

June 2005

CHESTERFIELD TWP. HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Don Green

Program about the Macomb County Poor Farm (with assistance by Cynthia Sue Donahue) was very interesting and provided us with sociological insights into the earlier years of Macomb County. Back in the day, as Mr. Green explained, when all else failed, the place of last resort for the people of Macomb County was the Poor Farm. It gave a more vivid reality to the expression "You're going to send me to the poor house." Don and Cynthia had an excellent video with photos of the poor farm and its inhabitants. Thanks again Don and Cynthia!



The next programs and meeting dates for the Chesterfield Twp. Historical Society will be:

July 5th-

Karl Mark Pall

August 2nd-

Bob Mack

MAY BANQUET IS BIG SUCCESS!

The Chesterfield Twp. Historical Society Pasta Dinner was held at Salt River Banquet Hall on 23 Mile Road on May 19th. It was the second banquet to be held at the Banquet hall, the first was the November special benefit for the log cabin.

As usual, there was more than the great food and excellent ambience. We were fortunate to have many contributions for our raffles and door prizes. Success was also had with the 50/50 raffles. Also featured were historical displays and Deb



The Banquet prize table.

Walsh's slide show of the recent log cabin move to the historical area. We would like to thank the following people and businesses who have con-

tinued to offer their support:: Leo & Virginia Furton; Roy & Eileen Rivard; Frank & Lucile Adcox; Dolly Al-lemon; Tom's Mini Mart (cont'd on pg. 4)

SCHOOL ADDITION NEARS COMPLETION!



LOCAL HISTORY TIDBITS...

Chesterfield Twp. Historical Society Officers:

President-George
Furtah

Vice-President-
Roy Rivard

Secretary-Kathy
Vosburg

Treasurer-Mary
Darden

Trustees-

George Deebe

Burr Tucker

Past President-

Don Howitt

Trivia Answers

1. The supervisor was Adolph Veryser who served from 1933 to 1953. He was elected on the Peoples Party and continued to be elected on that party until he left office!

2. Roger Knight in 1977 when he replaced Supervisor Otis Dean Smith.

Goodells County Park is rebuilding, brick by brick, a historic bank building that once was located in the village of Goodells, around the corner from the park. It has been moved to the historic village that is being formed on the fairgrounds. The brick bank building was preceded by an 1872 farmhouse and a historic schoolhouse (from

Lynn Township District # 1). A log cabin is expected to be moved to the historic village at the Macomb-Clinton Library on Romeo Plank in Clinton Township. The library has also recently dedicated their local history room, named after our Macomb Co. Poor Farm presenter Don Green.

On an opposite note, New Baltimore City

Council has voted not to allow any more stays of the demolition of the historic "haunted" mansion located at Washington and 24 Mile Road.



THE MILE ROADS: WHY DON'T THEY HAVE NAMES?

Actually, most of the mile roads have had names at one time or another. Some are well-known and more used than the mile road designations (such as Hall Rd. and Metro Parkway), but others are not as well-known and are remembered by only a few. If you know of any we missed, e-mail at alannaldrethtt@yahoo.com and let us know!

Most people that have ever been to a major city or urban area where they have numbered streets and numbered avenues mixed together in non-consecutive fash-

ion, appreciate the uniformity of the mile roads of our area!

1 Mile Rd.-Commonly accepted to be Woodward Avenue.

2-5 Mile Rd.-What happened to these?

6 Mile Rd.-McNichols

7 Mile Rd.-Moross

8 Mile Rd.-Baseline

9-12 Mile Rds.-?

13 Mile Rd.-Chicago

14 Mile Rd.-?

15 Mile Rd.-Maple

16 Mile Rd.-Metro Parkway, Big Beaver

17 Mile Rd.-Long Lake Road

18 Mile Rd.-Square Lake Rd.

19 Mile Rd.-?

20 Mile Rd.-Hall, Highland, Rosso Hwy.

21 Mile Rd.-Shoemaker Rd.

22 Mile Rd.-Pattyn Rd.

23 Mile Rd.-Whiskey, Telegraph Rd.

24 Mile Rd.-Cemetery

25 Mile Rd.-Arnold Rd.

26 Mile Rd.-Marine City Hwy.

27-31 Mile Rds.-?

32 Mile Rd.-Division

(Thanks to Lorraine DeMuyneck and Geo. Furtah for their assistance!)

PRESIDENTIAL PONDERINGS



I am very grateful for all we have recently accomplished in our historical society. In just a few short months we have once again had a successful fund-raising pasta dinner, and of course, most importantly, our moving of the log cabin to the historical area-amid much fanfare in the press! A lot of good publicity for our society!

We would like to welcome some of our new

members which include Walter & Laura Cherluck, Cornwell & Nitchie Construction, and the Janine Smith family! Forgive me if I've left out any recent additions!

Congratulations are in order for Kelly Jo Smolarek, who will receive a plaque from us in honor of her efforts on behalf of the society in getting the log cabin! Also, our secretary, Kathy Vosburg, is the latest addition to the Macomb Co. Historical

Commission.

Trivia By George!

#1. Who was the longest serving supervisor for Chesterfield Township since 1920? And what was his party affiliation?

#2. Who was appointed as supervisor for Chesterfield Twp. by the governor of Michigan after most of the elected officials were recalled?

(Answers on page 2, col. 1)

Congrats to Kelly Jo Smolarek who helped us procure the log cabin and will be honored with a plaque and also Commissioner Kathy Vosburg, who has been named to the Macomb Co. Historical Commission!

LOCAL SUMMER HISTORY HAPPENINGS...

June 26th-Classic Car Show at New Haven Depot.

June 26th-Log Cabin Days-Richmond (Call Al Collins at 586-727-7125 for more info)

July 9th-Halfway Day-at Kennedy Park on Stephen (9 1/2 Mile Rd.) between Gratiot & Kelly. 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.

August 26-27-Bath City Fest-Downtown

Mt. Clemens

July 7th-The Anchor Bay Genealogical Society 's next meeting will be on Thursday, July 7th at 7 p.m. in the Chesterfield library.

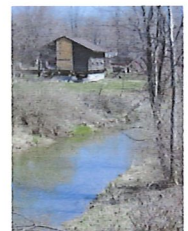
JUNE MEETING UPDATES...

After the program and after Virginia's refreshments were consumed, the meeting began. Highlights included the combining of all the society's separate accounts-thus eliminating accounting headaches.

It was determined that another support should be added below the log cabin foundation.

George Deebe will retrieve the rest of the stones for the log cabin from its former

site. Also, the school addition has been completed for the most part-thanks Duane Vosburg, Cornwell & Nitchie Construction! The Harvest Dinner committee will meet an hour before the next meeting.





PHOTOS BY DEB WALSH!

For Additions and
Corrections, please
e-mail:
alanaldrett@yahoo.com

Gone But Not Forgotten...

Waldenburg or Waldenburgh-This community around Romeo Plank and 22 Mile Road began with a sawmill. An influx of German settlers in the 1830's turned it into a farming community with a Lutheran church (still in existence on 21 Mile Rd. and Romeo Plank), school, tavern, wagon shop, general store, blacksmith, hardware store, and other businesses. The cemetery behind the Lutheran church on 21 Mile Rd. has many of the original settlers buried there. The settlement was named after Waldenburg, Germany. The Macomb post office was moved here on March 29, 1860 and lasted until September 15, 1906. The hardware store, Stier's Hardware, is still in business! The building that Stier's is located in was originally across the street from where it is now and served as a dance hall for the *Waldenburg* community. It was moved in 1903. Next door to the hardware store is the Waldenburg Tavern. There was also a *North Waldenburg* and *South Waldenburg*, located, surprisingly enough, north and south of *Waldenburg* on Romeo Plank. *North Waldenburg* was located at 23 Mile Road and Romeo Plank, while *South Waldenburg* was located at Hall Road and Romeo Plank. *South Waldenburg*, also known as "Bobcean's Corners," was mainly known for its tavern, possibly located in the same building where "Goldie's Saloon" is today. A park near 23 Mile and Romeo Plank has been named Waldenburg Park in honor of the settlement. *(Thanks to Karl Mark Pall, Jeff Stier and Keith Ureel for their informational aid!)*

MAY PASTA DINNER (CONTINUED)

(George Deebe and family); Furton Associates; Wal-Mart Stores; The Flying Machine (Gary); Cornwell &

Nitchie Construction; New York Now! Coffee House; New York Deli; Dimitri's Restaurant; Green Street Tavern; Mr. Pita; and Brengman's Restaurant in Richmond.

