



Leonard - McGlone House

Old News

Watrousville-Caro Area Historical Society

PO Box 15 Caro MI, 48723

Our 37th year of Preserving Local History

June 2009

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

Sadly, we mark the passing of

JOHN C. "JACK" COLE

He passed away peacefully Monday, Dec. 8, 2008 at Marlette United Hospice Residence, following a brief illness, at the age of 89.

Jack was born Sept. 30, 1919 in Caro, the son of Claude A. and Bess (Robinson) Cole, and was a proud, lifelong resident of Watrousville. He graduated from Vassar High School with the class of 1937 and joined the United States navy shortly thereafter. Jack served with the Navy from 1939 to 1945 as a Fire Controlman 1st class. He served aboard the USS Oliver Hazzard Perry (DMS 17) and was wounded during the attack on Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941. He took part in the Aleutian Islands campaign as well as the Battle of Saipan and Tinian in the Mariana Islands aboard the USS Hector (AR 7). Upon his return from naval service, Jack was united in marriage with Marie C. Hogan on March 2, 1946 in Reese, and the couple cherished more than 57 years together before her death on Sept. 12, 2004. Jack farmed his entire working life, retiring in 1980. In addition to farming, he was also a plumber and pipefitter for more than 35 years, and a member of the United Plumbers and Pipe Fitters Local #85. Jack was also a member of Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Caro Knights of Columbus Council #3224, Pearl Harbor Survivors Association and the Naval Mine Warfare Association.

Even after his retirement, Jack continued to be busy. He was a former Juniata Township Supervisor and a sexton of the Juniata Township Cemetery where he and Marie were responsible for adding electricity and plumbing, as well as marking the graves of all veterans. Jack loved history, and was a former president of Watrousville Historical Society. He was also a passionate family man who loved taking trips across the country with his family. He enjoyed working on the farm and in the woods behind his home with his chainsaw and his three chocolate lab dogs. Jack is survived by three daughters, Katherine and Henry Brandt of Bay City, Carol Leslie of Frankenmuth and Maureen Cole of Watrousville; nine grandchildren, Nicole Ocholik, Traci Beier, Jennifer Brandt, Rebecca Brandt, Sara Brandt, Michael Weiss, Peter Leslie, John Leslie, Charlie Mae Cole-McMullen; six great-grandchildren; one sister, Maurine Gornick of Grosse Pointe Woods; sisters-in-law, Rosalie Hogan of Reese, Libby Cole of Georgia and Mary Cole of North Carolina. In addition to his loving wife, Jack was preceded in death by one son, John Michael Cole in 1978; two brothers and one sister, Neil Cole, Clarence Cole and Geraldine Glaspie. Funeral Liturgy was held on Friday, Dec. 12 at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Caro with Rev. Dennis Kucharczyk officiating. Burial with military honors followed in Juniata Township Cemetery.

Watrousville-Caro Area Historical Society

Officers

President – Susan Pryor

Vice President – Cal Jewett

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 3/10/2009	
	\$15,055.86
Receipts:	39.00
Disbursements:	0.00
Balance on Hand 3/17/2009	
	\$15,094.86
Checking Account	\$7,863.20
Museum Fund	\$4,049.32
Memorial Fund	\$3,172.34
TOTAL	\$15,094.86

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

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 Ryndress
David and Catherine Celani
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 by appointment

Early Michigan Governors

Life was quiet in Tuscola County in the early 1800s. Ebenezer Davis, the first settler here, did not arrive until 1834. Aaron Watrous did not settle Watrousville until 1854. In the rest of Michigan, life was not as tranquil. Michigan became a territory in 1805 and a state in 1837. There were four Territorial Governors and 10 State Governors before Watrousville was settled.

Territorial Governors: William Hull, Lewis Cass, Stevens T. Mason and John S. Horner. State Governors: Stevens T. Mason, William Woodbridge, J. Wright Gordon, John S. Barry, Alpheus Felch, William L. Greenly, Epophrouitus Ransom, John S. Barry, Robert McClelland and Andrew Parsons.

Stevens T. Mason was fired as territorial governor by President Jackson and replaced by John S. Horner, but he was elected the first State Governor by the people. John S. Barry was elected State Governor twice.

Slavery was illegal in the Michigan Territory unless you were a British or French resident and owned the slave before 1805. The 1830 census showed 32 slaves in Michigan. Most were believed to be Native Americans and not African Americans.

Find the names in BOLD in the puzzle below-Answer on back page.

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

From the Museum . . .

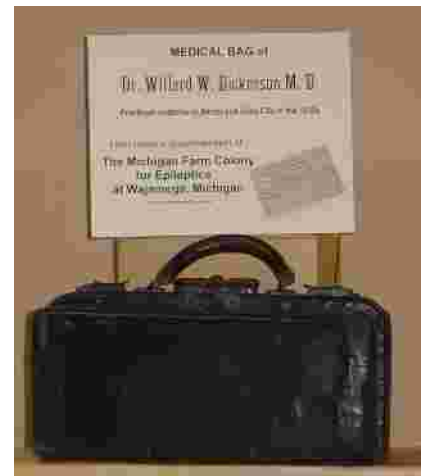


WILLIAM S. FRITZ - In 1870, he came west, locating near Watrousville, in Tuscola County. He taught school for four winter terms in the township of Juniata, and one term each in Akron, Fair Grove, Gilford and Almer; also one term in Stockbridge, Ingham County. In 1871, he studied dentistry, and from that time until 1878, he practiced that profession in summer and teaching in winter. In 1878 however, he devoted his time solely to the practice of his profession, and from a very meager business succeeded in building up a very lucrative practice. His sons, Thomas, Fred and Percy continued the family tradition as dentists in Tuscola County. **For the month of June, this sign is on display at the Caro Library Lobby Showcase.**

The MEDICAL BAG of **Dr. Willard W. Dickerson M. D.**

Doctor W. W. Dickerson practiced medicine in Akron and Cass City in the 1930s. He later became superintendent of *The Michigan Farm Colony for Epileptics* at Wajamega, Michigan (Known today as the Caro Center)

For the month of June, his medical bag is on display at the Caro Library Lobby Showcase.



It's hard to imagine Watrousville as a tourist destination, but this

Victorian Toothpick Holder

was sold as a souvenir of the city.

The Tarentum Glass Company of Tarentum, Pennsylvania manufactured this opaque "pea green" Victorian Colored Pattern Glass from 1899.

Purchased from a California dealer in November of 2006 and donated to the Museum by David Celani



For the month of June 2009, the Historical Society will have a display at the Caro Library on Doctors and Medicine in early Watrousville.

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

Cal Jewett

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
Esther Gorashko,
989-823-2360**

