

Old News

Watrousville-Caro Area Historical Society

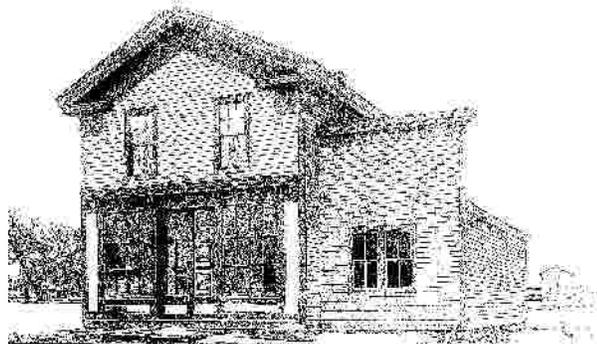
PO Box 15 Caro MI, 48723

Our 40th year of Preserving Local History

November 2012

Editors, Jo Ann Gray & Esther Gorashko

Published by Dave Celani



Watrous General Store

A Note from Cathy,

Well, it is time for a recap of everything that has gone on since our last newsletter. As of the May newsletter, the 1st and 2nd sets of windows and a new front door have been installed. Now the 3rd and 4th set of windows are at my house waiting to be painted and stained so that they can be installed in the spring.

As for the historical marker at the Leonard House, I received a call from the State of Michigan. They let me know that we need more documentation so I will be digging a little deeper.

June was our annual Veteran's Memorial Ceremony. The Caro VFW Post # 4164 and Auxiliary conducted this event along with the Caro American Legion Post # 7 and Auxiliary at the Watrousville Cemetery to honor the veterans buried at the cemetery from the War of 1812 to the present. After the ceremony, refreshments were served on the side yard of the Watrousville Museum. Everyone enjoyed themselves in spite of the fact it had to be about 100 degrees.

July, as you know is Show & Tell month. We hold this meeting in the museum, we usually get a good turnout, and this July was no different. Among others, Sheriff Leland Teschendorf had an old rifle that he brought. It was similar to the weapons from WWII made at the Saginaw Gun Plant. In addition, Al Gorashko brought in a wooden stool that was hand crafted by his grandfather.

In May, I asked that everyone keep September 18th open for the Founder's Day 40th Anniversary Dinner and everyone did.

We had a good turn out and everyone enjoyed the music performed by Robert Eastham and Paul Vanston who always do a fantastic job. We have to give Robert DeLorenzo and his crew from the K of C Hall in Caro a big hand for doing such a great job cooking all that wonderful food. Our guest speaker was Gerald Burkland. He spoke about the Immigration of Europeans into the Northwest Territory from the 1500's to the late 1850's. He is also a 5th cousin 8 times removed to Aaron Watrous.

In October, the local museums united for a historical weekend tour. Countywide, the historical museums held open houses on Saturday, October 13 and Sunday, October 14.

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**This year Marks our
40th Anniversary of Preserving
Local History**

Esther's Garden for 2012



Every spring, our secretary Esther Gorashko, plants a fabulous veggie garden. Unfortunately, just before planting season, Esther broke her wrist. The plants were already purchased but Esther could not plant them. She contacted (president) Cal Jewett and (director) Bob Gray. Bob is semi-retired from farming but had the time and land available.

In the photo above, Jo Ann Gray and Esther show off some of the tomatoes.

On the right, Bob Gray and Esther are holding some of the large squashes.

Below, Bob and Cal Jewett are standing among the tomatoes, squash and zucchini.



Fate wasn't finished with Esther. After her wrist healed, she had gall bladder surgery. Esther has recovered and the garden has flourished. Of course, the garden was in the capable hands of farmer Bob and his new apprentice Cal.

Cathy Celani

Continued from the front page

The eight museums in Tuscola County that came together were The Thumb Octagon Barn and Agricultural Museum, The Caro Roadhouse, The Cass City Historical Society, The Kingston Depot, The Vassar Historical Society, The Mayville Area Museum, The Millington-Arbela Historical Museum, and The Watrous-Caro Area Historical Society. Our museum saw a turnout of 75 people for the two-day open house.

Cathy Celani

Founders' Day Dinner 2012



Chemical Bank donated this beautiful Gift Basket for our door prize



As usual, we had a great turnout for our annual dinner.



(Left and above) Gerald Burkland was our guest speaker. He spoke about the immigration of Europeans into the Northwest Territory.

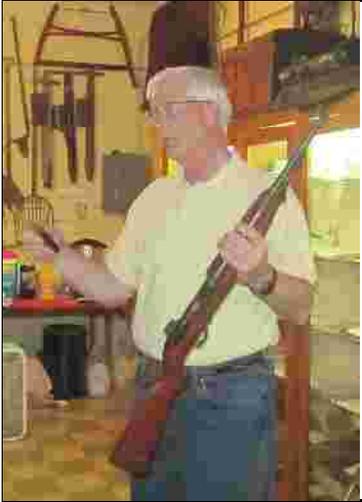


Don Leonard joined us at the dinner. He donated the Leonard House to our society. His family lived in the house since 1885.

Once again, Robert Eastham and Paul Vanston played dinner music at the Founders' Day Dinner.



What we have been doing...



(Above left – Sheriff Lee Teschendorf brought a WWII rifle, similar to the weapons built at the Saginaw Gun Plant. Above right – Al Gorashko shows a stool crafted by his grandfather. Below – Cal and Esther oversee our meeting from the antique desk at the museum.



Above - Laying of the wreath at the Veterans Ceremony. Left - Ron Weippert of the American Legion enjoying the refreshments. Below - New members (the Krieger family) join us for refreshments after the ceremony.



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

Watrousville-Caro Area Historical Society Officers

President – Cal Jewett
Vice President – Cathy Celani
Secretary – Esther Gorashko
Treasurer – Jo Ann Gray
Board of Directors
Alexander Gorashko
Henry Sugden
Robert W. Gray
David Celani
Neil Jackson (Juniata Township Supervisor)

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 -
Jo Ann Gray, 989-823-3638 or
Esther Gorashko, 989-823-2360

 Find us on
Facebook

visit us on the web
www.watrousville.com

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