Clinton County Historical Society
CELEBRATING
50 Years
CCHS 50th Anniversary News

Volume 1 Issue 11 December 2024

50th Anniversary Review

50th Celebration Party



On November 2nd CCHS board, members, and vol-unteers gathered at the DeWitt Community Center to recognize the efforts that went into our 50th anniversary celebration. A good time was had by all.







The Clinton County Historical Society's 50th anniversary celebration has come to a close. Celebration preparation began last year with the hiring of a branding expert who helped create a modern identity for the organization including new logos. We also began accepting credit cards which increased sales of our books and services.

This year began with a kick off on the anniversary date of February 28th at the old St. Johns depot. The same month this free monthly e-newsletter was started and distributed throughout the county with information on the society and upcoming events.

Some highlights of the year include: expansion of our archives with the addition of a third room, renovations of the museum's carriage house, history and cemetery walks in DeWitt and St. Johns, an event to honor centennial and sesquicentennial farmers, participation in the Mint Festival, creation of a time capsule, and a museum bus tour.

Free local history lessons for use by school teachers were written and added to our website.

For those who prefer to discover historical sites at their own pace, 24 suggested walking and car tours were developed and made available for free download on our website.

These would not have been possible without the volunteers who came forward to help with the many events and projects.

Not willing to sit on our laurels, the society is working to continue to tell the stories of our past and preserve our history as we look forward to the next 50 years.

CCHS ARCHIVES

16101 Brook Road, Lansing 48906

https://opennet.us/cchs

Harte Family Scrapbook

Anna Regina (Smith) Rounds recorded the details of her migration from Ireland to Michigan in 1882. Her account was found in the Harte family scrapbook, which was recently donated to the Archives. Anna married Lafayette A. Rounds in 1889. Anna Rounds died in 1940.



"Left home in County Roscommon, Ireland, Aug 10, 1882, in the evening and went into Boyle in a large city. Left London -derry Aug. 12, 1882, 2 p.m. Got on a small boat and at 5 p.m. boarded a large boat, (the Allen Line, *Sarmatian*) and started immediately. In the morning of the 19th Aug, 1882, seen banks of Labrador, being 9 days, 7 hrs. and 38 mins. on the boats and voyage. Landed at Quebec 8-19-1882. Came in Detroit Aug. 24, 1882, and Bath Aug. 26, 1882, 9 a.m."

The *Sarmatian* was built in Scotland in 1871 and her last voyage was in 1907.

Do you know this person?



If so, contact Julie at petersj@msu.edu

Meet the Volunteers

Myrna VanEpps



Myrna VanEpps was born and raised in Clinton Co, a fourth generation resident. She and her husband Neil graduated from Rodney B Wilson HS in 1953. In 1955 she graduated from Lansing Business University, married and moved to California where she worked as a secretary. The VanEpps returned to Michigan in 1960 to raise 3 sons. Neil passed away in 2004.

Myrna worked for the Grand Ledge Public Library from 1973 to 1986 and joined the CCHS in 1988. She enjoys reading, knitting and genealogical research and has 8 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren. She has served as secretary and/or trustee of the society and volunteers at the Archives. She is co-editor of the *Clinton County Trails*, the quarterly publication of the CCHS.

CCHS MUSEUM

106 Maple St., St. Johns 48879

CCHistoricalMuseum.org

Due to unforeseen circumstances, the Museum will not be open during this year's Christmas season. We are officially closed until mid-May of 2025. We appreciate your support and patronage this year and we look forward to our 2025 season.

Have a wonderful Christmas season. See you next year!

One easy way to help the Museum is to shop at Kroger. This is at no cost to you! Please choose us as your charity.

Krogercommunityrewards.com

Register your Kroger Card for #DQ655 Clinton County Historical Society.

We thank those who are helping in this way!

Volunteer Christmas Lunch

Museum and Archives staff and volunteers will be joining with the CCHS Executive Board for a Christmas luncheon on December 5th. This has been an annual tradition for many years.