



Leonard - McGlone House

Old News

Watrousville-Caro Area Historical Society

PO Box 15 Caro MI, 48723

Our 35th year of Preserving Local History

June 2007

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

A letter from our President.

We had started 2006 with the ambition that we could re-roof the Leonard-McGlone house. Unfortunately, the grants we applied for were not approved. We did however, have the house professionally cleaned, which included the removal of several raccoon corpses and other debris that had collected over twenty years of neglect. We also temporarily patched the numerous roof leaks.

We have applied for another grant to assist us in re-roofing the house. The executive board of the Society has decided that the preservation of the Leonard-McGlone house cannot be done without the roof being replaced and has therefore decided to proceed with its replacement with or without the receipt of any grant. The re-roofing will be accomplished this summer.

Our Society, with its museum and the Leonard-McGlone house in Watrousville has a distinct disadvantage in that we do not enjoy the support of a village, town or city. We therefore, have a more difficult task in trying to appeal to members of the community at large. Our only appeal is to those individuals interested in the area's historical past and in preserving that past for the future. We are an organization without political affiliation that enjoys monthly meetings with guest speakers, a short business meeting, and a social with delicious refreshments. On June 12th we honored the fallen and living veterans at our annual pot-luck dinner at the Methodist church in Watrousville.

The dinner was followed by a ceremony at the Watrousville cemetery, hosted by the Caro VFW and American Legion. On June 14th, Flag Day, the Nipissing Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution planted a Gettysburg Address Honey Locust tree at the museum. This September we will celebrate our 35th anniversary at our Founders Day dinner. This year we are honored to have Dr. Frederick W. Roberts, a Dermatologist in Caro, who will present a re-enactment of Civil War medicine.

Sincerely,

Cal Jewett

This year marks our 35th year of Preserving Local History. A limited number of Coffee Mugs with the above logo are available from the museum Gift Shop. Contact Esther Gorashko at 823-2360 for further information.

Watrousville-Caro Area Historical Society

Officers

President – Cal Jewett

Vice President – Ann Ransford

Secretary – Esther Gorashko

Treasurer – JoAnn Gray

Board of Directors

Alexander Gorashko

Henry Sugden

Robert W. Gray

David Celani

Neil Jackson
Juniata Township Supervisor

A Brief Summary of the Treasurer's Report

Balance on Hand 3/31/2007 **\$17,227.37**
 Receipts: **+\$7.84**
 Disbursements: **-\$63.78**
 Balance on Hand 5/8/2007 **\$17,171.43**

Checking Account **\$367.08**
 Museum Fund **\$2,120.16**
 Memorial Fund **\$4273.72**
 9 Month CD **\$10,410.47**
TOTAL \$17,171.43

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

Monica Adams
 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 Tuscola County Fair

...for the encouragement and advancement of agriculture, manufacturing and the mechanical arts, by means of an annual fair, and the distribution of useful knowledge...

The County Fair was held in Watrousville from 1866 to 1883. The County Agricultural Society oversaw the operation. Over those 18 years, 14 different people held office in the society. Wm. **Johnson** - E. B. **Hayes** - John M. **Cole** - John **Walton** - R. C. **Burtis** - A. P. **Cooper** - J. D. **Lewis** - C. C. **Stoddard** - Wm. **King** - B. A. **Wood** - Asa B. **Weaver** - Townsend **North** - C. R. **Selden** - J. Q. A. **Burrington**. Each year, after the Fair, a report was given. The following is taken from the annual reports. 1867; ...there are upwards of 20 sawmills in the county. Smith & graham's basket factory at Vassar made 14,000 baskets this year. There are two foundries in the county, Meehan's at Vassar and Parker's at Centerville. 1871; A new cheese factory at Unionville and a new foundry at Watrousville. 1872; Wheat yield was about 15 bushels per acre, though of inferior quality. 1879; the frost of August 17th killed buckwheat, corn and vines in several localities.

From *The History of Tuscola County*, 1883

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

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

Flag Day, 2007

On Flag Day, June 14, 2007, The Nipissing Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution presented the society with a Gettysburg Address Honey Locust historical tree. The tree was grown from the famed Gettysburg Address Honey locust.

That Original tree still stands on a prominent hilltop about 100 yards from where President Abraham Lincoln delivered the Gettysburg Address in 1863.

The tree was planted on the side of the Watrousville-Caro Area Historical Museum.

Also during the ceremony, members of the Michigan Living History Association raised a 35-star flag on the museum's flagpole, erected in 1864 during Abraham Lincoln's campaign for the presidency.

The pole was originally put up in front of the Watrous Store. Republicans and Veterans of the Civil War moved the pole to its present location in 1928.

Tuscola County Advertiser, 6/16/2007

Members in the News!

The Lions Club honored Henry Sugden as the "Top Lion" of the year. He was awarded the George E. Daly Award as Lion of the year for the local district, which includes Tuscola, Saginaw, Bay and Genesee counties.

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.

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



Some recent events...

At the February meeting, Mark Keller gave a presentation on the Indians of Tuscola County.

John Engles of the Vassar Historical Society gave an update on the Vassar Society's restoration project.



During the month of February, historical artifacts from the Watrousville Museum were on display in the lobby showcase at the Caro Area District Library. Included were Ladies Hats from Early Watrousville. If you missed the display, they are available for viewing at the Museum.



Pat Beck, (center) was the guest speaker at our April meeting. She gave a short presentation on the 4H Mentoring Program.



James White and Marsha Jewett at our April meeting.

