Leonard-McGlone house was badly in need of a major cleaning as numerous animals had found the house to be a wonderful place to live rent-free. There was also significant water damage to the interior due to the leaking roof. Al Gorashko, Bob Gray and myself took on the roof repair to stop further damage. We hired a contractor to clean the house and haul away all the refuse.

We also began the research necessary to obtain a Historical Marker for the Leonard-McGlone house. As of this newsletter, we have the deed from Donald and Pauline Leonard granting the house to the Watrousville-Caro Area Historical Society, we also have a copy of the deed granting the house to Donald and Pauline Leonard from Marguerite Leonard. When Marguerite's father (Eugene) died on February 26, 1942, the house was still in his name. Marguerite Leonard petitioned the Probate Court on September 28, 1960 and received a judgment awarding the property to herself and a brother Erie Orin Leonard. We are still researching to find a deed or probate action that awarded Marguerite the share owned by her brother Orin. We are still trying to find the transfer of the property from the McGlones' to the Leonard's.

Dave and Monica Celani have been very active in placing displays of Watrousville Museum artifacts in the Caro Area District Library. Dave also maintains the Society's website - www.watrousville.com.

Monica is the program chairlady, provides meeting notices to the Advertiser and emails meeting notices to members.

Al and Esther Gorashko are the backbone of the Society. Esther, having been secretary of the society for over twenty years, keeps everything running smoothly as well as making wonderful deserts for our meetings.

I would like to thank all the members for their help this past year and where I missed mentioning someone, I apologize. We desperately need membership support. Please come to the meetings and help us as we try to preserve the historical significance of the Watrousville-Caro area.

Sincerely,

Cal Jewett

SADLY, WE NOTE THE PASSING OF OUR LONGTIME MEMBERS.

MARGARET CATHERN WRIGHT passed away peacefully and went to be with the Lord, surrounded by her family, Friday November 10, 2006. Margaret was born October 4, 1918 in Fairgrove. She was a lifelong Tuscola County resident.

CECIL J. OSGERBY Passed away on Thursday, October 26, 2006 at the age of 87. He was born in Reese on July 18, 1919. Cecil was a Caro High School graduate and a U.S. Army veteran of WWII.

Watrousville-Caro Area Historical Society

Officers

President – Cal Jewett

Vice President – Ann Ransford

Secretary – Esther Gorashko

Treasurer – JoAnn Gray

Board of Directors

Alexander Gorashko

Monica Celani

Robert W. Gray

David Celani

Neil Jackson
Juniata Township Supervisor

A Brief Summary of the Treasurer's Report

Balance on Hand 8/8/2006
\$16,622.28
Receipts: + **\$1,113.95**
Disbursements: - **\$813.28**
Balance on Hand 10/10/2006
\$16,922.95

Checking Account **\$428.29**
Museum Fund **\$2,262.95**
Memorial Fund **\$4,231.71**
9 Month CD **\$10,000.00**
TOTAL \$16,922.95

A complete and detailed copy of the current Treasurer's Report is available to any member on request.

JoAnn Gray, Treasurer

Leonard- McGlone House Donations to Date

David & Monica Celani
Donald J. Kanicki
Don & Marian Strieter
John & Maurine Gornick
Virginia Douglas
Don & Pauline Leonard
Al & Esther Gorashko
Debra Videna Conley
Pauline Leonard Memorials
Ann Ransford
Cheryl Workman
Bob and Shirley Rundress
Tuscola County Comm. Foundation
Caro Lions
Caro V.F.W. Post 4164
United Way
Detroit Edison (Matching Gifts)

The **Watrousville Museum** at
4607 W. Caro Road in
Watrousville, is open
June thru September
on Thursday's from 1-4 pm
and the
1st and 3rd Saturday 1-4 pm
and by appointment

The First Election in Tuscola County

An act of the Michigan State Legislature on March 2, 1850 was approved and provided for the organization of Tuscola County.

The first general election after the organization of the county was held November 5, 1850.

The first board of county canvassers consisted of John H. Richardson, who was chosen secretary and chairman of the board. Eighty-three votes were cast at this election for representative in the State legislature, of which Alanson Calkins received forty-six, and Paschal Richardson, thirty-seven. At this time, Tuscola was the only organized township in the county. The question of Negro suffrage was voted upon at this election. The whole number of votes cast was forty-four; eighteen for, and twenty-six against. The county officers elected, were as follows: Clerk, William **HARRISON**; treasurer, E. W. **PERRY**; register of deeds, Townsend **NORTH**; county judge, Lovira **HART**; second judge, Calvin **LEE**; probate judge, Calvin Lee; sheriff, Leander W. **VANKLEECK**; prosecuting attorney, Hiram **PENOYER**; surveyor, Joshua D. **SMITH**; coroners, Silas S. **BLISS** and Chancey **FIRMAN**.

From *The History of Tuscola County*, 1883

Find the BOLD Names in the puzzle below. Solution on back page.

L	Z	A	R	B	D	H	C	S	X	X	W	Y	K	N	R	G	N	M	U
W	Y	T	G	O	K	C	T	U	B	E	T	V	C	A	R	Y	L	L	Z
D	J	X	H	X	J	S	F	S	L	X	U	D	V	H	G	Y	E	H	F
L	T	A	E	F	K	W	T	I	I	J	Z	C	T	A	M	Q	K	A	Y
Y	X	A	S	W	Z	I	V	V	S	D	Y	Z	V	R	H	W	L	K	B
V	G	B	W	D	I	A	A	N	S	T	T	H	E	R	A	L	R	F	P
F	R	A	G	A	Z	W	F	D	A	P	H	Y	M	I	P	H	N	T	E
B	C	M	N	S	E	U	J	R	H	M	O	K	U	S	Y	T	I	E	G
G	G	I	B	X	B	Q	S	D	W	N	R	E	G	O	H	D	L	Q	E
T	L	J	E	O	J	E	L	M	E	R	I	I	I	N	B	V	I	T	A
H	X	G	Z	B	O	I	H	P	I	E	N	M	F	O	X	I	U	X	V
B	D	K	K	V	V	A	F	C	R	T	Z	I	S	R	C	Z	U	K	O
P	O	Q	J	C	F	J	Y	F	E	M	H	O	P	T	L	Y	F	C	U
L	M	W	K	N	E	U	Z	J	Q	K	D	Q	C	H	B	P	G	O	H
J	W	K	P	P	M	E	V	U	F	Q	C	Y	W	C	L	S	D	X	B
N	L	Z	E	A	R	B	L	D	H	C	S	X	X	W	Y	K	N	R	G
N	M	U	R	W	Y	T	G	K	O	K	C	T	U	E	T	V	C	A	R
Y	L	L	R	Z	D	J	X	H	N	X	J	S	F	S	X	U	D	V	G
Y	E	H	Y	F	L	T	A	E	F	A	K	W	T	I	J	Z	C	M	Q
K	A	Y	X	A	S	W	Z	I	V	V	D	Y	Z	V	H	W	L		

NOTICE!

The Watrousville Museum Photo collection was put in acid-free media this summer to protect the photos. Our oldest known photo is nearly 130 years old. While undertaking this project I noticed that approximately 15 photos were missing from the original albums. Almost all the missing photos were replaced by a yellow post-it-note with the title of the photo and the initials b e l on each.

Note to all members of the historical society, and anyone else that may see this:

DOES ANYONE KNOW WHAT HAPPENED TO OUR MISSING PHOTOS?

DOES ANYONE KNOW WHO B E L IS OR WAS?

Any information gladly accepted. We only want the return of our photos, and no further questions will be asked.

Contact any officer of the Watrousville-Caro Area Historical Society

Mark Keller

High-Tech for the Historical Society

We now have a presence on the Internet. Our website address is www.watrousville.com - Although the website is still under construction, we will be adding to it as we go. If you have internet access, please check us out and let us know what information we should add. We are compiling a list of member profiles. All members are invited to contribute a paragraph or two and a picture to add to our website.

Dave Celani will be taking care of the web site and can be reached at dave@watrousville.com



Some of this year's events...

On June 13th 2006, we had our annual Potluck Dinner and Veterans Memorial Celebration.



The Memorial Celebration was held at the Juniata Township Cemetery. The Dinner was held at the Watrousville Methodist Church.



During the month of July, historical artifacts from the Watrousville Museum were on display in the lobby showcase at the Caro Area District Library. Included were a 1880s Friendship Quilt, Bugles, Powder Horns and an early Document Sealer from Caro.



On August 8th, we visited the Lapeer Historical Society and the Lapeer County Courthouse. It is the oldest courthouse in Michigan that serves its original purpose. Built in 1846, it is one of the ten oldest in the United States and one of the fifty most significant buildings in the State of Michigan.



Guests arrived early on Tuesday, September 12th for our 35th Founder's Day Celebration. Featured speaker was James N. Goldsmith, Assistant Director of the Great Lakes National Cemetery in Holly. He gave a presentation on the new 554-acre national cemetery.

Watrousville - Caro Area Historical Society

PO Box 15

Caro, MI 48723

Past Presidents

Dorr Wiltse

Reid Brack

Harry Schubel

John C. Cole

Donald Kanicki

Robert Hartranft

R.L. Hill

Shirley Forshee

Marie Cole

Grant Kelley

Glenn Eastham

Ann Ransford

The Historical Society meets monthly on the second Tuesday of each month (with a few exceptions) at 7:30 p.m. at the Juniata Township Hall, 1971 S. Ringle Road in Watrousville. The Township Hall is a red brick one-room schoolhouse dating back to the 1890s. The Historical Society has the Museum at 4607 W. Caro Road in Watrousville and is currently restoring the Leonard - McGlone House at 4592 W. Caro Road, also in Watrousville.

Additional information is available from -

**JoAnn Gray, 989-823-3638 or
Esther Gorashko, 989-823-2360**

**We are collecting
cash register receipts
(Community Share Points)
from VG's Supermarket
Be sure to turn them in to Esther.**

**If you have a suggestion
for a speaker at our
monthly meeting, please
contact Monica Celani
at 989 823-9206
or celanim@aol.com**

